

	<h1>Strengthening the EH System</h1>
	<h2>through Performance Standards</h2> <p>Patrick O. Bohan, Ph.D., MS, MSEH, R.S. Assistant Professor East Central University Ada, OK</p>

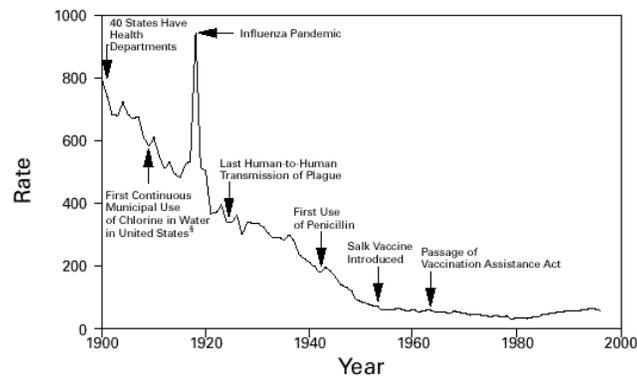
	<h1>Environmental Health</h1>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Our roots</li><li>■ Where we are</li><li>■ Where we need to be</li></ul>

	<h2 style="text-align: center;">Definition</h2>
	<p>“the art and science of <i>protecting</i> against environmental factors that may adversely impact <i>human health</i> or the <i>ecological balances</i> essential to long-term human health and environmental quality, whether in the natural or human-made environment”.</p> <p>Committee on the Future of Environmental Health. "The Future of Environmental Health: Part two," <i>Journal of Environmental Health</i> 55 (1993): 42-45.</p>

	<h2 style="text-align: center;">Roots of Environmental Health</h2>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Sanitary movement of the late 19<sup>th</sup> century</li> <li>■ Germ theory of disease</li> </ul> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: flex-start;">     </div>

# Roots of Environmental Health

FIGURE 1. Crude death rate\* for infectious diseases — United States, 1900–1996†



\*Per 100,000 population per year.

†Adapted from Armstrong GL, Conn LA, Pinner RW. Trends in infectious disease mortality in the United States during the 20th century. JAMA 1999;281:61–6.

‡American Water Works Association. Water chlorination principles and practices: AWWA manual M20. Denver, Colorado: American Water Works Association, 1973.

# Roots of Environmental Health

- What accounted for this dramatic reduction of morbidity and mortality?



## Impact

- Inspections became customary
  - Quotas
  - Used to evaluate staff
- Limited workforce preparation
- Focus on infectious diseases
- EPA and fragmentation





	<h2>Where We Are</h2>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Emphasis on enforcement not prevention</li><li>■ Emerging environmental health problems</li><li>■ Disconnection between health and environment</li></ul>

	<h2>Where We Are</h2>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Measure the number of activities</li><li>■ What is accomplished by doing inspections?</li><li>■ Seen as a bunch of inspectors</li><li>■ Lost sense of purpose?</li></ul>

	<h2>Where We Need to Be</h2>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Assessment, policy development, and assurance apply to environmental public health</li><li>■ Capacity to<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Anticipate</li><li>– Recognize</li><li>– Evaluate</li><li>– Control</li></ul></li></ul>

	<h2>Where We Need to Be</h2>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Prepare for the challenges facing EH</li><li>■ Need a clear description of what we do in EH</li><li>■ Essential Services</li></ul>

	<h2>Where We Need to Be</h2>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Nationally<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Build consistency</li><li>– Build capacity</li><li>– Build accountability</li></ul></li><li>■ NPHPS</li><li>■ National Environmental Public Health Performance Standards project</li></ul>

	<h2>Value</h2>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Provides a clear sense of purpose to the work</li><li>■ Elevates the perception of us to a complete and comprehensive public health program</li><li>■ Can assist with budget justification</li></ul>

	<b>Value</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Can be applied to a system or specific program</li><li>■ Orient new and existing staff</li></ul>

	<b>Challenges to Implementation</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Resources</li><li>■ Data</li><li>■ Leadership</li><li>■ Vision</li><li>■ Management support</li><li>■ Leadership</li><li>■ Know how</li></ul>

