New CDC Museum Exhibit – Places & Spaces: Mapping Science. One of the many infographics found at the exhibit.

Atlanta, GA—(ENEWSPF)–January 27, 2016. Data visualization is a powerful tool that helps both scientists and the public quickly understand the scope and context of complex health threats. From January 25 to June 17, 2016, the David J. Sencer CDC Museum will feature the Places & Spaces: Mapping Science (http://www.cdc.gov/museum/exhibits/mappingscience.htm) exhibition showing how data visualization helps us confront some of the world's most significant challenges.

Public health leaders need the best information to make better, faster decisions – and often need to communicate complicated health information that can save lives. Advances in maps, graphs, and other images can greatly help the public understand health threats and lead to quicker public health responses.

The Places & Spaces exhibition has collected science maps and visualization tools from leading international experts in the natural, physical, and social sciences, as well as from industry and government. By helping audiences grasp the abstract concepts, relationships, and dynamism of complex systems, the exhibition promotes more informed, effective decision making on the part of private individuals, industry practitioners, public policy makers, and others.

Subject Matter Experts

- Katy Börner, PhD, MS. Victor H. Yngve Professor of Information Science at Indiana University and Curator of the International Places & Spaces: Mapping Science (http://scimaps.org/) – “In the information age, being able to ‘read and write’ data visualizations is becoming as important as being able to read and write text. The visualizations displayed in this exhibit showcase the power of data visualizations to save lives, to make decisions informed by high quality data, and to communicate the beauty and value of science to a general audience.”

- Robin Wagner, PhD, MS. Chief Science Officer for the Office of Public Health Scientific Services (http://www.cdc.gov/about/report2013/reports/public-health.html) – “CDC uses maps to better understand patterns and relationships between environmental, social, and personal risk factors, and diseases and injuries over time and space. Visualizations can make it easier for CDC to take faster, better actions to protect the public’s health.”

- Andrew L. Dent, MA, MBA. Program Director for Geospatial Research.
“Since the emergence of public health, maps have been used to explore the intersection of place and health. Advances in technology and public health data collection have contributed to the development of increasingly sophisticated methods for analyzing and displaying data. Today, maps and data visualizations are essential in CDC's efforts to prevent disease, prolong life, and promote health.”

Launch Event Details

CDC will host an Inaugural Lecture (http://www.cdc.gov/museum/exhibits/mappingscience.htm) on Thursday, February 4, 2016, 5pm-6pm, followed by a reception at the David J. Sencer CDC Museum; and a Scientific Symposium (http://www.cdc.gov/museum/exhibits/mappingscience.htm) on Friday, February 5, 2016; 1:30pm-4:30pm. Registration (https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1K3E1Yc3OxDF PWAlp5wPJWbmt0uwhDLBxFqIB3CyhKXU/viewform?c=0&w=1) is required for the launch events.

Perspectives on Exhibition

Louise E. Shaw, Curator, David J. Sencer CDC Museum (http://www.cdc.gov/museum/) – “Beautiful data visualizations – including maps, charts, graphs, and interactive displays — are being used to find meaning, reveal patterns, and reinforce messages as never before. The Places & Spaces exhibition proves data can be both actionable and artful.

Admission and parking are free, although parking may be limited. Visitors need a valid, U.S. government or state-issued photo ID. Vehicle inspection is required. The David J. Sencer CDC Museum is open Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., with extended hours to 7:00 p.m. on Thursday. The museum is closed on all federal holidays. For more information, visit the museum website: http://www.cdc.gov/museum/visitor.htm.

Source: http://www.cdc.gov