

# What's Going Around: A Weekly Communicable Disease Report

## Diseases and Conditions Reported During December 22-28, 2019

This report is a weekly snapshot of communicable diseases reported in El Paso County, as well as a report of disease trends and local health alerts. El Paso County Public Health's Communicable Disease Program partners with the medical community and the public to limit and stop the spread of diseases in our community.

### Diseases Reported December 22-28, 2019:

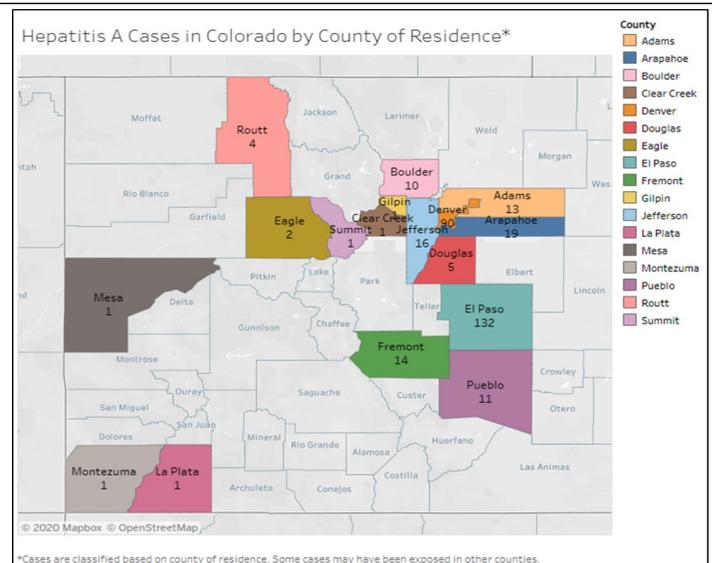
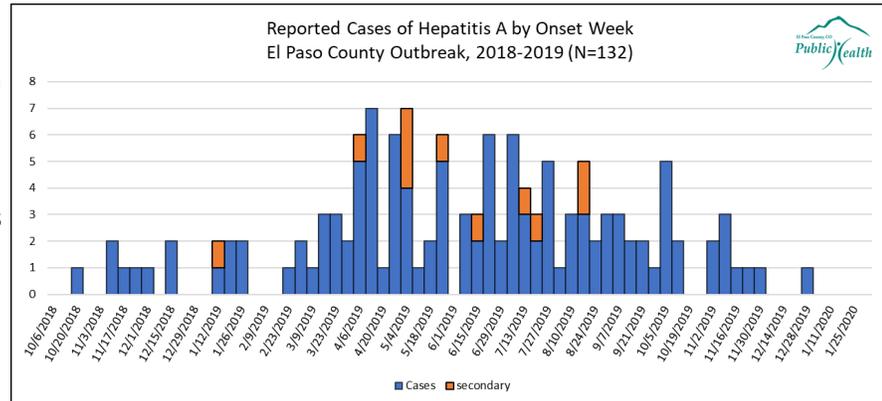
- 5 Animal Bites– 3 adult, 2 pediatric
- 1 Campylobacteriosis– adult
- 4 Hepatitis C, Chronic– adults
- 20 Influenza– Hospitalized– 15 adults, 5 pediatric
- 1 Malaria– adult
- 2 Salmonellosis- adults

### Additional Reports:

- Total hospitalized influenza cases in El Paso County from September 29, 2019– December 28, 2019: 82
- Total number of animals that have tested positive for rabies in 2019: 16 (9 skunks, 1 fox, 1 dog, 5 bats)
- Gastrointestinal illness complaints, possibly foodborne, associated with a retail food establishment: 2

## Health News: El Paso County Hepatitis A Outbreak

- The hepatitis A outbreak that began in El Paso County in October 2018 continues with 132 cases.
- In December 2019, state and local health departments agreed to change the case definition for this outbreak to include all hepatitis A patients in the outbreak unless they have traveled internationally during their exposure period or are part of a separate point-source or common-source outbreak. This change in case definition has increased the number of cases included in the outbreak.
- The outbreak now includes 322 cases in 17 counties with 41% of cases in El Paso County.
- In El Paso County, 67% of cases are male, 85% are experiencing substance use disorder, and 64% are experiencing homelessness. Within Colorado, 71% of cases are male, 80% are experiencing substance use disorder, and 60% are experiencing homelessness.
- Patients with risk factors of homeless or substance use disorder should be offered the hepatitis A vaccine if they do not have evidence of previous vaccination.
- For more information on the Colorado outbreak please follow this link: [www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/hepatitis-outbreak-report](http://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/hepatitis-outbreak-report)
- For additional information on vaccine recommendations, visit the following: [www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/hepa](http://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/hepa)



Questions? Please Contact:

El Paso County Public Health CD/TB Program  
 Hours: M-F, 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
 (719) 578-3220; after-hours emergency: (719) 235-2278  
 Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment  
 (303) 692-2700; after-hours emergency: (303) 370-9395  
[www.elpasocountyhealth.org](http://www.elpasocountyhealth.org)  
[Reportable Diseases and Conditions List](#)