



RC/PIO News & Notes |

March 13, 2026

A Weekly Update from **Eric Jens, Risk Communicator** – Georgia Department of Public Health
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News & Notes

Happy Friday the 13th. This week's highlights include the Environmental Health Strike Team Summit, an update on the annual Risk Communicators meeting and CERC training, and an international visitors tour of the state DPH EOC.



International Visitors

On Wednesday we welcomed 15 international visitors from 15 different countries to the state DPH EOC. The international health professions arrived with their Georgia

Council for International Visitors hosts and all took part in a lively discussion of how Public Health works in various settings. Thanks to everyone on our EPR staff who helped provide information and answer the many questions we received. And thanks to our visitors for sharing their experiences. Of the 15 countries they represented, seven were countries we have not hosted heretofore, including Madagascar, Iraq, and Cambodia.



RC meeting and DPH Media / CERC training

Registration is open for the April 10 DPH Media / Crisis and Emergency Risk Communication training to be held at the North Central Health District office in Macon: [register](#)

We have 27 registered to attend with space for 33 more.

The annual statewide DPH Risk Communicators meeting will be held at the same location on the previous day. This week we asked for prospective attendees and speakers to indicate whether they planned to attend in-person or virtually. Those who indicated their intention to attend virtually should be receiving a Teams link next week. Anyone who needs more information or who has questions should please reach out. Thanks to everyone who is helping to make both of these events possible.

EH Strike Team Summit

The Environmental Health Strike Team Summit X in Macon this week featured a dynamic agenda and paired with an Epidemiology Training Meeting. Agenda topics included investigating foodborne illnesses, mosquito emergency response, disaster mental health, and interacting with media.

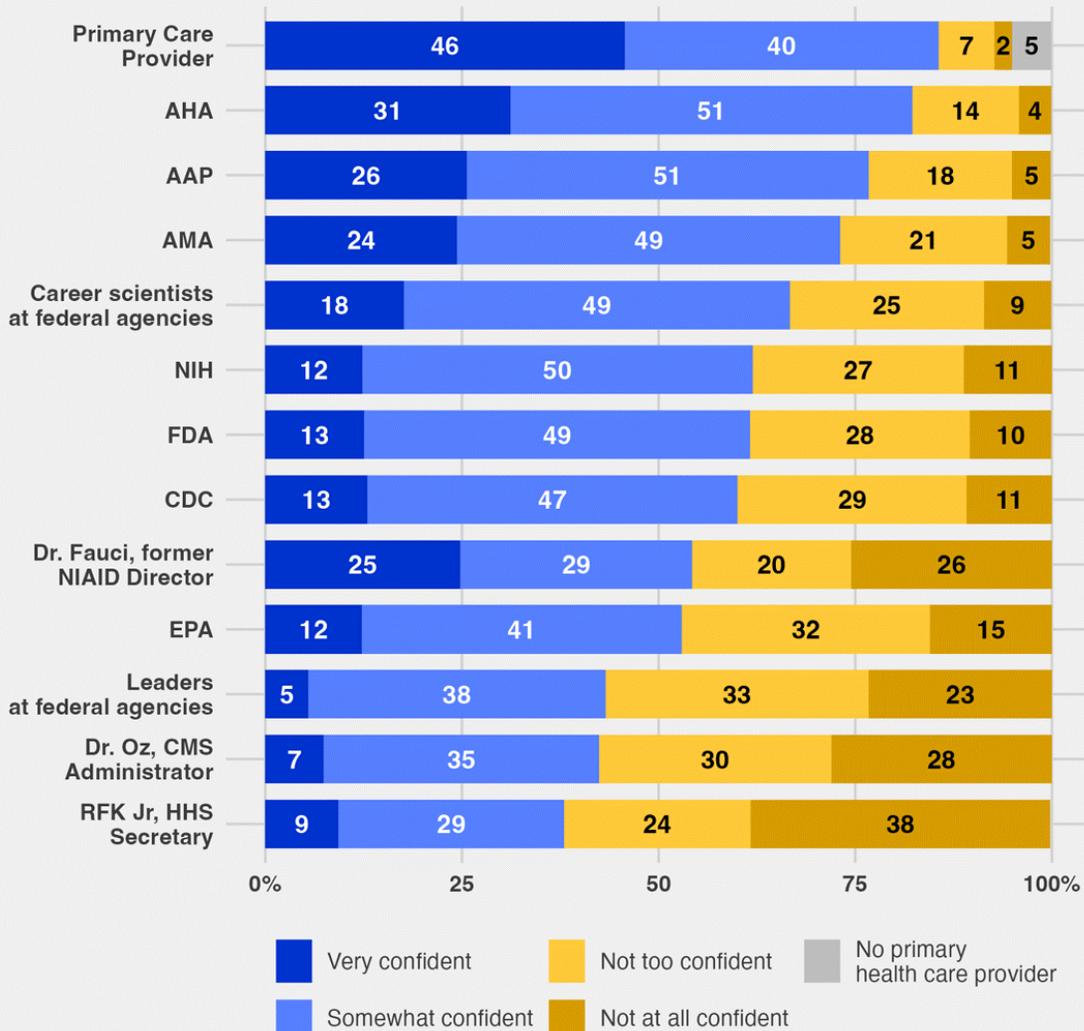


Public Confidence

This week's Common Health Coalition 2-4-2 Digest included a graph based on a study of 1650 U.S. adults conducted by the Annenberg Public Health Policy Center.

Confidence in Custodians of Public Health

How confident, if at all, are you that _____ is providing* the public with trustworthy information about matters concerning public health**?



*For Dr. Fauci, former NIAID Director, the question said 'provided' instead of 'is providing' since he is a former federal government official.
 **The EPA item asked about 'matters concerning the effects of climate change on public health'.
 Source: Annenberg Science and Public Health (ASAPH) Survey Feb. 2026, N=1650, MOE=±3.5%
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Next Week Preview

There is a multitude of meetings next week aimed at preparing for FIFA World Cup events in and around Atlanta in three months. The monthly state DPH EPR meeting is Tuesday.

About "News & Notes"

"News & Notes" is a weekly communication aimed at risk communicators and public information officers within Georgia's 18 public health districts. The goal of the communication is to increase preparedness through the exchange of information about significant events, training and other planned activities. Some information herein may be considered FYUO or For Your Use Only. Please be judicious when forwarding. For questions, comments or to submit information for inclusion, contact Eric Jens at Eric.Jens@dph.ga.gov.

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