

## Hepatitis C

Hepatitis C infections are identified through laboratory testing of individuals with past or current risk factors such as injection drug use, to investigate symptoms of liver disease or as a component of medical insurance testing. Hepatitis C testing in BC has increased since 2012 partly due to the US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention's recommendation for "baby boomers" to be tested, the BC Generation hepatitis program and awareness of new and effective hepatitis C treatment regimens (1,2). This increase in testing has resulted in more cases being identified and reported. In 2015 there were 2,208 cases of hepatitis C reported up from less than 2,000 cases in 2014 see

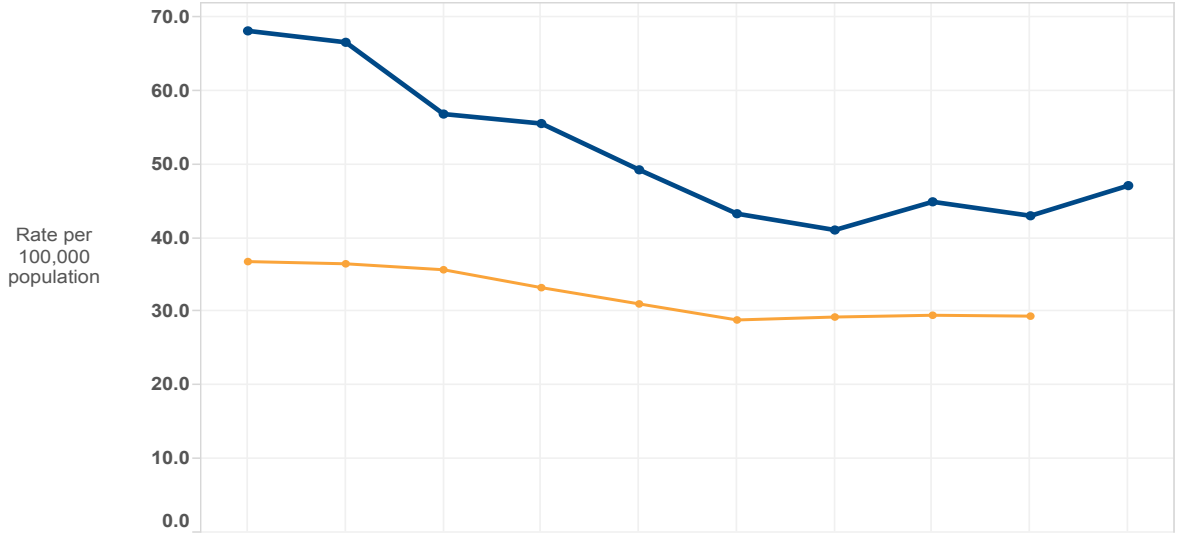
figure 20.1. Cases were reported in all health service delivery areas (HSDA) with Vancouver having the highest number of cases reported. Figure 20.2 shows the highest rates were in Northern Interior followed by Fraser East, North Vancouver Island and East Kootenay, all these regions were above 60 cases per 100,000 population compared to a mean BC rate of 47/100,000. The lowest rate was in Richmond HSDA.



1. Recommendations for the Identification of Chronic Hepatitis C Virus Infection Among Persons Born During 1945–1965. MMWR (2012) 61(4)

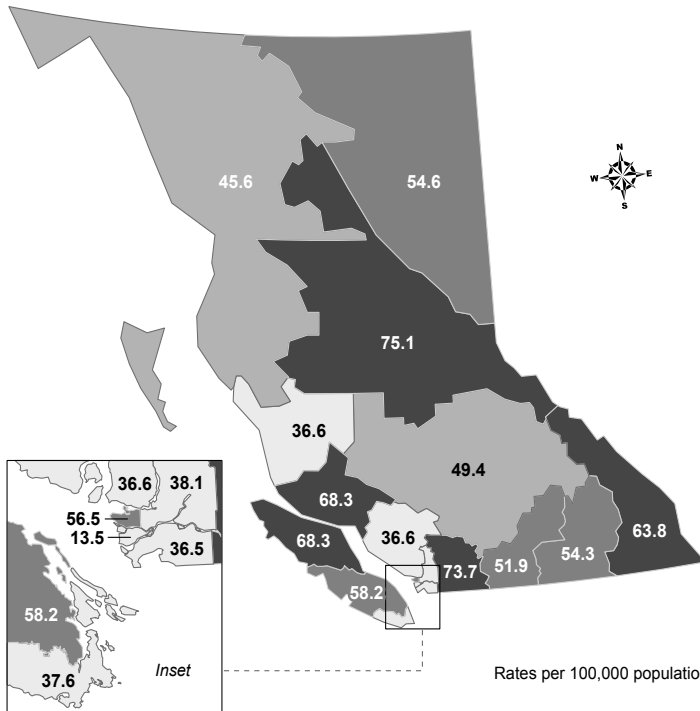
2. Generation Hep. Generation Hep.com. Downloaded from <http://www.generationhep.com> on July 27, 2015.

**20.1 Hepatitis C Rates by Year, 2006-2015**

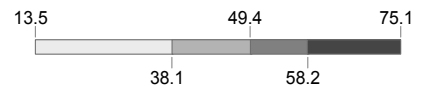


	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
<b>Reports</b>	2,892	2,859	2,474	2,452	2,202	1,950	1,868	2,060	1,997	2,208
<b>BC Rate</b>	68.18	66.63	56.88	55.59	49.31	43.34	41.13	44.96	43.06	47.16
<b>Canadian Rate</b>	36.84	36.54	35.73	33.30	31.09	28.91	29.31	29.55	29.43	

**20.2 Hepatitis C Rates by HSDA, 2015**



ID	Health Service Delivery Area	Cases	Rate
11	East Kootenay	49	63.8
12	Kootenay Boundary	42	54.3
13	Okanagan	188	51.9
14	Thompson Cariboo Shuswap	109	49.4
21	Fraser East	218	73.7
22	Fraser North	249	38.1
23	Fraser South	289	36.5
31	Richmond	28	13.5
32	Vancouver	377	56.5
33	North Shore/Coast Garibaldi	103	36.6
41	South Vancouver Island	142	37.6
42	Central Vancouver Island	156	58.2
43	North Vancouver Island	83	68.3
51	Northwest	33	45.6
52	Northern Interior	104	75.1
53	Northeast	38	54.6



**20.3 Hepatitis C Rates by Age Group and Sex, 2015**

