

## The Profile Study

### Your One-Stop Shop for Local Health Department Data

#### Local Health Department (LHD) 2005 Facts

- 62% of LHDs served populations of less than 50,000.
- Local sources provided the greatest percentage of LHD revenues (29%).
- 32% of LHD top executives had been in their current position for 10 years or more.
- Approximately 20% of LHD employees would have been eligible for retirement within five years.
- Emergency Preparedness Coordinators were found in 59% of LHDs.

#### Your Profile Team

Carolyn Leep, Director,  
Research and Evaluation  
cleep@naccho.org

Barbara Laymon,  
Program Manager  
blaymon@naccho.org

Marisela Rodela,  
Program Associate  
mrodela@naccho.org

www.naccho.org

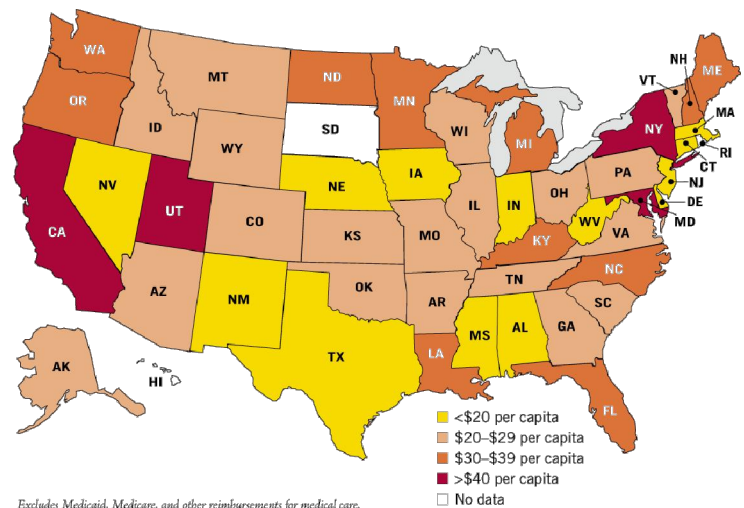


What's the most complete data set available in the U.S. on local health department staffing patterns? On local health department budgets? On local health department community health planning and partnership efforts? For all three—and many more topical areas related to local health departments—the answer is the same: NACCHO's National Profile of Local Health Departments Study.

Profile studies of local health departments were conducted in 1990, 1992, 1996, and most recently, in 2005. The next study, funded jointly by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, will be launched this summer. The 2005 Profile study was the first to offer the chance to complete the questionnaire online.

Every local health department in the United States has the opportunity to participate in the Profile Study.

In 2005, fully 80 percent of local health departments nationwide—a total of 2,300 local health departments—participated in the study.



*Excludes Medicaid, Medicare, and other reimbursements for medical care.*

**Above: Median Annual Per Capita LHD Expenditures (2005 Profile Study)**

Since the online format was very popular, with over 95 percent of all local health departments submitting information electronically, it will be repeated in 2008. Paper forms will continue to be made available.

New topics to be covered in 2008 will include the voluntary national accreditation program and information related to the operational definition of a local health department. Results will be disseminated to a wide audience.

### Coming soon to a health department near you!

Many champions of the Profile study, including State Associations of County and City Health Officials (SACCHOs) and other public health leaders, were instrumental in achieving the high response rate.

The better a state's response rate, the more useful its data. SACCHOs can help this year by making members aware of the upcoming study and its importance to both advocacy and research. The personal touch, including phone calls and informal conversations, make a difference.