



Dear Arizona EMS Provider:

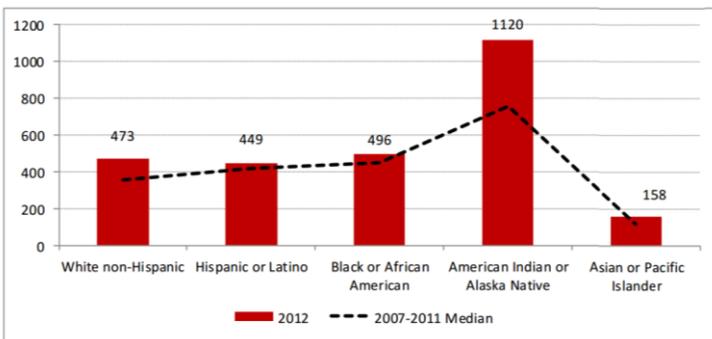
Your agency or hospital contributes data to the Arizona Prehospital Information & EMS Registry System (AZ-PIERS) or the Arizona State Trauma Registry (ASTR). **Please help by filling in the Race/Ethnicity fields on your patient medical records!** These data points allow for prevention efforts to be culturally sensitive and appropriate.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

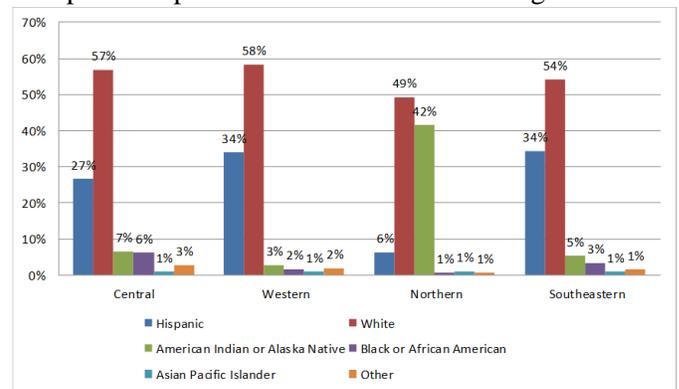
Measurements are important to determine the effectiveness of care. Recent studies have shown that gaps in care exist among different races, ethnicities, genders, and people with disabilities. By helping to collect this information we can work together on reducing any potential gaps. It is important to note that federal laws protect the confidentiality of a patient’s answers.

Examples of the information we used in 2012 in Arizona:

Graph 1: Trauma rates by Race/Ethnicity



Graph 2: Proportion of trauma across the regions



We realize that collecting this information can be difficult and time consuming. We appreciate all of your hard work and collaboration on this initiative.

Where: The information is collected through your patient record collecting system (patient information or demographics tab).

How: **Please help by filling in the Race/Ethnicity fields on your patient medical records!** Here are your choices:

Race: American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, Black or African American, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, White, Other Race

Ethnicity: Hispanic or Latino, Not Hispanic or Latino

Additional information can be found at:

How to ask the questions: <http://www.hretdisparities.org/Howt-4176.php>

Responding to difficult answers: <http://www.hretdisparities.org/uploads/ResponseMatrix.ppt>

Sincerely,
Rogelio Martinez, Data and Quality Assurance Section Chief
Bureau of EMS and Trauma System
<http://www.azdhs.gov/bems/data/>