

# Valley Fever in Arizona

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# Valley Fever

- Caused by a fungus called *Coccidioides immitis* (Cocci)
- Naturally occurs in AZ, the Southwestern US, Mexico, Central and South America
- Areas of low rainfall, high summer temps and moderate winter temps
- Most commonly causes upper respiratory infection



# Severity of Disease

- No Symptoms: 60%
- Mild to Moderate: 30%
- Complications: 5% - 10%
- Fatal: less than 1%



# What are the Symptoms?

- Most cases have no or mild symptoms
- **Common symptoms include:**
  - Fatigue, cough, fever
  - Rash
  - Profuse sweating at night
  - Loss of appetite
  - Chest pain
  - Muscle & joint aches (ankles & knees)
- May last months or years



# How can you get Valley Fever?

- Spores are found naturally in the soil
- Become airborne with dirt and dust
- Exposure from inhaling fungal spores
- Incubation is 7-28 days after exposure
- Not contagious

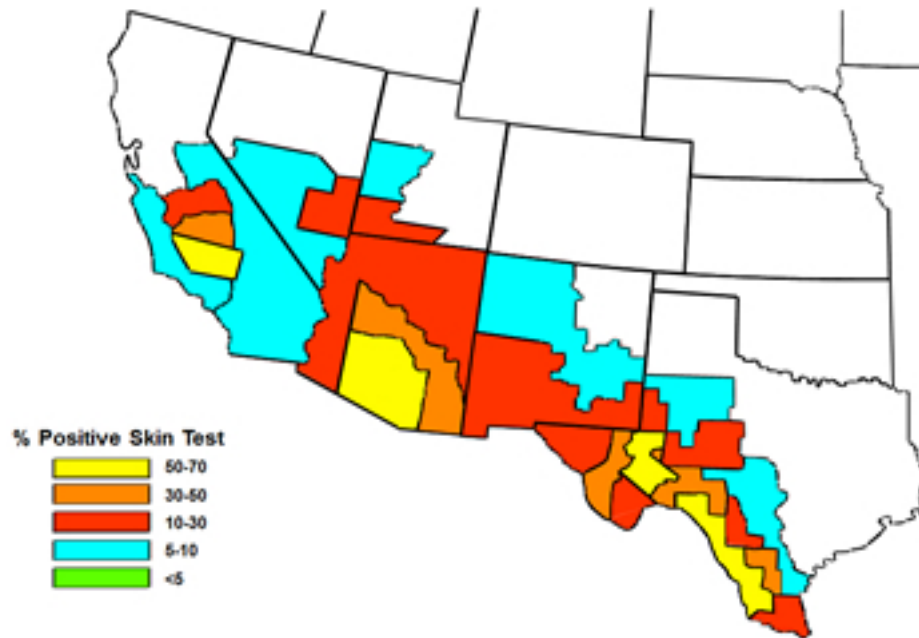


# Who can get Valley Fever?

- Anyone living in or traveling through areas where it is common is at risk
- More likely with certain occupations
  - Farmers
  - Construction
  - Archeologists



# Areas where Valley Fever is Common in US

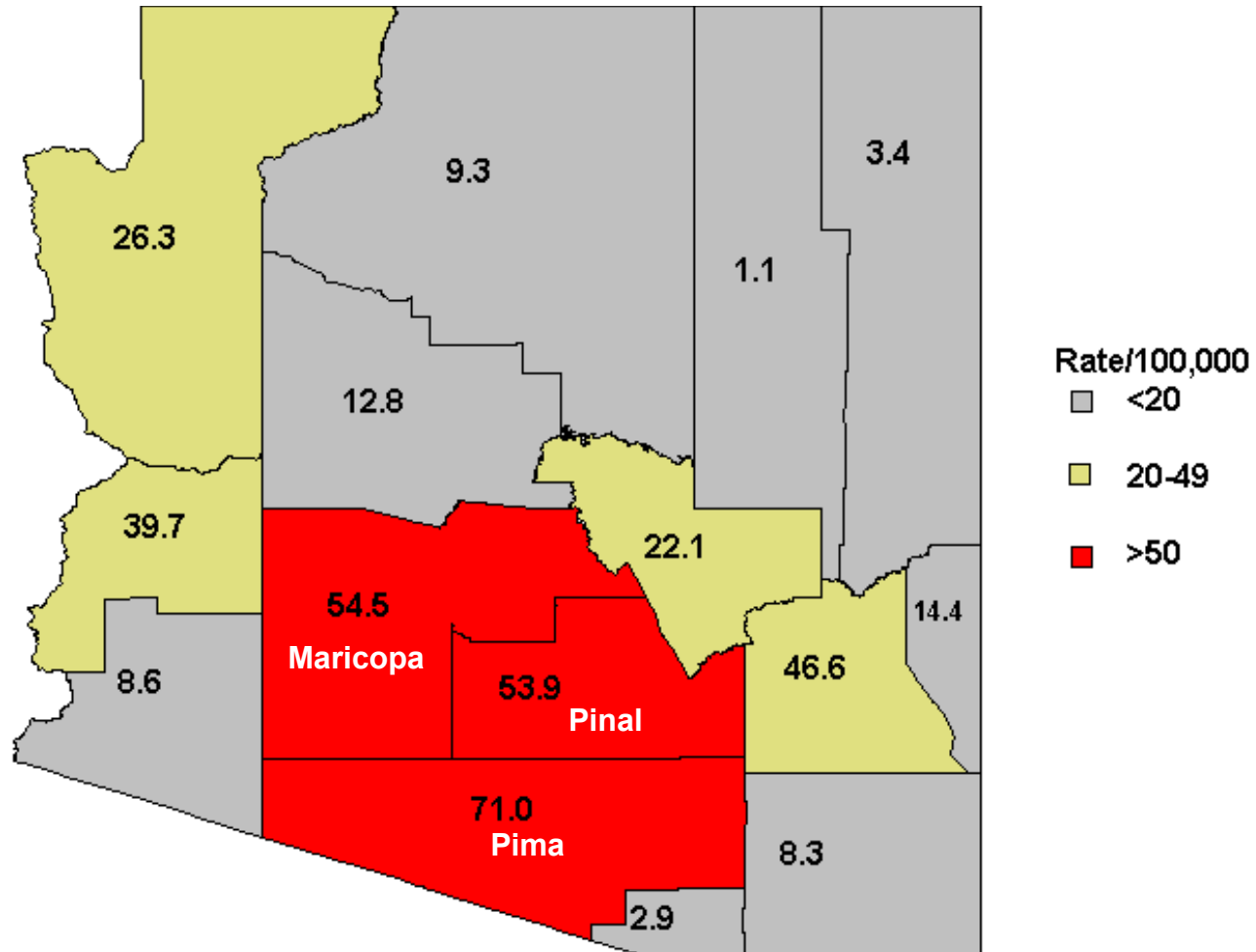


--Valley Fever Center for Excellence

Southwestern U.S. est. 150,000 cases per year



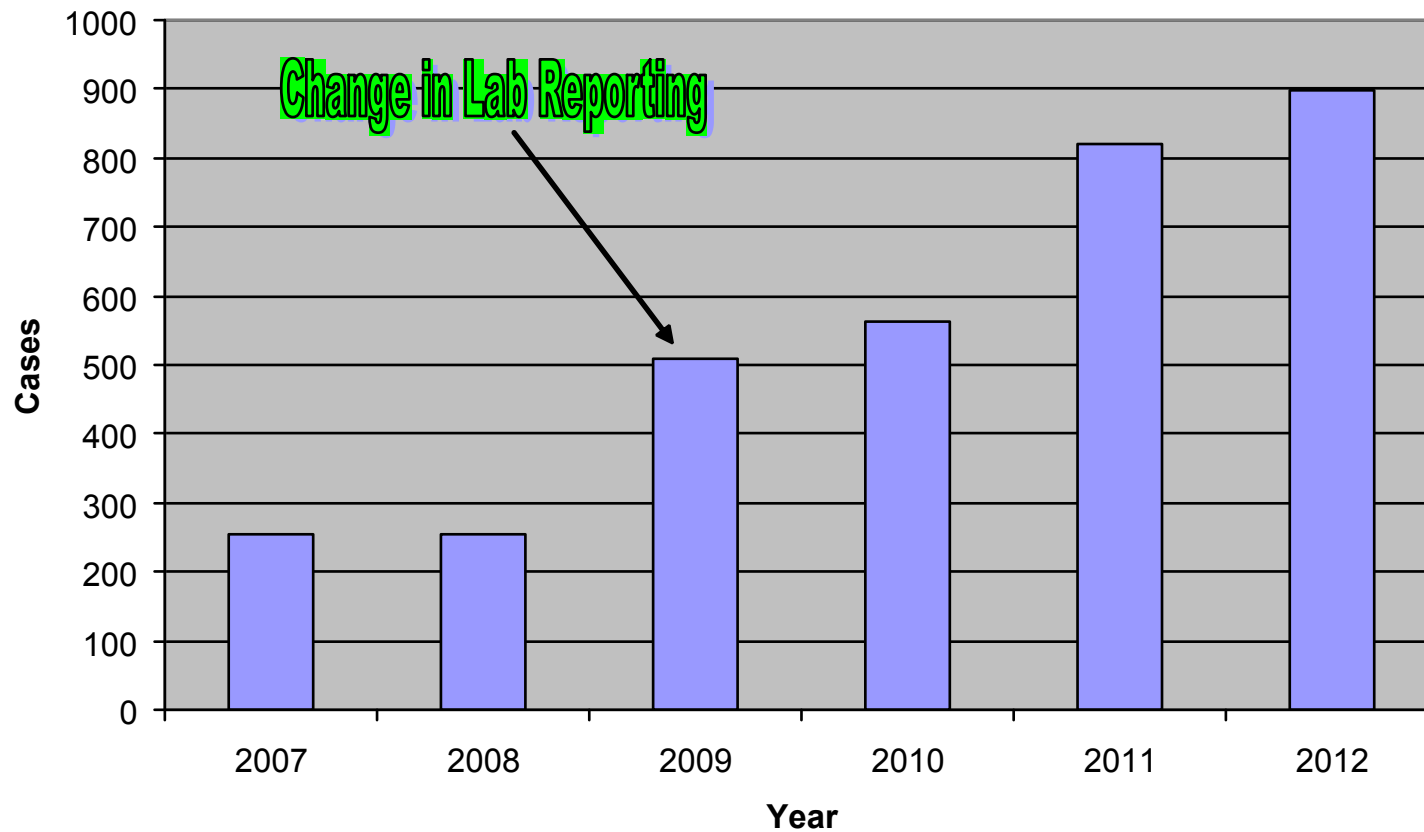
# Reported rates of Valley Fever per 100,000 population, by county, January - October 2005



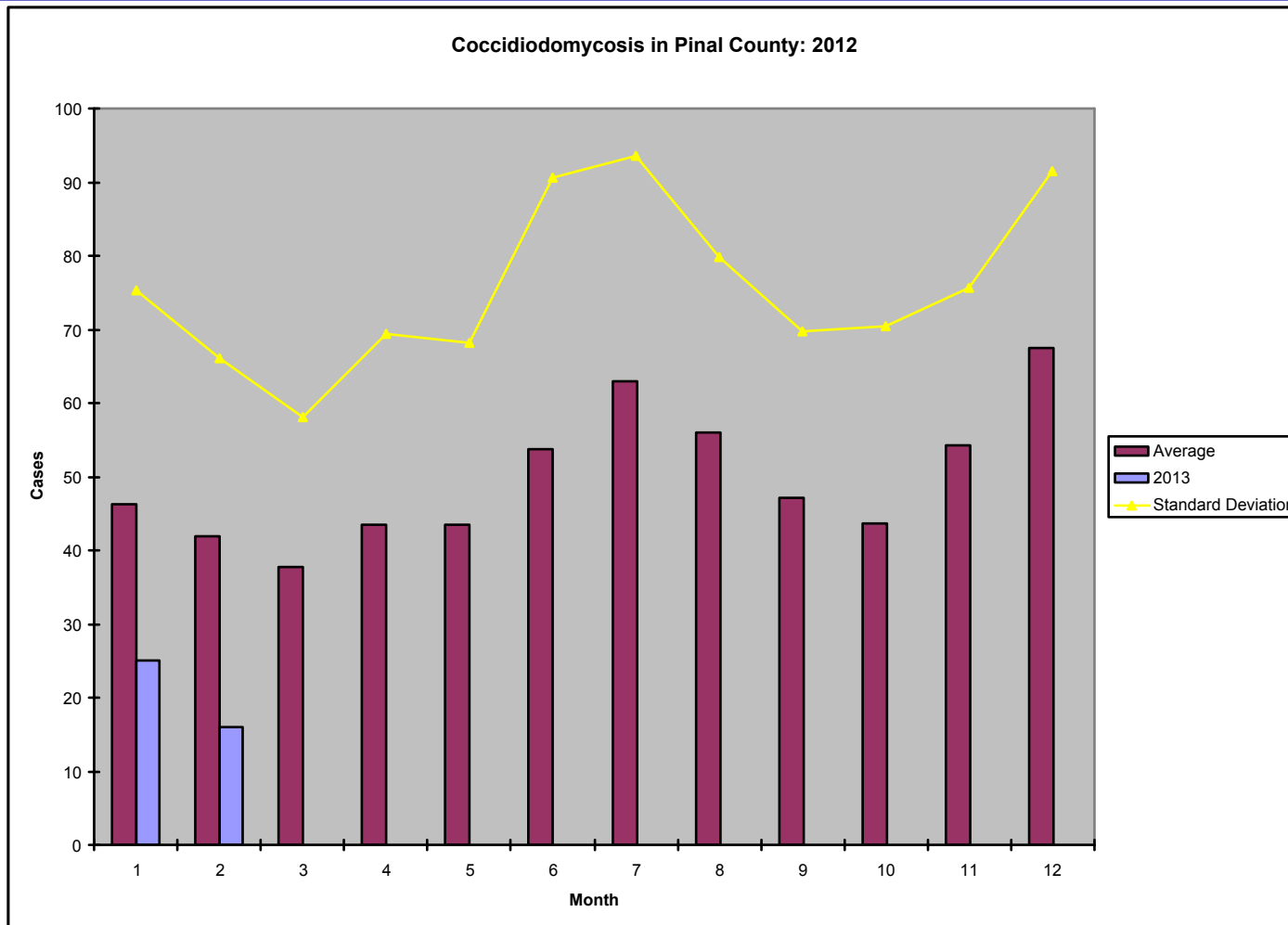


# Valley Fever by Year

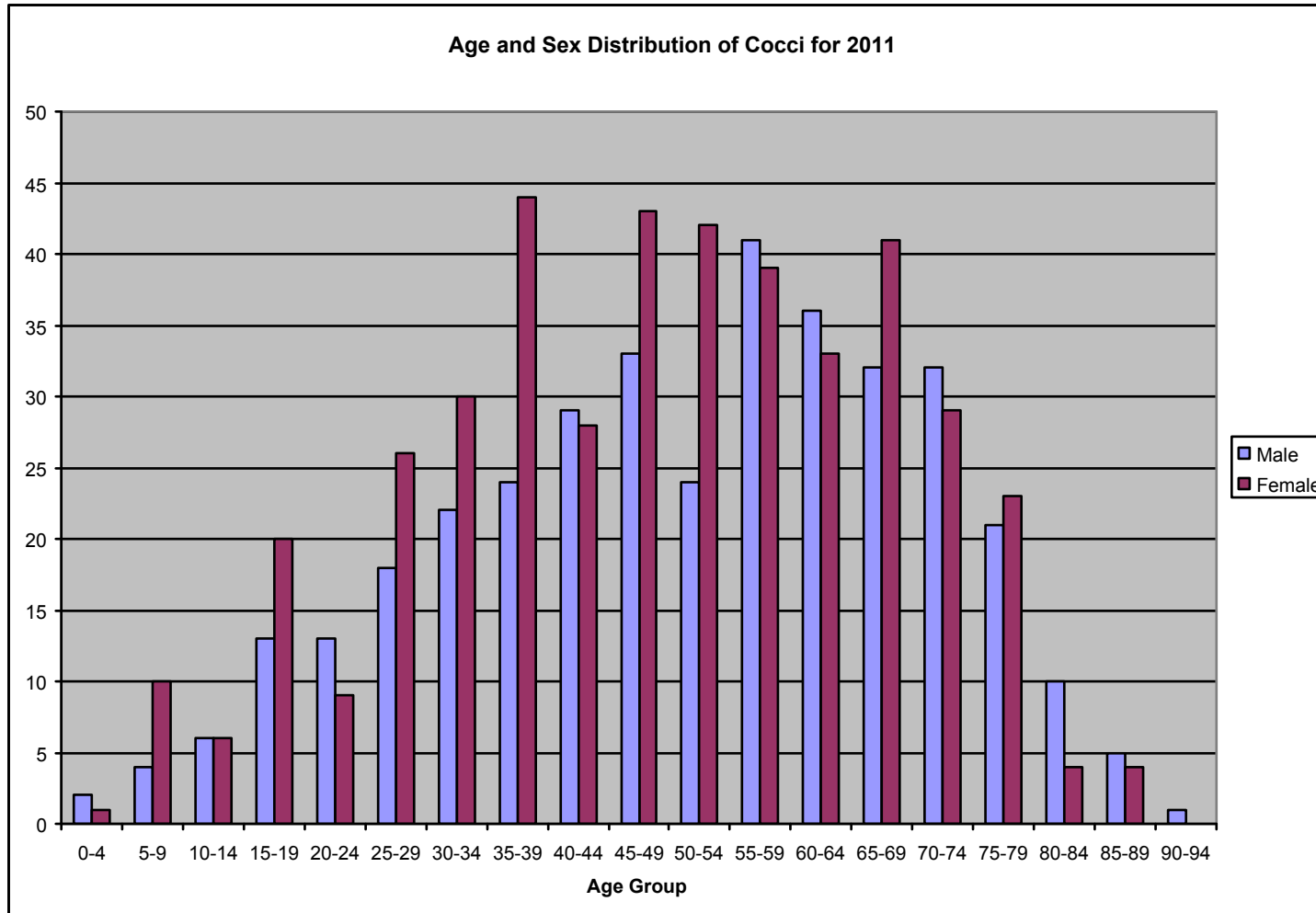
**Coccidioidomycosis: Pinal County 2007-2012**



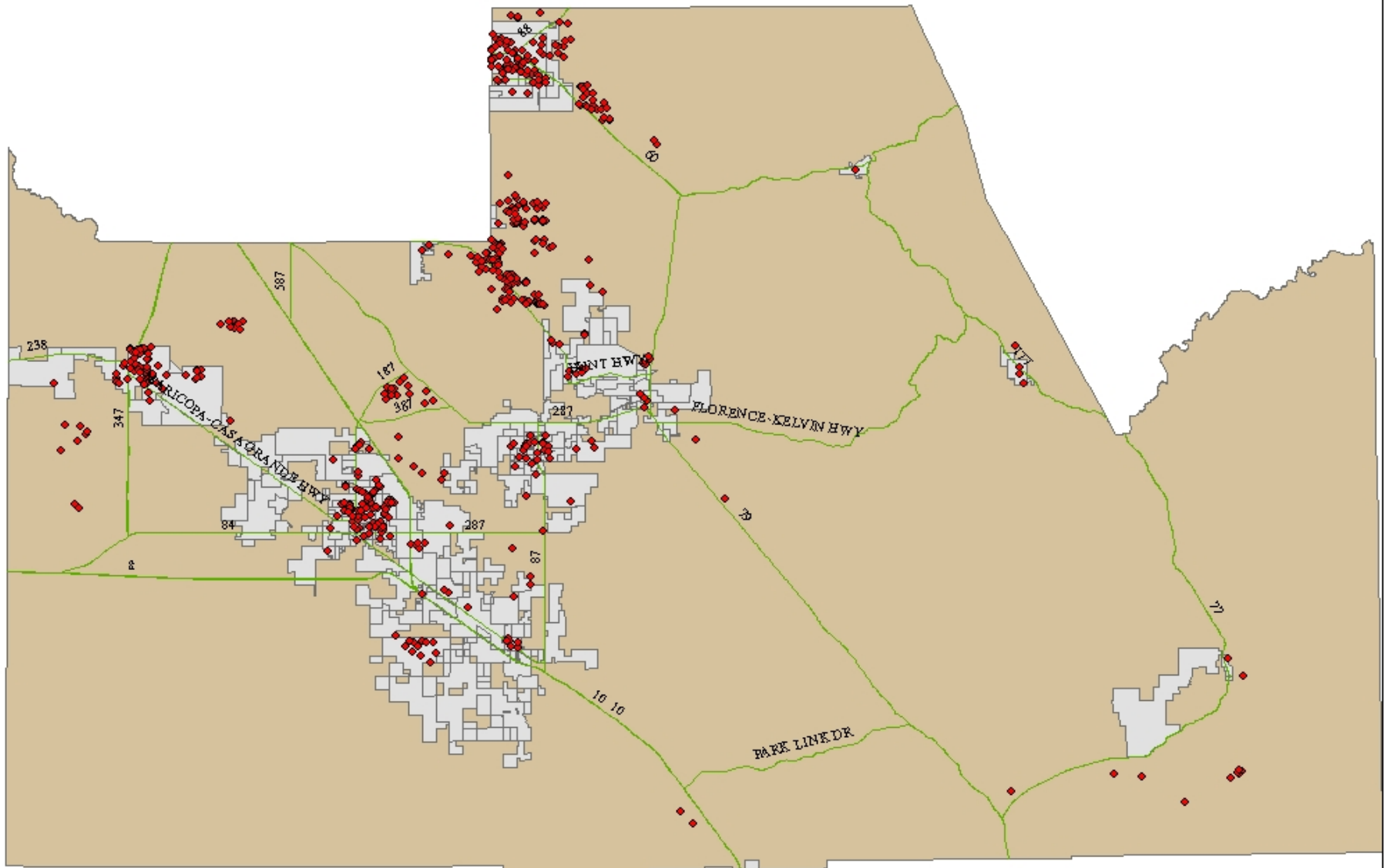
# Monthly Averages



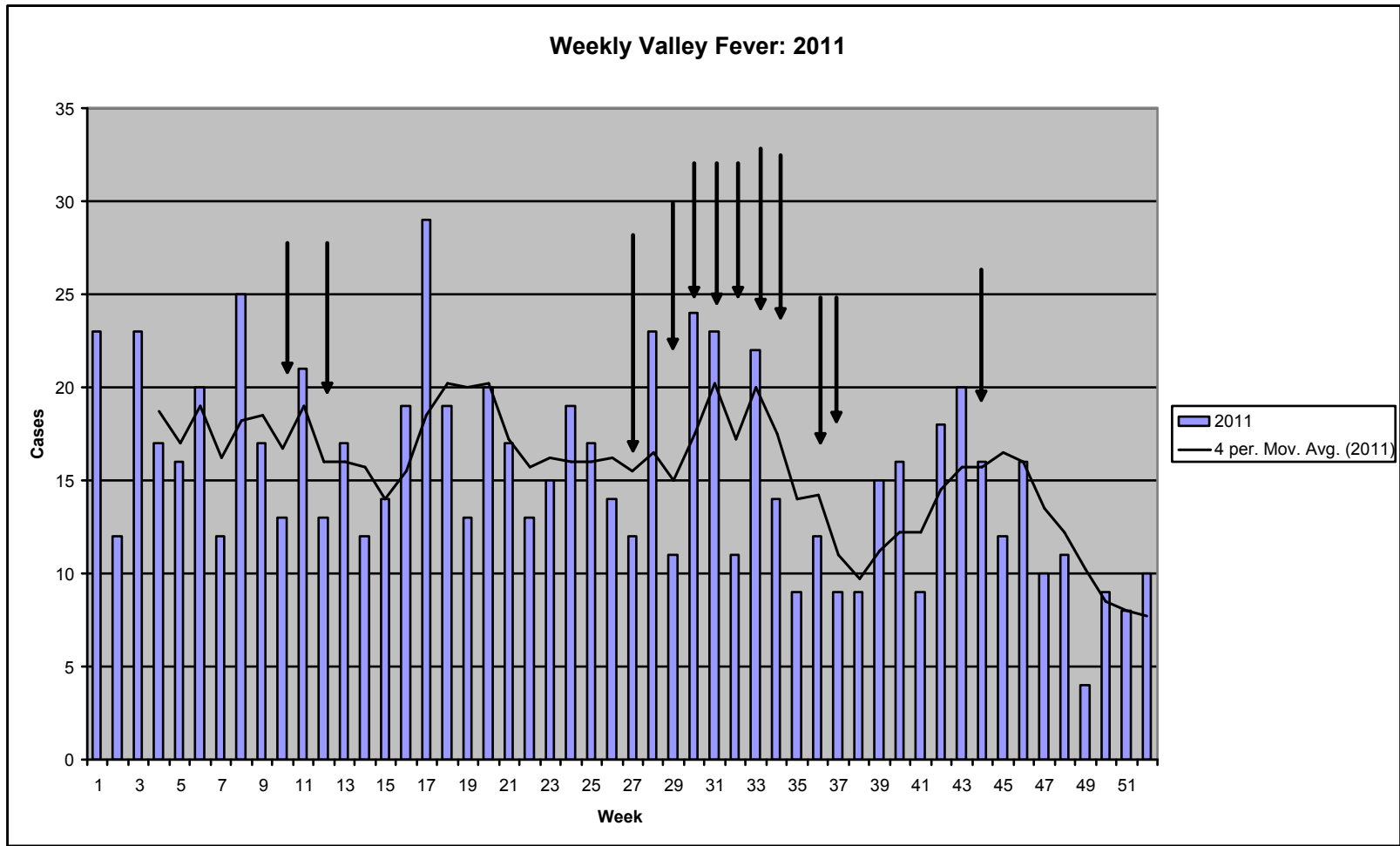
# Age/Sex Distribution



# Valley Fever, Pinal County: 2012



# Link to Dust Storms?



Questions?

