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**Date:** 12/16/2015 4:38:34 PM  
**Subject:** FW: VERY TIME SENSITIVE: EMBARGOED Outbreaks report materials - for release THURSDAY, DEC 17 at 10 AM

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All –

I wanted to give you a heads up that this report with rankings will go out tomorrow at 10:00 a.m. As you will see, there is always room for improvement.

Please let us know if you have any follow up questions about the report.

Thanks,  
Katie

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**From:** James Blumenstock <jblumenstock@astho.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 16, 2015 1:53 PM  
**Cc:** EMT; Scott Briscoe; Gerrit Bakker; Meredith Allen  
**Subject:** VERY TIME SENSITIVE: EMBARGOED Outbreaks report materials - for release THURSDAY, DEC 17 at 10 AM

Dear State/Territorial Health Officials, Senior Deputies, and Directors of Public Health Preparedness,

*Note: I am resending this to you due to difficulties by many in receiving the documents as attachments due to file size*

As mentioned on Monday, below you will find information from TFAH regarding tomorrow's release of their "Outbreaks" report. Please note and honor the embargo provision.

For the full report: <https://www.dropbox.com/s/7shh7hxndywwwu9/TFAH-2015-OutbreaksRpt-EMBARGOED.pdf?dl=0>

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**TFAH-2015-OutbreaksRpt-  
EMBARGOED.pdf**

[www.dropbox.com](http://www.dropbox.com)

Shared with Dropbox

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For the press release: <https://www.dropbox.com/s/pzbgfb7ud4urzk0/TFAH%20Outbreaks%20release%20FINAL%20-%20embargoed.doc?dl=0>

Thanks.

Jim

Attached are EMBARGOED versions of third annual *Outbreaks: Protecting Americans from Infectious Diseases* report and national press release from the Trust for America's Health (TFAH) and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF). Please do not distribute or share the information provided before the release time – which is scheduled for Thursday, December 17, 2015 at 10 am.

All of the report materials will be posted on [www.healthyamericans.org](http://www.healthyamericans.org) at 10 am tomorrow. A recorded digital file of a press conference call will be available on the site around mid-day. Interested members of the media have received advisories (ie. announcement of the report). Only reporters who explicitly request information and agree to honor the release timing receive embargoed materials – and under embargo agreements, they can also share the information from the report with officials they ask for comment.

We appreciate and recognize all of work that health department do each year to promote health and protect against infectious disease concerns. The report provides the public, policymakers and a broad and diverse set of groups involved in public health with an independent analysis about the nation's infectious disease prevention and control policies – and the report features a set of recommendations for the need to provide increased support to public health programs.

The indicators in the report reflect issues related to the wider health system's infectious disease policies, stressing the need for collaboration among the healthcare, public health, community health, environmental health, emergency responder and other systems. It is not intended or positioned as a reflection of a state's health department, since it reflects a much broader context – including resources, policy environments, health status of a community and other factors that are obviously beyond the control of a health department. It is also not positioned as a comprehensive analysis, but looks at a snapshot of key concerns and highlight different areas. The indicators are selected based on a reflection of a fundamental, systemic public health need; consultation with key experts; and availability of data from every state.

Thanks to all of the states who provided reviews and information about their state budget status for Indicator 1 of the report. The information is widely used by policymakers and partners throughout the year.

The data are either publicly available from government sources – and/or are provided by analyses by other groups, such as the Association of Public Health Laboratories and the Center for Climate and Energy Solutions. Information provided by states to government agencies are considered to be final and accurate -- and survey answers provided by the laboratories to APHL have been through a verification process and are considered to be final. The climate change status data also previously went through a verification process with states before publication.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Laura Segal, Director of Public Affairs at TFAH at [lsegal@tfah.org](mailto:lsegal@tfah.org). Thanks!

Data Sources:

Indicator 1: Public health funding – increase/maintained funding for public health from FY 2013-14 to FY 2014-15. Analyses were sent to each state for verification in October.

Indicator 2: Flu vaccination rates: state vaccinated at least half of population (ages 6 months and older). [Source: CDC <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/fluview/1415season.htm>]

Indicator 3: Childhood immunization school attendance policies – excluding philosophical exemptions or parental notification/affidavit to achieve exemption. [Source: CDC <http://www.cdc.gov/phlp/publications/topic/vaccinations.html>]

Indicator 4: HIV/AIDS Surveillance. Required reporting of all (detectable and undetectable) CD4 and HIV viral load to state HIV surveillance program. [Source: CDC, 2013 data <http://www.cdc.gov/psr/hiv/index.html>]

Indicator 5: Syringe exchange programs. State explicitly authorizes SEP. [Source: Public Health Law Network [http://lawatlas.org/files/upload/20150421\\_SyringeD\\_Report.pdf](http://lawatlas.org/files/upload/20150421_SyringeD_Report.pdf)]

Indicator 6: Climate change adaptation plan – state has a complete plan. [Source: Center for Climate and Energy Solutions <http://www.c2es.org/us-states-regions/policy-maps/adaptation>]

Indicator 7: Healthcare-associated infections. States reduced CLABSI infections between 2012 and 2013. [Source: CDC <http://www.cdc.gov/hai/pdfs/stateplans/factsheets/state-progress-landscape.pdf>]

Indicators 8 and 9: State public health laboratory reported having a biosafety professional (July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015) and state laboratory reported providing biosafety training and/or information about courses for sentinel labs in their jurisdiction (June 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015). [Source: Association of Public Health Laboratories annual survey. Note: responses were verified with states and considered final]

Indicator 10: Food Safety - time of reporting E.coli (performance target of testing 90 percent of reported E.coli 0157 within four days) Source: CDC – note updated 2014 data included 2015 preparedness report [http://www.cdc.gov/phpr/pubs-links/2015/documents/2015\\_Preparedness\\_Report.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/phpr/pubs-links/2015/documents/2015_Preparedness_Report.pdf)

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