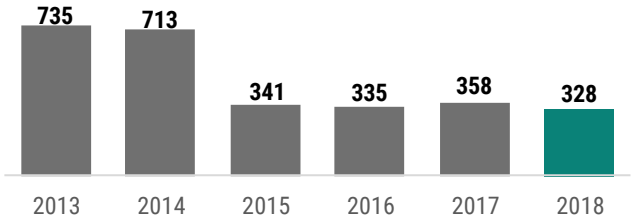
# Pertussis Surveillance
## 2018 Yearly Summary

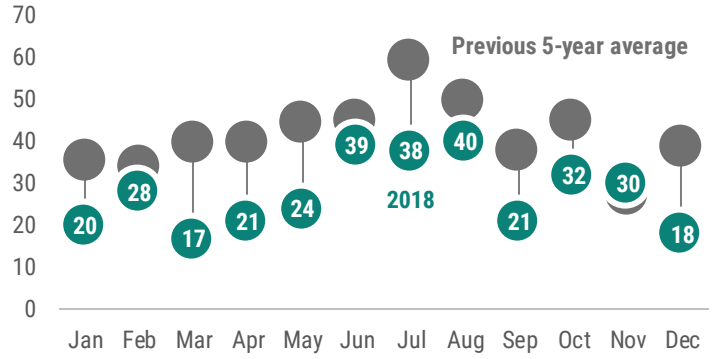
The number of pertussis cases reported in 2018 remained similar to that seen during the previous 3 years, which is expected given the cyclical nature of pertussis. A total of 11 outbreaks were reported, the majority of which occurred in schools and daycares. Vaccination is the best way to prevent pertussis, and 42% of cases were never or under vaccinated.

**From January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018, 328 pertussis cases were reported in 35 counties.**

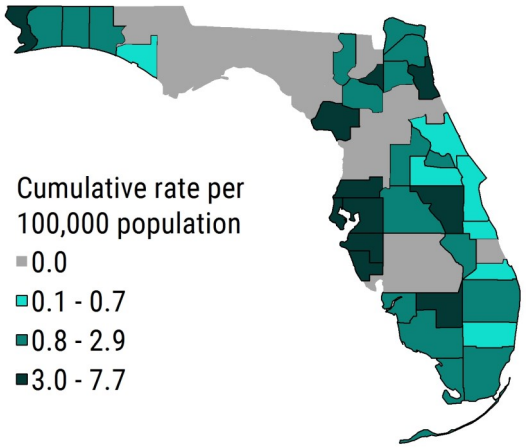
Since 2014, the number of pertussis cases reported annually decreased. Pertussis is cyclic in nature with peaks in disease every 3-5 years.



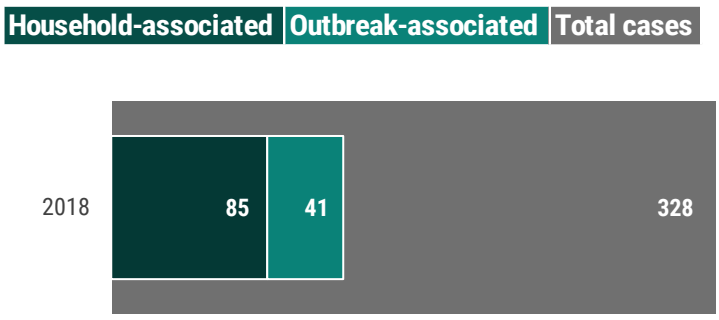

**The number of pertussis cases reported each month in 2018 was below the previous 5-year average except for in November.**



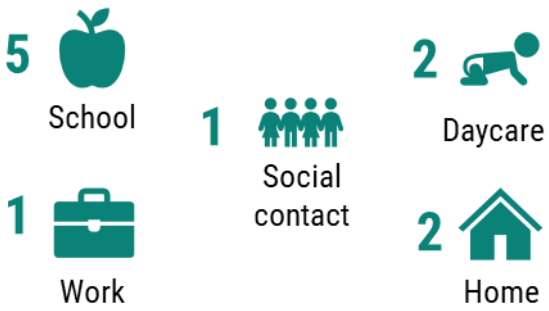

The 328 pertussis cases in 2018 were reported among 35 of Florida's 67 counties.



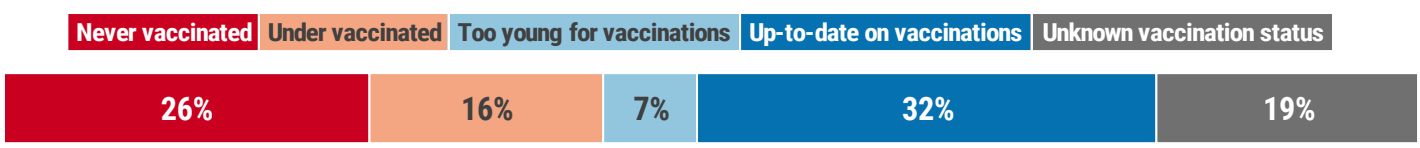

**In 2018, 85 (26%) of 328 total pertussis cases were associated with transmission within households and 41 (13%) were outbreak-associated.**




There were a total of 11 outbreaks in 5 setting types reported in 2018. For most pertussis cases, exposure to other known cases is never identified, and they are not able to be linked to outbreaks.




**Vaccination is the best way to prevent pertussis infections.** The majority of pertussis cases in 2018 were too young for vaccination, not up-to-date on vaccinations, or had unknown vaccination status.



# Vaccine-Preventable Diseases Surveillance System Summary

## Case Data

- Current case data are preliminary and will change as new information is gathered. The most recent data available are displayed in this report.
- Pertussis, varicella, hepatitis A, and measles are reportable diseases in Florida. Case information is documented by county health department (CHD) epidemiologists in Merlin, Florida's reportable disease surveillance system.
- Only Florida residents are included in case counts, but contact investigations are conducted for all exposed individuals.
  - Pertussis, varicella, hepatitis A, and measles case counts include both confirmed and probable cases.
- Map counts and rates are determined by the individual's county of residence; these data do not take into account location of exposure.
- CHD epidemiologists also report outbreaks of pertussis, varicella, and hepatitis A into Merlin.
  - Household-associated cases are defined as ≥2 cases exposed within the same household.
  - Pertussis and mumps outbreaks are defined as ≥2 cases associated with a specific setting outside of a household.
  - Varicella outbreaks are defined as ≥5 cases associated with a specific setting outside of a household.
  - Measles outbreaks are defined as any person acquiring measles while in Florida.
- For more information about reportable diseases, please visit FloridaHealth.gov/DiseaseReporting.
- For more information about Florida's guides to surveillance and investigation, including disease-specific surveillance case definitions, please visit FloridaHealth.gov/GSI.

## Population Data

- Population data used to calculate incidence rates are from FLHealthCHARTS (Community Health Assessment Resource Tool Set).
- For more information about FLHealthCHARTS, please visit FLHealthCharts.com.

## Vaccination Data

- Vaccination data for identified cases are from Merlin, as documented by CHD staff.
- Vaccination status is determined using the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices Recommended Immunization Schedule for Children and Adolescents Aged 18 Years or Younger, 2018.
- For more information about immunization schedules, please visit www.CDC.gov/Vaccines/Schedules/index.html.
- Individuals are considered up-to-date on vaccinations if they have received the recommended number of doses of vaccine for a particular disease for their age at the time of their illness onset. Individuals are considered under-vaccinated if they have received at least one but not all doses of vaccine recommended for a particular disease for their age at the time of their illness onset.
- For a full text version of a new study on pertussis vaccination, please visit www.CIDID.org/Publications-1/2018/3/29/The-Impact-of-Past-Vaccination-Coverage-and-Immunity-on-Pertussis-Resurgence.