

Aware Prepare Update



Department of Health

Office of Health Emergency Preparedness

Mid-Month May 2023

Welcome to the **Mid-Month May 2023** issue of the Aware Prepare (AP) Update. The AP is your bi-monthly guide to upcoming trainings related to preparedness, readiness, and response. These trainings may be provided in one or more of the following formats, including: live webcasts, webinars and in-person training; archived webcasts, webinars and On-Demand eLearning on the www.NYlearnsPH.com Learning Management System. Questions or submissions, email: edlearn@health.ny.gov

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ICYMI: GOVERNOR HOCHUL – Preparedness-Related Press

[Governor Hochul Updates New Yorkers on State's Progress Combating COVID-19](#)

May 12, 2023 | 01:51 PM EDT

Governor Hochul updated New Yorkers on the latest information regarding COVID-19 and outlined basic steps to protect against the spread of viral respiratory infections.

[Governor Hochul Announces New Funding to Support Addiction Prevention Services](#)

May 11, 2023 | 04:16 PM EDT

Governor Hochul announced the award of more than \$2.9 million for ten providers across the State to fund prevention services for high-need populations in underserved communities under the "Community Prevention and Intervention" initiative.

[Governor Hochul Announces \\$51 Million Approved for Clean Water Systems and Local Drinking Water Infrastructure Projects Across New York State](#)

May 11, 2023 | 02:09 PM EDT

Governor Hochul announced the Environmental Facilities Corporation Board of Directors approved \$51 million in funding that includes low-cost financing and previously announced grants.

[Governor Hochul Announces \\$25 Million Available to Organizations Facing Hate Crimes and Targeted Violence](#)

May 10, 2023 | 06:09 PM EDT

Governor Hochul announced an additional \$25 million will be made available to organizations at risk of hate crimes and vandalism.

[Governor Hochul Announces Thousands of State Jobs Available in Critical Health and Human Services Titles](#)

May 10, 2023 | 01:57 PM EDT

Governor Hochul announced thousands of state jobs are open and available for immediate hiring in the health and human services fields.

[Video, Audio, Photos & Rush Transcript: Governor Hochul Convenes Unity Summit to Address Hate Crimes and Violence and Delivers Remarks](#)

May 10, 2023 | 01:51 PM EDT

Earlier, Governor Hochul convened a Unity Summit and delivered remarks in New York City to bring New Yorkers together in the wake of a rising tide of hate crimes and bias incidents.

[Governor Hochul Announces State Agencies Are Monitoring Lake Ontario Water Levels Following Heavy Rainfall](#)

May 09, 2023 | 05:09 PM EDT

Governor Hochul announced New York State agency personnel are closely monitoring the rising water levels along Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River, as lake levels have surpassed 247 feet, following prolonged rainfall throughout the Great Lakes system in recent weeks.

[As Title 42 Expires, Governor Hochul Issues Executive Order Providing State And Municipalities With Greater Flexibility to Support Expected Arrivals of Asylum Seekers in New York](#)

May 09, 2023 | 04:21 PM EDT

Governor Hochul issued an Executive Order to help provide aid to asylum seekers expected to arrive in New York as federal Title 42 immigration policy is set to expire on May 11.

[La Gobernadora Hochul Destaca El Plan De \\$1 Mil Millones Para Renovar La Continuidad De La Atención De La Salud Mental Del Estado De Nueva York](#)

May 08, 2023 | 03:47 PM EDT

La gobernadora Hochul resaltó hoy su plan plurianual integral de mil millones de dólares para revisar la continuidad de la atención de la salud mental y reducir drásticamente la cantidad de personas con necesidades de salud mental insatisfechas.

[Governor Hochul Announces More Than \\$7 Million to Support Medication for Addiction Treatment](#)

May 08, 2023 | 03:19 PM EDT

Governor Hochul announced more than \$7 million for 15 providers across New York State to support medication for addiction treatment by establishing comprehensive, low-threshold buprenorphine services.

[Governor Hochul Highlights \\$1 Billion Plan to Overhaul New York State's Continuum of Mental Health Care](#) | [Video, Audio, Photos & Rush Transcript](#)

May 08, 2023 | 12:38 PM EDT

Governor Hochul highlighted her \$1 billion transformative, multi-year investment to overhaul the State's continuum of mental health care and drastically reduce the number of New Yorkers with unmet mental health needs.

[Governor Hochul Updates New Yorkers on State's Progress Combating COVID-19](#)

May 05, 2023 | 02:50 PM EDT

Governor Hochul updated New Yorkers on the state's latest information regarding COVID-19 and outlined basic steps they can take to protect against the spread of viral respiratory infections.

[Governor Hochul Announces New Hurricane Evacuation Study to Improve Public Safety Planning Efforts for Catastrophic Tropical Storm Impacts](#)

May 05, 2023 | 01:13 PM EDT

Governor Hochul announced a new Hurricane Evacuation Study for the New York City, Long Island, and lower-Mid-Hudson regions.

[Governor Hochul Announces More Than \\$8 Million in Awards Through New York State Biodefense Commercialization Fund](#)

May 04, 2023 | 01:42 PM EDT

Governor Hochul announced the second round of awardees for the \$40 Million New York State Biodefense Commercialization Fund.

[Governor Hochul Announces FY 2024 Budget Historic Investments and Initiatives to Drive Down Gun Violence, Improve the Criminal Justice System, and Create a Safer New York State](#) | [Video, Audio, Photos & Rush Transcript](#)

May 03, 2023 | 02:34 PM EDT

Governor Hochul announced the public safety highlights of the FY 2024 Budget.

[Governor Hochul Announces Investments to Create a Stronger Health Care System for the Future](#)

May 03, 2023 | 01:42 PM EDT

Governor Hochul announced the passage of transformative measures to create a stronger health care system for New York State, both today and into the future, as part of the FY 2024 Enacted Budget.

[Governor Hochul Announces Passage of \\$1 Billion Plan to Overhaul New York State's Continuum of Mental Health Care](#)

May 03, 2023 | 01:01 PM EDT

Governor Hochul announced a \$1 billion transformative, multi-year investment to overhaul the State's continuum of mental health care.

[Governor Hochul Announces Highlights of Historic FY 2024 New York State Budget](#)

- [Spanish Translation](#)

May 03, 2023 | 10:12 AM EDT

Governor Hochul announced the highlights of the historic FY 2024 Budget.

[Governor Hochul and the National Hurricane Center Announce Hurricane Preparedness Week in New York State](#)

May 01, 2023 | 11:44 AM EDT

Governor Hochul and the National Hurricane Center announced Hurricane Preparedness Week will run April 30 through May 6.

ICYMI: NYS Department of Health – Preparedness-Related Press Releases

May 11, 2023

- [Governor Hochul Celebrates Year of Progress Addressing Longstanding Water Infrastructure Challenges in Mount Vernon](#)

May 10, 2023

- [New York State Celebrates Drinking Water Week May 7 – 12 with Further Initiatives to Protect Water Quality](#)
- [New York State Department of Health Honors 350,000 Nurses in Observance of National Nurses Week, May 6 – 12](#)
 - [Español](#) [中文](#) [Русский](#) [עברית](#) [বাঙালি](#) [한국어](#) [Kreyòl Ayisyen](#) [Italiano](#) [العربية](#) [Polski](#) [Français](#) [اردو](#)
 - [NANY Loan Repayment Program](#) addresses nursing workforce shortage

May 8, 2023

- [Governor Hochul Announces More Than \\$7 Million to Support Medication for Addiction Treatment](#)

May 5, 2023

- [New York State Department of Health's World-Renowned Wadsworth Center Poised for Growth with Increased State Investment and New Director](#)

May 3, 2023

- [Governor Hochul Announces Investments to Create a Stronger Health Care System for the Future](#)

May 1, 2023

- [New York State Department of Health Partners with NYC Health Department to Launch Mpox Vaccine Campaigns Urging Eligible New Yorkers to Prepare Now for a Healthy Summer](#)

April 27, 2023

- [New York State Department of Health Issues A Reminder About Pricing Regulations for Funeral Firms](#)

- [Español](#) [中文](#) [Русский](#) [עברית](#) [বাংলা](#) [한국어](#) [Kreyòl](#)
[Avisyen](#) [Italiano](#) [العربية](#) [Polski](#) [Français](#) [اردو](#)

NYSDOH- County Opioid Quarterly Report

In response to the growing opioid public health crisis, New York State convened a Heroin and Opioid Task Force charged with developing a comprehensive plan to combat the epidemic. With input and expertise from across the state, the Task Force produced a report, and put forth a set of actionable recommendations that were passed by the New York State Legislature. The recommendations included a call for improving the use and reporting of data for responding to heroin and opioid abuse.

The New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) analyzed statewide data systems in order to generate and provide these county-level opioid data. This report contains data on deaths, emergency department visits, and hospitalizations involving opioid overdoses, as well as data on admissions to substance use disorder treatment programs for heroin and other opioids, and on naloxone administration reports. Please note that admissions to treatment programs data for 2020 and 2021 were impacted by COVID-19, and do not represent a typical year for admissions. The reported data do not capture the full burden of opioid abuse and dependence in New York State. Starting with the April 2023 report, the NYSDOH uses data from the CDC Provisional Multiple Cause of Death WONDER queries to obtain statistics for overdose deaths involving opioids for the five boroughs in New York City. This enables the inclusion of New York City mortality data into this report. This is the latest in a series of opioid data reports that the NYSDOH releases on a quarterly basis. These data are preliminary, and may be updated in subsequent reports.

The *New York State - County Opioid Quarterly Report, Published April, 2023* and other data are now available on the opioid data webpage (<http://www.health.ny.gov/statistics/opioid/>) on the NYSDOH website. The webpage serves as a centralized repository for opioid-related data published by NYSDOH, including quarterly opioid data reports, annual opioid reports, and other important datasets that support efforts to prevent opioid overdose.

Please direct questions and requests for additional information to opioidprevention@health.ny.gov.

Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

Health Alert Network (HAN)

[2023 HAN Messages | Health Alert Network \(HAN\)](#)

- **ICYMI:** April 6th: [Marburg Virus Disease Outbreaks in Equatorial Guinea and Tanzania](#)
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CDC EPIC Exchange

Flooding and severe storm events have increased in recent years. Repairs from storm damage can be expensive but some cost-saving strategies and resources can help. Continue reading to find out more.

Are You Prepared?

What people do before a disaster can make a dramatic difference in their ability to cope with and recover from a disaster. Although natural disasters have become more frequent, nearly half of U.S. adults do not have the resources and plans in place in the event of an emergency. Some people postpone or do not invest in disaster preparedness because they do not have the money to pay for it. Although disasters can be costly, preparing now can pay off later.

Build Disaster Resilience without Spending a lot:

- Know what kind of [disasters and emergencies are most common where you live](#).
- Sign up for emergency [alerts](#) in your area to receive life-saving information from your state and local municipality.
- Download the [FEMA App](#) (available in English and Spanish) to receive weather alerts and safety tips.
- Build your [emergency supply kit](#) over time. Start with items you may already have in your home, like a flashlight, extra batteries, copies of important documents, water, and nonperishable food. Gradually pick up an extra item from the grocery store, especially if it's on sale. Community food banks are a potential resource for anyone experiencing food insecurity.
 - Cost-Saving Tips: Look for foods that have a long storage life. Use and replace food before its expiration date.

Download free [preparedness resources](#).

After a Disaster

Recovering from a disaster is usually a gradual process. Safety is a primary issue, as are mental and physical well-being. Reach out for help and take steps to begin the recovery process for your home, your community, and your daily life.

Safety First

Be aware of new [safety issues created by the disaster](#). Watch out for standing water on roads, contaminated water, gas leaks, broken glass, damaged electrical wiring, and other hazards caused by the disaster. Report safety issues to local officials or apartment management. Follow the manufacturer's guidance when using cleaning solutions, and items such as chain saws and generators.

Recovery Process

- If you have damages following a disaster, contact your [State Emergency Management Agency](#).
 - Report your damages and request assistance if needed.

- If you have insurance, contact your insurance agent to file a claim.
- Contact local faith-based organizations, and nonprofits.
 - These organizations sometimes provide food and shelter during emergencies and assist those in need with finding additional resources.
- Reach out to disaster recovery organizations, such as [American Red Cross](#), and [Operation Hope](#).
 - Everyone is welcome at a Red Cross shelter and all disaster assistance is free. Service animals are also welcome. Download their free guide, [Disaster Recovery: A Guide to Financial Issues](#).
 - Operation HOPE helps people get back on their financial footing after a disaster. [HOPE Inside Disaster](#) strengthens and aids recovery efforts by assisting individuals and business owners.

Federally Declared Disasters

Additional resources are available when there is a federal disaster declaration. This designation is made by the President and is reserved for large-scale disasters with widespread damage. If you are affected by the disaster,

- [Register with FEMA](#) and apply for assistance.
- Go to a [Disaster Recovery Center](#) for help.
- Apply for [emergency financial assistance](#).
 - Find out if you are eligible for disaster food assistance.
 - Learn where you can request help to pay utility bills after a disaster.

Find out if you are eligible for disaster unemployment benefits.

Additional Resources

- [Emergency Preparedness and Response | CDC](#)
- [American Red Cross Near Me | Find Your Local Red Cross](#)

[Resilience | FEMA.gov](#)

Email: EPIC@cdc.gov

Questions?

[Contact CDC-INFO](#)

800-CDC-INFO (800-232-4636) TTY: 888-232-6348

Other CDC Resources:

- **Preparing for the Next Pandemic in the Era of Antimicrobial Resistance** — The Presidential Advisory Council on Combating Antibiotic Resistant Bacteria (PACCARB) released their [11th recommendation report \[PDF - 62 Pages\]](#), Preparing for the Next Pandemic in the Era of Antimicrobial Resistance. This report was unanimously approved and transmitted to the Secretary of HHS.

- **Mother and patient advocate discusses how investing in novel treatments may improve patient safety** – The newest blog in the Patient Safety Series is now live! In the latest blog, writer and advocate Diane Shader Smith shares how her daughter, Mallory Smith, battled an antimicrobial-resistant infection. Diane discusses the importance of investing in innovative treatments, like phage therapy, to help treat antimicrobial-resistant infections and encourages people who have been impacted by resistant bacteria or fungal infections to tell their stories. [Read more](#) to learn about antimicrobial resistance and phage therapy. If you or your organization is interested in partnering with CDC to help improve patient safety, we encourage you to fill out [this form](#) and tell us a little more about yourself, or your organization, and your areas of interest.
- **Eight Ways Health Department Leaders Can Support Effective HAI/AR Programs** — State and territorial health agency (S/THA) HAI/AR programs play a critical role for spearheading prevention, detection, and outbreak response in their communities. During the COVID-19 pandemic, HAI/AR programs led and supported healthcare infection prevention and control activities. Several significant federal investments have been made to HAI/AR programs during the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency. To meet the requirements of these new investments, HAI/AR programs need support from S/THA leaders and their partners. Last year, ASTHO developed a report titled [Eight Ways Health Department Leaders Can Support Effective HAI/AR Programs](#).
- **Hand Hygiene Day** — On May 5th, the CDC joined the [World Health Organization](#) (WHO) in observing World Hand Hygiene Day to remind all healthcare personnel that practicing good hand hygiene, such as using an alcohol-based hand sanitizer or washing your hands with soap and water, is an effective way to help prevent the spread of germs and protect against infections. Clean and healthy hands count for all healthcare workers at every level of healthcare delivery.

Did you know?

- Healthcare personnel might need to clean their hands as many as 100 times per 12-hour shift, depending on the number of patients and intensity of care. [Learn more about hand hygiene science](#).
- Always clean your hands after removing gloves.
- Remember to clean your thumbs, fingertips, and in between fingers when using alcohol-based hand sanitizers.

Find new resources for healthcare personnel:

- [Watch the new](#) Hand Hygiene in Healthcare Settings Video Series to learn how to **Engage**, **Educate**, **Execute** and **Evaluate** hand hygiene programs in healthcare settings.
- Download [Clean Hands Count campaign](#) educational materials in English and Spanish to empower patients to ask healthcare personnel to clean their hands as part of providing safe care.
- [Learn how to recognize infection risks](#) in health care with resources from CDC's Project Firstline.

Remember: Hundreds of millions of germs live on our skin. Practice safe care by keeping your hands clean – clean hands count for every patient, every time!

- [REPORT: Public Health Data Strategy](#) – CDC recently published its first Public Health Data Strategy (PHDS). The PHDS outlines the data, technology, policy, and administrative actions essential to exchange critical core data efficiently and securely across healthcare and public health.

The PHDS outlines four Public Health Data Goals and 2-year milestones. Accomplishing 2-year milestones associated with these goals requires collaboration and partnership with state, tribal, local, and territorial health departments; healthcare partners; and other federal agencies. The strategy is designed to describe a path to address gaps in public health data, helping the nation become response-ready, promote health equity, and improve health outcomes for all.

- [Environmental Health Nexus \(EH Nexus\) | DEHSP | NCEH | CDC](#)



PHCC Messaging: The End of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Declaration

On May 11, 2023, the public health emergency (PHE) declaration will end. Among other policy implications, the end of the public health emergency will impact health policy measures associated with the public’s access to COVID-19 testing and treatment.

We’ve created a [new resource](#) with topline messaging to help keep your community informed about what the end of the PHE means for your constituents, questions to consider when communicating about COVID-19 and the end of the PHE to your community, and additional resources. Here are some topline messages from our new resource:

Topline Messages:

- When the public health emergency ends, COVID-19 vaccines will continue to be free for all, as long as the supply of federally purchased vaccines lasts.
- Coverage for COVID-19 testing and treatment will now vary by insurance type.
- The end of the PHE doesn’t mean that COVID-19 is over. CDC continues to recommend that everyone stays up-to-date on COVID-19 vaccinations, take a test if you have symptoms or have been exposed, and wear a high-quality mask when COVID-19 levels are high.

If you have any other helpful resources or frequent questions you’re hearing from your constituents, [we’d love to hear from you](#).

[Read the New Messaging](#)

ICYMI: Updated COVID-19 Vaccine Recommendations

On April 19, the [CDC updated its COVID-19 vaccine guidance](#), allowing adults 65 and older and immunocompromised people to get an additional updated (bivalent) vaccine dose. The CDC also updated its guidance to no longer recommend the use of the original (monovalent) COVID-19 mRNA vaccines. Visit our [Answers to Tough Questions](#) to find plain language messaging about the latest COVID-19 vaccine guidance to help you answer questions from your community.

[Updated Messaging: COVID-19 Vaccines](#)

On the PHCC Radar:

- Toolkit: [Mental Health Month Resources](#) in English and Spanish (Mental Health America)
- Resources: [Asian American, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander Heritage Month](#) (National Institutes of Health: Office of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion)
- Blog: [Do I need a spring booster?](#) (Your Local Epidemiologist)
- Last Call: [40 for 40 in Public Health Nominations](#) - submissions due 5/17 (de Beaumont Foundation)
- Blog: [Improving Minority Health Requires Addressing Social and Economic Disparities](#) (Trust for America's Health)

ICYMI:

- [Webinar: When and How to Respond to Public Health Misinformation](#)
- [Communications Tool: Plain Language for Public Health](#)
- [Toolkit: When to Take an At-Home COVID-19 Test](#)
- [Messaging: Vaccine Safety and Effectiveness](#)
- [Misinformation Alerts](#)

To get the latest updates, misinformation alerts, and resources from the PHCC and their partners, visit their [website](#) and follow them on Twitter at [@PH Comms](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

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Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of Minority Health (OMH)

May is Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander (AA and NHPI) Heritage Month – a celebration of AA and NHPI individuals and communities in the United States.

The HHS Office of Minority Health (OMH) is committed to advancing Better Health Through Better Understanding for AA and NHPI individuals by providing them with culturally and linguistically competent healthcare services, information, and resources. When patients are provided with culturally and linguistically appropriate information, they are empowered to create healthier outcomes for themselves and their communities.

Learn more about the Better Health Through Better Understanding theme, which focuses on increased health literacy, providing culturally competent care, and improving access to health care information for individuals with limited English proficiency (LEP) by visiting [OMH's National Minority Health Month page](#).

This month, join OMH as we highlight resources and data focused on advancing Better Health Through Better Understanding for AA and NHPIs:

- Visit OMH's [Population Profiles](#) to learn more about the unique health concerns impacting [Asian Americans](#) and [Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders](#).
- Visit the [U.S. Census Bureau's website](#) to learn more about the diversity within the AA and NHPI communities.
- Visit the [White House Initiative on Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders \(WHIAANHPI\)](#) to learn more about federal efforts to promote safety and equity for AA and NHPI communities.

HHS OMH - Updates to Coverage for COVID-19 Tests

What you need to know:

The COVID-19 Public Health Emergency is to end on May 11, 2023. The ending of the Public Health Emergency may impact an individual's coverage of COVID-19 tests. We encourage you to know these changes and share the New Consumer Fact Sheet on COVID-19 tests.

Consumer Fact Sheets:

- English - <https://www.cms.gov/files/document/covid-over-counter-test-coverage.pdf>
- Spanish - <https://www.cms.gov/files/document/covid-over-counter-test-coverage-spanish.pdf>

What to tell consumers:

- **Before May 11, 2023**
If you have any type of health insurance, you can get up to eight over-the-counter tests per month with no out-of-pocket costs. Over-the-counter tests are available in most pharmacies and may also be available online for delivery.

- **After May 11, 2023**

Laboratory tests for COVID-19 that are ordered by your provider will still be covered with no out-of-pocket costs for people with Medicare. Over-the-counter tests will still be available, but there may be out-of-pocket costs. Coverage of over-the-counter tests may vary by your insurance type, as described below.

What does this mean for Medicare Beneficiaries?

Generally, Medicare doesn't cover or pay for over-the counter products. The demonstration that has allowed us to offer coverage for COVID-19 over-the-counter tests at no cost ends on May 11, 2023.

However, if you are enrolled in Medicare Part B, you will continue to have coverage with no out-of-pocket costs for appropriate laboratory-based COVID-19 PCR and antigen tests, when a provider orders them (such as drive-through PCR and antigen testing or testing in a provider's office).

If you are enrolled in a Medicare Advantage plan, you may have more access to tests depending on your benefits. Check with your plan.

What does this mean for people with Medicaid or Children's Health Insurance Program?

If you have coverage through Medicaid or the Children's Health Insurance Program, you will have access to COVID-19 over-the-counter and laboratory testing through September 30, 2024. After that date, coverage of testing may vary by state.

What does this mean for people with Private Insurance?

If you have private insurance, coverage will vary depending on your health plan. However, private plans won't be required by federal law to cover over-the counter and laboratory-based COVID-19 tests after May 11, 2023.

If your insurance chooses to cover COVID-19 testing, they may require cost sharing, prior authorization, or other forms of medical management.

United States Fire Administration (USFA)

The NFA's application period is open

Train with the best to be the best! Apply by June 15 for National Fire Academy on-campus courses offered from October 2023 to March 2024.

[View course schedule](#)

USFA announces effort to launch new fire information and analytics platform

On May 9, USFA announced the launch of the modernization effort to develop a new, interoperable fire information and analytics platform, known as the National Emergency Response Information System (NERIS), for the American fire and emergency services.

This effort is being carried out as a partnership between USFA and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Science and Technology Directorate. The goal of NERIS is to empower the local fire and emergency services community by equipping them with near real-time information and analytic tools that support data informed decision-making for enhanced preparedness and response to incidents involving all hazards.

The new NERIS platform will replace the legacy data system known as the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) with a secure, cloud-hosted platform.

[Learn about NERIS](#)

EMS Week is May 21-27

Explore our training, health and safety, and outreach resources to help keep EMS personnel safe while providing pre-hospital life-saving care to those in need, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Each weekday of EMS Week, a topic area is highlighted to increase awareness about job resources for providers or to recognize service.

[Get EMS resources](#)

Type 3 All-Hazards Incident Management Team course offerings

The National Fire Academy (NFA) has several Type 3 All-Hazards Incident Management Team (AHIMT) course offerings scheduled this July and August on our campus in Emmitsburg, Maryland. These classes are free of charge and meet the needs of the National Incident Management System and the National Response Framework.

If you are selected to attend, the NFA will provide world-class training, lodging, travel reimbursement and class materials. Participants are required to pay for their meals on campus. NFA courses are not limited to structural fire/rescue personnel: those who meet the student selection criteria are welcome and encouraged to apply.

[More information / Apply](#)

Weekly update: infectious diseases

Explore this list of selected articles on infectious diseases published during the week of May 1-7. The articles cover policy and vaccine/antiviral news and updates on infectious diseases such as COVID-19, mpox and influenza.

[Download the update \(PDF\)](#)

Start using ReportStruckBy.com... it could save your life

Emergency responders: Report struck-by incidents via ReportStruckBy.com to inform efforts that enhance responder safety on roadways. ReportStruckBy.com collects information on incidents where emergency responders or equipment were struck by a vehicle while operating at a scene.

[Read the article](#)

ICYMI: Women in Fire to host first-ever Women's Weekend: June 24-25

The U.S. Fire Administration, in partnership with Women in Fire, is pleased to host our first-ever Women's Weekend at the National Fire Academy (NFA) in Emmitsburg, Maryland. Fire and emergency medical services (EMS) personnel (career/volunteer/combination across all disciplines, e.g., structural, airport, wildland, prevention, etc.) are welcome to attend.

A fantastic 2-day event scheduled that will offer 7 different 2-day NFA classes. As you look at the list of classes, you will see that they have something for everyone.

Women's Weekend classes

- Best Practices in Community Risk Reduction
- Command and Control for Initial Company Officer (NEW)
- EMS Leadership (NEW)
- Fire Investigation First Responder
- Health and Safety Program Manager
- Leadership in Supervision: Creating Environments for Professional Growth
- Wildland Urban Interface: Fire Adapted Communities – Introduction and Leadership

Training and lodging at the National Emergency Training Center for the Women's Weekend are free of charge. Those staying on campus must purchase a meal ticket. Commuters will also need to purchase a meal ticket for campus meals and breaks. Travel stipends are not provided. [Learn more / Register for the Women's Weekend: June 24-25](#)

ICYMI: Course vacancies: June 11-16, Emmitsburg, Maryland

Community Risk Reduction: A Policy Approach (R0670)

Learn to create, evaluate and defend public policy in your community by understanding how codes and regulations can be used as a component of fire prevention and mitigation and overall risk reduction. [Apply for a vacancy](#)

[Click here](#) to view complete information on the NFA's resident courses.

- [R0378 - Demonstrating Your Community Risk Reduction Program's Worth.](#)
- [R0673 - Service Area Risk Reduction.](#)
- **How to Apply:**
 - [NETC Online Admissions Application website](#)
 - Contact our Admissions Office, Monday – Friday between 7 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. ET, at 800-238-3358, ext. 1035 or by email at netcadmissions@fema.dhs.gov

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

National resilience guidance listening sessions

FEMA is spearheading an effort to create guidance and resources for the whole community to help everyone understand and fulfil their critical roles related to increasing national resilience. With the complexity of this topic and the need to create a truly whole community effort to increase resilience, FEMA is seeking to engage a broad range of stakeholders to inform development of resilience guidance and resources.

FEMA is hosting a series of 60-minute listening sessions to gather input from across the whole community to inform the development of actionable resilience guidance and resources. Fire service personnel are invited to attend.

[Register for a listening session](#)

America Burning: 50 years of fire safety and prevention

May 4 marked the 50th anniversary of the release of America Burning, the National Commission on Fire Prevention and Control's comprehensive study of fire safety and prevention that revealed the tremendous scourge of fire on the nation. The America Burning report was a watershed moment in the history of the fire service and fire safety and prevention in the United States. It highlighted the need for a comprehensive and coordinated approach involving government agencies, industry and the public to address fire safety and it galvanized support for reforms.

[Learn more about America Burning](#)

Include everyone in wildfire safety and prevention efforts this year -- Excessive growth of grasses, weeds and bushes in the West is a wildfire concern in 2023

Now that warmer weather is here, the combination of more people spending more time outside, with a higher amount of easily ignitable flash fuels, can result in a potentially busier-than-normal fire season, threatening lives, property, watersheds and ecosystems.

There are many ways fire and emergency services personnel can promote wildfire prevention messaging to help people in their communities understand how they can reduce the number of unwanted wildfires.

[Learn ways to promote wildfire messages](#)

Step Up for Fire Safety – Wildfire safety

Join with your fellow safety communicators to speak with “one voice” during the month of May on wildfire safety.

Messages to share

Protect your home: Embers and small flames are the main ways homes ignite in a wildfire.

- Clear off pine needles, dead leaves and anything that can burn from your roof, gutters, porch, deck, patio and fence line.
- Rake out landscaping mulch to at least 5 feet away from your home.
- Don't give embers a place to land and grow.

[Explore resources](#)

Get Ready for Hurricane Season

May 1 kicks off [Hurricane Preparedness Week](#). Sponsored by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) before the June 1 start of the Atlantic hurricane season, the week raises awareness of the hazards posed by hurricanes.

Even if you don't live along an ocean coast, rain, wind, flooding and tornadoes could still impact you after a hurricane makes landfall.

If you do live in a coastal area, you may have to evacuate quickly. [Learn your evacuation routes](#), practice with your household and pets, and identify where you will stay. Make sure you know the track of the storm and find out if you need to evacuate by having several ways to get alerts.

Here's how:

- Download the [FEMA App](#) and receive real-time alerts from the National Weather Service for up to five locations nationwide. [Sign up for community alerts](#) in your area and be aware of the Emergency Alert System (EAS) and Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA), which require no sign up.
- [Have enough supplies](#) for your household and include medication, disinfectant supplies and [pet supplies](#) in your go bag or car trunk. You may not have access to general household supplies for days or even weeks after a hurricane.
- Learn more about how to prepare for a hurricane — as well as staying safe during the storm and cleaning up afterward — at [Ready.gov/hurricanes](#). Additional information is available on FEMA's [Protective Actions](#) website.



Save the Date for the 2023 National CERT Conference

The [National CERT Association](#) (NCA) will hold its 2023 conference in San Francisco from June 29 to July 1, with preconference training available from June 26 to June 29. This year, the NCA is partnering with the California Office of Emergency Services, the Fire Services Training Institute and the Bay Area Urban Areas Securities Initiative, which will allow for enhanced training opportunities for conference attendees. More than 35 training opportunities will be offered during pre-conference this year.

The conference theme is CERT 360°, highlighting CERT's ability to be flexible as a community resource, as well as being inclusive of all community members. The conference will feature trainings and presentations for all levels of CERT, including emergency managers, program managers, instructors, volunteers and CERT partners.

This year, the conference will include the first-ever National CERT skills competition. CERT volunteers from across the U.S. will compete as teams to test a variety of CERT skills.

The conference will be held at the Hyatt Regency SFO hotel near San Francisco. For more information about the conference, visit the [National CERT Association](#) website sign up for the [2023 National CERT Conference email list](#).

FEMA's Data Digest: Help Prepare Your Community by Using FEMA's Data and Findings!

Do you want to use data to inform your preparedness efforts? Are you wondering what actions you should encourage your community to take? FEMA [publishes Data Digests](#) to share findings from its preparedness research, like the annual [National Household Survey on Disaster Preparedness](#). Our goal is to provide you with relevant insights, data, findings, research-validated protective actions and helpful links that you can use to engage with your community. We invite you to use the information below and incorporate Data Digest resources into your preparedness publications, social media posts and stakeholder outreach.

Have questions about this data? Want to receive the Data Digest in your inbox? Contact FEMA at FEMA-Prepare@fema.dhs.gov.

- **Learn how to help your community feel more confident in its ability to prepare for a chemical emergency using the resources in FEMA's most recent [Data Digest on Chemical Emergency Preparedness](#).**
- **Read about how to use [FEMA's National Risk Index](#) to help your community learn about avalanche risks in [FEMA's Avalanche Data Digest](#).**
 - May: [National Wildfire Awareness Month](#)
 - June: [Pet Preparedness Month](#)
 - June 26 - July 1: [National CERT Conference](#)

Johns Hopkins COVID-19 Resources

May 4, 2023 (Taking off May 11th, Resuming May 18th.)

Surveillance efforts decline as US prepares to wind down public health emergency; WHO panel meets to discuss whether to continue PHEIC

As the COVID-19 pandemic enters its fourth year, surveillance of the disease has declined dramatically, both in the US and internationally. The US public health emergency is [set to expire](#) on May 11—bringing an [end to most federal COVID-19 vaccine requirements](#)—and the US CDC plans to [stop reporting its color-coded COVID-19 Community Levels](#), switching to tracking hospitalizations in some areas. Hospitalizations, however, are a lagging indicator, as it takes about a week to 10 days for a person to be hospitalized with a serious infection. Additionally, [most states have stopped public reporting](#) of COVID-19 cases and related deaths, or stopped surveillance efforts altogether, [leaving little information](#) to enable scientists to determine how the virus is trending. While most feel the nation, and the world, has moved beyond the days of massive case surges and overwhelmed hospitals, the new normal remains unknown but likely will entail a series of [smaller “wavelets.”](#) The virus’s evolution remains unpredictable, however, and without better surveillance, experts are unable to say whether this [period of the lowest levels](#) of reported cases and deaths since the beginning of the pandemic is the beginning of a [post-pandemic stability or a temporary reprieve](#).

A panel of global health experts is [meeting today](#) to discuss whether COVID-19 still constitutes a public health emergency of international concern (PHEIC). Although there is no consensus on what course the panel may recommend, and whether WHO Director-General Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus follows that advice, [several experts feel it is time to wind down](#) the emergency declaration. Regardless of its decision, COVID-19 will remain a complex public health challenge into the future, requiring countries to transition their emergency response activities to [longer-term sustained disease prevention, control, and management](#).

Experts begin to assess pandemic responses, glean lessons learned to prepare for next pandemic

As the COVID-19 public health emergency comes to an end in the US, health officials are working to assess the nation’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic and ensure we are prepared for future health emergencies. In one such effort, 34 experts who were gearing up for the establishment of a 9/11-style commission instead formed the [COVID Crisis Group](#), led by Dr. Philip Zelikow. When the call to establish a National COVID Commission never came, the group pivoted to develop a nonpartisan, dispassionate review of the pandemic response, which was often marred by politicization and infighting. In a report titled, *Lessons from the COVID War: An Investigative Report*—[published by PublicAffairs as a book](#)—the authors [outline what went right and wrong with the pandemic response](#), including why people made certain choices, the availability of information necessary for decision makers to make choices, and the tools that were available and those that necessitated development.

The report includes information from interviews with nearly 300 people and often compares the pandemic response to a military conflict, saying the efforts in the US unraveled like

[war with no army or battle plan](#). According to the report, a lack of human coordination due to a fragmented US public health system, rather than scientific limitations, was one of the major points of failure in the response. Another major lesson centers around communication, with the report highlighting overall [emergency communications](#) as a point of failure, during both the Trump and Biden administrations. Poor communication likely exacerbated a loss of trust in US public health institutions, according to the authors. Notably, however, efforts that reached out to local community leaders were often more successful, and future responses will need practical toolkits to aid decision makers in implementing effective communications and mitigation efforts.

The European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) this week published its own assessment of its pandemic response. The report, titled [Lessons from the COVID-19 Pandemic](#), contains [4 main lesson areas](#): investment in the public health workforce, preparation for the next public health crisis, risk communication and community engagement, and collection and analysis of data and evidence. The collection of pandemic response lessons and recommendations is a crucial task, but political buy-in is needed to implement many of the changes recommended by these assessments that are necessary for preventing and responding to the next pandemic.

[Journal articles review progress made, lessons learned on COVID-19 treatment; studies into new treatments, repurposed drugs continue](#)

The journals [Nature Reviews Drug Discovery](#) and [The BMJ](#) recently published articles examining therapeutic strategies for COVID-19, including progress made, lessons learned, and global standard of care development. Authorized or approved therapies that reduce mortality, length of hospital stay, or time on a ventilator for patients with severe disease include systemic corticosteroids (such as [dexamethasone](#)), interleukin-6 receptor antagonists (such as tocilizumab), and Janus kinase inhibitors (such as baricitinib). Additionally, marketed antivirals, including molnupiravir (Lagevrio), nirmatrelvir/ritonavir (Paxlovid), and remdesivir (Veklury), are effective against non-severe COVID-19, particularly when given within 10 days of symptom onset. More than 400 randomized clinical trials have been conducted worldwide on treatments for COVID-19, and research into new therapies continues.

- AstraZeneca's investigational new [antibody drug AZD3152](#) neutralizes all known variants of SARS-CoV-2 in laboratory studies and [could help protect people with compromised immune systems](#) who do not respond well to vaccination. Studies are ongoing, but AstraZeneca is aiming to make the treatment available later this year.
- A study published in the [Annals of Internal Medicine](#) evaluated the use of [2 repurposed drugs](#), the oral selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor (SSRI) fluvoxamine plus the inhaled corticosteroid budesonide, among nonhospitalized adults with early symptomatic COVID-19 and at least one risk factor for severe disease in Brazil. Though a lower proportion of patients in the treatment group than in the placebo group were seen in an emergency setting for COVID-19 for more than 6 hours or were hospitalized within 28 days, no differences were noted in secondary outcomes.
- Another study published in the [Annals of Internal Medicine](#) assessed the safety and efficacy of the monoclonal antibodies amubarvimab plus romlusevimab among patients

at high risk for poor outcomes in the US, Brazil, South Africa, Mexico, Argentina, and the Philippines during the first half of 2021. Cumulative incidence of hospitalization or death was [significantly lower in the treatment group](#) than in the placebo group, regardless of treatment timing. A subgroup analysis of patients with variant data showed the combination was equally effective against Delta and pre-Delta strains, but the researchers speculated the therapy likely would have limited efficacy against the currently predominant Omicron variant.

Vaccine effectiveness studies support use of bivalent formulations, show monovalent vaccines highly effective against severe disease, death but effectiveness waned quickly against Omicron

Advisors to the US FDA are [scheduled to meet on June 15](#) to discuss and make recommendations on future vaccinations against COVID-19 for the general public, now that a [second round of bivalent boosters](#) is available for older adults and other people at high risk of severe disease. The FDA will make decisions after the panel meets, but officials previously indicated a [desire to recommend annual shots](#) that are possibly updated to match currently circulating variants, similar to flu vaccines. In a study published in [Open Forum Infectious Diseases](#), researchers report that the effectiveness of both Omicron BA.1-containing and BA.4/BA.5-containing bivalent COVID-19 mRNA vaccines against symptomatic infection during the BA.5-dominant period in Japan was [high compared to no vaccination](#) (65% and 76%, respectively) and moderate compared to monovalent vaccines administered over half a year earlier (46% combined). Notably, however, the bivalent vaccines were not as effective against Omicron subvariants as the original, monovalent vaccines were against the ancestral strain (Alpha) and Delta variants.

Though the [monovalent mRNA vaccines are no longer authorized](#) for use in the US, having been replaced by the bivalent versions, several recent studies show they provided substantial, durable protection against severe COVID-19 disease and death. A study published last week in [Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report](#) found monovalent mRNA vaccination was 76% effective in preventing COVID-19-associated invasive mechanical ventilation (IMV) and death less than 6 months after the last dose and remained 56% effective at 1–2 years. Vaccine effectiveness was [higher among older adults](#), supporting optional, additional bivalent boosters for individuals at highest risk of severe disease. A meta-analysis published in [JAMA Network Open](#) shows that vaccine effectiveness of the monovalent vaccines [waned quickly and significantly](#) against laboratory-confirmed Omicron infection and symptomatic disease, although the type of vaccine played some role. These studies support the use of updated, bivalent mRNA vaccines and boosters moving forward, and provide some evidence for reformulating the vaccines to match future dominant variants.

Decreasing US racial disparities in COVID-19 deaths possibly due to more deaths among Whites, study shows

A study published this week in [JAMA Network Open](#) examines the factors driving changes in mortality rate disparities among racial and ethnic groups over the course of the COVID-19 pandemic. Mortality rates for Hispanic and non-Hispanic Black US residents were much higher

than mortality rates for non-Hispanic White residents during the initial wave of the pandemic in 2020. However, those mortality rate disparities decreased in 2021. According to the study, 60.3% of the decrease in mortality disparities are [attributable to higher mortality among non-Hispanic White adults](#) and a shift in higher mortality rates to nonmetropolitan areas, where more non-Hispanic White adults reside. The findings highlight a continued need to prioritize racial health equity despite recent reports of decreased mortality disparities, according to the authors, who also make several [policy recommendations](#) that could address health equity, including: paid medical leave for essential workers, extended unemployment benefits, and further moratoriums on eviction and foreclosure.

The Kaiser Family Foundation recently released a [brief examining the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic by race and ethnicity](#) through the lens of premature mortality, using the measures of premature mortality rate and years of life lost among excess deaths that occurred during the pandemic. The analysis shows that for all groups of color, the pandemic was associated with a steeper increase in the premature death rate than for White people. Notably, the increase in the premature death rate for Hispanic people (33%) was more than twice that of White people (14%) from 2019 to 2022.

What we're reading

HEALTH SYSTEM RECOVERY According to a [new interim report](#) from the WHO, health systems in many countries are beginning to show the [first major signs of recovery](#) after 3 years of the COVID-19 pandemic. By early 2023, most countries reported experiencing reduced disruptions in the delivery of routine health services but highlighted the need to apply lessons learned to build more prepared and resilient health systems for the future, according to the report. Despite signs of recovery, [service disruptions persist](#) across countries in all regions and income levels, and [additional support is needed](#) for recovery, resilience, and preparedness.

US CDC CONFERENCE OUTBREAK The US CDC is [investigating several dozen COVID-19 cases linked to its own annual conference](#) held near the agency's headquarters in Atlanta, Georgia, last week. [About 35 people have tested positive](#) as of May 2, according to a CDC spokesperson. The 3-day 2023 Epidemic Intelligence Service conference was the first time in 4 years that EIS officers and alumni gathered in-person. Around 2,000 people attended the conference, and while attendees said many people at the conference did not wear masks or socially distance, most were likely fully vaccinated. The CDC is working with state health officials to determine transmission patterns. The [outbreak serves as a reminder](#) that while COVID-19 may not pose the serious risks it did at the beginning of the pandemic, the virus continues to circulate, maybe especially easily at large indoor gatherings.

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IVERMECTIN The Wisconsin Supreme Court this week ruled that a [hospital cannot be forced to administer ivermectin](#) to a COVID-19 patient. The [6-1 ruling](#) overturned a lower court's order that required Aurora Health Care to treat John Zingsheim, who was placed on a ventilator due to COVID-19 complications, with the anti-parasitic medication. Zingsheim's nephew, Allen Gahl, who was authorized to make medical decisions for Zingsheim, requested his uncle be treated with the drug, but Aurora determined that ivermectin did not meet the standard of care for treating Zingsheim's symptoms. Gahl then [sued after doctors refused](#) to administer a prescription for ivermectin that he received from a doctor outside Aurora. The court found that the lower court had no legal basis for its order, citing no law in either its written or oral ruling. The [FDA has not approved ivermectin for the treatment of COVID-19](#), and its misuse can be harmful, even fatal. The lawsuit is one of dozens filed across the US seeking to force hospitals to administer ivermectin to treat COVID-19.

BRAZIL INVESTIGATION Brazil's federal police on May 3 [raided the home of former President Jair Bolsonaro](#) as part of an investigation into the [alleged falsification of COVID-19 vaccine cards](#). Authorities seized his phone, searched more than a dozen homes in Rio de Janeiro and Brasília, and [arrested 6 people](#), including some of Bolsonaro's closest aides. In a statement, the police said the investigation is focused on whether officials in Bolsonaro's inner circle created false vaccination certificates so that unvaccinated travelers, including Bolsonaro, his family members, and assistants' relatives, could circumvent mandatory immunization requirements to enter the US. Bolsonaro confirmed to reporters that he is [not vaccinated](#) against COVID-19 but [denied playing a role in any fraud](#).

The following websites provide up-to-date epidemiological information down to the US county level:

- [Johns Hopkins University Daily COVID-19 Data in Motion](#) (*daily video showing global and US trends*)
- [US CDC COVID-19 Integrated County View](#) (*click on pulldown menu to view either COVID-19 Community Levels or Community Transmission, as well as other indicators specific to the US*)

American Journal of Public Health (AJPH)

[May 2023 - Volume 113, Issue 5 \(aphapublications.org\)](https://aphapublications.org)

Population-Based Monitoring of SARS-CoV-2/COVID-19 and Beyond

The May issue of AJPH focuses on population-based monitoring of COVID-19. It features a special section that explores the value of population-based information based on random samples through the ENE-COVID study in Spain as well as the REACT-1 study in the United Kingdom. Other papers in this issue address topics such as reducing health impacts of extreme heat, identifying loopholes for underage access in e-cigarette delivery laws, vaccinating vulnerable populations for COVID-19, and more.

Featured Articles:

- [Using Modernized Medicaid Data to Advance Evidence-Based Improvements in Maternal Health](#) – Medicaid data can advance evidence-based public health and policy interventions to improve maternal health in the U.S.
- [Evaluation of Public Health Contact Tracing for Mpox among Gay, Bisexual, and Other Men Who Have Sex with Men — Ten U. S. Jurisdictions, May 17–July 31, 2022](#) – Additional public health strategies beyond the contact tracing intervention, such as vaccination and recommendations for behavior change, are needed to reduce mpox transmission among MSM.
- [Examining Smoking Prevalence Disparities in Virginia Counties by Rurality, Appalachian Status, and Social Vulnerability, 2011–2019](#)
Pilehvari et al. | Am J Public Health | May 4, 2023
- [A Revolution Betrayed: A History of Tobacco Smoking and Public Health in the USSR](#)
Morabia | Am J Public Health | May 4, 2023

ICYMI: AJPH PODCAST: "Vaccinating America: The Inside Story Behind the Race to Save Lives and End a Pandemic". Podcast: [Listen to Audio](#) | Video: [Watch Video](#)

American Public Health Association (APHA)

[Public Health Newswire](#) from *The Nation's Health*.

[The task for the living: Learning and applying lessons from the COVID-19 pandemic](#)

As the COVID-19 public health emergency ends, "we cannot simply move on, but we can move forward together," APHA Executive Director Georges Benjamin says.

[Building better mental health in the workplace](#)

APHA and other organizations come together to underscore the importance of creating better mental health understanding in work environments.

Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO)

- ASTHO's THIS WEEK ON [PUBLIC HEALTH REVIEW MORNING EDITION](#)
 - May 11, 2023 [418: Post-Emergency Plans, Americorps Investment](#)
 - May 10, 2030 [417: Public Health Emergency Ending, Food Safety Training](#)
- ASTHO's PUBLIC HEALTH REVIEW PODCAST:
 - [Bridging the Gap: Ensuring Vaccine Equity for Native Communities](#)
 - **ICYMI:** [Connecting Climate Change and Health Equity in Public Health Agencies](#)

ICYMI: [A Public Health Approach to Reducing and Preventing Firearm Violence](#) The epidemic of firearm-related injury and death in the United States has become a critical public health and safety concern that affects everyone. To reverse and prevent negative outcomes in their communities, health agencies and their partners must understand and address the root causes of violence and risk and protective factors that intersect multiple forms of violence. Learn about the role of public health in injury and firearm violence prevention in this new blog.

ICYMI: PH-HERO Resource Hub | From ASTHO's Public Health - Hope, Equity, Resilience, and Opportunity (PH-HERO) Initiative, health agencies now have a library of resources at their fingertips to support the well-being and retention of their teams through workplace essentials to protect, connect, grow, and support team members. Use this hub to find tools, citations, and more to take action to care for your workforce. [Learn more about the resource hub here.](#)

- **ICYMI: Blog:** [Prioritizing Disability Inclusion in Emergency Planning](#)
- **ICYMI: Blog:** [How Community Health Workers Are Impacting Rural Communities](#)
- **ICYMI: Article:** [New Study Highlights Shifts in Emergency Powers Since the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

Public Health Workforce Interests and Needs Survey (PHWINS)

Registration Open: OSU's Annual Summer Program in Population Health

The Ohio State University's Annual Summer Program in Population Health prepares public health practitioners and other professionals with the tools and best practices needed to address new challenges in keeping our communities healthy. Through courses taught by national experts, the Summer Program educates and trains practitioners, researchers, and students in population health methods and builds their capacity to address emerging health priorities. The program is intended to appeal to a broad range of professionals who are interested in understanding and improving the health of communities. Learn more and register [here](#).

It's More than Burnout: Moral Injury in the Public Health Workforce

Randi Dent and Candice Chen shared their perspective on public health workers' experiences during the COVID response. In their view, the harassment, understaffing, long hours, under-resourcing, and misinformation workers dealt with resulted in not just burnout, but moral injury. Explore what the data say and the solutions they suggest [here](#).

Trust for America's Health (TFAH)

- In case you were unable to attend, [a recording](#) of last week's TFAH webinar focusing on the report [Ready or Not 2023: Protecting the Public's Health from Diseases, Disasters, and Bioterrorism](#) is now available. Subject matter experts discussed the nation's readiness for public health emergencies, examine the findings of the report, and discuss key recommendations for policymakers.
 - Office of Climate Change and Health Equity (OCCHE) has released its [May 2023 Climate and Health Outlook](#). This edition explores the climate-related health hazards of tickborne diseases, extreme heat, spring flooding, pollen, wildfire, and drought.
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National Center for Disaster Preparedness (NCDP)

[Do you know what your community's natural hazards are?](#)

Find out your community's risks with the US Natural Hazards Index.

The first step in disaster preparedness is to *know your risks*. Knowing which hazards exist where you live and work increases your situational understanding to inform and tailor a household, business, or community emergency preparedness plan. In a major upgrade to the beta version of the tool, released in 2016, this second version of the US Natural Hazards Index (NHI v2.0) helps visualize natural hazard data for fourteen hazard types in all 50 U.S. states and Puerto Rico (subject to data availability) at the census tract level. All hazard layers are derived from publicly available data sources. The index was created to provide households, communities, and public health and emergency management practitioners an overview of the natural hazards at the US census tract level and to facilitate the comparison of the presence and degree of each hazard along with a summary index score. The Natural Hazards Index was created in partnership with [AllianceBernstein](#).

[Access the US Natural Hazards Index](#)

New and Upcoming Live Events Note: *Some items are marked with **NEW!** generally indicating that the promotion is new to this edition of the Aware Prepare Update.*

May 2023

NEW! What's the Deal With Excited Delirium

Sponsored by NYS Vital Signs EMS Academy

May 15, 2023, 11:00am - 12:00pm

[View Here](#)

Exploring the Resilience Analysis and Planning Tool

Sponsored by FEMA Region II

May 15, 2023, 1:00pm - 2:00pm

[Register Here](#)

Communications Directory

Sponsored by NYSDOH CTI

May 15, 2023, 1:00pm - 2:30pm

Enroll in LMS Course: [CTI-200](#)

Public Health Live! Climate Smart Communities: Connections With Public Health

Sponsored by UAlbany School of Public Health

Tuesday, May 16, 2023, 9:00am - 10:00am

[Register Here](#)

NEW! Infection Prevention and Control Post-COVID-19 PHE: A CDC Project Firstline

Town Hall with AMA and SHEA

Sponsored by CDC's Project Firstline

Tuesday, May 16, 2023, 12:30-1:30pm

[Register Here](#)

Systems Perspectives on Healthcare Worker Burnout and Wellbeing During the COVID

Sponsored by Becker's Healthcare

Tuesday, May 16, 2023, 1:00pm - 2:00pm

[Register Here](#)

FEMA Virtual Tabletop Exercise Program: Hurricane COOP

Sponsored by FEMA NETC EMI

May 16-18, 2023

[Register Here](#)

HAZMAT Incident Safety Officer

Sponsored by DHSES

May 16-18, 2023, 8 Hours

East Aurora FD | [Register Here](#)

Working with Tribal Governments for Effective Emergency Preparedness and Response

Sponsored by NYSDOH OHEP

Wednesday, May 17, 2023, 1-3pm

Enroll in LMS Course: [OHEP-BP4-C3](#)

International Guidelines for Management of Sepsis and Septic Shock - Implementing the Hour-1 Bundle

Sponsored by SCCM

May 17, 2023, 2:00pm - 3:00pm

[Register Here](#)

Public Safety CBRNE Response Sampling Techniques & Guidelines (PER-222)

Sponsored by DHSES

May 20-28, 2023, 8:00am - 5:00pm

Buffalo Fire Dept. | [Register Here](#)

HTC Series - BP4 S5 - Planning Considerations for Active Shooter Events in a Healthcare Setting

Sponsored by CNY HTC

May 22, 2023, 10:00am - 11:30am

Enroll in LMS Course: [OHEP-HTC-BP4-S5-052023-CNY](#)

NEW! Making a Workplace Into a Safe haven from Sexual Violence

Sponsored by NYS Vital Signs EMS Academy

May 22, 2023, 11:00am - 12:00pm

[Register Here](#)

Discovering Mitigation Alternatives

Sponsored by FEMA Region 3

May 22, 2023, 11:00am - 12:00pm

[Register Here](#)

Social Media Techniques and Tools

Sponsored by NDPTC

May 22-23, 2023, 1:00pm - 5:00pm

[Register Here](#)

E8520 National Preparedness Symposium

Sponsored by FEMA, EMI

May 22 - May 26, 2023

National Emergency Training Center Emmitsburg, MD | [Register Here](#)

HERDS Reporting (CTI-120)

Sponsored by NYSDOH CTI

May 23, 2023, 1:00pm - 2:00pm

Enroll in LMS Course: [CTI-120](#)

NEW! Psychological Care for the Caregiver in Public Health Emergency Response: Best Practice Considerations

Sponsored by Mid-Atlantic Regional PHTC

Wednesday, May 24, 2023, 9:30–10:45am

[Register Here](#)

NEW! Healthcare Facility Evacuation Center (HEC) Worker Practical Skills Training

Sponsored by NYSDOH, Office of Health Emergency Preparedness (OHEP)

Wednesday, May 24, 2023, 9-11:30 | Menands, NY

Enroll in LMS Course: [OHEP-2023HECPST-1](#)

NYS Evacuation of Facilities in Disasters Systems (eFinds) version 3.0

Sponsored by NYSDOH CTI

Wednesday, May 24, 2023, 10:00am - 11:00am

Enroll in LMS Course: [CTI-502](#)

Public Safety CBRNE Response Sampling Techniques & Guidelines (PER-222)

Sponsored by DHSES

May 24-June 2, 2023, 8:00AM - 5:00PM

Buffalo Fire Dept. | [Register Here](#)

NEW! Demystifying Cyber Attacks

Sponsored by TEEEX

May 25, 2023, 8:00am

[Register Here](#)

Safety and Violence Education (SAVE)

Sponsored by FLRTC – Monroe County Office of Mental Health, Bldg. J – Erie Canal Training Room (3rd Floor), 1099 Jay Street, Rochester, NY 14611

May 25, 2023, 8:30am - 12:30pm

Enroll in LMS Course: [OHEP-WRHTC-SAVE-BP4](#)

NEW! Promoting Disability Inclusion and Equity: Approaches and Best Practices from Mount Sinai Health System

Sponsored by HANYS

May 25, 2023

[Register Here](#)

Community Planning for Disaster Recovery (AWR-356)

Sponsored by NDPTC

May 25-26, 2023, 1:00pm - 5:00pm

[Register Here](#)

NEW! Pediatric Disaster Mental Health: Essential Elements for Healthcare Providers

Sponsored by The NYC Pediatric Disaster Coalition

Wednesday, May 31, 2023, 12:00pm - 2:00pm | [Register Here](#)

June 2023

June: Pet Preparedness Month

Advanced Burn Life Support Course

Sponsored by Kessler Burn Center -- Strong Memorial Hospital, Rochester, NY
Monday, June 5, 2023, 7:30am - 4:30pm

[Register Here](#)

NEW! Fundamental Critical Care Support - Crisis Management

Sponsored by WRHEPC
Wednesday, June 7, 2023, 8am-5pm

Enroll in LMS Course: [OHEP-WRHTC-SCCM-FCCS-CM-BP4](#)

Health Commerce System Orientation (CTI-100)

Sponsored by NYSDOH CTI
Wednesday, June 7, 2023, 2:00pm - 3:00pm

Enroll in LMS Course: [CTI-100](#)

Psychological First Aid

Sponsored by NYSDOH
Wednesday, June 7, 2023, 10-11:30am

[Register Here](#)

Leadership in Supervision R0645

Sponsored by FEMA/USFA
June 11-16, 2023

Emmitsburg, MD | [Register Here](#)

NEW! VIRTUAL Evacuation of Facilities in Disaster System (eFinds) Train-the-Trainer

Sponsored by NYSDOH Regional Training Centers (RTCs)
Tuesday, June 13, 2023 @ 8:30am – 12:30pm

Enroll in LMS Course: [OHEP-BP4-HPP6](#)

Communications Directory

Sponsored by NYSDOH CTI
Tuesday, June 13, 2023, 9:30am - 11:00pm

Enroll in LMS Course: [CTI-200](#)

NEW! The Healthcare Cybersecurity Benchmarking Study

Sponsored by HANYS
Tuesday, June 13, 2023, 12-1pm

NEW! JUNE 2023: 2024 Total Solar Eclipse Planning

Sponsored by CDR HTC

Thursday, June 15, 2023, 1:00pm - 2:30pm

Enroll in LMS Course: [OHEP-HTC-BP4-S6-062023-CDR](#)

National Lightning Safety Awareness Week

Sponsored by FEMA

June 18 – 24, 2023

[Register Here](#)

Management and Safety in Response to Hazardous materials/WMD Incidents

Sponsored by FEMA/USFA

June 19-29, 2023

Emmitsburg, MD | [Register Here](#)

HERDS Reporting (CTI-120)

Sponsored by NYSDOH CTI

June 21, 2023, 9:00am - 10:00am

Enroll in LMS Course: [CTI-120](#)

First-ever Women's Weekend

Sponsored by NFA & Women in Fire

June 24-25, 2023

[Register Here](#)

NYS Evacuation of Facilities in Disasters Systems (eFinds) version 3.0

Sponsored by NYSDOH CTI

June 26, 2023, 2:00pm - 3:00pm

Enroll in LMS Course: [CTI-502](#)

NEW! Healthcare Facility Evacuation Center (HEC) Worker Practical Skills Training

Sponsored by NYSDOH, Office of Health Emergency Preparedness (OHEP)

Wednesday, June 26, 2023, 9-11:30 & 1-3:30pm

90 Church Street Conference Room 4A/B.

Enroll in LMS Course: [OHEP-2023HECPST-1](#)

E0490 Voluntary Agency Coordination in Disasters

Sponsored by FEMA

June 26-29, 2023

Emmitsburg, MD | [Register Here](#)

E8540 - Basic Interagency Logistics Seminar

Sponsored by FEMA/EMI

June 26-30, 2023; Emmitsburg, MD

National CERT Conference

Sponsored by FEMA
June 26 - July 1, 2023

[Register Here](#)

Newcomer Health Webinar Series: GI Infections - Soil Transmitted Helminth Infections

Sponsored by ECHO CO
June 27, 2023, 9:00am - 10:00am

[Register Here](#)

NEW! K0202: Debris Management Planning for State, Tribal, Territorial and Local Officials

Sponsored by FEMA EMI
June 27-30, 2023, 12:00pm - 6:00pm

[Register Here](#)

July 2023

NEW! Management and Safety in Response to Hazardous materials/WMD Incidents

Sponsored by FEMA/USFA
July 17-27, 2023 | Emmitsburg, MD

[Register Here](#)

NEW! Evacuation Planning Strategies and Solutions (MGT-461)

Sponsored by DHSES
July 18-19, 2023, 1:00pm - 5:00pm

[Register Here](#)

NEW! FEMA Virtual Tabletop Exercise Program: Wildfire Urban Interface (WUI)

Sponsored by FEMA NETC EMI
July 18-20, 2023

[Register Here](#)

NEW! Mass Casualty Impact and Recovery Webinar Series Session 5: Reopening and Resuming Operations | [FLYER](#)

Sponsored by PSPR2
July 20, 2023, 12:00pm - 1:30pm

[Register Here](#)

NEW! K0139: Exercise Design and Development

Sponsored by FEMA NETC EMI
July 24-27, 2023, 9:00am - 1:00pm

[Register Here](#)

NEW! Intermediate Emergency Operations Center Functions (G-2300)

Sponsored by DHSES

July 25-27, 2023, 8:00am - 5:00pm | Livingston Co. Office of Emergency Services

[Register Here](#)

NEW! Newcomer Health Webinar Series: Lead and Anemia

Sponsored by ECHO CO

July 27, 2023, 9:00am - 10:00am

[Register Here](#)

August 2023

NEW! Evacuation Planning Strategies and Solutions (MGT-461)

Sponsored by NDPTC

August 8-9, 2023, 12:00pm - 4:00pm

[Register Here](#)

NEW! Natural Disaster Awareness for Community Leaders (AWR-310)

Sponsored by DHSES

August 9, 2023, 1:00pm - 5:00pm

[Register Here](#)

NEW! FEMA Virtual Tabletop Exercise Program: Cyber

Sponsored by FEMA NETC EMI

August 8-10, 2023

[Register Here](#)

NEW! Isolation & Quarantine for Rural Communities (MGT-433)

Sponsored by DHSES

August 9-10, 2023, 8:30am - 12:30pm

[Register Here](#)

NEW! Mass Casualty Impact and Recovery Webinar Series Session 6: The Immediate Aftermath: What Short Term Recovery Looks Like [FLYER](#)

Sponsored by PSPR2

August 17, 2023, 12:00pm - 1:30pm

[Register Here](#)

NEW! Evacuation Planning Strategies and Solutions

Sponsored by NDPTC

August 24-25, 2023, 12:00pm - 4:00pm

[Register Here](#)

NEW! FEMA Virtual Tabletop Exercise Program: Active Threat (Shooter) – School

Sponsored by FEMA NETC EMI

August 29-31, 2023 |

New & OnDemand Content - NYLearnsPH.com

NEW! Disaster Mental Health: A Survivor's Perspective

Sponsored by NYSDOH OHEP

Recorded on April 4, 2023

Enroll in LMS Course: [OHEP-BP4-HPP5](#)

Evidence-Based Approaches for Post-Disaster Mental Health Disorders

Sponsored by South Central Partnership

Enroll in LMS Course: [SCP-2055](#)

Addressing Human Trafficking in Healthcare Settings

Sponsored by Region V Public Health Training Center

Free CE and Certs: 1.75 Nursing Contact Hours | 1.75 CHES Category I CECH

Enroll in LMS Course: [RVPHTC-20210201](#)

HTC Webinar Series - BP4 Session 3 - Emergency Planning and Preparedness for Persons with Disabilities & Access and Functional Needs - PART II

Sponsored by WR HTC (FLRTC)

Recorded on March 15, 2023

Enroll in LMS Course: [OHEP-HTC-BP4-S3-032023-WR](#)

Enroll in Part I LMS Course: [RTC-BP3-S6-122021-WR](#)

Log-in 2 Learn - The Science of Trust: Implications for Public Health Research

Sponsored by Region 2 Public Health Training Center

Recorded on March 7, 2023

Enroll in LMS Course: [Reg2PHTC-L2L202303](#)

Cyber Security Response in Healthcare: Emergency Management's Role

Sponsored by MARO HTC

Recorded on February 16, 2023

Enroll in LMS Course: [OHEP-HTC-BP4-S2-022023-MARO](#)

Log-in 2 Learn - Mortality Surveillance Using an Automated Mortality Syndromic Surveillance System (MortalSS) – Lessons Learned from New York City

Sponsored by Region 2 Public Health Training Center

Recorded on February 7, 2023

Enroll in LMS Course: [Reg2PHTC-L2L202302](#)

Guidance to Complete ServNY Notification Drill

Sponsored by NYSDOH OHEP

2022-2023 Public Health Emergency Preparedness Program Deliverable BPR-4

Enroll in LMS Course: [OHEP-BP4-BPR4](#)

BP4 Series: Steuben County Response and Recovery to Tropical Storm Fred

Sponsored by URMIC, Wester Region HTC – FLRTC, Steuben County EMO

Recorded on January 23, 2023

Enroll in LMS Course: [OHEP-HTC-BP4-S1-012023-WR](#) | [HTC-BP4-S1 Handouts](#)

Psychological First Aid

Sponsored by NYSDOH OHEP

Enroll in LMS Course: [OHEP-OMH-PFA-NY](#)

The Power of Framing: Bridging Political Divides to Strengthen Public Health

Sponsored by Public Health Communications Collaborative

Recorded October 18, 2022

Enroll in LMS Course: [PHCC-20221018](#)

Comms Crash Course: Using Social Media for Public Health Communications

Sponsored by Public Health Communications Collaborative

Recorded July 26, 2022

Enroll in LMS Course: [PHCC-20220726](#)

Communicating Through COVID-19 & Beyond: Impact & Insights from the Field of Public Health

Sponsored by Public Health Communications Collaborative

Recorded April 13, 2022

Enroll in LMS Course: [PHCC-20220413](#)

Additional Training of Interest

A Look Inside Life-Saving Overdose Prevention Centers

Sponsored by Drug Policy Alliance

Posted March 30, 2023

[View Here](#)

Vaccine Confidence Panel Presentation: Equity in Childhood COVID-19 Vaccination

Sponsored by the Office of New Americans

Recorded March 7, 2023

Passcode: 9987#Nex | [View Here](#)

Project Public Health Ready (PPHR)

Sponsored by NACCHO

Online course | [View Here](#)

Medical Needs Sheltering

Sponsored by Region 6 South Central Public Health Training Center

Online course |

CDC Communities of Practice webinar: Promoting Bivalent Vaccinations for Older Adults: Long-Term Care Provider Perspectives

Sponsored by CDC and Public Health Foundation

Recorded February 9, 2023

[View Here](#)

Partnering with the Autism Community on Inclusive Emergency Preparedness

Sponsored by Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO)

Recorded September 20, 2022

[View Here](#)

Public Health Prepared Training Catalog

Sponsored by U of Michigan Center for Infectious Disease Threats & Pandemic Preparedness

[Access Training Catalog](#)

National Center for Disaster Preparedness

The National Center for Disaster Preparedness, through its FEMA training grants, will be offering the following *free* upcoming trainings.

Live Virtual Learning (May - June 2023)

The training hosts are in the locations below; however, learners in the FEMA regions are also welcome to attend.

- **May 18, 2023 - Lehigh County, PA, FEMA Region 3**
[MGT-477: Roles for State, Tribal, and Territorial Governments in the Implementation of Disaster Housing Programs](#)
- **June 22, 2023 - Montana, FEMA Region 8**
[MGT-472: Planning for Transitional and Long-Term Housing After A Major Disaster](#)
- **July 13, 2023 - Snohomish County, WA, FEMA Region 10**
[MGT-477: Roles for State, Tribal, and Territorial Governments in the Implementation of Disaster Housing Programs](#)
- **August 1, 2023 - Wyoming, WA, FEMA Region 8**
 - [MGT-477: Roles for State, Tribal, and Territorial Governments in the Implementation of Disaster Housing Programs](#)

Instructor-led In-Person Learning (May - June 2023)

The training hosts are in the locations below; however, learners in the FEMA regions are also welcome to attend.

- **May 17, 2023 - Dayton, OH, FEMA Region 5**
[MGT-477: Roles for State, Tribal, and Territorial Governments in the Implementation of Disaster Housing Programs](#)
- **June 6, 2023 - Delaware, FEMA Region 3**
[MGT-472: Planning for Transitional and Long-Term Housing After a Major Disaster](#)

- **June 20, 2023 - Broward County, FL, FEMA Region 4**
[MGT-477: Roles for State, Tribal, and Territorial Governments in the Implementation of Disaster Housing Programs](#)
- **July 11, 2023 - Delaware, FEMA Region 3**
[MGT-477: Roles for State, Tribal, and Territorial Governments in the Implementation of Disaster Housing Programs](#)
- **August 23, 2023 -Alleghany County, PA, FEMA Region 3**
[MGT-472: Planning for Transitional and Long-Term Housing After A Major Disaster](#)

1744-REVISED-Training Opportunity-K0289 State Volunteer and Donations Management

K0289: State Volunteer and Donations Management

Course Description:

This course supports state, tribal, and territorial governments and their emergency management partners in preparing for, responding to, and recovering from disaster events at the state, tribal, or territorial level. The course is designed to strengthen states' abilities to successfully prepare for and handle volunteer and donations management issues that may arise after a disaster event, including managing the offers of things, people, and money, and matching them according to donor intent and area of greatest need, while being fair and equitable.

[Read more in Training Opportunity 1744 REVISED.](#)

1787-Training Opportunity-EK0131 Exercise Evaluation and Improvement Planning

E/K0131: Exercise Evaluation and Improvement Planning

Course Description:

This course will expand on the concepts of exercise evaluation and improvement planning that were introduced in the Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) course. Students will learn how to establish an exercise evaluation program, gather evaluation data effectively during exercises, and implement and track improvements as part of a Continuous Improvement Program within your organization.

[Read more in Training Opportunity 1787.](#)