

# The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) Community Activities Survey (ACAS)

## Environmental Health and Your Community

Form Approved  
OMB No. 0923-XXXX  
Exp. Date MM/DD/YYYY

### Introduction


The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) works with other federal agencies, states, and local governments to assess health risks in communities where people may come in contact with dangerous chemicals.

We use the best science to respond and provide health information to community members, environmental groups, tribal governments, and state, local, and other federal agencies to prevent or lower harmful health effects from dangerous chemicals.

ATSDR receives laboratory test results from things like soil, water, and air samples collected by federal, state and local partners, and let people know if there are health risks.

### ATSDR WILL...

1. Involve communities and tribes when responding to their environmental public health concerns.
2. Contact federal, tribal, state, and local health and environmental agencies, and communities, while studying a hazardous waste site or contaminant release.
3. Review and assess environmental, health, and community information and data.
4. Collect more data, if needed, through exposure investigations, limited and targeted environmental sampling, and health studies to assess health effects.
5. Be independent, be objective, and make public health decisions based on the best available science.
6. Give results of our evaluations, medical consultations, and studies to communities and tribes and explain the findings.
7. Offer environmental health education for healthcare providers, communities, and tribes.
8. Offer emergency response assistance for serious hazardous materials incidents.
9. Refer people to specialists in environmental medicine for advice and follow-up.

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10. Include, in most final ATSDR documents, public comments received in draft documents.
  11. Refer public health issues to other federal, tribal, state, or local governmental groups when they are outside of ATSDR's responsibility.

### **ATSDR WILL NOT...**

1. Enforce laws and guidelines. ATSDR is an advisory, non-regulatory public health agency.
2. Carry out large-scale environmental sampling. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state environmental agencies do those.
3. Clean up the environmental hazard(s).
4. Give medical treatment and healthcare services.

## Survey Instructions

The Program Evaluation Team in the Division of Community Health Investigations of the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) is conducting a survey to gather feedback on how effective and timely ATSDR is in informing communities. The information will be used to help public health staff improve what they do in a way that's best for community members.

We would like for you to complete the following survey.

***Community members will be mailed a \$5 gift card after completing this survey.***

**CONSENT:** Taking part in this survey is completely voluntary. Your responses will be kept strictly confidential, no identifiable information will be released, and digital data will be stored in secure computer files. By proceeding, you indicate that you are 18 years of age or older, and CONSENT to participate in this survey.

ATSDR estimates the average public reporting burden for this collection of information as 15 minutes per survey, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data/information sources, gathering and maintaining the data/information needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to CDC/ATSDR Information Collection Review Office, 1600 Clifton Road NE, MS D-74, Atlanta, Georgia 30333; ATTN: PRA (0923-xxxx).

## Your Involvement With Site Activities

1. Before this public meeting, when did you first find out about the environmental risk(s) at **(insert name of site here)**\_\_\_\_\_?

<sup>1</sup>  I didn't know about it before this meeting

<sup>2</sup>  I don't remember

<sup>3</sup>  Specify Month and Date or Approximate time of year (e.g., Summer 2015)\_\_\_\_\_

2. How did you first hear about the environmental risk(s) at this site?

**Check ALL That Apply**

<sup>1</sup>  Mailing (e.g., letter, report, flyer, sent to libraries, Health Departments, grocery stores, government facilities, county office, etc.)

<sup>2</sup>  Newspaper Advertisement

<sup>3</sup>  Email

<sup>4</sup>  TV/Radio (e.g., Public Service Announcement Ads)

<sup>5</sup>  Community Meeting

<sup>6</sup>  Official Government informational Meeting

<sup>7</sup>  Neighbor or Friend

<sup>8</sup>  I don't remember

<sup>9</sup>  Other (e.g., social media, Twitter, Facebook, etc.) Specify:\_\_\_\_\_

3. Do you live or work near the environmental risk(s)?

**Check ALL That Apply**

<sup>1</sup>  I live near the environmental site

<sup>2</sup>  I work near the environmental site

<sup>3</sup>  I live AND work near the environmental site

I do not live OR work near the environmental site

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### Your Knowledge of Site Activities

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4. Do you know why ATSDR is at this site? **Check ONE Answer**

- Determine if there is a harmful environmental risk at this site
- Clean up the environmental risk(s) at this site
- Give medical treatment and healthcare services
- Enforce laws and guidelines
- Don't know

5. What do you know about the environmental risk(s) at this site **now**? **Check ONE Answer**

- It is an environmental risk but it does NOT pose a risk to human health
- It is an environmental risk and it DOES pose a risk to human health
- It was an environmental risk but it does NOT pose a risk to human health now
- It was an environmental risk and it DOES still pose a risk to human health
- None of the above

6. Has ATSDR helped you to better understand the environmental risk(s) at this site?

- Yes
- No
- Some, But Not All
- Don't know

7. Do you know if you or your family have come in contact with environmental risk(s)?

- Yes
- No

<sup>3</sup>  Don't know

8. **Before** ATSDR (or your State or Local Agency) came to your community, did you know what you and your family should do to avoid contact with the environmental risk(s) at the site?

<sup>1</sup>  Yes

<sup>2</sup>  No

<sup>3</sup>  Don't know

9. Since ATSDR came into your community, do you **NOW** know more about what you and your family should do to avoid contact with the environmental risk(s) at the site?

<sup>1</sup>  Yes

<sup>2</sup>  No

<sup>3</sup>  Don't know

10. If you have questions, do you know who to contact in ATSDR (or in your State or Local Agency)?

<sup>1</sup>  Yes

<sup>2</sup>  No

<sup>3</sup>  Don't know

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## Your Observations and Opinions about ATSDR

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11. Do you think ATSDR understands your health concerns related to the environmental risk(s) at this site?

<sup>1</sup>  Yes

<sup>2</sup>  No

<sup>3</sup>  Some, but not all

<sup>4</sup>  Don't know

12. Do you think ATSDR has given you all the information you need to address your health concerns related to the environmental risk(s) at this site?

<sup>1</sup>  Yes

<sup>2</sup>  No

<sup>3</sup>  Some, but not all

<sup>4</sup>  Don't know

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## Your Observations and Opinions about Your Community

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13. After ATSDR's work has finished, do you think your community will be better prepared to handle environmental risk(s) at this site?

- <sup>1</sup> Yes  
<sup>2</sup> No  
<sup>3</sup> Some, but not all  
<sup>4</sup> Don't know

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## Self-Evaluation questions

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14. Since ATSDR came to your community, how do you **NOW** feel about your risk of exposure to environmental risk(s) at this site?

**For each emotion, CHOOSE ONE answer to tell us how you feel right now.**

**a. STRESS**

- <sup>1</sup> I feel MORE of this emotion  
<sup>2</sup> I feel the SAME amount of this emotion  
<sup>3</sup> I feel LESS of this emotion

**b. SATISFACTION**

- <sup>1</sup> I feel MORE of this emotion  
<sup>2</sup> I feel the SAME amount of this emotion  
<sup>3</sup> I feel LESS of this emotion

**c. ANGER**

- <sup>1</sup> I feel MORE of this emotion

<sup>2</sup>  I feel the SAME amount of this emotion

<sup>3</sup>  I feel LESS of this emotion

**d. CONTENTMENT**

<sup>1</sup>  I feel MORE of this emotion

<sup>2</sup>  I feel the SAME amount of this emotion

<sup>3</sup>  I feel LESS of this emotion

**e. WORRY**

<sup>1</sup>  I feel MORE of this emotion

<sup>2</sup>  I feel the SAME amount of this emotion

<sup>3</sup>  I feel LESS of this emotion

**f. PLEASED**

<sup>1</sup>  I feel MORE of this emotion

<sup>2</sup>  I feel the SAME amount of this emotion

<sup>3</sup>  I feel LESS of this emotion

**g. FRUSTRATION**

<sup>1</sup>  I feel MORE of this emotion

<sup>2</sup>  I feel the SAME amount of this emotion

<sup>3</sup>  I feel LESS of this emotion

**h. AT-EASE**

<sup>1</sup>  I feel MORE of this emotion

<sup>2</sup>  I feel the SAME amount of this emotion

<sup>3</sup>  I feel LESS of this emotion

**i. DISGUST**

<sup>1</sup>  I feel MORE of this emotion



I feel the SAME amount of this emotion

I feel LESS of this emotion

**j. HOPE**

I feel MORE of this emotion

I feel the SAME amount of this emotion

I feel LESS of this emotion

**k. FEAR**

I feel MORE of this emotion

I feel the SAME amount of this emotion

I feel LESS of this emotion

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### About You

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15. How long have you lived at your current address? **Check ONE Answer**

Less than 1 month

More than 1 month but less than 1 year

More than 1 year but less than 5 years

More than 5 years

16. How many children under 18 years old live with you? **Check ONE Answer**

None


1

2

3

4+

17. What is the highest grade or level of school you completed? **Check ONE Answer**

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- 1 8th grade or less
  - 2 Some high school, but did not graduate
  - 3 High school graduate or GED
  - 4 Some college or 2-year degree
  - 5 4-year college graduate
  - 6 More than a 4-year college degree
  - 7 None of the Above

18. Do you consider yourself to be Hispanic or Latino?

- <sup>1</sup>  Hispanic or Latino  
<sup>2</sup>  Not Hispanic or Latino

19. What race or races do you consider yourself to be? **Check ALL that Apply**

- <sup>1</sup>  American Indian or Alaskan Native  
<sup>2</sup>  Asian  
<sup>3</sup>  Black or African American  
<sup>4</sup>  Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander  
<sup>5</sup>  White

20. How old are you? **Check ONE Answer**

- <sup>1</sup>  18 to 24  
<sup>2</sup>  25 to 34  
<sup>3</sup>  35 to 44  
<sup>4</sup>  45 to 54  
<sup>5</sup>  55 to 64  
<sup>6</sup>  65 to 74  
<sup>7</sup>  75 or older

20. 21. Are you male or female? **Check ONE Answer**

- <sup>1</sup>  Male  
<sup>2</sup>  Female

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## Response to the Survey

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22. Do you have any concerns about anything else related to possible environmental risk(s) in your community that the survey did not ask?

<sup>1</sup>  Yes

<sup>2</sup>  No

If YES, Please Specify  
Concerns: \_\_\_\_\_

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23. Do you have any other feedback?

<sup>1</sup>  Yes

<sup>2</sup>  No

If YES, Please Specify  
Feedback: \_\_\_\_\_

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