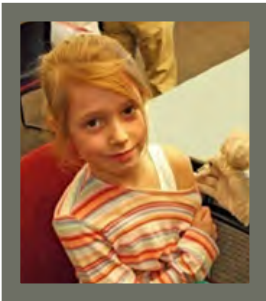


# Infectious Disease



Diseases caused by bacteria, viruses, fungi and parasites are major causes of death, disability, and social and economic disruption for millions of people worldwide. Nearly 70,000 Americans die each year from new and re-emerging infectious diseases. Effective public health interventions, such as immunizations and improved sanitation, have significantly decreased infectious disease deaths in the U.S. since the early 20th century. However, trends since the 1980's, including new and re-emerging infections, antibiotic resistance, and increased global travel, have raised the importance of continued vigilance with respect to infectious diseases.

## Key facts about Infectious Disease

There is increasing concern about the health risk posed by new and re-emerging diseases. Immunization rates are high in Dakota County school-aged children. Difficulties remain in effectively implementing new immunization requirements which contributes to continued occurrence of disease. Chlamydia has increased in Dakota County residents. Tuberculosis (TB) cases and contact investigations have become more complex.

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## Reportable infectious diseases

- In 2010, 1,577 cases of infectious diseases were reported to the Minnesota Department of Health for Dakota County residents.
- Many infectious diseases are not reportable and some that are reportable, like sexually transmitted infections, may go undetected.

## Immunizations

- Twelve immunization series are currently recommended for children birth-18 years. Five are required for school entry in Minnesota.
- From 95-98 percent of Dakota County kindergarteners and 7th grade students were protected by each of the five required immunizations, according to parent report for the 2010-2011 school year.

## Diseases preventable by immunization

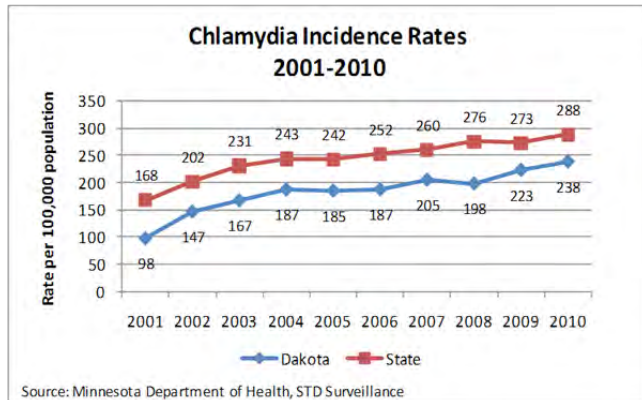
- Pertussis (whooping cough): In 2010, there were 126 confirmed and probable cases reported in Dakota County residents, 11 percent of the total cases reported in Minnesota.
- Measles: 12 cases reported in Minnesota from 2001-2010, with most imported through international travel or immigration. In 2011, 26 cases were reported in Minnesota, including three in Dakota County. This is the highest total since 1991.
- Mumps: 21 confirmed and probable cases reported in Dakota County residents from 2006 to 2010.

## Tuberculosis (TB)

- In 2010, there were 14 cases of active TB and 92 cases of latent TB infection that were managed by Dakota County Public Health.
- In 2010, 16 percent of culture-confirmed cases in Minnesota residents that were tested were resistant to at least one first-line TB drug.

## Sexually transmitted diseases (STDs)

- In 2010, more than 1,000 cases of STDs were reported in Dakota County residents.
- Chlamydia is the most commonly reported STD, with 949 cases reported in Dakota County residents in 2010. The rate increased by 143 percent from 2001 to 2010. Sixty-eight percent of cases occurred in 15-24 year olds, and 35 percent of cases occurred in non-white persons.



- There were 89 cases of gonorrhea reported in Dakota County residents in 2010, a decrease from 2006. Fifty-two percent of cases occurred in 15-24 year olds, and 47 percent of cases occurred in non-white persons.

## Cervical cancer

- Human papillomavirus (HPV) can cause changes in cells which increase the risk of cervical cancer. In 2006, a vaccine was developed that prevents types of HPV that most commonly cause cervical cancer, but the percent of women vaccinated is low.
- There were 59 new cases of cervical cancer in Dakota County residents from 2002-2006. The rate increased from the period 1998-2002 to the period 2002-2006.
- In 2010, 87.5 percent of Minnesota women 18 and older said they had a Pap test to detect cervical cancer in the previous three years, below the national goal of 90 percent, but above the U.S. (81 percent).

## AIDS/HIV

- In 2010, there were 22 newly diagnosed cases of HIV or AIDS reported in Dakota County residents. The incidence rate increased by 53 percent from 2006 to 2010. The rate is below the rate for the metro area and the state in 2010.
- In 2010, 322 Dakota County residents were living with HIV or AIDS (189 HIV, 133 AIDS). The rate increased from 2001, but is below the state and metro in 2010.
- Twelve Dakota County residents died due to AIDS from 2005 to 2009.

## Seasonal influenza

- On average, 5-20 percent of the U. S. population gets seasonal influenza every year.
- Seventy-two percent of Minnesota adults 65 and older reported having a flu shot in the previous year (2010), compared to 67.5 percent nationwide.
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimated that 56 percent of Minnesota children 6 months-17 years were fully immunized against the seasonal flu in the 2010-11 influenza season.

## Pneumonia

- There were 931 hospitalizations of Dakota County residents in 2009 for pneumonia and influenza. The highest rate of hospitalizations was in adults 65 and older.
- In 2010, 70 percent of Minnesota adults 65 and older reported ever having an immunization that protects against pneumonia, meningitis and other infections, compared to 69 percent nationwide.
- In 2007-2008, an estimated 83 percent of Dakota County children 19-35 months received the series of four immunizations that prevent pneumonia, meningitis and other infections.

## About this Community Health Profile

For more information about the Dakota County Community Health Assessment and Action Planning (CHAAP) process, contact: Melanie Countryman, Epidemiologist (melanie.countryman@co.dakota.mn.us or 651-554-6131).

## For more information:

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)
- Minnesota Department of Health [www.health.state.mn.us](http://www.health.state.mn.us)
- World Health Organization (WHO) [www.who.int/en](http://www.who.int/en)
- American Academy of Pediatrics [www.aap.org](http://www.aap.org)



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