

# **Biochemistry and Genetics Branch Update**

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**November 12, 2012**

**Fall Conference of Public Health Laboratory  
Directors of Texas**

# Overview

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- Laboratory Courier
- Clinical Chemistry
- Newborn Screening



# Courier Pilot Project

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- Full-service courier
  - Routes include Dallas, Fort Worth, Houston, Beaumont, Tyler, Texarkana, Wichita Falls, Brenham, San Antonio, Brownsville, McAllen, Laredo, Del Rio, Corpus Christi, Austin, Temple, Waco, San Angelo, Midland, Odessa, El Paso, Lubbock, Amarillo
- Total Sites As of 11/12/2012: 329 (315 in May 2012)
  - Daily: 257
  - Will call/Routine: 72
- Total Submitter Accounts: 691 (672 in May 2012)





# Courier Pilot Project

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- Type of specimens: Texas Health Steps, Newborn Screening, Public Health Specimens (started 11/01/2012)
- Percentage of specimens received via courier between 1/1/12 and 6/31/12:
  - THSteps – 35 %
  - NBS – 53%



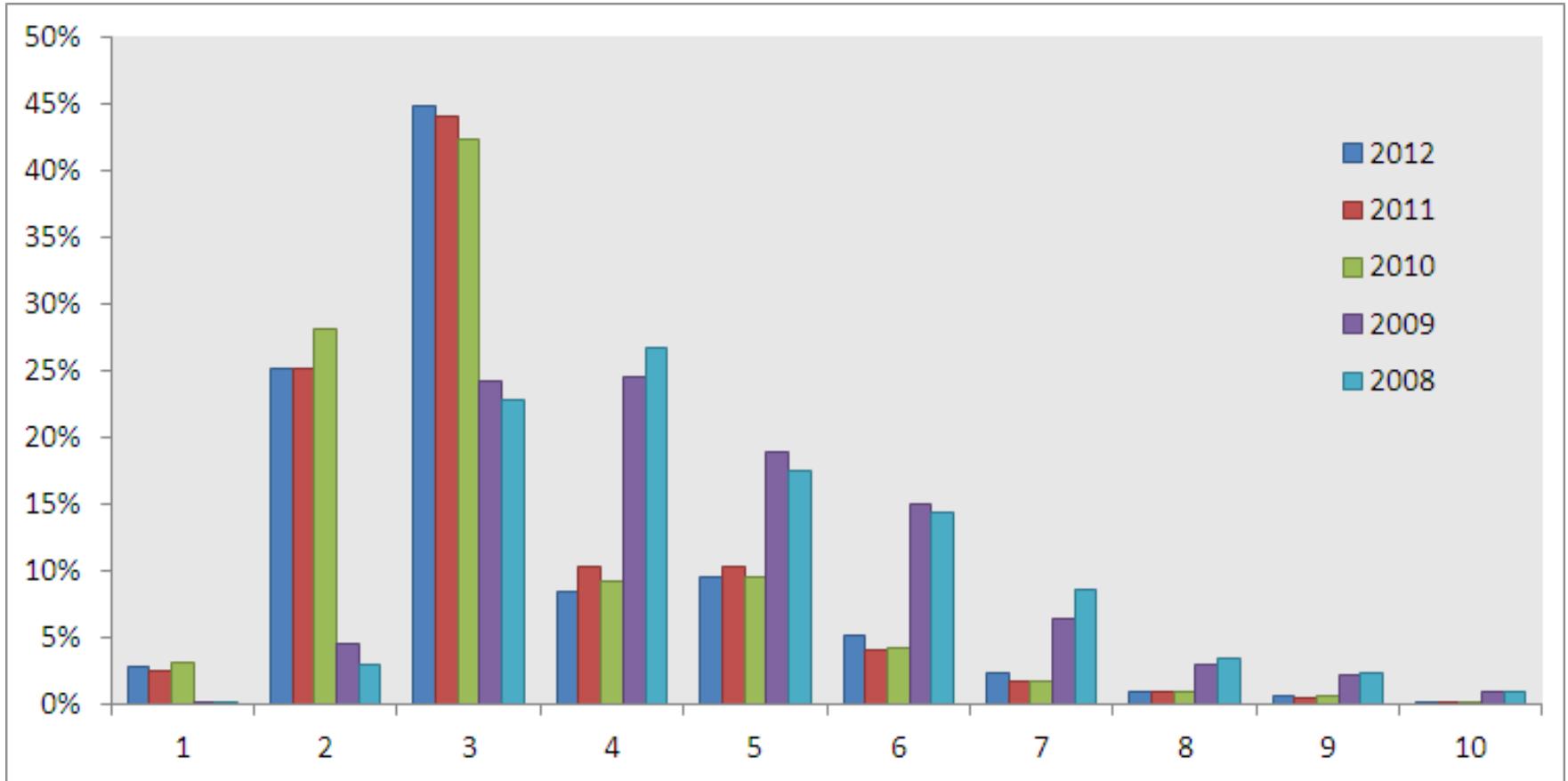
# Courier Pilot Project

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- Key Success Indicators:
  - Decrease in transit time to the DSHS Laboratory
  - Provide more timely laboratory results by reducing transit times
  - Reduce specimen rejections due to too old for testing and other quality issues
  - Increase submitter satisfaction due to convenience and ease of pick-ups

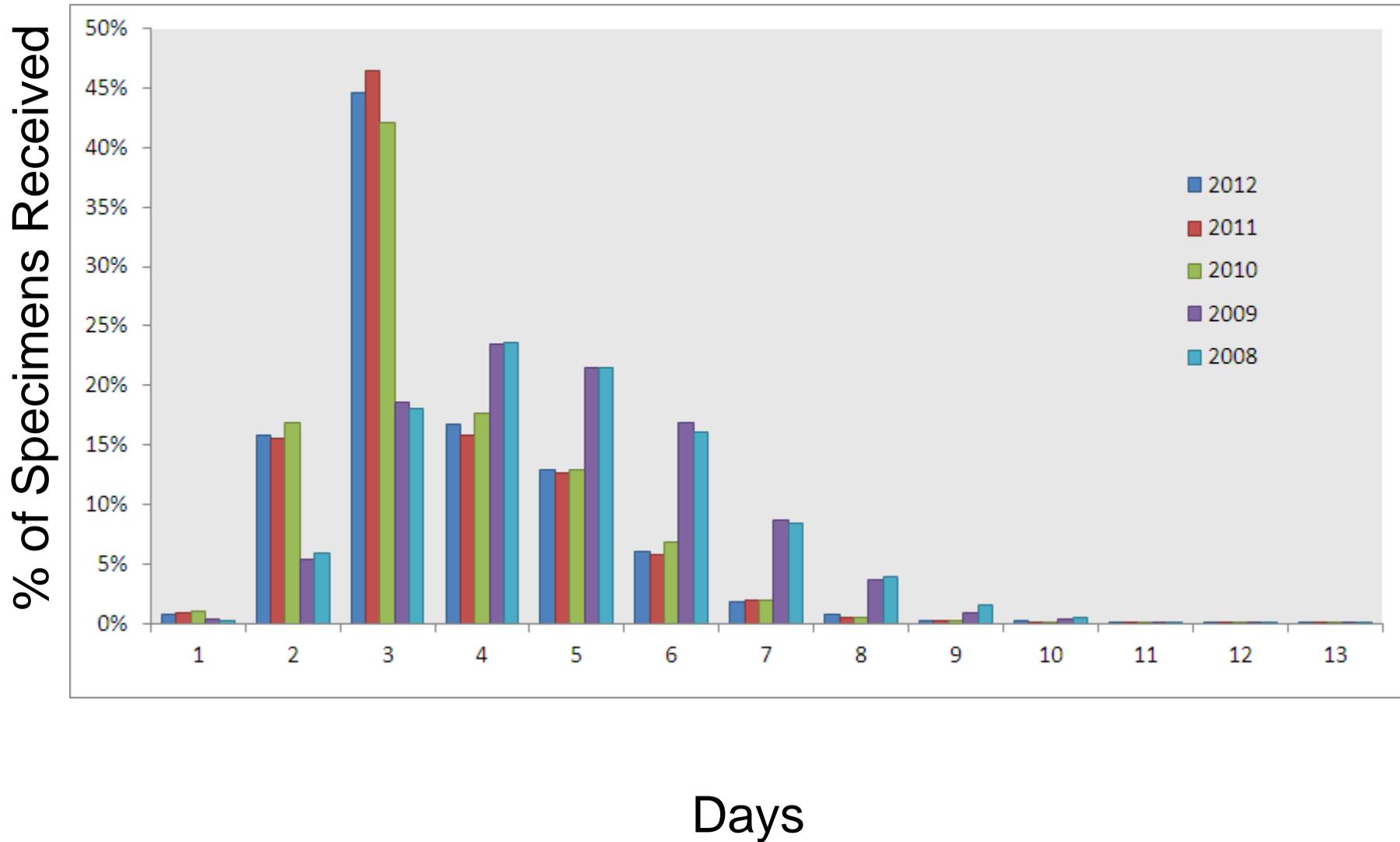
# Transit Time for THSteps Specimens (September)

% of Specimens Received



Days

# Transit Time for Newborn Screening Specimens (September)





# Clinical Chemistry Updates

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- Overview
- Specimen volume
- Efforts continue to reduce specimen rejection

- Texas Health Steps Required Screens
  - Blood Lead – point of care testing effective 12/1/11
  - Total Hemoglobin
  - Hg Electrophoresis – dropped from Schedule, effective 12/1/11
  - Syphilis – testing moved to Serology Lab, effective 6/4/12
  - Hyperlipidemia - Cholesterol
  - Diabetes – Glucose
- Prenatal Screening
  - Hemolytic Disease of the Newborn (HDN) – testing forwarded to ASH, effective 10/16/12



# 2011 Clinical Chemistry Volume

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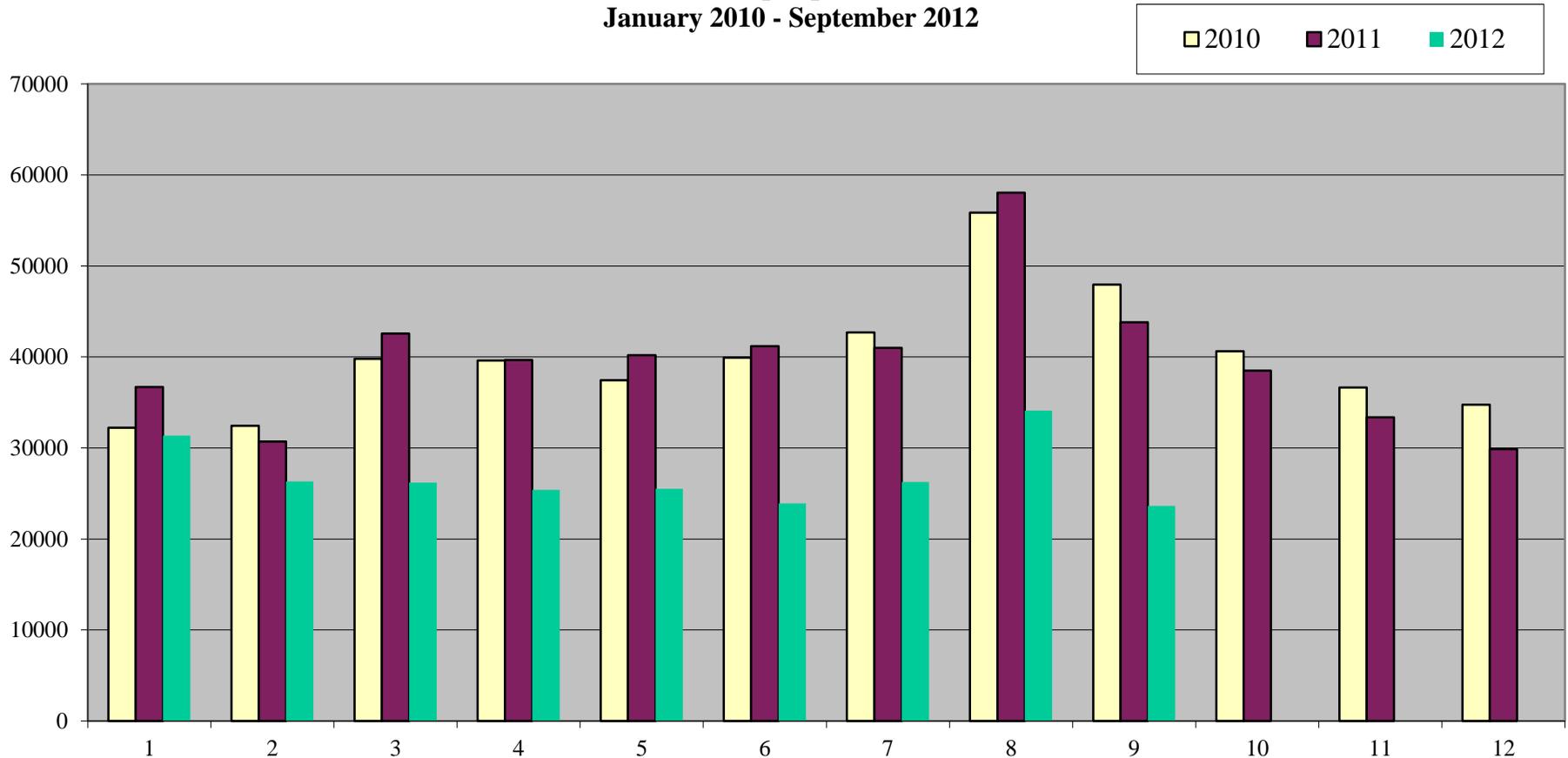
- Hemoglobin, Lead, Hb Types, RPR = 460,039
- Glucose = 3364
- Hyperlipidemia = 5375
- HDN = 7747
- Total for all testing performed in Clinical Chemistry = 476,525

- Jan-Sept 2011 vs. Jan-Sept 2012
  - Lead
    - 2011 Lead orders = 247,049
    - 2012 Lead orders = 163,120 34% decrease
  - Hemoglobin
    - 2011 Hemoglobin orders = 296,689
    - 2012 Hemoglobin orders = 198,137 33% decrease
  - Hemoglobin electrophoresis
    - 2011 orders = 38,397
    - 2012 orders = 16,514 57% decrease



# THSteps Test Volume: Specimens Received for Hemoglobin/Lead

Number of THSteps Specimens Received  
January 2010 - September 2012



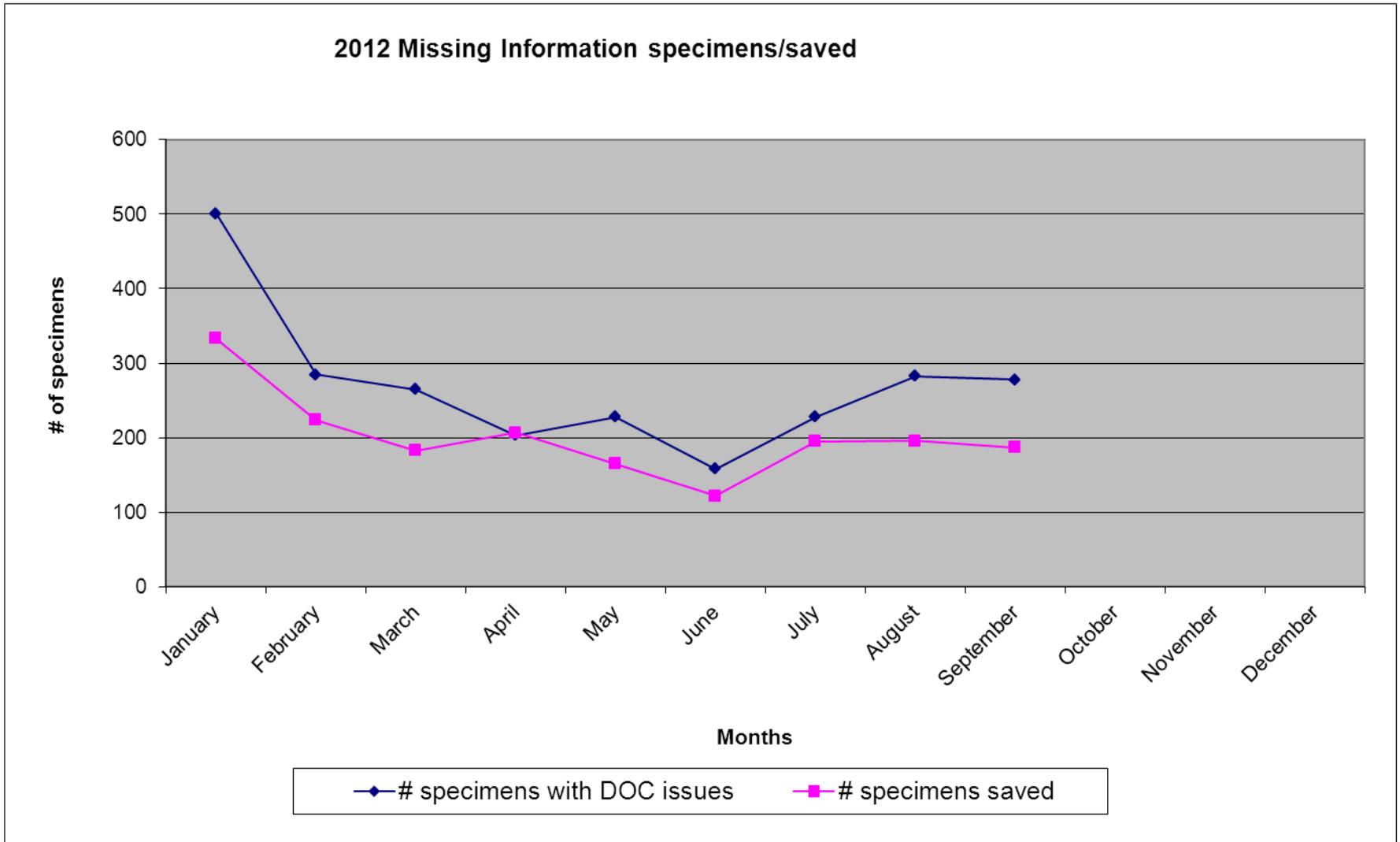
Jan.-Sept. 2011: 373,948  
Jan.-Sept. 2012: 242,783

Jan.-Sept. 2012:  
35% decrease over 2011



# Efforts to Reduce Specimen Rejections

- Calls/faxes to collect information required for testing
- Calls/faxes to provide notification/training on unsatisfactory specimens
- Public Health Performance Measures Project
  - **Review of current report card**
    - provides a huge amount of information - hard to interpret
    - provided quarterly - often too late for provider to correct issues in a timely manner
    - Process to prepare and mail reports is time-consuming and costly
  - **New report card (coming in early 2013)**
    - provided monthly with top three rejections so that changes can be made in a more timely manner
    - provided electronically which eliminates costly mailing process



1812 specimens saved Jan. – Sept. 2012

76% success rate



# Newborn Screening Updates

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- Overview
- HB411 Changes
- SCID Screening Implementation
- Special Projects

# Newborn Screening Panel

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- Currently screen for 28 disorders
  - Congenital Hypothyroidism
  - Congenital Adrenal Hyperplasia
  - 3 Hemoglobinopathies
  - Galactosemia
  - Biotinidase Deficiency
  - 6 Amino Acid Disorders
  - 5 Fatty Acid Oxidation Disorders
  - 9 Organic Acid Disorders
  - Cystic Fibrosis – added December 1, 2009
- 600-700 cases diagnosed annually

# NBS Specimen Volume

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- Goal: To test each infant twice:
  - 24 to 48 hours of age &
  - 1 to 2 weeks of age
- 2011: Received ~741,000 specimens
  - ~ 2,400 specimens per day (6 days per week)
  - ~ 5,700 unsatisfactory specimens (0.77%)
- 2012 (Jan. – October):
  - ~619,000 specimens - No change from 2011
  - ~4900 unsatisfactory specimens (0.79%)

# Top 5 Unsat Reasons

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- Blood did not Soak Through Paper - Incomplete saturation
  - ~230 specimens/month (20% increase from 2011)
- Blood was Caked, Clotted, or Layered onto the Filter Paper (~210 specimens/month)
- Specimen Appears Contaminated or Discolored
  - ~160 specimens/month (20% increase from 2011)
- Specimen Too Old Upon Receipt (~65 specimens/month)
- Blood Did not Completely Fill Specimen Circles(~30 specimens/month)

## Newborn Screening - Healthcare Provider Resources



- [Parent Resources](#) | **Healthcare Provider Resources** | [FAQ](#) -
- [Laboratory Services Section Home](#) | [NBS Home](#) -

### Unsatisfactory Specimens

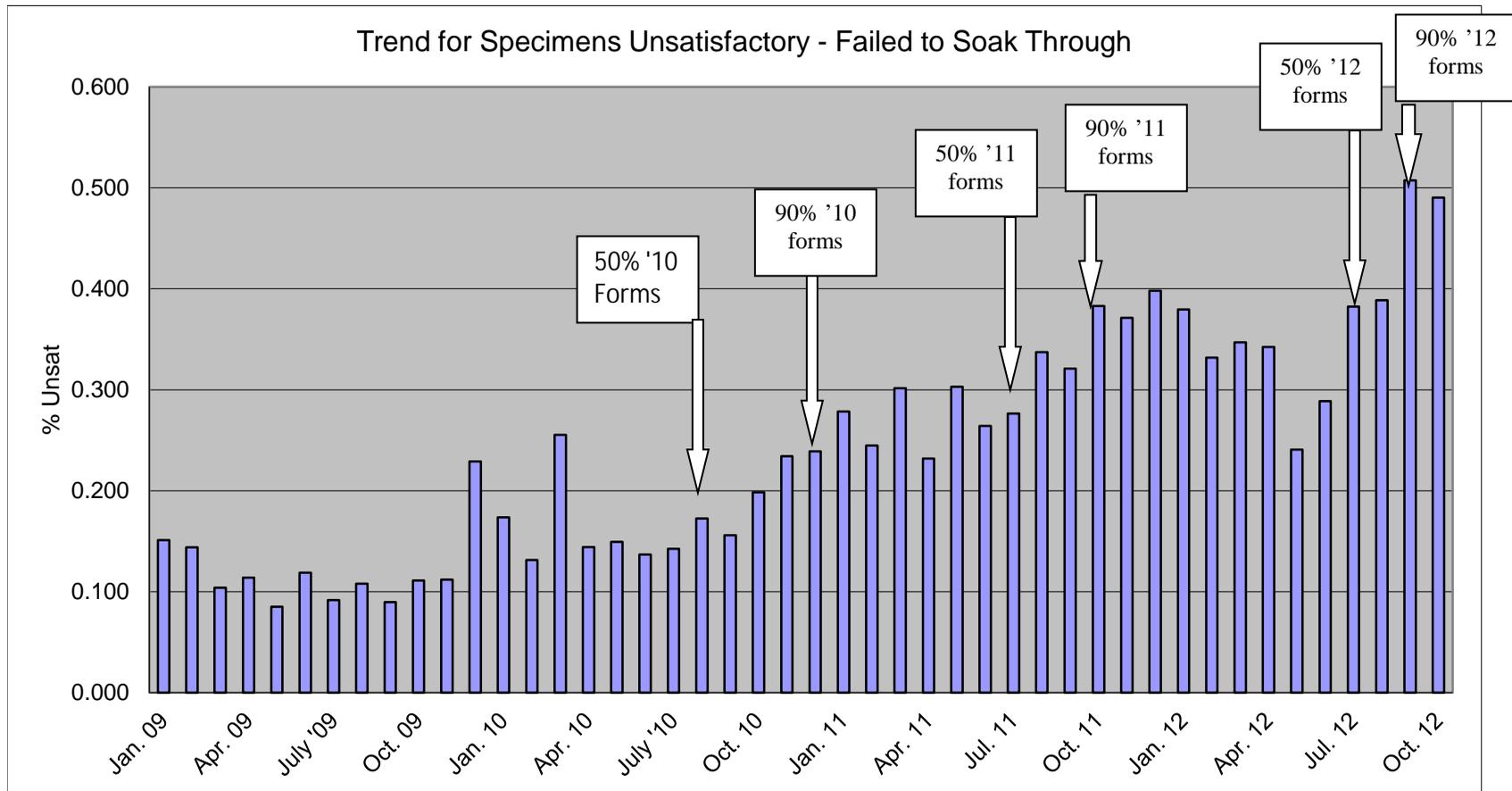
The DSHS Newborn Screening Laboratory reports unsatisfactory specimen results to the submitting facility **ONLY**. It is the submitting facility's responsibility to ensure that an adequate specimen is re-collected.

See below for information on, examples of, and tips for avoiding the most common unsatisfactory qualities reported by the DSHS NBS laboratory.

- **Blood did not Completely Fill Specimen Circles.**  
[Examples](#) / [Tips to Avoid](#)
- **Blood did not Soak Through Paper - Incomplete saturation.** – This is the most common reason for unsatisfactory NBS specimens.  
[Examples](#) / [Tips to Avoid](#)
- **Filter paper is scratched from the possible use of capillary tubes.** – The Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute and the DSHS NBS Laboratory recommend that the preferred method for collection of NBS specimens is by direct application from a puncture on the baby's heel. The use of capillary tubes as part of specimen collection should only occur as a last resort. It is imperative to note that EDTA, Citrate Anticoagulant, and heparin have been shown to interfere with NBS tests.  
[Examples](#)

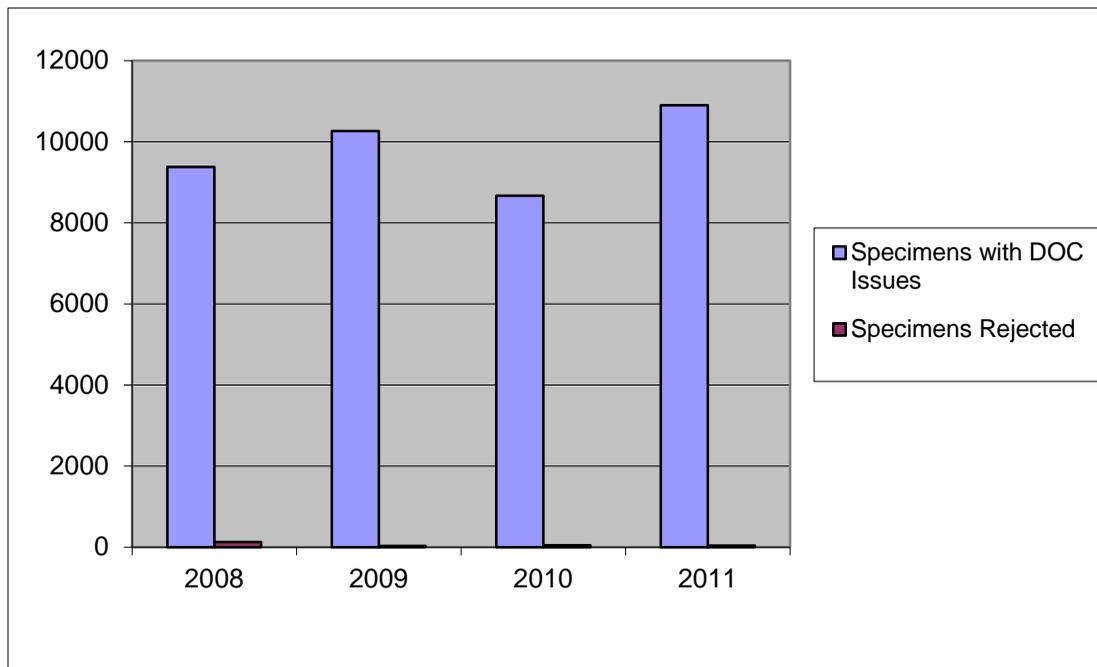
# Specimen Quality Issues

## Long Term Summary / Lot to Lot Comparison of Saturation Issues



# Date of Collection Issues

- Specimens received/processed to prevent rejection due to missing or improper DOB/DOC
- Over 9800 specimens per year received with missing or invalid DOC



- 99.6% save success rate
- 1200+ staff hours per year dedicated to saving specimens with missing, invalid or illegible dates of collection

# HB411 Changes

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- HB 411 (82<sup>nd</sup> Legislative Session) became law in June 2011 with parts that are effective June 1, 2012
  - Codified portions of the DSHS policy ‘Management of NBS Specimens and Data’ in regards to review and approval requirements
  - Changes previous opt-out for residual uses to an opt-in system for external research uses
    - Otherwise, specimen is destroyed within two years of receipt at DSHS
  - Made adjustments to statutorily allowable uses (e.g. for internal QA/QC uses)

# HB411 Implementation

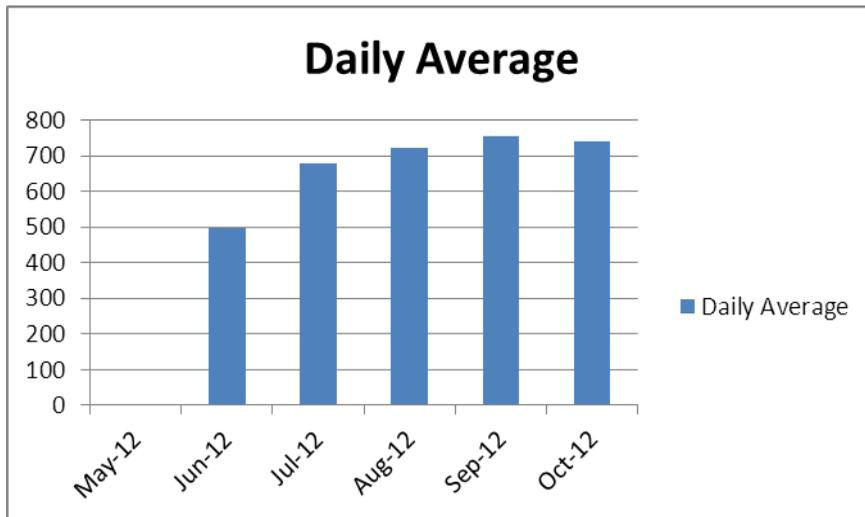
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- 2012 specimen collection kit
  - Update Parent Information sheet
  - Parent Decision Form
- Educational efforts:
  - Staged notifications
  - Webinar and face to face educational sessions
  - Video, online module, brochure
  - Update web site
  - Targeted education to providers that do not appear to be completing responsibilities

# Parent Decision Forms Stats

Month	Decision Forms Received	Daily Average	Estimated % Response Rate	% YES	% NO	% Invalid
Jun – Oct 2012	49473	675	42.6	70.7	25.8	3.5

Estimated % Response = (# of Decision forms received\* 1.54 specimens per form) / # of Specimens Received)



# SCID NBS Screening

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- Addition of SCID to NBS panel approved by Commissioner Lakey and Executive Commissioner Suehs in March 2012
- Implementation process
  - Building retrofit
  - Personnel and training
  - Purchasing
  - Instrument installation and laboratory set-up
  - Method/instrument validation and scale-up
  - LIMS modification and other IT issues
  - HL7 sites
  - Communication plan and educational efforts

# L213 – Construction Phase

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# L213 – Construction Phase

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# L213 at 50% Completion

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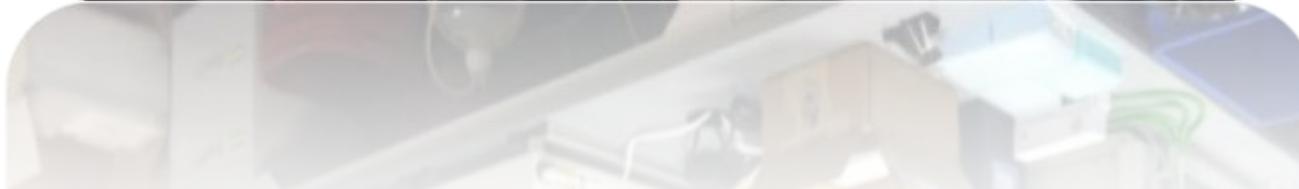




# L213 as of 11/09/2012



# L 213 as of 11/09/2012



# L213 as of 11/09/2012



# SCID NBS Screening

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- Implementation status
  - Building retrofit – 99% complete
  - Personnel and training – 1 lab staff and 1 nurse pending
  - Purchasing – 99% complete
  - Instrument installation and laboratory set-up – complete except enclosures and a defective cytomat
  - Method/instrument validation and scale-up
  - LIMS modification and other IT issues
  - HL7 sites
  - Communication plan and educational efforts

# Special Projects

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- Routine Second Screen Study
  - Purpose: To evaluate evidence regarding the use of second screens for identification of hypothyroidism and congenital adrenal hyperplasia cases
  - Status: Preliminary data available, further data analysis in progress
    - 11.63% of Congenital Hypothyroidism cases were identified on the 2<sup>nd</sup> screens
    - 37.50% of Congenital Adrenal Hyperplasia cases were identified on the 2<sup>nd</sup> screens
    - Incidence rates are still pending

# Special Projects

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- Development of Second Tier Assay for CAH
  - Purpose: To perform a steroid profile (5 analytes) by LC-MS/MS to reduce false positive rate
  - Status: Validation and 3 month pilot study in progress
    - Testing all positive samples reported by initial screen
- New Newborn Screening Report Card format (coming in early 2013)





Texas Department of State Health Services  
LABORATORY SERVICES SECTION

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1-888-963-7111 ext. 7333  
www.dshs.state.tx.us

**Newborn Screening (NBS) Report Card - Specimen Submission**

Report Date: December 31, 2010

Provider ID:

Provider Name:

Address:

Performance Period: November 01, 2010 - November 30, 2010

Provider Submission Volume	Total
Number of NBS specimens submitted	30
Number of initial screen NBS specimens submitted (e.g. Birth to 7 days old)	15
Number of second screen NBS specimens submitted (e.g. 7 days or older)	15

Specimens Unsuitable for Testing	Count	Percent	State Average	Goal
Total number of specimens with quality issues	0	0%	1%	0%
Specimens that are unsatisfactory to test for any of the disorders	0	0%	<1 %	0%
Specimens for which results can be reported for some but not all disorders	0	0%	<1 %	0%

There were no quality issues this reporting period for your facility.

Timing on Initial NBS Specimen Collection	Count	Percent	State Average	Goal
Goal: Collected between 24 and 48 hours	15	50%	45%	100%
Collected too early: < 24 hours of age	0	0%	5%	0%
Collected late: >48 hours of age	15	50%	50%	0%

Specimen Transit Time from Collection to State Laboratory	Count	Percent	State Average	Goal
Goal: Received by state laboratory within 72 hrs from collection	12	40%	56%	100%
Received by state laboratory <24 hrs from collection	0	0%	9%	
Received by state laboratory <48 hrs from collection	2	7%	33%	
Received on day 14 or more - rejected for testing	0	0%	<1 %	0%

Specimen Missing Key Demographic Information	Count	Percent	State Average	Goal
Goal: Submission of all key demographic information listed below *	28	93%	62%	100%
Missing date of birth	0	0%	<1 %	0%
Missing time of birth	0	0%	22%	0%
Missing date of collection - may result in rejection for testing	0	0%	<1 %	0%
Missing time of collection	0	0%	16%	0%
Missing birth weight	1	3%	5%	0%
Missing physician name	0	0%	10%	0%
Missing physician phone number	1	3%	13%	0%

\* Counts may reflect multiple key items missing from the same specimen

END OF REPORT

Report Card:  
New Format

Questions?