



Acute Hepatitis A

Maine Surveillance Report | 2020

Case Information:

145

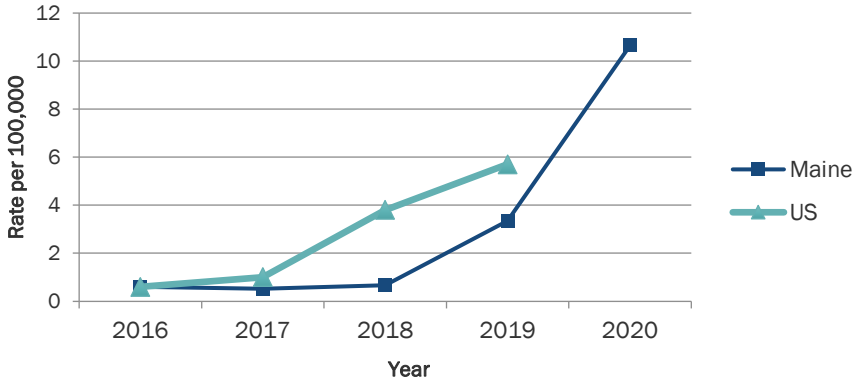
patients diagnosed with acute hepatitis A

10.6

cases per 100,000 people

69%

increase since 2019



Demographics:



54% of patients were male

39 years old on average

90% White

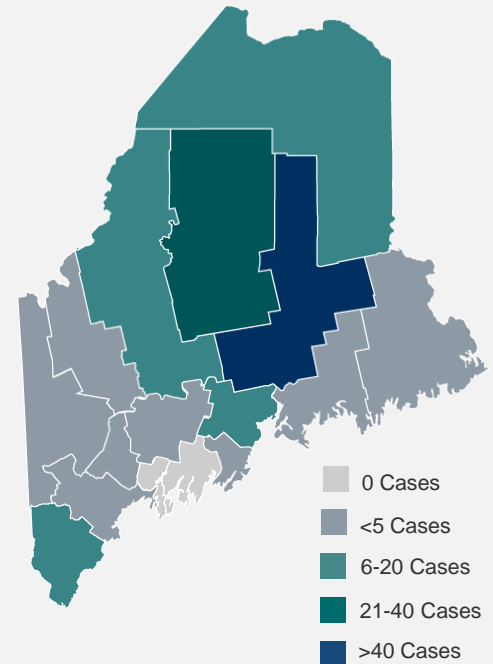
3% American Indian/Alaska Native

1% Asian

1% Black

5% Other

Geography:



Risk Factors:



52%

Were people who injected drugs or used other street drugs

Maine is part of a widespread person-to-person outbreak of hepatitis A across the United States

Certain groups are at increased risk for acquiring hepatitis A and should receive the hepatitis A vaccine:

- People who use drugs (injection or non-injection)
- People experiencing unstable housing or homelessness
- Men who have sex with men (MSM)
- People who are currently or were recently incarcerated
- People with chronic liver disease, including cirrhosis, hepatitis B, or hepatitis C

Contact Investigations:



- 46% of patients were hospitalized

- All patients had symptoms, including abdominal pain, vomiting, diarrhea, nausea, fever, headache and dark urine.
- 65% of patients had jaundice
- None of the patients were fully vaccinated
- Only 1 patient had travelled outside the U.S.

Prevention:

- Get vaccinated against hepatitis A
- Always wash your hands with soap and water after using the bathroom, changing a diaper, and before preparing, serving, or eating food.
- People who have hepatitis A should not be preparing or serving food, or caring for the elderly or for young children, until at least 2 weeks have passed since the first sign of hepatitis A illness.

For more information visit:

<https://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/hav/index.htm>

<http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/hepatitis>

All cases of hepatitis A must be reported to Maine CDC within 48 hours of recognition or strong suspicion of disease.

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