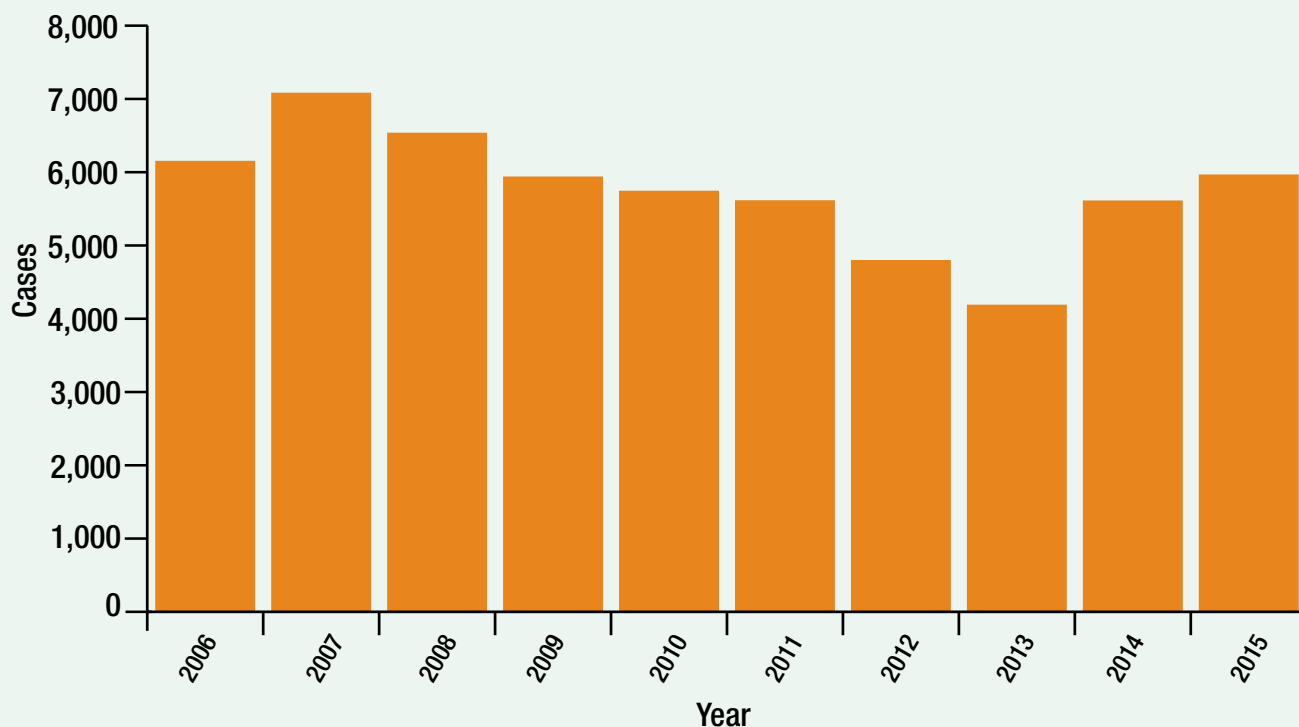


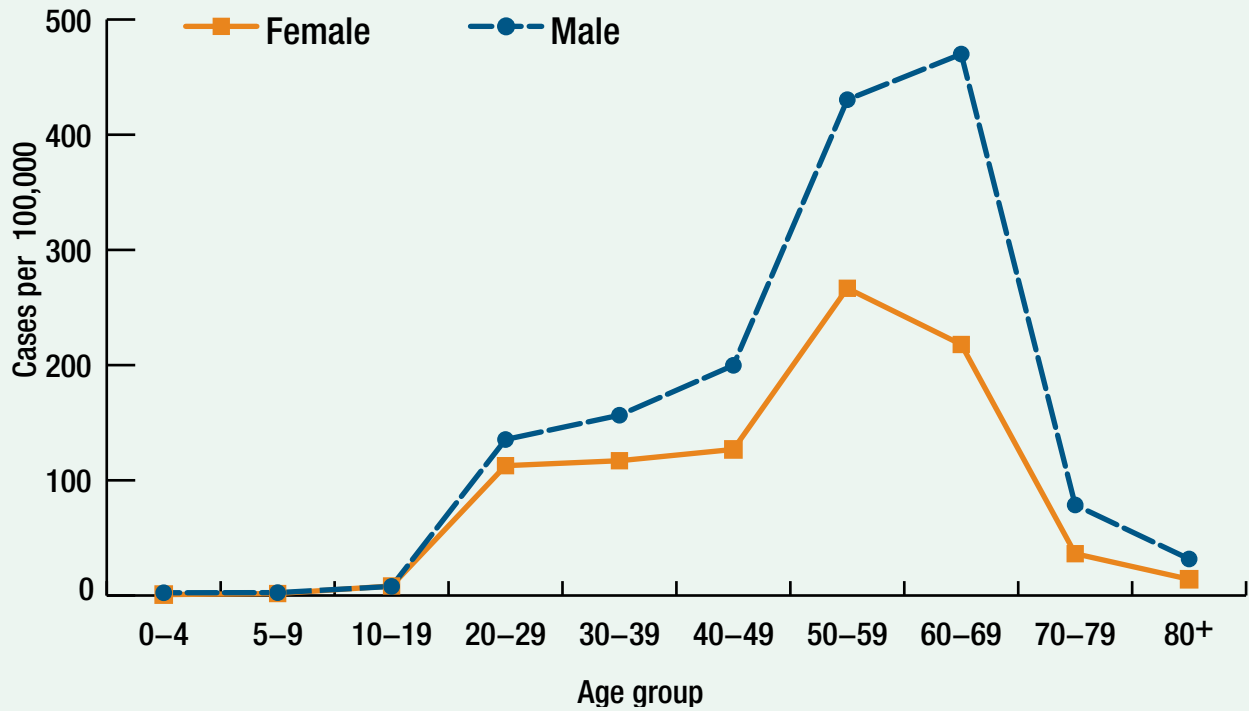
Chronic hepatitis C

Chronic hepatitis C became reportable in Oregon as of July 1, 2005. In 2015, 5,960 chronic hepatitis C cases were reported, up slightly from 5,605 reported in 2014. These numbers are likely an underestimate of the true incidence because most infections are asymptomatic and therefore not diagnosed or reported to public health. Infection in males (184/100,000) is more common than in females (113/100,000). The highest prevalence of HCV infection is among persons born between 1945–1965. CDC estimates this age group comprises 75% of chronic hepatitis C cases in the U.S.; among 2015 Oregon cases, 568 belong to this age group.

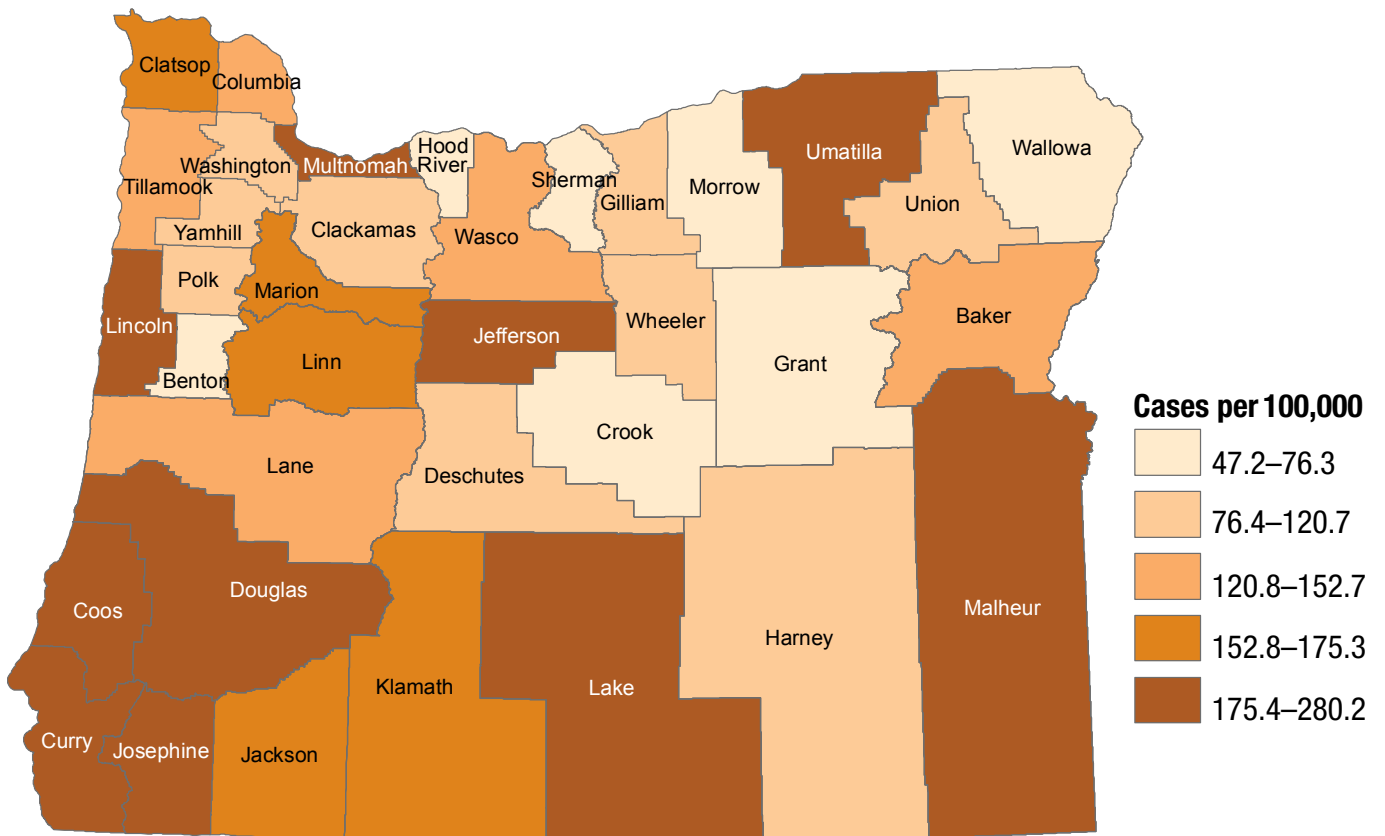
Chronic hepatitis C by year: Oregon, 2006–2015



Incidence of chronic hepatitis C by age and sex: Oregon, 2015



Incidence of chronic hepatitis C by county of residence: Oregon, 2006–2015



Prevention

- Health care workers: use universal precautions and best practices to prevent needlestick injuries.
- Persons who inject drugs can:
 - › Avoid sharing needles or works with others.
 - › Use only clean needles and works.
 - › Purchase new sterile needles from pharmacies.