LYME DISEASE | SC TRACKING

DPH COMMUNICABLE DISEASE EPIDEMIOLOGY SECTION META DATA

BACKGROUND

SC Tracking receives Lyme Disease data from the South Carolina Department of Public Health (DPH) Communicable Disease Epidemiology Section (CDES) on an annual basis. Lyme Disease is collected and maintained by CDES in their database called SCION. This database is updated as information on Lyme Disease cases are received, and therefore, more recent years of Lyme Disease data are readily available. Lyme Disease cases are reported to the CDC through their National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System on a regular basis. Reported data includes the total number of Lyme Disease cases, rates, case seasonality, and demographics of cases.

DATA LIMITATIONS

Lyme Disease data is recorded by county of residence, not county of exposure. Since Lyme Disease cases are updated on a regular basis, the case count reported here may not reflect the case count reported in other databases.

ACCESS CONSTRAINTS

In accordance with guidelines outlined by DPH CDES, numbers less than five and their associated rates are suppressed to protect patient confidentiality.

USE CONSTRAINTS

Any user of this data must have reviewed and understood the metadata content before attempting to understand, interpret, or use DPH CDES data. No attempt should be made to identify people through use of this dataset. This is a public dataset and is not for commercial purposes. Any use of this data should contain proper data source acknowledgement to: DPH Communicable Disease Epidemiology Section. Additional data requests should be made directly to DPH Communicable Disease Epidemiology Section.

sctracking@dph.sc.gov

SOUTH CAROLINA
ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH
TRACKING

LYME DISEASE | SC TRACKING

SC DPH COMMUNICABLE DISEASE EPIDEMIOLOGY SECTION META DATA

MEASURE SPECIFIC INFORMATION

Lyme Disease is a reportable condition in South Carolina and is required to be reported to DPH within three business days. Below data is shown on the Lyme Disease dashboard:

The rate and number of both confirmed and probable Lyme Disease cases, displayed at the region level from 2014-2024.

Demographic information for race, age group, and sex for both confirmed and probable cases is also displayed at the region level from 2014-2024.

Confirmed cases are clinically compatible cases that meet confirmed laboratory criteria whereas probable cases are clinically compatible that meet presumptive laboratory criteria.

Data are aggregated into five-year rolling rates. This data is updated annually with the latest update being released on July 31, 2025.

SUGGESTED CITATION

DPH Communicable Disease Epidemiology Section. [Graphic name]. Available online: www.dph.sc.gov/tracking.Accessed on [date accessed].

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Learn more about Lyme Disease here:
www.cdc.gov/lyme

Learn more about Lyme Disease data reported to the CDC here:
www.cdc.gov/lyme/data-research/facts-stats/surveillance-data-1.html

Learn more about SC DPH Lyme Disease here:
dph.sc.gov/disease-conditions/infectious-diseases/insect-and-vector-borne-diseases/ticks-can-spread-2

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SOUTH CAROLINA
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SC REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE META DATA

BACKGROUND

The South Carolina Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office (RFA) provides diverse fiscal and statistical analyses, reports, and other services to various state and local government entities, the private sector, and South Carolinians. RFA collects healthcare data from all civilian hospitals in the the state, including emergency department reports, outpatient surgery report and inpatient reports.

RFA data is stored on the Private Sector Health Care Utilization Database, which contains information from the UB-04 billing system. The database includes all inpatient hospitalizations and emergency department visits from short-term acute care hospitals. The database includes information such as patient demographics, ICD-10 diagnoses and procedures, charges, length of stay, patient disposition, etc. The South Carolina Data Oversight Council, a seventeen member public/private body formed by the state statute with the SC RFA as staff, oversees the collection and release of information from this database.

DATA LIMITATIONS

RFA data is not population-based and does not include information on people at hospitals managed by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Data is based on the county where residents live, not where they are diagnosed.

ACCESS CONSTRAINTS

In accordance with RFA guidelines, numbers less than five are suppressed to protect patient confidentiality. Associated crude rates, inpatient charges, and charges for emergency department visits are suppressed as well. Suppression is not required for age-adjusted rates as personal identity is protected as they are calculated, but may be suppressed when published on SC Tracking dashboards.

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SC REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE META DATA

USE CONSTRAINTS

Any user of this data must have reviewed and understood the metadata content before attempting to understand, interpret or use RFA data. No attempt should be made to identify patients through use of this data set. This is a public dataset and is not for commercial purposes. Any use of this data should contain proper data source acknowledgement: SC Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office, Health and Demographics Section. Additional data requests should be sent directly to SC RFA.

MEASURE SPECIFIC INFORMATION

Lyme disease is a bacterial infection transmitted to humans through the bite of an infected blacklegged tick, also known as a deer tick. ICD-10 primary diagnosis code A69.2 was used to compile both ED and hospitalizations for South Carolinians being treated in acute care hospitals. The following data is displayed on the Lyme Disease Dashboard:

The number and rate of hospitalizations and ED visits for Lyme Disease by month for regions and South Carolina from 2019-2023.

All rates are per 100,000 population. Data is updated annually and was last updated July 31, 2025.

SUGGESTED CITATION

SC Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office, Health Demographics Section. [Graphic name]. Available online: www.dph.sc.gov/tracking.Accessed on [date accessed].

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Learn more about SC Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office here: https://rfa.sc.gov/

sctracking@dph.sc.gov

SOUTH CAROLINA
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CDC DEER TICK SURVEILLANCE META DATA

BACKGROUND

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is the nation's leading science-based, data-driven, service organization focused on protecting the public's health. The CDC's Vector-Borne Diseases-Bacterial Diseases Branch works to provide annual county-level estimates for a variety of tick species that are known to have the potential of infecting humans and animals with diseases. Tick information is collected through a variety of ways including dragging/flagging, walking, placing CO2 traps, collecting ticks from deer and small or medium-sized animals, and ticks collected from people/pets. CDC works with state health departments, such as SC Department of Public Health, and other partners for tick surveillance. Data is submitted to the CDC through the ArboNET platform.

DATA LIMITATIONS

Presence of ticks based on various tick surveillance methods within a county may be a poor indicator of human disease risk. Although, county estimates of the density of host-seeking infected nymphs is a better predictor of human disease occurrence compared with simple measures of tick presence or density of host-seeking nymphs, this does not always accurately estimate risk of tick-borne diseases in humans. This may relate to spatial heterogeneity in where ticks are found and where people spend time outdoors, human behaviors that may increase or decrease risk of exposure to infected ticks, or other factors.

ACCESS CONSTRAINTS

Blank or missing data may be due to one of the following reasons: (1) data were not collected, (2) data were collected but were not provided to the CDC, or (3) data were incomplete or did not meet data quality standards.

LYME DISEASE | SC TRACKING

CDC DEER TICK SURVEILLANCE META DATA

USE CONSTRAINTS

Any user of this data must have reviewed and understood the metadata content before attempting to understand, interpret, or use CDC Deer Tick Surveillance data. No attempt should be made to identify people exposed to tick bites. This is a public dataset and is not for commercial purposes. Any use of this data should contain proper data source acknowledgement to: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Deer Tick Surveillance. Additional data requests should be made to the CDC.
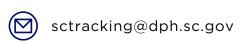
MEASURE SPECIFIC INFORMATION

Blacklegged tick, or deer tick, surveillance data measured in 2020-2024, at the county-level, is displayed on the Lyme Disease Dashboard. This data is classified into one of three categories.

- **Reported -** indicates that less than six Blacklegged ticks of a single life stage were collected in the county within a 12-month period
- **Established -** indicates that six or more Blacklegged ticks of a single life stage, or more than one life stage of the tick was collected in the county within a 12-month period
- **No Records -** does not indicate that there is an absence of ticks, but there may be a lack of sampling efforts, tick collection, reporting or publishing of the results of sampling efforts in that county

County status is cumulative. Once a tick species is recorded as Established within a county, the status will remain established in subsequent years. This data is updated annually and was last updated on July 31, 2025.

SUGGESTED CITATION

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Deer Tick Surveillance. [Graphic name]. Available online: www.dph.sc.gov/tracking.Accessed on [date accessed].

sctracking@dph.sc.gov

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CDC DEER TICK SURVEILLANCE META DATA

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Learn more about Blacklegged Tick Surveillance here:
www.cdc.gov/ticks/data-research/facts-stats/blacklegged-tick-surveillance.html

Learn more about various Tick Surveillance Data Sets here:
www.cdc.gov/ticks/data-research/facts-stats/tick-surveillance-data-sets.html

Learn more about Tick Data shared with the CDC here:
www.cdc.gov/ticks/data-research/facts-stats/index.html

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