Division of Health Informatics and Surveillance

DHIS Vision

The Division of Health Informatics and Surveillance (DHIS) vision is that health decisions and actions are guided by timely and useful information.

DHIS Mission

The DHIS mission is to advance the science and practice of public health informatics and surveillance.

In carrying out its mission, DHIS

-serves as a focal point at CDC for addressing common issues and advancing best practices in the fields of public health informatics and surveillance and

-manages public health surveillance systems with cross-cutting utility for multiple CDC programs and state, tribal, local, and territorial (STLT) jurisdictions.

DHIS Cross-cutting Public Health Surveillance Systems

DHIS manages two public health surveillance systems that have cross-cutting utility for multiple CDC programs and STLT jurisdictions.

BioSense

Established in 2003 after the events of September 11, 2001, and subsequent anthrax attacks, BioSense is a nationwide collaborative system for protecting and improving population health by providing accurate, timely electronic information for better decision making. BioSense increases the ability of health officials at local, state, and national levels to receive and share healthcare-related data to monitor and respond to events of public health concern. These events include disease outbreaks, hazardous conditions, or special public events that require enhanced public health surveillance.

BioSense provides public health officials a common electronic health information system, or platform, with standardized tools and procedures for collecting, evaluating, and analyzing health information.

The system increases the ability of public health jurisdictions and their healthcare partners to share healthcare-related data, cooperatively track health issues, and promote a coordinated public health response.

The system provides a mechanism to collect and share data from electronic health records from emergency department visits, hospitalizations, and clinic visits and other healthcare-related data from various sources.

For more information, please access the BioSense Web site at http://www.cdc.gov/biosense.

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National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System

The National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System (NNDSS) is a nationwide collaboration that enables all levels of public health (local, state, territorial, federal, and international) to share health information to monitor, control, and prevent the occurrence and spread of state-reportable and nationally notifiable infectious and some noninfectious diseases and conditions.

NNDSS is a multifaceted program that includes the surveillance system for collection, analysis, and sharing of health data and also policies, laws, electronic messaging standards, people, partners, information systems, processes, and resources at the local, state, and national levels.

Many state, tribal, local, and territorial (STLT) health departments; CDC; and partner organizations, such as the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists, use facets of NNDSS to

- collect, manage, share, analyze, interpret, and disseminate health-related data for state-reportable and nationally notifiable diseases and conditions;
- develop and maintain national standards—such as consistent case definitions and electronic messaging standards;
- monitor regional and national trends in diseases and health conditions;
- work with other jurisdictions and partners to implement and assess prevention and control programs;
- designate certain diseases and conditions as nationally notifiable;
- submit data on nationally notifiable diseases to CDC; and
- maintain and publish the official national notifiable diseases statistics from 57 state, territorial, and local reporting jurisdictions in the *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* (*MMWR*).

For more information, please access the NNDSS Web site at http://www.cdc.gov/nndss/.

DHIS Key Programs, Projects, and Systems

- BioSense
- CDC WONDER
- National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System
- Public Health Information Network (PHIN)
- Public Health IT Standards and Interoperability Activity