

Summary: 2005 ELR National Snapshot Survey

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INTRODUCTION

In 2005, the second annual ELR National Snapshot Survey was distributed. The 2004 survey was addressed to all 50 state health departments, and 49 of the states answered the survey. The 2005 survey was addressed to all 50 state health departments and also to Los Angeles County Public Health, and all 51 participants answered the survey.

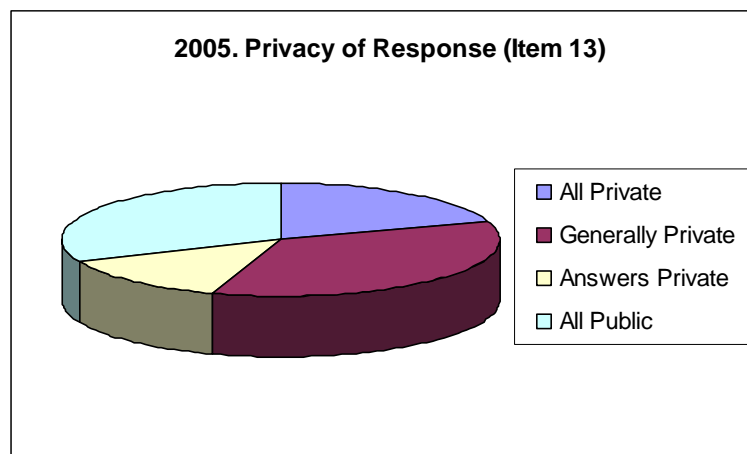
The 2004 survey results were published in JITH. Electronic Laboratory Reporting in the USA: 2004 National Snapshot Survey. J.A. Magnuson. The Journal on Information Technology in Healthcare 2005; 3(1): 31-45.

PRIVACY OF SURVEY RESPONSE

Most respondents (69%) requested some degree of privacy for their responses. This question was asked to determine what type of information could be shared. Based on this response, identifying information from this survey will not be generally released.

13. In general, how do you want your answers to this survey to be treated?

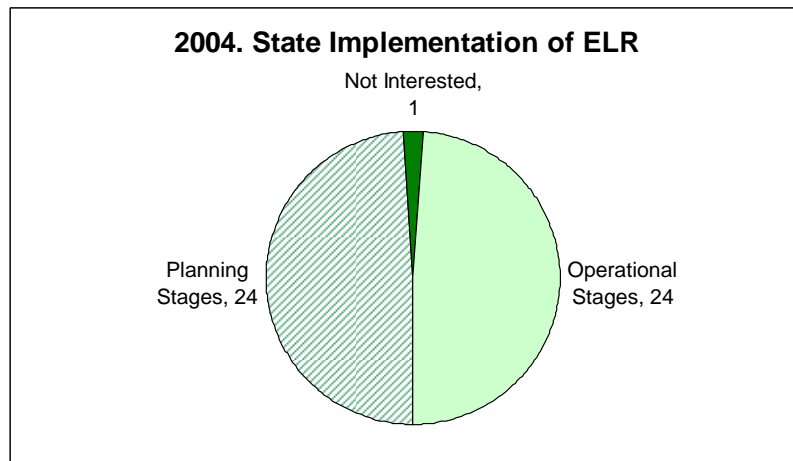
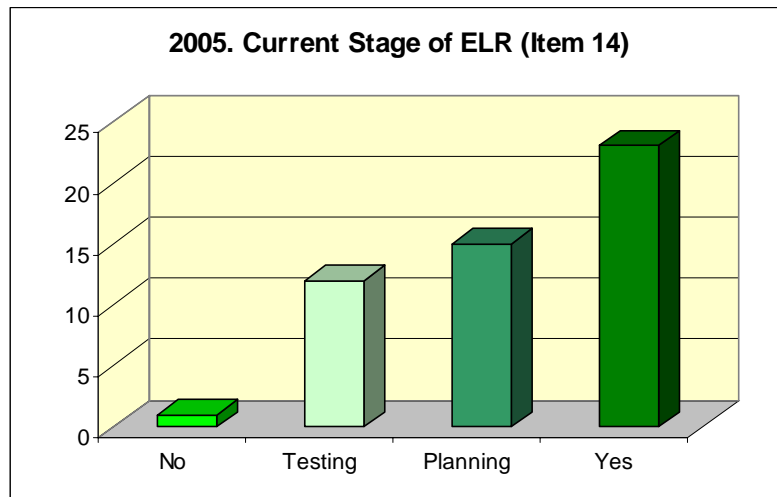
- Please keep ALL my survey answers PRIVATE - do not release them to anyone other than the survey author
- My contact name and information can be made PUBLIC, but keep the actual survey answers PRIVATE
- Keep my answers GENERALLY PRIVATE, but I give my permission for the author to release individual answers at her discretion
- All PUBLIC - you may release any info (name, contact info, any survey answers) to any requestor



CURRENT STAGE OF ELR

Respondents were asked to identify the stage of ELR in their state. The number of respondents reporting an operational ELR system dropped to 23 from the previous year's 24. With this change and with the addition of one more jurisdiction in the 2005 survey, the percentage of jurisdictions with operational ELR actually dropped from 48% to 45%.

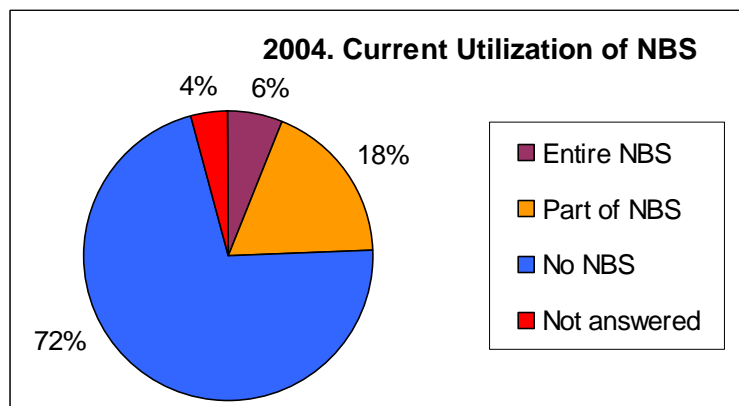
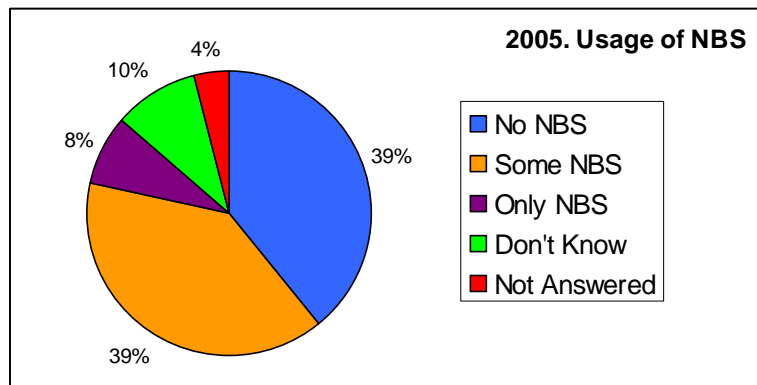
- 14. Is your state/jurisdiction currently implementing Electronic Lab Reporting (ELR)?
 - No, we are not actively pursuing this option at this time.
 - No, but we're in a planning stage for ELR.
 - No, but we are in an active testing phase of our ELR system.
 - Yes, we have an operational ELR system in production mode.



NEDSS BASE SYSTEM

Respondents were asked to describe their usage of NEDSS Base System components. While this question was phrased slightly differently in the two surveys, it still appears that usage of at least some components of the NBS has increased.

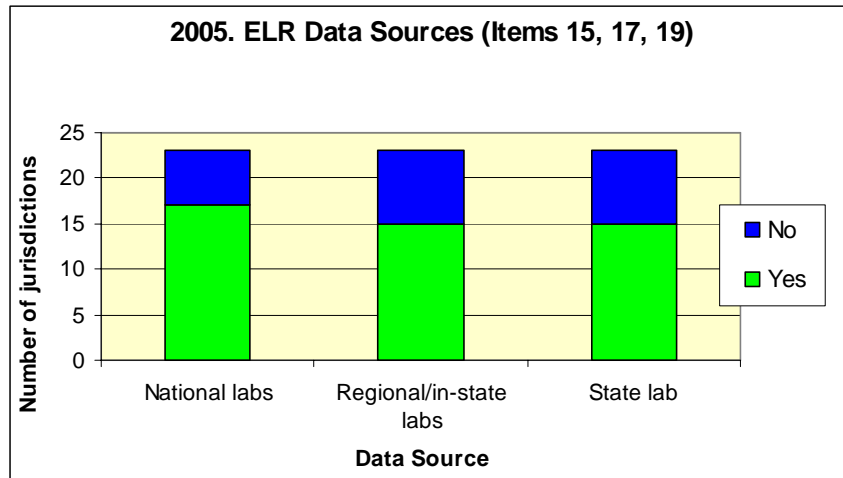
39. With reference to the ELR components of the NEDSS Base System (NBS), we will be using
None - not using any part of the NBS for ELR
Some - we use/will use at least part of the NBS to meet at least some of our ELR needs
Only NBS - we use/will use ONLY the NBS for all our ELR needs
Don't Know



ELR DATA SOURCES

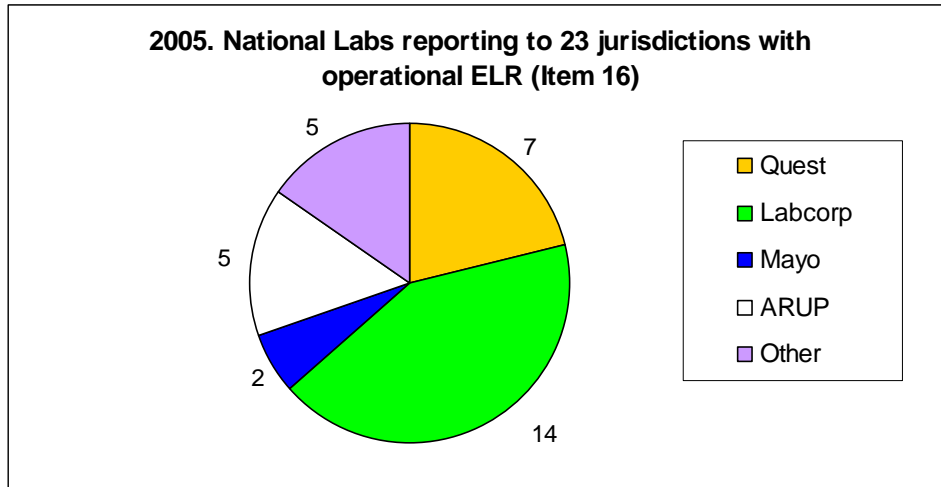
Of the 23 respondents asserting an operational ELR system, questions were asked to determine the source of their ELR data. Respondents first identified whether data were received from national labs, regional/in-state labs, and state public health labs. More details were pursued in followup questions, which asked respondents to identify specific national labs, and to specify whether data exchange was one- or bi-directional between their ELR and their public health lab(s).

- 15. Are reportable disease data being received electronically from national labs?
- 17. Are reportable disease data being received electronically from regional or in-state private labs?
- 19. Are reportable disease data being received electronically from your state/regional public health lab?



16. Reportable disease data are being received electronically from which of these national labs (check all that apply):

- Quest Diagnostics
- Labcorp
- Mayo
- ARUP Laboratories
- Other (please specify)



19. Are reportable disease data being received electronically from your state/regional public health lab?

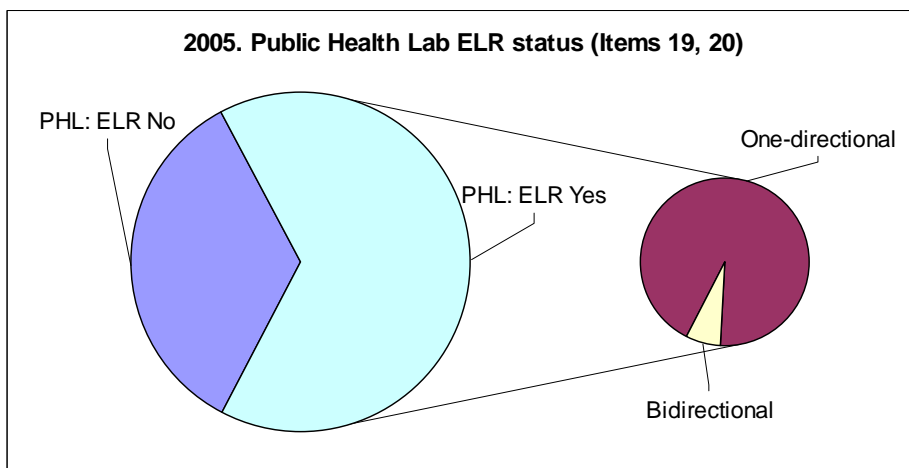
20. For your state/regional public health lab (PHL) data, please fill in these blanks (use '0' for none):

How many PHLs are in your jurisdiction?

From how many are you currently receiving ELR?

What LIS/LIMS is your PHL using to produce the reports it is sending your jurisdiction?

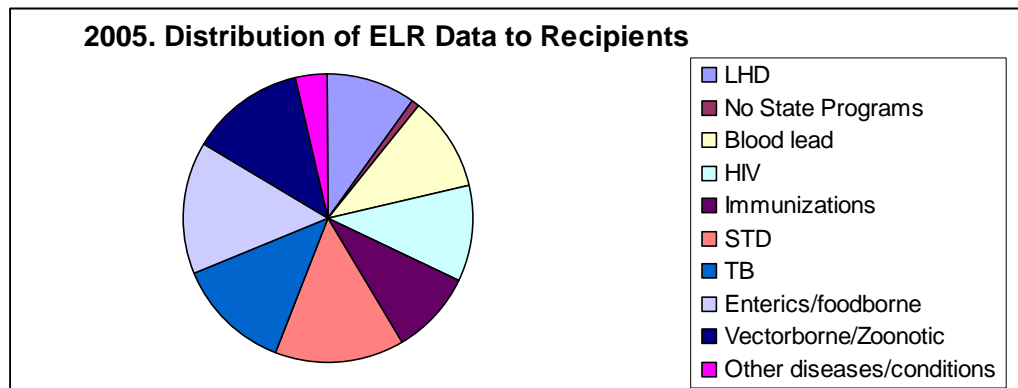
Is this ELR bi-directional (can the PHL import specimen info, etc. from ELR)?



ELR DATA RECIPIENTS

The 23 operational ELR jurisdictions were asked to describe the recipients of the ELR data. Both Local Health Departments (LHDs) and State Programs were included as data recipients. 14 of the 23 jurisdictions reported routing data to LHDs. One jurisdiction reported no data were routed to state programs.

25. Does your ELR system distribute lab data to appropriate county/local public health organizations?
 Yes
 No
28. ELR data are being distributed to which of the following state public health personnel/programs? (check all that apply)
 None - no state programs receiving ELR data
 Blood lead
 HIV
 Immunizations
 STD
 TB
 Enterics/foodborne
 Vectorborne/Zoonotic
 Other diseases/conditions (please specify)



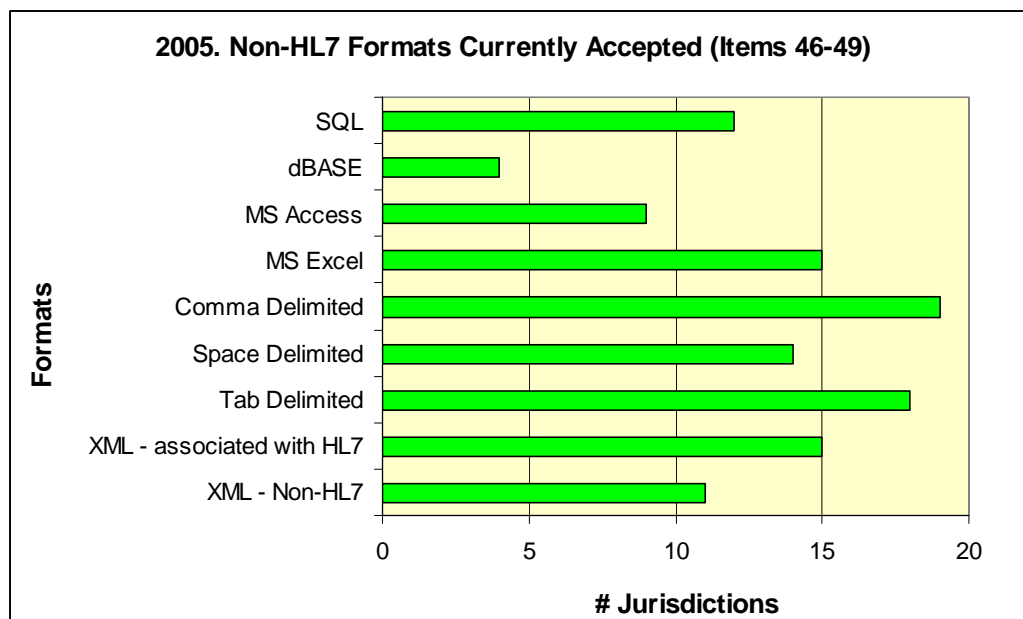
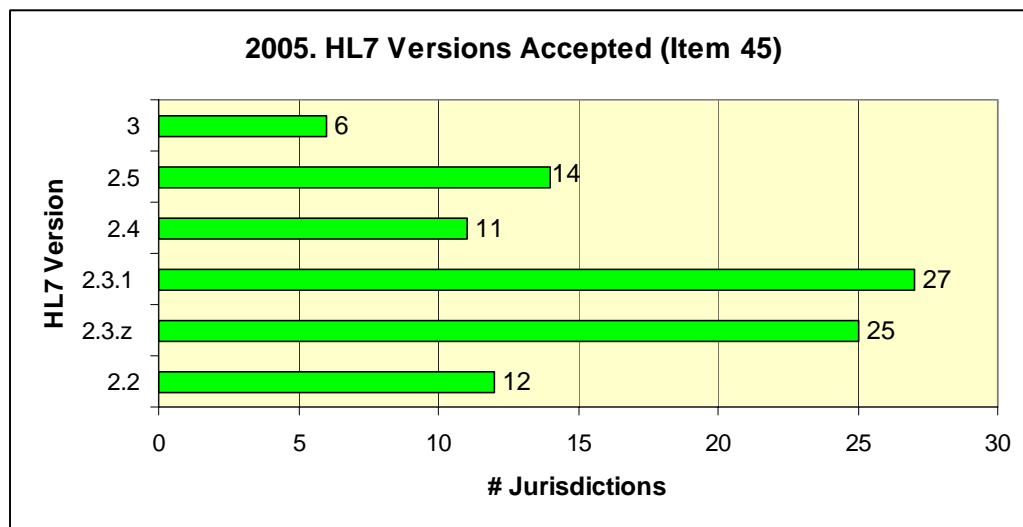
ELR Data Recipients	#
LHDs	14
No State Programs	1
Blood Lead	15
HIV	15
Immunizations	13
STD	20
TB	18
Enterics/foodborne	21
Vectorborne/Zoonotic	18
Other diseases/conditions	5

Listing of Other disease/conditions
Environmental-heavy metal
Cancer
Respiratory, sickle cell anemia, newborn screening, hepatitis
Injury and violence, BT, Health assessment
Influenza

DATA FORMATS ACCEPTED – HL7 AND OTHER

Respondents were queried about the versions of HL7 they supported. Clearly there was some confusion about this question: while only 23 sites identified themselves as operational, 27 and 25 said they were currently accepting HL7 versions 2.3.1 and 2.3.z, respectively. In spite of this oddity – probably due to inclusion of some testing sites - it is clear that versions 2.3.1 and 2.3.z are the most currently popular versions. Many jurisdictions also reported accepting non-HL7 formats, with comma-delimited the most popular.

- 45. Reports accepted in Health Level 7 (HL7) formats:
- 46. Reports accepted in XML format
- 47. Reports accepted in other text format(s)
- 48. Reports accepted in spreadsheet format
- 49. Reports accepted in database format

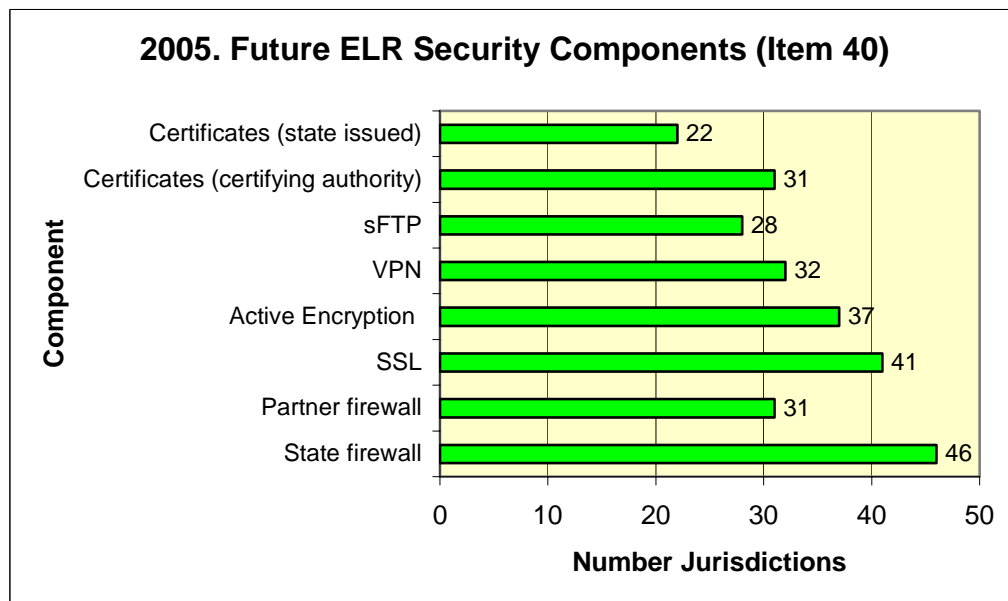
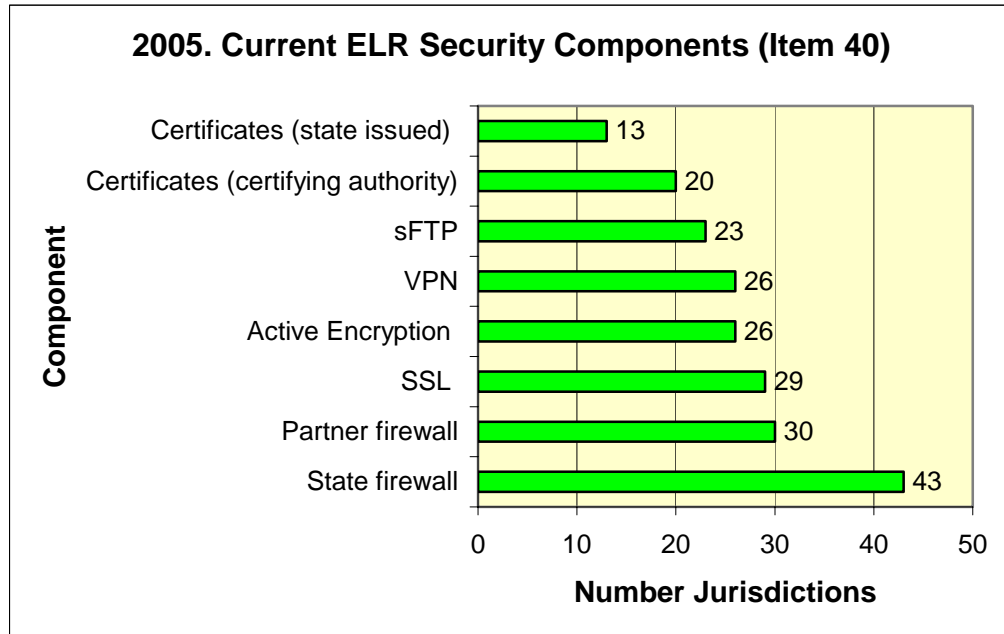


ELR SECURITY SYSTEM COMPONENTS

Information was gathered about the security components included in respondents' ELR systems. Since this question also addressed future plans, it was open to all jurisdictions, not only those with operational ELR systems

40. What part do each of the following play in your ELR security system, both current and future?

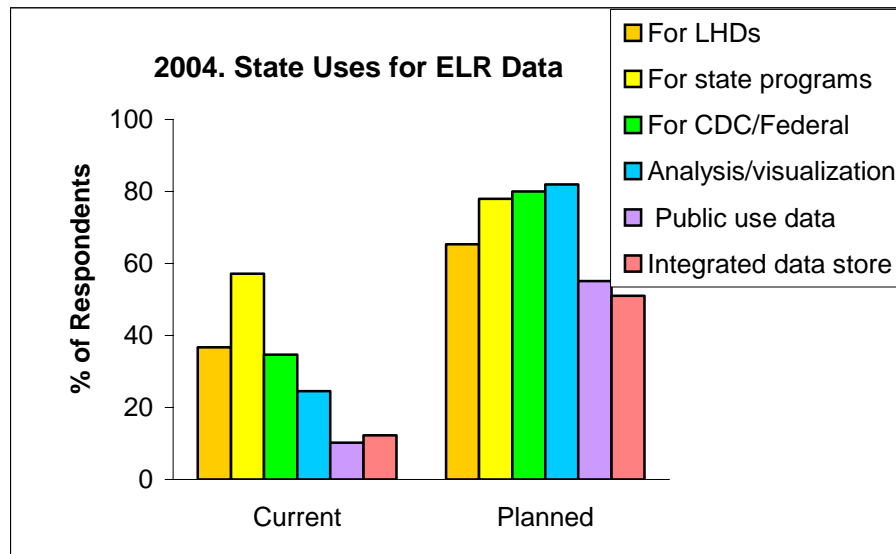
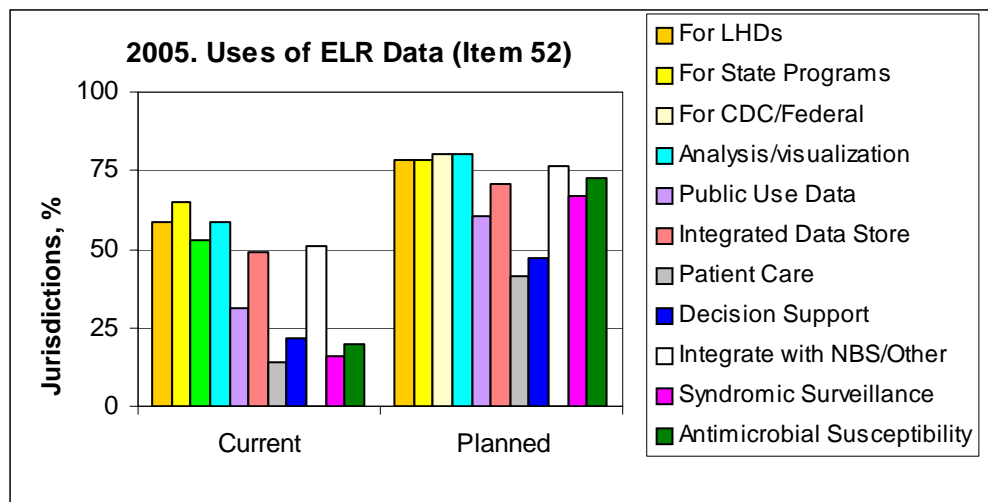
State firewall; Partner firewall; Active Encryption (ie, other than as part of a VPN, etc.); Certificates - state issued; Certificates - certifying authority; VPN; SSL; sFTP.



USES FOR ELR DATA

Respondents were asked about usage of ELR data, both present and future. Five new data usages were added to the six identified in the 2004 survey. More than the 23 operational sites answered the question for current usage of ELR data – although this can be explained by the inclusion of testing sites, it illustrates the need for a more restrictive design of future surveys.

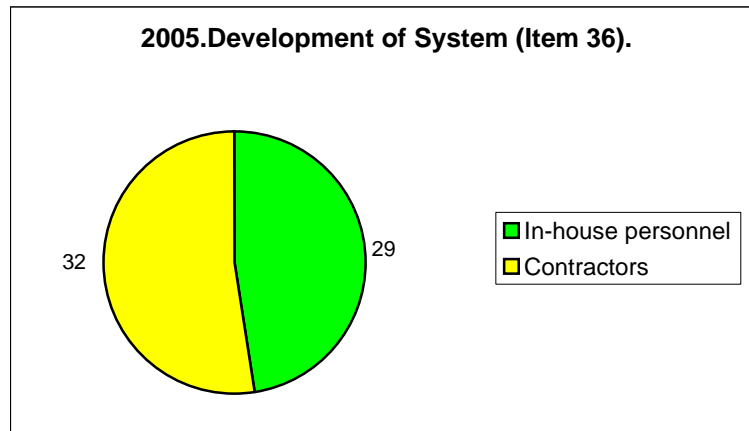
- 52. Our ELR data are used -
[also in 2004 survey]
 For LHDs; For State Programs; For CDC/Federal; Analysis/visualization; Public Use Data; Integrated Data Store
[new for 2005 survey]
 Patient Care; Decision Support; Integrate with NBS/Other; Syndromic Surveillance; Antimicrobial Susceptibility



DEVELOPMENT OF SYSTEM/COMPONENTS

Respondents were asked to elaborate on their history or plans for building their ELR system or components. First, they were asked to identify whether the work had been/would be performed by in-house personnel or by contractors: this produced a roughly even split. Second, the vendor and product for purchased systems/components were identified. While several vendors/products were identified by more than one jurisdiction, no vendor/component was identified by more than three jurisdictions,

36. We have built (or are building) our own components/system.



37. We have purchased/are purchasing our own system/components. Specify vendor and product.

#	Vendor	Product
1	Atlas	Labworks and visual CMR
2	CDC	NBS 1.1.4; NBS, PHIN MS, PDP
1	DiagnosisOne	D1 Laboratory Portal
1	Eclipsys Corporation	eLink
1	IBM	DataStage TX
2	Information Technology International, Inc.	PHS3
1	Labware	Labware LIMS
3	Microsoft	IIS, BizTalk, SQL Server; BizTalk; Content Master; BizTalk
1	NeoTools, Microsoft, IBM	Neointegrate, Visual Studio, Websphere MQ
2	Northrup Grumman	Designed for our state; NEDSS Based System Plus
2	Orion	Rhapsody
2	Quovadx	CloverLeaf; Cloverleaf Platform V
5	Scientific Technologies Corp.	Communicable Disease Registry (CDR); Communicable Disease Reporting System; Dreams/Starlims; NBS or custom system like NBS
3	StarLims	StarLims; Sunrise
1	Sybase	ECMap and ECGateway
1	Technology Consulting Inc.	Electronic Public Health Record System