

Reuniting Schools of Public Health & Public Health Practice

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Overview

- Workforce NEED; SUPPLY
- Resources for training & education
 - Some observations

Education/training NEEDS for infection control & disease investigation

- How many do we NEED?
- How many are WORKING now?

NEED: a rough estimate

Based on Libbey, Washington State, 1994 (unpublished)

Job title	FTE per 50,000	FTE need for US population
Epidemiologist	1.10	6,160
Disease investigator	0.55	3,080

PRESENT WORKFORCE

Based on Gebbie “Enumeration,” 2001

Job title	Enumerated	% of NEED
Epidemiologist	1113	18%
Infection Control- Disease Investigator	940	31%

Lessons from Anthrax Letters

- “Target” locations got expert help
- 70,000 white powder samples nationally *
- Local agencies overwhelmed, understaffed, under-equipped

*GAO Report 03-769T, “Improvements to Public Health Capacity...”

Do Schools fill the NEED?

2002 Grads from ASPH schools

- 5,664 graduates
- 3775 (66.6%) earned MPH degrees
- 1,059 (18.7%) degrees in Epi

Caveats

NOT all Epi/ID workers:

- Graduate from “Epi” programs
- Have MPH or doctoral degree
- Come from Schools of Public Health

Other education programs

- **MPH Programs -- 15 accredited**
- **Community Health/Preventive Medicine -- 37 accredited**

Resources for education & training

- Programs for existing workforce
 - HRSA Public Health Training Centers
 - CDC Preparedness Centers
 - PHF's Trainingfinder.org
 - HRSA AIDS Education/Training Centers

Resources for education & training

- **Programs for students in ASPH schools**
 - “Epi” aides
 - Health department collaborations
 - Innovative degree programs

Recommendations

- **Fund workforce training**
- **Research workforce “systems”**
- **Credential public health workers**
- **Build LOCAL capacity**