

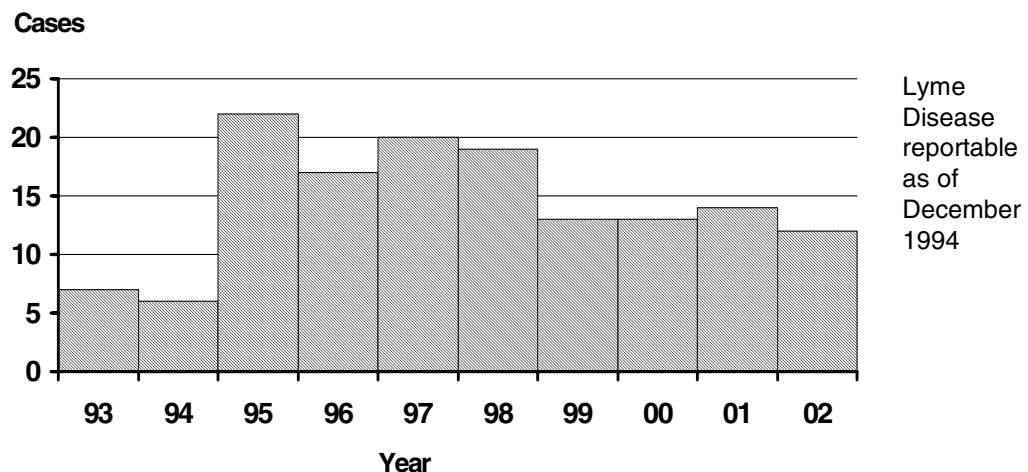
Lyme Disease

Lyme Disease is a tickborne, spirochetal, zoonotic disease characterized by a distinctive skin lesion, systemic symptoms and neurologic, rheumatologic and cardiac involvement occurring in varying combinations over a period of months to years. The first manifestation in about 60% of patients appears as a red macule or papule that expands slowly in an annular manner, sometimes with multiple similar lesions. This distinctive skin lesion is called erythema migrans (EM). Incubation period for EM ranges from 3 to 32 days after tick exposure; however, the early stages of the illness may be asymptomatic, and the patient may present with later manifestations

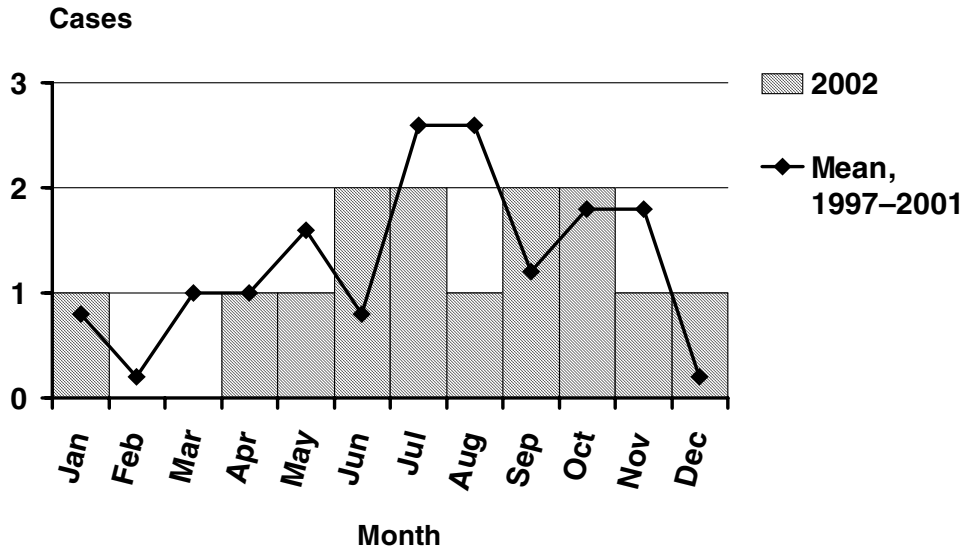
Diagnosis is currently based on clinical findings supported by serologic data, ELISA and Western blot confirmation. In the USA, endemic foci exist along the Atlantic coast concentrated from Massachusetts to Maryland, in the upper Midwest in an expanding focus currently concentrated in Wisconsin and Minnesota, and in the West in California, Oregon and Washington. Currently, increasing recognition of the disease is redefining endemic areas; cases have been reported from 47 states, and from Ontario and British Columbia, Canada. Elsewhere, related borrelioses have been found in Europe, the former Soviet Union, China and Japan.

In 1997–1998, a tick identification and *Borrelia* isolation study was conducted by the CDC and the Oregon Department of Human Services. Findings included *Ixodes pacificus* and its reservoir, the deer mouse. Isolation of the organism was successful as 3.5% of collected ticks tested positive for the spirochete.

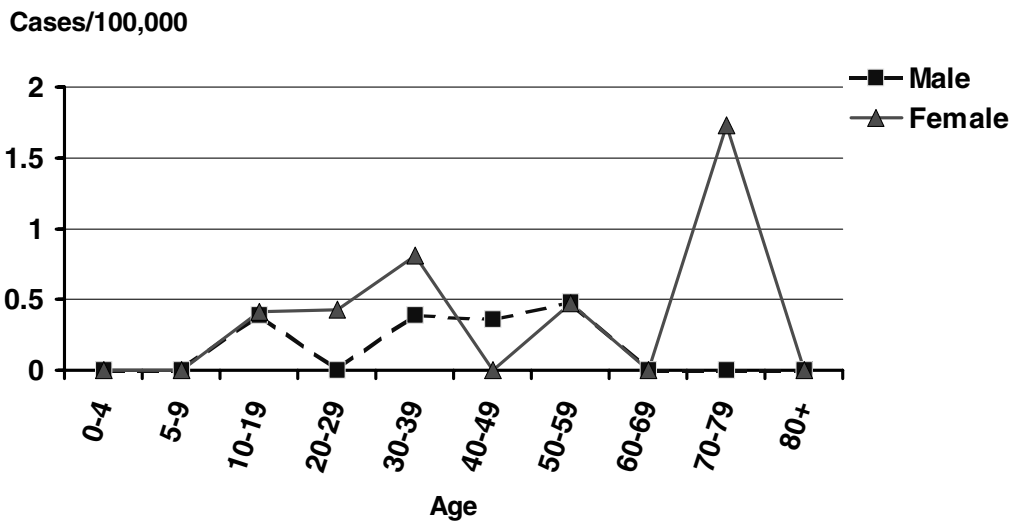
Lyme Disease by Year Oregon, 1993–2002



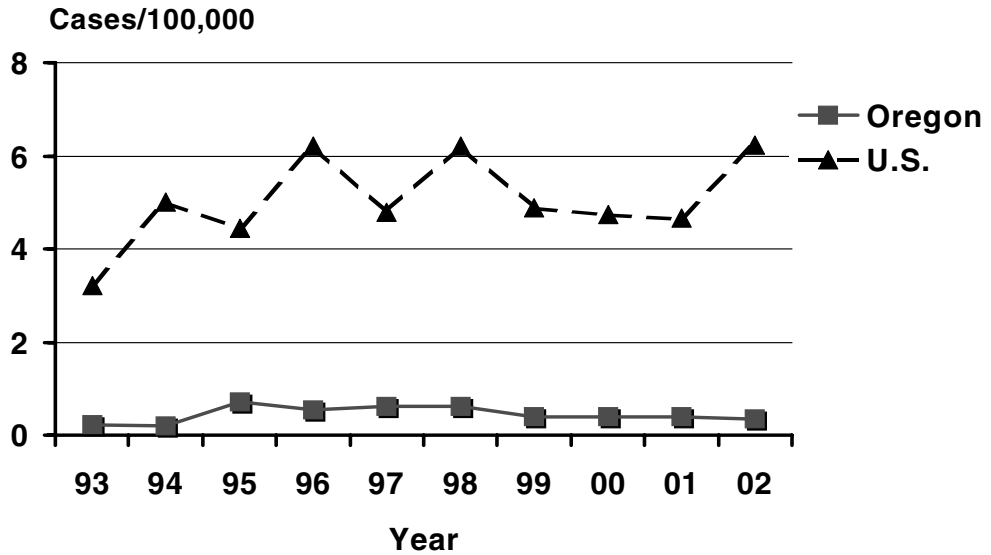
Lyme Disease by Onset Month Oregon, 2002



Incidence of Lyme Disease by Age and Sex Oregon, 2002



Incidence of Lyme Disease Oregon vs. Nationwide 1993-2002



Incidence of Lyme Disease by County Oregon, 2002

