

# EPIGRAM

PRODUCED BY DISEASE CONTROL SERVICES  
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## EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Hurricane season began June 1st and continues through November 30th. There are several actions you can take now to ensure that your patients, staff, and families are prepared for future storms.

**Get a plan and build a kit:** Everyone should have a plan in place for their home and business for what to do during an emergency. This is especially important for people with special needs. Disaster supply kits should include a minimum of one gallon of water per person per day for 3-7 days for drinking, cooking, and sanitation purposes. It should also contain enough non-perishable food for 3-7 days, including foods for individuals with dietary restrictions such as infants and the elderly. Pet care items such as immunization records, food and water, a carrier or cage, and medications should be included as well. Visit <https://www.floridadisaster.org/> for more information.

**Medication requirements:** It is recommended that patients have a minimum two week supply of all prescription medications in the event of a disaster. According to Florida law, patients can obtain a 30-day refill of a prescription medication— even if they have just refilled it— if they reside in a county that is under a hurricane warning issued by the National Weather Service, is under a state of emergency executive order declared by the Governor, or has activated its emergency operations center/ emergency management plan. Under these specific circumstances, any health insurer, managed care organization, or other entities licensed by the Office of Insurance Regulation must waive the “refill too soon” restrictions on prescriptions.

**Special needs registration:** The Florida Department of Emergency Management maintains a special needs registry for individuals with medical needs (particularly those who are dependent on electricity for medical equipment, such as an oxygen concentrator) and/or those who will need assistance with transportation to a public shelter in an emergency. Please encourage your patients with special needs to register as soon as possible before the next disaster strikes. Individuals can self-register, be enrolled by a health care provider, or have a relative register for them. Enrollment in the special needs registry can be completed online: <https://snr.floridadisaster.org/Signin?client=nassau>. For assistance or more information contact the Nassau County Emergency Operations Center at (904) 548-0900.

Florida  
Department of Health  
Nassau County  
1620 Nectarine Street  
Fernandina Beach, FL 32034  
Phone: (904) 875-6100  
Fax: (904) 428-5630  
Website: <http://nassau.floridahealth.gov/>

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DISEASE REPORTING

Phone  
(904) 875-6100

Confidential Fax Line  
(904) 428-5630

After Hours Line  
(904) 813-6801

Bureau of Epidemiology  
24 Hour Reporting Line  
(850) 245-4401

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NASSAU COUNTY CONTACTS

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FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH NASSAU COUNTY

Fernandina Beach Clinic  
1620 Nectarine Street  
Fernandina Beach, FL 32034  
(904) 557-9130

Callahan Clinic  
45377 Mickler Street  
Callahan, FL 32011  
(904) 320-6010

Yulee Clinic  
86014 Pages Dairy Road  
Yulee, FL 32097  
(904) 875-6110

Hilliard Clinic  
37203 Pecan Street  
Hilliard, FL 32046  
(904) 320-6020



**Prevent carbon monoxide poisoning:** Ask patients ahead of time about their plans during a storm, particularly those who have special medical needs. Carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning due to generator use can be prevented through planning and education. For patients who plan to shelter in place during a storm with a generator for power, have a discussion with them about generator safety and ensure they know how to prevent CO poisoning. If they are on oxygen, make sure they have enough tubing to be far enough away from the generator to avoid inhaling exhaust. For more information about carbon monoxide, visit <http://www.floridahealth.gov/environmental-health/carbon-monoxide/index.html>.

For more information about emergency preparedness, visit [http://www.floridahealth.gov/programs-and-services/emergency-preparedness-and-response/prepare-yourself/current-hazards/hurricane-info.html?utm\\_source=article](http://www.floridahealth.gov/programs-and-services/emergency-preparedness-and-response/prepare-yourself/current-hazards/hurricane-info.html?utm_source=article).

### ARBOVIRUS SURVEILLANCE

#### Nassau County

All Nassau County sentinel chicken samples submitted to the Bureau of Public Health Laboratories (BPHL) in 2019 have tested negative for West Nile virus (WNV), Eastern equine encephalitis virus (EEEV), and St. Louis encephalitis virus (SLEV). No human or veterinary cases of mosquito-borne illness have been reported in Nassau County in 2019.

#### Florida<sup>1</sup>

No cases of endemic arboviruses have been reported in Florida so far in 2019, and no cases of non-endemic mosquito-borne illnesses have been acquired in Florida so far this year. International travel-associated cases of dengue fever, chikungunya fever, Zika fever, and malaria have been reported in 2019 (Table 1). Five counties (Bay, Calhoun, Holmes, Suwannee, and Walton) are currently under a mosquito-borne illness advisory (Fig. 1).

#### Arbovirus Reporting

Non-endemic viruses must be reported immediately upon suspicion (yellow fever) or immediately upon suspicion during business hours (Zika, dengue, chikungunya). Other mosquito-borne diseases endemic to Florida, such as West Nile virus disease, Eastern equine encephalitis, and St. Louis encephalitis, are reportable by the next business day. Prompt reporting of suspect cases helps ensure health department and mosquito control officials are able to rapidly implement mosquito control measures.

<sup>1</sup>Florida Department of Health. Florida Arbovirus Surveillance. <http://www.floridahealth.gov/diseases-and-conditions/mosquito-borne-diseases/index.html>.

#### Human Mosquito-Borne Illness Cases

Disease	Cases
West Nile virus (WNV) infection	0
St. Louis encephalitis virus (SLEV) infection	0
Eastern equine encephalitis virus (EEEV) infection	0
International travel-associated dengue fever cases	37
Dengue fever cases acquired in Florida	0
International travel-associated chikungunya fever cases	3
Chikungunya fever cases acquired in Florida	0
International travel-associated Zika fever cases	25
Zika fever cases acquired in Florida	0
International travel-associated malaria cases	24

Table 1. Human cases of mosquito-borne illness reported in Florida, January 1–June 22, 2019<sup>1</sup>.

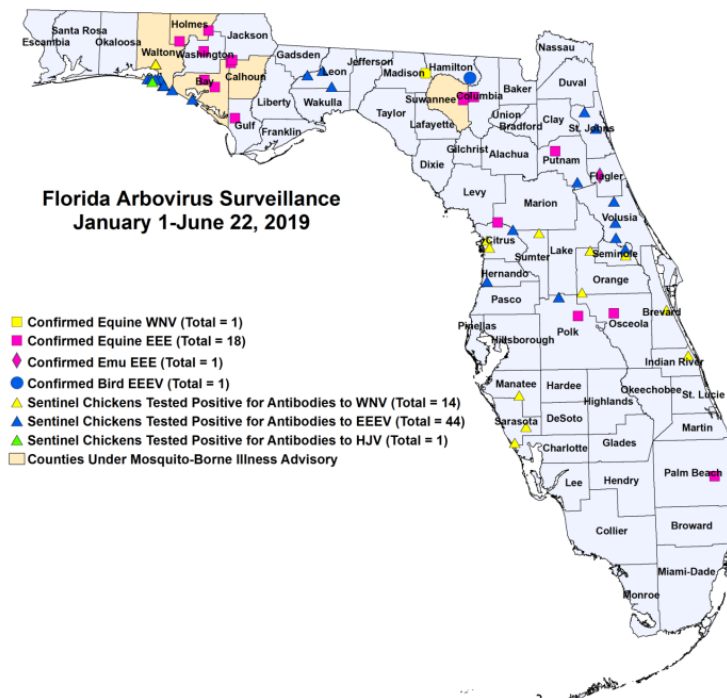


Figure 1. Arbovirus activity in Florida, January 1-June 22, 2019<sup>1</sup>.

HEPATITIS A UPDATE

**Florida Outbreak Update<sup>2,3</sup>**

From January 1, 2018 through June 22, 2019, there were 2,184 hepatitis A cases reported in Florida. Nearly all (98%) have likely been acquired in Florida. In week 25 (June 16-22), 77 cases were reported in Florida, with the highest activity levels in central Florida (Fig. 2). Of the 1,876 cases likely acquired in Florida from January 2018 through May 2019, 62% reported at least one risk factor while 38% reported no or unknown risk factors. **The most commonly identified risk factor was any drug use, reported by over half of cases** (Table 2). Since January 2018, 72% of hepatitis A cases likely acquired in Florida have been hospitalized due to their hepatitis A infection, and 21 cases have died as a direct result of hepatitis A infection.

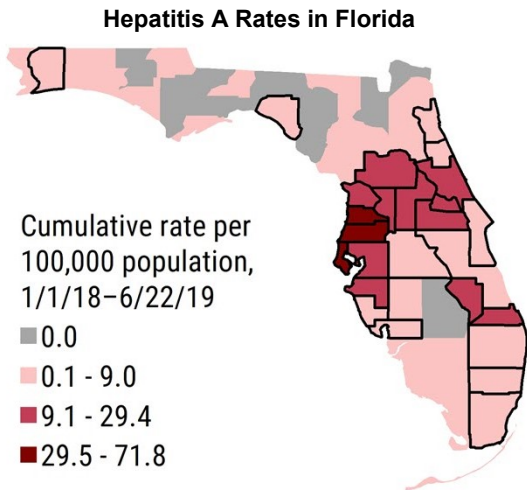


Figure 2. Cumulative hepatitis A rates in Florida by county. The 77 hepatitis A cases reported in week 25 were reported in the counties outlined in black.<sup>2</sup>

Risk Factor	Percent of Cases
Any drug use	57%
Injection drug use	36%
Non-injection drug use	37%
Recent homelessness	19%
Men who have sex with men	6%

Table 2. Risk factors reported by hepatitis A cases likely acquired in Florida, Jan. 2018 to May 2019.<sup>3</sup>

**Prevention**

Hepatitis A virus (HAV) spreads person-to-person from ingesting small amounts of fecal matter from a person with HAV. Sexual activity can spread HAV, so people who have hepatitis A should avoid sexual contact. HAV can live on surfaces for weeks, and alcohol-based hand sanitizers do not kill HAV. Everyone should be reminded to wash hands with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds before they prepare food or work with food that isn't already packaged, and after they use the restroom, change a diaper, or cough, sneeze or use a handkerchief or tissue. Towels, toothbrushes and eating utensils should not be shared, and food, drinks, drugs and cigarettes that have been handled by a person with HAV should not be handled by others.

The most effective way to prevent HAV is through vaccination. At-risk people are those who are in close contact, care for or live with someone who has HAV; use injection or non-injection drugs; are homeless or in temporary housing; have recently been incarcerated; are men who have had sex with other men; have recently visited a country where HAV is common; or are having sex with someone who has HAV. **Providers are encouraged to actively offer the hepatitis A vaccine to those at risk.**

<sup>2</sup>Florida Department of Health. Hepatitis A Surveillance January 1, 2019-June 22, 2019. [http://www.floridahealth.gov/diseases-and-conditions/vaccine-preventable-disease/hepatitis-a/surveillance-data/\\_documents/2019-week-25-hep-a-summary.pdf](http://www.floridahealth.gov/diseases-and-conditions/vaccine-preventable-disease/hepatitis-a/surveillance-data/_documents/2019-week-25-hep-a-summary.pdf)

<sup>3</sup>Florida Department of Health. Hepatitis A Surveillance May 2019. [http://www.floridahealth.gov/diseases-and-conditions/vaccine-preventable-disease/hepatitis-a/surveillance-data/\\_documents/2019-may-hepatitis-a-summary.pdf](http://www.floridahealth.gov/diseases-and-conditions/vaccine-preventable-disease/hepatitis-a/surveillance-data/_documents/2019-may-hepatitis-a-summary.pdf)

**UPCOMING EVENTS & TRAININGS**

- ✦ Nassau County Health Department (Nassau CHD) will be offering free HIV testing for National HIV Testing Day on June 27th. Free HIV testing will be available at the Yulee clinic (86014 Pages Dairy Rd.) from 8-11am and at the Fernandina Beach clinic (1620 Nectarine St.) from 1-4pm. No appointment is needed. To reach the clinic, call (904) 875-6100. For more information about HIV testing and treatment, call (904) 557-9132.
- ✦ The Coalition for the Reduction/Elimination of Disparities in Health (CREED) will host the annual back to school event in partnership with the Nassau County Health Department (Nassau CHD) and other local organizations on Saturday, August 3rd. The event will be from 9am-2pm at the Peck Center (516 S. 10th St., Fernandina Beach). Free school physicals will be available at the event and school supplies will be given away in the gymnasium starting at 10am. A parent or guardian must accompany the child for the school physical.

## MAY 2019: REPORTED CASES IN NASSAU COUNTY

## Confirmed, Probable, and Suspect Cases of Reportable Diseases of Frequent Occurrence with Report Date 05/01/19 to 05/31/19 with Three-Year Period Comparison for Nassau County and Florida

	Nassau County		Florida	
	May 2019	May Average, 2016-2018	May 2019	May Average, 2016-2018
Arsenic Poisoning	0	0.00	1	1.33
Campylobacteriosis	1	2.33	422	416.33
Carbon Monoxide Poisoning	0	0.00	15	16.33
Chlamydia (Excluding Neonatal Conjunctivitis)	13	23.33	9634	8975.33
Ciguatera Fish Poisoning	0	0.00	3	2.00
Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (CJD)	0	0.00	4	1.67
Cryptosporidiosis	0	0.00	59	39.00
Cyclosporiasis	0	0.00	4	1.67
Dengue Fever	0	0.00	8	1.00
Ehrlichiosis	0	0.00	4	3.00
<i>Escherichia coli</i> , Shiga Toxin-Producing (STEC) Infection	0	1.00	67	60.00
Giardiasis, Acute	0	0.67	96	98.00
Gonorrhea (Excluding Neonatal Conjunctivitis)	4	3.67	3098	2699.67
<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> (Invasive Disease in Children <5 Years Old)	0	0.00	3	4.00
Hepatitis A	0	0.00	384	15.33
Hepatitis B, Acute	0	0.33	96	61.33
Hepatitis B, Chronic	3	2.33	518	446.67
Hepatitis B, Pregnant Women	0	0.00	29	29.33
Hepatitis C, Acute	0	0.67	130	46.67
Hepatitis C, Chronic (Including Perinatal)	11	14.67	2001	3182.00
Lead Poisoning Cases in Children <6 Years Old	0	0.33	106	192.67
Lead Poisoning Cases in Those ≥6 Years Old	0	0.00	144	173.00
Legionellosis	0	0.00	49	36.00
Listeriosis	0	0.00	3	3.00
Lyme Disease	0	0.00	7	6.67
Malaria	0	0.00	10	4.67
Meningitis, Bacterial or Mycotic (Excluding <i>Neisseria meningitidis</i> )	0	0.00	9	7.33
Pertussis	0	1.67	31	25.67
Pesticide-Related Illness and Injury, Acute	0	0.00	5	4.67
Rabies, Animal	0	0.33	11	10.33
Rabies, Possible Exposure	0	1.67	373	303.00
Salmonellosis	7	2.33	550	422.33
Shigellosis	1	0.00	119	108.00
<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i> Invasive Disease, Drug-Resistant	0	0.00	24	17.33
<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i> Invasive Disease, Drug-Susceptible	1	0.00	67	22.67
Syphilis (Excluding Congenital)	0	0.33	443	699.00
Syphilis, Congenital	0	0.00	6	5.67
Varicella (Chickenpox)	1	1.33	99	72.00
Vibriosis (Excluding Cholera)	0	0.00	37	19.67
Zika Virus Disease and Infection	0	0.00	7	26.33

Table 3. Confirmed, probable, and suspect case counts for reportable diseases and conditions in Nassau County and Florida in May 2019 with three-year period comparison for Nassau County and Florida.

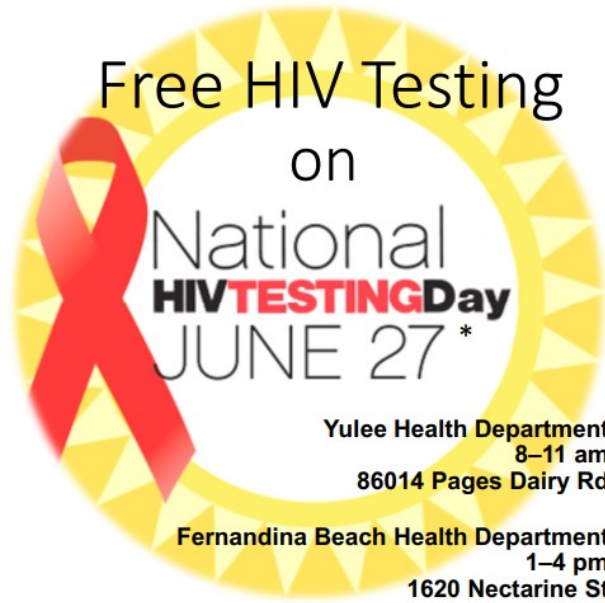
**HEALTH BULLETINS, ADVISORIES & ALERTS**

**May 2019 Press Releases & Public Information**

For additional information regarding press releases visit the DOH-Nassau website or Department of Health Online Newsroom at: <http://nassau.floridahealth.gov/> and <http://www.floridahealth.gov/newsroom/>

- ✦ Press Release 05/31/2019: Florida Department of Health Urges Residents and Visitors to Prepare for Hurricane Season

**Get Tested. Get in Care. Stay in Care. Be Healthy.**



To reach the clinic, call (904) 875-6100.  
For more information about HIV testing and treatment, call (904) 557-9132.



**No appointment needed!**

\*Special promotion. Sliding scale fee available other days.

**FREE SCHOOL PHYSICALS**

The Coalition for the Reduction/Elimination of Disparities in Health (CREED) will host the annual back to school event in partnership with the Nassau County Health Department (Nassau CHD), St Vincent’s Mobile Health Ministry, and other local organizations on Saturday, August 3rd. The event will be from 9am-2pm at the Peck Center (516 S. 10th St., Fernandina Beach). Free school physicals will be available at the event and school supplies will be given away in the gymnasium starting at 10am. A parent or guardian must accompany the child for the school physical.

