

AGENCY SNAPSHOT

Department of Health and Environmental Control

HISTORY
Formed from separate entities dating back to 1848, the Department of Health and Environmental Control is formed in 1973 to comprehensively address the state's public health needs.

4 Central Office Locations
59 Health Department Locations
17 Environmental Affairs Locations

Service Locations

Agency Mission

To improve the quality of life for all South Carolinians by protecting and promoting the health of the public and the environment.

3,492,440 Authorized Positions

\$812,609,798 .00

Fiscal Year 2015-16 Resources

Highlights

Successful event responses reduce adverse impacts on public and environmental health (e.g. October 2015 flood, food handler Hepatitis A outbreak, and tuberculosis outbreak).

Permit and license time reduction result in better service to businesses (e.g. reducing Certificate of Need average decision time from 118 to 40 days).

High-quality work to protect public and environmental health gains national prominence for emergency medical services (EMS) breakthroughs, Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC), Brownsfield cleanup, Environmental justice, Underground Storage Tank Program, Central Cancer Registry, Radiochemistry Lab, Defense Installation Restoration Program, Best Chance Network, and Food Protection.

Challenges

Obsolete and outdated information technology systems reduce performance and security (e.g. DHEC data center and network).

Inadequate space, degraded facilities, and outdated structures affect morale and reduce operational efficiency and productivity.

Noncompetitive compensation and condition of facilities impact talent recruitment and retention.

Figure 1. Snapshot of agency's history, highlights, challenges, and Fiscal Year 2016-17 resources.¹