

# OutbreakNet Enhanced 2018 Summary

## Background

OutbreakNet Enhanced (OBNE) is a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) program that is designed to provide support to state and local health departments to improve their capacity to detect, investigate, control, and respond to enteric disease outbreaks. OBNE started in August 2015 with 11 sites and expanded in 2016, 2017, and 2018 to a total of 29 sites. Iowa, Kentucky, and Wyoming joined the program in 2018.

## Program Highlights

To showcase the value and impact of providing targeted resources to enteric disease programs, updates on the program were presented at scientific conferences, programmatic meetings, and invited talks. OBNE sites shared their accomplishments with each other during monthly conference calls to learn about the strategies other sites have used to improve their processes.

Program activities were also shared through six success stories that were published to the OBNE website in 2018:

- Regional Trainings Expand Local Knowledge on Enteric Outbreak Investigations in New York
- Speedy Collaboration Leads to Successful Control of Massachusetts *E. coli* Outbreak
- Connecting and Empowering Enteric Disease Investigators Throughout Arizona
- Kansas Implements Centralized Interviewing Program
- Joint Assessments Improve Outbreak Response in Chicago
- California and Washington Craft Toolkits to Tackle Norovirus Outbreaks

## Program Performance



OBNE performance metrics have been collected since 2016 to document the burden, timeliness, and completeness of enteric disease outbreak activities. Sites report metrics annually on both laboratory and epidemiologic aspects of outbreak investigations for *Salmonella*, Shiga toxin-producing *Escherichia coli* (STEC), and *Listeria* (collectively referred to as SSL metrics), as well as optional metrics for *Shigella* and *Campylobacter*. The metrics are revised as needed to best meet program needs.

Page two includes figures and graphs of highlighted metrics for 2018. Information on all of the metrics, including complete data tables, is available on the [OBNE website](#).

[www.cdc.gov/foodsafety/outbreaknetenhanced](https://www.cdc.gov/foodsafety/outbreaknetenhanced)



**Centers for Disease  
Control and Prevention**  
National Center for Emerging and  
Zoonotic Infectious Diseases



More than 50,000 cases reported

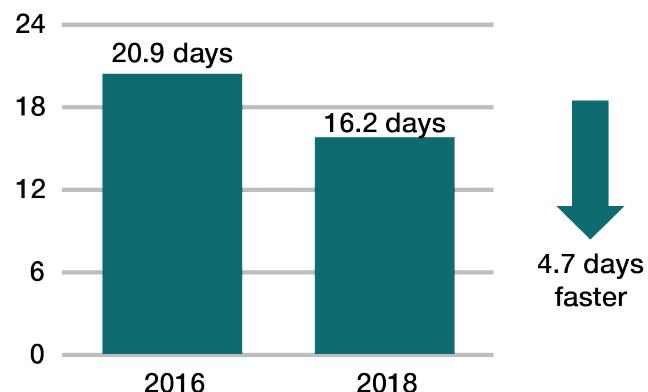
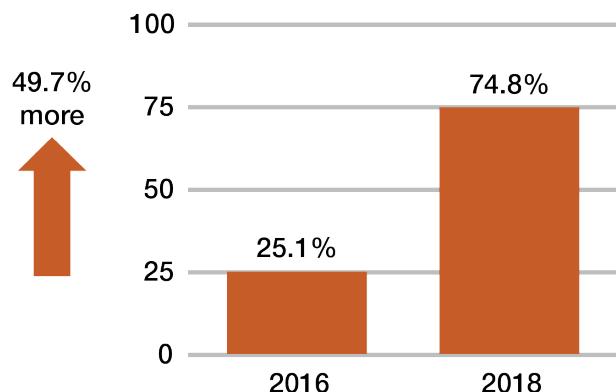


Over 1,400 clusters detected

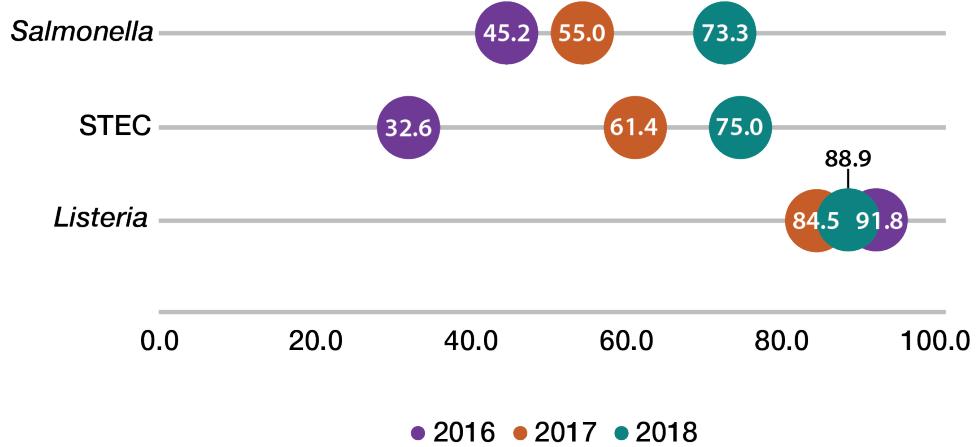


Average of 2.0 days to initial interview attempt

**OBNE sites increased the percent of SSL cases with WGS testing while decreasing the time from isolate receipt to sequence upload to PulseNet**



OBNE sites increased the percent of SSL cases with a full shotgun or exposure history, among cases with an exposure history obtained



OBNE sites continue to improve the timeliness and completeness of enteric disease outbreak surveillance and response activities. They will continue to strengthen their outbreak response programs to conduct faster, better, and more complete investigations, to help limit the spread of foodborne diseases.