



Communicable Diseases Quarterly Report

Quarter 4: October 1 - December 31, 2018

Department of Public Health

	2017 Cases		2018 Cases	
	QTR 4	YTD	QTR 4	YTD
Sexually Transmitted Diseases				
AIDS	10	67	<10	41
Chlamydia	1701	7177	1715	7155
Gonococcal Infection	541	2255	585	2293
HIV	28	158	16	107
Syphilis-Total	382	1618	273	1241

Vaccine Preventable Diseases				
Hepatitis A	0	10	<10	<10
Hepatitis B (Acute)	0	<10	<10	<10
Hepatitis B (Chronic)	32	184	93	208
Meningococcal disease	0	<10	0	<10
Mumps	0	0	<10	<10
Pertussis	17	37	25	91

Food Borne Diseases				
Campylobacteriosis	75	346	72	289
Shiga Toxigenic E. Coli	<10	18	0	0
Giardia	<10	35	<10	30
Salmonellosis	19	144	48	168
Shigellosis	34	73	31	77
Food Borne Outbreaks	0	<10	0	0

Vector Borne & Zoonotic Diseases				
Lyme Disease	0	0	0	<10
Malaria	0	<10	0	0
West Nile Virus	0	14	<10	15
Zika Virus	0	<10	0	0

Selected Communicable Diseases				
Coccidioidomycosis	339	836	199	646
Hepatitis C (Chronic)	176	784	312	865
Legionellosis	<10	16	<10	13
Meningitis	38	98	18	68
Tuberculosis	18	62	<10	47

Definitions:

- **Communicable disease** – a disease which can be transmitted directly or indirectly by a living organism or by a non-living object or substance. Examples include: from an infected person to another person who is susceptible; from an object (sheets, clothing, telephone handset, drinking glass) that may harbor germs to a susceptible person.
- **Reportable disease** – in compliance with federal and state health code, certain diseases must be reported when a confirmed or suspect diagnosis is made on a secured and standardized form. <https://wwwn.cdc.gov/nndss/conditions/notifiable/2018/> for more information.

Spotlight: Pertussis

Pertussis or whooping cough is a very contagious respiratory illness caused by the bacteria *Bordetella pertussis*. Ill people spread Pertussis by coughing and sneezing while in close contact with others.

Early symptoms of infection last 1 - 2 weeks and can include: runny nose, low fever, mild coughing and apnea (cessation of breathing) in babies. Late stage symptoms appear after 1 - 2 weeks and can be more severe. Common late stage symptoms include: fits of rapid coughing followed by a high-pitched whooping sound, vomiting and exhaustion.¹

In Fresno County, the number of pertussis cases vary by year and tend to peak every few years. The last peak year in Fresno County occurred in 2014 when 392 cases were reported to public health. During 2018, 91 cases were reported to public health. Pertussis is primarily a childhood disease and 91% of cases reported in Fresno County from 2012 - 2018 are in those age 18 or younger. Pertussis is most severe in babies and around half of babies one year old and younger who get pertussis will require hospitalization.¹

The most effective way to reduce pertussis transmission and complications is by being vaccinated. Mothers in their third trimester should receive a pertussis vaccine before their babies arrival. After birth, children should receive 5 scheduled doses of the pertussis vaccine by age 6, and a final pertussis vaccine around age 11-12. It is recommended that adults repeat the pertussis vaccine every ten years.²

The Fresno County Public Health Department provides immunizations to the public and can be reached at: (559) 600-3550.

¹Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2019). Pertussis (Whooping Cough). Retrieved from: www.cdc.gov/pertussis.

²Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Recommended Child and Adolescent Immunization Schedule, United States, 2019. Retrieved from: www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/.

Reportable Diseases in Fresno County:

A selection of Reportable Diseases appears in this Quarterly Report.

Reportable disease information is compiled by number of cases and includes confirmed, probable and suspect classifications.

In the tables to the left, numbers of cases for each disease are listed for the current and previous year and corresponding quarter.

Helpful links for disease rates

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):

www.cdc.gov/datastatistics

California Department of Public Health (CDPH):

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Pages/CDPHHome.aspx>

Fresno County Department of Public Health:

<http://www.co.fresno.ca.us/departments/public-health>