



LATVIA (LVA)

Population: 2.4 million (1998)

Area: 64 635 km²



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1. General information

In Latvia there is a passive epidemiologic surveillance. Medical personnel send urgent reports of disease's cases to the Environmental Health Centre (EHC). Initially, this is done based on suspicions and there is a final report stating whether the diagnosis was confirmed or cancelled (f.058/u).

The Environmental Health Centre fills in a monthly report -form N^o1- (in the city, district etc. of each administrative territory) and sends it monthly to the National EHC (NEHC) on the 10th day. The NEHC summarizes the data from all over the country and sends form N^o1 to the Health Statistic Centre at the Welfare Ministry.

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2. Statutory notification

Table LV 1

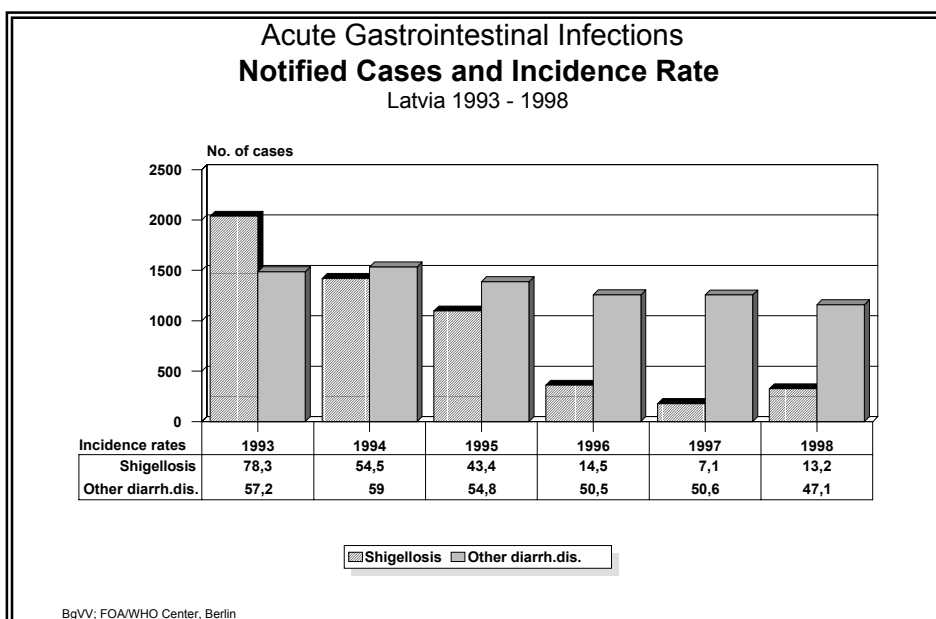
Notified cases of foodborne diseases
LATVIA 1993 - 1998

Diagnosis	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
Para- / Typhoid fever	-/4	-/3	-/4	-/3	-/2	-
<i>Incidence rate</i>	-/0.2	-/0.1	-/0.2	-/0.1	-/0.1	-
Salmonella	1157	1208	924	805	694	1106
<i>Incidence rate</i>	44.5	46.5	36.5	32.3	28.0	45.0
Shigellosis	2037	1418	1097	360	177	325
<i>Incidence rate</i>	78.3	54.5	43.4	14.5	7.1	13.2
Hepat. A	3079	2070	2534	2332	2303	1601
<i>Incidence rate</i>	118.4	79.6	100.2	93.7	92.9	65.1
Infect. ent. of unknown origin	1487	1534	1387	1258	1256	1159
<i>Incidence rate</i>	57.2	59.0	54.8	50.5	50.6	47.1
*Other vir.ent.	-	13	-	10	264	262
<i>Incidence rate</i>	-	0.5	-	0.4	10.6	10.7
**Giardiasis	-	-	-	-	-	180
<i>Incidence rate</i>	-	-	-	-	-	7.3
Amoebiasis	-	-	-	-	-	1
<i>Incidence rate</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0.0
Other bact.foodb.infect.	571	519	433	384	525	599
<i>Incidence rate</i>	22.0	20.0	17.1	15.4	21.2	24.3
Botulism	-	-	-	11	1	3
<i>Incidence rate</i>	-	-	-	0.4	0.0	0.1

* rotaviral infection registration since 1994

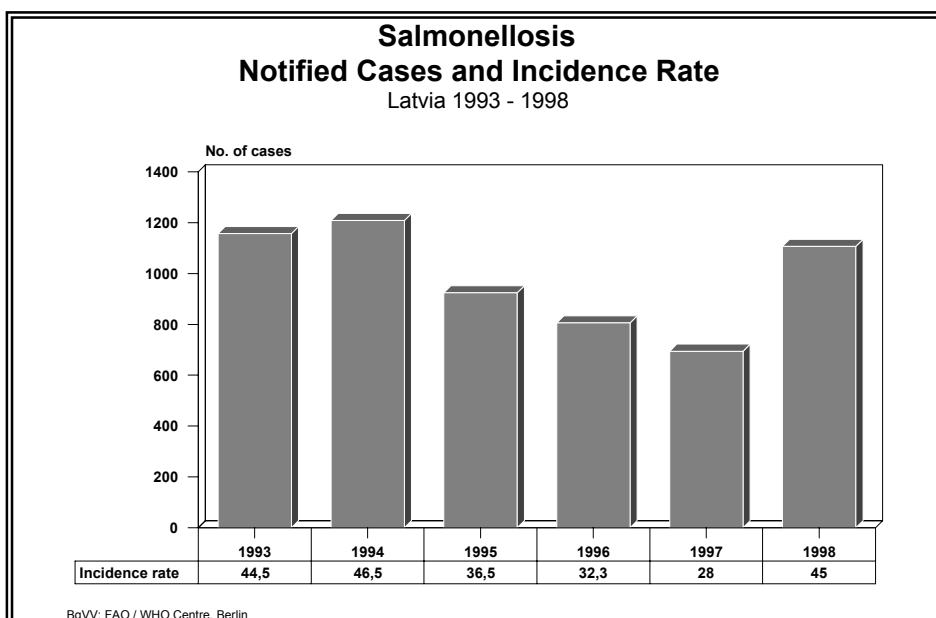
** registration since 1998

Figure LV 1



2.1 Salmonellosis

Figure LV 2



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Table LV 3

Salmonella cases by serotypes
LATVIA 1993 - 1998

	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
<i>S. Enteritidis</i>	463	538	506	443	539	696
<i>S. Typhimurium</i>	568	502	348	234	170	235
<i>S. Infantis</i>	-	14	16	-	5	6
<i>S. Agona</i>	-	5	2	-	-	-
<i>S. Derby</i>	-	4	-	-	-	-
<i>S. Virchow</i>	-	8	1	-	-	7
<i>S. Hadar</i>	-	3	-	-	27	2
<i>S. Newport</i>	-	5	-	-	-	1
<i>S. Isangi</i>	-	19	7	-	-	2
<i>S. Muenchen</i>	-	-	2	-	-	-
<i>S. Oranienburg</i>	-	1	1	-	-	-
<i>S. Dublin</i>	-	1	-	-	-	-
<i>S. Gr. C</i>	-	11	-	-	-	-
<i>S. Gr. E</i>	-	1	-	-	-	-
<i>S. Gr. B-Java</i>	-	1	-	-	-	-
<i>S. Gr. B</i>	-	12	-	-	-	-
<i>S. Haifa</i>	-	3	-	-	-	-
<i>S. Heidelberg</i>	-	-	2	-	-	-
<i>S. Potsdam</i>	-	-	5	-	-	-
<i>S. Glostrum</i>	11	5	-	11	9	1
<i>S. Mission</i>	-	6	2	1	-	-
<i>S. Tshiongwe</i>	-	2	-	1	-	1
<i>S. Stendli</i>	-	-	-	2	-	-
<i>S. Gallin. pullo.</i>	-	1	-	-	-	-
<i>S. Concord</i>	-	-	-	-	-	4
<i>S. Reading</i>	-	-	-	1	-	-
<i>S. Bovis morbi.</i>	-	-	-	-	-	1
<i>S. Specils</i>	-	-	-	1	6	2

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3. Epidemiologically investigated incidents

3.1 Causative agents

Table LV 4

Foodborne disease outbreaks by causative agents
LATVIA 1993 - 1998

Causative agent/disease	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1993-1998	
	No. of outbreaks						No.	%
Salmonella	-	26	46	105	31	49	257	13.3
Cl.botulinum	-	-	-	11	-	3	11	0.6
Shigella	-	51	55	32	22	28	188	9.7
Staph. aureus	-	-	-	-	24	4	28	1.4
Trichinellosis	37	57	55	81	20	15	265	13.7
Other bacteria/ unknown	867	57	164	39	32	28	1187	61.2
TOTAL	904	191	320	268	129	127	1939	100.0

Note: Until 1998 an incident with five and more cases was considered as an outbreak.
Since 1998 an outbreak was an incident with two and more cases.

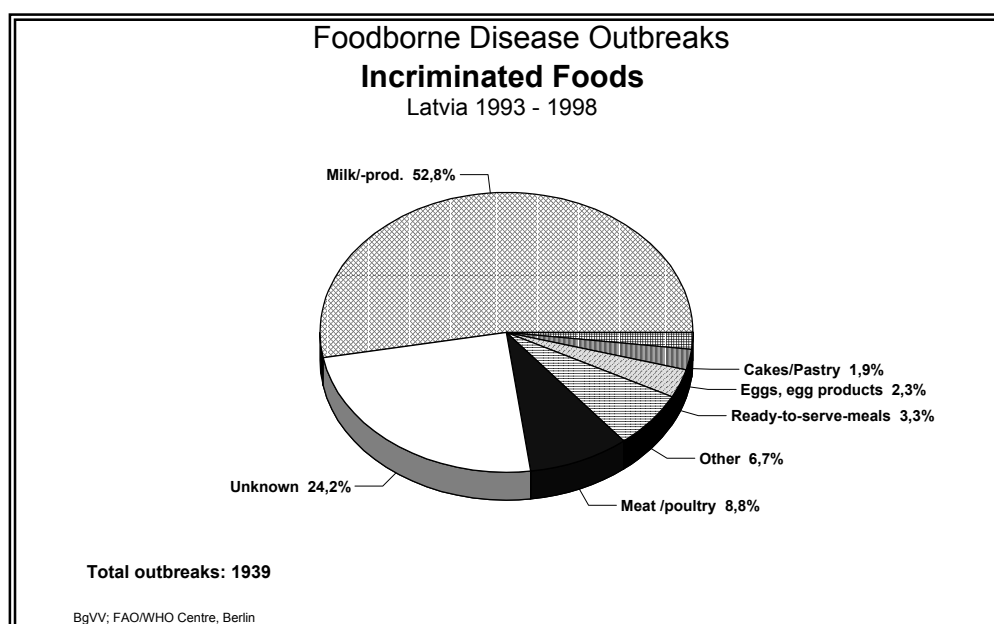
3.2 Incriminated foods

Table LV 5

Foodborne disease outbreaks by incriminated foods
LATVIA 1993 - 1998

Food	Year							1993-98	
	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	No.	%	
	No. of outbreaks							No.	%
Milk and milk products	818	51	108	19	19	9	1024	52	
Eggs and egg products	-	26	-	-	-	19	45	2.3	
Meat and meat products	-	-	110	14	-	47	171	8.8	
Fish	-	-	-	-	17	4	21	1	
Cakes, cakes with cream, sweets, ice-cream	-	-	-	24	-	12	36	1.8	
Ready-to-serve meals (Croquettes, pancakes, dumplings, mayonnaise, vegetable salads)	-	-	61	-	-	3	64	3.3	
Drinking water	-	-	24	13	-	-	37	2	
Others	-	-	-	58	-	14	72	3.7	
Not known	86	114	17	140	93	19	469	24	
TOTAL	904	191	320	268	129	127	1939	100	

Figure LV 3



3.3 Area where the outbreak occurred

Table LV 6

Foodborne disease outbreaks by place of residence LATVIA 1993 - 1998

Place of residence	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1993-98	
	No. of outbreaks						No.	No.
Urban	856	111	204	113	51	53	1388	71.6
Rural	48	80	116	155	78	74	551	28.4
Mixed (urban + rural)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	904	191	320	268	129	127	1939	100
Additional information on								
*Trichinellosis (u/r)	-/37	17/40	2/23	17/75	10/34	9/6	85/215	

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3.4 Place where food was consumed

Table LV 7

Foodborne disease outbreaks by place where food was eaten
LATVIA 1993 - 1997

Place	Year						1993-98	
	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	No.	%
	No. of outbreaks						No.	
Canteen	-	27	-	-	17	-	44	2.2
School, kindergarten	-	64	105	76	40	7	292	15.1
Medical care facilities (Hospital, nursery)	-	12	-	33	8	3	56	2.9
Private home	-	28	-	49	6	114	197	10.2
Other	86	60	83	110	58	1	398	20.5
Various places (2 and more)	818	-	132	-	-	2	952	49.1
TOTAL	904	191	320	268	129	127	1939	100