

Infectious Disease and Environmental Health Report: July– December, 2015

Part 1: Mandatory Reporting						
1a) Confirmed Cases of Mandatory Reportable Diseases					Top 3 diseases for each disease category (July-December 2015):	
How It's Spread	2012	2013	2014	Jan-Jun 2015	Jul-Dec 2015	Respiratory/Direct Contact: 1. Latent (non-infectious) tuberculosis 2. Encephalitis/Meningitis 3. Influenza A Enteric, Foodborne & Waterborne: 1. Campylobacter enteritis 2. Salmonellosis 3. Giardiasis Vectorborne and Zoonotic: 1. Lyme Disease (100% of cases had travel-related exposure) 2. Malaria (100% of cases had travel-related exposure) 3. West Nile Virus Illness (50% of cases had local exposure) Sexually Transmitted/Bloodborne: 1. Chlamydial 2. All Types Gonorrhea 3. Hepatitis C
Respiratory or Direct Contact	1245	960	1235	1013	279	
Enteric, Foodborne & Waterborne	293	274	301	136	167	
Vectorborne and Zoonotic Diseases	35	24	11	6	11	
Sexually Transmitted & Bloodborne Infections	2100	1952	1899	982	999	
Other	31	24	35	< 5	13	
1b) Confirmed Outbreaks Reportable to Public Health						
Type of Outbreak	2012	2013	2014	Jan-Jun 2015	Jul-Dec 2015	
Community	15	2	8	1	3	
Institutional	95	131	107	105	24	
Part 2: Environmental Health						
2a) Mandatory Program Services						
Programs	Areas	2012	2013	2014	Jan-Jun 2015	Jul-Dec 2015
Vectorborne Disease	Animal Bites	1481	1348	1433	607	816
	Ticks Submitted ¹	88	373	146	289	63
Food	Special Events	62	67	76	35	36
	Food Handler Certifications	2485	2856	2696	1451	1151
	Red Signs Posted	n/a	n/a	26	12	19
Health Hazards	Heat Alerts	6	2	3	0	4
	Cold Alerts	3	7	13	8	0

¹The number of ticks submitted for species identification in 2015 was higher than the number submitted in 2014. This increase is believed to be due to an increase in public awareness of black-legged ticks and Lyme disease.

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2b) Inspection and Enforcement						<p>²The number of mandated inspections continues to increase, even though the number of licensed tobacco retailers has declined. We are now inspecting fewer premises more often. Recently introduced provincial legislative and regulatory changes will also bring more inspections and enforcement.</p> <p>³Compared to previous years, there was an increase in residential care facility inspections in 2015. This increase was driven by a surge in the number of re-inspections conducted.</p>
Categories	2012	2013	2014	Jan-Jun 2015	Jul-Dec 2015	
Smoke Free Ontario Act inspections (legal enforcement) ²	1625	1823	1760	947	693	
City of Hamilton By-law #11-080 Prohibiting Smoking within City Owned Parks and Recreation Property ²	37	46	56	18	38	
Food	6426	6326	6524	3476	3140	
Water	715	811	885	417	436	
Residential Care Facilities ³	663	576	567	323	348	
Personal Service Settings	979	851	946	418	553	
Day Cares	475	491	558	316	253	
Other (e.g. funeral homes)	170	166	225	110	91	
Part 3: Workload						
3a) Complaints						<p>⁴The increase in smoking complaints and follow-up enforcement checks is believed to be due to the introduction of new by-laws and heightened media attention.</p> <p>⁵Compared to 2014, the increase in vectorborne disease complaints this year is believed to be due to an increase in public awareness of black-legged ticks and Lyme disease.</p> <p>⁶There was an increase in health hazard complaints in 2015 compared to previous years. This increase was driven by a rise in complaints related to pests, particularly rats, cockroaches, bedbugs and mice.</p>
Categories	2012	2013	2014	Jan-Jun 2015	Jul-Dec 2015	
Smoke Free Ontario Act ⁴	285	242	241	214	121	
City of Hamilton By-law #11-080 Prohibiting Smoking within City Owned Parks and Recreation Property ⁴	133	111	32	21	18	
Food	383	402	415	180	136	
Water	39	46	47	24	11	
Vectorborne Disease ⁵	16	52	6	3	47	
Infection Control	46	122	119	63	66	
Health Hazards ⁶	1128	1066	1250	559	943	
3b) Education, Requests for Non-Routine Inspections, Consults, Referrals						

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Categories	2012	2013	2014	Jan-Jun 2015	Jul-Dec 2015	events and other special events in Hamilton.
Food⁷	293	311	378	229	211	
Water	484	478	547	252	228	
Vectorborne Disease	40	28	56	26	22	
Infection Control	536	444	409	209	371	
Health Hazard	286	316	234	115	152	

Part 4: Unusual Occurrences

There were no unusual occurrences in Q3/Q4.