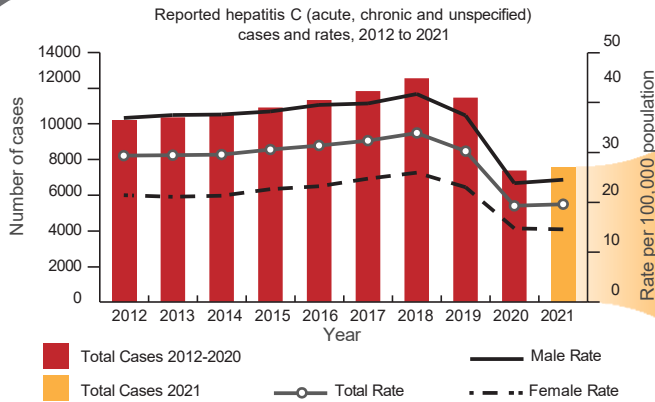


Hepatitis C in Canada: 2021 surveillance data update

The COVID-19 pandemic affected the demand for and access to services related to sexually transmitted and blood-borne infections, including harm reduction and testing. This likely contributed to fewer reported cases of hepatitis C in 2020 and 2021.¹

Hepatitis C, 2012 to 2021 (acute, chronic and unspecified)

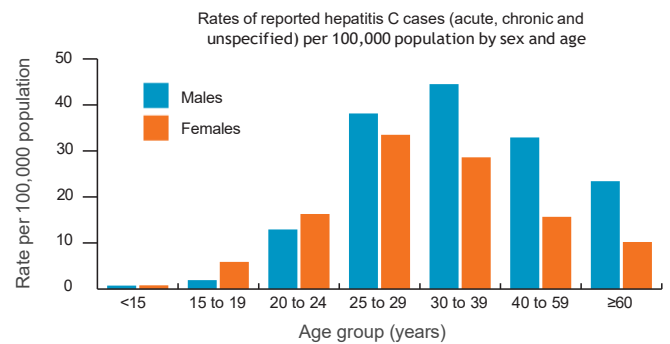


Hepatitis C in 2021 (acute, chronic and unspecified)

In 2021, **7,535 cases of hepatitis C** (acute, chronic, and unspecified) were reported,² for a **rate of 19.7 cases per 100,000 population**.³

↑ 2% Reported hepatitis C rates increased 2% from 2020 to 2021

62% males 62% of reported hepatitis C cases were male

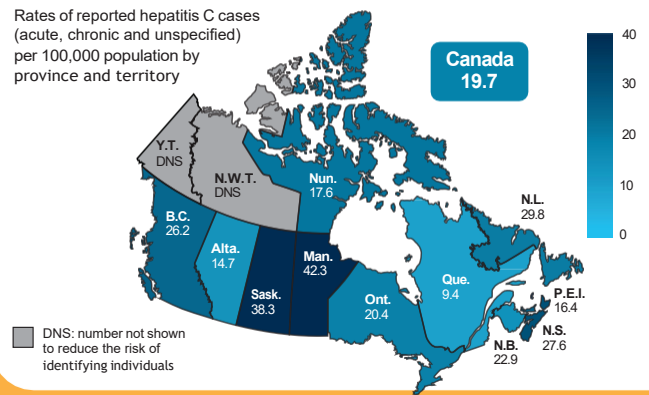


Acute hepatitis C in 2021

In 2021, **209 cases of acute hepatitis C** were reported across Canada (British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Quebec, Yukon and Nunavut), for a **rate of 1.0 case per 100,000 population**.

52% males
52% of reported acute hepatitis C cases were male

The National Hepatitis C Case Definition was revised in 2018/2019 to add acute hepatitis C. In 2021, seven provinces and territories reported acute hepatitis C separately.



Hepatitis C continues to be a public health concern

In 2019, it was estimated that one in four people in Canada who ever had hepatitis C were not aware of their current or past infection and could benefit from testing.⁴

Hepatitis C disproportionately affects certain populations and communities, including people who inject drugs, people who are incarcerated, First Nations, Inuit and Métis people, gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men, immigrants and newcomers from countries where hepatitis C is common, and people born between 1945 and 1975.^{4,5}

Hepatitis C is curable! Early diagnosis and treatment lead to better health outcomes.

1. Survey on the impact of COVID-19 on the delivery of STBBI prevention, testing and treatment, including harm reduction services, in Canada. Ottawa, ON: Public Health Agency of Canada; 2022. Pub.: 210294
 2. Data source: Canadian Notifiable Disease Surveillance System (<https://diseases.canada.ca/notifiable/>); Hepatitis C cases include acute, chronic and unspecified cases.
 3. Population denominator data is from Statistics Canada July 2022 yearly population estimates.
 4. People living with Hepatitis C (HCV) in Canada, 2019 - <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/diseases-conditions/infographic-people-living-with-hepatitis-c.html>
 5. BLUEPRINT TO INFORM HEPATITIS C ELIMINATION EFFORTS IN CANADA - https://www.canhec.ca/sites/default/files/media/documents/blueprint_hcv_2019_05.pdf