

Local Instrument

Local public health performance measures will help improve public health performance and capacity at the local level and ensure that adequate and comprehensive public health services are provided to every community within the United States. NACCHO and CDC, with significant input from other partners and local health officials, have collaborated to address this need by developing and testing local performance measures.

The local instrument focuses on the “local public health system” instead of a single organization. The local public health system is comprised of all public, private, and voluntary entities, as well as individuals and informal associations, that contribute to the delivery of public health services within a jurisdiction. By focusing on the local public health system, the standards recognize the contributions of a wide range of organizations and entities and also allow for flexibility in the provision of public health services. Local health officials will be asked to lead the completion of the instrument on behalf of their local public health systems. They will be encouraged to seek input from a variety of representatives throughout the community.



The local-level measures also appear within NACCHO's *Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships* (MAPP) tool—a new community-wide strategic planning process released in February 2001. (To view the MAPP web-based tool, go to www.naccho.org and then click on “Tools”.) Communities implementing the MAPP process will respond to the local-level measures to assess the performance and capacity of their local public health system, and then use the results within the community strategic plan. This coordination between the NPHPSP and MAPP will promote the use of performance measures results within quality improvement efforts at the local level.

Since development first began in 1997, versions of the instrument have been tested in local public health agencies throughout the states of Texas, Missouri, Ohio, Florida, Hawaii, Mississippi,

Minnesota and New York. Such extensive testing ensures that the tool is responsive to the needs of communities, accurately assesses local performance and capacities, and addresses the broad variation in local public health infrastructure throughout the nation. (over)

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Local Public Health System Performance Assessment Instrument Example

Essential Service #2: Diagnose and Investigate Health Problems and Health Hazards in the Community.

For the LPHS, this services includes:

- Epidemiological investigations of disease outbreaks and patterns of infectious and chronic diseases and injuries, environmental hazards, and other health threats.
- Active infectious disease epidemiology programs.
- Access to a public health laboratory capable of conducting rapid screening and high volume testing.

Indicator 2.2: Plan for Public Health Emergencies

LPHS Model Standard:

An [emergency preparedness and response plan](#) describes the roles, functions and responsibilities of LPHS entities in the event of one or more types of public health emergencies. Careful planning and mobilization of resources and partners prior to an event is crucial to a prompt and effective response. LPHS entities, including the local public health agency, law enforcement, fire departments, health care providers, and other partners work collaboratively to formulate emergency response plans and procedures. The plan should create a dual-use response infrastructure, in that it outlines the capacity of the LPHS to respond to all public health emergencies (including natural disasters), while taking into account the unique and complex challenges presented by chemical hazards or bioterrorism.

In order to plan for public health emergencies, the LPHS:

- Defines and describes public health disasters and emergencies that might trigger implementation of the LPHS emergency response plan.
- Develops a plan that defines organizational responsibilities, establishes communication and information networks, and clearly outlines alert and evacuation protocols.
- Tests the plan each year through the staging of one or more “[mock events](#).”
- Revises its emergency response plan at least every two years.

Please answer the following questions related to Indicator 2.2:

2.2.1 Has the LPHS identified [public health disasters](#) and emergencies that might trigger implementation of the HS emergency response plan?

2.2.2 Does the LPHS have an emergency preparedness and response plan?
If so,

2.2.2.1 Is the emergency preparedness and response plan in written form?

2.2.2.2 Is there an established chain-of-command among plan participants?

Does the plan:

2.2.2.3 Describe the organizational responsibilities and roles of all plan participants?

2.2.2.4 Identify [community assets](#) that could be mobilized by plan participants to respond to an emergency?

2.2.2.5 Describe LPHS communications and information networks?

2.2.2.6 Connect, where possible, to the state emergency response and preparedness plan?

2.2.2.7 Clearly outline protocols for emergency response?

Note: This does not represent the full text of Indicator 2.2. Not all sub-measures are included in this example. For the full text of the instrument, please go to www.naccho.org.