

2018 Forces of Change Questionnaire

Introduction

Thank you for taking the time to participate in the 2018 Forces of Change survey. The purpose of this study is to gain an understanding of some of the forces that are affecting change in local health departments (LHDs).

This year's Forces of Change survey includes questions about:

- Economic Surveillance (Budget and Staffing)
- Response to Opioid Use and Abuse
- Influenza Preparedness and Response
- Population Health Activities
- Informatics Capacity
- Environmental Services

If it is more appropriate for someone else to respond to some of these sections, you can forward the survey link to another person or persons to complete that section. Responses are saved for each page, and you (and they) can move forward and backward in the survey as needed.

NACCHO will analyze data from this survey and anticipates releasing the results in the fall of 2018. NACCHO will notify survey respondents when publications are released; all publications will be available on <http://nacchoprofilestudy.org/forces-of-change>.

Findings from the 2014, 2015, and 2017 Forces of Change surveys can also be found at <http://nacchoprofilestudy.org/forces-of-change>. Data will be reported in aggregate only; reports will not identify specific LHDs.

Consistent with the manner in which data from NACCHO's National Profile of Local Health Departments (Profile) survey are shared with public health researchers, NACCHO will make these data available to researchers who agree to NACCHO's data use policy. For more information about the data use policy, go to <http://nacchoprofilestudy.org/data-requests>.

Once again, thank you for taking the time to participate in NACCHO's Forces of Change study.

Please note: Questions in this paper version may differ in appearance from the online version. If you have any questions, please contact the Research and Evaluation team at research@naccho.org.

2018 Forces of Change Questionnaire

Economic Surveillance

1. My LHD's **current fiscal year** budget is ... (Select only one)
 - Less than the previous year's budget
 - Approximately the same (within plus or minus one percent) as the previous year's budget
 - Greater than the previous year's budget
 - Do not know

2. I expect my LHD's budget in the **next fiscal year** will be... (Select only one)
 - Less than the current year's budget
 - Approximately the same (within plus or minus one percent) as the current year's budget
 - Greater than the current year's budget
 - Do not know

Instructions
<p>The following questions ask about changes to your LHD workforce between <u>January 1 and December 31, 2017</u>.</p> <p>Please provide your response in terms of number of employees—whether full- or part-time—rather than full-time equivalents (FTEs).</p>

3. How many employees were affected by each of the following *workforce reductions* between **January 1 and December 31, 2017**? Enter "0" if no employees were affected. (Please enter whole number; no commas, decimals or spaces.)

Enter "0" if no employees were affected or if your LHD did not experience the select workforce reduction.

Number of employees <i>laid off</i>	
Number of employees <i>lost through attrition and not replaced</i> because of hiring freezes or budget cuts	
Number of employees who had their <i>working hours reduced</i> for budgetary reasons (DO NOT include employees placed on mandatory furlough)	
Number of employees placed on <i>mandatory furlough</i> for budgetary reasons	

4. How many employees did your LHD *hire* for each of the following reasons between **January 1 and December 31, 2017**? Enter "0" if no employees were hired. (Please enter whole number; no commas, decimals or spaces.)

Enter "0" if no employees were affected or if your LHD did not have the select hiring reason occur.

Number of <i>new positions</i> filled	
Number of <i>vacancies</i> filled due to <i>lift of previous hiring freeze</i>	
Number of <i>vacancies</i> filled due to <i>employee turnover</i>	

2018 Forces of Change Questionnaire

Response to Opioid Use and Abuse

5. Between January 1 and December 31, 2017, did your LHD conduct activities to address opioid use and abuse?

- Yes
- No → *(skip questions 6-8)*
- Do not know → *(skip questions 6-8)*

6. How many employees are currently working on activities to address opioid use and abuse?

7. Did your LHD dedicate general funds to conduct any activities to address opioid use and abuse?

- Yes
- No
- Do not know

8. Which of the following organizations does your LHD work with to conduct activities for opioid use and abuse? (Select all that apply)

- Businesses
- Faith communities
- Federal agencies
- Healthcare
- Local or state government agencies
- Media
- Schools
- Secular non-profits or community organizations
- Other (please specify) _____
- None of the above

9. Please indicate any barriers prevented your LHD from conducting activities to address opioid use and abuse. (Select all that apply)

- Don't have enough data to determine problem/solution
- Lack of community partnerships
- Lack of staff expertise/training
- Lack of understanding the issues
- No dedicated funding
- Not identified as a priority for health department
- Not the responsibility of the health department
- Other (please specify) _____
- Did not encounter any barriers

2018 Forces of Change Questionnaire

Influenza Preparedness and Response

10. Does your LHD participate in any immunization-focused partnerships or coalitions?

- Yes, as a convener
- Yes, as a leader
- Yes, in another role (please specify): _____
- No

11. Indicate if organizations in your jurisdiction (LHD, clinics, hospitals, retail outlets, etc.) experienced any shortages of the flu vaccines, Tamiflu, or Oseltamivir for this current flu season. (Select all that apply)

- Flu vaccine
- Oseltamivir (*brand name Tamiflu*)
- Tamiflu
- None of the above
- Do not know

12. For each of the following activities, indicate whether your LHD conducted the activity for the CURRENT flu season. (For each row, select only one)

Next, indicate whether your LHD had to increase the level of activity this flu season compared to the previous flu season. (For each row, select only one)

	Indicate whether your LHD conduct this activity for the <u>current flu season</u> .		Compared to the <u>previous flu season</u> did your LHD level of activity this current flu season increase?		
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Unsure
Assisted with or conducted school-located vaccination clinics					
Conducting any planning for vaccine prioritization					
Conducted immunization outreach and education within the community (i.e. health fairs, community events, etc.)					
Conducted pandemic influenza vaccination planning or exercises targeting critical workforce					
Targeted immunization and outreach efforts specifically for adults					
Targeted immunization and outreach efforts specifically for children and adolescents					
Targeted immunization and outreach efforts specifically for vulnerable populations (besides children and adolescents)					
Utilized public communication platforms (i.e. newspaper articles, radio interviews, public service announcements, etc.)					

2018 Forces of Change Questionnaire

Population Health Activities

Population health
A cohesive, integrated and comprehensive approach to health considering the distribution of health outcomes within a population, the social determinants that influence the distribution of care, and the policies and interventions that impact and are impacted by the determinants.

Social determinants
Conditions in the environments in which people are born, live, learn, work, play, worship, and age that affect a wide range of health, functioning, and quality-of-life outcomes and risks.

Population Health Focus Areas	
Community Infrastructure	The basic physical and organizational structures and facilities of a community, such as roads, sidewalks, parks, water supplies, sewerage, telecommunication, and energy.
Community Violence	Exposure to intentional acts of interpersonal violence committed in public areas by individuals who are not intimately related to the victim.
Family and Social Supports	Interconnected relationships that provide durable patterns of interaction, interpersonal relations, nurturing, and reinforcements for coping with daily life.
Food Insecurity, Hunger, and Nutrition	The state of being without reliable access to a sufficient quantity of affordable, nutritious food.
Housing Instability/Homelessness	Having difficulty paying rent, spending more than 50 percent of household income on housing, having frequent moves, living in overcrowded conditions, or doubling up with friends and relatives.

2018 Forces of Change Questionnaire

13. Between January 1 and December 31, 2017, did your LHD conduct activities to address each of the following focus areas?

(For each row, select only one)

	Yes*	No	Unsure
Community Infrastructure			
Community Violence			
Family and Social Supports			
Food Insecurity, Hunger, and Nutrition			
Housing Instability/Homelessness			

Instructions for answering questions 14 through 18

For each focus area listed in question 13 for which your LHD conducted activities, please answer questions 14 through 17 only for those focus areas. For each focus area listed in question 13 for which your LHD does not conduct activities, please answer question 18 only for those focus areas.

For example, if your LHD conducted activities to address Housing Instability/Homelessness and Community Violence and does not conduct activities to address the remaining three focus areas, answer questions 14 through 17 only for Housing Instability/Homelessness and Community Violence (when applicable) and answer question 18 for the remaining focus areas.

2018 Forces of Change Questionnaire

Definitions
Networking includes the exchange of ideas and information for mutual benefit, often via newsletter, conferences, meetings, and electronic information sharing. It is the least formal form of partnership and requires little time or trust between partners.
Coordinating involves the exchange of information and the altering of activities, for a common purpose.
Cooperating involves the exchange of information, altering activities and sharing resources. It requires a significant amount of time, high level of trust and sharing of turf.
Collaborating includes enhancing the capacity of the other partner for mutual benefit and a common purpose, in addition to the above activities –the exchange of information, altering activities, and sharing of resources.

14. For respondents that selected Yes for a focus area in question 13, answer question 14 for that focus area.

Between January 1 and December 31, 2017, which of the following best describes how your LHD worked with other organizations in the community to accomplish goals in the following focus areas? (For each row, select only one)

	Networking	Coordinating	Cooperating	Collaborating	Not involved in partnerships/ collaborations
Community Infrastructure					
Community Violence					
Family and Social Supports					
Food Insecurity, Hunger, and Nutrition					
Housing Instability/Homelessness					

2018 Forces of Change Questionnaire

15. For respondents that selected Networking, Coordinating, Cooperating, or Collaborating for a focus area in question 14, answer question 15 for that focus area.

For each focus area, please indicate which of the following organizations your LHD worked with to conduct activities to address the focus area.

(For each column, select all that apply)

	Community Infrastructure	Community Violence	Family and Social Supports	Food Insecurity, Hunger, and Nutrition	Housing Instability/ Homelessness
Businesses					
Faith communities					
Healthcare					
Local or state government agencies					
Media					
Schools					
Secular non-profits or community organizations					
Other (please specify below)					
None					

Please specify additional organizations your LHD worked with to conduct activities to address any of the following focus areas, if any.

2018 Forces of Change Questionnaire

16. For respondents that selected Networking, Coordinating, Cooperating, or Collaborating for a focus area in question 14, answer question 16 for that focus area.

For each focus area, what best describes the role of your LHD within the partnership?

(For each row, select only one)

	Leader	Convener	Other Role
Community Infrastructure			
Community Violence			
Family and Social Supports			
Food Insecurity, Hunger, and Nutrition			
Housing Instability/Homelessness			

17. For respondents that selected Yes for a focus area in question 13, answer question 17 for that focus area.

Did your LHD dedicate general funds to conduct any activities to address each of the following focus areas? (For each row, select only one)

	Yes	No	Unsure
Community Infrastructure			
Community Violence			
Family and Social Supports			
Food Insecurity, Hunger, and Nutrition			
Housing Instability/Homelessness			

2018 Forces of Change Questionnaire

18. For respondents that selected No for a focus area in question 13, answer question 18 for that focus area.

For each focus area, please indicate which barriers prevented your LHD from conducting activities to address the focus area. (For each column, select all that apply)

	Community Infrastructure	Community Violence	Family and Social Supports	Food Insecurity, Hunger, and Nutrition	Housing Instability/ Homelessness
Don't have enough data to determine problem/solution					
Lack of community partnerships					
Lack of staff expertise/training					
Lack of understanding the issues					
No dedicated funding					
Not identified as a priority for health department					
Not the responsibility of the health department					
Other (please specify below)					
None					

Please specify additional barriers that prevented your LHD from conducting activities to address these focus areas, if any.

2018 Forces of Change Questionnaire

Informatics Capacity

19. Does your LHD have access to data or information from an electronic syndromic surveillance system that uses hospital emergency department (ED) data? *(From your own LHD system, a state system, or other source).*

- Yes, my LHD manages it (i.e., receives line-level data, conducts system testing and validation, etc.)
- Yes, my LHD does not manage it
- No → *(skip questions 20-22)*
- Do not know → *(skip questions 20-22)*

20. For each of the following detection activities, please indicate if your LHD specifically uses syndromic surveillance system or if your LHD uses another surveillance system. If your LHD does not use any surveillance system for the activity, select N/A

(For each row, select all that apply)

	Syndromic Surveillance System	OTHER Surveillance System*	N/A
Bioterrorism events			
Food-borne illnesses			
Gastrointestinal illnesses			
Influenza-like illnesses (ILI)*			
Natural disaster-related illnesses or injuries			
Non-communicable or chronic diseases			
Opioid-related events			
Vector-borne diseases			

21. For respondents that selected "Other Surveillance System" to detect Influenza-like illnesses (ILI) in question 20, answer question 21.

What surveillance system does your LHD use to detect Influenza-like-illness (ILI)?

2018 Forces of Change Questionnaire

22. What syndromic surveillance application(s) does your LHD currently use? (Select all that apply)

- National Syndromic Surveillance Program -BioSense platform
- EARS (*Early Aberration Response System*)
- EpiCenter (*Health Monitoring Systems*)
- ESSENCE (*Electronic Surveillance System for the Early Notification of Community-based Epidemics*)
- RODS (*Real-time Outbreak and Disease Surveillance*)
- Locally developed system
- Other

23. Please identify areas for IT/INFORMATICS staff development (may include for epidemiologists, analysts, and IT staff), and OTHER staff development related to information systems.

If your staff is sufficiently skilled or no development is needed, select N/A

(For each row, select all that apply)

	IT/ INFORMATICS staff	OTHER staff	N/A
Conducting business process analysis and redesign			
Designing and running reports from information systems			
Developing requirements for informatics system development			
Project management			
Using and interpreting clinical data from EHRs and other clinical sources			
Using and interpreting data			
Using geographical information systems			
Using statistical or other analytical software			

2018 Forces of Change Questionnaire

Definition
<p>Interoperability describes the extent to which systems and devices can automatically exchange data, and interpret that shared data. For two systems to be interoperable, they must be able to automatically exchange data and subsequently present that data such that it can be understood by a user. (http://www.himss.org/library/interoperability-standards/what-is-interoperability)</p>

24. How interoperable are the information systems used by your LHD?

- All the systems are interoperable
- Some systems are interoperable
- None of the systems are interoperable

2018 Forces of Change Questionnaire

Environmental health services

Environmental health services refer to any activities that your LHD considers “environmental health.” Examples of environmental health services may include, but are not limited to: monitoring indoor air quality, vector control, land use planning, ground/surface water protection, hazmat response, hazardous waste disposal, air and noise pollution prevention, and/or other regulation, inspection, or licensing activities; food processing, regulation of food service establishments, and/or food safety education.

25. For each of the following services categories, please first indicate if your LHD provided services or functions at any time between January 1 and December 31, 2017.

(For each row, select Yes or No)

Next, indicate if your LHD had to REDUCE and/or ELIMINATE any service for budgetary reasons between January 1 and December 31, 2017.

Between January 1 and December 31, 2017, your LHD						
	Provided services of functions any time		REDUCED services for budgetary reasons	ELIMINATED services for budgetary reasons	Did NOT reduce or eliminate services for budgetary reasons	Don't know
	Yes	No				
Air Pollution						
Animal Control						
Drinking Water Supply						
Emergency Preparedness						
Food Safety						
Groundwater Protection						
Hazardous Waste Disposal						
Hazmat Response						
Healthy Housing						
Indoor Air Quality						
Land Use Planning/Health Impact Assessment						
Outdoor Air Quality						
Pollution Prevention						
Recreational Water						
Surface Water Protection/Harmful Algal Blooms						
Vector Control						

2018 Forces of Change Questionnaire

26. For each of the following public health threats related to climate change, please indicate if your LHD addressed these issues at any time between January 1 and December 31, 2017. (Select all that apply)

- Anxiety, depression, or other mental health conditions
- Droughts, forest fires, or brush fires
- Food safety and security
- Heat waves and heat-related illnesses
- Housing for residents displaced by extreme weather events
- Increased rodent complaints
- Need for healthcare services for people with chronic conditions during service disruptions
- Quality or quantity of fresh water available
- Quality of the air, including air pollution
- Storms (including hurricanes) and floods
- Unsafe or ineffective sewage and septic system operation
- Vector-borne infectious diseases
- Water- and food-borne diseases
- None of the above