Brucellosis is an infection caused by bacteria in the Brucella genus and rarely occurs in the United States. Over the past 20 years, there have been only 53 cases of brucellosis reported in Georgia.

Brucellosis is primarily an occupational disease of those working with infected animals and their tissues or hunters of wild animals. Because of this, males are more likely to become infected with Brucella. Since 1987, 74% of cases (n=45) reported in Georgia were male.

Exposure through the consumption of raw milk or milk products has been reported.

Public health investigates each case of Brucella infection to determine the source of infection and because of its potential use as a biological weapon.