

REQUEST FOR DATA INFORMATION



Maricopa County Department of Public Health
Office of Epidemiology
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Important Information Regarding Public Health Data Requests

- **Finding Your Data**
 - ***Most commonly requested Maricopa County health data can be found in our annual Health Status Reports, available on the internet at:***
www.maricopa.gov/Public_Health/EPI/PubsReports.aspx
 - For state-wide health information, visit the Arizona Department of Health Services at www.azdhs.gov.
 - For national health statistics, visit the National Center for Health Statistics at www.cdc.gov/nchs.
 - For population statistics, visit the U.S. Census Bureau at www.census.gov.
 - If you are looking for information about individual birth and death certificates, visit the Maricopa County Office of Vital Registration at www.maricopa.gov/Public_Health/VitalRecords/default.aspx
- **Data Request Fulfillment**
 - Each request takes a different amount of time, depending on the information requested and the resources needed to process the request. Two weeks is the minimum amount of time we require to reply to most data requests. Individual requests may take more or less time.
 - Due to lack of resources in our office, we are unable to offer 'rush' services for any data request.
 - ***We cannot process a data request without a complete, signed data request form:***
www.maricopa.gov/Public_Health/PubDocuments/2007_Request_Standard_Form.pdf
 - We can only provide data derived from the information listed on the form. For other information, please contact our office regarding your specific needs.
 - Data may only be used for the purpose stated in the initial request, and MCDPH must be acknowledged as the data source.
 - The Office of Epidemiology and Data Services reserves the right to deny any data request not explicitly approved under Maricopa County policy.
 - Finalized annual data, ready for use, are usually available in the fall of the year following the data year.
 - To make the most of your completed data request, we will be happy to explain the results we have given you. If the accompanying letter does not provide sufficient explanation, please contact us and we will be happy to assist you.
- **Data Mapping and Geographic Information Systems (GIS)**
 - Mapping health data for public requests is not a service we have available at this time.
- **Confidentiality**
 - Arizona is a closed-record state, meaning that vital registration documents like birth and death certificates are only available to specific entities. Identifying information about individuals will not be provided for any data request; only aggregated data are available to the public.
 - For confidentiality, we cannot offer data for small or sparsely-populated geographic areas. Due to resource limitations, we can only offer data for the county, city, or ZIP code levels at this time.
 - We make every effort to fill each data request as thoroughly as possible, but in the interest of confidentiality, some information may be omitted from your final results. Details of any such omissions will be in the letter you receive with your final results.
- **Data Request Form Definitions**
 - ***Residence vs. Occurrence:*** Events classified by 'Residence in Maricopa County' took place to people living in Maricopa County, even though the event may have occurred elsewhere. Events classified by 'Occurrence in Maricopa County' took place in Maricopa County, even if the event happened to persons living elsewhere.
 - ***Infant Mortality:*** Infant mortality refers to the deaths of children under 365 days of age. The ***Infant Mortality Rate*** is expressed as the number of infant deaths per 1,000 live births in the same time period.
 - ***Plurality:*** The number of babies in a pregnancy. A plurality of one refers to a singleton birth, while a plurality of two refers to twins.