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DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY

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*Your Partner For A Stronger Arizona*

# Adult Protective Services

## COVID-19 Updates



# Adult Protective Services

- APS investigates allegations of abuse, exploitation, and neglect, including self neglect, under the authority of A.R.S. § 46-454
- APS investigates across the entire state but has no jurisdiction on tribal land
- Unlike CPS, APS does not have the authority to remove adults from their homes or take custody

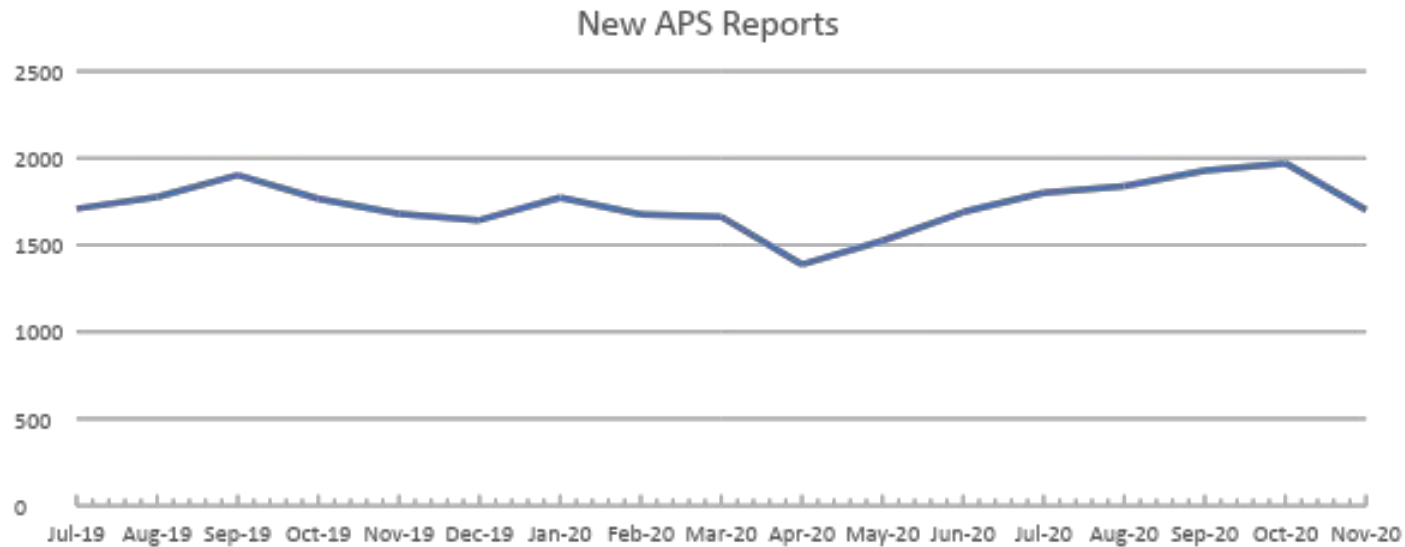


# COVID-19 Impacts

- General public not having access to loved ones has potentially impacted reporting and investigations
- Restricted access to facilities and hospitals and understanding of APS authority
- Initial difficulty in getting access to Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for APS investigators

# COVID-19 Impacts Continued

- Despite restricted access, reporting has continued at an all time high



# APS Response

- Virtual investigation
  - Initial contact by phone followed by virtual interview whenever possible
- Technology deployment
  - APS received grant from the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission to help fund COVID-related expenditures, including the purchase of PPE for investigators and the purchase of tablets



# APS Response Continued

- Website redesign to better inform the public about APS

<https://des.az.gov/services/basic-needs/adult-protective-services>

- Virtual outreach and presentations to partners
  - Mandatory reporters
- Leveraging partnerships with food banks and Area Agencies on Aging



# Questions?

- Please feel free to reach out with further questions to:

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