

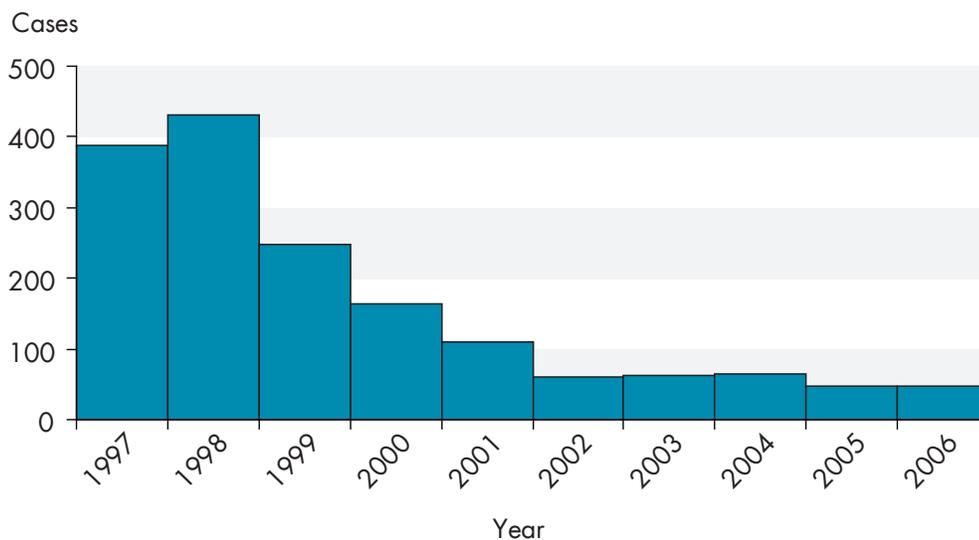
## Hepatitis A

Hepatitis A is a liver disease caused by the hepatitis A virus, which infects humans via fecal-oral transmission. In Oregon, hepatitis A can occur in situations ranging from isolated cases of disease to statewide outbreaks.

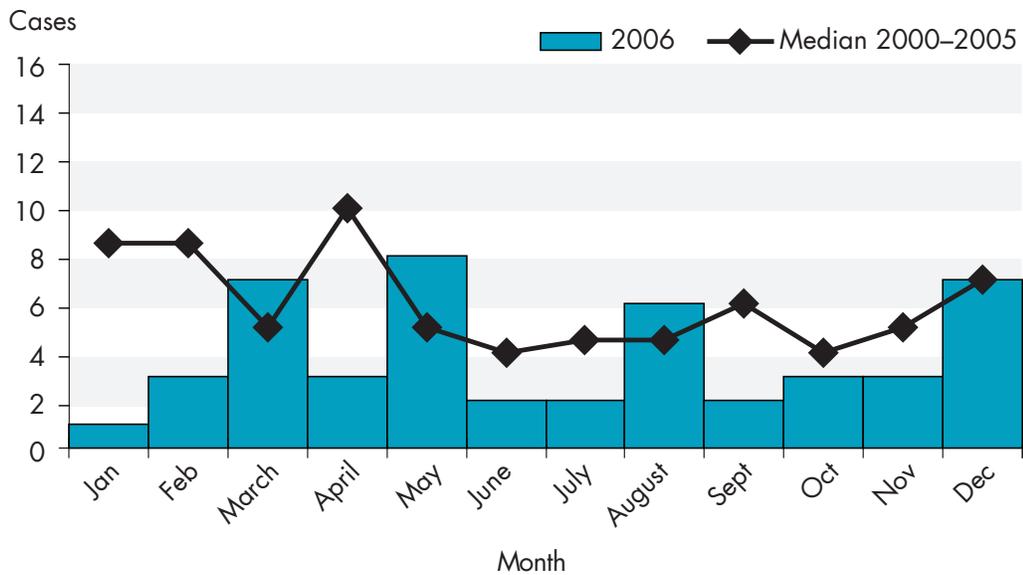
Good personal hygiene and proper sanitation can help prevent hepatitis A. Vaccines are recommended for long-term prevention of hepatitis A in all Oregon children 1 year of age and older, as well as for adults in high-risk groups. Immune globulin is available for short-term prevention of hepatitis A in persons of all ages.

In 2006, Oregon logged 47 cases of acute hepatitis A. Three outbreaks were recorded. The first involved six cases who apparently acquired the infection from an infected food handler. The second outbreak of 2006 was due to foreign travel, with three cases acquired internationally. The third outbreak, with five confirmed cases, was found among a cluster of injection drug users with a recent history of incarceration. Sixteen (34% of the 47 cases were acquired by venturing outside of Oregon to countries with high rates of hepatitis A. Persons who place themselves at elevated risk should receive a dose of hepatitis A vaccine as soon as travel is considered. Completion of the hepatitis A vaccination series (administered according to the licensed schedule) is recommended for long-term protection.

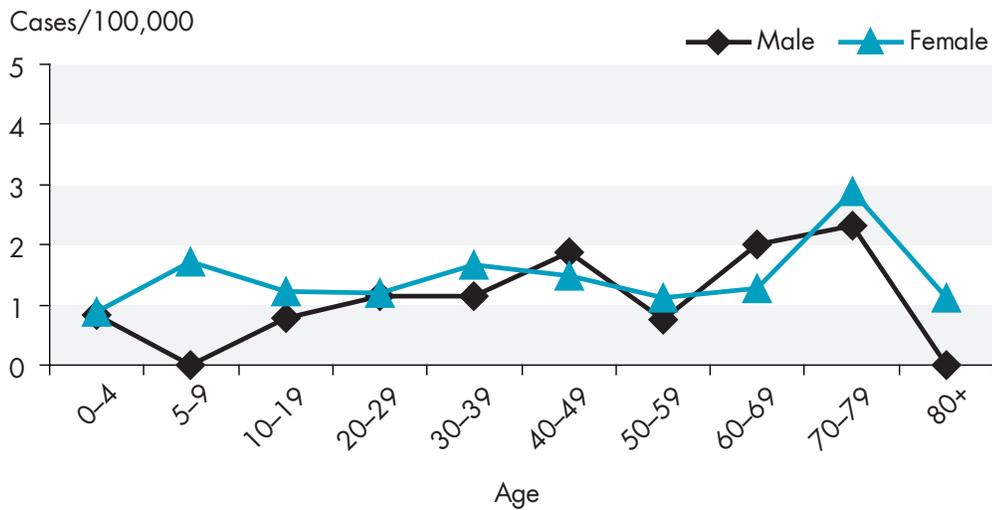
Hepatitis A by year - Oregon, 1997–2006



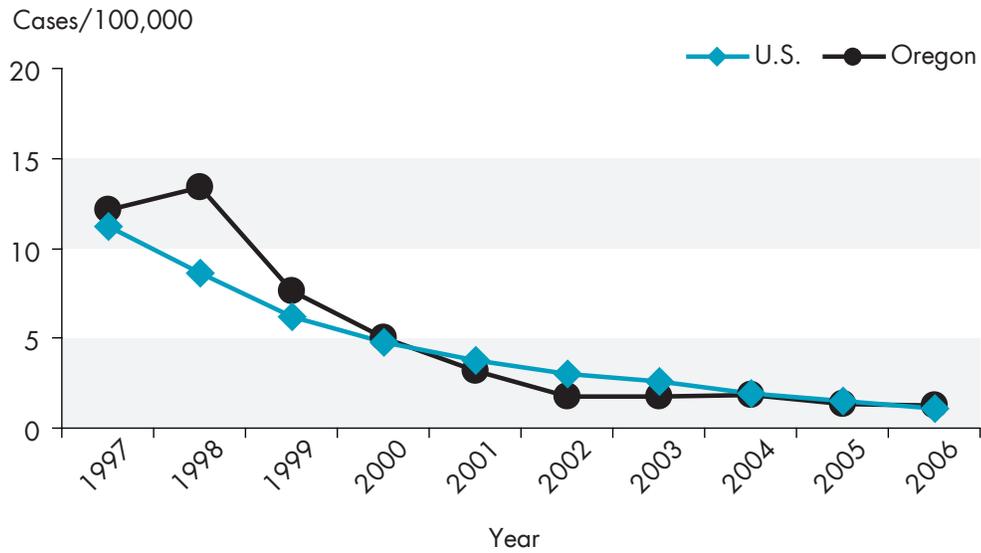
### Hepatitis A by onset month - Oregon, 2006



### Incidence of hepatitis A by age and sex - Oregon, 2006



### Incidence of hepatitis A - Oregon vs. nationwide, 1997-2006



### Incidence of hepatitis A by county of residence - Oregon, 2006

