



Foodborne Illness

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What we will learn about today...

- Section of Epidemiology Overview
- Reporting requirements
- Epi and Public Health Investigation Process
- Multistate outbreaks
- Resources

What is Epidemiology?

“Epidemiology is the method used to find the causes of health outcomes and diseases in populations...”

[Principles of Epidemiology, 3rd Edition](#)

Alaska Division of Public Health

1. Chronic Disease Prevention & Health Promotion
2. Epidemiology
3. Health Analytics and Vital Records
4. Laboratories
5. Public Health Nursing
6. Rural and Community Health Systems
7. State Medical Examiner
8. Women's, Children's & Family Health

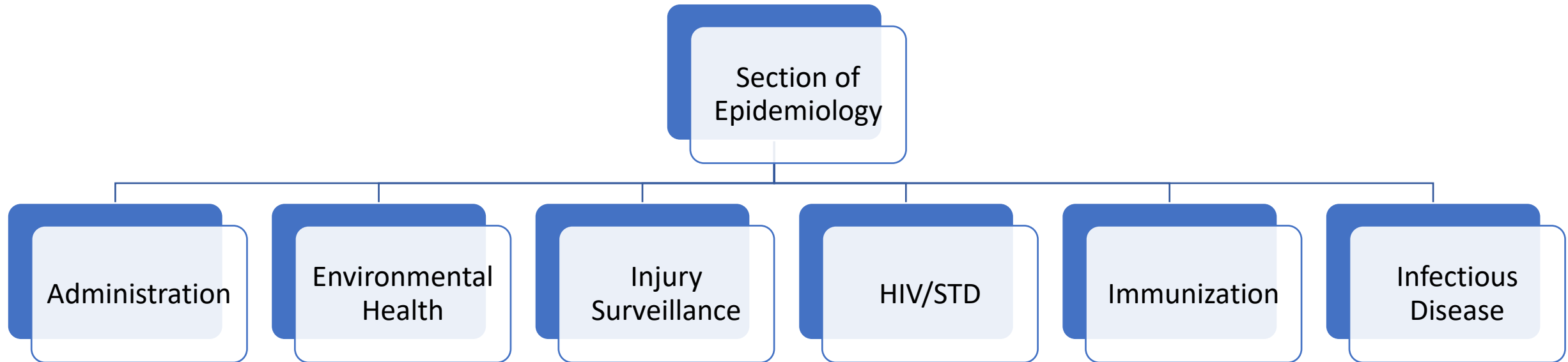


Alaska Division of Public Health

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Alaska Section of Epidemiology



What is Reportable?

- Communicable diseases
- Injuries
- Environmental, Occupational, and Other Health Hazards

Who Reports?

- Laboratories
- Providers
- Public Health Nurses
- Other Health Depts

The screenshot shows the website for the Alaska Department of Health, Division of Public Health. The page is titled "Conditions Reportable to Public Health in Alaska" and provides information for health care providers and laboratories. It includes a navigation menu, a search bar, and a sidebar with links to various sections like "Section of Epidemiology", "Programs", and "Resources". The main content area is divided into "What Is Reportable" and "How To Report" sections, both with sub-sections for "by Health Care Providers" and "by Laboratories".

State of Alaska myAlaska My Government Resident Business in Alaska Visiting Alaska State Employees

Alaska Department of Health
Division of Public Health

Home Divisions and Agencies Services News Contact Us

DHSS Reorganization > Department of Health > Public Health > Epidemiology > Conditions Reportable to Public Health in Alaska

Conditions Reportable to Public Health in Alaska

This site provides information to help health care providers and laboratories comply with public health reporting requirements in Alaska. Further assistance may be obtained by calling the Section of Epidemiology at 907-269-8000.

Conditions Reportable to Public Health Manual
November 2018

Section of Epidemiology
Home
Conditions Reportable
Contact Us

Programs
Environmental Public Health
Health Impact Assessment
HIV/STD
Immunization
Infectious Disease
Injury Surveillance

Resources
Confidentiality & Privacy
Protection Resources
Links
Contact Us

What Is Reportable

by Health Care Providers

- > Birth Defects
- > Blood Lead Level Testing
- > Cancer
- > [Firearm Injuries](#)
- > Healthcare-Associated Infections
- > Immunization Administration Data
- > Infectious Diseases
- > Newborn Hearing Loss
- > Occupational Disease and Injuries
- > Sexually Transmitted Diseases, HIV Infections and AIDS
- > Toxic or Hazardous Exposures

by Laboratories

- > Infectious Disease Pathogens
- > Submission of Isolated or

How To Report

Methods

Report Forms

- > Birth Defects
- > Blood Lead Level Testing
- > Cancer
- > Firearm Injuries
- > Healthcare-Associated Infections
- > Immunization Administration Data
- > Infectious Diseases
- > Influenza-Associated Mortality
- > Newborn Hearing Loss
- > Occupational Disease and Injuries
- > Perinatal Hepatitis B Case Report Form
- > Sexually Transmitted Diseases, HIV Infections and AIDS
- > Toxic or Hazardous Exposures

To report
Public Health Emergencies call
907-269-8000 or after hours
800-478-0084

Other Reporting Resources

- > Alaska statutes and regulations relevant to disease reporting and control
- > Frequently Asked Questions about infectious disease reporting
- > One page posters of all

Why is reporting important?

- Rapidly investigate and institute control measures to prevent additional morbidity and mortality, and to track disease trends statewide
- Planning and evaluation of disease prevention and control programs
- Assists in resource allocation
- Assures appropriate medical therapy
- Detects common-source outbreaks so interventions can be applied

What are Public Health Emergencies?

**Urgent diseases
that require
immediate
reporting**

These ARE public health emergencies

Infectious Diseases Reportable by Health Care Providers

Immediate Reporting:

Anthrax	Poliomyelitis
Botulism	Rabies in a human or an animal
Diphtheria	Rubella
Glanders	Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS)
Hemorrhagic fever, including dengue fever	Smallpox
Influenza, suspected novel strains	Tetanus
Measles	Tularemia
Melioidosis	Yellow fever
Meningococcal invasive disease	An outbreak or unusual number or clustering of diseases or other conditions of public health importance
Paralytic shellfish poisoning	
Plague	

Diseases shown in bold are public health emergencies; if you suspect or diagnose a disease that represents a public health emergency, immediately call 1-907-269-8000 during business hours or 1-800-478-0084 after hours.

To report a public health emergency:
Business hours — 1-907-269-8000
After hours — 1-800-478-0084

Mandatory Reportable Foodborne & Waterborne Illnesses

Amnestic shellfish intoxication

Brucellosis

Campylobacteriosis

Ciguatera fish poisoning

Cryptosporidiosis

Cyclosporiasis

Diphyllobothriasis

Echinococcosis

Giardiasis

Hepatitis A

Leptospirosis

Listeriosis

Shiga toxin producing E. Coli

Scombroid fish poisoning

Salmonellosis

Shigellosis

Trichinosis

Typhoid Fever

Vibriosis

Yersiniosis

Public Health EMERGENCIES: Botulism, Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning, or ANY outbreaks of illness (Norovirus or unknown GI illnesses)

Voluntary Reporting of Food and Waterborne Illnesses



Food Poisoning/Suspected Foodborne illness with unknown etiology. This is not a provider or lab reporting but individuals who have gotten ill or had exposures to ill people.

Community members are welcome to report and it is voluntary.

Not directly reported to Epi generally. Information is through partnerships with:

- SOA-Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC)
- AHD-Environmental Health- Food Safety & Sanitation Program

Statewide



If an illness occurs in the STATE...anywhere OTHER than Anchorage.

Volunteer Reporting can be done online or through the YUCK phone line.

The screenshot shows the 'Division of Environmental Health FOOD SAFETY AND SANITATION PROGRAM' website. The header includes a search bar and navigation tabs for HOME, FOOD, PUBLIC FACILITIES, CONSUMERS, RESOURCES, and CONTACT. The main content area is titled 'REPORT AN ILLNESS OR ISSUE' and provides contact information for reporting foodborne illness, waterborne illness, and food or sanitation issues. A red-bordered box contains the text: 'If you are having a medical emergency, please dial 9-1-1 or go to your nearest emergency room.' Below this, there are two columns: 'Foodborne or Waterborne Illness' and 'Food and Sanitation'. The 'Foodborne or Waterborne Illness' column features a call-to-action box with the text 'Call or Text 907-764-9825 To report foodborne illness' and an illustration of a woman thinking. Below this is a button labeled 'REPORT ILLNESS ONLINE'. The 'Food and Sanitation' column features an illustration of a kitchen with various food items and a person cleaning. Below this is a button labeled 'REPORT ISSUE ONLINE'.

Division of Environmental Health
FOOD SAFETY AND SANITATION PROGRAM

Search DEC

HOME FOOD PUBLIC FACILITIES CONSUMERS RESOURCES CONTACT

You are here: DEC / EH / FSS / Report an Illness or Issue

REPORT AN ILLNESS OR ISSUE

Contact the Food Safety and Sanitation program to report foodborne illness, waterborne illness, and food or sanitation issues at food establishments and public facilities.

For illness or issues associated with facilities in the Municipality of Anchorage (Anchorage, Eagle River, and Girdwood), please visit the [Anchorage Health Department's Environmental Health Services](#) website or call their Food Safety and Sanitation Program office at 907-343-4200.

If you are having a medical emergency, please dial 9-1-1 or go to your nearest emergency room.

Foodborne or Waterborne Illness

Call or Text
907-764-9825
To report foodborne illness

OR

REPORT ILLNESS ONLINE

Food and Sanitation

Other food and sanitation issues that may require an investigation by the Department of Environmental Conservation.


REPORT ISSUE ONLINE

Anchorage



If illness occurs in the Municipality of Anchorage.

Volunteer Reporting can be done online at the Anchorage Muni website or through the YUCK phone line.

 [MUNI HOME](#)

Service Request


.....

*** Required Field**

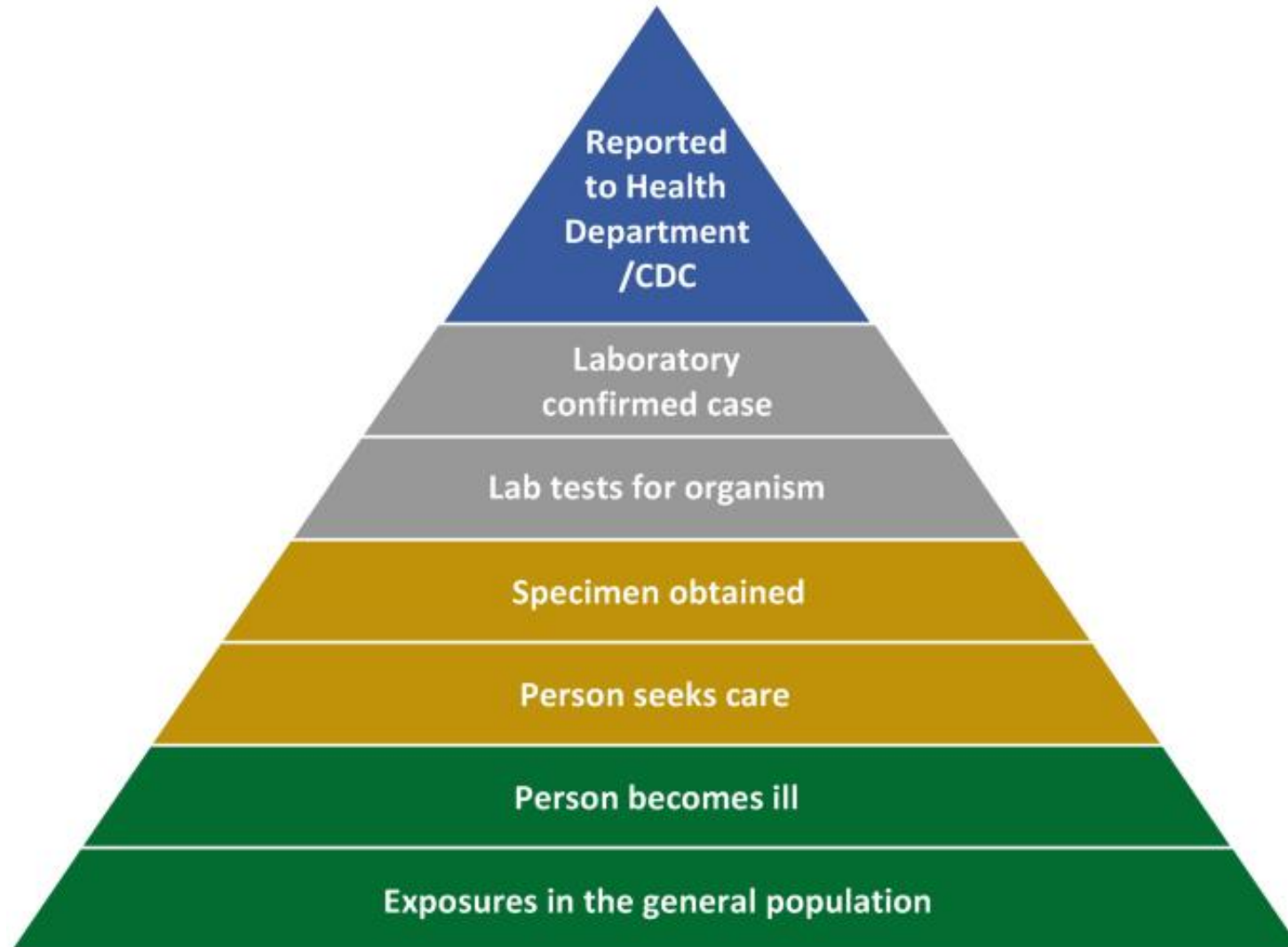
PERSONAL INFORMATION

Submit Anonymously

Specify your name and contact information. If you do not want to provide personal information, select the Submit Anonymously option.

First Name	<input type="text"/>	Last Name *	<input type="text"/>
Address Line 1	<input type="text"/>		
Address Line 2	<input type="text"/>		
City	<input type="text"/>	State/Province	ALASKA 

Foodborne Illness Detection



Case Investigation Process



Case Investigation Process



Reportable condition
reported to Section of
Epidemiology (SOE)

Case Investigation Process



SOE receives, reviews,
and determines case
status

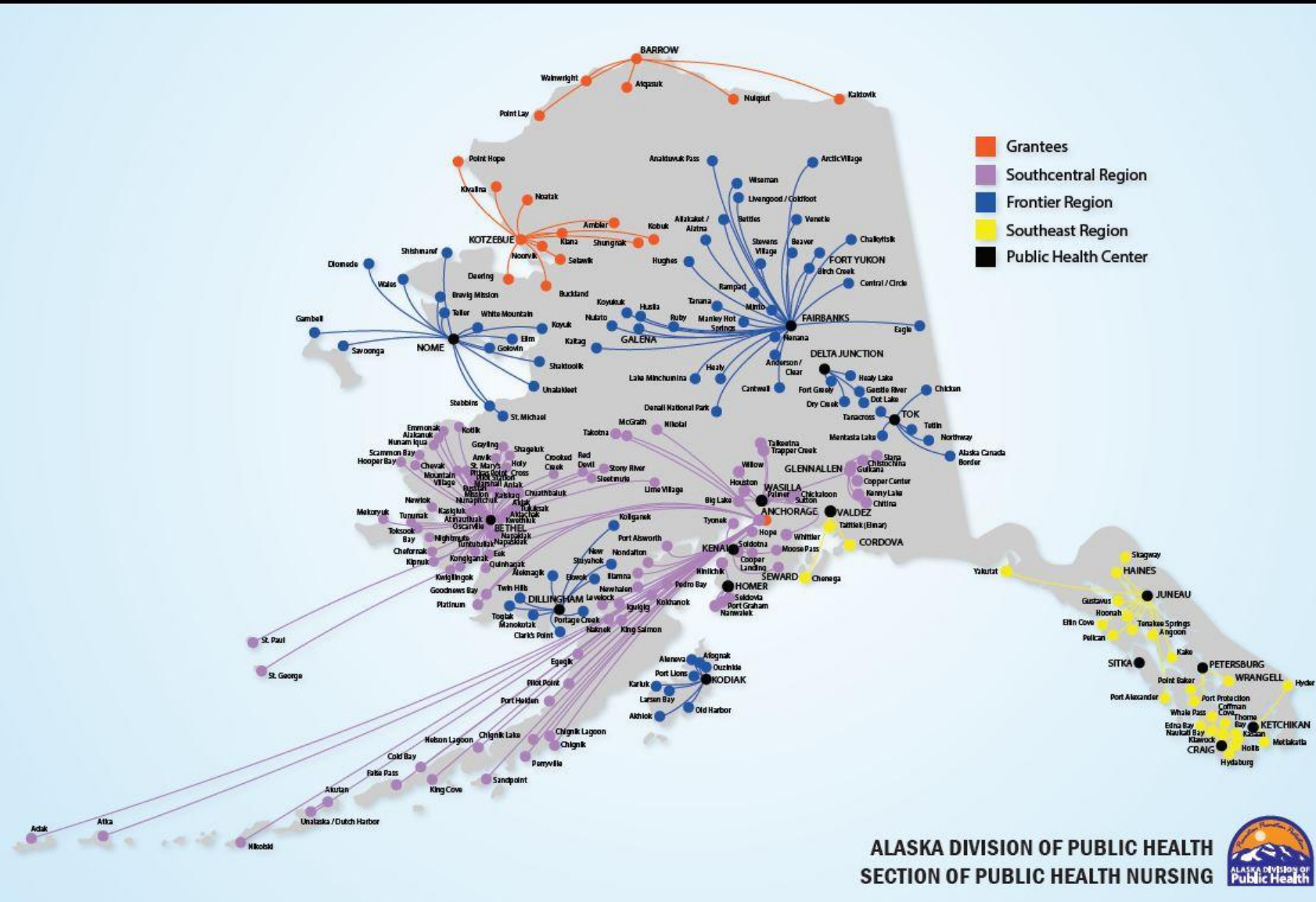
Case Investigation Process



SOE email a request/report to the SOPHN leads in the patient's community of residence.

PUBLIC HEALTH CENTERS AND ITINERANT PHN SERVICES MAP

LIVING LOCALLY, WORKING GLOBALLY – JULY 2016



Case Investigation Process



Public Health Nurse
assigned and
attempts to
interview patient

Case Investigation Process



Returns interview to SOE for review and final case determination

Case Investigation Process



SOE looks for links
and/or notifies
other needed
departments

Items of Epidemiological Importance

- Verify the diagnosis/lab
- Determine if this is a public health emergent/urgent illness that requires immediate action.
- Evaluate the extent of illness
- Implement prevention and control measures
- Identify special circumstances



Disease Specific Investigation Questionnaires

State of Alaska myAlaska My Government Resident Business in Alaska Visiting Alaska State Employees

Alaska Department of Health
Division of Public Health

ENHANCED BY Google

Home Divisions and Agencies Services News Contact Us

DHSS Reorganization > Department of Health > Public Health > Epidemiology > Infectious Disease

Resources

- > Education & Training
- > Epi Procedure Manual

Health Topics A - Z

- > Acute Flaccid Myelitis
- > Alaskapox
- > Avian Influenza
- > Bed Bugs
- > Botulism
- > Campylobacter
- > Dengue
- > Filoviruses (Ebola and Marburg)
- > Group A Streptococcus
- > **Food and Waterborne Disease**
- > Haemophilus influenzae
- > Hand, Foot & Mouth Disease
- > Healthcare-Associated Infections
- > Hepatitis
- > Human Coronavirus
- > Influenza
- > Lice
- > Listeria
- > Measles
- > Meningococcal Disease
- > Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus aureus

Infectious Disease Program

The Infectious Disease Program protects and improves the health of Alaskans by detecting and responding to outbreaks of disease, and provides education and consultation regarding the distribution and burden of infectious diseases in Alaska.

Section of Epidemiology

- Home
- Conditions Reportable
- Contact Us

Programs

- Environmental Public Health
- Health Impact Assessment
- HIV/STD
- Immunization
- Infectious Disease
- Injury Surveillance

Infectious Disease

- Home
- Food and Waterborne Diseases
- Healthcare Associated Infections
- Hepatitis Prevention
- Homelessness and Health
- Influenza
- Syndromic Surveillance
- Tuberculosis Control
- Vaccine-Preventable Diseases (VPD)
- Epi Procedure Manual

Measles is not the souvenir you want. Vaccination is our best defense.

Measles has the potential to spread and cause the measles virus. Measles has the potential to spread and cause serious complications, including pneumonia, encephalitis, and death. Measles is the most contagious disease in the world. Measles is preventable by vaccination.

PARALYTIC SHELLFISH POISONING

When eating shellfish, you may experience symptoms such as numbness, tingling, and weakness. These symptoms are caused by a toxin called saxitoxin, which is produced by certain species of algae. Saxitoxin is a potent neurotoxin that can cause paralysis and even death.

Botulism in Alaska

Botulism is a rare but serious illness caused by a toxin called botulinum toxin. It is produced by the bacterium Clostridium botulinum. Botulism can cause paralysis and even death. Botulism is preventable by proper food handling and storage.

Disease Specific Investigation Questionnaires

State of Alaska myAlaska My Government Resident Business in Alaska Visiting Alaska State Employees

Alaska Department of Health
Division of Public Health

Home Divisions and Agencies Services News Contact Us

DHSS Reorganization > Department of Health > Public Health > Epidemiology > Infectious Disease > Salmonellosis

Salmonella (Salmonellosis)

Salmonellosis is an infection with a bacteria called *Salmonella*, which live in the intestinal tracts of animals, including birds. *Salmonella* are usually transmitted to humans by eating foods contaminated with animal feces. Symptoms often include diarrhea, fever, and abdominal cramps.

There are over 2,500 serotypes, or groups, of *Salmonella*. Some are more common than others, and some cause different diseases. In particular, the serotypes "typhi" and "paratyphi" cause a different disease called Typhoid Fever. Typhoid fever is uncommon in the US- most disease caused by *Salmonella* is caused by other serotypes.

Providers are reminded to report suspected or confirmed cases of Salmonellosis to Alaska Section of Epidemiology at 907-269-8000.

Resources for the General Public

- > Salmonella Fact Sheet
- > CDC *Salmonella* Website
- > CDC Typhoid Fever Website

Resources for Healthcare Providers

- > Printable Salmonellosis Questionnaire
- > Fillable Salmonellosis Questionnaire
- > Salmonella Typhi and Paratyphi CDC form *This form should be completed only for cases of S. typhi and paratyphi.*
- > Reporting requirements *Salmonellosis is a reportable condition. Follow this link for details on how to*



Year	Number of Cases
2010	59
2011	64
2012	57
2013	63
2014	31

Alaska Surveillance Data

Section of Epidemiology

- Home
- Conditions Reportable
- Contact Us

Programs

- Environmental Public Health
- Health Impact Assessment
- HIV/STD
- Immunization
- Infectious Disease
- Injury Surveillance


Infectious Disease

- Home
- Food and Waterborne Diseases
- Healthcare Associated Infections
- Hepatitis Prevention
- Homelessness and Health
- Influenza
- Syndromic Surveillance
- Tuberculosis Control
- Vaccine-Preventable Diseases (VPD)
- Epi Procedure Manual



Disease-specific reporting

Salmonellosis Fact Sheet



Alaska Division of Public Health
Prevention Promotion Protection

Salmonellosis Fact Sheet

What is Salmonellosis?
Salmonellosis is an infection of the intestines caused by bacteria called *Salmonella*.

How is Salmonellosis spread?
Salmonella bacteria leave the body in the stool. Persons infected with *Salmonella* can pass the bacteria to others if they do not wash their hands well after using the bathroom. A person can become infected with *Salmonella* by:

- Eating food or drinking water or milk that has been contaminated with *Salmonella* bacteria.
- Touching infected animals and then eating or touching the mouth without washing hands

Salmonella Questionnaire

Alaska
Salmonellosis (non-typhoidal)

Outbreak AK STARS # _____
 Cluster
Date first received by SOE _____

OUTREACH/CONTACT LOG (For contact with and/or outreach to the client)

	Method (phone call, letter, home visit, clinic visit)	Date (mm/dd/yyyy)	Outcome (Left msg., interviewed, refused, unable to locate, etc.)
1st Outreach/Contact			
2nd Outreach/Contact			
3rd Outreach/Contact			

CASE IDENTIFICATION

Name: _____ Phone(s) Home: _____
last first MI Cell: _____

Address: _____
Street City State Zip

Alternate Contact: Parent/Guardian Spouse/Partner Household Member Other

Name: _____ Phone(s) Home: _____
last first MI Cell: _____

Address: _____
Street City State Zip

DEMOGRAPHICS

Sex: Male Female _____ Hispanic: Yes No Unk/no wn

DOB: _____ Race: White Unknown AI/AN Asian/Pacific Islander Referred to answer Black Other

Or, if unknown, Age: _____

CLINICAL DATA

Symptomatic? Yes No Unk
ER Visit? Yes No Unk

If yes, onset date _____ Hospitalized? Yes No Unk
onset time _____ am _____ pm If yes, Hospital name: _____
Duration of illness _____ hours _____ days Discharge date: _____
-OR- Ongoing -OR- Still inpatient Unknown

Symptoms: Outcome: Survived Died (Date: _____) Unk

Diarrhea Yes No Unk
Bloody diarrhea Yes No Unk
Fever Yes No Unk
Vomiting Yes No Unk
Abdominal pain Yes No Unk
Other (please specify): _____

OCCUPATION

Is the case a... Yes No Unk
daycare attendee/worker?
food service/processor worker?
healthcare facility resident/worker?
If yes, specify location/business: _____

Does the case know others with similar illness? Yes No Unk
If yes, indicate name of individual, relationship to case, onset of illness, and relevant symptoms:

Attach a second sheet if needed

Last Revised 05/31/2017 State of Alaska Section of Epidemiology

Vibrio Questionnaire

State: _____ Year: _____ Age: _____ Sex: _____ Last Name: _____

CDC CHOLERA AND OTHER VIBRIO ILLNESS SURVEILLANCE REPORT
OMB 0920-0728

REPORTING HEALTH DEPARTMENT

State: _____ City: _____ County/Parish: _____

1. PATIENT CASE INFORMATION

1. First 3 letters of patient's last name: _____ 2. Sex: M F Unk

3. Date of birth (MM/DD/YYYY): _____ 4. Age: _____ 5. NNDSS case ID: _____ 6. Case state ID (required): _____

5. Race: American Indian/Alaska Native White Black or African American Other Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander Unknown/not provided Asian

6. Ethnicity: Hispanic/Latino Not Hispanic/Latino Unknown/not provided

7. Occupation: _____

2. LABORATORY INFORMATION

Use the Vibrio Species key to indicate which species were positively identified by culture or CDT result as applicable.

Vibrio Species Key:

<i>V. cholerae</i> O1—CH1	<i>V. cholerae</i> O139—CH3	<i>V. cholerae</i> non-O1, non-O139—CHN	<i>V. parahaemolyticus</i> —PAR	<i>V. vulnificus</i> —VUL	<i>Vibrio</i> —species not listed, ed—NID
<i>V. cholerae</i> O1—CH2	<i>V. cholerae</i> O1—CH4	<i>V. cholerae</i> O1—CH5	<i>V. parahaemolyticus</i> —PAR	<i>V. vulnificus</i> —VUL	<i>Vibrio</i> —species not listed, ed—NID
<i>V. cholerae</i> O1—CH1	<i>V. cholerae</i> O1—CH2	<i>V. cholerae</i> O1—CH3	<i>V. cholerae</i> O1—CH4	<i>V. cholerae</i> O1—CH5	<i>V. cholerae</i> O1—CH6
<i>V. cholerae</i> O1—CH1	<i>V. cholerae</i> O1—CH2	<i>V. cholerae</i> O1—CH3	<i>V. cholerae</i> O1—CH4	<i>V. cholerae</i> O1—CH5	<i>V. cholerae</i> O1—CH6

Other—OTH (Specify below)

Multiple species—MUL (Specify below)

Epidemiologically linked to a laboratory detected case (no lab results)

Laboratory results (If more than one specimen is tested, complete one row per specimen. If more than two specimens were tested, please check here and attach additional sheet. CDT indicates a culture-independent diagnostic test.)

1. Specimen one: Date collected: _____ Received at public health laboratory? Yes No Unk If yes, State lab ID: _____

Specimen Source: _____ Culture result: Pos Neg Unk Not Done
If positive, species identified: _____ CDT result: Pos Neg Unk Not Done
If positive, species identified: _____

Specimen Site: _____ Name/type of diagnostic test used: _____
If species identified as multiple or other, please specify: _____

2. Specimen two: Date collected: _____ Received at public health laboratory? Yes No Unk If yes, State lab ID: _____

Specimen Source: _____ Culture result: Pos Neg Unk Not Done
If positive, species identified: _____ CDT result: Pos Neg Unk Not Done
If positive, species identified: _____

Specimen Site: _____ Name/type of diagnostic test used: _____
If species identified as multiple or other, please specify: _____

3. If other non-Vibrio organism(s) isolated from same specimen, list: _____

Complete only if isolate is *Vibrio cholerae* O1 or O139:

4. Serotype: Inaba Ogawa Hikojima Not done Unk

5. Biotype: El Tor Classical Not done Unk

6. Toxinogenic: Yes No Not done Unk

CDC 0-1555 (EL, CDC Adobe Acrobat DC, 0508 Electronic Version, May 2018) 3

Partnerships in Foodborne Illness Investigations



Centers for Disease
Control and Prevention

Alaska Foodborne Illness Case Counts

	2019	2020	2021	2022
Shiga toxin-producing E. coli (STEC)	6	8	11	12
Listeria	1	2	1	1
Salmonellosis	75	54	20	56
Shigella	7	2	4	7
Campylobacter	128	114	91	140
Vibrio	6	3	7	8
Botulism	1	0	5	3

Multistate Outbreaks

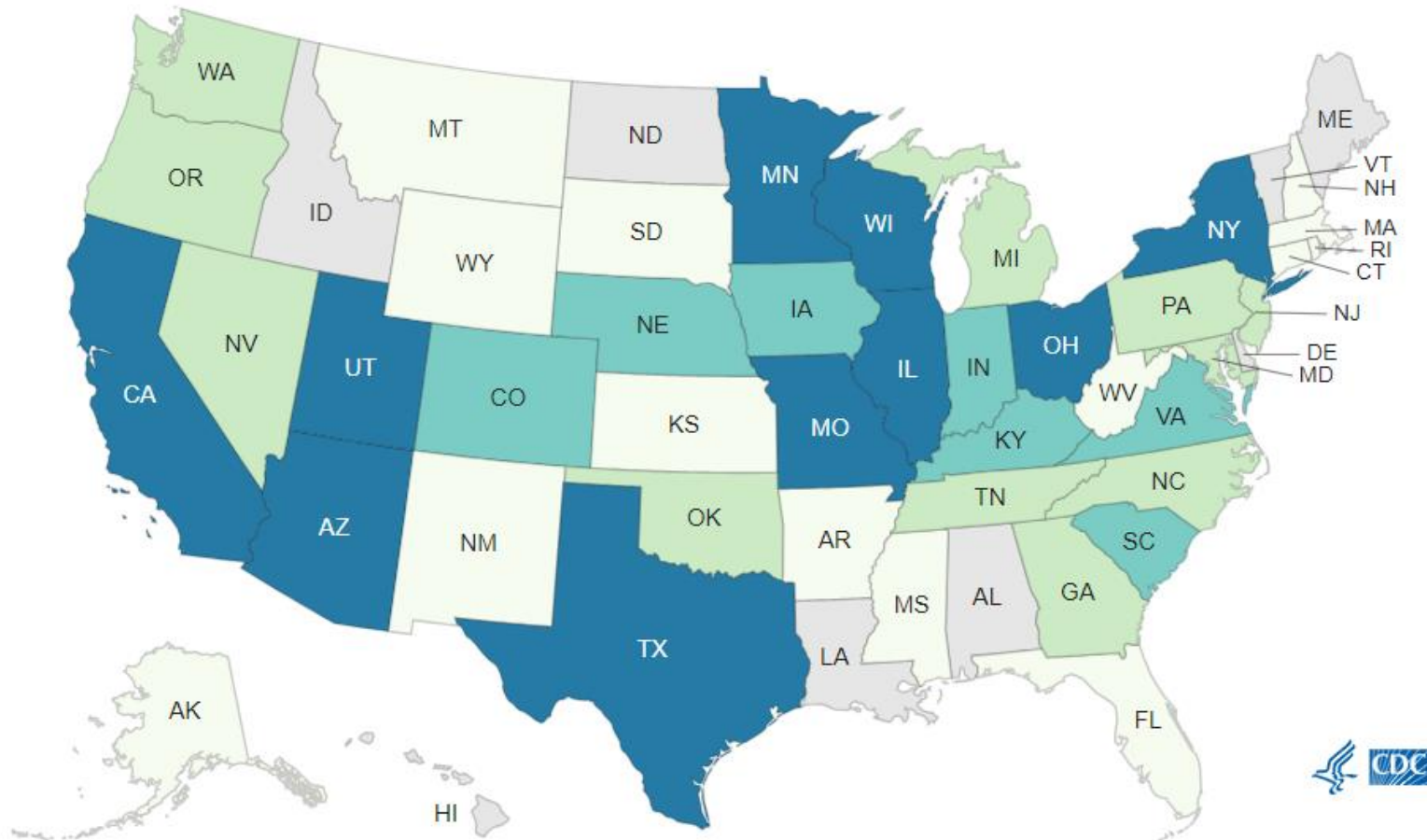
CDC coordinates investigations during multistate foodborne outbreaks.

A multistate foodborne outbreak happens when two or more people from several states get the same illness from the same contaminated food or drink.



Multistate Outbreaks

2023 Salmonella Outbreak Linked to Cantaloupes



Resources and Links

State of Alaska website, <https://health.alaska.gov/dph/Epi/Pages/default.aspx>

Conditions Reportable to Public Health Manual. Alaska Division of Public Health, Revised 2018, pages 6-8 and 21. <https://health.alaska.gov/dph/Epi/Documents/pubs/conditions/ConditionsReportable.pdf>

Updated Public Health Reporting Requirements 2023. Alaska Division of Public Health
https://epi.alaska.gov/bulletins/docs/b2023_15.pdf

Anchorage Health Department website,
<https://www.muni.org/Departments/health/Admin/environment/Pages/default.aspx>

State of Alaska, Botulism Guide to Providers November 2017:
<https://health.alaska.gov/dph/Epi/id/SiteAssets/Pages/Botulism/Monograph.pdf>

Alaska Public Health labs: <https://health.alaska.gov/dph/labs/pages/default.aspx>