

WHAT DOES DATA MODERNIZATION LOOK LIKE IN PRACTICE?

Follow along the data modernization journeys of agencies across the country with DMI Stories from the Field

The Data Modernization Initiative (DMI) Stories from the Field project highlights the “behind the scenes” work that public health does to keep communities healthy, such as improving information sharing and making data exchange easier. These innovative stories from states and other jurisdictions help shed light on the path forward for data modernization, providing actionable tools and practices—and inspiration. PHII Stories from the Field are:

- A highly curated, specialized set of representative stories told through **process- and person-centered experiences**.
- **Detailed, replicable** DMI planning and implementation journeys.
- **Promising practices** for future DMI work.
- **Multimedia storytelling** at different levels and depths.
- A lens for examining **themes** of data modernization.



Enterprise approach
to data systems
modernization

Alaska: Forging a new path for data in “The Last Frontier”

Learn the steps the Alaska Division of Public Health took to transition from a state without a clear data strategy to one with a strategic plan that addresses data gaps and outlines actionable steps. With the plan in place, Alaska’s leaders, policymakers, staff and partners have a picture of existing systems, why they’re important to health and security and a path for the road ahead. **Explore the story for ideas on enhancing staffing and filling workforce needs.**



Partnerships

Partnering for success in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) collaborated with a technology vendor to create dynamic technology solutions and a marketing campaign which resulted in almost the entire population of the territory being vaccinated. These technology solutions were also adapted to non-communicable diseases and this public-private partnership continues to thrive today. **See the story for best practices when working with external partners.**



Workplace culture
and training

Fairfax County transforms data exchange and workplace culture

As one of its many interoperability initiatives, Fairfax County implemented a data warehouse to serve as “a single source of data truth.” A data warehouse allows team members to pull data directly into an analytical system without the extra steps of transforming it or saving it to their individual computers. **Read the story for promising practices of implementing change management.**

More stories →



Interoperable data systems

A journey from the land of 10,000 lakes

Curious about data lakes? The Minnesota Department of Health began building data lakes—central repositories of data—to overlay different data with datasets that give them new insights to improve public health. **See the extended story for a detailed list of governance questions to ask when implementing data lakes.**



Communication strategies

Scaling up data strategy and technology in the Big Apple

Just getting started in data modernization? Despite the New York Department of Health and Mental Hygiene's long history of technology innovations, this story offers many ideas for just beginning the journey, along with DMI communications strategies that have proved successful. **Read the story for details about their master child index, a visionary central data infrastructure and their many collaborative forums that help link together different data projects and people.**



Frameworks for faster public health response

Ohio: Having a solid foundation to stand on

Ohio's Innovate Ohio Platform (IOP), a state government-wide data management and analytics platform, streamlines the data exchange process, freeing epidemiologists to do more important work. It also has led to faster dissemination of information and allows the team to get more resources for speedier response. **See the story for detail about the platform's frameworks, which have proved critical when adapting to different situations.**



Cross-agency data sharing

Utah's open-source surveillance system paves the way for data modernization

EpiTrax, Utah's open-source disease surveillance system, has improved the speed and convenience of data sharing among local and state health departments, hospitals, labs and CDC. It's even used by multiple jurisdictions outside Utah. This system, along with focused governance processes and advisory groups, has brought together state, local and tribal public health agencies to protect the health of Utah communities. **Explore Utah's story to understand how collaborating with local, tribal and other state agencies can be a force multiplier.**

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