



Communicable Disease - Epidemiology June 2014

The Office of Communicable Disease Epidemiology (CDE) is responsible for surveillance of more than 66 of Washington State's approximately 80 notifiable conditions. These notifiable conditions are categorized as vaccine preventable, foodborne, waterborne, and zoonotic diseases, acute hepatitis, influenza, botulism, prion disease, diseases of suspected bioterrorism origin, emerging conditions with outbreak potential, diseases that result in unexplained critical illness or death, and other rare diseases of public health significance.

Services

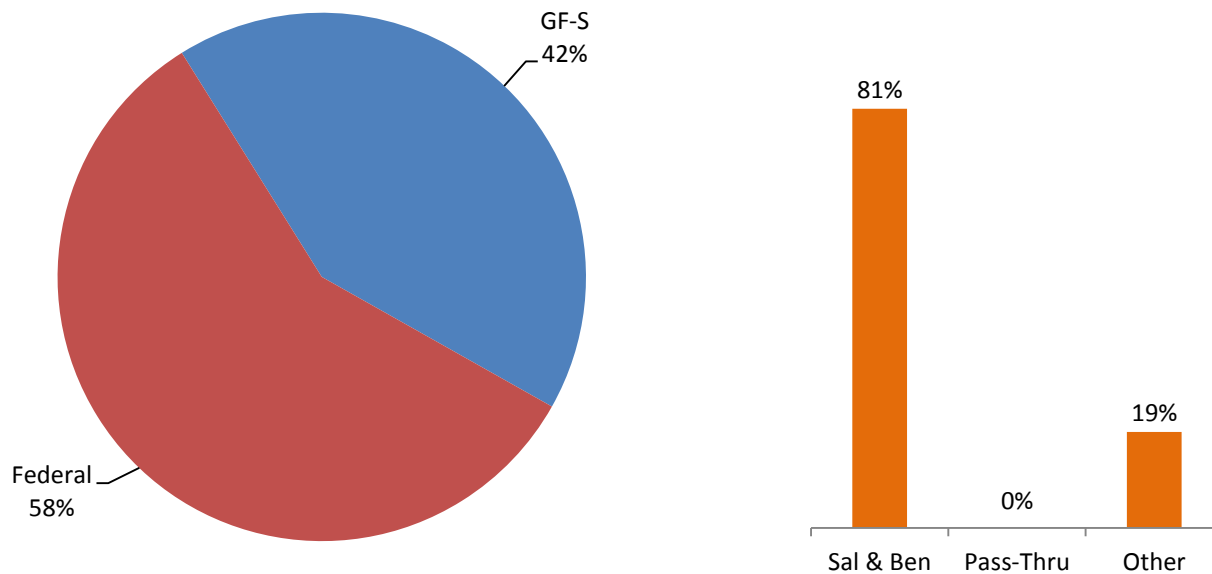
- **Surveillance:** In Washington State, health care providers and laboratories report information about communicable disease cases to their local health jurisdictions (LHJs). LHJs then transmit this information to the Department of Health (DOH) using an electronic reporting system. CDE analyzes the surveillance data and transmits this information to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. CDE also provides aggregate morbidity summaries through monthly and annual publications. In addition, CDE tracks results of specialized laboratory tests conducted by Public Health Laboratories in order to identify clusters of matching strains of enteric bacteria such as Salmonella, and monitors data from hospitals to track communicable diseases in near-real time.
- **Investigations:** Develop and maintain standardized forms and guidelines for surveillance and reporting of each condition reported to the office. These documents are available on-line at: <http://www.doh.wa.gov/ForPublicHealthandHealthcareProviders/NotifiableConditions/ListofNotifiableConditions.aspx>. We support LHJs in the investigation of both individual cases and outbreaks of communicable diseases, particularly foodborne conditions and vaccine preventable diseases. We give technical consultation, conduct case interviews when requested, coordinate inter-jurisdictional outbreaks, and facilitate laboratory testing. On-call epidemiologists are available to answer calls 24/7.
- **Education:** We provide education and training for public health and health care professionals on communicable disease prevention and control by presenting outreach information for local health jurisdictions, online webinar trainings, newsletters, and invited lectures.

Stakeholders

- Local health jurisdictions
- State agencies such as the Washington State Department of Agriculture
- Federal agencies such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Food and Drug Administration
- Health care industry such as:
 - Health care providers
 - Health care facilities
 - Microbiology laboratories
 - Veterinarians

2013-15 biennium

Communicable Disease Epidemiology Program Fiscal Information



	GF-S	Federal	Dedicated	Fees	Total	Sal & Ben	Pass-Thru	Other
Total	1,241,000	1,710,000	0	0	2,951,000	2,401,000	0	550,000

Recent Funding History

- Received \$930,000 in ARRA federal funding September 2009 through December 2011
- Received Affordable Care Act federal funding of \$352,000 effective August 2011 through July 2012; anticipate continued funding for four more years