

2024 Surveillance Highlights

14,763 reported cases of Valley fever

93% of cases were reported in 3 counties

75 – 84 years is the age group with the highest case rate per 100,000 population

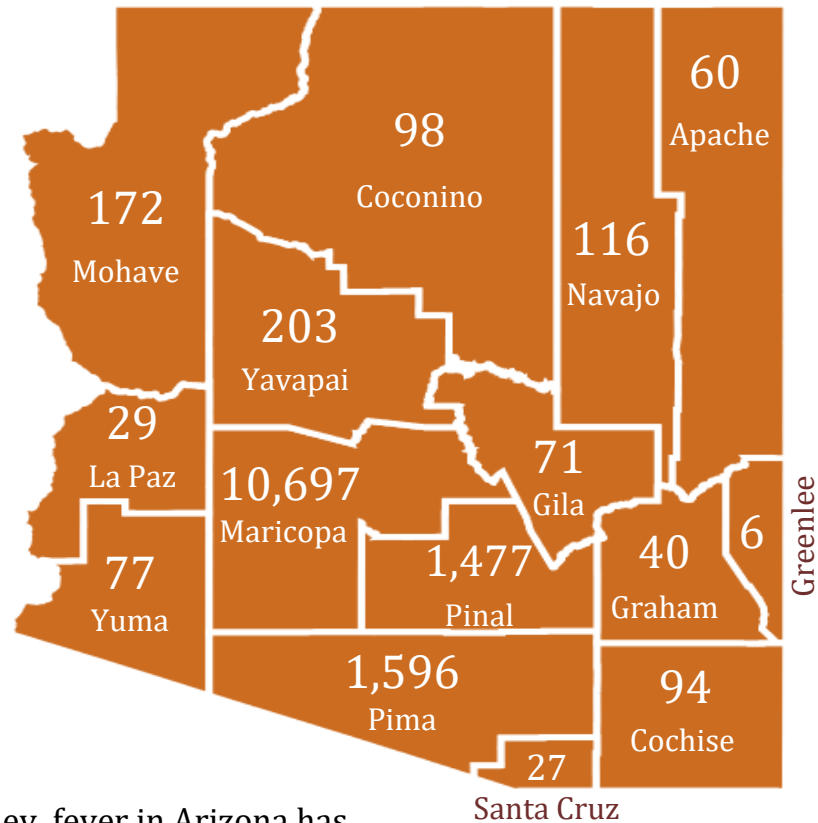
986 hospitalizations with a primary diagnosis of Valley fever

\$95.5 million in total hospitalization charges for Arizonans with a primary diagnosis of Valley fever

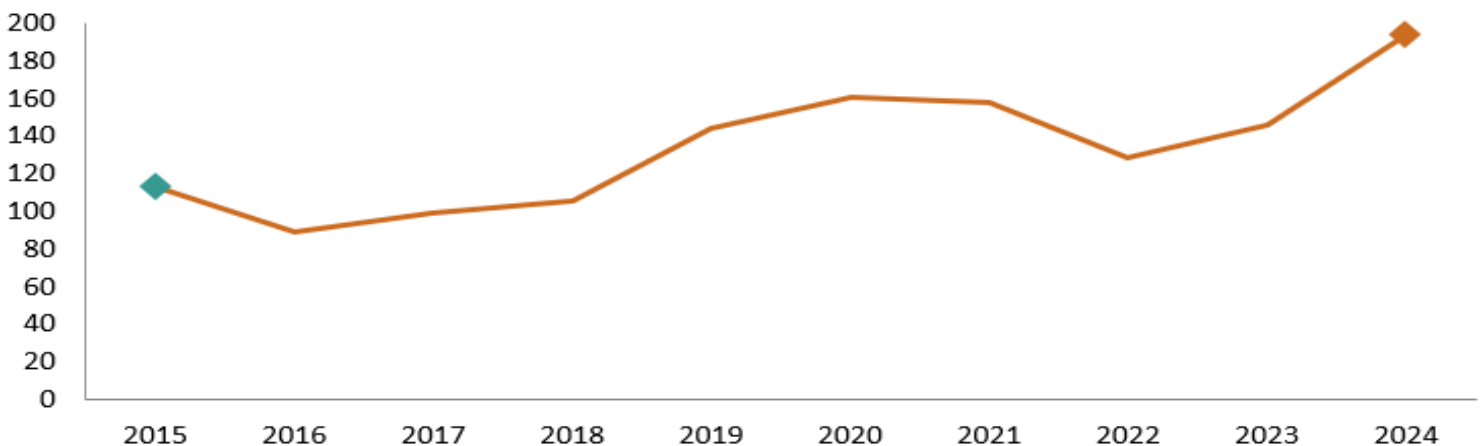
\$64,552 was the median charge per hospitalization with a primary diagnosis of Valley fever

86 deaths attributable to Valley fever

Case Distribution Across the State



In the last decade, the incidence* of reported Valley fever in Arizona has increased from **112.8 per 100,000 population in 2015** to **193.7 per 100,000 population in 2024**.



The increase in reported cases in 2024 is partly due to a higher number of false-positive results caused by a malfunctioning batch of test kits. These kits were used from January to March and across three laboratories in Arizona that on average report 65% of all positive results annually. The issue was identified and discussed with the manufacturer and functioning kits were used from April 2024. Using data provided by the manufacturer we have estimated that up to 800 false positive Valley fever cases have been counted in 2024.

*All incidence rate calculations included in this report are based on population denominators estimated by the ADHS Health Status and Vital Statistics Section using population projections obtained from the Arizona Department of Administration.

Appendix

Table 1. Reported cases and rates of Valley fever, 1991–2024.

Year	Reported Cases	Rates*
1991	287	7.8
1992	437	11.3
1993	592	14.6
1994	580	13.6
1995	626	14.1
1996	655	14.4
1997	869	20.5
1998	1,556	30.2
1999	1,813	36.1
2000	1,922	37.4
2001	2,302	43.4
2002	3,118	57.2
2003	2,695	47.9
2004	3,665	62.9
2005	3,515	58.1
2006	5,535	88.7
2007	4,832	74.9
2008	4,768	73.0
2009	10,233	155.1
2010	11,888	185.9
2011	16,472	255.8
2012	12,920	198.8
2013	5,861	90.2
2014	5,624	84.4
2015	7,622	112.8
2016	6,101	89.3
2017	6,885	98.8
2018	7,478	105.7
2019	10,358	144.1
2020	11,523	160.6
2021	11,489	157.7
2022	9,515	128.4
2023	10,990	146.0
2024	14,763	193.7

*Reported cases per 100,000 population

Table 2. Reported cases and rates by county, 2024.

County	Cases	2024 Rates*	2019–2023 Avg. Rates*
Apache	60	90.1	52.9
Cochise	94	73.3	51.4
Coconino	98	65.4	37.3
Gila	71	131.5	107.4
Graham	40	99.7	58.0
Greenlee	6	62.0**	33.1
La Paz	29	169.3	140.1
Maricopa	10,697	226.3	172.8
Mohave	172	75.4	67.6
Navajo	116	104.6	56.8
Pima	1,596	146.9	125.9
Pinal	1,477	305.2	217.3
Santa Cruz	27	53.4	52.5
Yavapai	203	80.6	48.0
Yuma	77	35.3	26.7
Arizona	14,763	193.7	147.4

*Reported cases per 100,000 population

**Random error may be substantial when the number of cases is less than 20, making it difficult to distinguish fluctuations from true change in the underlying risk of disease. Interpret rates based on small numbers with caution.

Table 3. Reported cases and rates by age groups, 2024.

Age Group* (years)	Cases	Rates*
<5	37	8.8
5-14	330	34.6
15-24	1,013	100.8
25-34	1,509	147.9
35-44	1,848	195.0
45-54	2,106	237.9
55-64	2,470	271.4
65-74	2,797	336.6
75-84	2,040	416.8
>84	613	392.9

*Reported cases per 100,000 population

Table 4. Reported cases and rates by sex, 2024.

Gender	Cases	Percent of Total	Rates*
Male	7,314	49.5%	193.0
Female	7,440	50.4%	194.2
Unknown	9	0.1%	---**

*Reported cases per 100,000 population

** Rates for unknown gender cannot be calculated due to lack of denominator.

Table 5. Reported cases by race/ethnicity, 2024.

Race/Ethnicity	Cases	Percent of Total	Percent of Cases with known Race / Ethnicity
Asian or Pacific Islander, non-Hispanic	308	2.1%	3.6%
Black or African American, non-Hispanic	580	3.9%	6.7%
Hispanic or Latino	1,980	13.4%	23.0%
Native American or Alaskan Native, non-Hispanic	444	3.0%	5.2%
White, non-Hispanic	4,719	32.0%	54.9%
Other Race	562	3.8%	6.5%
Unknown	6,170	41.8%	--*

* Rates for unknown race/ethnicity cannot be calculated due to lack of denominator.

Table 6. Rates of hospitalizations with a primary diagnosis of Valley fever by county, 2024.

County	Hospitalization Rates*
Apache	9.0**
Cochise	3.1**
Coconino	5.3**
Gila	9.3**
Graham	2.5**
Greenlee	0.0
La Paz	5.8**
Maricopa	14.7
Mohave	3.1**
Navajo	4.5**
Pima	9.0
Pinal	28.5
Santa Cruz	4.0**
Yavapai	2.4**
Yuma	1.4**
Arizona	12.9

*Hospitalizations per 100,000 population

**Random error may be substantial when the number is less than 20, making it difficult to distinguish fluctuations from true change in the underlying risk. Interpret rates based on small numbers with caution.