



2016 Ohio Drowning Prevention Pilot Project Results & Program Feedback

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Agenda

- Project Overview
- 2015 & 2016 Incident Data
- 2016 LHD Feedback Survey Results
- Proposed Swimming Pool Rules Change
- Open Discussion



Project Overview



Ohio Drowning Prevention Pilot Project

- Prior to 2015 ODH did not collect detailed information on public swimming pool-related injuries or deaths.
- Drowning Prevention Pilot Project initiated to
 1. Better understand the circumstances surrounding these incidents,
 2. Inform data-driven revision to statewide public swimming pool rules, and
 3. Increase awareness of drowning risk among public pool licensors, owners, operators, staff, and patrons through enhanced surveillance activity.
- The Public Pool and Spa Injury Incident Report Form was distributed to 23 LHDs for use in 2015.
- A redesigned form was distributed to 32 LHDs in 2016.



2015 & 2016 Incident Data



LHDs that Submitted Reports

2015	2016
Cleveland Department of Public Health	Allen County Public Health Depart
Cuyahoga County Board of Health*	Columbus Public Health
Delaware General Health District	Cuyahoga County Board of Health*
Lake County General Health District*	Fairfield County Department of He
Marion Public Health*	Franklin County Public Health
Medina County Health Department*	Galion City Health Department
Paulding County Health Department*	Knox County Health Department
Public Health - Dayton and Montgomery County*	Lake County General Health District*
Shelby City Health Department*	Lorain County General Health Dist
Wood County Health District	Marion Public Health*
	Medina County Health Department*
	Paulding County Health Department*
	Public Health - Dayton and Montgomery County*
	Shelby City Health Department*

*7 LHDs submitted reports both years



Reports Received

Characteristic	2015	2016
Reports Received	83	196
Local Health Departments Reporting	10	14
Median Number Reports per LHD (Range)	7.5 (1-21)	7.5 (1-78)
Facilities Reporting	17	24
Median Number Reports per Facility (Range)	3.0 (1-21)	3.5 (1-69)
Reports Received by Facility Type		
Apartment/Condo (%)	0	2 (1.0)
Govt/City Pool (%)	73 (88.0)	181 (92.4)
Hotel/Motel (%)	3 (3.6)	2 (1.0)
Private Club (%)	7 (8.4)	7 (3.6)
School (%)	0	4 (2.0)



Incident Data – Demographics

Characteristic	2015	2016
Age (years)		
N	81	191
Mean (Range)	9.5 (2-45)	10.3 (1-75)
Sex		
N	82	195
Female (%)	27 (32.9)	80 (41)
Race		
N	76	169
White/Caucasian (%)	60 (79.0)	129 (76.3)
Black/African American (%)	14 (18.4)	38 (22.5)
Asian (%)	1 (1.3)	2 (1.2)
American Indian/Alaska Native (%)	1 (1.3)	0
Ethnicity*		
N	1	103
Hispanic/Latino (%)	1 (100)	12 (11.7)

*Variable changed significantly between 2015 and 2016



Incident Data – Date and Time

Characteristic	2015	2016
First Report Date	12May2015	22May2016
Last Report Date	27Sep2015	22Sep2016
Month of Incident		
N	80	196
May (%)	1 (1.3)	13 (6.6)
June (%)	29 (36.3)	90 (45.9)
July (%)	44 (55)	59 (30.1)
August (%)	5 (6.3)	28 (14.3)
September (%)	1 (1.3)	6 (3.1)
Time of Day of Incident		
N	82	193
Morning: ≤11:59AM (%)	5 (6.1)	8 (4.2)
Afternoon: 12:00 PM - 4:59PM (%)	67 (81.7)	137 (71)
Evening: ≥5:00PM (%)	10 (12.2)	48 (24.9)



Incident Data – Location

Characteristic	2015	2016
Pool Setting*		
Outdoor (%)	67 (84.8)	107 (54.6)
Indoor (%)	12 (15.2)	7 (3.6)
Not Specified (%)	4 (4.8)	82 (41.8)
Location of Incident*		
Main Pool (%)	17 (20.5)	35 (17.9)
Diving Board (%)	20 (24.1)	41 (20.9)
Slide (%)	15 (18.1)	35 (17.9)
Wading Pool (%)	4 (4.8)	1 (0.5)
Zero Entry Pool (%)	3 (3.6)	8 (4.1)
Spray Ground/Splash Pad (%)	1 (1.2)	5 (2.6)
Other (%)	6 (7.2)	12 (6.1)
Not Specified (%)	17 (20.5)	59 (30.1)
Pool Depth (ft.)		
N	74	123
Median	4	4
Min-Max	0-13	0-13

*Variable changed significantly between 2015 and 2016

Incident Data – Injury Type

Injury Type	2015	2016
Water Rescue Performed (%)	48 (57.8)	119 (60.7)
Resuscitation Required (%)	1 (1.2)	3 (1.5)
EMS Response (%)	9 (10.8)	11 (5.6)
Suffocation/Drowning (%)	0	3 (1.5)
Near Drowning (%)	6 (7.2)	61 (31.1)
Puncture/Laceration/Bruise (%)	27 (32.5)	63 (32.1)
Head/Spinal (%)	4 (4.8)	3 (1.5)



Incident Data – Reporting

Incident Reported By	2015	2016
Administration (%)	25 (30.1)	159 (81.1)
Life Guard or Instructor (%)	43 (51.8)	34 (17.3)
Other (%)	1 (1.2)	1 (0.5)
Not Specified (%)	14 (16.9)	2 (1)



2016 LHD Feedback



Project Feedback Survey

2016 project feedback solicited in December to assess the use of the Public Pool and Spa Injury Incident Report Form as a tool to track fatal and non-fatal drowning incidents in the state of Ohio

Web survey sent to 32 participating LHDs from the 2016 outdoor swimming season



Participating LHDs

Received feedback from 20 LHDs

Adams County Health Department
Crawford County Public Health
Cuyahoga County Board of Health
Galion City Health Department
Hamilton County Public Health
Highland County Health Department
Kent City Health Department
Licking County Health Department
Lorain County General Health District
Madison County – London City Health District

Marion Public Health
Medina County Health Department
Mercer County - Celina City Health Department
Paulding County Health Department
Putnam County Health Department
Richland Public Health
Shelby City Health Department (2x)
Stark County Health Department
Summit County Public Health
Not Listed (1x)



LHD Survey Results

- Does your local health district have its own surveillance system to monitor pool and spa-related injuries and incidents occurring in your health district?
 - Yes: 0 (0%)



LHD Survey Results

- Did the flow of the Form make sense?
 - Yes: 21 (100%)
- Was the Form simple to follow?
 - Yes: 21 (100%)
- Are there areas of the Form that should be altered?
 - Yes: 3 (14.3%)
 - Description of Injured Person, Description of Injury
 - *“The form is cumbersome as a result it is unlikely someone will complete the form.”*
 - *“The submission instructions are confusing. Race and ethnicity don't seem to be relevant.”*
 - *“Include ‘Circle affected area’ in the body chart box.”*



LHD Survey Results

- Was your local health district able to submit completed Forms to the ODH?
 - Yes: 8 (38.1%)
- How did you submit the Forms to ODH?
 - Fax: 2 (9.5%)
 - Email: 9 (42.9%)
 - 3 (14.3%) said they did not receive any surveys to submit



LHD Survey Results

- How did pool operators submit the Forms to you?
 - Mail: 3 (14.3%)
 - Fax: 6 (28.6%)
 - Email: 5 (23.8%)
 - By Hand: 2 (9.5%)
- Did you examine the completed Forms before sending them to ODH?
 - Yes: 10 (47.6%)



LHD Survey Results

- Did you have any challenges with the pool personnel that were tasked with completing the Forms?
 - Yes: 8 (38.1%)
 - *"Forms were not fully completed"*
 - *"One facility sent the older (original) version of the form that did not have the updates. One facility did not indicate "LHD name" which we had to write-in later so as to scan/send a complete form to ODH."*
 - *"We did not receive any forms from operators. Our operators only complete forms when mandatory, and sometimes, they don't even do it then."*



LHD Survey Results

- For the purposes of improved incident reporting, would you recommend the development of training materials for pool personnel?
 - Yes: 15 (71.4%)
- Do you think an electronic database in which you, your pool managers or other pool personnel could directly enter information from a pool-related incident would simplify the reporting process?
 - Yes: 14 (66.7%)
 - *Continued next slide*



LHD Survey Results

- If no, please explain.
 - *“Lifeguards tend to be the people filling out the forms & I do not think that they have access to electronic database readily.”*
 - *“Not everyone has access to electronic reporting. People most often seem more comfortable filling out a paper form.”*
 - *“The pools in my jurisdiction still use pen & paper to record incidents, chemistry readings, etc....not sure if the electronic reporting would benefit them.”*
 - *“As long as both are an option. As long as searchable by health jurisdiction.”*
 - *“I think the pool managers and operators are concern with insurance and liability issues as well as what injuries are considered reportable. If we can get them to report injuries we would be ahead.”*



LHD Survey Results

- How would you suggest we expand this project to ensure that patrons at unguarded pools have a means of reporting pool-related incidents?
 - Several responses said to include signage with links to electronic forms for submission, as well as more education and outreach
 - *“A kit (storage container with forms inside) could be provided at these pools with highly visible signage on when and how to use the forms.”*
 - *“Having the forms available to maintenance personal.”*
 - *“Mandate that if someone comes to the front desk for an issue, they must fill out the form. Make the pool operator responsible and not a young lifeguard.”*
 - *“I'm not sure. If any injuries occur at these pools, they are likely minor. If an injury is significant enough for a person to be transported by EMS, the operator should report it to the LHD and ODH.”*



LHD Survey Results

- On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being “Not Useful” and 5 being “Very Useful”, how useful did you find the Forms for tracking pool-related incidents overall?
 - Mean: 2.8; Range: 1-5



LHD Survey Results

- What aspect(s) of this project would you say worked well?
 - *“Collaboration between local, operators, & state.”*
 - *“The communication from ODH and ours to our operators”*
 - *“Our jurisdiction only had 1 incident for the 2016 pool operating season, however the form was completed properly so it appears the project was working well.”*
 - *“The fillable form is very good. The simplicity of the form - on one page - is good.”*
 - *“The initial outreach went well at the beginning of the season, and all pool operators seemed open and willing to completing the forms.”*



LHD Survey Results

- What aspect(s) of this project would you say have room for improvement?
 - *“Actually getting the forms back to submit.”*
 - *“Education outreach to the Hotel industry. There is confusion about double reporting on the Weekly Operation report and this ‘Incident Report’.”*
 - *“Most of my pools do not have a lifeguard on duty to assist with reporting injuries.”*
 - *“Submission instructions Web-based application for direct reporting from which we can run local reports”*
 - *“Until the use of the form is required then the use of this form will be limited at best. Many pools have their own version of a report form that they are comfortable using.”*



LHD Survey Results

- Is your local health district interested in using the Forms during the 2017 swim season?
 - Yes: 19 (90.5%)
- How can ODH best be of service to your local health district in terms of drowning prevention?

• Data Collection/Management/Dissemination	15 (71.4%)
• Development/Dissemination of Promotional Materials	17 (81.0%)
• Technical Assistance	11 (52.4%)
• Training	13 (61.9%)



LHD Survey Results

- Do you have any questions, comments or further suggestions?
 - *“Please provide to local health district at end of March so we can forward it with our renewal applications in April to get the information to the operator before outdoor pool season.”*
 - *“Have an annual refresher webinar/email so as to review the mission and focus of this project. Review what constitutes a “reportable incident” versus other injuries.”*
 - *“Send out a summary report to the local health districts of findings from the reports submitted each year.”*
 - *“What are things other local health departments are doing to receive feedback, completed forms, from the local pools? Unsure why, for the second year in a row, we did not receive ANY completed forms.”*



Proposed Swimming Pool Rules Change



OAC 3701-31: “Public Swimming Pools”

Rule No. 3701-31-04: “Responsibilities of the licensee”

In draft; posted for comment January 9, 2017

§(B)(4)(a)(x): “All injuries shall be recorded as they happen. Any incident associated with the pool facility that results in death, serious injury, assistance from emergency medical personnel or an illness involving more than one person shall be reported to the licensor on a form prescribed by the director of health within seventy-two hours following the incident. As used in this paragraph: “serious injury” means an injury that does not require immediate hospital admission but does require medical treatment, other than first aid”.



Open Discussion



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