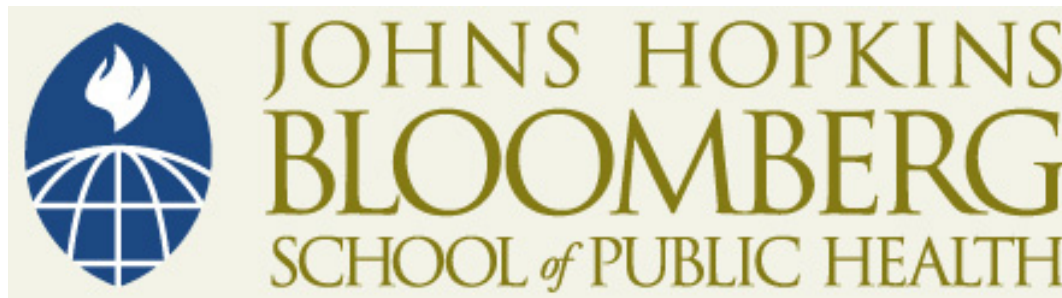


This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/). Your use of this material constitutes acceptance of that license and the conditions of use of materials on this site.



Copyright 2008, The Johns Hopkins University and Henry Taylor. All rights reserved. Use of these materials permitted only in accordance with license rights granted. Materials provided "AS IS"; no representations or warranties provided. User assumes all responsibility for use, and all liability related thereto, and must independently review all materials for accuracy and efficacy. May contain materials owned by others. User is responsible for obtaining permissions for use from third parties as needed.

# Public Health SYSTEM

Systems Thinking

# The Intersectoral PH System

- Assurance of conditions for community health requires coalition building
  - Community
  - Healthcare Delivery System
  - Employers & Business
  - Media
  - Academia
  - Governmental Public Health Infrastructure
- [Click here](#) to view a diagram from the IOM's *The Future of the Public's Health*

# Public Health As A System

- Public health is not a single product or service provided by one type of professional
- It is a web of relationships between many people and organizations about a wide variety of topics
- This web of relationships serves to assure conditions that result in a healthy public
- The responsibility for assuring the health of the public rests in specific agencies at different levels of government
  - local
  - state
  - federal and
  - international

# Public Health Structure

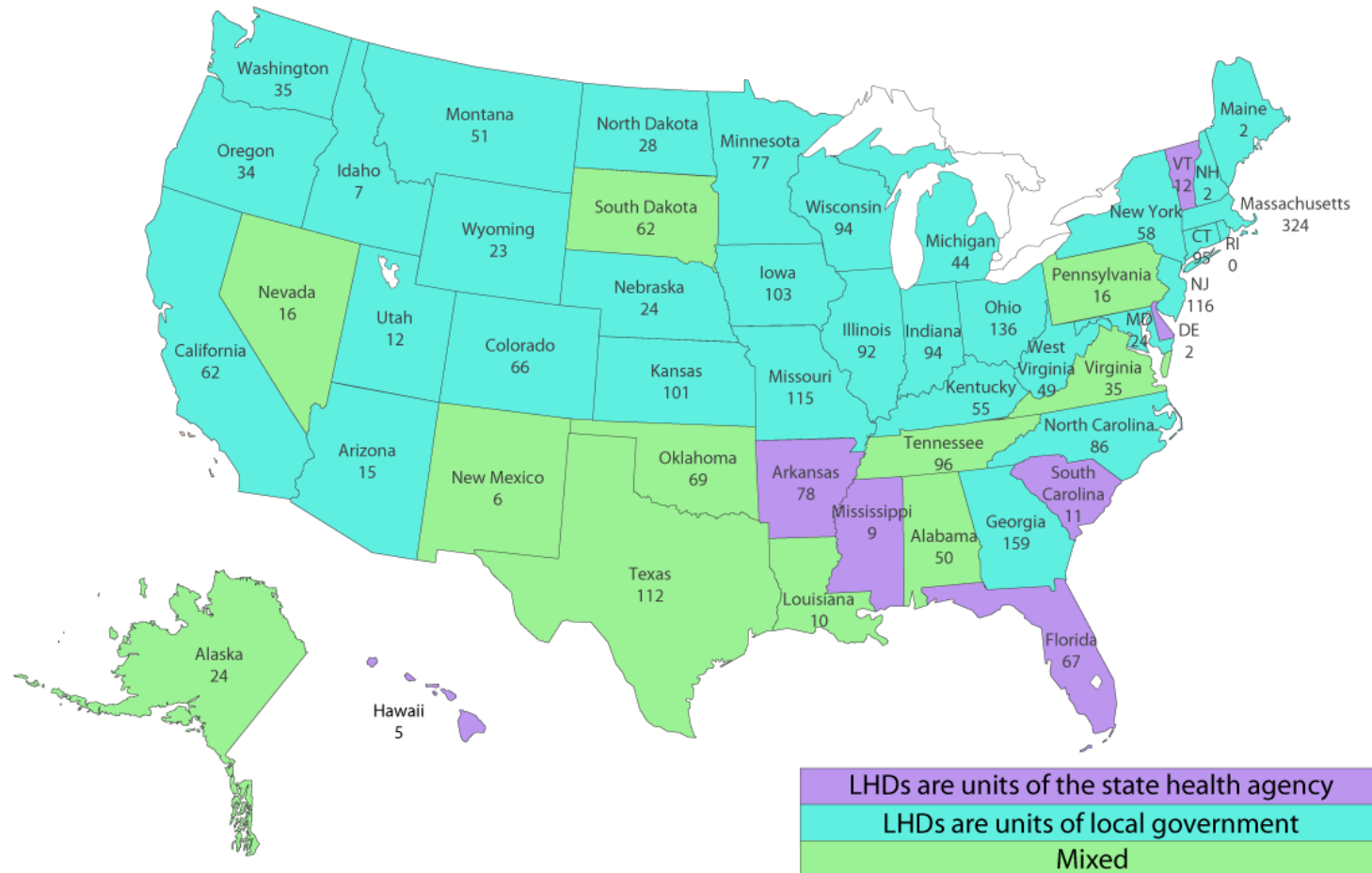
- Four governmental levels
  - Local Health Departments
  - State Health Agency
    - Bureau for Public Health, Health Care Authority
  - Federal Government
    - CDC, HRSA, EPA, ?
  - International Health Agencies
    - WHO, UNICEF, etc

# US Local Health Departments (AGPALL)

- 2,864 Local Health Departments in the US
- 73% serve a county or combined city-county area
- 62% serve small jurisdictions (<50,000 popln)
  - But they only account for 10% of the US population
- Most (54%) of the US population is served by the 6% of LHDs serving populations of more than 500,000
  - Largest is almost 10 million
- 12% LHD boundaries overlap with the boundaries of a federally recognized tribal government
- States with “home rule” delegate particular constitutional authority to counties and municipalities

# Governance of Public Health in US

LHDs Included in the 2005 National Profile Study by State and Type of Governance  
(Numbers Reflect the Number of LHDs that Received the Profile Questionnaire)



LHDs are units of the state health agency

LHDs are units of local government

Mixed

# Boards of Health in US

- Forty states have **local boards of health**.
- 3,186 local boards identified by the CDC.
  - 45.7% boards of health serve counties,
  - 24.6% serve a town/city, and
  - 29.7% serve other jurisdiction.
- 58% serve populations less than 25,000
- 74% LHD have Local Boards of Health

# Governance & District Structures

- State Oversight of Local Health Departments
  - 11 states (24.4%) LHD run by state health dept
  - 10 states (22.2%) decentralized control to locals
  - 24 states (53.5%) shared/mixed control
- 20 states (43.5%) have some district-level admin
  - More in the Southern states (12 of 15)

# State Health Agency

- The unit of government housing the **State Health Officer**
- Federal funding often controls state activity
- US Constitution makes states responsible for the health and safety of their citizens
- The “**commerce clause**” allows the federal government to regulate interstate business
- **National Security** is Federal responsibility

# State Health Officer Appointments

Appointed by:	<u>1990</u>	<u>2001</u>
– Governor	52.9%	68.1%
– Board of Health	2.0%	8.5%
– Superagency Director	7.8%	14.9%
– Other	37.3%	8.5%
Cabinet level position:	58.8%	53.2%
Required degree:		
– Medical degree (MD or DO)	52.9%	44.4%
– MPH or MPA	2.0%	2.2%
– No degree requirement	45.1%	37.8%

*MD/DO required for 32.0% of the 25 states where cabinet level position*

# State Public Health Responsibilities

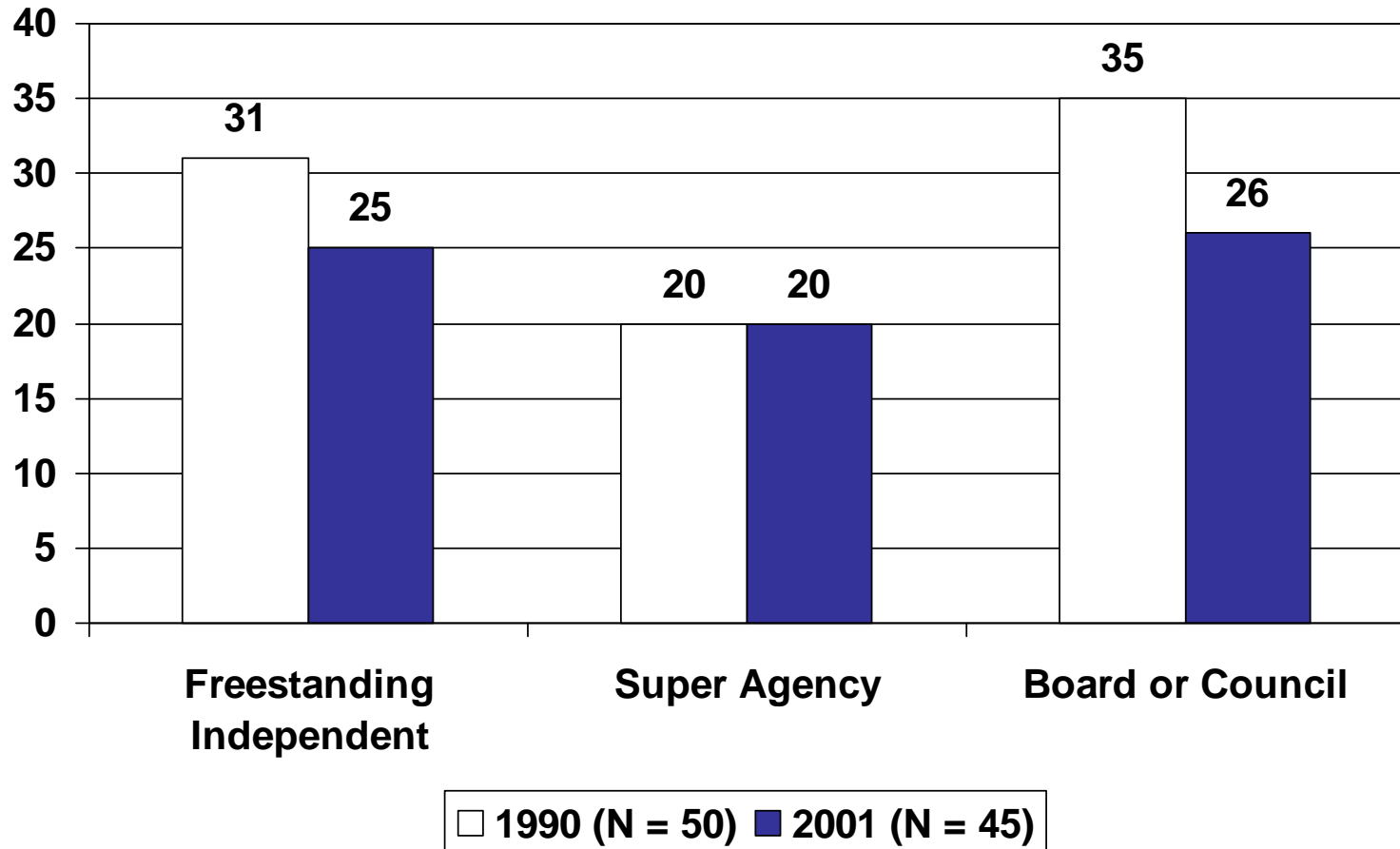
## State Health Officer

- Directs State PH agency (97.9%)
- Promulgates rules (87.2%)
- Informs Gov & Legis (87.2%)
- Proposes PH budget (85.1%)
- Proposes legislation (85.1%)
- Supervises LHD's (42.6%)
- Member of State BoH (21.3%)

## State Health Agency

- Public Health Authority (97.9%)
- Rural Health (78.7%)
- PH Laboratory (78.7%)
- CSHC needs (76.6%)
- Minority Health (72.3%)
- State Licensure Agency (59.6%)
- Partial Environmental (51.1%)
- PH Pharmacy (34.0%)
- Medical Examiner (21.3%)
- Mental Health & SA (19.1%)
- Professional Licensure (17.0%)
- Partial Medicaid (17.0%)
- Lead Environmental (14.9%)
- State TB Hospital (14.9%)
- Correctional Health (0.0%)

# Structure of State Public Health Agencies



Data source: Beitsch LM, et al. Structure and functions of state public health agencies. AJPH 2006;96:167-172

# Emerging State PH Responsibilities

Bioterrorism	42 (89.4%)
Vaccine for Children	41 (87.2%)
Injury Control	41 (87.2%)
Breast & Cervical Cancer Screening	41 (87.2%)
Chronic Disease Epidemiology	40 (85.1%)
Tobacco Control & Prevention	39 (83.0%)
Cancer Epidemiology	39 (83.0%)
Environmental Epidemiology	37 (78.7%)
Violence Prevention	32 (68.1%)
EMS regulation & service provision	30 (63.8%)
Radon Control	26 (55.3%)
Internal IRB for Human Subjects Research	21 (44.7%)
Role in Title XXI Children's Health Insurance	13 (27.7%)

Data source: Beitsch LM, et al. Structure and functions of state public health agencies. AJPH 2006;96:167-172

# Complex Regulation Of Air & Water In West Virginia

- Air pollution regulated by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)
- Indoor Air Quality regulated by County Boards of Health
- Water pollution is by DEP
- Fish and wildlife are regulated by the Division of Natural Resources
- Drinking water is regulated by the State Bureau for Public Health with funds from EPA
- County Health Departments enforce State sewage laws

# Key Federal Health Agencies

CDC	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
DHHS	Department of Health and Human Services
HRSA	Health Resources Services Administration (a unit of DHHS)
CMS	Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services
AHRQ	Agency for Health Research and Quality
IOM	Institute of Medicine
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency

# Global Health

- World Health Assembly
- World Health Organization
- United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
- Agreements for standard travel documents regarding vaccination
- Sharing of information about epidemics
- Refugees from disasters

# Key Concepts Review

- State Public Health System
- State Public Health Agency
- State Health Officer
- Local Health Officer
- Local Public Health Agency
  - Usually includes the local health department, local board of health, and/or other local governmental entity designed to provide public health services to the jurisdiction.
- Local Public Health System
  - The collection of public, private and voluntary entities, as well as individuals and informal associations, that contribute to the public's health within a jurisdiction. The State also may provide services, and may comprise a part of the local public health system.