

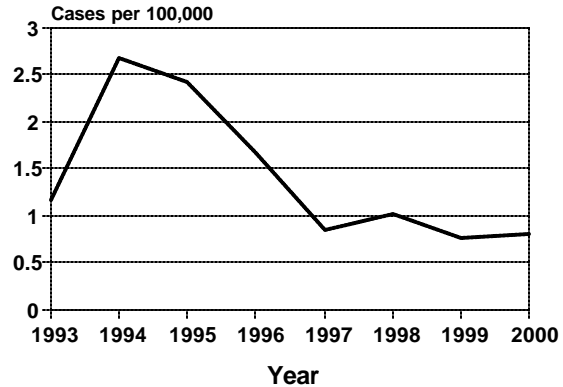
CRYPTOSPORIDIOSIS

CRUDE DATA	
Number of Cases	74
Annual Incidence ^a	
LA County	0.8
California	0.7
United States	1.1
Age at Onset	
Mean	33 years
Median	34 years
Range	1 - 77 years
Case Fatality	
LA County	0.0%
United States	0.0%

^a Cases per 100,000 population.

Figure 14

Cryptosporidiosis Incidence Rates by Year LAC, 1993 - 2000



ETIOLOGY

Cryptosporidiosis is transmitted by the fecal-oral route (for example, swallowing contaminated recreational/untreated water, eating raw or undercooked contaminated food) by ingestion of cysts of the parasite *Cryptosporidium parvum*. The usual incubation period is 2-10 days with typical symptoms of watery diarrhea, abdominal cramps, and low-grade fever; however, asymptomatic infection is also common. The symptoms last up to 2 weeks in healthy individuals. Those who have a weakened immune system may experience prolonged illness.

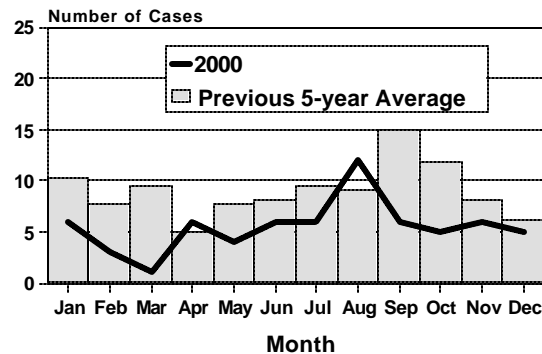
Immunocompromised individuals (e.g., HIV/AIDS patients, cancer patients, transplant patients), young children and pregnant women are at risk for more severe illness.

DISEASE ABSTRACT

- The incidence rates have been stable since 1997.
- HIV positivity is the most common identified risk factor for cryptosporidiosis. Cryptosporidiosis has been an AIDS-defining disease since 1983, and reported cases have fallen since the advent of highly active antiretroviral therapy.

Figure 15

Cryptosporidiosis Cases by Month of Onset LAC, 2000 (N = 66)



STRATIFIED DATA

Trends: The rate of cryptosporidiosis (0.8 cases per 100,000) is essentially unchanged from the 1999 rate (0.75; Figure 14).

Seasonality: In 2000, there was a peak in August compared to the previous 5-year average peak seen in September (Figure 15).

Age: The greatest percentage of cryptosporidiosis was in persons aged 15-34 years (35%).

Sex: The male-to-female rate ratio was 4.3:1.

Race/Ethnicity: Hispanics had the highest number of cases, followed by Whites with 24 cases (Figure 17). No cases occurred among Asians. This variable was unknown for 17 cases (23%).

Location: The incidence rate (2.1 cases per 100,000) in SPA 4 was higher than the overall county rate of 0.8 cases per 100,000. Twenty percent of cases lived in Hollywood-Wilshire Health District, followed by 14% in Central Health District.

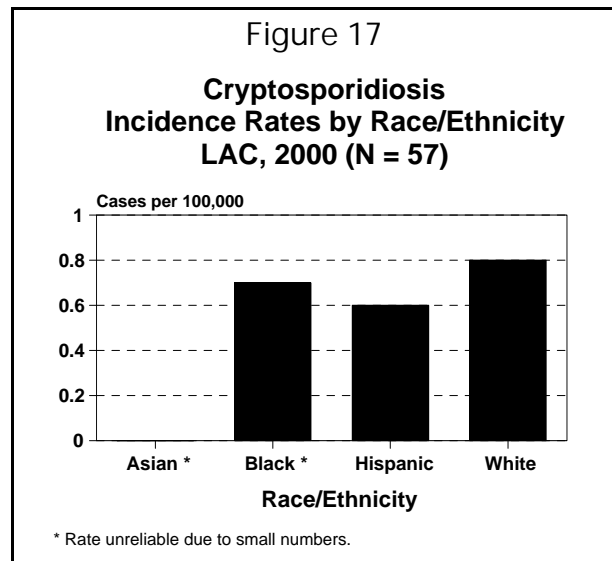
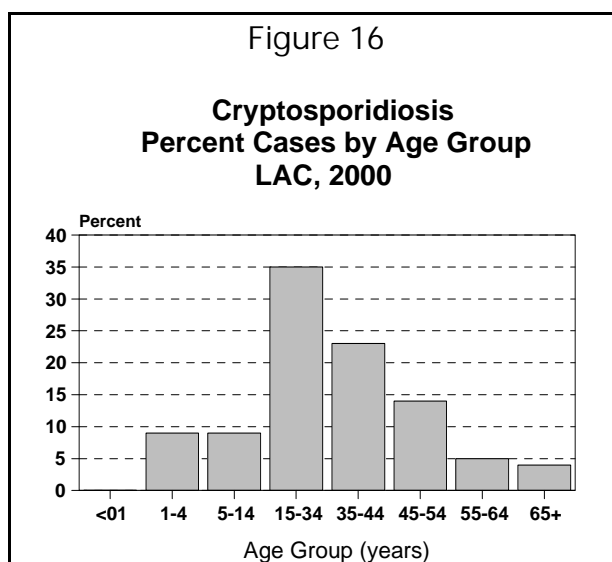
COMMENTS

Risk information from completed case history forms was available on 56 (76%) cases. Of 52 cases in which HIV status was known, 56% (including 1 female and 28 males) reported being HIV positive. Cryptosporidiosis has been an AIDS-defining disease since 1983 and reported cases have fallen since the advent of highly active antiretroviral therapy.

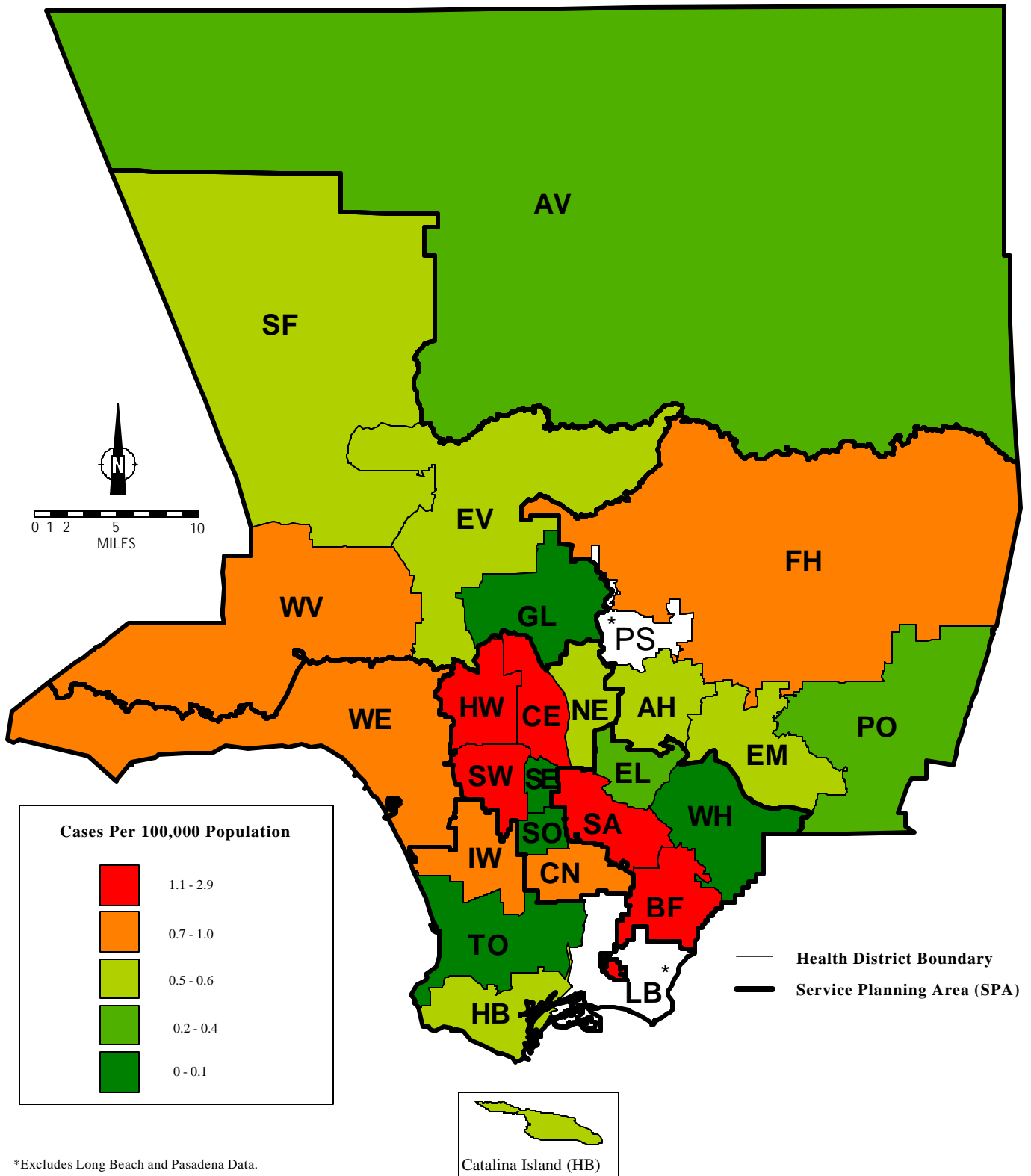
Traveling to another country (30%) and being an immigrant (30%) were the two highest risk factors in 2000. Outdoor activities such as camping, hiking, swimming or fishing were reported among 26% of cases, followed by animal contact with 25%. Further details such as type of animal or nature of animal exposure, swimming location, country visited, or date of immigration were not provided. All other risk factors occurred in less than 10% of cases.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

<http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dpd/parasites/cryptosporidiosis/default.htm>
<http://lapublichealth.org/acd/procs/b73/b73index.htm>



**MAP 4. Cryptosporidiosis
Rates by Health District, Los Angeles County, 2000***



*Excludes Long Beach and Pasadena Data.