

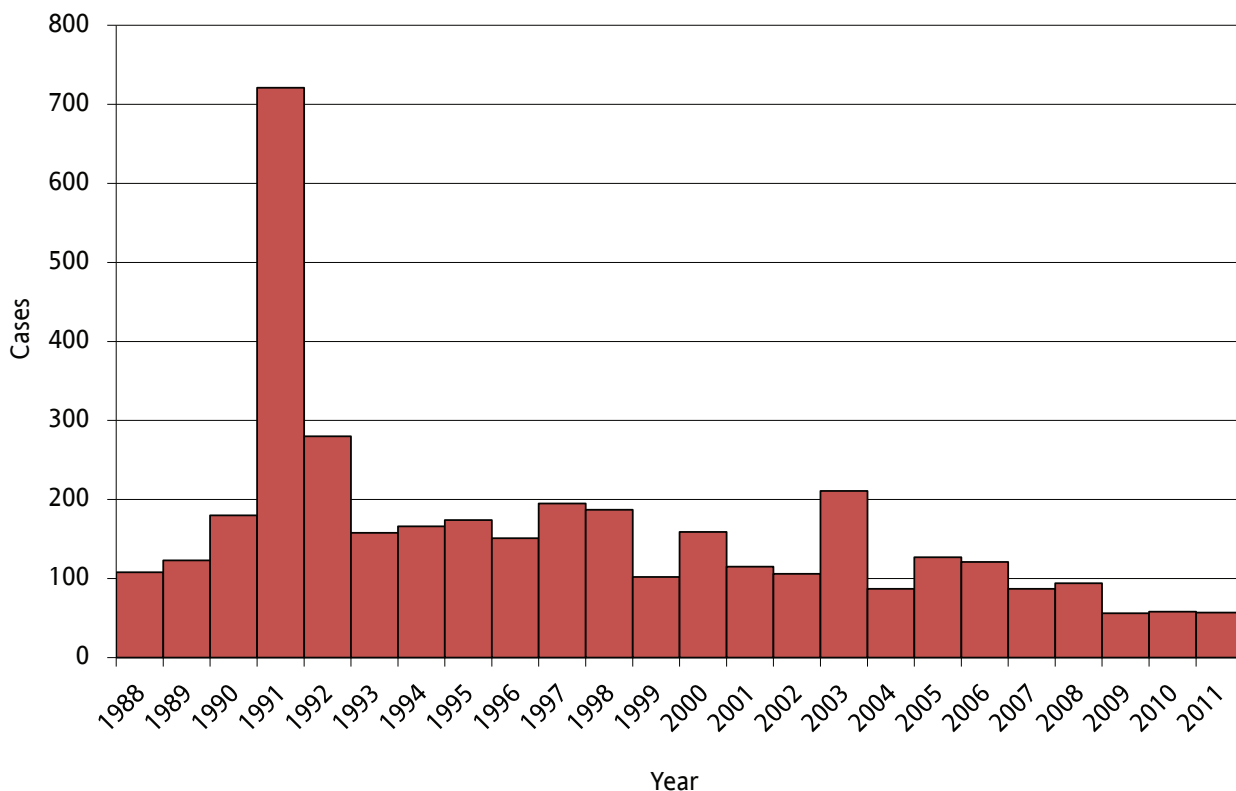
Shigellosis

Shigellosis is an acute bacterial infection characterized by (sometimes bloody) diarrhea, vomiting, abdominal cramps and, often, fever. Humans are the only known reservoir. Shigellosis 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 see trends and to detect outbreaks. The rate is higher among children 1–4 years of age. The incidence of shigellosis usually increases in late summer and fall. A large community-wide outbreak in 1991 resulted in hundreds of cases in multiple Portland metropolitan area daycare centers from April onward. At the tail end of that summer, in August, additional cases were associated with a dual pathogen outbreak (*E. coli* and *Shigella*) at Blue Lake Park in Fairview.

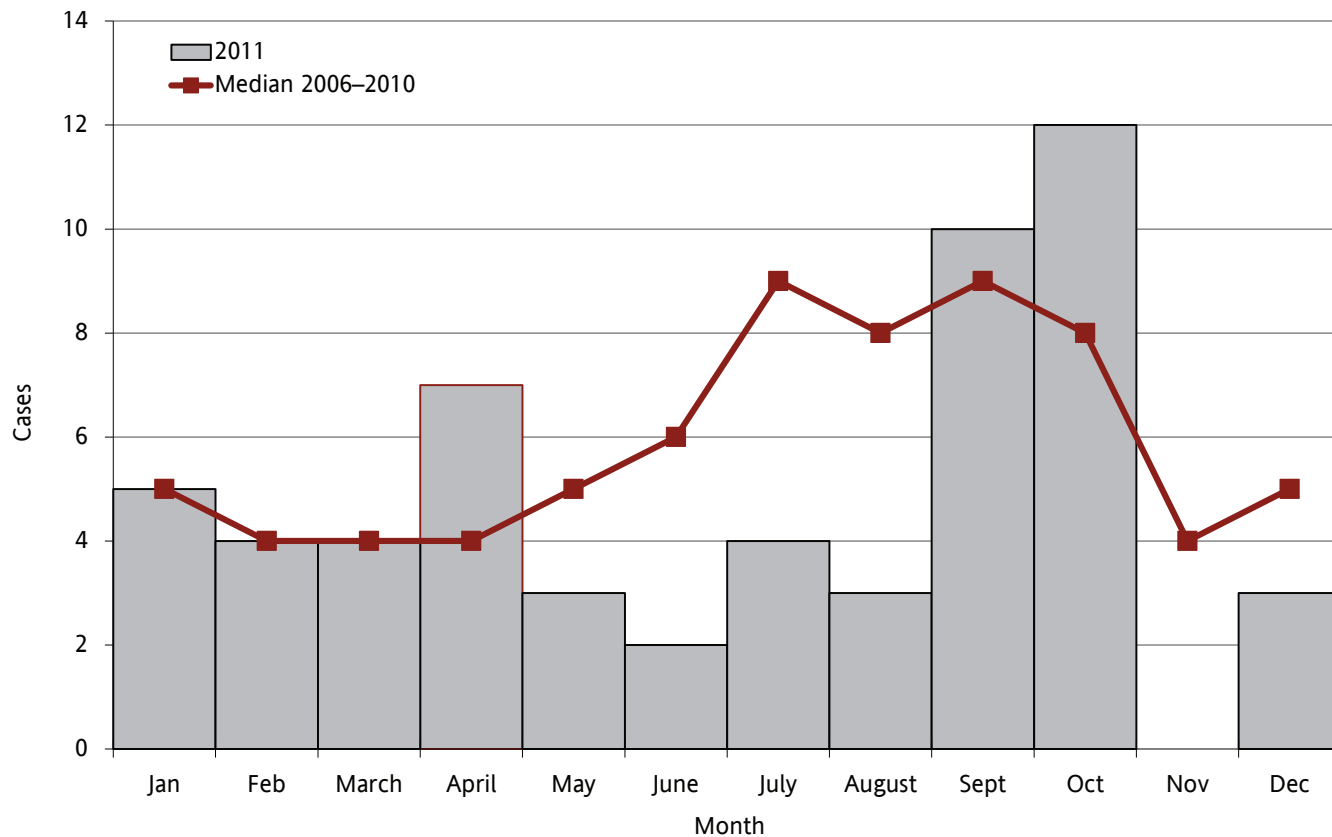
Outbreaks in daycare centers are common, mainly due to the poor hygienic practices of small children. Hand washing is the most important means of prevention. Treatment reduces duration of illness, but the organism has become resistant to many antibiotics used for empiric therapy. Testing for antibiotic susceptibility is important for treatment.

In 2011 there were 57 cases, similar to 2010. Thirty-six were sporadic cases, 14 were household transmission and seven were outbreak-related cases.

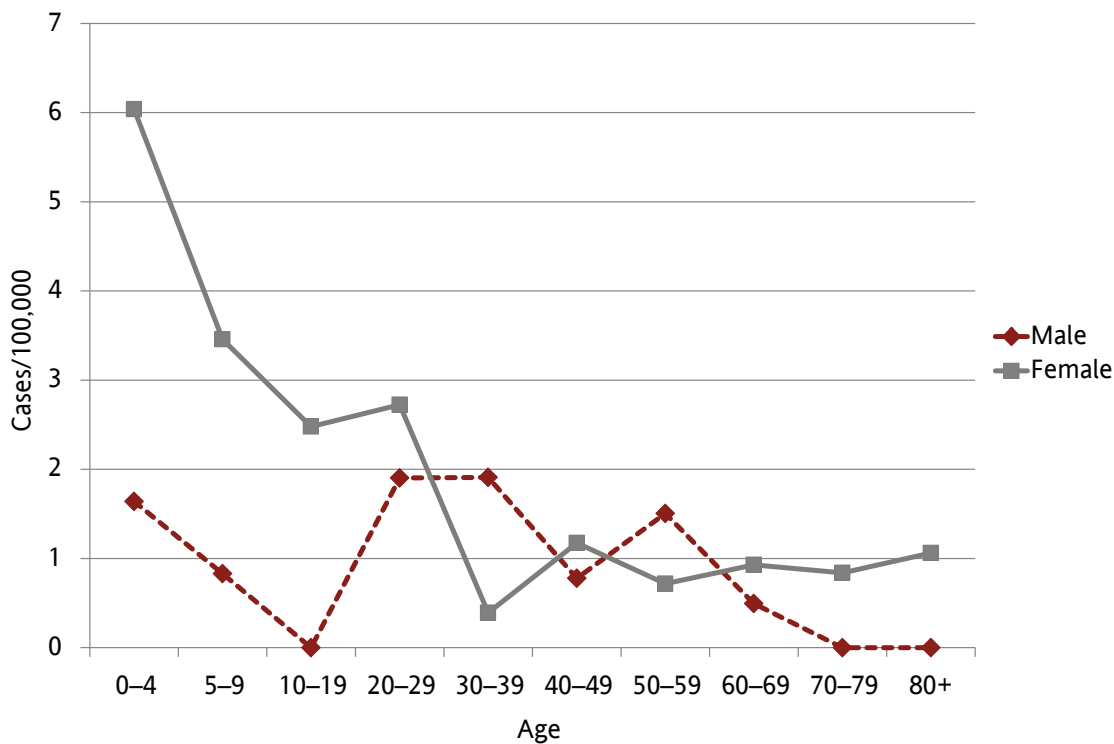
Shigellosis by year: Oregon, 1988–2011



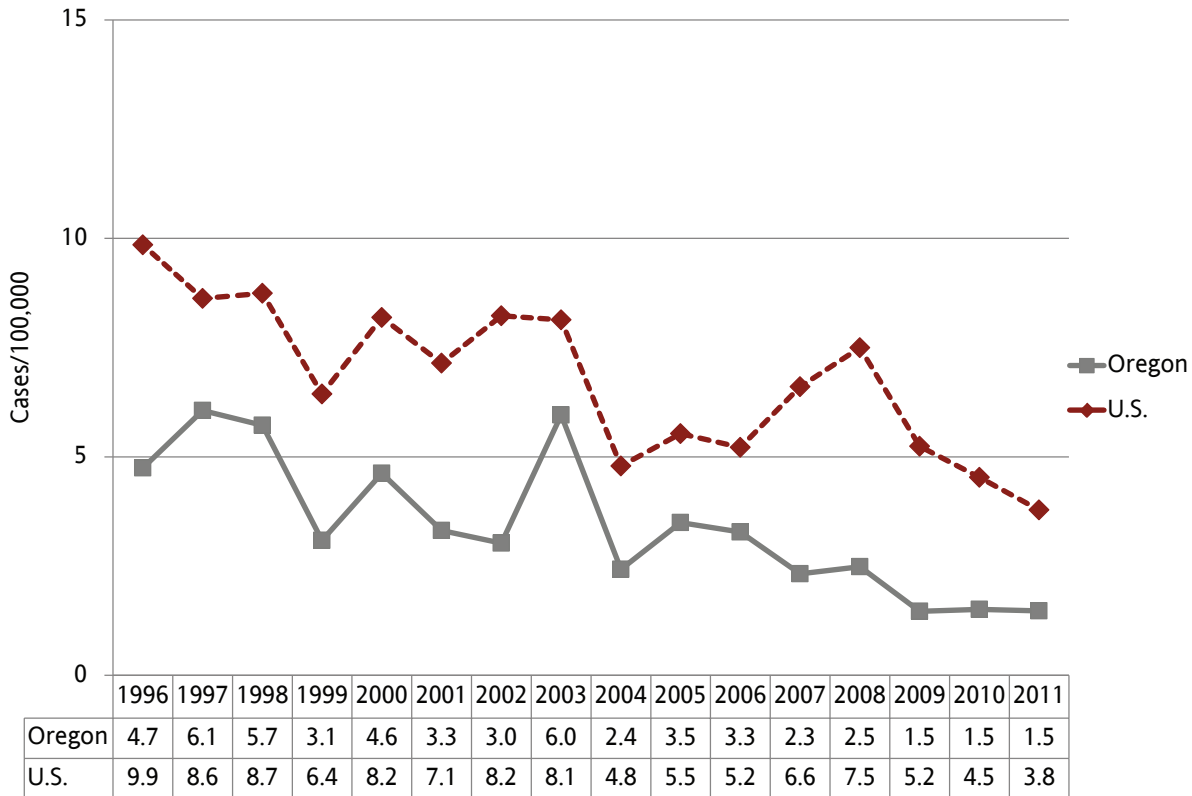
Shigellosis by onset month: Oregon, 2011



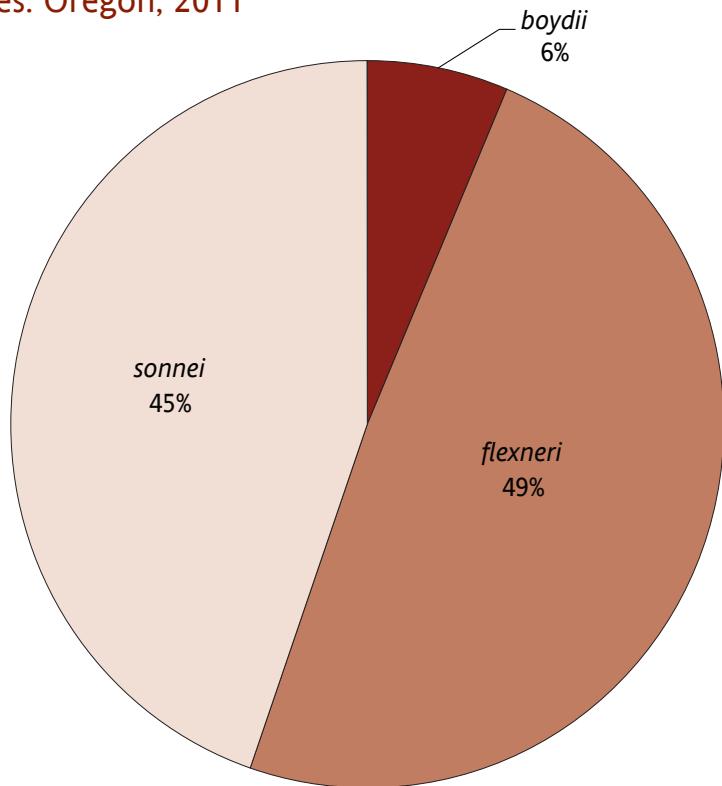
Incidence of shigellosis by age and sex: Oregon, 2011



Incidence of shigellosis: Oregon vs. nationwide, 1996–2011



Shigellosis by species: Oregon, 2011



Incidence of shigellosis by county of residence: Oregon, 2002–2011

