

QUARTERLY INFECTIOUS DISEASES SURVEILLANCE REPORT

Diseases of Public Health Significance Cases for January to March 2023

This report publishes recent data on Diseases of Public Health Significance (DOPHS) in Ontario, as reported through the integrated Public Health Information System (iPHIS). The presented case counts and rates include confirmed cases for all diseases, and probable cases for select diseases (refer to the ‘Data Caveats and Notes’ section for details).

Please interpret surveillance results for Diseases of Public Health Significance in 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023 with caution due to changes in the availability of health care, health seeking behaviour, public health follow up, and case entry during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The following table provides case counts by month, followed by the total counts and rates per 1,000,000 population for 2023 to date (i.e., January to March 2023). The last two columns of the table provide the comparison historical data of 5-year counts and rates per 1,000,000 population for an average year-to-date (i.e., average of January – December counts based on data from 2018 to 2022).

Disease of Public Health Significance	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	2023 to date COUNT	2023 to date RATE per 1,000,000 population	5-year average year-to-date COUNT	5-year average year-to-date RATE
Acute Flaccid Paralysis	0	0	0										0	0.0	0	0.0
AIDS	4	4	6										14	0.9	15	1.0
Amebiasis	37	24	33										94	6.1	96	6.5
Blastomycosis	11	4	6										21	1.4	n/a	n/a
Botulism	0	0	0										0	0.0	0	0.0
Brucellosis	0	1	0										1	0.1	2	0.1
Campylobacter enteritis	134	152	153										439	28.5	430	29.2

Carbapenemase-Producing <i>Enterobacteriaceae</i> (CPE)	53	44	74	171	11.1	n/a	n/a
Chlamydial Infections	3,934	3,260	4,116	11,310	735.4	10,851	736.2
Cholera	0	0	0	0	0.0	1	0.1
Cryptosporidiosis	23	21	19	63	4.1	103	7.0
Cyclosporiasis	4	7	5	16	1.0	7	0.5
<i>Echinococcus multilocularis</i> Infection	0	0	0	0	0.0	n/a	n/a
Encephalitis	2	1	2	5	0.3	10	0.7
Encephalitis/Meningitis	11	10	9	30	2.0	23	1.6
Food Poisoning, All Causes	1	6	7	14	0.9	11	0.7
Giardiasis	74	73	99	246	16.0	248	16.8
Gonorrhoea (All Types)	1,105	935	1,110	3,150	204.8	2,476	168.0
Group A Streptococcal Disease, Invasive	124	129	154	407	26.5	290	19.7
Group B Streptococcal Disease, Neonatal	5	4	4	13	0.8	12	0.8
<i>Haemophilus Influenzae</i> Disease, All Types, Invasive	30	27	31	88	5.7	n/a	n/a
Hepatitis A	13	9	22	44	2.9	28	1.9
Hepatitis B (Acute)	12	5	9	26	1.7	27	1.8
Hepatitis B (Chronic)	90	85	92	267	17.4	403	27.3
Hepatitis C	226	251	259	736	47.9	999	67.8
HIV	83	100	128	311	20.2	206	14.0

Influenza	648	246	485	1,379	89.7	6,611	448.5
Legionellosis	8	14	16	38	2.5	33	2.2
Leprosy	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Listeriosis	6	6	6	18	1.2	15	1.0
Lyme Disease	19	14	15	48	3.1	35	2.4
Measles [#]	0	2	0	2	0.1	2	0.1
Meningitis	8	3	9	20	1.3	31	2.1
Meningococcal Disease, Invasive	1	2	0	3	0.2	8	0.5
Mumps	2	4	3	9	0.6	26	1.8
Ophthalmia neonatorum	0	0	1	1	0.1	0	0.0
Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Paratyphoid Fever	5	5	20	30	2.0	14	0.9
Pertussis (Whooping Cough)	42	59	47	148	9.6	50	3.4
Pneumococcal Disease, Invasive	138	119	146	403	26.2	301	20.4
Q Fever	2	0	2	4	0.3	2	0.1
Rabies	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Rubella [#]	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Rubella, Congenital Syndrome [#]	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Salmonellosis	191	196	202	589	38.3	448	30.4
Shigellosis	24	25	25	74	4.8	66	4.5
Syphilis, Early Congenital	3	1	1	5	0.3	2	0.1
Syphilis, Infectious	300	245	323	868	56.4	656	44.5

Syphilis, Other	188	180	220	588	38.2	283	19.2
Tetanus	0	1	0	1	0.1	1	0.1
Trichinosis	0	0	0	0	0.0	2	0.1
Tuberculosis	77	52	72	201	13.1	171	11.6
Tularemia	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Typhoid Fever	15	12	20	47	3.1	31	2.1
Verotoxin Producing <i>E. coli</i> Including HUS	8	7	9	24	1.6	25	1.7
West Nile Virus Illness	0	0	0	0	0.0	1	0.1
Yersiniosis	18	22	23	63	4.1	73	5.0

Ontario Cases: Ontario Ministry of Health, integrated Public Health Information System (iPHIS) database, extracted by Public Health Ontario [2023/06/15].

Ontario Population: Population Projections [2018-2023], Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, IntelliHEALTH Ontario, Dates Extracted [2022/01/13].

Although measles, rubella, and congenital rubella syndrome have been eliminated in Canada, these diseases remain endemic in other countries and therefore, imported and import-related cases continue to occur in Ontario.

n/a Five-year historical data are not yet available for these diseases (n/a):

- Blastomycosis, carbapenemase-producing *Enterobacteriaceae*, and *Echinococcus multilocularis* Infection, first designated under diseases of public health significance in May 2018.
- Invasive *Haemophilus influenzae* (all types), due to changes in reporting. As of May 1, 2018, all serotypes became reportable (prior to which only serotype b was reportable)

Data Notes and Caveats

- iPHIS is a dynamic reporting system which allows ongoing updates to data previously entered. As a result, data extracted from iPHIS represent a snap shot at the time of extraction and may differ from previous or subsequent reports. The data only represent cases reported to public health and recorded in iPHIS that meet the Ontario Ministry of Health's confirmed and/or probable [surveillance case definitions](#) in place at the time that the case was reported. Refer to the [Factors Affecting Reportable Diseases in Ontario](#) report for additional information on case definition changes and associated trends from 1991 to 2016. Note that the potential for underreporting and unresolved duplicates exists.
- Case counts for amebiasis, invasive *Haemophilus influenzae* disease (all types), invasive meningococcal disease, Lyme disease, mumps, pertussis, and West Nile Virus illness are based on the sum of confirmed and probable cases as reported in iPHIS. All other diseases reported in the table are based on confirmed cases only.
- Chronic and acute hepatitis B case counts are not mutually exclusive and should not be added to obtain a total for hepatitis B cases in Ontario.
- A case is reported as encephalitis and/or meningitis when an agent is not specifically identified through laboratory testing or is not reportable.
- Case counts of carbapenemase-producing *Enterobacteriaceae* (CPE) include CPE-Infection, CPE-Colonization, and CPE-Unspecified. Where multiple reports with the same carbapenemase are entered in iPHIS for a client, only the first report is included.
- Table 1 is not an exhaustive list of all Diseases of Public Health Significance (DOPHS) in Ontario. Historical annual counts and rates for most diseases designated under DOPHS are available in the [Infectious Disease Trends in Ontario reports](#). The following designated diseases/outbreaks are omitted from the table:
 - Counts of Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease are not updated frequently enough for monthly publication as a result of an additional data reconciliation step that is required.
 - Diseases that are extremely rare or have zero incidence in recent years: anthrax, chancroid, diphtheria, hantavirus pulmonary syndrome, hemorrhagic fevers and Lassa fever, plague, acute poliomyelitis, psittacosis/ornithosis, and smallpox.
 - Diseases that are only reportable in outbreak situations or as a combination of individual and aggregate counts: chickenpox (varicella), *Clostridium difficile* infection (CDI) outbreaks in public hospitals, and gastroenteritis and respiratory infection outbreaks in institutions and public hospitals.
 - Counts of coronaviruses causing severe acute respiratory illness are no longer included, because COVID-19 cases are now reported through several other systems in addition to iPHIS. Visit [COVID-19 data and surveillance](#) for detailed, up-to-date reporting on COVID-19 activity in Ontario.
- Detailed reporting on respiratory infection outbreaks in institutions and public hospitals is available in the [Ontario Respiratory Pathogen Bulletin](#).
- Information on CDI outbreaks in public hospitals is available in the [Infectious Disease Trends in Ontario reports](#).

Citation

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