

## **Department of Health State Documents**

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Finding aid written in English

Pennsylvania Department of Education, Bureau of the State Library

Forum Building  
607 South Drive  
Harrisburg, PA, 17120

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## Summary Information

**Repository:** Pennsylvania Department of Education, Bureau of the State Library

**Creator:** Pennsylvania. Department of Health

**Title:** Department of Health State Documents

**Identifier:** HEAL

**Date:** 1905 - Present

**Date:** Majority of material found within 1932 - 1986

**Date:** Majority of material found within 2010 - Present

**Physical Description:** 354 Megabytes (73 PDF files)

**Language of** English

**Materials:**

## Scope and Contents

The Department of Health enforces all statutes pertaining to public health and the rules and regulations passed by Pennsylvania's Advisory Health Board. In addition to the Secretary of Health, the Advisory Health Board is comprised of eleven members appointed by the Governor and charged with establishing rules and regulations for disease prevention, protection of lives and health, and providing health services to counties and other political subdivisions. In addition to enforcing statutes and regulations pertaining to public health matters, the Department works to prevent and suppress outbreaks of disease, and ensure high quality health care at a reasonable cost by coordinating a comprehensive state-wide health program. As a result, the Department operates numerous State Health Centers that serve as primary public health service units in local communities. The Department also operates bureaus and programs dealing with the control and prevention of cancer and communicable diseases such as HIV/AIDS, conducts laboratory research, collects health statistics on preventative and educational programs for mothers and their children, drug and alcohol abuse, and regulates pharmaceutical drugs, devices, and cosmetics.

The publications of the Department of Health contain educational guides, strategic plans, annual reports, biennial reports, and other reports. Selected topics from these publications include implicit bias in healthcare, healthcare improvement, and health resources. The bulk of the current material is dated from 1932 to 1986, and from 2010 to present.

## Biographical / Historical

The Department of Health, created by the Act of April 27, 1905 (P.L. 312) and modified subsequently through the Administrative Code of 1929, replaced the State Board of Health and Vital Statistics, which was originally established in 1885.

## Legacy Agency Names and Related Agencies

State Board of Health and Vital Statistics (incorporated agency)

## General

Annual reports of the Department of Health, and the preceding State Board of Health and Vital Statistics, from 1885 to 1915 (intermittent) are available on the Internet Archive:  
<https://archive.org/search?query=annual+report+department+of+health+pennsylvania>.

## **Other Finding Aids**

For more information concerning the records of the Department of Health at the Pennsylvania State Archives, please visit: <https://gencat.eloquent-systems.com/pennsylvania-state-archives/permalink.html?key=class989>.

## **Administrative Information**

### **Publication Statement**

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### **Controlled Access Headings**

- Pennsylvania Politics and government
- Politics and government
- Public health
- State government publications