

## **MSDH STD/HIV Office Data Release Guidelines and Policy**

The Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) STD/HIV Office collects, analyzes, and disseminates statistics for STD/HIV cases diagnosed in Mississippi residents. STD/HIV statistics may be shared with external parties in order to analyze trends in disease, as well as to effectively plan and evaluate prevention and services programs. Confidentiality and security restrictions on data released must be made to ensure the privacy of cases.

### **Confidentiality Policies**

The release of information on STD/HIV cases must comply with MSDH and the STD/HIV Office's security and confidentiality policies. No personal identifying information, or protected health information is ever released. Information is released in aggregate only as defined and approved by the MSDH STD/HIV Office Director or designee. In order to protect the privacy and confidentiality of client information, if the population of any geographic location is less than 50,000 and the total number of STD/HIV cases is less than five, then the data is not stratified by variables such as age, sex, or race. Also, if the total number of STD/HIV cases in any group is less than five, the information will not be released.

## **MSDH STD/HIV Office Data Requests**

The STD/HIV Office publishes several annual reports and statistics on STD/HIV cases in Mississippi. The list of reports and statistics is available on MSDH's website, [HealthyMS.com/std](http://HealthyMS.com/std). Reports may also be requested by telephone at (601) 576-7723, on Monday-Friday from 8:00am-5:00pm.

The STD/HIV data request form must be completed for all special data requests. The data request form can be submitted online (see the Data Request section of [HealthyMS.com/std](http://HealthyMS.com/std)), or emailed to the STD/HIV Office at [stdhiv@msdh.state.ms.us](mailto:stdhiv@msdh.state.ms.us), or mailed to the address below.

Mississippi State Department of Health  
STD/HIV Office  
P.O. Box 1700  
Jackson, MS 39215

Please allow a minimum of two weeks for the completion of special requests. The Mississippi State Department of Health STD/HIV Office has information on STDs and HIV in Mississippi residents only. For national STD/HIV statistics, please visit [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov).