

## Executive Summary

CDC produces this annual report to present a snapshot of public health preparedness and response activities. This report presents activities that occurred during 2012 and 2013. Information on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and its Office of Public Health Preparedness and Response (PHPR), as well as performance data for Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) cooperative agreement awardees, are highlighted throughout.

### Key Points

- Congressional appropriations for CDC's public health preparedness and response activities decreased by \$97 million from 2012 to 2013; during this time, PHEP funding provided to state, local, and insular areas (territories and freely associated states) decreased by \$34 million. CDC's annual public health preparedness and response funding is \$1 billion lower for 2013 than for 2002 (first year of PHEP funding).
- State and local health departments depend upon PHEP funding to prepare for and respond to public health threats, such as the fungal meningitis outbreak and record-breaking weather events that are featured throughout the report.
- In addition to distributing essential funding, CDC supports public health preparedness at the state, local, tribal, and insular area levels by providing the following:
  - Training and exercise support
  - Partnership opportunities
  - Program guidance, subject matter expertise, and technical assistance
  - Infrastructure, such as surveillance systems and laboratory coordination
  - Response support ranging from equipment to personnel to medical countermeasures
- Overall, state and local public health departments improved on the following PHEP capability measures from 2011 to 2012, while the other measures generally stayed consistent:
  - The percentage of *E. coli*-positive tests analyzed and entered into the PulseNet database within 4 working days increased from 90% to 94% and timely testing and reporting of *Listeria*-positive results increased from 88% to 92%
  - State public health staff with incident management lead roles reported for immediate duty an average of nine minutes faster
- PHPR connects public health preparedness and clinical healthcare through federal grant alignment, including with the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR), and by fostering partnerships between state and local health departments and area healthcare organizations, clinicians, and emergency management organizations.
- PHPR engages more than 40 other federal agencies and partners with the private sector to improve communities' ability to respond to public health emergencies and other threats to public health.