



Varicella (Chicken Pox)

Maine Surveillance Report | 2021

Case Information:

63

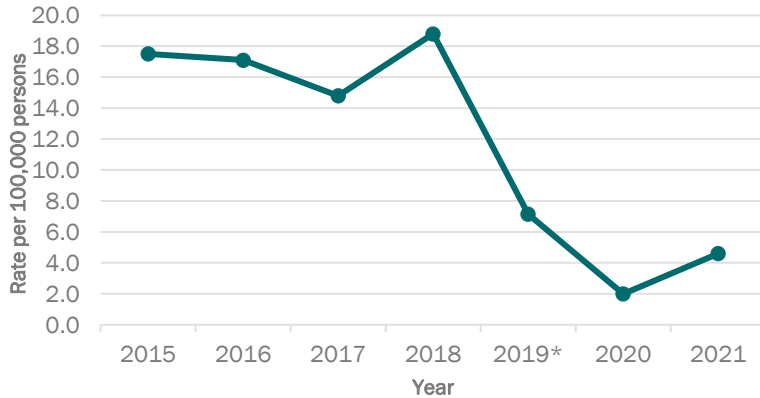
Patients diagnosed with varicella

4.59

Cases per 100,000 people

92%

increase since 2020

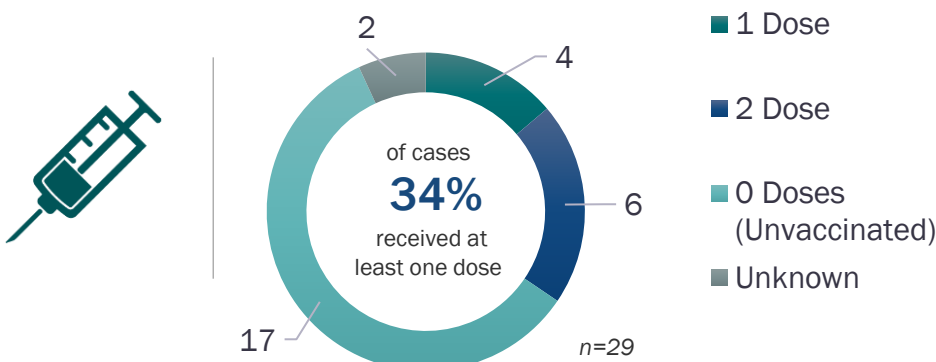


*In 2019 Maine changed the way varicella cases are reported (requiring diagnosis by a health care provider), which led to a decrease in the number of probable varicella cases in the State.

Age Characteristics

Age	# Cases	% Cases
0-4	31	49%
5-9	17	27%
10-14	10	16%
15-19	1	2%
20-34	2	3%
35-49	2	3%
50+	0	0%
Total	63	100%

Vaccination Status of Patients ≥4 and ≤25 years old



Demographics:

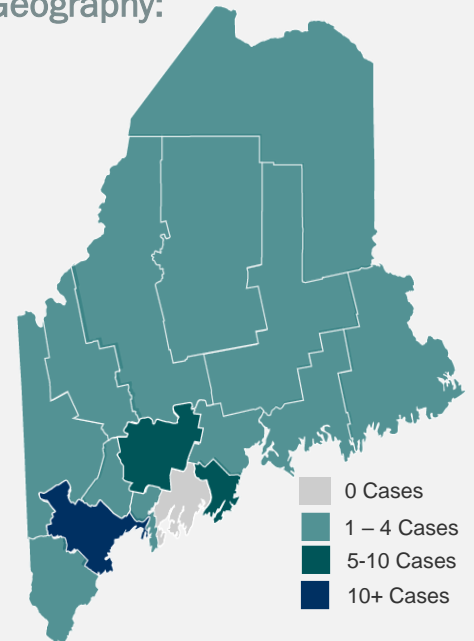


52% of cases were female
48% of cases were male

Average age 7.5 years
Median age 5.3 years
Range 3 months-47 years

86% White, 10% Unknown 3% Multi-Racial,
1% American Indian or Alaska Native

Geography:



There were cases in 15 of Maine's 16 counties.

Prevention:

- Varicella is extremely contagious.
- **Vaccination is safer and more effective than natural exposure to chickenpox.**
- Two doses of vaccine are 90% effective at preventing chickenpox.

For more information visit:

www.maine.gov/dhhs/varicella
<https://www.cdc.gov/chickenpox/index.html>