

Preventive Measures Taken to Control Communicable Diseases

Sexually Transmitted Diseases	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000
Hepatitis B	7	3	5	3	1
Chlamydia	113	96	74	91	97
Herpes	34	44	30	29	33
Gonorrhoea	7	15	11	4	3
Syphilis	1	0	3	1	0
HIV/AIDS	0	0	0	0	0
Food & Waterborne	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000
E. Coli	0	2	7	1	3
Salmonella	17	11	9	12	32
Giardiasis	16	13	15	20	14
Hepatitis A	1	0	36	0	0
Vaccine Preventable	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000
Measles	0	0	0	0	0
Pertussis	15	17	0	0	2
Haemophilus Influenza	2	1	2	0	0
Other	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000
Lyme Disease	44	39	59	47	36
Tuberculosis	1	0	0	0	1

Key Facts

- State statute requires specific diseases be reported to local health departments.
- Sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) accounted for 63% of communicable disease cases reported in Wood County in 2004.
- The most prevalent reported food and waterborne illnesses in Wood County in 2004 were Salmonella and Giardiasis.
- Reported cases of Pertussis have increased dramatically in 2003 and 2004.

Why is this Information Important?

At the turn of the 20th century, communicable diseases were the most common cause of mortality. However, with advances in sanitation, immunizations and antibiotics throughout the 90's, this is no longer the case.

Communicable Diseases

Communicable diseases threaten the quality of life for many citizens. They are responsible for significant complications, long-term health effects and death. In addition, they result in lost days from school or work, social stigmatization and economic losses.

Communicable diseases are illnesses that are contagious and typically spread through direct or close contact with body fluids, food, water, insects or animals.

Communicable diseases are divided into various categories: vaccine preventable (measles, chickenpox), food or waterborne (E. Coli, Salmonella), sexually transmitted (Hepatitis B, HIV, Chlamydia), direct/close contact (Tuberculosis) or insect/animal transmission (Rabies, Lyme Disease).

Good hygiene and sanitation practice, up-to-date immunizations, safe sexual practice and safe needle exchange can help to prevent communicable diseases.

Source: Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services