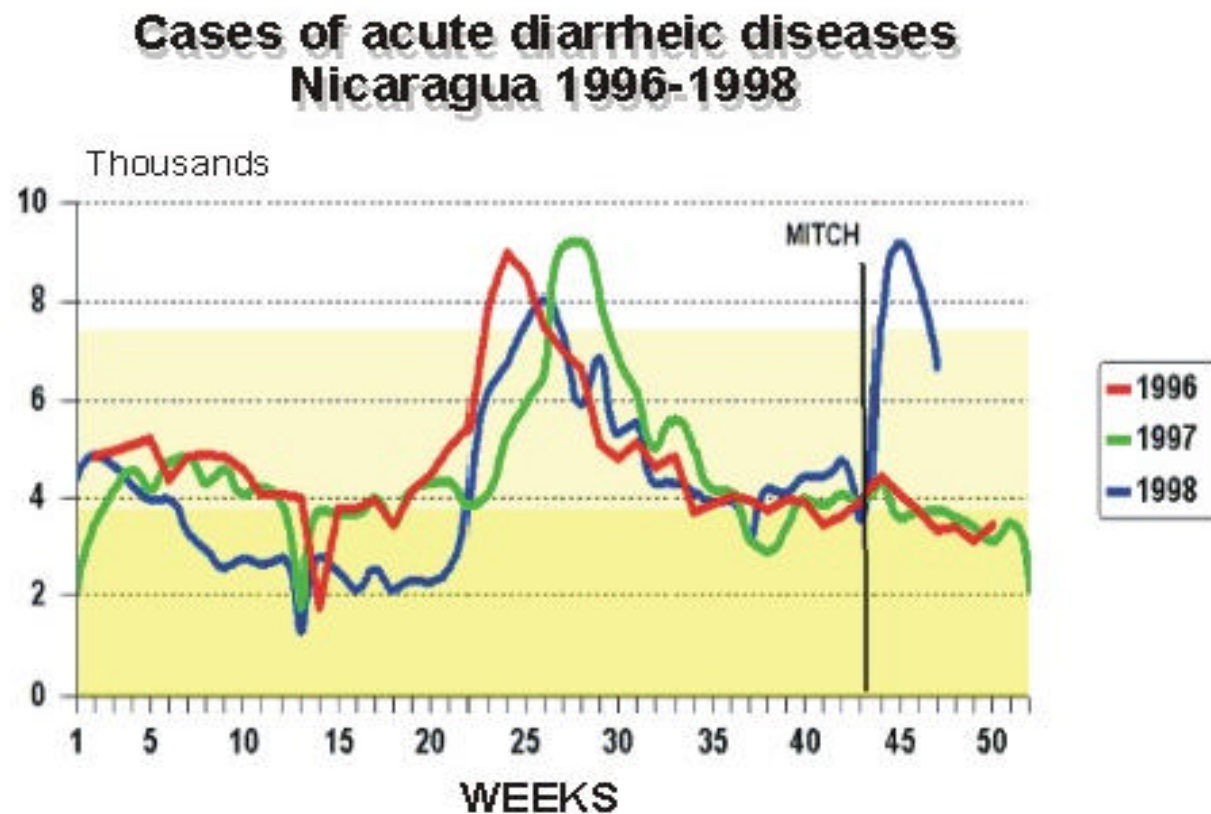


Hurricane Mitch, Nicaragua, 1998



Source: Epidemiological Surveillance
* Data until Week No. 47

Particularities of drinking water supply systems

- Their geographical extension exposes their components to a variety of hazards.
- Difficult access to some of the components hinders their inspection both before and after a disaster has struck.
- The infrastructure is constantly expanding.
- Use is continuous; service interruption or failure can maximize the negative impact of a disaster.
- Their continuity is vital during the emergency and in the recovery phase.



Ochoa, 1998





Siting components in high-risk areas increases their vulnerability and that of the system as a whole



Source: Rodríguez, Arturo / October, 1998



Source: EAPAM / March, 1998