

# ANNUAL SUMMARY OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES, OHIO

## INTRODUCTION

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The *Annual Summary of Infectious Diseases, Ohio* provides an overview of the incidence of selected notifiable infectious diseases. The report includes the frequency of diseases reported by year over the past five years and the median and mean number of cases per year for each disease for the five-year period. Data are also presented by age group, gender, month of onset and county of residence. Tables displaying the various *Salmonella* serotypes and meningococcal disease serogroups are also included. The sources of these data are individual case and laboratory reports submitted to the Ohio Department of Health by health care providers, laboratories and city, county and combined health districts throughout the state. Readers are encouraged to review the enclosed Technical Notes to assist in interpreting the data compiled in the summary.

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 laboratories and health care providers 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.

Questions or comments regarding this summary report may be directed to the Bureau of Health Surveillance at (614) 995-5591.

Thank you for your continued hard work and dedication to reporting infectious diseases in the most accurate, complete and timely manner. Your efforts are essential in protecting and improving the health of all Ohioans.