

Office of Epidemiology



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The role of the Epidemiology Department is to monitor, analyze, and report communicable and non-communicable diseases in Hays County. Epidemiology is a field that looks at many aspects of diseases, more specifically: who is getting the disease, where the disease is occurring, and are there any links between active cases.

Epidemiologic information from these investigations is used to detect and monitor trends or changes in the population's health, as well as monitor any disease outbreaks.

There are 88 notifiable conditions in the state of Texas. Notifiable conditions in Hays County are to be reported to our department. Some of these diseases require notification within a week of a positive test, while others require immediate notification. The list of notifiable conditions can be found [here](#) on the Department of State Health Services website.

Select one of the following topics to learn more about the diseases we see most often in Hays County

Vaccine Preventable Diseases

Foodborne Illnesses

Respiratory Illnesses

Waterborne Illnesses

Sexually Transmitted Diseases

Zoonotic Diseases

All conditions/diseases need to be reported in compliance with the given time frame. Outbreaks or unusual occurrences such as exotic diseases or an unusual number of diseases should also be reported, even if the disease is not a notifiable condition.

Under the [Texas Health and Safety Code](#) and [Texas Administrative Code](#), anyone who has knowledge of a suspected or confirmed case of a notifiable condition is required to report the information to the Hays County Office of Epidemiology. Individuals who are required to report include, but are not limited to, health care providers, hospitals, laboratories, and schools.