

September 25, 2020



CDC's Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) program is a critical source of funding, guidance, and technical assistance for state, local, and territorial public health departments to strengthen their public health preparedness capabilities and improve their response readiness. The Division of State and Local Readiness (DSLR) Friday Update provides information and resources for PHEP recipients and other preparedness planners. Please share the newsletter with your colleagues.

For more information, visit the CDC State and Local Readiness website or contact us at preparedness@cdc.gov.

In This Issue

Upcoming Deadlines

PHEP Cooperative Agreement Updates

September PHEP Connects Webinar Recording Now Available

COVID-19 Response Activities

- COVID-19 Vaccination Plans Due October 16
- CDC Clarifies Testing Guidance for SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19)

What's on the Calendar

News You Can Use

ASTHO Releases Latest State and Territorial Public Health Profile

Online Resources





- September 30 Quarterly MCM TA Action Plans Due (Q1)
- September 30 Quarterly PHEP TA Action Plans Due (Q1)
- October 16 COVID-19 Vaccination Plans Due
- October 30 PHEP FFRs Due (BP1 and BP1 Supplement)



September PHEP Connects Webinar Recording Now Available

The recording of CDC's September PHEP Connects webinar, "CDC's Frontline of Defense Against Public Health Threats," is now available in the <u>Online Technical Resources and Assistance Center (On-TRAC)</u>. The September webinar featured hurricane preparedness and responding to multiple events during the COVID-19 pandemic. The PHEP Connects webinar series provides a forum to share public health preparedness and response resources and expertise with state, local, tribal, and territorial public health partners. DSLR currently is identifying topics and speakers for upcoming PHEP Connects webinars and encourages jurisdictions to submit suggestions for guest speakers and topics to <u>preparedness@cdc.gov</u>.



COVID-19 Vaccination Plans Due October 16

Recipients of the CDC Immunization and Vaccines for Children cooperative agreement are required to submit their COVID-19 vaccination plans to their CDC immunization project officers no later than **Friday**, **October 16**. CDC encourages preparedness directors to work with the immunization program coordinators in their jurisdictions to develop these plans. CDC has provided a template for the plans; however, if recipients have already started developing their plans using a different format, they should ensure that their plans address all the topics listed on the template. PHEP directors can access the plan template and other vaccine planning resources in <u>On-TRAC</u>. For more information, PHEP directors should contact their DSLR project officers or email questions to <u>preparedness@cdc.gov</u>.

CDC Clarifies Testing Guidance for SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19)

On September 18, CDC posted a <u>clarification</u> to its August 24 testing guidance for SARS-CoV-2 the virus that causes COVID-19, due to the significance of asymptomatic and pre-symptomatic transmission. This guidance further reinforces the need to test asymptomatic persons, including close contacts of a person with documented SARS-CoV-2 infection.

According to the updated information, people who have been in close contact with someone who has COVID-19, such as within 6 feet of a person with documented SARS-CoV-2 infection for at least 15 minutes, and do not have symptoms should be tested. While waiting for test results, it is important to self-quarantine/isolate at

home and stay separated from household members to the extent possible and use a separate bedroom and bathroom if available to avoid spreading the disease. Even those who receive a negative test should stay home for 14 days and monitor their health closely if they have had close contact with someone who has COVID-19.

Current science shows that testing people who have been in close contact with someone with COVID-19 is an important part of preventing disease transmission. People who have COVID-19 can still spread the virus before they show symptoms (pre-symptomatic spread) or if they don't develop symptoms (asymptomatic spread). As more is learned about this disease, CDC may provide additional information about when a person is most likely to test positive and be infectious with COVID-19.



- October 14 PHEP Connects Webinar
- October 21 HPP-PHEP Recipient Call



ASTHO Releases Latest State and Territorial Public Health Profile

The Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) released September 24 data from the ASTHO Profile of State and Territorial Public Health, which provides comprehensive information on trends in state and territorial public health agency resources and infrastructure as well as the magnitude of work overseen by the public health workforce across all states, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. territories and freely associated states.

Data are presented in the new <u>Profile Dashboard</u>, a set of interactive and customizable data visualizations that present data from the 2012, 2016, and 2019 surveys. The dashboard allows users to view national and agency-level data and explore trends over time. Key findings indicate:

- The size of the public health workforce has been decreasing.
- Funding for public health agencies has declined.
- Public health agencies have maintained core services despite shifting resources.

The new data visualization system includes the ability to view data at the national aggregate and individual agency levels and provides longitudinal data views.



CDC MMWR Reports

Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, September 25

- <u>Early Release</u>: Changing Age Distribution of the COVID-19 Pandemic United States, May—August 2020, September 23
- COVID-19 Contact Tracing in Two Counties North Carolina, June–July 2020, September 22

COVID-19 Guidance and Resources

- NEW Optimizing Supply of PPE and Other Equipment during Shortages
- **NEW** Contact Tracing MIT
- **UPDATED** COVID-19 Forecasts: Hospitalizations
- UPDATED CDC COVID Data Tracker
- UPDATED COVID-19 Forecasts: Cases
- UPDATED Previous COVID-19 Forecasts: Cases
- UPDATED Previous COVID-19 Forecasts: Deaths
- UPDATED COVID-19 Forecasts: Deaths
- UPDATED FAQs for Wildland Firefighters
- UPDATED <u>Staffing Resources</u>
- UPDATED COVID-19 Travel Recommendations by Destination

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