

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

DHIS provides leadership and support to oversee and improve public health information and surveillance systems and provision high-quality health data required to monitor, control, and prevent the occurrence and spread of diseases and other adverse health conditions.

DHIS Cross-cutting Public Health Surveillance Systems

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

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, territorial, and national levels.

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Notifiable infectious disease surveillance begins at the level of local, state, and territorial health departments. Jurisdictional laws and regulations mandate reporting of cases of specified infectious and noninfectious conditions to health departments. The health departments work with healthcare providers, laboratories, hospitals, and other partners to obtain the information needed to monitor, control, and prevent the occurrence and spread of these health conditions. In addition, health departments notify CDC about the occurrence of certain conditions.

DHIS supports NNDSS by receiving, securing, processing, provisioning, and releasing nationally notifiable infectious diseases data. DHIS also supports state, local, and territorial health departments in collecting, managing, and analyzing their data and in submitting case notification data to CDC for NNDSS by providing funding, health information exchange standards and frameworks, electronic health information systems, and technical support.

CDC programs in the National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases (NCEZID); National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention (NCHHSTP); National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases (NCIRD); and Center for Global Health (CGH) that are responsible for national surveillance, prevention, and control of infectious conditions collaborate with the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE) to determine which conditions reported to the jurisdictions are nationally notifiable. The CDC programs, in collaboration with subject matter experts in CSTE and in jurisdictions, determine what data elements are included in national notifications.

Jurisdictions participating in NNDSS voluntarily submit infectious disease data to DHIS and also submit some data directly to NCEZID, NCHHSTP, NCIRD, and CGH.

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

DHIS Data Hub, Information Systems, and Surveillance Programs

Data Hub

- [CDC WONDER](#)

Information Systems

- [BioSense](#)
- [Epi Info™](#)
- [NEDSS Base System \(NBS\)](#)
- Preparedness
 - [Countermeasure Tracking Systems \(CTS\)](#)
 - [Laboratory Response Network \(LRN\) Data Exchange Activities](#)
- [Public Health Information Network \(PHIN\) Message Quality Framework \(MQF\)](#)
- [PHIN Messaging System \(MS\)](#)
- [PHIN Vocabulary Access and Distribution System \(VADS\)](#)

Surveillance Programs

- [National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System \(NNDSS\)](#)
- [National Syndromic Surveillance Program \(NSSP\)](#)

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