

# Burden of Typhoid in Cameroon

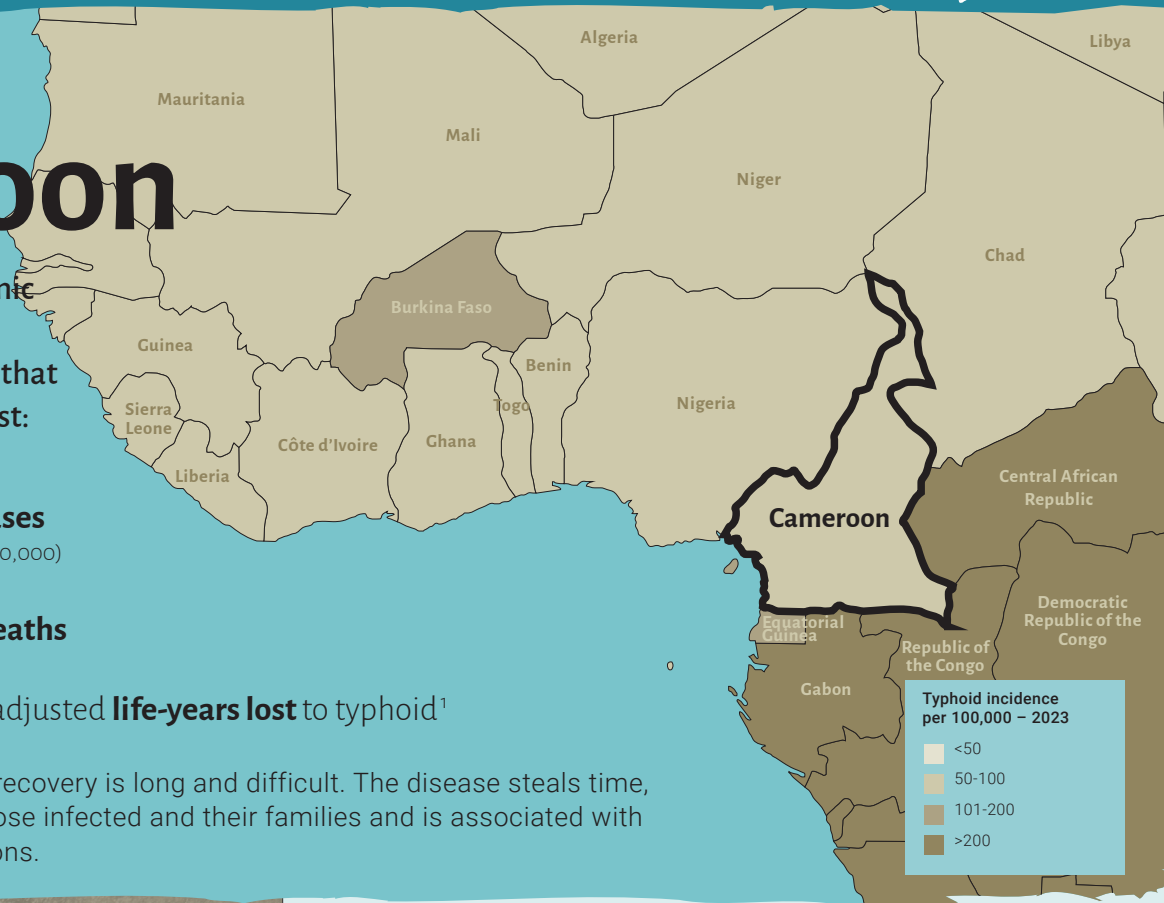
Cameroon is a typhoid-endemic country. The Global Burden of Disease 2023 study estimated that Cameroon experienced at least:

**15,156** typhoid cases  
(45 cases per 100,000)

**304** typhoid deaths

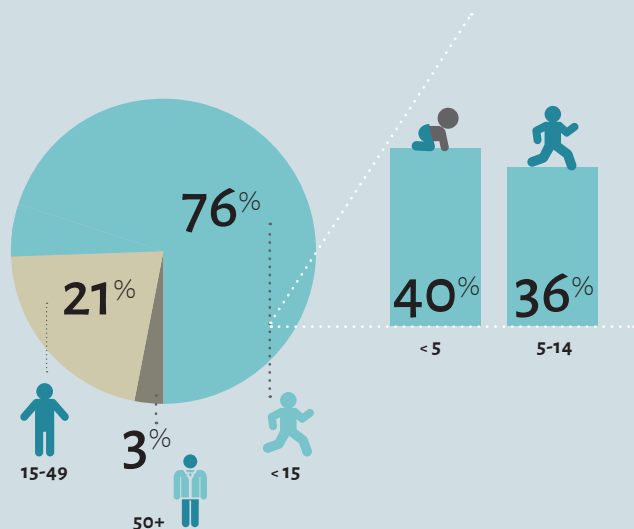
**24,481** disability-adjusted **life-years lost** to typhoid<sup>1</sup>

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 (2023)



## 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.<sup>2</sup> This raises typhoid risks.



Global data show that multidrug-resistant (MDR) typhoid prevalence has increased dramatically since 1992.<sup>3</sup> 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.**<sup>4</sup> 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.**<sup>5</sup> 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;<sup>6</sup>



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



Can be **co-administered** with measles-rubella, yellow fever, and meningococcal A vaccines.<sup>7,8</sup>

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.<sup>9</sup>

## Let's Take on Typhoid in Cameroon

- ✓ Typhoid is endemic in Cameroon, with more than **15,000** 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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