

## CDC UPDATES



**Adult Smoking in the US: Smokers are Smoking Less**—Tobacco use remains the single largest preventable cause of disease, disability, and death in the US. Some people who smoke every day are smoking fewer cigarettes; however, even occasional smoking causes harm. The percentage of American adults who smoke decreased from 20.9% in 2005 to 19.3% in 2010 according to September's Vital Signs report. That translates to 3 million fewer smokers than there would have been with no decline. But almost 1 in 5 adults still smoke. Reducing tobacco use is a winnable battle—a public health priority with known, effective actions for success. ([September Vital Signs Report](#))

**Task Force Finds Commercial Liability an Effective Strategy to Reduce Alcohol-Related Problems**—Holding alcohol retailers liable for injuries or damage done by their intoxicated customers can reduce motor vehicle deaths, homicides, injuries, and other alcohol-related problems, according to the Community Preventive Services Task Force. The independent, nonfederal, volunteer body of public health and prevention experts has determined that commercial host liability, otherwise known as dram shop liability, can be an effective intervention for reducing alcohol-related harms. The Task Force had found that these types of laws have been shown to encourage more responsible beverage serving because managers and servers have an incentive to more closely manage their beverage service to intoxicated and underage customers, which can lead to penalties for retail establishments when this service leads to harms or damages. ([Community Guide Task Force](#); [American Journal of Preventive Medicine](#))

## IN THE NEWS

**CDC's Prevention and Protection Work on the Big Screen**—Warner Brother's feature movie, *Contagion*, fictionalizes the world's emergency response to a novel respiratory disease outbreak. The movie, partially filmed at the CDC Headquarters in Atlanta, follows the process to investigate and respond to the unfolding outbreak. CDC's work and professionals are prominently depicted by major actors in the film. [Contagion](#) opens in theaters September 9 and is directed by Steven Soderbergh and includes stars Kate Winslet, Matt Damon, Jude Law, Marion Cotillard, Gwyneth Paltrow, Bryan Cranston and Laurence Fishburne. ([New York Times Aug 28](#); [CDC Foundation](#); [CDC 24/7](#))

**New Mothers Choose "Tied Tubes" Over Intrauterine Devices**—Very few women choose to get an intrauterine device (IUD) inserted soon after giving birth, even though it's one of the most effective methods of long-term contraception, according to a new CDC study. Between 2001 and 2008, women had an IUD inserted shortly after giving birth in one in every 37,000 deliveries, researchers reported in the *American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology*. Tubal sterilizations, on the other hand, were done after one in every 13 deliveries. ([Reuters Health August 26](#))

**Salmonella Traced to Backyard Chicken Farms**—The poultry were traced back to a mail-order hatchery in Ohio. The two outbreak strains, salmonella altona and salmonella johannesburg, have sickened 65 and 27 people respectively. Raising backyard chickens largely for egg production is a growing urban trend among people who want to get closer to their food, but CDC doctors warn that hobbyists may not realize how common it is for poultry to carry dangerous forms of salmonella. The outbreak is ongoing and began in late February, says Casey Barton Behravesh, a veterinary epidemiologist with the CDC. The most recent person involved got sick on July 30 and about 30% of those infected are children younger than 5. ([USA Today Aug 25](#))

## PROGRAM UPDATES

**Half of U.S. Population Consumes Sugar Drinks on Any Given Day**— This first-ever analysis comes from the 2005-2008 National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey that finds that males consume more sugar drinks than females. Additionally, teenagers and young adults consume more sugar drinks than other age groups. The data found that low-income persons consume more sugar drinks in relation to their overall diet than those with higher income. ([NCHS Data Brief Aug 2011](#))

**National Survey Shows HPV Vaccine Rates Trail other Teen Vaccines**—Increases in vaccination rates for human papillomavirus (HPV) are trailing increases in rates for two other vaccines recommended for teens and preteens. Coverage rates for the other two vaccines —Tdap, which protects against tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis, and MenACWY, which protects against meningococcal meningitis—are continuing to increase, but the study found vaccination rates for HPV vaccine remain low. ([CDC Press Release Aug 25](#); [MMWR Teen Vaccine Podcast](#))

## EVENTS AND SEMINARS

All events and seminars listed are open to CDC partners. To see more upcoming events or for more information on the below events, visit the [CDC Calendar of Events](#).

### Watching Hands: Artist Respond to Keeping Well

September 24 – January 13, 2012

David J. Sencer CDC Museum (formerly known as the Global Health Odyssey Museum), Atlanta, GA

This [exhibit](#) showcases the work of six artists who interpret the act of hand washing in innovative and unexpected ways. The artists include: John Bankston (San Francisco); Didi Dunphy (Athens, GA); Joe Peragine (Atlanta); Katherine L. Ross (Chicago); Laura Splan (Brooklyn, NY); and James Victore (Brooklyn, NY).

### CDC Public Health Grand Rounds (Online Event)

September 20, 1 PM–2 PM (EDT), Topic: Traumatic Brain Injury

The [Public Health Grand Rounds](#) is a monthly series created to further strengthen CDC's scientific culture and foster discussion and debate on major public health issues. [Watch live and archived broadcasts](#).

### American Public Health Association Meeting

October 29 – November 2, Washington, D.C.

The [APHA Annual Meeting & Exposition](#) is the oldest and largest gathering of public health professionals in the world, attracting more than 13,000 national and international physicians, administrators, nurses, educators, researchers, epidemiologists, and related health specialists.

## CDC HISTORY

**September 10, 1970—Alexander D. Langmuir retires from CDC.** In 1949, Dr. Langmuir became director of the epidemiology branch of the National Communicable Disease Center, a position he held for over 20 years. Dr. Langmuir created our corps of epidemiologists ready to fly anywhere immediately to investigate reports of an epidemic or an unusual cluster of cases. The Epidemic Intelligence Service program played a crucial role in turning what was then an obscure and fledgling operation into the large Federal agency we know today. He wrote extensively on all phases of epidemiology on a global basis and was recognized internationally as a leading contributor in epidemiology. His retirement speech transcript is part of the CDC Museums' collection.

## RESOURCES

[CDC Learning Connection Emergency Preparedness Spotlight](#) provides public health learning products and resources designed to help educate the public health community on all-hazards approaches to emergency preparedness and response.

[“Did You Know?”](#) is a weekly feature from the Office for State, Tribal, Local and Territorial Support to inform your prevention activities.

[Knowledge to Action Science Clips](#) are designed to enhance awareness of emerging scientific knowledge.

## SUBSCRIBE



*Staying Connected*, a bi-monthly newsletter prepared by CDC's Office of the Associate Director for Communication, provides regular updates about agency and program priorities and other

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