

Hepatitis B and C are viral infections that attack the liver and can cause both acute and chronic disease. Acute disease usually resolves on its own but chronic disease is life-long and can lead to serious health outcomes, such as cirrhosis (liver scarring), liver cancer, or even death.<sup>1</sup> This report provides statistics on chronic hepatitis B and C for Sacramento County and California for the years 2012 through 2016.<sup>2</sup>

### Chronic Hepatitis B

In Sacramento County, the rate of chronic hepatitis B cases<sup>†</sup> increased by 9.7% between 2012 and 2016 [Figure 1]. County rates were consistently higher than State rates throughout this five-year period, with an annual average rate of 41.5 per 100,000 population at the County level compared to 26.3 per 100,000 population at the State level.

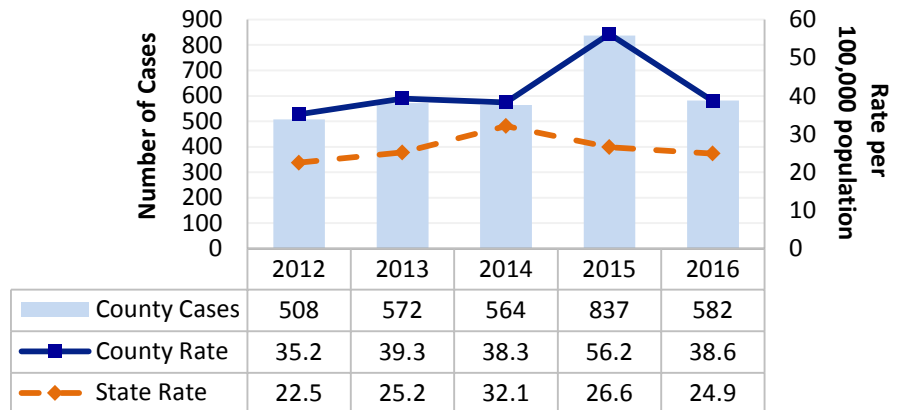
Among males,<sup>†‡</sup> the overall rate increased by 28.6% (data not shown). The highest rates were consistently found among males 35-64 years old. The greatest increase occurred among males 65+ years old (+123.6%) with a decline among males 18-24 years old (-11.5%) [Figure 2].

Among females,<sup>†‡</sup> the overall rate decreased by 10.6% (data not shown). The highest rates were consistently found among females 25-34 years old. There was an increase among females 55-64 years old (+20.4%) and a sharp decline among females 18-24 years old (-68.2%).

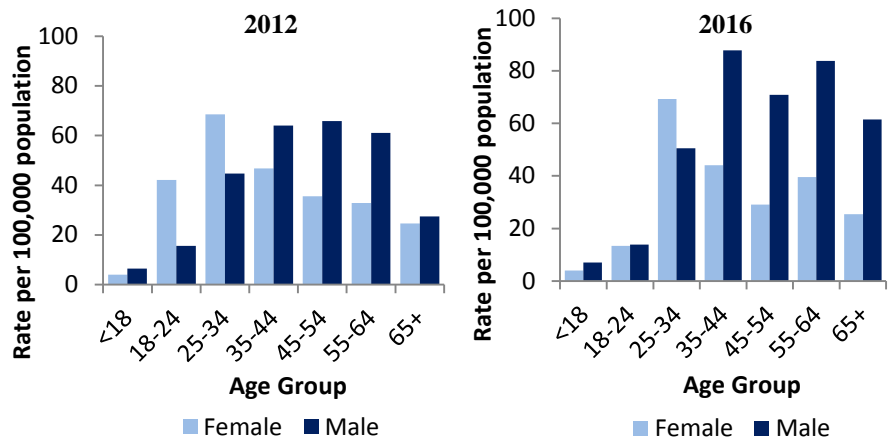
Infants and children have the highest risk of developing chronic disease if infected.<sup>1</sup> Sacramento County Public Health investigates cases reported among children <18 years old and women of childbearing age (12-45 years old). On average, two perinatal cases were detected each year in the County.

By race, Asian/Pacific Islanders (APIs) account for the highest percent of cases,<sup>†§</sup> representing an average of 67.5% of cases each year. However the percent of cases decreased by 21.1% among APIs and increased by 91.1% among Whites during 2012-2016.

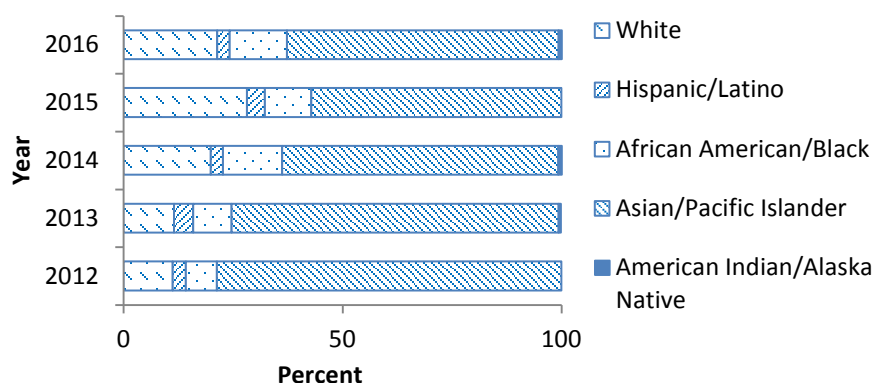
**Figure 1. Rate of Chronic Hepatitis B Cases<sup>1</sup>, Sacramento County vs. California, 2012-2016**



**Figure 2. Rate of Chronic Hepatitis B Cases by Age Group and Gender<sup>2</sup>, Sacramento County, 2012 vs. 2016**



**Figure 3. Percent of Chronic Hepatitis B Cases by Race/Ethnicity<sup>3</sup>, Sacramento County, 2012-2016**



### Chronic Hepatitis C

In Sacramento County, the rate of chronic hepatitis C cases<sup>†</sup> increased by 8.0% between 2012 and 2016 [Figure 4]. County rates were generally higher than State rates throughout this five-year period, with an annual average rate of 108.1 per 100,000 population at the County level compared to 79.1 per 100,000 population at the State level.

Among males and females,<sup>‡</sup> the highest rates were consistently found among those 50-59 years old. The greatest increase occurred among those 20-39 years old, with the highest increase among males 30-39 years old (+84.4%) and females 20-29 years old (+67.6%) [Figure 5]. This increase is consistent with State and national data, which indicate an increase among young adults 20-29 years old primarily from a rise in injection drug use associated with the growing opioid epidemic.<sup>3,4</sup>

By race, Whites account for the highest percent of cases,<sup>‡</sup> representing an average of 69.4% of cases each year [Figure 6]. This is followed by Blacks, representing an average of 18.0% cases each year.

Note: Data are provisional. Counts may be influenced by surveillance artifacts and outbreaks.

<sup>†</sup>Includes confirmed and probable cases.  
<sup>‡</sup>Excludes cases where age or gender was not specified.  
<sup>§</sup>Excludes cases where race/ethnicity was "Other/Multi/Not Specified".  
<sup>1</sup>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). (2015). Viral Hepatitis.  
<sup>2</sup>California Department of Public Health (CDPH). (2018). Local Health Jurisdiction Chronic Viral Hepatitis Data Summaries, 2012-2016 (provisional).  
<sup>3</sup>CDPH. (2017). Hepatitis C Rates in Young Adults Increasing in California.  
<sup>4</sup>CDC. (2017). New Hepatitis C Infections Nearly Tripled over Five Years.

Figure 4. Rate of Chronic Hepatitis C Cases, Sacramento County vs. California, 2012-2016

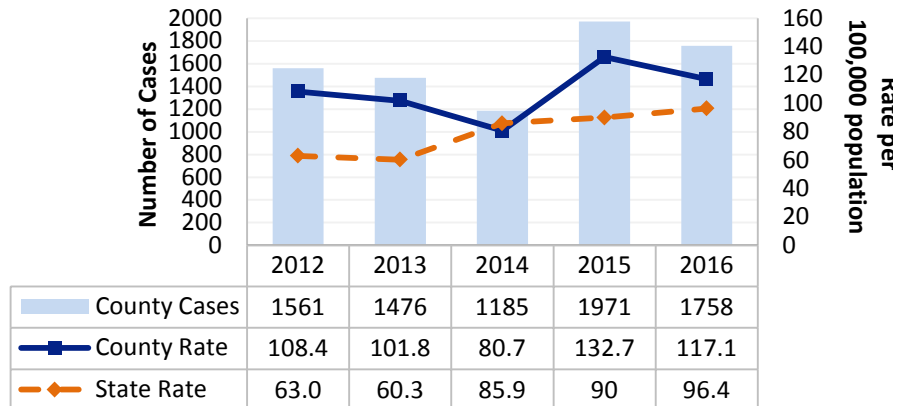


Figure 5. Rate of Chronic Hepatitis C Cases by Age Group and Gender, Sacramento County, 2012 vs. 2016

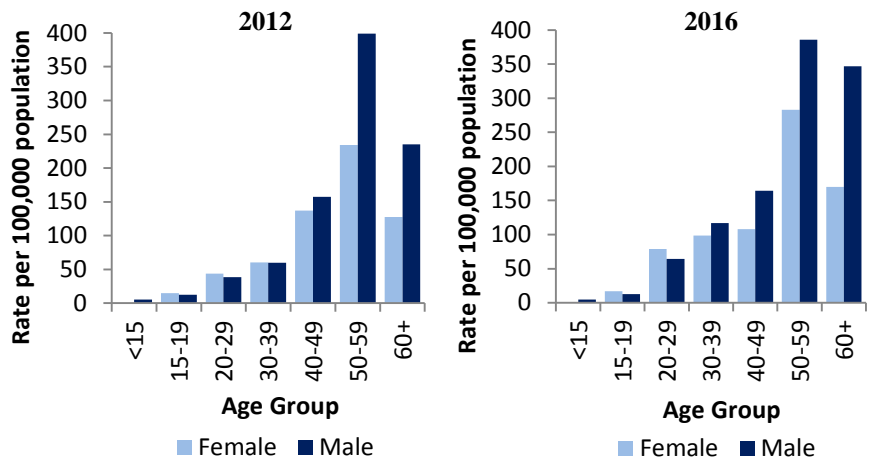
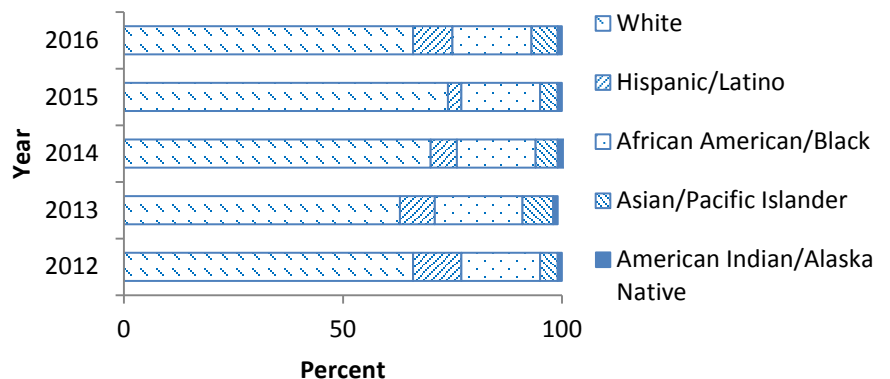


Figure 6. Percent of Chronic Hepatitis C Cases by Race/Ethnicity\*, Sacramento County, 2012-2016



More information on chronic hepatitis B and C can be found at the California Department of Public Health's Office of Viral Hepatitis Prevention website (<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/OVHP.aspx>) or the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Division of Viral Hepatitis website (<https://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/index.htm>).