CDC’s Mission

CDC works 24/7 to protect America from health and safety threats, both foreign and domestic. Whether diseases start at home or abroad, are chronic or acute, curable or preventable, due to human error or deliberate attack, CDC fights disease and supports communities and citizens to do the same. CDC is the nation’s health protection agency—saving lives, protecting people from health threats, and saving money through prevention.

Why We’re Here

- A disease threat anywhere can mean a public health threat everywhere; a safer world is a safer America.
- Each year, over 2 million illnesses and about 23,000 deaths are caused by antibiotic resistance.
- More than 60 people die every day in the United States from overdosing on prescription drugs.
- Chronic diseases afflict 117 million Americans.
- Approximately 1.2 million Americans live with HIV infection, and 1 in 7 is unaware of their HIV status.
- Environmental factors contribute to more than 25% of diseases worldwide, including cancer, asthma, and heart disease.
- 1 in 6 children in the United States has one or more developmental disabilities or other developmental delays.
- About 53,000 workers die each year from work-related illnesses.
- Respiratory infectious diseases, including influenza, are the leading cause of pediatric hospitalization and outpatient visits in the United States.

CDC Protects the Nation and the World

No other organization in the United States—or the world—has comparable skills and capacity to detect and respond to outbreaks, the technical expertise in prevention and control of diseases, or the span of expertise to address leading and emerging health threats here and around the world. CDC:

- Leads disease detectives that find and stop outbreaks anywhere in the world.
- Defends against health threats that emerge overseas.
- Deploys medical countermeasures in a matter of hours after a natural or intentional health threat emerges.
- Connects the dots between states and localities (e.g., foodborne outbreaks that would go undetected if not connected by PulseNet).
- Tracks the spread of disease outbreaks, researches the evolution of diseases in CDC labs, and supports states in preventing the further spread of the disease.
- Tracks the health status of the American public.
- Deploys the best available public health evidence and interventions to prevent the leading causes of disease, disability, and death.

How We Work

- CDC saves lives from infectious diseases, harmful environmental hazards, injuries, and other events by responding to emergencies, providing expertise strengthening public health infrastructure, developing and deploying vaccines, and strengthening disease detection globally.
- CDC scientists collect and analyze health data, determining how health events affect specific populations. This has produced effective interventions that protect people from scores of public health threats every year.
- The United States spends 75% of the total $2.5 trillion in annual health care costs on treating preventable conditions. CDC promotes evidenced-based prevention initiatives as the most effective, commonsense way to improve health and lower health care costs.
Budget Highlights

Total program funding request for CDC is $7.0 billion. Compared to FY 2015 Enacted levels, CDC’s budget reflects:

- $111 million increase in program level funding (excludes mandatory programs except the Prevention and Public Health Fund).
- CDC’s budget reflects decreases from programs including Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Immunization, Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant, Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health, State and Local Preparedness and Response Capability, and Occupational Safety and Health.

- $98 million increase in Budget Authority (BA)
- $28 million increase in Prevention and Public Health Fund (PPHF)
- $264 million to Detect and Protect against Antibiotic Resistance
- $31 million increase to Stop Viral Hepatitis Transmission and Disease
- $54 million increase for Prescription Drug Overdose Prevention

For more information, please visit www.cdc.gov/budget