



Issues and Alerts

Bulletin— After the [earthquake](#) and [tsunami](#) in Japan, CDC's Emergency Operating Center has been activated to level 3. Safety and wellness checks are in progress for CDC staff there.

Number of US Cancer Survivors Increases 20% over 6 Years— The number of U.S. cancer survivors increased from 9.8 million in 2001 to 11.7 million in 2007 as a result of advances in early detection and treatment. ([Mar 11 MMWR](#); [Mar 10 ABC News](#)) ■

Many Americans Suffer Health Effects of Sleep Deprivation— Between 50–70 million US adults have chronic sleep and wakefulness disorders according to data from CDC's 2009 BRFSS. ([Mar 4 MMWR](#); [Mar 7 Washington Post](#)) ■

"Diabetes Belt" Spans Southern States— A wide area across mostly southern U.S. states has diabetes rates above 11%, compared with 8.5% percent for the rest of the country. ([American Journal of Preventive Medicine](#) Vol 40, Issue 4; [Mar 8 Health MSN](#); [Mar 7 Science News](#)) ■

Influenza Cases Growing across US— After a slow fall, influenza is now found in all 50 states, but the number of influenza-associated deaths, hospitalizations, and outpatient visits is fewer this flu season. ([Mar 7 American Medical News](#); [Feb 18 MMWR](#); [Feb 17 US News & World Report](#)) ■

Pathogens Cause Recalls of Peanut Butter, Hazelnut— The FDA has issued recent recalls for [Salmonella in peanut butter](#) and [Escherichia coli in hazelnuts](#); CDC is [investigating the multistate E. coli outbreaks](#). ([Mar 7 CIDRAP News](#); [Mar 7 LA Times](#)) ■

CDC's 2012 Budget Information— CDC's FY 2012 discretionary budget of \$11.3 billion reflects a decrease of \$580 million below the FY 2010 level, but the total budget request is an increase of \$371 million. ([Mar 7 CDC Budget Information](#), including a summary and Congressional Justification; [Feb 14 Washington Post](#)) ■

CDC's Annual Report on the Nation's Health Available— [Health, United States, 2010](#), CDC's 34th such annual report, compiles health data from state and federal health agencies and includes an in-depth section on death and dying. ([Feb 16 CDC Press Release](#); [Feb 16 Reuters](#)) ■

Ignition Interlocks for Convicted DWI Offenders Save Lives— Ignition interlocks can reduce the rate of rearrest among drivers convicted of DWI by a median of 67%, making them more effective than other prevention methods. ([Feb 16 CDC Policy Impact Brief](#); [Feb 23 UPI.com](#)) ■

Adult Smoking Rates Drop 27% in Minnesota— Sustained tobacco-control efforts in Minnesota have led to a 27% decrease in adult smoking rates, from 22% in 1999 to 16% in 2010. ([Feb 11 MMWR](#); [Feb 10 Business Week](#); [Dec 9 WebMD](#)) ■

Updates from CDC Vital Signs— Bloodstream infections in intensive care unit patients with central lines decreased by 58 percent in 2009 compared to 2001 yet rates remain high for patients in hospitals and outpatient settings. ([Mar 1 CDC Vital Signs](#)). Previous CDC Vital Signs have focused on [high blood pressure and cholesterol](#) and [adult seat belt use](#). ■

21,000 People Had Whooping Cough in 2010— During a meeting of the [Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices \(ACIP\)](#) in Atlanta, it was noted that more than 21,000 people had whooping cough in 2010, many of them children and teens— that is the highest number since 2005 and among the worst years in more than 50 years. ([Feb 23 NPR](#) and other sources from an AP story) ■

Most Physically Inactive Americans in Southern, Appalachian US— New CDC estimates indicate Americans who live in parts of





Appalachia and South are the least likely to be physically active in their leisure time. ([Feb 16 CDC Press Release](#); [Feb 22 LA Times](#); [Feb 17 USA Today](#))

Director's Highlights

Frieden Discusses Health Disparities on C-SPAN—Dr. Frieden discussed the [CDC Health Disparities and Inequalities Report—United States, 2011](#) that addresses problems such as teen pregnancy, alcohol binging, suicide, drug overdose, high blood pressure, and heart disease. ([Jan 20 C-SPAN video](#)) ■ **Frieden Gives Press Briefing on Cholesterol and Blood Pressure**—Dr. Frieden noted half of US adults have high cholesterol or hypertension during a press briefing. ([Feb 1 CDC Press Briefing Transcript](#)) ■ **Frieden Cites Progress in Declining ICU Blood Infections**—Dr. Frieden provided a news briefing about the recently documented declines for **central-line infections in intensive care units**, citing “very substantial progress” but noting results are not as impressive for hospital wards and kidney dialysis clinics. ([Mar 1 New York Times](#); [Mar 1 Medscape](#))

Advisory Committee to the Director Updates

The next Advisory Committee to the Director meeting will be a teleconference scheduled for 1:00 pm EDT, April 28, 2011. Bridge line information and briefing materials are forthcoming.

Our Members

Thomas Farley provides comments in several stories about NYC's video campaign focusing on the serious health consequences from consuming sugar-sweetened drinks ([Jan 31 Wall Street Journal](#)). ■ **Kenneth Mandl** was quoted about [Social but Safe? Quality and Safety of Diabetes-Related Online Social Networks](#), an article he coauthored in the *Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association* ([Feb 18 MSN Health](#)). ■ **Sara Rosenbaum** is currently in the news for several health topics, including her role as senior author of the report, [The Affordable Care Act: U.S. Vaccine Policy and Practice](#). ■ **Eduardo Sanchez** commented on the article [Leisure Time Spent Sitting in Relation to Total Mortality in a Prospective Cohort of US Adults \(American Journal of Epidemiology abstract\)](#) ([Feb 16 NBC Dallas-Fort Worth.com](#)) ■ President Obama has appointed **John Seffrin** to the [advisory group](#) for the new National Prevention, Health Promotion, and Public Health Council. ([Jan 28 AScribe Newswire](#))

FYI: Resources

- [CDC Calendar of Events](http://www.cdc.gov/about/newsEvents/events.htm) (URL: <http://www.cdc.gov/about/newsEvents/events.htm>)
- [CDC Vital Signs](http://www.cdc.gov/vitalsigns/HAI/index.html) (URL: <http://www.cdc.gov/vitalsigns/HAI/index.html>)
- [2010-2011 Flu Season FAQs](http://www.cdc.gov/flu/about/qa/1011season.htm) (URL: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/about/qa/1011season.htm>)
- [Advisory Committee to the Director](http://www.cdc.gov/about/advisory/advCharter.htm) (URL: <http://www.cdc.gov/about/advisory/advCharter.htm>)
- [CDC Budget Information](http://www.cdc.gov/fmo/topic/Budget%20Information/index.html) (URL: <http://www.cdc.gov/fmo/topic/Budget%20Information/index.html>)

