Epidemiology

Many of the benefits we enjoy today are the direct result of over a century of epidemiological fieldwork and research to eradicate diseases, improve our environments, make us safer, and set the record straight for countless health threats that would have otherwise gone unrecognized. From smallpox to smoking to safe cars, epidemiologists have made a difference.

The Columbia Mailman Department of Epidemiology is one of the oldest and largest departments of its kind that many prominent epidemiologists call home. We are a community of scientists with a global portfolio of research, fieldwork, and teaching in dozens of countries along with close connections to New York City institutions and leaders.

Columbia epidemiologists work in more than 60 nations.

MISSION

We produce world-class science with real-world impact and train the next generation of leaders in research and practice. By conducting cutting-edge research and mentoring tomorrow’s leaders, our faculty apply their extensive expertise and latest findings to improve the health and lives of communities locally and globally.
TOP SCIENTISTS, TOP EDUCATORS

The Department of Epidemiology is an extraordinary group of prolific and award-winning faculty and global public health leaders. Among us are many members of the National Academies, Royal Society, and American Epidemiological Society, as well as University Presidents, Provosts, and Deans. Our scientists lead on a wide array of topics including infectious diseases and pandemic response, preventing cancer and other chronic diseases, stopping the tragedy of gun violence and trauma, responding to the opioid epidemic, understanding the biology of mental health and aging, and identifying socioeconomic structures that can be modified to improve health and meaningfully extend the lives of people around the world.

With more than 500 students and trainees, we offer educational programs that capitalize on our world-class faculty, cutting-edge research, and close community partnerships within New York City and beyond. The Department hosts a range of degrees in Epidemiology: Master of Public Health (MPH), Accelerated MPH, Master of Science (MS) in Epidemiology, Online MS in Epidemiology, PhD in Epidemiology, DrPH in Epidemiology, the NextGen Public Health Scholars MPH program for community college students, and our popular EpiSummer@Columbia Institute.

Major Areas of Expertise

- **Chronic Disease Epidemiology**
  Natural history, prevention, and treatment of cancer, heart disease, diabetes, and other chronic health issues

- **Environmental Epidemiology**
  Improving health and well-being via ambient factors that surround us every day

- **Infectious Disease Epidemiology**
  Emerging and global threats, monitoring, vaccines and other prevention of communicable diseases

- **Social and Spatial Epidemiology**
  Examining how social, geographic, and economic circumstances influence our chances for a healthy life

- **Violence and Injury Epidemiology**
  Improving health and safety by reducing car crashes, firearm violence, falls, and other trauma

- **Neuroepidemiology**
  Understanding the causes, origins, progression, and consequences of neurological disorders

- **Psychiatric Epidemiology**
  Investigating factors, outcomes, and interventions for mental health disorders and well-being

- **Substance Use Epidemiology**
  Investigating causes, consequences, interventions, and policies for substance use disorders

*** OUR STUDENTS ***

Graduates go on to leadership positions in government, healthcare, universities, non-governmental organizations, and the private sector. Alumni hold posts at the WHO, CDC, USAID, Johnson & Johnson, U.S. Epidemic Intelligence Service, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Pfizer, and countless international and national organizations.

**BY THE NUMBER**

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<thead>
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<th>332</th>
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<td>Master’s Students</td>
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