Essential Service #6



At what level does the local public health system...

Enforce Laws and Regulations that Protect Health and Ensure Safety

When we enforce health regulations are we technically competent, fair, and effective?

In the 2016 local public health system assessment, Essential Service #6 was ranked as having significant performance and 8th highest priority¹.

Description



Model Standards represent the major components or practice areas of the Essential Service. Model Standards for this service include indicators for *governmental presence*, *policy development*, *community health strategic and emergency plans*.

Performance Significant



This score can be interpreted as the overall degree to which your local public health system meets the performance standards. The overall performance ranking score for this Essential Service is **73.2**, which represents **SIGNIFICANT activity.**

Priority #8



Participants were asked to consider the priority of each Essential Service and Model Standard to their local public health system. With an overall priority ranking score of **8 of 10**, this Essential Service is within the lower-ranking half of priorities.

Data Overview





Quadrants are based on how the performance of each Essential Service compares with the priority rating.



Model Standards

Model Standards represent the major components or practice areas of the Essential Service. Standards 6.1 & 6.3 scored as **OPTIMAL** and standard 6.3 scored as **SIGNIFICANT activity**.

PERCEIVED SYSTEM STRENGTHS:

Several participants indicated that:

- They have regular access to legal counsel within their organizations.
- They regularly review policies and procedures with their organizations.

A few participants noted that:

 Strong community partnerships and coordination play a significant role in performing well for this essential service.

PERCEIVED SYSTEM WEAKNESSES:

Several participants indicated that:

• Lack of community awareness for healthrelated laws, regulations, and ordinances can be a challenge to compliance.

A few participants noted that:

 Agencies have differing levels of enforcement authority within the system.

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PERCEIVED SYSTEM OPPORTUNITIES:

Participants suggested the following for optimization of this essential service:

- Proactive initiatives that educate the general community and regulated entities about health laws, regulations, and ordinances.
- Streamlined planning and local process coordination across agencies with regulatory authority on specific healthrelated laws, regulations, and ordinances.

Best practice/innovative approaches highlighted:

- Emergency Operations planning and response framework
- Tobacco Cessation campaigns and Drug-Free living initiatives

Essential Service #6 decreased slightly in performance and was ranked with a priority, as compared to the 2012 local public health system assessment.

83% 73% 2012 2016

N/A #8
2012

Partners in Health

#	Organization Type	#	Organization Type
1	County Health Department	3	Hospitals & Emergency Service Providers
2	Social Service Facilities & Providers	1	Mental Health Facilities & Service Providers
1	Schools, Colleges & Universities	1	County Government & Municipalities
1	Coalitions & Advocacy Groups	1	Media Outlets
1	State Agencies & Programs	1	Elected Officials

Partners who gathered to discuss the performance of the local public health system for this Essential Service





Assessment participants also identified other partners who contribute to this work that they would like to see involved in future dialogues related to this Essential Service.

Faith-Based Organizations Businesses & Employers