

# The Future of Administration Health Care Data for Public Health Surveillance: Perspectives from CDC's Tracking Program

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TRACKING

#### **National Environmental Public Health Tracking Program**





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Data:

- Gaps
- Not standardized
- Not analyzed
- Not released



Reduce diseases by managing environmental factors

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"...create a federally supported <u>Nationwide Health Tracking Network</u> with the appropriate privacy protection, that informs consumers, communities, public health practitioners, researchers, and policymakers on chronic diseases and related environmental hazards and population exposures."

# **TRACKING PROGRAM**

Goal: Increase the number of data-driven environmental public health actions and decisions by providing information from a nationwide network of standardized, integrated health and environmental data

#### **Funded Programs**

26

CDC - ASTHO Tracking Fellowships

49

**Public Health Actions** 

# 500+

Reported by state/city tracking programs since 2005





# **CONNECTS ENVIRONMENT** & HEALTH INFORMATION

Check out CDC's data explorer and state and local tracking programs for more information.





# HELPS IMPROVE HEALTH WITH DATA, TOOLS, AND EXPERTISE



Visit the Tracking Network today www.cdc.gov/ephtracking

Check out examples of Tracking in Action success stories and products!





## **Current Use of Health Care Data in Tracking**

- Hospitalizations and ED visits
- 20 to 30 states
- Annual updates
- Aggregated by county, month, 5-year age, sex
- Asthma, AMI, CO poisoning, COPD, heat stress illness

### **Addressing Gaps in Evidence Used for Air Standards**



Strosnider, Chang, Darrow, Liu, Vaidyanathan, Strickland. Age-specific associations of ozone and PM2.5 with **respiratory emergency department visits** in the US. Am J Respir Crit Care Med. 2019 Apr 1;199(7):882-890.

#### A "Pyramid of Effects" from Air Pollution



https://www.epa.gov/benmap/how-benmap-ce-estimates-health-and-economic-effects-air-pollution

#### In order to have data-driven actions, data must be:





- More timely data support more targeted response
- How timely depends on the surveillance question





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- How timely depends on the surveillance question





"Timely, reliable, granular-level data, and actionable data should be made accessible to communities throughout the country..."

Census Tract 1307.02

Census Tract 1307.03

Census Bloc

Block Group

Census Tract





- Communicate data quality and processes via metadata
- Improve race and ethnicity
- Connect hospitalizations and ED visits to other health care data





### Increased sharing

- between states/territories,
- states to CDC, and
- across CDC
- Additional variables and outcomes
- More temporally and spatially resolved data





#### Improved timeliness



#### Geocoded to census tract

**Enhanced metadata** 



Streamlined to expand access

# The New World of Public Health Data



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For more information, contact CDC 1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636) TTY: 1-888-232-6348 www.cdc.gov

The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

