



# Alabama Hepatitis A Virus Outbreak

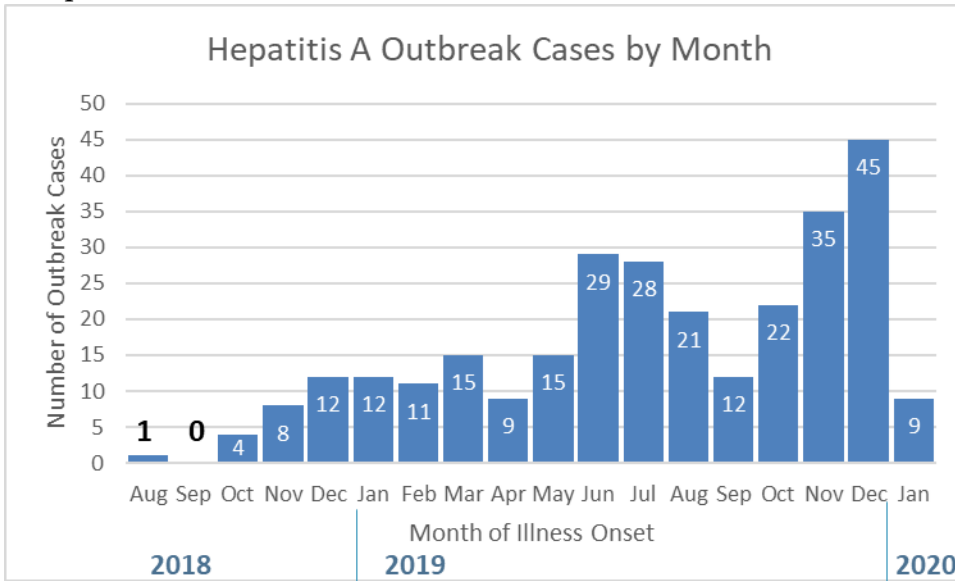
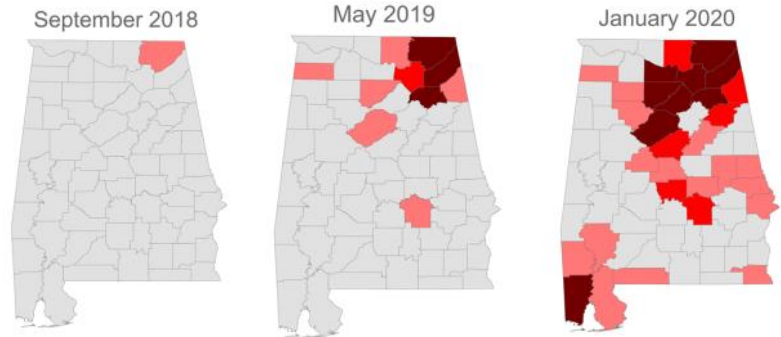


Updated January 31, 2020

**Key Points:** 288 outbreak cases, 40 years average age, 61% male, 62% hospitalized

## The number of Hepatitis A virus (HAV) outbreak cases continues to increase in Alabama.

Alabama is part of a national outbreak of HAV. The outbreak started in northeast Alabama in September 2018 and has spread throughout the state by December 2019. HAV is spread person-to-person through poop to mouth contact among unvaccinated persons.



■ 11 to 32 cases ■ 4 to 10 cases ■ 1 to 3 cases

**Forty-five cases of HAV were reported in December 2019.** To prevent the spread of HAV, individuals with risk factors should receive the HAV vaccine

**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 outbreak associated HAV cases in Alabama.

65%  
  
Used street drugs (Injection or non-injection)

47%  
  
Reported previous incarceration

38%  
  
Reported oral or anal sex

17%  
  
Have experienced homelessness

**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/yveh4cav>.