



Staying Connected: For CDC Partners

CDC UPDATES



Winning Public Health Battles—CDC is focused on winning specific public health challenges with large scale impact on health and with known, effective strategies to intervene. The charge is to identify optimal strategies and to rally resources and partnerships to achieve a measureable impact on health. To date, CDC Director Dr. Thomas R. Frieden

and CDC leaders have identified six priority areas based on the magnitude of the health problems and CDC's ability to make significant progress in improving outcomes. The six areas are healthcare-associated infections, HIV, motor vehicle injuries, obesity, nutrition, physical activity and food safety, teen pregnancy, and tobacco. ([Sep 30 Associated Press](#); [CDC Winnable Battles Website](#))

■ **CDC Vital Signs Look at Binge Drinking**—The current edition of *CDC Vital Signs* focuses on binge drinking. Binge

drinking happens more than 4 million times a day in the United States among adults. This risky pattern of drinking contributes to over half of the 79 thousand deaths due to alcohol each year, and a range of health and social problems, including unintended pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases, interpersonal violence, and death through car crashes ([Oct 5 WebMD](#); [CDC Binge Drinking Report](#)). The [September Vital Signs report](#) looked at adult smoking prevalence and



secondhand smoke. Although U.S. smoking rates have dropped in the past 40 years, the decline has stalled in the past 5 years. In 1965, more than 40% of adults in the United States smoked cigarettes. Although that number dropped dramatically to 20.9% by 2005, in 2009, about 20.6% of U.S. adults still smoked cigarettes. ([CDC Vital Signs Website](#); [CDC Office on Smoking and Health Website](#))

■ **Release of Global Adult Tobacco Survey Result by**

Poland—On September 23, Poland released its Global Adult Tobacco Survey results. The survey tracks tobacco use, exposure to secondhand tobacco smoke, and tobacco control measures. ([Sep 23 CDC Media Statement](#))

■ **H1N1 Far From Mild**—At the one-year anniversary session of [CDC's Public Health](#)



[Grand Rounds](#), myths and truths of this controversial and still relevant public health issue were discussed. One myth revealed that many viewed the pandemic as mild or of little consequence. The first case of H1N1 was identified in the United States on April 15, and over the next 12 months CDC estimated that around 60 million cases and 12,500 deaths occurred—90% of which occurred in persons under 65—the reverse of the usual pattern for seasonal influenza. About 5 times as many children were killed by flu than in an average flu season. For 5 weeks during the peak of transmission, more than 1,000 deaths occurred per week. ([Sep 13 CDC Website](#); [Why H1N1 Still Matters Presentation](#)) ■ **CDC Survey Finds Childhood Immunization Rates Remain High**—Immunization of children aged 19–35 months old against most vaccine-preventable diseases remains high in the United States, with coverage for most of the routine vaccines remaining at or over 90 percent. ([Sep 16 CDC Press Release](#)) ■ **Gulf Oil Spill 2010 Health Surveillance**—CDC, along with the affected Gulf Coast states, has developed a plan to track potential short-term health effects related to the oil spill. Surveillance systems track changes in the number and severity of illnesses and injuries among a population, alerting public health officials to trends that require further investigation. ([Sep 29 CDC Website](#)) ■ **46.7 Million without Health Insurance**—An early release of estimates from the [National Health Interview Survey](#) (January–March 2010) indicates 46.7 million persons of all ages were uninsured at the time of interview, 59.1 million had been uninsured for at least part of the year before the interview, and 33.9 million had been uninsured for more than a year at the time of interview. ([Sep 22 NCHS Data Brief](#)) ■ **New Data Shows Gain in Public Health Preparedness**—Nearly 90% of states and localities demonstrated the ability to activate and rapidly staff their emergency operations centers for drills, exercises, or real incidents, and 96% developed after action reports/improvement plans following these activities. ([Sep 21 Press Release](#)) ■ **CDC Awards \$30 Million to Support National HIV/AIDS Strategy**—CDC allocated \$30 million of the Affordable Care Act’s Prevention and Public Health Fund to expand HIV prevention efforts under the President’s National HIV/AIDS Strategy. This amount includes \$21.6 million in grants to state and local health departments. The funding will help to further focus HIV prevention on high risk populations and communities, as well as fill critical gaps in data, knowledge, and understanding of the epidemic. ([Sept 24 HHS Press Release](#))

IN THE NEWS

■ **Dr. Frieden Testifies before House Foreign Affairs Committee**—On September 29th, Dr. Frieden testified alongside Global AIDS Coordinator Eric



Goosby and National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases Director Tony Fauci before the House Foreign Affairs Committee to discuss the progress made by the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) since the Committee reauthorized the program in 2008. He discussed how, as part of the administration's Global Health Initiative, PEPFAR will continue to expand its impact by reaching more people, driving down incidence of HIV, reducing the costs of interventions, and building sustainable capacity in health systems around the world. ([CDC Washington Website](#); [Webcast of the Hearing](#)) ■

Photos Document CDC's Worldwide Projects—Assignment:



CDC, Photographs by David Snyder opened recently at the CDC's Global Health Odyssey Museum (GHO), on the CDC campus, with images from the slums of New Delhi to the mountains of Tennessee. The 75 photos in the exhibit show the many ways that CDC researchers and doctors work to eradicate disease and improve health around the world. The exhibit and Snyder's work are sponsored by the CDC Foundation. ([CDC GHO Museum Website](#); [Oct 1 Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#)) ■ **Hospitals Begin Reporting**

Healthcare-Associated Infection (HAI) Data—Hospitals are making progress on collecting and reporting HAI data to a national network, according to a new survey by the Premier Healthcare Alliance. By January 2011, Medicare will require all hospitals participating in the Inpatient Prospective Payment System to enroll in the CDC's National Healthcare Safety Network. ([Sep 28 Healthcare IT News](#))

PROGRAM UPDATES

■ **Senior Leadership Appointments at CDC**—Senior leadership positions recently announced at CDC include Rear Admiral [Ali S. Khan](#), MD, MPH, Director, Office of Public Health Preparedness and Response; [Christopher J. Portier](#), PhD, Director, National Center for Environmental Health/Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry; [Beth P. Bell](#), MD, MPH, Director, National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases; and [Linda C. Degutis](#), DrPH, MSN, Director, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control.



Resources

- [CDC Winnable Battles](#)
- [CDC Vital Signs](#)
- [CDC Mobile Website](#)
- [CDC Public Health Grand Rounds](#)
- [CDC Calendar of Events](#)
- [HealthCare.gov](#)

For questions, please email [Nasheka Powell](mailto:Nasheka.Powell).

