Surveys and Surveillance

Alaska Division of Public Health (ADPH)

ANTHC Epidemiology Center

Arctic Investigations Program (CDC-AIP)

ANTHC and CDC-AIP
ADPH Surveillance and Registries

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State of Alaska DHSS and DPH

Health and Social Services
- Office of the Commissioner
- Alaska Pioneer Homes
- Behavioral Health
- Health Care Services
- Juvenile Justice
- Office of Children's Services
- Public Assistance
- Public Health
- Vocational Rehabilitation Services
- Finance and Management Services

Division of Public Health
- Public Health Home
- Director's Office
- Chronic Disease Prevention & Health Promotion
- Emergency Programs
- Epidemiology
- Health Planning & Systems Development
- Laboratories
- Public Health Nursing
- State Medical Examiner
- Vital Statistics
- Women's, Children's & Family Health
What is Surveillance...

Ongoing
Systematic collection and analysis
Interpretation
Dissemination
Links to public health practice
Notice to Readers: Unexplained Deaths Following Knee Surgery --- Minnesota, November 2001 (November 2001)


FDA ISSUES ORDER TO RECALL AND TO PREVENT FURTHER USE OF HUMAN TISSUE PROCESSED AT CRYOLIFE, INC (August 2002)
Data Sources

Notifiable diseases
Registries
Surveys

...many others

Laboratory specimens
Vital records
Sentinel surveillance
Administrative data systems
Conditions Reportable to Public Health in Alaska

This site provides information to help health care providers and laboratories comply with public health reporting requirements in Alaska. Further assistance may be obtained by calling the Section of Epidemiology at 1-907-269-8000.

A Frequently Asked Questions document has been created – ReportingFAQ.pdf.

To report Public Health Emergencies call (907) 269-8000 or after hours (800) 478-0084

Please Note: An updated Conditions Reportable Manual is being prepared and will include new information about numerous conditions as announced in the Dec 2013 Epidemiology Bulletin. In the interim, posters that list all infectious diseases/pathogens reportable by health care providers and laboratories are available here:

- Infectious Diseases Reportable by Health Care Providers
- Infectious Diseases Reportable by Laboratories

What Is Reportable

by Laboratories
- Infectious Diseases

by Health Care Providers
- Infectious Diseases
  - Elevated Blood Lead
  - Firearm Injury
  - Cancer
  - Birth Defects
  - Other Reportable Conditions

How to Report

Methods
- Rapid Telephonic Reporting
- Fax
- Phone
- Mail

Report Forms
- Influenza-Associated Mortality
- Infectious Diseases
- STD/HIV
- Elevated Blood Lead
- Firearm Injury
Infectious Disease Counts

State of Alaska Epidemiology Bulletin

Department of Health and Social Services
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2012 Annual (January–December) Infectious Disease Report

Confirmed and probable cases of infectious diseases reported to the Alaska Section of Epidemiology (SOE) from January 1 through December 31, 2012 are presented in the table below. This table includes both military and civilian reports. Cases without a known onset date were attributed to the date of specimen collection, diagnosis, or report to SOE, whichever was earliest. National reporting standards assign cases to the patient’s state of residence (case definitions are available at: http://wwwn.cdc.gov/nndss/).

Because not all reportable conditions are diagnosed or reported, these figures represent trends for some diseases rather than the actual incidence or burden of disease in Alaska. There were no cases of several reportable diseases; for a complete list of diseases mandated by regulation to be reported to Alaska public health authorities is available online (available at: http://www.epi.alaska.gov/pubs/conditions/). A supplemental report showing 5-year trend data and disease summaries for select reportable conditions is available at: http://www.epi.alaska.gov/id/reports/ID_Summary_2008-2012.pdf

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Botulism in Alaska

Figure 1. Botulism outbreaks, cases, and deaths, by year — Alaska, 1950 to 2010.
Alaska Injury Surveillance

Occupational Injury
Firearm Injury Reporting Surveillance System
AK Violent Death Reporting System (AKVDRS)
Alaska Drowning Database
Alaska Trauma Registry (ATR)
Hospital / ED Discharge Databases (HDDS/EDDS)
Alaska Workers Compensation
www.epi.Alaska.gov
Alaska Cancer Registry

Est. in 1994 with funding from National Program of Cancer Registries
Collecting cancer data for AK patients diagnosed as of January 1, 1996
Data from hospitals, physicians, pathology labs, and other state cancer registries
Data Elements Collected

Including but not limited to:

- Occurrence of cancer (incidence)
- Types of cancer (site, histology, behavior)
- Extent of disease at time of diagnosis (stage)
- Treatment received
- Outcomes of treatment (vital status & survival)
The Alaska Cancer Registry (ACR) is a population-based cancer surveillance system and is funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). ACR collects data on all newly diagnosed cases of cancer (including benign brain) for the State of Alaska. The registry operates under several statutes and regulations required for compliance with the Cancer Registries Amendment Act, Public Law 102-515: Alaska Administrative Code 7 AAC 27.011 - Reporting of cancer and brain tumors, and Alaska Statutes Sec. 18.05.042 - Access to health care records.

Purpose of the Registry

ACR collects a wide variety of information to determine cancer incidence, mortality, treatment and survival. The data are used to:

- determine the incidence of cancer in Alaska with respect to geographic and demographic characteristics
- monitor incidence trends
- monitor trends in treatment and survival rates
- support cancer control programs
Birth Defects Registry

Reportable up to 6 years of age

Based on ICD-9 codes

Sentinel conditions undergo case verification

DPH Surveys

Alaska Native Health Research Conference
March 27, 2014
Surveys and Surveillance Breakout Session
Surveys

• Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey (BRFSS) – the “Standard” BRFSS
• Supplemental BRFSS
• Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS)
• Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring Survey (PRAMS)
• Childhood Understanding Behaviors Survey (CUBS)
BRFSS

General health status, risk and protective behaviors and chronic disease prevalence

3,000 landline & 1,280 cell phone surveys in 2014

Adults age 18+ years
Supplemental BRFSS

• 2004 - present
• Funded by Chronic Disease programs not CDC
• Same methods as BRFSS
• 2014: 3,150 landline surveys, 1,350 Cell Phone
• Some of the same questions as BRFSS
• Focused on tobacco use and attitudes
9th – 12th grade students

Behaviors among youth causing the most important health problems

YRBS
Requires **active** parental consent in Alaska  
(AS 14.03.110)

**Active consent:** A student is not allowed to participate unless the parent returns a signed permission form. (opt in) *

**Passive consent:** A student is excluded from the survey if the parent returns a signed form denying permission. (opt out)*

* Both provide parent notification, chance to review the survey, and permission form
PRAMS & CUBS

- Randomly samples approximately 1/6 of all live births in Alaska
- Oversamples LBW and Alaska Native births
- 2-6 months after birth and 3 years later
- Questionnaires change every 3-4 years
Data Weighting

10,904 registered birth certificates

1,887 sampled women

1,410 PRAMS respondents

577 CUBS respondents
Contact Information

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