

Comparative Incidence Rates for Select Foodborne Infections: Bridgeport, CT (2010-2022*)

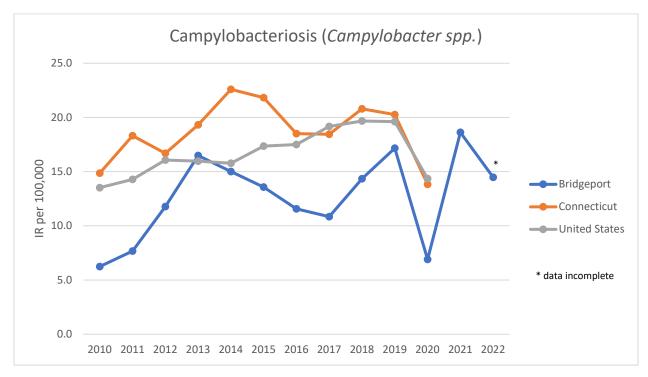
Campylobacteriosis, Shigellosis, Salmonellosis October 10, 2022

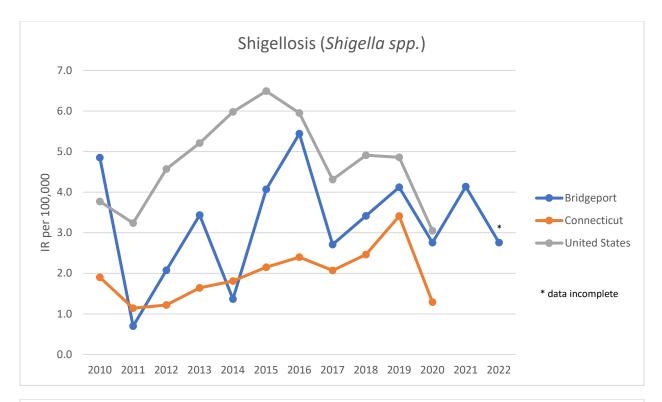
Methods

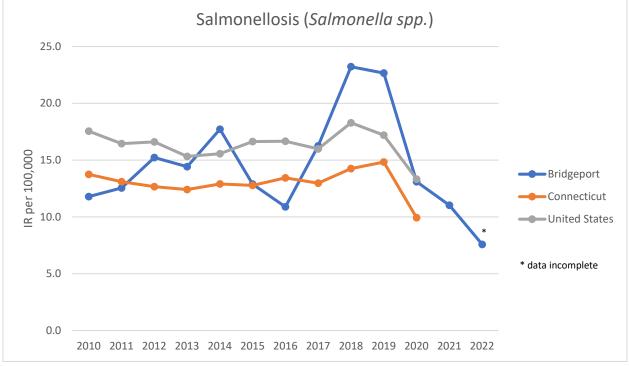
Utilizing data from the Connecticut Electronic Disease Surveillance System (CTEDSS) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Foodborne Diseases Active Surveillance Network (FoodNet) incidence rates for the three most common foodborne infections in Bridgeport, CT were compared to incidence rates for all of Connecticut and estimated incidence rates for the United States. Data for confirmed, presumptive, and suspected cases of foodborne infections were included for Bridgeport. Incidence rates for Bridgeport were calculated using the estimated yearly population data through 2020, after which the incidence rates were calculated using the 2020 population data as more recent population counts were not available. National incidence rates were estimated based on infections reported by the 10 states participating in the FoodNet program, covering approximately 15% of the US population.

Results

The incidence rates per 100,000 for campylobacteriosis and salmonellosis do not appear to differ significantly from the incidence rates of these infections at the state or national level. Incidence rate of shigellosis trends higher than at the state level, but lower than the national level. In 2020, the rates of all three infections dropped in Bridgeport, Connecticut, and the US. This drop coincides with the Covid-19 pandemic shutdowns that occurred in early 2020, but definitive associations cannot be drawn as to the cause of the reduction. Rates of campylobacteriosis and shigellosis returned to previous levels in 2021, but incidence rate of salmonellosis lowered further.







Limitations

There are a number of limitations regarding the dataset used for this report. Many instances of foodborne illness are not reported to a medical professional and if they are, the causative agent is not always confirmed via laboratory testing. Due to this, the number of cases is most likely to be underreported throughout the U.S. FoodNet currently is only collecting data from 10 states; while giving

a snapshot of foodborne illness in the U.S., it does not provide a complete picture of all infections that are being reported to state and local health authorities.

References

- 1. Connecticut Department of Public Health. Connecticut Electronic Disease Surveillance System. Updated September 18, 2022. <u>https://edss.dph.ct.gov/maven/login.do</u>
- 2. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. FoodNet FAST. Updated September 23, 2021. https://wwwn.cdc.gov/foodnetfast/
- 3. United States Census Bureau. Population and Housing Estimates. Updated December 17, 2021. https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/popest/data/tables.html