



## June 8, 2009 Edition

Hello South Carolina EMS,

Welcome to the SC EMS Data Dashboard. This bi-monthly email update is coming to you from the SC Division of EMS and Trauma and the EMS Performance Improvement Center (EMSPIC).

***This information is also available at [www.SCEMSData.org](http://www.SCEMSData.org)***

## South Carolina is NOW submitting data to the National EMS Database

South Carolina is officially the 15<sup>th</sup> state to begin submitting data into the National EMS Database on June 1, 2009. The National EMS Information System defines almost 70 data elements to be collected and maintained through the National EMS Database. These 70 National EMS data elements from all SC records beginning January 1, 2009 will be submitted quarterly to the National EMS Database. The National EMS Database does not identify any single patient or any individual EMS Agency.

By contributing to this important initiative, SC is providing needed information to federal advocates and policy makers who seek to improve and sustain the EMS industry. Over the next two weeks SC EMS data will be added to the other 14 state's data. Anyone can generate reports from the National EMS Database through the NEMSIS website at [www.NEMSIS.org](http://www.NEMSIS.org).

**Congratulations!!!**

## SC EMS Data System: Regional Enrollment Contest Ends!

**And we have a winner... Midlands Regional EMS!**

Congratulations to Chris, Patti, Jimmy, and Cynthia for promoting EMS Agency enrollment in the Midlands region. In addition, we had a large response from the Lowcountry, Pee Dee, and Upstate regions. We greatly appreciate the efforts of all regional staff members and encourage you to keep the wheels turning, as we move closer to 100% enrollment!

**The chart below displays enrollment percentages for all regions:**

Total Enrollment Percentage by Region			
Upstate	Midlands	Pee Dee	Lowcountry
37%	47%	38%	44%

[Click here](#) for EMS Data System enrollment information.

### Stop Submitting the Paper SC DHEC 1050 Forms

Did you know that any SC EMS Agency can stop submitting the paper SC DHEC 1050 forms upon successfully sending EMS Data electronically to PreMIS? All you have to do is call Jennifer Paddock-Roxburgh at 803-545-4569 or write to [paddocjl@dhec.sc.gov](mailto:paddocjl@dhec.sc.gov). Jennifer will get the forms right out to you for verification.

### Electronic Billing Download from PreMIS Web Now Available

If you are an EMS Agency who bills for its services but would like to use the free PreMIS Web Application, we have a solution for you! The PreMIS Web Application can now generate an electronic billing file that can be used by at least one EMS Billing Company.

Currently EMS Management and Consultants can accept the PreMIS billing file but we expect several other EMS billing companies to soon develop this capability as well.

If you use PreMIS Web and would like to provide an electronic file of your PCR data to a billing company, please have your billing company contact Matt Gawthrop at the EMSPIC 919-843-0201. If you do not have a current billing company, EMS Management and Consultants can currently accept the PreMIS file.

### EMS Data System Reports

The EMS Data System reports continue to grow with new reports released each week. The following reports are currently available for use:

(New reports released in the last 2 weeks are in Red)

- \* Data Submission Reports
  - o Agency Data Submission
  - o PCR Error Messages
- \* EMS Call Volume Reports
  - o Calls by Day of Week
  - o Calls by Time of Day
  - o Calls by Day and Time
- \* Time Reports
  - o Average Times
    - Average Times by Response Level
    - Average Times by Transport Level
  - o 90% Fractile Times
    - Call to Notification

- Notification to Scene
  - Response Time
  - On Scene Time
  - Transport Time
  - EMS Chute Time Benchmark Report
  - EMS Response Time Benchmark Report
  - EMS At Patient Time Benchmark Report
- Monthly Average
  - Call to Notification
  - Notification to Scene
  - Response Time
  - On Scene Time
  - Transport Time
- \* Procedure Reports
  - Technician Procedure Success
  - EMS Agency Procedure Success
- \* Bar Chart Reports
  - EMS Events by Chief Complaint
  - EMS Events by Dispatch Complaint
  - EMS Events by Disposition Type
  - EMS Events by Destination Name
- \* Infectious Disease
  - H1N1 Influenza Surveillance Report

A Description of each report is available at [www.SCEMSData.org](http://www.SCEMSData.org)

### What is an EMS Benchmarking Report?

The answer is a report that allows you to compare how your EMS Agency performs compared to a similar sized EMS Agency and to the State. The EMS Toolkits are the standard for EMS benchmarking reports. However, EMS Toolkits will not be available to SC EMS Agencies until July. In the meantime the following individual benchmarking reports are now available for use:

- \* EMS Chute Time Benchmark Report
- \* EMS Response Time Benchmark Report
- \* EMS At Patient Time Benchmark Report

These benchmarking reports calculate the 90% EMS Fractile Time for the date range selected. The reports only include events that are associated with an emergent (lights and sirens) response all the way to the scene for a 911 event. Only Ambulance and Quick Response Vehicles (QRV) responses are included.

To allow benchmarking, the most recent 6 months of data is used to create comparison groups. Each EMS Agency has been grouped into one of four groupings based the urban nature of the EMS Agency's service area. The four groups are Urban, Suburban,

Rural, and Wilderness. The definition of each category is based upon an “Urban Influence” coding system utilized by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). These codes take into account - county population size, degree of urbanization, and adjacency to a metropolitan area or areas. Codes are applied to the county or counties (defined by FIPS codes) declared by each agency to represent their formal service area. This grouping of Urbanicity is also used by NEMSIS and the National EMS Database reports.

**Urban Group:** (Urban Influence Codes 1, 2) Counties with large (1+ million residents) or small (less than 1 million residents) metropolitan areas.

**Suburban Group:** (Urban Influence Codes 3, 5) Micropolitan (with an urban core of at least 10,000 residents) counties adjacent to a large or small metropolitan county.

**Rural Group:** (Urban Influence Codes 4, 6, 8, 9) Non-urban core counties adjacent to a large or small metropolitan area (with or without a town).

**Wilderness Group:** (Urban Influence Codes 7, 10, 11, 12) Non-core counties that are adjacent to micropolitan counties (with or without own town)

**State:** The average of all EMS Agencies within the state

Information not appearing in these reports (columns missing) is the result of missing data elements. Using the definitions, it is possible to determine which data element is not being collected or submitted into the EMS Data System.

**A Description of each report is available at [www.SCEMSData.org](http://www.SCEMSData.org)**

### **Use the SC EMS Data System for Swine Flu Surveillance**

Data submitted into the SC EMS Data System can be used to monitor your community for a Swine Flu (H1N1 Influenza) outbreak. A new report is now available through CIS that will identify patients with the symptoms of influenza. The report allows each EMS System to monitor the number of EMS patients with a documented influenza like illness. A chart is included which trends the number of patients over a 7-day period of time. This information can be valuable to your local public health and county officials over the next several weeks.

**Detailed information on this report is available at [www.SCEMSData.org](http://www.SCEMSData.org)**

### **Free Online 12-Lead ECG Training**

The EMS Performance Improvement Center has licensed Tim Phalen’s Online 12 Lead ECG Interpretation Course for all EMT-Paramedics in South Carolina. It is free to Paramedics and our goal is for every Paramedic who is actively caring for patients to complete this course by the end of 2009. You will receive 5 hours of CME upon completion of the course. [Click Here](#) for access to the course!

## SC EMS Data System Enrollment Update: Turning SC Green

Check out the exciting progress of SC EMS agencies enrolling in the SC EMS Data system. [Click here](#) to see the SC EMS Data System Implementation Map. Watch South Carolina turn green as EMS agencies are trained, enrolled, and begin submitting data into the SC EMS Data project.

SC EMS Data System Summary: 6/08/2009	
Total SC EMS Agencies**	212
Total EMS Agencies who have received training	120 (57%)
Total Enrolled in the EMS Data System	86 (41%)
Total Active and Submitting Data	32 (15%)
**Represents total EMS agencies required to be using the SC EMS Data System by December 31, 2009. This number excludes credentialed EMS First Responder Agencies, as their deadline for electronic submission is December 31, 2010.	

## Important Data Submission Deadlines

**There are 206 days until 2010.** Don't wait until the last minute. All licensed SC EMS Agencies must be collecting and submitting data electronically into the SC EMS Data System by December 31, 2009. Learn about the SC EMS Data System and how your EMS Agency can begin participating through the [Frequently Asked Questions](#).

Take the first step and [Click here](#) to complete the Enrollment Packet.

## Upcoming Events

**SC EMS Association Meeting:** June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at 1:00 pm the SC EMS Association will meet at the Clarion Hotel in Columbia, South Carolina. Call Tami Johnson at 803-309-2400 for more information or questions.

**SC EMS Advisory Board Meeting:** June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at 10:00 am at SC DHEC. Call Greg Kitchens at 803-545-4333 or Jennifer Paddock-Roxburgh at 803-545-4569 for information or questions.