

Joplin & Jasper County Communicable Diseases

Newsletter

April-June 2018

Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever

Rocky Mountain spotted fever is a serious tickborne illness which can be deadly if not treated early. It is spread by several species of ticks in the United States, including the American dog tick (*Dermacentor variabilis*), Rocky Mountain wood tick (*Dermacentor andersoni*), and, in parts of the southwestern United States and Mexico, the brown dog tick (*Rhipicephalus sanguineus*). RMSF cases occur throughout the United States, but are most commonly reported from North Carolina, Tennessee, Missouri, Arkansas, and Oklahoma.

(Continued on page 2)



Source: [CDC](http://www.cdc.gov)

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Signs and Symptoms of RMSF

Early signs and symptoms are not specific to RMSF (including fever and headache). However, the disease can rapidly progress to a serious and life-threatening illness. See your health care provider if you become ill after having been bitten by a tick or having been in the woods or in areas with high brush where ticks commonly live.

Signs and symptoms can include:

- Fever
- Headache
- Rash
- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Stomach pain
- Muscle pain
- Lack of appetite

Rash is a common sign in people who are sick with RMSF. Rash usually develops 2-4 days after fever begins. The look of the rash can vary widely over the course of illness. Some rashes can look like red splotches and some look like pinpoint dots. While almost all patients with RMSF will develop a rash, it often does not appear early in illness, which can make RMSF difficult to diagnose.

Source: [CDC](#)



Late stage rash in patient with Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever.

Source: [CDC](#)

Treatment:

Doxycycline is the recommended antibiotic treatment for RMSF in adults and children of all ages.

Source: [CDC](#)

How to Prevent RMSF:

There is no vaccine to prevent RMSF. Prevent illnesses by preventing tick bites, preventing ticks on your pets, and preventing ticks in your yard. Ticks live in grassy, brushy, or wooded areas, or even on animals, so spending time outside camping, gardening, or hunting will bring you in close contact with ticks. Protect yourself, your family, and your pets.

To protect yourself from tick bites, be sure to wear insect repellent when you plan to be outside. Use Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-registered insect repellents containing DEET, picaridin, IR3535, Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus, or 2-undecanone.

- Do not use insect repellent on babies younger than 2 months old.
- Do not use products containing oil of lemon eucalyptus (OLE) or para-menthane-diol (PMD) on children under 3 years old.

When you come inside after spending time outdoors, check your clothing and body for ticks, and if any are found, remove them immediately.

Source: [CDC](#)



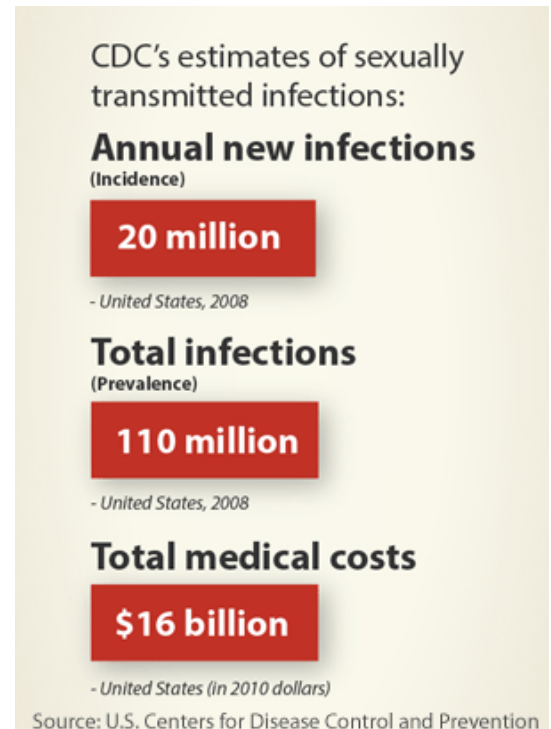
<https://health.mo.gov/living/healthcondiseases/communicable/2minutedrill/>

Communicable Diseases Reported Joplin City/Jasper County 2017 and 2018 (January 1-June 30)				
	Joplin City		Jasper County	
	2017	2018	2017	2018
Anaplasma Phagocytophilum	0	1	1	0
Campylobacteriosis	9	5	13	13
Coccidioidomycosis	0	0	1	0
Cryptosporidiosis	3	0	1	5
E. Coli Shiga Toxin Positive	0	0	2	3
E. Coli O157 H7	0	0	2	3
Ehrlichia Chaffeensis	3	3	6	4
Giardiasis	0	2	0	1
Haemophilus Influenzae, Invasive	0	0	4	0
Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome	0	0	1	0
Hepatitis A Acute	1	0	1	0
Hepatitis B	6	3	3	3
Hepatitis B (Pregnancy) Prenatal	0	1	1	0
Hepatitis B Acute	3	0	1	1
Hepatitis B Chronic Infection	7	5	2	2
Hepatitis C	2	2	1	2
Hepatitis C Chronic Infection	58	34	22	35
Influenza (Deaths)	1	7	1	6
Legionellosis	1	1	3	0
Lyme	0	0	2	0
MOTT	9	14	4	2
Mumps	6	0	8	0
Pertussis	1	0	1	1
Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever	3	6	5	32
Salmonellosis	4	3	3	7
Shigellosis	2	0	0	0
Staph Aureus VISA	0	1	0	0
Strep Pneumoniae Invasive	5	13	3	5
TB Disease	1	3	1	1
TB Infection	16	27	10	8
Varicella	3	0	4	8
Total Cases Per Year	144	131	106	142

Sexually Transmitted Diseases Jasper County January-April 2018	
	2018
Chlamydia	227
Gonorrhea	90
Syphilis	3
Total	320

According to the data, Jasper County has seen a total of 320 sexually transmitted disease cases from January through April of 2018. The majority of STD cases seen were positive for Chlamydia, followed by Gonorrhea and Syphilis respectively. Data for STD count is tracked by the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services and is subject to change as reports are collected.

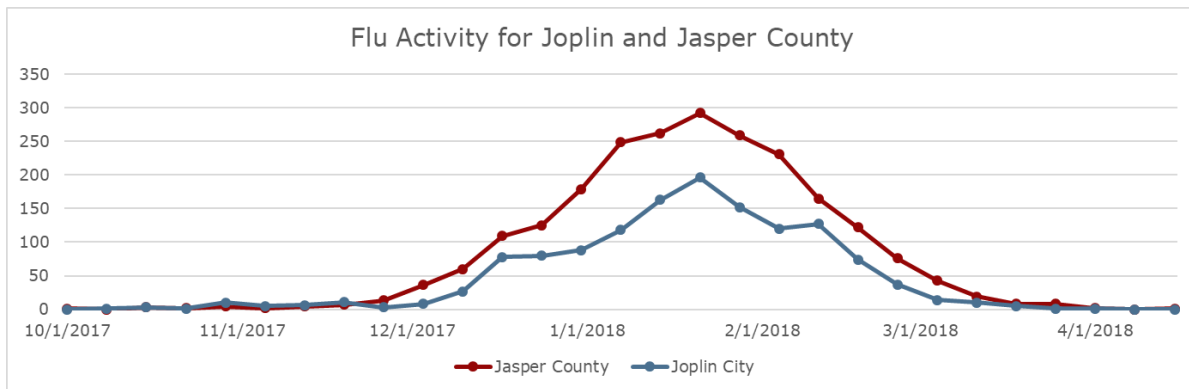
Source: DHSS



Key

2018 more than 2017	
2018 less than 2017	

Source: DHSS



*Source: Joplin City/Jasper County HD Flu Surveillance, 2017-2018. Data is from week beginning October 1, 2017 to week beginning May 13, 2018. Data is preliminary and is subject to change.

Jasper County		
Type of Influenza	Season TD	% of Total
Influenza A	1457	63.8
Influenza B	825	36.2
Unknown/Untyped	0	0
Total	2282	100

Joplin City		
Type of Influenza	Season TD	% of Total
Influenza A	847	63.3
Influenza B	490	36.6
Unknown/Untyped	2	.1
Total	1339	100

Jasper County		
Age Group	Season TD	% of Total
0-1	151	6.6
2-4	230	10.1
5-14	749	32.8
15-24	164	7.2
25-49	419	18.4
50-64	331	14.5
65+	238	10.4
Total	2282	100

Joplin City		
Age Group	Season TD	% of Total
0-1	97	7.2
2-4	167	12.5
5-14	402	30
15-24	112	8.4
25-49	212	15.8
50-64	150	11.2
65+	199	14.9
Total	1339	100

The 2017-2018 flu season saw significantly higher cases of influenza than last year's flu season. *The flu season was considered active from weeks beginning October 1, 2017-May 13, 2018. Joplin City (1339) and Jasper County (2282) had a combined total of **3,621** influenza cases. Both jurisdictions saw more cases of Influenza A, making up about 63% of cases, while Influenza B made up 36% of cases. These results are consistent with cases reported across the state of Missouri. The majority of cases of influenza were seen in the 5-14 age range followed by the 25-49 age group in both Joplin City and Jasper County.

This year's flu season was aggressive compared to last year's season. Because of the large amount of cases that were seen not only in Joplin and Jasper County, many healthcare systems that test for influenza used all of the available influenza tests before the end of the season. Consequently, it is possible that not all of the cases in Joplin and Jasper County were captured in the above data, and could also be the reason no cases were reported after mid-April.

Analysis of cases reported was based on age, type of influenza, and jurisdiction.