



## GEORGIA (GEO)

Population: 5.4 million  
Area: 69 700 km<sup>2</sup>



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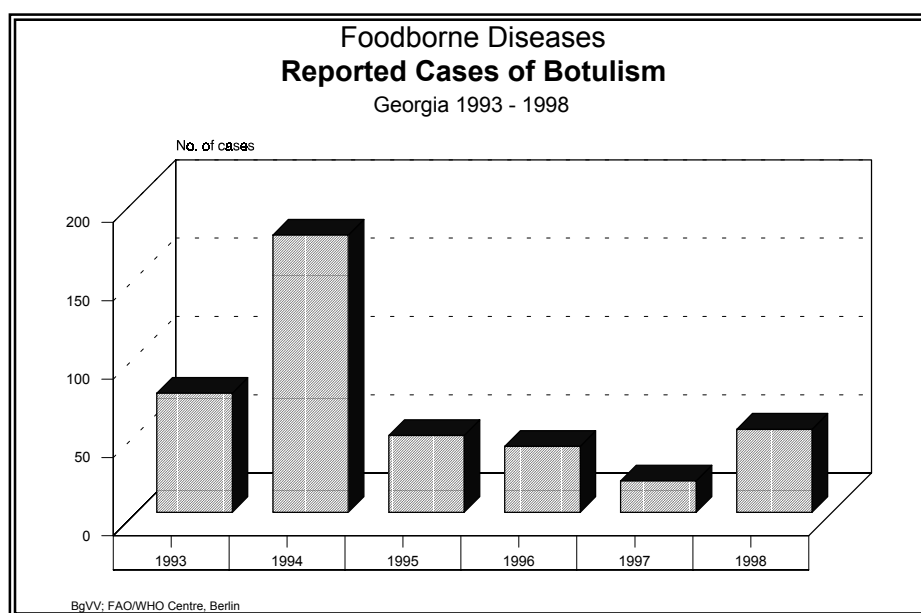
### 1. Statutory notification

Table GE 1

#### Notified cases of foodborne diseases GEORGIA 1993 – 1998

Causative agent	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
<i>Salmonella Enteritidis</i>	-	-	2	6	4	3
<i>Salmonella Typhimurium</i>	15	11	12	25	26	91
Other <i>Salmonella</i> spp.	-	-	4	8	5	7
<i>Clostridium botulinum</i>	76	177	49	42	20	53
<i>Shigella</i>	18	9	25	40	25	27

Figure GE 1



## 2. Comments

The following information has been provided by the collaborators of the National Contact Point in Georgia Dr Imnadze, Dr Tsanova, NCDC Deputy Director and Dr Julia Zedginidze, Editor of Epidemiological Bulletin.

The incomplete number of foodborne intoxications and infections registered for 1993-1998 in Georgia is the result of poor visits of patients to health preventive organizations. This is due to the social hardship. On the other hand there are difficulties in the detection of the infectious agent in both patients and in food commodities.

Syndrome (clinic) indicators are used to estimate the incidence of foodborne intoxications and infections. Determination of pathogen during sporadic or group cases is not often done in Central laboratories because of poor laboratory equipment and lack of resources. Research at a lower level, such as regional level, is not done.

For this reason epidemiological surveillance on foodborne diseases is rather difficult and needs careful attention, and rapid help from International Reference Laboratories for special supply of laboratories and training of local staff.

There are no data available from the Ministry of Health of Georgia Medical Statistics and Informative Center "Health Care Georgia. Statistic Guideline" on foodborne intoxications and infections for the period 1993-1995. Since 1996 to 1998 incidents of foodborne infections and intoxications are distributed in following way: 283 in 1996; 340 in 1997 and 301 in 1998.

Source of information:

1. Epidemiology Bulletin; November – December 1996/Vol. 1/N. 11-12.
2. Epidemiology Bulletin; February, 1998/Vol. 3/N. 2
3. Emerging infectious diseases. Vol. 6, N.1, Jan. - Feb. 2000 p.70-73. CDC - centers for disease control and prevention.

**WHO Surveillance Programme for Control of Foodborne Infections and Intoxications in Europe**  
**7th Report**

Country Reports: *GEORGIA 1993 – 1998*

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4. Ministry of Health of Georgia Department of Public Health
5. Ministry of Health of Georgia, Medical statistics and Informative Center, "Health Care Georgia Statistic guideline"

**3. Additional Information**

Additional information can be found in the National Center for Disease Control of the Department of Public Health (NCDC) page in the Georgia Health Care web site: <http://ntl.nilc.org.ge/geohealth/>.

For further reference on national and international foodborne diseases please visit the web page <http://www.who.it/docs/fdsaf/fddata.htm>.