



Communicable Diseases Quarterly Report

Quarter 3: July - September 30, 2021

Department of Public Health

	2020 Cases		2021 Cases	
	QTR 3	YTD	QTR 3	YTD
Sexually Transmitted Diseases				
AIDS¹	14	47	<10	41
Chlamydia	1513	4006	1259	4503
Gonococcal Infection	729	1741	658	2037
HIV¹	32	98	32	107
Syphilis-Total	230	743	377	1018

Vaccine Preventable Diseases				
Hepatitis A	<10	<10	0	<10
Hepatitis B (Acute)	<10	<10	<10	10
Hepatitis B (Chronic)	33	96	36	127
Meningococcal disease	0	0	0	0
Mumps	0	16	0	0
Pertussis	0	<10	<10	<10

Food Borne Diseases				
Campylobacteriosis	60	181	47	192
Shiga Toxigenic E. Coli	<10	30	23	55
Giardia	<10	16	<10	25
Salmonellosis	35	76	41	97
Shigellosis	19	40	20	55

Vector Borne & Zoonotic Diseases				
Lyme Disease	0	<10	0	<10
Malaria	0	0	0	0
West Nile Virus	10	11	16	17
Zika Virus	0	0	0	0

Selected Communicable Diseases				
Coccidioidomycosis	101	341	108	309
Hepatitis C (Chronic)	110	391	120	377
Legionellosis	<10	<10	<10	<10
Meningitis	11	61	<10	42
Tuberculosis	<10	33	17	39

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. [National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System | CDC](#) for more information.
- ¹ Reporting for HIV and AIDS is delayed and the numbers presented are likely underreported.

Spotlight: *Campylobacter* (Campylobacteriosis)

Campylobacter infection is a common foodborne illness, and each year about 20 cases occur for every 100,000 people in the United States.¹ From 2016 to 2020, the average incident for *Campylobacter* infection in Fresno County is 34 cases for every 100,000 people.²

Campylobacter infection is caused by ingesting *Campylobacter* bacteria. Common food sources of bacteria include undercooked meats (especially poultry), seafood, produce, and foods that have come into contact with surfaces contaminated with the bacteria. Other sources of bacteria include animal contact, and contaminated drinking water. People usually do not spread *Campylobacter* infection to each other.³

Symptoms of *Campylobacter* infection include diarrhea that is often bloody, fever, stomach cramps, nausea, and vomiting. These symptoms will occur 2 to 5 days after bacterial exposure and last about a week. Treatment does not usually require antibiotics and is focused on hydrating to replenish fluids that are lost during diarrhea.³

During the holidays when people prepare food for family and friends, it is important that they practice food safety to reduce the chance of *Campylobacter* infections. Meats should be kept away from other foods during meal preparation, and cooked to an internal temperature that kills bacteria. Poultry should be cooked to 165°F, while beef/lamb, pork, and fish should be cooked to 145°F.⁴ Produce must be washed thoroughly, and hands washed before, during, and after food preparation.

References

- 1) Tack DM, Ray L, Griffin PM, et al. Preliminary Incidence and Trends of Infections with Pathogens Transmitted Commonly Through Food — Foodborne Diseases Active Surveillance Network, 10 U.S. Sites, 2016–2019. *MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep* 2020;69:509–514.
- 2) CDPH Infectious Diseases Branch (IDB) Yearly Summaries of Selected Communicable Diseases in California, 2011 – 2019.
- 3) Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2021). *Campylobacter*. Retrieved from: <https://www.cdc.gov/campylobacter/index.html>
- 4) Foodsafety.gov (2021). *Safe Minimum Cooking Temperatures Chart*. Retrieved from: <https://www.foodsafety.gov/food-safety-charts/safe-minimum-cooking-temperature>

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

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