



Alabama Hepatitis A Virus Outbreak

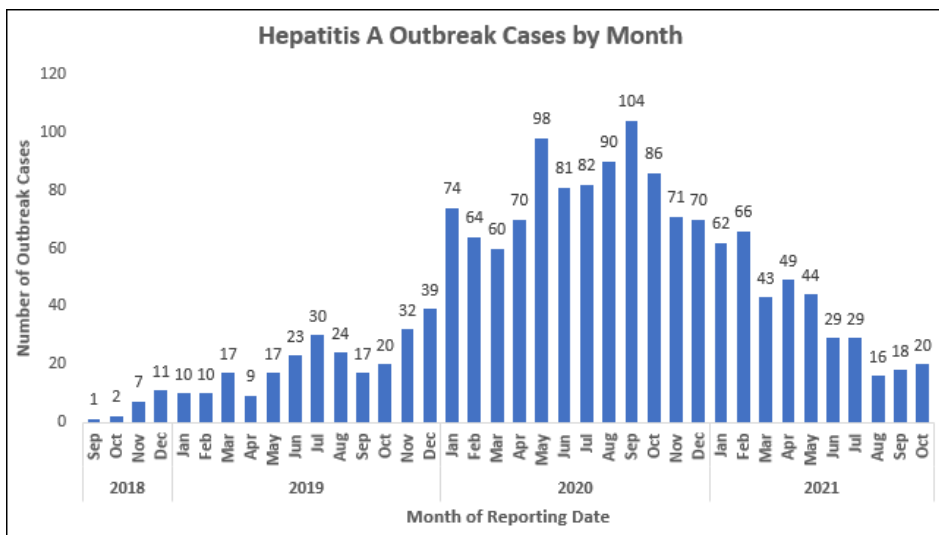
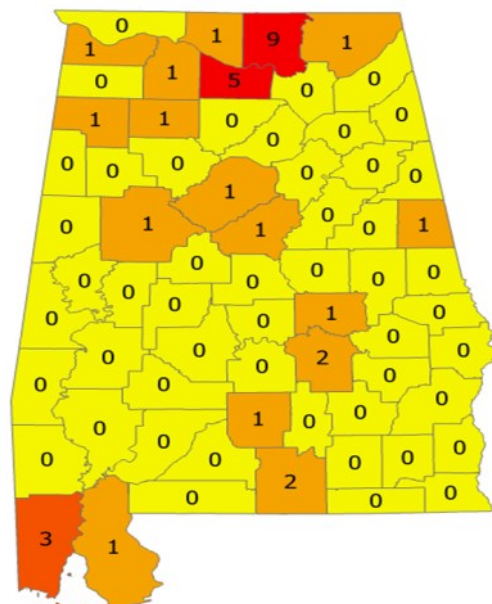


Updated November 12, 2021

Key Points: 1586 outbreak cases, 41 years average age, 61% male, 70% hospitalized

50 Day Map

The number of Hepatitis A virus (HAV) outbreak cases increased from the beginning of the outbreak in September 2018 and peaked in September 2020. The incidence of cases has shown a decrease from October 2020 until present day. Alabama is part of a national outbreak of HAV. The outbreak began the Northeastern part of the state and had spread throughout by December 2019. HAV is spread by person-to-person transmission via feces to mouth contact among unvaccinated persons.



Twenty HAV cases were reported in October 2021. To prevent the spread of HAV, individuals who are among the high risk groups should receive the HAV vaccine. Since September 2018, there were 26, 143 adults within the state have received the HAV vaccine which is 0.6% ages 19 and orders.

Case Characteristics: Those at highest risk for HAV infection include people who use street drugs (injection or non-injection), who are currently or previously incarcerated, who are experiencing unstable housing or homelessness, or who engage in oral or anal sex. The following describes the outbreak associated HAV cases in Alabama, which includes a small percentage of food handlers and persons who travelled internationally that are not considered high risk categories by themselves.

- 64%** Used street drugs (Injection or non-injection)
- 35%** Reported previous incarceration
- 24%** Reported oral or anal sex
- 12%** Have experienced homelessness
- 3%** Food handler
- 0.06%** International Travel

Protect yourself against HAV, get vaccinated today. One dose of HAV vaccine provides long-lasting protection in up to 95% of those who receive it. To find a provider, pharmacy or health department with the vaccine near you, check out the following website <https://tinyurl.com/yyeh4cav>.