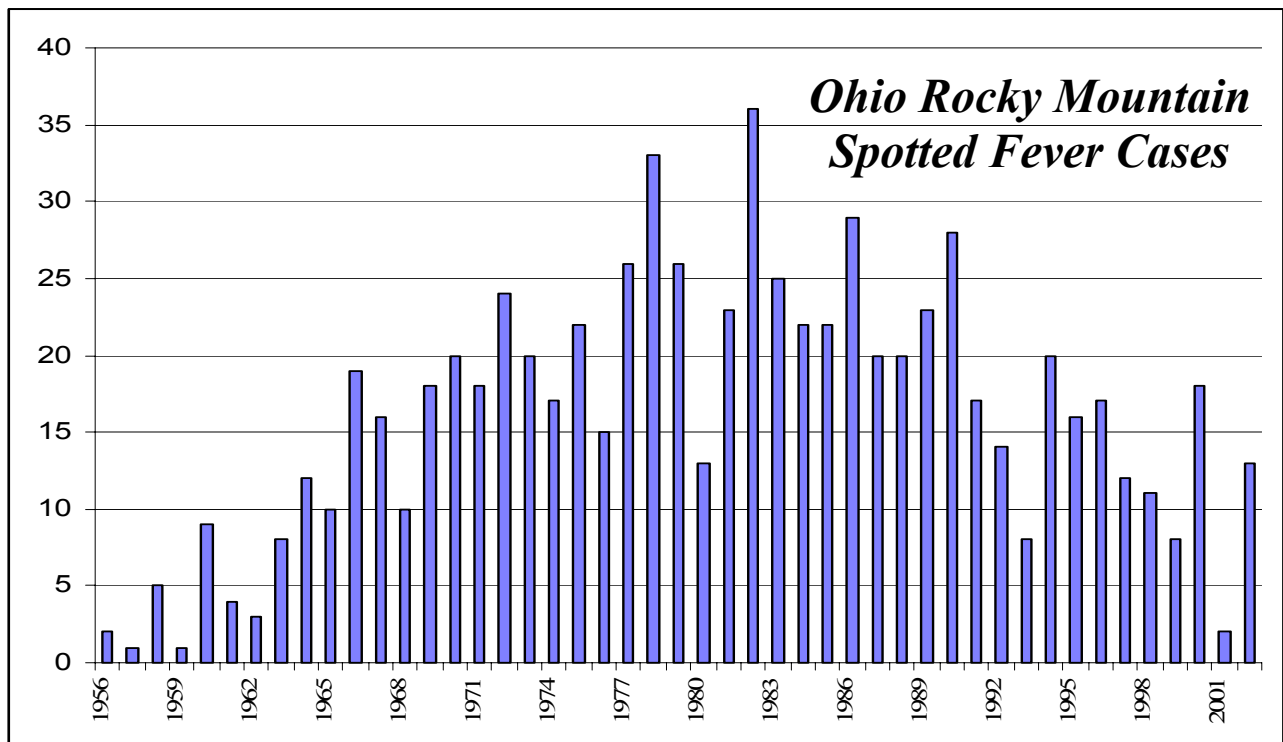
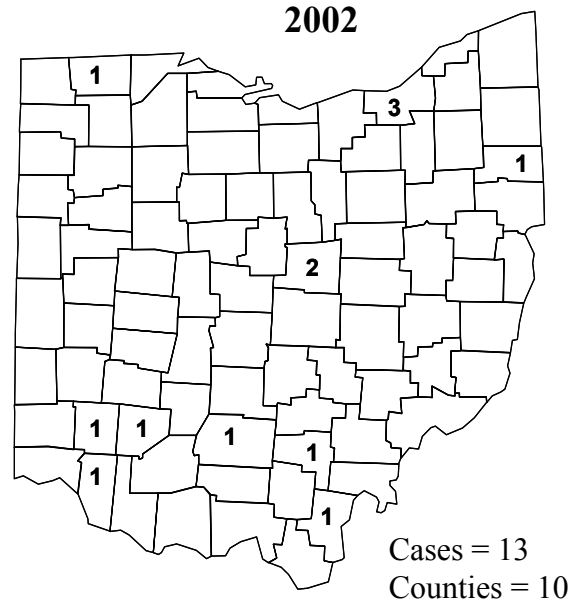
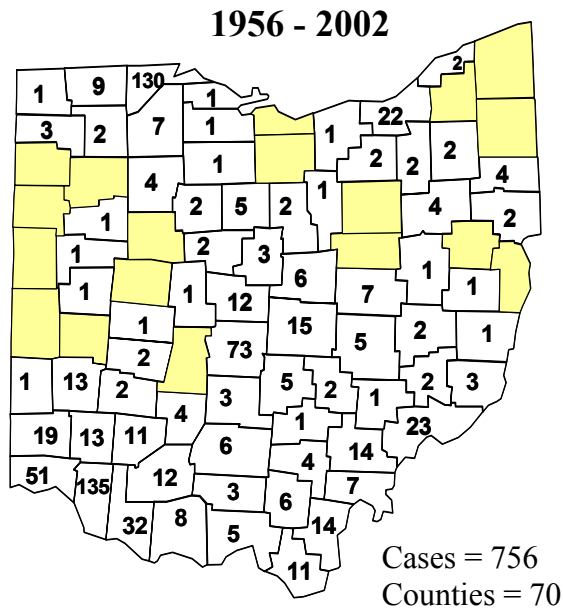


ROCKY MOUNTAIN SPOTTED FEVER

Ohio



Number of Cases in Ohio by Year (Since 1990) :

1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
28	17	14	8	20	16	17	12	11	8	18	2	13 *

* One fatality in 2002

ROCKY MOUNTAIN SPOTTED FEVER FACTS :

1. Predominantly affecting young adults. Median case age: 17 years. Mortality rate: 4-20%.
2. Statewide Occurrence : Suburban and rural. Highest rates in Clermont, Franklin, Lucas counties.
3. Vector: The American dog tick, *Dermacentor variabilis*. Abundant in Ohio.
4. Causative Agent: A bacterium, *Rickettsia rickettsii*. Can be passed from female tick to offspring through the eggs.
5. Vector Habitat: Tall grass and weeds in open, fallow fields, especially old farm fields.
6. Vertebrate Reservoir: Rodents, especially White-footed and Deer mice and Meadow voles.
7. Risk Factors: Outdoor activities in tall grass and weeds, picking ticks off pets.
8. Treatment: Antibiotics

Comment: Testing of ticks at the VBDP indicates that less than 2% of the American dog ticks tested were infected with the Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever bacteria.