

David Satcher

Doctor of Science

David Satcher is the 16th Surgeon General of the United States. From 1998 to 2001, he served as both Surgeon General and Assistant Secretary for Health—only the second person in history to serve in both capacities. In the latter capacity, he served as the Secretary's senior advisor on public health matters. His outstanding leadership has been especially directed toward efforts to eliminate racial and ethnic disparities in health. He has produced landmark reports in suicide prevention, mental health, oral health, and youth violence prevention that are guiding our nation in these important areas.

From 1993 to 1998, Dr. Satcher served with distinction as director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Administrator of the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry. Before turning to public service, Dr. Satcher had built a long and highly productive career in academic medicine. In the 1970s he served on the faculty of the Charles R. Drew Postgraduate Medical School and the School of Public Health of the University of California at Los Angeles. He also directed the King-Drew Sickle Cell Research Center for six years. In 1979 he was called to the Morehouse School of Medicine in Atlanta to become Professor and Chair of the Department of Community Medicine and Family Practice. In 1982 he was named President of Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tennessee, a post he held until President Clinton tapped him to lead the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta.

Dr. Satcher received his B.S. degree *magna cum laude* from Morehouse College where he served as president of the student body in his senior year. He went on to earn his M.D. and Ph.D. degrees from Case Western Reserve School of Medicine and Graduate Studies where he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. He did residency training at Strong Memorial Hospital at the University of Rochester, and the University of California at Los Angeles where he was Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholar and senior family practice resident. Dr. Satcher's numerous awards and distinctions include election to the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences (1986), the prestigious Dr. Nathan B. Davis Award (category: Executive Branch Member Serving by Presidential Appointment) for outstanding public service to advance the public health (1996), and the Surgeon General's Medallion for significant and noteworthy contributions to the health of the nation.