

EPIGRAM

PRODUCED BY DISEASE CONTROL SERVICES
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DECEMBER 1ST: WORLD AIDS DAY
NEW STRATEGIES: TREATMENT AS PREVENTION AND PREP



December first is international World AIDS Day, a day to reflect on the health impact of HIV/AIDS worldwide. The U.S. is making uneven progress with reducing HIV infections. The distribution of HIV in the U.S. is geographically uneven, with the South (including Florida) having the highest U.S. diagnosis rates (18.5 per 100,000). Other regions follow with the Northeast (14.2 per 100,000) being second, the West (11.2 per 100,000) at third and the Midwest (11.2 per 100,000) with the lowest (2014, CDC). However, certain societal subgroups by race, ethnicity and sexual behaviors continue to have disproportionately higher infection rates regardless of U.S. region (Fig.1).

Estimated New HIV Diagnoses in the United States for the Most-Affected Subpopulations, 2014

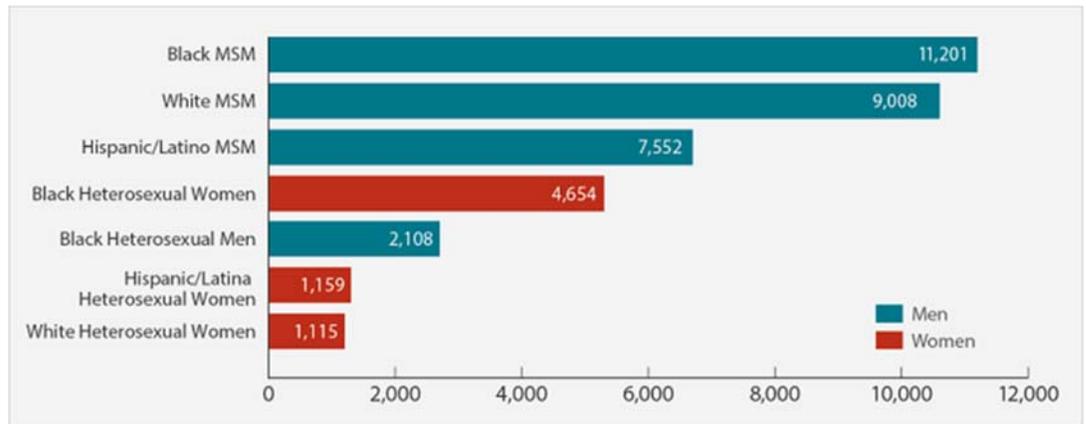


Figure 1. U.S. trends in HIV infection rates by race, ethnicity, and sexual behavior, 2014. <http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/statistics/overview/ata glance.html>

Prevention Strategies: In 2006, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommended universal HIV testing for all adults to identify new cases of HIV and link them to care. Subsequently, *Treatment as Prevention* has been added a core public health strategy by the CDC and by Florida Department of Health (DOH) to reduce HIV infection rates. Early treatment of persons with HIV to non-detectable HIV virus levels is an evidence-based approach to lower community HIV viral “reservoir” and reduce HIV transmission rates.

<p>DISEASE REPORTING</p> <p>Phone: (904) 530-6800</p> <p>Confidential Fax Line: (904) 277-7286</p> <p>After Hours Line: (904) 813-6801</p> <p>Bureau of Epidemiology 24 Hour Reporting Line: (850) 245-4401</p>	<p>FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH NASSAU COUNTY CONTACTS</p> <p><u>Eugenia Ngo-Seidel, MD, MPH (Director)</u> (904) 530-6807 Eugenia.Ngo-Seidel@flhealth.gov</p> <p><u>Kim Geib, DNP, ARNP, A-GNP-C, CPH (PH Manager)</u> (904) 530-6804 Kim.Geib@flhealth.gov</p> <p><u>Emily Cason, MPH (Epidemiologist)</u> (904) 530-6805 Emily.Cason@flhealth.gov</p> <p><u>Vicki Roberts (Administrative Secretary)</u> (904) 530-6810</p>	<p>FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH NASSAU COUNTY</p> <p><u>Fernandina Beach Clinic</u> 1620 Nectarine Street Fernandina Beach, FL 32034 (904) 530-6750</p> <p><u>Yulee Clinic</u> 86014 Pages Dairy Road Yulee, FL 32097 (904) 530-6840</p>	<p><u>Callahan Clinic</u> 45377 Mickler Street Callahan, FL 32011 (904) 530-6870</p> <p><u>Hilliard Clinic</u> 37203 Pecan Street Hilliard, FL 32046 (904) 530-6890</p>	 
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Role of Health Care Providers: Primary care health care providers are gatekeepers to the health care system, and are in prime positions to offer HIV testing, treatment referral, and pre-exposure treatment (PrEP) to clients at increased risk of HIV infection (e.g., intravenous drug users, sex workers, men who have sex with men, having unprotected sex with multiple partners). Pre-exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) is now a recognized prevention strategy for serodiscordant couples or for persons at high risk of acquiring HIV.

For free expert advice on HIV clinical guidance, case reviews and training to prescribe PrEP, consult the HIV Clinician Consultation Center (CCC), University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) at (855) 448-7737 or visit the website <http://nccc.ucsf.edu/clinician-consultation/>

Health Department HIV-Related Services: DOH-Nassau offers the following HIV Program services:

Testing: walk-in testing (fee may be waived) at all clinic sites. Call the main clinic in Yulee for more information at (904) 530-6840.

Referrals: experienced confidential partner contact for HIV testing and treatment referrals.

HIV Case Management: healthcare providers may refer clients free of charge to the health department for comprehensive HIV case management services, and to assist clients in overcoming social and economic barriers to optimally managing their HIV disease.

Reporting: HIV and AIDS are notifiable conditions to public health under Florida law.

To report an HIV case, or to request HIV partner contact tracing or HIV case management services, contact DOH-Nassau, Disease Control, HIV services at (904) 530-6804, or -6812. Case reports or referrals may also be faxed to the confidential fax at (904) 277-7286.

Questions about ordering PrEP?

**Call the PrEPline (855) 448-7737
Clinician Consultation Center/UCSF
Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis Service
11 a.m. – 6 p.m. EST**

DECEMBER 2016: WORLD AIDS DAY EVENTS IN NORTHEAST FLORIDA

AIDS Memorial Quilt

The North Florida Chapter of the NAMES Project is providing panels of the national AIDS Memorial Quilt for viewing. An opening memorial ceremony will be held December 1, 2016, at noon in Jacksonville City Hall, to honor those represented in the panels of the quilt. The ceremony and the quilt display will be at the following location:

12:00PM at the Atrium of Jacksonville City Hall
117 W. Duval Street
Jacksonville, FL 32202

Event is free and open to the public.



World AIDS Day Service of Remembrance and Hope

Nondenominational event, remembering lives lost to HIV/AIDS and to offer hope to those who live with HIV/AIDS, in anticipation of a cure, and the elimination of new HIV infections.

Date: December 1, 2016 at 7:00PM
Location: Arlington Congregational Church
431 University Boulevard N.
Jacksonville, FL 32211

Event is free and open to the public.

For more events, visit the *Northeast Florida World AIDS Day* website at <https://neflworldaidsday.org/>

GLOBAL HEALTH NEWS

- ✦ Health officials in Peru confirmed that a 19 year old woman died of melioidosis in Lima. Melioidosis is mainly acquired through contact of small wounds on the skin with soil, muddy soil, or contaminated water, or can be acquired by ingestion or aspiration of contaminated water or inhalation of contaminated soil dust. Health officials are investigating to determine the origin of the infection.
- ✦ Taiwan's Centers for Disease Control announced on that they may have discovered a new type of lyssavirus in a bat carcass. Lyssaviruses, a genus that include the rabies virus, can be transmitted from animals to humans and are extremely deadly. Health officials say although the virus is not rabies, it may represent a new threat.
- ✦ Highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) virus H5N8 has been reported on poultry farms in Israel, Hungary, and India. Control measures for HPAI H5N8 outbreaks include culling exposed birds, controlling poultry movement, and disinfecting the premises. H5N8 has also been detected in wild birds in Switzerland and Germany.

THIRD QUARTER 2016: REPORTED STDs IN NASSAU COUNTY

Confirmed, Probable, Suspect, Unkown Cases of Multiple Diseases Reported in Third Quarter 2016 with Three-Year Period Comparison for Nassau County

Disease Name	Selection Date		Comparison Date 1		Comparison Date 2		Comparison Date 3	
	Cases	Percent	Cases	Percent	Cases	Percent	Cases	Percent
County: NASSAU								
Chlamydia	52	70.27%	49	77.78%	39	76.47%	43	79.63%
Gonorrhea	20	27.03%	12	19.05%	11	21.57%	11	20.37%
Syphilis	2	2.70%	2	3.17%	1	1.96%	0	0.00%
TOTAL:	74	100.00%	63	100.00%	51	100.00%	54	100.00%
STATEWIDE TOTAL								
Chlamydia	24358	72.39%	23416	73.73%	21296	75.38%	20881	75.60%
Gonorrhea	7232	21.49%	6452	20.32%	5241	18.55%	5515	19.97%
Syphilis	2057	6.11%	1891	5.95%	1715	6.07%	1224	4.43%
TOTAL:	33647	100.00%	31759	100.00%	28252	100.00%	27620	100.00%

VIBRIO VULNIFICUS

There has been some concern in the community recently about *Vibrio vulnificus*, a bacterium that is found in oysters and other shellfish and in warm coastal waters. The bacteria are naturally-occurring in warm, salty or brackish water and are present year-round in Florida, but infections are rare. The bacteria are often mislabeled as “flesh eating bacteria” and can cause disease in people who eat contaminated seafood or have an open wound that is exposed to warm seawater containing the bacteria. Ingestion of *Vibrio vulnificus* can cause vomiting, diarrhea, and abdominal pain. *Vibrio vulnificus* wound infections may cause redness, pain, swelling, and fluid-filled blisters around the site. *Vibrio vulnificus* can also cause bloodstream infections which are fatal about 50% of the time. Most healthy people get only mild disease, but people who have liver disease, diabetes, or are immunocompromised are at higher risk of serious disease.

It is important to remember that although *Vibrio vulnificus* occurs naturally in coastal waters in Florida, infections are rare (Figure 1). So far in 2016 (as of 11/10/16) there have been a total of 41 cases in Florida and 8 deaths. In 2016 there have been two cases in Nassau County residents with no deaths. Infections can be prevented by cooking shellfish such as oysters, clams, and mussels thoroughly before eating and avoiding cross-contamination of cooked seafood and other foods with raw seafood and juices from raw seafood. People with open wounds or broken skin should avoid exposing their wounds to warm salt or brackish water, or to raw shellfish harvested from such waters. Wounds should be covered with clean, dry bandages until they heal and protective clothing such as gloves should be worn when handling raw shellfish.

Good wound care should not be delayed after any cuts, scrapes, or breaks in the skin, even minor ones. If *Vibrio vulnificus* infection is suspected, antibiotic treatment should be initiated immediately to improve survival. For wound infections, skin grafts or amputations of the affected limb are sometimes required. For more information about *Vibrio vulnificus*, please visit http://www.floridahealth.gov/diseases-and-conditions/vibrio-infections/vibrio-vulnificus/index.html?utm_source=flhealthIndex and <http://www.cdc.gov/vibrio/index.html>

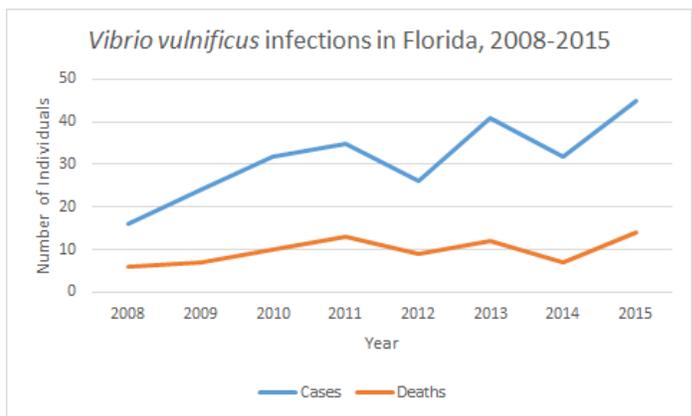


Figure 1. Historical data on *Vibrio vulnificus* cases in Florida, 2008-2015.

FLORIDA HEALTH GRAND ROUNDS

The Florida Health Grand Rounds will be a monthly webinar presentation during the fall and spring semesters given by a researcher from one of Florida's colleges or universities and hosted by the Florida Department of Health. The topics will have a broad focus, touching on emerging, innovative, and cross-cutting areas of public health. Florida Health Grand Rounds will:

- ✦ Provide an opportunity to learn about various topics and research in public health being carried out by Florida's top researchers
- ✦ Allow interaction with college and university researchers, leading to an exchange of ideas and collaborative partnerships
- ✦ Provide an opportunity for Florida researchers to highlight and share their work, leading to a more efficient transition to practice

The Florida Department of Health in Nassau County will be hosting Florida Health Grand Rounds at our Fernandina Beach admin building for Nassau County medical providers who are interested in learning more about public health research in Florida. The next presentation will be February 14, 2017. For more information, please visit: <http://www.floridahealth.gov/provider-and-partner-resources/research/florida-health-grand-rounds/index.html>

FLU SURVEILLANCE

Nassau County reported mild flu activity in week 45 (November 6-12). While influenza levels remain low, we are beginning to see more influenza-like illnesses in emergency departments and schools. There were no influenza outbreaks and no pneumonia and influenza (P & I) deaths in Nassau County reported in week 45.

State influenza and influenza-like illness (ILI) activity:

- ✦ Influenza activity increased, but remains at low levels across the state.
- ✦ In week 45, emergency department (ED) and urgent care center (UCC) visits for ILI increased, but remain similar to levels seen in previous seasons at this time.
- ✦ In week 45, respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) activity in children <5 years old decreased slightly, but remains notably above levels observed in previous seasons at this time.
- ✦ In week 45, the preliminary estimated number of deaths due to pneumonia and influenza (P&I) decreased and is below levels seen in previous seasons at this time.
- ✦ In week 45, all counties reported "mild" or no influenza activity.

County Influenza Activity Level for Week 45

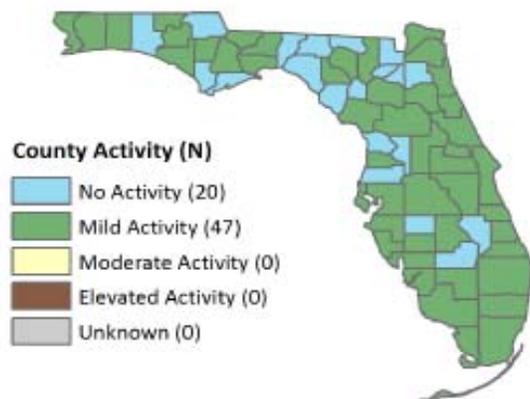


Figure 2. Florida flu activity level reported in week 45.

- ✦ No influenza-associated pediatric deaths were reported in week 45.
- ✦ No influenza-associated pediatric deaths have been reported so far this season.
- ✦ Annual vaccination remains the best way to protect children against influenza infection. Now is the perfect time to get your annual vaccine.
- ✦ Thanksgiving is a time families get together; get vaccinated now so that next week you pass the turkey, not the flu!
- ✦ In week 45, no outbreaks of influenza or ILI were reported.
- ✦ Since the start of the 2016-17 influenza season, the most common influenza subtype detected at the Bureau of Public Health Laboratories (BPHL) has been influenza A (H3).

National influenza activity:

- ✦ Influenza continues to circulate at low levels nationally. In recent weeks, influenza and ILI activity remained below the national baseline.
- ✦ While the timing and severity of influenza seasons vary and are unpredictable, flu activity is expected to increase in the coming weeks.
- ✦ In recent weeks, influenza A (H3) has been the most common subtype reported to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) by public health laboratories across the nation.
- ✦ For the 2016-17 season, CDC recommends use of inactivated influenza vaccines (IIV) or recombinant influenza vaccines (RIV). Live attenuated influenza vaccines (LAIV) should not be used during the 2016-17 influenza season. This recommendation follows poor or relatively lower effectiveness of LAIV between 2013 and 2016. To learn more, please visit: http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/rr/rr6505a1.htm?s_cid=rr6505a1_w.
- ✦ CDC recommends annual influenza vaccination for everyone aged six months and older. People who have not been vaccinated against influenza should get vaccinated as soon as possible.
- ✦ Getting your annual flu vaccine aids in the protection of others who are more vulnerable to serious influenza complications, such as pregnant women, the elderly, young children, and people with chronic conditions like asthma or diabetes. Influenza can be more serious for these individuals and the best way to protect them is by getting your flu vaccine every year.
- ✦ There is increased risk for highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) H5 virus identification in birds as we enter the fall migratory season. HPAI H5 has not been identified in Florida birds and would be expected to be seen in more northerly states first, but identifications are possible. To date, only one wild duck in Alaska has tested positive for HPAI H5 since November 2015. No human HPAI infections have been identified in Florida or other states.

Source: <http://www.floridahealth.gov/diseases-and-conditions/influenza/florida-influenza-surveillance-reports/index.html>

ARBOVIRUS SURVEILLANCE

WNV activity: No human cases of WNV infection were reported this week. No horses with WNV infection were reported this week. No sentinel chickens tested positive for antibodies to WNV this week. In 2016, positive samples from 178 sentinel chickens, six humans, one horse, and five mosquito pools have been received from 22 counties.

SLEV activity: No human cases of SLEV infection were reported this week. No sentinel chickens tested positive for antibodies to SLEV this week. In 2016, six positive samples from sentinel chickens have been received from two counties.

EEEV activity: No human cases of EEEV infection were reported this week. One horse with EEEV infection was reported this week in Marion County. Four sentinel chickens tested positive for antibodies to EEEV this week in Leon, Manatee, Nassau, and Orange Counties. In 2016, positive samples from 85 sentinel chickens and 23 horses have been received from 24 counties.

International Travel-Associated Dengue Fever Cases: No new cases of dengue fever were reported this week in persons that had international travel. In 2016, 40 travel-associated cases have been reported.

Dengue Fever Cases Acquired in Florida: No new cases of locally acquired dengue fever were reported this week in Miami-Dade County. In 2016, two cases of locally acquired dengue fever have been reported.

International Travel-Associated Chikungunya Fever Cases: No cases of chikungunya fever were reported this week. In 2016, six travel-associated cases have been reported.

Chikungunya Fever Cases Acquired in Florida: No cases of locally acquired chikungunya fever were reported this week. In 2016, no cases of locally acquired chikungunya fever have been reported.

Source: http://www.floridahealth.gov/diseases-and-conditions/mosquito-borne-diseases/_documents/2016/week45arbovirusreport-11-12-16.pdf

OCTOBER 2016: REPORTED CASES IN NASSAU COUNTY

Confirmed, Probable, Suspect, Unkown Cases of Multiple Diseases with Report Date 10/01/2016 to 10/31/2016 with Three-Year Period Comparison for Nassau County

Disease Name	Selection Date		Comparison Date 1		Comparison Date 2		Comparison Date 3	
	10/01/16 - 10/31/16		10/01/15 - 10/31/15		10/01/14 - 10/31/14		10/01/13 - 10/31/13	
	Cases	Percent	Cases	Percent	Cases	Percent	Cases	Percent
County: NASSAU								
Campylobacteriosis	2	7.69%	0	0.00%	2	10.53%	1	5.56%
Cryptosporidiosis	2	7.69%	0	0.00%	1	5.26%	1	5.56%
Escherichia coli, Shiga Toxin-Producing (STEC) Infection	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	1	5.26%	0	0.00%
Giardiasis, Acute	1	3.85%	0	0.00%	1	5.26%	0	0.00%
Hepatitis B, Chronic	0	0.00%	1	6.25%	0	0.00%	2	11.11%
Hepatitis C, Chronic	12	46.15%	10	62.50%	3	15.79%	4	22.22%
Lyme Disease	1	3.85%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Pertussis	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	3	15.79%	2	11.11%
Rabies, Animal	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	1	5.56%
Rabies, Possible Exposure	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	1	5.26%	1	5.56%
Salmonellosis	6	23.08%	4	25.00%	6	31.58%	5	27.78%
Shigellosis	1	3.85%	1	6.25%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Varicella (Chickenpox)	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	1	5.26%	0	0.00%
Vibriosis (Vibrio parahaemolyticus)	1	3.85%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Vibriosis (Vibrio vulnificus)	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	1	5.56%
TOTAL:	26	100.00%	16	100.00%	19	100.00%	18	100.00%
STATEWIDE TOTAL								
Campylobacteriosis	278	5.19%	272	5.93%	241	4.59%	201	4.83%
Cryptosporidiosis	80	1.49%	80	1.74%	347	6.61%	67	1.61%
Escherichia coli, Shiga Toxin-Producing (STEC) Infection	55	1.03%	28	0.61%	41	0.78%	47	1.13%
Giardiasis, Acute	80	1.49%	97	2.11%	129	2.46%	97	2.33%
Hepatitis B, Chronic	422	7.88%	374	8.15%	443	8.44%	355	8.54%
Hepatitis C, Chronic	2575	48.11%	2019	43.99%	2126	40.50%	1537	36.96%
Lyme Disease	31	0.58%	16	0.35%	9	0.17%	14	0.34%
Pertussis	25	0.47%	26	0.57%	34	0.65%	121	2.91%
Rabies, Animal	9	0.17%	10	0.22%	9	0.17%	8	0.19%
Rabies, Possible Exposure	292	5.46%	276	6.01%	234	4.46%	193	4.64%
Salmonellosis	826	15.43%	752	16.38%	928	17.68%	868	20.87%
Shigellosis	112	2.09%	136	2.96%	217	4.13%	175	4.21%
Varicella (Chickenpox)	32	0.60%	55	1.20%	45	0.86%	59	1.42%
Vibriosis (Vibrio parahaemolyticus)	8	0.15%	5	0.11%	3	0.06%	7	0.17%
Vibriosis (Vibrio vulnificus)	7	0.13%	7	0.15%	9	0.17%	12	0.29%
Other remaining conditions in FL (not shared w/ Nassau County)	520	9.72%	437	9.52%	434	8.27%	398	9.57%
TOTAL:	5352	100.00%	4590	100.00%	5249	100.00%	4159	100.00%

HEALTH BULLETINS, ADVISORIES AND ALERTS

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

- ✦ The State Surgeon General issued a Declaration of Public Health Emergency for Nassau County on September 12, 2016 following the first *travel related* case of Zika virus infection in a Nassau County resident. As there have been no additional cases of Zika virus infection identified in Nassau County, the Declaration of Public Health Emergency expired on November 11, 2016. To date **there have been no non-travel related Zika virus infections identified in Nassau County**, and only one travel-related Zika virus infection.
- ✦ 10/25/16 Media Release: Tips for a Healthy and Safe Halloween
- ✦ Epigrams are now available online at <http://www.floridahealth.gov/diseases-and-conditions/influenza/florida-influenza-surveillance-reports/index.html>