

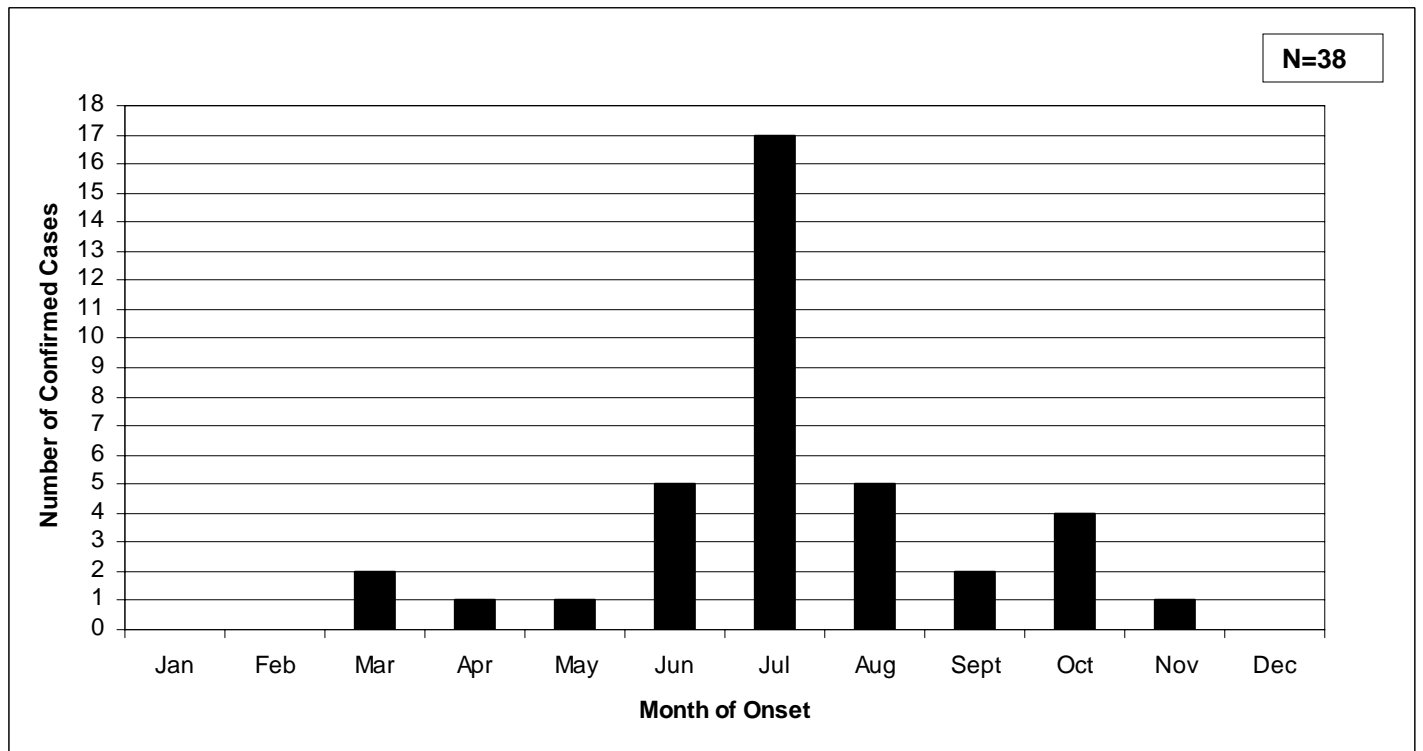
Summary of Confirmed Human Cases of Lyme Disease in Ontario
January 1, 2006 – April 7, 2007

The graphs in this document are based on the data reported to the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care (MOHLTC) as of April 13, 2007, using the integrated Public Health Information System (iPHIS).

1.0 Number of cases by month

Figure 1 shows confirmed cases of Lyme disease (LD) in 2006 based on the month of onset. In 2006 the first confirmed case of LD was reported in March. The number of cases remained steady at one to five per month until July, when there was an increase to 17 cases. The number of cases fell to five again in August. Four cases were reported in October. This is comparable to previous years, with cases occurring more frequently during the summer and fall months.

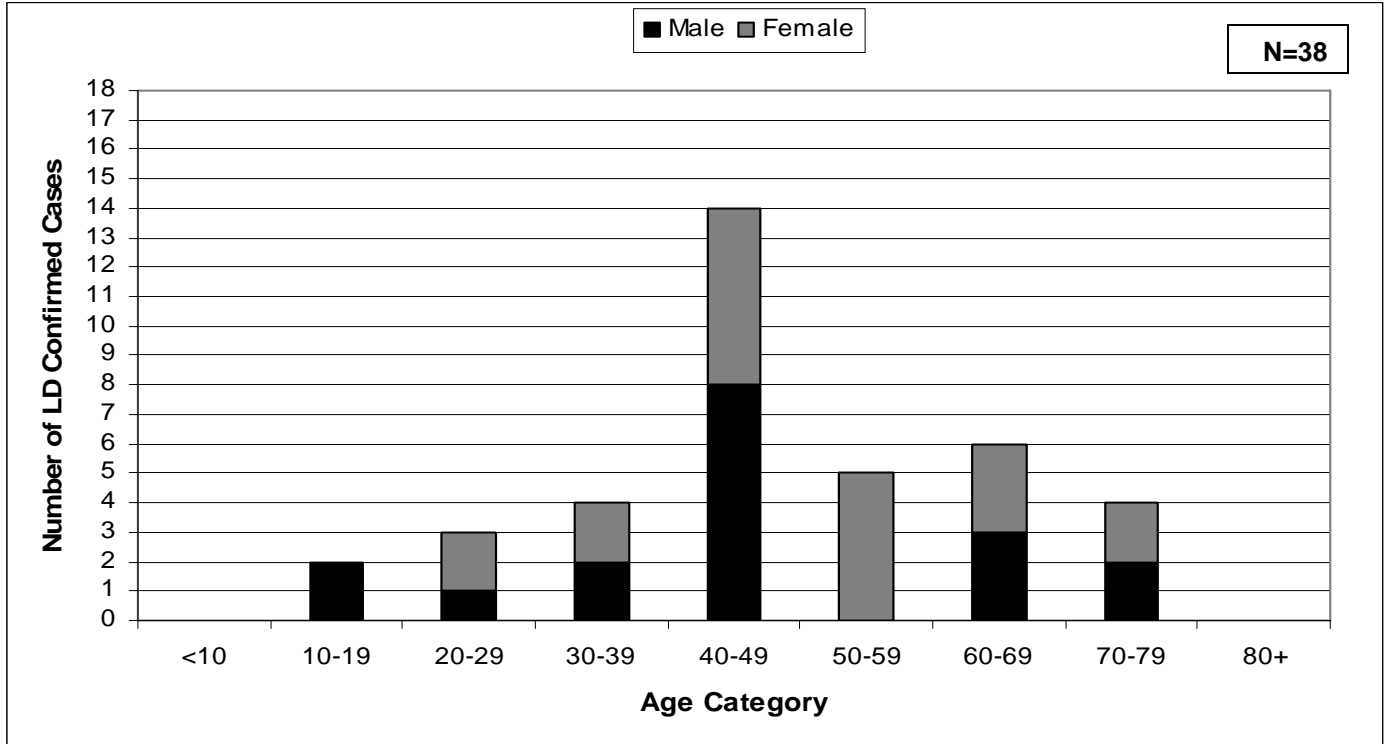
Figure 1: Number of confirmed cases of Lyme disease by month of onset, 2006.



2.0 Number of cases by age and gender

Figure 2 shows confirmed cases of LD by age and gender. The highest number of cases occurs in the 40 to 49 age category for both males and females. There were no cases under the age of 10 or over the age of 80. In 2005, there were four cases under the age of 10.

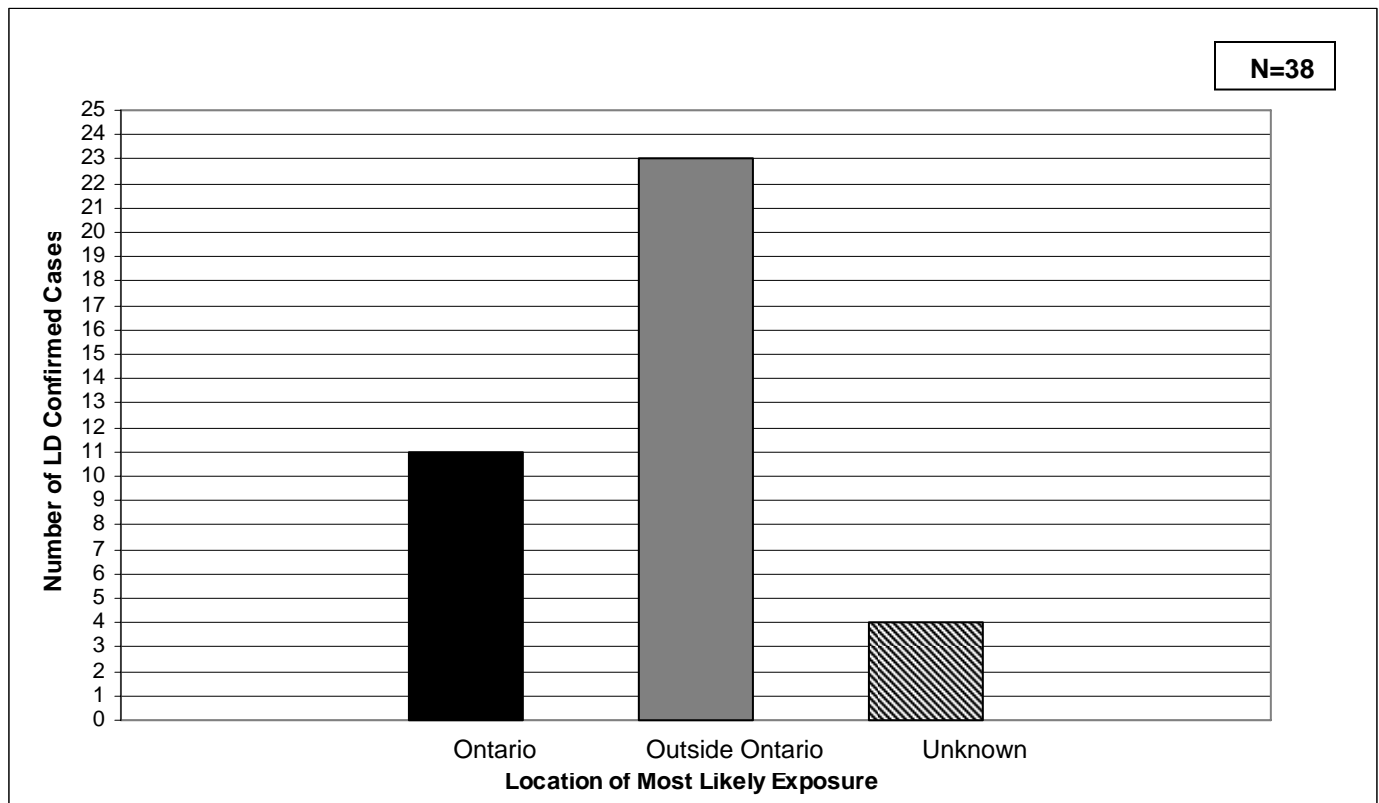
Figure 2: Number of confirmed Lyme disease cases by age group and gender, 2006.



3.0 Number of cases by location of most likely exposure

Figure 3 shows the number of confirmed cases of LD by location of most likely exposure for cases reported in Ontario. Cases for whom the location of exposure data were not available at the time of extraction have been classified as 'Unknown'. The majority of cases (n=23) acquired infection outside of Ontario. Eleven cases acquired infection in Ontario, while four cases have an unknown location of most likely exposure.

Figure 3: Number of confirmed Lyme disease cases by location of most likely exposure, 2006.



4.0 Number of cases most likely to have acquired infection in Ontario by month of onset

Figure 4 shows the number of confirmed cases of LD by month of onset for cases who most likely acquired infection in Ontario. This is slightly higher than the number acquiring infection in Ontario from 1999 to 2004, during which 5 to 10 endemic cases of LD were reported per year. Most cases have an onset in July, reflecting the seasonal trend of this disease.

Figure 4: Number of confirmed cases of Lyme disease acquired in Ontario by month of onset, 2006.

