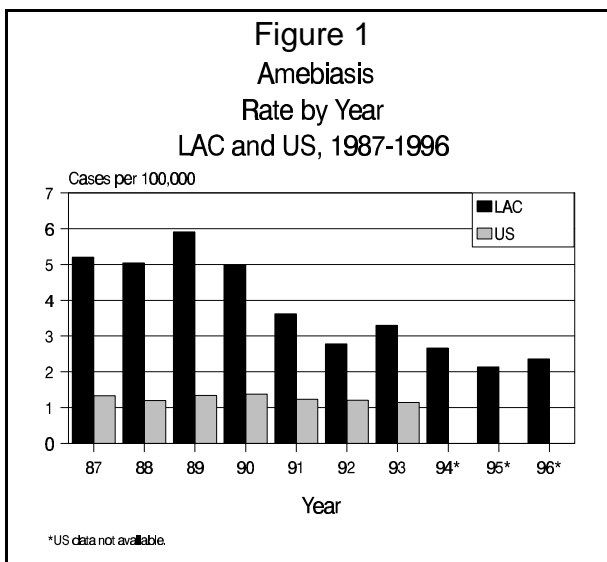




AMEBIASIS

CRUDE DATA	
Number of Cases	210
Annual Incidence ^a	
LA County	2.36
United States	N/A
Age at Onset	
Mean	32
Median	32
Range	< 1-86
Case Fatality	
LA County	0.0%
United States	N/A



^aCases per 100,000 population.

ETIOLOGY

Amebiasis is caused by the protozoan parasite *Entamoeba histolytica*.

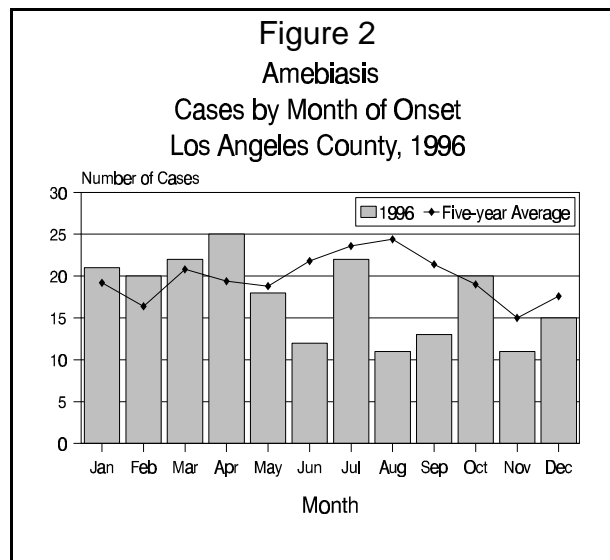
DISEASE ABSTRACT

The 1996 incidence rose only slightly from 1995, which was the lowest rate on record.

STRATIFIED DATA

Trends: The 1996 amebiasis incidence of 2.36 per 100,000 population exceeded only slightly the 1995 incidence of 2.14 (Figure 1).

Seasonality: Monthly cases followed the





five-year average trend, with the exception of an unexplained drop in June, August, and September (Figure 2).

Age: Infants and the elderly over the age of 64 had the lowest rates of amebiasis. Young, middle-aged, and older adults had the highest rates, with 2.9, 2.97, and 2.75 cases per 100,000 population, respectively (Figure 3).

Sex: The overall male-to-female rate ratio was 2.1:1 in 1996, and has remained greater than or equal to 2:1 for several years.

Race/Ethnicity: Hispanics experienced the highest age-adjusted rate of amebiasis (2.82 per 100,000 population), followed by Whites (2.20 per 100,000)(Figure 4). Among Hispanic cases, 30% were under the age of 15; 75% of all pediatric cases (0-14 years) were Hispanic. The rate of amebiasis among Blacks increased significantly in 1996 compared to 1995 (1.92 vs. 0.69 per 100,000; 16 cases vs. 6); most of the increase was among young adults.

Location: Amebiasis incidence continued to be highest in the Hollywood-Wilshire Health District (9.9 per 100,000 population), a rate more than twice that of the next highest district, Central (4.3 per 100,000). The other districts that reported a greater-than-average incidence of amebiasis included El Monte, West, San Antonio, and East Valley.

