Survey on Information Sharing, Attitudes, and Practices of Lessons Learned Information Sharing (LLIS.gov) Users, 2007

Variables & Inclusion Criteria

Version 1

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METHODOLOGY

An online survey was administered to LLIS.gov (Lessons Learned Information Sharing) members to understand their perceptions and practices concerning information sharing and preparedness. LLIS.gov is a national network linking emergency response providers and homeland security officials. According to its website, LLIS.gov "seeks to improve preparedness nationwide by allowing local, state, and federal homeland security and response professionals to tap into a wealth of front-line expertise on the most effective planning, training, equipping, and operational practices for preventing, preparing for, responding to, and recovering from acts of terrorism."

To access LLIS.gov, one must generally be an emergency response provider, law enforcement official, or a homeland security official at the local, state, or federal level. LLIS.gov administrators permitted the posting of a twenty-seven-item survey on the homepage of the website, which was available to registered users from May 1, 2007 to May 15, 2007; 101 responses, eighty-three of which were mostly complete, were received. All responses were anonymous. The terms and conditions governing the use of LLIS.gov precluded random or stratified sampling techniques. In this study, the correlation coefficient and probability values for linear models containing two variables are reported.

Results from this sample are likely not representative of the LLIS.gov user population. The sample may under-represent users who engage in information-sharing and preparedness activities yet are too busy to participate in an online survey. Certainly, such users might have answered survey questions differently than did the sample. As a result, findings from this study are not generalizable to the LLIS.gov population. Nevertheless, researches used this convenience sampling as exploratory research, and the results provided them with what is described as "important insights."

QUESTIONAIRE

Fielded registered users of Lessons Learned Information Sharing (LLIS.gov)
Dates of Survey: May 1 – May15, 2007 Sample Size: 83

VARIABLES

Respondent Identification

A. RespondentID
Numeric Variable

This field indicates the number assigned to the respondent by the researchers.

Questionnaire

Question 1: How do you receive homeland security information? Please check all that apply.

A. @1.HomeSec-email-bulletins-alerts
Numeric Variable

This field contains the response "Homeland security email/bulletins/alerts."

The codes for the responses found in the study are as follows:

Response	Value
No	0
Yes	1

B. @1.Colleague-face-to-face
Numeric Variable

The field contains the response "Face to face meetings with colleagues."

The codes for the responses found in the study are as follows:

Response	Value
No	0
Yes	1

C. @1.Colleague-email-telephonecalls
Numeric Variable

The field contains the response "Email or telephone calls with colleagues."

The codes for the responses found in the study are as follows:

Response	Value
No	0
Yes	1

D. @1.Newspapers-magazines
Numeric Variable

The field contains the response "Newspapers/magazines."

The codes for the responses found in the study are as follows:

Response	Value
No	0
Yes	1

E. @1.Radio
Numeric Variable

The field contains the response "Radio."

The codes for the responses found in the study are as follows:

Response	Value
No	0
Yes	1

F. @1.Television
Numeric Variable

The field contains the response "Television."

The codes for the responses found in the study are as follows:

Response	Value
No	0
Yes	1

G. @1.Websites-databases
Numeric Variable

The field contains the response "Websites/Databases."

The codes for the responses found in the study are as follows:

Response	Value
No	0
Yes	1

H. @1.Other
Numeric Variable

The field contains the response "Other."

The codes for the responses found in the study are as follows:

Response	Value
No	0
Yes	1

I. @1.Other-please-specify
String Variable

The field contains the response "If other, please specify."

The respondent inputted their own response to Question 1. These responses are not coded.

Question 2: From which source do you most often receive homeland security information?

A. @2.Source-for-info
String Variable

The respondents picked one of the following sources and these sources are not coded.

Response
Homeland security email/bulletins/alerts
Face-to-face meetings with colleagues
Email or telephone calls with colleagues
Newspapers/magazines
Radio
Television
Websites/Databases
Other

Question 3: Does your state have a homeland security information fusion center?

A. @3.State-fusion-center
Numeric Variable

The codes for the responses found in the study are as follows:

Response	Value
No	0
Yes	1
Don't know	2

B. @3a.Receive-info-fusion-center
Numeric Variable

This field contains the answer to Question 3a which states "Do you receive homeland security information from that fusion center?" [Note: Question 3a was asked to respondents that answered 1 'Yes' to Question 3].

The codes for the responses found in the study are as follows:

Response	Value
No	0
Yes	1
Don't know	2

C. @3b.How-often-receive-info
Numeric Variable

This field contains the answer to Question 3b which states "Generally how often do you receive homeland security information from that fusion center?" [Note: Question 3b was asked to respondents that answered 1 'Yes' to Question 3a].

The codes for the responses found in the study are as follows:

Response	Value
Less than monthly	0
Monthly	1
Weekly	2
Daily	3

Question 4: In addition to LLIS, what other homeland security information sharing systems do you use (including, but not limited to: HSIN, LEO, RISS.Net, InfraGard, Intelink, and others)?

A. @4.Other-info-sharing-system-used
String Variable

The respondents inputted the name of the system and these names are not coded.

B. @4a.Count-other-system-used
Numeric Variable

This field contains the response to Question 4a which states "Count of Systems Used"

This is a count variable representing the number of systems used.

Question 5: What is your overall opinion of homeland security information sharing systems (such as LLIS, HSIN, LEO, RISS.Net, InfraGard, Intelink, and others)?

A. @5.Overall-opinion-info-sharing-systems
Numeric Variable

The codes for the responses found in the study are as follows:

Response	Value
1 (Unfavorable)	1
2	2
3	3
4	4
5	5
6	6
7 (Favorable)	7

Question 6: What is your opinion of LLIS specifically?

A. @6.Opinion-LLIS
Numeric Variable

The codes for the responses found in the study are as follows:

Response	Value
1 (Unfavorable)	1
2	2
3	3
4	4
5	5
6	6
7 (Favorable)	7

Question 7: How often do you access Lessons Learned Information Sharing (LLIS)? (Access includes receiving homeland security information, reading/posting to bulletin boards, and making use of other LLIS features)

A. @7.Access-LLIS
Numeric Variable

The codes for the responses found in the study are as follows:

Response	Value
1.Less than monthly	0
2. Monthly	1
3. Weekly	2
4. Daily	3

B. @7a.Times-per-day-LLIS
Numeric Variable

This field contains the response to Question 7a (1) which states "How many times per day do you access Lessons Learned Information Sharing (LLIS)?"

This is a count variable representing the times per day accessed.

C. @7a.Times-per-week-LLIS
Numeric Variable

This field contains the response to Question 7a (2) which states "How many times per week do you access Lessons Learned Information Sharing (LLIS)?"

This is a count variable representing the times per week accessed.

D. @7a.Times-per-month-LLIS
Numeric Variable

This field contains the response to Question 7a (3) which states "How many times per month do you access Lessons Learned Information Sharing (LLIS)?"

This is a count variable representing the times per month accessed.

Question 8: How often do you access other homeland security information sharing systems besides LLIS, such as (but not limited to) HSIN, LEO, RISS.Net, InfraGard, Intelink, and others?

A. @8.Access-other-info-sharing-system
Numeric Variable

The codes for the responses found in the study are as follows:

Response	Value
Less than monthly	0
Monthly	1
Weekly	2
Daily	3

B. @8a.Times-per-day-other
Numeric Variable

This field contains the response to Question 8a (1) which states "How many times per day do you access other homeland security information sharing systems besides (LLIS)?"

This is a count variable representing the times per day accessed.

C. @8a.Times-per-week-other
Numeric Variable

This field contains the response to Question 8a (2) which states "How many times per day do you access other homeland security information sharing systems besides (LLIS)?"

This is a count variable representing the times per week accessed.

D. @8a.Times-per-month-other
Numeric Variable

This field contains the response to Question 8a (3) which states "How many times per day do you access other homeland security information sharing systems besides (LLIS)?"

This is a count variable representing the times per month accessed.

Question 9: The type of information I access via homeland security information sharing systems is:

A. @9.Type-info-access
Numeric Variable

The codes for the responses found in the study are as follows:

Response	Value
1 (Very specific)	1
2	2
3	3
4	4
5	5
6	6
7 (Very diverse)	7

Question 10: In your opinion, how aware are you personally of homeland security threats facing your region? For example, are you able to identify relevant threats?

A. @10.Aware-homesec-threats-personally
Numeric Variable

The codes for the responses found in the study are as follows:

Response	Value
1 (Totally unaware)	1
2	2
3	3
4	4
5	5
6	6
7 (Completely aware)	7

Question 11: In your opinion, how aware is your organization of homeland security threats facing your region?

A. @11.Aware-homesec-threats-organization
Numeric Variable

The codes for the responses found in the study are as follows:

Response	Value
1 (Totally unaware)	1
2	2
3	3
4	4
5	5

6	6
7 (Completely aware)	7

Question 12: In your opinion, how prepared is your organization for homeland security threats in your region?

A. @12.Prepared-homesec-threats-organization
Numeric Variable

The codes for the responses found in the study are as follows:

Response	Value
1 (Totally unaware)	1
2	2
3	3
4	4
5	5
6	6
7 (Completely aware)	7

Question 13: In your opinion, overall, the information that you receive via Lessons Learned Information Sharing (LLIS) is:

A. @13.LLIS-info-accurate
Numeric Variable

This field contains Question 13a which describes the information as "Accurate."

The codes for the responses found in the study are as follows:

Response	Value
1 (Totally unaware)	1
2	2
3	3
4	4
5	5
6	6
7(Completely aware)	7

B. @13.LLIS-info-timely
Numeric Variable

This field contains Question 13b which describes the information as "Timely."

The codes for the responses found in the study are as follows:

Response	Value
1 (Untimely)	1
2	2
3	3
4	4
5	5
6	6
7(Timely)	7

C. @13.LLIS-info-complete
Numeric Variable

This field contains Question 13c which describes the information as "Complete."

The codes for the responses found in the study are as follows:

Response	Value
1 (Incomplete)	1
2	2
3	3
4	4
5	5
6	6
7(Complete)	7

D. @13.LLIS-info-revelant
Numeric Variable

This field contains Question 13d which describes the information as "Relevant."

The codes for the responses found in the study are as follows:

Response	Value
1 (Irrelevant)	1
2	2
3	3
4	4
5	5
6	6
7(Relevant)	7

E. @13.LLIS-info-consistent
Numeric Variable

This field contains Question 13e which describes the information as "Consistent."

The codes for the responses found in the study are as follows:

Response	Value
1 (Inconsistent)	1
2	2
3	3
4	4
5	5
6	6
7(Consistent)	7

F. @13.LLIS-info-useful
Numeric Variable

This field contains Question 13e which describes the information as "Useful."

The codes for the responses found in the study are as follows:

Response	Value
1 (Useless)	1
2	2
3	3
4	4
5	5
6	6
7 (Useful)	7

Question 14: In your opinion, how prepared is your organization to prevent a homeland security emergency in your region?

A. @14.Organization-prevent-emergency
Numeric Variable

The codes for the responses found in the study are as follows:

Response	Value
1 (Totally unprepared)	1
2	2
3	3
4	4
5	5
6	6
7 (Completely prepared)	7

Question 15: In your opinion, how prepared is your organization to respond to a homeland security emergency in your region?

A. @15.Organization-respond-emergency
Numeric Variable

The codes for the responses found in the study are as follows:

Response	Value
1 (Totally unprepared)	1
2	2
3	3
4	4
5	5
6	6
7 (Completely prepared)	7

Question 16: In your opinion, how prepared is your organization to recover from a homeland security emergency in your region?

A. @16.Organization-recover-emergency
Numeric Variable

The codes for the responses found in the study are as follows:

Response	Value
1 (Totally unprepared)	1
2	2
3	3
4	4
5	5
6	6
7 (Completely prepared)	7

Question 17: In general, homeland security information sharing has a positive impact on my job effectiveness.

A. @17.Info-sharing-positive-job-effectiveness
Numeric Variable

The codes for the responses found in the study are as follows:

Response	Value
1 (Strongly disagree)	1
2	2
3	3
4	4

5	5
6	6
7 (Strongly agree)	7

Question 18: Specifically, my use of LLIS has a positive impact on my job effectiveness.

A. @18.LLIS-positive-job-effectiveness
Numeric Variable

The codes for the responses found in the study are as follows:

Response	Value
1 (Strongly disagree)	1
2	2
3	3
4	4
5	5
6	6
7 (Strongly agree)	7

Question 19: How many preparedness simulations (including table-top exercises) have you participated in?

A. @19.Simulation-within-organization
Numeric Variable

This field contains the response to Question 19a which states "Within your organization."

This is a count variable representing the number of simulations.

B. @19.Simulation-locally
Numeric Variable

This field contains the response to Question 19b which states "Locally."

This is a count variable representing the number of simulations.

C. @19.Simulations-regionally
Numeric Variable

This field contains the response to Question 19c which states "Regionally."

This is a count variable representing the number of simulations.

D. @19.Simulations-nationally
Numeric Variable

This field contains the response to Question 19d which states "Nationally."

This is a count variable representing the number of simulations.

E. @19.Simulations-internationally
Numeric Variable

This field contains the response to Question 19e which states "Internationally."

This is a count variable representing the number of simulations.

Question 20: On the whole, how much do you believe these simulations contribute to preparedness?

A. @20.Simulation-contribute-preparedness
Numeric Variable

The codes for the responses found in the study are as follows:

Response	Value
1 (Nothing)	1
2	2
3	3
4	4
5	5
6	6
7 (A great deal)	7

Demographic Information

Question 21: What is your age?

A. @21.Age
Numeric Variable

The codes for the responses found in the study are as follows:

Response	Value
21-29 years	1
30-39 years	2
40-49 years	3
50+ years	4

Question 22: What is your sex?

A. @22.Sex
Numeric Variable

The codes for the responses found in the study are as follows:

Response	Value
Female	-1
Male	1

Question 23: What is the highest level of education you have obtained?

A. @23.Highest-education
Numeric Variable

The codes for the responses found in the study are as follows:

Response	Value
High school graduate	0
Some college	1
2 year degree	2
4 year degree	3
Some graduate credits	4
Master degree or higher	5

Question 24: What is your occupational field?

A. @24.Occupational-field
String Variable

The respondents picked one of the following sources and these sources are not coded.

Response
Emergency Management
Law Enforcement
Fire
Public Health
Human Services
Other

Question 24a: Please specify the other field.

A. @24.Other
String Variable

The respondents inputted the occupational field and these sources are not coded.

Question 25: What is your role within your organization?

A. @25.Role-in-organization
String Variable

The respondents picked one of the following sources and these sources are not coded.

Response
Manager/Supervisor
Operations
Support
Other

Question 25a: Please specify the other field.

A. @25.Other
String Variable

The respondents inputted the occupational field and these sources are not coded.

Question 26: How many years have you served in a homeland security-related capacity?

A. @26.Years-in-role
Numeric Variable

The codes for the responses found in the study are as follows:

Response	Value
Less than 1 year	1
1-2 years	2
3-5 years	3
6-10 years	4
11-20 years	5
21 or higher	6

Question 27: In what FEMA region of the U.S. do you work?

A. @27.FEMA-region
Numeric Variable

The codes for the responses found in the study are as follows:

Response	Value
I	1
II	2
III	3

IV	4
V	5
VI	6
VII	7
VIII	8
IX	9
X	10