



Shanksville



New York City



Pentagon

## Youth Research Cohort

**World Trade Center (WTC) Health Program  
Meeting of the Scientific/Technical Advisory Committee (STAC)  
June 21, 2023**

<https://www.cdc.gov/wtc/youthcohort.html>

## Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023 Established the Youth Research Cohort

Amended Sec. 3341(c) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. § 300mm–51(c)):

*(c) RESEARCH COHORT FOR EMERGING HEALTH IMPACTS ON YOUTH.—*

*(1) IN GENERAL.—The WTC Program Administrator, in consultation with the Secretary of Education, shall establish a research cohort of sufficient size to conduct future research studies on the health and educational impacts of exposure to airborne toxins, or any other hazard or adverse condition, resulting from the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, including on the population of individuals who were 21 years of age or younger at the time of exposure, including such individuals who are screening-eligible WTC survivors or certified-eligible WTC survivors.*

## Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023 Established the Youth Research Cohort

Amended Sec. 3341(c) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. § 300mm–51(c)):

- (2) *POPULATIONS STUDIED.*—*The research cohort under paragraph (1) may include—*
- (A) *individuals who, on September 11, 2001, were 21 years of age or younger and were—*
    - (i) *outside the New York City disaster area; and*
    - (ii) *in—*
      - (I) *the area of Manhattan not further north than 14th Street; or*
      - (II) *Brooklyn; and*
  - (B) *control populations, including populations of individuals who, on September 11, 2001, were 21 years of age or younger.*

## Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023 Provided Funding for the Youth Research Cohort in new Supplemental Fund

Amended the Public Health Service Act to add new Sec. 3352 (42 U.S.C. § 300mm–62):

*(c) USES OF FUNDS.—Amounts deposited into the Supplemental Fund under subsection (b) shall be available, without further appropriation and without regard to any spending limitation under section 300mm–61(c) of this title, to the WTC Program Administrator as needed at the discretion of such Administrator, for carrying out any provision in this title, including sections 300mm–2 and 300mm–51(c) of this title.*

## Youth Research Cohort Parameters

### Youth Cohort must:

- **Be of sufficient size** to conduct future research studies on the health and educational impacts of 9/11 exposures;
- **Include sufficient representation** of individuals who were 21 years of age or younger at the time of exposure; and
- Include individuals who are screening-eligible WTC survivors or certified-eligible WTC survivors.

### Youth Cohort may:

- Include **persons outside the New York City Disaster Area** in the area of Manhattan not further north than 14th Street; or the borough of Brooklyn; and
- Include age-appropriate **control populations** as needed for research purposes.

## Proposed Approach for Initiating the Youth Research Cohort

- **Phase I, Community Engagement:** Gather sufficient information from educators, scientists, and community members on options for establishing a youth cohort that will efficiently support future research.
- **Phase II, Options Development:** Use the information gathered in Phase I to develop a set of options for moving forward with establishing the youth cohort.
- **Phase III, Options Ranking:** Engage community in ranking the options developed in Phase II.
- **Phase IV, Option Selection and Implementation:** Use the information from Phase III to select the preferred option(s) for establishing the youth cohort.

## Recent Community Engagement (Phase I) Actions

- Request for Information published in the *Federal Register* on April 26, 2023, to solicit public input [\[Docket No. CDC-2023-0027, NIOSH-350\]](#).
- Development of a World Trade Center Health Program Youth Research Cohort, Request for Information [75D301-23-R-72680](#), published May 8, 2023.
- Published the [Youth Research Cohort](#) webpage June 6, 2023.