

Alabama Department of Public Health
Office of HIV Prevention and Control (OHPC)
and the Division of Sexually Transmitted
Diseases (STD) Prevention and Control

HIV/STD Data Release Policy

Alabama HIV/STD Data Release Policy

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The following guidelines apply to all information requests:

1. The Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH), Office of Public Information is available to answer questions at 334-206-5510 between 8 A.M. and 5 P.M. Monday thru Friday.
2. The OHPC publishes statistics at <http://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/hiv> while the Division of STD publishes information at <http://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/std> front page and Statistics link. Please review the websites for available published statistics prior to submitting a data request.
3. The OHPC and STD Division will make every effort to provide answers as soon as possible. Staff will accept verbal requests but, to ensure the request is understood, or if the request involves a special analysis of data, staff requires that the [Electronic Data Request Form](#) should be completed. Requests should be submitted directly by the interested party, not their designee. Staff will respond verbally or in writing, with supporting documentation, when appropriate.
4. To protect the privacy of persons with HIV/STD in Alabama, the OHPC and the Division of STD reserve the rights to only release total numbers of HIV/STD cases by county when the total number of reported cases is five or more. Selected variables may only be given for counties having 50 or more cases.
5. Interviews will take place in a conference room away from the OHPC and the Division of STD areas.
6. Staff does not go “off the record”.
7. Staff may ask questions to determine how best to provide data including:
 - What is the story about?
 - What type of story is it (e.g., hard news, feature, investigative report)?
 - Who have you talked to?
 - What documents have you seen?
 - How do I fit in the story?
 - What is the interview format?
 - When will the story run?
 - What is your deadline?
 - Are you willing to let me review your draft prior to publication?