

SHIGELLOSIS

Shigellosis is an acute bacterial disease of the gastrointestinal tract caused by a bacillus of the *Shigella* species. It is characterized by diarrhea, frequently bloody, accompanied by fever, nausea, vomiting, and abdominal cramping. Transmission is by the fecal-oral route from person to person or from contaminated food, water or milk. The disease is more severe in children than in adults and can be especially difficult to control in day care centers.

Laboratory Criteria for Confirmation:

- Isolation of *Shigella sp.* from a clinical specimen.

Case Classification

Confirmed: A case that is laboratory confirmed.

Probable: A clinically compatible case that is epidemiologically linked to a confirmed case.

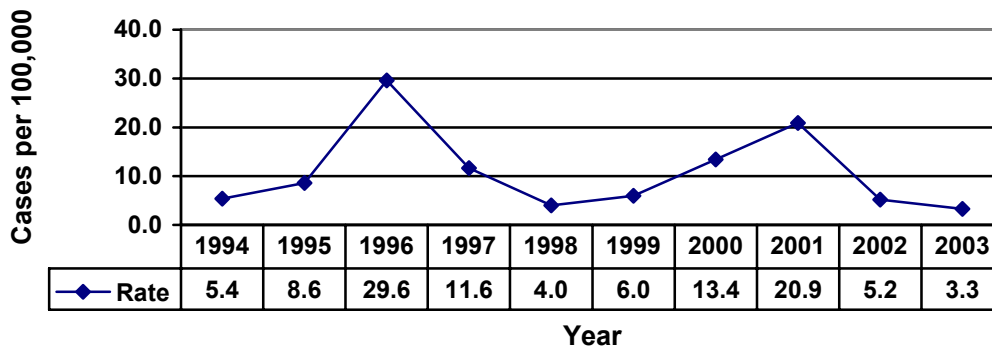
Epidemiology

Kentucky 2003	Rate per 100,000	U.S. Rate (2002) per 100,000
Cases 136	3.3	8.37

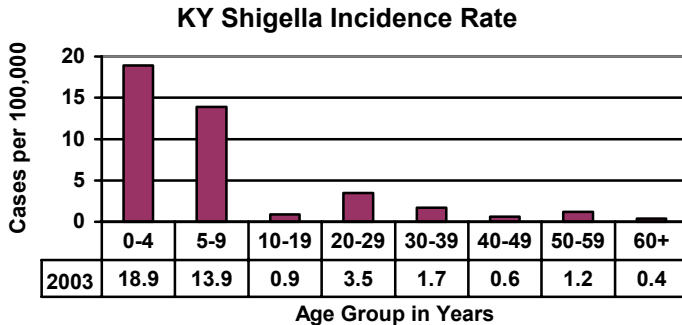
Cases by Gender

Female	68	3.2
Male	68	3.4

**Shigellosis Incidence
Kentucky, 1994-2003**



Shigellosis, Age-Specific Incidence Kentucky 2003



The 0-4 and 5-9 year age groups experienced the highest incidence rates again in 2003, 18.9 cases per 100,000 and 13.9 cases per 100,000 respectively.

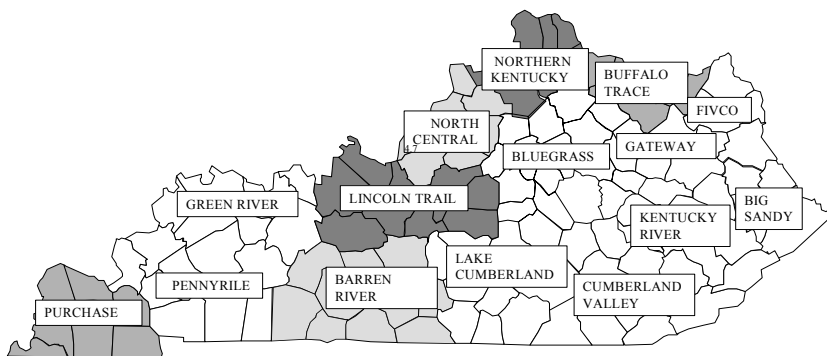
Shigellosis by District, Kentucky Annual Incidence 2003

The shigellosis incidence rate continued to fall back to more normal endemic levels for most areas compared to the numbers of cases from 2001. Both Pennyriple and Northern Kentucky districts reported the highest incidence of 13.7 cases per 100,000.

Four outbreaks of Shigellosis, involving forty-four individuals, were reported to the Department for Public Health in 2003.

Rate

0-1.0	
1.0-3.0	
3.1-6.9	
7.0-14.0	



ADD District	Rate per 100,000
Purchase	6.7
Pennyriple	0.5
Barren River	3.1
Lincoln Trail	13.7
North Central	3.6
Northern Kentucky	13.7
Buffalo Trace	7.1
Big Sandy	0.6
Kentucky River	0.8
Bluegrass	0.9