

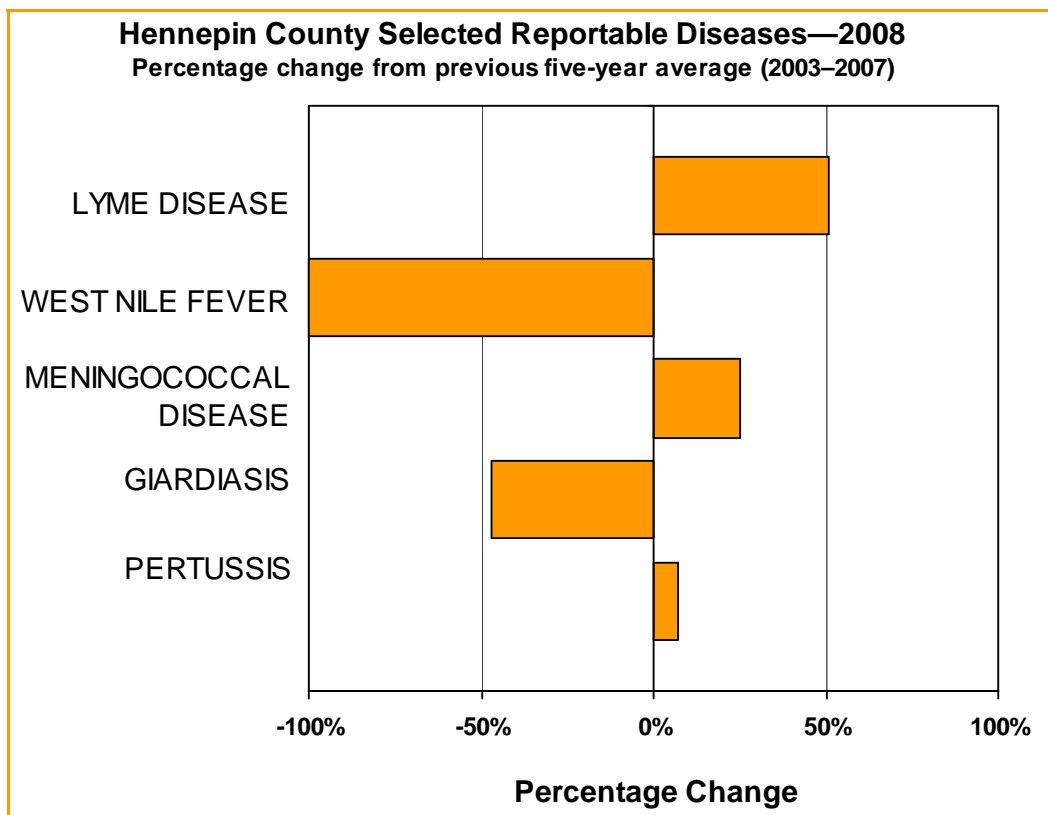
# Epidemiology Update Supplement

## Selected Reportable Diseases for Hennepin County – 2008 Year-end Report

This is the 2008 summary of selected reportable diseases for Hennepin County. The Hennepin County data is obtained from the reportable disease surveillance data collected by the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH). This report is a supplement to the *Epidemiology Updates* that describe trends of specific infectious diseases and environmental conditions. Past issues of *Epidemiology Updates* are available at [www.co.hennepin.mn.us/epidemiologyupdates](http://www.co.hennepin.mn.us/epidemiologyupdates)

The CHART represents the percent change for selected reported diseases between 2008 and the previous five-year average.

The TABLE includes the number of reported cases of selected diseases during 2008 for Minneapolis, Bloomington/Edina/Richfield, greater Hennepin County and the total for all of Hennepin County. In addition, the previous five-year average and the highest and lowest number of cases for that period are listed.



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## KEY FINDINGS

**Lyme Disease:** Lyme disease cases in Hennepin County only slightly increased between 2007 and 2008 (196 to 197 cases); however, the number of cases in 2008 was 51% greater than the average number of cases in the past five years. Cases of babesiosis and human anaplasmosis, two diseases also transmitted by blacklegged ticks (deer ticks), have significantly increased in comparison to the previous five-year averages (329% and 150%, respectively). Tick-borne disease prevention includes avoiding activities in wooded or brushy areas, using insect repellents containing DEET or Permethrin, wearing long-sleeved shirts and long pants while outdoors, and remembering to check for ticks and promptly removing any using a pair of tweezers.

**West Nile Virus Fever:** No cases of West Nile Virus (WNV) fever or West Nile encephalitis were reported in 2008. Most people infected with WNV are asymptomatic or have mild flu-like symptoms, thus many WNV fever cases are unreported. Therefore, although no cases were reported, WNV continues to be a serious concern in Hennepin County and Minnesota. It is important to stress mosquito prevention strategies such as using insect repellent, minimizing outdoor activities at dusk or dawn, wearing long-sleeved shirts and long pants while outdoors, and eliminating standing water and other mosquito breeding sites.

**Meningococcal Disease:** In 2008, 9 cases of invasive meningococcal disease were reported. While this was just one case greater than the number reported in 2007, the 2008 case count was 25% greater than the previous five-year average. Meningococcal disease is a very serious and potentially life-threatening illness. While the *Neisseria meningitidis* bacterium often causes meningitis, it can also cause bloodstream infections, pneumonia, and joint infections. Since *N. meningitidis* is found in the nose and throat and is spread directly from person to person through respiratory secretions, it is important to identify close contacts of a case (such as family members and others who shared water bottles, drinking glasses, lipstick, smoking materials, etc.) and recommend prophylactic antibiotics promptly.

**Giardiasis:** Cases of giardiasis, a gastrointestinal disease, decreased by 35% between 2007 and 2008 (257 to 168 cases) and decreased by 47% compared to the previous five-year average. The *Giardia* parasite is shed in the stool of both humans and animals and is spread by fecal-oral transmission. *Giardia* is recognized as one of the most common causes of waterborne disease. Spread is reduced by thorough handwashing, avoiding swallowing water when swimming, and not drinking untreated water. Also, anyone with giardiasis should not use swimming beaches, pools, water parks, and spas for two weeks after diarrhea has stopped.

**Pertussis:** Pertussis (whooping cough) cases in Hennepin County increased between 2007 and 2008 (144 to 187 cases, 30% increase) and the number of cases in 2008 was 7% greater than the average number of cases in the past five years. Cases usually occur in infants less than 6 months of age and in adolescents and young adults who are not up-to-date on immunizations or have waning immunity. Healthcare providers should recommend the one-time Tdap vaccine (combined tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis booster) for adolescents 11-12 years of age before they start middle school, in place of the Td booster. Adolescents 13-18 years of age should receive Tdap if they have not received a Td booster within the last 5 years and adults should receive a one time Tdap in place of the Td booster, especially if they care for infants less than 12 months of age.

**Hennepin County  
SELECTED REPORTABLE DISEASE  
2008 Year End Report**

DISEASE	2008				2003–2007 Total County		
	2008 TOTAL	MPLS*	BER**	GREATER COUNTY***	5 Year Average	Highest No. Cases	Lowest No. Cases
Amebiasis	13	10	1	2	31	53	7
Aseptic Meningitis	64	28	12	24	73	109	51
Campylobacteriosis	188	59	30	99	198	214	187
Chlamydia	5003	2829	441	1733	4375	4738	4072
Cryptosporidiosis	14	11	0	3	16	32	6
Diphtheria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Encephalitis, West Nile	0	0	0	0	4	8	0
<i>E. coli</i> O157:H7	13	5	1	7	26	42	14
Giardiasis	168	68	21	79	315	392	225
Gonorrhea	1450	1011	85	354	1652	1750	1445
<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i>							
Invasive disease	11	8	0	3	15	24	9
Hepatitis A	9	6	1	2	18	35	7
Hepatitis B	9	7	0	2	20	29	14
Hepatitis C	3	2	0	1	4	7	0
HIV Infection							
AIDS Cases	103	68	6	29	87	106	78
Antibody Positive (non-AIDS)	157	112	8	37	125	145	104
Legionellosis	7	5	0	2	6	11	2
Listeriosis	6	2	1	3	3	5	1
Lyme Disease	197	62	29	106	130	196	66
Malaria	20	9	2	9	16	22	12
Meningococcal Disease (Invasive disease)	9	4	1	4	7	10	4
Mumps	6	4	1	1	8	30	0
Pertussis	187	48	27	112	174	357	68
Polio	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rubella (German Measles)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rubeola (Measles)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Salmonellosis	188	70	25	93	149	205	116
Shigellosis	129	62	6	61	53	83	27
Strep gr A Invasive disease	40	17	5	18	33	38	21
Strep gr B Invasive disease	118	43	18	57	80	86	75
<i>S. pneumoniae</i> Invasive disease	51	22	4	25	58	66	48
Syphilis (Total)	161	113	10	38	108	129	73
Tetanus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Toxic Shock Syndrome	3	1	0	2	2	4	1
Tuberculosis	97	56	7	34	106	118	95
Typhoid Fever	2	0	0	2	3	6	1
West Nile Fever	0	0	0	0	2	7	0
Yersiniosis	3	3	0	0	2	5	1

\*MPLS=Minneapolis; \*\*BER=Bloomington, Edina, Richfield; \*\*\*GREATER COUNTY=All other Hennepin County suburbs

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