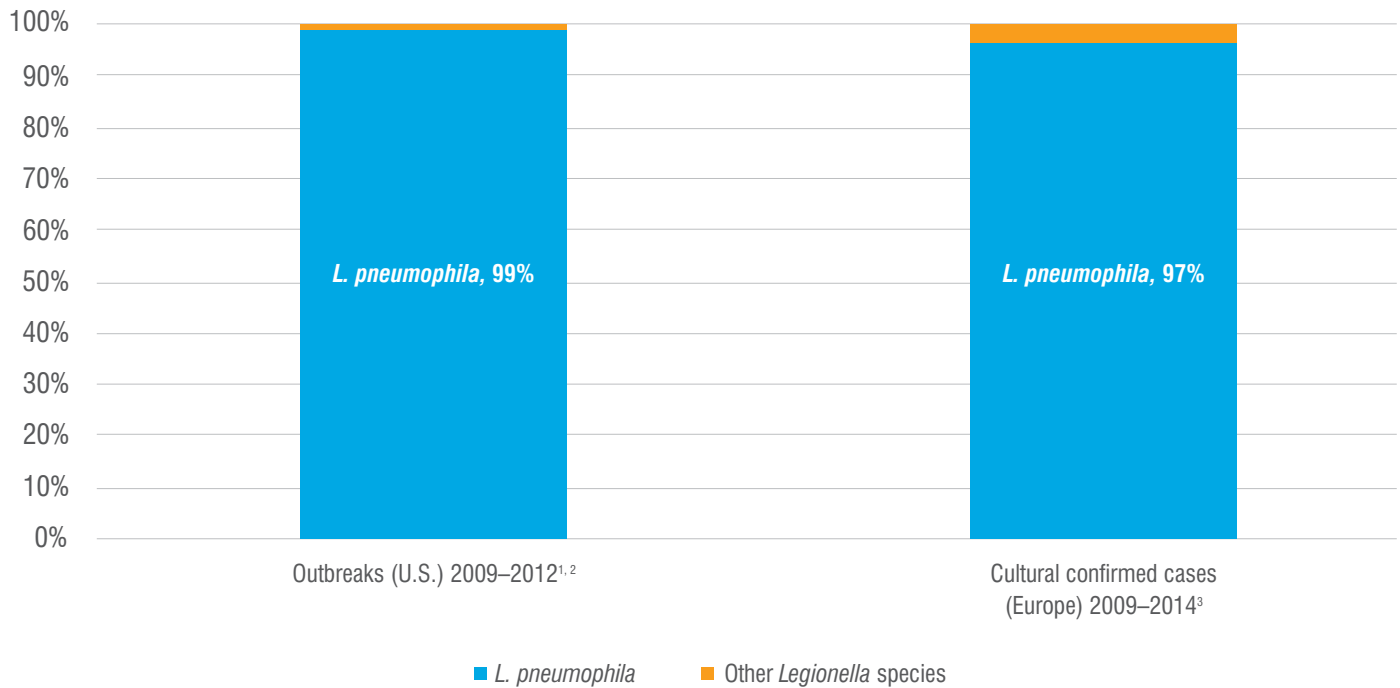


Why test for *Legionella pneumophila* to prevent Legionnaires' disease?



1. *Legionella pneumophila* is the primary cause of Legionnaires' disease.

Clinical causes of Legionnaires' disease

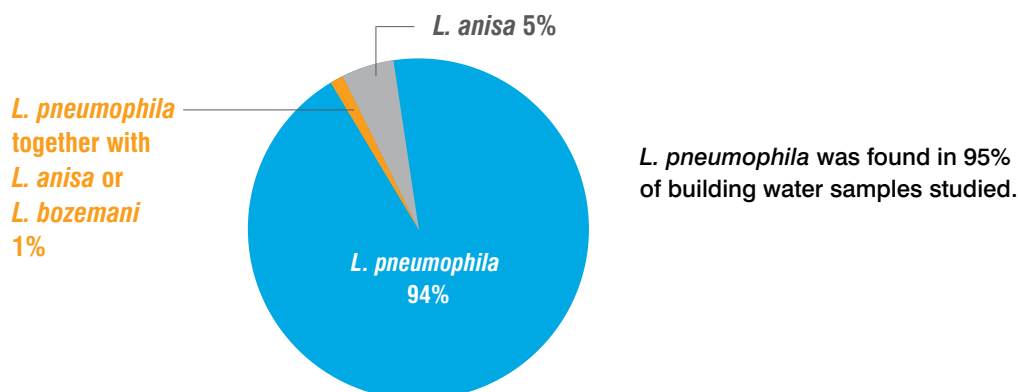


Case study

Veterans Health Administration Directive 1061 requires quarterly testing of building water distributions systems for *Legionella pneumophila* in all Veterans Administration healthcare facilities. If *L. pneumophila* is not found, the quarterly environmental validation cycle is complete.⁴

2. *Legionella pneumophila* is the most common *Legionella* species in building water.

Legionella species found in 771 *Legionella*-positive samples from 233 building water systems.⁵



3. *Legionella pneumophila* is the most clinically relevant species of *Legionella*.

L. anisa, the second most common *Legionella* species found in building water studies, has not been found to cause infections even when present in hospital water systems.⁶

4. Remediation actions taken when *Legionella pneumophila* is detected also affect all other *Legionella* species present in the water system.

Treatment systems to prevent or mitigate *Legionella* growth in building water systems address all *Legionella* species.

[Learn more](#)

References

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