

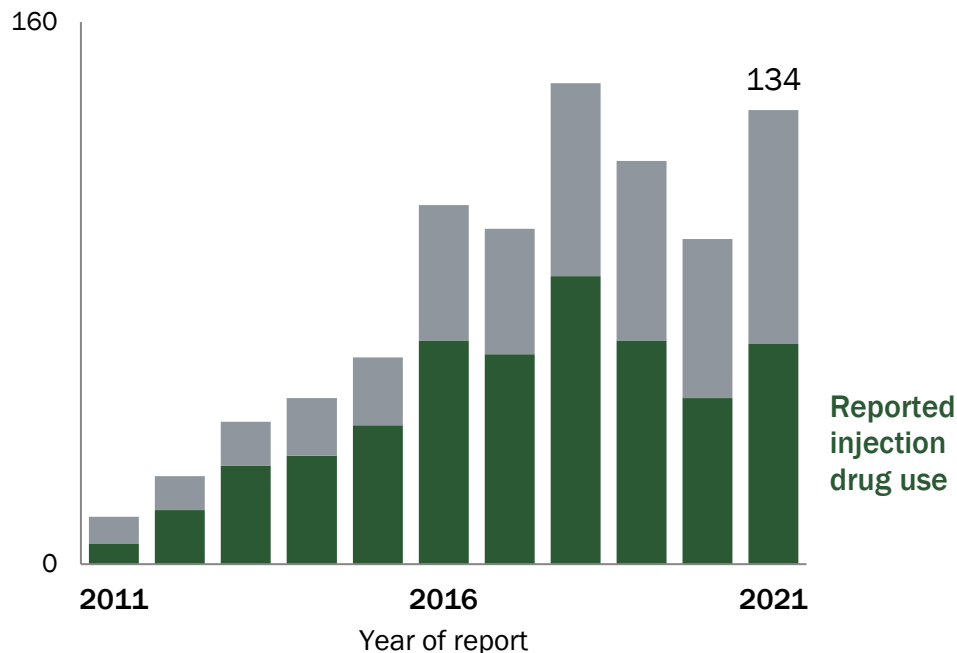
HEPATITIS C IN WISCONSIN

2021 Summary Report

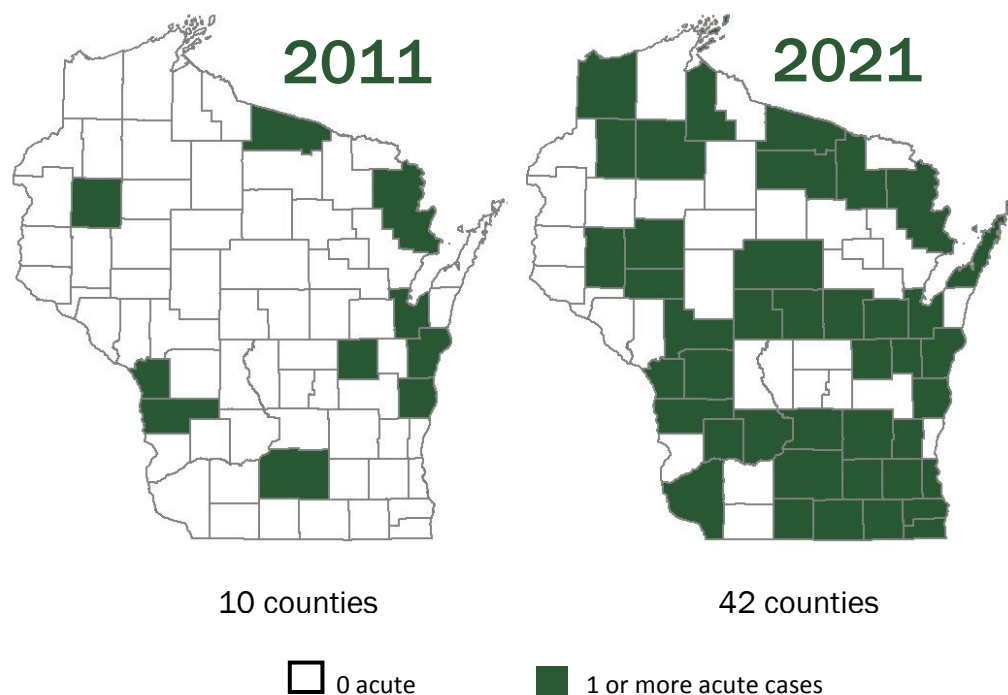
Despite disruptions to hepatitis C testing because of the COVID-19 pandemic, during 2021 there were 2,059 newly reported cases of hepatitis C, including 134 acute cases. An estimated 47,000 adults are living with hepatitis C in Wisconsin, but only about half (25,276) have been identified and reported. Hepatitis C prevalence was above 0.1% in all counties. Rates of hepatitis C are highest among people of color because of inequities caused by [structural racism](#). For more information, visit the [Hepatitis C Annual Review for 2021](#).

Hepatitis C Trends

The number of acute hepatitis C cases has increased over the past 10 years, with 134 cases reported in 2021. **Most people with acute hepatitis C reported injecting drugs.**

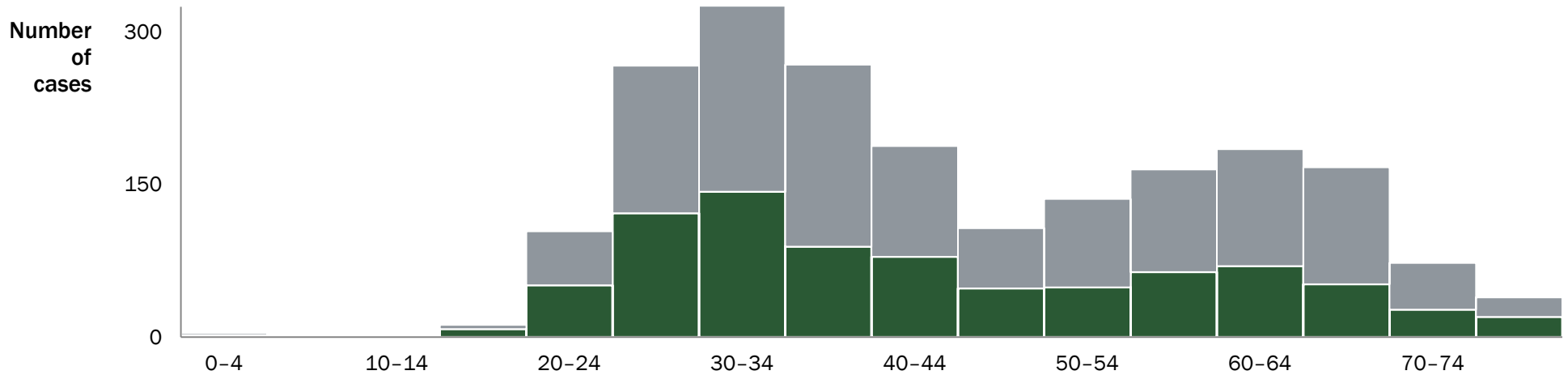


In 2021, the number of **counties reporting cases of acute hepatitis C** was more than four times higher than in 2011.



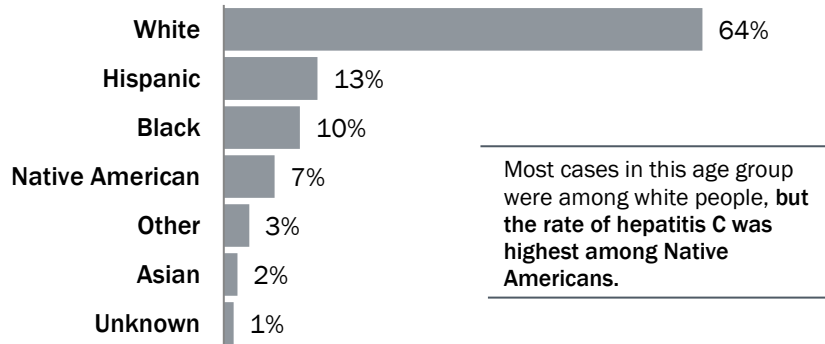
Hepatitis C in 2021: Age, Sex, and Race

In 2021, newly reported hepatitis C cases were commonly reported among two groups: **young adults who were likely recently infected** and **older adults who were likely infected many years ago**.



Young adults

Percent of hepatitis C cases by race/ethnicity among people aged 15–29, 2021

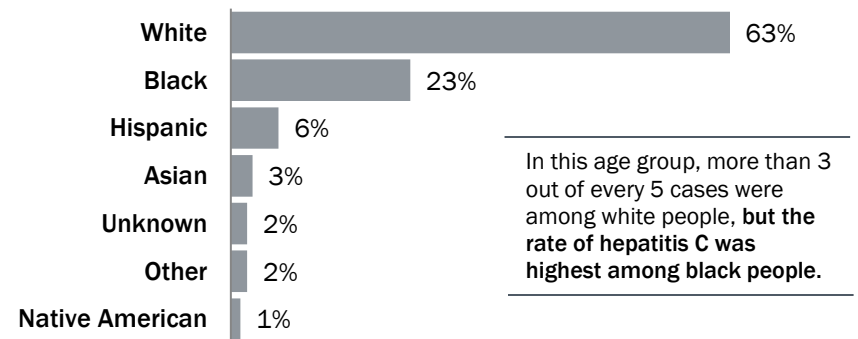


Most cases in this age group were among white people, but the rate of hepatitis C was highest among Native Americans.

People who inject drugs are at high risk for hepatitis C, and injection drug use is the most commonly reported risk factor among this age group. Forty seven percent of cases ages 15–29 were female.

Baby boomers

Percent of hepatitis C cases by race/ethnicity among people born 1945–1965, 2021



In this age group, more than 3 out of every 5 cases were among white people, but the rate of hepatitis C was highest among black people.

Most hepatitis C cases in the U.S. are among baby boomers and likely represent infections that occurred many years ago. Three out of five cases in this cohort were male.

