

A. COVER PAGE

Project Title: Tennessee Occupational Health and Surveillance Program	
Grant Number: 6U60OH010903	Project/Grant Period: 07/01/2015-03/31/2022
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Change of Contact PD/PI:	
Human Subjects: Yes	Vertebrate Animals: N/A
hESC: No	Inventions/Patents: N/A

B. ACCOMPLISHMENTS

B.1. What are the major goals of the project?

The initial aims for the TN-OHSSP were:

- Compile surveillance data for a minimum of 15 of the 20 occupational health indicators (OHIs) using existing data sources per Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE) Guidelines.
- Analyze and interpret surveillance data for a minimum of 15 of the 20 (OHIs) as part of program to assess and measure occupational health improvement in order to protect health and promote change.
- Develop methods to convert data to action in order to achieve positive outcomes maximizing electronic media and technology for outreach, education and other systems. These include but are not limited to:
 - Incorporate occupational health into broader public health program.
 - Inform progress and legislative decisions
 - Initiate and foster collaboration with public and private partners through outreach, information sharing, and documenting outcomes.
 - Serve as the catalyst to bring multiple perspectives and partners together around issues.
 - Provide data to the Counties and partners on specific areas for investigation, outreach, education, service, etc.
 - Develop education materials and make materials available to all partners and points of contact.
- Initiate and foster collaboration with public and private partners through outreach, information sharing, and documenting outcomes.
- Program data outputs and fiscal reports are monitored and evaluated.

B.2. What did you accomplish under these goals?

This was the first cycle that TN received funding for an Occupational Health and Safety Surveillance Program (TN-OHSSP). The program was established with three staff members.

Since 2015, CSTE's Occupational Health Indicators have undergone several changes. Many indicators were temporarily put out of service, while CSTE evaluated needed changes based on health care providers switching to the ICD-10-CM standard. New indicators were added, while others were depreciated. In its first year, the TN-OHSSP was able to produce indicators for all but six of the indicators. By 2021, we were consistently producing all but one – the asthma made worse at work – indicator.

In 2021, the TN-OHSSP had generated enough data from the annual OHI reports that we could combine them into a trend report. This allowed us to speak on what was improving or not and provide a basis for where future prevention efforts might need to focus. This report, along with the annual OHI report are available on our [webpage](#).

In 2018, TN-OHSSP convened its first stakeholder committee meeting. After change over in staff, stakeholder meetings were reconvened in 2021. These meetings contained members of academia, unions, other state agencies, and medical professionals. At these meetings, TN-OHSSP staff reported out on data it had gathered concerning OHI as well as other areas of concern. These meetings have also been the location where nascent collaboration efforts have begun. These have ranged from simple things like being invited to

other meetings, such as the Commissioner's Committee for Employee Safety and Health, or requests from TN OSHA for work related hospitalization data, or having discussions with union representatives.

B.3. Competitive Revisions/Administrative Supplements

No.

B.4. What opportunities for training and professional development did the project provide?

Over the duration of the grant, members were encouraged to attend CSTE's annual Conference, SOUTH-ON, and the CSTE winter meetings. These meetings provided professional development for the staff. Additionally, TDH provides many outlets for development and training by providing access to web and in-person training courses, and supports in-house technical (SAS, R, etc.) user groups.

B.5. How did you disseminate the results to communities of interest?

Over the course of the grant cycle, we created a website where our work is publicly available.

We present findings at each of the stakeholder meetings, and we work with partners to provide information they specifically find helpful. For Instance, we met with our TN OSHA representative who wanted to compare reported injuries to workers comp with injuries filed with workers comp at the hospitals, we were able to quickly provide them with the requested information.

The TN Department of Health has a well-developed data request system. The Occupational Health Surveillance Program is a part of that system. Members of the public can submit data requests for specific information. If we have that data, we provide it.

Lastly, Program staff have presented at conferences as South-ON, and APHA.

B.6 - What do you plan to do during the next reporting period to accomplish the goals?

We plan to continue work to expand the kinds of people at the stakeholder meetings, and increase their role in guiding the program.

C. PRODUCTS

C.1. Publications, conference papers, and presentations

Over the course of the term, no journal articles or papers were formerly published. An Occupational Health Indicator Trend Report was placed on our [webpage](#) along with each annual OHI report. In addition, did produce several poster presentations for conferences (most of which our on our website), as well as many more presentations.

C.2. Website(s) or other Internet site(s) – include URL(s)

We produced a website to host reports we have produced:

<https://www.tn.gov/health/health-program-areas/statistics/health-data/occ-health.html>

C.3. Technologies or techniques
Nothing to report

C.4. Inventions, patent applications, and/or licenses
Nothing to report

C.5. Other products and resource sharing
Nothing to report

D. PARTICIPANTS

D.1. What individuals have worked on the project? Please include calendar, academic, and summer months.

Commons ID	S/K	Name	Degrees(s)	Role	Cal	Aca	Sum	Foreign	Country	SS
BCRUMPLER		Benjamin Crumpler	MA	PI	12					
		Jennifer Kline		Statistician	12					
		Parth Patel		Epidemiologist	12					

D.2 Personnel updates

a. **Level of Effort:** no changes
 b. **New Senior/Key Personnel:**
 c. **Changes in Other Support:**
 d. **New Other Significant Contributors:**

E. IMPACT

E.1 - What is the impact on the development of human resources, if applicable?

Not Applicable

E.2 - What is the impact the Public Health Relevance and Impact? The investigator should address how the findings of the project relate beyond the immediate study to improved practices, prevention or intervention techniques, legislation, policy, or use of technology in public health.

Within the Department of Health, the program has increased the salience of occupation and industry as factors to consider. As a new program, the program has helped to ensure a more complete national picture of occupational health.

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F. CHANGES

F.1 – Changes in approach and reasons for change, including changes that have a significant impact on expenditures

Nothing to report

F.2 - Actual or anticipated challenges or delays and actions or plans to resolve them

Over the course of the grant, staffing has been an enduring issue. The PI has changed twice, and the remaining staff have also changed. This led to many other delays as new training would often need to be implemented. However, in the last two years of the grant the program has stabilized under the leadership of the current PI.

F.3 - Significant changes to human subjects, vertebrate animals, biohazards, and/or select agents

None

G. Special Reporting Requirements

G.1 Special Notice of Award Terms and Funding Opportunities Announcement Reporting Requirements

None

G.2 Responsible Conduct of Research

None

G.3 Mentor's Research Report or Sponsor Comments

None

G.4 Human Subjects

G.4.a Does the project involve human subjects?

Yes – Under the new IRB guidelines the work done with the program was deemed public health surveillance and so exempt.

G.4.b Inclusion Enrollment Data

Individual exists in administrative data we use, is 16+, and was involved in an explicitly work related malady, or has a had a malady that was likely work related.

G.4.c ClinicalTrials.gov

No

Does this project include one or more applicable clinical trials that must be registered in ClinicalTrials.gov under FDAAA?

No

G.5 Human Subject Education Requirement

Are there personnel on this project who are newly involved in the design or conduct of human subject's research?

No,
All members of the team must take and maintain CITI training related to human subjects prior to working with human subject data.

G.6 Human Embryonic Stem Cells (HESCS)

Does this project involve human embryonic stem cells (only hESC lines listed as approved in the NIH Registry may be used in NIH funded research)?

No

G.7 Vertebrate Animals

Does this project involve vertebrate animals?

No

G.8 Project/Performance Sites

Tennessee Department of Health
Andrew Johnson Tower, 2nd Floor
710 James Robertson Pkwy
Nashville, TN 37214

G.9 Foreign Component

None

G.10 Estimated Unobligated Balance

G.10.a Is it anticipated that an estimated unobligated balance (including prior year carryover) will be greater than 25% of the current year's total approved budget?

No

G.11 Program Income

Is program income anticipated during the next budget period?

No

G.12 F&A Costs

Is there a change in performance sites that will affect F&A costs?

No

I. OUTCOMES

I. Provide a concise summary of the outcomes or findings of the award, written for the general public in clear and comprehensible language, without including any proprietary, confidential information or trade secrets

Note: project outcome information will be made public in NIH RePORTER

Over the course of this grant, TN established an Occupational Health and Safety Surveillance Program. The program now meets twice a year with experts and stakeholders to discuss status, trends, and research of occupational health in the state. The program now produces an annual report on occupational health indicator trends. The program has also produced discrete surveillance projects related to work pollution. All of these are posted on our [webpage](#).