

NOTICE

Please share with your Health Care Provider Colleagues

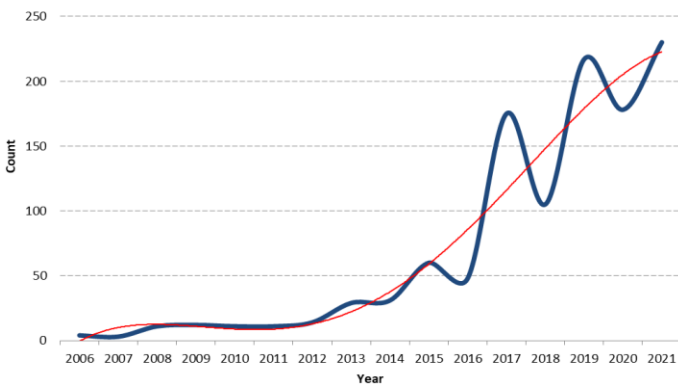
To: Leeds, Grenville and Lanark Health Care Providers
From: Dr. Paula Stewart, Medical Officer of Health
Date: March 29, 2022
Subject: Ticks and Lyme Disease

For the past 5 years the number of reported cases of Lyme Disease has varied based, in part, on the moisture levels during the spring, summer and fall. Ticks need a moist environment to survive. There is a consistent upward trend in the number of new reported people with Lyme Disease. The actual number of cases is likely higher as the symptoms can be non-specific, the sensitivity of testing in the first month is not high, and there is likely underreporting. Nymphs need a blood meal in the spring/summer, and the adult females in the fall.

All Health Care Providers are encouraged to report a clinical diagnosis of Lyme Disease:

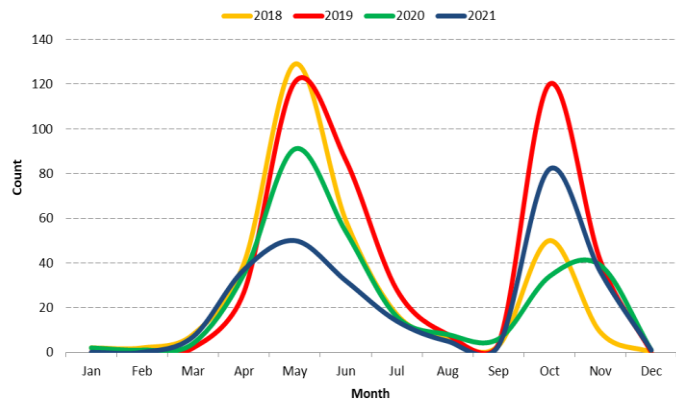
https://healthunit.org/wp-content/uploads/Lyme_Disease_Notification_Form.pdf

Lab-confirmed Lyme Disease case counts by year: LGLDHU, 2006-21



Source: Integrated Public Health Information System (iPHIS) 2006-2021. LGLDHU data.

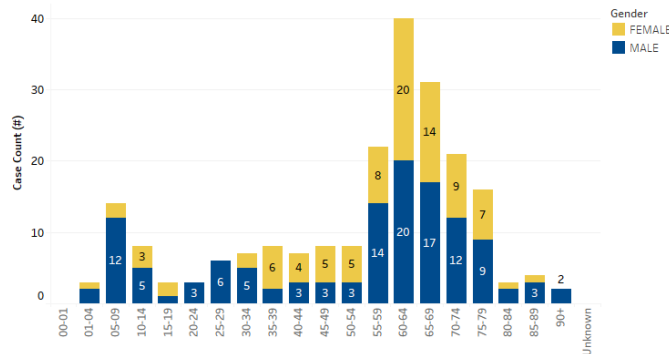
Tick-related emergency department visits by month, LGLDHU, 2018-21



Source: ACES, KFLA 2022

LYME DISEASE cases for 2021 by Sex & Age Group in LGLDHU

Source: iPHIS



The Health Unit Reportable Disease Toolkit outlines reporting requirements, clinical presentation, testing, diagnosis and treatment resources. <https://healthunit.org/for-professionals/health-care-dental/communicable-disease-resources/reportable-disease-toolkit/lyme-disease/>

Starting April 1, individuals can submit a picture of a tick to this website for identification and for real time mapping of the submissions. <https://www.eticck.ca/en/>

Identified risk areas for Lyme Disease include most of Lanark, Leeds, Grenville, and many of the southern parts of the province. See [Ontario Lyme Disease Risk Areas Map 2021 \(publichealthontario.ca\)](http://publichealthontario.ca).

Ontario Lyme Disease Map 2021 Estimated Risk Areas

