

on the prevalence of health behaviors and common chronic diseases was derived from the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), a survey conducted in Arizona and across the United States that provides population-level estimates of important health indicators. Counts of hospital emergency room and inpatient healthcare utilization were drawn from the Arizona Department of Health Services' (ADHS) Hospital Discharge Data (HDD). Finally, morality rates were calculated using data from the ADHS Office of Vital Records death database.

Each section of this report includes a thorough introduction of the topic being discussed, complete descriptions of the data and analytic methods used, descriptions of the demographic characteristics of those included in each study (excluding the population projections section), analysis of the results, and a brief discussion of the results. The separate sections were designed so users could interpret each section independently without needing to reference other sections. It is our hope to benefit the health of all Arizonans through providing information to assist the coordinated planning of programs and interventions designed to effectively address the realities of our aging population.