

Janet S. Wilson, MEd, MPA

Janet Wilson is a manager for the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, Office of Epidemiology, in Jefferson City, Missouri. She manages the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), an annual telephone interview of adults, and the Youth Tobacco Survey, a paper survey of middle and high schools students conducted in odd-numbered springs in randomly selected public schools. Janet also coordinated the 2007 Missouri County-level Study, the largest special study ever undertaken in the state in which approximately 50,000 Missouri adults were interviewed about health conditions, behaviors and preventive practices. She was also responsible for coordinating the development of the Community Health Improvement Resources (CHIR) web site that provides information and resources for preparing health improvement intervention plans.

Before moving into surveillance, Janet spent over 20 years in prevention education and intervention work. She was the Chief of the Health Promotion Bureau at the Department of Health and Senior Services where she directed the state's tobacco use prevention and cessation program. She co-authored *Missouri's Comprehensive Tobacco Use Prevention Program Strategic Plan* and facilitated an update of the plan in 2006. Janet was previously the HIV prevention education supervisor for the Missouri Department of Elementary & Secondary Education, and the health and physical education program consultant for the Kansas State Board of Education. Earlier in her career, she managed youth programs for the Springfield, Missouri YMCA, and taught middle and high school science, health and physical education in Clinton, Missouri.

Janet earned master's degrees in health and physical education and in public administration from the University of Missouri-Columbia. She also earned two undergraduate degrees from Missouri State University in Springfield.

Janet enjoys playing golf, traveling with her two sisters, and spending time with her cats, Cagney and Lacey.