

# Disaster Operations & Response

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www.idph.state.ia.us/cdor

Promoting & Protecting the Health of Iowans



Mark Twain has been quoted as saying, "If you don't like the weather, just wait five minutes. It'll change." That old quote rings true here in the Hawkeye state with tornadoes, flooding, ice storms, and record heat and cold – sometimes all in the same week! The Center for Disaster Operations and Response (CDOR) works to protect the health of Iowans by preparing for these natural phenomena and other public health emergencies like pandemic influenza, an intentional release of an infectious disease, or other disasters that disrupt health care systems and affect the health of Iowans.

CDOR doesn't work alone in this task. The bureau works with Iowa's 99 community based public health agencies, 118 hospitals, and other federal, state, and local public and private entities by providing guidance, tools, and resources to help prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters.

No one can predict the next disaster, but CDOR's work with local partners helps to enhance Iowans' ability to quickly return to normal when disaster strikes.

## Did you know?

CDOR administers Iowa's Health Alert Network (HAN), a web-based alerting system that can notify all local public health agencies and hospitals in Iowa, as well as emergency medical services, emergency management, law enforcement, and other key stakeholders of a public health emergency within minutes. For more information, see [www.idph.state.ia.us/cdor](http://www.idph.state.ia.us/cdor).

## Why is the Center for Disaster Operations and Response important to promoting and protecting the health of Iowans?

- Public health emergencies, from human threats such as terrorism, to natural disasters like floods and tornadoes, to disease outbreaks like pandemic flu, can affect all Iowans.
- Emergencies can happen at any time and anywhere. During such emergencies, public health and healthcare professionals are among the first responders.
- Coordinating communications, plans, and systems, helps make disaster response more effective at the federal, state, and local levels.

## Which Iowa Public Health Goals are we working to achieve?

Prepare for, respond to, & recover from public health emergencies

Prevent epidemics & the spread of disease

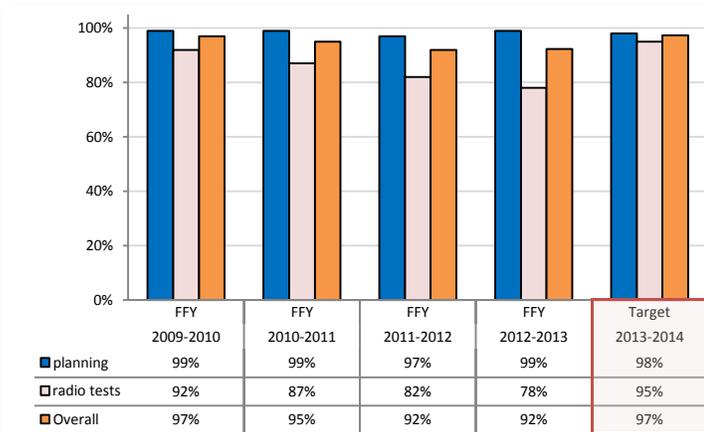
## What do we do?

Administer federal preparedness grants that allow us to:

- Enable a more coordinated response due to integration of public health and health care preparedness planning.
- Operate a communications system that links critical disaster response partners.
- Work to improve plans and processes to inform the public about disaster-related health risks and ways to be protected.
- Recruit and register medical volunteers to assist overwhelmed health care systems during an emergency.
- Recruit and maintain the Public Health Response Teams, which respond to disasters in a matter of hours and relieve overwhelmed locals until other resources can arrive on scene.
- Provide disaster planning and personal preparedness information to individuals and families in Iowa.

## How do we measure our progress?

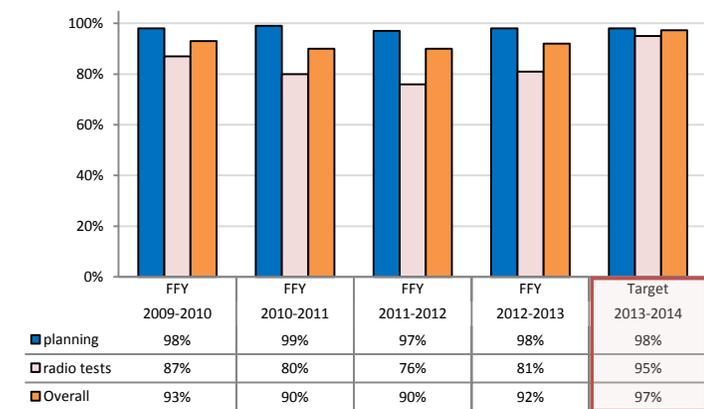
### 1 Percent of local public health agencies that complete preparedness activities.



Data Source: Reports from Local Public Health Agencies. Data are available annually. Hazard Vulnerability Assessment (HVA) collected starting FFY2012-2013.

**How are we doing?** In FY2012-2013, Iowa's local public health agencies partnered with hospitals and other agencies to ensure their communities are prepared for a disaster. Agencies were asked to complete plans and respond to monthly radio checks to ensure redundant, interoperable communications in the event of an emergency.

### 2 Percent of hospitals that complete preparedness activities.



Data Source: Reports from Iowa Hospitals. Data are available annually. Hazard Vulnerability Assessment (HVA) collected starting FFY2012-2013.

**How are we doing?** In FY2012-2013, Iowa's hospitals partnered with local public health agencies and other partners to ensure their communities are prepared for a disaster. Hospitals were asked to complete plans and respond to monthly radio checks to ensure redundant, interoperable communications in the event of an emergency.

## What can Iowans do to help?

1. Create a family disaster plan and family disaster kit. Review the plan at least once a year. For help creating a disaster plan and more information on what should be included in the kit, go to [www.idph.state.ia.us/cdor](http://www.idph.state.ia.us/cdor).
2. Hospitals and emergency medical services should hold practice drills and exercises with local and state partners.
3. Healthcare and public health professionals should remain vigilant with emerging infectious diseases that pose a threat to the public's health.

## Expenditures

**Antiviral Program:** general fund, intra state receipts\* (Executive Council – Iowa Code 7D.29): K19-1938. **Hospital Preparedness:** federal funds: 0153-1934. **Public Health Preparedness:** federal funds & intra state receipts\*: 0153-1932.

	State Fiscal Year 2012 Actual	State Fiscal Year 2013 Actual	State Fiscal Year 2014 Estimate
State funds	\$78,272	\$75,375	\$75,375
Federal funds	\$12,135,938	\$10,863,452	\$9,622,055
Other funds*	\$15,000	\$0	\$0
<b>Total funds</b>	<b>\$12,229,210</b>	<b>\$10,938,827</b>	<b>\$9,697,430</b>
FTEs	19.70	19.64	18.50

**Note:** Funding information is intended to provide an overview of funding related to the program area. It does not include all federal and state requirements and/or restrictions for the use of funds. Contact the program area for more detailed budget information.