

**Data Use and Network Content Workgroup (DUNC)
Systems, Logistics, Analysis and Management (SLAM)
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Background: VistaPHw was developed in King County (Washington) as a tool to do local public health assessment, but has become a major tool in Washington State, and now Oregon uses it as well.

VistaPHw is a browser-independent web application that computes rates and other statistics for community health assessment. The application consists of two programs, VistaPHw.Exe running on desktop PCs with MS Windows 95+ and Excel, and precompiled calculation software running on web servers under IIS.

Access is limited, and based on a trading partner agreement. Vista serves as the access point for datasets on the web servers as well as an analytical tool. It could be used for additional population-based datasets. It's been compared to web-based data systems, but VistaPHw is more comprehensive, but not as intuitive as it gives the user more analytical flexibility. Development of Vista is ongoing.

Once downloaded and installed, VistaPHw.Exe provides the user interface for the web application, and communicates with calculation software on web servers using an invisible browser embedded within it.

Plans for the future: They'd like to get hospitalizations and cancer registry data available on VistaPHw. There is an E- Learning functionality to help with training and help on VistaPHw. VistaPHw is available to all the county health departments in Oregon. The data-use agreement should be reviewed carefully to determine if we the EPHT Program is able to share our discoveries/analyses from VistaPHw with others. (Joyce Grant-Worley would be a good person to talk to about this). The question with respects to the data-use agreement is not a proprietary issue but a confidentiality issue that hinges on small numbers.

For more information/questions on Vista PH, call or write Nita Heimann.