



Communicable Diseases Quarterly Report

Quarter 3: July 1 - September 30, 2019

Department of Public Health

	2018 Cases		2019 Cases	
	QTR 3	YTD	QTR 3	YTD
Sexually Transmitted Diseases				
AIDS¹	12	33	<10	26
Chlamydia	1831	5433	1875	5537
Gonococcal Infection	538	1706	636	1824
HIV¹	22	83	12	70
Syphilis-Total	302	960	267	869

Vaccine Preventable Diseases				
Hepatitis A	0	<10	0	0
Hepatitis B (Acute)	<10	<10	<10	<10
Hepatitis B (Chronic)	30	109	42	124
Meningococcal disease	<10	<10	<10	<10
Mumps	<10	<10	0	0
Pertussis	21	59	35	83

Food Borne Diseases				
Campylobacteriosis	93	218	103	271
Shiga Toxigenic E. Coli	11	33	27	49
Giardia	<10	26	<10	23
Salmonellosis	71	125	74	129
Shigellosis	23	46	20	57

Vector Borne & Zoonotic Diseases				
Lyme Disease	0	<10	<10	<10
Malaria	0	0	<10	<10
West Nile Virus	11	13	47	48
Zika Virus	0	0	0	0

Selected Communicable Diseases				
Coccidioidomycosis	145	456	161	435
Hepatitis C (Chronic)	202	541	202	594
Legionellosis	<10	<10	<10	<10
Meningitis	16	50	16	41
Tuberculosis	<10	35	<10	31

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://www.cdc.gov/nndss/conditions/notifiable/2019/> for more information.
- ¹ Reporting for HIV and AIDS is delayed and the numbers presented are likely underreported.

Spotlight: Influenza

Influenza or flu is a respiratory illness caused by the influenza virus. Symptoms of infection can include: fever/chills, cough, runny nose, body aches, headache and fatigue. Flu is spread through respiratory droplets produced when infected people cough or sneeze. These droplets can land on the nose or mouth of others creating further infections. Flu can also be spread when one touches infected surfaces and then proceeds to touch their mouth, eyes or nose.

As of February 2020, Fresno County is showing above average influenza activity when compared to prior seasons. This is a good reminder that it is important to take the necessary precautions to reduce the chance of illness.

The best way to prevent flu is to get a flu vaccine before the start of the flu season, which typically begins in October. It is best to get the vaccine before the start of the season because it takes around two weeks for the vaccine to become effective. Although flu season is underway, it is not too late to get vaccinated. Vaccines are especially critical for high risk groups including adults over 65 years and children younger than 5 years. In addition to receiving a flu vaccine, one can reduce their chance of catching or spreading influenza by: washing their hands often, covering their mouth when coughing or sneezing and staying at home to rest if they become ill.

References

¹Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2020). Influenza. Retrieved from: <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/index.htm>

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>

Fresno County Department of Public Health:

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