Malaria

Worldwide, malaria is one of the most devastating of the communicable diseases, causing perhaps 1–2,000,000 deaths annually, not to mention an enormous burden of disability and medical costs. While transmission has not been documented in Oregon for decades, malaria is reported every year in our state — all cases resulting from exposures outside the United States. Competent anopheline mosquitoes are resident in Oregon, so limited local transmission remains a theoretical possibility. Rates in Oregon are similar to the national average. Oregon surveillance data are contributed to the national database, which is used to tailor recommendations for prophylaxis and treatment. *Plasmodium falciparum* (the most severe of the four human parasite species) was the most commonly reported flavor in 2006.

**Malaria by year - Oregon, 1997–2006**
Malaria by continent of acquisition - Oregon, 2006

- Asia: 21%
- Africa: 79%