MARION COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

118 Cross Creek Blvd., Salem IL 62881
618-548-3878

1013 N. Poplar, Centralia IL 62801
618-532-6518

www.marioncountyhealthdept.org

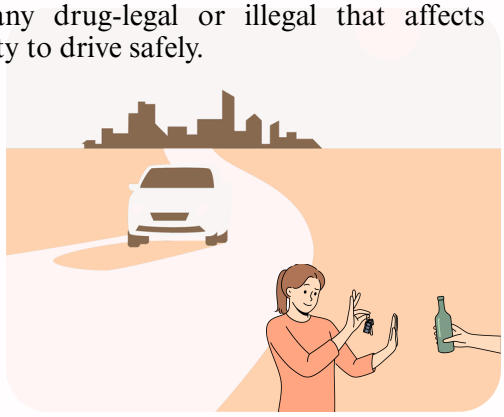
DECEMBER
HEALTH BULLETIN

DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE

MAKE THE RIGHT CHOICE FOR A SAFER JOURNEY

Since 1981, high officials all across America have worked their hardest promoting the importance of staying sober while driving during the month of December, proclaimed National Drunk & Drugged Driving Prevention Month or National Impaired Driving Prevention Month, and it all stemmed from one woman and her resolve.
On May 3, 1980, thirteen year old Cari Lightner was struck and killed in a drunk driving accident. At that time, driving while intoxicated was a misdemeanor that was barely prosecuted. This fact motivated Cari's Mother, Candy Lightener, to take action. The result was the non-profit organization known as MADD, Mothers Against Drunk Driving. To this day, Candy continues to advocate for anti-drunk, drugged and distracted driving legislation as president of We Save Lives. "I am not against drinking. I am for responsible drinking."

Difference between drunk and drugged driving:
Drunk driving refers specifically to operating a vehicle under the influence of alcohol, typically measured by a blood alcohol content (BAC) above the legal limit. Drugged driving, however, encompasses operating a vehicle while impaired by any drug-legal or illegal that affects one's ability to drive safely.



In December 2023, the most recent data year available, 1,038 people died in drunk driving traffic crashes. From 2019 to 2023, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) recorded more than 4,931 deaths in drunk driving traffic crashes during the month of December.
Like drunk driving, drug-impaired driving is illegal in all 50 states. From 2019-2021, NHTSA conducted a study at several trauma centers and medical examiner offices involving drivers who were seriously injured or killed. The study found that among drivers in trauma centers, about 25% had active THC, which is found in marijuana, in their system.

Tips to get home safely



Whether you're driving, riding or hosting, use these tips to keep you and others safe during this high-traffic time:

- Plan for a sober ride home and if you need to, designate someone to hold you accountable.
- If you chose to drink, don't drive impaired. Call a sober friend, rideshare or a taxi, or take public transportation to get home safely.
- If you're hosting and see someone who is about to drive impaired, take their keys and help them get home safely - it will be the greatest gift you could give them.

Sources: https:www.nhtsa.gov/drive-sober-december-and-every-month

Public Health

Marion County Board of Health

Paula Strother, RN
Kendra Taylor, DNP, RN
Tom Turner, MS
Matthew Stedelin, MD
Keith Kessler, BS, JD
Michael Douglas, DVM
David Marcum, RPh
Kyle Clark, DMD
Victoria Codispoti, MD

Marion County

October 2026 Statistics

Clinics

Blood Pressure
Persons Served.....19

Paternity Testing Clinics.....2
Number of Persons Tested 3

Immunizations

Number of Clinics 5
No. of adults 368
No. of adults immz. adm.....358
No. of pediatrics.....98
No. of pediatrics immz. adm.....199
Total of vaccines administered... 557

Children's Immunizations

Pediarix.....21
Pediatric Flu.....9
Hib.....25
Pneumococcal.....0
Rotavirus.....14
Hep A 9
Dtap 8
MMR.....9
TdaP 14
Hepatitis B.....0
Varicella.....13
Kinrix.....8
Gardasil 3
Meningitis 30
ProQuad.....9
IPV (Polio).....5
Td 0
Men. B 0
Nirsevimab/RSV.....0
COVID-19.....0

Adult Immunizations

Hepatitis A 0
Hepatitis B 1
Flu 353
Men. B.....0
Meningitis 1
MMR.....0
Pneumonia 23 0
TD.....0
Tdap. 1
Typhoid 0
Varicella 0
Yellow Fever.....0
Prevnar 20.....0
Shingrix 2
RSV.....0
COVID-19 0

Maternal Child Health (MCH)

Maternal Health Encounters 398
WIC Caseload 1,024
WIC Clients receiving Education...150
WSSM/WIC Education 33
Internet WIC Education 9
Individual Education 26
Phone Education.....82
Lead.....49
Hemoglobins.....99
ASQ Developmental Screenings 76
Depression Screenings.....36
EPSDT'S 32
Flouride Varnish (Oral Health).....72
Number of Vision Tested.....0
Number of Hearing Tested.....1
Pregnancy Tests.....0

Better Birth Outcomes-Comprehensive

APORS Investigations 1

Healthworks Caseload.....58

Communicable Disease Investigations

Animal Bites.....5
Chickenpox 1
Cryptosporidiosis.....0
Hepatitis B 1
Hepatitis C.....3
Histoplasmosis 0
HIV/AIDS Cases Investigated 0
HIV Test 2
Salmonellosis 3
Streptococcal Infections (Group A)...1
Whopping Cough (Pertussis).....0

Sexually Transmitted Disease

Chlamydia.....12
Gonorrhea.....5
Syphilis 4

TB (Tuberculosis)

Tests Administered.....10
New LTBI.....1
New Suspect TB Investigations.....0
New Active Cases.....1

Lab Draws

Private Pay
Salem Office 57
Centralia Office 21
Total Private Pay Lab Draws......77

Environmental Health

Food

Routine Inspections 54
Follow-up Inspections.....28
Complaint Inspections 2
Temporary Inspections... 0
Pre-Operational Inspections 5
Emergency Incident Inspections 1
Number of Food Permits Issued...45
Category Changes.....0
Closed Food Establishments 1
Cottage Food Permits Issued 2

Sewage

Routine Inspections.....11
Complaint Inspections.....2
Realty Inspections.....0
Sewage Systems Installed.....6
Number of Permits Issued.....6

Water

New System Inspections 0
Existing Water Well Inspections 1
Realty Inspections 0
Complaint Inspections.....0
Water Wells Sealed 0
Number of Permits Issued 0

Closed Loop Wells

Closed Loop Well Inspections.....0
Systems Installed 0
Number of Permits Issued 0

Tanning

Routine Inspections 0
Follow-up Inspections 0
Complaint Inspections.....0

Body Art

Routine Inspections 0
Follow-up Inspections.....0
Complaint Inspections.....0

FIT Test

Female.....0 Male.....0

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