DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Governance and Organizational Structures in Minnesota's Community Health Boards

Governance Structures (January 2025)

Minnesota Statutes identify two governing structure options for counties and cities to legally organize themselves to do the work of public health: community health boards (under Minn. Stat. § 145A) or human services boards (under Minn. Stat. § 402). Multi-county community health boards (or CHBs) are formed through joint powers agreements, which allow them to work across geo-political boundaries. Currently, there are 52 CHBs in Minnesota. MDH also partners with Minnesota's eleven American Indian tribes to provide public health services.

Single-County, City, or County/City CHBs (25 CHBs: 21 counties, 4 cities)

County board assumes the duties of the CHB *OR* appoints a CHB. Organized under Minn. Stat. § 145A.

- Anoka
- Beltrami
- Benton
- City of Bloomington
- Brown
- Carver
- Chisago
- City of Edina
- Freeborn
- Goodhue
- Hennepin
- Isanti
- Kanabec
- Mille Lacs
- City of Minneapolis
- Mower
- Nicollet
- Olmsted
- Pine
- Rice
- City of Richfield
- Sherburne
- St. Paul-Ramsey
- Washington
- Winona

Multi-County (Joint Powers) Community Health Boards (16 CHBs: 54 counties)

Joint powers agreement. County board appoints representatives to the CHB. Organized under Minn. Stat. § 145A.

- Aitkin-Itasca-Koochiching
- Carlton-Cook-Lake-St. Louis
- Countryside (*Big Stone, Chippewa, Lac qui Parle, Swift, Yellow Medicine*)
- Des Moines Valley (*Cottonwood, Jackson*)
- Dodge-Steele
- Fillmore-Houston
- Horizon (*Grant, Stevens, Traverse, Pope, Douglas*)
- Kandiyohi-Renville
- Morrison-Todd-Wadena
- Le Sueur-Waseca
- Meeker-McLeod-Sibley
- North Country (*Clearwater, Hubbard, Lake of the Woods*)
- Partnership4Health (*Becker, Clay, Otter Tail, Wilkin*)
- Polk-Norman-Mahnomen
- Quin County (*Kittson, Marshall, Pennington, Red Lake, Roseau*)
- Southwest Health and Human Services (*Lincoln, Lyon, Murray, Pipestone, Redwood, Rock*)

Human Services Boards (11 CHBs: 12 counties)

Organized under Minn. Stat. § 402. Assumes all duties of CHB.

- Blue Earth
- Cass
- Crow Wing
- Dakota
- Faribault-Martin
- Nobles
- Scott
- Stearns
- Wabasha
- Watonwan
- Wright

Organizational Structures

Organizational structure is a term used to describe the way in which a local health department is organized within a city or county. Unlike governing structures, which are dictated by statute, organizational structures are locally determined. Public health can be a stand-alone department or organized with other departments or divisions, such as human services. Public health can also be a department or division within a hospital or health care organization.

Single County/City Public Health Departments

- City of Bloomington
- Benton
- Brown
- City of Edina
- Freeborn
- Hennepin
- Kanabec
- City of Minneapolis
- Rice
- City of Richfield
- St. Paul-Ramsey
- Washington

Single County Health and Human Services Agencies

- Anoka
- Beltrami
- Blue Earth
- Carver
- Cass
- Chisago
- Crow Wing
- Dakota
- Goodhue
- Isanti
- Mille Lacs
- Mower
- Nicollet
- Nobles
- Olmsted
- Pine
- Scott
- Sherburne
- Stearns
- Wabasha
- Watonwan
- Winona
- Wright

Single County Public Health Departments (within in a multi-county CHB)

- Clay
- Clearwater
- Dodge
- Fillmore
- Le Sueur
- Otter Tail
- Polk
- Renville
- Steele
- Wadena
- Waseca

Multi-County Public Health Departments

- Countryside (Big Stone, Chippewa, Lac qui Parle, Swift, Yellow Medicine)
- Horizon (Grant, Stevens, Traverse, Pope, Douglas)
- Norman-Mahnomen
- Pennington and Red Lake County

Public Health & Home Care

Single County Health and Human Services Agencies (within a multi-county CHB)

- Aitkin
- Becker
- Carlton
- Cook
- Houston
- Itasca
- Kandiyohi
- Koochiching
- Lake
- McLeod
- Meeker
- Morrison
- St. Louis
- Sibley
- Todd
- Wilkin

Multi-County Health and Human Services Agency

- Faribault-Martin
- Southwest HHS (*Lincoln, Lyon, Murray, Pipestone, Redwood, Rock*)
- Des Moines Valley (*Cottonwood, Jackson*)

Hospital/Health Care Organization Contract for Public Health Activities

- Hubbard
- Kittson
- Lake of the Woods
- Marshall
- Roseau