

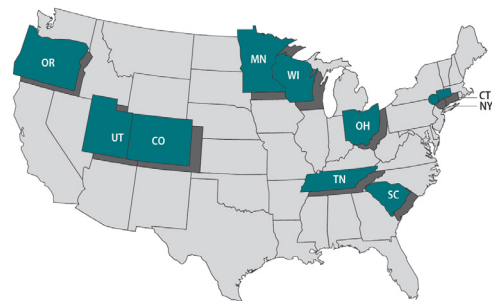
FoodCORE: Year Seven Summary

Foodborne Diseases Centers for Outbreak Response Enhancement

January 1 – December 31, 2017

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 Seven (January 1 – December 31, 2017) were Colorado, Connecticut, Minnesota, New York City, Ohio, Oregon, South Carolina, Tennessee, Utah, and Wisconsin.



Program Highlights

In Year Seven, FoodCORE program participants delivered presentations at meetings and conferences across the country to showcase their outbreaks, projects, and successes. The CDC FoodCORE Team presented program overviews at scientific conferences, programmatic meetings, and invited talks including collaborations with OutbreakNet Enhanced sites to show the wider scope of CDC’s capacity-building strategy. Presentations included:

- Breakout and roundtable sessions at the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE) Annual Conference
- An open session at the Integrated Foodborne Outbreak Response and Management (InFORM) Conference
- Updates at the Southeast, Mountain/West, Central/Midwest, and Northeast/Mid-Atlantic PulseNet, OutbreakNet, and Environmental Health Regional Meetings

A FoodCORE Success Story on culture-independent diagnostic testing (CIDTs) was added to the FoodCORE website in Year Seven. This story covers the basics of CIDTs and the challenges they pose to public health surveillance systems but also illustrates how the FoodCORE centers have adapted to and benefited from the new technology. CIDTs have been used find additional outbreaks and identify pathogens faster which results in faster public health action and the prevention of additional cases. The FoodCORE centers will continue to share lessons learned with other state and local health departments as they work with the real-world implications of CIDTs.

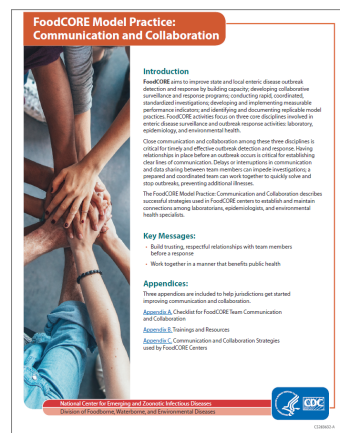
Program Performance

Centers report metrics twice a year to document changes resulting from targeted FoodCORE resources. Metrics for *Salmonella*, Shiga toxin-producing *Escherichia coli* (STEC), and *Listeria* (SSL) have been collected since late 2010. Metrics for norovirus, other etiologies, and unknown etiology (NOU) investigations have been collected since 2012. The metrics collected by FoodCORE centers are revised as needed to best meet program goals. See page two for figures and graphs for selected metrics. Information on all of the metrics and complete data tables are available on the FoodCORE website.

In Year Seven, the fourth FoodCORE Model Practice was published to the FoodCORE website. This model practice describes successful strategies used in FoodCORE centers to establish and maintain connections among laboratorians, epidemiologists, and environmental health specialists. Having strong partnerships is critical for establishing clear lines of communication. Delays or interruptions in communication and data sharing between team members can impede investigations; a prepared and coordinated team can work together to quickly solve and stop outbreaks, preventing additional illnesses.

The Communication and Collaboration Model Practice is a great resource for health departments that wish to establish or strengthen trusting, respectful relationships with multidisciplinary team members.

Additionally, this model practice contains a checklist and a list of trainings and resources to help health departments implement the practices described in the document.



FoodCORE Web Resources:

FoodCORE Program Website:
<https://www.cdc.gov/foodcore/index.html>

FoodCORE Success Stories and Highlights:
<https://www.cdc.gov/foodcore/successes.html>

FoodCORE Model Practices:
<https://www.cdc.gov/foodcore/modelpractices.html>



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Graphs for Selected Metrics – Year Seven

To evaluate the timeliness and completeness of whole genome sequencing (WGS), centers pilot-tested a set of expanded SSL metrics in Year 6. The expanded metrics went into effect in Year 7.

Centers increased the proportion of primary SSL isolates with whole genome sequencing (WGS) information between **Year 6** and **Year 7** while increasing the proportion of primary SSL isolates with pulsed-field gel electrophoresis (PFGE) information.



Over **13,000** SSL isolates submitted to or recovered at the public health lab

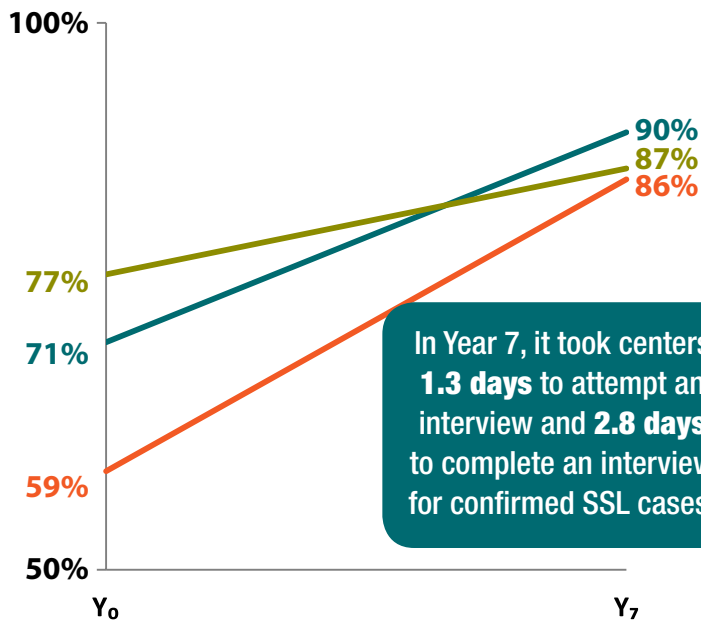


More than **12,200** cases reported to epidemiology staff



Approximately **760** SSL and **1,400** NOU* investigations conducted

Centers increased the proportion of confirmed **Salmonella**, **STEC**, and **Listeria** cases with exposure history obtained from Baseline to Year 7.



In Year 7, it took centers **1.3 days** to attempt an interview and **2.8 days** to complete an interview for confirmed SSL cases.

In Year 7, centers conducted **66** SSL and **140** NOU* environmental health assessments as part of investigations where there was a link to a common location of exposures.



Environmental health assessments provide information needed to recommend effective short and long-term interventions that stop ongoing foodborne outbreaks and prevent them in the future.

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 enteric diseases.

FoodCORE Reporting Periods

Baseline (Y ₀) = Oct 2010 – Mar 2011	Year 1 (Y ₁) = Oct 2010 – Sept 2011	Year 2 (Y ₂) = Oct 2011 – Dec 2012	Year 3 (Y ₃) = Jan 2013 – Dec 2013
Year 4 (Y ₄) = Jan 2014 – Dec 2014	Year 5 (Y ₅) = Jan 2015 – Dec 2015	Year 6 (Y ₆) = Jan 2016 – Dec 2016	Year 7 (Y ₇) = Jan 2017 – Dec 2017

* Only foodborne and point-source investigations are reported for NOU metrics