

Advanced Molecular Detection

National investment to advance genomic sequencing capacity

Southeast Region



Mississippi

Total Investment¹: \$3,417,890

State and Local Investment: \$2,703,754

Research Awards: \$714,136

CDC's Advanced Molecular Detection (AMD) program builds and integrates laboratory, bioinformatics, and epidemiology technologies across CDC and nationwide. Since 2014, AMD has received support from Congress through a \$30 million per year appropriation to implement these technologies in public health programs. Through investments in AMD technologies, CDC is improving both public health outcomes and preparedness in dozens of areas including foodborne disease, influenza, antibiotic resistance, hepatitis, pneumonia, and meningitis.

With funding from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, the AMD program has developed a multi-year plan to expand its support to state, local, and territorial public health laboratories with more staff and resources to collect specimens for COVID-19 testing, sequence them to identify and track SARS-CoV-2 variants, and share data, now and future years.

Workforce Development

Mississippi is part of the Southeast region. In 2018, the AMD program established seven workforce development regions across the country. Each region has an AMD training lead and a bioinformatics lead. This provides a network of customized AMD support which helps develop skills and provides training assistance to public health labs across the country.

Through the Southeast region's training resources, Mississippi receives lab support on data analysis and how to interface with IT departments. They also receive both pathogen-specific training and cross-cutting instruction to help staff develop the critical skills necessary to extract, analyze, and interpret sequencing data.

¹ Funding to public health departments includes support from the American Rescue Plan of 2021 and AMD annual appropriations. Awards to university and research partners in 2020 and early 2021 were funded through appropriations supporting the COVID-19 response.



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University and Research Partners in Mississippi

These awards are intended to fill knowledge gaps and promote innovation in the U.S. response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Funding awards are determined through a competitive selection process based on scientific needs and available funds.

University of Mississippi Medical Center (\$714,136)

Spatiotemporal sequence analysis of SARS-CoV-2 in Mississippi

The University of Mississippi Medical Center will use genomic sequencing to research viral emergence, evolution, and the spread of SARS-CoV-2 infection with a focus on racial disparities between African Americans and Caucasians. This study will perform genomic sequencing of SARS-CoV-2 samples collected through the state of Mississippi through a partnership with the Mississippi Department of Health. Genomic sequencing will be performed in 81 of the 82 counties across the state.

