Center *for* Lyme Action

Center for Lyme Action is a 501c4 nonprofit dedicated to growing federal funding and developing policy solutions for Lyme, Alpha-gal, and other tick-borne diseases. Our focus is to work with the federal government to improve diagnostics, therapeutics, and eventually find a cure. Our values are bipartisan, inclusive, humane, and scientific. And we're serious about them.

Lyme disease is a complex and sometimes chronic disease that is caused by an infection by the *Borrelia burgdorferi* bacteria from a tick bite. Nearly 500,000 people in the United States get Lyme disease every year, a rate of infection that is nearly 5 times the number of cases than in 1991. In addition, emerging tick-borne diseases such as Alpha-gal Syndrome pose an increasing threat to public health for all Americans. Federal funding for Lyme patients remains exceptionally low, and a working diagnostic, sustainable therapies, and a cure for chronic Lyme are not available. That's why we started Center for Lyme Action. Become a member today.

TICK-BORNE DISEASE CASES INCREASING

The CDC estimates nearly 500,000 cases of Lyme disease each year. The 476,000 total Lyme cases in 2018 are nearly 5 times the number reported in 1991.

TICK-BORNE DISEASES ARE A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS

LOW FEDERAL FUNDING

Per patient, federal funding for Lyme disease is incredibly low at $103 per patient. Less common diseases West Nile has 100 times, and Malaria has 1,100 times the amount of per patient funding.

MORE FUNDING REQUIRED

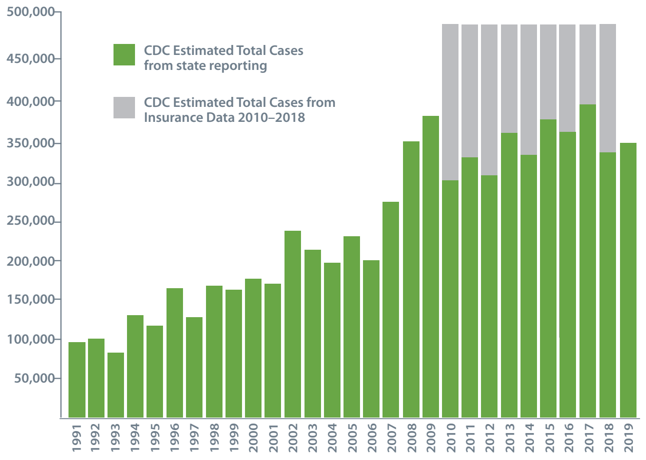
UNDERPERFORMING DIAGNOSTICS AND NO CURE

Most available diagnostics don't work—missing up to 60% of acute cases. Current treatments are insufficient for chronic patients and work for approximately 85% of acute patients.

NEED DIAGNOSTICS AND CURE

Annual Reported Cases of Lyme Disease

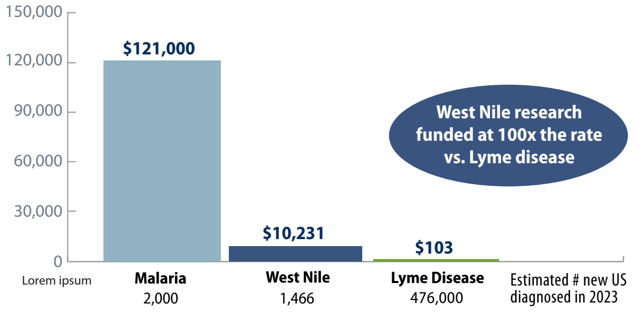
1991–2019



Source: www.cdc.gov/lyme/datasurveillance/recent-surveillance-data.html

Research Budget Per US Patient by NIH

Vector-Borne Disease – 2024



Sources: 1) www.cdc.gov/parasites/malaria/index.html 2) www.cdc.gov/westnile/statsmaps/historic-data.html 3) www.cdc.gov/lyme/stats/humancases.html 4) report.nih.gov/funding/categorical-spending#/

HELP US FIGHT FOR MORE FUNDING FOR LYME, ALPHA-GAL, AND TICK-BORNE DISEASES

CENTERFORLYMEACTION.ORG

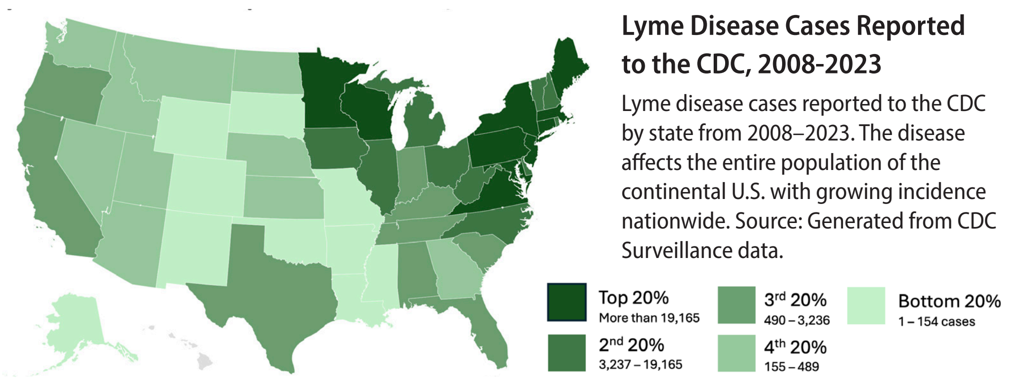
CENTER FOR LYME ACTION 2020–2025 REPORT

In 2020, despite being an election year and facing operational challenges due to the COVID-19 global pandemic, Center for Lyme Action successfully increased federal funding for Lyme and tick-borne disease from $59M in FY20 to $123M in FY21. Center for Lyme Action was thrilled to be a key driver for the historic $64M increase over FY20 for Lyme and tick-borne disease funding.

For FY22, Center for Lyme Action brought together 230 advocates from 40 states for its second virtual advocacy day in February 2021, resulting in increases for Lyme and tick-borne diseases from $123M to record-breaking appropriations of $157.5M.

For more than six years, advocates have come together each February for the annual Virtual Advocacy Day to submit appropriations requests in meetings, complete constituent appropriations forms, and write letters to garner more support from Congress for Lyme and tick-borne diseases.

To date, the impact of this collective effort led by Center for Lyme Action has been very significant. Center for Lyme Action's network of over 10,000 advocates from all 50 states, DC, and Puerto Rico has worked to increase federal funding for Lyme and tick-borne disease annually to over $170M per fiscal year. The total incremental impact is $502M since the organization started in 2019.



Lyme Disease Cases Reported to the CDC, 2008-2023

Lyme disease cases reported to the CDC by state from 2008–2023. The disease affects the entire population of the continental U.S. with growing incidence nationwide. Source: Generated from CDC Surveillance data.

BECOME A MEMBER

Whether you are a patient, healthcare provider, or supporter, you are essential to the work we do at Center for Lyme Action. Together, we can continue to grow federal awareness, secure critical funding, and shape policies to address the rapidly growing epidemic of tick-borne diseases.

Become a member today and join us in the fight for change. Go to:

centerforlymeaction.org/memberships

ABOUT CENTER FOR LYME ACTION

In 2019, a group of dedicated advocates and several Lyme and tick-borne disease foundations came together to support a new initiative to grow federal funding for Lyme and tick-borne diseases. Bay Area Lyme Foundation, Alexandra Cohen, Project Lyme, and Laure Woods saw the need to create a new organization and became the founding charter members. The organization is member-supported with the goal to increase federal research funding and develop policy solutions for Lyme and tick-borne diseases. The Center for Lyme Action is grateful to all its members and, particularly, its Charter Members who also serve on its Advisory Board.