

DSLRL

FRIDAY UPDATE

April 8, 2022



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 (DSLRL) 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](https://www.cdc.gov/stateandlocalreadiness/) or contact us at preparedness@cdc.gov.

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April 13 PHEP Connects Webinar Reviews LRN-C Capability Updates

CDC's next PHEP Connects webinar is scheduled for **1 p.m. to 2 p.m. EDT on Wednesday, April 13**. Featured speaker Rudolph

Johnson, chief of the Emergency Response Branch in CDC's National Center for Environmental Health, Division of Laboratory Sciences, will share general operations information and recent updates to development of diagnostic capabilities such as clinical toxicology testing and laboratory instrumentation, for the Laboratory Response Network for Chemical Threats (LRN-C). He will also provide insights into how laboratory instrumentation updates and staff training are critical investments for broader laboratory capabilities.



Participant Information

Dial-In: (669) 254-5252 (Audio only)

Meeting ID: 161 241 1865

Passcode: 569595

Web Link: <https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1612411865>

CDC Clarifies GrantSolutions Message on DUNS Issue

PHEP recipients recently received a GrantSolutions message indicating that GrantSolutions is no longer able to validate Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) numbers and that applicants will need to resubmit SF-424 application forms. The majority of PHEP recipients can disregard this message as it only applies to recipients submitting funding applications after April 1, and most recipients submitted their Budget Period 4 (BP4) applications prior to that date. PHEP recipients who requested deadline extensions for submitting their BP4 applications should contact their assigned grants management specialists for further instructions.

PHEP ORR Friday Feature: CDC Launches PORTS

Today, April 8, CDC officially opens the PHEP ORR Reporting and Tracking System (PORTS), a new online data collection system for submitting PHEP Operational Readiness Review (ORR) evaluation data. To date,

CDC has approved 415 PORTS users from the 50 states, eight territories and freely associated states, and four directly funded localities.

Registered users will receive emails from Sams-No-Reply (CDC), sams-no-reply@cdc.gov, or DSLR IT Support, DSLRITSupport@cdc.gov, confirming their PORTS access. PHEP recipients who submitted user applications must click the link to the [PORTS home page](#) in the email to verify their access and allow DSLR's IT support team to assign the requested user roles. **ONLY PHEP recipients who submitted user applications and received confirmation emails from Sams-No-Reply (CDC) or DSLR IT Support should click this link.** CDC will assign user roles on a rolling basis as users activate their PORTS access by clicking the PORTS home page link.

CDC encourages users to check the PORTS home page periodically over the next two weeks. Recipients will only see the home page (left image) until their user roles are assigned. Once the user roles are assigned, the blue navigation bar on the left will appear (right image), indicating that PORTS users now have access to the ORR module.



Before entering any data into the ORR module, all recipients should contact their PHEP project officers for precise steps on how to properly enter data. The PHEP ORR Reporting and Tracking System (PORTS) User Guide will soon be posted on the CDC website along with the PORTS training webinar recording to further assist users on navigating the system. CDC will also continually post technical updates and data entry guidance on the PORTS home page.

Currently, PORTS access is limited to staff from the 62 PHEP jurisdictions, and CDC will not be registering users from local jurisdiction at this time. However, CDC recognizes the need to provide, and is building into the timeline, ample time for training and data entry for local jurisdictions.

Recipients should direct any technical questions regarding PORTS to DSLRITSupport@cdc.gov.



New CDC Data Highlight Youth Mental Health Threats during COVID-19 Pandemic

New [CDC analyses](#) provide information on the mental health of U.S. high school students during the COVID-19 pandemic, including a disproportionate level of threats that some students experienced. According to the new data, in 2021, more than one-third (37%) of high school students reported they experienced poor mental health during the COVID-19 pandemic, and 44% reported they persistently felt sad or hopeless during the past year. The new analyses also describe some of the severe challenges youth encountered during the pandemic and can inform effective programs.

These data, released as an [MMWR Surveillance Supplement](#), come from the Adolescent Behaviors and Experiences Survey (ABES), CDC's first nationally representative survey of students from public and private

high schools to assess the well-being of U.S. youth during the COVID-19 pandemic. CDC experts discussed the MMWR supplement data during a March 31 media briefing. To listen to a replay, click [here](#).

Updated COVID-19 Laboratory Reporting Guidance Now Available

Updated COVID-19 laboratory data reporting requirements under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act recently went into effect. As of April 4, reporting of negative results for non-NAAT tests (rapid or antigen test results) is no longer required. However, testing sites must still report data for all positive diagnostic and screening testing completed for each individual test. This guidance outlines federal Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) laboratory reporting requirements under Section 18115 of the CARES Act. State, tribal, local, and territorial (STLT) jurisdictions may have additional laboratory reporting requirements applicable to testing entities subject to their jurisdictions. The updated guidance can be accessed at [COVID-19 Laboratory Reporting Guidance](#).

HRSA Announces Updates to COVID-19 Uninsured Program

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) announced that the [HRSA COVID-19 Uninsured Program \(UIP\)](#) is no longer accepting claims for testing and treatment of COVID-19 due to a lack of sufficient funds. For additional information, view the [COVID-19 Uninsured Program Claims Submission Deadline FAQs](#) or contact the HRSA Provider Support Line at 1-833-967-0770; for TTY dial 1-888-970-2920.



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Preparedness and Response Resources

ASTHO Hosts 2022 Public Health TechXpo

The Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) will host the [2022 Public Health TechXpo](#) from May 10-11. The TechXpo provides the opportunity for public health professionals, health care leaders, industry experts, technology pioneers, policymakers, and investors to address the challenges facing public health data and technology in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. This virtual event brings visionaries from across the nation together to learn from thought leaders through listening sessions and from each other in interactive breakouts and networking forums. [Register here](#) for the ASTHO 2022 Public Health TechXpo.



News You Can Use

CDC Releases 2021 Data Modernization Snapshot

The newly released [2021 DMI Snapshot](#) is a record of progress made in 2021 through [CDC's Data Modernization Initiative \(DMI\)](#). It is also a testament to the many thousands of CDC staff and public health

partners who worked to modernize public health surveillance and data in meaningful and lasting ways. The Snapshot shows how, despite the shifting and complex challenges of the pandemic response, CDC has been able to deliver an extraordinary amount of [data to understand the burden of COVID-19](#) and to find and face future health threats. The 2021 DMI Snapshot is also available on the [DMI external website](#).



Online Resources

CDC MMWR Reports

- [Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, April 8](#)
- [Overview and Methodology of the Adolescent Behaviors and Experiences Survey — United States, January–June 2021](#)
- [Use of Tobacco Products, Alcohol, and Other Substances Among High School Students During the COVID-19 Pandemic — Adolescent Behaviors and Experiences Survey, United States, January–June 2021](#)
- [Mental Health, Suicidality, and Connectedness Among High School Students During the COVID-19 Pandemic — Adolescent Behaviors and Experiences Survey, United States, January–June 2021](#)
- [Perceived Racism and Demographic, Mental Health, and Behavioral Characteristics Among High School Students During the COVID-19 Pandemic — Adolescent Behaviors and Experiences Survey, United States, January–June 2021](#)
- [Disruptions to School and Home Life Among High School Students During the COVID-19 Pandemic — Adolescent Behaviors and Experiences Survey, United States, January–June 2021](#)
- [MMWR Surveillance Supplement](#)
- [Monkeypox in a Traveler Returning from Nigeria — Dallas, Texas, July 2021](#)
- [Cardiac Complications After SARS-CoV-2 Infection and mRNA COVID-19 Vaccination — PCORnet, United States, January 2021–January 2022](#)
- [Notes from the Field: SARS-CoV-2 Omicron Variant Infection in 10 Persons Within 90 Days of Previous SARS-CoV-2 Delta Variant Infection — Four States, October 2021–January 2022](#)
- [Notes from the Field: Enteropathogenic Escherichia coli Outbreak in a Child Care Center — Oregon, August 2021](#)
- [Erratum: Vol. 71, No. 6](#)
- [QuickStats: Rate of Deaths Attributed to Unintentional Injury from Fire or Flames, by Sex and Urban-Rural Status — National Vital Statistics System, United States, 2020](#)
- [COVID-19 Mortality and Vaccine Coverage — Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, China, January 6, 2022–March 21, 2022](#)

COVID-19 Guidance and Resources

- **NEW** [New CDC Data Illuminate Youth Mental Health Threats during the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)
- **UPDATED** [COVID-19 Laboratory Reporting Guidance](#)

CDC Wants to Hear from PHEP Recipients

CDC wants to hear how PHEP jurisdictions are preparing for and responding to incidents, emergencies, and disasters, whether it's the COVID-19 pandemic, recent weather events, or other public health emergencies. Recipients can highlight their experiences in emergency preparedness, response, or recovery by emailing the State and Local Readiness mailbox at preparedness@cdc.gov.

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Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

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