



FEMA

R149

Dear National Fire Academy Student:

Congratulations on your acceptance to the U.S. Fire Administration's National Fire Academy's (NFA) *Emergency Medical Services: Management of Community Health Risks* course.

Enclosed is a pre-course assignment for you to complete before the first day of class. Initial activities will relate to this information. You should be prepared to do a large amount of reading and computer work during the class. In addition to the pre-course assignment:

- Bring a copy of your organization/department mission statement(s).
- Students are not required, but are encouraged to bring a laptop with them. If possible, research and bring with you a copy of your agency's computerized project management/tracking software from your agency on your laptop. You will be able to use this project management software for your class project, and to begin a project for use back home.
- Identify potential departments, agencies, organizations, and people in their community, which may be a source of information and data gathering for Management of Community Health Risk activities (e.g., city planner, local hospital, health department, etc.).

End-of-class graduation ceremonies are an important part of the course and you are expected to attend. Please do not make any travel arrangements to leave campus until after you and your classmates graduate.

Increasing numbers of students and instructors are bringing laptop computers to campus. You alone are responsible for the security and maintenance of your equipment. The Academy cannot provide you with computer software, hardware, or technical support to include disks, printers, scanners, etc. There are a limited number of 120 Volt AC outlets in the classrooms. A Student Computer Lab is located in Building D and is available for all students to use. It is open daily with technical support provided in the evenings. This lab uses Windows XP and Office 2003 as the software standard.

Should you need additional information related to course content or requirements, please feel free to contact Mr. Michael Stern, Emergency Medical Services Curriculum Training Specialist at (301) 447-1253 or email at michael.stern@dhs.gov

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Denis Onieal".

Dr. Denis Onieal, Superintendent  
National Fire Academy  
U.S. Fire Administration

**Activity 1.3**

**Worksheet**

1. What is the population of your community? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What percentage of individuals are living below the poverty level in your community? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Which age group represents the largest percentage of your community population? \_\_\_\_\_
4. What is the average household size? \_\_\_\_\_
5. What percentage of the families are single parents? \_\_\_\_\_
6. What other important demographics did you find in the census data that were of interest to you?

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**Activity 1.4**

**Worksheet**

1. Using the Fatal Injury Report, and sorting by age group, which age group suffered the most number of injury-related deaths for your State? \_\_\_\_\_
2. By using the Leading Cause of Death report, what is the number one cause of death in the 1 to 4 age group? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What is the number one cause of death in the 65 and older age group? \_\_\_\_\_
4. By using the Nonfatal Injury Report, what is the leading cause of nonfatal injury in the 65 and older age group? \_\_\_\_\_
5. What effects on the prehospital EMS environment do you think these fatality trends present?

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6. Using the data available in the NHDS, please list the **number** of discharges that occurred from short-stay hospitals for all listed age groups with the diagnosis of diabetes mellitus.

Under 15 years:	15 to 44 years:	45 to 64 years:	65 years +
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

7. Using the NHDS (found at [www.cdc.gov/nchs](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs) under the surveys and data collection systems National Health Care Survey or NHCS), what is the number-one surgical procedure for discharges from short-stay hospitals?

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**Activity 1.5**

**Worksheet**

1. What is the death rate for your State? \_\_\_\_\_
2. In your State, how many deaths occurred due to diseases of the heart? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What is your State's death rate for unintentional injury and adverse effects?  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. What is the national death rate for unintentional injury? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Briefly describe how data on death rates can be used to formulate a prevention program.

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**STUDENT INFORMATION CARD**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Rank: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_

What are your responsibilities in your present position? \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Fire Service Based: \_\_\_\_\_ 3<sup>rd</sup> Service Public: \_\_\_\_\_ 3<sup>rd</sup> Service Private: \_\_\_\_\_

Public Health: \_\_\_\_\_ Medical Facility: \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Annual Operating Budget: \_\_\_\_\_

If you are a fire-based service, approximately what percentage of your budget is applied to EMS? \_\_\_\_\_

If you are an allied medical service, what percentage of your budget is applied to prevention initiatives? \_\_\_\_\_

Approximate service population: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization size: \_\_\_\_\_ # of employees.

Response Units #ALS: \_\_\_\_\_ #BLS: \_\_\_\_\_ #Inter-facility: \_\_\_\_\_

Approximate number of annual calls: \_\_\_\_\_ EMS \_\_\_\_\_ Fire

What do you believe to be the most significant health problem facing your community? \_\_\_\_\_

What are your expectations of this class? What do you hope to learn? \_\_\_\_\_

What is your comfort level with computers?

No experience     Working     Advanced

Does your agency/organization have a mission/vision statement?  Yes  No  
If so, please bring a copy with you to the class.

What project management software does your agency use? \_\_\_\_\_

If possible, bring a copy with you on your laptop (if you have one to bring) to use in the course.

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## **Web Sites Management of Community Health Risks**

### **www.census.gov**

population, housing, income, ethnicity

SF1 286 tables--ages, sex, households, families, housing units,

SF2 47 tables--total population--ages, sex, households, occupied housing

SF3 813 tables--from Census 2000--social, economic, housing characteristics

### **www.cdc.gov/ncipc**

trends in injuries and fatalities

WISQUARS non-fatal injuries--estimates of injuries or causes

Fatal MOI/cause and manner/intent by state, race origin, sex and age

CDC Wonder information on injury, mortality, cause of death, morbidity, and mortality report, census projections, prevention guidelines

Health Topics information on most injury and illness areas

### **www.cdc.gov/nchs**

annual mortality data (unadjusted--crude and age adjusted death rates), short term discharge data

### **www.cdc.gov/nchs/fastats/default.htm**

leading causes of death, AIDS cases, hospital care expenditures

### **www.nascio.org**

State information officer links

### **www.hrsa.gov/data.htm**

Health Resources And Services Administration – various statistics and data

### **www.cdc.gov/epiinfo**

software download to analyze epidemiology information

### **www.iafc.org**

International Association of Fire Chiefs home page

### **www.iaff.org**

International Association of Firefighters home page

### **www.usfa.fema.gov**

US Fire Administration web site

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