Campylobacteriosis Cases in Clark County

General Campylobacteriosis Information

Campylobacteriosis comes from the bacteria *Camplyobacter* that infects both people and animals. The main species that causes illness in humans is *Camplyobacter jejuni*; however, there are others that can cause human illness. The main symptoms of this infection are diarrhea (often bloody), fever, and abdominal cramps. The diarrhea can be accompanied by nausea and vomiting. People who have weakened immune systems risk *Camplyobacter* spreading to the bloodstream and causing a life-threatening infection.

Annually nationwide there are ~14 cases diagnosed for 100,000 people, but many cases go undiagnosed or unreported. It takes fewer than 500 germs to make someone sick. Infections are usually associated with eating raw or undercooked poultry or from contamination of other foods by these items. *Camplyobacter* can be carried in the intestine, liver, and giblets of animals and transferred to other edible parts when slaughtered. *Camplyobacter* does not usually spread from one person to another. People travelling internationally have a greater chance of becoming infected.

A laboratory test that isolates the bacteria or a rapid diagnostic test that detects genetic material is needed to detect *Camplyobacter* bacteria in stool, body tissues, or fluids. Most people infected will completely recover within a week without specific treatment, although it is common to shed *Camplyobacter* bacteria in stool for several weeks after recovery, which could lead to person-to-person transmission. Antibiotics are needed only for those patients who are very ill or at high risk for severe disease. Rarely does *Camplyobacter* infection result in long-term consequences; however, it is estimated that 5-20% of infections will develop irritable bowel syndrome (IBS) for a limited time and 1-5% develop arthritis.

More information can be found at: https://odh.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/odh/know-our-programs/infectious-disease-control-manual/section3/section-3-campylobacteriosis

Clark County Related Discussion

Figure 1 shows the *Campylobacteriosis* cases in Clark County from 2017-2021. 2019 had the highest number of cases, while 2020 has the least number of cases. There is a 60.6% decrease from 2019 to 2020, but a 69.2% increase from 2020 to 2021. The COVID-19 pandemic initially began in the United States around March 2020, with international travel restricted during that time along with a decrease in non-essential testing, those could be factors attributing to the decrease in cases in Clark County in 2020.

Table 1 shows the breakdown of cases, separated into suspected, probable, and confirmed cases per year. A laboratory test is needed to confirm a case, and it is seen that between 2019-2021 there are at least 50% more probable cases than confirmed cases.

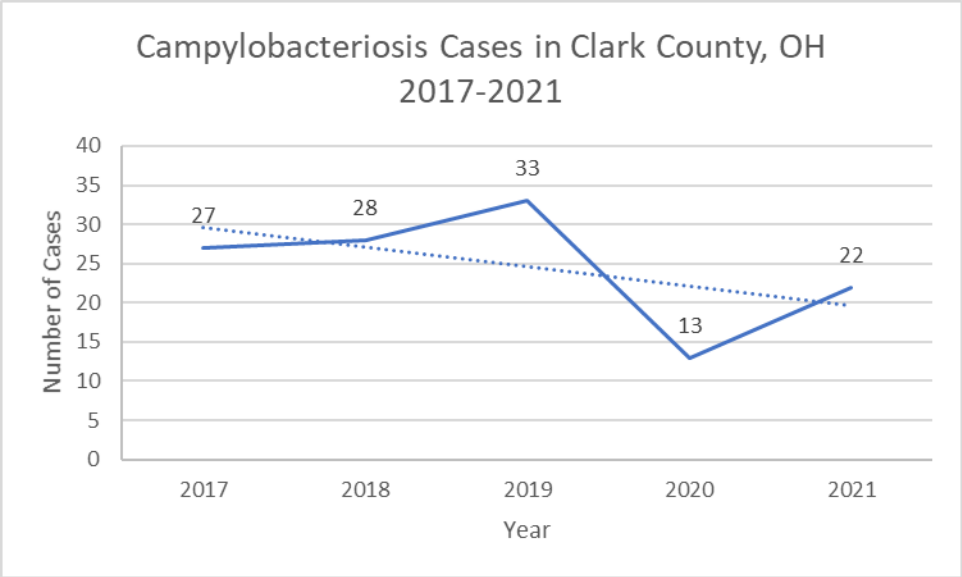

Figure 1 *Camplyobacteriosis* cases in Clark County, 2017-2021

Year	Suspected Total	Probable Total	Confirmed Total	Grand Total
2017	0	14	13	27
2018	0	13	15	28
2019	0	22	11	33
2020	0	13	0	13
2021	0	19	3	22

Table 1 *Campylobacteriosis* Cases by Classification, Clark County 2017-2021