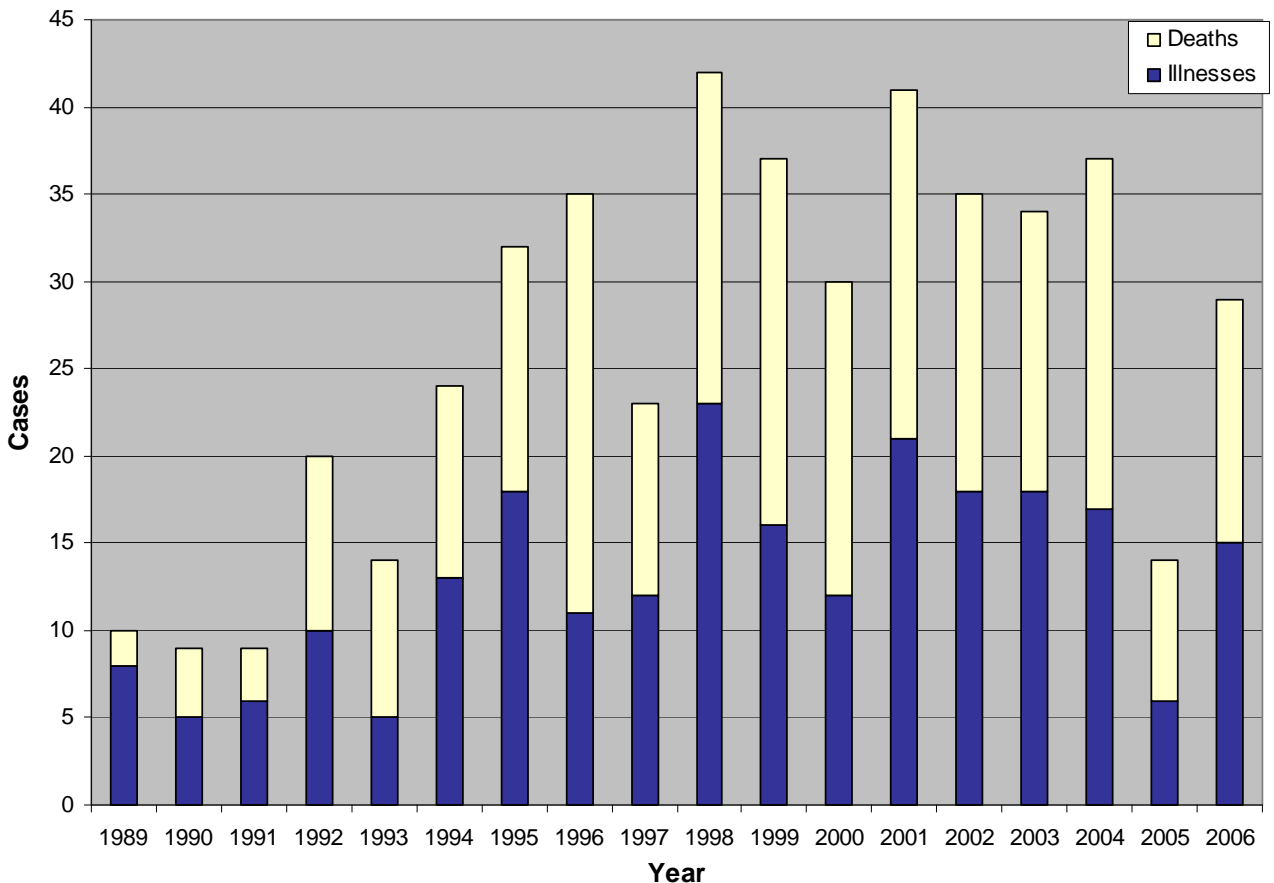


Nationwide *Vibrio vulnificus* Illnesses and Deaths, 1989-2006*



*In 2005 Hurricanes Katrina and Rita struck the center of commercial and recreational fishing along the Gulf Coast, which produces 40% of the oysters consumed in the United States.

*The Louisiana Oyster Task Force estimated that the 2006 harvest would be around 40% of normal (about 100 million in-shell pounds of oysters). In four to five years, production is expected to be up to 80-90% of normal.

Methodology

- The CDC and FDA maintain a national database of *V. vulnificus* cases linked to shellfish.
- Historically, illnesses have been reported most frequently in several Gulf Coast states and California.

***Vibrio vulnificus* Cases, 1996-2006 (FDA Data)**

