Environmental Microbiology, 3rd Ed. (Pepper, Gerba, Gentry)

ANSWERS TO QUANTITATIVE QUESTIONS and PROBLEMS

CHAPTER 1 Introduction to Environmental Microbiology

3. Based on current U.S. population, how many food and drinking water infections can you expect to contract in a 70 year lifetime.

U.S. population is approximately 320m.

Number of food infections per year in U.S. = 48m

Number of water infections per year in U.S. = 20m

☐each year, 1 in 4.7 chance of getting infected

Over 70 years there is a very high probability of having multiple infections

Note that the probability of infection is the same every year