

ANNUAL REPORT 2019 ~ 2020



AIRA
AMERICAN IMMUNIZATION
REGISTRY ASSOCIATION



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WELCOME



Dear AIRA Community,

While 2020 may not go down in the history books as one of my favorite years, I have to say that one of the things I will remember most fondly about it was getting the opportunity to be so involved in such an inspiring community. Most days I'm just trying to get through the mountain of work that I have on my plate (I'm sure you all can relate), and it has been a real treat this year to have the chance to stop, pick my head up, and really look around at how wonderful our community is. The annual report is a great chance to take some time to distill this into an interesting and digestible document that can help everyone else see the same things—a chance that I hope you will take advantage of. I also hope you can either remember fondly where you were involved in some of these activities or find some inspiration for all of the hard work you will do that will end up in next year's report! Thank you so much for all of the fantastic work you do, and here's hoping that 2021 will have a lot more to look back fondly on.

Aaron Bieringer

AIRA President 2019-2020

Minnesota Department of Health



Hello, AIRA Community,

COVID-19 has dominated much of the dialogue of 2020. While it has affected every aspect of our personal and professional lives, the IIS community showcased its resiliency and ability to pivot during these extraordinary and trying times. I echo Aaron's thoughts about 2020 not being one of my favorite years personally, but professionally 2020 has yielded a historic opportunity to undertake one of the largest vaccine campaigns in history. Thank you for the additional work so many of you do to contribute to our board, various committees, and workgroups, as well as participating in our events, responding to surveys and info requests, and so much more. Your insight and experience is helping to guide IIS efforts into the future. As we continue to confront the challenges that have surfaced in 2020, I know we will come out stronger as a community and look forward to the opportunities that persist. As always, thank you for all you do!

Rebecca Coyle

AIRA Executive Director

VISION

To facilitate the sharing and use of immunization information by all partners and ensure that immunization information systems are fully supported and represented.

MISSION

To promote and support the use of immunization information to ensure healthy communities.

PURPOSE

To support and promote the development, implementation, and interoperability of immunization information systems through partnerships, peer and professional education/training, and resource development.

STRUCTURE

2020 has been a year of growth for AIRA in many ways. From growing our staff to evolving our workgroups and committees, we are continually evaluating how we can best serve our community. AIRA is much more than our capable staff: we are a team of volunteers, members and partners, nonprofits, IIS staff, and implementers who all contribute to advancing and promoting IIS and immunization programs.

1

AIRA
BOARD

OFFICERS/EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Board President
Aaron Bieringer
Minnesota

President Elect
Dave McCormick
Indiana

Immediate Past President
Mandy Harris
Nevada

Secretary
Dannette Dronenburg
Washington

Treasurer
Heather Roth
Colorado

VOTING DIRECTORS

Christy Gray,
Virginia

Nathalie Hartert,
Tennessee

Jeffrey McIntyre,
Mississippi

Jude Alden,
Wyoming

John Robinson,
Philadelphia

Mary Woinarowicz,
North Dakota

Melissa Mickle-Hope,
New York

NON-VOTING DIRECTORS

Steve Murchie,
Envision Technology
Partners

Tiffany Dent,
Scientific Technologies
Corporation (STC)



2

AIRA
VOLUNTEERS

AIRA has three types of volunteer groups: **committees**, **workgroups**, and **user groups**. The steering committees listed below guide the development of projects and activities in four key areas: assessment, education, best practices, and interoperability.

- **Assessment Steering Committee (ASC) ***
- **Education Steering Committee (ESC) ***
- **Modeling of Immunization Registry Operations Workgroup (MIROW)**
- **Standards & Interoperability Steering Committee (SISC)**

*Sunsetted in 2020

AIRA MEMBERS
ATTENDED

147

COMMITTEE,
WORKGROUP,
OR USER GROUP
MEETINGS IN 2020!

STRUCTURE

2

AIRA VOLUNTEERS

AIRA has a number of workgroups that manage specific projects to support the needs of the organization and the IIS community.

- COVID-19 Workgroup
- Joint Development & Implementation Advisory Workgroup (JDI)
- Measurement for Assessment and Certification Advisory Workgroup (MACAW)
- Vaccine Management, Vaccines for Children, and IIS-Immunization Integration Needs Assessment Workgroup
- SISC Subset Small Groups:
 - Messaging Priority Groups
 - Messaging Serology/Immunity Results Related to COVID-19
 - Error Codes in HL7 Acknowledgment Messages
 - Immunization DS
- AART Workgroup

AIRA's five user groups bring community members together to discuss specific issues that they have in common.

- HL7 Immunization User Group
- Awardee-Developed Joint Development User Group *
- Address Cleansing and Geocoding User Group
- Interjurisdictional Community of Practice (ICoP)
- Message Quality Evaluation (MQE) Tool User Group *

*Sunsetted in 2020

3

AIRA STAFF

Rebecca Coyle,
Executive Director

BUSINESS TEAM

Amanda Dayton, *Business and Operations Director*

Hailey Malepeai, *Business and Operations Manager*

Jolyn Preston, *Executive Assistant*

EDUCATION AND OUTREACH TEAM

Alison Chi, *Director of Education and Outreach*

Carmela Gupta, *Senior Program Manager*

Amanda Branham, *Membership Coordinator*

Elizabeth Parilla, *Senior Program Manager*

Ketti Turcato, *Program Manager*

Lonnie Peterson, *Communications Specialist*

Kim Rutland, *Senior Administrative Coordinator*

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES TEAM

Maureen Neary, *Director of Strategic Initiatives*

Liz Abbott, *Adult Program Manager*

Courtney Londo, *Program Manager*

Brittany Gyer, *Assistant Program Manager*



HEALTH INFORMATICS DIVISION

Mary Beth Kurilo, *Senior Director Health Informatics*

Kristi Siahaya, *Director Standards and Analytics*

Nathan Bunker, *Senior Technical Project Manager*

Eric Larson, *Senior Technical Project Manager, Consultant*

Tracy Little, *Technical Analyst*

Assiatou Diallo, *Senior Technical Analyst*

Tesha Lucas, *Technical Analyst*

Damon Ferlazzo, *Business Analyst*

IIS COMMUNITY

Without the dedicated IIS champions who volunteer their time and talents, AIRA would not be who we are today. The dedication of our members to move IIS forward during these trying times deserves celebrating. AIRA is so grateful to work alongside such passionate, devoted, and accomplished IIS advocates.

AIRA Members:
Over 700 individuals represented

61

IIS
jurisdictions

9

Nonprofit
organizations

9

Supporting
organizations

6

Reciprocal
organizations

4

Individuals

“Man, do you all do a nice job getting info out and people engaged. Way better than the typical public health, non-government organization. Don't slow down. The Immunization Ecosystem needs it.”

Mike Popovich,
STC

The benefits of AIRA membership include:

- ✓ Access to a supportive community dedicated to advocating for IIS and vaccination efforts
- ✓ Support for COVID-19 vaccination efforts, as well as routine immunization initiatives
- ✓ Unlimited access to all AIRA educational materials, including webinars, guidance and best practice documents, presentations, published standards, and videos
- ✓ A chance to give input on issues affecting the IIS community
- ✓ Priority technical assistance from AIRA's staff
- ✓ Access to SmartyStreets, an address cleansing and geocoding service
- ✓ Registration discounts at the annual AIRA National Meeting
- ✓ The opportunity to collaborate with partners and stakeholders
- ✓ Educational, training, and peer-to-peer networking opportunities



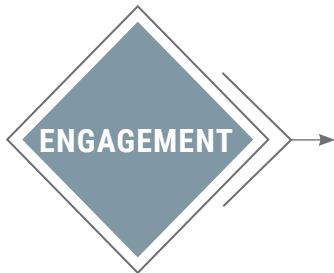
ADVOCACY

AIRA strives to be a voice and advocate for the IIS community. During this global pandemic, the work of IIS and the immunization community has been thrust into the public eye, increasing the need for AIRA's advocacy efforts. AIRA employs a three-step process in its advocacy efforts:



With an overarching view of the IIS landscape, AIRA brings awareness to issues and trends that have the potential to impact IIS. For example:

- **Pandemic One-Sheets:** AIRA created resources to promote IIS policies needed to facilitate pandemic response and routine vaccination.
- **National Vaccine Advisory Committee:** AIRA participated in and presented on the role of IIS in pandemic response.



AIRA engages with members and national stakeholders like those listed below to further the critical work of IIS.

- **Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP):** AIRA participates in these meetings where critical decisions regarding priority groups and vaccine allocation are evaluated.
- **Partner Meetings:** AIRA met quarterly with its members and partners to share important issues impacting the entire immunization community.



AIRA takes action by representing IIS interests and influencing national priorities on policy, infrastructure, and funding. Examples of this include:

- **Duke-Margolis Issue Brief on COVID-19:** AIRA provided feedback and input on an issue brief on COVID-19, a document valuable for governors and other state decision-makers.
- **Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC):** AIRA participated with the ONC standards development/Project US@. This standard will create a consistent format for documenting addresses in health IT systems and will enhance patient matching.
- **Operation Warp Speed:** A joint letter was sent from AIM, AIRA, ASTHO, and NACCHO expressing the strong support of state and local public health to build upon existing immunization infrastructure to deliver COVID-19 vaccine.

AIRA WORKED WITH OVER **55 PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS** TO SHARE KNOWLEDGE, COMBINE EFFORTS, AND SUPPORT AND ADVANCE THE WORK OF THE IIS COMMUNITY.

EDUCATION


COVID-19 impacted every aspect of our lives in 2020. AIRA's educational offerings were especially affected by the travel restrictions and time constraints imposed by the pandemic. To best support our members and partners during these extraordinary times, AIRA adapted to create education offerings and resources relevant to the pandemic.




IN-PERSON MEETINGS / REGIONAL WORKSHOPS
In 2020, AIRA was able to host only one in-person workshop, in Guam. **Fourteen** participants attended.



ONLINE TRAINING
In 2020, virtual collaboration became essential. AIRA hosted **19** different educational webinars, which reached a total of **1,725 attendees**.
The webinars covered a wide range of topics such as data analytics, outbreak response, business continuity planning, and provider management.



PANDEMIC PREPAREDNESS EVENTS
AIRA hosted pandemic preparedness events like a town hall on COVID-19 response planning and **four** collaborative planning sessions to help jurisdictions plan for the vaccine response. These collaborative sessions drew over **163 participants**.



NEWSLETTERS
Twelve issues of AIRA's Monthly Update and **four** issues of the SnapShots newsletter were published to highlight the progress, activities, and accomplishments of AIRA and IIS.



AIRA NATIONAL MEETING
The AIRA National Meeting evolved into an eight-part series that featured key topics for IIS and included presentations from AIRA members and partners.
Over 1,390 people participated in the webinar series.



INTERACTIVE CALLS
AIRA held **two** town hall meetings and **four** member and partner calls during the year to share important updates and discuss issues impacting the IIS community. These interactive calls were attended by **602 participants**.

OVER

3,900

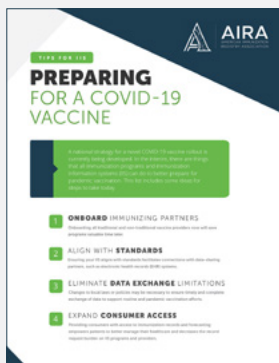
**INDIVIDUALS
PARTICIPATED IN
AIRA'S EDUCATIONAL
OFFERINGS.**

RESOURCES

AIRA works collaboratively with its members and partners to create a broad range of guidance documents that are specific to the needs of the community.

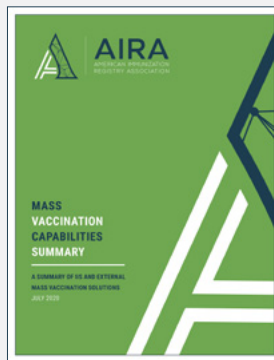


COVID-19 resources



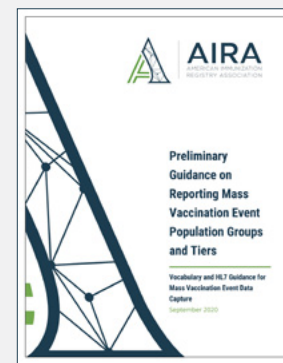
Preparing for a COVID-19 Vaccine One-Sheet

Use to identify steps IIS can take to prepare for a pandemic vaccination



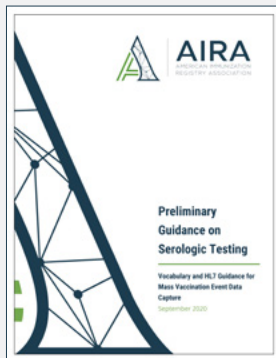
Mass Vaccination Capabilities Summary

Use to assist IIS in better preparing for a mass vaccination event



Preliminary Guidance on Reporting Mass Vaccination Event Population Groups and Tiers

Use to prepare for the technical requirements of creating HL7 messages containing population group and tier allocation needed during the COVID-19 response



Preliminary Guidance on Serologic Testing

Use to support documentation of serologic proof of immunity to COVID-19



IIS Policies to Support Pandemic and Routine Vaccination One-Sheet

Use to strengthen IIS policies related to data exchange, vaccine reporting, and consent in advance of a pandemic vaccination effort

RESOURCES

Resources to support IIS readiness and performance



Adult IIS Capture Literature Review and Environmental Scan

Use to understand the progress, challenges, and opportunities for expanding IIS in the adult population



Business Continuity Planning for Immunization Information System Programs

Use to develop and implement business continuity plans and management systems



Vaccine Code Set Considerations

Use to increase understanding of vaccine code sets and how they support varied IIS functions



IIS Interjurisdictional Exchange Administration and Coordination

Use to understand background and administrative support information for the Interjurisdictional Community of Practice (CoP)



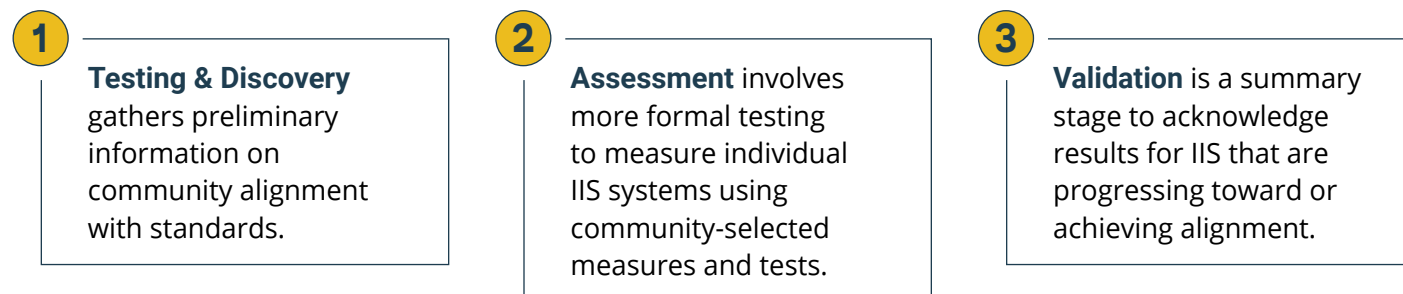
Technical Assistance Service Offerings

Use to identify the available technical assistance services and resource offerings available to the IIS community

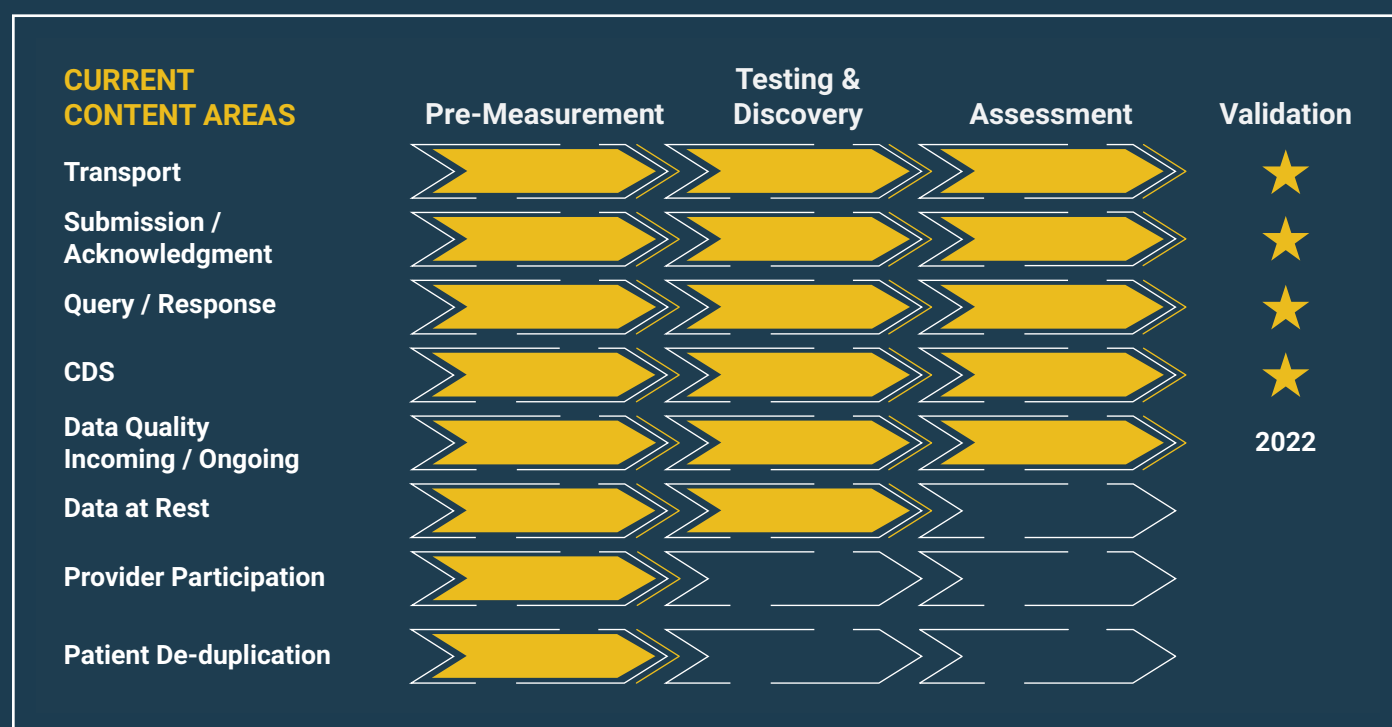
ALIGNMENT

AIRA launched its community-driven IIS Measurement and Improvement (M&I) initiative in 2016 with the goal of helping IIS to more fully align with national standards and best practices.

M&I IS A THREE-STAGE PROCESS:



AIRA repeats this process for each content area, to measure IIS functionality and capability within a specific functional area. The graphic below displays where each content area is within each stage of the M&I process and those in development as seen in the pre-measurement column.



How the improvement process works:

1. AIRA tests with IIS pre-production (or test) systems and/or analyzes deidentified data.
2. AIRA shares testing results through the Aggregate Analysis Reporting Tool (AART) for specific content areas. <https://www.immregistries.org/aggregate-analysis-reporting-tool>
3. IIS identify opportunities to make enhancements to align with national standards.
4. AIRA retests IIS to verify improvements and IIS move toward alignment.

Community-wide participation is strong with 90% of IIS jurisdictions actively participating in the M&I initiative.

Number of IIS participating in M&I each year:



ALIGNMENT

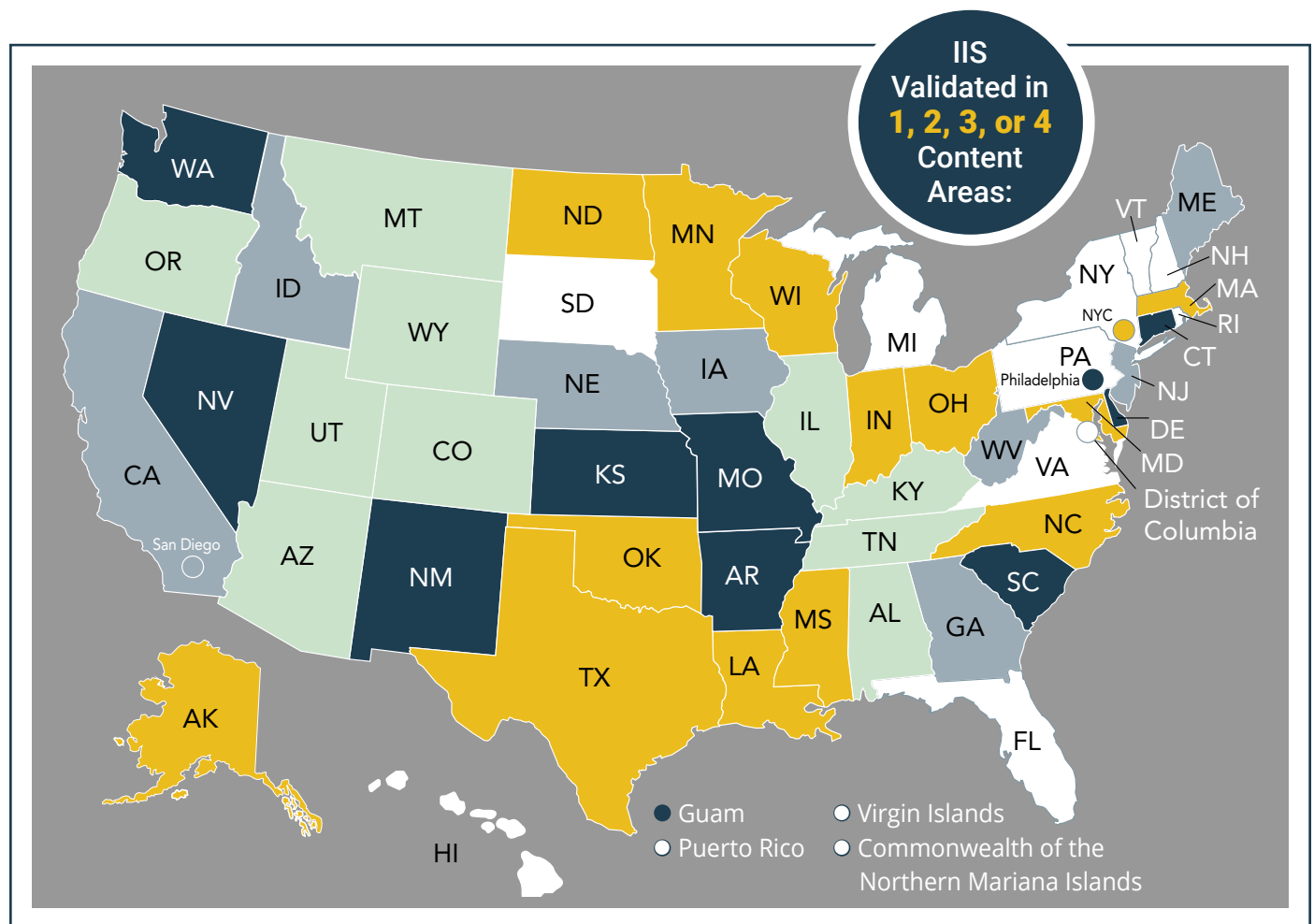
PROGRESS HIGHLIGHTS:

- There has been a **23% INCREASE** in IIS using the national standard for transport protocol (CDC WSDL) to connect with electronic health records (EHRs) or other sending systems.
- There has been a **67% INCREASE** in IIS that can process administered vaccination events in accordance with the National Implementation Guide.
- There has been a **70% INCREASE** in IIS that can process and respond to requests for complete immunization history.
- In just one year, there has been a **17% INCREASE** in IIS that forecast the recommended vaccination date for the next dose.

AIRA HAS SEEN A
132%
INCREASE SINCE
2016 IN THE
NUMBER OF IIS
CONNECTED AND
MEASURED AS
PART OF THE
M&I INITIATIVE.

VALIDATION RESULTS

AIRA annually recognizes the jurisdictions that have achieved validation in one or more of the content areas.



9 IIS validated in **ONE** content area

14 IIS validated in **TWO** content areas

10 IIS validated in **THREE** content areas

11 IIS validated in **FOUR** content areas

ASSISTANCE

AIRA offers a wide range of technical assistance (TA) expertise to assist the IIS community in better aligning with national interoperability standards. The TA offerings include on-demand resources, TA upon request, and, in non-pandemic years, onsite TA visits.

During the 2020 fiscal year, AIRA provided technical assistance to 34 unique IIS jurisdictions and 20 partner organizations.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TAKES VARIOUS FORMS:

- Sharing information and expertise
- Facilitating discussions
- Instruction
- Skills training
- Transmission of working knowledge
- Consulting services

94% of TA participants were satisfied with the quality and completeness of the assistance they received AND said they would request assistance from AIRA staff again.

THE MOST REQUESTED TA TOPICS INCLUDE:

- Health Language Seven (HL7) and interoperability expertise
- Measurement & Improvement and Aggregate Analysis Reporting Tool (AART)
- SmartyStreets
- Interjurisdictional data exchange
- General policies and procedures
- COVID-19
- Discussion of legal, policy, and staffing challenges
- Development of business continuity plans

As a result of COVID, AIRA hosted 37 virtual AART clinics in 2020. AIRA technical staff met with IIS jurisdictions to review their AART testing results and to discuss detailed and practical recommendations for improvements.

71 IIS staff and IIS vendors participated in the clinics.

88% of attendees strongly agreed or agreed that the clinic was useful to their work.

TECHNICAL ONLINE TRAINING VIDEOS

AIRA offers concise training videos on several technical aspects of IIS interoperability and Measurement and Improvement topics. These videos are designed for basic and technical users.



“ We have been continuously making updates to our HL7 interface based on the feedback from our in-person AART clinic and the quarterly AART reports we receive. ”

**Anonymous,
AART Clinic Evaluation**

ADULT PROJECT

Historically, adult vaccination efforts have not received the same focus or funding levels as those dedicated to children and adolescents. As a result, adult data in IIS has lagged behind, as evidenced by the graphic below.



COVID-19 put a spotlight on the national immunization infrastructure and the importance of capturing adult vaccination data. AIRA launched a new project that focused on improving the awareness and use of IIS among adult-care providers.

AIRA's new adult project was able to achieve the following milestones in 2020:

- Completed a literature review, multiple community surveys, and subject matter expert interviews
- Initiated a landscape analysis to summarize the current capabilities for capturing adult vaccination records in routine and mass vaccination settings
- Gathered subject matter experts for a virtual meeting to discuss strategies to improve adult capture

These efforts highlighted a number of unique challenges that can limit the capacity of IIS to completely capture adult vaccination records, including:

- The number and variety of providers who vaccinate adults
- Immunization program priorities
- Resource constraints
- Policy limitations
- Technical considerations

**RESPONSES FROM
61 UNIQUE JURISDICTIONS,
INCLUDING ALL STATES PARTICIPATED IN
THE LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS.**

In the next year, AIRA will finalize the landscape analysis and develop a strategic road map. This road map will provide consensus-based strategies and recommendations for improving and advancing adult-data capture and the awareness and use of IIS for adults.

SHARED SERVICES

AIRA provides members with collaborative tools and technologies to support the work of IIS and immunization programs. AIRA provides two such services, SmartyStreets and the MQE tool, to help evaluate and improve the quality of incoming data, allowing the community to better standardize and align efforts across jurisdictions.

SMARTYSTREETS

SmartyStreets is an address cleansing tool that IIS can implement to improve data quality by standardizing, validating, and geocoding addresses. SmartyStreets benefits IIS and immunization program operations by improving patient matching and reducing duplicate records.



AIRA saw a **5,428%** increase in addresses cleansed between 2017 and 2020. That's an average of **12,581,561** addresses that have been cleansed and geocoded each month.

MQE TOOL

The Message Quality Evaluation (MQE) tool is a community-driven initiative used to assist jurisdictions in consistently evaluating and improving the quality of incoming IIS data. This open-source application is another data quality tool for AIRA members.

Why it's helpful:

The MQE tool gives users with varying levels of expertise the ability to analyze the quality of incoming immunization data quickly and easily.

How to get started:

All IIS are welcome to use this resource and/or to be part of the evolution of this open-source tool. Contact AIRA by emailing info@immregistries.org, and a team member will reach out to you.

VACCINATE WITH CONFIDENCE

AIRA's Vaccinate with Confidence initiative strives to increase the percentage of immunization programs leveraging their IIS to identify "pockets of need," or populations of unimmunized or under-immunized individuals. To support this initiative, AIRA launched a new project in late 2019 that focused on strengthening vaccine confidence and preventing outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases.

By leveraging IIS data and analyzing geographic data, jurisdictions can identify areas with low vaccination rates.



In October 2019, AIRA surveyed IIS awardees to assess how jurisdictions were using their IIS to identify pockets of need and which IIS would benefit from technical assistance.

Based on the needs identified in the survey, AIRA offered tailored technical assistance to eight jurisdictions. The tailored technical assistance occurred in a variety of formats, including:

ACCESS TO AND TRAINING FOR SMARTYSTREETS

By using SmartyStreets, an address cleansing and geocoding service, IIS can improve their data quality (e.g., reduce the number of duplicate records in their systems), which helps to identify pockets of need and improve their response in an outbreak.

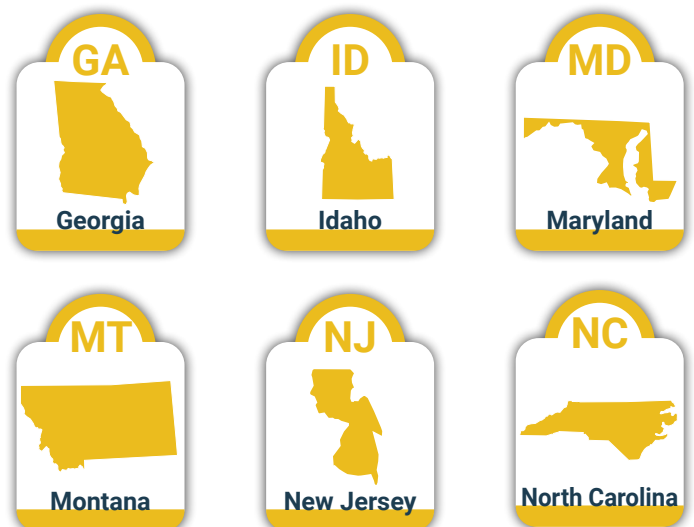
Participating States



ACCESS TO AND TRAINING FOR TABLEAU

Tableau is an analytics platform that enables IIS to visualize their data. IIS were given licenses and training on Tableau to be able to create reports that identify pockets of need and give them insight into actions to implement.

Participating States



VACCINATE WITH CONFIDENCE

CUSTOMIZED BUSINESS CONTINUITY PLAN

A business continuity plan was developed for one IIS to ensure that it can continue functioning despite interruptions.

Participating Jurisdiction



CUSTOMIZED DATA QUALITY PLAN

A data quality plan was developed for one IIS which enabled them to move forward with confidence in using their IIS effectively to identify pockets of need.

Participating State



EDUCATION TO THE IIS COMMUNITY

In addition to the tailored technical assistance, AIRA offered two community-wide webinars to increase IIS data confidence and support IIS outbreak response.

60% OF IIS
JURISDICTIONS
PARTICIPATED IN ONE OR
BOTH WEBINARS

Through this project, AIRA was able to provide technical assistance to one third of IIS that were not using their IIS data to identify pockets of need.

“ Having access to Tableau and the extensive training sessions has been very beneficial to improving informatics and data analytical capacity within the NJIIS team. ”

Anonymous,
Member of the NJIIS Team

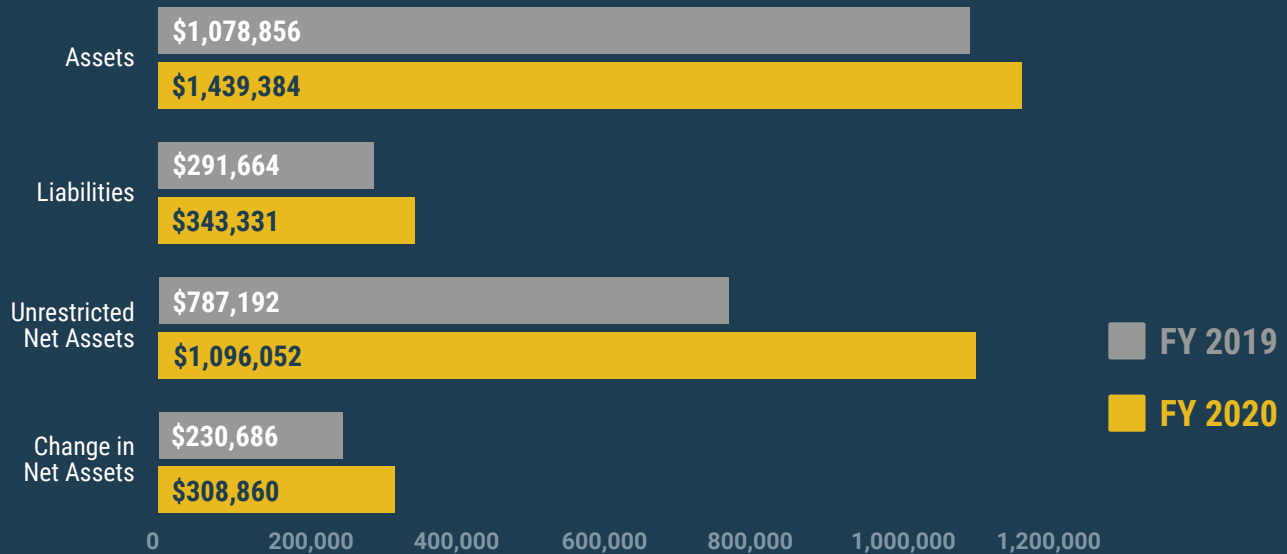


FINANCES

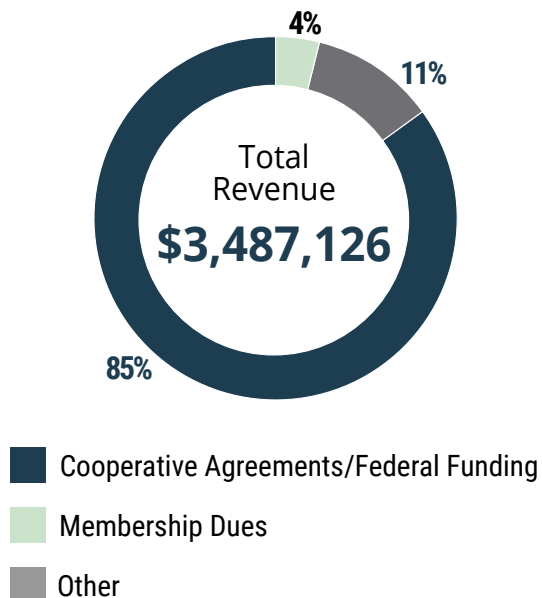
FY2020 Total Liabilities and Assets

Assets **\$1,439,384**Liabilities **\$343,331**Unrestricted
Net Assets **\$1,096,052**

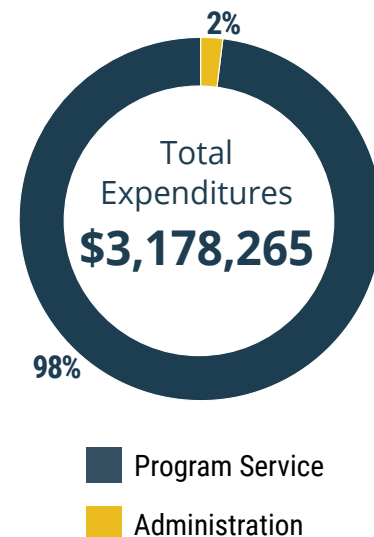
2020 v. 2019 Asset, Liability, Net Asset, and Change in Net Asset



2020 Revenue and Support

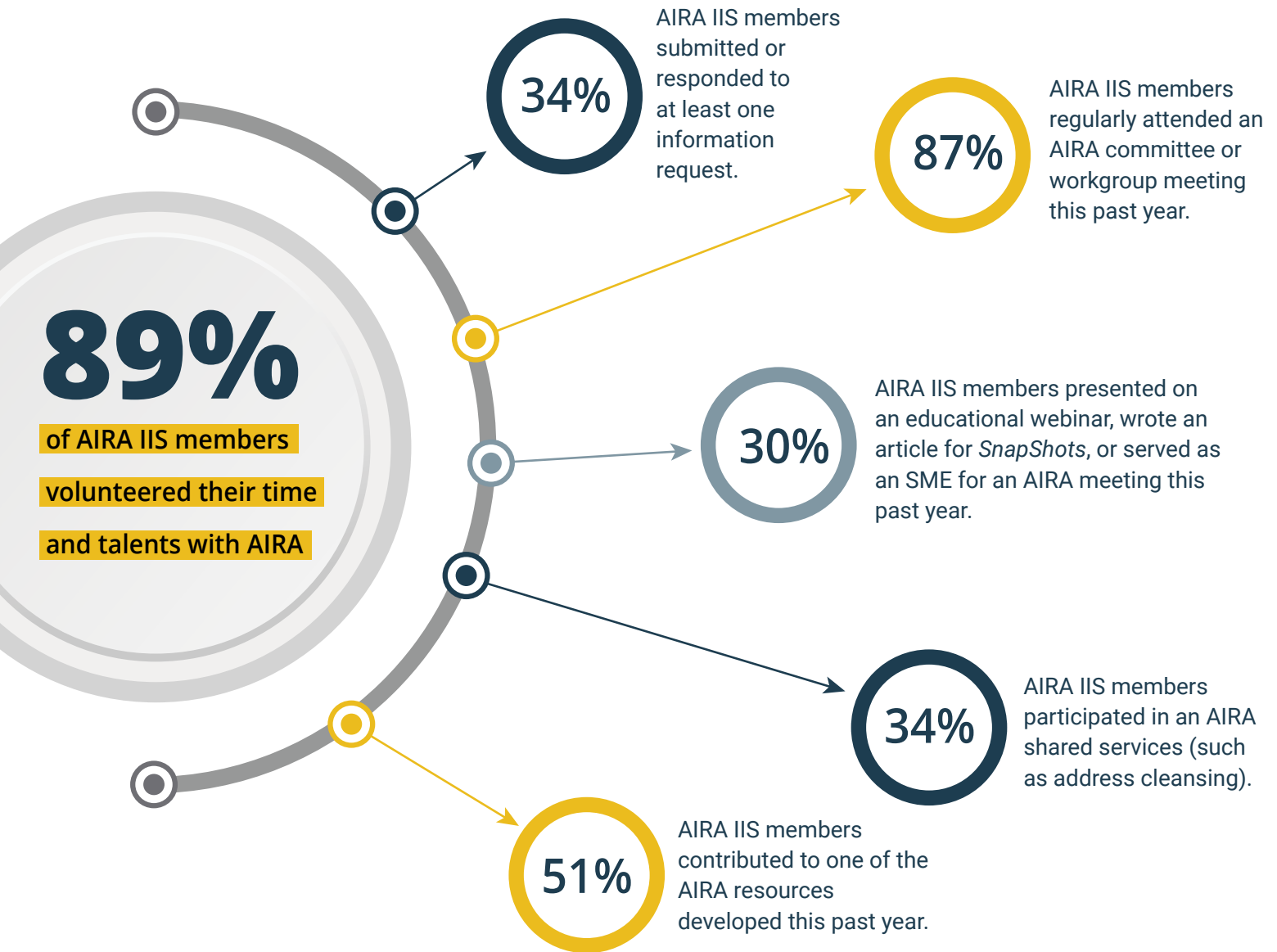


2020 Expenditures by Function



THANK YOU

The past year has been one of the most challenging on record, but the IIS community rose to the challenge with grace and resiliency. The work AIRA does would not be possible without the time, attention, and energy from our members. Every workgroup, every resource, and every committee rely on the volunteer efforts of this extraordinary community! AIRA is so thankful for all the hard work of this tremendous community!



59 DIFFERENT NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND PARTNERS CONTRIBUTED TO ONE OR MORE OF AIRA'S PROJECTS OR INITIATIVES.

THANK YOU

The following partners contributed their time and talents with AIRA.

PARTNER COLLABORATORS

AIM

Adult and Child Consortium for Health
Outcomes Research and Delivery Science
(ACCORDS)

Amazon

Amazon CTPS Gives

American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP)

American College of Physicians (ACP)

American Medical Group Association (AMGA)

American Pharmacists Association (APhA),
APhA Foundation

Adult Vaccine Access Coalition (AVAC)

Association of Immunization Managers (AIM)

Allscripts

Altarum Institute

ASTHO

athenahealth

Atlantic Management Center

Audacious Inquiry

Business Rules Solutions

CDC

Cerner Corporation

Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

CMS

Deloitte Consulting

Discern Health

DSHS

D1C Technology

ehealthsign

Envision Technology Partners, Inc.

Epic

Gerontological Society of America (GSA)

HHS

HLN Consulting, LLC

Immunization Action Coalition (IAC)

IRD Global

National Academy of State Health Policy

National Association of County and City Health
Officials (NACCHO)

National Association of Community Health Centers
(NACHC)

National Institute of Standards and Technology

National Vaccine Program Office

Network for Public Health Law

NORC

ONC (Office of the National Coordinator for Health IT)

Office Practicum

Pan American Health Organization

PATH

PharmD

Physicians Computer Company

PDPH

Public Health Informatics Institute

Salkowitz Associates

Scientific Technologies Corporation

Software Partners LLC

Texas Children's Hospital

The Immunization Partnership

University of Chile, School of Public Health

University of Michigan Child Health Evaluation &
Research Unit

