

How the COVID-19  
Pandemic Has Changed the

# LANDSCAPE OF PUBLIC HEALTH



## It uncovered systemic vulnerabilities.

The underfunding of public health infrastructure and lack of pandemic response readiness in the U.S. have come to light as related deaths surpass 600,000.



## It prompted interest in reinvestment.

A 2022 federal budget proposal increases public health funding by a 21% from fiscal year 2021 levels.



## It exacerbated other public health issues.

Behavioral health problems have spiked and preventative health care has been neglected, with 4 in 10 adults reporting delaying or avoiding medical care during the pandemic.



## It illustrated health disparities.

As communities of color were hardest hit by COVID-19, health inequities are getting much-deserved attention.



## It forced turnover in leadership.

A number of public health officials quit or were fired during the pandemic.



## It increased student interest in the field.

Schools of public health have seen a 40% increase in applications for fall 2021.