



Codebook for Syringe Services Programs Laws

Prepared by the Center for Public Health Law Research

August 2021



SYRINGE SERVICES PROGRAMS LAWS

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Codebook

As federal public health funding decreases and regulatory protections are scaled back, the role of states in promoting health for people who inject drugs is increasingly important. Syringe service program policies have been adopted and implemented in many states to promote health and reduce the spread of blood-borne disease. This dataset focuses on state-level syringe service program laws between August 1, 2019 and August 1, 2021.

This codebook should be used in conjunction with the statistical data extract that can be downloaded from the dataset homepage by clicking on the Data button. There are four standard variables in every dataset. They are:

JURISDICTION:

This is a dropdown selection in each coding form. It includes the jurisdictions coded in the dataset.

EFFECTIVE DATE:

This date (MM/DD/YYYY) is the most recent effective date of the legal text captured for this place. The effective date represents the date the policy coded was put into effect.

VALID THROUGH DATE:

This date (MM/DD/YYYY) is the last date the policy was in effect as reflected by the legal text captured to code this policy.

An important note about the Statistical data page:

This codebook should be used in conjunction with the statistical data extract that can be downloaded from the dataset homepage by clicking on the Data button. The value labels defined below will correspond with the coded responses you will see on the Statistical data page. Coding questions that are not answered will show as a period (".") in the Excel cell. Coding questions can be intentionally not answered, such as when a state does not have a law and the coder therefor leaves the remaining coding answers as unanswered.

Questions	
Question 1:	Does state law allow for the operation of syringe service programs (SSPs)?
Question Type:	Binary - mutually exclusive
Variable Name 1:	ssp_does state allow
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Question 1.1:	How does the state remove legal barriers to the operation of SSPs?
Question Type:	Categorical - check all that apply
Variable Name 1.1(A):	ssp_how remove barriers_Syringe exchange is explicitly authorized by state law
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Variable Name 1.1(B):	ssp_how remove barriers_State law does not prohibit the free distribution of drug paraphernalia
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Variable Name 1.1(C):	ssp_how remove barriers_The definition of drug paraphernalia does not refer to objects used for injecting drugs
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes

Variable Name 1.1(D):	ssp_how remove barriers_The definition of drug paraphernalia explicitly excludes objects used for injecting drugs
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Variable Name 1.1(E):	ssp_how remove barriers_State has no drug paraphernalia law
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Question 1.2:	Is residue explicitly exempt from the ban on controlled substances?
Question Type:	Binary - mutually exclusive
Variable Name 1.2:	ssp_residue
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Question 2:	Does state law explicitly authorize SSPs?
Question Type:	Binary - mutually exclusive
Variable Name 2:	ssp_does state authorize
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Question 2.1:	Is local government approval required prior to operation?
Question Type:	Binary - mutually exclusive
Variable Name 2.1:	ssp_local approval

Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Question 2.2:	Must local law enforcement be consulted prior to operation?
Question Type:	Binary - mutually exclusive
Variable Name 2.2:	ssp_law enforcement consulted
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Question 2.3:	Does the state require one-for-one exchanges?
Question Type:	Binary - mutually exclusive
Variable Name 2.3:	ssp_one for one
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Question 2.4:	Does the law require direct exchange?
Question Type:	Binary - mutually exclusive
Variable Name 2.4:	ssp_direct exchange
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Question 2.5:	What additional services must be provided at SSPs?
Question Type:	Categorical - check all that apply

Variable Name 2.5(A):	ssp_services required provided_Substance use disorder treatment services
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Variable Name 2.5(B):	ssp_services required provided_HIV screening
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Variable Name 2.5(C):	ssp_services required provided_Hepatitis screening
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Variable Name 2.5(D):	ssp_services required provided_Tuberculosis screening
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Variable Name 2.5(E):	ssp_services required provided_Sexually transmitted infections screening
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Variable Name 2.5(F):	ssp_services required provided_Educational services
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No

Value Label:	1 = Yes
Variable Name 2.5(G):	ssp_services required provided_Naloxone services
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Variable Name 2.5(H):	ssp_services required provided_Disposal services
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Variable Name 2.5(I):	ssp_services required provided_None
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Question 2.6:	What additional services must be provided by referral?
Question Type:	Categorical - check all that apply
Variable Name 2.6(A):	ssp_services required referral_Substance use disorder treatment services
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Variable Name 2.6(B):	ssp_services required referral_HIV screening
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes

Variable Name 2.6(C):	ssp_services required referral_Hepatitis screening
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Variable Name 2.6(D):	ssp_services required referral_Sexually transmitted infections screening
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Variable Name 2.6(E):	ssp_services required referral_Tuberculosis screening
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Variable Name 2.6(F):	ssp_services required referral_Housing services
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Variable Name 2.6(G):	ssp_services required referral_Educational services
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Variable Name 2.6(H):	ssp_services required referral_Naloxone services
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No

Value Label:	1 = Yes
Variable Name 2.6(I):	ssp_services required referral_Disposal services
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Variable Name 2.6(J):	ssp_services required referral_None
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Question 3:	Does state law allow for the possession of syringes by SSP participants?
Question Type:	Binary - mutually exclusive
Variable Name 3:	ssp_allow possession
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Question 3.1:	How does the state allow for possession of syringes by SSP participants?
Question Type:	Categorical - check all that apply
Variable Name 3.1(A):	ssp_how allow possession_Law exempts SSP participants
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Variable Name 3.1(B):	ssp_how allow possession_It is an affirmative defense that syringes were obtained from an SSP

Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Variable Name 3.1(C):	ssp_how allow possession_State does not prohibit simple possession
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Variable Name 3.1(D):	ssp_how allow possession_Law explicitly excludes objects used for injecting drugs
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Variable Name 3.1(E):	ssp_how allow possession_Law provides immunity for individuals who disclose possession of syringes to police officers prior to search
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Variable Name 3.1(F):	ssp_how allow possession_The definition of drug paraphernalia does not refer to objects used for injecting drugs
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Variable Name 3.1(G):	ssp_how allow possession_Law provides exception if the syringe is unused and is in a sealed, sterile package
Variable Values:	0, 1

Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Variable Name 3.1(H):	ssp_how allow possession_State has no law regarding drug paraphernalia
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Question 4:	Does the state have a drug paraphernalia law?
Question Type:	Binary - mutually exclusive
Variable Name 4:	ssp_paraph law
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Question 4.1:	What is included in the definition of drug paraphernalia?
Question Type:	Categorical - check all that apply
Variable Name 4.1(A):	ssp_included drug paraph_Syringes
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Variable Name 4.1(B):	ssp_included drug paraph_Injecting
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Variable Name 4.1(C):	ssp_included drug paraph_Objects used for injecting drugs are explicitly excluded from the definition of drug paraphernalia

Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Variable Name 4.1(D):	ssp_included drug paraph_Objects used for injecting drugs are not included in the definition of drug paraphernalia
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Variable Name 4.1(E):	ssp_included drug paraph_State has separate law involving objects used for injecting drugs
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes
Question 5:	Are SSPs operating in the jurisdiction?
Question Type:	Binary - mutually exclusive
Variable Name 5:	ssp_NASEN
Variable Values:	0, 1
Value Label:	0 = No
Value Label:	1 = Yes