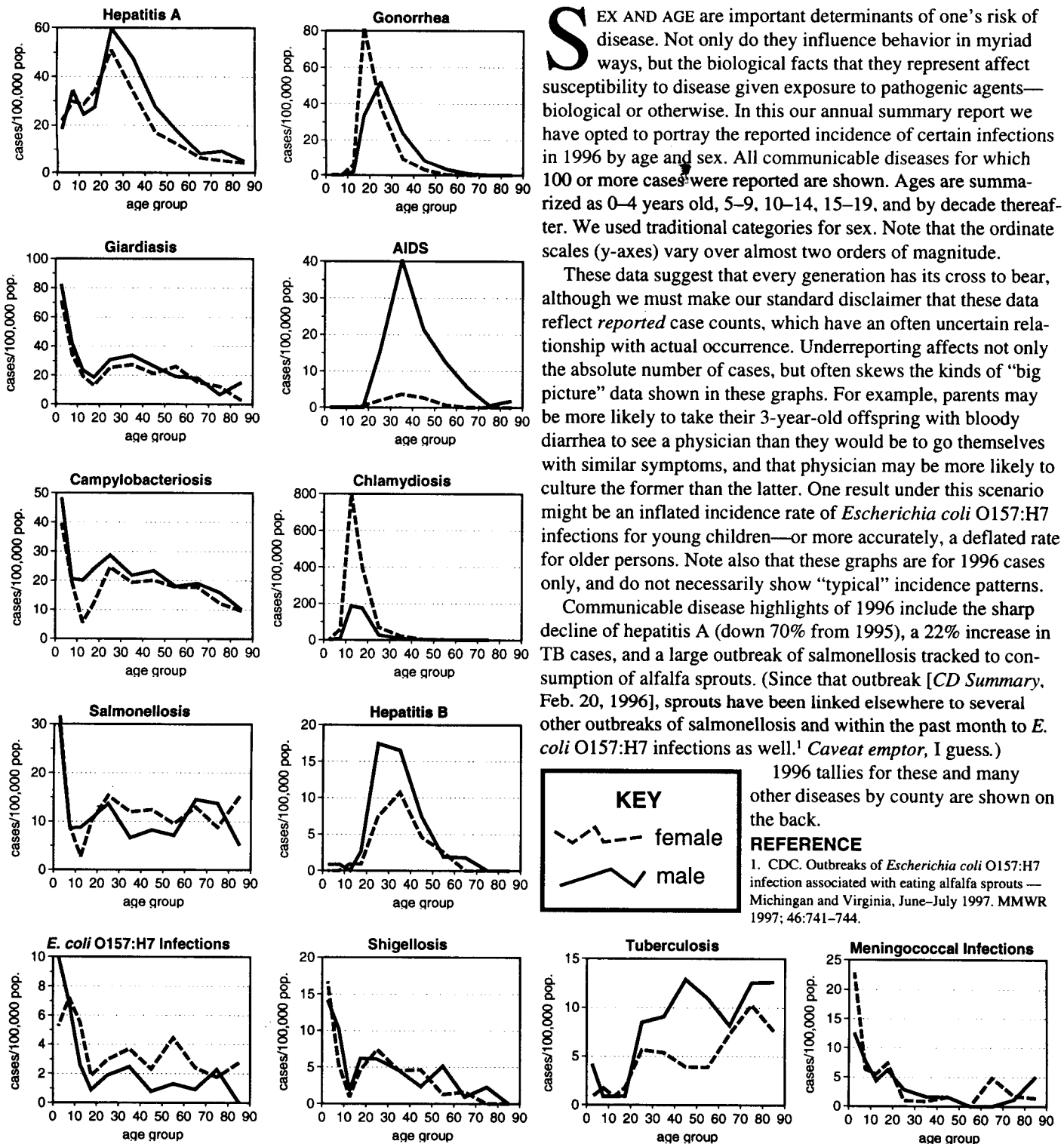


CENTER FOR DISEASE PREVENTION & EPIDEMIOLOGY • OREGON HEALTH DIVISION

SUMMARY COMMUNICABLE DISEASE DATA FOR 1996 (SELECTED DISEASES)



SEX AND AGE are important determinants of one's risk of disease. Not only do they influence behavior in myriad ways, but the biological facts that they represent affect susceptibility to disease given exposure to pathogenic agents—biological or otherwise. In this our annual summary report we have opted to portray the reported incidence of certain infections in 1996 by age and sex. All communicable diseases for which 100 or more cases were reported are shown. Ages are summarized as 0–4 years old, 5–9, 10–14, 15–19, and by decade thereafter. We used traditional categories for sex. Note that the ordinate scales (y-axes) vary over almost two orders of magnitude.

These data suggest that every generation has its cross to bear, although we must make our standard disclaimer that these data reflect *reported* case counts, which have an often uncertain relationship with actual occurrence. Underreporting affects not only the absolute number of cases, but often skews the kinds of “big picture” data shown in these graphs. For example, parents may be more likely to take their 3-year-old offspring with bloody diarrhea to see a physician than they would be to go themselves with similar symptoms, and that physician may be more likely to culture the former than the latter. One result under this scenario might be an inflated incidence rate of *Escherichia coli* O157:H7 infections for young children—or more accurately, a deflated rate for older persons. Note also that these graphs are for 1996 cases only, and do not necessarily show “typical” incidence patterns.

Communicable disease highlights of 1996 include the sharp decline of hepatitis A (down 70% from 1995), a 22% increase in TB cases, and a large outbreak of salmonellosis tracked to consumption of alfalfa sprouts. (Since that outbreak [*CD Summary*, Feb. 20, 1996], sprouts have been linked elsewhere to several other outbreaks of salmonellosis and within the past month to *E. coli* O157:H7 infections as well.¹ *Caveat emptor*, I guess.)

1996 tallies for these and many other diseases by county are shown on the back.

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CD SUMMARY

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PERIODICALS
POSTAGE
PAID
Portland, Oregon

1996 Reported Case Counts by County for Selected Diseases*

COUNTY	1996 POP.	FECAL-ORAL										EFFLUVIA					SEX & DRUGS					BUGS		
		amebiasis	campylobacteriosis	cryptosporidiosis	<i>E. coli</i> O157 infection	giardiasis	hepatitis A	listeriosis	salmonellosis	shigellosis	yersiniosis	<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i>	measles	meningococcal disease	pertussis	tuberculosis	AIDS	chlamydia	gonorrhea	hepatitis B (acute)	hepatitis B (chronic)	syphilis (early)	Lyme disease	malaria
Baker	16,500	0	4	0	0	13	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	21	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Benton	76,000	3	19	1	3	26	19	0	4	1	3	0	0	0	1	1	3	81	3	0	16	0	0	3
Clackamas	313,200	2	75	5	6	62	68	1	54	21	1	5	0	14	6	13	13	334	36	8	30	1	0	1
Clatsop	34,600	0	6	0	7	8	14	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	96	2	3	1	1	0	0	
Columbia	40,100	0	8	0	0	3	2	0	4	0	0	2	1	0	0	2	44	4	0	0	0	0	0	
Coos	61,700	0	11	4	0	20	4	0	7	1	1	0	0	1	2	0	7	86	2	2	4	0	0	0
Crook	15,900	0	4	0	0	7	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	26	0	0	1	0	0	0
Curry	22,000	0	6	0	0	10	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	20	0	0	1	0	0	0	
Deschutes	98,000	0	21	0	4	46	37	0	16	2	1	0	6	3	6	0	7	142	5	0	0	0	2	1
Douglas	98,600	1	22	0	6	27	26	0	8	1	0	1	0	1	0	3	12	79	6	3	2	0	3	0
Gilliam	1,900	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grant	8,100	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Harney	7,500	0	1	0	0	1	10	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Hood River	19,000	6	4	0	0	18	3	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	22	3	0	0	0	1	0
Jackson	168,000	2	50	1	4	42	35	4	22	3	0	1	0	4	2	6	15	243	8	3	19	0	1	0
Jefferson	16,900	0	8	1	0	3	6	0	1	3	0	0	0	1	0	2	2	59	12	0	0	0	0	0
Josephine	72,000	1	17	0	3	17	13	0	10	3	0	0	0	1	1	3	6	98	4	4	2	0	1	0
Klamath	61,600	0	20	0	1	18	126	0	4	1	0	0	0	2	0	2	140	11	1	9	0	1	0	
Lake	7,550	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lane	305,800	10	53	0	16	111	115	3	21	14	0	0	1	12	14	14	27	246	52	23	19	0	1	2
Lincoln	42,200	0	10	0	2	4	22	0	7	0	0	0	0	2	1	3	6	58	6	2	1	0	1	0
Linn	100,000	0	28	1	2	23	80	0	10	3	0	1	0	13	1	2	7	119	8	3	11	0	0	0
Malheur	28,700	0	11	0	1	1	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	45	1	1	0	0	0	0
Marion	262,800	2	50	2	10	76	66	3	36	24	0	5	5	14	6	20	51	715	71	20	38	0	2	3
Morrow	9,000	0	3	0	0	7	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	19	0	1	0	0	0	0
Multnomah	636,000	49	127	13	13	255	122	0	88	45	2	13	1	34	12	83	250	1931	564	83	248	13	0	11
Polk	56,300	0	10	0	1	10	23	0	3	0	1	1	0	1	0	3	4	45	2	2	1	1	0	0
Tillamook	23,800	0	9	1	1	5	4	1	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Umatilla	65,500	0	12	0	3	18	5	0	7	6	0	0	0	0	0	1	8	141	2	0	3	0	0	0
Union	24,500	0	5	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	13	0	0	0	0	0	1
Wallowa	7,250	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wasco-Sherman	24,400	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	57	0	0	2	0	0	0
Washington	376,500	5	82	7	8	81	45	3	50	18	6	1	0	9	2	25	22	452	72	5	57	1	0	1
Wheeler	1,600	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0
Yamhill	77,500	3	21	0	6	14	27	0	9	1	2	1	0	2	2	6	9	70	12	3	7	0	0	0
TOTAL	3,181,000	85	700	36	100	930	877	15	380	151	19	31	14	116	58	190	467	5442	886	168	472	17	16	23

* STD and AIDS tallies are by date of report. Other diseases are by date of onset, date of specimen, or date of report (whichever comes first).