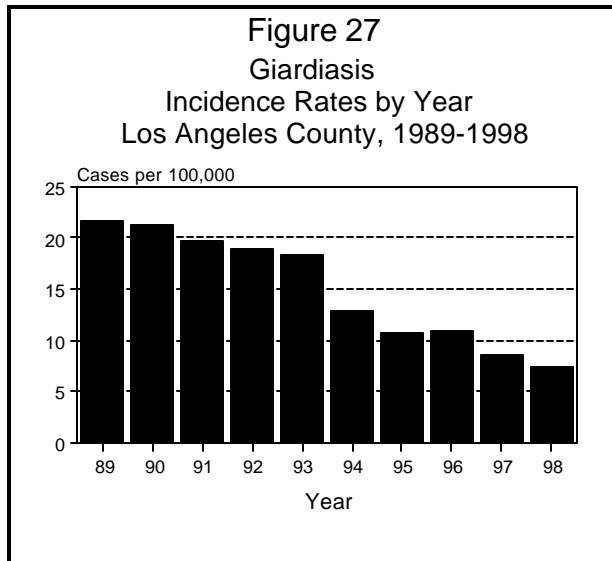


GIARDIASIS

CRUDE DATA	
Number of Cases	670
Annual Incidence ^a	
LA County	7.37
United States	N/A
Age at Onset	
Mean	23.8
Median	20
Range	<1-82 yrs
Case Fatality	
LA County	0.0%
United States	N/A

^aCases per 100,000 population.



ETIOLOGY

Giardiasis is caused by ingestion of cysts of the protozoan parasite *Giardia lamblia*.

DISEASE ABSTRACT

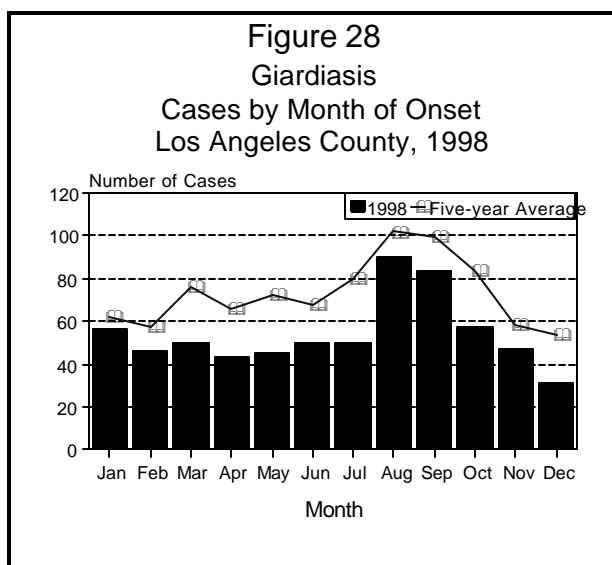
The year 1998 had the lowest rate of giardiasis ever in Los Angeles County. One small giardiasis outbreak was reported in 1998.

STRATIFIED DATA

Trends: The rate of giardiasis has dropped annually since its 1989 high point of 21.7 cases per 100,000. The 1998 incidence of giardiasis was the lowest since 1981 (Figure 27).

Seasonality: The typical late summer peak of cases was evident in 1998 (Figure 28).

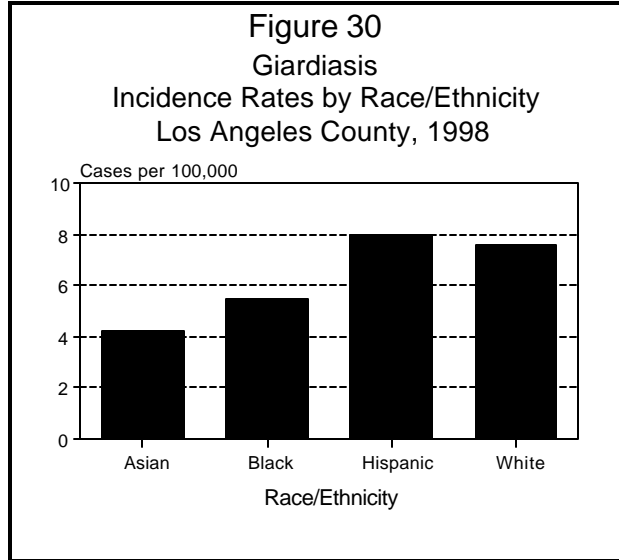
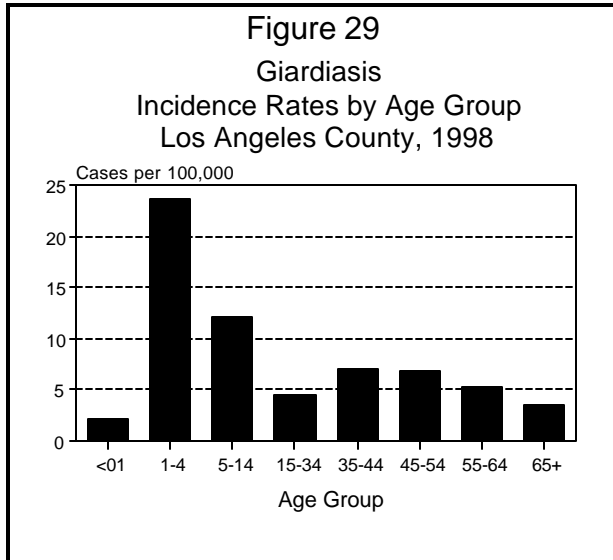
Age: The age-specific incidence of giardiasis was greatest in children aged 1-4 years (23.7 per 100,000) followed by children aged 5-14 years (12.1 per 100,000) (Figure 29).



Sex: The male-to-female rate ratio rose from 1.2:1 to 1.4:1, still below the 1996 rate of 1.5:1.

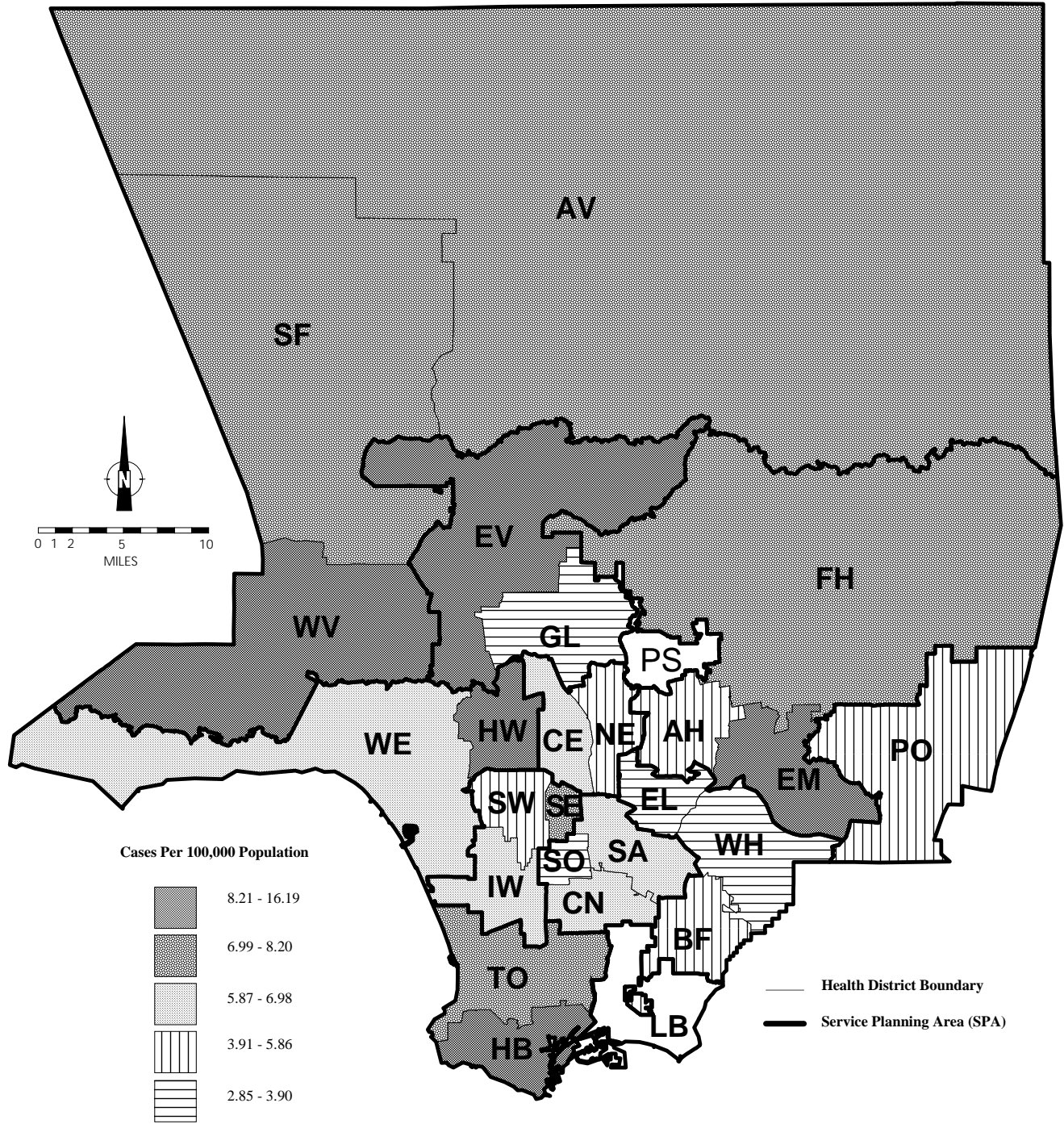
Race/Ethnicity: Rates for Hispanics and Whites were substantially higher than those of Asians and Blacks (Figure 30).

Location: El Monte and Harbor Health Districts had the highest rates (Map 4).



MAP 4. Giardiasis

Rates by Health District, Los Angeles County, 1998*



*Excludes Long Beach and Pasadena Data.

