

National Association of SARA Title III

Program Officials

Concerned with the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act

2016 Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) Survey

Final Report



May 23, 2016

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Listed below is a list of organizations who are responsible for the successful planning and execution of this survey:

LEPCs that participated in the Survey

State of Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality

EPA Headquarters

NASTTPO Board of Directors

Members of the LEPC Forum Committee:

John Wisner, Chair - Arizona

David Irwin – Delaware

Don McDonald – Ohio

Lori Blatter – Missouri

Nicole Gwinnett – Florida

Matt Marshal – Florida

Leslie Cedeno – Seminole Tribe

Tonya Ngotel - Nebraska

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Background and Introduction

The Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) of 1986, was enacted as Title III of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA), was passed in the wake of the Bhopal disaster in India. Since that time, many communities across the world have experienced chemical releases that have caused injuries, death, damage, and economic impacts. In order to prevent similar occurrences in the United States, EPCRA established a framework to mobilize local government officials, communities, businesses, and other citizens to plan for potential chemical accidents within their communities and required each state to create a State Emergency Response Commission (SERC).

SERCs were charged with establishing Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPCs), which provide a forum for first responders, State and local officials, emergency managers, industry representatives, hospital and public health officials, the news media, and the general community to work together and achieve local solutions. Under EPCRA, LEPCs are charged to work to identify community chemical hazards, develop and maintain emergency plans in case of an accidental release, and encourage continuous attention to chemical safety, risk reduction, and accident prevention. This becomes the mission of the LEPCs to foster a valuable dialogue within the community to prevent and prepare for accidental or intentional releases of hazardous chemicals.

In both 1999 and 2008, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Office of Emergency Management (OEM) decided to “check the pulse” of LEPCs across the nation. This was accomplished by conducting Nationwide LEPC Surveys. This too was the reason that the officers of NASTTPO wanted to conduct a survey in 2016. NASTTPO’s newly formed LEPC Forum Committee was given the charge to find the strengths and weaknesses of the nationwide LEPCs.

Since the 2008 survey, local emergency planning overall has seen the decrease in funding/sources, personnel and time. This has decreased the amount of resources available to assist LEPCs in preparing for and preventing chemical emergencies.

The goals of this survey were to:

1. Identify current LEPC practices and compliance regarding EPCRA related elements;
2. Track the progress of LEPCs by assessing their current activity;
3. Identify EPCRA compliance areas of improvement needed to help the LEPC to improve;
4. Identify the strengths of LEPCs that can be helpful to other LEPCs.

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Methodology and Approach

Survey Design

This survey started with the use of pertinent EPCRA questions or information requested from all of the EPA surveys. Additional questions were created reviewed edited and approved by the committee. The questions were then sent to the NASTTPO Officers for review and up-date. The end result, after several reviews, comments and edits, was the development of this survey which was provided to the LEPCs across the country. The purpose for all of surveys was to gather important information, gauge the levels of compliance, activities of the LEPCs, minimal knowledge of their performance, and to identify the areas needed for improvement.

It should be noted that no grant funding or third party contractor was used in the planning, conducting or evaluation the results of this survey.

Data Collection

The 2016 LEPC Survey was administered electronically in an attempt to reduce the burden on respondents, increase efficiency, and improve data quality. This Survey was conducted by the use of the electronic survey software Survey Monkey. Surrey Monkey program was licensed and administered for this use by the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). A representative of Oklahoma DEQ provided up-dates from the survey at regular intervals, to the chairman of the committee.

At the October NASTTPO Workshop, the committee chair reported to the membership that the survey was expected to be live around January 1st 2016. The LEPCs were notified through the NASTTPO Board of Directors just prior to the activation on the survey just before the January 1st date. Members of the Board of Directors communicated with the LEPCs nationwide to visit and complete this survey. The committee was hoping that this survey would have been important to the almost 3,000 known LEPCs across the country.

The 2016 LEPC Survey was open until April 17th 2016 to allow LEPCs to complete the submission of Tier II Reports by the chemical industry. Status emails were sent to the committee members and the NASTTPO President approximately one month from closure of the survey. At the close of the survey, 198 of the 2,670 EPA known LEPCs had responded, yielding a response rate of .08%.

Although a total of 198 LEPC representatives took the survey, the number of people who answered each question varied. Individuals were not required to answer every question and were able to skip questions. Finally, individuals who responded in either the affirmative or negative for certain questions were routed past other questions. Furthermore, for some questions, respondents were able to “select all that apply.” Some questions were open-ended in that they required a narrative from the person instead of clicking on a particular answer.

Results for each of the questions can be found further back in this report.

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Data Analysis

The NASTTPO Committee is responsible for the analyzation of the data from the survey. A report of the data collected has been presented to the Board of Directors of NASTTPO. Certain answers were recoded for consistency purposes. Aggregate data tables created by Survey Monkey contain response frequencies and results for each survey question are included at the end of this report.

The final survey questions were open-ended, allowing LEPCs to provide a written response to the questions and additional comments, including best practices. Answers to these open-ended questions were reviewed and compiled thematically. Important findings from comments provided are included throughout this report and at the end of this report.

Maintaining the LEPC Survey

Interested parties may review the findings of this report on the NASTTPO website: www.nasttpo.org.

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Executive Summary — What Was Learned

Overview

LEPCs serve as the fundamental link between citizens, industry, responders, and government in emergency preparedness for communities. As the central point around which emergency management agencies, first responders, industry, transportation, environmental agencies, and the community work together to enhance emergency preparedness, LEPCs are improving chemical safety and protecting human health and the environment in communities across this country.

The purpose of the NASTTPO's LEPC Forum Committee to conduct the 2016 survey was to gather important information, gauge the levels of compliance, identify positive activities of the LEPCs, obtain minimal knowledge of their performance, and to identify the areas needed for improvement. The officers of NASTTPO, for the future, want to help improve the practices of the LEPCs to maintain and increase the level of prevention, compliance and preparedness for the potential release of chemical with our communities. Keeping in mind why the U. S. Congress adopted EPCRA in 1986, 30 years ago.

NASTTPO took a different approach than what EPA did in the years they conducted similar surveys. Mailing information that EPA used for their surveys were not available for use by the LEPC Committee, nor was there was a funding source to accommodate the mailing costs. Committee members and NASTTPO Board Members notified the states, encouraging many of the states to contact LEPCs within their responsibility or oversight to complete the survey.

The committee launched the Web-based survey on about January 1, 2016. The survey electronic access was e-mailed to the Committee Members, the NASTTPO Board Members and was passed onto the LEPCs across the country. One hundred and ninety-eight LEPC representatives took the survey, yielding a response rate of .08% of the 2,670 EPA known LEPCs. A list of the number of LEPCs and their states are listed in Appendix C of this report.

The 198 LEPCs who completed the survey represented a total of twenty-four states. Each EPA region had a minimum of two states that had an LEPC response, except for Region two, that region had no LEPC responses.

The majority of LEPCs responding to the 2016 survey serve primarily rural or mixed rural/suburban residential populations under 500,000 or 87.88%.

Survey results indicate that membership has fallen off due to complacency, time interest and funding. In the 2008 survey, this was a strong element to the success of the LEPCs nationwide. Comparison of data between the 2008 survey and this survey is difficult as this survey had many different questions from any of the EPA surveys completed.

Other Key Findings

- More than 56% of 190 responses, indicate that the LEPC Chairperson is a governmental employee;
- 68% of 189 responses indicate that the emergency management director is responsible for the LEPC activities and compliance items;
- 76% of the 184 responses indicate that less than 40 hours are spent on LEPC projects, activities and requirements;

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- 51% of the 195 LEPC responses reflect having Quarterly meetings;
- 57.5% of the 193 responses indicate they do not have a free-standing emergency response Plan;
- Almost 54% of 192 responses indicate their emergency response plan has been reviewed and up-dated within the last 12 months;
- Almost 81% of 193 responses are involved in all-hazards planning;
- 87% of 181 responses have participated in exercises involving their emergency response plan;
- 68% or 122 LEPCs of 179 responses have a very and close relationship with local responders;
- Almost 42.5% of 179 responses have had 1 to 5 releases from fixed facilities;
- 40.5% of 180 responses have had 1 to 5 releases from transportation incidents;
- 70.5% of 177 responses indicate they use CAMEO;
- 63% or 110 LEPCs of 174 responses do NOT have a website;
- 54.7% or 93 of 170 responses have not had any requests from the LEPC;
- Direct funding received (162 responses*)
 1. Federal Funding – 41.3% or 67 LEPCs
 2. State funding from EPCRA Submissions – 30.2% or 49 LEPCs
 3. Other State Funding – 25.3% or 41 LEPCs
 4. Local fees for EPCRA submissions – 16.6% or 27 LEPCs
 5. Other means of funding – 16.6% or 27 LEPCs
- Federal direct support in past 5 years (154 responses*):
 1. No direct assistance or support – 35% or 54 LEPCs
 2. EPA – 31.8% or 49 LEPCs
 3. FEMA – 21.4% or 33 LEPCs
 4. US DOT PHMSA – 20.9% or 32 LEPCs
 5. DHS (non-FEMA) – 16.8 % or 26 LEPCs
- Areas needing assistance (167 responses*):
 1. Funding and/or grants – 67.7% or 113 LEPCs
 2. Outreach & Public Communications – 48.5% or 81 LEPCs
 3. Identification & compliance assistance for non-reporting facilities – 37.7% or 63 LEPCs
 4. Drills & Exercises – 35.3% or 59 LEPCs
 5. Identifying Training opportunities/resources – 31.1% or 52 LEPCs
- Areas where assistance can be provided (132 responses*):
 1. Conducting Drills/Exercises – 50.7% or 67 LEPCs
 2. Coordination with local, state and federal agencies – 40.1% or 53 LEPCs
 3. Developing/reviewing emergency plans – 31.7% or 49 LEPCs
 4. Outreach & Public Communications – 33.3% or 44 LEPCs
 5. Determine level of risk – 27.2% or 36 LEPCs

*Answered all that apply

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Survey questions and answers

1. Information regarding your Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC):

Answered: 197 Skipped: 6

	Responses	
LEPC Name/Jurisdiction	99.49%	196
State	99.49%	196
LEPC position/role for the person completing the survey	100.00%	197

2. What size population does your LEPC serve?

Answered: 198 Skipped: 5

Answer Choices	Responses	
Fewer than 50,000	48.99%	97
50,001 to 100,000	12.63%	25
100,001 to 500,000	26.26%	52
500,001 to 1,000,000	6.57%	13
More than 1,000,000	5.56%	11
Total		198

3. How would you best describe your LEPC's service area?

Answered: 197 Skipped: 6

Answer Choices	Responses	
Predominantly or entirely rural	33.50%	66
Mixed rural/suburban	49.24%	97
Predominantly suburban	3.05%	6
Mixed suburban/urban	12.18%	24
Predominantly or entirely urban	2.03%	4
Total		197

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4. What types of hazardous material infrastructures exist within your jurisdiction? (Select all that apply)

Answered: 198 Skipped: 5

Answer Choices	Responses	
Fixed Facilities-manufacturing hazardous chemicals	51.52%	102
Fixed Facilities-using hazardous chemicals	94.95%	188
Highways-designated for hazmat transportation	85.35%	169
Oil and Gas Production	51.52%	102
Pipelines-Interstate	77.27%	153
Pipelines-Local Distribution	76.26%	151
Pipelines-Oil and Gas Gathering	50.51%	100
Rail lines	82.83%	164
Waterways-used for hazmat transportation	21.21%	42
Airport with cargo service	35.86%	71
Airport with scheduled passenger service	34.34%	68
Total Respondents: 198		

5. Please answer the following questions below. (If unsure, please indicate with Don't Know instead of 0)

Answered: 184 Skipped: 19

Answer Choices	Responses	
How many EPCRA Tier II reporting facilities do you have?	97.28%	179
How many TRI reporting facilities do you have?	82.07%	151
How many CAA RMP Reporting facilities do you have?	85.33%	157

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6. Of the EPCRA listed community representatives, which and how many are represented on your LEPC?

Answered: 186 Skipped: 17

How Many?	None	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
Broadcast/Print Media	38.55% 64	42.17% 70	10.24% 17	5.42% 9	1.20% 2	0.60% 1	1.20% 2	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.60% 1	0.00% 0										
Community Groups	20.23% 35	27.17% 47	20.81% 36	12.72% 22	4.62% 8	5.78% 10	1.73% 3	0.58% 1	0.58% 1	0.00% 0	2.89% 5	0.00% 0	0.58% 1	0.00% 0	0.58% 1	1.16% 2	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0
Federal Officials	69.33% 113	14.11% 23	4.29% 7	2.45% 4	1.84% 3	3.07% 5	2.45% 4	0.00% 0	0.61% 1	0.00% 0	1.23% 2	0.00% 0										
State Officials	40.72% 68	23.35% 39	17.96% 30	5.39% 9	4.79% 8	2.40% 4	2.40% 4	0.00% 0	1.20% 2	0.00% 0	1.20% 2	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.60% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0
Local Officials	11.18% 19	23.53% 40	14.71% 25	10.59% 18	10.00% 17	4.12% 7	7.06% 12	0.59% 1	4.71% 8	0.59% 1	3.53% 6	0.59% 1	1.18% 2	1.18% 2	0.59% 1	2.35% 4	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	1.18% 2	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0
Emergency Management	0.00% 0	25.54% 47	21.20% 39	17.93% 33	12.50% 23	5.43% 10	5.43% 10	2.72% 5	4.35% 8	0.54% 1	1.63% 3	0.54% 1	0.54% 1	0.54% 1	0.54% 1	0.00% 0						
EPCRA Facility Owners/Operators	14.88% 25	11.90% 20	14.88% 25	7.74% 13	11.90% 20	7.14% 12	4.76% 8	1.79% 3	2.38% 4	1.79% 3	5.95% 10	0.00% 0	3.57% 6	0.60% 1	0.60% 1	0.00% 0	0.60% 1	0.00% 0	0.60% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	1.79% 3
Firefighting	2.76% 5	20.99% 38	19.34% 35	13.81% 25	10.50% 19	6.63% 12	4.42% 8	4.42% 8	4.42% 8	2.21% 4	4.42% 8	0.00% 0	1.66% 3	1.10% 2	0.00% 0	1.10% 2	0.55% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.55% 1
First Aid/EMS	14.29% 25	33.71% 59	26.86% 47	11.43% 20	6.29% 11	2.86% 5	2.29% 4	1.14% 2	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.57% 1	0.57% 1	0.00% 0									
Health	7.43% 13	41.14% 72	26.29% 46	9.71% 17	8.57% 15	2.86% 5	1.14% 2	1.14% 2	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	1.14% 2	0.00% 0	0.57% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0						
Hospital/Healthcare	13.29% 23	38.73% 67	28.90% 50	9.25% 16	5.20% 9	2.89% 5	1.16% 2	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.58% 1	0.00% 0										
Law Enforcement	8.99% 16	32.02% 57	29.21% 52	12.92% 23	5.62% 10	3.37% 6	0.56% 1	1.69% 3	2.25% 4	1.12% 2	1.69% 3	0.00% 0										
Local Environmental	27.11% 45	42.17% 70	18.07% 30	6.02% 10	3.01% 5	2.41% 4	0.60% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0
Public	39.76% 66	18.07% 30	16.87% 28	8.43% 14	5.42% 9	5.42% 9	1.81% 3	1.20% 2	0.60% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.60% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0
Transportation Industry	42.68% 70	28.05% 46	12.20% 20	4.88% 8	6.71% 11	3.66% 6	1.22% 2	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0

7. Is your LEPC Membership been approved by your State Emergency Response Commission (SERC)?

Answered: 181 Skipped: 22

Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	80.66% 146
No	19.34% 35
Total	181

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8. How is your chairperson chosen?

Answered: 194 Skipped: 9

Answer Choices	Responses	
Appointed by State Emergency Response Commission (SERC)	1.03%	2
Elected by LEPC members	80.93%	157
Have chairperson but do not know how he/she was chosen	4.12%	8
Rotating basis	0.52%	1
No chairperson	2.58%	5
Other	10.82%	21
Total		194

9. If you have a chairperson are they:

Answered: 190 Skipped: 13

Answer Choices	Responses	
Local Government Employee	55.26%	105
Regulated Facility Employee	10.00%	19
Volunteer member of the Public	15.79%	30
Other	18.95%	36
Total		190

10. Does your LEPC Have Bylaws?

Answered: 194 Skipped: 9

Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	87.11%	169
No	9.79%	19
Don't Know	3.09%	6
Total		194

11. In your LEPC, what position is responsible to see that EPCRA activities and requirements are being met? (Select all that apply)

Answered: 189 Skipped: 14

Answer Choices	Responses	
Emergency Management Director	68.78%	130
LEPC Coordinator/Local Government Official	26.46%	50
LEPC Chairman/Membership	44.44%	84
Other	8.47%	16
Total Respondents: 189		

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12. What is the average amount of time per month the person completing this survey spends working on LEPC projects, activities, and requirements?

Answered: 194 Skipped: 9

Answer Choices	Responses	
Less than 0 hours	76.29%	148
40 to 80 hours	13.40%	26
80 to 120 hours	2.06%	4
120 to 180 hours	1.55%	3
More than 180 hours	1.55%	3
Do not know	5.15%	10
Total		194

13. How often does your LEPC meet?

Answered: 195 Skipped: 8

Answer Choices	Responses	
Weekly	0.00%	0
Monthly	12.82%	25
Bi-Monthly (every other month)	24.62%	48
Quarterly	51.28%	100
Yearly	4.10%	8
As needed	4.10%	8
Hasn't met in the past 12 months	3.08%	6
Total		195

14. What is the average amount of time per month the person completing this survey spends working on LEPC projects, activities, and requirements?

Answered: 27 Skipped: 176

Answer Choices	Responses	
No interest from members	11.11%	3
Insufficient resources (meeting location, time, funding)	3.70%	1
LEPC activities covered at other meetings	14.81%	4
No community/local government support	7.41%	2
Other	77.78%	21
Total Respondents: 27		

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15. Does your LEPC prepare a freestanding emergency response plan separate from the County or Municipal all-hazards emergency response plan?

Answered: 193 Skipped: 10

Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	35.75%	69
No	57.51%	111
Don't Know	6.74%	13
Total		193

16. When did your LEPC last review and update its emergency response plan?

Answered: 192 Skipped: 11

Answer Choices	Responses	
Within the past 12 months	53.65%	103
1 - 2 years ago	7.29%	14
Over 2 years ago	9.90%	19
Plan has not yet been reviewed or updated	1.04%	2
We have a plan, but do not know when it was last reviewed and updated	6.77%	13
Do not have a plan	21.35%	41
Total		192

17. Who was the primary author of your LEPC's emergency response plan?

Answered: 164 Skipped: 39

Answer Choices	Responses	
One LEPC member	18.90%	31
More than one LEPC member	32.93%	54
Both LEPC members and outside sources	39.63%	65
Consultant or other outside party	8.54%	14
Total		164

18. When did the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) last review your emergency response plan?

Answered: 184 Skipped: 19

Answer Choices	Responses	
Within the past 12 months	37.50%	69
1 - 2 years ago	5.98%	11
Over 2 years ago	5.98%	11
Plan has not been reviewed	9.78%	18
Unknown	40.76%	75
Total		184

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19. As an alternative to preparation of a freestanding emergency response plan by the LEPC, does the LEPC participate in the county or municipal all-hazards planning process?

Answered: 193 Skipped: 10

Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	80.83%	156
No	8.81%	17
Don't Know	10.36%	20
Total		193

20. How familiar are the majority of your LEPC members with either your freestanding emergency response plan or the county/municipal all-hazards emergency response plan?

Answered: 195 Skipped: 8

Answer Choices	Responses	
Very Familiar	13.85%	27
Familiar	31.79%	62
Somewhat Familiar	32.31%	63
Slightly Familiar	13.33%	26
Not at All Familiar	8.72%	17
Total		195

21. Has your LEPC organized or participated in exercises of either freestanding or county/municipal emergency response plan?

Answered: 181 Skipped: 22

Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	87.29%	158
No	9.94%	18
Don't Know	2.76%	5
Total		181

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22. If you answered yes to question 21, please select any/all of the following types of participation that apply.

Answered: 166 Skipped: 37

Answer Choices	Responses	
Actual response	37.35%	62
Drill	60.24%	100
First responder training	43.37%	72
Full-scale exercise	54.22%	90
Public briefing	16.27%	27
Table-top exercise	78.92%	131
Answer was no	5.42%	9
Other	7.23%	12
Total Respondents: 166		

23. When did your LEPC last organize or participate in exercises of either a freestanding or county/municipal emergency response?

Answered: 180 Skipped: 23

Answer Choices	Responses	
Within the past 12 months	67.22%	121
1 - 2 years ago	12.22%	22
Over 2 years ago	5.00%	9
Exercised plan, date unknown	0.56%	1
Never	6.67%	12
Don't Know	8.33%	15
Total		180

24. Has your LEPC engaged in efforts to share hazardous chemical information from either Tier II reports or RMP reports with first responders in your area?

Answered: 176 Skipped: 27

Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes, Tier II Data	94.89%	167
Yes, RMP Data	14.77%	26
None	5.11%	9
Total Respondents: 176		

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25. Does your LEPC engage in efforts to provide training for the first responders in your area, on hazardous materials, Tier II data and/or other topics addressed in EPCRA?

Answered: 179 Skipped: 24

Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	83.24%	149
No	16.76%	30
Total		179

26. Are the first responders in your jurisdiction members of the LEPC?

Answered: 180 Skipped: 23

Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	91.11%	164
No	8.89%	16
Total		180

27. How close is the relationship between the First Responders community and the LEPC?

Answered: 179 Skipped: 24

Answer Choices	Responses	
Very Close	38.55%	69
Close	29.61%	53
As needed	22.35%	40
Very Limited	6.70%	12
Not at all	1.68%	3
Other	1.12%	2
Total		179

28. In the past five years, approximately how many fixed hazardous chemical accidents, created off-site consequences or requiring emergency response from community resources, have occurred in your LEPC's service area?

Answered: 179 Skipped: 24

Answer Choices	Responses	
None	21.23%	38
1 to 5	42.46%	76
6 to 10	12.29%	22
11 to 15	2.23%	4
15 or more	6.70%	12
Don't Know	15.08%	27
Total		179

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29. In the past five years approximately how many transportation related hazardous chemical accidents, creating off-site consequences or requiring emergency response from community resources, have occurred in your LEPC's service area?

Answered: 180 Skipped: 23

Answer Choices	Responses	
None	13.33%	24
1 to 5	40.56%	73
6 to 10	6.67%	12
11 to 15	3.89%	7
More than 15	17.22%	31
Don't Know	18.33%	33
Total		180

30. If chemical accidents have occurred within your LEPC's jurisdiction, how did they impact the operations of the LEPC? (Select all that apply)

Answered: 152 Skipped: 51

Answer Choices	Responses	
Change the way information is made available to the public	9.21%	14
Improve coordination efforts with industry/facilities	50.66%	77
Increased frequency of LEPC meetings	1.97%	3
Increased LEPC membership	17.11%	26
Revised emergency plan based on lessons-learned	44.74%	68
Other	22.37%	34
Total Respondents: 152		

31. How do you primarily receive EPCRA Tier I and II data? (Select all that apply)

Answered: 176 Skipped: 27

Answer Choices	Responses	
Direct access to State or locally maintained internet-based electronic reporting system	39.77%	70
Electronic submissions via Tier2Submit	37.50%	66
From the SERC or other State agency in electronic form	27.27%	48
Paper reports from facilities	36.93%	65
Other	8.52%	15
Total Respondents: 176		

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32. Does your LEPC use CAMEO? (Computer-Aided Management of Emergency Operations)

Answered: 177 Skipped: 26

Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	70.62%	125
No	29.38%	52
Total		177

33. If you answered Yes to #32, for which LEPC function do you utilize CAMEO? (Select all that apply)

Answered: 136 Skipped: 67

Answer Choices	Responses	
Access chemical information	72.06%	98
Manage Tier II data	47.79%	65
Drills, training, and exercises	49.26%	67
GIS Mapping (e.g., plotting local infrastructure, hydrants, districts, shelters, floodplain administration, damage assessments, etc.)	50.00%	68
Managing area resources for local emergencies	25.74%	35
Storage and retrieval of emergency plans (e.g., facility site diagrams, transportation routes, screening and contingency plans)	30.88%	42
General Planning activities for all-hazards emergency management	44.85%	61
Evaluating scenarios for chemical spills/incidents	42.65%	58
Incident management/mapping during actual emergencies	41.91%	57
Respond to public inquires	29.41%	40
Other	11.03%	15
Total Respondents: 136		

34. How does your LPEC manage EPCRA Tier I and II data? (Select all that apply)

Answered: 172 Skipped: 31

Answer Choices	Responses	
CAMEO/Tier II Submit	51.74%	89
Database created by LEPC	15.70%	27
Other state or local database	29.07%	50
Paper files	40.12%	69
Web-based database	13.37%	23
Other	9.88%	17
Total Respondents: 172		

35. Does your LEPC have a website?

Answered: 174 Skipped: 29

Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	37.36%	65
No	63.22%	110
Total Respondents: 174		

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36. How does your LEPC notify the public that its emergency plan and chemical hazard information is available? (Select all that apply)

Answered: 171 Skipped: 32

Answer Choices	Responses	
Brochures	18.13%	31
Community Outreach Activities	40.35%	69
LEPC Web site	28.07%	48
Newspaper	35.67%	61
Public Meetings	42.69%	73
Radio/TV	7.02%	12
Social Media	25.73%	44
Other	12.87%	22
Total Respondents: 171		

37. How many public inquiries has your LEPC received and responded to during the past 12 months?

Answered: 170 Skipped: 33

Answer Choices	Responses	
1 to 5 inquires	37.06%	63
6 to 10 inquires	4.12%	7
10 to 20 inquires	1.76%	3
21 or more	2.35%	4
None	54.71%	93
Total		170

38. How does your LEPC interact with Tier II facilities within your area of service? (Select all that apply)

Answered: 166 Skipped: 37

Answer Choices	Responses	
Collecting reports/fees	31.33%	52
Community outreach programs	36.14%	60
Compliance audits/inspections	11.45%	19
Conducting exercises	49.40%	82
Meeting	64.46%	107
Training courses	31.93%	53
Visits to the facilities	55.42%	92
Other	10.24%	17
Total Respondents: 166		

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39. Please indicate the agencies/organizations from which your LEPC receives direct funding. (Select all that apply)

Answered: 162 Skipped: 41

Answer Choices	Responses	
Donations (hard or soft) and gifts	15.43%	25
Federal funding - e.g., Hazmat Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Grants	41.36%	67
Local fees from EPCRA report submissions	16.67%	27
Other local government funding	14.20%	23
Other state government funding	25.31%	41
Private industry	7.41%	12
State fees from Emergency Planning & Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) submissions	30.25%	49
Other	16.67%	27
Total Respondents: 162		

40. In the past five years, from which of the following federal agencies did your LEPC receive direct support, as opposed to information from these agencies being indirectly provided through the SERC or other State agency, technical assistance or guidance? (Select all that apply)

Answered: 154 Skipped: 49

Answer Choices	Responses	
Department of Homeland Security (other than FEMA)	16.88%	26
Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)	21.43%	33
Federal Railroad Association (FRA)	6.49%	10
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)	11.69%	18
Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA)	2.60%	4
U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (BATF)	0.65%	1
U.S. Coast Guard/National Response Center (USCG/NRC)	5.84%	9
U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) - all branches	1.95%	3
U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)	3.90%	6
U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ)	0.65%	1
U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT)	7.14%	11
U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) HMEP funding	20.78%	32
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	31.82%	49
Received no direct assistance or guidance	35.06%	54
Other	12.34%	19
Total Respondents: 154		

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41. Which of the following areas could your LEPC use assistance with? (Select all that apply)

Answered: 167 Skipped: 36

Answer Choices	Responses	
Conducting drills and exercises	35.33%	59
Coordination with local, state and federal agencies	21.56%	36
Data management	23.35%	39
Determine the level of risk in your jurisdiction	27.54%	46
Developing/reviewing local emergency response plans	21.56%	36
Funding and/or grants	67.66%	113
Identification and compliance assistance for non-reporting facilities	37.72%	63
Identify training opportunities/resources	31.14%	52
Knowledge of EPCRA	28.14%	47
More interaction from federal agencies	14.97%	25
Outreach and communicating with the public	48.50%	81
Other	9.58%	16
Total Respondents: 167		

42. Which of the following areas do you feel your LEPC does well or could offer assistance to other LEPCs? (Select all that apply)

Answered: 132 Skipped: 71

Answer Choices	Responses	
Conducting drills and exercises	50.76%	67
Coordination with local, state and federal agencies	40.15%	53
Data management	21.97%	29
Determine the level of risk in your jurisdiction	27.27%	36
Developing/reviewing local emergency response plans	37.12%	49
Identification and compliance assistance for non-reporting facilities	9.09%	12
Identify training opportunities/resources	25.76%	34
Knowledge of EPCRA	19.70%	26
More interaction from federal agencies	3.79%	5
Outreach and communicating with the public	33.33%	44
Funding and/or grants	6.06%	8
Other	15.15%	20
Total Respondents: 132		

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Question #43 - Major LEPC Issues

Public Perception

Participation – Complacency

Membership – lack of interest

Funding – Not enough for outreach, Hazmat equipment & training

Lack of industry interest/involvement

Different needs – Rural vs Urban vs Suburban

Emerging threats

Training – Members, volunteers, first responders

Organization restructuring

Time constraints

Increasing bureaucracy – Local, state & federal

Unable to meet due to lack of interest

Keeping up with required data

No interaction with the Public

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Question #44 – LEPC Successes

Address safety & compliance issues at seminar

EPA SPI Program was a good tool to build relationship with industry & learn of local threats

Good exercises & training

Membership recruitment

Use of Public activities for communications

The chairperson does everything

Good structured meetings with training and exercises

Healthy membership and interaction

Yearly digital billboard campaign

Good coordination, organizations and integration

Host an annual preparedness expo – well received by the Public

Growth and organization

Functioning sub-committees

Quarterly visits to industrial plants

Positive relationships

Good relevant training opportunities

Three sub-committees working well together: Hazard analysis, Public Outreach & Training

Public outreach video created from an exercise

LEPC does not require hierarchy of committees

Allowing each member, a voice

Work well with county EM and local officials

Move meeting to different locations each month

Local health fairs and Fire Safety Days

Had four town hall meetings and three large exercises in one year

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Annual conference on LEPC topics

Strong OEM role

Strong local leadership and support for the programs

Helped to create a regional HazMat Team

LEPC coordinate with non-profits to expand preparedness partnerships

Question #45 – LEPC Training Opportunities

Funding is used to send people to hazmat conferences

Coordinate with agencies for training opportunities & exercises

NIMS and emergency training

State assisted training

Exercise and training offered thru agencies within the region

Work with OSU-FST

OSU Fire Safety Training

Several training opportunities offered by emergency management

Annual OSHA, HazCom & GHS, OSHA 40 and OSHA 10

Training is reviewed each meeting

Training opportunities come from HMEP Grant

We provide funding for annual Texas A & M Fire School and Hot Zone

To work within the community

State training from fire and other organizations

Our LEPC is trying to obtain different video training opportunities to develop a library for first responders to check out for in-house training

Annual EPA Workshops

HazMat Awareness for all first responders

We use LEPC funds to support sending people for training

CAMEO

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Regular annual training: operations, awareness, lessons learned, hazwoper refresher, safety officer, Incident Command, and TT/FSE/FS exercises

We have been able to obtain any training we need through state programs and partnerships with industry

LEPC Training Subcommittee has doubled the training over the past year – 4th annual HazMat Symposium held in Daytona Beach

Tabletop and practical exercises

We attempt to have training at each meeting

We share any and all training that becomes available to responders and industry

HAMMER Training ChloRep Training

Unsure

Transcaer, Southern Nevada Caer association, NOAA, DOE, Hospital Training, and emergency first responder training

We try to do a tabletop exercise at each meeting

Trained 400+ people last year on hazmat related topics, also had 100+ people attend the EPCRA "How to Comply" training

Most members take on-line courses with FEMA

Hazmat Technician, HazMat FRO refresher, healthcare coalition, NIMS, CERT

Meter Reading, Hazcom, general equipment

Pipeline Awareness, Railroad training

All are involved in community exercises and public training

State offers LEPC Training during annual EM Conference

Hazmat awareness, operation and technician

LEPC and HMEP Funds provide limited dollars in which to conduct training of public sector first responders...funds are divided between six counties

Hazmat Operations and refreshers in 9 county LEPCs

All training with LEPC is generally provided by Indiana Dept. Homeland Security, ie. NIMS, etc.

State, Federal and professional group seminars, exercises, courses, and meetings that pertain to emergency response and planning...webinars, distance-learning, and conference calls.

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Coordinate with other first responders

Colorado LEPC Conference

1) How to be a LEPC Member, 2) Case studies/examples of exercise authority

MINS, MERRETT

Poor

We host hazmat exercises annually

Tabletop, Full scale, Functional training is available through State Hazmat Instructors and State Training

We have state funding...we meet with members to determine training needs...match funding against needs.

On-line, local and state emergency management courses

Bi-annual Training session with guest speakers on various topics

We have offered CAMEO, Hazmat Awareness and Operations Training

Pipeline safety, Oil Field Safety awareness, hazmat awareness, Operations and Technician

Our training program for LEPC members is out of date. Have VHS Tape orientation for new members

Shared resources and training opportunities

Question #46 – Biggest LEPC Obstacles

Interest in participating

Public doesn't see a need or buy-in – complacency

Time – Public, industry, first responders, local & state government

Funding – lack of funds and grants

Education & Knowledge

Lack of personnel

Meetings need to be worth attending

Lack of incentives

EPA Guidance

Lack of incidents or releases

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LEPCs who contributed to the survey:

South East, Nebraska	Jefferson County LEPC, Colorado
City of Westminster, Colorado	Cass County LEPC, Nebraska
Noble County LEPC, Indiana	Racine County, Wisconsin
Boulder, Boulder County, Colorado	Seward/York, Nebraska
Saline County LEPC/Saline County, Missouri	Choctaw County LEPC, Oklahoma
City of Corpus Christie-Nueces County LEPC, Texas	Jasper County LEPC, Iowa
Kawaunee County LEPC, Wisconsin	Warren County LEPC, Indiana
Calumet County LEPC/Calumet County, Wisconsin	Clark County, Indiana
Gibson County LEPC, Indiana	Sedgwick County LEPC, Colorado
Marshall County LEPC, Iowa	Monroe County LEPC, Indiana
Ripley County LEPC, Indiana	Hendricks County LEPC, Indiana
Southern Iowa Regional Emergency Planning Committee, Iowa	Whatcom United LEPC, Washington
DeKalb County, Indiana	Jackson County LEPC, Wisconsin
Central Florida LEPC, Florida	Grady County LEPC, Oklahoma
Marathon County LEPC, Wisconsin	St. Croix County LEPC, Wisconsin
Ottawa County LEPC, Oklahoma	Yuma County LEPC, Arizona
Leflore County LEPC, Oklahoma	Sarpy County LEPC, Oklahoma
Adams County LEPC, Colorado	Otero County LEPC, Colorado
Kay County LEPC, Oklahoma	Atoka County LEPC, Oklahoma
Black Hawk County LEPC, Iowa	Hamilton County LEPC, Ohio
Manon County LEPC, Iowa	Lincoln County LEPC, Colorado
North Central Florida LEPC, Florida	Prowers County LEPC, Colorado
Osage County LEPC, Oklahoma	Oklahoma County LEPC, Oklahoma
Latimer County LEPC, Oklahoma	La Crosse County LEPC, Wisconsin
Scott County Emergency Planning Committee, Kentucky	Payne County LEPC, Oklahoma

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Boulder LEPC, Colorado	Miami County LEPC, Indiana
Santa Cruz County LEPC, Arizona	LaPorte County LEPC, Indiana
Tulsa LEPC, Oklahoma	Dodge County LEPC, Wisconsin
Southwest Florida LEPC, Florida	Town of Ocean City LEPC, Maryland
Floyd County LEPC, Indiana	McLean County LEPC, Kentucky
Chelan/Douglas LEPC-Chelan/Douglas County, Washington	Lee County LEPC, Florida
Apalachee LEPC, Florida	Kenosha County LEPC, Wisconsin
Trigg County LEPC, Kentucky	Tampa Bay LEPC, Florida
Fayette LEPC, Kentucky	Region 6 LEPC, Iowa
Wayne County LEPC, Indiana	Ripley County LEPC, Indiana
Spencer County LEPC, Indiana	Richland County LEPC, Wisconsin
Northern Kentucky LEPC, Kentucky	Pacific County LEPC, Washington
Fayette County LEPC, Kentucky	Northern Kentucky LEPC, Kentucky
Muhlenberg County LEPC, Kentucky	Ohio County LEPC, Indiana
Eagle County LEPC, Colorado	Winneshiek County LEPC, Iowa
Johnson County LEPC, Iowa	Shelby County LEPC, Iowa
Des Moines County LEPC, Iowa	San Luis Valley LEPC, Colorado
Hickory County LEPC, Missouri	Morrow County LEPC, Oregon
Clatsop County LEPC, Oregon	Washington County LEPC, Oklahoma
Southwest Florida LEPC, Florida	Skamania County LEPC, Washington
Chelan-Douglas Counties LEPC, Washington	Kent County LEPC, Washington
Grays Harbor County LEPC, Washington	Adams County LEPC, Washington
Franklin County LEPC, Washington	Douglas County LEPC, Nebraska
Southeastern New Hampshire REPC, New Hampshire	Cowlitz County LEPC, Washington
Washington County LEPC 4, Rhode Island	Douglas County LEPC, Washington
Kiowa County LEPC, Colorado	Floyd County LEPC, Indiana

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Washington County LEPC, Wisconsin	Storey County LEPC, Nevada
Clark County LEPC, Nevada	Northeast Florida LEPC, Florida
Douglas County LEPC, Nebraska	Mesa County LEPC, Colorado
Dewey County LEPC, Oklahoma	Churchill County LEPC, Nevada
Douglas County LEPC, Nevada	Washoe LEPC, Nevada
Nye County LEPC, Oklahoma	Okmulgee County LEPC, Nebraska
Douglas County LEPC, Oklahoma	Blaine County LEPC, Kentucky
Lexington-Fayette County LEPC, Oklahoma	Greer County LEPC, Indiana
Ripley County LEPC, Oklahoma	Tulsa County LEPC, Oklahoma
Okfuskee County LEPC, Oklahoma	Pottawatomie County LEPC, Oklahoma
Pontotoc County LEPC, Oklahoma	Kay County LEPC, Oklahoma
Murray County LEPC, Oklahoma	Oklahoma County LEPC, Oklahoma
Custer County LEPC, Oklahoma	Cotton County LEPC, Oklahoma
Blaine County LEPC, Oklahoma	McCurtain County LEPC, Oklahoma
Barnstable County Regional Emergency Planning Committee, Massachusetts	
Southwest Florida LEPC, Florida	Pueblo LEPC, California
SWFRPC, Florida	Southwest Florida LEPC, Florida
District 9 Southwest Florida LEPC, Florida	Tillman County LEPC, Oklahoma
Maynes County LEPC, Oklahoma	Stephens County LEPC, Oklahoma
Grant County LEPC, Oklahoma	CADDO County LEPC, Oklahoma
McClain County LEPC, Oklahoma	LEPC Region V, California
Bexar County LEPC, Texas	Southwest Florida LEPC, Florida
Jefferson County LEPC, Texas	South Plain Public Health District, Texas
Okanogan County LEPC, Washington	Alfalfa County LEPC, Oklahoma
Larimer County LEPC, Colorado	Lincoln County LEPC, Oklahoma
Brazos County LEPC, Texas	LEPC Region VI, California

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El Paso County LEPC, Texas

San Angelo/Tom Green County LEPC, Texas

City of Corpus Christie LEPC, Texas

Lubbock County LEPC, Texas

La Porte, Morgan's Point & Shore Acres LEPC, Texas

Carter County LEPC, Oklahoma

Pima County LEPC, Arizona

Marshall County LEPC, Oklahoma

Garvin County LEPC, Oklahoma

McIntosh County LEPC, Oklahoma

Johnston County LEPC, Oklahoma

Jackson County LEPC, Oklahoma

Comanche County LEPC, Oklahoma

Beckham County LEPC, Oklahoma

Pottawatomie County LEPC, Oklahoma

Gallatin County LEPC, Montana

Dauphin County LEPC, Pennsylvania

Rogers County LEPC, Oklahoma

Pushmataha County LEPC, Oklahoma

Galena Park LEPC, Texas

Brazoria County LEPC, Texas

Leon County LEPC, Texas

Kendall County LEPC, Texas

Garfield County LEPC, Oklahoma

Texas County LEPC, Oklahoma

Beaver County LEPC, Oklahoma

Cleveland County LEPC, Oklahoma

Alfalfa County LEPC, Oklahoma

Payne County LEPC, Oklahoma

McClain County LEPC, Oklahoma

Grady County LEPC, Oklahoma

Canadian County LEPC, Oklahoma

St Charles Parish LEPC, Louisiana

Major County LEPC, Oklahoma

Cherokee County LEPC, Oklahoma

Orange County LEPC, Oklahoma

Beaver County LEPC, Oklahoma

Kiowa County LEPC, Oklahoma