

Syndromic Surveillance

New User Checklist

Syndromic surveillance provides public health officials with a timely system for detecting, understanding, and monitoring health events. By tracking symptoms of patients in emergency departments—before a diagnosis is confirmed—public health can detect unusual levels of illness to determine whether a response is warranted.

NSSP's BioSense Platform hosts the Electronic Surveillance System for the Early Notification of Community-based Epidemics (**ESSENCE**)—a system that will let you analyze events of public health interest, monitor healthcare data for events that could affect public health, and share data and analyses.

Getting Started

1. Obtain your BioSense Platform (AMC and ESSENCE) credentials from ADHS
2. Watch the [Arizona Syndromic Surveillance Overview & Demo video](#)
3. Complete the [ESSENCE Online Training Course](#)

Additional Resources

1. [BioSense Platform Quick Start Guide for Using ESSENCE](#) PDF document
2. [NSSP Community of Practice website](#)

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) **National Syndromic Surveillance Program (NSSP) Community of Practice (CoP)** provides a collaborative framework for public health professionals to work together to identify and use best practices and standards for syndromic surveillance. Through peer-to-peer collaborative activities, members of the NSSP CoP come together virtually to share information, build knowledge, develop expertise, and solve problems.

3. [NSSP Data Dictionary](#) download
4. [NSSP Knowledge Repository](#)
5. [Search for "ESSENCE Training"](#) in the Knowledge Repository for more training videos
6. View the [Final Event Packet](#) for the 2020 NSSP Syndromic Surveillance Symposium
7. [NSSP New Users webpage](#)
8. [Join the NSSP Community of Practice and the Slack Channel!](#)

Involvement in the NSSP CoP and its related groups is voluntary, free of charge, and open to any person or organization interested in advancing syndromic surveillance.

CSTE supports and moderates the NSSP Community of Practice Slack Workspace. The Slack Workspace is a communication tool and collaboration platform for advancing syndromic surveillance practice. Use it to easily share information with peers, plan projects, and accelerate data analyses. You must be affiliated with a federal agency (FTE or contractor) or STLT health department.