



# Investment in local public health departments is an investment in our communities

Data collected as part of NYSACHO's annual Enumeration Survey

## INVESTING IN LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENTS STRENGTHENS COMMUNITIES, IMPROVES EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, AND ENSURES HEALTHY OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL.

### DECLINING FULL TIME WORKFORCE

New York State's local health departments have experienced a 49% reduction in staff since 2008

### LOSS OF EXPERIENCED PROFESSIONALS

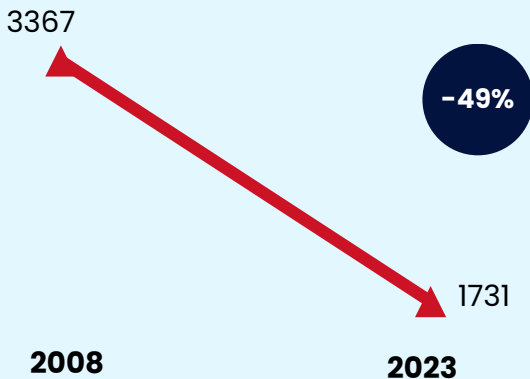
Local health departments are increasingly forced to rely to temporary staff who lack institutional knowledge in providing essential services

### HIGH & INCREASING VACANCY RATES

Low salaries have made recruitment and retention a challenge for local health departments.

### NEW YORK'S LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS FACE 50% STAFF REDUCTION SINCE 2008

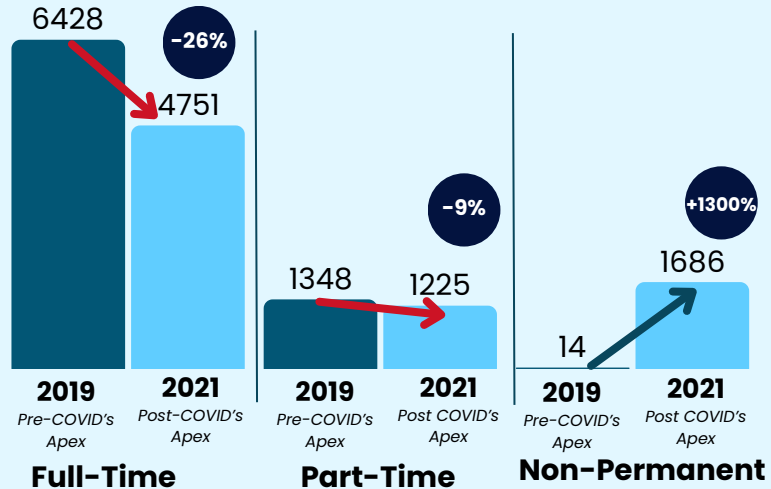
TRENDS IN TOTAL FTES EMPLOYED IN LHDS, NEW YORK STATE, OUTSIDE OF NYC, 2008-2023



Since 2008, New York has lost half of its public health workforce —fewer nurses, health educators, and other experts working to keep water and air safe, respond to crises, and stop the spread of disease.

### LACK OF FULL-TIME PERMANENT STAFF WEAKENS LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS' EMERGENCY RESPONSE

TRENDS IN FTES EMPLOYED BY LHDS, BY EMPLOYEE TYPE, NEW YORK STATEWIDE, 2019 - 2021



During COVID-19, LHDS lost 25% of full-time staff, relying on temporary workers to sustain services —an inefficient crisis response model.

# WHY PUBLIC HEALTH WORKFORCE SHORTAGES MATTER

## STRONGER COMMUNITIES

A well-staffed public health workforce is essential to providing reliable, effective services that keep communities safe & healthy.

## HEALTH FOR ALL

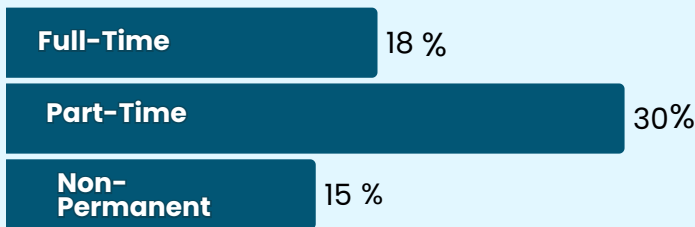
Public health ensures everyone has the opportunity to live a healthy, safe life, and local health departments work to make that a reality.

## PROTECTING HEALTH EVERY DAY

Public health workers ensure clean air and water, respond to disasters, and prevent illness –safeguarding entire communities.

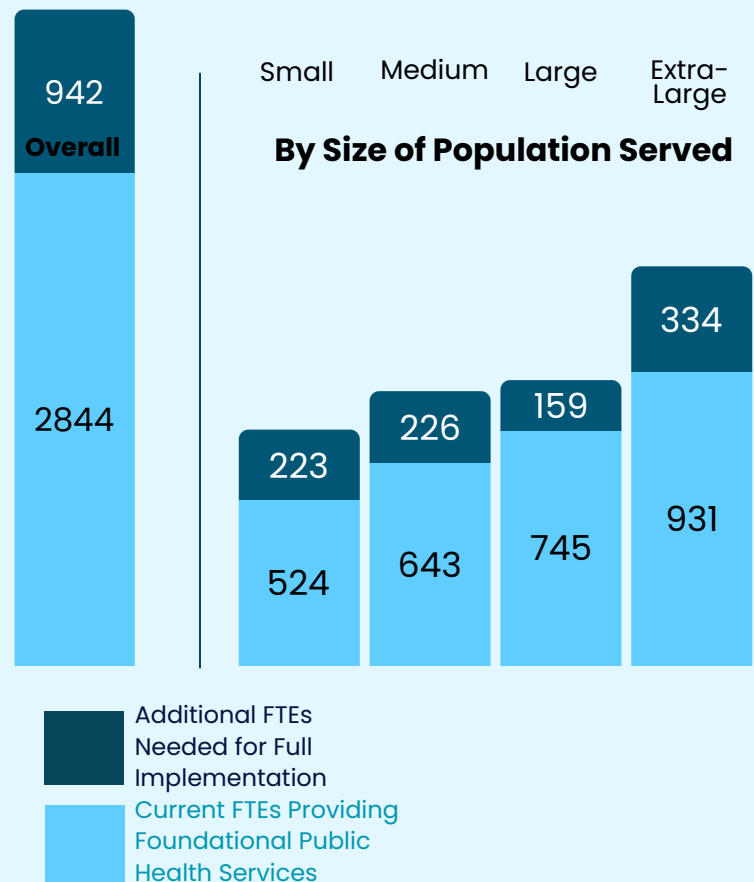
### FULL-TIME LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF FACED A NEARLY 20% VACANCY RATE IN 2023

LHD VACANCY RATES, BY EMPLOYEE TYPE, NEW YORK STATEWIDE, 2023



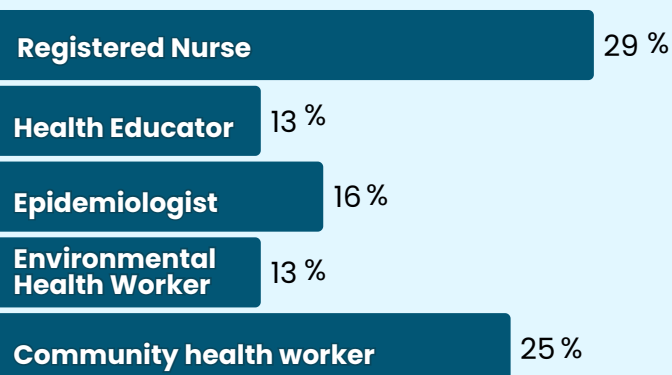
### NY'S LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS NEED 900+ FULL-TIME STAFF TO ENSURE ESSENTIAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

CURRENT FTES EMPLOYED VS ADDITIONAL FTES NEEDED TO PROVIDE FOUNDATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES, NEW YORK STATE, OUTSIDE OF NYC, 2023



### NURSING STAFF IN LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS FACED A NEARLY 30% VACANCY RATE IN 2023

LHD VACANCY RATES, BY OCCUPATION, NEW YORK STATEWIDE, 2023



Across New York State (excluding NYC), 95% of local health departments lack the staff needed to provide essential public health services, at the levels needed to best serve their communities. Smaller departments, serving New York's most rural communities, face the greatest challenges, requiring over 200 additional full-time staff—nearly half their workforce—to meet basic public health standards and protect community health.

