

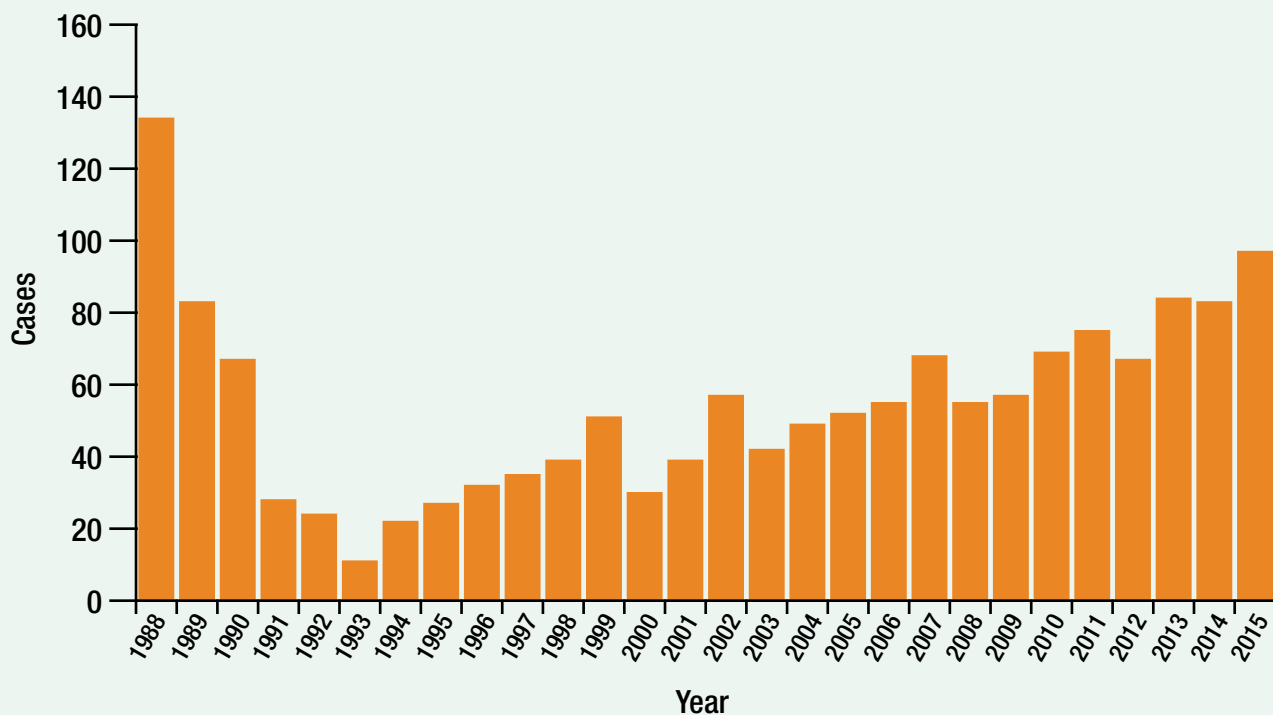
# *Haemophilus influenzae* infection

Until the advent of an effective vaccine against *Haemophilus influenzae* serotype b (Hib) organisms, *H. influenzae* was the leading cause of bacterial meningitis in children <5 years of age in Oregon and elsewhere. It plummeted in the rankings, and *Streptococcus pneumoniae* is now in the lead. In 2015, Hib was cultured from sterile body fluids of two Oregonians. Both cases were among adults (>48 years). Appropriate use of conjugate vaccine will help ensure Hib infection remains minimal well into the future. All sterile-site *H. influenzae* isolates must be sent to the Oregon State Public Health Laboratory for additional typing.

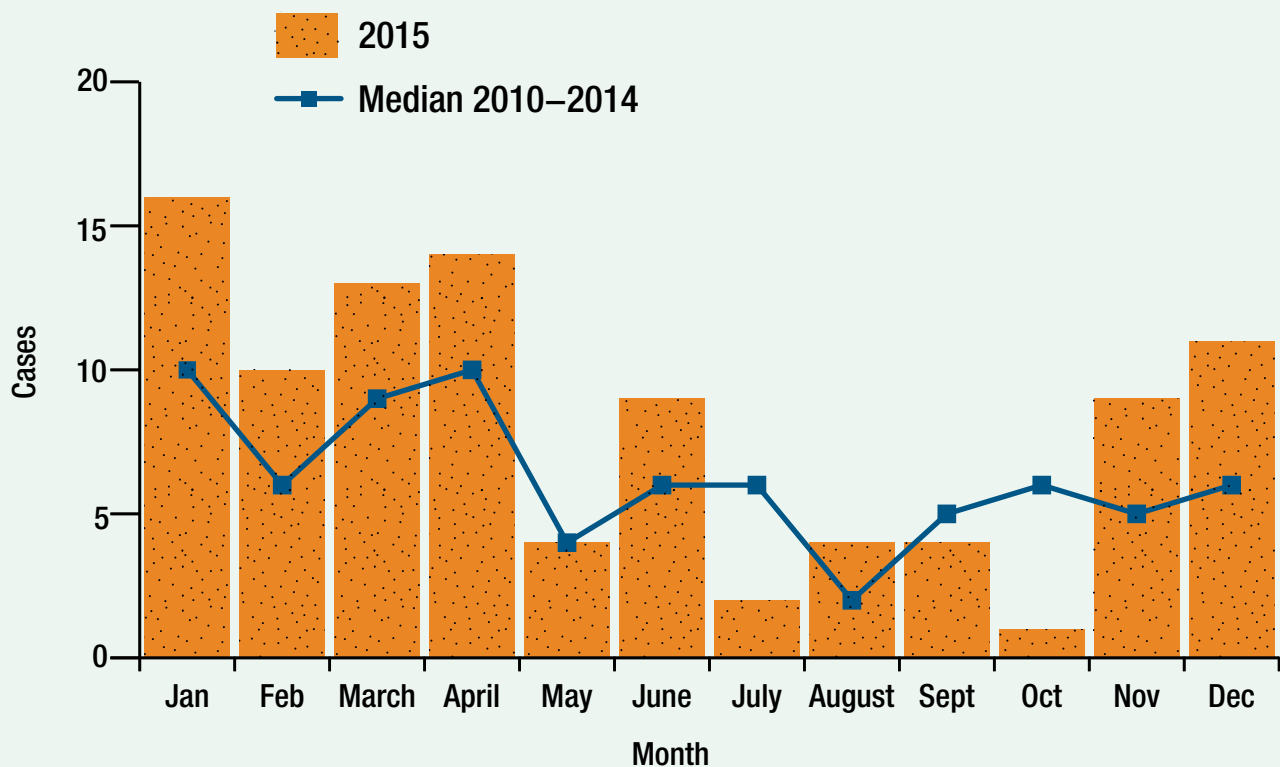
Ninety-seven cases of invasive *H. influenzae* disease (IHiD, all serotypes) were reported in 2015. With the decline in invasive Hib disease in children, there has been increased recognition of nonserotype b and nontypeable cases in persons >5 years of age, especially among those >65 years of age. In 2015, 73% of cases were nontypeable, 10% were identified as serotype f, 8% serotype a, and the remaining cases were other serotypes. The burden of IHiD in 2015 was highest (11.8/100,000 persons) among those >70 years of age, followed by those 50–59 years of age (2.8/100,000 persons) and then those <5 years (2.1/100,000 persons). *Haemophilus influenzae* is treated with antibiotics. In 2015, the top clinical syndrome of invasive IHiD reported in Oregon was pneumonia (59%). Ninety-five percent of cases were hospitalized. There were 18 deaths related to IHiD infection.

Peak incidence tends to occur in late winter and early spring.

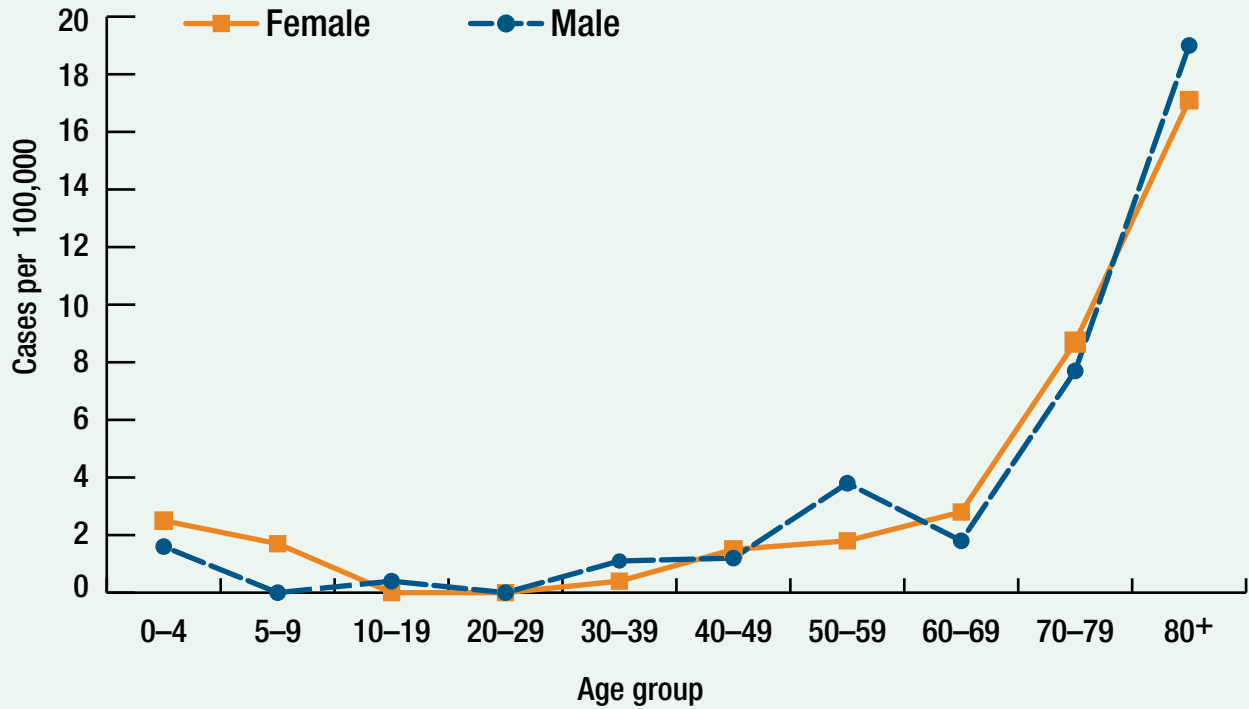
### H. influenzae infection by year: Oregon, 1988–2015



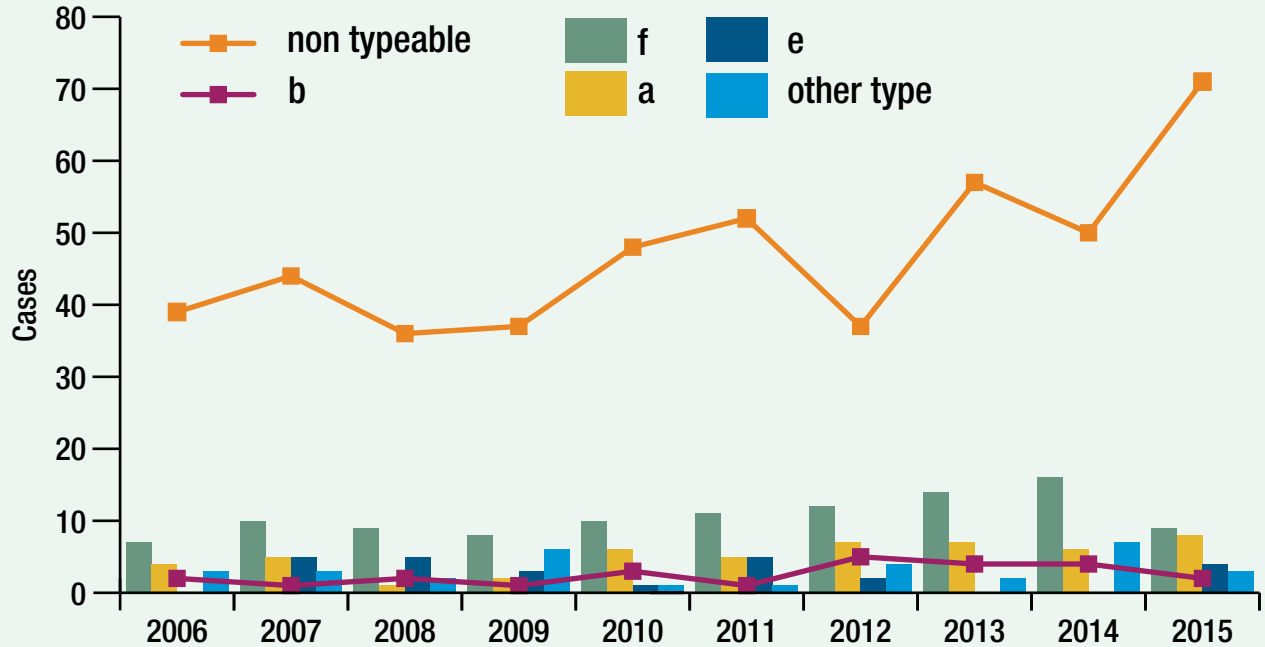
### H. influenzae infection by onset month: Oregon, 2015



### Incidence of *H. influenzae* infection by age and sex: Oregon, 2015

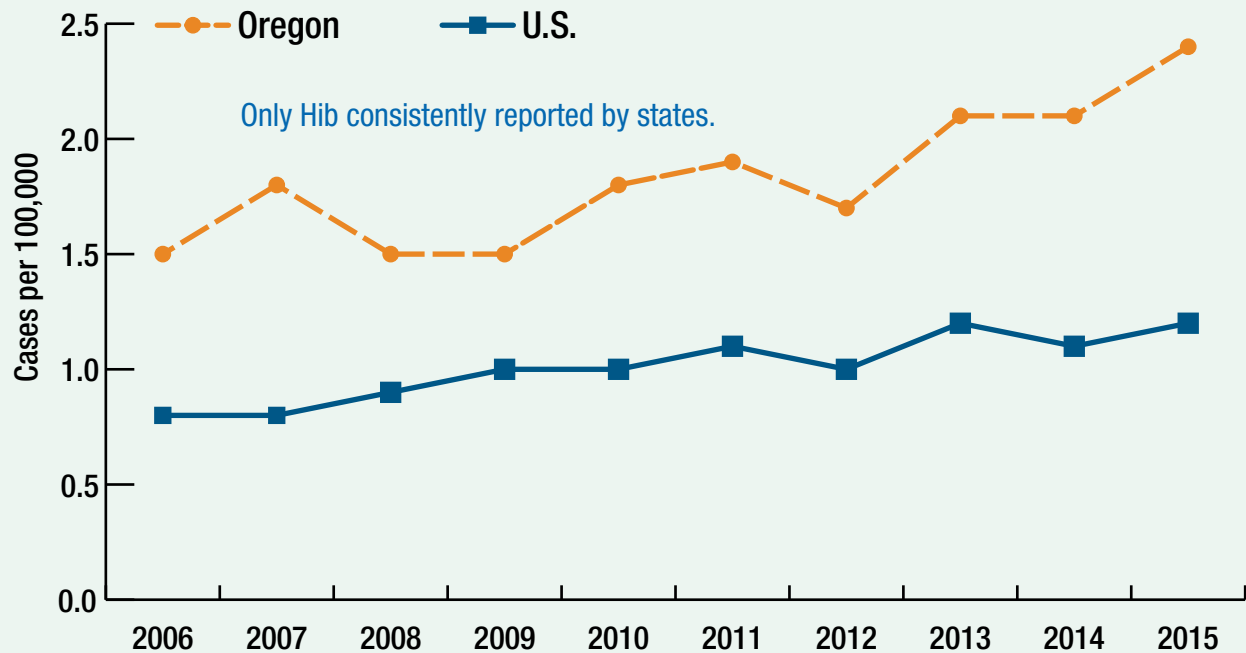


### *H. influenzae* infection by year and serotype: Oregon, 2006–2015

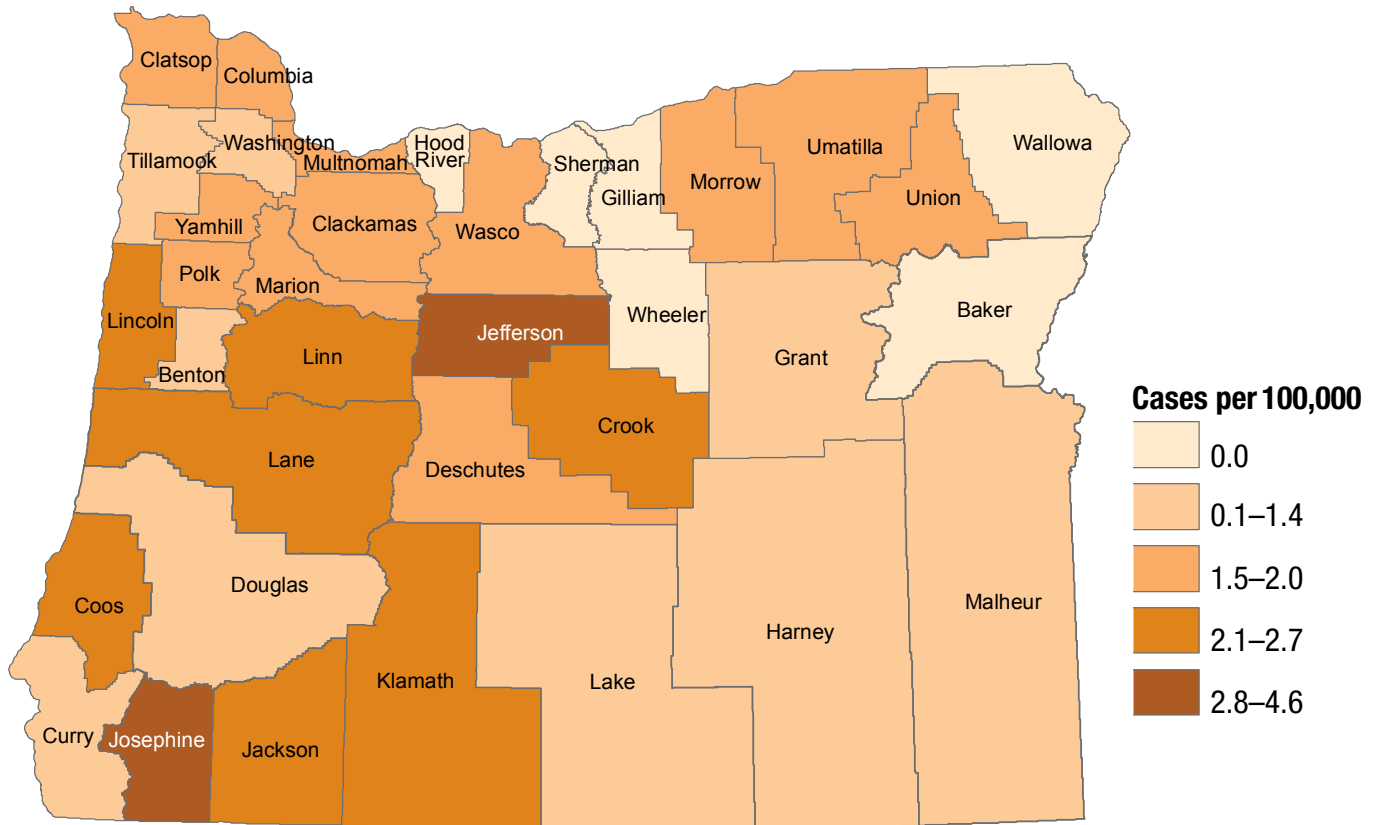


nontypeable	39	44	36	37	48	52	37	57	50	71
b	2	1	2	1	3	1	5	4	4	2
f	7	10	9	8	10	11	12	14	16	9
a	4	5	1	2	6	5	7	7	6	8
e	0	5	5	3	1	5	2	0	0	4
other type	3	3	2	6	1	1	4	2	7	3

### Incidence of *H. influenzae* infection: Oregon vs. nationwide, 2006–2015



### Incidence of *H. influenzae* infection by county of residence: Oregon, 2006–2015



## Prevention

- Vaccinate all children against Hib at 2, 4, 6 and 12–15 months of age.
- Cover your cough and wash your hands.
- Close contacts of Hib cases can be treated prophylactically to prevent infection.