<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disease</th>
<th>How the disease spreads</th>
<th>How common?</th>
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| **Haunta Virus Pulmonary Syndrome (HPS)** | Breathing in dust that is contaminated with rodent urine or droppings  
Direct contact with rodents or their urine and droppings  
Bite wounds (uncommon) | Through January 6, 2016, a total of 690 cases of Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome have been reported in the United States, most since 1993. 36% of reported cases were fatal. |
| **Leptospirosis** | Eating food or drinking water contaminated with urine from infected animals  
Contact through the skin or mucous membranes (such as inside the nose) with water or soil that is contaminated with the urine from infected animals | It is estimated that 100-200 Leptospirosis cases are identified annually in the United States. About 50% of cases occur in Hawaii. It is treatable with antibiotics. Fatality is 1-5%. |
| **Lymphocytic Chorio-meningitis (LCM)** | Breathing in dust that is contaminated with rodent urine or droppings  
Direct contact with rodents or their urine and droppings  
Bite wounds (uncommon) | An estimated 5% of house mice in the United States carry LCMV and are able to transmit virus for their whole life without showing signs of illness.  
LCM during pregnancy can cause severe complications for the fetus.  
LCM causes aseptic meningitis, encephalitis, or meningoencephalitis which may require hospitalization and supportive treatment. |
| **Plague** | Bite of an infected flea  
Direct contact with infected animal | Plague is infamous for killing millions of people in Europe during the Middle Ages. Over the past several decades, an average of 17 people per year are diagnosed with Plague in the US. Antibiotics are effective in treating plague. Mortality is 8-10%. Without prompt treatment, the disease can cause serious illness or death. |
| **Rat Bite Fever (Haverhill Fever)** | Bite or scratch wound from an infected rodent, or contact with a dead rodent  
Eating or drinking food or water that is contaminated by rat feces. | ~10% of rat bites cause infection, according to a 2007 study by Elliot et al. RBF is treatable with antibiotics, ~13% of untreated RBF illnesses are fatal. Nearly all domestic and wild rats carry *S. moniliformis*, the bacteria that causes RBF. |
| **Salmonellosis** | Eating or drinking food or water that is contaminated by rat feces | There are more than 1 million cases of salmonella in the US each year, with 19,000 hospitalizations and 380 deaths. It is unclear how many of these cases are transmitted by rodents. Salmonella can also be transmitted through food and other means.  
Children under age 5 are at highest risk of Salmonella. |
| **Tularemia** | Handling infected animal carcasses  
Being bitten by an infected tick, deerfly or other insect  
Eating or drinking contaminated food or water  
Breathing in the bacteria, *F. tulare* | Between 2005-2014 there were 93-203 cases of tularemia per year in the US. Although tularemia can be life-threatening, most infections can be treated successfully with antibiotics. |