

Reportable Diseases

in York Region 2000 to 2015

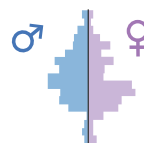
This report contains a summary of descriptive epidemiology for reportable diseases for the period between 2000 and 2015, including relevant comparisons to provincial data where available.

Purpose:

Reportable Diseases in York Region 2000 to 2015 is a resource for York Region residents, public health practitioners and health professionals involved in the management and control of infectious diseases. As a health unit, York Region Public Health is responsible for controlling the spread of these diseases.



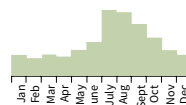
Incidence trends over time



Age/sex distribution



Comparisons to provincial data



Seasonality

Selected findings

Enteric diseases

- Most enteric diseases are seasonal with a peak in the summer months, especially infections that are likely locally-acquired
- Most enteric infections occur more frequently in the very young
- Many of the enteric diseases occur in clusters arising from a common source. York Region Public Health has identified and mitigated multiple sources of reportable enteric diseases

Respiratory and direct contact diseases

- Legionellosis and invasive group A streptococcal disease have seasonal distributions
- The incidence of active tuberculosis is decreasing
- Encephalitis/meningitis conditions caused by communicable infectious agents often occur in clusters

Sexually transmitted and blood-borne infections

- The incidence of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) increased in York Region; however, the incidence rates were lower than Ontario's
- The proportion of STI cases that reported higher risk sexual behaviours increased
- Infectious syphilis and HIV infection were more often reported in males and large proportion of cases reported having sex with males
- About 13 per cent of HIV cases had AIDS at the time of virus detection
- Incidence of hepatitis B and C decreased in York Region

Vaccine preventable diseases

- Several diseases once common in Ontario are now very rare due to successful vaccination programs, and the impact of vaccination programs can be seen in the incidence of other vaccine preventable diseases
- Influenza results in a high burden of illness in York Region, especially influenza A virus
- Laboratory-confirmed influenza and invasive pneumococcal disease age-specific incidence is higher among the very young and adolescents

Vector-borne and zoonotic diseases

- Many of the reportable vector-borne and zoonotic diseases are very rare in York Region
- Incidence of Lyme disease in York Region is increasing
- West Nile Virus and Lyme disease, both vector-borne diseases endemic in Ontario, are much more common in the summer months

Outbreaks

- York Region Public Health investigates approximately 100 outbreaks each year
- Enteric and respiratory outbreaks are seasonal, occurring more often in winter months

Public health response to global issues

- Includes York Region Public Health's response to global public health issues including: Severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS), 2009–2010 H1N1 influenza pandemic, outbreaks of Ebola virus disease and Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus (MERS-CoV)