



El Paso County's 2009 Citizens' College

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Objectives

- Mission of the Health Department
- Governance
- Funding
- 10 Essential Services of Public Health
- Emergency Preparedness

Mission

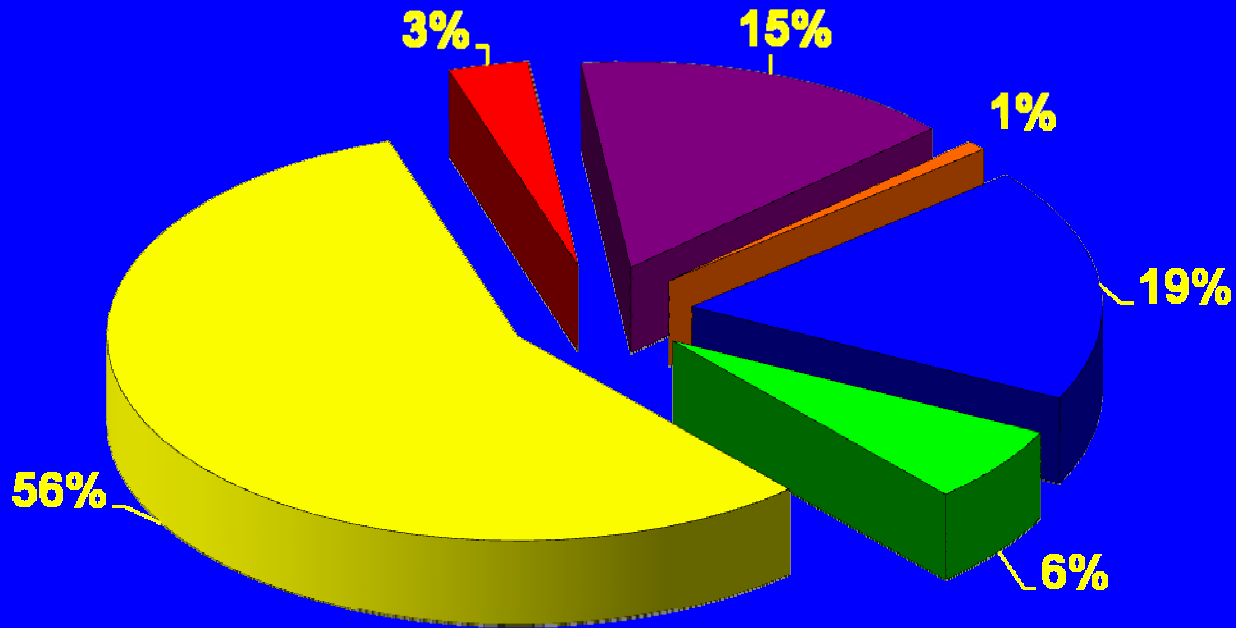
- Protecting and promoting public health and environmental quality in the community through prevention, people and partnerships

Governance

- Nine member Board of Health (BOH)
- BOH members appointed by the Board of El Paso County Commissioners
- Independent agency

2009 Total Revenue Projected

\$15,164,492



■ El Paso County Funding

■ Medicaid Fees

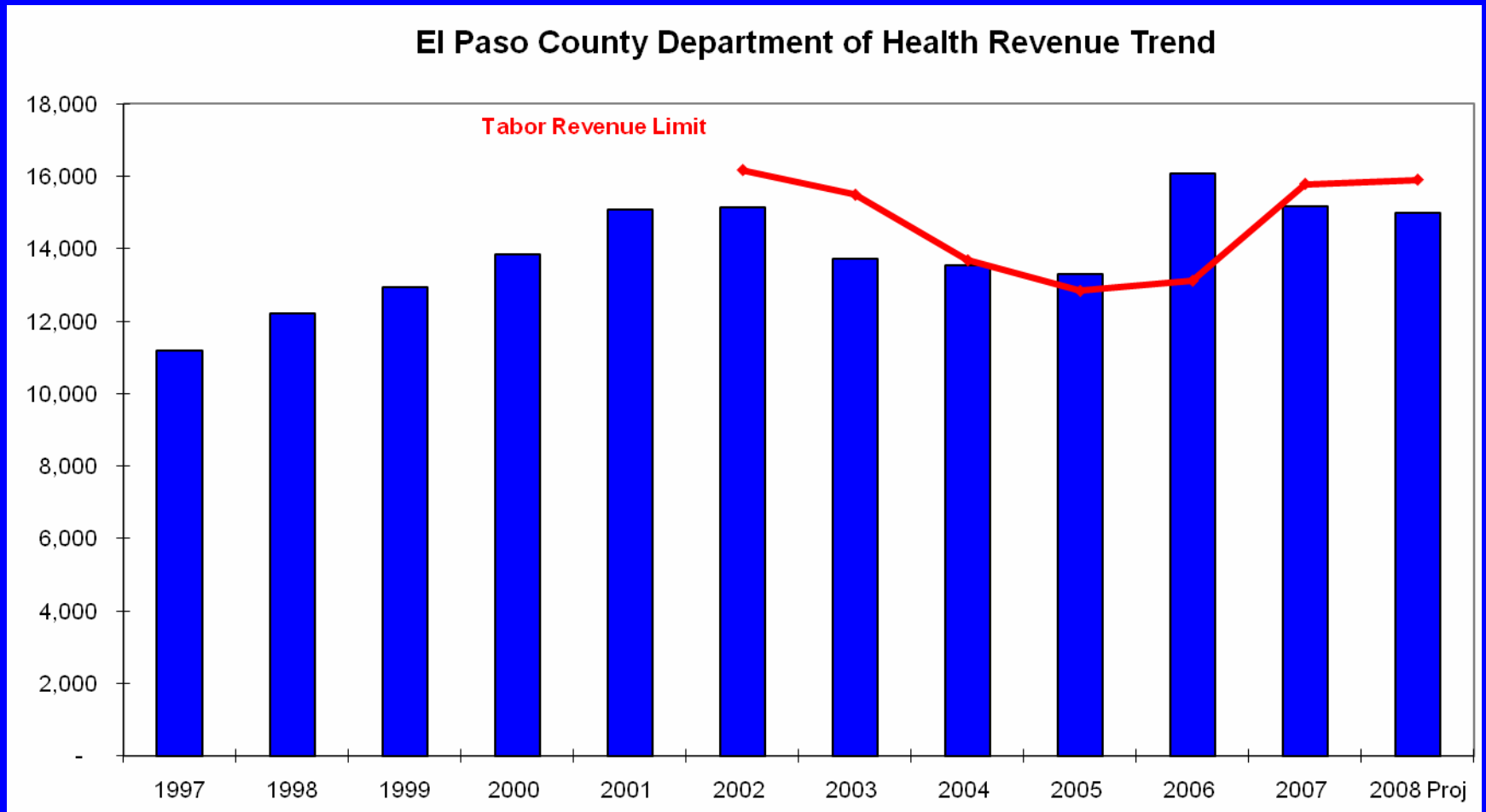
■ State of Colorado Per Capita

■ Licenses, Fees, Permits

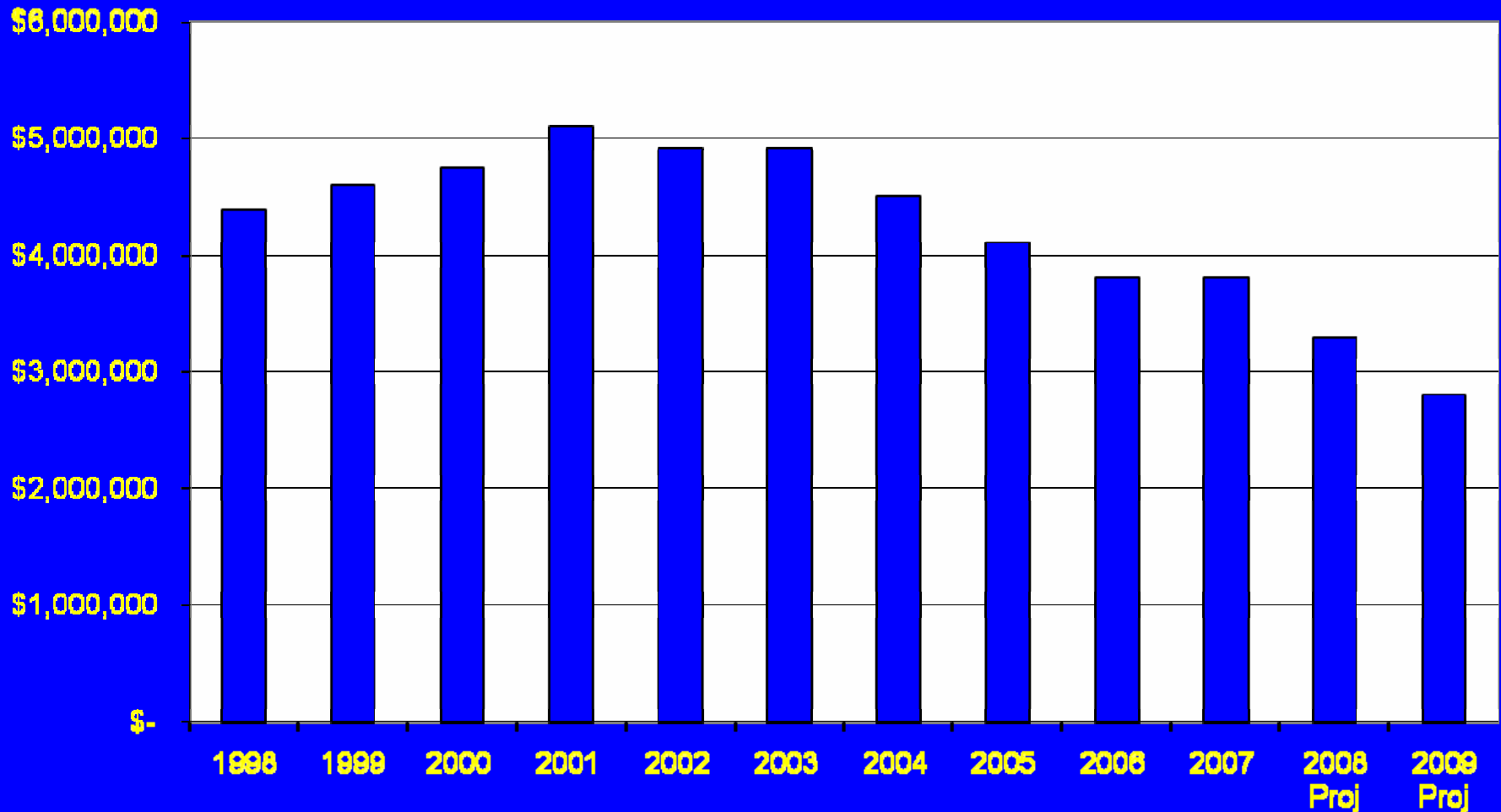
■ Grants/Contracts

■ Miscellaneous Revenues

Revenue Trend



El Paso County Funding to Health Department Trend



Public Health's Work

- 10 Essential Services of Public Health
- Operational Definition of a Local Public Health Department – NACCHO
- SB 194 – Public Health Changes 2008
- Future Accreditation

Essential Services

- Monitor health status to identify community health problems
- Diagnose and investigate health problems and health hazards in the community
- Inform, educate, and empower people about health issues

Essential Services (cont.)

- Mobilize community partnerships to identify and solve health problems
- Develop policies and plans that support individual and community health efforts
- Enforce laws and regulations that protect health and ensure safety

Essential Services (cont.)

- Link people to needed personal health services and assure the provision of health care when otherwise unavailable
- Assure a competent public health and personal health workforce

Essential Services (cont.)

- Evaluate effectiveness, accessibility, and quality of personal and population-based health services
- Research for new insights and innovative solutions to health problems

Emergency Preparedness

- All hazards approach
- Community approach
- H1N1 Pandemic

Pandemic

- A pandemic is a global outbreak of disease
- Three conditions are needed for a pandemic
 - New virus
 - Virus has the ability to cause severe illness/death
 - Virus is easily spread person to person

Seasonal Influenza

Pandemic Influenza

- **Occurs from subtypes that already exist among people**

- Can be an epidemic if more cases than expected occur
- Occurs in cooler parts of the year (winter in US)
- Affects 10% of population
- Very young and very old are at highest risk
- Some people have some level of pre-existing immunity
- Vaccine is available
- Antiviral drugs are available

- **Occurs from a new virus globally**

- Occurs historically every 10-40 years, at any time of year
- May affect 50% of population
- Often more serious
- All age groups at risk
- People have little or no pre-existing immunity
- Vaccine unlikely to be available at first
- Antiviral drugs may be limited in supply

What's Happening In El Paso County?

- Community-wide planning efforts
- Points of Dispensing
- Risk Communication
- Military
- Strategic National Stockpile

Public Health Communications

- Stay home if you are sick for 24 hours after fever resolves without medication
- Schools, businesses, hospitals, and other organizations develop business continuity plans
- Wash your hands and cover coughs/sneezes
- Be prepared to stay home for a couple of weeks

Make a Plan.

Make a Difference.

- Store an extra supply of food and water.
- Have nonprescription drugs and other health supplies on hand, such as pain relievers and cold medicines.
- Buy extra tissues and trash bags.
- Clean and disinfect commonly used surfaces.
- Discuss how family members and loved ones would be cared for if they got sick. Review guidelines for how to care for a sick family member.



Health Department
719-578-3199

Colorado Help Line
1-877-462-2911

Web site: elpasocountyhealth.org

“Protecting and Promoting Public Health and Environmental Quality in the Community through People, Prevention & Partnerships”

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