

Arizona MELANOMA REPORTING

INFORMATION ABOUT PHYSICIAN SUBMITTED
MELANOMA REPORTS



2014

MELANOMA REPORTING

ARIZONA

Background

In 2012, a group of Arizona researchers, physicians, and staff from the Arizona Cancer Registry determined there was substantial under-reporting of melanoma cases in the state. This report, created by the Arizona Cancer Registry, reflects the work of this Task Force to highlight changes that have occurred in physician reporting of melanoma.

Purpose of the Arizona Melanoma Task Force

To identify barriers and develop strategies to improve melanoma reporting by physicians in Arizona.

Members of the Arizona Melanoma Task Force

Skin Cancer Institute at University of Arizona Cancer Center & College of Public Health

- * Robin Harris, PhD
- * Stephanie Koch, MPH
- * Clara Curiel, MD
- * Lynn Morrison, RN

Community Physicians

- * Nancy Silvis, MD
- * Joe Giancola, MD
- * Steve Alder, MD
- * Paul Sagerman, MD

Arizona Department of Health Services

- * Georgia Yee, CTR
- * Timothy Flood, MD
- * Chris Newton, MPH
- * Sharon McKenna

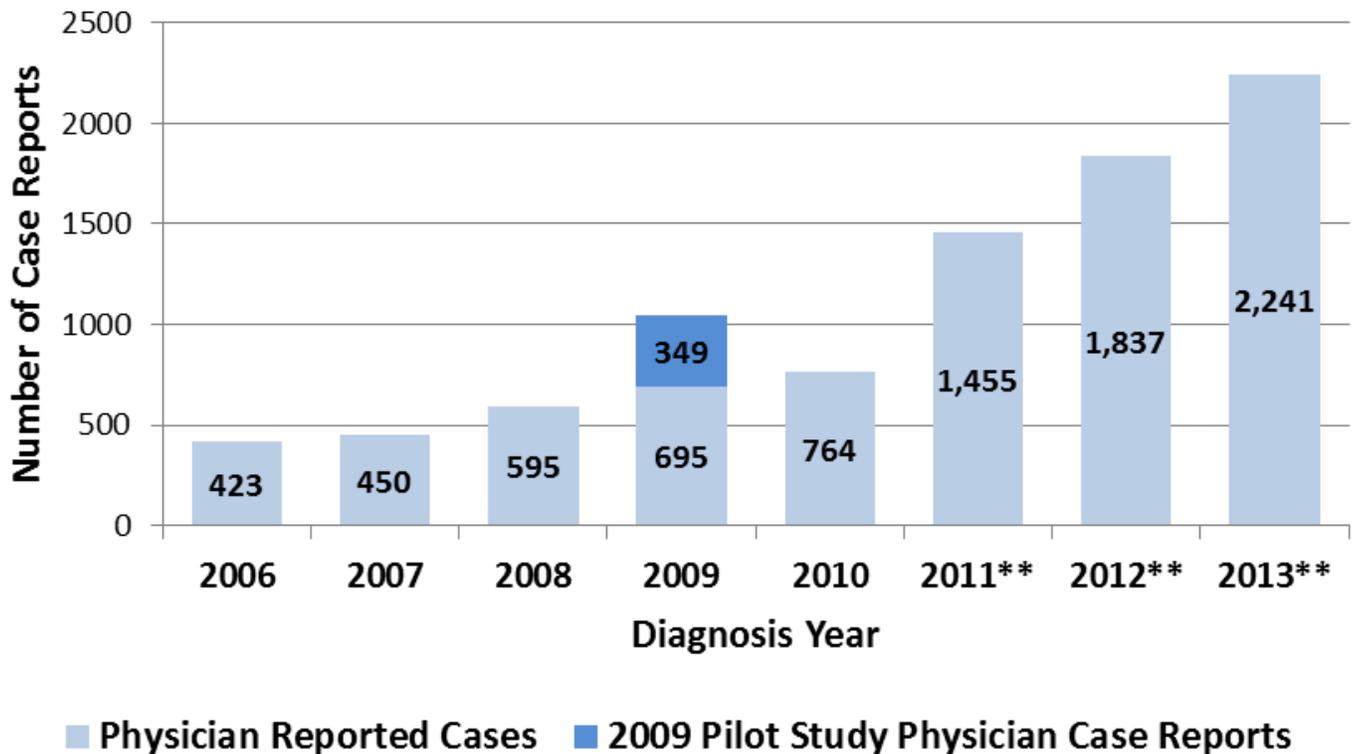


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TRENDS IN REPORTING

THE IMPACT OF PHYSICIAN REPORTING

**Figure 1: Physician Case Reports*
Invasive & In Situ Melanoma Cases
Arizona Resident Diagnosis Years 2006-2013**



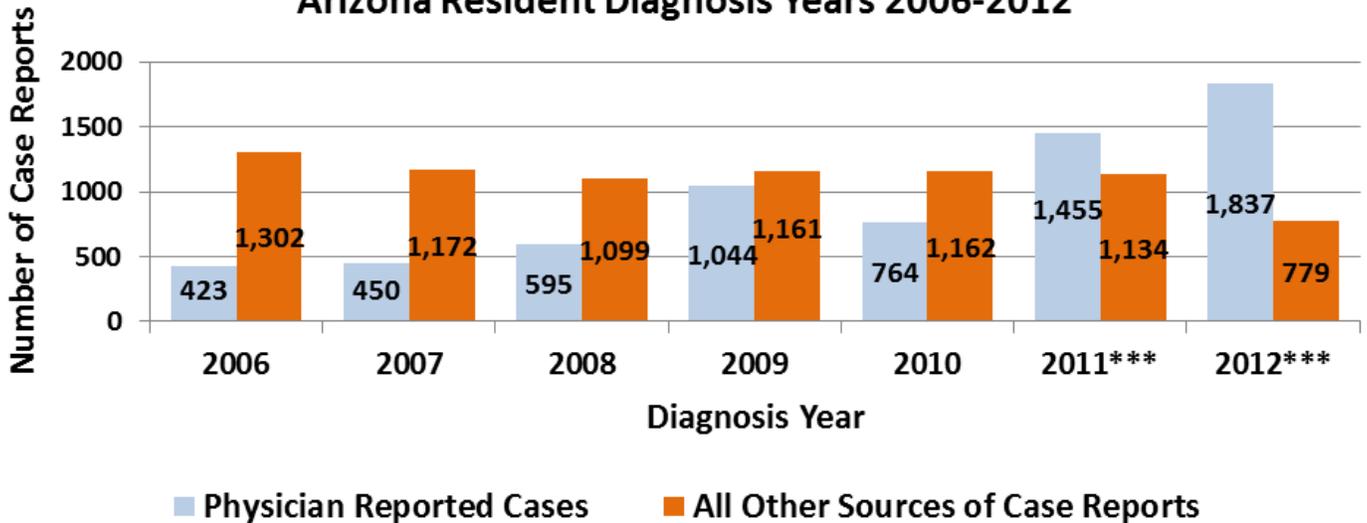
*Physician Case Reports = A case reported by a physician. More than one case report may be received for each new melanoma case.

** 2011, 2012, and 2013 physician reported cases are preliminary.

Figure 1 shows the number of melanoma cases reported to the Arizona Cancer Registry by a physician. The increase in the 2009 diagnosis year is a result of a pilot study done in 2011-2012 that reviewed all melanoma cases from 15 dermatology practices in the Phoenix and Tucson Areas. An additional 349 new cases (or 33% of all 2009 case reports) were received from physician offices as a result of the study of 15 practices. Furthermore, the registry has seen an increase in newly reported cases by physicians for the 2011 and 2012 diagnosis year. This shows an increased awareness of reporting requirements due to the leadership of the Arizona Melanoma Task Force.

TRENDS IN REPORTING

Figure 2: A Comparison of the Reporting Source - Physician Case Reports* and All Other Sources of Case Reports ** Invasive and In Situ Melanoma Arizona Resident Diagnosis Years 2006-2012

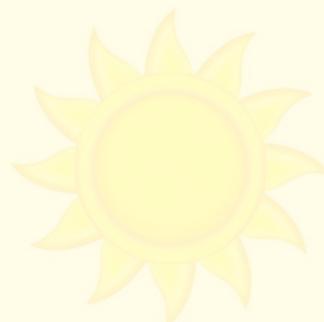


*Physician Case Reports = A case reported by a physician. More than one case report may be received for each new melanoma case.

** All other sources of case reports = Case reports received from hospitals, pathology laboratories, other state registries, etc. More than one case report may be received for each new melanoma case.

*** 2011 & 2012 physician reported cases are preliminary. All other sources of case reports are incomplete for 2012 (as of 1/2014) because not all hospital cases have been processed yet.

Figure 2 demonstrates the important role physicians play in reporting melanoma to the Arizona Cancer Registry. Prior to the pilot study, most melanoma case reports to the Arizona Cancer Registry were received from reporting sources other than physicians. The 2009 diagnosis year shows the initial increase in physician reported cases due to the reporting generated from the pilot study. In the 2011 diagnosis year, there is a transition to more melanoma cases reported by physicians than from other sources. Reports from physicians are crucial for accurately tracking melanoma in Arizona.



Message from Dr. Nancy Silvis:

Dear Colleagues,

Thank you for your effort in improving reporting of melanomas. We have had an incredible response. In 2012 and 2013 there is an approximate two fold increase regarding melanomas reported by physicians in Arizona compared with 2008 which was prior to the Melanoma Task Force implementing measures to improve reporting.

Included is a list of physicians and the number of melanomas each physician reported. If this does not seem to reflect the number of melanomas in your practice, please recheck your pathology logs for melanomas in 2012 and 2013. The data is closed 2 years after the year of occurrence and these can still be tabulated. Forms can be down loaded at <http://www.azdhs.gov/cancer/MelanomaForm.pdf>. You can receive additional information regarding cases reported from your office by contacting Georgia Yee at Georgia.Yee@azdhs.gov. It has been exciting to see the community of dermatologists and dermatopathologists respond to this public health issue. With your continued efforts we anticipate even further improvement in accurately determining Arizona's burden of melanoma. Regular updates regarding data on melanoma occurrence in Arizona will be sent to you. Thanks again for your participation.

Nancy Silvis
Dermatologist, Tucson, AZ

Physicians may ask Georgia Yee (Georgia.Yee@azdhs.gov) for the physician list referenced by Dr. Silvis.

CASE REPORTS

RECEIVED FROM ARIZONA PHYSICIANS

The list of physicians who reported their 2013 cases may be obtained from Georgia Yee at Georgia.Yee@azdhs.gov.

ARIZONA CANCER REGISTRY
Physician Reporting - Melanoma



CASES REPORTED FROM *PHYSICIAN OFFICES - MELANOMA DX 2013*

Arizona Population Areas	Number of Cases
Phoenix Area	1,408
Tucson Area	637
Rest of the State	196
STATEWIDE TOTAL	2,241

