Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB)
Description of PHAB Data and Codebook
April 1, 2016

This document provides information about the data that may be released to researchers, per the Research and Data Use Guidelines (available at http://www.phaboard.org/research-and-evaluation/). It begins with brief background information about the steps in the PHAB process that generate the data set. It then describes potential data limitations. Finally, it includes a codebook describing two types of data that researchers may request:

- Profile information about health departments; and
- Information about health department performance on the PHAB Measures.

In the data request form, researchers must specify which fields they are requesting. PHAB will only release data that are pertinent to the request.

Background

In 2011, PHAB launched the national accreditation program for Tribal, state, local, and territorial public health departments. Health departments seeking accreditation register in e-PHAB, PHAB's electronic information system that is used throughout the accreditation process. (This step was formally known as the Statement of Intent.) Health departments then submit an application, which provides information about their agency and is source for the "profile information about health departments." If the application is approved, health departments submit documentation to demonstrate conformity with the PHAB Standards & Measures.

The documentation is reviewed by a team of peer site visitors, who develop the Site Visit Report. The Report includes an assessment of conformity (Fully Demonstrated, Largely Demonstrated, Slightly Demonstrated, or Not Demonstrated) for each Measure. The Report also includes for each Measure a required statement describing the health department's conformity and optional comments identifying "areas of excellence" and/or "opportunities for improvement." The Site Visit Report is the primary source of "Information about health department performance on the PHAB Measures."

The Site Visit Report is reviewed by the PHAB Accreditation Committee. That Committee can decide to confer accreditation at that time or can require a health department to submit an Action Plan. In the latter case, the Accreditation Committee will specify which Measures need to be addressed in the Action Plan. If the Action Plan is approved, the health department has the opportunity to submit new documentation related to the identified Measures. That new documentation is reviewed by one or more Site Visitors who develop a report for the

Accreditation Committee. Upon receiving that report, the Accreditation Committee can either grant the health department the status of Accredited or Not Accredited. Accreditation status is in place for five years form the date that the Accreditation Committee confers accreditation. In order to maintain accreditation status, the health department must apply for reaccreditation.[*] Health departments that have the status of Not Accredited can begin the application process anew.

All accredited health departments are required to submit Annual Reports. When the Accreditation Committee accredits a health department (either during the initial discussion of that health department or after an Action Plan), it may specify that the health department must address in the Annual Report its progress on specific Measures.

For more information, researchers are encouraged to visit the PHAB website (www.phaboard.org). In particular, researchers may want to review:

- Research and Evaluation page (includes PHAB's logic model, research agenda, and a bibliography)
- Guide to National Public Health Department Initial Accreditation (includes a detailed description of the process)
- Standards & Measures (health departments that submitted their applications prior to June 2, 2014 use Version 1.0; health departments that submitted their applications after that date use Version 1.5)
- Accreditation Activity (includes the number of accredited health departments and health departments in progress)

PHAB will generate a new dataset twice a year to include the Profile information of health departments that had an application approved in the prior six months and Measures information for health departments that received an accreditation decision in that time period.

Potential data limitations
- PHAB accreditation is voluntary. The health departments that decide to pursue accreditation may not be representative of all health departments in the country.
- Health departments are strongly encouraged to begin preparing for accreditation before they apply. This may have implications for studies that use a comparison group or a pre/post design. To the extent that health departments change because of accreditation, those changes might begin prior to the application date. In addition, health departments that are not yet in the e-PHAB information system may have made changes in preparation for accreditation, but have not yet begun the formal accreditation process.
- The information provided in the PHAB application is self-reported; it has not been verified.

---

[*] The dataset only contains information about initial accreditation. When health departments begin applying for re-accreditation, the codebook will be revised.

- The data reflect a snapshot in time. Health departments are dynamic organizations and information they provided in their application may no longer be accurate. In addition, the underlying capacities described in the Site Visit Report may change over time.
- The assessments of conformity and narratives from the Site Visit Report are developed by volunteer, peer site visitors based on their professional judgment. PHAB's efforts to ensure rater and inter-rater reliability include: training site visitors and requiring them to participate in exercises designed to increase the consistency of their reviews; providing guidance on the interpretation of the Standards and Measures; and reviewing all Site Visit Reports.

Codebook: Profile information about health departments

The following data are collected through e-PHAB registration and the Application submitted by the health departments. Data about a particular health department will be included in the data set after the health department's application has been approved.

Variable Name	Description	Possible Values
General information[†]		
HDName	Name of health department (HD)	
HDID	Health department ID	
HDType	Department type[‡]	1 = State 2 = Local 3 = Tribal 4 = Territorial 5 = Centralized State Integrated Local Public Health Department System 6 = Multi-jurisdictional
NACCHOID	NACCHO ID	[PHAB merged data from NACCHO to obtain correct NACCHO ID. Missing if state, tribal, or territorial HD]
Appdate	Date application submitted	
Accredstatus	Accreditation status	1 = Accredited 2 = In progress (includes in progress on Action Plan) 3 = Not accredited
Accreddate	Date accredited	[blank if HD has not been accredited]
ActionPlan	Whether or not the HD was required to submit an action plan	0 = Action plan not required 1 = Action plan required . = HD has not yet been reviewed by Accreditation Committee
City[§]	City	
State	State	
Region	DHHS Region	1 = Region 1 (CT, MA, ME, NH, RI, VT) 2 = Region 2 (NJ, NY, PR, VI) 3 = Region 3 (DE, MD, PA, VA, WV, DC)

[†] If researchers are not requesting identified datasets, some of these fields (e.g., city, state, zip) may not be available. In addition, PHAB would provide the population category data rather than the exact population number.
[‡] Data from tribal, territorial, centralized state integrated local public health department system, and multijurisdictional applicants will be withheld if there are not sufficient numbers of health departments in the system.
[§] The city, state, and region for tribal health departments is based on where the tribal health department is headquartered. It is possible for a tribal health department to cross state and regional borders.

		4 = Region 4 (AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, TN) 5 = Region 5 (IL, IN, OH, MI, MN, WI) 6 = Region 6 (AR, LA, NM, OK, TX) 7 = Region 7 (IA, KS, MO, NE) 8 = Region 8 (CO, MT, ND, SD, UT, WY) 9 = Region 9 (AZ, CA, HI, NV) 10 = Region 10 (AK, ID, OR, WA)
Zip	Zip code	
Population	Total population served by the HD	
Popcat8	Population categories	1 = <25,000 2 = 25,000 – 49,999 3 = 50,000 – 99,999 4 = 100,000 – 249,999 5 = 250,000 – 499,999 6 = 500,000 – 999,999 7 = 1,000,000 – 2,999,999 8 = 3,000,000+
Censusyear	Census year for population estimate	[PHAB application asks health departments to self-report their population and the Census year for which they obtained the population data]
Jurisdiction	Local HD jurisdiction	1 = City 2 = City-County 3 = County 4 = District 5 = Multi-jurisdictional (multi-county) 6 = Other 7 = Regional 8 = Town/Township [missing if state, tribal, or territorial HD]
Structure	Relationship of the local HD to the state HD OR Structure of tribal HD	1 = Centralized 2 = Decentralized 3 = Mixed 4 = Shared 5 = Single Tribe 6 = Tribal Association/Consortium [missing if territorial HD]
Urban Rural Suburb Frontier	Description of jurisdiction served (Select all that apply)	[each variable will have a value of 1 or 0]

Tribe	Does the area served by the HD include a federally recognized Tribal government?	1 = Yes 0 = No [missing if HD is a tribal or territorial HD]
TRIBE_NUMBER	How many federally recognized Tribes?	
Budget	Annual HD budget amount	
Emp	Total number of employees at the HD	
FTE	Total reported FTEs at the HD	
Governing Entity & Appointing Authority		
GOV_ADV	Advisory Board	[HDs can select all that apply; each variable will have a value of 1 or 0]
GOV_GOV	Governing Board	
GOV_POL	Policy-making board	
GOV_OTH	Other	
GOV_NONE	None	
GOV_OTH_EXP	Description if HD selected "Other" for their governing entity	
APPTAUTH	Appointing authority (Individual that appoints the HD director)	1 = Governor 2 = Mayor 3 = Chair of County Commissioners 4 = Chair of Governance 5 = Director of Super Public Health Agency, Super Health Agency, or Umbrella Agency 6 = Other
APPAUTHOTH	Title if HD selected "other" for appointing authority	

Public Health Services

For each of the public health services listed below, the health department can select one of the following:

> 0 = Not Offered
>
> 1 = Provided directly by HD
>
> 2 = Provided by non-governmental organizations through formal partnerships/contracts
>
> 3 = Provided directly by HD + Provided by non-governmental organizations through formal partnerships/contracts
>
> 4 = Responsibility of another government agency
>
> 5 = Provided directly by HD + Responsibility of another government agency
>
> 6 = Provided by non-governmental organizations through formal partnerships/contracts + Responsibility of another government agency
>
> 7 = All of the above

Category	Variable Name	Description
Immunization	IMM_ADULT	Adult immunizations

	IMM_CHILD	Childhood immunizations
Screening	SCR_LEAD	Blood lead
	SCR_CANCER	Cancer
	SCR_CARDIO	Cardiovascular disease
	SCR_DIAB	Diabetes
	SCR_BLOODPRESSURE	High blood pressure
	SCR_HIV	HIV/AIDS
	SCR_STD	Other STDs
	SCR_TUBERC	Tuberculosis
Treatment	TRT_HIV	HIV/AIDS
	TRT_STD	Other STDs
	TRT_TUBERC	Tuberculosis
Maternal and Child Health	MCH_EPSDT	EPSDT
	MCH_FAM	Family planning
	MCH_MCH	MCH home visits
	MCH_OBS	Obstetrical care
	MCH_PREN	Prenatal care
	MCH_WELL	Well child clinic
Epidemiology	EP_BEH	Behavioral risk factors
	EP_CHRON	Chronic disease
	EP_COMM	Communicable/infectious disease
	EP_ENV	Environmental health
	EP_UNINT	Unintentional injury
	EP_MAT	Maternal and child health
	EP_SYN	Syndromic
Prevention	PREV_CHRON	Chronic disease
	PREV_UNIN	Unintended injury
	PREV_MENT	Mental illness
	PREV_NUT	Nutrition
	PREV_PHYS	Physical activity
	PREV_ABUSE	Substance abuse
	PREV_TOBAC	Tobacco use
	PREV_PREG	Unintended pregnancy
Regulation	REG_TAT	Body art (tattoos, piercing)
	REG_RV	Campgrounds and RVs
	REG_KIDS	Children's camps
	REG_COSM	Cosmetology businesses
	REG_FPROC	Food processing
	REG_FSERV	Food service establishments
	REG_HEALTH	Health-related facilities
	REG_HOTEL	Hotels/motels
	REG_HOUSE	Housing (inspections)
	REG_LEAD	Lead
	REG_MILK	Milk processing
	REG_MOBILE	Mobile homes
	REG_PRIVWATER	Private drinking water

	REG_PUBWATER	Public drinking water
	REG_DAYCARE	Schools/daycare
	REG_SEPTIC	Septic systems
	REG_SMOKE	Smoke-free ordinances
	REG_SWDISP	Solid waste disposal sites
	REG_SWHAUL	Solid waste haulers
	REG_SWIM	Swimming pools (public)
	REG_TOBAC	Tobacco retailers
Other Environmental Health Activities	OEH_AIRPOL	Air pollution
	OEH_UNUSED	Collection of unused pharmaceuticals
	OEH_GROUNDWATER	Groundwater protection
	OEH_DISPOSAL	Hazardous waste disposal
	OEH_HAZMAT	Hazmat response
	OEH_INDOORAIR	Indoor air quality
	OEH_LANDUSE	Land use planning
	OEH_NOISE	Noise pollution
	OEH_PREVENT	Pollution prevention
	OEH_RAD	Radiation control
	OEH_SURFWATER	Surface water protection
	OEH_VECTOR	Vector control
Other Health/Human Services	OTH_BEH	Behavioral/mental health services
	OTH_COMP	Comprehensive primary care
	OTH_HOME	Home health care
	OTH_ORAL	Oral health
	OTH_PREVENT	Substance abuse prevention
	OTH_ABUSE	Substance abuse treatment services
	OTH_VIOLENCE	Violence

Codebook: Information about health department performance on the PHAB Measures

Data about a particular health department will be included in the data set after the final accreditation decision (accredited or not accredited) for that health department has been made. This information comes from the Site Visit Report, the Action Plan Report, or guidance from the Accreditation Committee about measures to include in the Annual Report.

The data set is configured such that there is one row for each health department for each measure. The table below describes all of the variables that are available for each of those rows.

Variable Name	Description	Possible Values
HDID	Health department (HD) identifier	
MeasNumber	Measure number without the periods	Examples: 121 = Measure 1.2.1 (Domain 1, Standard 2, Measure 1) 1232 = Measure 12.3.2
HDtype	Type of HD; some of the Measures differ based on HD type; there are more State measures than Local ones	1 = State 2 = Local 3 = Tribal 4 = Territorial
Version	Indicates whether the HD was assessed against Version 1.0 or Version 1.5 of the Standards and Measures	1 = Version 1.0 1.5 = Version 1.5
SVRassessment	The assessment of conformity with the Measure, as part of the Site Visit Report	1 = Not Demonstrated 2 = Slightly Demonstrated 3 = Largely Demonstrated 4 = Fully Demonstrated
SVRcomment	Comments about how the HD demonstrated conformity with the Measure, as part of the Site Visit Report	[free text]
SVRaoe	Optional comments about Areas of Excellence for the Measure, as part of the Site Visit Report (Site Visitors can provide an Area of Excellence even if the Measure is not assessed as Fully Demonstrated)	[free text]
SVRofi	Optional comments about Opportunities for Improvement for the Measure, as part of the Site Visit Report (Site Visitors can provide an Opportunity for Improvement even if	[free text]

	the Measure is assessed as Fully Demonstrated)	
Action	Indicates if the health department was required to include this Measure in an Action Plan	1 = Required for Action Plan 0 = Not required for Action Plan . = HD not required to complete an Action Plan
Actionassessment	The assessment of conformity from the Site Visitor(s) who reviewed the Action Plan Report	1 = Not Demonstrated 2 = Slightly Demonstrated 3 = Largely Demonstrated 4 = Fully Demonstrated . = HD not required to complete an Action Plan for this Measure
Actioncomment	Comments about how the HD demonstrated conformity with the Measure from the Site Visitor(s) who reviewed the Action Plan Report	[free text]
Annual	Indicates if the health department was required to include this Measure in the Annual Report	1 = Required for Annual Report 0 = Not required for Annual Report