

# **Measuring Vector Control Capabilities of Local Jurisdictions**

OSTLTS Generic Information Collection Request  
OMB No. 0920-0879

## **Supporting Statement – Section B**

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## Table of Contents

Table of Contents.....	2
Section B – Information Collection Procedures.....	3
1. Respondent Universe and Sampling Methods.....	3
2. Procedures for the Collection of Information.....	4
3. Methods to Maximize Response Rates Deal with Nonresponse.....	4
4. Test of Procedures or Methods to be Undertaken.....	5
5. Individuals Consulted on Statistical Aspects and Individuals Collecting and/or Analyzing Data.....	5
LIST OF ATTACHMENTS – Section B.....	6
REFERENCE LIST.....	6

## Section B – Information Collection Procedures

### 1. Respondent Universe and Sampling Methods

All local vector control and surveillance organizations in 41 U.S. States and the District of Columbia will be invited to participate in this data collection. Many of these organizations are housed within local health departments but some are also housed in other governmental entities, including state health departments, public works departments, streets and sanitation departments, mosquito abatement districts, and parks and recreation departments. The individuals who will respond to the assessment within these organizations consist of environmental health scientists and health specialists,

In total, 2,181 vector have been identified, and will receive the assessment. This respondent universe represents a census of local vector control and surveillance organizations. Of the 2,181 vector control organizations, 2,157 are local, 19 are state, and 5 are tribal (see **Attachment A – Sample Breakdown**). Every attempt will be made to ensure total identification of and invitation to all vector control organizations in each of these areas for participation in this assessment. The inclusion of all identified vector control organizations is necessary to establish an updated contact list along with baseline activities of vector control and surveillance performed in each state or jurisdiction.

The respondent universe for this assessment will include vector organizations from 41 U.S. States (listed below) and the District of Columbia. These states were chosen because baseline information pertaining to their vector control capabilities has never been collected, and each is at risk for Zika infection via travel-related cases and/or the *Aedes aegypti* vector exposure. In July, 2016, NACCHO conducted an assessment of nine high-priority states using a similar data collection instrument and methods. This collection was not approved by OMB and CDC has since notified OMB of this activity. Information gathered from this collection has been published and utilized.<sup>1</sup>

NACCHO will employ the following strategy to identify potential respondents:

1. NACCHO will work with the CDC and the American Mosquito Control Association (AMCA) to identify all environmental scientists and specialists, including health directors or control managers in departments and districts within states for which information related to vector control capabilities is not available. These include: Alaska, Arkansas, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming, and the District of Columbia (DC).

## **2. Procedures for the Collection of Information**

Data will be collected through a one-time web-based assessment and respondents will be recruited through a notification email to the respondent universe (see **Attachment D—Notification Email**).

The notification email will explain:

- The purpose of the assessment, and why their participation is important
- Method to safeguard their responses
- That participation is voluntary
- The expected time to complete the assessment
- Contact information for the assessment team

The email will also state instructions for participating and a link to the online assessment. The Qualtrics online data collection tool will be used to develop the assessment instrument and gather the data. This will reduce the burden on respondents by allowing them to take the assessment online at their own convenience and by allowing them to skip irrelevant questions. The assessment was designed to collect the minimum information necessary for the purposes of this project.

Respondents will be asked for their response to the instrument within a three-week period to allow ample time for respondents to complete it. Respondents may complete the assessment in multiple sessions, if necessary. Reminders will be sent to non-respondents at the end of the third week to urge them to complete the assessment (see **Attachment E—Reminder Email**). For non-responders, the assessment will remain open for an additional two weeks. Upon completion, data from the web-based instrument will be downloaded, cleaned, and analyzed in Microsoft Excel. The assessment contains quantitative items only and thus analysis will consist of descriptive statistics and cross tabulations. Assessment answers will be coded and scored; ‘yes’ answers will be scored positively, ‘no’ answers will be scored negatively. The sum of a respondent’s score will be calculated and a rating will be assigned. Respondents will receive a rating of “fully capable”, “competent”, or “needs improvement” based on the CDC framework for mosquito control competency.

## **3. Methods to Maximize Response Rates Deal with Nonresponse**

Although participation in the assessment is voluntary, NACCHO will make every effort to maximize the rate of response. The assessment tool was designed with particular focus on streamlining questions to allow for skipping questions based on responses to previous questions, thereby minimizing response burden. Using an online tool will reduce the burden of the respondents by allowing them to take the assessment online at their own convenience. A reminder email will be sent to those who have not completed the assessment at the end of the third week of the assessment period (see **Attachment E—Reminder Email**). If response rates are low, NACCHO will extend the assessment period by up to two weeks and continue to send the reminder email to respondents until the specified time period has expired.

**4. Test of Procedures or Methods to be Undertaken**

The estimate for burden hours is based on a pilot test of the information collection instrument by 6 public health professionals. In the pilot test, the average time to complete the instrument including time for reading the instructions/questions and completing the instrument, was approximately 3 minutes (range: 1.5 to 7.5 minutes). For the purposes of estimating burden hours, the upper limit of this range (i.e., 7.5 minutes) is used.

**5. Individuals Consulted on Statistical Aspects and Individuals Collecting and/or Analyzing Data**

The data collection was designed by staff at CDC and NACCHO. NACCHO will collect, clean, and analyze the data.

<b>Individuals Consulted</b>	
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## **LIST OF ATTACHMENTS – Section B**

- D. Notification Email
- E. Reminder Email

## **REFERENCE LIST**

1. National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO). NACCHO Report: Vector Control Assessment in Zika Virus Priority Jurisdictions. NACCHO Preparedness Brief. 27 February 2017. Accessed on 27 March 2017 from <http://nacchopreparedness.org/naccho-report-vector-control-assessment-in-zika-virus-priority-jurisdictions/>