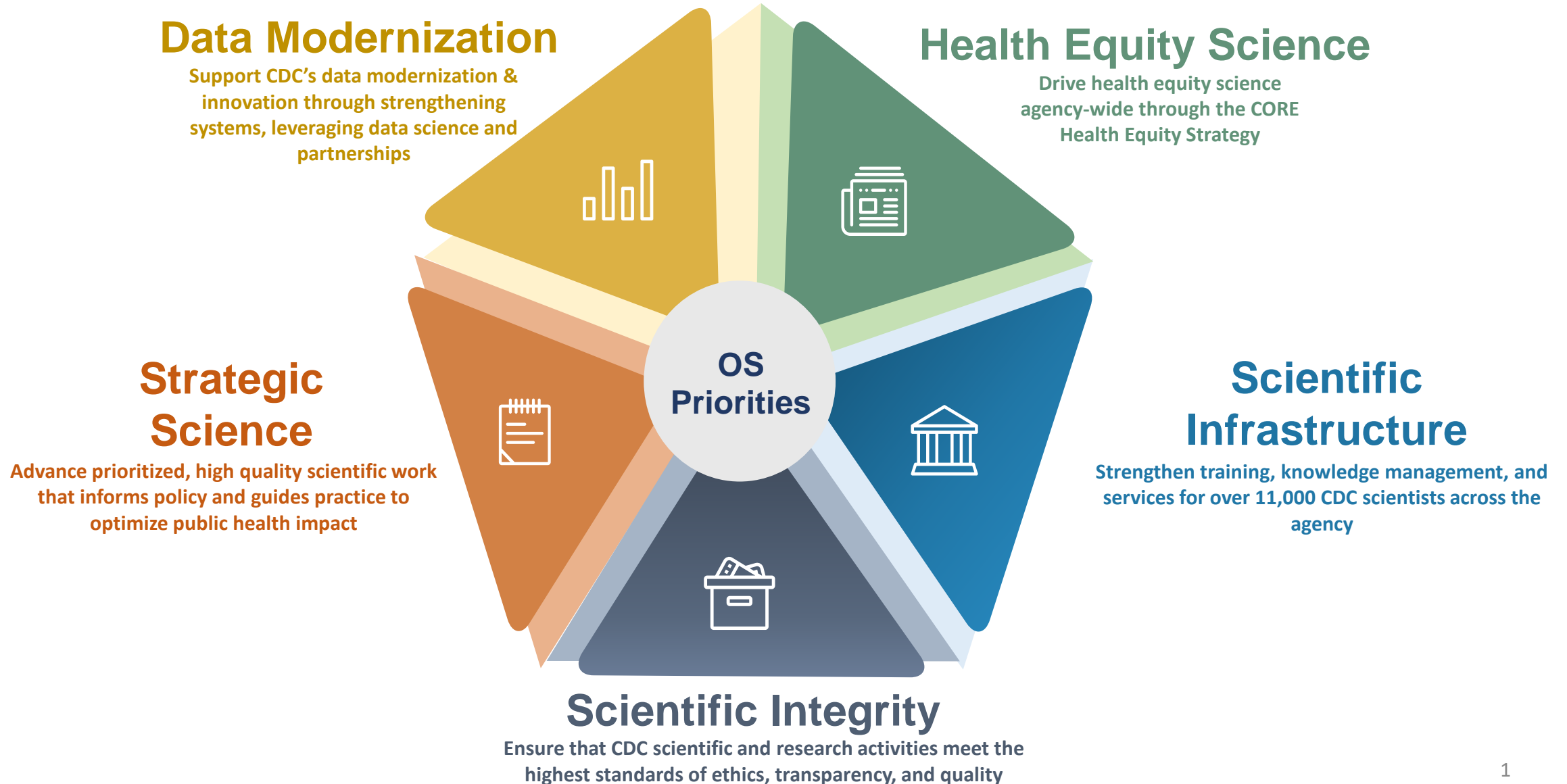


CDC Office of Science Priorities



ADVANCING CDC SCIENCE: PRIORITIES FOR ACTION

Mission: “To promote quality, integrity, and innovation of CDC science to improve the public’s health”

Strategic Science

- ✓ Advance strategic scientific activities within the COVID-19 response through Strategic Science Unit (SSU) including implementation of key science questions to prioritize scientific activities and publications
- ✓ Implement response-wide approaches to tracking scientific activity, studies, and publications (e.g., COVID-19 open dashboard)
- ✓ Provide guidance and tools, such as implementation of ORCID ID, for CIOs and investigators to align their planned activities and projects with the agency’s Strategic Priorities to advance CDC science and research.
- ✓ Partner with academic, state, and local partners to promote strategic science agendas across the public health landscape
- ✓ Partner with WHO and other key stakeholders to advance CDC as a global leader in public health science
- ✓ Provide relevant literature and research consultations in collaboration with response IM and WHO to produce COVID-19 Science Updates.

Data Modernization

- ✓ Implement a standardized process for data sharing with partners, through a Data Use Agreement (DUA) template, repository, and policy
- ✓ Update OS policies and processes to improve open access to CDC data by standardizing goals and metrics to measure CDC’s Open Data Goals
- ✓ Begin development of an ethical framework for data exchange and interoperability in the public health context
- ✓ Begin development of data standards and promotion of the responsible use of advanced analytics tools such as Artificial Intelligence, to reduce biases and promote transparency
- ✓ Develop a roadmap for the integration of human genomics and precision medicine into public health surveillance and research
- ✓ Streamline and expedite reviews for federal regulations (human subjects, privacy protections, PRA) and public health ethics to eliminate manual or email-based processes and outdated systems.

Health Equity Science

- ✓ In collaboration with the Office of Minority Health and Health Equity and OADPS, develop an agency-wide Health Equity Science and Intervention Strategy
- ✓ Build Coordination Team to support Strategy implementation
- ✓ Add health equity science publication category to Shepard Science Awards, to recognize scientific publications that help build the evidence base for health equity science
- ✓ Launch new Health Equity Science Fellowship in partnership with EISC and OMHHE, focused on developing a cadre of health equity researchers who advance quality and quantity of CDC health equity scientific work
- ✓ Launch series of agency-wide events focusing on Health Equity Science topics that promote best practices, new approaches and innovation to health equity science
- ✓ Monitor health equity scientific activity across the agency by leveraging the Studying Tracking and Review System (STARS)

Scientific Integrity

- ✓ In response to [Presidential memorandum on scientific integrity](#), coordinate with White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) and engage with HHS to align and update scientific integrity guidance and policies
- ✓ Conduct an internal gap assessment, consider systems for continuous quality improvements, and explore best practices for human subjects research
- ✓ Establish Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for all CDC Scientific Integrity and Ethics policies, and secure tracking systems, where appropriate, to ensure consistency, high quality and integrity across CDC programs
- ✓ Enhance CDC online and in-person integrity trainings and consultations; train the CDC scientific workforce on CDC’s 2021 updated integrity guidance
- ✓ Enhance CDC external facing internet and social media presence on the integrity and quality of CDC science
- ✓ Deepen and diversify the CDC bench of trained experts in the scientific workforce and build sustainable recruitment, training, and mentorship programs and partnerships

Scientific Infrastructure

- ✓ Use knowledge management systems to promote early and proactive engagement with CDC scientists and to harmonize data from various systems (e.g., STARS, eClearance, CDC Stack).
- ✓ Reinforce standardized approaches so that data can be used to accurately inform CDC leadership on the state of CDC science and its consistency with agency priorities
- ✓ Expand STARS to automate reporting of key metrics to modernize regulatory reviews and continually improve Scientific Integrity-related guidance and review.
- ✓ Create central web portal that hosts information on innovation and data modernization resources, opportunities and services
- ✓ Increase use of the Stephen B. Thacker CDC Library for innovative communication initiatives and partner engagement strategies
- ✓ Expand CDC Genomics and Precision Health website and searchable publications knowledge base as sources of scientific information to support CDC public health response (e.g., COVID-19)