



**O R E G O N**

# QUARTERLY REPORT

**2nd Quarter  
June 2004**

**Marion County Health Department**  
3180 Center St NE  
Salem OR 97301-4592  
(503) 588-5357  
[www.co.marion.or.us/mhealth](http://www.co.marion.or.us/mhealth)

To report a communicable disease:

Telephone: (503) 588-5621  
Fax: (503) 566-2920  
Evenings, Weekends  
& Holidays: (503) 731-4030

Vital Statistics Quarter Ending: June 2004	2nd Quarter		Year to Date	
	2004	2003	2004	2003
<b>BIRTHS</b>				
<b>TOTAL DELIVERIES</b>	1323	1266	2571	2473
Delivery in Hospital	1312	1254	2546	2450
Teen Deliveries (10-17)	53	35	101	77
<b>DEATHS</b>				
<b>TOTAL</b>	637	617	1297	1247
Medical Investigation	51	58	98	108
Homicide	0	05	04	09
Suicide	15	06	22	21
Accident – MVA	05	11	13	13
Accident – Other	09	13	19	21
Natural / Undetermined / Pending	22	23	40	44
Non-Medical Investigation (all natural)	586	559	1199	1139
Infant Deaths	08	03	13	07
Fetal Deaths	08	04	09	10
<b>COMMUNICABLE DISEASES</b>				
<b>E-Coli: 0157</b>	01	02	01	04
Hepatitis A	08	02	09	03
Acute Hepatitis B	02	03	06	10
Chronic Hepatitis B	10	17	25	24
Meningococcus	01	03	03	04
Pertussis	09	01	09	01
Tuberculosis	03	03	10	03
<b>SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASE</b>				
<b>PID (Pelvic inflammatory Disease)</b>	03	06	04	16
Chlamydia	231	192	423	419
Gonorrhea	29	29	47	51
Syphilis	02	No Data	05	No Data
AIDS	03	02	03	03
HIV Positive	04	05	05	07

## School's Out for Summer...

By Karen Landers MD MPH, Public Health Physician

At the peak of summer when most of Marion County is enjoying fairs, vacations, and other fun activities, Marion County Health Department is already looking ahead to August and the back-to-school rush. Oregon law requires that students attending kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade, and younger children attending licensed child care facilities and preschools must be immunized against certain vaccine-preventable diseases. This law was first established in 1981 and has undergone modifications from time to time as new vaccines have become available to protect children. Currently the law covers 10 various vaccine-preventable diseases including diphtheria, pertussis (whooping cough), tetanus, polio, measles, mumps, rubella, hemophilus influenza type B, hepatitis B, and varicella (chickenpox). Children with a history of chickenpox disease as noted by a parent are not required to be vaccinated for varicella.

In 1998, Oregon schools began to phase in new vaccination requirements for children's facilities and kindergarten, including a second dose of the measles-containing vaccine, hepatitis B vaccination, and varicella. Middle school and high school phase in of these same vaccines began in 2000. These vaccines will be required for all students attending kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade by the 2006-2007 school year. Each year school districts and the health department review students' immunization records and those students who have not received or who have no record at school of having received the required vaccinations for that year, are notified that they will be excluded from attending school (or pre-school/child care facilities). As most medical providers and offices giving immunizations know, this day of exclusion falls in mid-February (often a peak time for winter respiratory illness visits!)

Continued

The number of children receiving exclusion notifications and the number of children actually excluded from school has continued to increase in recent years, and has seen sizable jumps that coincided with the new kindergarten and middle-school vaccine requirements. (See graph)

**How can we stop the exclusion madness?**

Although the phasing in of new vaccine requirements for middle and high school students account for the bulk of school exclusions (especially hepatitis B vaccination), a number of children entering schools or children’s facilities also receive exclusion notices each year. Here are some recommendations that may help to reduce the number of school immunization exclusion notifications and decrease the flow of patients to offices in mid-February for school immunization-related requests:

1. **Know what immunizations are required.**  
With an ever more complicated immunization schedule this is no small feat! To assist you, Marion County Health Dept. mailed the upcoming school year’s (2004-2005) school immunization requirements in May of this year to medical providers in Marion County who are providing vaccinations in their offices. If you did not receive this summary or would like to receive another, contact Geri Stuckart at (503) 588-5011 Ext 1.
2. **Give all immunizations needed at a visit.**  
Busy schedules for both medical providers and families mean that each visit must be maximized in terms of vaccinations since patients may not be seen again for some time. Knowing what each patient needs and giving ALL the doses of vaccine that are appropriate will help students meet school immunization requirements efficiently. Keeping a copy of the patient’s immunization record at the front of the chart will assist in assessing vaccination needs at any given visit.
3. **Give immunizations at the right age and right time.**  
Vaccinations that are given before the recommended minimum age or schedule cannot be counted in order to meet school immunization requirements and will need to be repeated. The Recommended Childhood and Adolescent Immunization Schedule for July-December 2004 approved by the Academy of Pediatrics, the American Academy of Family Physicians and the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (CDC), has recently been released and is available for downloading at [www.cdc.gov/nip](http://www.cdc.gov/nip).  
**NOTE: Vaccine doses given within 4 days of the recommended minimum age or schedule will be accepted for school immunization requirements.**

4. **VERY IMPORTANT!!**  
**Make sure vaccination information gets to school.**  
Each year a number of exclusion orders are issued for students who have received the required school immunizations, but whose vaccination information has not been received by the school. Reminding parents to take vaccination information to the school after immunizations have been administered will reduce unnecessary work for schools, and unnecessary visits to medical providers’ offices.
5. **ALSO VERY IMPORTANT!!**  
**Submit vaccination information to ALERT**  
ALERT is the statewide immunization registry, which maintains over 12 million immunizations for over a million children 0-18 years in its database from both public and private medical providers. By age 4 years, Oregon children have seen an average of three providers for their vaccinations. Authorized users may call, fax, email ALERT or go online with a list of children for immunization information in order to assure appropriate vaccinations are given. Schools may also access ALERT for vaccination information needed to complete records for the school immunization law. In the near future (next month or so) ALERT will begin forecasting needed vaccines for children 0-6 years whose records are contained in the registry. Providers who would like to begin participating in ALERT and providers who are currently using ALERT who would like to begin submitting vaccination data electronically, may contact Kelly Martin, Marion County Health Department Immunization Coordinator, at (503) 361-2791 for assistance.

**School Exclusion Orders and School Exclusions in Marion County 1997-2004**

