




National Environmental
Health Association

The Isthmus

David T. Dyjack, Dr.PH, CIH
Executive Director





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We are here.
X

Climate
1-Health
DMI
AI
EJ
IAQ
Water
Emerging
EPH

Anthropocene

Opinion | Why global hunger is a national security threat



Listen to article



Migrant families from Nicaragua and Honduras walk along the U.S. southern border on Jan. 23, 2022, near Sasabe, Ariz. (Salwan Georges/The Washington Post)

Opinion by José Andrés
May 22, 2023 at 7:31 p.m. ET

José Andrés is a chef and founder of the new Global Food Institute at George Washington University.

Threats to U.S. national security are not just measured in missiles, armies and terrorists. Political and economic turmoil, in countries that are important to America and its allies, can also be overwhelming.



Whiskey Tango Foxtrot



A preliminary list of occupations (not exhaustive) is presented below.

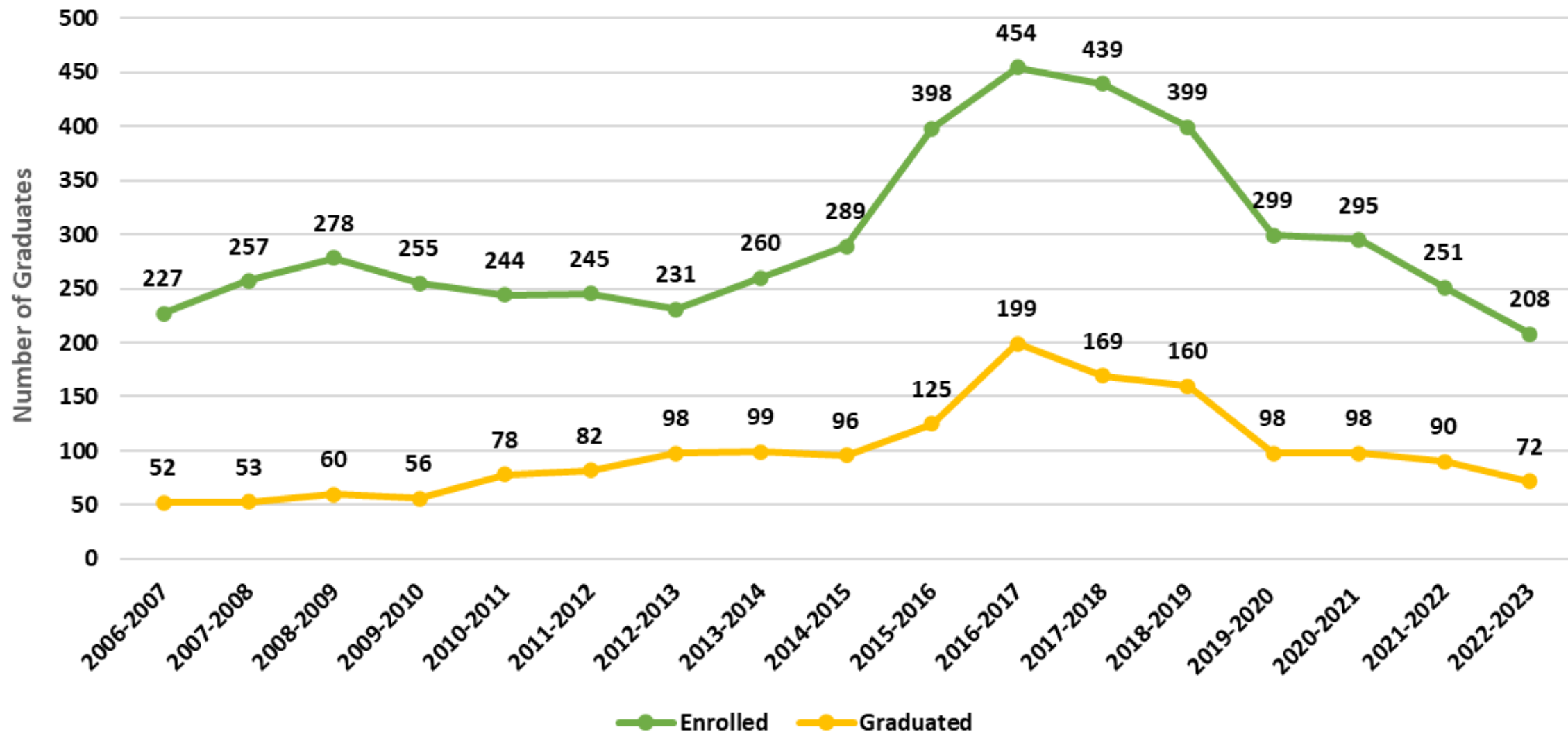
Group 1 (core public health personnel)	Group 2 (Health and care workers who perform one or more public health functions)	Group 3 (Personnel from other allied occupations)
Epidemiologists Public health managers/officers Public health researchers Public health practitioners Public health educators	Medical doctors Nursing personnel Midwifery personnel Dentists Pharmacists Community health workers Medical & pathology laboratory technicians Paramedical personnel Traditional & complementary medicine personnel Ambulance workers	Road safety personnel Food supply chain personnel Agricultural personnel Veterinarians Environmental health personnel Water sanitation and hygiene (WASH) personnel

5. Identify which occupations perform which tasks



The key occupations from each of the three groups of public health personnel will then be mapped against the tasks identified under the prioritized subfunctions. Otherwise, the mapping can be done directly with the prioritized subfunctions as a proxy for the tasks. This will provide information on the various occupations which are involved in the delivery of each subfunction. If any occupations are

Graduate Enrollment Trends and Graduation Rates from 2006-2007 to 2022-2023



Environmental Health is Public Health

CHAPTER 5 Workforce

Figure 5.10 | Staffing patterns (in median Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)) at LHDs, by size of population served

<10,000	10,000–24,999	25,000–49,999	50,000–99,999
4 Total FTEs	8 Total FTEs	14 Total FTEs	28 Total FTEs
1 Registered nurse	2 Registered nurses	3.8 Registered nurses	6 Registered nurses
1 Office and administrative support staff	2 Office and administrative support staff	3 Office and administrative support staff	5 Office and administrative support staff
0.9 Agency leadership	1 Agency leadership	1 Agency leadership	1 Agency leadership
	1 Environmental health worker	1.4 Environmental health worker	3 Environmental health workers
		0.6 Health educators	1 Health educator
		0.5 Preparedness staff	1 Preparedness staff
		0.2 Nutritionist	1 Nutritionist
			1 Business and financial operations staff
100,000–249,999	250,000–499,999	500,000–999,999	1,000,000+
60 Total FTEs	119 Total FTEs	238 Total FTEs	480 Total FTEs
10 Registered nurses	17 Registered nurses	29.5 Registered nurses	48 Registered nurses
10 Office and administrative support staff	18.5 Office and administrative support staff	30.8 Office and administrative support staff	75 Office and administrative support staff
3 Agency leadership	6 Agency leadership	7.5 Agency leadership	10 Agency leadership
7 Environmental health workers	14 Environmental health workers	25 Environmental health workers	36 Environmental health workers
2 Health educators	3 Health educators	6 Health educators	12 Health educators
1 Preparedness staff	2 Preparedness staff	3 Preparedness staff	5 Preparedness staff
2 Nutritionists	4.1 Nutritionists	8 Nutritionists	19 Nutritionists
2 Business and financial operations staff	4 Business and financial operations staff	8 Business and financial operations staff	21 Business and financial operations staff
0.5 Epidemiologist	1 Epidemiologist/statistician	3 Epidemiologist/statisticians	8 Epidemiologist/statisticians
0.1 Public health physician	1 Public health physician	1 Public health physician	3 Public health physicians
	2.4 Community health worker	6.5 Community health workers	14 Community health workers
	1 Information systems specialist	2 Information systems specialist	5 Information systems specialists
	1 Public information professional	1 Public information professional	1 Public information professional
	0.2 Licensed practical or vocational nurse	2 Licensed practical or vocational nurse	4 Licensed practical or vocational nurse
		1.8 Laboratory worker	10 Laboratory worker
		1 Behavioral health staff	2.7 Oral healthcare staff

n=1,114–1,468

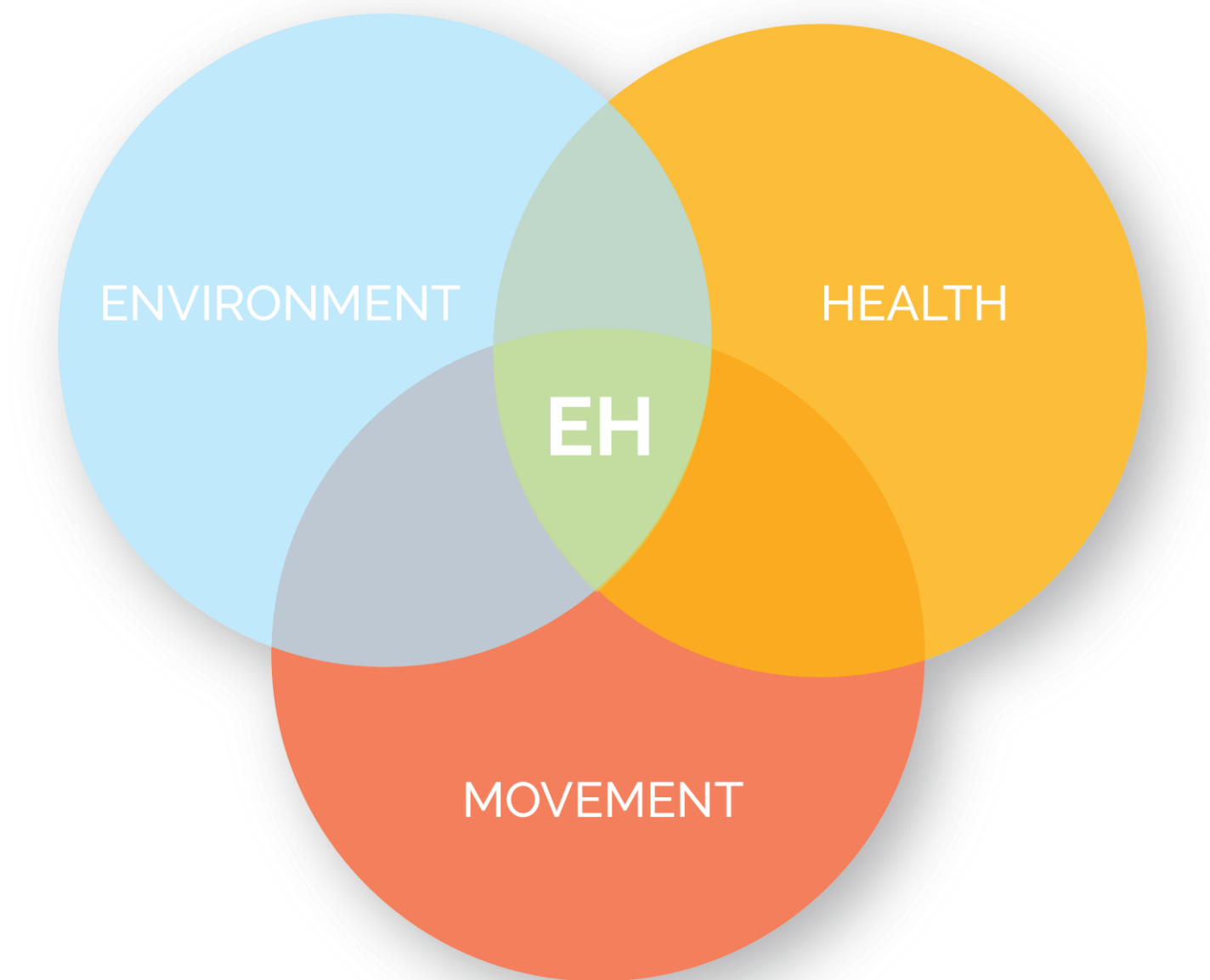
- ▶ Staffing patterns of LHDs vary by the size of population served.
- ▶ LHDs serving the smallest jurisdictions typically employ registered nurses, office support staff, a top executive, and environmental health workers.

- ▶ LHDs serving medium-sized jurisdictions typically also employ some additional occupations, including health educators, preparedness staff, nutritionists, business and financial operations staff, epidemiologists, public health physicians, and community health workers.

- ▶ LHDs serving jurisdictions over one million people typically employ nearly 500 FTEs including nearly 50 registered nurses, more than 75 office support staff, and many employees in specialized occupations, including information systems specialists, public information professionals, laboratory workers, and oral healthcare staff.

2012 IOM Report





Environmental Public Health

- Access/Axis/Affect
- Chief Science Officer



Environmental Public Health is Profoundly Local

- In some cases “is” the LHD
- Vector Control
- Tap Water
- Retail Food
- Housing
- ECE
- Schools
- Spas/Pools
- Septic
- Tattoo
- Cannabis
- Animal Control

Clostridium perfringens- Gas Gangrene



- Lower bowel & rectum
- found in surrounding skin flora
- Media reports - deaths following Liposuction

Saipan

- Vector
- ECE
- Schools
- Cemeteries
- Hospitality
- EP+R
- Vessel Clearance
- Water Vending
- Massage Parlors
- Nail Salons
- Barber Shops
- Retail Food
- Tattoo
- Lead



Massachusetts

Massachusetts COVID-19 public health emergency to end May 11. Here's what that means.

The Commonwealth will no longer require masks in healthcare settings or executive department employees to be vaccinated, among other changes.



Dr. Larry Madoff, left, and new Department of Public Health Commissioner Dr. Robert Goldstein discuss the end of the public health emergency, during a press conference. Photo by Pat Greenhouse/Globe Staff

By Eli Curwin

May 9, 2023



Massachusetts **will end the statewide** COVID-19 public health emergency on Thursday, May 11. On Tuesday, state officials explained what changes residents can expect once the emergency is officially over.

GAS STOVE SAFETY QUESTIONS

- ▶ Develop ventilation standards
- ▶ Increase awareness of health hazards
- ▶ Transition away from gas appliances

ATTORNEYS GENERAL ASK FOR INVESTIGATION INTO HEALTH IMPACT OF GAS STOVES

The letter calls on officials to develop ventilation standards, [WCVB](#)

WCVB Boston + Follow Mon at 10:33 PM

Massachusetts joins probe into health impact of gas stoves

11 Attorneys General call for the federal government to "address the public health and safety danger..." [See more](#)

Advisory from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health

POSTED ON: MAY 10, 2023 - 2:21PM

Department of Public Health advises consumers to discard mung bean sprouts from Chang Farm

BOSTON (May 9, 2023) – The Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) is advising consumers that Chang Farm in Whatley, MA is recalling mung bean sprouts because of the possible presence of *Listeria monocytogenes* contamination. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) announced last week that Chang Farm has voluntarily recalled all 10-pound bulk bags, as well as 12-ounce retail bags with a sell-by date of May 7, 2023. Affected products are sold under the brands Chang Farm and Nature's Wonder.

Irish Moss

Chondrus crispus



Description¹⁸

Chondrus crispus is a small purplish-red seaweed (up to 22 cm long) found on rocky shores and in pools. The fronds grow dichotomously from a narrow, unbranched stipe and are flat and wide with rounded tips. This seaweed is highly variable in appearance depending on the level of wave exposure of the shore and has a tendency to turn green in strong sunlight. Underwater, the tips of the frond can be iridescent. Also known as Irish moss. Together with *Mastocarpus stellatus*, *Chondrus crispus* is harvested commercially as carrageen to be used in the pharmaceutical and food industries. May be confused with *Mastocarpus stellatus*, although the latter species has a rounded stipe, channeled fronds and papillate reproductive bodies.

Range Map



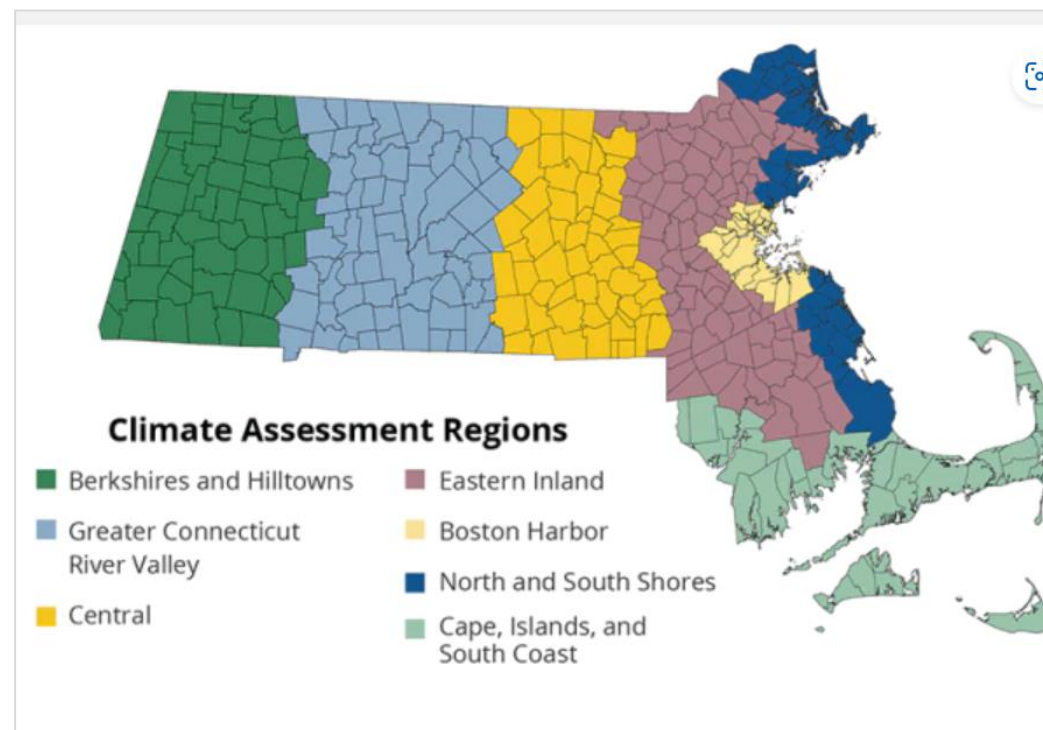
(c) Discover Life and original sources, some rights reserved (CC-BY-NC-SA)

iNat Map



Climate Change

- Vectors
- Flooding
- Sea Level Rise
- Fisheries
- Drought
- Extreme Heat
- HABs



One Health

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CTSI
 Tufts Clinical and Translational Science Institute

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 TUFTS CTSI | LEARN

Req

Research Services
 Education
 Funding Opportunities
 Our Impact
 Faculty & Staff

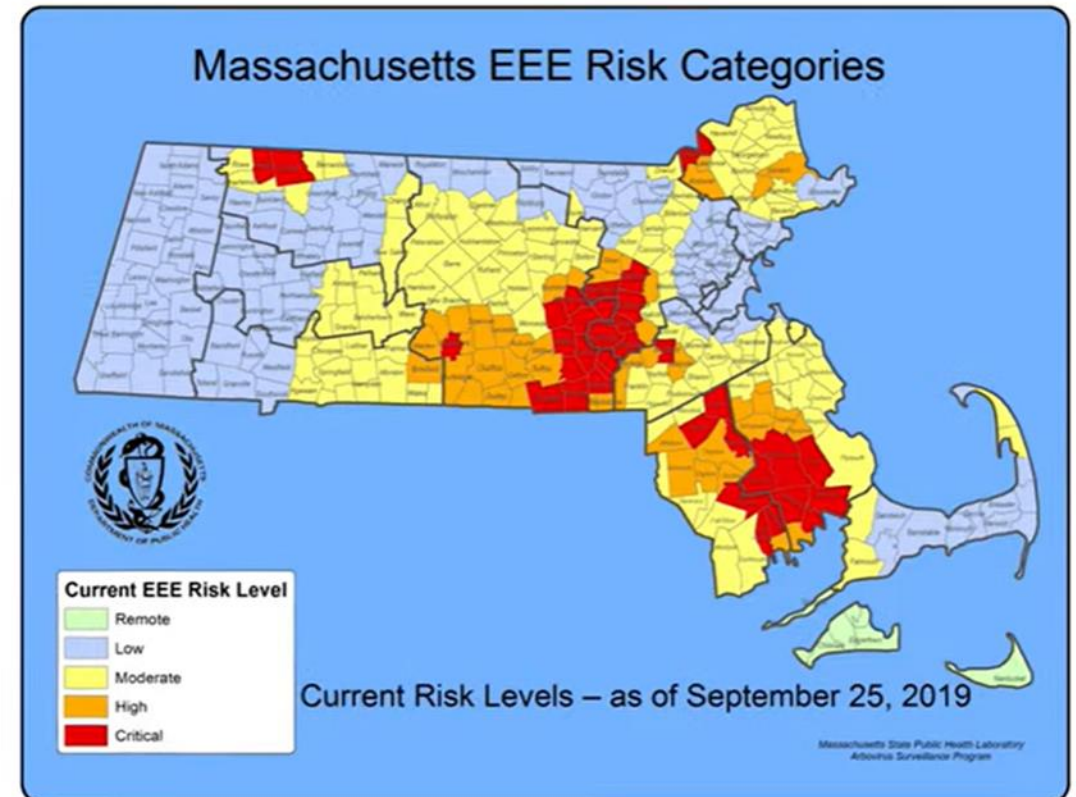
ONE HEALTH

Research Services
 COVID-19 Information and Resources
 Biomedical and Health Data Sciences Collaborative (BHDSC)
 Science Communications
 Dissemination and Implementation (D&I) Core
 Team Science
 Research Design & Analysis
 Informatics
 Clinical Studies & Trials
 Recruitment & Retention Support



Overview

The mission of Tufts CTSI's One Health Program is to optimize the health of hum environment through an innovative and integrative, interdisciplinary approach t education, research, and practice.



New Era for Water

HEALTH

Wastewater surveillance could be a new way to track trends for illnesses like COVID

April 22, 2023 · 8:00 AM ET

Heard on Weekend Edition Saturday



Pien Huang

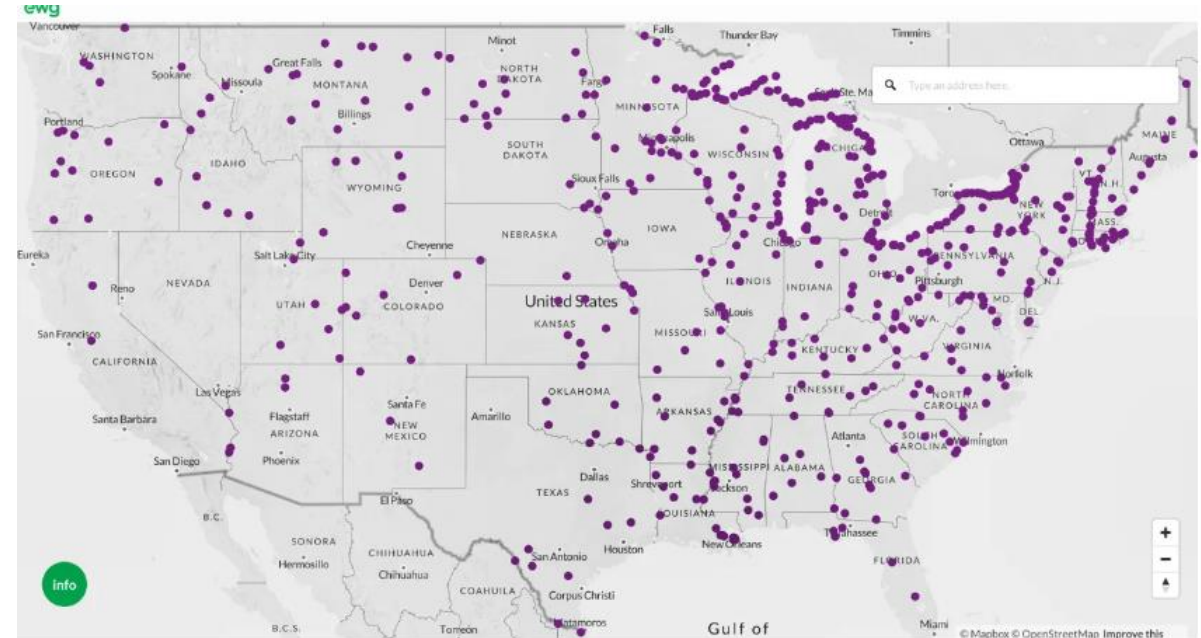
6-Minute Listen

+ PLAYLIST



Public health officials say wastewater surveillance could help them track trends for many kinds of diseases - from COVID to polio - but only if they can keep the testing system going.

Sponsor Message



Each point on the map represents approximate locations where PFAS has been detected in fish, based on the Environmental Working Group's analysis of Environmental Protection Agency data.

Locally caught fish are full of dangerous chemicals called PFAS, study finds

Cuban Refugees



Photos courtesy of Paige Dyjack

Venezuelan Refugees



Photos courtesy of Paige Dyjack

Data

YOUR ASSOCIATION

DirectTalk



Big Bend

David Dyjack, DrPH, CH

Flashing red lights delivered a wave of anxiety as I directed my rented sport utility vehicle onto a dusty track adjacent to the road. Two heavily armed border patrol agents disembarked from their white suburban while a third escorted a lunging dog. I rolled down the driver's side window and greeted one agent, while the second peered into the passenger side of the vehicle. All the while the dog snuffed and snuffed the perimeter of the car. "Good afternoon, sir, are you an American citizen?" I answered in the affirmative. The three men nodded to one another, thanked me for my cooperation, and abruptly vaporized into the mesquite. I remain astonished by the brevity and thoroughness of the interaction.

Big Bend National Park is a leviathan, over 800,000 acres located on the Rio Grande in West Texas, a 6-hr drive from Austin. Magical, sacred, awe inspiring, and evidently well paralleled to detect and interdict individuals who attempt entry into the U.S. sans the proper paperwork. I suppose the heavy coating of off-road dust coupled with my bandana headwrap raised suspicions of law enforcement.

This interaction with the law occurred in October 2022, a couple days before the Texas Environmental Health Association conference in Round Rock, Texas, a suburban enclave adjacent to Austin. Visiting Big Bend was the closest thing I have to a bucket list item and I was pleased by the opportunity to draw down some paid time off to visit the park. The extremes there defy logic. Big Bend is at the northern end of the Chihuahuan Desert, and incongruously is subject to violent floods. My first day there was a brutally dry and sunny 93° F; while the next

Do we focus on ourselves or do we focus on the system?

morning the temperature hovered around 33° F and was accompanied by torrential rain. The quixotic weather provides a signal for plants and animal life to surge into action as the elements become conducive for identifying new homesteads, scouring for food, and exploring for mates. For my part it was a feast for the senses.

Big Bend is the ecological dominion in Texas. A literal oasis in a parched landscape. I wondered at the timing of the seasons and how fine-tuned the natural environment is at extracting the most benefit from the interminable fecund conditions. There may be a message for us there among the agave, yucca, and ocotillo.

Over the last year there has been considerable attention and investment into data systems. Disturbingly, I feel that much of the public health community doesn't understand our profession, with some exceptions. If they did, why haven't more of us been invited as contributors to the nationwide data modernization initiative, or included as beneficiaries of those investment dollars? The ecosystem seems ripe for us to be inserted into this national informatics discussion. I'm not convinced those within our professional environmental health network understand that we

seem to have backed ourselves into an abyss with no clear path forward. Let me explain. I've observed that our inspection software systems are divorced from public health. Thus, our data appear to be largely disconnected from the larger ecosystem of data reporting that is visibly delivered to state and federal aggregators. Exceptions do exist, for example, around reportable vectors and Twitter scraping, among others. But by and large, we seem to be closed off from the rest of the public health universe.

We are good at what we do when it comes to software. We make it easy for customers to apply for a permit, simple to pay for it and easy to report corrective actions. Likewise, our inspection data have been elegantly designed, again with some exceptions, a hyperfocus on the task at hand—assessing compliance. While that is important and useful, it doesn't lend itself to broader public health discussions and ultimately investments. In short, I feel we have cut ourselves off from the rest of the cosmos that is dedicated to preventive arts and sciences.

Unless we are careful and showcase exceptions, I sense those of us in the governmental environmental public health enterprise are increasingly at risk of being packaged and traded to code enforcement and/or weights and measures. We run the risk of not being valued for our scientific expertise or community insight. We're seen as compliance officers. In the political universe, we might even be seen as a necessary evil and not the valuable, impactful profession that we are.

Continued on page 4

Data Modernization Initiative

Data saves lives. Better data saves more lives.

[Print](#)

TOGETHER, WE ARE FOCUSED ON THE
DATA · PEOPLE · POLICIES
WE NEED TO MOVE THE COUNTRY FORWARD





“At CDC and throughout public health, we are in a pivotal moment for data and surveillance — one marked by opportunities, challenges, and the need for change.”

Dr. Rochelle P. Walensky, CDC Director

The ultimate goal of CDC's Data Modernization Initiative (DMI) is to get better, faster, actionable insights for decision-making at all levels of public health.

Our vision is to create one public health community that can engage robustly with healthcare, communicate meaningfully with the public, improve health equity, and have the means to protect and promote health.

Biotech

Lab-grown meat is OK for human consumption, FDA says

By Katie Hunt, CNN
Updated 12:50 PM EST, Thu November 17, 2022



Cultured chicken made by Upside Foods is shown.

Sign up for CNN's Life, But Greener newsletter. Our limited newsletter series guides you on how to minimize your personal role in the climate crisis — and reduce your eco-anxiety.

(CNN) — The US Food and Drug Administration has given a safety clearance to lab-grown meat for the first time.

Upside Foods, a California-based company that makes meat from cultured chicken cells, will be able to begin selling its products once its facilities have been inspected by the US Department of Agriculture.

The agency said it had evaluated the information submitted by Upside Foods and it had "no further questions at this

FAST COMPANY

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03-08-22 | MOST INNOVATIVE COMPANIES

The 10 most innovative biotech companies in 2022

Biotech companies such as Strata Oncology, TMRW Life Sciences, and DNA Script are breaking new ground in cancer detection, IVF storage, DNA synthesis, and more.



THE WORLD'S
TOP
10
MOST INNOVATIVE
COMPANIES

Artificial Intelligence



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CDC 24/7: Saving Lives, Protecting People™

Genomics and Precision Health

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Artificial Intelligence in Medicine and Public Health: Prospects and Challenges Beyond the Pandemic

March 1, 2022 by Danielle Rasooly, Muin J. Khoury, Office of Genomics and Precision Public Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, Georgia

Though still in its infancy as a field, [artificial intelligence](#) (AI) is poised to transform the practice of medicine and the delivery of healthcare. Powered by breakthroughs in [machine learning](#) (ML) algorithms, enhanced computing power, and increasing data



► ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ACROSS THE GLOBE

Artificial Intelligence and Environmental Health Teaching: Impacts for the Wider Profession

Editor's Note: We are familiar with the phrase, "Environmental health is extremely local." While environmental health affects most of us on the local level, we also understand that environmental health is universal and does not know borders. The location, geography, people, and conditions can differ but the science and principles of environmental health do not. In this new column, the National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) will present environmental health issues and topics from a global perspective. Understanding environmental health on a global scale can help us recognize

Kirstin E. Ross, PhD
Flinders University

Adam Choonara, MSc, CEnvH, MCIEH
Middlesex University

David T. Dyjack, DrPH, CIH
National Environmental Health Association

Gayle Davis, MPH, MIOA, SFHEA
Henry Dawson, MSc, PhD
University of Cardiff

Toni Hannelly, DPH, FEHA, FHEA
Curtin University

Zena Lynch, MA, FCIEH, CMCIH, SFHEA
Birmingham University

Inga Ploomipuu, MSc
Tartu Health Care College

Graeme Mitchell, MA, MCIEH, CEnvH
Liverpool John Moores University

Matilde A Rodrigues, PhD
Lindsay Shaw, MSc, MCIEH

Fungi, Bacteria, & HAIs

- Climate Mediated Adaptations
- Antibiotic Resistance Organisms
- Antibiotics in CAFOs
- LTCs



First US cases of treatment-resistant ringworm found in patients in New York City



By Jen Christensen, CNN

Updated 4:50 PM EDT, Thu May 11, 2023



(CNN) — The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is reporting the first known cases of an antifungal-resistant ringworm in the United States and urging providers to be on the lookout for such infections.

The details of the cases were reported to the CDC in February and shared in a [report](#) published Thursday. The patients – two unrelated women in New York City – first had

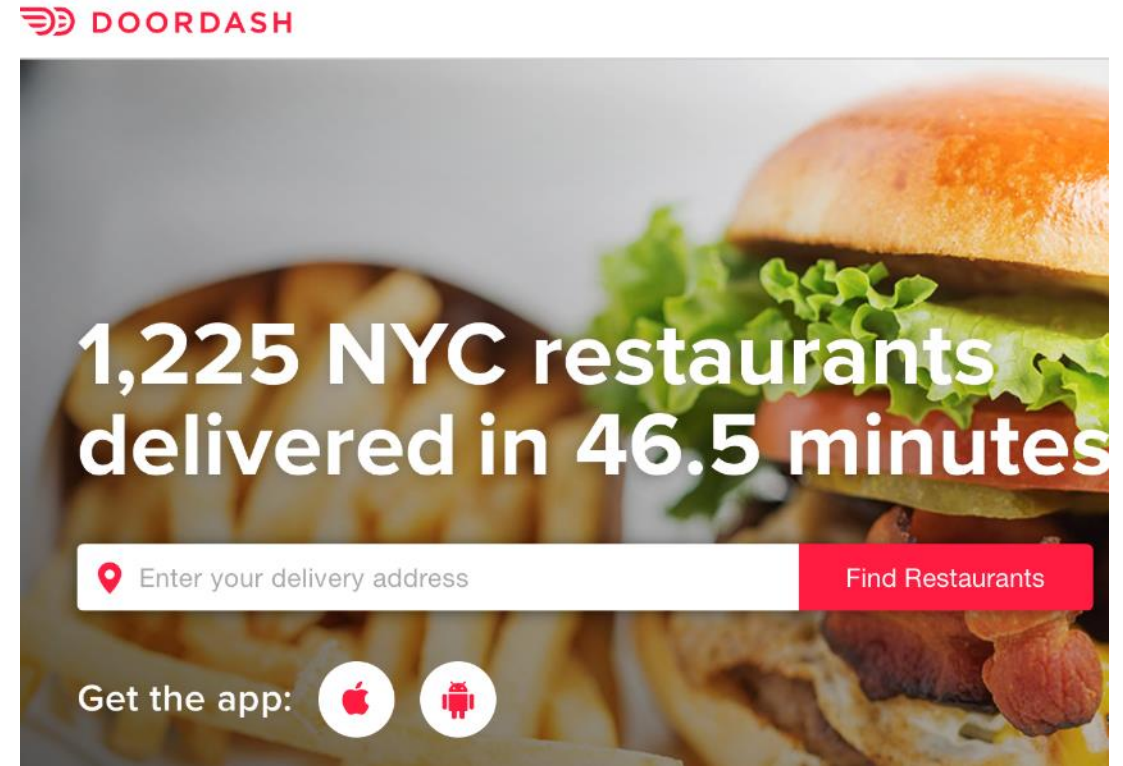
Biosolids



How We Engage with Food

Meal Kits & Ghost restaurants

- UberEats
 - Instacart
 - DoorDash
 - Blue Apron
 - Hello Fresh
 - Grubhub
 - Home Chef
 - Seamless
 - Home Restaurants & Groceraunts
-
- Food Freedom & Cottage Foods

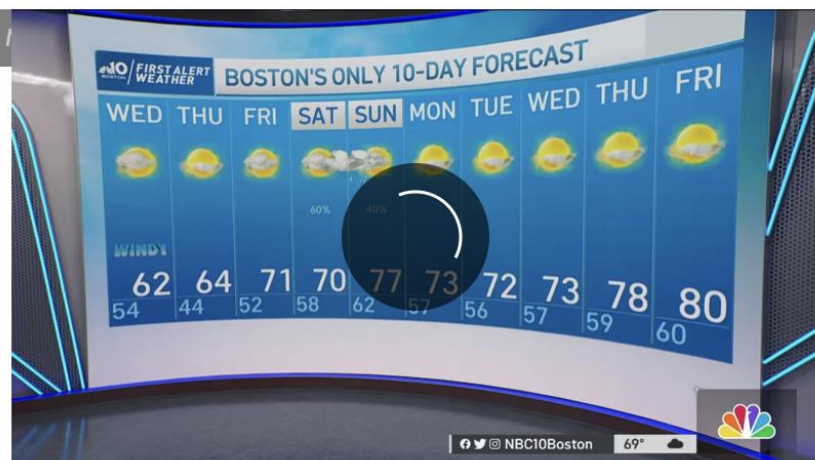


FORECAST

Rare 'Very High' Brush Fire Danger Prompts Warnings in New England

A gusty westerly wind to 30 mph for many and up to 40 mph on Cape Cod, becoming southwest late in the day, will contribute to fire spread and this can apply to both brush fires and building fires

Published May 16, 2023 • Updated on May 17, 2023 at 12:04 am



Smoke from Canadian fires is pouring into the US and could linger for days



By Melissa Alonso, CNN

Published 5:17 AM CDT, Fri May 19, 2023



Government of Alberta Fire Service/Canadian Press/AP

The Bald Mountain Wildfire burns in the Grande Prairie Forest Area in Alberta on Friday, May 12, 2023.

(CNN) — Smoke from wildfires in Canada is moving into parts of the central US and could linger in the days ahead, health and weather officials warned Thursday.

Air quality alerts have been posted as of early Friday across several states, including Nebraska, Washington, Montana, Minnesota

Indoor Air Quality

CDC sets first target for indoor air ventilation to prevent spread of Covid-19

by Brenda Goodman

Published 5:51 PM EDT, Fri May 12, 2023



Al Bello/Getty Images/FILE

The CDC recommends using MERV-13 air filters in HVAC systems, if possible.

(CNN) — The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has extensively updated its ventilation guidance on helping prevent indoor transmission of the virus that causes Covid-19.

Indoor Air Quality

THE WHITE HOUSE



DECEMBER 08, 2022

FACT SHEET: DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES COMMIT TO CLEANER INDOOR AIR ACROSS THE NATION

[OSTP](#) [NEWS & UPDATES](#) [PRESS RELEASES](#)

The Biden-Harris Administration has prioritized improved indoor air

Environmental Racism



‘This is environmental
racism’

How a protest in a North Carolina farming
town sparked a national movement

There is Plenty of Help

MODEL LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM PLAN 2022



California Conference of
Directors of Environmental Health



Dear David,

We already have **more than 30** job seekers signed up for our Virtual Career Fair [on May 23!](#) Each participant is ready and eager to step into the environmental health workforce.

Join us at the Career Fair to find a match for an open position in your organization.

Date: [May 23, 2023](#)

Who: State, local, tribal, and territorial environmental public health agencies and job seekers who have/will graduate from environmental health programs accredited by the Environmental Health Accreditation Council (EHAC).

When: Open [from 12-4 p.m. ET](#) with one-hour segments dedicated to highlighting agencies in each time zone:

- **Eastern Spotlight:** [12 -1 pm ET](#)

Join Us!

Professional Member
International
Emerging Professional
Retired Professional

neha.org/membership



We Connect Experts to Share Knowledge

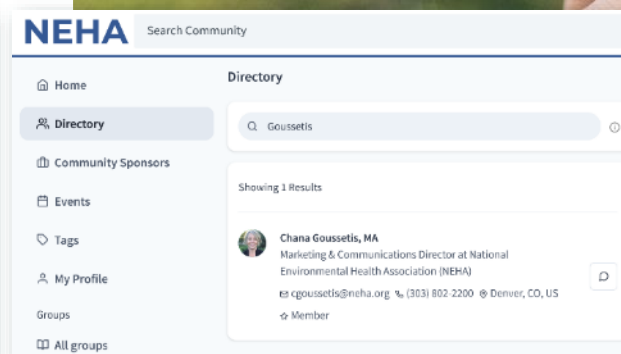
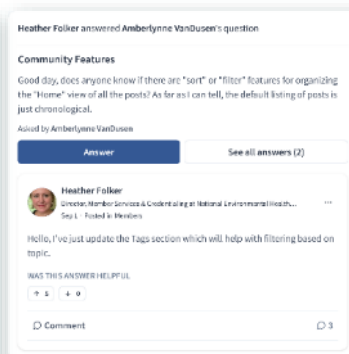
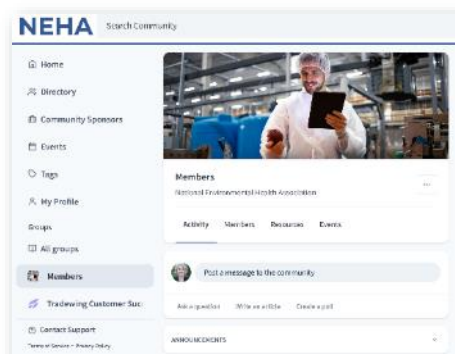
- National Environmental Assessment Reporting System (NEARS)
- Private Water Network
- Climate and Health Community
- National Environmental Public Health Internship Program Network (NEPHIP)
- Concurrent Disasters Community of Practice
- Environmental Health Strike Team Standard Community of Practice



We Create Space for Community

NEHA Community

- Online platform
- Members only
- Directory, events, workgroups
- Exchange ideas & advice
- Build collaboration & camaraderie



We're Working to Raise the Visibility of EH

4-pronged strategy

- Self-promotion training and materials
- Advertising
- EH leadership discussion
- Community outreach



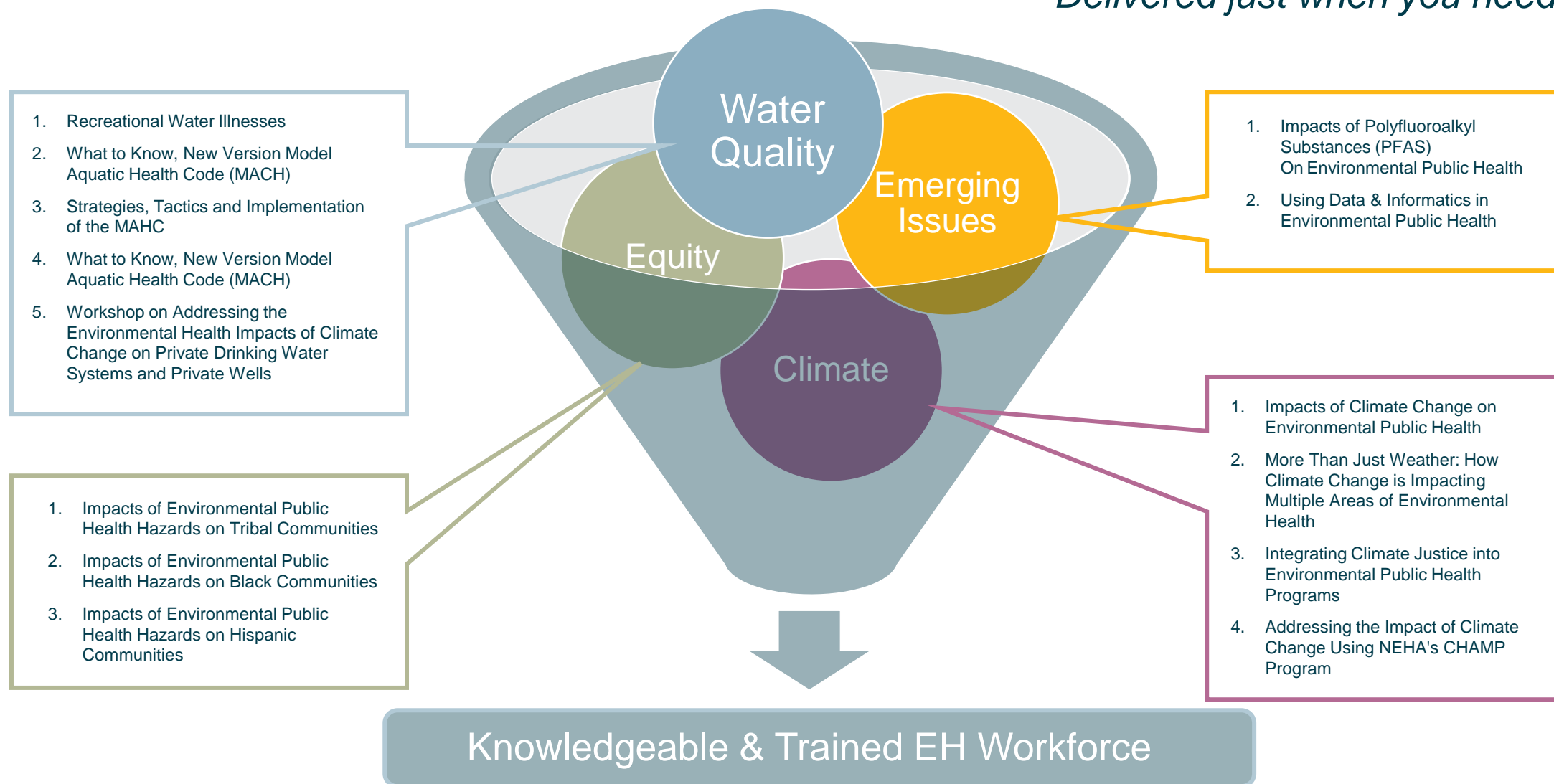
- Protecting our land from hazardous waste
- Most days you can find me on my way to investigate illegal dumping
- I am environmental public health



- Not just an inspector, a “Healthy Home Hero”
- Dedicated to protecting families from lead poisoning
- I am environmental public health

Spring Webinars Meet Education Needs

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We Strengthen Retail Food Safety

Keys to Optimal Retail Food Safety



The Main Thing

- Foodnet
- NORS
- Epi-Ready
- NEARS
- EHS-Net

New Era of Smarter Food Safety

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We Engage National Influencers

- April 5, 2023
- Retail Food
- Centrality of NEHA
- Centrality of EH Profession
- Support Funding

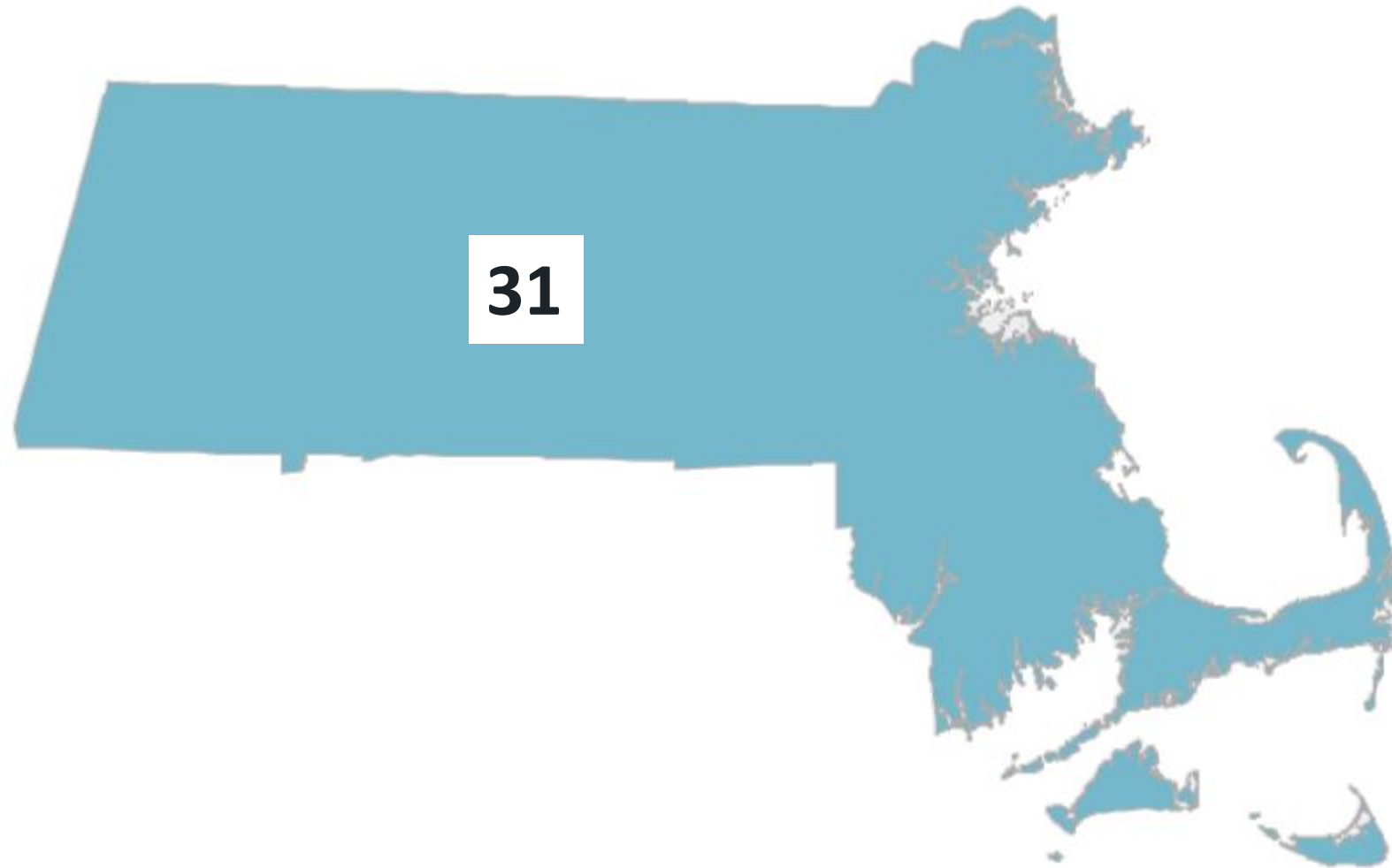


REHS/RS Credential Delivers Excellence on Day 1

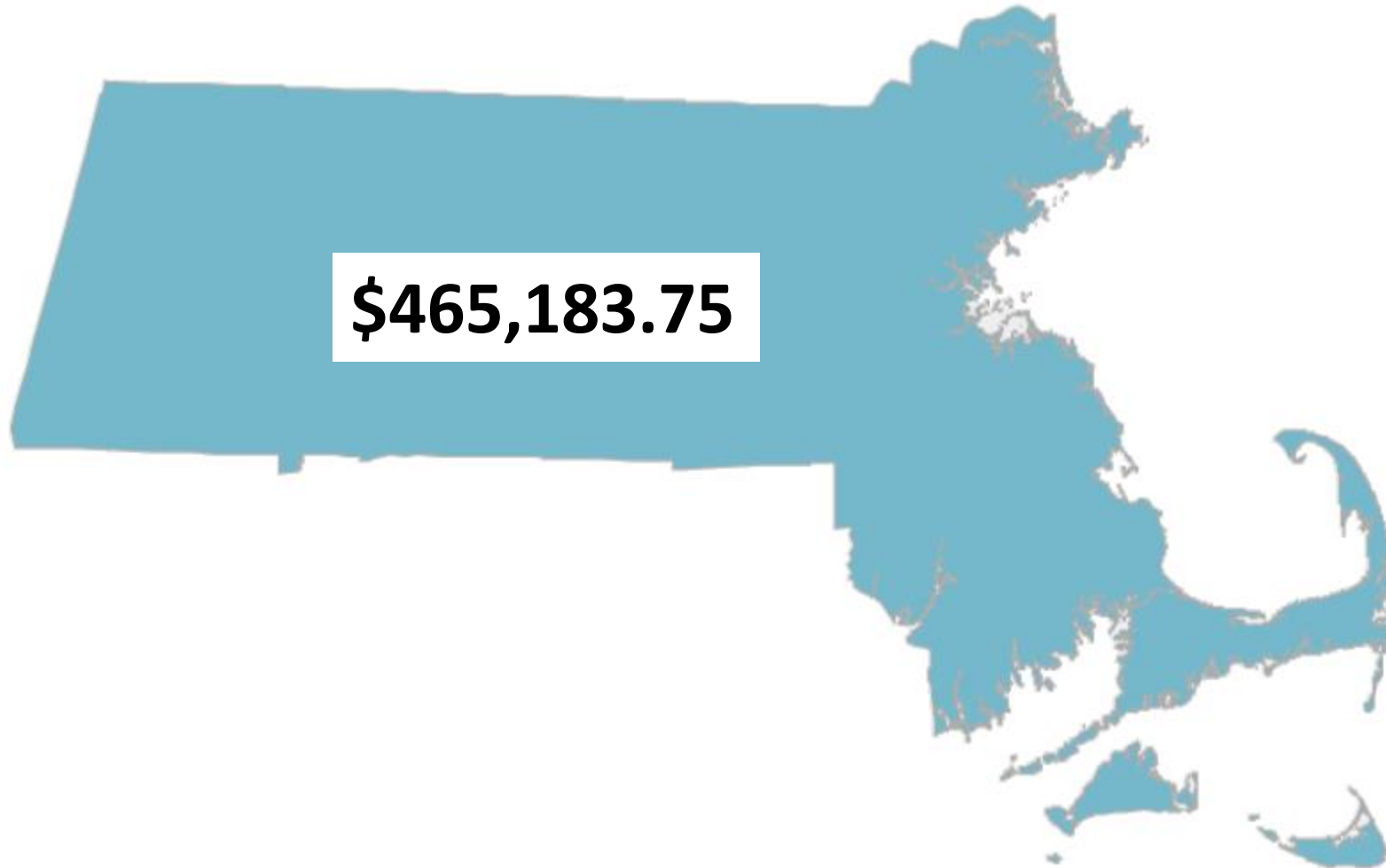
- ✓ Surveillance
- ✓ Inspections
- ✓ Investigations
- ✓ Compliance Review
- ✓ Community Outreach
- ✓ Emergency Planning



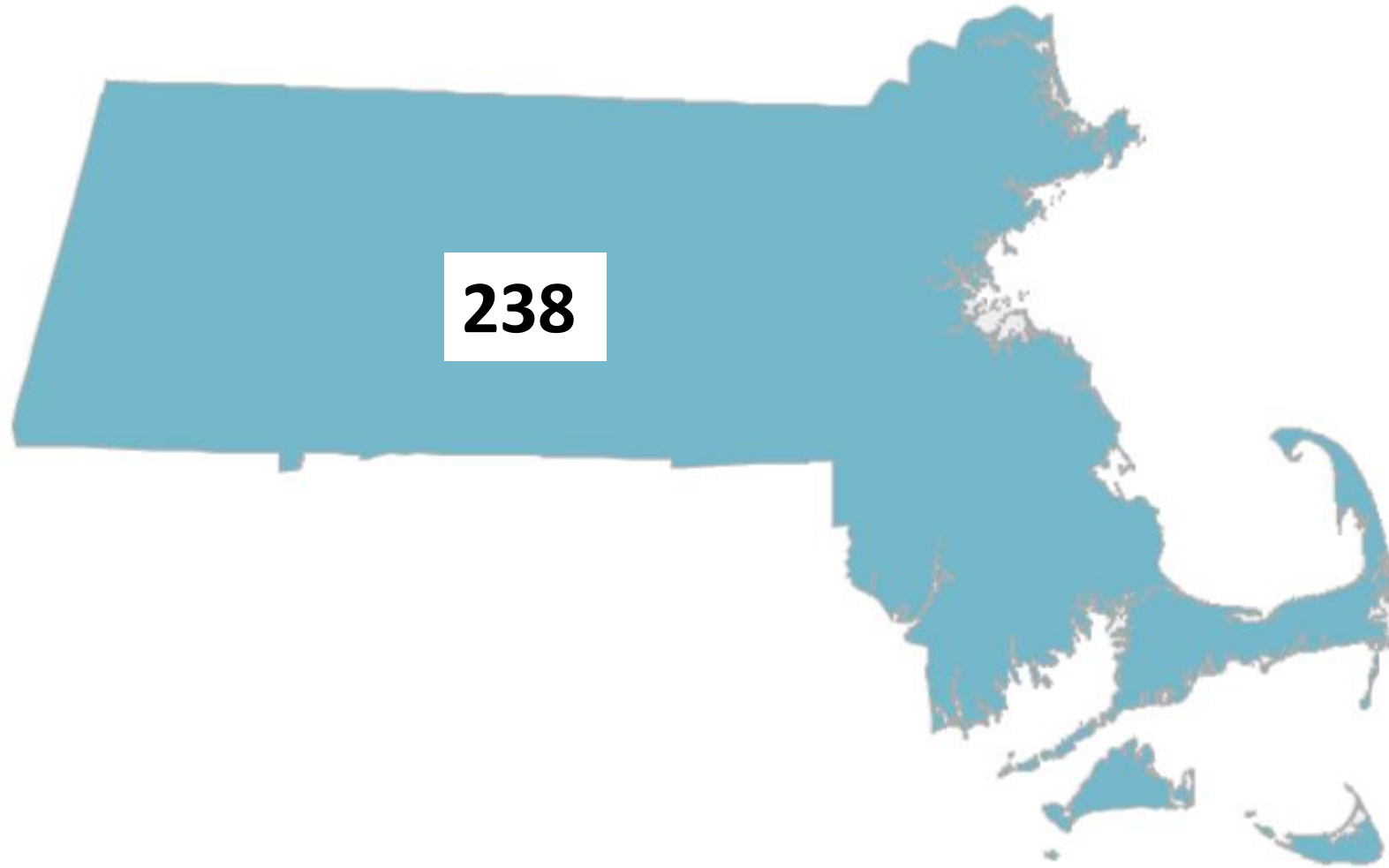
Our Program Investments in Massachusetts



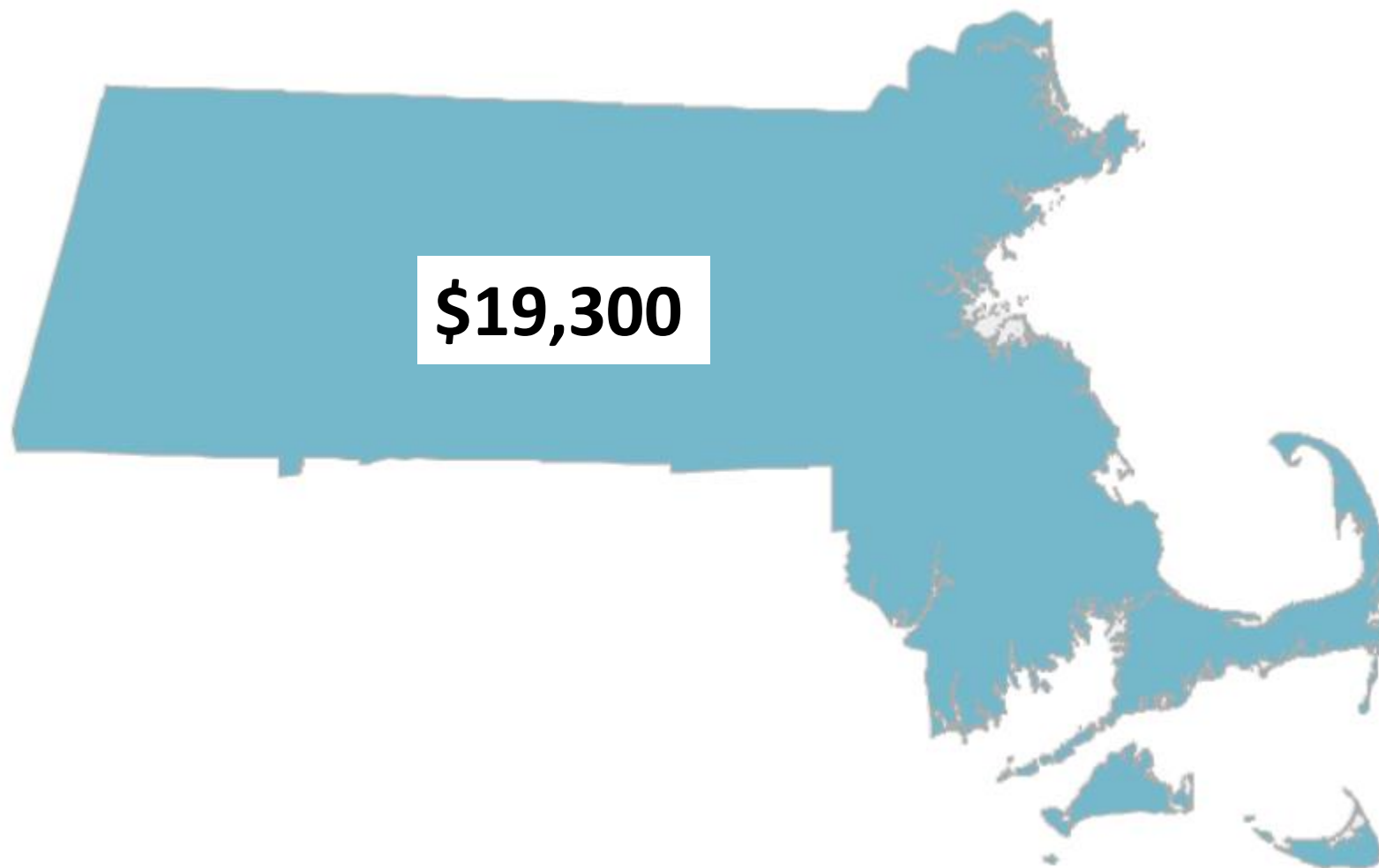
Our Financial Investments in Massachusetts



Our Membership in Massachusetts



Our Revenue in Massachusetts



Massachusetts ROI \$24.50:\$1

FY22 Annual Report

- Online
- Summary of Activities
- Sources of Investment



Raise the Voice of Your Workforce in New Orleans

Annual
Educational
Conference &
Exhibition (AEC)

July 31 – August 3



Learn from Our Keynote Speakers



Communities and Climate Through the Lens of Environmental Health Practice

Maureen Lichtveld, MD, MPH

Dean, School of Public Health
Professor, Environmental and Occupational Health
Jonas Salk Chair in Population Health



Leadership: Getting the Difficult Job Done

Lt. General Russel L. Honoré, USA (Ret.)

Commander of Joint Task Force Katrina, Leadership, Safety & Global Preparedness Authority and Leader of U.S. Capitol Complex Security Review



Frank Yiannas

Food Safety Executive
Prior Deputy Commissioner Food Policy & Response, FDA



Science Exists in a Social Context

Data does not change minds – relationships do

- Principle of Reciprocation - Generosity
- Principle of Commitment – Writing
- Principle of Social Proof – Early adopters/positive deviants
- Principle of Scarcity – Short Supply
- Principle of Authority – Act like a Minister of Health
- Principle of Commitment and Consistency- people loathe uncertainty
- Principle of Unity – we're all Americans

Source: Robert Cialdini, Ph.D

Opinion | Don't want a baby because of climate fears? You're not alone.

 **Author Narrated** |  Listen 6 min



(Washington Post staff illustration; iStock)

Opinion by Peggy O'Donnell Heffington
April 19, 2023 at 6:00 a.m. ET

Peggy O'Donnell Heffington is a professor of history at the University of Chicago and the author of "Without Children: The Long History of Not Being a Mother."

As a college professor, I'm used to hearing young people's anxiety and even anger about climate change. One of the most striking trends is the number of students who have told me they feel

Conclusions

- Let the main thing be the main thing
- EH is profoundly local
- EH is a contact sport
- EH is PH
- Each of us is important



This is (y)our time.



**National Environmental
Health Association**