

About Epidemiology

Epidemiology identifies the distribution of diseases, factors underlying their source and cause, and methods for their control; this requires an understanding of how political, social and scientific factors intersect to exacerbate disease risk, which makes epidemiology a unique science.

For nearly 50 years, the University of Washington (UW) Department of Epidemiology (Epi) has worked to confront the major public health challenges we face. In doing so, our mission has been centered around [research](#), [education](#) and [service](#) in the pursuit of health equity.



“UW Epidemiology provides the critical education and leadership to tackle tough challenges and to develop the next generation of leaders and visionaries in public health. Quality teaching and research have been at the heart of everything we do.”

-Stephen Hawes, PhD, MS

Professor and Chair



Rankings

The School of Public Health ranked sixth in the nation in the most recent US News & World

Report survey of graduate schools of public health, and third among publicly funded schools of public health.

Graduate Degrees Offered

The Department of Epidemiology offers three graduate degrees (Master of Science, Master of Public Health, and Doctor of Philosophy) with opportunities to select specialized tracks in the Masters-level programs. In 2017, 180 total students were enrolled in UW Epidemiology graduate programs. Each year approximately 45 new MPH and M.S. students and 20 new Ph.D. students enroll.

Find the program that's right for you:

[Master of Public Health \(MPH\)](#), [Master of Science \(MS\)](#), [Doctor of Philosophy \(PhD\)](#)

See [Graduate Certificate Programs](#)