Selected Reportable
Communicable Disease Summary
2012 State of Oregon
About surveillance data

Oregon law specifies diseases of public health importance that must be reported to local public health authorities by diagnostic laboratories and health care professionals. This report reflects reporting laws in effect for 2012. In general, local public health officials investigate reports of a communicable disease to characterize the illness and collect demographic information about the case, to identify possible sources of the infection, and to take steps to prevent further transmission. Basic information about each case is forwarded to the Oregon Public Health Division. In some cases (e.g., *Salmonella* infection), laboratories are required to forward bacterial isolates to the Oregon State Public Health Laboratory for sub-typing. Together, these epidemiologic and laboratory data constitute our communicable disease surveillance system; data from 2012 and trends from recent years are summarized in this report.

But caveat lector! Disease surveillance data have many limitations.

First, for most diseases, reported cases represent but a fraction of the true number. The most important reason for this is that many patients — especially those with mild disease — do not present themselves for medical care. Even if they do, the health care professional may not order a test to identify the causative microorganism. The reader may be scandalized to learn that not every reportable disease gets reported as the law requires. Cases are “lost” to surveillance along each step of the path from patient to physician to laboratory to public health department; in the case of salmonellosis, for example, reported cases are estimated to account for approximately 3% of the true number.

Second, cases that do get reported are a skewed sample of the total. More severe illnesses (e.g., meningococcal disease) are more likely to be reported than milder illnesses. Infection with hepatitis A virus is more likely to cause symptoms (and those symptoms are more likely to be severe) in adults than in children. Testing is not random; clinicians are more likely to test stool from children with bloody diarrhea for *E. coli* O157 than they are to test stool from adults with bloody diarrhea. Health care professionals may be more inclined to report contagious diseases such as tuberculosis — where the public health importance of doing so is obvious — than they are to report non-contagious diseases such as Lyme disease. Outbreaks of disease or media coverage about a particular disease can greatly increase testing and reporting rates.

For all conditions except the sexually transmitted diseases, population estimates for rate calculations were obtained from the Population Research Center at Portland State University (www.pdx.edu/prc). Using rates instead of case counts allows for comparisons between populations of different sizes — e.g., United States versus Oregon. Rates are usually reported as cases per 100,000 persons per year. However, if the population in which the rate is calculated is very small (e.g., in Oregon “frontier” counties), a case or two might mean the difference between a rate of zero and a very high rate. To compensate for this, some of our maps show case counts, rather than rates, by county, or give an average rate over multiple years of data. Even with
multi-year aggregation, for some conditions the case counts remain small. In addition, the rates presented may not be adjusted for age when small numbers of cases are found in each age group. In the STD chapter, the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) bridged population estimates are used for rate calculations. For 2012 rates, 2011 population estimates were used because 2012 estimates were not yet available. The NCHS population estimates were used because the race and ethnicity denominators in censuses from the 1990s, 2000 and 2010 were not comparable to one another. Using the bridged population estimates allows for more reliable calculation of rates by race and ethnicity across the turn of the century.

Incidence is annualized by onset date unless otherwise indicated. Case counts include both confirmed and presumptive cases.

Also keep in mind that cases are assigned to the county of residence at the time of the report — not to the county in which the case received medical care, or the county where the exposure to infection occurred.

For all these limitations, surveillance data remain valuable in a variety of ways. They help identify demographic groups at higher risk of illness. They allow analysis of disease trends and identify outbreaks of disease.

With this in mind, we present the 2012 Oregon reportable communicable disease summary. We present 25 years of case counts whenever possible. For most diseases, we include the following: figures showing case counts by year for the past 25 years; aggregate case counts by month to demonstrate any seasonal trends; incidence by age and sex; incidence in Oregon compared to national incidence over the past 15 years; and incidence by county. When appropriate, additional data on subtypes or risk factors for infection are included. At the end of this report you will find a tally of disease outbreaks reported during 2012, a summary of enhanced data on gastroenteritis outbreaks, a summary table of statewide case counts over the past 20 years and disease totals by county.

We hope that you will find these data useful. If you have additional questions, please call our epidemiology staff at 971-673-1111 or email ohd.acdp@state.or.us.

Paul R. Cieslak, M.D.
Manager, Acute and Communicable Disease Prevention

Paul R. Cieslak, M.D.
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June Bancroft, M.P.H.          Lore Elizabeth Lee, R.N., M.P.H.
Heidi Behm, R.N., M.P.H.       Richard Leman, M.D.
Laurel Boyd, M.P.H.            Juventila Liko, M.D., M.P.H.
Jeff Capizzi, B.A.             Tasha Poissant, M.P.H.
Paul Cieslak, M.D.             Melissa Powell, M.P.H.
Emilio DeBess, D.V.M., M.P.V.M. Sean Schafer, M.D., M.P.H.
Doug Harger, B.S.              Beletshachew Shiferaw, M.D., M.P.H.
Bill Keene, Ph.D., M.P.H.      Ann Thomas, M.D., M.P.H.
Lindsey Lane, M.P.H.           Theresa Watts, R.N., M.P.H.
Campylobacteriosis

Campylobacteriosis is caused by the Gram-negative bacterium *Campylobacter*. It is characterized by acute onset of diarrhea, vomiting, abdominal pain, fever and malaise. Symptoms generally occur within two to five days of infection. Campylobacteriosis is the most common bacterial enteric infection reported in Oregon. It is of worldwide epidemiologic importance due to the fecal-oral route of infection and the extensive reservoir of the organism in both wild and domestic animals. Many cases are thought to result from eating raw or undercooked meat (in particular, poultry) or through cross-contamination of uncooked or ready-to-eat foods.

In 2012, Oregon’s rate of 23.4 cases per 100,000 was 2.8 times the 2020 national health objective of 8.5 per 100,000. The cause of this increased incidence in Oregon is unknown. Children aged 0–4 years have the highest rates of illness. Infections occur year-round in Oregon, with peak incidence in the summer months. Rates are highest in Multnomah, Washington, Lane, and Clackamas counties.

Campylobacteriosis is not a nationally notifiable condition, but U.S. estimates from the FoodNet program (of which Oregon is a member) indicate that campylobacteriosis incidence is about 14 cases per 100,000 people, with rates increasing in recent years.

Most illnesses are sporadic, but outbreaks may be associated with undercooked meat (often chicken), unpasteurized milk, direct contact with animals or non-chlorinated water. From 2000–2012, 10 outbreaks of campylobacteriosis have been investigated: four foodborne, two waterborne, three from animal contact and one of unknown etiology. Proper food handling and water treatment, along with good hygienic practices (hand washing!) are the keys to prevention. Two outbreaks of campylobacteriosis were reported in 2012—one of foodborne etiology and one due to contact with ill puppies.
Campylobacteriosis by year: Oregon, 1988–2012

Campylobacteriosis by report month: Oregon, 2012
Incidence of campylobacteriosis by age and sex: Oregon, 2012


Not a nationally-notifiable disease

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Incidence of campylobacteriosis by county of residence: Oregon, 2003–2012

**Prevention**

- Wash hands with soap and hot water before preparing food, after handling foods of animal origin, and after contact with pet feces.
- Thoroughly clean all cutting boards, countertops, and utensils with soap and hot water after preparing foods of animal origin.
- Cook all products of animal origin, especially poultry products, thoroughly.
- Do not drink unpasteurized (raw) milk or untreated surface water.
- Make sure persons with diarrhea wash their hands diligently with soap and warm water after using the bathroom.
Carbapenem-resistant Enterobacteriaceae (CRE)

The Enterobacteriaceae are a large family of Gram-negative bacilli, living in the human gastrointestinal tract. Commonly encountered species include Escherichia coli, Klebsiella spp., and Enterobacter spp. Carbapenem-resistant Enterobacteriaceae (CRE) are Enterobacteriaceae resistant to carbapenem antibiotics. They are broadly categorized based on the mechanism of their resistance as carbapenemase producers (CP-CRE) and non-carbapenemase producers.

Carbapenems are broad-spectrum antibiotics typically used to treat severe hospital-associated infections (HAIs) caused by highly drug resistant bacteria; currently available carbapenems include imipenem, meropenem, ertapenem, and doripenem. Although related to the -lactam antibiotics, carbapenems retain antibacterial activity in the presence of most β-lactamases, including extended-spectrum β-lactamases (ESBLs) and extended-spectrum cephalosporinases (e.g., AmpC-type β-lactamases). Loss of susceptibility to carbapenems is a serious problem because few safe treatment alternatives remain against such resistant bacteria. Infections caused by CRE occur most commonly among people with chronic medical conditions, invasive medical devices such as central venous and urinary catheters, frequent or prolonged stays in healthcare settings, or extended courses of antibiotics. CRE have spread rapidly across the nation and around the globe, perhaps because carbapenemases can be encoded on plasmids that are easily transferred within and among bacterial species.

CRE have been rare in Oregon and we’d like to keep it that way. In December 2011, CRE bacterial isolates became reportable statewide. The Oregon State Public Health Laboratory offers additional specialized testing to determine whether reported CRE are carbapenemase producers while the Oregon Public Health Division’s HAI program performs detailed investigation of any reported cases. In 2012 thirty-two cases of CRE infection or colonization occurred among Oregon residents; the median case age was 62 (range, 7–94) years; 23 (72%) were female; Twenty (62%) were hospitalized. Enterobacter spp. accounted for 72% of the isolates. Only 2 cases of carbapenemase-producing Klebsiella pneumoniae were identified in 2012, both cases had received recent medical care outside of Oregon in areas were CP-CRE is endemic; neither died.

Unlike much of the rest of the county, we have no indication that CP-CRE is spreading in Oregon. This provides an opportunity to prevent the spread through enhanced surveillance and prevention efforts. In that vein, we have instituted the drug-resistant organism prevention coordinated regional epidemiology network (DROP-CRE), a statewide network to rapidly detect, respond to, and prevent CRE. For more information, including our CRE toolkit, please see http://public.health.oregon.gov/DiseasesConditions/DiseasesAZ/Pages/disease.aspx?did=108.
Prevention

Think “NICE” if you encounter CRE:

- **Notify** the county health department, pertinent clinical groups, and your antibiotic stewardship program that CRE has been spotted.

- **Intervene** in all cases with core infection control activities: hand hygiene, contact precautions, private rooms, and optimized environmental cleaning. Reduce unnecessary antibiotics and use of invasive devices. Additionally, for CP-CRE, screen patient contacts, and cohort staff and patients.

- **Communicate** CRE infection or colonization status to the receiving facility upon patient transfer.

- **Educate** patients, staff, and visitors about CRE.
Chlamydia

Chlamydia is primarily a sexually-transmitted infection caused by *Chlamydia trachomatis*. Most infections don’t cause any symptoms and can persist unrecognized for months. When symptoms do occur, they commonly include painful urination, vaginal discharge, and pelvic pain, among others. Untreated chlamydial infection in women can cause pelvic inflammatory disease (PID) and infertility or tubal pregnancy. If detected, chlamydiosis can be treated successfully with antibiotics, preventing transmission to partners and preventing PID and other long-term health consequences. Unlike the case with gonorrhea, resistance to antibiotics has not been a problem with chlamydial infections.

Oregon law requires health care providers and laboratories to report *Chlamydia* infections to the local health department. The reporting occurs primarily through automatic electronic reporting by laboratories. Due to lack of resources, with some local exceptions, public health investigation of reported chlamydial infections, and efforts to provide assistance with partner notification and treatment have become rare.

The Infertility Prevention Program (IPP), sponsored by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) through grants to the Oregon Health Authority (OHA), supports screening and treatment of chlamydial infections for more than 50,000 young women and men in more than 100 clinics around Oregon each year. Approximately 5,000 reported chlamydiosis cases are identified and treated in IPP clinics in Oregon annually. The OHA and local public health authorities use IPP data to help direct chlamydiosis control efforts to locations and activities that are most likely to be effective. In recent years, testing of urine with nucleic acid amplification tests has made screening for chlamydial infection better and more convenient.

During 2012, 13,500 cases of chlamydia were reported in Oregon residents (approximately 346/100,000). Chlamydial infections occurred in residents of every Oregon county in 2012 with the highest rates found in Jefferson (583/100,000), Multnomah (457/100,000) and Marion (443/100,000) counties. While the number of Oregon cases has increased steadily during the past 10 years, Oregon’s rate remains below that of the United States.

Reported rates of chlamydia are twice as high in women compared to men, probably a result of guidelines that recommend screening of asymptomatic women, but not of asymptomatic men. By age, the highest rates in both women and men are among 15- to 24-year-olds. Chlamydial infection rates are higher in blacks and African Americans (698/100,000) and Hispanics (397/100,000) than whites (251/100,000).
Incidence of reported chlamydial infection by year: Oregon, 1988–2012

Incidence of reported chlamydial infection by age and sex: Oregon, 2012
Incidence of reported chlamydial infection by race and ethnicity: Oregon, 2012

Race groups contain persons of hispanic origin, hispanic origin contains all races

Incidence of reported chlamydial infection by year, Oregon vs. nationwide: 1998–2012
Incidence of reported chlamydial infection by county of residence: Oregon, 2012

Prevention

Primary prevention strategies aim to prevent a person from becoming infected in the first place by:

- Delaying age at onset of sexual intercourse;
- Decreasing the number of sex partners;
- Increasing condom use;
- Rapid identification and treatment of new cases can also be considered primary prevention when it results in averting transmission to a sex partner.

Secondary prevention strategies aim to eradicate existing infections by:

- Treating asymptomatic chlamydial infections;
- Treating sex partners of people who have chlamydia;
- Retesting people with recent chlamydia;
- Annual screening of all sexually active women aged ≤25 years and older women with additional risk factors for chlamydial infection.
Cryptococcosis

*Cryptococcus* spp. are fungi that live in soil and plant debris, including numerous types of trees. Most cryptococcal species are non-infectious, but a handful, notably *C. neoformans* and *C. gattii*, when inhaled, are pathogenic for humans and a variety of mammals, including dogs, cats, goats, elk and ferrets. The main clinical presentations are pneumonia or meningitis. Person-to-person transmission does not occur.

*Cryptococcus neoformans* has long been identified in humans with immunosuppressive conditions, especially AIDS. Before 1999, *C. gattii* infection seemed to be pretty much limited to the tropics. During 1999, *C. gattii* began appearing in animals and humans on Vancouver Island, British Columbia. Beginning in 2004, it started appearing among mainland British Columbia residents who had no exposure to Vancouver Island. In December 2004, a case of human *C. gattii* infection was reported in Oregon, associated with an outbreak on Vancouver Island and in mainland British Columbia, Canada. A second *C. gattii* case was reported in Oregon in 2005, and 12 more cases were reported in 2006 and 2008. *Cryptococcus* became officially reportable in Oregon August 19, 2011.

Studies from British Columbia and elsewhere showed a median incubation period of 6–7 months, with a range of 2–13 months. In addition to testing human specimens, to localize the environmental reservoirs we also test animals and environments where animals are infected with *C. gattii* (they travel less than humans). The bottom line is that *Cryptococcus gattii* appears to be established in Oregon. Previously healthy persons appear to be at some risk, but most human cases of infection with either cryptococcal species have been immunocompromised or otherwise suffered from chronic illness. Treatment with extended use of antifungal agents (6 months or more) is recommended. For current treatment information, see guidelines published by the Infectious Disease Society of America: www.idssociety.org/Index.aspx.

Prevention

Regrettably, practical methods for preventing cryptococcosis have not been identified. Patients with cryptococcosis can be helped with early diagnosis and treatment with antifungal drugs.
**Cryptococcosis by year: Oregon, 2004–2012**

The chart shows the number of cases of cryptococcosis in Oregon from 2004 to 2012. Cases were not officially reportable in Oregon until 2011.

**Cryptococcosis by age and sex: Oregon, 2012**

The chart illustrates the number of cases of cryptococcosis by age group and sex in Oregon in 2012.
**Cryptosporidiosis**

Cryptosporidiosis in humans results from infection with protozoal parasites of the genus *Cryptosporidium* — most commonly *C. hominis* or *C. parvum*. Symptomatic infections are characterized by watery diarrhea and abdominal cramps. Symptoms typically resolve in one to four weeks in immunocompetent persons, but infections in immunocompromised persons can be difficult or impossible to cure. Studies suggest that the prevalence of cryptosporidiosis among young children, particularly those in large child-care facilities, is surprisingly high. Many of these infections are asymptomatic.

In Oregon, the rate of infection with *Cryptosporidium* remains elevated from rates observed at the millennium. Nationally, infections began to rise in the early millennium, but incidence has stabilized since 2009. Cases occur year-round with peaks in August, coincident with increases in exposure to recreational water.

New antigen tests for *Cryptosporidium* might be playing a role in the apparent increase in incidence. In 2012, 215 cases were reported, down from an Oregon record of 224 cases in 2009. In 2007, the Oregon investigative guidelines were changed to reflect the increasing numbers of cases; previously, investigations had been required only for abnormally high case counts. All cases are now routinely investigated to identify the source of infection.

Treatment with an antiprotozoal agent has been shown effective in immunocompetent persons; however there are no proven effective treatments in immunocompromised hosts.

Given the number of asymptomatic and undiagnosed infections, surveillance data can be difficult to interpret. However, these data have been used to identify a number of outbreaks over the years, most commonly associated with child care or water (both drinking and recreational).
Cryptosporidiosis by year: Oregon, 1988–2012

Cryptosporidiosis by onset month: Oregon, 2012
Incidence of cryptosporidiosis by age and sex: Oregon, 2012

Incidence of cryptosporidiosis: Oregon vs. nationwide, 1998–2012
Incidence of cryptosporidiosis by county of residence: Oregon, 2003–2012

Prevention

- Wash hands with soap carefully and frequently, especially after going to the bathroom, after changing diapers, or after touching livestock. Supervise hand washing of toddlers and small children after they use the toilet.
- Do not work or attend daycare, serve or prepare food, or work in health care while ill with diarrhea.
- Refrain from recreational water activities (pools, hot tubs, splash pads) for 2 weeks after symptoms from a bout of cryptosporidiosis subside.
- Do not drink untreated surface water.
Dengue fever

Dengue is a mosquito-borne viral infection. It is caused by a flavivirus (the same genus as West Nile and yellow fever viruses); there are four serotypes identified as DENV 1–4. The disease is limited primarily to the tropics and sub-tropics although occasionally imported cases occur.

Symptom severity ranges from subclinical, asymptomatic infections (the norm) to high fever, headache, muscle aches and rash. A subset of patients may develop hemorrhagic fever, with bleeding and shock. Treatment for dengue is supportive. There is, alas, no vaccine as yet that protects against dengue fever.

We don’t have evidence of transmission here in Oregon. The typical vectors, *Aedes albopictus* and *Aedes aegypti*, are not native to Oregon, although there have been some reports of the former getting a foothold in California.

Four cases in Oregon residents were reported in 2012.
Prevention

Primary prevention measures are geared to avoiding mosquito bites when visiting areas where dengue is circulating:

- Use mosquito repellent.
- Wear long sleeves, long pants, shoes and socks when out and about.
- Avoid outdoor activities at dawn, dusk, and early evening, when more mosquitoes are out.
- Check screens on doors and windows where you’re staying to make sure they’re intact.
- Sleep under a treated mosquito net when nighttime exposure to mosquitoes could occur.
**Escherichia coli O157 and other Shiga toxin-producing *Escherichia coli* (STEC) infections**

*Escherichia coli* O157 (O157) is one of the most dreaded causes of infectious gastroenteritis. Bloody diarrhea is a hallmark of this pathogen, but the real danger is post-diarrheal hemolytic uremic syndrome (HUS). Oregon has been the setting for many O157 outbreaks, and the investigations of those outbreaks, combined with the analysis of other surveillance data, have contributed greatly to our understanding of this pathogen. Spread by the fecal-oral route, O157 has a number of animal reservoirs, the most important of which are ruminants: cattle, goats, sheep, deer, elk, etc. Transmission often occurs from consumption of contaminated food or water, as well as direct person-to-person spread and environmental exposures. Mid-to-late summer is the peak season for O157 infections.

With the increasing deployment of diagnostic kits that identify Shiga toxin-producing *E. coli* (rather than O157 per se) comes the increasing appreciation of the significant role that other STEC organisms play as human pathogens. In the U.S. (and in Oregon), O26, O45, O103, O111, O121, and O145 are the most common “other” serogroups of the enterohemorrhagic *E. coli*, making up about half of the reported cases. O157 infections are much more likely to result in HUS than is infection by any of the other STEC.

Over the past 10 years, the number of O157 cases reported statewide has ranged between 61 and 149 annually. After being relatively steady during 2008–2011, the number increased to 95 in 2012.

Several O157 outbreaks were investigated in 2012. One outbreak affected at least 16 persons who drank raw milk obtained through a “herd share” arrangement. Four children were hospitalized for prolonged periods with severe HUS. Another outbreak at a church camp in eastern Oregon affected more than 30 people from three states; one child developed HUS. No source was confirmed for that outbreak, although suspicions eventually focused more on environmental exposures than food.

As for the non-O157 serogroups, those case counts have increased steadily from single digits in 2007 and 2008 to a new high of 74 confirmed cases in 2012. Of the 169 confirmed STECs that were serotyped in 2012, 95 were O157, 74 were non-O157, including O26 (N = 28), O103 (11), O121 (10), and 16 other serogroups.

More labs are testing for the presence of Shiga toxin rather than just O157. Unfortunately, at the same time, many labs are dropping culture-based methods, leaving clinicians (and epidemiologists) in the dark as to the specifics of the etiologic agent, and putting more of the diagnostic burden on the public health reference lab.
STEC infection by year: Oregon, 1988–2012

STEC infection by onset month: Oregon, 2012
Incidence of STEC infection by age and sex: Oregon, 2012

![Graph showing incidence of STEC infection by age and sex in Oregon, 2012.](image)


![Graph showing incidence of STEC infection in Oregon vs. U.S. from 1998 to 2012.](image)
Incidence of STEC infection, O157 vs. non-O157 type, Oregon, 1998-2012

Incidence of STEC infection by county of residence: Oregon, 2003–2012
Much of the heavy lifting for prevention must be done upstream, with plans to minimize contamination of crops and processing equipment. Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP) practices focus on documenting and controlling risks during food processing and commercial food preparation, as well as efforts to control water and other potential environmental sources of infection.

**Prevention**

- Wash hands with soap carefully and frequently, especially after going to the bathroom, after changing diapers, or after touching livestock. Supervise hand washing of toddlers and small children after they use the toilet.
- Do not work or attend daycare, serve or prepare food, or work in healthcare while ill with diarrhea.
- Practice safe food handling: Rinse raw produce thoroughly under running tap water; separate uncooked meats from vegetables, cooked foods, and ready-to-eat foods; and cook meat to the proper temperatures.
- Do not drink raw milk, and do not eat foods that have unpasteurized milk in them.
Giardiasis

*Giardia intestinalis*, the flagellated protozoan originally named *G. lamblia*, is the most commonly identified parasitic pathogen in the United States. Children in daycare and their close contacts are at greatest risk, as are backpackers and campers (from drinking unfiltered, untreated water), persons drinking from shallow wells, travelers to disease-endemic areas, and men who have sex with men. *Giardia* cysts can be excreted in the stool intermittently for weeks or months, resulting in a protracted period of communicability. Transmission occurs when as few as 10 cysts are ingested through person-to-person or animal-to-person contact, or by ingesting fecally contaminated water or food. Because most human cases follow person-to-person transmission, identification and treatment of giardiasis as well as management of their contacts should prevent further spread of infection.

Most *Giardia* infections occur without symptoms. When symptomatic, patients report chronic diarrhea, steatorrhea, abdominal cramps, bloating, frequent loose and pale, greasy stools, fatigue, and weight loss.

In 2012, the reported incidence of giardiasis in Oregon remained twice that of the rest of the United States, with 9.9 cases per 100,000 persons. During 2012, 90% of the cases were reported as “sporadic” and 9% as household-associated; one outbreak was reported. Children less than 5 years of age continue to have the highest incidence, with 19 cases per 100,000 population. Rates of infection tend to be higher in the summer months with transmission related to outdoor activities in or near untreated water.

Giardiasis is treatable, though treatment fails ~10% of the time. Treatment failure, however, is not thought to indicate resistance. A repeat course of the same or a different medication may work.
Giardiasis by year: Oregon, 1988–2012

Giardiasis by onset month: Oregon, 2012

[Charts showing Giardiasis cases by year and month, with data for 1988–2012 and 2012 respectively.]
Incidence of giardiasis by age and sex: Oregon, 2012

Incidence of giardiasis: Oregon vs. nationwide, 1998–2012

Giardiasis was not a nationally notifiable disease until 2002

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Prevention

- Wash hands with soap carefully and frequently, especially after going to the bathroom, after changing diapers, or after touching livestock. Supervise hand washing of toddlers and small children after they use the toilet.
- Do not work or attend daycare, serve or prepare food, or work in health care while ill with diarrhea.
- Refrain from recreational water activities (pools, hot tubs, splash pads) for 2 weeks after symptoms from a bout of giardiasis subside.
- Do not drink untreated surface water.
**Gonorrhea**

Gonorrhea is primarily a sexually transmitted bacterial infection affecting the genital tract, rectum, mouth or throat of men and women. Women are more likely to become infected after exposure to the causative bacterium *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*, but they are less likely than men to develop symptoms after infection. The proportion of infections that is symptomatic among women ranges from 20% to as high as 75%, but 95% of men with gonorrhea are symptomatic. Local symptoms of gonorrhea among women include painful urination, painful menses and pelvic pain, or discharge from the vagina and cervix or from the rectum. Men usually experience painful urination and discharge from the penis. Local complications among men include epididymitis and prostatitis. Both men and women who acquire gonorrhea through oral sex can experience sore throat and oral discharge. Gonorrhea can also be transmitted from mother to infant during childbirth, causing eye infections and sometimes disseminated infection.

Gonorrhea can cause serious complications, including pelvic inflammatory disease that sometimes leads to infertility or tubal pregnancy in women. Disseminated infections can cause arthritis and blisters on the skin in either sex, but such infections are rare. Untreated gonorrhea during pregnancy can cause premature delivery. Sometimes symptoms caused by gonorrhea can be difficult to differentiate from those caused by chlamydial infection. Simultaneous gonorrhea and chlamydia infections are not uncommon.

Oregon law requires health providers and laboratories to report cases of gonorrhea to the local health department. To the extent that resources allow, local public health personnel interview persons with gonorrhea to assure that they have received treatment and to assist with notification and treatment of sexual partners.

**Treatment**

Usually, gonorrhea can be treated successfully with antibiotics, preventing transmission to partners and long-term health consequences. Unfortunately, resistance to antibiotics tends to appear rapidly among circulating strains of *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*. Since 2007, the only class of antibiotics that has reliably been effective against gonorrhea is the cephalosporins, and within the past year or two, microbiologists have begun to notice diminished susceptibility to cephalosporins in the laboratory. In Asia, but not yet in the United States, some cases have proved resistant to treatment with cephalosporins. Unfortunately, no clear alternative to cephalosporins exists for routine treatment of gonorrhea.

During 2012, 1,470 cases of gonorrhea were reported in Oregon residents (38/100,000 residents). Rates in men (49/100,000) exceeded rates among women (27/100,000). The rate was highest in Multnomah County (100/100,000 residents). Since 2002, Oregon rates have fluctuated in the range of 25 to 45 per 100,000 residents and remain well below those of the United States as a whole (100/100,000 residents during 2012).
By age, the highest rates of reported gonorrhea occur among young men and women 20–24 years of age. After age 20 years, reported rates of gonorrhea in men exceed those among women and remain above 70 cases per 100,000 men through age 44 years. Many of these cases occur among those who acknowledge sex with other men; during 2012 least 35% of cases occurred among men who acknowledged sex with other men. By race and ethnicity, African Americans were much more likely to have a reported case of gonorrhea (188/100,000 residents) than whites or Hispanics, or people of other races (<50/100,000 residents).

A disproportionate number of gonorrhea cases occur in men who are infected with HIV. During 2006–2012, annual rates of gonorrhea among men with HIV have been more than 30 times higher than the rate among the general population; approximately 70 cases of gonorrhea each year occur in men with HIV.

Incidence of gonorrhea by year: Oregon 1988–2012
Incidence of gonorrhea by age and sex: Oregon, 2012

Incidence of gonorrhea by race and ethnicity, Oregon, 2012
Incidence of gonorrhea by year: Oregon vs. nationwide, 1998–2012

Incidence of reported gonorrhea by county of residence, Oregon, 2012
In recent years, urine testing with nucleic acid amplification tests (NAATs) has made screening for gonorrhea much more convenient for clinicians and for patients. The use of NAATs, frequently testing simultaneously for chlamydiosis and gonorrhea, has all but eclipsed culture for screening and diagnostic testing of gonorrhea. NAATs are very convenient and accurate. However, an unintended consequence may be the loss of laboratory capacity to culture Neisseria gonorrhoeae and test it for susceptibility to antibiotics; such testing might become needed again if N. gonorrhoeae should become widely resistant to cephalosporins.

Guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force on screening for asymptomatic infections recommends that clinicians screen all sexually active women <25 years of age, including those who are pregnant, for gonorrhea if they have any of the following risk factors: a history of previous gonorrhea or other sexually transmitted infection, new or multiple sexual partners, inconsistent condom use, sex work, or drug use. Broader screening is recommended for groups with a higher incidence of infection than the general population. These groups include Multnomah County residents, African Americans and other blacks, and men who have sex with men.

Prevention

Primary prevention strategies aim to prevent a person from becoming infected in the first place by:
- Delaying age at onset of sexual activity;
- Decreasing the number of sex partners;
- Using condoms properly from start to finish when having sex.
- Rapid identification and treatment of new cases can also be considered primary prevention when it results in averting transmission to a sex partner.

Secondary prevention strategies aim to eradicate existing infections by:
- Treating asymptomatic gonorrhea cases;
- Treating sex partners of people with gonorrhea;
- Periodic screening among high-risk populations, including women aged ≤25 years with new or multiple sex partners and inconsistent condom use, recent history of commercial sex work, and membership in demographic groups or residence in communities with high prevalence of gonorrhea.
**Haemophilus influenzae infection**

Until the advent of an effective vaccine against *Haemophilus influenzae* serotype b (Hib) organisms, *H. influenzae* was the leading cause of bacterial meningitis in children <5 years of age in Oregon and elsewhere. It plummeted in the rankings, and *Streptococcus pneumoniae* is now in the lead. In 2012, Hib was cultured from sterile body fluids of five Oregonians, the largest number since 1999. Two of the Hib cases were children, one fully immunized, the other completely unimmunized; both presented with bacteremia. The remaining three cases were among persons >60 years of age. Appropriate use of conjugate vaccine will help ensure that Hib infection remains minimal well into the future. All sterile-site *H. influenzae* isolates must be sent to the Oregon State Public Health Laboratory for additional typing.

Sixty-seven cases of invasive *H. influenzae* disease (IHiD, all serotypes) were reported in 2012. With the decline in invasive Hib disease in children, there has been increased recognition of non-serotype b and nontypeable cases in persons >5 years of age, especially among those >65 years of age. In 2012, 55% of cases were nontypeable, 18% were identified as serotype f, 10% serotype a, and the remaining cases were other serotypes. The burden of IHiD in 2012 was highest (8.4/100,000 persons) among those >80 years of age, followed by those 50–59 years of age (3.3/100,000 persons). *Haemophilus influenzae* is treated with antibiotics. In 2012, the top two clinical syndromes of invasive IHiD reported in Oregon were bacteremia (66%) and pneumonia (46%). There were 8 deaths related to IHiD infection.

In 2011, Oregon participated in an extensive CDC-sponsored retrospective chart review of IHiD among persons >65 years of age to understand the burden of disease within this age group. This study found that 94% of cases had at least one underlying condition, and 63% had ≥3 underlying conditions. The most frequently reported underlying conditions were chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, coronary artery disease, congestive heart failure, atrial fibrillation, diabetes, hypertension, dementia, and smoking.

Peak incidence tends to occur in late winter and early spring.

**Prevention**

- Vaccinate all children against Hib at 2, 4, 6, and 12–15 months of age.
- Cover your cough and wash your hands.
- Close contacts of Hib cases can be treated prophylactically to prevent infection.
**H. influenzae** infection by year: Oregon, 1988–2012

![Yearly Cases Graph](yearly_cases_graph.png)

**H. influenzae** infection by onset month: Oregon, 2012

![Onset Month Cases Graph](onset_month_cases_graph.png)
Incidence of *H. influenzae* infection by age and sex: Oregon, 2012

![Bar chart showing incidence of H. influenzae infection by age and sex.](chart1)

*H. influenzae* infection by year and serotype: Oregon, 2003–2012

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Incidence of *H. influenzae* infection: Oregon vs. nationwide, 1998–2012

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Not a nationally notifiable disease until 1995, only Hib consistently reported by states

Incidence of *H. influenzae* infection by county of residence: Oregon, 2003–2012

Cases per 100,000
- 0.0–0.5
- 0.6–1.3
- 1.4–1.8
- 1.9–2.4
- 2.5–4.3
Acute hepatitis A

Hepatitis A is a liver disease caused by the hepatitis A virus, which infects humans via fecal-oral transmission. Hepatitis A can occur in situations ranging from isolated cases of disease to statewide outbreaks. However, since the licensure of the hepatitis A vaccine in 1995–1996, rates of infection have declined nationally as well as in Oregon, which had been one of the higher-incidence states. Most cases in Oregon are “sporadic” and occur mainly in persons who travel outside the United States. Oregon has seen small clusters of hepatitis A infections among injection drug users and jail inmates. There were no outbreaks of hepatitis A in 2012. The last outbreak of hepatitis A in Oregon occurred in 2006.

Recent changes to recommendations for post-exposure prophylaxis include use of vaccination instead of immunoglobulin for immune-competent contacts 1–40 years of age. For those <1 year or >40 years of age, or those with immune-compromising conditions, immune globulin is still recommended.

In 2012, Oregon logged 9 cases of acute hepatitis A (another historic low). Three of the 9 cases were acquired by venturing outside of Oregon or from household members with foreign travel, often to countries with high rates of hepatitis A, such as Mexico. Six cases had no identifiable risk for factor hepatitis A. Six cases were >20 years of age.


**Prevention**

- **Vaccinate children >1 year of age against hepatitis A.**
- **Wash hands with soap and warm water carefully and frequently, especially after going to the bathroom, after changing diapers, and before preparing food or beverages.**
- **Supervise hand washing of toddlers and small children after they use the toilet.**
- **Do not work or attend daycare, serve or prepare food, or work in healthcare while ill with diarrhea.**
Acute hepatitis B

Hepatitis B is a vaccine-preventable viral disease of the liver that occurs when the virus of an infected person passes (through blood, semen or saliva) into the bloodstream of a non-immune person. Percutaneous or permucosal exposures take place when hypodermic needles are shared; when blood splashes into an eye; during sex; by biting; from lapses in hygiene involving glucometer and other fingerstick devices to test blood sugar levels; from breaches in infection control in health care settings; and when a baby is born whose mother is a hepatitis B carrier.

Acute hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection (diagnosed by the presence in serum of IgM antibody to the hepatitis B core antigen [IgM anti-HBc] or hepatitis surface antigen [HBsAg]) usually, but not always, causes jaundice. Some infections are mild, even asymptomatic, and may go undetected.

Hepatitis B has been preventable by vaccination since 1982 and, to promote universal vaccination and hence protection, was added to the recommended childhood immunization schedule in 1992 with the series starting at birth.

Acute hepatitis B rates continue to decline in Oregon — a decline that started here after the hepatitis B vaccine was licensed in 1982.

Local health departments investigated and reported 27 acute cases in 2012. Sixty-three percent of the cases were male. The most commonly reported risk factors include injection drug use (IDU) and sexual risk factors (history of multiple sexual partners; men who have sex with men [MSM]). No risk factor was identified for 19% of cases. There were no outbreaks of hepatitis B in 2012.

HBV is not spread through food or water, sharing eating utensils, breastfeeding, hugging, kissing, hand holding, coughing, or sneezing.

No cure is available for hepatitis B, so prevention is crucial. The best way to be protected from hepatitis B is to be vaccinated with hepatitis B vaccine. Vaccines can provide protection in 90% to 95% of healthy persons. The vaccine can be given safely to infants, children, and adults in three doses over a period of 6 months.

Nationwide, the successful integration of hepatitis B vaccine into the immunization schedule has contributed to a 96% decline in the incidence of acute hepatitis B in children and adolescents. Approximately 95% of new infections occur among adults and unvaccinated adults with behavioral risk factors or who are household contacts or sex partners of HBV-infected people. For this reason the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices recommends that health care providers implement standing orders to identify adults at risk and to administer hepatitis B vaccine as part of routine practice.
Acute hepatitis B by year: Oregon, 1988–2012

Incidence of acute hepatitis B by age and sex: Oregon, 2012
Incidence of acute hepatitis B: Oregon vs. nationwide, 1998–2012

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Reported risk factors for acute hepatitis B among interviewed cases, Oregon, 2012

- **MSM**: 29%
- **Multiple Sex Partners**: 9%
- **Potential Healthcare Assoc** 10%
- **Other Risk** 10%
- **Contact Hep B**: 14%
- **IDU**: 9%
- **No Risk ID/Unknown Risk**: 19%
- **Other Risk** 10%

* Transfusion, infusions, dialysis, surgery
** Street drugs, tattoo, pierced, other blood exposure, needlestick

Prevention

- Get vaccinated.
- Persons who are sexually active can:
  - Limit the number of partners.
  - Use condoms properly from start to finish when having sex.
- Persons who inject drugs can:
  - Avoid sharing needles or works with others.
  - Use only clean needles and works.
  - Purchase new, sterile needles from pharmacies.
- Use universal precautions and best practices to prevent needle stick injuries
- Vaccinate all newborns against hepatitis B.
- Screen all pregnant women for hepatitis B. Infants born to hepatitis B-positive mothers should receive hepatitis immunoglobulin along with vaccine at birth.
- Chronic carriers should not share personal care items such as razors or toothbrushes.
Chronic hepatitis B

Persons with chronic hepatitis B are known as “chronic carriers” — a state of infection defined by the persistence of hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg) in the blood for more than six months. The likelihood of becoming a chronic carrier varies by age at infection. Fewer than 6% of acutely infected adults in the United States become carriers, compared to 25% (with HBeAg-negative moms) to 90% (with HBeAg-positive moms) of children infected in early childhood or during birth.

Perinatal infection can be prevented by prompt administration of hepatitis B immune globulin and initiation of the three-dose hepatitis B vaccination series. This perinatal intervention is widely practiced in the United States — all states have federal funding for perinatal hepatitis B prevention programs — but not in other parts of the world, particularly Asia and sub-Saharan Africa, where the prevalence of chronic hepatitis B is higher to begin with. Forty-six percent of Oregon cases in 2012 were from foreign-born individuals. Chronic carriers are at greater risk of developing life-threatening diseases (e.g., chronic active hepatitis, cirrhosis or liver cancer) decades later. Carriers will continue to transmit hepatitis B until vaccine-induced immunity is nearly universal.

Recommendations and strategies to prevent new cases include the following: routinely vaccinating all infants at birth; screening all pregnant women for hepatitis B; administering hepatitis B immune globulin (HBIG) in addition to hepatitis B vaccine to infants born to HBsAg-positive mothers; and ensuring that all infants complete the hepatitis B vaccine series. When given within 24 hours of birth, HBIG and vaccine are 85%–95% effective in preventing hepatitis B disease in children born to HBV-infected mothers.

In 2012, there were 402 newly reported carriers in Oregon; 41% of these were women. Women, however, tend to be diagnosed earlier than men, perhaps due to prenatal screening. In 2012, three children <5 years of age were reported as chronic carriers. One child was born in China, a country of high prevalence, and the other two were born in Oregon to mothers who were chronic carriers. Chronic carriers are not reportable in many states, so a table comparing Oregon to the rest of the United States is not provided.
Newly reported chronic hepatitis B by year: Oregon, 1988–2012

Incidence of newly reported chronic hepatitis B by county of residence: Oregon, 2003–2012
Prevention

- Get vaccinated
- Persons who are sexually active can:
  - Limit the number of partners.
  - Use condoms properly from start to finish when having sex.
- Persons who inject drugs can:
  - Avoid sharing needles or works with others.
  - Use only clean needles and works.
- Purchase new sterile needles from pharmacies.
- Use universal precautions and best practices to prevent needle stick injuries.
- Vaccinate all newborns against hepatitis B.
- Screen all pregnant women for hepatitis B. Infants born to hepatitis B-positive mothers should receive hepatitis immunoglobulin along with vaccine at birth.
- Chronic carriers should not share personal care items such as razors or toothbrushes.
- Investigation of cases, including the identification of unvaccinated contacts to encourage vaccination.
Hepatitis C

Hepatitis C virus (HCV) is a bloodborne infection that may cause both acute and chronic hepatitis C. The most common signs and symptoms of acute hepatitis C include jaundice, fatigue, dark urine, abdominal pain, loss of appetite and nausea. Acute hepatitis C cases are underreported because 80% are asymptomatic, and laboratories cannot distinguish between acute and chronic HCV infection. Chronic hepatitis C can lead to liver damage and sometimes death due to cirrhosis and liver cancer. In the United States, an estimated 2.7–3.9 million people are infected with HCV. Chronic liver disease develops in up to 70% of chronically infected persons, and hepatitis C is the leading indication for liver transplant. Deaths from hepatitis C-related chronic liver disease have been increasing since 1999; in 2007, more than 15,000 people in the United States died from it. There is no vaccine for hepatitis C.

Hepatitis C is spread from one person to another primarily by percutaneous exposure to human blood; most infections are due to illegal injection drug use. Uncommonly, the virus can also be transmitted through sexual contact and from infected mothers to their infants at the time of birth. The risk for perinatal HCV transmission is approximately 4%. If the mother is co-infected with HIV, the risk for perinatal infection increases to approximately 19%. Since the adoption of routine blood donor screening in 1992, HCV is transmitted less than one time for every 2 million units of blood transfused. Cases can occur in health care settings, most commonly related to improper reuse of syringes or multidose vials.
Acute hepatitis C

On average during 2001–2012, there were 22 acute hepatitis C cases reported annually in Oregon. In 2012, 39 cases were reported; 26 (67%) of the cases were <40 years of age, and 15 (38%) were female. Injection drug use remains the predominant risk factor reported by cases (59%). Currently there is no vaccine for hepatitis C.
Acute hepatitis C by age and sex: Oregon, 2012

Prevention

• Health care workers: use universal precautions and best practices to prevent needle stick injuries.

• Persons who inject drugs can:
  ▪ Avoid sharing needles or works with others.
  ▪ Use only clean needles and works.
  ▪ Purchase new sterile needles from pharmacies.
Chronic hepatitis C

Chronic hepatitis C became reportable in Oregon as of July 1, 2005. In 2012, 4,547 chronic hepatitis C cases were reported, down slightly from 5,462 reported in 2011. These numbers are likely an underestimate of the true incidence because most infections are asymptomatic and therefore not diagnosed or reported to public health. Infection in males (108.5/100,000) is more common than in females (66.8/100,000). The highest prevalence of HCV infection is among persons born between 1945 and 1965. CDC estimates that this age group comprises 75% of chronic hepatitis C cases in the United States; among 2012 Oregon cases, 63% belong to this age group.

Newly reported chronic hepatitis C by year: Oregon, 2002–2012
Chronic hepatitis C by age and sex: Oregon, 2012

Prevention

- Health care workers: use universal precautions and best practices to prevent needle stick injuries.
- Persons who inject drugs can:
  - Avoid sharing needles or works with others.
  - Use only clean needles and works.
  - Purchase new sterile needles from pharmacies.
HIV infection

HIV infection and AIDS remains important public health problems in Oregon. From 1981 through 2012, 9,280 Oregonians were diagnosed and reported with HIV infection; approximately 40% of those have since died. Since 1997, an average of 270 new diagnoses were reported each year in Oregon. The number of Oregon cases* of people living with HIV has continued to increase each year, nearly doubling from 2,748 in 1997 to 5,576 in 2012.

Recent diagnoses (2008–2012)

About half (50.6%) of those diagnosed with HIV during 2008–2012 were Multnomah County residents. Statewide, men were about seven times more likely than women to be diagnosed with HIV. The average age at diagnosis was 37.6 years.
New diagnosis rates were 3.8 times higher among blacks and African Americans than among whites.** The rate of new diagnoses for Hispanics was 1.8 times higher than for white non-Hispanics; other races and ethnicities accounted for roughly 7% of all diagnoses.

Among males, men who have sex with men (MSM) accounted for 72% of cases diagnosed during 2008–2012 (797/1,102). Other transmission categories include men who use injection drugs (4%), MSM who also use injection drugs (8%), and men who likely or possibly† acquired their infection from heterosexual transmission (3%). About 10% of recent male diagnoses lacked sufficient information to assign a transmission category.

Among female cases, injection drug users accounted for 18% of cases and women who likely or possibly‡ acquired their infection through heterosexual transmission accounted for two-thirds (70%) of cases. The remainder included cases of maternal-fetal transmission and cases that lacked sufficient information for classification.

Oregonians living with HIV/AIDS

As of Dec. 31, 2012, 5,576 Oregonians diagnosed with HIV were believed to be living. More than half of those resided in Multnomah County.
**Prevention**

Primary prevention strategies aim to prevent a person from becoming infected in the first place by:

- Delaying age at onset of sexual activity;
- Decreasing the number of sex partners;
- Using condoms properly from start to finish when having sex;
- Refraining from injection drug use;
- Avoiding needle or “works” sharing with others, using only clean needles and works, and acquiring new sterile needles from pharmacies or needle exchanges if a person uses injection drugs;
- Providing assistance with drug and alcohol cessation;
- Providing post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) to eligible persons a one-month supply of HIV medication that may prevent infection if started within 72 hours of the sexual or occupational bloodborne exposure;
Prevention (continued)

- Providing pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) to some uninfected persons with very high ongoing risk of infection;
- Taking HIV medications during pregnancy if infected;
- Foregoing breastfeeding if infected;
- Rapid identification and treatment of new cases can also be considered primary prevention when it results in timely treatment of a newly infected person that averts transmission to a sex partner.

Secondary prevention strategies aim to eradicate existing infections by:

- Suppression of viral load by treatment of all HIV-infected persons, leading to decreased rates of secondary transmission;
- HIV screening: United States Preventive Health Service recommends screening everyone 15–65 years of age at least once and more often for people with ongoing risks such as multiple sex partners, sex with men (men), or injection drug use.

* For this report, a “case” is defined as an Oregon resident diagnosed with HIV/AIDS before being diagnosed in another state. Only those cases reported to the Oregon Health Authority HIV Program were included. People living with HIV in Oregon not counted in this report include those who resided in another state when they were diagnosed and approximately 1,082 who are infected but have yet to be tested (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Monitoring selected national HIV prevention and care objectives by using HIV surveillance data—United States and 6 U.S. dependent areas—2010. HIV Surveillance Supplemental Report 2012;17 (No. 3, Part A). Available at www.cdc.gov/hiv/topics/surveillance/resources/reports/. Published June 2012.

** Approximately 29% of black/African American cases are believed to have immigrated to the United States after becoming infected in another country.

† Includes men who affirmed having sex with women and denied injection drug use, transfusions or transplants during the time they were not being adequately screened for HIV.

‡ Includes women who affirmed sex with men and denied injection drug use, sex with men or transfusions or transplants during the time they were not being adequately screened for HIV.
Legionellosis

Legionellosis is usually an acute respiratory tract infection that begins two to 14 days after exposure to *Legionella* spp. Signs of the disease can include a high fever, chills and cough, in addition to headache and muscle aches. Symptoms are similar to those seen in other forms of pneumonia, so the diagnosis is rarely obvious and can be difficult to make. Available confirmatory diagnostic tests include urine antigen detection, direct fluorescent antibody staining, and culture.

“Pontiac fever,” a milder illness associated with *Legionella* bacteria, is characterized by fever and muscle aches without pneumonia. It typically occurs a few hours to two days after exposure.

*Legionella* bacteria are found naturally in the environment, usually in water, and grow best in warm conditions such as hot tubs, cooling towers, hot-water tanks, large plumbing systems, or the air-conditioning systems of large buildings. They are transmitted by inhalation of aerosolized water or soil infected with the bacteria. Person-to-person transmission does not occur.

Risks for infection include older age, smoking, chronic lung disease (like emphysema), renal insufficiency, diabetes and immune deficiency. Death occurs in 10% to 15% of cases; a substantially higher proportion of fatal cases occur during outbreaks in hospitals or other health care facilities. Infections are treated with antibiotics.

Legionellosis became officially reportable in Oregon in 2001. In 2012, 31 cases of legionellosis were reported among Oregonians; all cases were hospitalized. There were two deaths.
Legionellosis by year: Oregon, 2002–2012

Incidence of legionellosis: Oregon vs. nationwide, 1998–2012

not officially reportable in Oregon until 2001
Prevention

- Not smoking can lower your chances of developing legionnaire’s disease if you are exposed to *Legionella* bacteria.
- Persons at increased risk of infection may choose to avoid high-risk exposures, such as being in or near a hot tub.
- Prevent water conditions that allow *Legionella* to grow:
  - Maintain and clean cooling towers and evaporative condensers twice yearly, and periodically use chlorine.
  - Maintain domestic water heaters at 60°C (140°F), and water temperature at 50°C (122°F) or higher at the faucet.
  - Don’t allow water to stagnate. Large water-storage tanks exposed to sunlight can produce warm conditions favorable to growth of the *Legionella*. Flushing of infrequently used water lines will help alleviate stagnation.
Listeriosis

Listeriosis is a bacterial infection that may present as influenza-like illness with high fever, headache and muscle aches; as a gastrointestinal illness; or as an invasive disease with sepsis or meningitis. In pregnant women, listeriosis may cause miscarriages or stillbirths. The case fatality rate of invasive listeriosis is as high as 30% in infants infected prenatally and in non-pregnant adults.

Most cases of listeriosis are “sporadic” rather than part of outbreaks. However, several large outbreaks have been associated with consumption of contaminated foods. It is important to track the incidence of this disease to identify such outbreaks, as well as to identify high-risk groups. The rate is higher among pregnant women, newborns, the elderly and immunocompromised persons. Cooking food properly is the most important means of prevention. When listeriosis is diagnosed, treatment with antibiotics should be instituted promptly.

In 2012, 15 cases were reported; two of them died. There were no pregnancy-associated cases.

Listeriosis by year: Oregon, 1988–2012

Listeriosis by age and sex: Oregon, 2003–2012

**Prevention**

- Practice safe food handling: Rinse raw produce thoroughly under running tap water, separate uncooked meats and poultry from vegetables, cooked foods, and ready-to-eat foods, cook meat and poultry to the proper temperatures.

- Do not drink raw milk and do not eat foods that have unpasteurized milk in them.

Higher-risk persons (pregnant women, immunocompromised and elderly)

- Avoid eating hot dogs, luncheon meats, cold cut, and other deli meats unless they are heated.

- Do not eat soft cheese such as feta, queso fresco, brie, camembert unless it is labeled as made with pasteurized milk.

- Do not eat refrigerated smoked seafood, unless it is contained in a cooked dish such as casserole.
Lyme disease

Lyme disease is a tick-borne zoonotic disease caused by the spirochete *Borrelia burgdorferi*. The first manifestation in approximately 60% of patients appears as a red spot or bump that expands slowly with clearing in the middle, forming a ring or “target,” sometimes with multiple similar lesions. This distinctive skin lesion is called “erythema migrans.” In most cases, the tick must be attached for 36-48 hours or more before the Lyme disease bacterium can be transmitted. Most humans are infected through the bites of immature ticks called nymphs. Nymphs are tiny (less than 2 mm) and difficult to see, which is why they may be attached for so many hours without being detected; they feed during the spring and summer months. The incubation period for Lyme disease ranges from three to 30 days after tick exposure; however, the early stages of the illness may be asymptomatic, and the patient may later develop systemic symptoms and joint, neurologic or cardiac problems in varying combinations over a period of months to years. Infections are treated with antibiotics.

Currently, increasing recognition of the disease is redefining areas where ticks may carry *B. burgdorferi*. Lyme disease cases have been reported in 47 states, and in Ontario and British Columbia, Canada. Related borrelioses have been found in Europe, the former Soviet Union, China and Japan.

In 1997–1998, CDC and the Oregon Public Health Division collected and identified ticks and tested them for *Borrelia burgdorferi* in Deschutes, Josephine and Jackson counties. No ticks from Deschutes County were identified as carrying *Borrelia* in this study. The organism was isolated in 3.5% of *Ixodes pacificus* ticks tested.

During 2012, 48 cases of Lyme disease were reported in Oregon. The median age was 42 years. Thirty-five (73%) cases were female.
Lyme disease by year: Oregon, 1988–2012

Lyme disease by onset month: Oregon, 2012


*Not necessarily county of acquisition

**Prevention**

- Avoid exposure to ticks: wear long sleeves, long pants, and socks when outdoors.

- Check yourself, your children and your pets for ticks. Be especially vigilant after spending time in wooded or grassy areas. Remove a tick as soon as possible with tweezers. Gently grasp the tick near its head or mouth. Don’t squeeze or crush the tick, but pull carefully and steadily.

- Use insect repellents when you go outdoors. Repellents containing DEET, picaridin, IR3535, and some oil of lemon eucalyptus and para-menthane-3,8-diol products provide longer-lasting protection. To optimize safety and effectiveness, repellents should be used according to the label instructions.

- Do your best to tick-proof your yard. Clear brush and leaves where ticks live. Keep woodpiles in sunny areas.
Malaria

Worldwide, malaria is one of the most devastating of the communicable diseases, causing perhaps 1–2 million deaths annually, in addition to an enormous burden of disability and medical costs. It is caused by parasites of the genus *Plasmodium* that are transmitted among humans by *Anopheles* mosquitoes. 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. *Anopheles* mosquitoes capable of transmitting malaria live in Oregon, so local transmission remains a theoretical possibility—albeit one we don’t lose much sleep over. Only 12 cases were reported in Oregon (11 of them lab-confirmed), down from 23 in 2011. Of the 11 confirmed cases, 7 (77%) were *Plasmodium falciparum*—the worst kind to have, and the most common worldwide. Oregon surveillance data contribute to the national database, which is used to tailor recommendations for prevention and treatment. Of the 12 Oregon cases reported in 2012, 9 (75%) reported pre-onset travel in Africa or were immigrants from Africa. Two cases had been in South America and one in India. Competent advice about behavioral and chemical interventions can reduce risk to travelers, but refugees and other immigrants may carry long-harbored infections.

**Malaria by year: Oregon, 1988–2012**
Incidence of malaria by age and sex: Oregon, 2003–2012

Incidence of malaria: Oregon vs. nationwide, 1998–2012
Prevention

- Understanding the current situation with malaria in one’s travel destinations is essential. Consult with a travel medicine expert or—if nothing else—read the country-by-country assessment on-line from CDC (www.cdc.gov/malaria/travelers/country_table/a.html).

- Because *Anopheles* mosquitoes feed at night, minimize your risk of getting bitten by sleeping under an insecticide-impregnated mosquito net or in an air-conditioned room (or both!).

- If out and about at night, wear long-sleeved shirts and pants and use topical mosquito repellents.

- Chemoprophylaxis (antibiotic medicine) provides the backstop you need when bite prevention is imperfect—as it always is. Many effective medicines are available in the U.S. (www.cdc.gov/malaria/travelers/drugs.html), and even more elsewhere. Weighing their relative merits and side effects can be complex; consult a travel expert for individualized advice. Don’t wait until the last minute; most drugs should be started before and continued after the likely exposure period.
Measles

Measles is an acute, highly communicable viral illness known for its red, blotchy rash, which starts on the face and then spreads widely over the body. The rash is preceded by a febrile prodrome that includes cough, coryza and conjunctivitis, and sometimes photophobia and “Koplik spots” in the mouth. Diagnosis is confirmed by the presence of serum IgM antibodies (in a patient who has not recently been immunized). Treatment is supportive.

During 1989–1991, a major resurgence of measles occurred in the United States: more than 55,000 cases and 120 deaths were reported. The resurgence was characterized by an increasing proportion of cases among unvaccinated preschool-aged children. A focus on increasing vaccination among preschool children by following the 1989 recommendation for two doses of MMR vaccine resulted in a dramatic reduction in illness. Endemic measles has been eliminated from the United States, but cases are occasionally imported.

In Oregon, two doses of measles vaccination have been required for entry into kindergarten since 1998. In 2013, >93% of kindergartners had received two doses of measles-containing vaccine. Since 2002, 14 cases have been reported in Oregon; ten of these were imported, and four were linked to imported cases. Most imported cases originated in Asia and Europe and occurred both among Oregon citizens traveling abroad and in persons visiting Oregon from other countries. The median age of cases has been 23 (range, 11 months–49) years. Ten of the 14 cases were unvaccinated, and the vaccination status of another could not be documented. Three cases were among persons who had been vaccinated.

One imported case occurred in 2012.

Though measles is highly infectious, the risk of exposure to measles in Oregon remains low. Sustaining high levels of vaccination is important to limit the spread of measles from imported cases and to prevent it from becoming re-established as an endemic disease in the United States.
Measles by year: Oregon, 1988–2012

Incidence of measles: Oregon vs. nationwide, 1998–2012
Measles by country of importation: 1997–2012

Prevention

- Vaccinate: One dose for preschool-age children >12 months of age and for persons born during or after 1957; and a second dose for school-age children and for adults at high risk of measles exposure (i.e., healthcare personnel, international travelers and students at post-high-school educational institutions).
- Postexposure vaccination can prevent or lessen illness if given within 72 hours of exposure.
Meningococcal disease

Reported cases of invasive meningococcal infections, including sepsis and meningitis, have declined from the hyperendemic levels seen in 1993–1997 attributable to a clonal strain of serogroup B Neisseria meningitidis. Respiratory secretions and droplets continue to be shared among Oregonians and predispose us to secondary cases.

In 2012, there were 26 reported cases, and four deaths from meningococcal disease in Oregon. This continues the overall decline in cases throughout the state. A plurality (46%) of illness in Oregon was caused by serogroup B organisms, followed by serogroups Y (25%) and C (21%). At least since the early 1990s, serogroup B has predominated in Oregon.

The burden of meningococcal disease was highest in those 10–19 years of age (1.0/100,000), with a second, lower peak in incidence in children <5 years of age (0.8/100,000). Meningococcal disease is treated with intravenous antibiotics.

The quadrivalent (serogroups A, C, Y and W-135) meningococcal conjugate vaccine is recommended routinely for adolescents 11–18 years of age and for other persons at high risk for meningococcal disease. The vaccine does not protect against serogroup B disease.

Meningococcal disease by year: Oregon, 1988–2012
Meningococcal disease by onset month: Oregon, 2012

Incidence of meningococcal disease by age and sex: Oregon, 2012
Incidence of meningococcal disease: Oregon vs. nationwide, 1998–2012

Meningococcal disease by serogroup: Oregon, 2012

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</tr>
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<td>1999</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>2.1</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
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<td>0.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
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<td>0.8</td>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>2007</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
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<td>0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>0.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>0.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Incidence of meningococcal disease by county of residence: Oregon, 2003–2012

Prevention

- Vaccinate to prevent illness from serogroups A, C, Y and W-135.
- Identify and recommend prophylaxis of close contacts of confirmed and presumptive cases.
- Avoid smoking and exposing children to tobacco smoke, which have been associated with an increased risk of invasive meningococcal disease.
**Mumps**

Mumps is an acute viral illness characterized by fever and swelling of the salivary glands, typically the parotids. Transmission is generally through respiratory droplets or through direct contact with nasal secretions.

Once an almost universal childhood infection, mumps incidence decreased in the United States with routine childhood vaccination. Reporting of this vaccine-preventable viral infection was discontinued in Oregon in 1981 but re-established July 1, 2006, prompted by outbreaks of illness. Three cases were reported in 2010, four in 2011 and six in 2012.

Because as many as 20% of mumps virus infections are asymptomatic, and nearly 50% are associated with non-specific or primarily respiratory symptoms (with or without parotitis), mumps infections are significantly underreported.

**Prevention:**

- One dose of vaccine (as MMR) for all children at 12–15 months of age.
- A second dose (as MMR) for school-age children and for adults at high risk of mumps exposure (i.e., healthcare personnel, international travelers and students at post-high-school educational institutions).
- One dose of vaccine (as MMR) for all persons born during or after 1957 who are not at high risk of mumps exposure.
Pertussis

Pertussis is a highly contagious, acute bacterial respiratory tract infection caused by the bacterium *Bordetella pertussis*. It is transmitted from person to person through contact with respiratory secretions (i.e., droplet transmission). The disease is most severe in infants and young children, many of whom suffer the intense fits of coughing that may end with an inspiratory “whoop.” Although the disease may be milder in older persons, any infected person can transmit the disease to other susceptible persons, including unimmunized or incompletely immunized infants.

Despite high childhood immunization coverage rates, pertussis remains endemic in the United States, with epidemics every three to five years. In 2012 Oregon experienced a pertussis epidemic with the most cases seen in a single year since 1953. Because pertussis often goes undiagnosed in adolescents and adults, it is likely that the actual number of cases greatly exceeds the number reported.

Infants have long had the highest reported incidence rate of pertussis in Oregon — 253/100,000 in 2012. In 2012, the 10–14-year age group had the next highest incidence (104/100,000), closely followed by the 1–4 and 5–9-year-old cohorts (81 and 67 per 100,000, respectively).

Infants with pertussis are also the most likely to suffer complications and death. Since 2003, 204 (38%) of the 544 infants diagnosed with pertussis in Oregon have been hospitalized, and five have died. In 2012, 26 infants were hospitalized; 24 of them were ≤3 months of age. One young infant with pertussis spent more than 40 days on extracorporeal membrane oxygenation.

The greatest increase in incidence in recent years has been in adolescents and adults. Since 2003, 51% of pertussis cases reported in Oregon have been in children >10 years of age. Immunity wanes with time, so adolescents and adults need a Tdap booster shot, both to protect themselves and to avoid spreading it to vulnerable infants. All persons ≥10 (including persons ≥65) years of age who have not already received Tdap are advised to get a single dose. Pregnant women should receive Tdap during the 2nd or 3rd trimester of each pregnancy, ideally between 27 and 36 weeks’ gestation) so that they can develop antibodies to pertussis and pass them to their babies before birth. Health care workers in particular are encouraged to be vaccinated. Children need a series of five DTaP vaccinations before kindergarten, starting at 2 months of age.

Since 2010, with funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Oregon launched the Metropolitan Area Pertussis Surveillance (MAPS), enhancing surveillance for pertussis in Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington counties. Each reported case is investigated extensively, and standardized data are collected. It is hoped that these data will guide future developments in regional and national public health policy.
Pertussis by year: Oregon, 1988–2012

Pertussis by onset month: Oregon, 2012
Incidence of pertussis by age and sex: Oregon, 2012

Incidence of pertussis: Oregon vs. nationwide, 1998–2012
Incidence of pertussis by county of residence: Oregon, 2003–2012

Prevention

- Immunization is the best way to prevent pertussis.
- Cover your cough and wash your hands.
- Keep babies away from anyone who is coughing.
**Q fever**

Q fever is a bacterial infection caused by *Coxiella burnetii*. It can result in acute or chronic illness in humans, and is usually acquired through inhalation of barnyard dust contaminated with bacteria from the placentas, body fluids or excreta from infected animals. The primary reservoirs are cattle, sheep and goats. Infection may also result from consumption of unpasteurized milk. Acute Q fever can be accompanied by a host of symptoms, including high fever, severe headache, malaise, myalgia, chills, sweats, nausea, vomiting, dry cough, diarrhea, abdominal pain and chest pain. Most people recover from acute Q fever, but some (<5%) develop chronic illness, which often manifests as endocarditis. Chronic infection can be treated with long courses of antibiotics. Outbreaks in the U.S. have been the result of occupational exposure to infected livestock.

Q fever reports are rare in Oregon; in 2012 four acute cases were reported.

**Q fever by year: Oregon, 2000–2012**

![Graph showing Q fever cases by year from 2000 to 2012.](image)
Prevention

- Barns and laboratories housing potentially infected animals should have restricted access, and holding facilities for sheep should be located away from populated areas.
- Appropriately dispose of placenta, birth products, fetal membranes, and aborted fetuses at facilities housing sheep and goats.
- Vaccinate (where possible) individuals engaged in research with pregnant sheep or live *C. burnetii*.
- Use only pasteurized milk and milk products.
- Quarantine imported animals.
Rabies

Rabies is an acute infection of the central nervous system caused by a neurotropic rhabdovirus of the genus *Lyssavirus*. All mammals, including humans, are susceptible to rabies. In humans, rabies causes a rapidly progressive and fatal encephalomyelitis. The incubation period in humans is usually 2–12 weeks, but there have been documented incubation periods as long as seven years. Bites from infected animals constitute the primary route of transmission. Transplanted organs, including corneas from patients with undiagnosed rabies, have also caused infection in recipients.

The Pacific Northwest is considered to be free of terrestrial rabies. In Oregon, the main reservoir of rabies is bats. Mammals like foxes and cats may come in contact with rabid bats, acquire the infection, and be capable of transmitting it to humans. Since 2000, 9% of the bats tested in Oregon have been positive for rabies. This, of course, is not a random sample of Oregon’s bats; rather it represents bats that are neurologically impaired enough to have bitten humans or their pets, and then to have been captured. Any contact between a bat and a human should be evaluated carefully and immediately. All potential human exposures should result in a call to a local public health department office. Testing of an exposing mammal involves killing the animal, removing the head, and sending it to a laboratory for special staining and microscopic examination of brain tissue. The Oregon State Public Health Laboratory will test mammals involved in bona-fide human exposures at no cost to the patient; and (for a fee) the Oregon State University’s Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory will test mammals involved in other exposures.

Fourteen bats and three foxes tested positive in 2012. All foxes were residents of Jackson and Josephine counties.

Rabies in humans is 100% preventable through prompt appropriate medical care, beginning with thorough cleaning of the wound. Persons not previously immunized for rabies, who are exposed to a rabid animal, should be given human rabies immune globulin (HRIG), with as much as possible infiltrated into and around the bite wound(s), and the rest administered intramuscularly; and four doses of rabies vaccine, one each on days 0, 3, 7 and 14. Before 2008, a five-dose vaccine regimen was recommended; however, review of serologic and case data indicated that four doses of vaccination in combination with HRIG elicited a protective immune response and that a fifth dose of vaccine provided no additional benefit.

Though bats are the reservoir in Oregon, canine rabies still accounts for most human rabies cases worldwide. Travelers to rabies-enzootic countries should be warned to seek immediate medical care if they are bitten by any mammal.

Additional information and an algorithm to follow for assessment of rabies risk are provided here.
### Rabies testing, Oregon, 2000–2012 (number of positive/total tested)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
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<th>Cat</th>
<th>Dog</th>
<th>Fox</th>
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<td>0/46</td>
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<td>0/1,041</td>
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<td>20/113</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Animal rabies cases by county: Oregon, 2003–2012

The map shows the number of positive animals by county. The legend indicates the number of positive animals as follows:

- **0 – 1**
- **2 – 4**
- **5 – 6**
- **7 – 12**
- **13 – 23**
Selected Reportable Communicable Disease Summary - Oregon 2012

Bat encounter

- **Evidence** (2)
  - Was there evidence suggesting physical contact?
  - Was the bat alive at the time of the encounter?
  - Is it certain that there was no bite or scratch?
  - Available for testing?

- **Test**
  - No test (3)
  - No PEP

Cat bite

- **Evidence** (4)
  - Was there evidence that the cat is owned?
  - Was the cat definitely provoked?
  - Available for testing?
  - PEP Test
    - OSPHL next working day

Dog or Ferret bite

- **Evidence** (6)
  - Was it definitely unprovoked?
  - Available for testing?
  - Quarantine (5)
  - Discuss with Epi
  - PEP
    - No PEP

Fox bite

- **Evidence** (8)
  - Available for testing?
  - PEP Test
    - OSPHL Stat

Other animal bite

- **Evidence** (6)
  - Was it definitely unprovoked?
  - Available for testing?
  - Test OSPHL batch

Notes

- 1. Oregon law mandates reporting of any bite of a human being by any other mammal (Oregon Administrative Rule 333-018-0015[5] [c]); such reports should be made to the local public health authority for the jurisdiction in which the patient resides. Decisions about rabies PEP are the purview of the clinician attending the patient; although these recommendations regarding the need for rabies PEP represent the best judgment of state public-health officials, they are not binding on clinicians. Clinicians should be advised that, aside from concern about rabies, prophylaxis against tetanus or bacterial infection might be warranted, depending on the nature of the wound and the animal involved. Local health department personnel are advised to call Acute and Communicable Disease Prevention at 971-673-1111 with specific questions regarding application of these guidelines.

- 2. Such evidence might include, e.g., a young child's waking up, crying, with a bat found in the room.

- 3. "No Test" means that the animal will not be tested at OSPHL, at state expense. In such cases, the animal may be tested at the Oregon State University Veterinary Diagnostics Laboratory (541-737-3261) at private expense.

- 4. Evidence of ownership might include, e.g., presence of collar or previous appearances of the animal in a neighborhood.

- 5. "Quarantine" means confining a dog, cat or ferret for 10 days to observe for signs of illness after biting a human being. The nature of the confinement is determined by the local public health authority. If the animal develops neurological illness during the period of quarantine, it should be euthanized and its head shipped to OSPHL for testing within one working day.

- 6. "Unprovoked" implies that in the context of the situation there was no obvious alternative motivation for the animal to bite. A good history is essential. In practice, unprovoked bites are quite rare. Examples of provocation would include being hit by a car, being handled, fed, or caged; being cornered in a garage, having a jogger run past your yard or crowding the animal's space, etc.

- 7. For purposes of determining need for rabies PEP, wolf-hybrids are considered wild animals and not dogs. Wolf-dog hybrids that bite or otherwise expose persons, pets, or livestock should be considered for euthanasia and rabies examination. Whether an animal is a dog or a wolf-dog hybrid must be determined by a licensed veterinarian, subject to review by the State Public Health Veterinarian or designee (OR 333-019-0022).

- 8. Batch testing for rabies is generally done at OSPHL on Mondays and Wednesdays.

Abbreviations

- OSPHL: Oregon State Public Health Laboratory (503-229-5882)
- PEP: Post-Exposure Prophylaxis against rabies
- Epi: Epidemiologists at the Oregon Health Authority; Weekdays, nights and weekends 971-673-1111

Algorithm for Prevention of Rabies After Animal Encounters in Oregon
Prevention:

- Keep rabies vaccinations up to date for all pet cats, ferrets and dogs.
- Maintain control of pets by keeping cats and ferrets indoors and keeping dogs under direct supervision.
- Spay or neuter pets to help reduce the number of unwanted pets that may not be properly cared for or vaccinated regularly.
- Call animal control to remove stray animals from your neighborhood, because these animals may be unvaccinated or ill.
- Do not handle wildlife, especially bats and foxes.
Salmonellosis

Salmonellosis is a bacterial illness characterized by acute abdominal pain, diarrhea, and often fever, that usually begins one to five days after exposure. Excretion of Salmonella may persist for several days or even months beyond the acute phase of illness. Antibiotics are not needed by most patients (the exceptions being those at high risk of invasive infection), and they may increase the duration of excretion.

A wide range of domestic and wild animals are carriers of Salmonella, including poultry, swine, cattle, rodents, iguanas, tortoises, turtles, snakes, young poultry, dogs and cats. Most human infections are thought to come from consumption of fecally contaminated food or water, but other environmental exposures may be hard to document and therefore underappreciated. Raw or undercooked produce and products of animal origin — such as eggs, milk, meat and poultry — have been implicated as common sources of animal and human salmonellosis. Though not as common as Escherichia coli O157 infection, person-to-person transmission of salmonellosis is well documented. The incidence of reported infection is highest among children <5 years of age.

Of approximately 2,500 known serotypes, only about 200 are detected in the United States in any given year. In Oregon, S. Enteritidis and S. Typhimurium have historically been the two most commonly reported serotypes, comprising 19% and 13% of all lab-confirmed isolates in 2012, respectively. However, an outbreak of S. Heidelberg infections propelled that serotype into the #2 spot (15%) during 2012.

In 2012, 399 salmonellosis cases were reported in Oregon, down from 517 in 2010 and 441 in 2009. Eleven outbreaks of salmonellosis were reported. Most of these were small; however, one large outbreak related to consumption of chicken accounted for 44 cases. Six outbreaks involved commercial products with cases in multiple states: four linked to animal exposure (baby chicks, pet hedgehogs, and turtles), one linked to mangos, and the last remaining unsolved despite an investigation.
Salmonellosis by year: Oregon, 1988–2012

Salmonellosis by onset month: Oregon, 2012
Incidence of salmonellosis by age and sex: Oregon, 2012

Incidence of salmonellosis: Oregon vs. nationwide, 1998–2012
Incidence of salmonellosis by county of residence: Oregon, 2003–2012

Selected* salmonellosis cases by serotype, Oregon, 2003–2012

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*Selected because at least one case was reported in 2012 and it is a more common serotype.
Prevention:

- Cook poultry, ground beef, and eggs thoroughly.
- Do not eat or drink foods containing raw eggs, or raw (unpasteurized) milk.
- If you are served undercooked meat, poultry or eggs in a restaurant, send it back to the kitchen for further cooking.
- Wash hands, kitchen work surfaces, and utensils with soap and warm water immediately after they have been in contact with raw meat or poultry.
- Be particularly careful with foods prepared for infants, the elderly, and the immunocompromised.
- Wash hands with soap and warm water after handling reptiles, birds, or baby chicks, and after contact with pet feces.
- Avoid direct or even indirect contact between reptiles (turtles, iguanas, other lizards, snakes) and infants or immunocompromised persons.
- Don’t work with raw poultry or meat, and an infant (e.g., feed, change diaper) at the same time.
Shigellosis

Shigellosis is an acute bacterial infection characterized by (sometimes bloody) diarrhea, vomiting, abdominal cramps and, often, fever. In Oregon, shigellosis is typically caused by *S. sonnei* or *S. flexneri*. The other species — *S. boydii* and *S. dysenteriae* — are more common in developing countries. Humans are the only known reservoir. Shigellosis is transmitted from person to person, and just a few organisms can cause illness. The rate has historically been highest among children 1–4 years of age. The incidence of shigellosis typically peaks in late summer and fall.

Outbreaks in daycare centers are common, mainly due to the poor hygienic practices of small children. Hand washing is the most important means of prevention. Treatment reduces duration of illness, but the organism has become resistant to many antibiotics used for empiric therapy. Testing for antibiotic susceptibility is important for treatment.

In 2012, 92 cases were reported, a bit higher than in 2011. Sixty-three were sporadic cases, 11 involved household transmission and 18 were part of outbreaks.

**Shigellosis by year: Oregon, 1988–2012**
Shigellosis by onset month: Oregon, 2012

Incidence of shigellosis by age and sex: Oregon, 2012
Incidence of shigellosis: Oregon vs. nationwide, 1998–2012

Shigellosis by species: Oregon, 2012
Incidence of shigellosis by county of residence: Oregon, 2003–2012

Prevention

- Wash hands with soap and warm warm water carefully and frequently, especially after going to the bathroom, after changing diapers, and before preparing food or beverages.
- Dispose soiled diapers properly.
- Disinfect diaper changing areas after using them.
- Keep children with diarrhea out of child care settings.
- Supervise hand washing of toddlers and small children after they use the toilet.
- Do not prepare food for others while ill with diarrhea.
- Avoid swallowing water from ponds, lakes, or untreated pools.
Syphilis

Syphilis is a sexually transmitted infection characterized by stages that can be separated by extended periods without symptoms.

Primary syphilis usually consists of a solitary, painless “chancre” at the site of inoculation that lasts one to five weeks. Syphilis is most infectious during this period and can be transmitted by direct contact with the primary lesion, ordinarily during sex. Blood tests for syphilis are often not positive until three weeks or more after the exposure (inoculation).

Secondary syphilis does not always follow in every case but when it does, it typically appears approximately four weeks after the sore disappears. It includes general body rash, swollen lymph nodes and focal rashes in moist sites, such as the mouth or vagina. These last one to six weeks then disappear, even without treatment. People with secondary syphilis remain infectious, especially upon contact with patchy lesions on the mucous membranes.

There are no symptoms during latent syphilis infection. Latent syphilis may go undetected for a lifetime or be followed within a few years by outward symptoms of tertiary (late) syphilis. Blood tests for syphilis are generally positive (reactive) throughout latent infection.

Between 30% and 40% of untreated people with primary syphilis will develop symptoms of tertiary (late) syphilis at some point. Late syphilis can cause disabilities such as dementia, and balance and sensory problems.

Infection acquired in the womb or during delivery is called congenital syphilis. Thanks to syphilis testing during pregnancy, such infections are now rare. Congenital syphilis may cause miscarriage, stillbirth, neonatal death or chronic disability.

Treatment

Syphilis can be cured with antibiotics. Recent sex partners of people with confirmed primary, secondary or early latent syphilis should receive treatment for syphilis regardless of whether or not they have a positive blood test for syphilis.

In Oregon, cases of early syphilis (including primary, secondary and early latent syphilis) increased substantially during the past five years, from a nadir of 26 cases (0.7/100,000) during 2007 to 311 (8.0/100,000) during 2012. The 311 cases reported during 2012 in Oregon were more than in any single year since 1989.

During 2012, elevated rates of early syphilis were observed in men aged 25–44 years, with the highest rate occurring in men aged 40–44 years (36.8/100,000). Over the past decade, about 4 of every 5 early syphilis cases have occurred among men who have sex with other men (MSM). Numbers of such cases have risen recently: in 2012, 250 MSM were associated with 259 early syphilis cases, compared to just 9 early syphilis cases among women during the same period. HIV-positive men comprised 56% (175/311) of 2012 early syphilis cases. As discussed elsewhere, relatively high numbers of gonorrhea reports are also being observed among men with HIV, and/or men who have sex with men, in Oregon and the rest of the United States.
Although reasons for increased syphilis among men with HIV are not completely understood, two factors may contribute. In order to avoid transmitting HIV to HIV-negative partners, some men with HIV select sex partners who are also HIV-positive. Since syphilis is common in this population, they might inadvertently be exposing one another to syphilis. Men with syphilis appear to transmit the infection more easily if they also have HIV, and men who have HIV appear to be more easily infected after exposure to syphilis. For this reason, men with HIV should be encouraged to test regularly for syphilis.

Incidence of syphilis by year, Oregon, 1988–2012
Cases of early syphilis by age group and sex, Oregon, 2012

Cases of early syphilis among men, by report of sex with other men (MSM), Oregon, 2006–2012

* One person in the MSM group was the subject of 2 syphilis case reports (more than 30 days apart) in 2011; and nine MSM were each associated with 2 syphilis case reports (more than 30 days apart) in 2012.
During 2012, 208 people with reported cases of early syphilis lived in Multnomah County (incidence, 27.4/100,000) and accounted for 67 percent of all early syphilis in Oregon during the year.

Cases and incidence of early syphilis by county, 2012
Cases and incidence of early syphilis by county, 2003–2012

Prevention

Primary prevention strategies aim to prevent a person from becoming infected in the first place by:

- Delaying age at onset of sexual intercourse.
- Decreasing the number of sex partners.
- Using condoms properly from start to finish when having sex.
- Abstain from sex with a partner who has any sore in the genital, anal, or oral area.
- Rapid identification and treatment of new cases can also be considered primary prevention when it results in averting transmission to a sex partner.
Prevention (continued)

Secondary prevention strategies aim to eradicate existing infections by:

- Regularly screening HIV positive persons, MSM and anyone with a sex partner known to have had syphilis.
- Screening pregnant women and treating infections in pregnant women promptly to reduce risk of congenital syphilis.
- Treating early syphilis infections.
- Treating all sex partners exposed ≤90 days before diagnosis of a case of early syphilis.
- Screening all sex partners exposed >90 days before diagnosis of a case of early syphilis, treating all such partners with serologic evidence of infection, and presumptively treating anyone for whom screening results are not promptly available or who might not be easily located and treated when testing results are available.
Tuberculosis

Tuberculosis (TB) is a communicable disease caused by the bacterium *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*. The most common site for TB disease are the lungs; however, TB can occur in any organ in the body. *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* infection spreads when someone with TB disease in their lungs coughs or sneezes tiny, bacteria-laden particles into the air, and the particles are inhaled by another person. If another person inhales air containing these droplet nuclei, he or she may become infected. However, not everyone infected with TB bacteria becomes sick. As a result, two TB-related conditions exist: latent TB infection (LTBI) and TB disease. Although most people with LTBI will not get sick with TB disease, some will. TB disease can occur weeks to years after a person is first infected. Because of this, TB testing is recommended for people who had significant contact with someone who has TB.

Both LTBI and TB disease are curable with appropriate treatment.

There are several different treatment regimens available for LTBI which range in length of treatment from 3–9 months. The standard initial treatment for TB disease consists of four drugs which must be taken daily. Most patient require treatment for 6–9 months. Multidrug-resistant tuberculosis (MDR TB) is defined as resistance to at least isoniazid and rifampin; such strains require longer treatment with second-line drugs.

The incidence rate of TB has been declining in Oregon over the past decade. In 2012, a total of 61 cases of active TB disease were diagnosed in Oregon, for a rate of 1.6 cases per 100,000 residents. Nationally, there were 9,951 new TB cases reported in the United States, an incidence of 3.2 per 100,000 population — about twice the incidence in Oregon.

Prevention and Treatment

TB is preventable, treatable and curable. TB can be prevented by diagnosing and treating persons with active TB disease, stopping potential transmission to others. It can also be prevented by identifying and treating persons with latent TB infection who, if untreated, may develop active TB disease. Reporting of TB ensures cases are treated and contacts are identified and offered preventive antibiotics.
Tuberculosis by year: Oregon, 1988–2012

Incidence of tuberculosis by age and sex: Oregon, 2012

TB by race/ethnicity and foreign born status: Oregon, 2012

Tularemia

Tularemia, also known as rabbit or deer-fly fever, is considered a “category A” agent of potential bioterrorism. Tularemia is caused by *Francisella tularensis*, a hardy organism found in rodents, rabbits and squirrels; in ticks, deer flies and mosquitoes; and in contaminated soil, water and animal carcasses. Biovar type A, the most common type in North America, is highly virulent; as few as 10–50 organisms can cause disease.

Tularemia occurs throughout the United States. Persons become infected primarily through handling contaminated animals; the bite of infective deer flies, mosquitoes or ticks; direct contact with or ingestion of contaminated food, water or soil; or inhalation of infective aerosols. *Francisella tularensis* is highly infectious when grown in culture and can generate concern for laboratory workers. For potentially exposed workers, management options include a “fever watch” or antimicrobial prophylaxis.

Disease onset is usually sudden, and symptoms are influenza-like. General symptoms of tularemia include fever, malaise, myalgias, headache, chills, rigors and sore throat. Tularemia has six clinical forms, depending on the bacterium’s portal of entry. Ulceroglandular tularemia is the most common form of the disease, accounting for 75%–85% of naturally occurring cases. Other clinical forms include pneumonic (pulmonary symptoms); typhoidal (gastrointestinal symptoms and sepsis); glandular (regional adenopathy without skin lesion); oculoglandular (painful, purulent conjunctivitis with adenopathy); and oropharyngeal (pharyngitis with adenopathy).

From 2000 through 2011, 28 cases of tularemia were reported in Oregon. No cases were reported here in 2012.
Prevention

Use precautions when hiking, hunting, camping or working outdoors:

- Use insect repellents containing 20%–30% DEET, picaridin or IR3535. Wear long pants, long sleeves and long socks to keep ticks and deer flies off your skin.
- Remove attached ticks promptly with fine-tipped tweezers.
- Don’t drink untreated surface water.
- Don’t run over sick or dead animals with a lawn mower.
- If you hunt, trap or skin animals:
  - Use gloves when handling animals, especially rabbits, muskrats, prairie dogs, and other rodents.
  - Cook game meat thoroughly before eating

Laboratory workers should use precautions when working with suspect cultures:

- All work should be done in biosafety level 2 conditions.
- Procedures that manipulate cultures and might produce aerosols or droplets should be done under biosafety level 3 conditions.
Vibriosis

Vibriosis is caused by infection with bacteria from the *Vibrionaceae* family. This family of bacteria includes the species that causes cholera, and public health investigators typically distinguish between either cholera (infection with toxigenic *V. cholerae*) and other “vibriosis” (infection with any other *Vibrionaceae*, including those vibrios lately rechristened as “Grimontia”).

Commonly, vibriosis is acquired by eating raw or undercooked molluscan shellfish and presents as watery diarrhea, abdominal cramps and fever. In Oregon, *V. parahaemolyticus* is the most frequently reported species, as this pathogen is found naturally in the coastal waters and shellfish of the Pacific Northwest, especially during summer months. Nonfoodborne infections with *Vibrio* species can also occur through contact with sea or brackish water (e.g., infection with *V. alginolyticus* after swimming with an open wound, or through a laceration while shucking an oyster). These types of infections can produce bullae, cellulitis, muscle pain, fever and sepsis.

Vibriosis was not reportable until 1998 in Oregon and 2007 nationwide. Today, all *Vibrio* infections are nationally notifiable. Case reporting is essential to the identification of contaminated shellfish beds and removal of these shellfish from the raw seafood market.

Nationally, reported rates of vibriosis have trended upwards in the past decade. Rates of reported infections have also been rising in Oregon, although increases are not seen every year. The reason for the increasing trend is not clear. It could be that we’re getting better at identifying cases or it could be that with warmer temperatures there are just more opportunities for exposure.

In 2012, Oregon saw 19 (16 confirmed and 3 presumptive) cases of vibriosis, an increase from the 7 cases reported in 2011, but still less than the 26 reported in 2010. Fourteen (74%) of the cases occurred in males. Fifteen (79%) of them occurred during July–September. Of the 16 confirmed cases, 14 (87%) were *V. parahaemolyticus*, with one case each of *V. mimicus* and *V. metschnikovii*. 

Vibriosis by onset month: Oregon, 2012
Vibriosis by species: Oregon, 2012

Prevention

- Avoid eating raw oysters or other raw shellfish.
- Cook shellfish (oysters, clams, mussels) thoroughly.
West Nile virus

West Nile virus (WNV) first appeared in the United States on Long Island in 1999 and thence moved westward across the country. In Oregon, the first indigenous case was reported in 2004. West Nile virus is a mosquito-borne flavivirus that affects both animals and humans. Corvid birds (crows, ravens, jays, magpies) are the reservoir; humans and other animals are considered “dead-end” hosts — i.e., they may be infected and develop symptoms, but they do not transmit the infection further.

Of human beings infected, only about one in five will have any symptoms at all — typically flu-like symptoms such as fever, headache and muscle aches. However, approximately one in 150 infected persons will have symptoms of central nervous system infection that may include neck stiffness, stupor, disorientation, tremors, convulsions, muscle weakness, paralysis and coma. The risk of getting West Nile virus in Oregon has been very low. Though most cases were in those aged 20–50 years, those over 50 years of age have the highest risk of developing serious illness. Incidence is highest in the summer months.

In 2012, twelve human cases of West Nile virus were reported. In addition 71 mosquito pools, and 2 birds and 2 horses tested positive for WNV infection.
West Nile virus infection by onset month: Oregon, 2012

Incidence of West Nile virus infection by county of residence: Oregon, 2005–2012
Confirmed WNV infections in Oregon, 2004–2012

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Prevention:

- Avoid mosquito bites:
  - Use insect repellents when you go outdoors. Repellents containing DEET, picaridin, IR3535, and some oil of lemon eucalyptus and para-menthane-3,8-diol products provide longer-lasting protection. To optimize safety and effectiveness, repellents should be used according to the label instructions.
  - When weather permits, wear long sleeves, long pants, and socks when outdoors.
  - Take extra care during peak mosquito-biting hours.
  - Mosquito-proof your home:
    - Install or repair screens on windows and doors to keep mosquitoes outside. Use your air conditioning, if you have it.
    - Reduce the number of mosquitoes around your home by emptying standing water from flowerpots, gutters, buckets, pool covers, pet water dishes, discarded tires, and birdbaths regularly.

- Report dead birds to local authorities.
Yersiniosis

Yersiniosis is a bacterial infection characterized by (sometimes bloody) diarrhea, vomiting and abdominal pain. The main reservoir for *Yersinia* is the pig. Transmission occurs via the fecal-oral route through contaminated food and water, or through contact with infected people or animals. Preventive measures include cooking food thoroughly, avoiding cross-contamination with raw food of animal origin, and washing hands after handling food.

The incidence of yersiniosis in Oregon has been fairly stable over the years. Yersiniosis occurs throughout the year with no seasonality. The most common species is *Y. enterocolitica*. In 2012, there were 19 cases. Fifteen were *enterocolitica*, two *intermedia*, one *kristensenii*, one was not speciated. No outbreaks were reported.

Infection with *Yersinia pestis*, also known as “plague,” is counted separately from other cases of yersiniosis. Two cases of plague were reported in Oregon during 2012 — both in Crook County; both survived. These make a total of 6 cases of plague in Oregon since 1988 — five of them since 2010. All six resided east of the Cascades.
Yersiniosis by age and sex: Oregon, 2003–2012

Prevention

- Avoid eating raw or undercooked pork.
- Consume only pasteurized milk or milk products.
- Wash hands with soap and warm water before eating and preparing food, after contact with animals, and after handling raw meat.
- After handling raw chitterlings, clean hands and fingernails scrupulously with soap and water before touching infants or their toys, bottles, or pacifiers.
- Prevent cross-contamination in the kitchen: use separate cutting boards for meat and other foods. Carefully clean all cutting boards, counter-tops, and utensils with soap and hot water after preparing raw meat.
- Dispose of animal feces in a sanitary manner.
Disease outbreaks

Oregon state and local health departments investigated 220 acute and communicable disease outbreaks in 2012, up from 152 in 2011 (a 31% increase). As is typical, most (119) of these were outbreaks of calicivirus gastroenteritis. Twenty-six outbreaks were foodborne, 28 were respiratory, and eight were due to animal contact. In 47 outbreaks the mode of transmission was undetermined.

Sharing of respiratory secretions caused outbreaks of influenza (13) and pertussis (11), and the four outbreaks of chickenpox can be considered airborne. Foods contaminated with a variety of salmonellae made folks ill at a variety of venues. Almost every outbreak reinforces the tried-and-true public health mantras of “wash your hands” and “cover your cough.”

Disease outbreaks, by etiology: Oregon, 2012

- 119 Calicivirus (norovirus and sapovirus)
- 13 influenza
- 11 pertussis
- 11 salmonellosis
- 7 Shiga toxin-producing *Escherichia coli* (STEC)
- 4 varicella
- 2 campylobacteriosis
- 2 shigellosis

- *Acinetobacter baumanii*
- botulism
- giardiasis
- human metapneumovirus
- rhinovirus
- *Yersinia pestis* (plague)
- 47 outbreaks had unknown etiologies.

Data as of 6/28/2013
As implied by the list of causative pathogens above, gastroenteritis is by far the most commonly reported type of outbreak in Oregon, accounting for 1562 (85%) of the 1,830 outbreaks investigated during 2003–2012.

Thanks to rigorous stool specimen collection by local health investigators, 76% of gastroenteritis outbreaks had disease-causing agents identified, mostly caliciviruses (norovirus and sapovirus). The Oregon State Public Health Laboratory now routinely tests for sapovirus, astrovirus and rotavirus when stool specimens are norovirus-negative.

**Gastroenteritis outbreaks by case status and etiology: Oregon, 2003–2012**

Person-to-person transmission was responsible for 57% of gastroenteritis outbreaks and foodborne transmission for 21%. Transmission was undetermined (we couldn’t figure it out) or unknown (we didn’t have enough data to figure it out) in 19% of the outbreaks. More than 50% of these outbreaks happened in institutional cohorts, especially among those in long-term-care facilities (LTCFs).
Slightly more than one half of reported gastroenteritis outbreaks (52%) occurred in long-term care facilities for the elderly or presumptive etiologies, and 97% of etiologically confirmed outbreaks were caused by noroviruses.

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## Selected Oregon communicable disease case counts by county of residence, 2012 (continued)

| Disease           | Baker | Benton | Clackamas | Clatsop | Columbia | Coos | Crook | Curry | Deschutes | Douglas | Gilliam | Grant | Harney | Hood River | Jackson | Jefferson | Josephine | Klamath | Lake | Lane | Lincoln | Linn | Malheur | Marion | Morrow | Multnomah | Polk | Sherman | Tillamook | Umatilla | Union | Wallowa | Wasco | Washington | Wheeler | Yamhill | Total |
|-------------------|-------|--------|-----------|----------|----------|------|-------|-------|-----------|---------|---------|-------|--------|-----------|---------|-----------|-----------|--------|------|------|---------|------|---------|---------|--------|-------|-------|-------|----------|-------|--------|-------|
| Legionellosis       | 0     | 1      | 6         | 0        | 1        | 0    | 0     | 0     | 0         | 1       | 0       | 0     | 0      | 8         | 1       | 1         | 1         | 0      | 0    | 0     | 0       | 0     | 3      | 0       | 0      | 0     | 0     | 0      | 0     | 0      | 73     |
| Listeriosis        | 1     | 0      | 3         | 0        | 0        | 0    | 0     | 0     | 0         | 2       | 0       | 0     | 0      | 3         | 0       | 0         | 0         | 0      | 0    | 0     | 0       | 0     | 0      | 0       | 0      | 0     | 0     | 0      | 0     | 0      | 494    |
| Lyme disease       | 0     | 0      | 1         | 2        | 1        | 0    | 0     | 0     | 0         | 0       | 0       | 0     | 0      | 1         | 0       | 0         | 0         | 0      | 0    | 0     | 0       | 0     | 0      | 0       | 0      | 0     | 0     | 0      | 0     | 0      | 205    |
| Meningococcal Disease | 0     | 0      | 0         | 2        | 0        | 0    | 0     | 0     | 0         | 1       | 0       | 0     | 0      | 0         | 0       | 0         | 0         | 0      | 0    | 0     | 0       | 0     | 0      | 0       | 0      | 0     | 0     | 0      | 0     | 0      | 236    |
| Pertussis          | 0     | 0      | 1         | 0        | 0        | 0    | 0     | 0     | 0         | 0       | 0       | 0     | 0      | 0         | 0       | 0         | 0         | 0      | 0    | 0     | 0       | 0     | 0      | 0       | 0      | 0     | 0     | 0      | 0     | 0      | 352    |
| Rabies, animal     | 0     | 0      | 0         | 0        | 0        | 0    | 0     | 0     | 0         | 0       | 0       | 0     | 0      | 0         | 0       | 0         | 0         | 0      | 0    | 0     | 0       | 0     | 0      | 0       | 0      | 0     | 0     | 0      | 0     | 0      | 96     |
| Salmonellosis       | 0     | 0      | 0         | 0        | 0        | 0    | 0     | 0     | 0         | 0       | 0       | 0     | 0      | 0         | 0       | 0         | 0         | 0      | 0    | 0     | 0       | 0     | 0      | 0       | 0      | 0     | 0     | 0      | 0     | 0      | 67     |
| Shigellosis         | 2     | 0      | 0         | 0        | 0        | 0    | 0     | 0     | 0         | 0       | 0       | 0     | 0      | 0         | 0       | 0         | 0         | 0      | 0    | 0     | 0       | 0     | 0      | 0       | 0      | 0     | 0     | 0      | 0     | 0      | 494    |
| Early Syphilis      | 0     | 0      | 0         | 0        | 0        | 0    | 0     | 0     | 0         | 0       | 0       | 0     | 0      | 0         | 0       | 0         | 0         | 0      | 0    | 0     | 0       | 0     | 0      | 0       | 0      | 0     | 0     | 0      | 0     | 0      | 4       |
| Tuberculosis        | 0     | 0      | 0         | 0        | 0        | 0    | 0     | 0     | 0         | 0       | 0       | 0     | 0      | 0         | 0       | 0         | 0         | 0      | 0    | 0     | 0       | 0     | 0      | 0       | 0      | 0     | 0     | 0      | 0     | 0      | 228    |
| West Nile virus     | 0     | 0      | 0         | 0        | 0        | 0    | 0     | 0     | 0         | 0       | 0       | 0     | 0      | 0         | 0       | 0         | 0         | 0      | 0    | 0     | 0       | 0     | 0      | 0       | 0      | 0     | 0     | 0      | 0     | 0      | 12     |
| Total               | 32    | 15     | 48        | 12       | 26       | 91   | 17    | 404    | 92        | 311      | 61      | 12    | 23986  | 1      | 2         | 0         | 0      | 0    | 0     | 0       | 0     | 0      | 0       | 0      | 0     | 0     | 0      | 0     | 0      | 23,986 |

Data as of 9/18/2013
Selected Reportable Communicable Disease Summary - Oregon 2012

Infections, diseases and conditions reportable by clinicians: 2012

**REPORT IMMEDIATELY**

- Anthrax (*Bacillus anthracis*)
- Botulism (*Clostridium botulinum*)
- Cholera (*Vibrio cholerae* O1, O139, or toxigenic)
- Diphtheria (*Corynebacterium diphtheriae*)
- Hemorrhagic fever caused by viruses of the filovirus (e.g., Ebola, Marburg) or arenavirus (e.g., Lassa, Machupo) families
- Influenza (novel)
- Marine intoxication (intoxication caused by marine microorganisms or their by products (e.g., paralytic shellfish poisoning, domoic acid intoxication, ciguatera, scombroid)
- Measles (rubeola)
- Plague (*Yersinia pestis*)
- Poliomyelitis
- Rabies (human)
- Rubella
- SARS (Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome or SARS-coronavirus)
- Smallpox (variola)
- Tularemia (*Francisella tularensis*)
- Yellow fever
- Outbreaks and uncommon illnesses (any known or suspected common-source outbreak; any uncommon illness of potential public health significance)

**REPORT WITHIN 24 HOURS** *(including weekends and holidays)*

- *Haemophilus influenzae* (any isolation or identification from a normally sterile site)
- *Neisseria meningitidis*
- Pesticide poisoning

**REPORT WITHIN ONE WORKING DAY**

- Animal bites (of humans)
- Arthropod vector-borne disease (babesiosis, California encephalitis, Colorado tick fever, dengue, Eastern equine encephalitis, ehrlichiosis, Kyasanur Forest disease, St. Louis encephalitis, West Nile fever, Western equine encephalitis, etc.
- Brucellosis (*Brucella*)
- Campylobacteriosis (*Campylobacter*)
- Chancroid (*Haemophilus ducreyi*)
- Chlamydiosis (*Chlamydia trachomatis*; lymphogranuloma venereum)
- Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (CJD) and other transmissible spongiform encephalopathies
- Cryptococcosis (*Cryptococcus*)
- Cryptosporidiosis (*Cryptosporidium*)
- Cyclosporiasis (*Cyclospora cayetanensis*)
- *Enterobacteriaceae* family isolates found to be non-susceptible to any carbapenem antibiotic
- *Escherichia coli* (Shiga-toxigenic, including *E. coli* O157 and other serogroups)
- Giardiasis (*Giardia*)
- Gonococcal infections (*Neisseria gonorrhoeae*)
- Hantavirus
- Hemolytic uremic syndrome
Infections, diseases and conditions reportable by clinicians: 2012 (continued)

Hepatitis A
Hepatitis B (acute or chronic infection)
Hepatitis C (acute or chronic infection)
Hepatitis D (delta)
Hepatitis E
HIV infection (does not apply to anonymous testing) and AIDS
Influenza (laboratory-confirmed) death of a person <18 years of age
Lead poisoning
Legionellosis (Legionella)
Leptospirosis (Leptospira)
Listeriosis (Listeria monocytogenes)
Lyme disease (Borrelia burgdorferi)
Malaria (Plasmodium)
Mumps
Pelvic inflammatory disease (PID, acute, non-gonococcal)

Pertussis (Bordetella pertussis)
Psittacosis (Chlamydophila psittaci)
Q fever (Coxiella burnetii)
Relapsing fever (Borrelia)
Rickettsia (all species: Rocky Mountain spotted fever, typhus, others)
Salmonellosis (Salmonella, including typhoid)
Shigellosis (Shigella)
Syphilis (Treponema pallidum)
Taenia infection (including cysticercosis and tapeworm infections)
Tetanus (Clostridium tetani)
Trichinosis (Trichinella)
Tuberculosis (Mycobacteriumtuberculosis and M. bovis)
Vibriosis (other than cholera)
Yersiniosis (other than plague)

Footnotes
ORS 409.050, 433.004; OAR 333-018-0000 to OAR 333-018-0015
(http://arcweb.sos.state.or.us/pages/rules/oars_300/oar_333/333_018.html)

1. Influenza A virus that cannot be subtyped by commercially distributed assays

2. “Lead poisoning” means a blood lead level of ≥10 μg/dl.
Diseases, infections, microorganisms and conditions reportable by laboratories: 2012

**BACTERIA**

- Bacillus anthracis
- Bordetella pertussis
- Borrelia
- Brucella
- Campylobacter
- Chlamydia trachomatis
- Chlamydophila psittaci
- Clostridium botulinum
- Clostridium tetani
- Corynebacterium diphtheriae
- Coxiella burnetii
- Enterobacteriaceae family isolates found to be non-susceptible to any Carbapenem antibiotic
- Ehrlichia/Anaplasma
- Escherichia coli (Shiga-toxigenic) 6
- Francisella tularensis
- Haemophilus ducreyi
- Haemophilus influenzae 5,7
- Legionella
- Leptospira
- Listeria monocytogenes 5
- Mycobacterium bovis 5
- Mycobacterium tuberculosis 5
- Neisseria gonorrhoeae
- Neisseria meningitidis 5,7
- Rickettsia
- Salmonella 5
- Shigella 5
- Treponema pallidum
- Vibrio cholerae 5
- Vibrio, non-cholerae 5
- Yersinia, pestis 5
- Yersinia, non-pestis 5

** FUNGI**

- Cryptococcus

**PARASITES**

- Babesia
- Cryptosporidium
- Cyclospora
- Giardia
- Plasmodium
- Taenia solium 8
- Trichinella

**VIRUSES**

- Arboviruses 1
- Arenaviruses 10
- Filoviruses 10
- Hantavirus
- Hepatitis A 9
- Hepatitis B 9
- Hepatitis C
- Hepatitis D (delta)
- Hepatitis E
- Hemorrhagic fever viruses 10
- HIV infection and AIDS
- Influenza, novel strain 11
- Measles (rubeola)
- Mumps
- Polio
Diseases, infections, microorganisms and conditions reportable by laboratories: 2012 (continued)

Rabies
Rubella
SARS-coronavirus
Variola major (smallpox)
West Nile
Yellow fever

• Any other arthropod-borne viruses
  » California encephalitis
  » Colorado tick fevers
  » Dengue
  » Eastern equine encephalitis
  » Kyasanur Forest
  » St. Louis encephalitis

OTHER IMPORTANT REPORTABLES
• Any “uncommon illness of potential public health significance”
• Any outbreak of disease

Footnotes
2. Refer to http://www.healthoregon.org/lhd for a list of local health departments, reporting FAQs, and more details about what to report. When in doubt, report.
3. ORS 433.004 and OAR 333-018-0013 (http://arcweb.sos.state.or/us/pages/rules/oars_300/oar_33/333_018.html); Manual for Mandatory Electronic Laboratory Reporting (http://www.healthoregon.org/elrresources)
5. Isolates must be forwarded to the Oregon State Public Health Laboratory (phone, 503-693-4100).
6. All confirmed or suspect isolates of E. coli O157, and all non-O157 Shiga-toxin-positive broths, must be forwarded to the Oregon State Public Health Laboratory (phone 503-693-4100).
7. Report only isolates from normally sterile sites (e.g., neither sputum nor throat cultures).
8. Report cysticercosis and all undifferentiated Taenia spp. (e.g., eggs in stool O & P).
9. IgM-positive HAV and HBV serum specimens must be forwarded to the Oregon State Public Health Laboratory.
10. Hemorrhagic fever caused by viruses of the filovirus (e.g., Ebola, Marburg) or arenavirus (e.g., Lassa, Machupo) families are reportable.
11. Influenza A virus that cannot be subtyped by commercially distributed assays.
12. “Lead poisoning” means a blood lead level of at least 10 micrograms per deciliter.