

# CDC IDs outbreak trends tied to treated recreational water

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(HealthDay)—Outbreaks associated with treated recreational water with

confirmed infectious etiology are usually caused by *Cryptosporidium*, *Legionella*, or *Pseudomonas*, according to research published in the May 18 issue of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*.

Michele C. Hlavsa, M.P.H., from the CDC in Atlanta, and colleagues describe 493 outbreaks associated with treated [recreational water](#) reported during 2000 to 2014.

The researchers found that 58 percent of the 363 outbreaks with confirmed infectious etiology were caused by *Cryptosporidium*, 16 percent by *Legionella*, and 13 percent by *Pseudomonas*. Overall, 24,453 cases were identified in the 363 outbreaks; 89, 4, and 3 percent were caused by *Cryptosporidium*, *Pseudomonas*, and *Legionella*, respectively. Of the eight reported deaths, at least six occurred in persons affected by outbreaks caused by *Legionella*. The leading setting was hotels, which were associated with 32 percent of the 493 outbreaks. The outbreaks had a bimodal temporal distribution: 56 percent started in June to August, and 9 percent started in March.

"Assessment of trends in the annual counts of outbreaks caused by *Cryptosporidium*, *Legionella*, or *Pseudomonas* indicate mixed progress in preventing transmission," the authors write. "Pathogens able to evade chlorine inactivation have become leading [outbreak](#) etiologies."

**More information:** [Abstract/Full Text](#)

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