

# When Public Health Reaches Out: Why Your Answer Matters!

- Many different groups from the Kentucky Department for Public Health may reach out to you for different reasons.
- Some sections in Public Health track reportable conditions for early outbreak detection, protecting individuals and the community, monitoring trends, and resource allocation.
- Answering a call from Public Health is important for timely reporting, preventing outbreaks, protecting vulnerable populations, keeping schools and workplaces safe, and strengthening communities.



## Here's How It Works:

### Step 01

A health care provider diagnoses a reportable condition.

### Step 02

The provider or laboratory submits a report to the local or state health department.

### Step 03

Public Health reviews the report and may initiate investigation or follow-up.

### Step 04

Public Health uses information collected to provide guidance and prevent future spread of illness.

In Kentucky, the diseases and conditions required to be reported to the Kentucky Department for Public Health (KDPH) are listed in statute KAR 902 2:020. Scan the QR Codes or click the links to review the statute or see a list of current reportable diseases and conditions.



[KAR 902 2:020](#)



[CURRENT LIST](#)

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

### Who will contact me from Public Health?

- Someone from your local or state health department. Individuals who work as disease investigators (typically epidemiologists or nurses) will reach out to the public regarding reportable conditions.

### My health care provider told me I didn't have a disease, but a Public Health professional called and told me I had a positive test result. Who do I believe?

- Not all positive test results indicate disease. Health care providers and Public Health professionals may be looking for different information. A health care provider will provide a medical diagnosis and care. A Public Health professional will gather information related to the condition or illness.

### Is it safe to give my information to Public Health?

- It is safe to give information to Public Health professionals. ALL information provided is secure and private. Protected health information is never shared.

### Will Public Health ONLY contact me by a phone call?

- No. Public Health may contact individuals through the various methods such as phone, text message, email, and letters in the mail.

### KDPH Reportable Condition Text Messaging:

**1-502-237-7679**



KDPH will text **from the phone number** above with a link to complete a questionnaire on your phone or computer.

This is a **secure feature** used by KDPH to gather information that would otherwise be collected through a phone interview.

