

prevention programs. Without data to measure the impact of HIV counseling, testing, and referral programs, HIV prevention program priorities cannot be assessed and redirected to prevent further spread of the virus in the general population. CDC needs information from all grantees describing the number of HIV tests completed for at-risk persons and the number HIV-positive test results for at-risk persons. The HIV counseling and testing report form

provides a simple yet complete means to collect this information.

Public health departments will be able to use either a summary form, a scan form, or a form unique to their jurisdiction. All reporting to the CDC will take place electronically. Sixteen (16) respondents (public health departments) will use the summary data collection tool. It takes approximately 2 hours to complete the form. The respondents will complete the form 4 times each year for a total burden of 8 hours per year per project area. Thirty

(30) respondents (public health departments) will use a scan form provided by CDC. Nineteen (19) respondents (public health departments) will use a form unique to their jurisdiction. It will take approximately 15 minutes for each respondent using either the scan or unique formats to transfer data to CDC electronically on a quarterly basis for a total burden per project area of 1 hour per year. The total annual burden hours for this data collection is 177 hours.

Respondents	Number of respondents	Number of responses per respondent	Average burden per response (in hours)
Manual Form Project Areas .....	16	4	2
Scan or Unique Form Project .....	49	4	15/60

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## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

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#### Proposed Data Collections Submitted for Public Comment and Recommendations

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) publishes a list of information collection requests under review by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35). To request a copy of these requests, call the CDC Reports Clearance Officer at (404) 498-1210. Send written comments to CDC, Desk Officer, Human Resources and Housing Branch, New Executive Office Building, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503 or by fax to (202) 395-6974. Written comments should be received within 30 days of this notice.

*Proposed Project:* Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Performance Evaluation Program for Mycobacterium Tuberculosis and Non-Tuberculosis Mycobacterium (NTM) Drug Susceptibility Testing—New—Public Health Practice Program Office (PHPPPO), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

As part of the continuing effort to support both domestic and global public health objectives for treatment of tuberculosis (TB), prevention of multi-drug resistance and surveillance programs, the Division of Laboratory Systems seeks to collect information from domestic private clinical and public health laboratories twice per year. Participation and information collections from international laboratories will be limited to those which have public health responsibilities for tuberculosis drug susceptibility testing and approval by their national tuberculosis program. While the overall number of cases of TB in the U.S. has decreased, rates still remain high among foreign-born persons, prisoners, homeless populations, and individuals infected with HIV in major metropolitan areas. The rate of TB cases detected in foreign-born persons has been reported to be almost nine times higher than the rate among the U.S. born population. CDC's goal to eliminate TB will be virtually

impossible without considerable effort in assisting heavy disease burden countries in the reduction of tuberculosis. The *M. tuberculosis*/NTM program supports this role by monitoring the level of performance and practices among laboratories performing *M. tuberculosis* susceptibility within the U.S. as well as internationally to ensure high-quality laboratory testing, resulting in accurate and reliable results.

Information collected in this program will include the susceptibility test results of primary and secondary drugs, concentrations, and test methods performed by laboratories on a set of challenge isolates sent twice yearly.

A portion of the response instrument will collect demographic data such as laboratory type and the number of tests performed annually. By providing an evaluation program to assess the ability of the laboratories to test for drug resistant *M. tuberculosis* and selected strains of NTM, laboratories will also have a self-assessment tool to aid in maximizing their skills in susceptibility testing. Information obtained from laboratories on susceptibility testing practices and procedures will assist with determining variables related to good performance, with assessing areas for training and with developing practice standards. There are no costs to respondents.

Respondents	Number of respondents	Number of responses per respondent	Average burden per response (in hours)
Private Clinical and Public Health Laboratories .....	165	2	30/60