



Acute Hepatitis A

Maine Surveillance Report | 2019

Case Information:

45

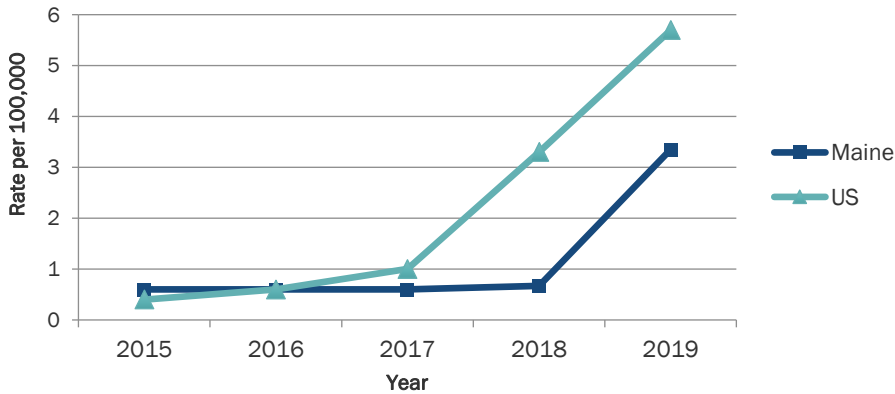
patients diagnosed with acute hepatitis A

3.35

cases per 100,000 people

80%

increase since 2018



Demographics:

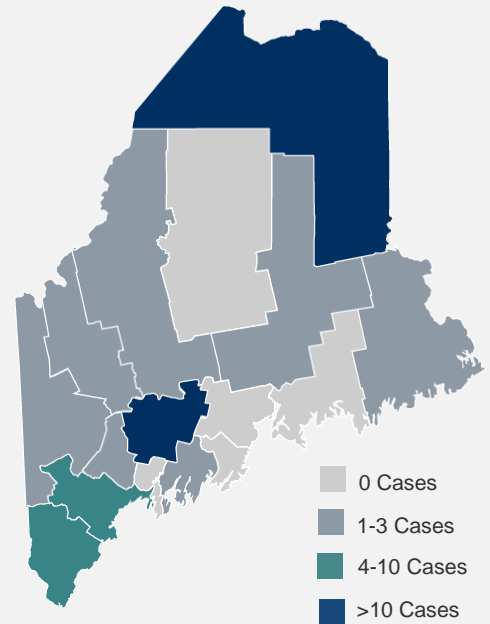


53% were female

44 years old on average
(range = 23 – 85 years old)

All cases were White

Geography:



Risk Factors:



27%

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:



- 19% of patients were hospitalized.

- All patients had symptoms, including abdominal pain, vomiting, diarrhea, nausea, fever, headache and dark urine.
- 69% of patients had jaundice
- None of the patients were fully vaccinated
- Only 2 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>