

State of Alaska FY2012 Governor's Operating Budget

Department of Health and Social Services Public Health Results Delivery Unit Budget Summary

Public Health Results Delivery Unit

Contribution to Department's Mission

Protect and promote the health of Alaskans

Core Services

- Prevent and control epidemics and the spread of infectious disease.
- Prevent and control injuries.
- Prevent and control chronic disease and disabilities.
- Respond to public health emergencies, disasters and terrorist attack.
- Assure access to early preventative services and quality health care.
- Protect against environmental hazards impacting human health.
- Manage and administer public health programs and services effectively and efficiently.
- Death investigation and medical examination to determine identity of deceased and cause of death.

Results at a Glance

(Additional performance information is available on the web at <http://omb.alaska.gov/results>.)

END RESULT A: Healthy people in healthy communities.

- Alaska's chlamydia rate increased from 715 cases per 100,000 in 2008 to 755 cases per 100,000 in 2009. This was approximately a 6% increase. Alaska ranked second in the nation for chlamydia rates in 2008. The 2009 ranking is not yet available.
- The rate of tuberculosis was 5.3 cases/100,000 population in 2009, a 29% decrease from 2008.
- The 2008 death rate caused by unintentional injuries was 55 per 100,000 population, below the 57/100,000 rate in 2007; however it did not meet the Healthy Alaskans 2010 target of 31/100,000. Source: AK DHSS DPH BVS
- Cancer rate declined from 2000 through 2005, with a slight increase subsequently. Cancer is still the Number 1 killer in Alaska.
- Coronary Heart Disease (CHD) death rate continues to be below the target rate of 120 deaths per 100,000 people. Alaska has been below the target death rate since 2004.
- The Department's Healthy Alaskans 2010 target of 17% was not met. The rate of overweight/obese high school students in 2009 was 26.2%, down from 27.3% in 2007.
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- The Department's Healthy Alaskans 2010 target of 48% was not met. The rate of overweight/obese adults in 2008 was 65%, unchanged from 2007. Source: AK DHSS DPH YRBS
- The 75% target for pregnant women receiving adequate prenatal care was met in FY2008, the last year data is available. Source: DHSS DPH BVS
- The number of reportable conditions that are vaccine-preventable in 2009 was 149, a decrease from 395 in 2008. However, it did not meet the Healthy Alaskans 2010 target of zero cases. Source: AK DHSS DPH Epidemiology Bulletin
- In 2009, 20% of children aged 2 to 5 served by WIC were overweight or obese. This meets the Healthy Alaskans 2010 target.

Status of Strategies to Achieve End Result

- In 2008, 87% of persons with tuberculosis (TB) completed adequate treatment within one year; this was a slight decrease from the previous year and was below the target rate of 95%, primarily due to some difficult cases.
- 98.1% of Alaskans diagnosed with Chlamydia in calendar year 2009 received adequate treatment, slightly exceeding the 98% target.
- The target for young children to receive all vaccines was not met as 73% of these children received vaccines in 2009, down from 78% in 2008. Source: AK DHSS DPH Epidemiology, CDC National Immunization Survey
- The Department's Healthy Alaskans 2010 target of 20% was not met. 25.2% of high school students used tobacco products in 2009, up from 24.1% in 2007 but below the 25.7% national average; (DHSS DPH Alaska Youth Risk Behavior Survey).
- Alaska has exceeded target since mandatory seatbelt law took effect in 2006.

- Alaska has achieved this target since 2000. From 2007 to 2008, there was a slight increase in the knowledge of folic acid benefits. The increase in knowledge among Alaska Native women erased the apparent decline from 2006 to 2007
- Target exceeded - in FY10, 32% of all full-time, permanent DPH staff received preparedness training.
- In FY10, 100% certification has been maintained for heavy metals; PCB and pesticides validation is on hold. State lab testing for environmental contaminants in clinical specimens now focuses on high sample throughput for contaminants of primary concern (lead and mercury) rather than on method development.

Key RDU Challenges

As the Division of Public Health (DPH) works to protect and promote the health of Alaskans, challenges abound in the general categories of preventing chronic disease and promoting good health, fighting infectious disease, preventing injuries, improving outcomes for children, and protecting vulnerable Alaskans. In each of these categories, progress will continue through the right mix of necessary investments in the division's programs, expanded partnerships with the entire public health community, and the recruitment and retention of expert, dedicated staff.

More specifically, the fight against chronic diseases is critical: three of every five deaths in Alaska are linked to chronic diseases. The primary risk factors for such diseases are obesity, poor diet, lack of exercise and tobacco use. As federal funding shrinks for disease prevention and health promotion programs – and with little commitment of state general fund dollars to these programs to date – a major challenge for the division is to continue its work to prevent chronic diseases and promote good health through better education efforts, especially the important fight to reverse or at least slow Alaska's growing and alarming rates of overweight and obesity. This makes sense financially because investments in a healthier Alaska now will save healthcare dollars in the years to come. Another major challenge is the fight against infectious disease, with new diseases discovered all the time and old scourges still lingering. Alaska must remain prepared for the threat of avian influenza while continuing to battle long-familiar diseases such as tuberculosis. Alaska's role as a transportation and tourism crossroads exacerbates the challenge as people from around the world come to our state. In addition, there is an urgent and ever-present need in the division to assure an adequate public health nursing workforce around the state. These nurses are the "foot soldiers" of Alaska's public health system and deliver critical services in every corner of Alaska.

Other challenges for the Division of Public Health include:

- Continuing to build on progress made by reducing adult and youth smoking in Alaska; efforts must continue to lessen the negative impact of tobacco on all Alaskans.
- Working within the division and with health partners around the state to increase the number of children who are fully immunized.
- Providing accurate and timely advice to Alaskans regarding fish consumption and protecting the fishing industry by dispelling misconceptions about chemical contaminants in Alaska seafood.
- Supporting the Alaska Health Care Commission to serve as the state health planning and coordinating body, and to provide recommendations for and foster the development of a comprehensive statewide health care policy and a strategy for improving the health of Alaskans.

Significant Changes in Results to be Delivered in FY2012

- Expand efforts to combat Alaska's epidemic of childhood overweight and obesity.
- Expand efforts to improve Alaska's childhood immunization rates.
- Continued leadership with the Alaska Health Care Commission to improve the quality, accessibility, and affordability of health care for Alaskans.
- Expand the number of Alaska hospitals that undergo trauma system certification and designation.
- Continue with Phase II of expanding the State Medical Examiner's Office function to serve statewide needs more adequately.

Updated Status for Results to be Delivered in FY11

Through its Obesity Prevention and Control program DPH addressed the epidemic of childhood obesity in Alaska in a comprehensive manner based on the successful tobacco control model.

Status Update: State funding in the amount of \$375.0 for obesity was included in the FY11 appropriation; however, this amount just offset a federal earmark that expired the end of August. With this funding the state obesity prevention and control program staff serve on task forces and work with the Department of Education and Early Development and school districts, employers, and community coalitions. This collaboration resulted in 1) the formation of the multi-agency ATCO (Alaskans Taking on Childhood Obesity) Steering Committee, which has engaged in planning for a much needed expanded school-based focus beginning in FY12, 2) a School Wellness Institute (October 2010), 3) the provision of technical assistance about evidence-based practices to school districts implementing wellness policies, 4) presentations at statewide conferences, 5) training and technical assistance to worksites, 6) promotion of healthy eating and physical activity through the lifespan by participation in multiple committees and coalitions on topics from breastfeeding to biking to work, 7) expansion of the body mass index project, and 8) integrating obesity prevention and control efforts into other Section of Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion programs.

Major RDU Accomplishments in 2010

- Coordinated Health and Social Services' massive surveillance and response to H1N1 Pandemic Influenza including distribution of 228,405 doses of vaccine to providers. Public health nurses vaccinated 68,232 Alaskans against this disease, giving 48% of the vaccine administered by health care providers in Alaska. More than 150 mass and targeted vaccine dispensing clinics were conducted with local communities and partners. Antiviral medications, masks, gowns, gloves, and other personal protective equipment from state and federal stockpiles were sent to 38 communities during the response. Public Health laboratories tested more than 5,000 specimens for H1N1 pandemic influenza.
- Investigated a large-scale outbreak of gonorrhea infection that has already affected more than 1,000 individuals across the state. Provided disease notification and prevention strategies; collaborated with public and private health providers; and evaluated ways to control sexually transmitted infections, including the use of expedited partner therapy to reduce transmission of gonorrhea and other sexually transmitted diseases.
- Investigated numerous smaller infectious disease outbreaks, including outbreaks of paralytic shellfish poisoning, botulism, meningococcal disease, and a restaurant-associated outbreak of salmonella infection that sickened at least seven people and resulted in two hospitalizations.
- Alaskans Taking on Childhood Obesity (ATCO) established a Memorandum of Agreement between Health and Social Services and Education and Early Development that identified obesity prevention strategies for the departments to coordinate and implement. A School Nursing Advisory Committee was established and a plan of action was developed and implemented to work on the highest priorities. The School Nursing Consultant contributed significantly to the Department of Education and Early Development's Health and Safety plan and is actively working with school nurses statewide on obesity reduction efforts for school-aged children.
- As a result of having three pathologists, the Office of the State Medical Examiner has seen a dramatic increase in case load. Eighty percent of cases were transported to the Office for further examination, compared to 24% in FY09. This year the Office performed 484 autopsies (up from 253 in FY09) and 265 inspections (up from 124 in FY09).
- The Code Blue Program is entering its 11th year. The Department, in cooperation with the seven EMS Regions, has documented a critical need to provide vehicles and equipment throughout the state, particularly in rural areas, to ensure continued viability of a life-saving EMS system. One dollar in State general funds in this program leverages four dollars from other funding sources.
- Residential care licensing staff investigated complaints and took enforcement actions when necessary for more than 525 complaints, as compared to 299 complaints in FY09.
- Eighteen different communities in Alaska received 1,450 smoke alarms. More than 500 child safety seats and booster seats were distributed to moderate and low-income families. The Poison Prevention and Control Program reported 9,006 calls to the Alaska Poison Control System. Kids Don't Float drowning prevention program added 87 sites, totaling 580 active sites and education centers statewide. Nineteen lives were saved statewide by direct use of personal flotation devices from Kids Don't Float.
- Overall youth tobacco use prevalence is at an all time low of 16%; this is statistically significant and lower than the US average for the first time ever.
- The Bureau of Vital Statistics completed a five-year project to enter all deaths into its information system and create electronic images of paper marriage and divorce files. Each record that can be located electronically saves staff three to five minutes per search.

Contact Information

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**Public Health
RDU Financial Summary by Component**

All dollars shown in thousands

	FY2010 Actuals				FY2011 Management Plan				FY2012 Governor			
	UGF+DGF Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds	UGF+DGF Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds	UGF+DGF Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds
Formula Expenditures None.												
Non-Formula Expenditures												
Injury Prev/EMS	1,186.1	249.5	777.7	2,213.3	4.9	0.0	1.1	6.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Nursing	19,768.0	4,911.6	1,763.8	26,443.4	22,308.8	1,115.1	5,276.4	28,700.3	25,295.4	1,115.1	5,297.1	31,707.6
Women, Children and Family Health	2,928.9	650.1	5,594.9	9,173.9	3,310.9	689.6	6,583.5	10,584.0	3,460.9	689.6	6,580.3	10,730.8
Public Health Admin Svcs	1,397.3	0.0	363.1	1,760.4	707.7	709.2	1,712.1	3,129.0	775.1	709.2	1,708.6	3,192.9
Emergency Programs	804.5	0.0	9,061.8	9,866.3	770.5	138.5	5,935.5	6,844.5	848.8	138.5	5,931.3	6,918.6
Certification and Licensing	2,732.9	10.0	684.2	3,427.1	2,931.8	13.0	2,637.6	5,582.4	3,023.4	13.0	2,637.6	5,674.0
Chronic Disease Prev/Hlth Promo	1,628.8	208.9	3,597.6	5,435.3	2,722.2	531.5	9,474.6	12,728.3	3,335.1	542.9	6,331.6	10,209.6
Epidemiology Bureau of Vital Statistics	1,465.5	1,268.1	7,070.6	9,804.2	2,384.3	843.8	8,128.2	11,356.3	2,565.0	843.8	7,990.9	11,399.7
Emergency Medical Svcs Grants	2,159.6	229.4	38.3	2,427.3	2,313.3	241.9	334.6	2,889.8	2,419.4	241.7	332.4	2,993.5
State Medical Examiner	2,820.6	6.7	0.0	2,827.3	2,820.6	0.0	0.0	2,820.6	2,820.6	0.0	0.0	2,820.6
Public Health Laboratories	2,598.6	0.0	0.0	2,598.6	2,603.4	0.0	11.0	2,614.4	3,163.5	0.0	11.0	3,174.5
Tobacco Prevention and Control	4,247.5	286.0	2,077.2	6,610.7	4,475.9	624.4	2,149.5	7,249.8	4,717.0	624.4	2,155.5	7,496.9
	7,281.4	0.0	0.0	7,281.4	7,813.3	0.0	0.0	7,813.3	8,563.3	0.0	0.0	8,563.3
Totals	51,019.7	7,820.3	31,029.2	89,869.2	55,167.6	4,907.0	42,244.1	102,318.7	60,987.5	4,918.2	38,976.3	104,882.0

Public Health
Summary of RDU Budget Changes by Component
From FY2011 Management Plan to FY2012 Governor

All dollars shown in thousands

	<u>Unrestricted</u> <u>Gen (UGF)</u>	<u>Designated</u> <u>Gen (DGF)</u>	<u>Other Funds</u>	<u>Federal</u> <u>Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>
FY2011 Management Plan	40,968.7	14,198.9	4,907.0	42,244.1	102,318.7
Adjustments which will continue current level of service:					
-Injury Prev/EMS	-4.9	0.0	0.0	-1.1	-6.0
-Nursing	781.9	4.7	0.0	20.7	807.3
-Women, Children and Family Healt	136.2	13.8	-75.0	-3.2	71.8
-Public Health Admin Svcs	67.4	0.0	0.0	-3.5	63.9
-Emergency Programs	78.3	0.0	0.0	-4.2	74.1
-Certification and Licensing	81.7	9.9	0.0	0.0	91.6
-Chronic Disease Prev/Hlth Promo	136.6	26.3	11.4	-3,272.3	-3,098.0
-Epidemiology	180.7	0.0	0.0	-137.3	43.4
-Bureau of Vital Statistics	113.0	-6.9	-0.2	-2.2	103.7
-State Medical Examiner	60.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	60.1
-Public Health Laboratories	140.4	0.7	0.0	6.0	147.1
Proposed budget increases:					
-Nursing	2,200.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2,200.0
-Women, Children and Family Healt	0.0	0.0	75.0	0.0	75.0
-Chronic Disease Prev/Hlth Promo	250.0	200.0	0.0	129.3	579.3
-State Medical Examiner	500.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	500.0
-Public Health Laboratories	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
-Tobacco Prevention and Control	0.0	750.0	0.0	0.0	750.0
FY2012 Governor	45,690.1	15,297.4	4,918.2	38,976.3	104,882.0