

Acute Hepatitis C in Oklahoma

FACT SHEET

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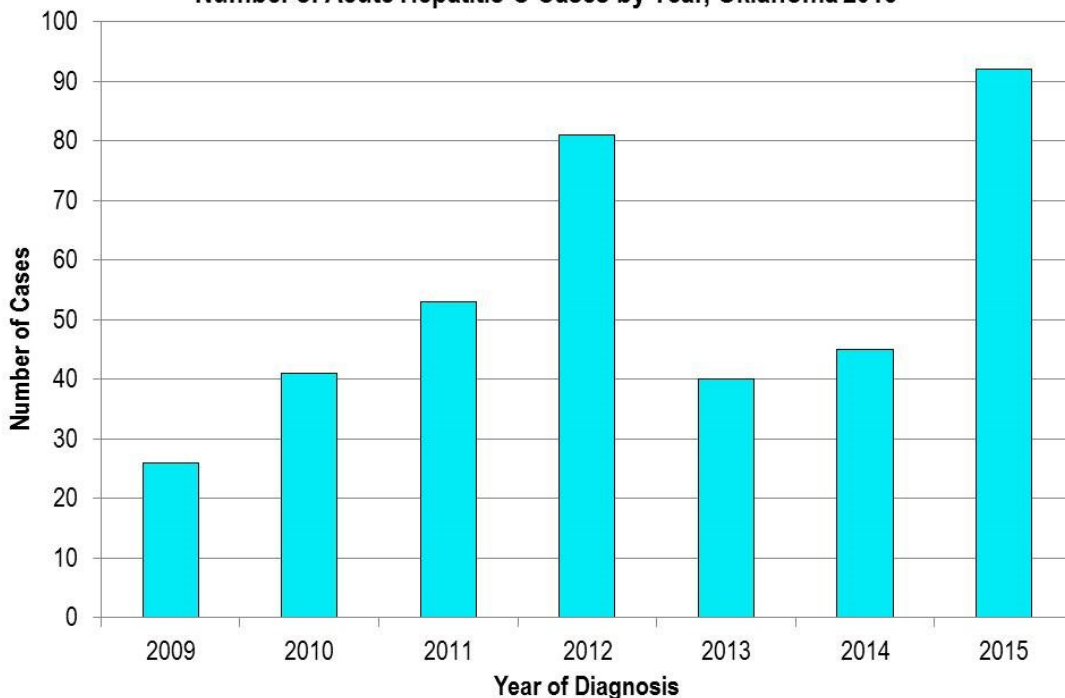
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Number of Acute Hepatitis C Cases by Year, Oklahoma 2015



OVERVIEW

Hepatitis C, caused by the hepatitis C virus (HCV), is a liver disease that is classified as either acute or chronic. The acute (newly acquired) form is a short-term illness that occurs within the first 6 months after exposure to HCV; however, the infection can become chronic. Chronic (long-lasting) infection will develop in 75-85% of HCV infected persons.

In 2015, there were 92 cases reported and confirmed as acute hepatitis C in the state of Oklahoma, at a rate of 2.4 per 100,000 population. In 2014, the national incidence rate was 0.7 cases per 100,000 population.

Males accounted for 53.3% (49) of the cases with a rate of 2.5 per 100,000 population. On the other hand, females accounted for 46.7% (43) of the cases, at a rate of 2.2 per 100,000.

BY AGE

Of the 92 HCV cases diagnosed in 2015:

- 15-19 years: 2.2% (2)
- 20-24 years: 14.1% (13)
- 25-29 years: 21.7% (20)
- 30-34 years: 12.0% (11)
- 35-39 years: 15.2% (14)
- 40-44 years: 8.7% (8)
- 45-49 years: 9.8% (9)
- 50+ years: 16.3% (15)

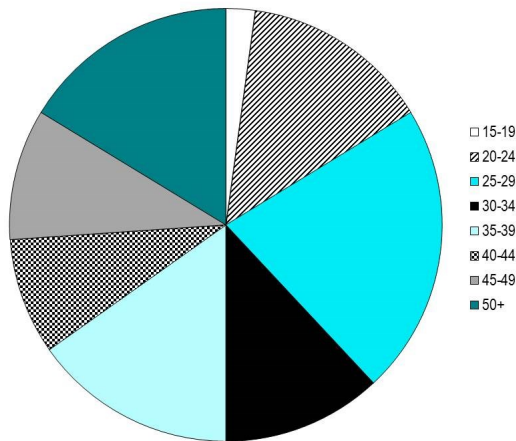
About one in every five of the acute Hepatitis C cases were between 25 and 29 years old, which accounted for 21.7% of all HCV cases in 2015. This was followed by age group 50 years and over (15, 16.3%), 35-39 years old group (14, 15.2%), and 20-24 years old group (13, 14.1%).

Those 25-29 years had the highest rate of acute HCV, at a rate of 7.4 per 100,000 population, which was three times higher than the state rate. This was followed by 20-24 years old, at a rate of 4.5 per 100,000 and 30-34 years at 4.1 per 100,000.

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Acute Hepatitis C Cases by Age, Oklahoma 2015



25-29 years had a rate 3 three times higher than the state rate.

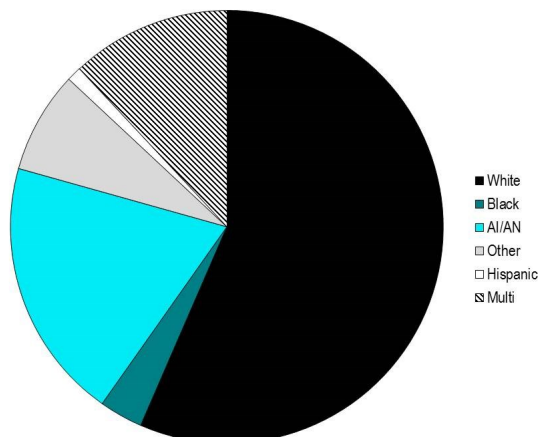
BY RACE/ETHNICITY

Of the 92 HCV cases in 2015:

- Whites accounted for 56.5% (52),
- African American accounted for 3.2% (3),
- American Indian accounted for 19.6% (18),
- Hispanics accounted for 1.1% (1),
- Multiracial accounted for 12.0% (11), and
- Other Races accounted for 7.6% (7)

The majority of HCV cases diagnosed in 2015 consisted of three racial/ethnic backgrounds: White (52; 56.5%), American Indian/Alaska Native (18; 19.6%), and Multi-Race (11; 12.0%). However, the top race/ethnic groups with the highest rates consisted of Other race, with a rate of 7.9 per 100,000 population. This was followed by American Indian/Alaska Native at a rate of 5.6 per 100,000 and Multi-Race at 5.2 per 100,000.

Acute Hepatitis C by Race/Ethnicity, Oklahoma 2015



62.5% of acute HCV patients reported using needles for street drugs.

BY RISK FACTORS

Most HCV infections occur by sharing needles, syringes, or other equipment to inject drugs. While rare, sexual transmission of HCV is possible.

The risk factors for acute HCV were only reported if the patient had a completed disease investigation. Each patient could report more than one risk factor during these investigations. The percentages presented in this section were based on the numbers of answers by respondents for each risk factor question.

In 2015, 62.5% of acute HCV patients reported that they use needles for street drugs. In addition, 80.3% of patients reported having two or more sexual partners.

Percent of Hepatitis C Risk Factors Among Acute Cases, Oklahoma 2015

