



State of Wisconsin
Department of Health Services

Jim Doyle, Governor
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For Immediate Release

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Wisconsin Ranks Among Best in National Pandemic Flu Report

MADISON – Governor Jim Doyle today announced that Wisconsin ranked among the top states in the nation for pandemic flu preparedness in a 2008 assessment led by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and submitted to the U.S. Homeland Security. The Department of Health Services' Division of Public Health coordinated the Pandemic Influenza Operations Plan that was submitted to federal officials.

“Wisconsin had an impressive ranking in the top tier across 28 categories of pandemic planning activities,” Governor Doyle said. “This strong showing is a result of close, cooperative efforts among many state and local partners. I have long advocated that our state and local agencies work together to protect the health and safety of Wisconsin residents. These results show that approach can pay big dividends.”

Governor Doyle noted some key strengths from the report:

- The Department of Health Services' ability to distribute and dispense emergency medications and provide protective equipment to health care workers
- The Department of Public Instruction's work with Wisconsin school districts to better prepare staff, students and parents for a pandemic
- The Department of Transportation's efforts were highlighted as a model for pandemic planning.
- The Department of Military Affairs received high marks for its ability to share critical information with partners.

Governor Doyle credited the hard work of state staff, local officials and private sector partners for the high marks in the preparedness report.

To view the report, go to <http://www.pandemic.wisconsin.gov/>. Planning information for individual, families, communities and businesses can also be found on that site.

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