

Campylobacteriosis

Campylobacteriosis is caused by a Gram-negative bacterium. It is characterized by acute onset of diarrhea, vomiting, abdominal pain, fever and malaise.

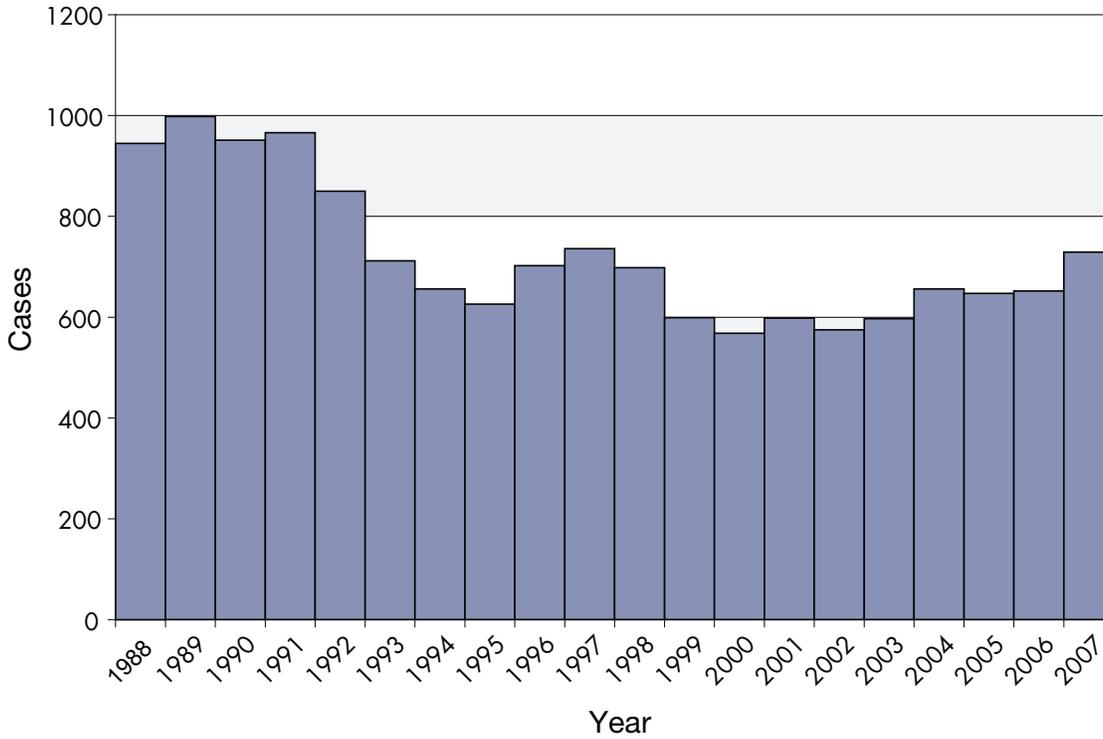
Campylobacteriosis is the most common bacterial enteric infection reported. It is of worldwide epidemiologic importance due to the fecal-oral route of infection and the extensive reservoir of the organism in both wild and domestic animals.

Children aged 0–4 years have the highest rates of illness. Infections occur year-round in Oregon, with peak incidence in the summer months. Campylobacteriosis is not nationally reportable. Rates are highest in Malheur, Harney, Wheeler and Tillamook counties.

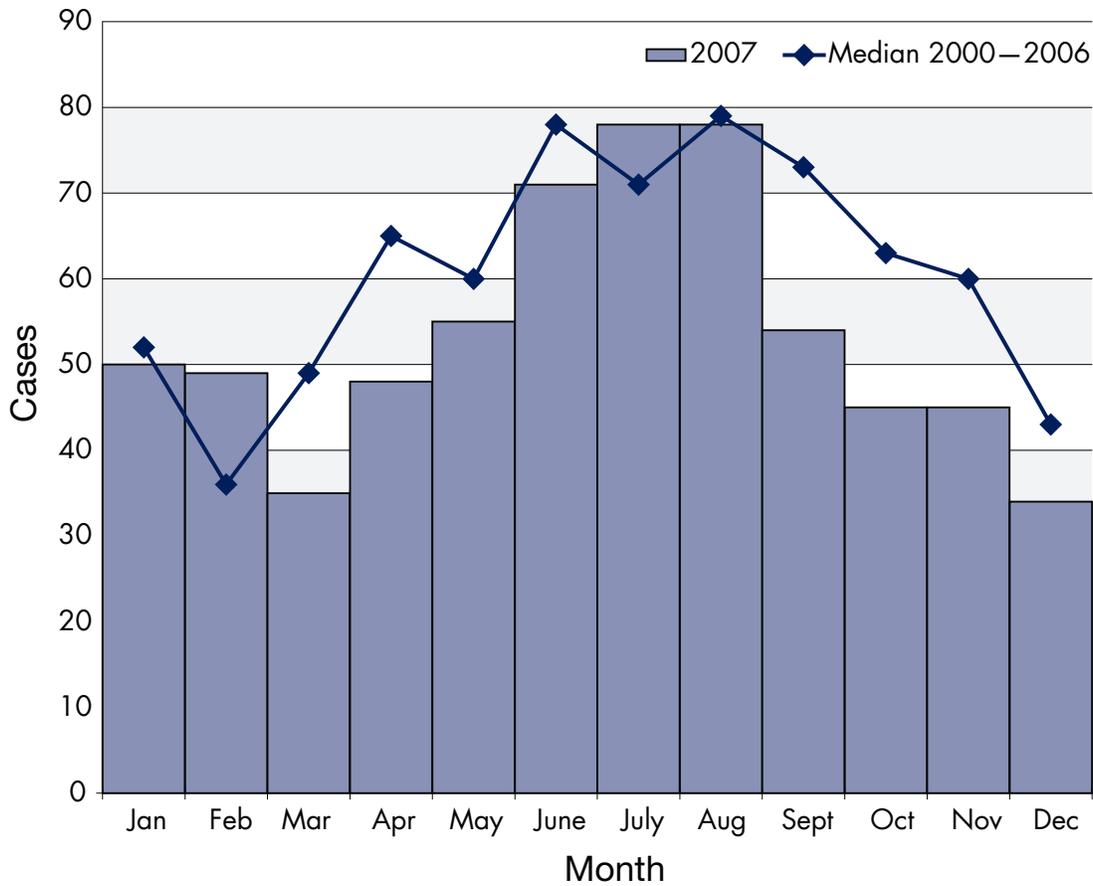
Most illnesses are sporadic, but outbreaks may be associated with undercooked meat (often chicken), unpasteurized milk, direct contact with animals or non-chlorinated water. Since 1998, seven outbreaks of campylobacteriosis have been investigated: two foodborne, two waterborne, two from animal contact, and one of unknown etiology. Proper food handling and water treatment, along with good hygienic practices (hand washing!) are the keys to prevention.

Though not statistically significant, the 2007 rate of 19.5 per 100,000 was noticeably higher than the 2006 rate of 17.7.

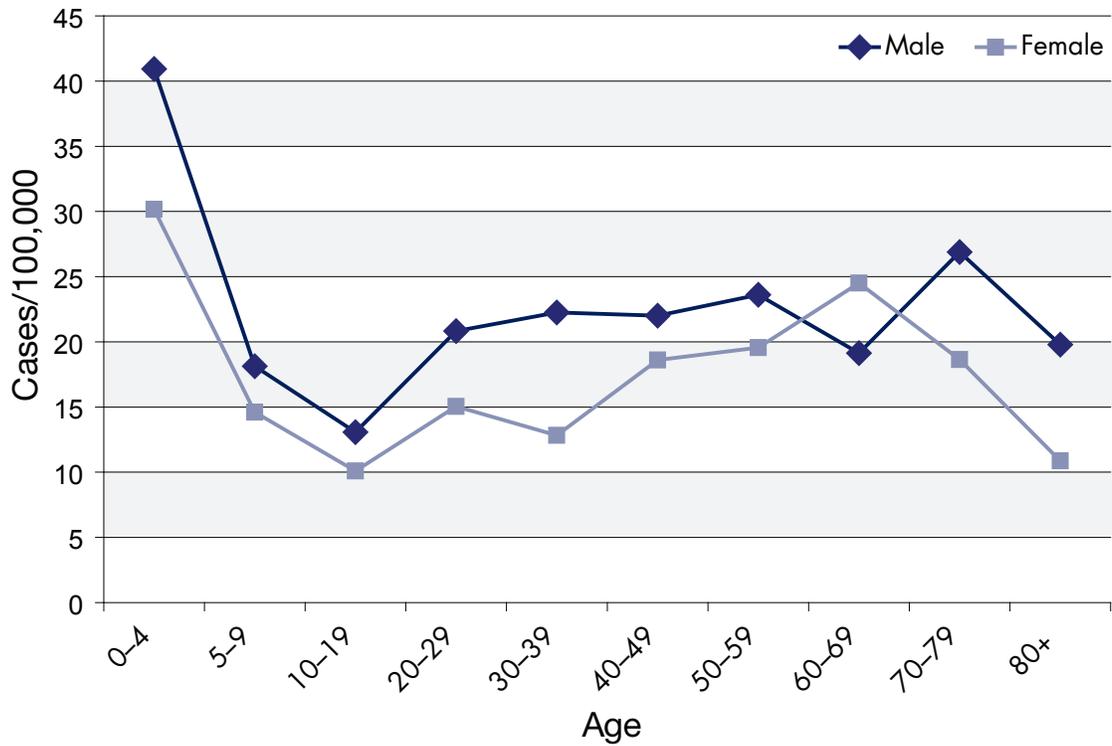
Campylobacteriosis by year: Oregon, 1988–2007



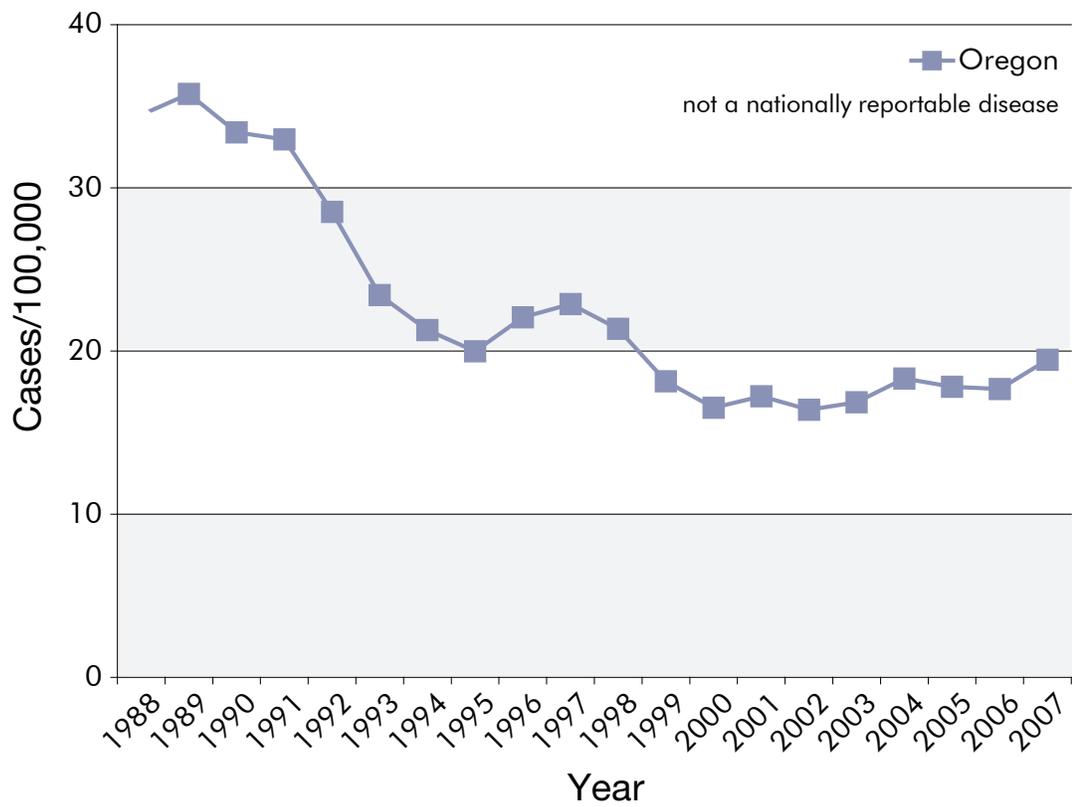
Campylobacteriosis by report month: Oregon, 2007



Incidence of campylobacteriosis by age and sex: Oregon, 2007



Incidence of campylobacteriosis: Oregon vs. nationwide, 1988–2007



Incidence of campylobacteriosis by county of residence: Oregon, 1998–2007

