NBS Glossary



August 2025

Term	Definition
Accession Number	Number assigned to a specimen for tracking
Advanced Search	Feature that facilitates a patient search or an event search by additional criteria
Approval Queue for Initial Notifications	List of investigations submitted to IDOH for review for CDC notification
Association	A way to link an investigation with other NBS events, including morbidity reports, lab reports, case reports, vaccinations, treatments, and contact records
Case Status	Indicates whether the investigation meets the surveillance definition for the condition
Coded Result	A standardized laboratory test result (e.g. positive, detected, negative)
Condition	A reportable disease
Confirmation Date	The date that the investigation is confirmed as a case
Contact Records	A component of the contact tracing feature which contains information about the contact, their exposure, and any necessary follow-up
Contact Tracing	An investigation feature that links people who were potentially exposed to the condition or could help an investigator find others who are exposed to the condition
Dashboard	The NBS homepage
Date of Morbidity Report	Date that the morbidity report was submitted
Date of Report	Date that the first lab report, morbidity report, or case report was submitted to the health department
Date Received by Public Health	The date the first public health agency received the report
Default Queues	Standardized queues (list of documents or investigations) created by NBS that are available to users based on their permissions
Demographics	Characteristics about the patient, such as age, race, and sex. Found with the patient file and within the patient tab of investigations and documents.

Documents Requiring Review (DRR)	List of lab reports, morbidity reports, and case reports that have not been processed
Documents Requiring Security Assignment (DRSA)	List of lab reports, morbidity reports, and case reports that have been submitted without an assigned jurisdiction or program area
Electronic Case Report (eCR)	An automated, real-time exchange of case report information between electronic health records (EHRs) and public health agencies
Electronic Lab Report (ELR)	A digital lab report sent from a laboratory to public health agencies
Event	Used in NBS to describe investigations, lab reports, morbidity reports, treatments, vaccinations, case reports, and contact records
Event ID	An identifier automatically assigned to investigations, lab reports, morbidity reports, treatments, vaccinations, case reports, and contact records
Event Search	A type of advanced search that allows the user to search for an investigation or lab report by additional criteria
Help	This button, found in the banner at the top of the screen, opens the NBS User Guide developed by the CDC
Helpdesk	The NBS helpdesk can be accessed from the link "NBS Helpdesk Ticket" found in the "Notices" section on the NBS dashboard. Utilize the helpdesk to submit tickets related to errors, duplicate patients or investigations, etc.
Home	This button, found in the banner at the top of the screen, will redirect you to the NBS dashboard
Investigation	Epidemiologic follow-up into a potential case of a reportable condition.
Investigation ID	An identifier automatically assigned to each investigation at the time of creation. Investigation IDs utilize the following format: CAS########IN01
Investigation Initiation Date	Date an investigator first took action to gather information for the investigation via one or more of the following methods: • First contact attempt to the patient (phone call, letter, email, etc.) • First contact attempt to the treating facility or reporting facility • Medical record request or review Utilized to support the measurement of the Infectious Disease Prevention and Control key performance indicator (KPI) for Health First Indiana.
Investigation Start Date	Date the investigation was created or date that work started on the investigation



Investigation Status	The status of the investigation, open or closed
Investigator	The name of the public health person responsible for working on the investigation
Jurisdiction	The geographic identifier utilized by NBS, which is most commonly determined by the county in which the patient resides. User access within NBS can be restricted by jurisdiction.
Lab Report	An observation that originates from a laboratory in either paper or electronic form and contains lab order and results information
Lab Report Date	Date the laboratory initiated the report
Logout	This button, found in the banner at the top of the screen, exits the system
Manage Associations	A feature within an investigation which allows you to associate or disassociate an event(s) with an investigation
Mark as Reviewed	An action which removes lab reports, morbidity reports, and case reports from the DRR after they have been reviewed and determined that they should not be associated with an existing or new investigation.
MMWR Week	Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report week for which case information will be counted
Morbidity Report	A report of information for patients who are diagnosed with or suspected of having a reportable condition. Mostly commonly submitted by infection preventionists or other healthcare personnel.
My Queues	A section on the dashboard which provides links to the default queues and private custom queues, if the user has created any
My Reports	A section on the dashboard which provides links to any private reports created by the user
NBS	NEDSS Base System
NEDSS	National Electronic Disease Surveillance System
Notices	A section on the dashboard which provides system updates and links to resources, such as the helpdesk
Notification	A nationally notifiable disease message sent to CDC containing the investigation data and often associated labs and vaccinations. Notifications must first be submitted to IDOH for approval by the SME before they are sent to CDC. Non-nationally notifiable conditions may still utilize the notification feature in NBS, but do not send a message to the CDC.
Notification Status	Displays whether an investigation's notification is pending approval from an IDOH SME, approved, rejected, or completed

3



Numeric Result	The numeric value for a lab result
Observation	A universal term for morbidity reports and lab reports
Observation ID	An identifier automatically assigned to a morbidity report or lab report. Observation IDs utilize the following format: OBS #######IN01
Open Investigations	A list of all open investigations for the condition(s) and jurisdiction(s) that the user has access to
Patient File	An electronic record in NBS which contains information relevant to a patient, including demographic information, investigation information, and other events.
Patient ID	An identifier automatically assigned to each patient file. Patient IDs utilize the following format: ######
Patient Search	A section on the dashboard which allows you to search for a patient in NBS by name, date of birth (DOB), or sex, as well as search by identifiers (event ID or patient ID)
Patient Summary	A section of the summary tab of the patient file which contains the most current demographic information for the patient in NBS
Permission Set	A standardized set of features and operations that users can access and/or perform. NBS will restrict user access to only the actions which correspond to the user's permission set.
Private Custom Queues	A personalized list of investigations or lab reports generated by an advanced search and saved by a user.
Processing Status	Whether or not a document (lab report, morbidity report, or case report) has been processed (marked as reviewed, associated with an existing investigation, or used to create a new investigation). The processing status can be processed or unprocessed.
Program Area	Groupings of similar conditions used to permit and restrict access within NBS.
Queues	Lists of documents (lab reports, morbidity reports, and case reports), investigations, or notifications. There are default queues, which are created by NBS and visible to users with the appropriate permissions, and custom queues, which can be created and customized by individual users.
Rejected Notifications Queue	List of investigations that were submitted to IDOH for review and were rejected, often due to missing information, errors, or follow-up questions
Reporter	The name of the person who submitted the morbidity report or Confidential Report of Communicable Diseases



Reporting Facility	The name of the facility that reported the lab test or submitted the morbidity report/ Confidential Report of Communicable Diseases.
Reports	A feature which allows users to download NBS data for data analysis. This feature is accessible from the "Reports" button found in the banner at the top of the screen.
Resulted Test	Test that was performed
Search Identifiers	A search feature found in the Patient Search section of the dashboard which allows users to perform a search by patient ID(s) or event IDs
Specimen Site	The physical location where the specimen was obtained
Specimen Source	Anatomic site or specimen type from which the specimen was collected
Subject Matter Expert (SME)	An individual who is an expert on a condition, program area, or specialty. In NBS, SMEs are IDOH epidemiologists who are responsible for reviewing completed investigations, as well as new morbidity reports, lab reports, and case reports.
Submit	The save feature in NBS
Supplemental Info	A tab on new format investigations which displays all associations and allows users to add notes and attachments
Transfer Ownership	The act of changing ownership of an investigation, lab report, morbidity report, or case report from one jurisdiction and/or program area to another.
Updated Notifications Queue	List of previously approved notifications that have been updated by a user

5

