



Exploring Your Connection with APHL and the Benefits of Our Food Laboratory Resources

[Survey Instructions](#)[Email Support](#)

Introduction

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We invite you to take part in this important survey designed specifically for bench-level analysts. Our goal is to understand your current interactions with the Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL) and its resources. By gathering your valuable insights, we aim to identify opportunities for APHL to enhance its support for human and animal food testing laboratories.

Your participation is crucial in helping us improve our services and tailor them to better meet your needs. The information you provide will be used to shape future initiatives and resources that can aid you in your daily work and contribute to the overall success of your laboratory.

The survey consists of a series of questions that will cover various aspects of your experience with APHL, including the usefulness of current resources, any challenges you may face, and suggestions for improvement. It should take approximately 10 minutes to complete.

We appreciate your time and effort in providing thoughtful and honest responses. Your feedback is invaluable to us and will play a significant role in enhancing the quality and effectiveness of APHL's offerings.

Thank you for your participation and for your continued dedication to ensuring the safety and quality of human and animal food through your vital work in the laboratory.

Laboratory Information

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Laboratory Name

1. How many people work in your laboratory?

- ☐ <5
- ☐ 6 - 20
- ☐ 21 - 50
- ☐ 51+

2. Total years of laboratory experience

- ☐ <1 - 5 years
- ☐ 6 - 10 years
- ☐ 11 - 20 years
- ☐ 21 - 30 years
- ☐ 31+ years

APHL MEMBERSHIP

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3. Are you aware of the Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL)?

- ☐ Yes

☐ No

3a. When or how did you become aware of APhL?

- ☐ Upon hiring at the lab
- ☐ From a colleague
- ☐ On my own
- ☐ Other (Please Specify)

4. Is your laboratory currently an APhL member?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ I'm not sure

APHL RESOURCES

APHL RESOURCES

5. Which of the following APhL resources are you aware of?

	Aware	Somewhat Aware	Not Aware
Public Health Laboratory Systems Database (PHLSD)	☐	☐	☐
APHL Learning Center	☐	☐	☐
Emerging Leader Program(ELP)	☐	☐	☐
CollABorate	☐	☐	☐
ISO/IEC 10725 training resources	☐	☐	☐
Laboratory Leaders of Today(LLOT)	☐	☐	☐
Advisory committees, subcommittees and work groups	☐	☐	☐
APHL Job Center	☐	☐	☐
eUpdate Newsletter	☐	☐	☐

	Aware	Somewhat Aware	Not Aware
Lab Matters magazine	☐	☐	☐

5a. Which of these resources do you use:

	Often	Sometimes	Rarely	Never
Public Health Laboratory Systems Database (PHLSD)	☐	☐	☐	☐
CollABorate	☐	☐	☐	☐
APHL Learning Center	☐	☐	☐	☐
ISO/IEC 10725 training resources	☐	☐	☐	☐
APHL Job Center	☐	☐	☐	☐
eUpdate Newsletter	☐	☐	☐	☐
Lab Matters magazine	☐	☐	☐	☐

6. Have you participated in any of the following:

Select all that apply.

- ☐ Emerging Leader Program
- ☐ APHL Advisory Committees
- ☐ APHL subcommittees and work groups
- ☐ Other (please specify)

- ☐ None of the above

7. Are you currently or previously a member of any of these committees or groups or are you aware of any?

	Current or past member	Aware	Somewhat Aware	Not Aware
Human and Animal Food Committee	☐	☐	☐	☐
Foodborne Diseases Committee	☐	☐	☐	☐
Food Chemistry CollABorate Community of Practice	☐	☐	☐	☐
Workforce Development Committee	☐	☐	☐	☐

	Current or past member	Aware	Somewhat Aware	Not Aware
Laboratory Systems and Standards Committee	☐	☐	☐	☐
Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility Committee	☐	☐	☐	☐
Environmental Laboratory Science Committee	☐	☐	☐	☐

8. Do you participate in any of the following APHL CoLABorate communities?

Select all that apply.

- ☐ Food Chemistry Community
- ☐ Government Environmental Laboratory Community
- ☐ PHL Bench Scientist Community
- ☐ Quality Assurance Community
- ☐ Wastewater Surveillance Community
- ☐ APHL Gathering Place: All Are Welcome Community
- ☐ Microbiology Discussion Community
- ☐ Radiochemistry Community
- ☐ Enteric Reference Laboratory Community
- ☐ Other (please specify)
- ☐ None of the above

9. Have you attended any APHL or APHL co-sponsored meetings?

Select all that apply.

- ☐ APHL Annual Conferences
- ☐ ID Lab Con
- ☐ GenomeTrakr network meetings
- ☐ LFFM CAP Grantee meetings
- ☐ Other (please specify)

☐ None of the above

9a. What barriers do you find in attending meetings?

Select all that apply.

☐ Funding challenges

☐ Staffing challenges

☐ Lack of management support

☐ Other (please specify)

☐ None of the above

10. Do you have an opportunity to attend annual conferences from national organizations such as: APHL, International Association for Food Protection (IAFP), Association of Food and Drug Officials (AFDO), Association of American Feed Control Officials (AAFCO) and American Society for Microbiology (ASM).

☐ Yes

☐ No. Please Specify Why

11. Are you aware of travel scholarships to attend national conferences?

☐ Yes

☐ No

11a. Are you aware that those working in APHL member laboratories may be eligible for an APHL travel scholarship to attend national conferences?

☐ Yes

☐ No

LAB RESOURCES AND NEEDS

LAB RESOURCES AND NEEDS

12. Are there specific disciplines in your lab that are consistently understaffed?

Select all that apply

- ☐ Microbiology
- ☐ Chemistry
- ☐ Radiochemistry
- ☐ My laboratory does not currently have staffing issues
- ☐ Other (please specify)

- ☐ None of the above

13. Are you aware of APHL's Fellowship program, which places fully funded fellows in state and local public health laboratories?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

14. How do you currently connect or collaborate with laboratorians outside of your organization?

Select all that apply.

- ☐ Email
- ☐ Meetings/Conferences
- ☐ Listservs
- ☐ CoLLABorate communities
- ☐ Other (please specify)

- ☐ None of the above

15. Does your laboratory have any resource or knowledge gaps for radiochemistry testing?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ I'm not sure
- ☐ Our laboratories doesn't perform radiochemistry testing

LAB RESOURCES AND NEEDS2

16. What types of samples do you test?

Select all that apply.

- ☐ Animal Food
- ☐ Human Food
- ☐ Water (e.g., surface, waste, drinking, ground)
- ☐ Environmental (e.g., soil, air, vegetation [non-food])
- ☐ Other (please specify)
- ☐ None of the above

17. What testing do you perform?

Select all that apply?

- ☐ Microbiology (e.g., bacteria, viruses, parasites, mycotoxins)
- ☐ Chemistry (e.g., residues, pesticides, drugs/toxins, antibiotics)
- ☐ Nutrients (e.g., protein, fat, fiber, vitamins)
- ☐ Metals (e.g., minerals, inorganics, metals)
- ☐ Radiochemistry (e.g., alpha, beta, gamma)
- ☐ Other (please specify)
- ☐ None of the above