

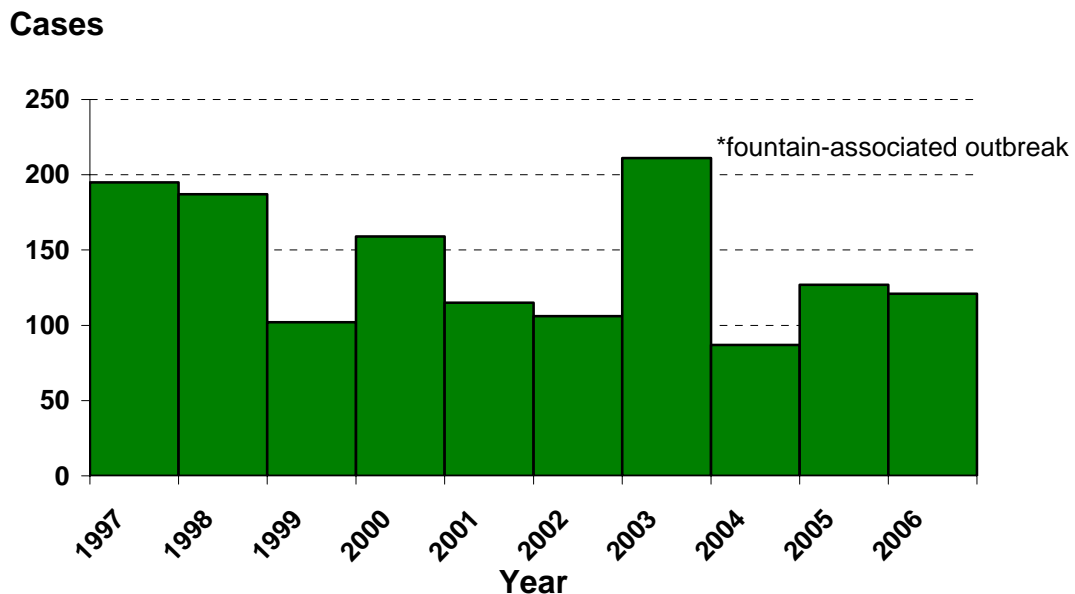
Shigellosis

Shigellosis is an acute bacterial infection characterized by (sometimes bloody) diarrhea, vomiting, abdominal cramps and often, fever. 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 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.

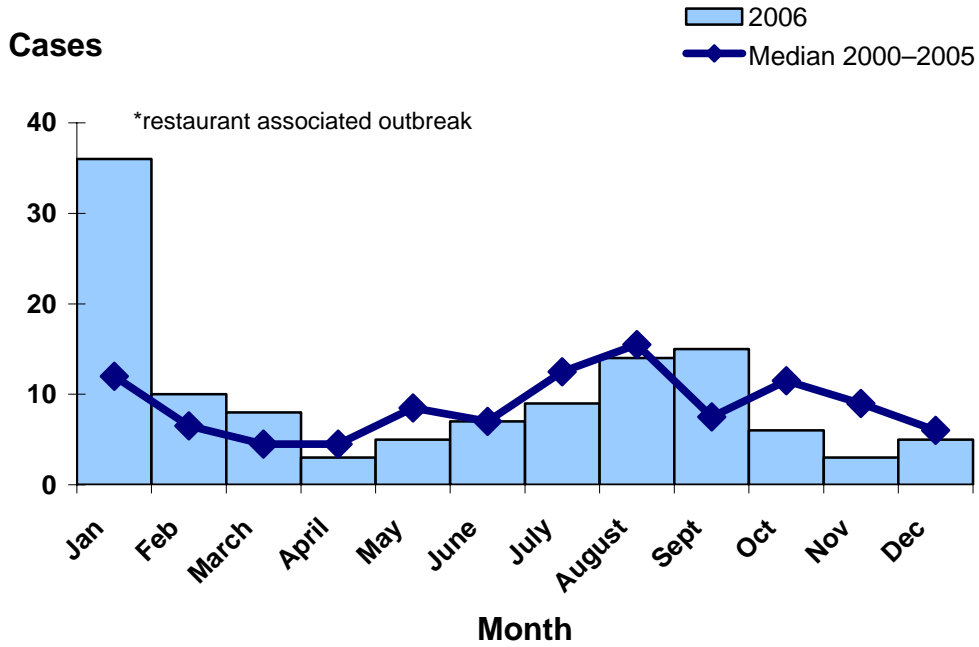
Outbreaks in day-care centers are common, mainly due to the poor hygienic practices of small children. Hand washing is the most important means of prevention. Treatment reduces duration of illness, but the organism has become resistant to many antibiotics used for empiric therapy. Testing for antibiotic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

The number of cases in 2006 was similar to that in 2005. A large cluster of cases in January 2006 was due to a restaurant-associated outbreak. In addition, there was a single daycare outbreak.

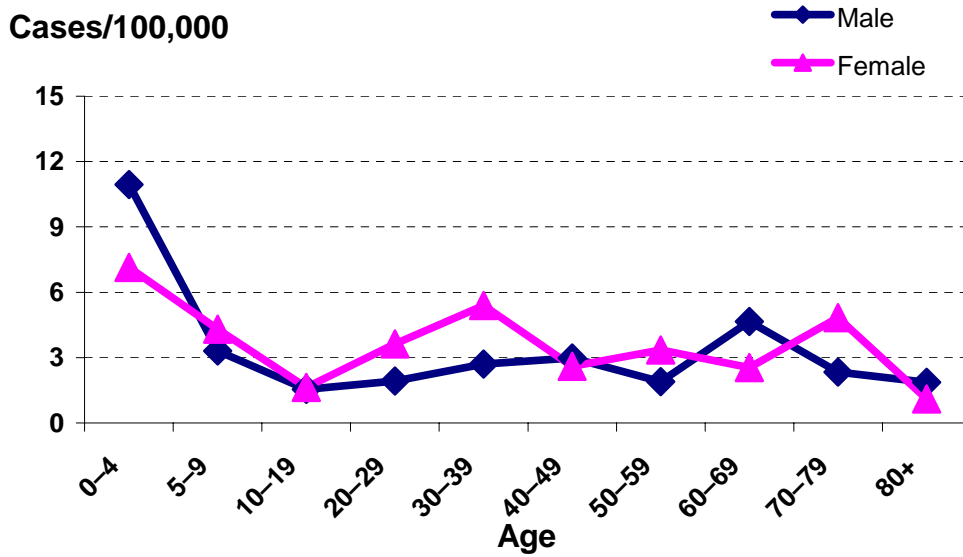
**Shigellosis
by Year
Oregon, 1997–2006**



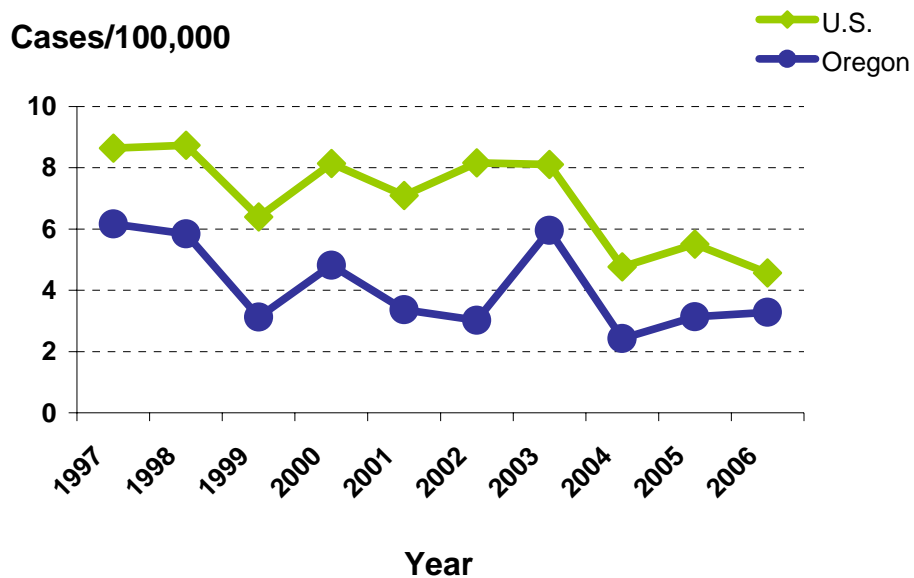
Shigellosis by Onset Month Oregon, 2006



Incidence of Shigellosis by Age and Sex Oregon, 2006



Incidence of Shigellosis Oregon vs. Nationwide 1997–2006



Shigellosis by Species Oregon, 2006

