



EPI WATCH

Monthly Epidemiology Newsletter

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Division of Disease Control and Health Protection

Disease Reporting

To report diseases and clusters of illness:

Phone: (727) 824-6932
Fax: (727) 484-3865
(excluding HIV/AIDS)

To report HIV/AIDS by mail:

Surveillance Room 3-138
205 Dr. MLK Jr St. N

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Locally Acquired Malaria Cases Identified in the United States

June 26, 2023

Summary

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is issuing this Health Alert Network (HAN) Health Advisory to share information and notify clinicians, public health authorities, and the public about—

1. Identification of locally acquired malaria cases (*P. vivax*) in two U.S. states ([Florida](#) and [Texas](#)) within the last 2 months,
2. Concern for a potential rise in imported malaria cases associated with increased international travel in summer 2023, and
3. Need to plan for rapid access to IV artesunate, which is the first-line treatment for severe malaria in the United States.

Background

CDC is collaborating with two U.S. state health departments with ongoing investigations of locally acquired mosquito-transmitted *Plasmodium vivax* malaria cases. There is no evidence to suggest the cases in the two states (Florida and Texas) are related. In [Florida](#), four cases within close geographic proximity have been identified, and active surveillance for additional cases is ongoing. Mosquito surveillance and control measures have been implemented in the affected area. In [Texas](#), one case has been identified, and surveillance for additional cases, as well as mosquito surveillance and control, are ongoing. All patients have received treatment and are improving.

Recommendations

- Consider the diagnosis of malaria in any person with a fever of unknown origin, regardless of international travel history, particularly if they have been to the areas with recent locally acquired malaria.
- Treatment recommendations for malaria vary by species and severity. Please refer to [CDC's Malaria Diagnosis and Treatment Guidelines for U.S. Clinicians](#) for specific detailed instructions.
- Have malaria diagnostic tests available (blood smear or [BinaxNow™ rapid diagnostic test \[RDT\]](#) followed by blood smear) and ensure that qualified personnel who can perform and interpret these tests are always available.
- Report all cases to DOH-Pinellas at 727-824-6932

Select Reportable Diseases in Pinellas County

Disease	Pinellas		YTD Total		Pinellas County Annual Totals		
	May 2023	May 2022	Pinellas 2023	Florida 2023	2022	2021	2020
A. Vaccine Preventable							
Coronavirus 2019	1161	9337	11059	267697	119224	103356	44852
Measles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mpox	0	0	3	41	162	0	0
Mumps	0	0	0	8	0	1	1
Pertussis	1	1	1	33	2	1	8
Varicella	0	3	14	242	24	25	18
B. CNS Diseases & Bacteremias							
Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (CJD)	0	0	0	23	3	1	0
Meningitis (Bacterial, Cryptococcal, Mycotic)	0	1	3	48	12	5	5
Meningococcal Disease	1	0	1	24	2	1	2
C. Enteric Infections							
Campylobacteriosis	27	21	97	1761	208	213	247
Cryptosporidiosis	2	1	16	279	38	28	38
Cyclosporiasis	0	0	0	16	21	9	9
<i>E. coli</i> Shiga Toxin (+)	0	1	15	397	29	16	10
Giardiasis	0	4	11	506	34	29	28
Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome (HUS)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Listeriosis	0	0	0	12	3	3	2
Salmonellosis	9	10	54	1945	174	182	200
Shigellosis	4	2	25	478	37	37	19
D. Viral Hepatitis							
Hepatitis A	0	3	0	64	20	6	3
Hepatitis B: Pregnant Woman +HBsAg	0	1	5	223	20	10	18
Hepatitis B, Acute	2	0	11	320	33	51	40
Hepatitis C, Acute	6	19	45	608	120	91	117
E. Vectorborne/Zoonoses							
Animal Rabies	0	0	0	26	0	0	0
Rabies, possible exposure	17	19	77	2446	151	135	118
Chikungunya Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dengue fever	0	0	0	108	7	0	1
Eastern Equine Encephalitis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lyme Disease	0	0	2	49	12	7	11
Malaria	1	0	3	20	4	2	2
West Nile Virus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Zika Virus Disease	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
F. Others							
Hansen's Disease	0	0	1	11	0	0	0
Legionellosis	0	3	3	142	38	36	33
Mercury Poisoning	0	0	0	12	0	2	1
Tuberculosis	5	3	9	239	22	21	24
<i>Vibrio</i> Infections	0	0	4	111	13	12	18
G. Sexually Transmitted Infections							
	Pinellas		YTD Total		Pinellas County Annual Totals		
	May 2023	May 2022	Pinellas 2023	Pinellas 2022	2022	2021	2020
Chlamydia	324	337	2033	1990	4027	4090	3956
Gonorrhea	145	169	824	951	1734	1883	1634
Syphilis, Total	42	71	310	379	879	634	479
Syphilis, Infectious (Primary and Secondary)	27	26	167	158	336	274	212
Syphilis, Early Latent	15	29	106	150	269	239	166
Syphilis, Late Syphilis (Late Latent; Neurosyphilis)	8	13	36	67	5	7	5
Syphilis, Congenital	0	0	1	4	269	114	96

*YTD up to May 31, 2023. n/a = not available at this time