



Director's Update: NCHS Board of Scientific Counselors

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Welcome and Thank you to our Board Members!

WELCOME!

Thank
You!

Welcome to our New Members!



Roland J. Thorpe, Jr., Ph.D.



Susan Schechter, M.A.

Chief Statistician of the United States



Karin A. Orvis, Ph.D., M.A.

NCHS key accomplishments in 2023

- Led Center-wide planning to advance strategic goals
- Contributed to agency-wide AI strategy, including ethical AI use
- Started process to move data and technology to the EDAV Cloud

OD

- Improved confidentiality, human-subject, and OMB/PRA processes
- Streamlined scientific report review and clearance

OS

- Managed Center's IT portfolio, which encompasses 17 systems
- Supported the transition from on-premises servers to Cloud migration

OIGA

- Published more than 80 reports, a 45% increase since 2019
- Released 30 social media graphics, 12 of which received between 60k and 90k impressions on X/Twitter

OIS

- Established three new offices
- Restructured seven offices and divisions

OMO

- Resumed in-person Hill briefings
- Visited members of the House and Senate Appropriations Committees

OPBL

NCHS key accomplishments in 2023

- Released *Health, United States* trend analysis report and Healthy People web feature, both focused on health disparities
- Sponsored meeting on data linkage priorities

DAE

- Secured a new contract to support the NHANES survey design
- Invested in new medical examination centers

DHANES

- Moved CIPSEA-protected data to a secure Cloud to test software for NCHS' first CIPSEA-compliant Cloud
- Released a biennial dashboard with NPALS and CMS data

DHCS

- Added questions to the 2023 NHIS on frequency of everyday discrimination and psychological stress
- Improved timelines for NHIS data releases

DHIS

- Completed the first round of data collection for the Rapid Surveys System
- Released the NCHS Data Presentation Standards for Rates and its companion methodology report

DRM

- Implemented a bi-directional mortality data exchange with Idaho, which paved the way for other jurisdictions to implement in 2024

DVS

CDC 2024 priorities



1. Share science and data faster
2. Translate science into practical policy
3. Prioritize public health communications, with a focus on the American public
4. Develop a CDC workforce ready to respond to future threats
5. Promote partnerships

CDC 2024 priorities



NCHS's 2024 priorities



Expand availability of high-quality and timely public health statistics (NCHS Strategic Objectives 2.1, 2.2, and 2.3)



Improve timeliness and quality of maternal health data (Strategic Objectives 2.1, 2.2, and 2.3)



Enhance compatibility between NCHS' and state, tribal, local, and territorial partners' data systems (Strategic Objective 2.2)



Share, link, and protect data to help implement the Evidence Act and National Secure Data Service (Strategic Objectives 1.1, 1.2, and 1.3)

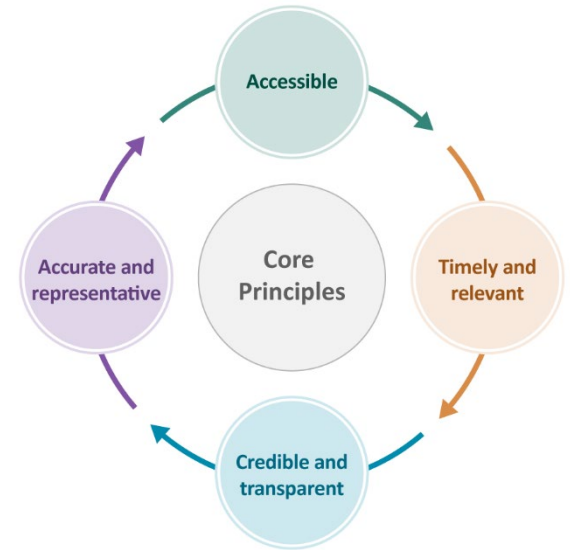


Strengthen our workforce by upskilling staff, building capacity, and fostering diversity (Strategic Objectives 3.1 and 3.2)

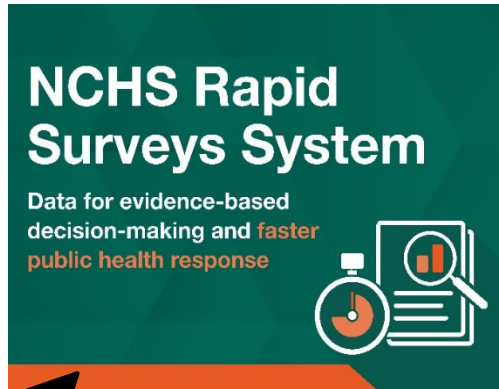
Expand availability of high-quality and timely public health statistics



- Employ nowcasting and model-based estimation to produce more timely, detailed statistics
- Develop real-time geocoding capability in NVSS
- Develop algorithms to identify hospital encounters that involve stimulants and to code health insurance plans
- Pilot test methods for new cycle of NHANES
- Implement Rapid Surveys System and use NHIS to calibrate the rapid surveys



NCHS Rapid Surveys System (RSS)



Ctrl+Click to learn more!

Collect data on niche, emerging, or priority health topics

Close health information gaps

Learn how values and beliefs can affect access, care, and wellness

Assess questionnaire design to ensure data collection is meaningful

Publish data in less than 6 months

Improve timeliness and quality of maternal health data



- Develop state capacity and best practices for timely linkage of maternal deaths with corresponding birth or fetal death records
- Develop a full Birth and Fetal Death Reporting guide to implementing the FHIR (Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources) standard for exchanging electronic health data
- Release NAMCS preliminary estimates
- Release NSFG 2022–2023 public use data files with full pregnancy histories and associated maternal health data on contraception, infertility, and sexual/reproductive health conditions
- Release round 2 Rapid Surveys System data on access to contraception

Enhance compatibility between NCHS's and state, tribal, local, and territorial partners' data systems



- Onboard jurisdictions to the Vital Statistics Death Report (VRDR) FHIR implementation guide (IG) for interoperability with NCHS
- Test interoperability of VRDR FHIR IG exchange of death data between jurisdictions and NCHS



Share, link, and protect data to help implement the Evidence Act and National Secure Data Service



- Conduct new data linkages to build evidence for policy-making and Agency learning agendas
- Leverage expertise in privacy preserving technology to increase partnerships and improve access to linked data
- Collaborate with OMB and National Science Foundation on pilot projects to develop a National Secure Data Service
- Implement the Virtual Data Enclave

Strengthen our workforce by upskilling staff, building capacity, and fostering diversity



- Support employees in developing new capabilities and best using existing skills
- Build on improvements in internal communication
- Foster a culture of operational excellence
- Pursue agency and center diversity, equity, inclusion, accessibility, and belonging goals
- Advance One CDC effort to build and sustain a worldclass, diverse workforce

Update on BSC Recommendations to NCHS: Sharing information on Artificial Intelligence (AI) More Broadly



Secure ChatGPT is now available to CDC staff!

- CDC AI Guidance available to all staff in the beginning of February
- Phased rollout of CDC secure chatbot powered by Microsoft Azure Open AI (ChatGPT)

CDC and CDC Foundation to establish AI/ML meeting with STLTs.

- Information will feed into the HHS AI Taskforce's Public Health Workgroup.

Update on BSC Recommendations to NCHS: Measures of Discrimination for use in NCHS Surveys



Board Recommendation 1:

The Board recommends that NCHS include measures of discrimination in the NHIS, NHANES, and NSFG, based on question evaluation and testing, amount of time available in each survey, and review of the literature.

Board Recommendation 2:

The Board recommends that NCHS include measures of heightened vigilance in the NHIS, NHANES, and NSFG, based on question evaluation and testing, amount of time available in each survey, and review of the literature.

Workgroup Finding:

NCHS should consider relationships between measures of discrimination and health outcomes.

Updates:

- ✓ Data on discrimination and heightened vigilance were collected on NHIS throughout 2023.
- ✓ CCQDER continues to work on analyses that provide support for the validity of the measures.
- ✓ Data release expected Summer of 2024.

- ✓ DHIS is planning publications that look not only at prevalence but also relationships with health outcomes.

Questions?

