

## **Diseases and conditions reported during Oct. 1- Oct.14, 2023:**

*This report is a bi-monthly snapshot of communicable diseases reported in El Paso County, as well as a report of disease trends and local health alerts. El Paso County Public Health's (EPCPH) Communicable Disease Program partners with the medical community and the public to limit and reduce the spread of diseases in our community.*

### **Reportable diseases and conditions:**

- 9 Animal Bites – 7 pediatric, 2 adults; 1 recommended to receive rabies post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP)
- 6 Campylobacteriosis - 5 pediatric, 1 adult
- 4 Carbapenem-Resistant enterobacterales (CRE) - adult
- 941 COVID-19 – 170 pediatric, 771 adults
- 2 Cryptosporidiosis – adult
- 5 Giardiasis – 3 pediatric, 2 adults
- 2 Group B Strep Invasive - adult
- 1 Haemophilus Influenzae - adult
- 1 Influenza - adult
- 1 Legionellosis - adult
- 3 Salmonellosis - 2 pediatrics, 1 adult
- 2 Shigellosis - adult
- 3 Strep Pneumo Invasive - adult

- 2 Varicella - pediatric
- 1 Vibriosis - adult
- 1 West Nile Virus - adult

### **Additional reports:**

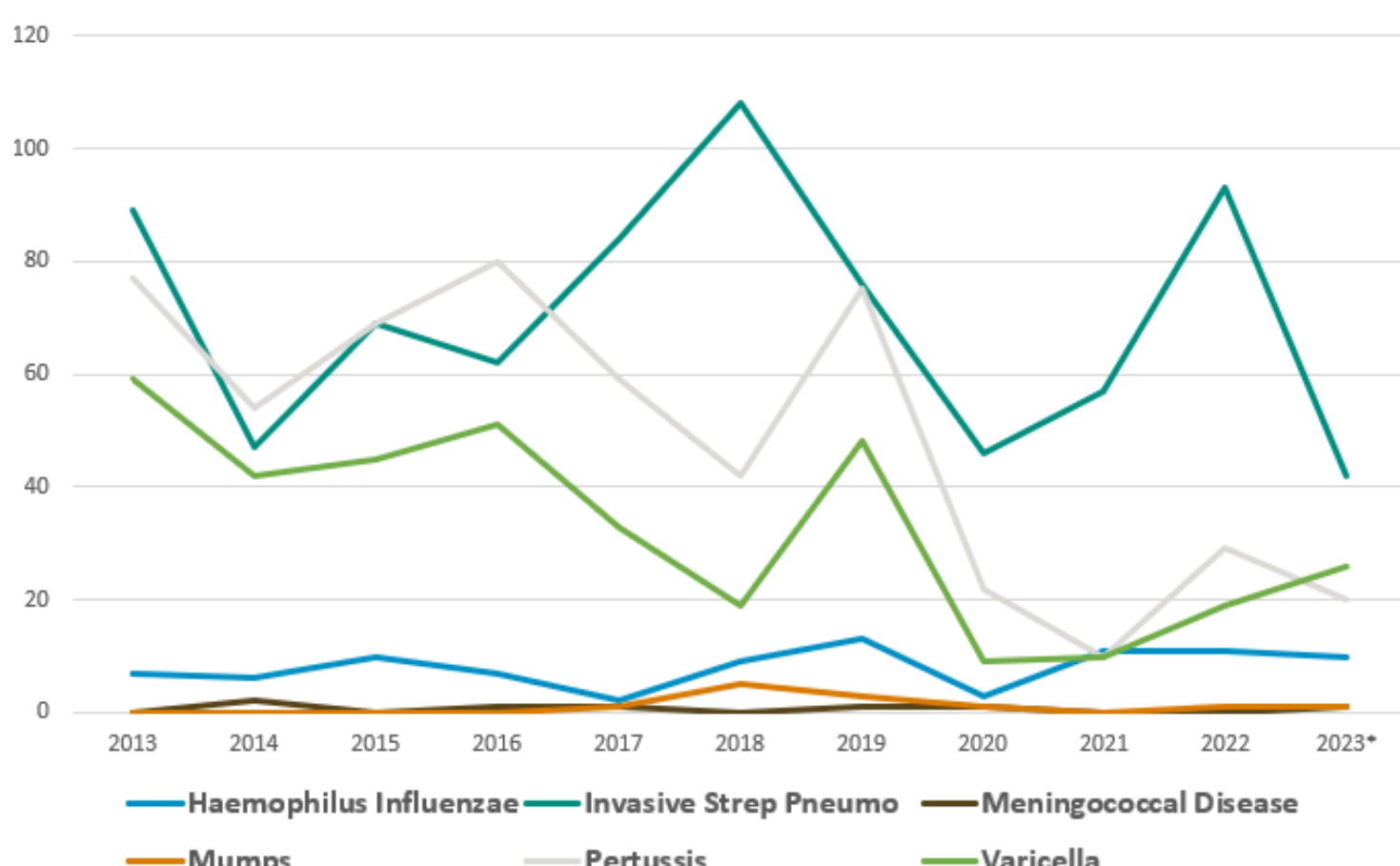
- Animals positive for rabies 2023, year to date: 1 (bat)
- Outbreaks reported—2 COVID-19 outbreaks associated with school settings, 1 COVID-19 outbreak associated with a congregate setting, 2 Hand, Foot, and Mouth Disease outbreak associated schools settings, 1 Fifth's Disease outbreak associated with a school, 1 Influenza A outbreak associated with an Acute Care Facility

For a list of reportable diseases and conditions and instructions on how to report, follow this [link](#).

## **Health News: Vaccine Preventable Diseases (VPDs)**

- The El Paso County Public Health immunizations program serves clients with and without insurance (including Flu vaccine, COVID-19 vaccine, and vaccines provided at the travel clinic). For more information, call, 719-578-3199, option 5.
- Vaccine-preventable diseases (VPDs) continue to persist across the country, including El Paso County. Due to this, EPCPH provides vaccine, and actively monitors for cases of VPDs to disrupt transmission and protect community health. Figure 1. shows VPD's in El Paso County from 2013-2023\* YTD. VPDs with the highest case counts in the past three years in El Paso County are Invasive strep pneumo, varicella, and pertussis.
- From 2020 to 2021, there were over \$13 billion in healthcare charges to treat VPDs like measles, flu and whooping cough in Colorado adults and children. In the two-year span, there were more than 420,000 hospitalizations and emergency department (ED) visits for VPDs. This information comes from a report jointly released by Children's Hospital Colorado (Children's Colorado) and Immunize Colorado.
- The VPD report shows that in 2020 and 2021, over 327,000 Colorado adults and nearly 50,000 Colorado children were hospitalized or visited an ED with a VPD. Most adult hospitalizations were due to COVID-19, followed by influenza, varicella and pneumococcal disease; most hospitalizations in children were due to influenza, COVID-19 and pneumococcal disease. (The report acknowledges that COVID-19 vaccines were not widely available in 2020 and therefore COVID-19 was not yet considered vaccine preventable.) The VPD report can be found here: [VPD Report](#)
- Keeping children up to date on their vaccines help keep them healthy and in school. Colorado's school requirements for immunizations can be found here: [Table](#)
- Adults are also at risk for VPDs such as influenza, pertussis, tetanus, varicella-zoster, pneumococcal disease, and COVID-19. Adults are more likely to experience underlying health conditions placing them at higher risk for these diseases. Health care providers remain a trusted source of information about vaccines.
- The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) published school and childcare immunization and exemption rates from the 2022-2023 school year. Aggregate, de-identified data are self-reported to CDPHE by schools and child care providers in Colorado for the 2022-2023 school year. The latest trends indicate:
  - Decreases in kindergarten, K-12, and childcare vaccination rates for all vaccines, with the most pronounced decreases observed among kindergartners.
  - With the exception of hepatitis B (90.7 percent), immunization rates for school-required vaccines among kindergartners all fell below 90 percent for the second year in a row.
  - MMR coverage among kindergartners (86.8 percent) is the lowest since the 2017-2018 school year.
  - Exemption rates also increased across all school-required vaccines for kindergartners, K-12 schools, and childcare facilities from the 2021-2022 school year.
  - There were no cases of measles or rubella during this time period in El Paso County.

**Number of selected vaccine-preventable diseases, El Paso County, 2013-2023\***



## Questions? Please Contact:

El Paso County Public Health CD/TB Program  
Hours: M-F, 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
(719) 578-3220; after-hours emergency: (719) 235-2278  
Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment  
(303) 692-2700; after-hours emergency: (303) 370-9395  
[www.elpasocountyhealth.org](http://www.elpasocountyhealth.org)  
Reportable Diseases and Conditions List