

# Lyme Disease

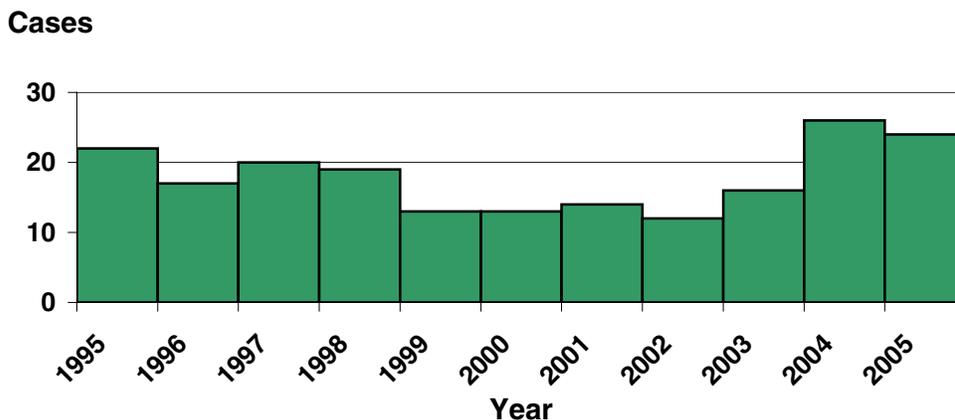
Lyme Disease is a tick-borne zoonotic disease caused by the spirochete *Borrelia burgdorferi*. The first manifestation in about 60% of patients appears as a red macule or papule that expands slowly in an annular manner, sometimes with multiple similar lesions. This distinctive skin lesion is called erythema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

Currently, increasing recognition of the disease is redefining endemic areas; cases have been reported in 47 states, and in Ontario and British Columbia, Canada. Elsewhere, related borrelioses have been found in Europe, the former Soviet Union, China and Japan. Oregon Lyme Disease rates pale in comparison to the national rate.

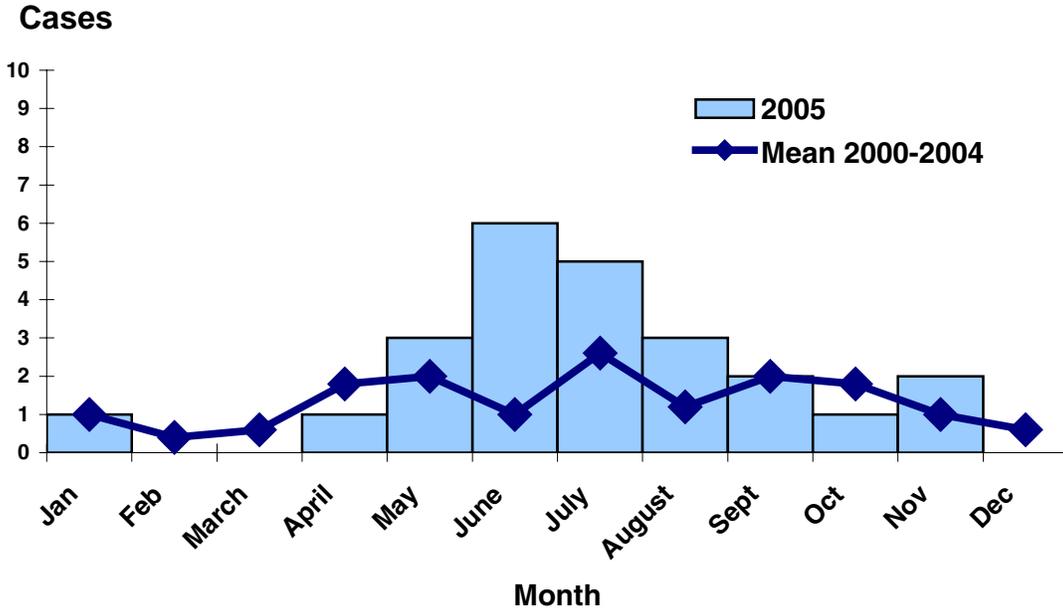
In 1997–1998, a tick identification and *Borrelia* isolation study was conducted by the CDC and the Oregon Department of Human Services in Deschutes, Josephine and Jackson Counties. No ticks from Deschutes County were identified as carrying *Borrelia* in this study. The organism was isolated in 3% of *Ixodes pacificus* ticks tested.

During 2005, 24 cases were reported in Oregon. The average age was 43 years. Seventeen (71%) of the cases occurred between May and August, when the warmer weather attracts Oregonians to the outdoors. Twenty (83%) of the cases resided west of the Cascades.

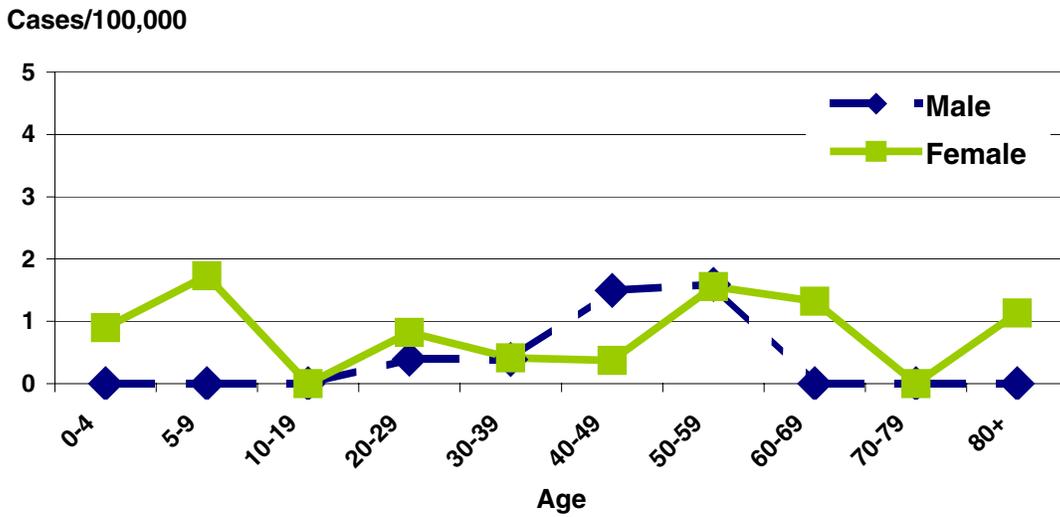
**Lyme Disease  
by Year, Oregon, 1995-2005**



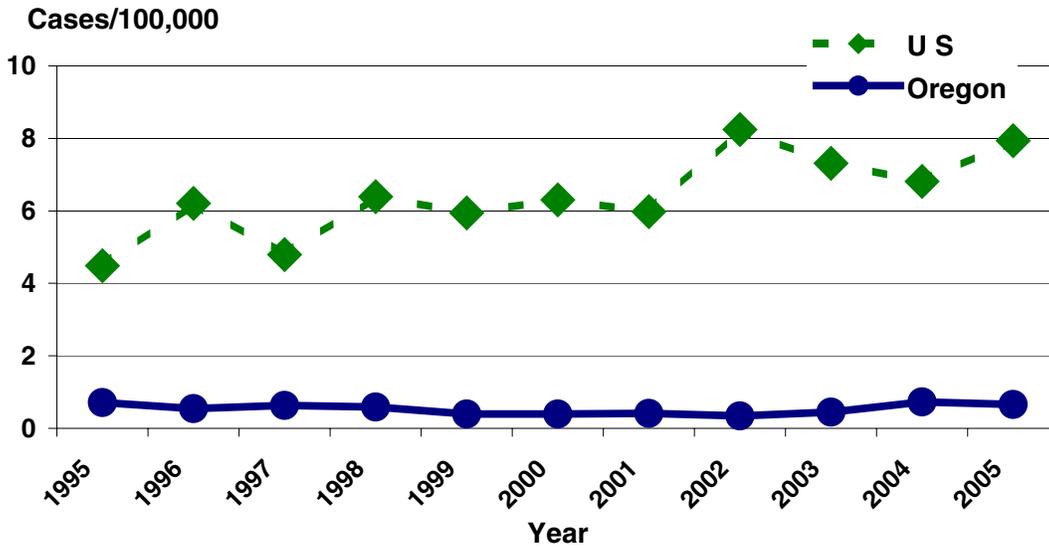
## Lyme Disease by Onset Month Oregon, 2005



## Incidence of Lyme Disease by Age and Sex Oregon, 2005



## Incidence of Lyme Disease Oregon vs. Nationwide 1995-2005



## Incidence of Lyme Disease by County of Residence Oregon, 2005

