

FOODBORNE AND WATERBORNE DISEASES FACT SHEET SACRAMENTO COUNTY 2022

Foodborne and waterborne illnesses (FBI/WBI) are generally caused by contaminated food and water. Persons with FBI/WBI can experience such symptoms as nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea. Food and water can be contaminated by a variety of different bacteria, viruses, parasites, and even chemicals. This report provides statistics on FBI/WBI reported in Sacramento County for the years 2018 through 2022.

In Sacramento County, the total number of cases reported to have bacterial-related foodborne/ waterborne illnesses (FBI/WBI) increased slightly by 3.4% between 2018 and 2022 [Table 1]. This was due to a rebound of the most commonly reported FBI that declined during the pandemic in 2020-2021. Shigellosis cases increased 75.6% between 2018 and 2022. During this five year period, cases among persons experiencing homelessness increased, representing about a guarter of all cases in 2022 where homelessness status was known (data not shown). Cases of legionellosis and shiga toxin producing E. coli (STEC) also increased during this period by 16.7% and 15.1%, respectively. The increase in legionellosis cases was partly due to an outbreak in another county.

Parasitic-related FBI/WBI cases decreased by 14.3% during this five-year period [Table 2]. Giardiasis, the most commonly reported parasite-related FBI, decreased by 16.8%.

Viral-related FBI/WBI cases decreased by 64.3% during this five-year period [Table 3]. Hepatitis A decreased by 69.2%.

Data Source: California Reportable Disease Information Exchange (CalREDIE) Notes: Data are provisional. Counts may be influenced by surveillance artifacts and outbreaks. Cases are classified according to the most recent case definitions as published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or State/local if not available. Case definitions were added/updated for the following diseases in the year indicated: hepatitis A (2019), hepatitis E (2019), listeriosis (2019), neonatal listeriosis (added 2019),

Table 1. Number of Cases with Bacterial Foodborne/Waterborne Illnesses, Sacramento County, 2018-2022

Disease	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Campylobacteriosis ²	391	401	258	278	351
E. coli: shiga toxin					
producing (STEC) ²	93	123	64	80	107
Legionellosis ^{4, 1(2020)}	18	15	13	13	21
Listeriosis, includes					
neonatal ^{1, 2(2019)}	1	8	3	6	3
Salmonellosis ²	225	203	173	150	205
Shigellosis ²	78	106	53	62	137
Typhoid Fever/ Carrier ²	6	5	5	7	2
Vibrio Infections ²	4	10	4	6	6
Yersiniosis ^{1, 2(2019)}	2	15	7	16	14
Total	818	886	580	618	846

Table 2. Number of Cases with Parasitic Foodborne/Waterborne Illnesses, Sacramento County, 2018-2022

Disease	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Cryptosporiodiosis ²	16	19	18	22	20
Cyclosporiasis ²	2	2	0	3	3
Cysticercosis or					
Taeniasis ²	1	1	0	1	2
Giardiasis ³	352	343	389	258	293
Total	371	365	407	284	318

Table 3. Number of Cases with Viral Foodborne/Waterborne Illnesses, Sacramento County, 2018-2022

Disease	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Hepatits A ¹	13	5	4	4	4
Hepatits E, Acute ²	1	2	0	2	1
Total	14	7	4	6	5

¹Includes confirmed cases

²Includes confirmed and probable cases ⁴Includes confirmed and suspect cases Year indicates when inclusion criteria for case counts changed and applies to the year

indicated and subsequent years unless otherwise indicated. Sacramento County – Department of Health Services – Division of Public Health – Epidemiology Unit Dr. Olivia Kasirye, County Health Officer – Phone: (916) 875-5881 – Fax: (916) 854-9709

³Includes confirmed, probable, and suspect cases