

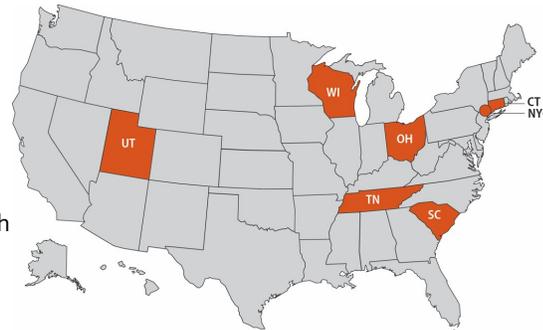
# FoodCORE: Year Three Summary

## Foodborne Diseases Centers for Outbreak Response Enhancement

January 1 – December 31, 2013

### Background

Foodborne Diseases Centers for Outbreak Response Enhancement (FoodCORE) centers address gaps in foodborne disease response through enhanced capacity in laboratory, epidemiology, and environmental health to improve timeliness and completeness of outbreak response activities. The FoodCORE centers during Year Three (January 1 – December 31, 2013) were: Connecticut, New York City, Ohio, South Carolina, Tennessee, Utah, and Wisconsin.



### Program Highlights

During Year Three, FoodCORE programmatic activities focused on promoting the centers and the work that they do. Program overviews were presented 17 times at scientific conferences, programmatic meetings, and invited talks. This includes presentations at:

- Integrated Foodborne Outbreak Response and Management (InFORM) Conference
- Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists' (CSTE) Annual Meeting
- American Public Health Association (APHA) Annual Meeting
- Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL) Annual Meeting

FoodCORE updates and successes were highlighted on the web. During Year Three the FoodCORE website doubled in size and now has a page for each of the centers. In July, the first **FoodCORE Model Practice**, which covers initial case-patient interviewing, was completed. In October, there was a feature on the CDC homepage showcasing FoodCORE activities. Several **FoodCORE Success Stories** were added throughout the year.

- In January, a success story was published on a Tennessee *Cryptosporidium* outbreak linked to a farm
- In March, a success story was published on collaborations between FoodCORE and FoodNet in Connecticut
- In July, a success story was published on a Wisconsin waterborne norovirus investigation
- In November, a success story was published on a *Salmonella* outbreak at a nursery in South Carolina

#### FoodCORE Web Resources:

FoodCORE program website:

<http://www.cdc.gov/foodcore/index.html>

FoodCORE Success Stories and Highlights:

<http://www.cdc.gov/foodcore/successes.html>

FoodCORE Model Practices:

<http://www.cdc.gov/foodcore/resources.html>

During Year Three, FoodCORE participants interacted monthly on program conference calls and at two in-person meetings. The 2013 FoodCORE Vision Meeting took place in Atlanta in May and participants got together again in November at the 2013 InFORM meeting. These meetings were an opportunity to discuss upcoming projects, model practices, and metrics. This was also a chance for FoodCORE participants and partners to come together to network and exchange ideas.

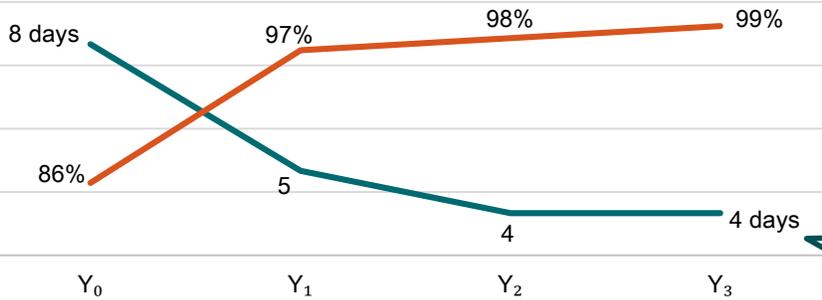
### Program Performance

Centers report metrics twice a year to evaluate changes resulting from the targeted FoodCORE resources. Metrics for *Salmonella*, Shiga toxin-producing *Escherichia coli* (STEC), and *Listeria* have been collected since baseline in late 2010. Metrics for norovirus, other etiologies, and unknown etiology investigations have been collected since 2012. See page 2 for graphs of select metrics. Information on all of the metrics and complete data tables are available on the [FoodCORE website](#).



## Graphs for Select Metrics – Year Three

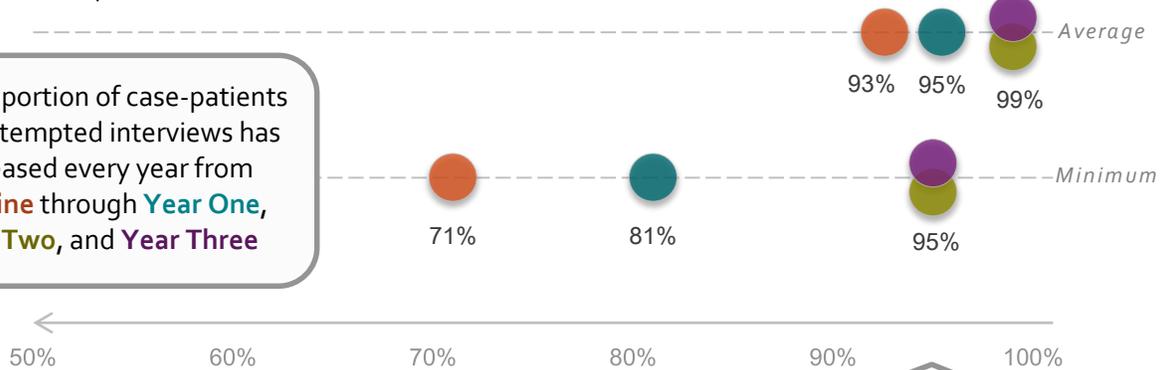
Average *Salmonella*, STEC, and *Listeria* PFGE **timeliness** and **completeness** across all FoodCORE centers from Baseline through Year Three



By the end of Year Three the **average proportion of *Salmonella*, STEC, and *Listeria* isolates with PFGE Results** increased to nearly 100%

From Baseline to the end of Year Three, the **average number of days to complete PFGE for *Salmonella*, STEC, and *Listeria*** decreased by 50%

The average and minimum proportion of *Salmonella*, STEC, and *Listeria* case-patients with an attempted interview across all FoodCORE centers



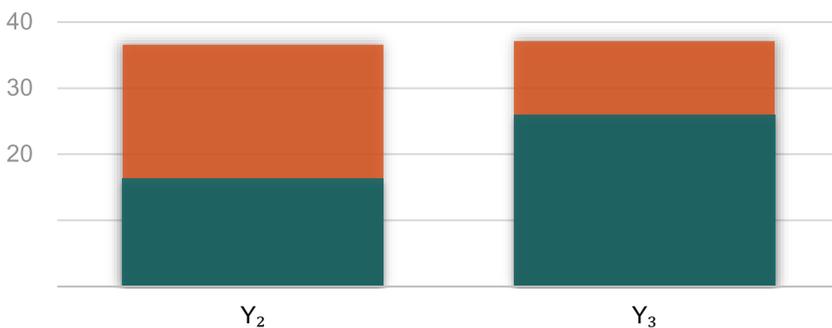
The proportion of case-patients with attempted interviews has increased every year from **Baseline** through **Year One**, **Year Two**, and **Year Three**

### More Interviews, More Quickly



From baseline to Year Three, the median number of days to attempt a *Listeria* interview fell from **7 to 1.6 days!**

The average number of **norovirus investigations** and number with an identified **suspect or confirmed vehicle** per FoodCORE center for Year Two and Year Three



Between Year Two and Year Three, the **average number of norovirus investigations** per FoodCORE site stayed relatively constant, while the **proportion with a suspect or confirmed vehicle** increased from 45% to 70%

FoodCORE centers have demonstrated that targeted investments can improve the completeness and timeliness of outbreak response activities. They have strengthened their outbreak response programs to conduct faster, better, and more complete investigations, to ultimately help stop the spread of foodborne disease.