

# Idaho Public Health Districts Newsletter



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Idaho Public Health Districts

A Focus on Epidemiology

January 2017

Idaho Public Health Districts work to investigate, report, prevent, and control communicable disease by:

- Receiving reports on over 70 reportable diseases and conditions.
- Investigating and managing outbreaks.
- Utilizing the National Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NEDSS) that links directly to the Centers for Disease Control.
- Maintaining and utilizing the Health Alert Network (HAN) to rapidly communicate with state and local partners.
- Working in partnership with medical facilities and infection control practitioners.

In 2016, 10,759 communicable disease investigations were conducted by Idaho's Public Health Districts, this is an increase of 2% from 2015.

An "Investigation" involves staff investigating the occurrence of a single case of illness that is on the "Idaho Reportable Disease List". The investigation seeks to find the source and attempt to curb the spread of this illness to others.

In 2016, 112 illness outbreaks were investigated by Idaho's Public Health Districts, this is an increase of 3.7% from 2015.

An "Outbreak" involves multiple cases of the same illness linked by source, time, or location. Investigations of "Outbreaks" also involve staff seeking the source of the illness and working to prevent the spread of that illness to other members of the public.

**Idaho Public Health Districts employ 15 full-time and 6 part-time investigators responsible for over 10,000 investigations per year; an average of 600 cases per investigator per year.**



# Outbreak Investigations

## Hepatitis A

Two month long investigation

530 vaccinations administered in 2 days

Assistance from Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) Volunteers

Total Cost for supplies, vaccine, and staff = \$37,999

## Tuberculosis

Month long Active TB investigation

Total Cost for testing, treatment, and staff = \$44,936

## Syphilis

Two year investigation

160% increase in Syphilis cases

Over 403 staff hours & 127 free tests = \$14,466

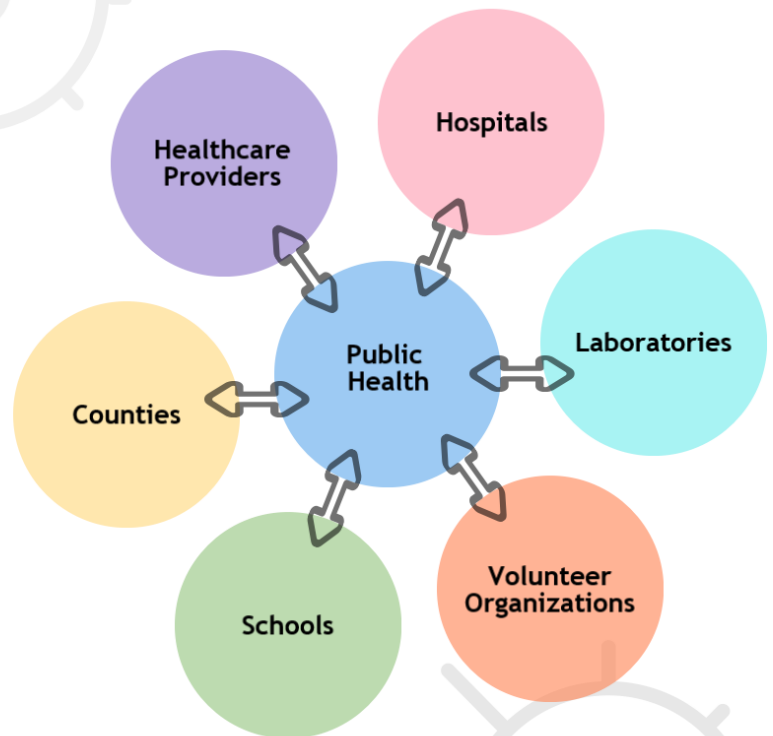
## Mumps

Five month long investigation

Involved 3 Idaho Health Districts and one other state

Over 413 staff hours = \$14,455

## Our Partners



Idaho Public Health Districts have limited resources; establishing strong relationships and building collaboration are key to our success in stopping and controlling outbreaks.

## Healthy People in Healthy Communities

PANHANDLE HEALTH DISTRICT (1)	PUBLIC HEALTH - IDAHO NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT (2)	SOUTHWEST DISTRICT HEALTH (3)	CENTRAL DISTRICT HEALTH (4)	SOUTH CENTRAL PUBLIC HEALTH DISTRICT (5)	SOUTHEASTERN IDAHO PUBLIC HEALTH (6)	EASTERN IDAHO PUBLIC HEALTH (7)
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