

## Program Development 5

### PD 5: Proportion of health department programs that have external partnerships

#### Why measure this?

Health agencies have limited resources available from which to support a multitude of programs. External program partnerships can help to make efficient and effective use of agency resources especially when they are established between health department programs and external organizations that reach similar populations or provide complimentary services or health messages. Data from this indicator can help state health officials assure the public that programs are being monitored for program efficiencies and public resources have been wisely spent.

**Measurement specifications:** The number of health department programs that have external partnerships divided by the total number of health department interventions.

#### PHAB Alignment

**1.1.1 A:** A state partnership that develops a comprehensive state community health assessment of the population of the state

**2.1.4 A:** Work collaboratively through established governmental and community partnerships on investigations of reportable /disease outbreaks and environmental public health issues

**2.3.4 A:** Collaboration among Tribal, state, and local health departments to build capacity and share resources to address Tribal, state, and local efforts to provide for rapid detection, investigation, and containment/ mitigation of public health problems and environmental public health hazards

**4.1.1 A:** Establishment and/ or engagement and active participation in a comprehensive community health partnership and/ or coalition; or active participation in several partnerships or coalitions to address specific public health issues or populations

**5.2.1 S:** A process to develop a state health improvement plan

**7.1.1 A:** Process to assess the availability of health care services

**7.2.2 A:** Implemented strategies to increase access to health care services

**Reporting Period:** Annually

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## Operational Definitions

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**Health department programs:** In the context of this indicator, health department programs may include a focus on: (1) prevention and health promotion (e.g., tobacco, HIV, nutrition, injury, physical activity, sexually transmitted disease counseling, diabetes, hypertension, violence, unintended pregnancy, childhood and adult immunizations, environmental epidemiology, newborn screening, and emergency preparedness); (2) clinical and diagnostic services (e.g., access to health care, screening for disease conditions, treatment for diseases, and laboratory services); and (3) surveillance (epidemiology). Health departments may also provide technical assistance, training, research and evaluation services for any and all of these program areas. Programs should have at least one staff person assigned and represent a discrete area of agency focus.

**External partnerships:** Partnerships between a health department program and a program(s) outside of the health department like a non-profit, community-based organization, private practice, or other government agency (e.g., pediatric dental practice and WIC, heart disease and transportation agency, obesity and YMCA). Documentation should exist that specifies the partnership's goals, activities, and status of their joint efforts. Partnerships between state and local health departments are excluded from this definition.

**Annually:** This indicator should be reported during a 12-month cycle (i.e., calendar year, fiscal year, etc.).

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**Possible data sources:** Unique to each partnership and/or agency, but may include a performance management IT system or surveys/tools assessing partnerships that ask for the details of that partnership.