

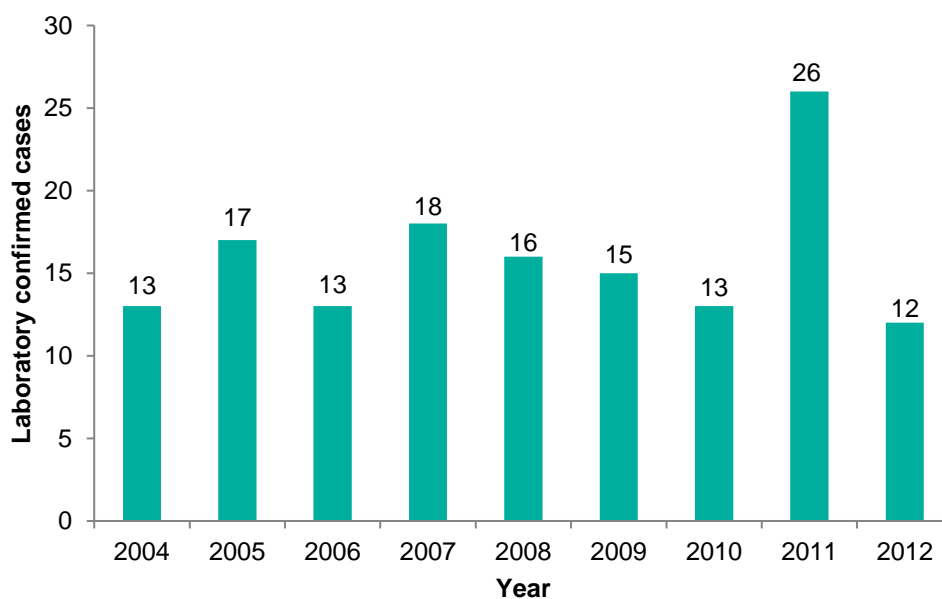


Cholera in England and Wales: 2011-12 update

The annual updates for both 2011 and 2012 have been combined as the numbers reported each year are small.

Between 2004 and 2012, an average of 16 cases of cholera (lowest 12, highest 25), caused by toxigenic *Vibrio cholerae* O1 or O139, have been reported in England and Wales each year [Figure 1]. No laboratory-confirmed cases have been reported from Northern Ireland since 2004. In 2012, 12 cases were reported (including one from Wales) compared to 25 cases in 2011 (including one from Wales).

Figure 1 Laboratory-confirmed cases of *Vibrio cholerae* O1 and O139, England and Wales: 2004 – 2012

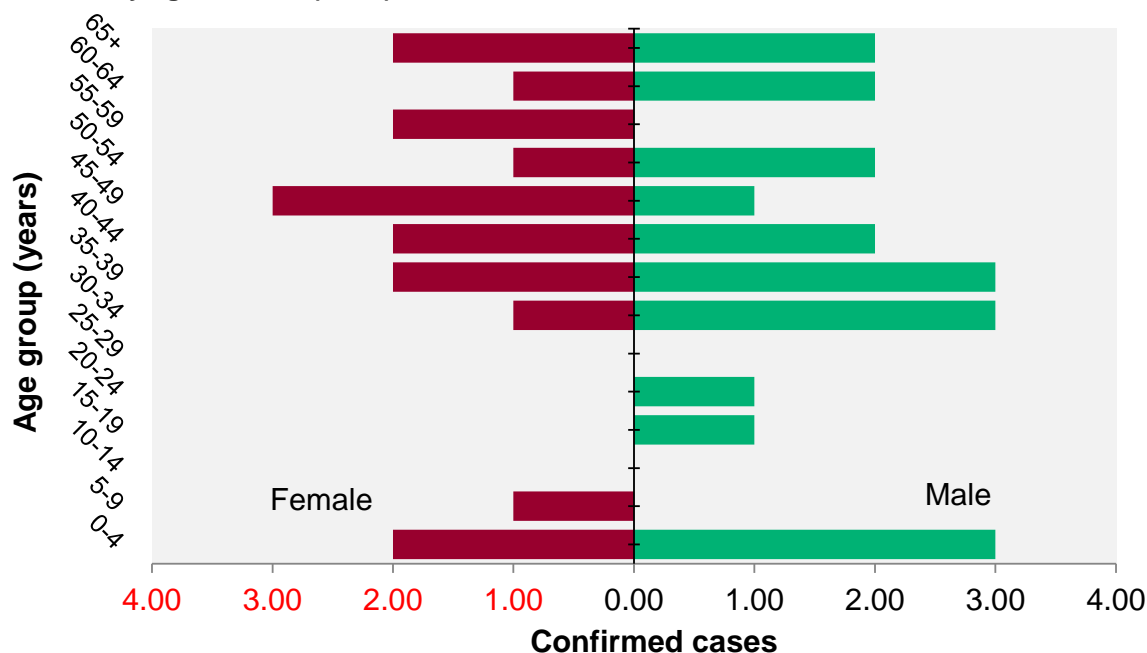


Data source: Laboratory-confirmed cases of *Vibrio cholerae* O1 and O139 diagnosed by the Gastrointestinal Infections Reference Unit, Public Health England, Colindale. Data were extracted direct from the laboratory database using date received by the laboratory. Reports have been deduplicated so that only individual cases are reported.

Age and sex

In 2011 and 2012, 54% (20/37) of cholera cases were male and 19% (7/37) were less than 16 years of age. The median age of all adults (16 and over) was 47 years indicating that older adults and smaller children seem to be most affected [Figure 2].

Figure 2 Laboratory-confirmed cases of *Vibrio cholerae* O1 and O139, England and Wales: 2004 – 2012 by age and sex (N=37)



Regional distribution

Cholera cases were reported from all PHE regions in England and Wales in 2011 and 2012 [Table 1].

Table 1 Laboratory-confirmed cases of *Vibrio cholerae* O1 and O139, England and Wales: 2011 and 2012, by PHE region of report

PHE region	2011	2012
London	8	2
Midlands and East of England	2	3
North of England	9	1
South of England	5	5
Wales	1	1
Grand total	25	12

Travel history

Cholera does not ordinarily occur in the UK. Most cases of cholera reported in the UK are reported in those who have travelled or arrived from abroad. Travel history for cholera cases reported in 2011 and 2012 in England and Wales is detailed in Table 2. India and Pakistan continue to be the most commonly reported countries of travel for cholera cases. The most commonly reported serotype of travel-associated *V. cholerae* in England and Wales is O1 Ogawa.

Table 2 Laboratory-confirmed cases of *Vibrio cholerae* O1 and O139, England and Wales: 2011 and 2012, by country of travel

Country of travel	2012	2011
India	6	5
Pakistan	3	13
Tunisia	1	1
Jordan	1	-
Ghana	1	-
Cape Verde	-	1
Dominican Republic	-	2
Afghanistan	-	2
Nigeria	-	1
Grand total	12	25

Public Health England

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