



## **NAPHSIS Annual Meeting**

**June 13-15, 2022, Omaha, NE**

NAPHSIS annual meetings take place in June each year and brings together people who work in the realm of vital records. This year the NAPHSIS Annual Meeting will be June 13-15, 2022, in Omaha, Nebraska. Attendees enjoy networking with peers and learning about the latest products or technology to improve vital records and health statistics functions. Informative sessions, exhibitors, and social gatherings make this a fun way to make connections and learn the latest in the world of vital records and health statistics. This year's theme is **Reunite, Recalibrate, and Reignite**. With no in-person meetings for the past two years, NAPHSIS wants to bring everyone together to *Reunite* people from the vital records world in order to *Recalibrate* through informative sessions and exhibitors and *Reignite* our excitement for the future. You can look forward to sessions on lessons learned over the past two years, topics related to legal and registration activities, and what's new in technology. To learn more and register, please visit

[www.naphsis.org/annualmeeting](http://www.naphsis.org/annualmeeting)

## **VSCP Annual Meeting Requirement**

The VSCP contract requires an in person annual meeting with VSCP Project Directors. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this year's in person meeting requirement is being waived and **attendance at the July VSCP Project Director's webinar will fulfill the jurisdiction's contractual obligation**. The meeting will be held July 13 from 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. Eastern and roll will be taken. If you will be unable to attend,

please notify your assigned Vital Statistics Specialist. If there are VSCP contract topics you would like addressed, please e-mail Denise Little at [dml7@cdc.gov](mailto:dml7@cdc.gov) no later than March 11, 2022.

## **Cooperative Agreement Corner**

Our Cooperative Agreement with the National Association for Public Health Statistics and Information Systems (NAPHSIS) supports activities for jurisdictions. Upcoming opportunities are provided below.

## **Birth Data Quality Workgroup (BDQW)**

This group works to assess and improve the quality of vital statistics birth and fetal death data, focusing on identifying key birth data quality issues and developing effective approaches to resolving them across the nation. Email [hq@naphsis.org](mailto:hq@naphsis.org) to join. The next BDQW will meet on March 3, 2022, at 2 p.m. Eastern.

## **Mortality Data Quality Workgroup (MDQW)**

This group works to identify high-priority death data quality issues, metrics, and strategies to improve data quality. Email [hq@naphsis.org](mailto:hq@naphsis.org) to join. The next MDQW will meet on March 14, 2022, at 1 p.m. Eastern.

## **March VSCP Directors Webinar**

NAPHSIS invites you to the monthly VSCP Project Directors Webinar on the second Wednesday of each month at 2 p.m. Eastern. Please [register](#) to join us on March 9, 2022, at 2 p.m. Eastern.

## **Field Services Special Interest Group**

Past topics have included electronic signatures, strategies when working with reluctant certifiers, hard and soft edits within jurisdictions systems, sharing of field program/staff responsibilities, and more. The next Field Services Interest Group Call will be held on March 22, 2022, at 3 p.m. Eastern. Email [hq@naphsis.org](mailto:hq@naphsis.org) to join.

## **Systems Special Interest Group**

Discuss and share how your vital records systems respond to ongoing developments in the vital records

world. Topics include FHIR, special characters in names, interoperability, and streamlining the data lifecycle. The next Systems Special Interest Group Calls will be held on March 31, 2022, at 3 p.m. Eastern. Email [systems@naphsis.org](mailto:systems@naphsis.org) to join.

### Notable Publications/Data Briefs

#### **Fetal Mortality in the United States: Trends from 2014-2019 and Changes for 2018-2019 and 2019-2020**

This report was released January 2022 and can be found at this [link](#). It uses provisional data for 2020 to explore changes in fetal mortality during 2019-2020 by maternal race and Hispanic origin and state.

#### **The Quarterly Provisional Estimates of Selected Birth Indicators 2019-Quarter 3, 2021**

This report was released February 2022 and can be found at this [link](#). It has been expanded for Q-3, 2021 to include several new items: vaginal birth after cesarean (VBAC), Medicaid as a source of payment for delivery, low birthweight (<2500g) and neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) admission. In addition, all items are now available by race and Hispanic origin (non-Hispanic White, non-Hispanic Black and Hispanic).



#### Vital Statistics Modernization Community of Practice ***Rolling Out the NVSS API in the Test Environment***

After a successful testing event between NCHS and six jurisdictions in January 2022, NCHS is

pleased to roll out the NVSS API in a test environment to the remaining 51 jurisdictions. This will give all jurisdictions the ability to send and receive FHIR test messages to NCHS on an ongoing basis as part of their systems strengthening efforts based on some suggested timeframes.

This effort is a direct result of the lessons learned from the NCHS organized testing event where we

realized that empowering jurisdictions with the ability to communicate with the NVSS API would result in gained efficiencies as they work towards their modernization goals. Access to the API is an important first step as states and jurisdictions prepare to participate in more structured NCHS organized testing events coming up in May, October and December 2022.

Access to the test NVSS API should be assigned to staff at the Jurisdictional Vital Records Office who will be doing the hands on development and implementation of FHIR. Ideally these will be the same individuals participating in the NCHS organized testing events. This could be someone from the jurisdictional technical team and/or their vendor. In addition, a program staff member who is overseeing the effort could be assigned access. States are asked to send the contact information (names, state/organization and email address) of individuals that they would like granted access to the test NVSS API to [NVSSModernization@cdc.gov](mailto:NVSSModernization@cdc.gov) by March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

#### ***Special thanks to the following presenters during the February 16<sup>th</sup> CDC FHIR COP meeting:***

1. Brian Pang, Hawaii Department of Health Vital Records Office
2. Valli Chidambaram, Health Informatics Office, Utah Department of Health
3. Doug Wheeler, Minnesota IT Services, Minnesota Department of Health
4. Catherine Cheney, Chris Bentzler, and Sirisha Sathyamurthy (CNSI), New Hampshire Division of Vital Records

#### Vital Staff Spotlights

**Karen Knight** departed her position as DACEB Branch Chief in the Division of Vital Statistics at NCHS.

**Steve Schwartz** is acting DACEB Branch Chief in the Division of Vital Statistics at NCHS.

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