

End Date	How is our state doing now when it comes to delivering health and environmental services?	What are our state's greatest challenges to delivering effective, efficient, and accessible health and environmental services in the future?	If you could improve 1-3 things about our state's health and environmental services, what would they be and how do you recommend they be implemented to best serve our residents?
2021-08-23 14:59:41	Great	Nothing	Everything
2021-08-23 08:51:10	Good.	Education. Early childhood through post high school.	Split DHEC. Better dam safety. Higher pay for state employees.
2021-08-22 13:48:20	These services are not meeting the needs of the citizens due to lack of funding, duplication of services, and lack of service coordination.	The delivery of services to the state's citizens in the areas of preventive care (physical, mental, behavioral) is difficult with the current organizational structure of the agencies. We need help with the coordination of care and meeting patient's needs better	1) Make the state's environmental services a stand alone agency and if there other similar services being provided organize under this agency 2) Make another stand alone agency that provides the services of public heath, mental health, and drug/alcohol treatment. The leadership of this agency needs to direct staff in meeting the clients' needs without duplicated effort and breaking down the current barriers with sharing critical need to know medical information.
2021-08-20 08:24:39	Good overall.	The State House	Take politics out of it!
2021-08-19 10:06:33	Poor. Environmental damages are not fined and punished, businesses can pollute freely.	DHEC does not have enough power, and does not aggressively regulate, fine, or otherwise punish bad actors.	Keep DHEC as a combined public health & environment regulator, increase their budget, track agency performance by number and size of fines or regulatory actions issued.
2021-08-19 08:09:49	Its lack of participation in appropriately scaled COVID programs is a clear indicator that our state is doing poorly.	Misogyny, Racism, and Classism.	Adopt a socialist mindset when addressing, at least, health care concerns.
2021-08-18 16:31:12	Overall, I think the agency is successful in delivering health and environmental services given the significant resource limitations (both human and financial) and lack of executive branch support.	Our greatest challenge is both external and internal – attempting to work collaboratively with a legislature and governor who do not respect DHEC leadership and staff. DHEC has long been a scapegoat for the executive branch: as a collective body, they often and publicly deride our agency while failing to provide appropriate support and without acknowledging our many accomplishments and improvements. This external problem becomes an internal problem when DHEC leadership, in turn, consistently bends to the will of the legislature and/or governor. DHEC leadership has shown little to no backbone in supporting our subject matter experts and their supremely qualified analysis regarding agency decisions and proposed legislation. This meek approach demoralizes staff, which then affects productivity, creativity, and innovation. Internally, the greatest challenge is continuing to promote personnel to management positions who do not possess the necessary skills to successfully manage staff. Too often, the only path to receiving a significant pay increase is to seek a management position. As a result, people who aren't necessarily fit to be managers fill these roles. This leads to a breakdown in communication, organization, effective delegation, and overall team efficiency.	Support and promote staff's expertise with the legislature and governor. Although I understand we, unfortunately, have to play "political games" at times, our subject matter experts' knowledge and work should not be ignored at the expense of gaining perceived political capital. Using a proactive communications strategy (instead of reactive) with legislators and the media would build more trust, confidence, and credibility within the communities we serve. Do not promote staff to management positions based on longevity/years of service. Institutional knowledge does not equate to managerial capability.