

# anecdotal

Something that's **anecdotal** has to do with anecdotes — little stories. *Anecdotal* evidence is based on hearsay rather than hard facts.

People like to share stories about things that happened to them or that they heard about to make a point. That kind of talk is anecdotal: based on small, personal accounts. Anecdotal stories are helpful when you're trying to give an example of something, but there's a downside to anecdotal information: Because it's not based on facts, you never know if you can totally trust it. So, it's best to go beyond the anecdotal and get more solid information.