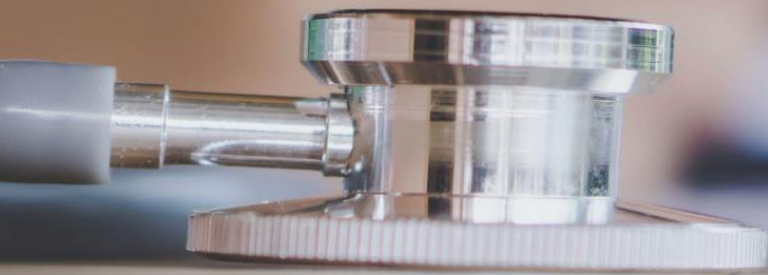


Health Officer Report

05.15.24

Tracie Newman, MD, MPH, FAAP



**Fargo Cass
Public Health**
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

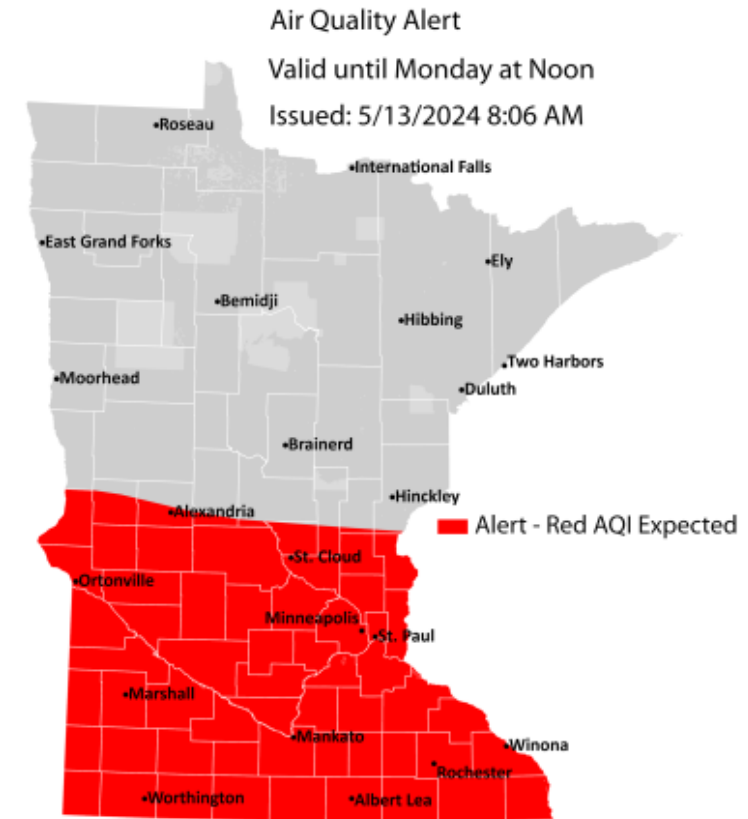


CDC INCREASES WARNINGS ABOUT RISKS OF RAW MILK DURING AVIAN FLU OUTBREAK

- CDC reports H5N1 avian flu detected in cats that died after consuming raw milk from infected cattle
- This suggests humans could contract the virus via this route; thus FDA, CDC, AAP, other groups reinforcing message for humans to not consume raw milk (particularly infants, young children, pregnant women, etc)
- Unpasteurized (or raw) milk can also transmit bacteria: *Campylobacter*, *Salmonella*, *E. coli*, *Listeria*, *tuberculosis*, *Brucella*
- Entire CDC report: [Early Release - Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza A\(H5N1\) Clade 2.3.4.4b Virus Infection in Domestic Dairy Cattle and Cats, United States, 2024 - Volume 30, Number 7—July 2024 - Emerging Infectious Diseases journal - CDC](#)
- Great resource for the public: [Raw Milk: What Parents Need to Know - HealthyChildren.org](#)

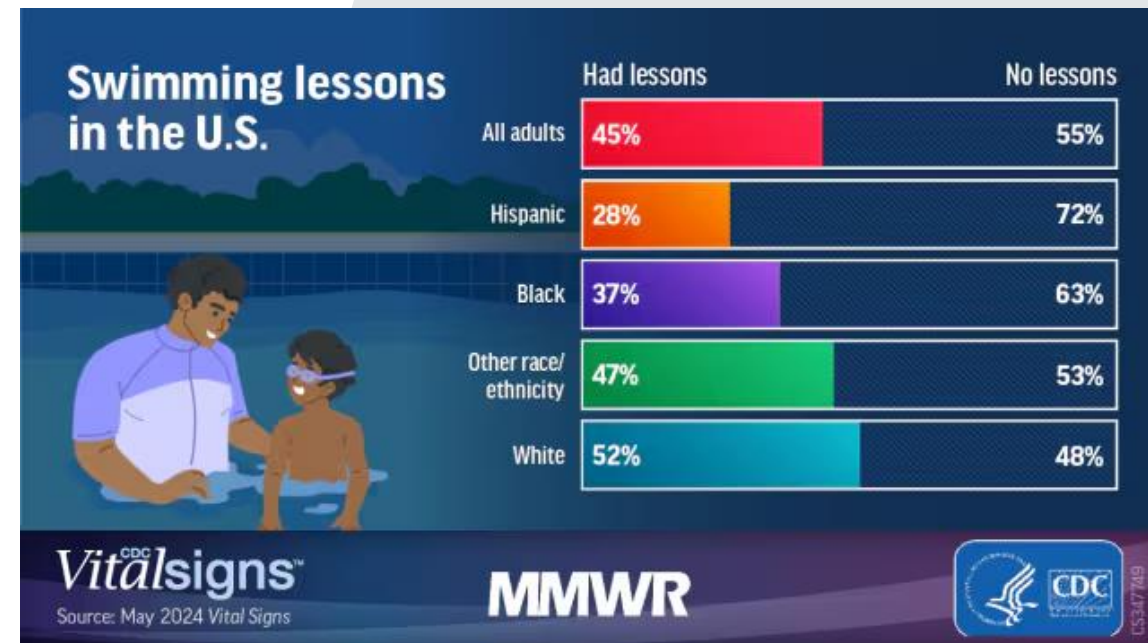
CANADIAN WILDFIRES SENDING HARMFUL SMOKE INTO NORTHERN U.S.

- 146 active wildfires burning in Canada; dozens “out of control”
- Fires have triggered air quality alerts in 4 states: MT, ND, SD, MN
 - Air quality indexes have ranged from “moderate” to “unhealthy”
- Particulate pollution from fires can lead to multiple health issues: increased risk of asthma, lung cancer, other chronic lung problems, inflammation, immune system issues
- Entire MN report: [Air quality alert due to wildfire smoke continues for southern Minnesota | Minnesota Pollution Control Agency \(state.mn.us\)](#)



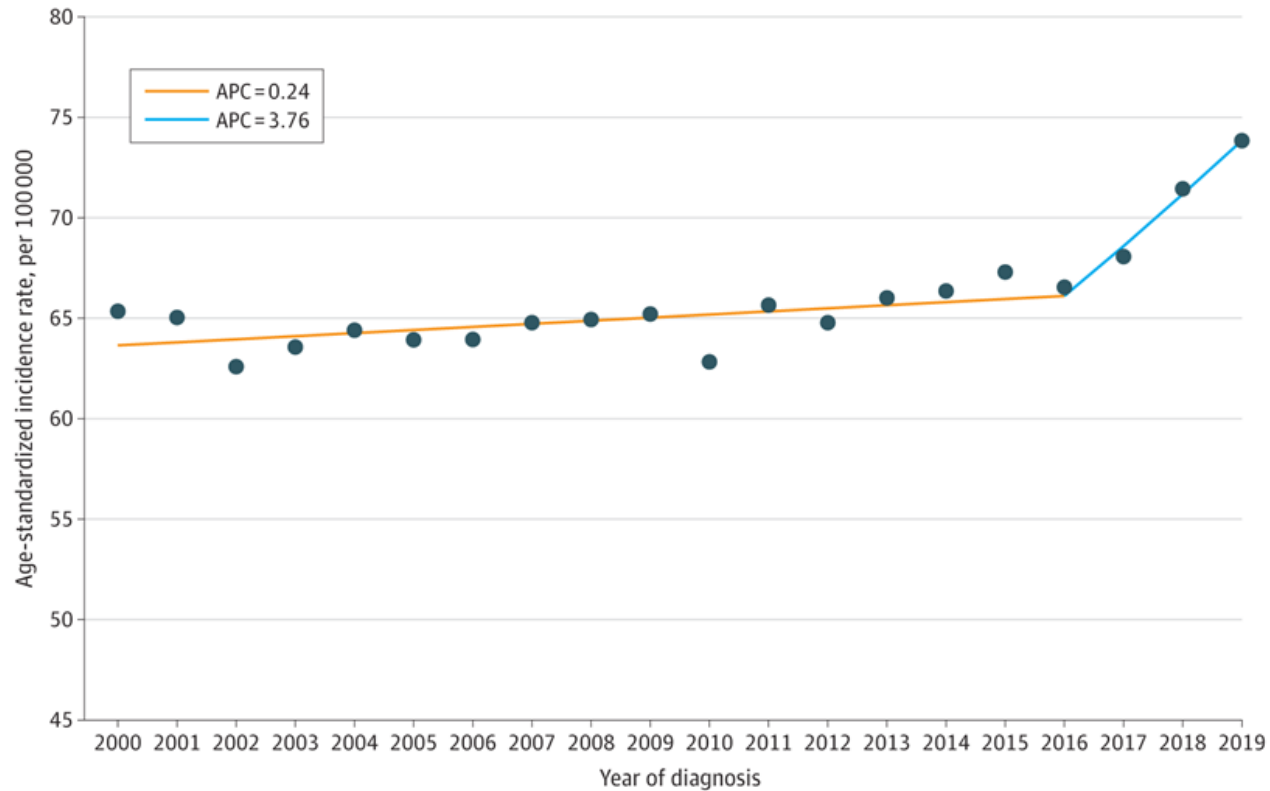
DROWNING DEATHS IN CHILDREN INCREASING; DISPARITIES PERSIST

- Drownings are a significant public health problem
- Drowning deaths in 1-4 yr olds increased 28% in 2022 compared to 2019
 - Across all ages, highest rates were AI/AN and Blacks
- Experts believe increases may be due to public pool closures during pandemic, limiting swim lessons. When pools reopened, lifeguard and instructor shortages.
- Protective measures: swim lessons, life jackets, supervising children, CPR certification, pool fencing
- Public health efforts towards increasing access to basic swimming and water safety training
- CDC MMWR: [Vital Signs: Drowning Death Rates, Self-Reported Swimming Skill, Swimming Lesson Participation, and Recreational Water Exposure — United States, 2019–2023 | MMWR \(cdc.gov\)](#)



NEW GUIDELINES RECOMMEND BREAST CANCER SCREENING START AT AGE 40

Figure 1. Joinpoint Analysis of Overall Incidence of Primary Invasive Breast Cancer Among US Women Aged 20 to 49 Years, 2000-2019



APC indicates annual percent changes.

- New recommendations for women 40-74 yrs to get screening mammograms
 - USPSTF: mammogram every other year
 - ACS: annual mammogram
 - ACOG: annual or biennial
- Breast cancer rates increasing at younger ages
 - Rates in women < 50 yrs increased 2% each year (more rapid in recent years)
 - More aggressive course when occurs younger
- Breast cancer vaccine trials underway (recent phase 1 trials showed safety and efficacy)

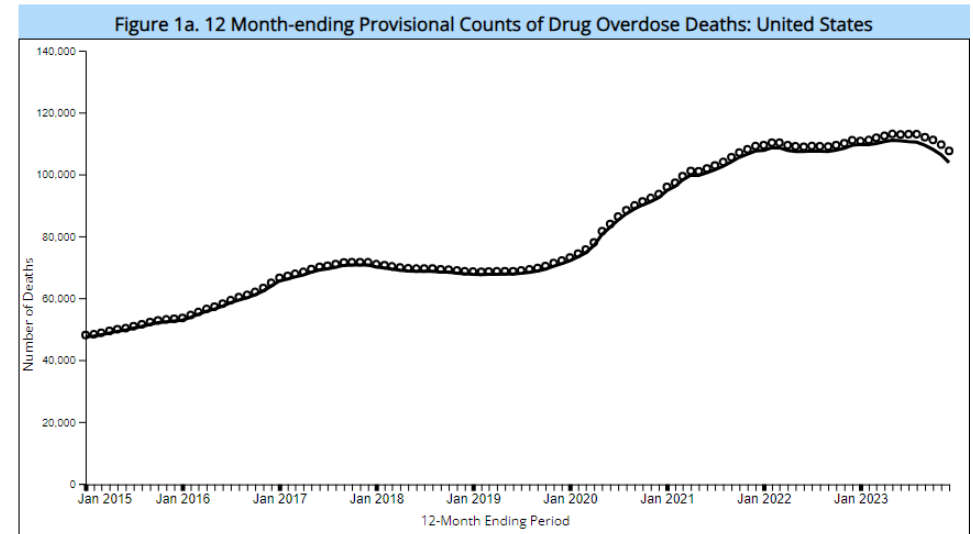
U.S. DRUG OVERDOSE DEATHS DECREASED – 1ST TIME IN 5 YEARS

- Drug overdose deaths decreased 3% to 107,543 in 2023 compared to 111,029 in 2022
 - First annual decrease since 2018
 - Opioid overdose deaths declined from 84,181 in 2022 to 81,083 in 2023
- Fentanyl is leading cause of overdose deaths in U.S.
- Percent change in N.D. -8.51%
 - Predicted N.D. cases 2023 – 129
 - Predicted N.D. cases 2022 – 141

Source: [Products - Vital Statistics Rapid Release - Provisional Drug Overdose Data \(cdc.gov\)](https://www.cdc.gov/products-and-services/vital-statistics/rapid-release-provisional-drug-overdose-data)

12 Month-ending Provisional Number and Percent Change of Drug Overdose Deaths

Based on data available for analysis on: May 5, 2024



Drug Overdose Deaths in the United States 2022 VS. 2023*

