

DSLRL

FRIDAY UPDATE

April 21, 2023

CDC's Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) program is a critical source of funding, guidance, and technical assistance for state, local, and territorial public health departments to strengthen their public health preparedness capabilities and improve their response readiness. The Division of State and Local Readiness (DSLRL) Friday Update provides information and resources for PHEP recipients and other preparedness planners. Please share the newsletter with your colleagues.

For more information, visit the [CDC State and Local Readiness website](#) or contact us at preparedness@cdc.gov.

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DSLRL FRIDAY UPDATE



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PHEP Cooperative Agreement Updates

CDC Clarifies Submission of Local PHEP Data

CDC has recently received several inquiries from local Cities Readiness Initiative (CRI) jurisdictions and other local health departments requesting access to the PHEP ORR Reporting and Tracking System (PORTS) to submit data to CDC. As a reminder, **CRI jurisdictions and other local health departments are not required to submit any information to CDC** via PORTS during the current Budget Period 4 (BP4) and the upcoming Budget Period 5. Consequently, CDC has limited PORTS access to the 62 PHEP recipients and their staff.

CDC recognizes that many state recipients may require their CRI jurisdictions and other local health departments to collect and provide data to the states to help meet state reporting requirements. States remain responsible for ensuring their local jurisdictions continue to advance relevant preparedness capabilities based on jurisdictional needs. However, local data should be submitted to states outside of PORTS. CDC encourages state recipients to coordinate with their CRI jurisdictions and other local health departments regarding state-required data and how to submit those data. In addition, CDC recommends CRI planning jurisdictions and local health departments continue normal preparedness planning, coordination, and training to maintain or improve their overall readiness posture.

For more information, see the PHEP BP4 [Frequently Asked Questions](#) resource on the CDC website.

PORTS Office Hours Scheduled for May 2

CDC will conduct two PORTS office-hour sessions from **1 p.m. to 2 p.m. EDT** and **7 p.m. to 8 p.m. EDT on Tuesday, May 2**. The sessions will serve as an open forum where PHEP recipients can ask technical questions on using the PORTS Operational Readiness Review (ORR) module or ORR guidance questions related to entering and submitting data. The PORTS session will be facilitated by the PORTS training team and DSLR evaluation staff. CDC encourages recipients to email questions in advance to dslrtraining@cdc.gov. Following is the participant information.

Participant Information – 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. EDT

Dial-In: (646)828-7666 (Audio only)

Meeting ID: 160 680 6035

Passcode: 940105

Access Link: <https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1606806035?pwd=ejA0YIRwb2lIL0JyL3FJQTICZ0ZOUT09>

Participant Information – 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. EDT

Dial-In: (646)828-7666 (Audio only)

Meeting ID: 160 680 6035

Passcode: 940105

Access Link: <https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1606806035?pwd=ejA0YIRwb2lIL0JyL3FJQTICZ0ZOUT09>

Save the Date: CDC to Host Two PHEP Connects Webinars in May

CDC will present two PHEP Connects webinars in May. The webinar dates and topics include:

- **1 p.m. EDT on Wednesday, May 10:** Pediatric Preparedness
- **1 p.m. EDT on Thursday, May 18:** This is a T.E.S.T. – A Tabletop Exercise Simulation Tool: Gamification of Tabletop Exercises



CDC will provide additional details in advance of the webinars.



CDC Response All-STLT Update Call Scheduled for May 1

CDC will convene a CDC Response All-State, Tribal, Local, and Territorial (STLT) Update call from **2 p.m. to 2:45 p.m. EDT on Monday, May 1**. CDC will provide information on the **May 11 expiration of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE) declaration as well as a COVID-19 vaccine update** and will reserve time for questions.

A replay of the webinar will be offered at **2 p.m. EDT on Tuesday, May 2**, using the same connection details.

The STLT update calls are intended for PHEP directors and all other STLT public health staff, as well as national and federal partners. To receive future notifications regarding CDC emergency response STLT update calls, STLT partners must subscribe to the CDCL-STLT-RESPONSE-UPDATES listserv. For more information, contact stltresponse@cdc.gov.

Participant Information

Dial-In: (646) 828-7666

Webinar ID: 161 016 7208

Passcode: 46217352

Webinar Link: <https://cdc.zoomgov.com/j/1610167208?pwd=Y1h2QWp5SFJDZlhnU2NoeDZrT21JUT09>



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Preparedness and Response Resources

HHS Plans to Amend PREP Act Declaration for COVID-19 Medical Countermeasures

On Friday, April 14, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Xavier Becerra announced that he will issue an amendment to the declaration under the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness (PREP) Act for medical countermeasures against COVID-19. The PREP Act declaration has been a key tool for ensuring that Americans have broad access to critical COVID-19 countermeasures including vaccines, tests, and treatments. The PREP Act declaration has provided flexibilities and protections for those individuals and entities who have been involved in providing these critical tools that have helped the United States get to a better place with COVID-19. For the past three years, much of the health care landscape—including pharmacies—has relied on these flexibilities and liability protections. By issuing this amendment, HHS intends to allow pharmacies to continue their critical roles in the COVID-19 response, even after certain products transition to traditional health care pathways.

In the month remaining before the end of the [COVID-19 Public Health Emergency \(PHE\) declaration](#), HHS will continue to work closely with its partners, including governors, state, local, tribal, and territorial agencies, industry, and advocates to ensure an orderly transition.

Read the full HHS statement at [Fact Sheet: HHS Announces Intent to Amend the Declaration Under the PREP Act for Medical Countermeasures Against COVID-19](#).

NACCHO Releases Two Administrative Preparedness Resources

The National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) recently released two administrative preparedness resources.

- The [Situation Report Template](#) is a resource for public health officials to use as they identify and circulate relevant information during disasters caused by natural, man-made, and technological hazards, as well as various factors that influence the exposure and vulnerability of a community.
- The [Emergency Staffing Plan Template](#) is a tool public health officials can use to develop preparedness plans for rapidly surging staffing during a public health crisis.

Learn more about these resources on the [NACCHO](#) webpage.

FEMA Releases Podcast on Local Officials' Roles in Disaster Response and Recovery

Emergency managers play a critical role in successfully navigating disaster response and recovery; however, the efforts of other players are just as critical. As leaders in their communities, local elected and appointed

officials make significant policy, resource, and communication decisions prior to, during, and after disasters. During the recently released FEMA [podcast](#), presenters discuss the [Local Elected and Appointed Officials Guide: Roles and Resources in Emergency Management](#) and how this guide can make it easier for senior officials to understand, prepare for, and execute their leadership responsibilities.



CDC Learning Connection Highlights Online Trainings

Spring into these timely courses featured on [CDC Learning Connection](#) and earn free continuing education credit. Following are the current featured trainings.

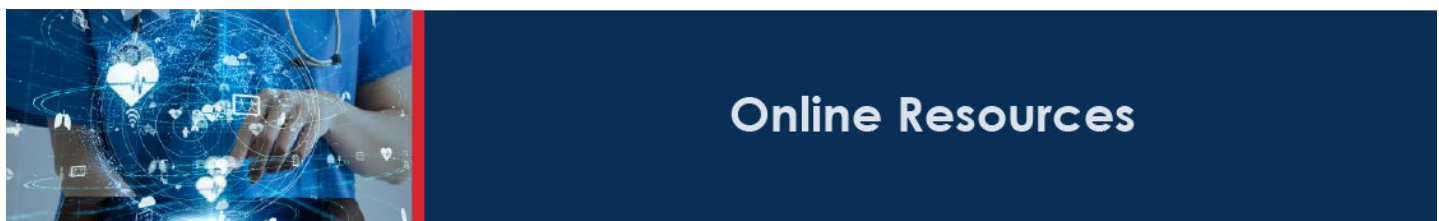
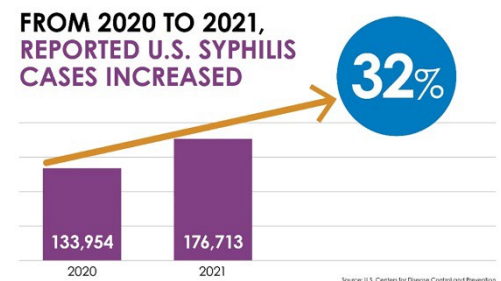
- Learn clinical and community-level actions to reduce the impacts of climate change with the [Climate Change and Cardiovascular Disease Collaborative Webinars](#). Free continuing education credit is available.
- Antimicrobial resistance is an urgent public health threat. Review antibiotic stewardship principles to help combat antimicrobial resistance with [CDC's Antibiotic Stewardship Course](#). Free continuing education credit is available.
- [Strategic Skills](#) Training: Resource Management. Mentorship can be a valuable component of efforts to build a strong and resilient workforce. Learn how to create and take part in an equitable mentoring program with [Mentoring Matters](#).
- The public health assessment (PHA) is a method to evaluate exposure to hazardous substances. Learn how to conduct a PHA and protect health with the [PHA Training](#). Free continuing education credit is available.

[Sign up](#) to receive the CDC Learning Connection newsletter to stay informed about public health trainings from CDC and partners.

U.S. STI Cases Continued to Escalate in 2021

Reported cases of the sexually transmitted infections (STIs) chlamydia, gonorrhea, and syphilis all increased between 2020 and 2021, reaching a total of more than 2.5 million reported cases according to CDC's [final surveillance data](#). To reverse this trend, CDC is calling for more groups from local, health care, industry, and public health sectors to contribute to STI prevention and innovation efforts.

Read the full media statement at [U.S. STI Epidemic Showed No Signs of Slowing in 2021 – Cases Continued to Escalate](#).



CDC MMWR Reports

- [Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, April 21](#)
- [Association of Mental Health Conditions, Recent Stressful Life Events, and Adverse Childhood Experiences with Postpartum Substance Use — Seven States, 2019–2020](#)

- [Cancer Distribution Among Asian, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Subgroups — United States, 2015–2019](#)
- [Suspected Suicide Attempts by Self-Poisoning Among Persons Aged 10–19 Years During the COVID-19 Pandemic — United States, 2020–2022](#)
- [Stroke Mortality Among Black and White Adults Aged ≥35 Years Before and During the COVID-19 Pandemic — United States, 2015–2021](#)
- [The Association of Reported Experiences of Racial and Ethnic Discrimination in Health Care with COVID-19 Vaccination Status and Intent — United States, April 22, 2021–November 26, 2022](#)
- [Use of COVIDTests.gov At-Home Test Kits Among Adults in a National Household Probability Sample — United States, 2022](#)
- [QuickStats: Percentage of Adults Aged ≥18 Years Who Took Prescription Medication During the Past 12 Months, by Sex and Age Group — National Health Interview Survey, United States, 2021](#)

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