

Zoonotic diseases are diseases that can be spread between animals and humans. Zoonotic diseases can be caused by viruses, bacteria, parasites, and fungi through coming into contact with infected animals, being bitten by ticks or mosquitoes, or eating or drinking something unsafe (e.g. unpasteurized milk, undercooked meat, or unwashed fruits and vegetables that have been contaminated).*

Table 1 shows the number of cases of select viral-related zoonotic diseases reported in Sacramento County from 2012 through 2015. In 2015, 11 cases of viral-related zoonotic diseases were reported compared to 31 in 2012, which is a 65% decrease. Most notably, the total number of West Nile Virus (WNV) infections decreased by 86%, including an 84% decrease among neuroinvasive cases and an 89% decrease among non-neuroinvasive cases. However, the number of dengue cases doubled in 2015 with 6 cases compared to 3 cases in 2012 and 1 case of Chikungunya was reported compared to 0 between 2012 and 2014.

Table 2 shows the number of cases of select bacterial-related zoonotic diseases reported in Sacramento County during the same time period. In 2015, 7 cases of bacterial-related zoonotic diseases were reported, which is consistent with the number of cases reported in 2012.

Table 3 shows the number of cases of select parasitic-related zoonotic diseases reported in Sacramento County between 2012 and 2015. Only cases of malaria were reported, with 6 cases reported in 2015 compared to 4 cases in 2012, which is a 50% increase.

Table 1. Select Viral Zoonotic Diseases, Sacramento County, 2012-2015

Disease	2012	2013	2014	2015
Dengue	3	2	3	6
Chikungunya	0	0	0	1
Hantavirus infections	0	0	0	0
Rabies, human	0	0	0	0
West Nile Virus Infection	28	14	12	4
<i>Neuroinvasive Disease</i>	19	8	11	3
<i>Non-Neuroinvasive Disease</i>	9	6	1	1
Yellow Fever	0	0	0	0
Total	31	16	15	11

Table 2. Select Bacterial Zoonotic Diseases, Sacramento County, 2012-2015

Disease	2012	2013	2014	2015
Anaplasmosis/Ehrlichiosis ²	2	3	3	2
Brucellosis, human ²	1	0	0	0
Leptospirosis ¹	0	0	0	0
Lyme Disease ³	4	0	3	5
Plague, human ³	0	0	0	0
Relapsing Fever ¹	0	0	1	0
Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever ¹	0	0	0	0
Tularemia, human ²	0	0	0	0
Total	7	3	7	7

Table 3. Select Parasitic Zoonotic Diseases, Sacramento County, 2012-2015

Disease	2012	2013	2014	2015
Babesiosis ²	0	0	0	0
Malaria ⁴	4	3	7	6
Total	4	3	7	6

¹Includes confirmed cases

³Includes confirmed, probable, and suspect cases

²Includes confirmed and probable cases

⁴Includes confirmed and suspect cases

Protect yourself and your family from zoonotic diseases by performing good hand hygiene, handling food safely, prevent getting bitten by mosquitoes and ticks, and being aware of zoonotic diseases both at home and when traveling.*

*The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2013). One Health: Zoonotic Diseases. Retrieved from <http://www.cdc.gov/onehealth/zoonotic-diseases.html>