

# INTRODUCTION

The *Annual Summary of Infectious Diseases, Ohio, 2015* provides an overview of the incidence of selected notifiable infectious diseases. The report includes tables of disease by year of onset, age group, sex, month of onset and county of residence and tables of Shiga toxin-producing *Escherichia coli* serogroups, invasive *Haemophilus influenzae* serotypes in children <5 years of age, meningococcal disease serogroups and *Salmonella* serotypes. In addition, there are graphs of selected disease incidence, profiles of selected diseases, and outbreak summaries.

The sources of these data are individual case and laboratory reports submitted to the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) by infection preventionists, healthcare providers, laboratories and city, county and combined health districts throughout the state and entered into the Ohio Disease Reporting System (ODRS). Data reflect disease incidence for Ohio residents only, but include diseases acquired by Ohio residents while traveling out of state or overseas and diseases diagnosed in non-United States citizens while visiting Ohio.

This summary includes confirmed and probable cases. For all diseases, the case criteria used are those provided in:

- The [ODH Infectious Disease Control Manual \(IDCM\)](#)
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Division of Health Informatics and Surveillance's [2015 nationally notifiable infectious disease case definitions](#)

HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted diseases and tuberculosis surveillance data are not included in this report. Please refer to the [ODH infectious disease statistics](#) Web site for summary reports of these diseases as well as previous annual summaries.

Thanks to all Ohio infection preventionists, healthcare providers, laboratories and local health departments for their hard work and dedication to reporting infectious diseases in the most accurate, complete and timely manner. These efforts are essential in protecting and improving the health of all Ohioans.

Questions or comments regarding this annual summary may be directed to the ODH Bureau of Infectious Diseases at (614) 995-5599.