



Non-Infectious Conditions Epidemiology June 2014

The Office of Non-Infectious Conditions Epidemiology (NICE) works for a safer and healthier Washington by applying the science of epidemiology for making public health decisions related to non-infectious conditions, including chronic diseases, injury, environmentally related diseases, and related risk factors. The office conducts ongoing disease surveillance and analysis to identify factors influencing disease and provides technical assistance on data collection, analysis and interpretation.

Services

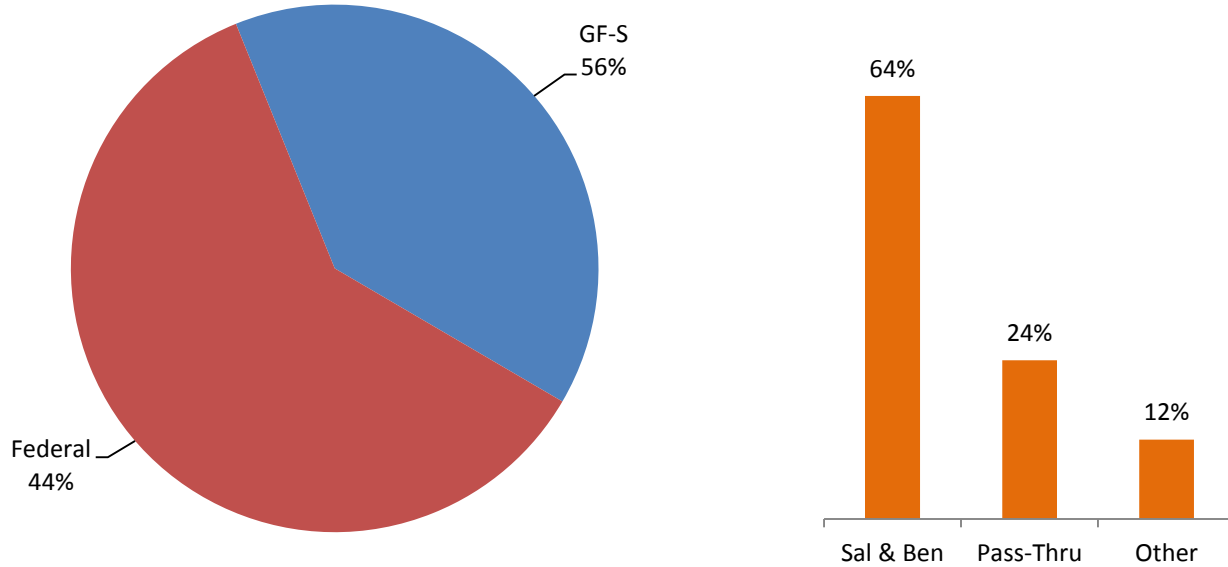
- Initiate and direct epidemiologic investigations to identify health problems and their causes; provide epidemiologic and statistical technical assistance to Department of Health (DOH) programs, local health jurisdictions (LHJs), other state agencies and non-governmental organizations. For example:
 - Help plan, implement, and analyze data from the Healthy Youth Survey (HYS). HYS provides state and local data on issues that affect youth, such as alcohol, tobacco and drug abuse; injury and violence; and physical activity and nutrition. HYS data help governmental and non-governmental organizations obtain resources, determine program priorities, and develop policies aimed at improving youth health.
 - Design and implement field studies, analyze data, and work with internal and external stakeholders to use the data to develop priorities, programs and policies to improve health. A recent example was a study to look at important risk factors for heart disease, stroke, and diabetes.
- Provide leadership and support to develop infrastructure that improves tools and systems to collect, analyze, and disseminate data. These systems allow LHJs with a range of assessment capacity to use data to prioritize issues, plan programs, and develop policies to protect health. For example:
 - Set development priorities and help maintain the Community Health Assessment Tool (CHAT) by building consensus among local health CHAT users for priorities, updating and assuring quality of data, and providing technical assistance and training to LHJ staff.
 - Support the Local Public Health Indicators, a component of the *Public Health Improvement Plan*, by providing technical and scientific information for selecting new indicators and by updating and assuring quality of data.
- Provide leadership on agency-wide epidemiologic activities. NICE is responsible for developing the Health of Washington State (HWS), a statewide assessment of health status, health risks, and health care services. Governmental and non-governmental policy makers use HWS to understand and establish public health priorities, and to develop policies and programs to improve health.
- Provide leadership in cluster investigations of non-infectious conditions. From 2007–2011, DOH received an average of 16 cluster concerns each year. Most concerns were directly from individuals or from local health officials who had been contacted by individuals about high rates of cancer; other concerns included adverse birth outcomes, multiple sclerosis, aplastic anemia, and inflammatory bowel disease. These concerns are explored to assure we are not missing a public health problem.

Stakeholders

- Local health jurisdictions (LHJs)
- Other state agencies such as DSHS, OFM, Commerce, OSPI, UW, WSU, and CWU
- Non-governmental organizations such as Yakima Valley Farmers Health Clinic, Washington State Coalition, and Childhood Obesity Prevention Coalition

2013-15 biennium

Non-Infectious Conditions Epidemiology Fiscal Information



	GF-S	Federal	Dedicated	Fees	Total	Sal & Ben	Pass-Thru	Other
Total	795,000	1,216,000	0	0	2,011,000	1,288,000	480,000	243,000

Recent Funding History

2007-09 biennium:

- One-time GF-S reduction of \$27,000 in FY09 in response to OFM’s request (ESHB 1694)

2009-11 biennium:

- Ongoing GF-S reduction of \$177,000 related to Governor’s directed freeze and 1 percent cut
- Ongoing GF-S reduction of \$108,000 in FY10 related to early saving bill (E2SHB 2921)
- One-time GF-S reduction of \$85,000 in FY11 to reduce health technical support

2011-13 biennium:

- Ongoing GF-S reduction of \$170,000, in response to OFM’s 10 percent reduction request