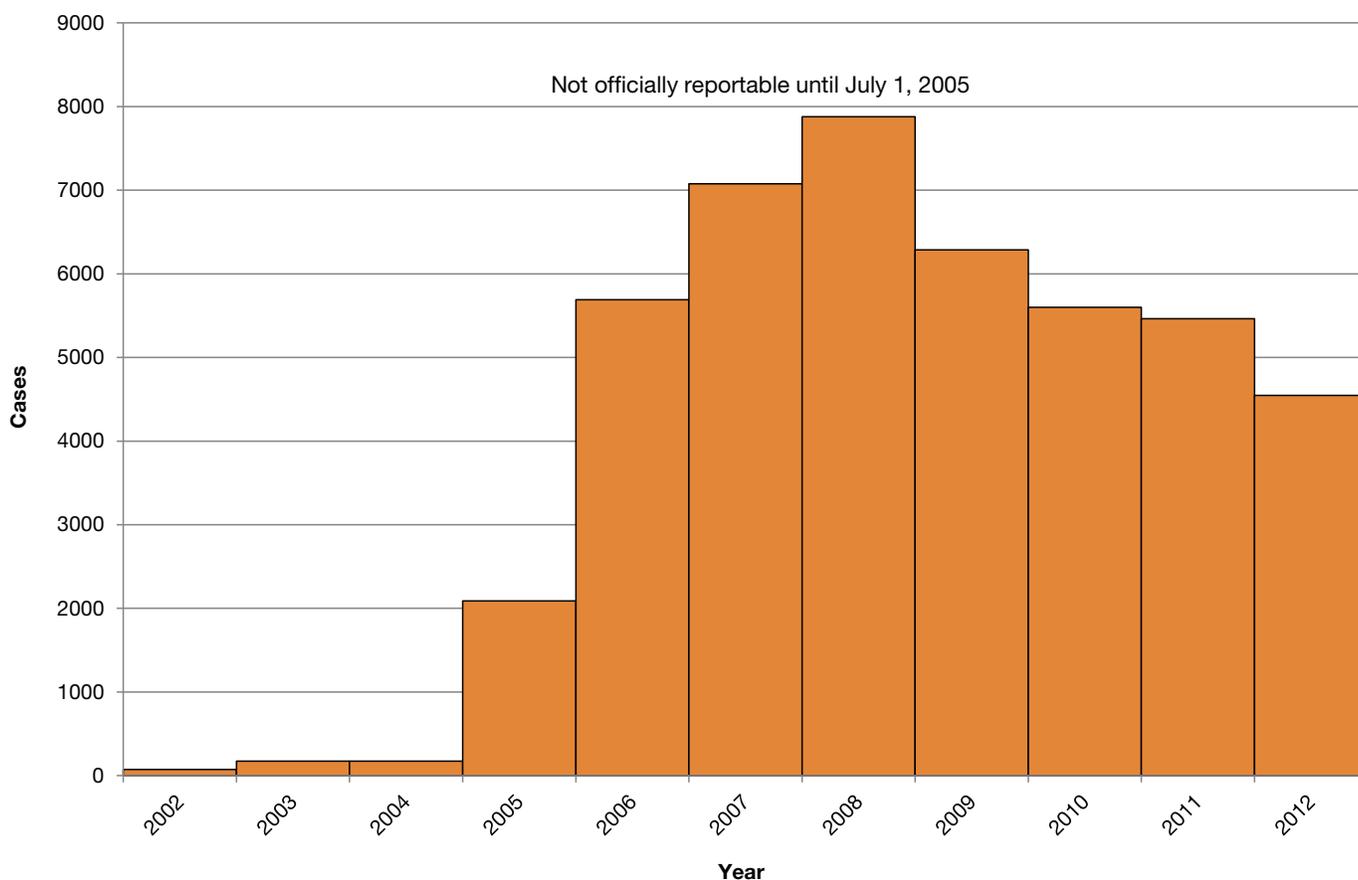


Chronic hepatitis C

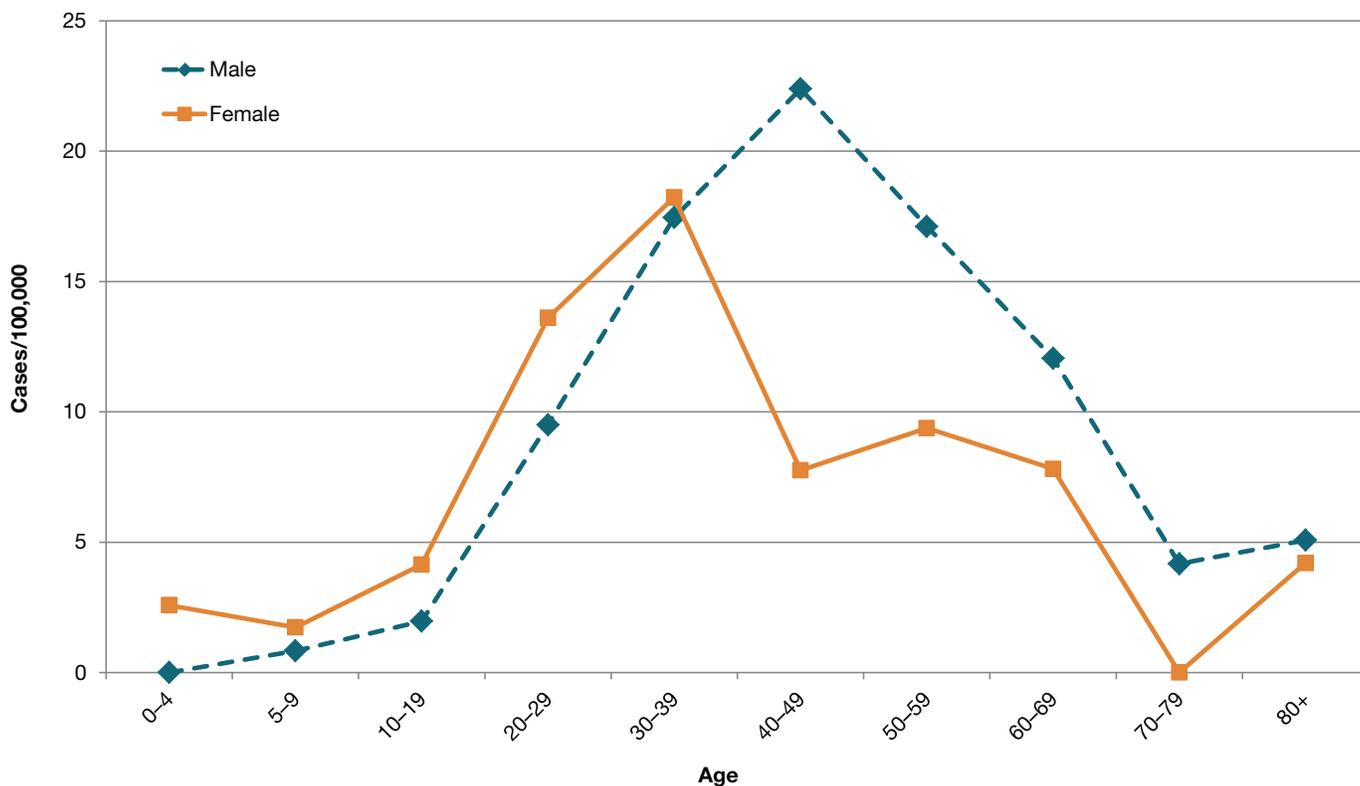
Chronic hepatitis C became reportable in Oregon as of July 1, 2005. In 2012, 4,547 chronic hepatitis C cases were reported, down slightly from 5,462 reported in 2011. These numbers are likely an underestimate of the true incidence because most infections are asymptomatic and therefore not diagnosed or reported to public health. Infection in

males (108.5/100,000) is more common than in females (66.8/100,000). The highest prevalence of HCV infection is among persons born between 1945 and 1965. CDC estimates that this age group comprises 75% of chronic hepatitis C cases in the United States; among 2012 Oregon cases, 63% belong to this age group.

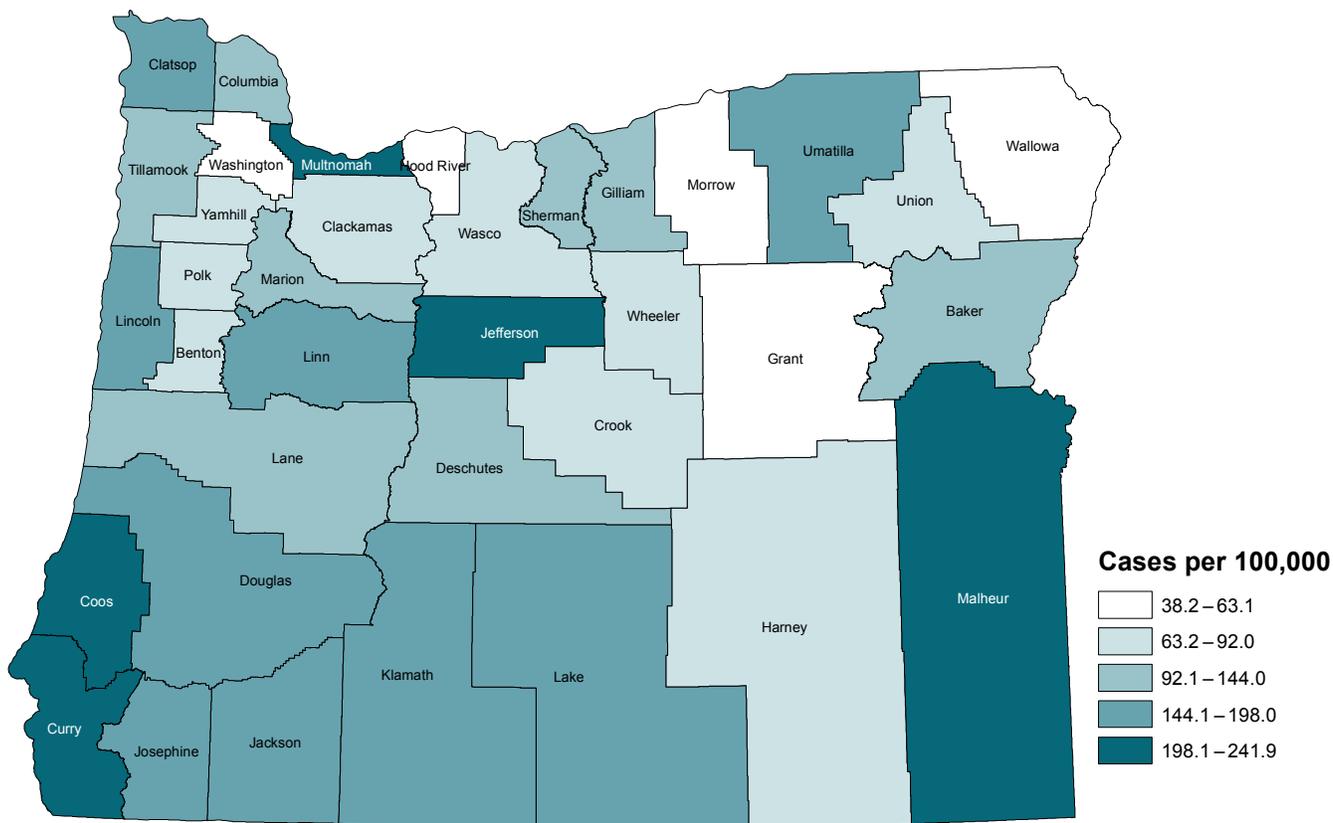
Newly reported chronic hepatitis C by year: Oregon, 2002–2012



Chronic hepatitis C by age and sex: Oregon, 2012



Incidence of chronic hepatitis C by county of residence: Oregon, 2005–2012



Prevention

- Health care workers: use universal precautions and best practices to prevent needle stick 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.