

2013

**Gloucester County
Department of
Health, Senior &
Disability Services**

**Office of Communicable
Disease**



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COMMUNICABLE DISEASE REPORT
2ND QUARTER 2013

The Gloucester County Department of Health, Senior and Disability Services conducts daily investigations of state mandated disease reports. The information contained in this summary is designed to update key stakeholders on the status of reportable diseases and influenza like illness in Gloucester County. Providers are reminded that all reportable diseases or outbreaks must be reported by phone within the required time period as indicated in NJAC 8:57-1.7. Should you or your agency have questions regarding the contents of this report please contact our Office of Communicable Disease at (856) 218-4102, or email Paul Watkins, Epidemiologist at pwatkins@co.gloucester.nj.us.

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Summary of Selected Reportable Diseases for Gloucester County

	Number of confirmed & probable cases (2013)	Number of confirmed & probable cases (2012)	Number of confirmed & probable cases (2013)
	1/1/13 to 6/30/13	4/1/12 to 6/30/12	4/1/13 to 6/30/13
Foodborne Disease	21	26	10
Infectious Diseases	42	101	24
Vaccine Preventable Diseases (Immunization)	40	24	24
Vector-Borne Illnesses ¹	16	64	10
Zoonotic Disease ²	1	5	0
STD	242	138	113

*This report only contains NJDHSS Approved confirmed and probable cases. It reflects the NJDHSS approved data for 7/9/13 only. CDRSS is a fluid system and all data obtained from said system is subject to change.

¹Vector-Borne Disease is spread by insects, like mosquitoes or ticks.

²Zoonotic Disease is defined as any disease that is transmitted by animal, like rabies.

*In the 2nd Quarter of 2013 there was a decrease in Foodborne, Infectious, Vector-Borne, Zoonoses diseases and STD's from the same reporting period in 2012. This is likely due to the number of cases that have not yet been NJDHSS approved.

For more information about our programs and services please visit our website at:

www.gloucestercountynj.gov

Reports By Disease

Hand washing remains the number one defense against disease transmission.

	Number of confirmed & probable cases	Number of confirmed & probable cases (2012)	Number of confirmed & probable cases (2013)
	2013	April thru June	April thru June
Babesiosis (<i>Babesia spp.</i>)	1	5	1
Campylobacteriosis (<i>Campylobacter spp.</i>)	15	9	6
Chlamydia	188	116	89
Giardiasis	2	4	2
Gonorrhea	52	17	23
Haemophilus Influenzae	1	0	1
Hepatitis A	0	1	0
Hepatitis B- Chronic	9	7	9
Hepatitis C- Acute	0	0	0
Hepatitis C- Chronic	9	85	3
Legionellosis	5	0	5
Listeriosis (<i>Listeria monocytogenes</i>)	0	1	0
Lyme Disease	14	52	8
Malaria (<i>Plasmodium spp.</i>)	1	0	1
Pertussis (<i>Bordetella pertusis</i>)	7	12	1
Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever	0	7	0
Salmonellosis (non typhoid)	5	14	4
Shigellosis	1	1	0
Streptococcus Agalactiae (GBS)	0	1	0
Streptococcus Pneumoniae	13	3	5
Streptococcus Pyogenes (GAS) - wo/ Toxic Shock Syndrome	0	4	0
Syphilis	2	5	1
Toxic Shock Syndrome- Staphylococcal	0	0	0
Tularemia	0	0	0
Vancomycin-Intermediate Staphylococcus Aureus (VISA)	0	0	0
Varicella	10	1	8
West Nile Virus	0	0	0
Varicella	0	6	0

Tuberculosis Program Data			
	2013 Totals	2012	2013
	Year to Date	4/1/13 to 6/31/13	4/1/13 to 6/31/13
New Suspected Cases	2	2	1
Confirmed Cases	1	0	1
New LTBI Cases	17	13	11
Immigration Investigations	5	4	3

Number EMS reports with ILI Presentations in Gloucester, NJ	(4/1/13 to 6/31/13)
Number reported during period	5

Legionellosis (Legionnaire's Disease and Pontiac Fever)

What you should know

Legionellosis is an infection caused by the Legionella bacteria species, with Legionella pneumophila being the most common.

Legionellosis has two distinct forms: Legionnaire's disease, which is the more severe form of the infection and associated with pneumonia, and Pontiac fever, which is milder and not associated with pneumonia.

The most common initial symptoms for Legionnaire's disease and Pontiac fever are anorexia, myalgia, malaise, and headache, followed by fever (up to 102°F to 105°F), chills, and a nonproductive cough. Other symptoms may include abdominal pain and diarrhea.



June through October is the peak season for Legionellosis, which is transmitted via the airborne route when aerosols (droplets of water in the air) are inhaled from a water source contaminated with the bacteria or through aspiration. Legionella species are commonly found in the environment, usually in water. It has been identified in many different kinds of water and water systems, such as hot- and cold-water taps and showers, creeks, ponds, whirlpool spas, cooling towers and evaporative condensers of large air-conditioning systems. Legionellosis is not transmitted from person to person.

The incubation period for legionnaire's disease is from two to ten days, but most often is five to six days. The incubation for Pontiac fever is from 5 to 66 hours, but most often is 24 to 48 hours.

Clinicians should test the following patients:

- Patients who have failed outpatient antibiotic therapy
- Patients with severe pneumonia, in particular those requiring intensive care
- Immunocompromised host with pneumonia
- Patients with pneumonia in the setting of a legionellosis outbreak
- Patients that have traveled away from their home within two weeks before the onset of illness
- Patients suspected of healthcare-associated pneumonia

Epidemiologic Risk Factors for Legionellosis that increase susceptibility to infection include:

- Recent travel with an overnight stay outside of the home
- Recent repairs or maintenance work on domestic plumbing
- Exposure to whirlpool spas
- Renal or hepatic failure
- Diabetes
- Systemic malignancy
- Smoking
- Immune system disorders
- Age > 50 years

If a health care provider suspects legionellosis, samples of the patient's blood, urine, and sputum (mucus coughed up from the lungs) may be examined. A chest x-ray is recommended to check for pneumonia.

Legionellosis can be successfully treated with antibiotics.

Legionellosis is a nationally notifiable disease. Contact Gloucester County Department of Health, Senior and Disability Services at (856) 218-4101 if you need to report a case or have additional questions.

Sources:

¹CDC. Legionella (Legionnaires' disease and Pontiac Fever) Web site. Located at: <http://www.cdc.gov/legionella/index.html>.

²CDC. Guidelines for Preventing Health-Care-Associated Pneumonia, 2003. Recommendations of CDC and the Healthcare Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee. MMWR 53(RR03):1-36; March 26, 2004. Located at www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5303a1.htm.