

SURVEILLANCE REPORT

# Diseases of Public Health Significance Cases for January to December 2023

Published: March 2024

This report publishes recent data on Diseases of Public Health Significance (DOPHS) in Ontario, as reported through the integrated Public Health Information System (iPHIS). The presented case counts and rates include confirmed cases for all diseases, and probable cases for select diseases (refer to the ‘Data Caveats and Notes’ section for details). Please interpret surveillance results for Diseases of Public Health Significance in 2020, 2021 and 2022 with caution due to changes in the availability of health care, health seeking behaviour, public health follow up, and case entry during the COVID-19 pandemic. The following table provides case counts by month, followed by the total counts and rates per 1,000,000 population for 2022 to date (i.e., January to December 2023). The last two columns of the table provide the comparison historical data of 5-year counts and rates per 1,000,000 population for an average year-to-date (i.e., average of January - December counts based on data from 2018 to 2022).

**Table 1: Selected Diseases of Public Health Significance case counts in Ontario, by month**

DOPHS	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	2023 to date COUNT	2023 to date RATE per 1,000,000 population	5-year average year-to-date COUNT	5-year average year-to-date RATE
Acute Flaccid Paralysis	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0.1	4	0.3
Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome	4	4	5	7	6	5	6	5	2	11	5	3	63	4.1	67	4.5
Amebiasis	37	24	35	28	35	20	22	25	30	19	19	25	319	20.7	370	25.1
Anaplasmosis	0	0	0	0	1	7	5	1	1	1	1	0	17	1.1	n/a	n/a
Babesiosis	0	0	0	0	0	1	5	2	0	0	0	0	8	0.5	n/a	n/a

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Blastomycosis	13	5	8	4	13	3	15	10	11	16	8	10	116	7.5	83	5.6
Botulism	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	3	0.2	2	0.1
Brucellosis	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	5	0.3	6	0.4
Campylobacter enteritis	137	156	161	143	205	261	377	343	260	200	154	114	2,511	163.3	2,608	176.9
Carbapenemase-Producing Enterobacteriaceae	55	44	76	76	67	67	54	107	62	47	50	44	749	48.7	347	23.5
Chlamydial Infections	3,939	3,266	4,126	3,517	3,742	3,874	3,823	4,026	3,131	3,135	3,287	2,583	42,449	2,760.2	42,200	2,863.1
Cholera	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	1	0.1
Cryptosporidiosis	24	23	18	13	21	33	92	118	71	29	54	33	529	34.4	602	40.8
Cyclosporiasis	5	9	5	14	161	245	168	39	1	3	5	6	661	43.0	331	22.5
Echinococcus multilocularis Infection	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	1	0.1
Encephalitis	3	1	2	1	2	3	4	2	4	1	2	2	27	1.8	36	2.4
Encephalitis/Meningitis	12	9	9	9	5	11	19	18	17	21	17	9	156	10.1	131	8.9
Food Poisoning, All Causes	1	6	8	1	3	2	3	5	1	2	2	33	67	4.4	36	2.4

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Giardiasis	75	79	103	68	65	70	115	144	104	63	79	60	1,025	66.6	1,059	71.8
Gonorrhoea (All Types)	1,107	936	1,112	1,035	1,197	1,231	1,287	1,283	1,276	1,310	1,294	1,078	14,146	919.8	10,454	709.3
Group A Streptococcal Disease, Invasive	124	129	157	191	204	178	178	128	117	167	154	248	1,975	128.4	1,007	68.3
Group B Streptococcal Disease, Neonatal	5	4	4	2	6	2	5	6	1	4	0	7	46	3.0	40	2.7
Haemophilus Influenzae Disease, All Types, Invasive	30	27	33	24	23	19	22	22	23	30	43	48	344	22.4	190	12.9
Hepatitis A	15	10	20	8	21	9	6	14	19	12	11	9	154	10.0	128	8.7
Hepatitis B (Acute)	13	7	9	3	11	14	13	16	13	13	14	11	137	8.9	92	6.2
Hepatitis B (Chronic)	109	108	112	113	125	154	163	120	113	134	150	108	1,509	98.1	1,555	105.5
Hepatitis C	285	288	309	280	302	315	280	277	273	266	297	211	3,383	220.0	4,079	276.7
Human Immunodeficiency Virus	88	100	137	83	123	115	117	119	94	155	127	93	1,351	87.8	831	56.4
Influenza	656	246	485	588	550	303	102	80	107	162	1,011	6,022	10,312	670.5	12,178	826.2
Legionellosis	8	15	17	18	12	20	80	69	42	29	15	14	339	22.0	354	24.0
Leprosy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	2	0.1

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Listeriosis	6	6	7	4	6	4	7	9	5	5	4	6	69	4.5	74	5.0
Lyme Disease	23	17	20	31	97	311	688	303	149	94	48	14	1,795	116.7	1,198	81.3
Measles	0	2	0	2	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	7	0.5	5	0.3
Meningitis	8	5	9	10	17	10	20	30	12	14	6	11	152	9.9	152	10.3
Meningococcal Disease, Invasive	1	2	0	3	3	2	3	2	3	2	5	4	30	2.0	25	1.7
Mpox	4	4	4	6	3	3	2	3	1	1	1	1	33	2.1	n/a	n/a
Mumps	2	4	3	1	1	5	1	0	1	3	4	6	31	2.0	51	3.5
Ophthalmia neonatorum	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0.1	2	0.1
Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Paratyphoid Fever	5	7	24	11	3	5	2	6	6	4	7	3	83	5.4	35	2.4
Pertussis (Whooping Cough)	42	59	48	21	14	8	16	45	21	27	16	16	333	21.7	227	15.4
Pneumococcal Disease, Invasive	137	120	149	149	137	103	94	59	95	125	156	246	1,570	102.1	1,035	70.2
Powassan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	n/a	n/a
Q Fever	2	0	2	1	1	0	1	0	2	1	0	0	10	0.7	9	0.6

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Rabies	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Salmonellosis	196	199	212	185	190	172	251	224	193	186	199	150	2,357	153.3	1,911	129.7
Shigellosis	24	25	26	10	20	20	20	27	20	21	29	19	261	17.0	229	15.5
Syphilis, Early Congenital	3	1	0	2	0	2	0	1	1	1	1	1	13	0.8	9	0.6
Syphilis, Infectious	306	254	361	267	261	294	291	256	253	223	216	182	3,164	205.7	2,685	182.2
Syphilis, Other	203	185	226	171	226	198	201	199	180	185	202	149	2,325	151.2	1,180	80.1
Tetanus	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0.1	2	0.1
Trichinosis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	7	0.5
Tuberculosis	76	55	72	69	83	82	76	89	67	70	74	61	874	56.8	719	48.8
Tularemia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Typhoid Fever	16	11	22	16	12	10	4	6	9	6	6	15	133	8.6	89	6.0
Verotoxin Producing E. coli Including HUS	9	7	8	13	11	12	19	16	21	3	11	4	134	8.7	183	12.4
West Nile Virus Illness	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	28	26	2	1	0	61	4.0	65	4.4
Yersiniosis	18	23	24	17	17	18	19	26	18	7	21	16	224	14.6	241	16.4

**Ontario Cases:** Ontario Ministry of Health, iPHIS database, extracted by Public Health Ontario [2024 Feb 14].

**Ontario Population:** Ontario. Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, IntelliHEALTH Ontario. Population Projections [2018-2023] [date extracted 2022 Jan 13].

# = Although measles has been eliminated in Canada, it remains endemic in other countries and therefore, imported and import-related cases continue to occur in Ontario.

n/a = Five-year historical data are not yet available for these diseases (n/a):

- Mpox, first designated as a DOPHS, June 2022.
- Anaplasmosis, Babesiosis and Powassan, first designated as DOPHS, July 2023.

## Data Notes and Caveats

- iPHIS is a dynamic reporting system which allows ongoing updates to data previously entered. As a result, data extracted from iPHIS represent a snap shot at the time of extraction and may differ from previous or subsequent reports. The data only represent selected cases reported to public health and recorded in iPHIS that meet the Ontario Ministry of Health's confirmed and/or probable [surveillance case definitions](#) in place at the time that the case was reported. Refer to the [Factors Affecting Reportable Diseases in Ontario](#) report for additional information on case definition changes and associated trends from 1991 to 2016. Note that the potential for underreporting and unresolved duplicates exists.
- Please note that the data presented in this report is subject to a time lag of 2 months to ensure completion of data entry requirements.
- Case counts for amebiasis, invasive *Haemophilus influenzae* disease (all types), invasive meningococcal disease, Lyme disease, mumps, pertussis, and West Nile Virus illness are based on the sum of confirmed and probable cases as reported in iPHIS. All other diseases reported in the table are based on confirmed cases only.
- Chronic and acute hepatitis B case counts are not mutually exclusive and should not be added to obtain a total for hepatitis B cases in Ontario.
- A case is reported as encephalitis and/or meningitis when an agent is not specifically identified through laboratory testing or is not reportable.
- Case counts of Carbapenemase-Producing *Enterobacteriaceae* (CPE) include CPE-Infection, CPE-Colonization, and CPE-Unspecified. Where multiple reports with the same carbapenemase are entered in iPHIS for a client, only the first report is included.
- Table 1 is not an exhaustive list of all DOPHS in Ontario. Historical annual counts and rates for most diseases designated as a DOPHS are available in the [Infectious Disease Trends in Ontario reports](#). The following designated diseases/outbreaks are omitted from the table:
  - Counts of Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease are not updated frequently enough for monthly publication as a result of an additional data reconciliation step that is required.
  - Diseases that are extremely rare or have zero incidence in recent years: anthrax, chancroid, diphtheria, hantavirus pulmonary syndrome, hemorrhagic fevers and Lassa fever, plague, acute poliomyelitis, psittacosis/ornithosis, rubella and rubella, congenital syndrome and smallpox.
  - Diseases that are only reportable in outbreak situations or as a combination of individual and aggregate counts: chickenpox (varicella), *Clostridioides difficile* infection (CDI) outbreaks in public hospitals, and gastroenteritis and respiratory infection outbreaks in institutions and public hospitals.
  - Counts of coronaviruses causing severe acute respiratory illness are not included, as COVID-19 cases are reported through other systems. Visit the [Ontario Respiratory Virus Tool](#) for respiratory virus activity in Ontario, including COVID-19, influenza and other respiratory viruses. Information on CDI outbreaks in public hospitals is available in the [Infectious Disease Trends in Ontario reports](#).

## Citation

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