
Stay up to date with the Missouri Public Health Information Management System



WHAT'S IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE:

- Formula Recall and WIC MICA Utilization
- 2022 Oral Health Conference Exhibit
- Author Biographies
- Data & Training Updates

HAPPY SUMMER, MOPHIMS USERS!

We are so excited to be bringing another newsletter to your inbox this month. With the warm breeze in the air summer is officially upon us. In this issue of the MOPHIMS Newsletter, we will focus on the WIC MICA, and how you can utilize our recent data updates to your benefit. We also figured it was about time we start introducing some of our new staff that work on this newsletter, so read further to see some staff highlights of the authors of this issue!

While we are always working on providing the most current available statistics on the MOPHIMS site, we are excited to announce that some 2020 MICAs are uploaded for your access. See the Data Updates section for the most recent available years of data on each individual MICA. As always, if you need something more recent than the current years available, please reach out!

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Learn more about the recent infant formula recall, and how the WIC MICAs can be utilized for data collection

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Explore more information on the most recent years of MOPHIMS MICA data and find our training video

Using MOPHIMS to Find WIC Information

The U.S. recall of infant formula in February 2022 has had a dramatic impact on infants, parents, and caregivers across the country. The recall was issued in response to reported bacterial infections, hospitalizations, and deaths linked to the consumption of contaminated formula. In Missouri, the resulting formula shortages continue to create challenges, including for those who rely on nutritional assistance programs like Women, Infants and Children (WIC).

We wanted to take this opportunity to give a brief overview of the WIC program and show how MOPHIMS can be used to assess the impact of a formula recall here in Missouri.

The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for WIC is a federal grant to states that provides supplemental food assistance, health care referrals, nutritional education, and breastfeeding promotion and support for low-income families. Missouri WIC administers the program and provides support to residents whose household income is no more than 185% of the federal poverty income guidelines. Assistance is provided for prenatal and postpartum care as well as for infants and children up to their 5th birthday.

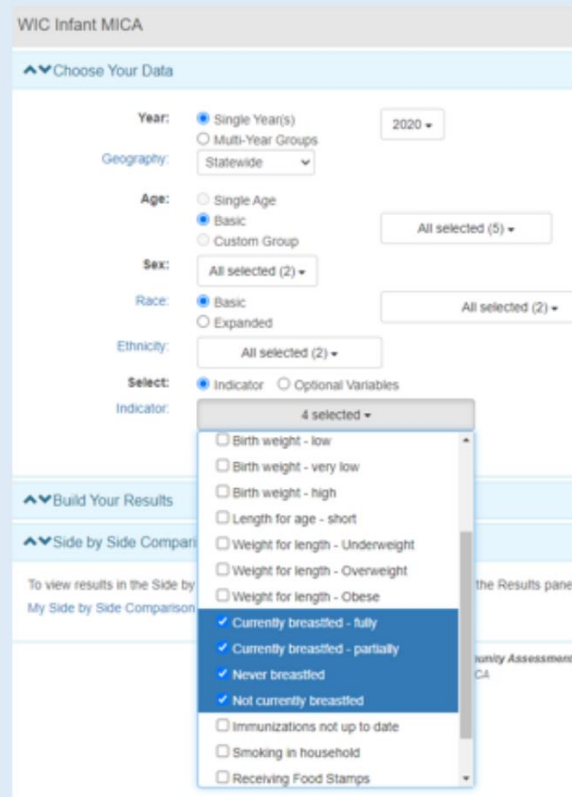
The nutrition guidelines that Missouri WIC follows are determined by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). Lists of approved foods and formulas can be found under the WIC Approved Food section of the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services website. Foods and formulas not on these lists are exempt and participants cannot normally use WIC benefits to purchase these products. Due to the recent recall, several WIC approved formulas are no longer available. Starting in February 2022, Missouri WIC received the first of several temporary approvals from USDA that allowed previously exempted formulas to be purchased with WIC benefits. The temporary approvals are meant to relieve some of the shortage issues that WIC participants may experience.



MOPHIMS WIC MICAs contain information related to breast and formula feeding which makes for a great tool to assess the impact of a formula shortage on Missouri WIC participants. WIC MICAs include WIC Child, WIC Infant, WIC Prenatal, and WIC Postpartum. These data MICAs correspond with the four main WIC programs. The fifth MICA, WIC Linked Prenatal-Postpartum, combines the information from participants who take part in both the prenatal and postpartum programs.

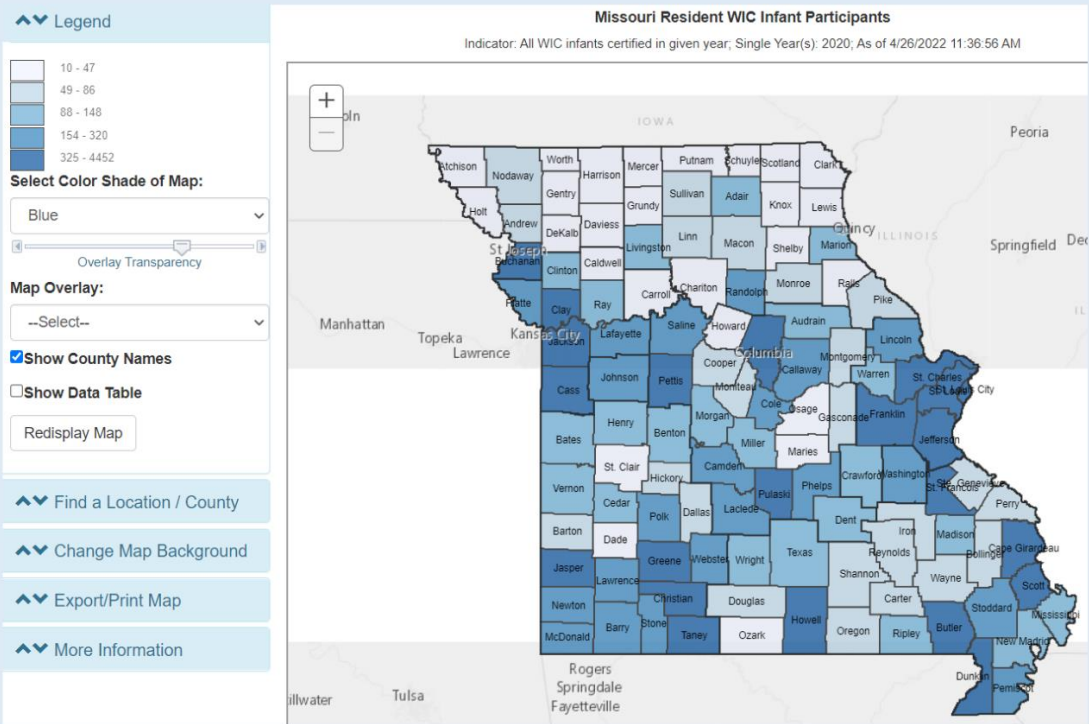
Navigating to Choose Your Data in the WIC Infant MICA, selections can be made for year(s), age, sex, race, and ethnicity. Using the drop down list next to 'Geography' a MOPHIMS user can select for county, city, region of interest or statewide. There are indicators for everything from breastfeeding patterns and Medicaid enrollment to children's height, weight, and exercise habits.

WIC Infant, WIC Postpartum, and WIC Linked Prenatal-Postpartum MICAs all have indicators for breastfeeding. By combining information from these three MICAs, a MOPHIMS user can get a better understanding of breastfeeding habits during an infant's first year. Indicators for WIC Infant include 'Currently breastfed- fully', 'Currently breastfed-partially', 'Never breastfed', and 'Not currently breastfed'. You can also examine specific aspects of an indicator by selecting 'Optional Variables'. The 'Ever breastfed' variable for example includes status for 'Have been breastfed', 'Never been breastfed', 'Known' and 'Unknown'.



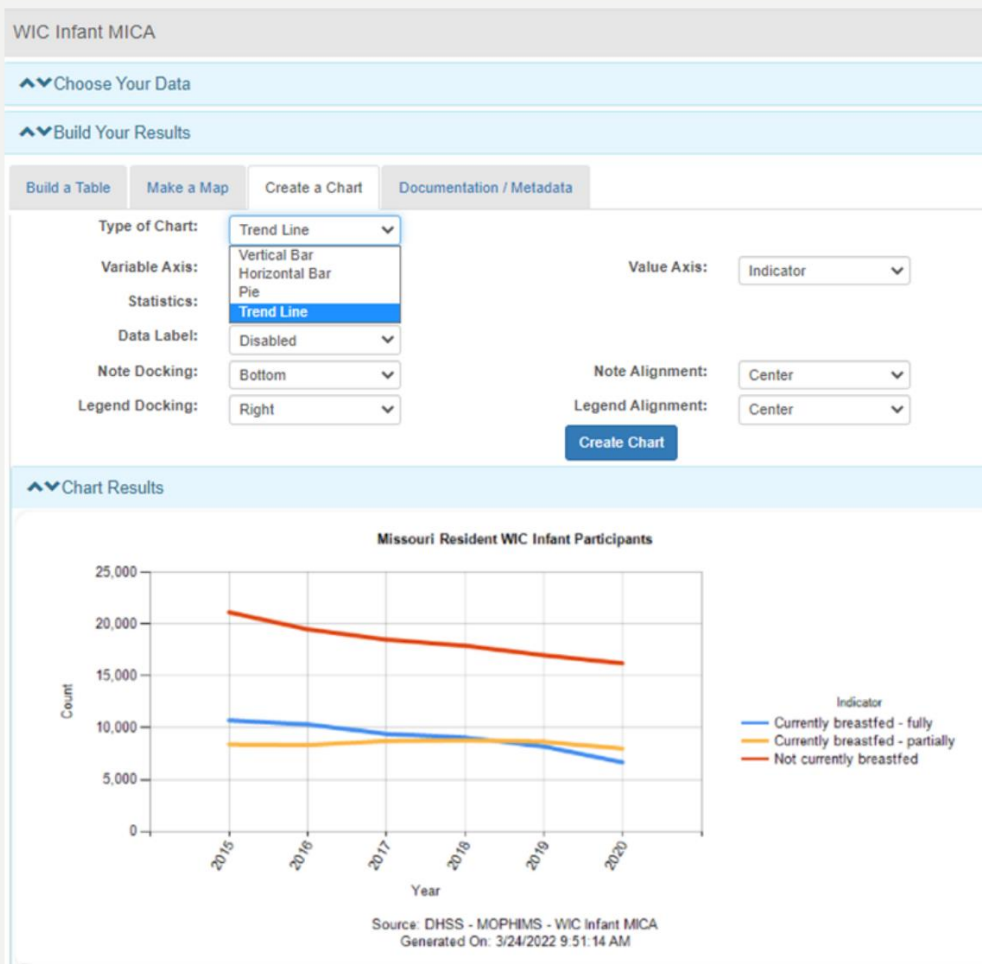
Once an indicator and other search criteria have been selected, tables, maps, and charts can be created under the Build Your Results section as a visual aid for analyzing data. For example, the generated map below was created using the 'Make a Map' tab in MOPHIMS Infant WIC MICA and shows the 2020 distribution of WIC Infant participants in Missouri.

Counts or rates can be selected depending on the indicator, and are displayed at the county level. The map allows the user to point-and-click on a county to view the rate and count for the indicator that was selected. In this example which looks at WIC Infant participation, the darker colors represent counties with higher counts and lighter colors represent counties with lower counts.



The following chart was created using the 'Create a Chart' tab under Build Your Results. Different chart options for displaying data include the vertical bar, horizontal bar, pie, and trend line charts. This chart represents a trend line chart of 2015-2020 Infant MICA data for breastfeeding indicators 'Currently breastfed-fully', 'Currently breastfed-partially', and 'Not currently breastfed'.

There are drop down lists for data labels, notes, legends, and alignment that allow a user to find the best visual representation of the data.

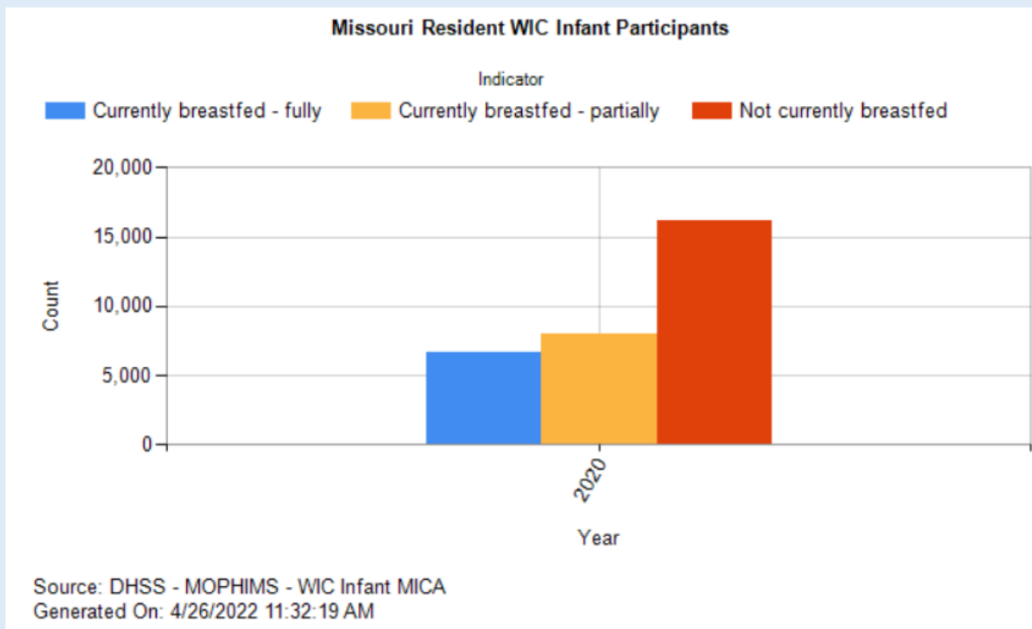


Impact of Formula Recall on WIC Participants

As recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) all infants should only consume human milk or infant formula for the first 6 months. Complementary foods can be introduced after six months, but they are not the primary source of nutrition for infants during the first year.

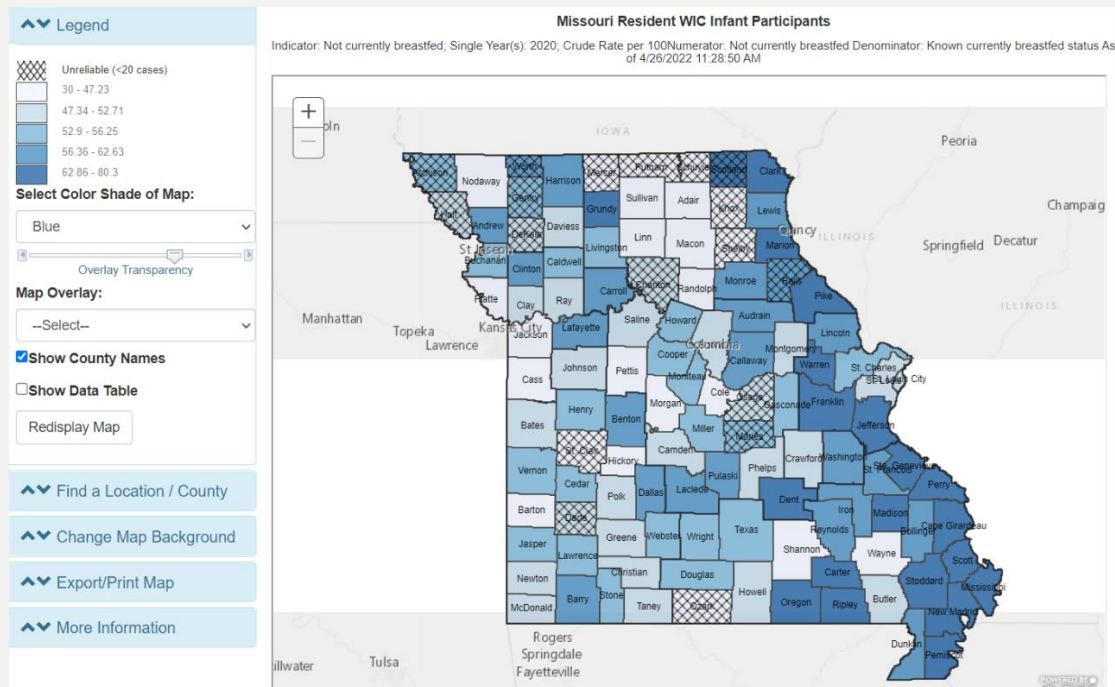
Based on AAP recommendations, participants not breastfeeding fully are using formula to supplement. The formula recall and resulting shortages would have a major impact, since the majority of WIC participants are either formula feeding partially or fully.

The vertical bar chart below represents 2020 breastfeeding status for WIC Infant participants. The 'Not Currently Breastfed' category has the highest count compared to 'Currently breastfed' whether fully or partially. This category also includes 'Never breastfed' and 'Unknown' indicators.



Using MOPHIMS MICAs to look at local impact of formula shortages is an important tool for those assisting WIC participants. The following map shows the 2020 distribution of participants that indicated that they are not currently breastfeeding. Using this information, local agencies would be able to target specific areas where WIC benefits are utilized most in order to tailor their outreach and assistance efforts.

This would help ensure that WIC participants are aware of the changes to their benefits. While the current formula shortage will improve over time, WIC MICAs could be utilized to better assess the impact of future food or formula recalls in Missouri.



2022 Oral Health Conference Exhibit Highlight

On March 3rd and 4th, Chelsea and LeighAnna had the opportunity to exhibit for MOPHIMS for the first time since 2020! The Missouri Coalition for Oral Health allowed us the opportunity to exhibit at the 2022 Oral Health Policy Conference, located in Jefferson City, Missouri. We were able to learn so many great things about Oral Health from this conference, and were very excited to share some of the potential uses of the MOPHIMS system to the attendees.

We are very thankful for this opportunity, and enjoyed meeting so many great colleagues! For more information on the Missouri Coalition for Oral Health, visit their website at: <https://www.oralhealthmissouri.org/>



Meet the Authors

Chelsea Fife has been a part of BHCADD since May of 2018, where she started right after graduating from the University of Missouri-Columbia with a Bachelor's in Anthropology. She began as an Associate Research Analyst where she served as the primary abstractor for the Enhanced State Opioid Overdose Surveillance (ESOOS) project. After gaining some experience, Chelsea moved into a Research Analyst role where she worked as the death analyst for the bureau. Currently, Chelsea is excited to hold a Senior Research Analyst position and work as the dissemination coordinator for the area. She handles all things MOPHIMS and is able to go back to her roots of helping with the new drug overdose grant, Overdose Data to Action (OD2A). Chelsea is excited to have the opportunity to connect with all of you through her dissemination efforts!

Chelsea was born and raised in Jefferson City and feels lucky to have found a job she loves in her home town. Chelsea is a new mom and can be found spending time with her sweet baby boy Nolan, her husband Will, and two Beagles, Cooper and Hank. In her free time she enjoys being outdoors, curling up with a good book, and cheering on her favorite sports teams.



Alicia Sparer was born and raised in Jefferson City, MO and graduated from Harris-Stowe State University with a Bachelor of Science in Biology. She earned her M.A. in Curriculum and Instruction with an emphasis in Science Education from the University of Mississippi. She started with BHCADD in January of this year. As a Research Analyst, Alicia is involved in a variety of projects, including abstracting overdose surveillance records, assisting with MOPHIMS data uploads and quality checks, as well as answering data requests and working on MOPHIMS trainings. Outside of work, Alicia enjoys botanizing and hiking in Missouri State Parks and Conservation Areas.

LeighAnna Bennett has been a member of the BHCADD team since September of 2020. Starting out as an intern at DHSS, LeighAnna now works as a Research Analyst, primarily working with Missouri's Vital Statistics Death file as well as the Patient Abstract System (PAS). Prior to DHSS, LeighAnna graduated from Truman State University in 2019 with a degree in Agriculture Science, and then in 2021, graduated from the University of Missouri with a Master's in Public Health. Her passion for public health lies in the realm of the One Health philosophy, connecting human health, animal health, and the environment all together as One Health. One of LeighAnna's greatest journeys in public health was her trip throughout the State of California through a program called RX One Health. Here she had the opportunity to dive into different One Health roles, ranging from veterinarian, to environmental advocate, and even as a public health stakeholder. In the picture to the right, she can be seen advocating for human health and how that can be impacted by potential emerging zoonotic diseases (and also receiving the worst sunburn of her life on the cloudiest day in California).

In her free time, LeighAnna loves to spend time in the outdoors with her husband Andrew and dog Jackson. She also loves to paint, and spend time catching her Zen through yoga practice.



Erin Henry joined the BHCADD team in November 2021 as a Data/ Research Analyst. Erin is the teams new WIC MICA analyst. Prior to joining DHSS, she worked for the State of Missouri for 6 years as an Environmental Analyst with the Air Pollution Control Program. Erin has a degree in Biology from Saint Mary's College, Notre Dame. She has a Master's Degree in Anthropology from the University of California, San Diego and a Master's in Climate Science & Solutions from Northern Arizona University. Her interest in using data to better understand human interaction in society and its impact on the environment has guided her career path to this point. She looks forward to continuing to learn and use data analysis to provide greater insight on public health in Missouri. In her free time, Erin enjoys traveling and spending time with her 1 year old son.

Data & Training Updates

Maternal, Infant and Child Health MICAs

- Birth (2020)
- Pregnancy (2019)
- Fertility and Pregnancy Rate (2019)
- WIC Child (2020)
- WIC Infant (2020)
- WIC Prenatal (2020)
- WIC Postpartum (2020)
- WIC Linked Prenatal-Postpartum (2020)

Death MICA

- Death (2019)

Hospital and Emergency Room Visit MICAs

- Emergency Room (2015)
- Inpatient Hospitalizations (2015)
- Preventable Hospitalizations (2015)
- Procedures (2015)

Injury MICA

- Injury (2015)

Chronic Disease MICAs

- Chronic Disease Emergency Room (2015)
- Chronic Disease Inpatient Hospitalization (2015)
- Chronic Incidence (2018)
- Chronic Disease Death (2019)

Population MICA

- Population (2020)

Data

We are excited to announce that a new year of WIC data has been uploaded to the Maternal, Infant and Child Health MICAs, as well as a new year of demographic data for the Population MICA and Birth MICA! We have been busy preparing and finalizing other files, and hope to have new years of data available for Chronic Disease Death, Death, Fertility and Pregnancy Rate, and Pregnancy MICAs within the next few months. Until then, do not hesitate to reach out if more current data is needed, and we will make our best efforts to complete requests as they are received. Just a reminder that while the hospital-based datasets aren't being updated online yet, we do have data through 2019 available upon request. The same is true of 2020 BRFSS survey data and 2020 death data.

Training

We loved seeing you virtually! In case you missed it, we held a virtual webinar training on February 24th, 2022. This training was an overview of the MOPHIMS system, Profiles, MICAs, and how to become a registered user. If you are interested in watching the training you can find a recording of the training on the department website located here: <https://health.mo.gov/data/>.

We hope to do more trainings like this until we are able to get back in the classroom. If you have training needs please let us know!

Additional Information About the MOPHIMS User Newsletter Group

The MOPHIMS User Group Newsletter was created in response to user requests for communication on updates to the MICA system, descriptions of new features, additional practice exercises, announcements of training opportunities, and any other new information about data that might help them perform their jobs more efficiently.

Newsletters will be published on a semi-annual basis. If you have ideas for content, please send them to Andrew.Hunter@health.mo.gov or Chelsea.Fife@health.mo.gov.

We would especially like to feature stories describing your success at completing projects or obtaining grants using the MICA tools as well as interviews with public health professionals about your duties and how you use MICA to accomplish them. Past issues are available at <http://health.mo.gov/data/mica/MICA/newsletters.html>.

Contributors: Chelsea Fife, LeighAnna Bennett, Erin Henry, and Alicia Sparer.

How to Sign Up or Opt Out

If you have enjoyed this newsletter, please feel free to share it with your colleagues and community partners. We encourage them to sign up for the MICA User Group by sending an email to MOPHIMSUserGroup@health.mo.gov with the subject line MOPHIMS User Group. This will let us know to send newsletters to them directly so they do not miss any information. Also, we may occasionally distribute time-sensitive information on topics such as training opportunities via e-mail if the newsletter is not scheduled for publication prior to a registration deadline. Finally, the MOPHIMS User Group list helps us track the types of organizations using the tools, which is one of our performance measures.

If you would like to opt out of the MOPHIMS User Group, please send an e-mail with Unsubscribe in the subject line to MOPHIMSUserGroup@health.mo.gov.

PLEASE NOTE: Depending on your position title, you may still receive other types of e-mail messages from us. For example, we are requested to send training information to all LPHA Administrators, even if they have unsubscribed from the MOPHIMS User Group.