



# Epi Watch

A Monthly Epidemiology Newsletter



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**Pinellas County Health Department**  
 205 Dr. M.L King Street North  
 St. Petersburg, FL 33701  
 (727) 824-6900  
[www.PinellasHealth.com](http://www.PinellasHealth.com)

**Director**  
 Claude Dharamraj, MD, MPH, FAAP  
[claude\\_dharamraj@doh.state.fl.us](mailto:claude_dharamraj@doh.state.fl.us)

**Disease Control Division Director**  
 Patricia L. Ryder, MD, MPH  
[pat\\_ryder@doh.state.fl.us](mailto:pat_ryder@doh.state.fl.us)

**Epi Watch Editor**  
 Andrea M. Castillo, MPH  
[andrea\\_castillo@doh.state.fl.us](mailto:andrea_castillo@doh.state.fl.us)

**Epi Watch** is a monthly newsletter from the Pinellas County Health Department. For more information, or to add your e-mail address to the distribution list, please contact the Editor.

### Malaria Update

The Florida Department of Health Zoonotic and Vector-Borne Disease Program has been notified by the CDC Malaria Branch of the possibility of an increased risk of *Plasmodium vivax* infections in persons who recently emigrated from Ethiopia, Eritrea, Somalia, or Sudan refugee camps.

Clinicians need to ask about travel history and be sure to notify the Health Department to arrange for lab specimens to be tested.

For more information about malaria, please visit:

<http://www.cdc.gov/malaria/>

**To report diseases by phone call:**  
**(727) 824-6932**

**To report diseases by fax (other than HIV/AIDS) use:**  
**(727) 820-4270**



Every April, sexually transmitted diseases (STD) Awareness Month is observed nationally. This observance helps raise awareness about the impact of STDs on the health of Americans and the importance of individuals discussing sexual health with their healthcare providers and their partners.

STDs affect men and women of all backgrounds and economic levels. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates that 19 million new infections occur each year, almost half of them among young people ages 15 to 24. Despite the fact that STDs are extremely widespread and add an estimated \$14.7 billion to the nation's healthcare costs each year<sup>1</sup>, most people in the U.S. remain unaware<sup>1</sup> of the risk and consequences associated with most STDs.

STDs can result in irreparable lifetime damage for infants infected by their mothers during gestation or birth, including blindness, bone deformities, mental retardation, and death. In women, STDs can lead to pelvic inflammatory disease (PID), infertility, potentially fatal ectopic pregnancies, and cancer of the reproductive tract.

The Pinellas County Health Department (PinCHD) is dedicated to monitoring STD trends in the community in order to implement effective prevention and control programs for this important public health issue. Chlamydia is the most frequently reported STD in the United States followed by gonorrhea. In Pinellas County, these STDs continue to cause the highest STD disease burden with 3,843 cases of chlamydia and 1,329 cases of gonorrhea reported in 2010.

The PinCHD is committed to providing high quality STD services to the community by providing testing, examinations, medications and contact tracing in clinic and screening tests at high-risk community outreach events. For more information, please contact us at: (727) 824-6932 or visit our website: [www.pinellashealth.com](http://www.pinellashealth.com) or the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov) to find out more about the prevention and control of STDs. To find a testing site, please visit: [www.findSTDtest.org](http://www.findSTDtest.org).

Data on Sexually Transmitted Diseases, 2009

|   | Chlamydia | Gonorrhea | Syphilis |
|---|-----------|-----------|----------|
| Number of reported cases in the U.S.                  | 1,244,180 | 301,174   | 44,828   |
| Number of reported cases in Florida                   | 3,998     | 20,878    | 3,863    |
| Number of cases reported in Pinellas County*          | 3,843     | 1,329     | 121      |
| Pinellas County's rank among all counties in Florida  | 6th       | 6th       | 5th      |
| Pinellas County's rank among all counties in the U.S. | n/a       | 39th      | 49th     |

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Pinellas County Health Department

Note: \* 2010 data

1. CDC. Trends in Reportable Sexually Transmitted Diseases in the United States, 2006. Atlanta: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; 2008. Available from: <http://www.cdc.gov/std/stats06/trends2006.htm>.

# Selected Reportable Diseases in Pinellas County

| Disease                                       | 2011<br>March | 2011<br>Year to date | 2010<br>Year to date | 2010<br>Total |
|---|---------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------|
| AIDS  | 19            | 37                   | 29                   | 129           |
| Animal Rabies                                 |               | 1                    |                      |               |
| Arboviral Illness (Human):                    |               |                      |                      | 1             |
| Dengue  |               |                      |                      |               |
| EEE   |               |                      |                      |               |
| SLE   |               |                      |                      |               |
| WNV   |               |                      |                      |               |
| CA/LaCrosse                                   |               |                      |                      |               |
| Campylobacteriosis                            | 8             | 20                   | 8                    | 37            |
| Chlamydia                                     | 348           | 953                  | 936                  | 3843          |
| Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (CJD)               |               |                      |                      |               |
| Cryptosporidiosis                             |               | 6                    | 5                    | 24            |
| Cyclosporiasis                                |               | 1                    |                      | 4             |
| <i>E. coli</i> O157:H7                        |               |                      |                      |               |
| <i>E. coli</i> Shiga Toxin (+)                |               |                      |                      |               |
| Giardiasis                                    | 2             | 4                    | 6                    | 44            |
| Gonorrhea                                     | 88            | 279                  | 292                  | 1329          |
| <i>H. influenzae</i> :                        |               |                      |                      |               |
| Invasive Disease                              | 1             | 2                    | 5                    | 11            |
| Hansen's Disease                              |               |                      | 1                    | 1             |
| Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome (HUS)               |               |                      |                      |               |
| Hepatitis, Acute Viral:                       |               |                      |                      | 2             |
| A   |               |                      |                      |               |
| B   |               | 2                    | 1                    | 8             |
| C   |               | 3                    | 3                    | 11            |
| Hepatitis B: Pregnant Woman +HBsAg            | 9             | 13                   | 11                   | 26            |
| Hepatitis, Chronic Viral                      |               |                      |                      |               |
| B   | 13            | 35                   | 65                   | 229           |
| C   | 126           | 378                  | 386                  | 1496          |
| HIV   | 23            | 54                   | 48                   | 208           |
| Lead Poisoning: Children < 6 years:           |               | 2                    | 1                    | 3             |
| Legionellosis                                 | 1             | 3                    | 1                    | 12            |
| Listeriosis                                   |               | 1                    |                      | 1             |
| Lyme Disease                                  | 1             | 2                    | 1                    | 4             |
| Malaria                                       |               | 1                    |                      | 2             |
| Meningitis:                                   |               |                      |                      |               |
| Bacterial, Cryptococcal, Mycotic              |               |                      | 2                    | 10            |
| Meningococcal Disease                         |               |                      | 1                    | 4             |
| Mercury Poisoning                             |               |                      |                      | 2             |
| Mumps   |               |                      |                      | 1             |
| Pertussis                                     | 1             | 2                    | 2                    | 10            |
| Rabies, possible exposure                     | 6             | 11                   | 6                    | 94            |
| Salmonellosis                                 | 6             | 26                   | 23                   | 257           |
| Shigellosis                                   | 14            | 34                   | 2                    | 47            |
| Streptococcal Disease, Inv. Group A           |               |                      | 1                    | 6             |
| <i>S. pneumoniae</i> , Inv. Disease (DR)      | 6             | 9                    | 7                    | 16            |
| <i>S. pneumoniae</i> , Inv. Disease (Suscept) | 1             | 4                    | 6                    | 15            |
| Syphilis:                                     |               |                      |                      |               |
| Total   | 6             | 30                   | 23                   | 121           |
| Infectious (P and S)                          | 4             | 17                   | 7                    | 57            |
| Early Latent                                  | 2             | 8                    | 11                   | 28            |
| Congenital                                    |               |                      |                      |               |
| Late Syphilis (Late Latent; Neurosyphilis)    |               | 5                    | 5                    | 36            |
| Tuberculosis                                  | 4             | 6                    | 10                   | 33            |
| <i>Vibrio</i> Infections                      |               |                      |                      | 12            |

Provisional cases reported by the Pinellas County Health Department. Blank cells indicate no cases reported. For a complete list of reportable diseases and guidelines for reporting, please visit: [http://www.doh.state.fl.us/disease\\_ctrl/epi/index.html](http://www.doh.state.fl.us/disease_ctrl/epi/index.html)