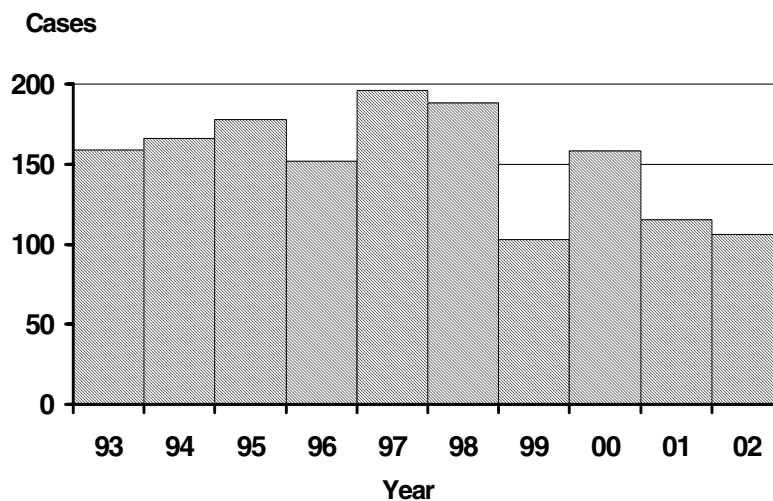


Shigellosis

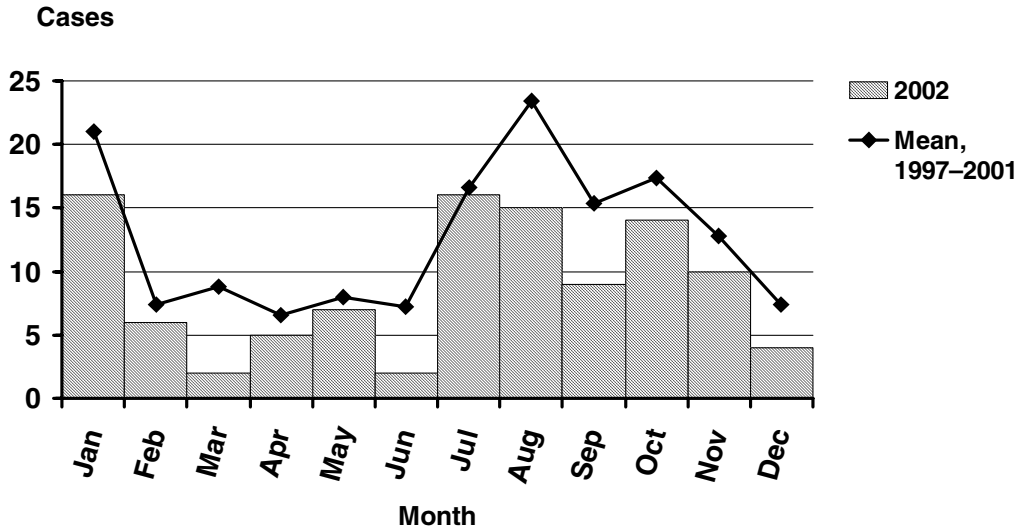
Shigellosis is an acute bacterial infection characterized by (sometimes bloody) diarrhea, vomiting, and abdominal cramps. Humans are the only known reservoir. It is transmitted from person to person, and just a few organisms can cause illness. It is important to track the incidence of this disease to limit its transmission and prevent further spread. The rate is higher among children 1–4 years of age. The incidence of shigellosis usually increases in late summer and fall. Outbreaks in day care centers are common, mainly due to poor hygienic practices of small children. Hand washing is the most important means of prevention.

The incidence of shigellosis has been decreasing in recent years, with the exception of the year 2000, when a multi-state outbreak associated with 5-layer party dip occurred. In 2002, over half of the cases were due to *S. sonnei*, and about a quarter were due to *S. flexneri*. Treatment reduces duration of illness, but the organism has become resistant to many antibiotics used for empiric therapy. Testing for antibiotic susceptibility is important for treatment.

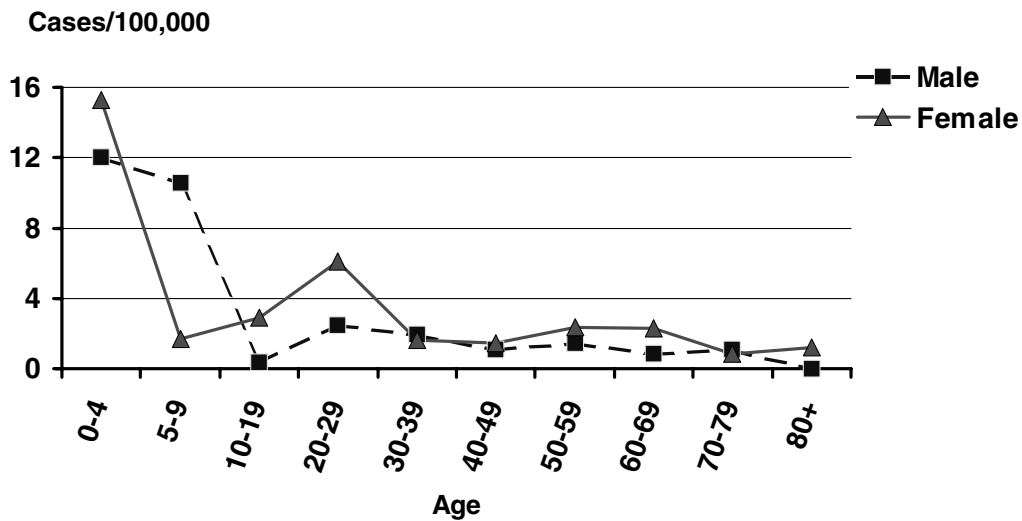
Shigellosis by Year Oregon, 1993–2002



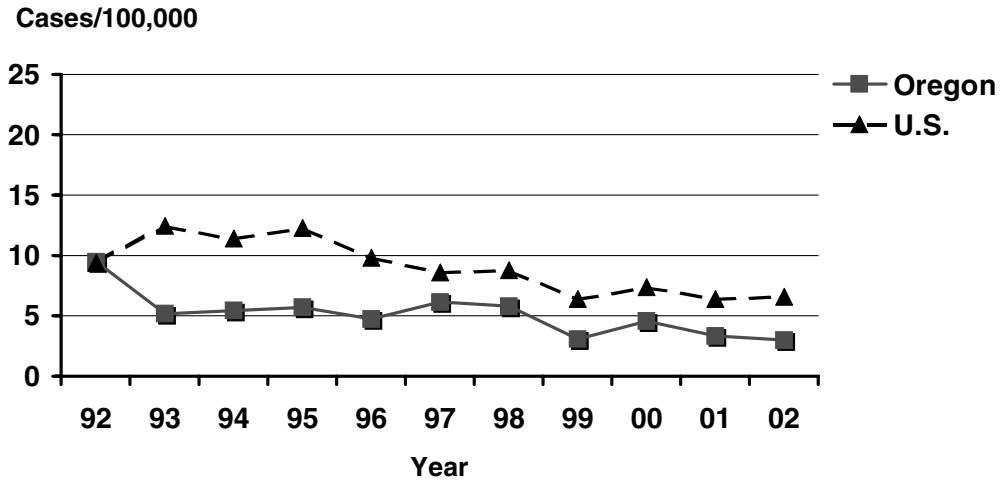
Shigellosis by Onset Month Oregon, 2002



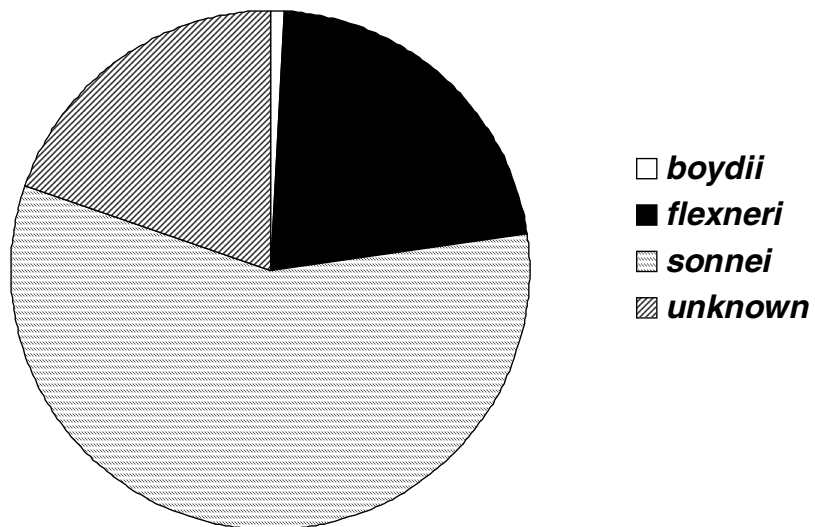
Incidence of Shigellosis by Age and Sex Oregon, 2002



Incidence of Shigellosis Oregon vs. Nationwide 1993–2002



Shigellosis by Species Oregon, 2002



Incidence of Shigellosis by County Oregon, 2002

