

DSLRL

FRIDAY UPDATE

December 1, 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.

Subscribe here for the
DSLRL FRIDAY UPDATE



In This Issue

Upcoming Deadlines

- **December 29** – Critical Contact Sheet Updates

PHEP Cooperative Agreement Updates

- Critical Contact Sheet Updates Due December 29

Emergency Response Activities

- Respiratory Illness Data Indicate Elevated RSV and COVID-19 Activity

What's on the Calendar

- **December 5** – [CDC All-STLT Call Replay](#) (3 p.m. EST)
- **December 6** – [CDC Career Epidemiology Field Officer \(CEFO\) Update Call for Preparedness Directors and CEFO Field Supervisors](#) (2 p.m. to 4 p.m. EST)
- **December 13** – [CDC PHEP Connects Webinar](#) (1 p.m. to 2 p.m. EST)

Preparedness and Response Resources

- NACCHO Releases 2022 Medical Reserve Corps Network Profile
- APHL Releases Testing Playbook for Biological Emergencies

News You Can Use

- Call for Abstracts for NACCHO360 2024 Now Open

Online Resources

- CDC MMWR Reports
- CDC Online Resources



Upcoming Deadlines

- **December 29** – Critical Contact Sheet Updates



PHEP Cooperative Agreement Updates

Critical Contact Sheet Updates Due December 29

Updates to PHEP recipients' critical contact sheets (CCS) are due **Friday, December 29**. Recipients must review and update their CCS data on file in PORTS at least every six months or as changes occur.

As a reminder, due to ongoing preparedness, response, and recovery efforts, CDC has limited PHEP Budget Period 5 (BP5) reporting requirements to the following.

- Critical contact sheet data
- Emergency operations center (EOC) activation data
- PHEP annual exercise (access and functional needs) data
- PHEP benchmark data

With the close of the five-year PHEP performance period on June 30, 2023, recipients must also provide required closeout information, including a final performance report summarizing program activities from July 1, 2019, through June 30, 2024. Final performance reports will be due **Monday, September 30, 2024**. CDC is finalizing the questions for this report and will soon provide recipients with a report template.



Emergency Response Activities

Respiratory Illness Data Indicate Elevated RSV and COVID-19 Activity

CDC's [Weekly Viral Respiratory Illness Snapshot](#) on November 27 highlights key viral respiratory illness findings for COVID-19, influenza, and RSV from the past week. In addition, [two new posts](#) discuss COVID-19 vaccine uptake and the SARS-CoV-2 Variant BA.2.86.



The most recent summary of [respiratory virus activity levels](#) indicates that the United States is experiencing elevated respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) activity, particularly among young children, and COVID-19 activity remains elevated. RSV test positivity has exceeded COVID-19 test positivity. In addition, influenza activity continues to increase in most of the country, with emergency department use for influenza approaching the level observed for COVID-19.

According to CDC's November 27 weekly [FluView](#) report, flu activity is increasing most noticeably in the South Central, Southeast, Mountain, and West Coast regions. Outpatient respiratory illness is above baseline nationally for the third week and is at or above baseline in seven of 10 HHS Regions. The number of weekly flu hospital admissions continues to increase, and CDC estimates that there have been at least 1.2 million illnesses, 12,000 hospitalizations, and 740 deaths from flu so far this season.



What's on the Calendar

- **December 5** – [CDC All-STLT Call Replay](#) (3 p.m. EST)
- **December 6** – [CDC Career Epidemiology Field Officer \(CEFO\) Update Call for Preparedness Directors and CEFO Field Supervisors](#) (2 p.m. to 4 p.m. EST)
- **December 13** – [CDC PHEP Connects Webinar](#) (1 p.m. to 2 p.m. EST)



Preparedness and Response Resources

NACCHO Releases 2022 Medical Reserve Corps Network Profile

The National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) released its [2022 Network Profile of the Medical Reserve Corps](#) (MRC). This report provides a snapshot of the MRC network in 2022, including the newest data on unit demographics, funding, training, partnerships, response activities, and capabilities. With 70% of MRC units housed in local health departments, MRC volunteers are a vital resource for health departments to fulfill their mission in creating healthier, more resilient communities.

APHL Releases Testing Playbook for Biological Emergencies

The Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL) recently released the [Testing Playbook for Biological Emergencies](#). This playbook provides federal, state, and local decision-makers with a clear and evidence-based guide for making rapid and effective decisions regarding the development, implementation, and scale-up of diagnostic testing at every stage in an infectious disease emergency.



News You Can Use

Call for Abstracts for NACCHO360 2024 Now Open

The call for abstracts for the [2024 NACCHO360 Conference](#), to be held July 23-26, 2024 in Detroit, is now open. This theme of this year's conference is "Heard it Through the Grapevine: Public Health Partnerships, Collaboration, and Innovation." The annual meeting provides participants with hands-on experience and

innovative solutions to the challenges that local health departments face. The abstract submission period closes **December 31**.



Online Resources

CDC MMWR Reports

- [Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, December 1](#)
- [Mortality Among Children Aged <5 Years Living with HIV Who Are Receiving Antiretroviral Treatment — U.S. President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, 28 Supported Countries and Regions, October 2020–September 2022](#)
- [SARS-CoV-2 Epidemiology and COVID-19 mRNA Vaccine Effectiveness Among Infants and Children Aged 6 Months–4 Years — New Vaccine Surveillance Network, United States, July 2022–September 2023](#)
- [Notes from the Field: Firearm Suicide Rates, by Race and Ethnicity — United States, 2019–2022](#)
- [Notes from the Field: The National Wastewater Surveillance System’s Centers of Excellence Contributions to Public Health Action During the Respiratory Virus Season — Four U.S. Jurisdictions, 2022–23](#)
- [QuickStats: Age-Adjusted Percentage of Adults Aged ≥18 Years Who Received an Influenza Vaccination During the Past 12 Months, by Sex and Race and Ethnicity — National Health Interview Survey, United States, 2022](#)
- [A Cluster of Ocular Syphilis Cases with a Common Sex Partner — Southwest Michigan, 2022](#)
- [Notes from the Field: Diagnosis of Congenital Syphilis and Syphilis Among Females of Reproductive Age Before and During the COVID-19 Pandemic — Chicago, 2015–2022](#)
- [Notes from the Field: House-to-House Campaign Administration of Inactivated Poliovirus Vaccine — Sokoto State, Nigeria, November 2022](#)
- [QuickStats: Percentage of Adults Aged ≥18 Years Who Rarely or Never Get the Social and Emotional Support They Need, by Sex and Disability Status — National Health Interview Survey, United States, 2021](#)

CDC Online Resources

- **UPDATED** [CDC Respiratory Virus Updates](#)
- **UPDATED** [Weekly Viral Respiratory Illness Snapshot](#)
- **UPDATED** [Respiratory Virus Activity Levels](#)
- **UPDATED** [COVID-19 Wastewater Data – National Trend](#)

Christine Kosmos, RN, BSN, MS

Director, Division of State and Local Readiness
Office of Readiness and Response (ORR)
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

1600 Clifton Rd Atlanta, GA 30329 1-800-CDC-INFO (800-232-4636) TTY: 888-232-6348

[Questions or Problems](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)