NCHS Overview

Brian C. Moyer, Director, National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS)

July 12, 2021
The COVID-19 Response

NCHS is ...

- Accelerating the availability of our statistics
- Expanding our existing surveys
- Partnering with the federal statistical community
NCHS Mortality Data

Percent increase in total number of deaths in 2020 through June 19, 2021 vs. 2019, all-cause and excluding COVID-19

- Hispanic
- Non-Hispanic American Indian or Alaska Native
- Non-Hispanic Asian
- Non-Hispanic Black
- Non-Hispanic White
- Other (multiracial, unknown)

Legend:
- Red: Total percent increase in 2020
- Gray: Percent increase in 2020, excluding COVID-19
Newly Released Hospital Data Shows the Progression of COVID-19 from Urban to Rural Areas

Inpatient Encounters with Confirmed COVID-19 by Urban-Rural Location and Week, From Select Hospitals

[Graph showing the progression of COVID-19 inpatient encounters by urban-rural location from May 2020 to November 2020.]
# NCHS 2021-2024 Strategic Framework

**Vision**

*To be a world-class innovator and provider of health statistics.*

**Mission**

*NCHS collects, analyzes, and disseminates timely, relevant, and accurate health statistics. Our statistics inform the public and guide program and policy decisions to improve our nation’s health.*

## Strategic Goals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objectives</th>
<th>Amplify NCHS’ relevance and external engagement</th>
<th>Expand NCHS’ range of data sources and methods</th>
<th>Modernize NCHS’ core data systems to reinforce speed and responsiveness</th>
<th>Build on NCHS’ workforce and operational excellence</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>✦ Improve service by increasing understanding of users’ needs</td>
<td>✦ Identify and incorporate new and non-traditional data sources</td>
<td>✦ Improve the performance of core surveys and data systems</td>
<td>✦ Improve diversity and inclusion in staff and leadership</td>
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<td>✦ Build and maintain strategic partnerships with public and private entities</td>
<td>✦ Expand the use of data from electronic health records and data</td>
<td>✦ Advance innovation in surveys and data collection systems</td>
<td>✦ Increase professional development activities and succession planning</td>
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<td>✦ Improve awareness of, access to, and use of NCHS data</td>
<td>✦ Improve sources and methods for modeling, projections, and other innovative analytic approaches</td>
<td>✦ Expand how NCHS data systems inform health equity programs and policies</td>
<td>✦ Improve technical competencies and leadership capacity of staff</td>
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<td>✦ Enhance contributions to health equity initiatives through data and partnerships</td>
<td>✦ Advance source and methods for understanding and addressing health equity</td>
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<td>✦ Improve internal communications and collaboration</td>
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<td>✦ Improve speed and agility of operations</td>
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## Core Values

Accuracy — Quality — Trust — Integrity — Objectivity
## NCHS Budget Update

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Budget Authority</th>
<th>Public Health and Scientific Services</th>
<th>Additional Resources</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FY16 enacted</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td>FY17 enacted</td>
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<td>14</td>
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<tr>
<td>FY18 enacted</td>
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<tr>
<td>FY19 enacted</td>
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<tr>
<td>FY21 enacted</td>
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<tr>
<td>FY22 President's Budget</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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“Additional Resources” include reimbursables from CDC and other agencies.
NCHS and Health Equity

Amy Branum, Associate Director for Science
CDC has developed and initiated implementation of a comprehensive, agency-wide Health Equity Strategy that includes:

**SCIENCE** (Research, Surveillance, Data, Evaluation)
- Divisions have science agendas that embed health equity science

**INTERVENTIONS** (program, policy, systems)
- Divisions have intervention plans with targeted goals, approaches, and metrics

**PARTNERSHIPS**
- CDC has identified multi-level, multisectoral partnerships

**CDC INFRASTRUCTURE**
- CDC has identified needed internal systems, accountability, and resources to ensure successful implementation
Current Health Equity Science Activities

Core data collections
- High-quality, standardized race/ethnicity data for most data systems
- Inclusion of several sociodemographic, socioeconomic, and geographic indicators
- Expertise in data collection methods

Data linkage
- Long-standing methodologic expertise
- Produced ~100 data NCHS survey files linked with important contextual data from CMS, NDI, SSA, and HUD
- Allowed for many analyses geared at answering important policy questions

Cognitive testing
- Unique resource within NCHS
- Testing of hundreds of questions related to disparities and equity

Analysis and dissemination of data

HP methodologic work
- More recent focus on highlighting and measuring disparities

COVID-19 disparity data
- All of our COVID-19 data dissemination provides breakouts by demographic indicators and have continued to expand
- COVID-19 mortality data now available according to Social Vulnerability Index
Future Health Equity science activities

Core data collections
- Include new questions related to health equity
- Additional methodologic work around validation of race/ethnicity data in vital statistics, healthcare data

Data linkage
- Increase accessibility of data
- New methods around privacy protections (e.g., PPRL, synthetic data)

Cognitive testing
- Targeted testing of new questions around perceived discrimination or stigmatization

Analysis and dissemination of data
- Enhance traditional survey data with model-based estimates to produce statistics for smaller geographic areas and demographic groups
- More within-subgroup analyses, analyses with more granularity
Other Activities

- Reconstitution of NCHS Health Equity Interest Group (September, 2021)
- NCHS Diversity Committee Health Equity Research Day (July, 2021)
- DMI projects
- Various HHS and CDC subcommittees
NCHS and Data Modernization

Jim Craver, Senior Advisor
WHAT IS THE DATA MODERNIZATION INITIATIVE?

CDC is at the heart of a national effort to create a modern, integrated, and real-time public health data and surveillance infrastructure that can protect us from any health threat.

DMI is resourced and comprehensive, and it unifies us in ways no other strategy has before.
EMPOWER SCIENTISTS
Focus on Knowledge Discovery and Public Health

GET BETTER DATA
Access to Complete, Accurate, and Up-to-Date Information

SAVE TIME Faster and More Streamlined IT Development and Implementation

ENSURE SUSTAINABILITY
Maximize Value and Flexibility

ENCOURAGE INNOVATION
Enhance Productivity and Creativity

PROMOTE COLLABORATION
Ensure Alignment & Enhance Productivity

 BENEFITS TO PUBLIC HEALTH

BENEFITS TO PUBLIC HEALTH
Continuous monitoring of emergency room visits to detect potential outbreaks
Increasing the number of connected emergency departments and the use of syndromic and disease surveillance data by public health partners

Real-time, secure, automated reporting from electronic health records to public health
Expanding use, building more connectivity to electronic health records, and improving the completeness of data used for case investigation and contact tracing

Reduced burden on states for reporting notifiable diseases to CDC
Enhancing surveillance capabilities by improving data collection, sharing, and analysis across the entire public health community

Automated reporting of laboratory test results as soon as they are available
Accelerating adoption through collaboration among clinical laboratories, vendors, and public health agencies

Real-time reporting of death data from multiple sources
Expanding broad-scale use of electronic vital record systems and making the data interoperable with electronic health records and medical examiner/coroner information

Strengthening the Core of Public Health
NCHS Data Modernization Projects

- **Data Sourcing and Production Improvements**
  - NVSS Modernization
  - Electronic Health Records
  - NHIS Pilot Projects
  - Model-Based Estimates
  - Linkage

- **Data Access Improvements**
  - Data Query System
  - Website Redesign
  - Data Science Activities
  - Virtual Data Enclave
Questions and Discussion