Seventy percent of emerging or re-emerging infectious diseases in the world are zoonotic, which means they are transmitted from animals to humans. Depending on the pathogen, transmission can be through contact with animals or their body fluids, disease vectors like mosquitoes and ticks, or a contaminated environment. Zoonotic diseases found in Washington include rabies, tularemia, plague, Hantavirus, tick-borne relapsing fever, cryptosporidiosis, Q-fever, and chick and reptile-associated salmonellosis. Emerging diseases of concern addressed by the Zoonotic Disease Program in Washington include West Nile virus, Cryptococcus gattii, Coccidioidomycosis (Valley Fever), canine leptospirosis, Lyme disease, and avian influenza. Since 2001, 13 of the 14 identified emerging public health diseases in Washington State have been zoonotic.

In collaboration with local and state partners, we conduct both active and passive surveillance for zoonotic pathogens of public health concern in Washington. We use this information to identify emerging public health issues, develop prevention messaging, and inform public health policy.

**Services**
- Conduct environmental and animal monitoring for both established and emerging zoonotic diseases of public health concern.
- Develop rules, guidance, and emergency response plans in order to control the spread of zoonotic diseases.
- Provide outreach, training and technical assistance to local health jurisdictions, mosquito control districts, veterinarians, fair associations, animal vendors and others on the occurrence, control, and prevention, of zoonotic diseases.
- Collaborate with local and state agencies, other states, federal agencies, academia and associations on surveillance activities, findings, and pathogen exposure control methods.
- Conduct environmental investigations related to human illness cases.

**Stakeholders**
- Residents and visitors
- Veterinarians, animal vendors, fair associations
- Local health jurisdictions
- State and federal Departments of Agriculture and Fish and Wildlife
- Other regional states and British Columbia
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- CDC Quarantine Stations
- Mosquito Control Districts
- University of Washington
- Washington State University
Zoonotic Disease Program Fiscal Information

2015-17 biennium

Recent Funding History

Since the 2007-09 Biennium, GF-S and federal CDC grant funding has been fairly consistent. Federal CDC grants are competitive and awarded annually, with no guarantee of future funding.