

Burden of Typhoid in Cameroon

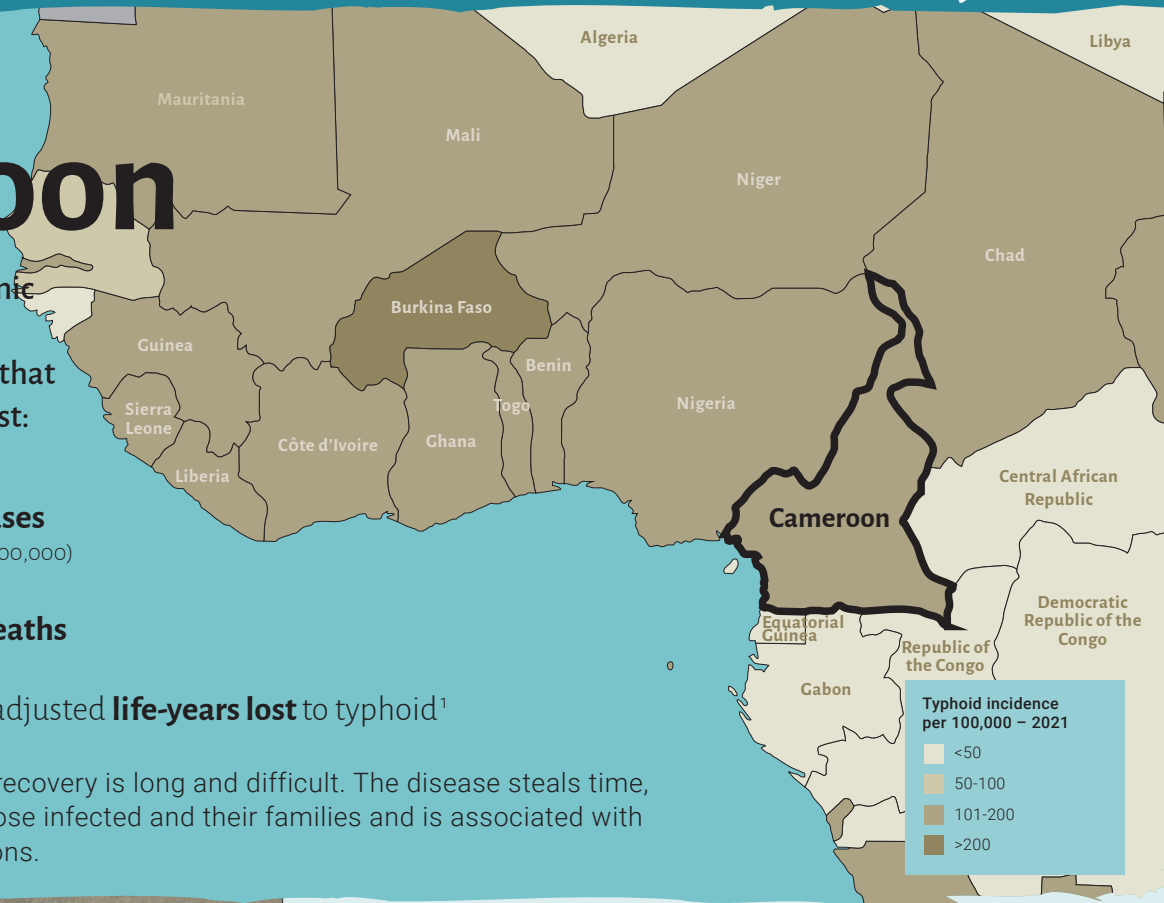
Cameroon is a typhoid-endemic country. The Global Burden of Disease 2021 study estimated that Cameroon experienced at least:

34,167 typhoid cases
(108 cases per 100,000)

587 typhoid deaths

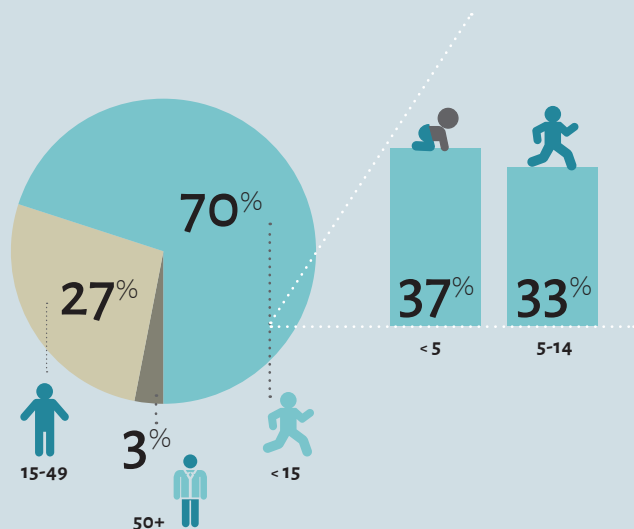
46,745 disability-adjusted **life-years lost** to typhoid¹

While typhoid is rarely fatal, the recovery is long and difficult. The disease steals time, money, and productivity from those infected and their families and is associated with numerous long-term complications.



Most typhoid cases in Cameroon occur in children **younger than 15 years old**.

TYPHOID CASES IN CAMEROON BY AGE (2021)



The risk of typhoid may be increasing in Cameroon.



Typhoid is spread through contaminated food and water. In Cameroon, **30% of the population do not have access to basic water services** and more than half do not have access to basic sanitation services.² This raises typhoid risks.



Global data show that multidrug-resistant (MDR) typhoid prevalence has increased dramatically since 1992.³ A study examining *Salmonella* samples, including typhoid, from southwest Cameroon found considerable MDR, with **increasing resistance to fluoroquinolones, a standard typhoid treatment in many countries**.⁴ Drug-resistant typhoid is more difficult to treat and forces the use of more expensive and less readily-available treatment options



Typhoid intestinal perforations (TIP) are a severe and life threatening complication of the disease. A study of typhoid intestinal perforations in northwestern Cameroon found that **24% of TIP patients were children younger than 19 years old**.⁵ These cases have a more complicated recovery, are more expensive to treat, and have a higher mortality rate.

Typhoid conjugate vaccines (TCVs) in Cameroon

The World Health Organization (WHO) recommends the introduction of prequalified TCVs be prioritized in countries with a high burden of typhoid disease or a high burden of drug-resistant typhoid. Support for introduction from Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance is available now. TCVs:



Are highly effective and safe for children as young as **6 months** of age;



Require a **single dose** to prevent 79-85% of typhoid cases in children;⁶



Offer strong protection for **at least 4 years**; and



Can be **co-administered** with measles-rubella, yellow fever, and meningococcal A vaccines.^{7,8}

Findings from an economic analysis predict that, even in the absence of a Gavi subsidy, a catch-up campaign with TCV could be cost-effective in Cameroon.⁹

Let's Take on Typhoid in Cameroon

- ✓ Typhoid is endemic in Cameroon, with more than **34,000** cases per year.
- ✓ Cameroon's burden of typhoid is most heavily borne by children **younger than 15** years of age.
- ✓ Data show a **high number of intestinal perforations** due to typhoid as well as increasing **drug resistance**, which is more difficult to treat.
- ✓ **TCVs** are safe, effective, and WHO-recommended for routine immunization as part of a cost-effective, integrated approach to typhoid prevention and control alongside safe water, sanitation, and hygiene interventions.
- ✓ **Gavi support** for TCV introduction is available **now**.

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3. Wong VK, Baker S, Pickard DJ, et al. Phylogeographical analysis of the dominant multidrug-resistant H58 clade of *Salmonella* Typhi identifies inter- and intracontinental transmission events. *Nature Genetics*. 2015;47(6):632-639.
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