# The Nation's Health, February 2009, Volume 39, No. 1

### Nation

U.S. lagging behind many other nations on infant mortality rates: Healthy behavior, healthier babies

HHS must change to improve U.S. health, report says: Reinventing HHS

Budget cuts threaten nation's public health preparedness: Report calls biological attack likely

Nation's health not improving; obesity, tobacco use to blame

EPA urges consumers to recycle, buy energy-efficient televisions

Last-minute HHS rule could restrict reproductive, other health services

Nation in Brief

## State & Local

Vermont fitness challenge pits residents against local farmers

States in Brief

## Healthy You

Sound advice for protecting your hearing

• Move away from the noise

## Health Findings

• Report: Sodium levels high even in foods without salty taste

#### On the Job

Comments sought on new accreditation standards: Effort aims to drive quality performance at health departments

#### General

Correction

#### **APHA News**

APHA annual congressional record: How members of Congress supported public health

- Nine 2008 votes from the House of Representatives examined
- Congressional record: Six 2008 Senate votes

#### APHA Advocates

• APHA hails 'light,' 'low-tar' cigarette Supreme Court ruling

#### President's Column

Wisdom keeping: Coming of age in the 21st century

### Journal Watch

# **Student Focus**

Speed mentoring ramps up future public health leaders' careers National Mentoring Program builds cadre of new health leaders New APHA award recognizes active public health mentors Geico, Vistakon fund student memberships in Association Students in Brief