

CENTER FOR DISEASE PREVENTION & EPIDEMIOLOGY • OREGON HEALTH DIVISION

1998 HANDICAPPER: COMMUNICABLE DISEASES IN REVIEW

THE CASE FILES of the Oregon Health Division indicate that communicable diseases are still too much with us. The table below details cases reported among Oregonians in 1998, along with high and low tallies from the 10 previous years. A second table (*vide versa*) lists 1998 case counts by county of residence.

The usual caveats apply to these numbers. Cases that go undiagnosed are seldom reported. Indeed, we were scandalized to learn that even some diagnosed cases were not reported.

In addition to counting cases, last year we also documented 21 foodborne outbreaks, affecting at least 376 persons. The largest was an October outbreak of shigellosis in a Umatilla County school; the vehicle of transmission was not identified. In 4 of the outbreaks, patient symptoms strongly suggested Norwalk-like (calici-) viral infection, although viral testing was not available. Two outbreaks were of salmonellosis, one from *queso fresco* made from raw milk, and another from undercooked turkey.

Clostridium perfringens, *Shigella flexneri*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Vibrio parahaemolyticus*, and scombroid each caused one outbreak. Pathogens for 9 of the foodborne outbreaks were unknown.

Food wasn't the only problem. At least 69 persons developed cryptosporidiosis after swimming in a Multnomah County pool. *Escherichia coli* O157:H7 swept through a Baker County home child care operation, infecting at least four.

Please, keep those cards and letters coming in.

Disease	1998	1988-1997			Comments
		Median	High	Low	
AIDS	199	310	762	179	Trending downward due to drug therapies
Amebiasis	49	89	146	56	Trending downward not due to drug therapies
Botulism (foodborne)	0	1	3	0	
Botulism (infant)	3	2	4	0	
Botulism (wound/other)	0	0	3	0	
Campylobacteriosis	700	795	1,001	628	Still top dog of bacterial diarrheal diseases
Chlamydiosis	5,857	5,712	7,387	5,254	Perennial champion
Cryptosporidiosis	136	24	125	7	69-person outbreak in Multnomah County this year
<i>E. coli</i> O157:H7 and NM	107	107	252	93	Little change since 1994; 1991-98 data only
Giardiasis	906	1,044	1,367	887	Peerless among parasites
Gonorrhea	880	1,480	3,122	773	Up 14% since 1997
<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i>	41	32	134	11	Only 1 type b in a child, thanks to vaccine
Hepatitis A	436	847	2,941	393	Still in the down cycle
Hepatitis B (acute)	193	283	581	133	Highest since 1994
Hepatitis B (carrier)	532	500	621	342	Numbers hard to interpret
Hepatitis C	9	0	23	0	Grossly underreported; few incident infections identified
Hepatitis, non-A non-B	12	64	132	2	No longer a trendy diagnosis; most probably C
Leprosy	4	1	2	0	Shattering records in '98. A comeback?
Listeriosis	18	11	15	3	Some related to hot dogs, <i>queso fresco</i>
Lyme disease	20	9	22	5	More reports with better detection techniques
Malaria	16	19	25	13	Pretty steady; all imported
Measles	3	5	212	0	Volatile
Meningococcal disease	85	94	136	53	Down 30% since 1994
Pertussis	89	58	123	22	Nagging cough
PID	448	827	1,463	450	11-year low, but a long way to go
Psittacosis	0	2	7	1	
Q Fever	1	0	4	0	
Rabies (animal)	7	6	13	1	80% bats (57/71, 1988-1998)
RMSF	0	1	4	0	
Salmonellosis	346	358	476	319	Places behind Campy again in 1998
Shigellosis	188	172	721	108	42-person outbreak in Umatilla County in 1998
Syphilis (early)	13	88	515	18	Syph slidin' away
Tetanus	0	1	2	0	No one nailed this year
Tuberculosis	156	155	190	144	Little change over the last 10 years
Tularemia	4	2	5	1	
Typhoid fever	1	5	7	2	Where have all the flowers gone?
Yersiniosis	17	16	28	7	Watch this space

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CD SUMMARY

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PERIODICALS
 POSTAGE
PAID
 Portland, Oregon

Once again, we extend our thanks to the microbiologists, infection-control practitioners, and physicians who have so diligently fulfilled their humanitarian [and legal] duty to report cases, and to the local health department officials who investigated them.

1998 Totals by County for Selected Diseases (by Year of Onset*)

COUNTY	1998 POP.	AIDS	Amebiasis	Campylobacteriosis	Chlamydia	Cryptosporidiosis	E. coli O157	Giardiasis	Gonorrhea	H. influenzae	Hepatitis A	Hepatitis B (acute)	Hepatitis B (chronic)	Listeriosis	Lyme disease	Malaria	Measles	Meningococcal dis.	Pertussis	PID	Rabies (animal)	Salmonellosis	Shigellosis	Syphilis (early)	Tuberculosis	Yersiniosis
Baker	16,448	0	0	1	23	0	5	3	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Benton	77,755	3	1	38	102	0	3	25	8	0	5	4	10	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	12	0	0	3	0
Clackamas	334,732	8	2	70	349	11	6	75	31	7	19	11	29	1	0	2	0	2	5	9	0	30	9	0	10	3
Clatsop	35,424	2	0	8	72	1	2	2	2	1	3	5	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0
Columbia	44,416	1	0	7	43	3	1	7	2	0	2	3	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	2	0	0	1	0
Coos	62,162	5	0	14	68	2	3	6	3	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	1	2	0	16	0	0	0	0	
Crook	17,236	1	0	4	12	0	1	6	2	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
Curry	21,157	1	0	2	27	0	1	2	0	3	0	0	3	0	1	0	0	1	0	4	2	1	0	0	0	1
Deschutes	105,640	2	1	33	73	2	5	90	7	3	4	3	4	0	0	1	0	2	3	0	0	14	1	1	0	0
Douglas	101,837	5	1	11	127	0	1	24	2	0	7	1	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	8	0	0	2	1	
Gilliam	2,023	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
Grant	8,075	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Harney	7,198	0	0	3	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hood River	19,553	0	1	4	19	0	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
Jackson	173,123	12	1	36	296	2	1	52	31	1	41	5	23	3	4	0	0	0	2	5	0	21	5	0	3	1
Jefferson	16,627	1	0	4	59	0	1	5	2	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	25	2	0	1	0
Josephine	74,377	2	0	17	75	1	5	14	6	1	5	2	3	0	3	0	2	3	8	0	1	3	0	2	0	
Klamath	63,185	2	0	23	79	1	2	24	1	1	0	0	6	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	0	0	0
Lake	7,152	0	0	0	4	0	0	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Lane	314,068	10	10	78	478	2	10	91	112	0	104	67	40	0	0	4	0	10	42	12	0	31	7	0	16	2
Lincoln	45,368	1	3	3	56	1	1	21	5	0	3	0	4	1	0	0	0	2	0	48	2	5	0	0	0	0
Linn	104,464	3	0	18	147	1	5	20	10	0	2	2	8	0	1	0	0	8	0	3	1	5	1	0	1	0
Malheur	28,542	1	0	12	46	0	1	4	8	0	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	1	0	0	0
Marion	268,541	9	2	47	635	3	12	57	58	4	16	10	31	3	0	0	0	13	4	136	2	33	25	2	13	0
Morrow	9,985	1	0	3	18	0	0	3	0	1	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	4	0	0	0
Multnomah	631,082	116	22	139	2,130	100	13	204	528	12	160	57	255	4	2	6	3	26	16	152	0	58	38	9	72	8
Polk	61,560	1	1	4	49	0	1	4	3	0	3	1	5	0	1	0	0	1	0	3	0	8	1	0	3	0
Tillamook	24,356	0	1	14	22	1	2	8	0	0	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
Umatilla	65,495	3	0	12	116	0	4	22	0	0	3	5	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	5	60	0	2	0	
Union	24,829	0	0	5	32	0	1	13	0	0	0	1	2	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Wallowa	7,368	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wasco-Sherman	24,848	1	0	1	28	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	3	0	0	0	0
Washington	399,697	5	3	76	580	5	20	89	54	5	49	8	86	1	6	1	0	3	5	52	0	41	25	1	20	1
Wheeler	1,566	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Yamhill	82,085	3	0	11	83	0	0	21	4	0	0	4	5	0	0	0	0	5	1	8	0	10	1	0	6	0
TOTAL	3,281,974	199	49	700	5,857	136	107	906	880	41	436	193	532	18	20	16	3	85	89	448	7	346	188	13	156	17

* Onset dates were estimated for cases with missing information, based on lab or reporting date. Data as of 27 April 1999; subject to change without notice.