

National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System

Supporting Statement Section B

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B. Collections of Information Employing Statistical Methods

B1. Respondent Universe and Sampling Methods

The respondent universe consists of 57 jurisdictions that voluntarily submit case notifications for nationally notifiable conditions to CDC: health departments in every U.S. state, New York City, Washington DC, and 5 U.S. territories (American Samoa, the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands). No statistical sampling methods are used. All 57 jurisdictions voluntarily submit nationally notifiable condition case notifications. The anticipated response rate is 100 percent. The previous actual response rate was 100 percent. All 57 jurisdictions participate.

B2. Procedures for the Collection of Information

No statistical sampling methods are used. Public health departments at the state, territorial and local levels review, process and analyze reportable conditions data and voluntarily submit case notification data on nationally notifiable conditions to CDC. The Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE), local, state, and territorial health departments and CDC work jointly to decide which conditions are nationally notifiable and added to The National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System (NNDSS).

CDC provides financial and programmatic support to public health departments for their infectious reportable disease surveillance systems including developing and maintaining information systems for their use. For different reportable conditions, some health departments use systems supplied by the Center for Surveillance, Epidemiology and Laboratory Services (CSELS), Centers within the Office of Infectious Diseases (OID), or the Center for Global Health (CGH). Some use vendor-supplied systems and some use systems developed by the jurisdiction. Given the way that surveillance systems for nationally notifiable conditions were developed at CDC historically, state, territorial and local health departments have transmitted and continue to transmit NNDSS data to different systems and programs at CDC including CSELS, Centers within OID, and CGH.

B3. Methods to Maximize Response Rates and Deal with No response

Methods are not necessary to maximize response rates and deal with no response. Jurisdictions voluntarily submit notifications to CDC. The response rate is 100 percent. All 57 jurisdictions submit case notifications.

B4. Tests of Procedures or Methods to be Undertaken

As stated in Supporting Statement A, a key NNDSS Modernization Initiative (NMI) activity is standardizing message content and format for NNDSS data received electronically by CDC from health departments. Part of this process involves pilot testing new message content and format for various nationally notifiable conditions. Less than 10 jurisdictions will engage in this pilot testing for selected notifiable conditions over the next three years. During pilot testing, jurisdictions will test their capability of using standard specifications for sending an electronic message with NNDSS data to CDC.

B5. Individuals Consulted on Statistical Aspects and Individuals Collecting and/or Analyzing Data

There are no individuals consulted on statistical aspects of the data collection design as no sampling is used. The CDC's CSELS, OID, and CGH collect and analyze the information.