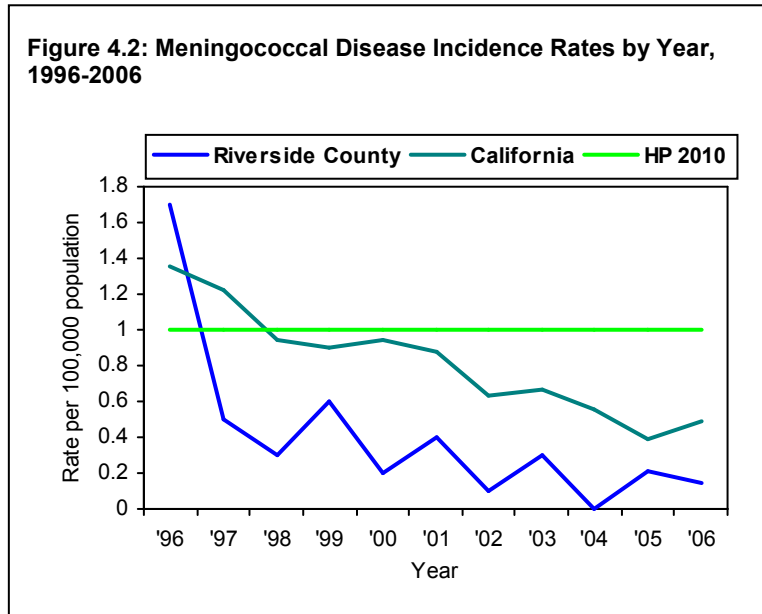


# MENINGOCOCCAL DISEASE

## DISEASE ABSTRACT

- Of all reportable diseases acquired through close personal contact, meningococcal disease is the least common in Riverside County. In 2006, three cases were reported, with an incidence rate of 0.15 cases per 100,000 population.
- Young children and young adults are at highest risk for disease because of their tendency to live or spend the majority of their time in crowded facilities such as dormitories or sharing of communal items.

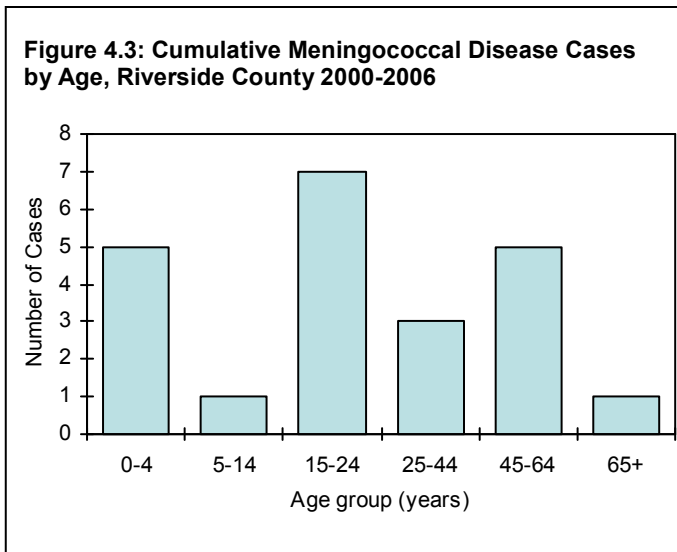
**Figure 4.2: Meningococcal Disease Incidence Rates by Year, 1996-2006**



## TRENDS

Since 1996, the rate of meningococcal disease in Riverside County has remained below the Healthy People 2010 objective of one new case per 100,000 population.

**Figure 4.3: Cumulative Meningococcal Disease Cases by Age, Riverside County 2000-2006**



## AGE

Meningococcal disease primarily occurs in young children and young adults. In the last seven years, persons under five years of age or between 15 to 24 years contributed 55 percent of all reported cases in Riverside County. Children and young adults may be more likely to engage in high risk behaviors, such as sharing of drinks or other communal items that can briefly harbor nasopharyngeal/oral secretions.