Malaria

Worldwide, malaria is one of the most devastating of the communicable diseases, causing perhaps 1 million to 2 million 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 have resulted from exposures outside the United States. Competent anopheline mosquitoes are resident in Oregon, so limited local transmission remains a theoretical possibility. Oregon rates are similar to the national average. Oregon surveillance data contribute to the national database, which is used to tailor recommendations for prophylaxis and treatment. In 2008, four cases were reported, three of which were *Plasmodium falciparum* (the most severe of the four human parasite species). In 2009, *Plasmodium vivax* (four cases) was most commonly reported.
Malaria by year: Oregon, 1988–2009


Cases per 100,000 population by age and sex for Oregon, 2000–2009.
Incidence of malaria: Oregon vs. nationwide, 1988–2009

Malaria cases by continent of acquisition: Oregon, 2008–2009

- Africa: 53%
- Asia/Pacific Islands: 27%
- Caribbean/Central America: 20%