

Public Health Points

York City Bureau of Health

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Reportable Conditions Summary Report for Year 2011 City of York, Pa.

Overall, the total number of Reportable Conditions in the City of York, Pa., increased in 2011 according to records compiled by the York City Bureau of Health. In 2011 there were a total of 1,047 reports received compared to 917 reports in 2010, a 14% increase.

The most frequently reported group of conditions in the City of York in 2011 continued to be the Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI's): Chlamydia – 527 reports, Gonorrhea – 140 reports, and Syphilis – 3 reports. Chlamydia showed only a 1% increase, whereas Gonorrhea jumped 75% from 2010 to 2011. Syphilis cases increased from 1 to 3 in the same period. Sexually active teens and young adults in their 20's comprise the bulk of STI cases. Behavioral studies show that this age group is more likely to engage in unprotected intercourse and have sex with multiple partners. Case investigations also reveal the Internet as a frequent source for anonymous sex partners, particularly among men who have sex with men (MSM).

After Chlamydia and Gonorrhea, Hepatitis C was the third most frequently reported condition. Hepatitis C cases increased from 87 in 2010 to 110 in 2011, a 26% increase. Hepatitis B cases increased from 8 to 10 from one year to the next, a 25% increase. No cases of acute Hepatitis A were reported in 2011.

Animal bites increased in 2011 by 27% from 67 in 2010 to 85 in 2011. Public awareness efforts such as dog bite prevention programs for children and dog law enforcement efforts by the City Police Department's Animal Enforcement Officer continue.

Lead poisoning in children remains one of our most serious environmental health problems in York. Thirty-one children 6 years of age and younger with elevated blood lead levels were added to the City's Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program caseload in 2011, 6 fewer cases than reported in the previous year, for a 16% decrease. Door-to-door screening in high-risk City neighborhoods, a source of many new cases in previous years, is still difficult to do as a result of staffing limitations and budgetary constraints. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is considering lowering the action level from 10 µg/dl to 5 µg/dl of blood lead content. Such a change would greatly increase the caseload of affected children in cities such as ours. Interestingly, this change is being contemplated in the face of a significant budget cut at the federal level for lead poisoning prevention programs across the nation.

Bacterial and parasitic infections that lead to vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain, as well as other gastrointestinal symptoms, decreased by 44% in 2011 compared to 2010. Cases of *Campylobacter* enteritis, Cryptosporidiosis, Enterohemorrhagic *E. coli* diarrhea, Giardiasis, *Norovirus* gastroenteritis, Salmonellosis and Shigellosis totaled 18 in 2011 compared to 32 in 2010. Salmonellosis cases began an increase in 2010 and continued to pop up from time to time in 2011. A source for a number of cases of this intestinal disease was found to be due to infected pet turtles illegally sold in the south central Pennsylvania area. No food poisoning episodes were reported in York City in 2011.

Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) infection increased by 22 cases, up from 27 in 2010 to 49 in 2011, an 81% increase. RSV causes an acute febrile, respiratory illness, occasionally severe enough to require hospitalization and is especially harsh on infants and children under two years of age. It is the major known etiologic agent of bronchiolitis and is a cause of pneumonia, croup, bronchitis, otitis media and febrile upper respiratory illness. RSV may cause symptomatic disease also in adults, particularly the debilitated elderly.

| Reportable Conditions – City of York, Pa. Summary Report 2010-2011 | | | |
|---|------------|-------------|-------------|
| Reported Cases | 2010 | 2011 | % Change |
| Animal Bites | 67 | 85 | ↑27% |
| Campylobacter Enteritis | 2 | 4 | ↑100% |
| Chlamydia | 522 | 527 | ↑1% |
| Cryptosporidiosis | 0 | 2 | ↑ |
| Enterohemorrhagic E. Coli | | | |
| Diarrhea | 1 | 0 | ↓100% |
| Food Poisoning | 1 | 0 | ↓100% |
| Giardiasis | 1 | 1 | 0% |
| Gonorrhea | 80 | 140 | ↑75% |
| Hepatitis A | 0 | 0 | 0% |
| Hepatitis B | 8 | 10 | ↑25% |
| Hepatitis C | 87 | 110 | ↑26% |
| HIV Infection | 22 | 29 | ↑32% |
| Influenza Type A | 4 | 17 | ↑325% |
| Influenza Type B | 0 | 3 | ↑ |
| Invasive B. Strep Disease | 1 | 6 | ↑500% |
| Invasive Haemophilus | | | |
| Influenzae Disease | 1 | 0 | ↓100% |
| Lead Poisoning | 37 | 31 | ↓16% |
| Legionnaire's Disease | 1 | 4 | ↑300% |
| Lyme Disease | 7 | 9 | ↑29% |
| Malaria | 1 | 0 | ↓100% |
| Meningitis - Aseptic (Viral) | 2 | 0 | ↓100% |
| Meningitis - Bacterial | 2 | 0 | ↓100% |
| Meningitis - Fungal | 0 | 1 | ↑ |
| Mumps | 1 | 0 | ↓100% |
| Norovirus Gastroenteritis | 4 | 0 | ↓100% |
| Pertussis | 12 | 1 | ↓92% |
| Rabies (Animal) | 0 | 1 | ↑ |
| Respiratory Syncytial Virus | | | |
| (RSV) Infection | 27 | 49 | ↑81% |
| Salmonellosis | 8 | 11 | ↑38% |
| Shigellosis | 16 | 0 | ↓100% |
| Syphilis - Primary/Secondary | 1 | 3 | ↑200% |
| Tuberculosis | 1 | 0 | ↓100% |
| Varicella | 0 | 2 | ↑ |
| West Nile Virus Infection | 0 | 1 | ↑ |
| Total Case Reports | 917 | 1047 | ↑14% |

For the second year in a row, reliable HIV reporting continues in the City. There were 29 cases of HIV infection reported in York City residents in 2011, 7 more cases than in the previous year. Individuals reported included males and females, whites and African-Americans, Latinos and non-Latinos, IV drug users, heterosexuals, and men who have sex with men (MSM). This diverse group is a far cry from 25 years ago when AIDS cases were primarily white, non-Latino MSM's. Also, HIV infection can now be controlled through effective treatments.

Lyme Disease cases increased in York City residents – 9 cases in 2011 compared to 7 cases in 2010. This infection results from tick bites and causes arthritic and neurological symptoms. Prompt antibiotic treatment can prevent or mitigate many complications. Lyme Disease is a much more frequent problem in rural and suburban areas elsewhere in York County than in urban York City.

Meningitis cases in the City decreased from 4 cases in 2010 to 1 in 2011. One case of fungal meningitis was reported in 2011. There were no cases of bacterial or viral meningitis.

Influenza cases reported to the City Health Bureau increased in 2011 compared to 2010 – 17 cases of Influenza type A and 3 cases of Influenza type B. Many more influenza cases, of course, occurred in York but were not reported to the Health Bureau since a laboratory test for influenza was not performed.

In 2011 there were no cases of active Tuberculosis disease reported in the City of York. The occurrence of active TB in the City remains very low due to aggressive surveillance and prevention strategies at the local level. In the past 26 years since the beginning of the City Health Bureau, this is the fourth annual occurrence for zero cases (1997, 2007, 2008 and 2011).

Invasive Group A Beta Streptococcal Disease occurred 6 times in 2011 compared to once in 2010. Each case was thoroughly investigated in attempt to find a common source, but none could be determined.

Legionnaire's Disease occurred 4 times in City residents in 2011 compared to only once in 2010. Two cases of Varicella (chickenpox) were reported in 2011 compared to none in 2010. One case of each of the following diseases was also reported in 2011: Pertussis (whooping cough), animal Rabies (cat), and West Nile Virus infection.

| Reportable Conditions – 2011 City of York, Pa | | |
|--|-----------|-------------|
| Reported Cases | Dec. | Total |
| Animal Bites | 7 | 85 |
| Campylobacter Enteritis | 0 | 4 |
| Chlamydia | 40 | 527 |
| Cryptosporidiosis | 0 | 2 |
| Giardiasis | 0 | 1 |
| Gonorrhea | 24 | 140 |
| Hepatitis B | 1 | 10 |
| Hepatitis C | 9 | 110 |
| HIV Infection | 0 | 29 |
| Influenza Type A | 0 | 17 |
| Influenza Type B | 0 | 3 |
| Invasive Group A Beta- Strep Disease | 0 | 6 |
| Lead Poisoning | 0 | 31 |
| Legionellosis | 0 | 4 |
| Lyme Disease | 0 | 9 |
| Meningitis - Fungal | 0 | 1 |
| Pertussis | 0 | 1 |
| Rabies (Animal) | 0 | 1 |
| Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Infection | 5 | 49 |
| Salmonellosis | 0 | 11 |
| Syphilis-Primary/Secondary | 1 | 3 |
| Varicella | 0 | 2 |
| West Nile Virus Infection | 0 | 1 |
| Total Case Reports | 87 | 1047 |

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