Lyme Disease

Lyme disease is caused by bacteria transmitted by the deer tick (*Ixodes scapularis*). To learn more about Lyme disease, please visit our website.

Lyme disease is considered to be endemic throughout all of NYS. The annual incidence rates of Lyme disease have remained relatively steady within regions and across New York State.

From 2011-2015, the Capital District region had the highest overall 5-year average incidence rate of 145.6 cases per 100,000 population, while the Metropolitan region had the highest number of cases of Lyme disease with an average 3,338 cases per year.

### Lyme Disease Annual Incidence Rate*

**by Year and Region, NYS (excluding NYC), 2011-2015**

*After investigations of samples of positive Lyme disease laboratory results, some counties extrapolated from these results to generate estimates of the total number of Lyme disease cases in their counties. In 2015, 25 counties investigated a sample of positive laboratory results. In 2014 and 2013, 19 counties used this method to produce estimates, in 2012 18 counties, in 2011 14 counties.*