

# Flathead County Communicable Disease Weekly Report

This report provides the weekly report of communicable diseases in Flathead County. The data provided is provisional and may change as information is received.

**Table 1.** Communicable diseases in Flathead County\* compared to statewide data during week MMWR 27 (week ending 7/8/2023).

|                                      | Flathead County |                           | State of Montana |                           |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|------------------|---------------------------|
|                                      | MMWR Week 27    | Total (2023 Year-to-Date) | MMWR Week 27     | Total (2023 Year-to-Date) |
| <b>General Communicable Diseases</b> |                 |                           |                  |                           |
| Covid-19                             | 7               | 782                       | 129              | 11,646                    |
| Latent Tuberculosis                  | 1               | 9                         | 2                | 144                       |
| <b>Sexually Transmitted Diseases</b> |                 |                           |                  |                           |
| Chlamydia                            | 5               | 121                       | 52               | 1,861                     |
| <b>Vaccine Preventable Diseases</b>  |                 |                           |                  |                           |
| Streptococcus pneumoniae, invasive   | 1               | 10                        | 4                | 68                        |
| <b>Other Conditions</b>              |                 |                           |                  |                           |
| Animal Bites                         | 11              | 226                       | Not Reported     |                           |

Data Source: MTDPHHS Weekly Communicable Disease Epidemiology Report  
 \*Not all cases were contracted in Flathead County

## Additional Information:

Summary of Diseases in the State of Montana for **Week 27**

- Enteric Diseases: Campylobacteriosis (14), Cyclosporiasis (1), Giardiasis (1), Salmonellosis (2), Shiga toxin-producing Escherichia coli (STEC) (5)
- General Communicable Diseases: COVID-19 (129), Latent TB Infection (LTBI) (2)
- Hepatitis: Hepatitis C, chronic (18)
- STD/HIV: Chlamydia (52), Gonorrhea (7), Syphilis, congenital (1), Syphilis, primary or secondary (5), Syphilis, latent (6)
- Vaccine Preventable Diseases: Haemophilus influenzae, invasive (1), Pertussis (1), Streptococcus pneumoniae, invasive (4)
- Vector-Borne Diseases: Lyme disease (3)\*
- Zoonoses: Rabies, post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) (3)

\*Diseases acquired out of state

## Rabies Prevention Tips

Rabies is a fatal but preventable viral disease. It can spread to people and pets if they are bitten or scratched by a rabid animal. Bats, skunks and foxes are the leading sources of potential rabies in Montana.

- Do not feed or handle wild animals, especially bats  
If you have an exposure to a bat or find a bat inside your home, it is recommended that you contain the animal and contact your local public health for further instructions.
- Bat-proof your house or cabins  
Put screens on all windows, doors, and chimneys to prevent bats from entering. Cover outside entry points to prevent bats from roosting in attics or buildings.
- Avoid animal bites from domestic animals

Never attempt to pet stray animals and always ask the owners permission prior to petting their animal. Take proper precautions when attempting to rescue a feral animal.

- Vaccinate dogs and cats against rabies  
All dogs and cats should be up-to-date with their rabies vaccine and have a current rabies certificate.
- Watch for abnormal wild animal behavior

If you see an animal acting strangely, leave it alone and contact an animal control agency.