



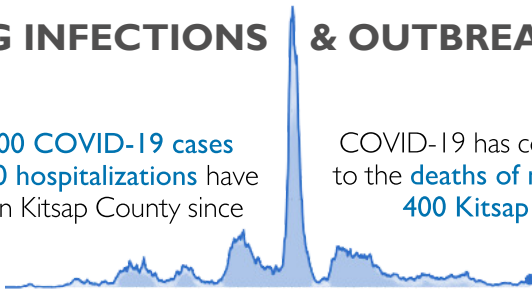
KITSAP COUNTY TRENDS IN COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

Communicable diseases – or infectious diseases – are diseases caused by organisms such as bacteria, viruses, parasites, or fungi. They can be transmitted from person to person, or from animals, insects, contaminated food or water, or organisms naturally occurring in the environment. Understanding what communicable diseases look like in our community, and understanding how they are influenced by other fields (policies, environment, socio-economic factors, etc.) is key to helping keep our community healthy and safe.

EMERGING INFECTIONS & OUTBREAKS

COVID-19

More than **54,000 COVID-19 cases** and nearly **3,000 hospitalizations** have been reported in Kitsap County since March of 2020.



COVID-19 has contributed to the **deaths of more than 400 Kitsap residents.**

MPOX

5 cases of mpox (monkeypox) and

18 close contacts were identified in Kitsap in 2022.

IMMUNIZATIONS



Kitsap Public Health estimates that 37% - 48% of Kitsap residents (all ages) receive a **seasonal flu vaccine.**

REPORTABLE DISEASES

Kitsap Public Health is responsible for monitoring and investigating more than 100 reportable conditions, as defined by state law. Examples include:

TUBERCULOSIS

31 tuberculosis (TB) cases were reported in Kitsap from 2013 through 2022, including two deaths caused by TB.

HEPATITIS C

About 100-300 new chronic hepatitis C diagnoses are reported in Kitsap each year. An increasing proportion of new diagnoses are among young adults.

SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTIONS (STIs)



As of 2019, there were an estimated

345 people living with HIV

in Kitsap County.

In 2022, Kitsap reported:



DISPARITIES IN COMMUNICABLE DISEASE IMPACTS



EMERGING INFECTIONS & OUTBREAKS

- **COVID-19:** Some racial and ethnic groups experienced higher mortality rates from COVID-19, including people who identified as Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, American Indian/Alaska Native, Hispanic, or Black.
- **Mpox:** Nationally and in Washington, mpox predominately affected gay, bisexual men, and other men who have sex with men.



REPORTABLE DISEASES

- **Tuberculosis (TB)** disproportionately impacts specific populations such as:
 - People experiencing homelessness
 - People who are incarcerated
 - People born in countries with a high TB burden
- **Hepatitis C** response is significantly underfunded and with additional resources, could dramatically improve patient support, treatment, and health outcomes.



IMMUNIZATIONS & VACCINE-PREVENTABLE DISEASES

- **Insurance status matters:** A recent analysis of 2018 National Health Interview Survey data showed that compared to insured adults, adults with no health insurance were over 60% less likely to have received an influenza vaccine in the past 12 months.
- **Flu vaccine:** Washington residents ages 65 and older are much more likely to receive a seasonal flu vaccine than younger residents.



SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTIONS (STI)

- The CDC identifies three demographics **most at risk for sexually transmitted infections:**
 - Gay and bisexual men (gonorrhea, syphilis, HIV)
 - Young adults aged 15-24 (chlamydia, gonorrhea)
 - Certain racial groups (chlamydia, gonorrhea, syphilis)
- **Homelessness, addiction, and trauma** can increase a person's risks for STIs (including HIV).

SOURCES

- Public Health surveillance data
- Coronavirus (COVID-19) Dashboard, World Health Organization (2023)
- COVID-19 immunization series data, Department of Defense (2023)
- COVID-19 morbidity and mortality data, Washington State Department of Health (2020-2023)
- Tuberculosis (TB) summary brief, Washington State Department of Health (2022)
- Surveillance data on sexually transmitted infections, Washington State Department of Health (2022)

LEARN MORE



VIEW THE FULL REPORT



Kitsap Public Health published a detailed Community Health Assessment in 2023. Scan the code with a smartphone camera to view the full report.

HAVE QUESTIONS?

We'd love to provide any answers that we can.

Our office is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. every weekday. Call 360-728-2235.



Reach us via email at epi@kitsappublichealth.org.

