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Comments Received :

• Is N-PEARS collecting information that is necessary for the proper performance of SNAP-Ed, and does the information have practical utility?

The data requested seems critical to validating the use of SNAP-Ed programming in the state. However, some sections of the Needs Assessment should feature greater prepopulation from common data sources (see Additional Notes below). The collection of Site Addresses in the Annual Report initially seemed like an impractical burden, but if the Import Sites button on that page works, the generation of a site map at the end of the Annual Report seems invaluable, similar to National GIS mapping efforts proposed at ASNNA FY22.

• Are there ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information that will be collected?

Data prepopulation from common sources (ex. American Community Survey), generating demographic estimates in the Annual Report, and creating templates for the automatic import of Annual Report data will reduce the chance of manual error during data entry. Prepopulation and data import should be aggressively pursued wherever possible.

• Are there ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including other forms of information technology?

Currently N-PEARS is viewed as a data reporting system, i.e. selectively opened and closed to provide information to the SNAP-Ed National Office. The goal for the future should be to add data collection elements that can be used year-round.

• Is the workload for data entry realistic for your program?

The single largest new data burden is the survey results collected by age group. If participant identities are protected (surveys are not matched), the age question will need to be asked on both PRE- and POST-test surveys, or participants will need to remember a custom ID number to put in place of their names. If participant identities are protected, this also means alternative methods will need to be used to determine the unduplicated count of SNAP-Ed participants.

Then, because there is currently no import functionality in N-PEARS, survey results will need to be manually transferred by age category and indicator. All that said, this is not an impossible task if data systems are set up in advance. It will be more difficult to complete the survey result section in this first year than in subsequent years.

Site addresses may also be burdensome if the Import Sites button is not functional. It was unclear from the last N-PEARS discussions we've had as to how many import functions would be ready at the first release of N-PEARS.

The data entry workload is realistic from what is shown on the wireframe, but additional modifications geared towards prepopulation and file import (see Notes below) can make it more efficient.