

Typhoid Fever

Agent: *Salmonella* ser. Typhi (bacteria)

Mode of Transmission: Ingestion of food or water contaminated by feces or urine of infected persons. The bacteria live only in humans.

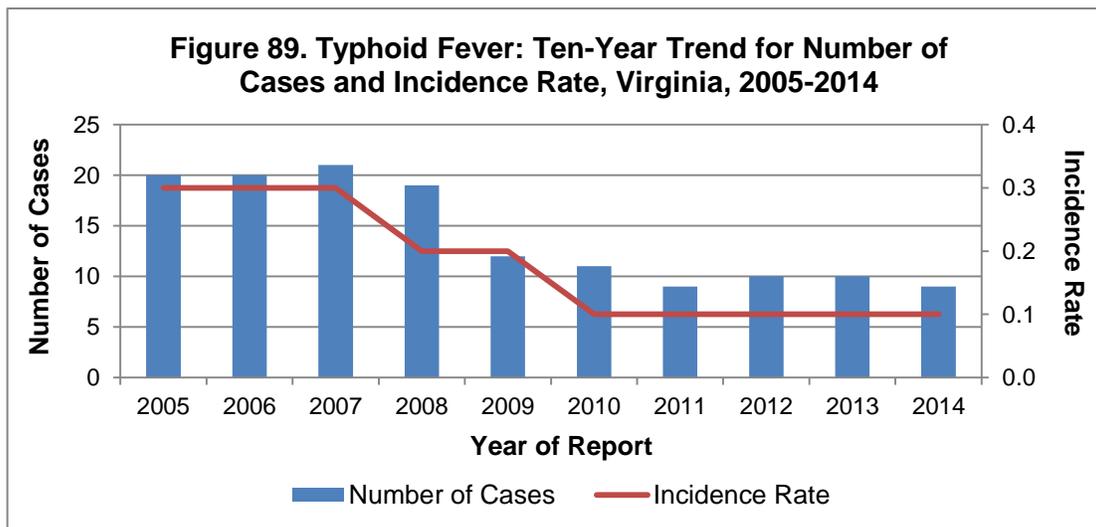
Signs/Symptoms: Include sustained fever, headache, malaise, altered mental status, lethargy, anorexia, fast heart rate, enlarged spleen, a non-productive cough and constipation.

Prevention: Access to safe water and proper sanitation, and following safe food handling and hand hygiene practices are essential. Travelers to countries where the disease is common should get vaccinated and avoid consuming risky foods and drinks.

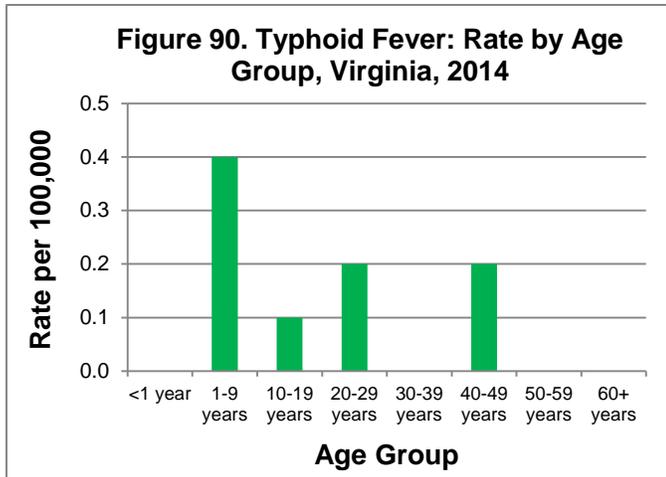
Other Important Information: According to the CDC, most cases of typhoid fever in the U.S. (up to 75%) are acquired while traveling internationally. The condition is very common in the developing world, where it affects more than 20 million persons annually. Approximately 200,000 deaths are attributed to typhoid fever worldwide each year.

Typhoid Fever: 2014 Data Summary	
Number of Cases:	9
5-Year Average Number of Cases:	10.4
% Change from 5-Year Average:	-13%
Incidence Rate per 100,000:	0.1

During 2014, 9 cases of typhoid fever were reported in Virginia. This is similar to the 10 cases reported in 2013, and a slight decrease from the five-year average of 10.4 cases per year (Figure 89). Eight of the nine cases had a history of travel outside the United States in the 30 days prior to illness onset. Travel histories included 5 persons who traveled to India, and one person each to Pakistan, Peru, and Sierra Leone. One case was not associated with travel and had no known exposures.



Among all age groups, the 1-9 year age group had the highest number of cases and incidence rate (4 cases, 0.4 per 100,000) (Figure 90). Race information was not provided for four cases. For cases with a known race, two were white, 2 were “other” race, and one was black. Males and females had similar rates (0.1 per 100,000 each). Seven cases were reported from the northern region, resulting in an incidence rate of 0.3 per 100,000, and the remaining two cases were reported from the central region with an incidence rate of 0.1 per 100,000.



Onset occurred throughout the year. However, because most cases are acquired outside the country, any seasonal pattern would most likely be related to travel patterns. During 2014, no deaths were attributed to typhoid fever in Virginia.