

5-1 Security

The TB/HIV/STD and Viral Hepatitis Unit has developed policies and procedures to protect the security and confidentiality of TB/HIV/STD data. All surveillance sites are required to either adopt these security policies and procedures or develop their own procedures that are in compliance with federal and state confidentiality guidelines and approved by Central Office. The following link provides the complete list of policies and procedures developed by Central Office. These policies and procedures describe how to ensure physical security, to maintain the security and confidentiality of TB/HIV/STD data, circumstances under which TB/HIV/STD data can be released, and procedures for addressing potential security breaches:

<http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/hivstd/policy/security.shtm>

Maintaining the security and confidentiality of HIV/STD data should be a priority for all surveillance staff and every effort should be made to adhere to the security policies and procedures.