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(Wyo.)-High Number Of Cryptosporidium Infections In Wyoming

By: Roxie Graham-Marski Posted at: 09/05/2013 08:18 AM

GILLETTE, Wyo. (ASSOCIATED PRESS) - The Wyoming Department of Health is reporting an unusually high number of infections by a microscopic parasite.

Health officials say 54 people were infected by cryptosporidium over the first eight months of the year.

That's more cases than over the past two full years in Wyoming combined.

Nearly three-quarters of all cases have been in Campbell County. State health officials say they don't fully understand why so many cases are concentrated there.

Cryptosporidium is found in lakes, rivers and sometimes swimming pools. The parasite can cause diarrhea, stomach cramps, fever and weight loss. Symptoms usually last a week or two.