



Kentucky Department for Public Health

KY17-089 - Acute Hepatitis A Outbreak Weekly Report

Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) Weeks 49 and 50, 2019

December 1, 2019 – December 14, 2019

Brief Description of Outbreak: In November 2017, the Kentucky Department for Public Health (DPH) identified an outbreak of acute hepatitis A. The increase in cases observed in Kentucky was well over the 10-year average of reported hepatitis A cases, and several cases have been infected with hepatitis A virus (HAV) strains genetically linked to outbreaks in California, Utah, and Michigan. Similar to hepatitis A outbreaks in other states, the primary risk factors have been illicit drug use and homelessness. A contaminated food source has not been identified, and HAV transmission is believed to have occurred through person-to-person contact. Below is a weekly and cumulative update on the outbreak. Please note that all data is preliminary and subject to change as additional reports are received.

In accordance with 902 KAR 2:020, cases of acute hepatitis A should be reported within 24 hours.

The case definition used for outbreak-associated acute hepatitis A cases is available upon request.

Unless otherwise noted, all data are reported by date of specimen collection.

Table 1: Summary of Outbreak-Associated Acute Hepatitis A Cases*

Update for Week 49 and Week 50:			Total Case Counts: 8/1/2017 – 12/14/2019:	
Total number of new cases (n=3):	Week 49 (n=2) Probable - 1 Suspected - 1	Week 50 (n=1) Probable - 0 Suspected - 1	Total number of cases (n=4990):	Confirmed [^] - 877 Probable - 2753 Suspected - 1360
Number of counties with new cases:	2	1	Total number of counties with cases:	114 (95% of KY counties)
Number of Hospitalizations:	2	1	Total Number of Hospitalizations:	2405 (48%)
Number of deaths Reported [†] :	0	0	Total number of deaths reported [†] :	61 (1.2%)
Number of individuals with sequencing results available:	9		Total number of individuals with sequencing results available:	921 (18%)
Number of cases with genotype 1B among those with sequencing results:	9		Total number of cases with genotype 1B among those with sequencing results:	860 (93% of those tested)

* Cases are reported based on date of specimen collection.

[^] Cases are generally confirmed weeks after submission for testing, so will only be reflected in total case counts.

[†] Deaths are defined as any outbreak-associated acute hepatitis A case with documentation of hepatitis A as a contributing factor to the individual's death.

[#] Weekly death counts may appear artificially high due to delays in death certification.

Table 2: Cumulative Distribution of Cases by County

KY17-089 Distribution Of Outbreak-Associated Acute Hepatitis A Cases, by County, August 1, 2017 – December 14, 2019*^#					
County	Total number of cases reported	Number of confirmed cases	Number of probable cases	Number of suspected cases	Incident Rate per 100,000 population
Adair	5	0	3	2	25.7
Allen	46	8	28	10	219.7
Anderson	25	0	18	7	110.9
Ballard	12	4	5	3	149.3
Barren	16	1	15	0	36.5
Bath	37	3	13	21	298.9
Bell	73	19	32	22	271.4
Boone	65	8	34	23	49.7
Bourbon	13	0	10	3	64.9
Boyd	176	104	44	28	366.8
Boyle	31	0	18	13	103.6
Bracken	6	0	4	2	72.6
Breathitt	30	1	22	7	231.7
Bullitt	64	33	22	9	79.8
Butler	11	2	5	4	85.7
Calloway	1	0	0	1	2.6
Campbell	69	3	56	10	74.6
Carlisle	1	0	1	0	20.6
Carroll	13	2	7	4	121.3
Carter	128	48	60	20	471.6
Casey	14	1	9	4	88.9
Christian	81	27	47	7	115.0
Clark	93	0	57	36	258.0
Clay	82	1	37	44	402.6

**KY17-089 Distribution Of Outbreak-Associated Acute Hepatitis A Cases,
by County, August 1, 2017 –December 14, 2019*^#**

County	Total number of cases reported	Number of confirmed cases	Number of probable cases	Number of suspected cases	Incident Rate per 100,000 population
Clinton	15	2	11	2	146.0
Crittenden	3	0	1	2	33.0
Cumberland	4	0	4	0	59.6
Daviess	4	0	2	2	4.0
Edmonson	1	0	1	0	8.2
Elliott	24	4	4	16	319.0
Estill	26	1	20	5	182.1
Fayette	206	5	150	51	64.0
Fleming	4	0	0	4	27.7
Floyd	146	8	77	61	402.5
Franklin	58	1	43	14	114.9
Gallatin	9	3	4	2	102.6
Garrard	20	0	13	7	114.1
Grant	43	3	34	6	172.1
Graves	1	0	0	1	2.7
Grayson	30	2	25	3	113.8
Green	3	0	3	0	27.1
Greenup	62	31	19	12	174.6
Hardin	42	10	10	22	38.9
Harlan	45	18	16	11	168.5
Harrison	28	0	17	11	149.1
Hart	2	0	2	0	10.7
Henderson	1	1	0	0	2.2
Henry	14	4	8	2	87.5
Hickman	1	0	0	1	22.1

**KY17-089 Distribution Of Outbreak-Associated Acute Hepatitis A Cases,
by County, August 1, 2017 – December 14, 2019*^#**

County	Total number of cases reported	Number of confirmed cases	Number of probable cases	Number of suspected cases	Incident Rate per 100,000 population
Hopkins	66	38	17	11	144.9
Jackson	22	1	11	10	163.8
Jefferson	663	316	233	114	86.0
Jessamine	62	0	40	22	116.2
Johnson	81	1	45	35	358.5
Kenton	124	14	90	20	75.0
Knott	38	3	24	11	248.5
Knox	108	9	64	35	345.9
Larue	3	0	1	2	21.1
Laurel	224	5	164	55	372.3
Lawrence	36	5	19	12	229.0
Lee	37	3	32	2	563.2
Leslie	39	2	32	5	377.4
Letcher	23	6	13	4	103.0
Lewis	26	1	15	10	194.9
Lincoln	39	2	24	13	159.5
Livingston	2	0	0	2	21.6
Logan	2	0	2	0	7.4
Madison	148	3	99	46	162.2
Magoffin	54	1	32	21	430.7
Marion	23	1	17	5	118.6
Marshall	3	0	1	2	9.6
Martin	41	0	29	12	358.0
Mason	26	1	17	8	151.4
McCracken	15	4	6	5	22.9

**KY17-089 Distribution Of Outbreak-Associated Acute Hepatitis A Cases,
by County, August 1, 2017 – December 14, 2019*^#**

County	Total number of cases reported	Number of confirmed cases	Number of probable cases	Number of suspected cases	Incident Rate per 100,000 population
McCreary	33	1	22	10	188.9
Meade	12	1	1	10	42.6
Menifee	19	2	11	6	294.3
Mercer	41	1	25	15	190.5
Metcalfe	2	0	1	1	19.8
Monroe	2	1	0	1	18.8
Montgomery	94	10	61	23	336.6
Morgan	23	1	18	4	174.4
Muhlenberg	6	2	1	3	19.5
Nelson	19	4	6	9	41.6
Nicholas	2	0	0	2	28.1
Ohio	7	0	4	3	28.9
Oldham	18	4	9	5	27.1
Owen	13	0	11	2	120.8
Owsley	12	0	9	3	270.6
Pendleton	31	3	19	9	212.7
Perry	89	5	62	22	335.2
Pike	86	4	60	22	146.1
Powell	51	3	29	19	412.2
Pulaski	96	0	62	34	149.0
Robertson	1	0	1	0	46.9
Rockcastle	26	0	16	10	155.7
Rowan	49	5	28	16	199.9
Russell	3	0	2	1	16.9
Scott	33	0	21	12	60.1

**KY17-089 Distribution Of Outbreak-Associated Acute Hepatitis A Cases,
by County, August 1, 2017 – December 14, 2019*^#**

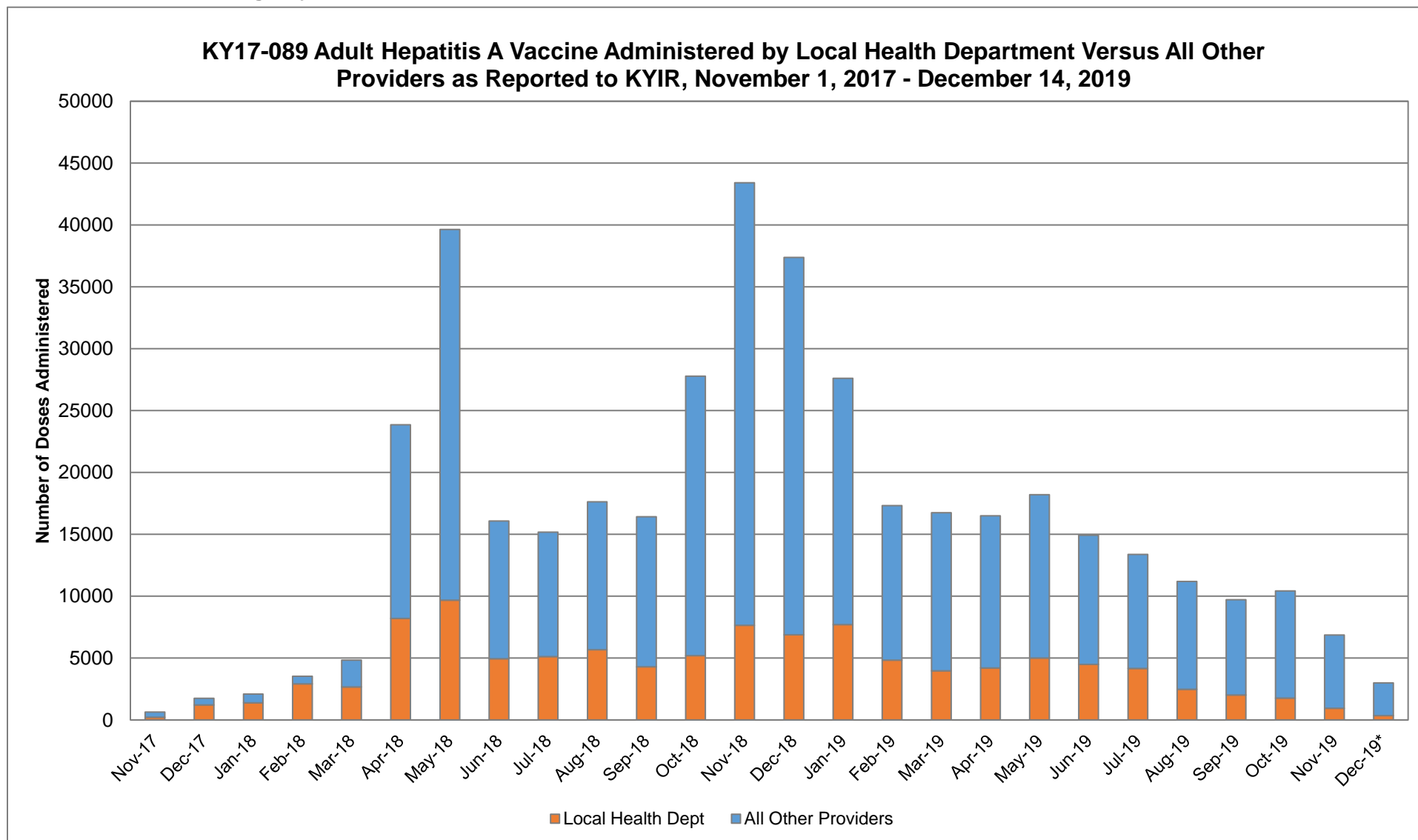
County	Total number of cases reported	Number of confirmed cases	Number of probable cases	Number of suspected cases	Incident Rate per 100,000 population
Shelby	27	10	14	3	56.9
Simpson	10	3	6	1	55.2
Spencer	8	3	4	1	43.2
Taylor	50	3	34	13	196.3
Todd	1	1	0	0	8.2
Trigg	4	2	2	0	27.7
Trimble	3	2	0	1	35.0
Union	3	0	2	1	20.5
Warren	44	10	25	9	34.1
Washington	9	0	6	3	74.2
Wayne	26	1	11	14	125.5
Webster	6	4	2	0	46.1
Whitley	202	15	103	84	557.8
Wolfe	26	0	18	8	357.9
Woodford	14	0	10	4	53.1
Total Number of Cases:	4983	868	2755	1360	112.0

* Cases are reported based on date of specimen collection.

^ Denotes a county where cases have not been previously identified.

As genotyping results become available, cases may be excluded if they do not meet the outbreak case definition. Cases in the following counties have been excluded from the outbreak case count this week: None.

Figure 1: Hepatitis A Vaccine Doses Administered, Public Health Versus All Other Providers, as Reported to the Kentucky Immunization Registry



KY17-089 Distribution of Outbreak-Associated Acute Hepatitis A Cases by County, August 1, 2017 - December 14, 2019

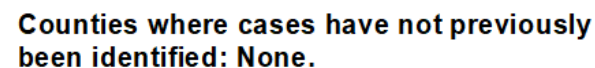
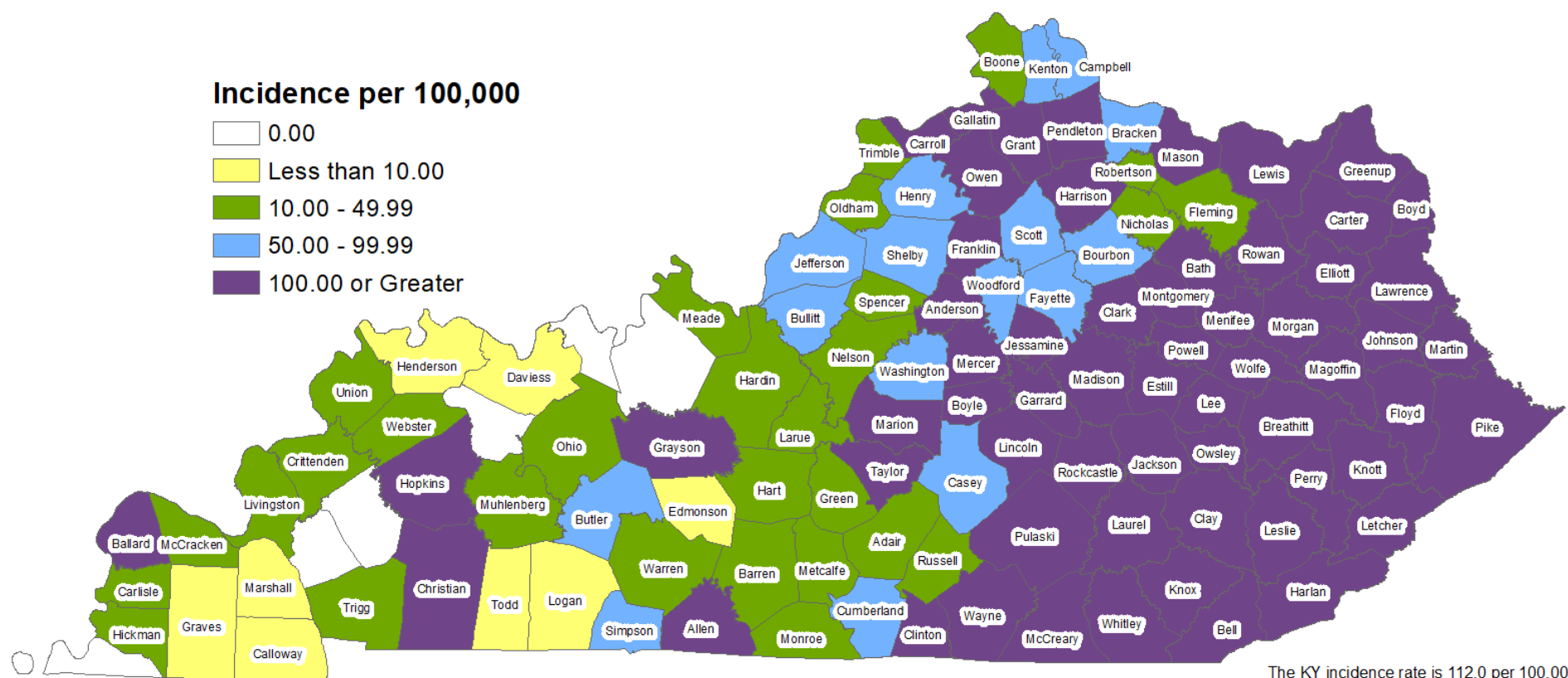


Figure 3: Incidence of Outbreak-Associated Cases by County

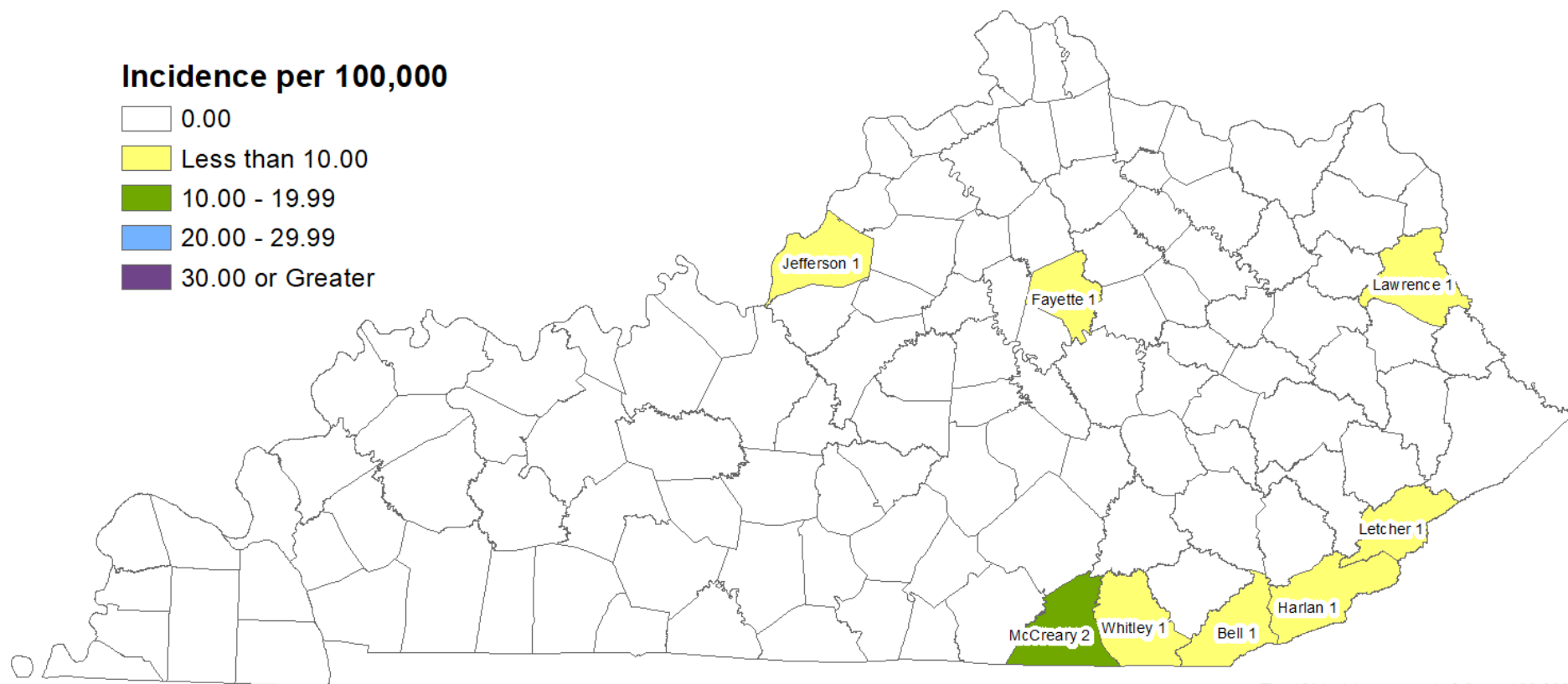
KY17-089 Incidence of Outbreak-Associated Acute Hepatitis A Cases by County, August 1, 2017 - December 14, 2019



The KY incidence rate is 112.0 per 100,000.
Note: Rates calculated from numerators less than 20 may not be reliably used to determine trends.

Figure 4: Incidence and Distribution of Outbreak-Associated Cases in the Last 30 Days, by County

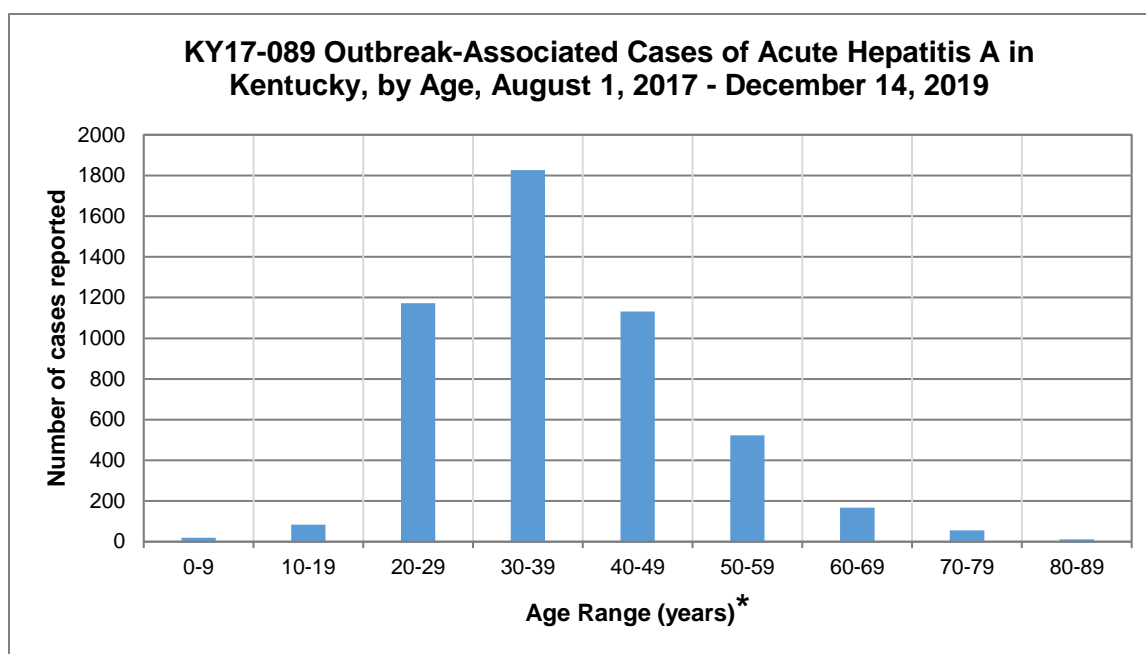
KY17-089 Incidence of Outbreak-Associated Acute
Hepatitis A Cases by County*, November 14 - December 14, 2019



The KY incidence rate is 0.2 per 100,000.
Note: Rates calculated from numerators less than 20 may not be reliably used to determine trends.

*Case count for the last 30 days is displayed beside county name. Statewide outbreak-associated case count over the last 30 days is 9.

Figure 5: Outbreak-Associated Cases by Age



*The mean age of cases is 37.6 years, and the median age is 36.0 years.

Table 3: Frequent Risk Factors of Outbreak-associated Cases

KY17-089 Risk Factors of Outbreak-Associated Acute Hepatitis A Cases, August 1, 2017 – December 14, 2019 ^{#^}	
Risk Factor	Number of Cases Reporting Risk Factor (n=4004)*
Homelessness + No/Unk Illicit Drug Use	57 (1.4%)
Illicit Drug Use + No/Unk Homelessness	2874 (72%)
Homelessness + Illicit drug use	306 (7.6%)
No Outbreak-Related Risk Factors	767 (19%)

* Risk factor information is unavailable for 986 (19.8%) of all outbreak-associated cases.

[#] The percentages in the table may add up to greater than 100 percent due to rounding.

[^] 38 MSM cases have been reported. Of those, 12 have reported no other risk factors. MSM is not considered an outbreak-related risk factor.

Figure 6: Epidemic-curve (Epi-Curve) of Outbreak-Associated Cases, by Week of Specimen Collection

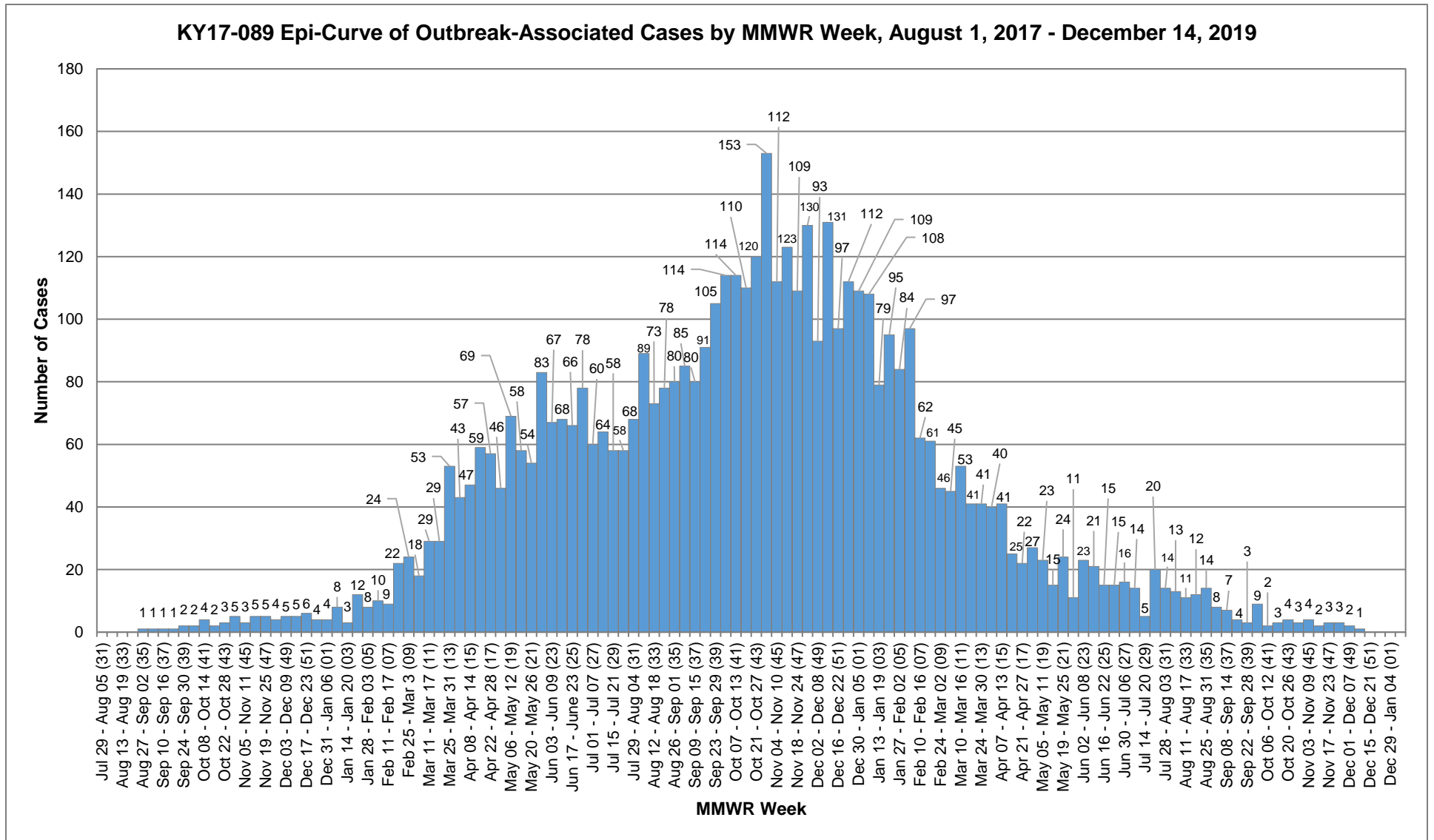


Figure 7: Epidemic-curve (Epi-Curve) of Outbreak-Associated Cases, by Month of Specimen Collection

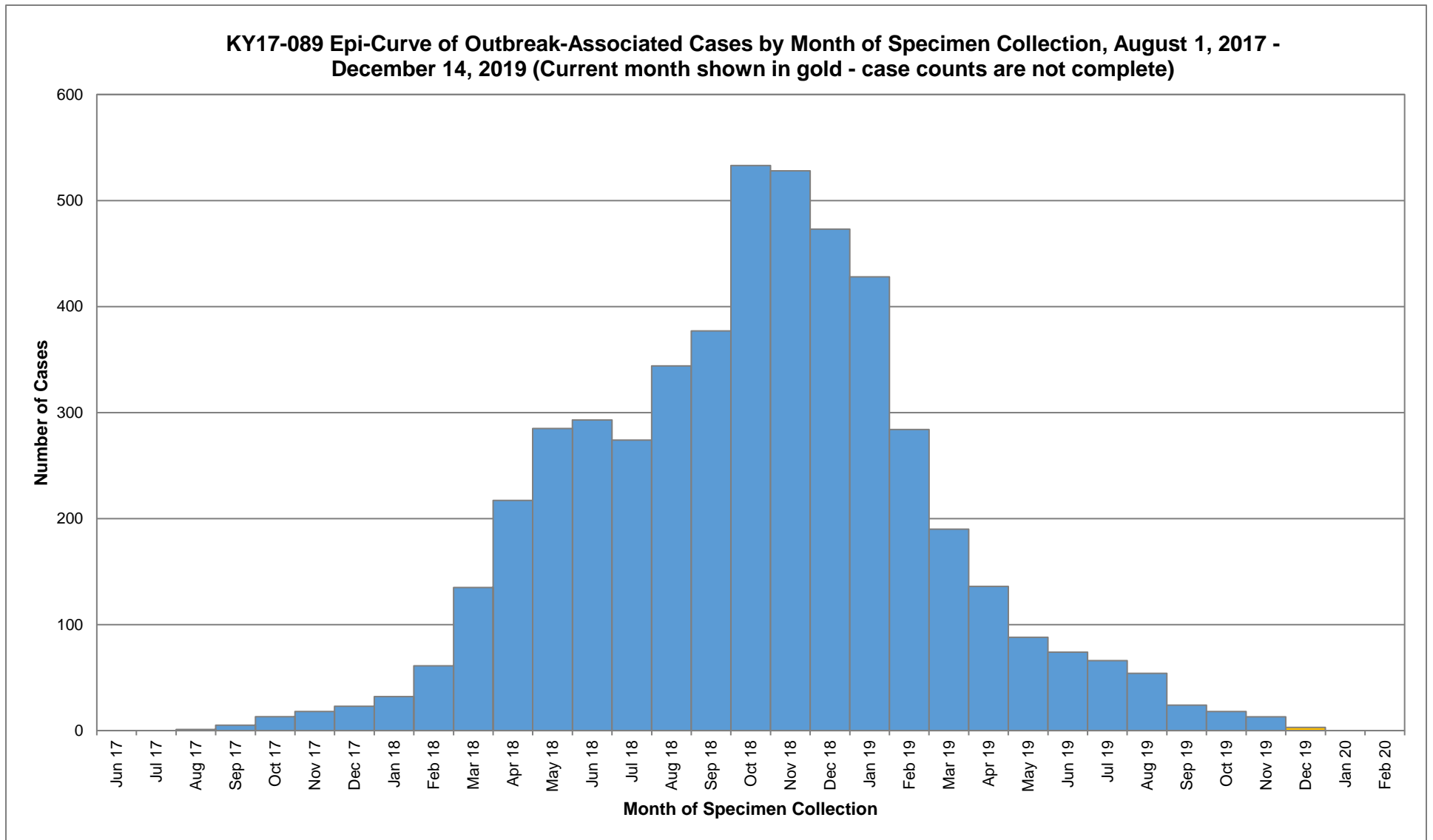


Figure 8: Case Count Comparison of Acute Hepatitis A cases, Jefferson County versus Non-Jefferson Counties

