

Improving Transit Time of Newborn Bloodspots in Arizona

Transit Time Taskforce

Celia Nabor

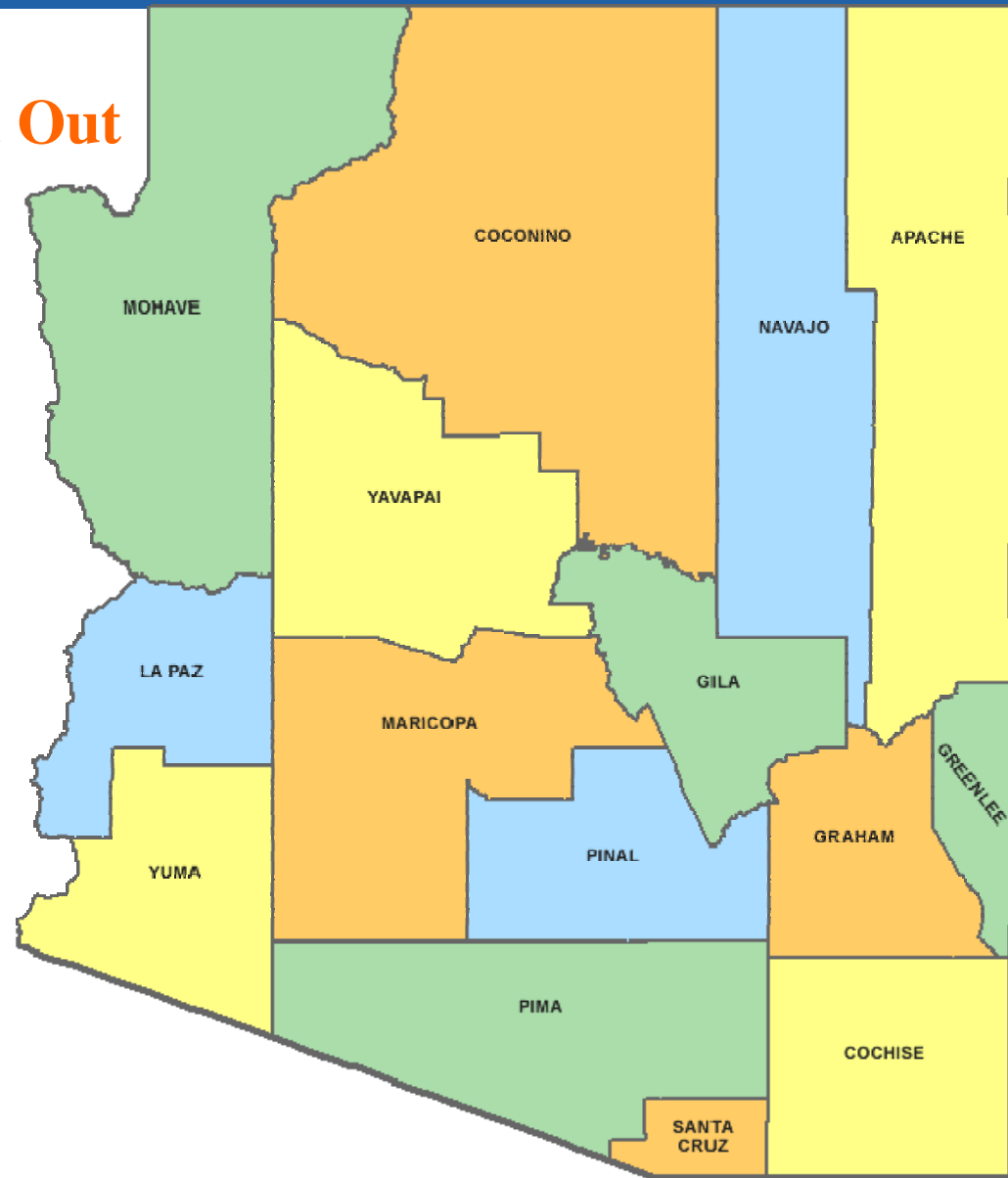
Isaac Lee

Sondi Aponte



Our Population is Spread Out

- 6th largest land/water
- 6.5 million population
- 15 Counties
- 60.5% Maricopa
- 15% Pima County
- 24.5% in 13 other counties
- 43 birth hospitals included in the analysis
- 90,000 births
- 310 miles east to west
- 400 miles north to south
- One state laboratory



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A JOURNAL SENTINEL WATCHDOG REPORT

Deadly Delays

The nation's newborn screening programs depend on speed and science to save babies from rare diseases. But thousands of hospitals fall short, deadly delays are ignored and failures are hidden from public view – while babies and their families suffer.

Published Nov. 16, 2013

“Arizona has one of the worst track records in the country, with 17% of all newborn screening samples arriving at the state lab five or more days after collection in 2012.”

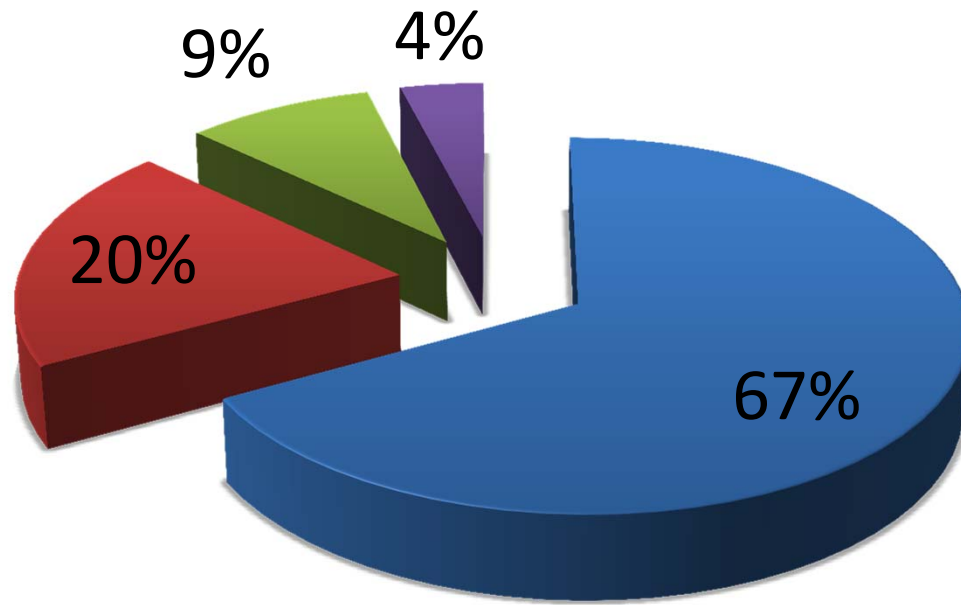


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Baseline



- ≤ 3 days
- 4 days
- 5 days
- > 5 days

How will Arizona NBS achieve....

Quality

Transparency

Accountability

Partnerships



Owen
50 years of NBS

Goal Shared at NBS Advisory Meeting and with the press

Director Will Humble says, “Within six months (by July 1, 2014), 95% of newborn screening bloodspots (initial screens) will be received at the Arizona Public Health Laboratory within three days of collection.”

WOW!

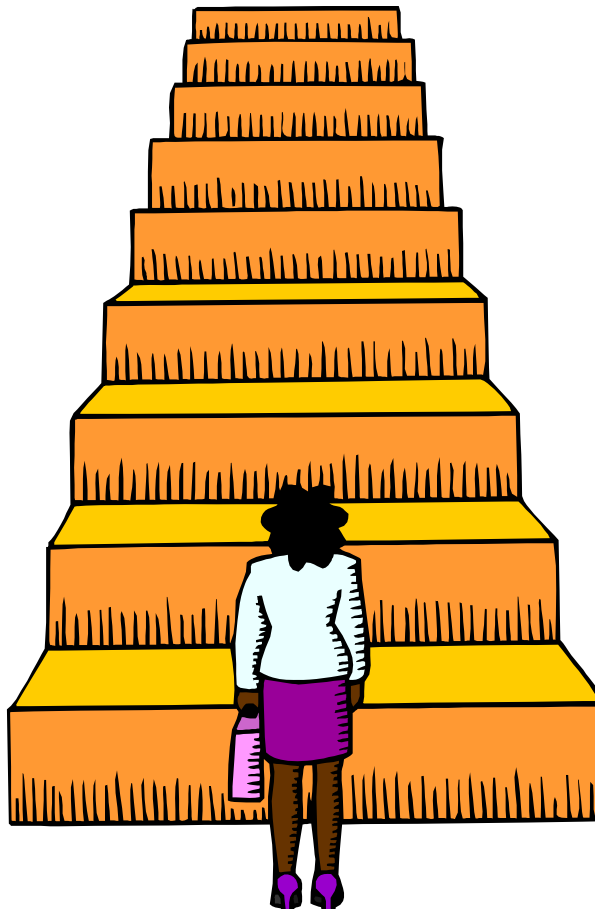


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Quality Improvement Methods



- **Step 1** Identify the problem
- **Step 2** Define the situation
- **Step 3** Analyze the problem
- **Step 4** Develop action plan
- **Step 5** Look at the results
- **Step 6** Repeat

Analysis




- Excessive batching
- Specimen shipping not occurring within 24 hours of collection
- Satellite locations for hospitals
- No courier services during holidays and Saturdays
- Performance reports for Transit Time not available
- Hospital internal processes inconsistent
- Courier service limitations

January - March

- Private/public partnership development
- Baseline data released to hospital leaderships teams
- Develop curriculum and offer educational webinars for hospital staff
- Conduct site visits
- Launch Transit Time webpage




Launched the Transit Time Website



Arizona Department of Health Services

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Office of Newborn Screening Home

Information for Parents ▶

Healthcare Providers ▶

Testing & Specimen Collection ▶

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Ordering Supplies

News and Publications

Información en Español

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Data & Stats

Newsletters

Advisory Committee


50 Years of Newborn Screening

About Us ▶

Contact Us

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Office of Newborn Screening
250 N 17th Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85007
602-364-1409
800-548-8381
Deaf and Hard of Hearing call
711 for AZ Relay Service
[Email Us](#)

Office of Newborn Screening Transit Time Project



Congratulations to the Arizona Hospitals and their achievement of the transit time goal.

[Home](#) | [Hospital Performance](#) | [Featured Hospitals](#) | [FAQs](#) | [Resources](#) | [Site Visits](#)

The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel recently accessed de-identified information for Newborn Screening Programs nationwide through an open-records request. The Sentinel published their findings on delays in newborn screening testing due to delayed bloodspot delivery to the laboratory for testing (transit time). These findings revealed many opportunities for improvement.

In an effort to improve services to newborns and families, the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) developed an internal taskforce to lead newborn screening transit time initiatives, effective January 2014. ADHS is committed to transparency, accountability, and increased partnership as stakeholder's progress towards meeting this new statewide goal.

What does the Newborn Screening Transit Time Project offer?


- Information about the Newborn Screening Transit Time Project and new statewide goal
- Monthly performance reports for Arizona birth hospitals
- Answers to frequently asked questions about transit time
- Links to valuable resources
- Ability to request a site visit

What is the new goal for Arizona birth hospitals?

By July 1, 2014, 95% of all newborn screening bloodspots (initial screens) will be received at the Arizona State Laboratory within three (3) days of collection.

How is progress towards the transit time goal measured?

INITIAL BLOODSPOTS RECEIVED IN % WITHIN 3 DAYS OF COLLECTION



Summary of first screen statistics for all hospitals in Arizona.

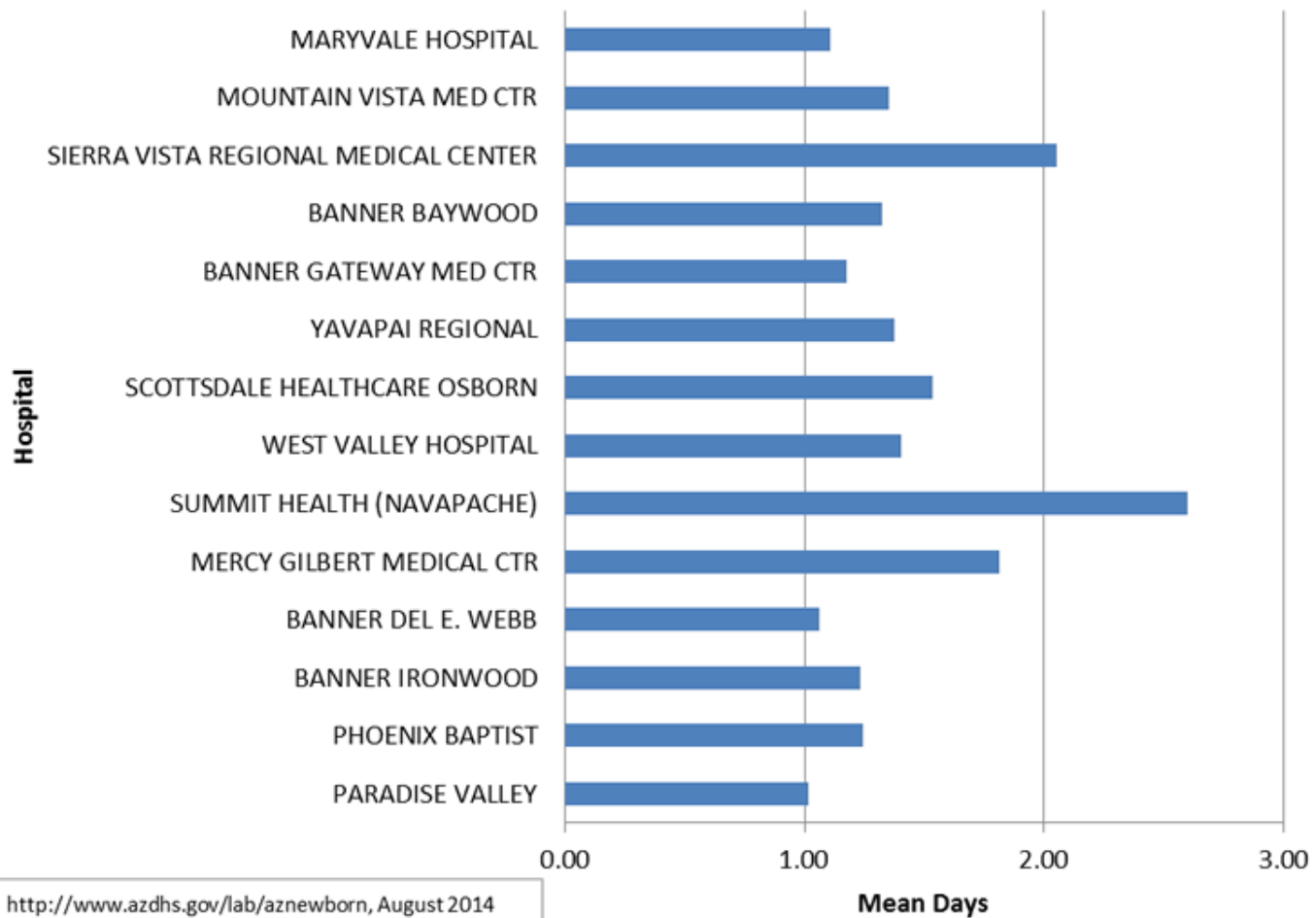


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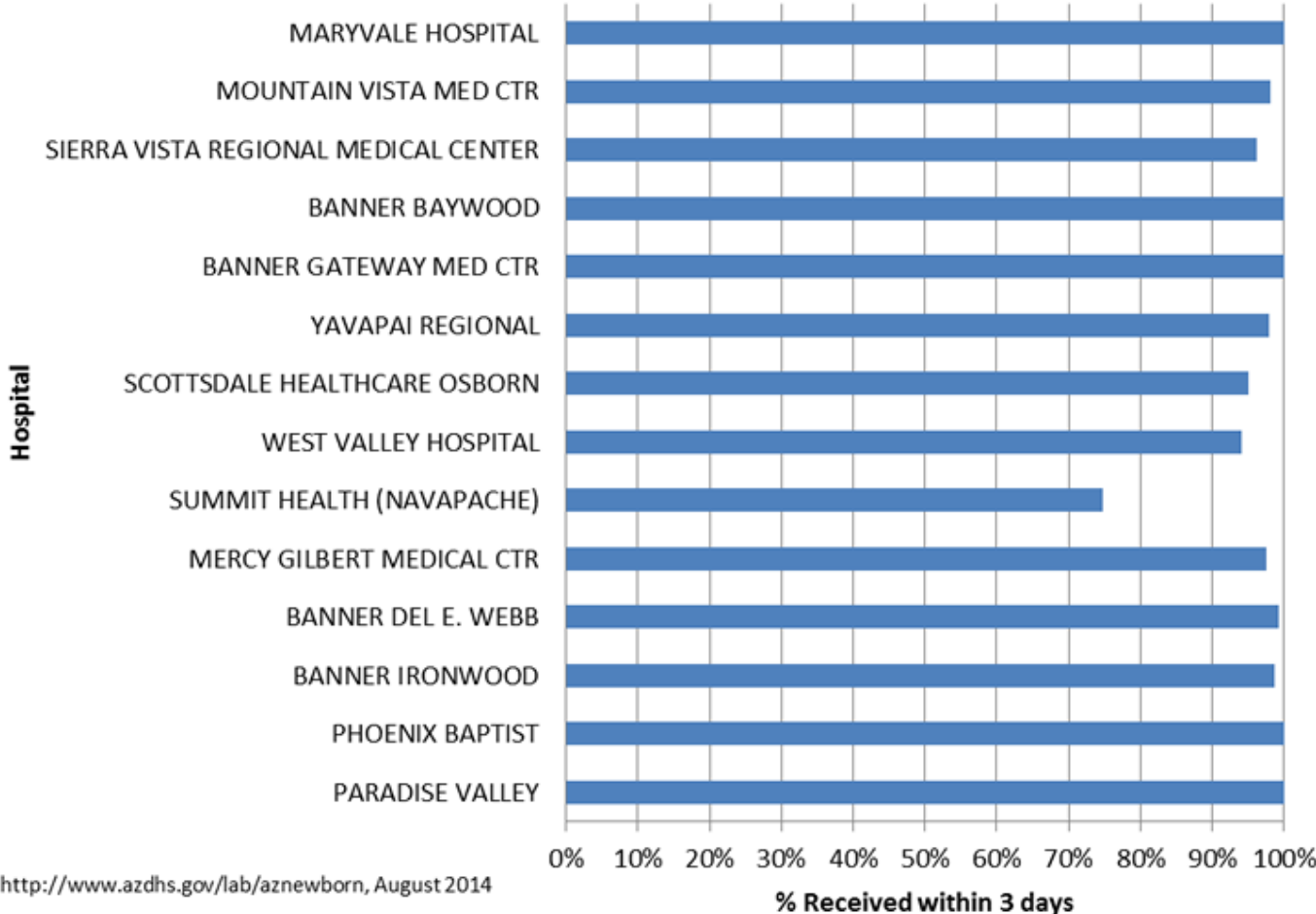
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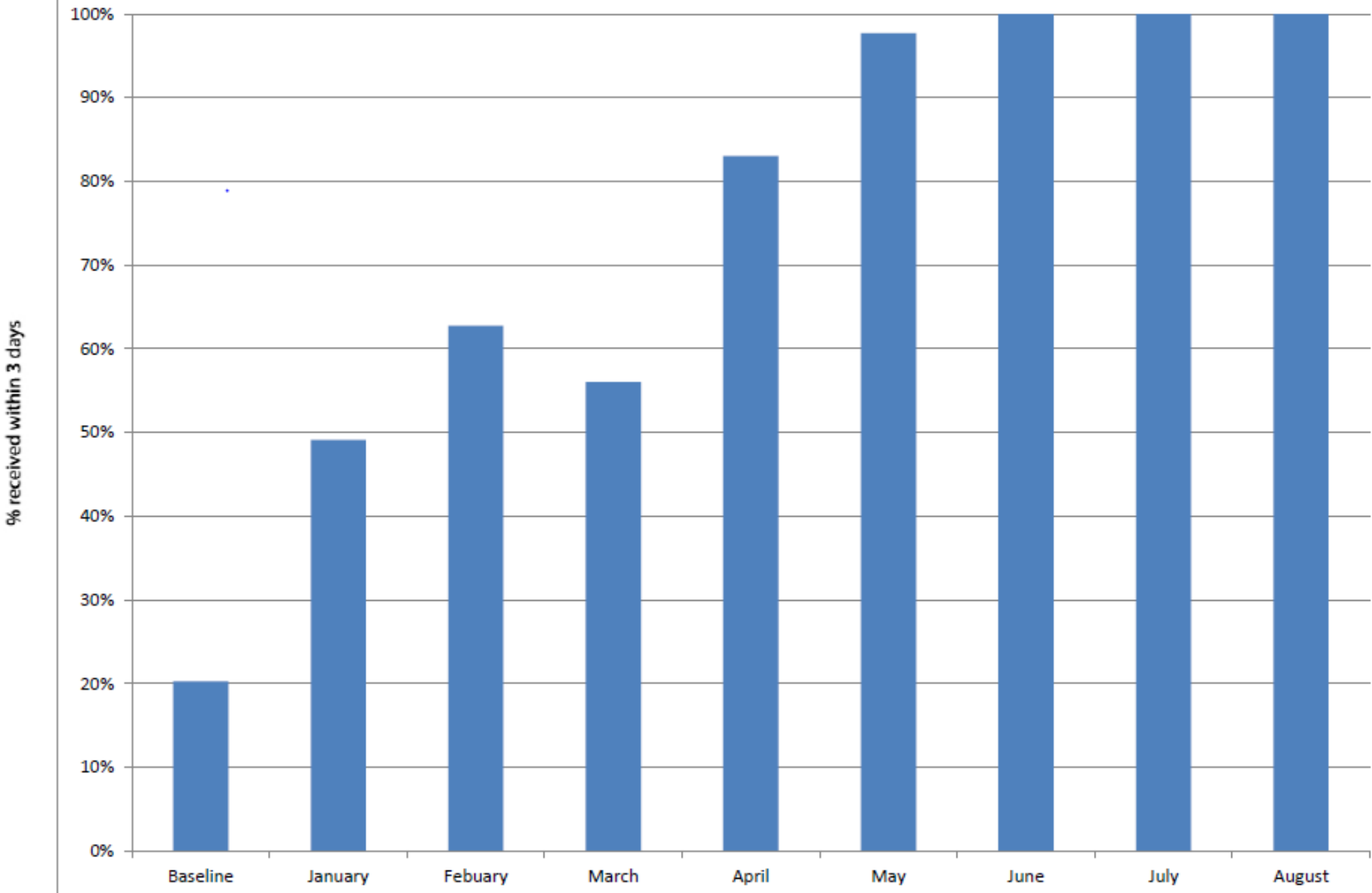
Level II Average Transit Time



Level II Initial screens received within 3 days



BANNER CASA GRANDE



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April 2014

- Implementation of statewide courier-EZ Messenger-Multi Tier approach
- Monday-Saturday pick up and delivery
- Pick up 8:00 AM-11:00 AM
- Same day or next business day delivery
- Lab open six days a week shipping/receiving area

May/June 2014

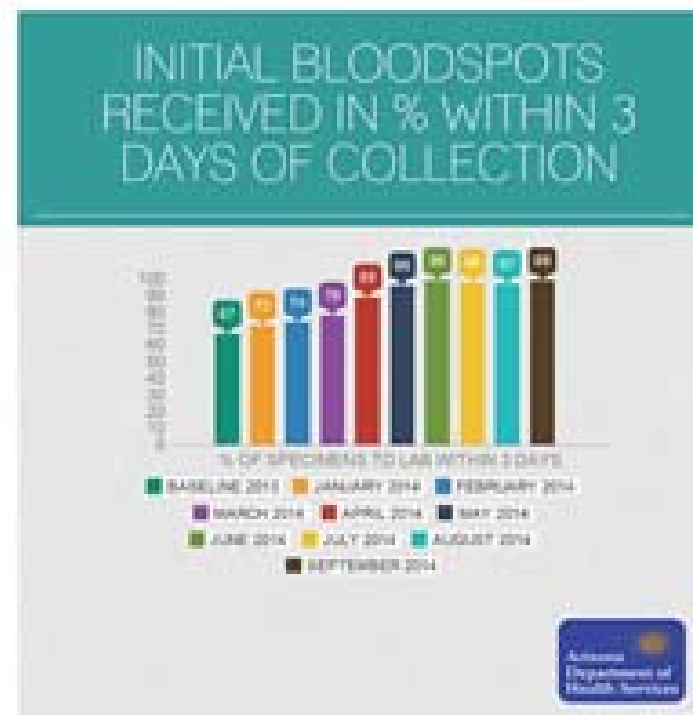
- Webpage maintenance
- Logistical planning with courier service
- Communication!
- Support to hospitals
- Reinforcement
- Data Analysis



Kaiden
50 years of NBS

Results

In five months 99% of newborn screening bloodspots specimens (initial screens) collected at birth hospitals were received at the Arizona State Laboratory within one day of collection.







March Of Dimes Honors Arizona With First-Ever Newborn Screening Award

Arizona Health Director Honored for Reforms to Avoid Deadly Delays

CHANDLER, ARIZONA — Thursday, September 18, 2014



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The AZ TEAM that makes it happen!



Thank you!

Merci

Gracias

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