

INTRODUCTION

The *Annual Summary of Infectious Diseases, Ohio, 2007* provides an overview of the incidence of selected notifiable infectious diseases. The report includes tables of disease by year, age group, gender, month of onset, county of residence, *Salmonella* serotypes and meningococcal disease serogroups. In addition, there are profiles of selected diseases and outbreaks that feature a brief description and recent epidemiologic trends.

The sources of these data are individual case and laboratory reports submitted to the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) by infection control practitioners, health care providers, laboratories and city, county and combined health districts throughout the state and entered into the Ohio Disease Reporting System (ODRS). Data reflect disease incidence for Ohio residents only, but include diseases (malaria, for example) acquired by Ohio residents while traveling out of state or overseas.

This summary includes confirmed, probable and suspected cases. For all diseases, the case criteria used are those provided in:

- “Case Definitions for Infectious Conditions Under Public Health Surveillance,” MMWR (Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report) 1997; 46 (No. RR-10) available online at <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/00047449.htm>,
- The ODH Infectious Disease Control Manual (IDCM) available online at <http://www.odh.ohio.gov/healthResources/infectiousDiseaseManual.aspx> and
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) National Notifiable Disease Surveillance System’s nationally notifiable infectious disease case definitions available online at <http://www.cdc.gov/ncphi/diss/nndss/phs/infdis2007r.htm>.

HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted diseases and tuberculosis surveillance data are not included in this report. Please refer to the ODH Web site for summary reports of these diseases as well as previous annual summaries at <http://www.odh.ohio.gov/healthStats/disease/id1.aspx>.

The diseases included in this report are part of a passive surveillance system, where infection control practitioners, health care providers and laboratories report cases without being actively contacted in a systematic manner. Therefore, these numbers do not represent a complete enumeration of all incident cases. A significant percentage of persons with these diseases are not specifically diagnosed or even seek treatment, so the true number of persons with these diseases is unknown. Even though only a portion of cases are reported, these data provide valuable insight into the demographic, geographic and secular trends for these diseases.

Thanks to all infection control practitioners, health care providers, laboratories and local health departments for their hard work and dedication to reporting infectious diseases in the most accurate, complete and timely manner. These efforts are essential in protecting and improving the health of all Ohioans.

Questions or comments regarding general infectious, hepatitis and vaccine-preventable disease surveillance data may be directed to the Bureau of Health Surveillance at (614) 995-5591. Questions regarding outbreaks or zoonotic disease surveillance data may be directed to the Bureau of Infectious Disease Control at (614) 466-0265.