



Strategy for the Norwegian Institute of Public Health

2024-2027

Vision

Better health for all

Societal mission

The Norwegian Institute of Public Health shall produce, synthesize, and disseminate knowledge to support effective public health initiatives and high-quality health and care services

Our values

Professional integrity

We are committed to maintaining high standards of quality and reliability in all our work.

The Norwegian Institute of Public Health is professionally independent.

Transparency

We are committed to openness in our work processes, methods, professional discussions, and funding sources.

Our communication will be clear, inclusive, and easily accessible.



Key goal 1

High-quality and relevant research and knowledge synthesis

The Norwegian Institute of Public Health serves as the knowledge agency within the health and care sector. This role involves developing, compiling, and communicating knowledge that is important for decision-making and practices that promote good health in the population – both in times of crisis and otherwise.

Today our tasks encompass research, knowledge synthesis, epidemiological surveillance, advisory services, statistical production and development, evaluations, and dissemination. The Norwegian Institute of Public Health is a national knowledge base for cancer.

We conduct research on infectious and non-infectious diseases, mental and physical health, the impact of climate and environment on health. Furthermore, we conduct research on health and care services, risk factors, health promotion, and preventive measures.

We are committed to continuously developing our research portfolio and methodologies to deliver high-quality knowledge to our target audiences.

Key goal 2

Robust and coordinated preparedness

The Norwegian Institute of Public Health has responsibility for preparedness in the event of infectious disease outbreaks, chemical or environmental incidents:

- As the nation's infection control institute, we monitor infectious diseases and pathogens. We manage outbreaks and provide infection control and vaccination advice to local and national authorities, microbiological laboratories, health and care services, and the general public.
- The Norwegian Institute of Public Health helps protect the population against harmful environmental factors through surveillance and by assisting authorities, health personnel, and the public in managing exposures.
- The Norwegian Institute of Public Health is the national contact point for the International Health Regulations (IHR), the EU's Early Warning and Response System (EWRS), and the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC). We are responsible for maintaining 24/7 national emergency response functions.

NIPH aims to be at the forefront of knowledge internationally and to provide high-quality information, advice, and infrastructure in a timely manner. We are advocates for strengthening knowledge preparedness for health crises.

Key goal 3

Future-oriented use of health data

The Norwegian Institute of Public Health is Norway's central actor for health data.

We manage and develop key national infrastructure, including central health registries, national health surveys, and quality registries. Our tasks are related to the collection, storage, overview and metadata, and distribution of data.

Health data is a national resource that we and others use to improve the population's health through research and knowledge creation, innovation, effective management of health and care services, and quality improvement of the services.

Health data must be made available as quickly as possible for statistics, analysis, research, and business development. The path from idea to new knowledge, innovation, and societal benefit should be short. The Norwegian Institute of Public Health shall be a driving force for easy and secure access to health data.

Key goal 4

Effective national services

The Norwegian Institute of Public Health is responsible for key national services, including:

- Laboratory activities in the fields of infection control and environmental health
- National immunisation programs and vaccine supply
- National reference functions in medical microbiology
- Cancer screening programs for breast, cervical, and colorectal cancer, in close cooperation with the specialist health services
- Helsedataservice, national authority for providing health data
- Norwegian Poisons Information Centre, providing assistance and advice in cases of acute poisoning and poisoning hazard

These services shall be relevant, scientifically up-to-date, secure, and efficient.

Internal goal

A well-run organisation

Skilled employees, good systems, processes, and leadership are crucial for us to perform our tasks efficiently, reliably, and with high quality. Our societal mission means that we must be particularly good at research administration, ICT, preparedness, security, and privacy.

Collaboration and user adaptation are central to our work approach to successfully deliver on our tasks.

The Norwegian Institute of Public Health shall be a motivating and learning-oriented workplace. A positive working environment, high competence, and tasks that benefit society make the institute an attractive place to work.



Priority areas 2024-2027

Priority area 1

Research for better health

We will strengthen research and innovation to fulfill our societal mission.

To achieve this, we will:

- Prioritize research that is highly relevant to improving population health, including research on interventions
- Promote outstanding research, including applying for a new Centre for Excellence
- Increase external research funding, with particular emphasis on EU funding
- Strengthen the use of artificial intelligence in our research and innovation
- Systematically base our advice on our own and others' research

Registers that yield results

We will maximize the benefits of a consolidated health registry environment

To achieve this, we will:

- Expedite data delivery through improved routines and coordinated processes
- Ensure faster access to statistics and analyses for our users
- Harmonize data according to international models and standards
- Work towards automated data capture where feasible

Priority area 3

Strong in crisis

We must be well-prepared for new health crises

To achieve this, we shall:

- Strengthen the ability to scale up crisis responses effectively
- Increase the number of exercises conducted internally and with our partners
- Develop knowledge systems for health crises based on scenarios
- Enhance surveillance in the fields of infection control and environmental health

