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|  | **Environmental Public Health Tracking in  New England** |  |

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Environmental Public Heath Tracking (EPHT) system is a web-based data system that brings together health and environmental data and provides supporting information to make the data easy to understand. The purpose of EPHT is to supply information and data to protect the nation from health issues related to environmental factors. Ultimately, EPHT provides information to help improve where we live, work, and play.

Launched in 2002, today the national EPHT program is comprised of 26 states, including all 6 New England states. The program strives to empower environmental and public health practitioners, healthcare providers, community members, policy makers, and others to make data-driven decisions that affect their health. Users of the network can access the [Query Tool](https://ephtracking.cdc.gov/DataExplorer/) to create interactive maps, tables, and charts; view [Info by Location](https://ephtracking.cdc.gov/InfoByLocation/) for county level data snapshots and visit [state & local tracking websites](https://ephtracking.cdc.gov/showStateTracking). Learn more at <https://www.cdc.gov/nceh/tracking/>

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***Connecticut*** [https://StateofHealth.ct.gov](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__StateofHealth.ct.gov&d=DwMFAg&c=lDF7oMaPKXpkYvev9V-fVahWL0QWnGCCAfCDz1Bns_w&r=0HVdvr4mEPWF4kYfQjCmX1lXHk9qwFsllo44RZrp9WY&m=osReYdMdhu4Qu5emUCL-TJS-S4IOXAfMg1FQLZpxfw4&s=nFce6toAetV1BbN1AbNER2X668W_SGj71DkxWyXW4pA&e=).  
The Connecticut Environmental Public Health Tracking Network integrates health, exposure and hazard information and data for 8 counties and approximately 3.5 million residents. It provides information that will let stakeholders act to prevent and control harmful environmentally related health effects. You can explore information and view tables and charts about health and the environment. The CT EPHT portal allows stakeholders to quickly access counts and rates of diseases like Asthma and COPD filtered for their demographic requirements. Highlights from Connecticut:

* Flu incidence data by county, age, race and gender.
* Lyme disease incidence data by geography and demographic factors.
* Coming soon, private well data by state, county, and town.

***Maine*** <https://data.mainepublichealth.gov/tracking/>  
The Maine Tracking Network connects data and measures to the people that use them to improve public health, and allows people to look at environmental health data in new ways.The Maine Tracking Network provides health planners, policymakers, state and local officials, and other decision makers more sophisticated and timely understanding of key environmental health indicators. Highlights from Maine:

* **Data for Maine towns** are available for exploration and querying for several topics, including: childhood lead poisoning, asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, and private well water quality and testing.
* **Lyme disease and deer tick data** are available for Maine’s counties and towns, as well as the state, and show the spread of the disease and its vector across the state over time.
* **Survey data** are available that estimate the prevalence of carbon monoxide detectors and air conditioning units in Maine households, and the percent of households that have tested for arsenic in well water, and can be used to develop and evaluate prevention initiatives.

***Massachusetts*** <http://www.mass.gov/dph/matracking>  
MA EPHT provides health and environmental information for 351 communities in Massachusetts. Access to key health data sets and information about the air, drinking water and recreational water is readily available. Comprehensive Community Profiles combine health & environmental data in a compact report for each city and town in Massachusetts. MA EPHT includes a dedicated tab on climate change, and features a vulnerability mapping tool, flood zone information, severe weather events and more.  MA EPHT also has the following additional data sets unique to Massachusetts. Highlights from Massachusetts:

* [Cancer](https://matracking.ehs.state.ma.us/Health-Data/Cancer/index.html) incidence data at the **census tract levels** by calendar year; also by community, county, Emergency Preparedness Regional, Executive Office of Health & Human Services region and state.
* [Pediatric Asthma](https://matracking.ehs.state.ma.us/Health-Data/Asthma/index.html) prevalence data for students in grades K-8th by gender, ethnicity at the state, community, and school levels by school year.
* [Pediatric Diabetes](https://matracking.ehs.state.ma.us/Health-Data/diabetes-pediatric.html) prevalence data for students in K-8th grades at the state & county levels by school year.

***New Hampshire*** <https://www.nh.gov/epht/>  
How clean is New Hampshire’s air? What health outcomes might be linked to the water we drink? What might exist between environmental exposures and cancer? The New Hampshire Public Health Tracking Program monitors several environmental exposures and health outcomes in order to keep New Hampshire residents informed and healthy. Highlights from New Hampshire:

* Analyzing and evaluating water consumption, residential history, and blood serum PFC (perfluorochemicals) in private drinking water wells and public drinking water systems in several communities to determine the extent of exposure.
* Exploring life expectancy trends to aid in planning and prioritizing where to target health improvement efforts. Geocoding death records and population estimates to calculate life expectancy at the census tract and county scale in NH.
* Working with local and national partners to update the state heat Plan and revising the excessive heat advisory threshold for New England. As a result, excessive heat advisories will now be issued when the heat index is forecast to be 95F or higher.

***Rhode Island*** <http://www.health.ri.gov/data/>  
**With this year’s award of a CDC EHPT grant, the Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH) is excited to join the other New England states in developing a portal to provide comprehensive environmental and public health data to residents, visitors and decision makers. The Rhode Island portal will be available in 2018.** Highlights from Rhode Island:

* **RIDOH collects data on blood lead screening and lead poisoning rates, as well as on lead levels in school drinking water and other environmental media. The portal will allow easy access to those data.**
* **Lead poisoning and asthma rates in Rhode Island are highest in the “core cities”, cities with poverty rates of 25% or more, while radon exposures tend to be highest in rural communities in western Rhode Island. EPHT will enable Rhode Islanders to identify environmental health risks in their communities and to develop strategies for reducing those risks.**
* **The RIDOH Climate Change and Health program tracks data on heat-related illnesses and vector-borne diseases. Those data will be available through the RI portal.**

***Vermont*** <http://www.healthvermont.gov/tracking>  
Vermont continues to be one of the healthiest states in the nation but there are challenges ahead. To meet these, we track, measure, report, and apply data to achieve our shared goals for improving public health. Our data portal allows you to access this information, view trends over time, and visualize the indicators on Vermont maps. It highlights data that is part of Environmental Public Health Tracking and Healthy Vermonters 2020 by bringing together environmental and health data in one place. Highlights from Vermont:

* **Social Vulnerability Index:** A planning tool used by state agencies and local organizations that evaluates the relative social vulnerability (the resilience of communities when responding to or recovering from threats to public health) across Vermont and helps identify populations that may need more help routinely or during a public health emergency.
* **Cyanobacteria Tracker:** A map that allows the public to check recent cyanobacteria bloom reports at shoreline sites and recreational swimming areas of Lake Champlain and various inland lakes.
* **Community Profiles:** Reports that organize information on a specific particular topic—cancer; birth defects; alcohol, tobacco and other drugs; and 3-4-50 (a chronic disease prevention campaign)—by geography, which lets users explore multiple indicators and compare communities.

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