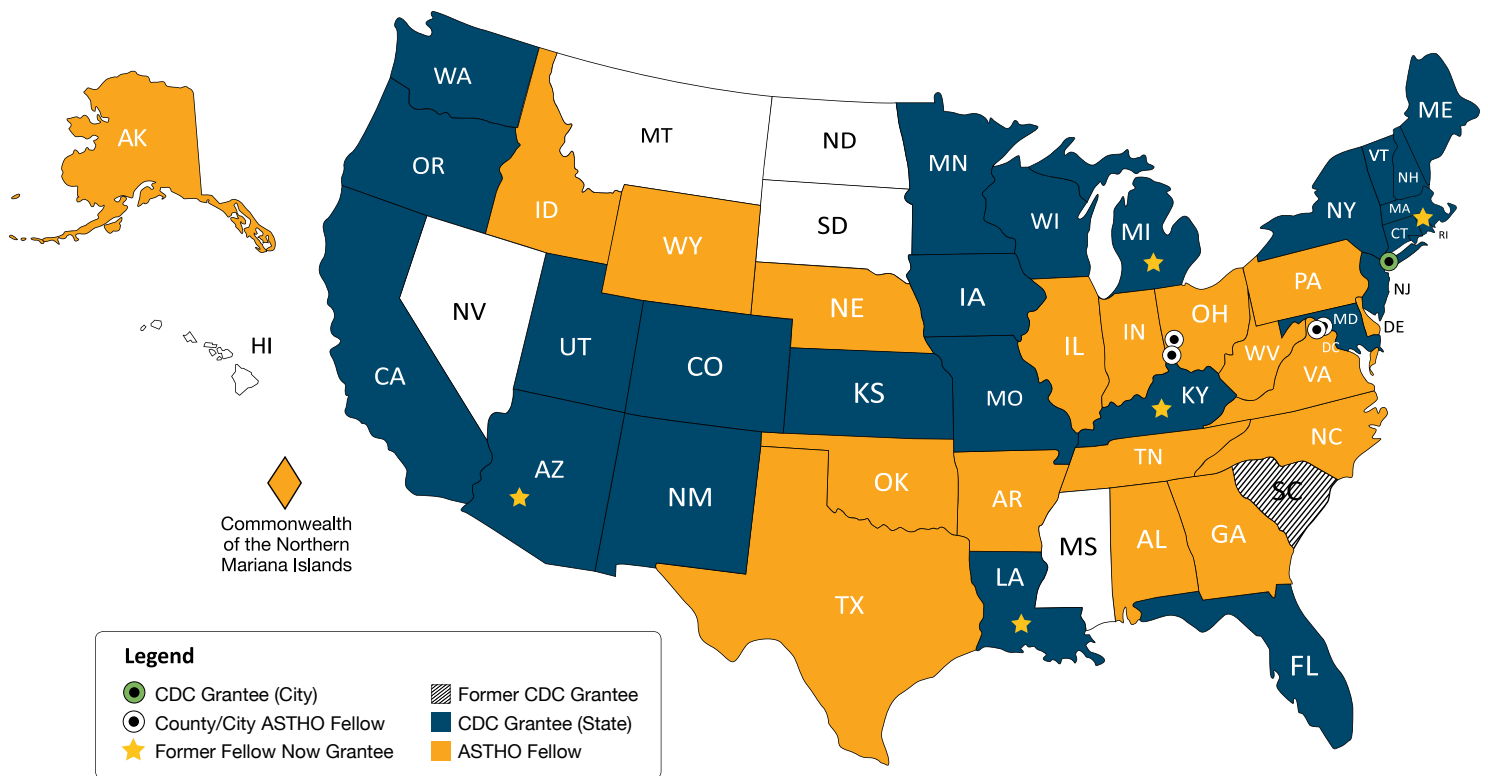


The Environmental Public Health Tracking Fellowship Program Celebrates a Decade

In 2008, ASTHO and CDC launched the Environmental Public Health Tracking (EPHT) Fellowship Program to support unfunded health agencies* and build national tracking capacity. For more than a decade, the program has collected, integrated, and analyzed data to protect the nation from environmental health threats.

As part of the program, fellows:

- 1** Pilot a project to advance public health tracking in their jurisdictions.
- 2** Learn from CDC mentors and environmental health professionals in their states to gain firsthand experience.
- 3** Build peer networks between funded and non-funded states.

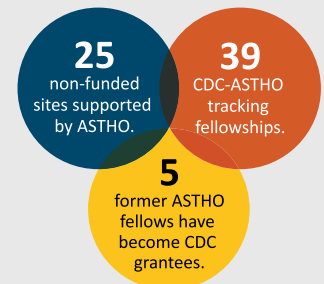


What is environmental public health tracking?

Environmental public health tracking is surveillance that involves the ongoing collection and analysis of data to discover trends and patterns of disease, environmental hazards, and exposures that can inform successful public health interventions and policies.

Since its launch in 2002, the National Environmental Public Health Tracking Network has allowed state, local, and federal agencies to rapidly detect emerging public health threats, implement and evaluate the efficacy of control strategies, and develop actions that improve public health.

EPHT Fellowship Program by the Numbers:



*CDC funds 25 states and one city as part of the network. The EPHT Fellowship Program was established to fill the surveillance gaps that exist between funded and non-funded states and to provide integrated nationwide health and environmental data to improve the health of communities.

For more information, visit www.astho.org.



Building National Public Health Tracking Capacity: A Spotlight on State Fellowships

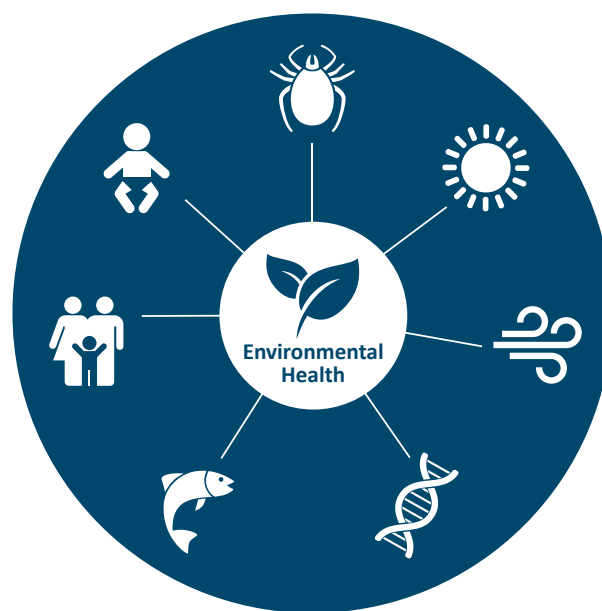
2009 | The Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals used tracking to map the relationship between blood mercury levels in residents and levels in fish tissue, and to show the geographic distribution of the problem.

2011 | The Indiana State Department of Health developed maps to support the Lead & Healthy Homes Program, which targets high-risk areas for childhood lead poisoning. Using ArcGIS, lead risk maps provided valuable tools for lead exposure investigations, outreach and education, and public health actions.

2011 | Heat-related mortality surveillance in Arizona’s Maricopa County has been robust. However, there was a data gap in understanding the scope, trends, and risk factors of heat-related illnesses. Arizona’s Office of Environmental Health used tracking to identify local at-risk populations, and characterize heat-related morbidity and mortality rates.

2013 | The Tennessee Department of Health tracked hospitalizations, emergency department visits, and death data for asthma to guide planning efforts, interventions, and serve as a baseline to track asthma trends and evaluate efforts to decrease the burden of this chronic disease.

Environmental public health tracking can lead to improved health by using data across a range of issues, such as vector-borne diseases, asthma, cancer, water quality, and maternal and child health.



ASTHO EPHT Fellows: 2008–2017

2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Fellowship program begins.	Louisiana, Michigan, and Washington, D.C. Louisiana becomes a CDC grantee.	Delaware, Georgia, Kentucky, North Carolina, and West Virginia	Arizona, Cincinnati (OH), and Indiana	Alabama, Fairfax County (VA), Idaho, Oklahoma, and Nebraska	Dayton/Montgomery County (OH), Illinois, Tennessee, Texas, and Wyoming	Arizona, Kentucky, North Carolina, and Tennessee Michigan and Kentucky become CDC grantees.	Alaska, Arizona, Rhode Island, and Virginia	Alaska, Indiana, and Rhode Island	Arkansas, CNMI, North Carolina, Texas, West Virginia, and Indiana Arizona and Rhode Island become CDC grantees.