

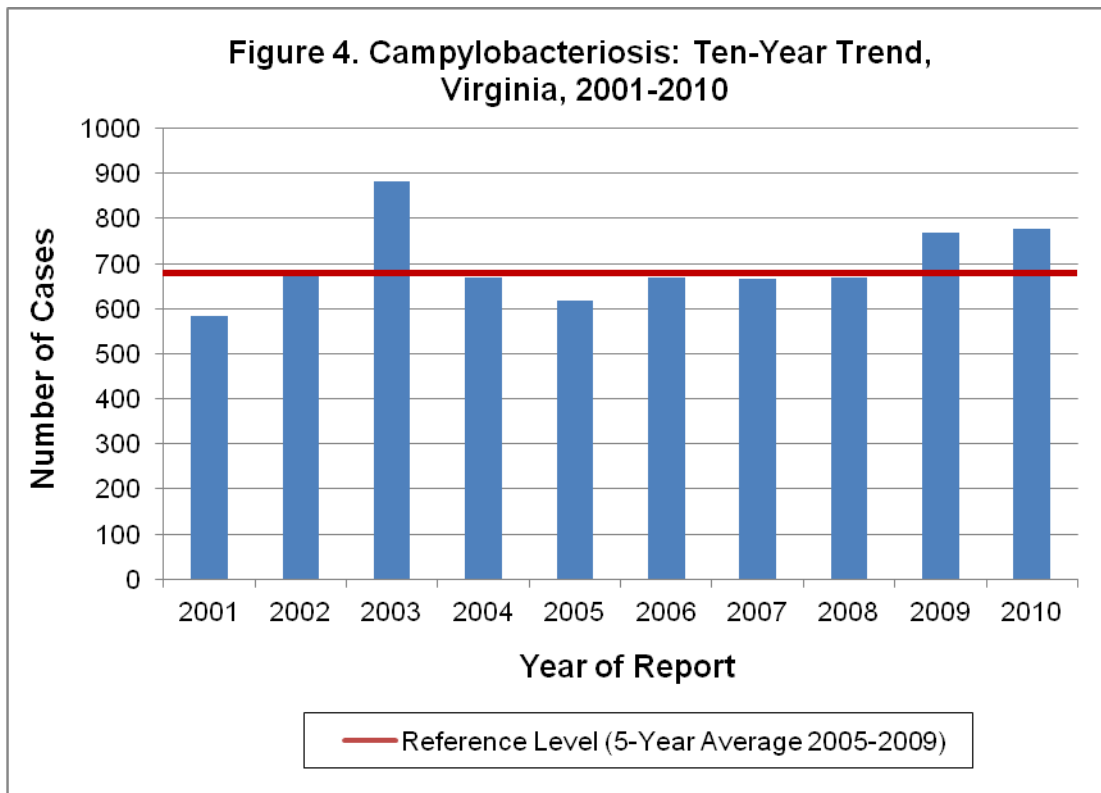
Campylobacteriosis

Agent: *Campylobacter* species (bacteria)

Mode of Transmission: Ingestion of undercooked meat, particularly poultry; ingestion of contaminated food, water or raw milk; and direct contact with fecal material from infected animals or people.

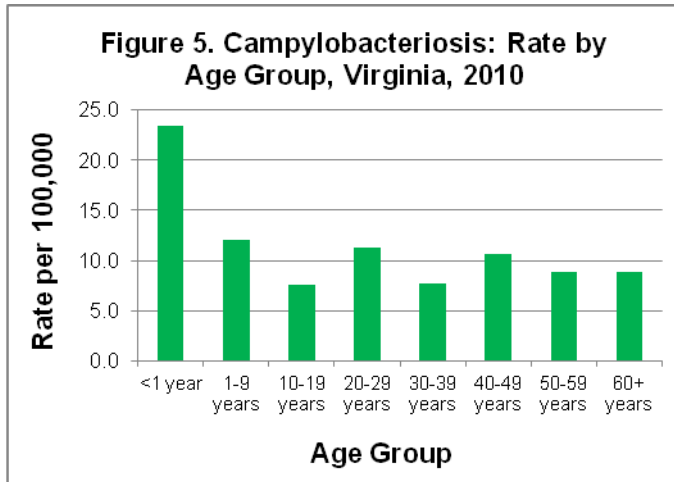
Signs/Symptoms: Include diarrhea (frequently with bloody stools), abdominal pain, malaise, fever, nausea or vomiting. In neonates and young infants, bloody diarrhea without fever may be the only manifestation of illness. Many infections are asymptomatic. Rarely, complications that can develop include reactive arthritis, febrile convulsions or Guillain-Barré Syndrome.

Prevention: Hands should be washed carefully after using the bathroom, after changing diapers or cleaning a child who has used the bathroom, after handling animals or their feces, and before preparing and eating food. Pasteurization of milk and chlorination of water supplies are also important. All foods containing eggs and meats, particularly poultry, should be thoroughly cooked.



During 2010, 778 cases of campylobacteriosis were reported in Virginia. This is a slight increase from the 770 cases reported in 2009, and a 15% increase from the five-year average of 678.2 cases per year (Figure 4).

In 2010, the highest incidence of campylobacteriosis occurred in the <1 year age group (23.4 per 100,000), which was almost double the rate for this age group in 2009 (12.4 per 100,000). The incidence rates among the other age groups ranged between 7.6 and 12.0 per 100,000 (Figure 5). Race information was missing for 50% of reported cases. Among cases for which information on race was available, incidence in the white population (6.0 per 100,000) was higher than in the black and “other” race populations (2.0 and 2.6 per 100,000, respectively), and incidence among males (10.6 per 100,000) was higher than among females (8.9 per 100,000).



By region, the highest incidence rate of campylobacteriosis occurred in the northwest region (15.2 per 100,000). Rates among the other regions ranged between 6.4 and 10.7 per 100,000. Cases occurred throughout the year, but cases more often occurred in the summer months of May through August than in other months (Figure 6). One outbreak attributed to *Campylobacter* was reported during 2010. The outbreak was reported from the northern region and involved three persons who had attended a private party.

