



## About HSPH



Harvard School of Public Health brings together dedicated experts from many disciplines to educate new generations of global health leaders and produce powerful ideas that improve the lives and health of people everywhere. We work together as a community of leading scientists, educators, and students to take innovative ideas from the laboratory to people's lives—not only making

scientific breakthroughs, but also working to change individual behaviors, public policies, and health care practices.

### HISTORY

Founded in 1913 as the Harvard-MIT School for Health Officers, the School is recognized as America's longest continually operating professional training program in public health. In 1922, the School split off from MIT, helped by a sizeable grant from the Rockefeller Foundation.

In the School's early years, students and researchers focused primarily on sanitation, deadly epidemic infections, and the scourges of unfettered industrialization. Over time, the School's purview expanded to encompass not only the basic public health disciplines of environmental and occupational health, biostatistics, and epidemiology, but also molecular biology, quantitative social sciences, policy and management, human rights, and health communications.

Today, through innovative ideas, groundbreaking research, and partnerships with dozens of local organizations, the School's faculty, staff, and global network of alumni are helping to improve the health and transform the lives of millions of people spanning six continents and dozens of countries around the world.

### MILESTONES

Over the last century, life expectancy in the U.S. and much of the rest of the world increased by an astonishing 30 years. No fewer than 25 of these years are credited to public health measures, many of which trace their origins to HSPH.

A few of the School's accomplishments include:

- Received a Nobel prize for growing polio virus in non-nerve tissue, which made it possible to create a vaccine.
- Established and promoted the Designated Driver campaign in the U.S.
- Developed and promoted oral rehydration therapy—a simple technique that has saved the lives of millions of children from dehydration caused by diarrheal diseases.
- Proved that second-hand smoke threatens health, leading to smoke-free workplaces and public spaces.
- Provided the scientific evidence needed to improve U.S. air quality standards through the Clean Air Act.



## BY THE NUMBERS • 2013

Total Students: 1193



U.S. Citizens and Permanent Residents  
791



International Students  
402



Females  
725



Males  
468

Total Faculty 471

Primary	186
Secondary	139
Adjunct	137
Visiting	9

### Enrollment in Degree Programs

Master of Science (SM)	346
Master of Public Health (MPH)	386
Doctor of Science (SD)	261
Doctor of Public Health (DPH)	11
Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)	189

### Student Geographic Distribution for Top Ten Countries

United States of America	510
Canada	93
P. R. China	83
Republic of Korea	21
Taiwan	21
Nigeria	20
India	18
Japan	17
United Kingdom	14
Singapore	6

- Discovered that HIV could be transmitted through blood and blood products, making it possible to protect the blood supply through effective screening.
- Discovered the tick that transmits Lyme disease.
- Proved the dangers of trans fats, as well as the fact that not all fats are “bad.”
- Invented safe surgery checklists and worked with the World Health Organization to promote their use in hospitals, averting thousands of deaths and injuries from medical errors.

To learn about additional contributions HSPH has made to global health, visit: [www.hsph.harvard.edu/about/history-and-milestones](http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/about/history-and-milestones)

## GLOBAL LEADERSHIP

HSPH is a community of global leaders and renowned experts in virtually every aspect of public health. As a sought-after resource for what works in health policy and practice, HSPH produces visionary ideas and cost-effective solutions for large-scale, long-term impact. Today, as for the past 100 years, our work continues to change the world.



Current and recent HSPH projects

- HSPH has had active research initiatives and collaborations in more than 75 countries and territories around the globe within the past few years.
- Our alumni represent 108 countries around the world.
- HSPH graduates have led dozens of local, state, national, and international health agencies, holding posts such as director of the World Health Organization, director of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and state surgeon general, as well as minister or secretary of health for Afghanistan, Colombia, India, Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, and Taiwan.
- Two HSPH graduates have been heads of state in their home countries.
- Over the past three years, programs for ministerial-level leaders drew more than 30 sitting ministers of health and more than 28 current and former ministers of finance to the School for intensive training programs with senior faculty.
- Numerous HSPH faculty members are elected members of prestigious national and international organizations, including the National Academy of Sciences, the Institute of Medicine, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science.
- HSPH faculty and alumni have received numerous honors and major academic and research awards, including two Nobel prizes, several MacArthur Foundation “genius grants,” the Presidential Medal of Freedom, and many others.

To learn more about the School’s work around the globe, visit: [www.hsph.harvard.edu/world-map](http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/world-map)



## Departments at HSPH

- Biostatistics
- Environmental Health
- Epidemiology
- Genetics and Complex Diseases
- Global Health and Population
- Health Policy and Management
- Immunology and Infectious Diseases
- Nutrition
- Social and Behavioral Sciences



**HARVARD** | SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Powerful ideas for a healthier world