

# EpiNews

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## Disease Highlights:

**Measles:** The Epidemiology Division investigated a case of possible rubeola, which was reported by a local pediatrician. The 10-year-old student from Boynton Beach was unimmunized and had traveled to Mexico during the incubation period. Due to the high communicability of the disease and severity of complications, immediate action was taken to identify other children in the school who had not received two doses of measles vaccine. Those children were excluded from school until documentation was provided showing the necessary vaccination was received. For several days, health department nurses were at the school to provide the measles vaccine to students and school personnel. The results of the lab tests for measles were available several days later and were negative.

**Influenza:** The Flu Season is now over. Both influenza A (H3N2) and B viruses circulated in the United States during the 1998-99 season. Type A predominated (77% of all typed isolates at WHO laboratories). Influenza activity peaked in the United States overall and in most areas of the country between early February and mid-March. The maximum number of isolates reported nationally during any one week occurred the week ending February 20, 1999, when 1,707 of 6,491 specimens tested at the WHO laboratories were positive for influenza.

**Florida:** Since September 23 and to date, there have been 272 isolates reported; 67 (25%) of these were type B, 205 (75%) type A. Of the influenza A isolates, 74 were typed; 68 (30%) were type A (H3N2) and 6 (3%) were type A (H1N1). Isolates have been reported from: Alachua (1), Brevard (5), Broward (27), Dade (5), Desoto (1), Duval (14), Hillsborough (54), Indian River (5), Jackson (2), Leon (20), Martin (2), Okaloosa (2), Orange (22), Osceola (1), Palm Beach (17), Pinellas (12), Polk (7), Sarasota (68), Seminole (2), St. John's (2) and Volusia (3) counties.

Source of Influenza Summary: Carina Blackmore, M.S. Vet. Med., Ph.D.; State of Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Epidemiology; EPI UPDATE, 05/27/99

## Communications:

**ICP Meeting:** The Disease Control staff would like to thank all those that attended the ICP meeting in April. It was a good opportunity to discuss issues and share information. We are planning to have another meeting in the fall.

**Congratulations!:** Michael Beard, Epidemiology Program Specialist and editor of *EpiNews*, has accepted a promotion with the Palm Beach County Health Department School Health Program. Although he is greatly missed here at Epi, we wish him much happiness and success in his new position. If you have any comments or suggestions for *EpiNews*, please forward them to Denise Pagan by phone, fax or mail.

## In the News:

**Rabies:** During April and May, there were two otters, three foxes and a raccoon that tested positive for rabies. The otters were both found near Summit Boulevard in West Palm Beach. The otters became very aggressive and attacked several dogs as well as two people.



**Communicable Diseases and Selected Public Health Indices  
Palm Beach County, Florida**

**Enteric, Hepatitis, Meningitis, AIDS, HIV, STD, TB,  
Live Births, Infant Deaths, Foodborne Outbreaks,  
Childhood Lead Testing**

**1st Quarter  
Jan-Mar 1999**

	<b>Number This Qtr.</b>	<b>Number To Date This Yr.</b>	<b>Number to Date Last Yr.</b>
<b><i>Enteric, Hepatitis, Meningitis</i></b>			
Campylobacteriosis	17	17	14
Shigellosis	27	27	55
Salmonellosis	29	29	35
Hepatitis A	6	6	14
Giardiasis	4	4	11
Hepatitis B	2	2	4
Meningitis & Invasive Disease due to Neisseria Meningitidis	4	4	2
Meningitis & Invasive Disease due to Haemophilus Influenzae	0	0	2
<b><i>AIDS</i></b>			
# New AIDS Cases Reported	116	116	150
Cumulative AIDS Cases Since 1980 (Adult)	6522	6522	6169
Cumulative AIDS Cases Since 1980 (Pediatric)	192	192	189
Cumulative AIDS Cases Since 1980 (Total)	6714	6714	6358
<b><i>HIV***</i></b>			
# HIV Tested	3202	3202	4195
# HIV Positive	134	134	165
% HIV Positive	4.2	4.2	3.9
<b><i>STD</i></b>			
Primary/Secondary Syphilis	9	9	2
Congenital Syphilis	0	0	0
Gonorrhea	217	217	216
Chlamydia	366	366	211
<b><i>Tuberculosis</i></b>			
Total Tuberculosis Cases	40	40	19
Total Tuberculosis Cases <15 Yrs. of Age	1	1	0
<b><i>Live Births</i></b>			
Total Infant Births	3041	3041	3117
Infant Births, White	2176	2176	2219
Infant Births, Non-White	863	863	895
<b><i>Infant Deaths</i></b>			
Total Infant Deaths	19	19	10
Infant Deaths, White	14	14	6
Infant Deaths, Non-White	5	5	4
<b><i>Food Related Complaints and Outbreaks</i></b>			
Number of Complaints	79	79	88
Suspected Foodborne Illness Outbreaks	2	2	5
Confirmed Foodborne Illness Outbreaks	0	0	0
<b><i>Childhood Lead Testing</i></b>			
Lead Poisoning (Venous Testing >=10)	6	6	20

Data provided is provisional  
 N/A = Not Applicable  
 \*\*\*Data Representing PBCHD clients only  
 \*\*Data Unavailable