

Environmental | Public Health

2009 Update

This indicator is 1 of 44 Spokane Counts indicators found at www.srhd.org/SpokaneCounts

Vector-borne Diseases

Vector-borne diseases are carried and transmitted by insects or other organisms. Diseases included in this indicator are malaria, relapsing fever, lyme disease, and tularemia. Public health has long been involved in the prevention of vector-borne diseases. Of the vector-borne diseases diagnosed in Spokane County, only relapsing fever was contracted in Washington State. The remaining diseases were contracted in other geographic areas and diagnosed in Washington State. Due to the statistical instability of rates calculated by using small numbers, only the number of cases of vector-borne disease is reported. Although there have been relatively few cases of vector-borne diseases locally and in the state, they remain an important sentinel indicator of emerging disease.

Indicator: Selected Vector-borne Diseases

Number of cases

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	
Total	Spokane County	4	6	5	1	7
	Washington State	49	48	52	54	52

NOTE: National data not available.
Source: Spokane Regional Health District

In 2007, the 7 cases of vector-borne disease in Spokane County included malaria (1), relapsing fever (5), and lyme disease (1).