

Table 1. The 10 *Salmonella* serotypes most frequently isolated in human beings, United States, 1979.

Serotype	Number	Percentage	Median age (years)
<i>S. typhimurium</i> *	10,153	32.6	9
<i>S. enteritidis</i>	2,633	8.5	19
<i>S. heidelberg</i>	2,490	8.0	4
<i>S. newport</i>	1,915	6.2	14
<i>S. infantis</i>	1,417	4.5	7
<i>S. agona</i>	1,103	3.5	3
<i>S. saint-paul</i>	856	2.8	19
<i>S. typhi</i>	647	2.1	26
<i>S. montevideo</i>	613	2.0	12
<i>S. oranienburg</i>	592	1.9	17
Subtotal	22,419	72.1	11
Others	8,704	27.9	
Total	31,123	100.0	11

*Includes *S. typhimurium* var. *copenhagen*.

persons from 21 through 74 years old, females showed a slightly higher reported isolation rate.

The 10 most frequently isolated serotypes accounted for almost three-fourths of the total (Table 1). The variation in median age of persons from whom a particular serotype was isolated may indicate differences in the vehicles, the infectious dose, or other variable. For most serotypes, the median age of infected patients has been consistent for the 17 years during which surveillance records have been maintained. Of the 647 isolates of *S. typhi* in 1979, 50 were from carriers, 153 from infected patients, and the rest were undesignated. The median age of the carriers was 59 years; of the infected patients, 17 years; and of those unspecified, 22 years.

(Source: Center for Disease Control, *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* 29(16):18, 1980.)

Cholera in the World in 1979

A total of 54,179 cases of cholera had been reported to WHO as of 29 April 1980. This figure represents a 27.4 per cent decrease compared with the 74,632 cases reported in 1978 (Table 1). Only two additional countries were infected in 1979 compared with eight in 1978.

The two additional countries affected were in *Africa*: Gabon and the Sudan, which reported 5 and 207 cases, respectively. All together, 18 African countries were affected, as many as in 1978. The total number of cases in Africa fell from 23,317 in 1978 to 18,996 in 1979,

Table 1. World cholera situation, 1974-1979.

	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979
Number of countries reporting cholera	40	29	27	35	40	42
Number of new infected countries	4	1	—	3	8	2
Number of cases	110,890	92,123	66,020	58,087	74,632	54,179

which was due in part to a considerable improvement in the situation in Burundi, Rwanda, the United Republic of Tanzania, and Zambia. Cholera reappeared in the Ivory Coast, which had been free of the disease since 1971, and there was a large outbreak in 1979 in Mozambique, which had not been affected since 1977. In addition, four countries (Upper Volta, Benin, Malawi, and Togo), which had reported cases in 1978, did not report any in 1979.

The *Americas* remained free of cholera in 1979, except for one imported case in the United States of America.

In *Asia* the total number of cases fell from 50,765 in 1978 to 34,842 in 1979. All together, 20 countries and areas reported cholera, the same number as in 1978. Of those that had reported cholera in 1978, three (Iraq, Macao, and Maldives) were free of the disease in 1979. Jordan, the Syrian Arab Republic, and Vietnam, which

had not reported cases in 1978, were again infected in 1979. Although in most of the countries, in particular India, there was a substantial reduction in the number of cases, considerable increases occurred in the Philippines, Indonesia, Iran, and the Democratic Yemen.

In *Europe* a total of 289 cases was reported in 1979. The disease reappeared in southern Europe, eight cases occurring in Italy (Cagliari) and 267 in Spain. Another three European countries reported imported cases.

In *Oceania*, the small number of cases that occurred in late 1978 in Nauru was brought under control in early 1979 and, despite close surveillance, no new cases were detected.

(WHO *Weekly Epidemiological Record*
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Primary Resistance to Antituberculosis Drugs in Chile, 1978

The Tuberculosis Department of Chile's Bacteriology Institute, in its capacity as national reference laboratory in its field, contributes to epidemiologic surveys and periodically determines the primary resistance of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* to the first-line antibacterial drugs.

In 1978, a total of 1,694 patients with recently diagnosed tuberculosis who had not been treated were subjected to sensitivity tests; 810 cases had been diagnosed in the metropolitan area and 884 in various health regions of the country.

The data on sensitivity and resistance to the standard

Table 1. Primary resistance in 1,694 strains of *M. tuberculosis*, Chile, 1978.

Results of sensitivity tests	Metropolitan Zone		Health regions		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Sensitive	731	90.3	800	90.5	1,531	90.4
R EM	27	3.3	38	4.3	65	3.8
R INH	23	2.8	22	2.5	45	2.7
R EM+INH	29	3.6	21	2.4	50	2.95
R EM+PAS	—	—	1	0.1	1	0.05
R EM+INH+Tb ₁	—	—	2	0.2	2	0.10
No. of strains studied	810	100.0	884	100.0	1,694	100.0
Total resistant strains	79	9.7	84	9.5	163	9.6

R = Resistant
EM = Streptomycin
INH = Isoniazid
PAS = Para-aminosalicylic acid
Tb₁ = Thiacetazone