One thousand five hundred and thirty (1530) cases of reportable diseases were received and investigated by the PHD Epidemiology services team in 2018. This was an increase of 58 cases from 2017.

Chlamydia (836) continues to be the highest reportable disease with an increase of 31 cases from 2017.

Chronic Hepatitis C (268) continues to be the second highest, with a decrease of 19 cases from 2017.

Gonorrhea (134) continues to be the third highest with another large increase of 31 cases from 2017.

There were (52) cases of elevated blood lead cases reported in 2018. This was a decrease of 25 cases from 2017. 32 of the cases were in children under the age of 18 and all the families were contacted.

There were (42) cases of Pertussis reported. This was a large increase from 2017 but more in line with other past years.

There were (33) cases of Campylobacteriosis reported. This was a slight increase of 4 cases from 2017.

There were (24) cases of Syphilis reported. This was a slight increase of 4 cases from 2017.

There were (20) reports of rabies PEP in 2018. Most were because the biting animal was not available for testing.

There were (18) confirmed cases of Norovirus reported. Unconfirmed cases were no doubt very much higher.

There were (15) cases of HIV reported in 2018. 6 of the cases were a new diagnosis for the patient.

The PHD shipped a total of 51 animal specimens for rabies testing. 39 bats, 8 cats, 3 dogs, and 1 chipmunk. 1 bat specimen tested positive for rabies.

The epidemiology services team investigated 15 outbreaks. 5 suspect Norovirus, 2 confirmed Norovirus, 5 influenza, 1 Pertussis, 1 Salmonella (Nationwide outbreak), and 1 Shiga toxin E. coli. (Nationwide outbreak).

No cases of active Tuberculosis were reported. TB rate for our district: 0.0%, for the State of Idaho: 0.87%.

1 case of infant botulism was reported. Infant is out of the hospital and slowly recovering.

1 case of Yersinia enterocolitica was reported. Source undetermined, multiple surface water exposures.

1 case of Tick-borne paralysis was reported. Always conduct a tick check in cases of ascending paralysis.

1 case of Lyme Disease was reported. The case was exposed to ticks while living on the east coast. The species of ticks that can carry the Lyme disease bacteria are not endemic here in north Idaho.

1 probable Mumps case was reported. The case met criteria, but no source or spread was identified.