

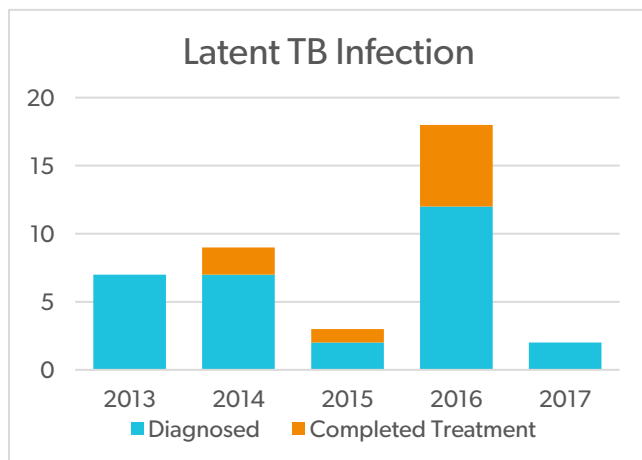
2017 COMMUNICABLE DISEASE REPORT

Each year, Transylvania Public Health produces an annual report of communicable diseases to be presented to the Board of Health and other interested community members. This report summarizes the communicable diseases investigated by and reported to the agency for calendar year 2017.

Some cases that were reported or investigated to local public health may not meet the criteria as defined in the Communicable Disease Manual issued by the NC Division of Public Health, based on guidance from the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Because those cases did not meet case definition, they are marked throughout this report as *DNMCD.

TUBERCULOSIS

No cases of active tuberculosis were identified in 2017, but public health followed 2 cases of latent tuberculosis.



	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Active TB	0	0	0	1	0
Latent TB Infection: [†]					
Diagnosed	7	9	3	18	2
Completed Tx	0	2	1	6	0
Class A/B TB ^{††}	1	0	0	1	0

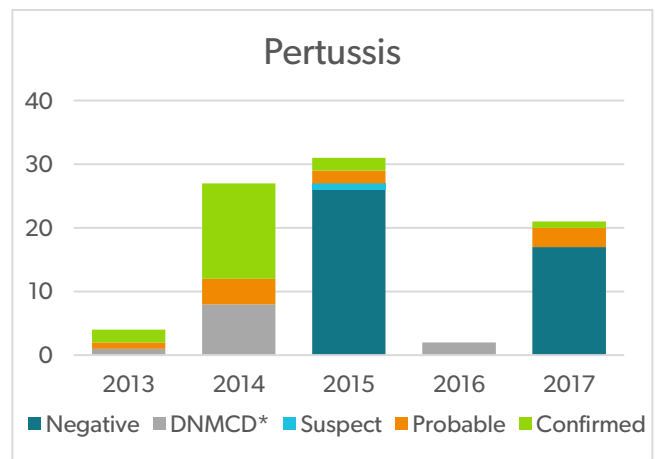
[†] Latent TB Infection = When a person does not feel sick and has no symptoms of tuberculosis. The individual was exposed to TB at some point in the past, but cannot spread TB to others.

^{††} Class A/B TB = When a person comes to the US from another country through immigration; they have a positive TB skin test but a clear chest x-ray, so they receive medical clearance.

AIRBORNE DISEASE

In 2017, 4 cases of pertussis were identified (1 confirmed and 3 probable). An additional 17 individuals were investigated but tested negative for pertussis.

One case of haemophilus influenza and no deaths from flu were reported in 2017.

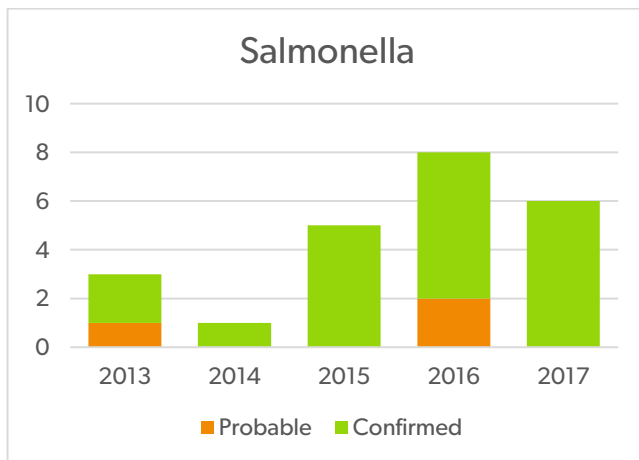
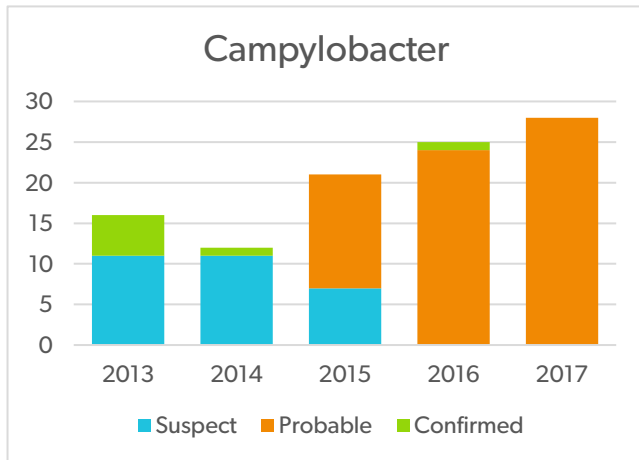


	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Pertussis:					
Confirmed	0	15	2	0	1
Probable	1	4	2	0	3
Suspect	2	0	1	0	0
DNMCD*	1	8	0	2	17
Tested Negative	0	0	27	0	17
Haemophilus Influenza	0	0	3	2	1
Influenza Death:					
Type A	0	1	4	0	0
Type B	0	0	3	0	0
Type A&B	0	0	1	0	0

FOODBORNE DISEASE

Cases of salmonella were lower in 2017 compared to 2016, but still higher than in previous years. Reports of campylobacter continue to increase.

One case each of E. coli and shigella were reported in Transylvania County. Cases of cryptosporidiosis and vibrio were investigated, but did not meet case definition.



	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Campylobacter:					
Confirmed	5	1	0	1	0
Probable	0	0	14	24	28
Suspect	11	11	7	0	0
Cryptosporidiosis	0	0	1	0	2*
Salmonella:					
Confirmed	2	1	5	6	6
Probable	1	0	0	2	0
E. Coli	1	1	0	0	1
Norovirus Outbreaks	4	1	0	0	1
Shigella	0	0	1	0	1
Vibrio					1*

VECTOR-BORNE DISEASE

One case of LaCrosse encephalitis was probable (but not confirmed by lab testing) in 2017.

A total of 6 cases of Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever were reported: 3 were probable, but 3 did not meet case definition. In addition, 3 cases of Lyme disease were reported but did not meet case definition, and one case of Erlichiosis was confirmed.

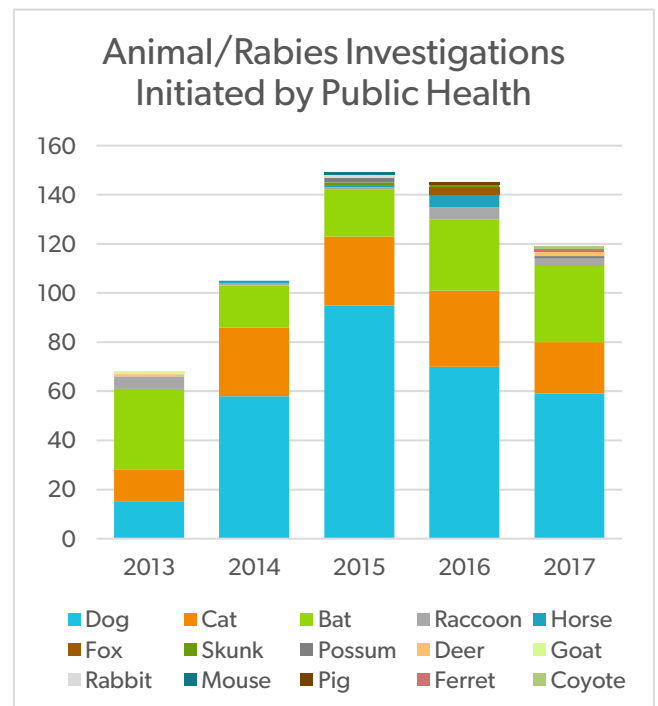
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Encephalitis: [†]					
Confirmed	1	0	3 LC	0	0
Probable	0	1 LC	0	1 LC	1 LC
Suspect	1	0	0	0	0
DNMCD*	1	2	1 EE	0	0
Erlichiosis	0	0	0	0	1
Lyme Disease	0	0	2	0	3*
Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever:					
Probable	1	0	0	0	3
DNMCD*	0	1	1	0	3

[†]LC = LaCrosse Encephalitis

EE = Eastern Equine Encephalitis

RABIES INVESTIGATIONS

Public health initiated 119 rabies investigations in 2017; no animals tested positive for rabies.

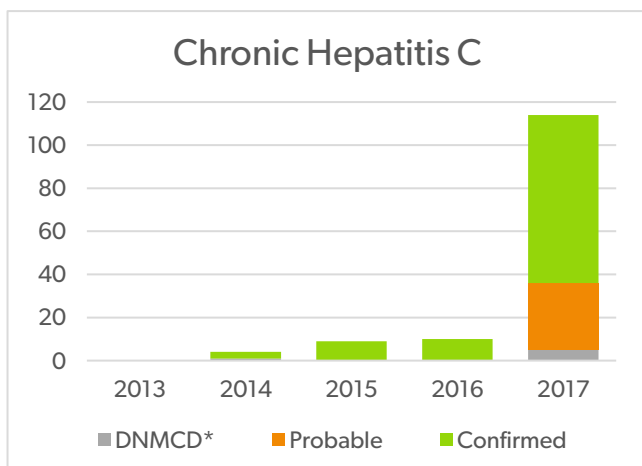


HEPATITIS

Cases of chronic hepatitis C seem to be rising, possibly due to increased emphasis on testing among “baby-boomers” and new reporting guidelines issued in 2017.

Although the data shows a dramatic increase for chronic hepatitis C, not all of these cases were *diagnosed* in 2017. This likely represents years of medical data exported into the communicable disease database through the North Carolina State Laboratory of Public Health in 2017. More backlog data is likely to add to these figures.

Cases of chronic hepatitis B also appears to be rising in Transylvania County.



	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Hepatitis A	0	1	0	1	0
DNMCD*					1
Hepatitis B (Acute):					
Confirmed	0	0	0	1	0
DNMCD*	0	2	0	0	1
Hepatitis B (Chronic)	3	2	0	1	5
Hepatitis B (Perinatal)	0	0	0	0	1
Hepatitis C (Acute):					
Confirmed	0	0	0	1	0
Probable	0	0	0	1	0
Hepatitis C (Chronic):					
Confirmed	0	3	9	10	78 [†]
Probable	0	0	0	0	31
DNMCD*	0	1	0	0	5

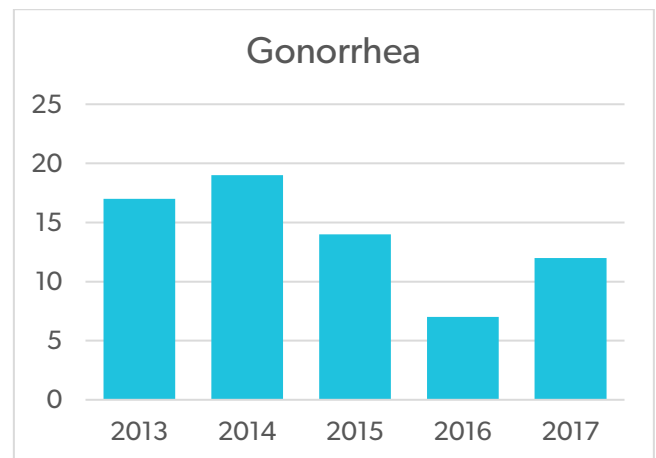
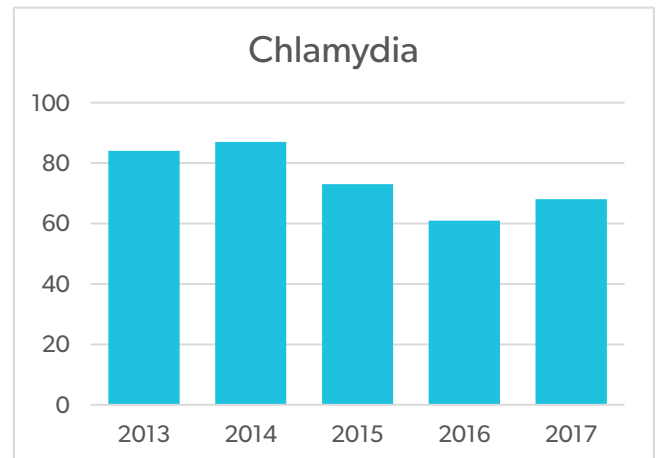
[†]Cases reported (not all diagnosed) in 2017.

SEXUALLY-TRANSMITTED DISEASES

A total of 84 sexually-transmitted diseases were reported for Transylvania County in 2017, up from 77 cases in 2016.

Rates of chlamydia and gonorrhea had been decreasing, but rose in 2017. However, they remain much lower than state rates.

Despite rising rates of syphilis seen across the nation, only 1 case was reported in Transylvania County.



	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Chlamydia	84	87	73	61	68
Gonorrhea	17	19	14	7	12
HIV	2	2	0	0	1
Non-Gonococcal Urethritis	1	0	0	3	2
Pelvic Inflammatory Disease	0	0	0	1	0
Syphilis	1	0	0	5	1

OTHER COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

Three cases of invasive Strep A were reported in 2017, along with 1 case of Legionellosis. One case of tetanus was investigated but did not meet case definition.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Strep A Invasive	0	2	0	1	3
Bacterial Meningitis	1	1	0	0	0
Creutzfeldt-Jacob	0	0	0	1*	0
Legionellosis	0	1	0	0	1

LEGAL ACTIONS AND CONTROL MEASURES

One new HIV case was reported to Transylvania Public Health in 2017. No flu deaths or pertussis outbreaks in schools or daycares were reported.