



Agency for Toxic Substances & Disease Registry



Historical Document

This Web site is provided by the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) ONLY as an historical reference for the public health community. It is no longer being maintained and the data it contains may no longer be current and/or accurate.

Components of the Conversation

CDC and ATSDR's partners in the *National Conversation on Public Health and Chemical Exposures* included

- [RESOLVE](http://www.resolve.org/) (<http://www.resolve.org/>) [Ⓞ](http://www.cdc.gov/Other/disclaimer.html) (<http://www.cdc.gov/Other/disclaimer.html>) (a nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing the effective use of consensus building in public decision making)
- [American Public Health Association](http://www.apha.org/) (<http://www.apha.org/>) [Ⓞ](http://www.cdc.gov/Other/disclaimer.html) (<http://www.cdc.gov/Other/disclaimer.html>)
- [Association of State and Territorial Health Officials](http://www.astho.org/) (<http://www.astho.org/>) [Ⓞ](http://www.cdc.gov/Other/disclaimer.html) (<http://www.cdc.gov/Other/disclaimer.html>)
- [National Association of County and City Health Officials](http://www.naccho.org/) (<http://www.naccho.org/>) [Ⓞ](http://www.cdc.gov/Other/disclaimer.html) (<http://www.cdc.gov/Other/disclaimer.html>)

CDC and ATSDR also engaged many groups and individuals—government agencies, professional organizations, tribal groups, community and nonprofit organizations, health professionals, business and industry leaders, and members of the public—to contribute to the dialogue.

Participants shared their ideas and feedback in the following ways:

Leadership Council



RESOLVE formed a Leadership Council of key environmental and public health leaders to help guide the National Conversation. The Leadership Council produced the project's major product, the Action Agenda.

This [Action Agenda](/nationalconversation/action_agenda.html) (/nationalconversation/action_agenda.html) contains clear and achievable recommendations that can help government agencies and other organizations strengthen their efforts to protect the public from harmful chemical exposures.

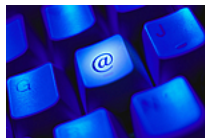
Work Groups



RESOLVE, CDC, and ATSDR convened 6 work groups to research and make recommendations on public health and chemical exposure issues.

The work groups' reports were submitted to the Leadership Council toward development of the Action Agenda. The final work group reports are available on [RESOLVE's Web site](http://www.resolve.org/site-nationalconversation/%20) (<http://www.resolve.org/site-nationalconversation/%20>) [Ⓞ](http://www.cdc.gov/Other/disclaimer.html) (<http://www.cdc.gov/Other/disclaimer.html>).

Web Dialogues



We invited everyone to participate in the National Conversation online through [Web dialogues](http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/nationalconversation/web_dialogues.html) (http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/nationalconversation/web_dialogues.html) at key points during the process. Summaries of key ideas and themes discussed by Web dialogue participants were shared with the work groups and Leadership Council.

Community Conversations



[map.html](http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/nationalconversation/map.html)) Over a thousand people joined 52 community conversations about public health and chemical exposures issues. [View a map](http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/nationalconversation/map.html) (<http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/nationalconversation/map.html>) with information on each community conversation and links to the reports that conveners submitted.

The project team synthesized the community conversations into a report for the work groups and Leadership Council to consider when making recommendations.

Listening Sessions



National Conversation partners held several listening sessions to gather information about chemical exposure issues from key stakeholders.

The Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) hosted a forum in spring 2010 to identify the needs and priorities of state health and environmental personnel. A [summary of the forum and ASTHOs related state needs assessment](#)

(http://www.astho.org/uploadedFiles/Programs/Environmental_Health/Built_and_Synthetic_Environment/Chemical%20Exposures%20State%20Ideas%20for%20Safeguarding%20H) [Ⓞ](http://www.cdc.gov/Other/disclaimer.html) (<http://www.cdc.gov/Other/disclaimer.html>) is available here.

Also in spring 2010, the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) convened local public health officials for two forums on key project issues. You can find a copy of [NACCHO's report](http://eweb.naccho.org/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?WebCode=proddetailadd&ivd_qty=1&ivd_prc_prd_key=40f01e9e-9a3b-487f-a45f-1311120cf7b3&Action=Add&site=naccho&ObjectKeyFrom=1A83491A-9853-4C87-86A4-F7D95601C2E2&DoNotSave=yes&ParentObject=CentralizedOrderEntry&ParentDataObject=Invoice%20Detail) (http://eweb.naccho.org/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?WebCode=proddetailadd&ivd_qty=1&ivd_prc_prd_key=40f01e9e-9a3b-487f-a45f-1311120cf7b3&Action=Add&site=naccho&ObjectKeyFrom=1A83491A-9853-4C87-86A4-F7D95601C2E2&DoNotSave=yes&ParentObject=CentralizedOrderEntry&ParentDataObject=Invoice%20Detail) [Ⓞ](http://www.cdc.gov/Other/disclaimer.html) (<http://www.cdc.gov/Other/disclaimer.html>) here.

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