



# Pertussis

Maine Surveillance Report | 2019

## Case Information:

**383**

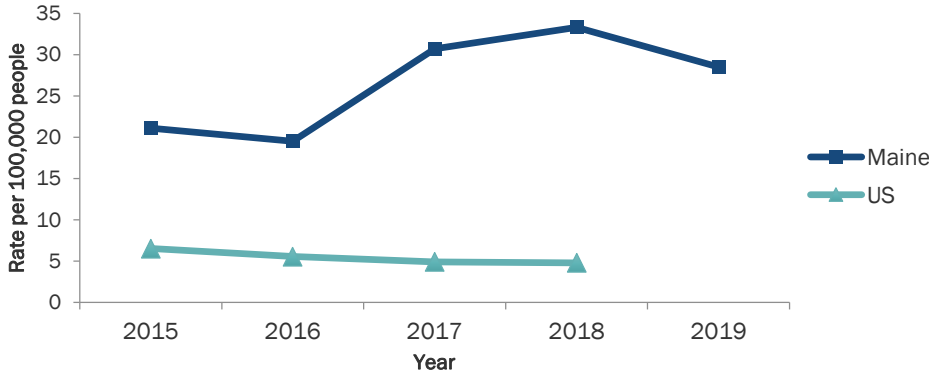
Patients diagnosed with pertussis

**28.5**

Cases per 100,000 people

**14%**

decrease from 2018



## Demographics:

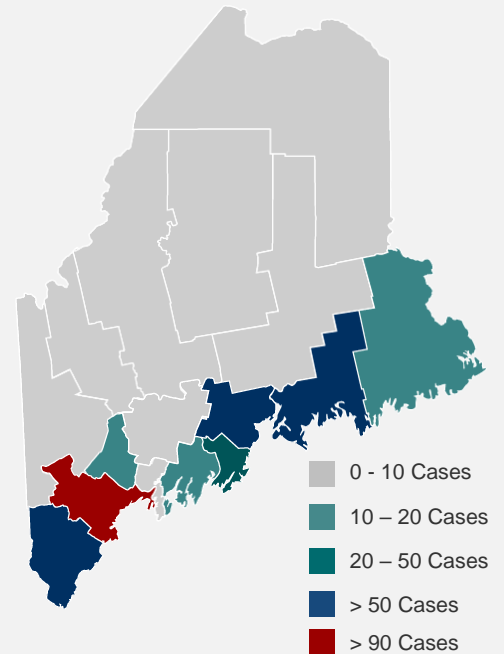


51% of patients were male  
49% of patients were female

Average age 14 years  
Range (24 days - 87 years)

93% White, 1.6% Black, 0.8% Asian,  
0.08% American Indian, 0.3% multi-race,  
3.9% unknown

## Geography:



## Clinical Characteristics:

Symptom	# Cases	% Cases
Apnea (in kids <1)	4 <sup>1</sup>	17%
Paroxysmal cough	367	96%
Post-tussive vomiting	210 <sup>2</sup>	55%
Whoop	29 <sup>3</sup>	8%

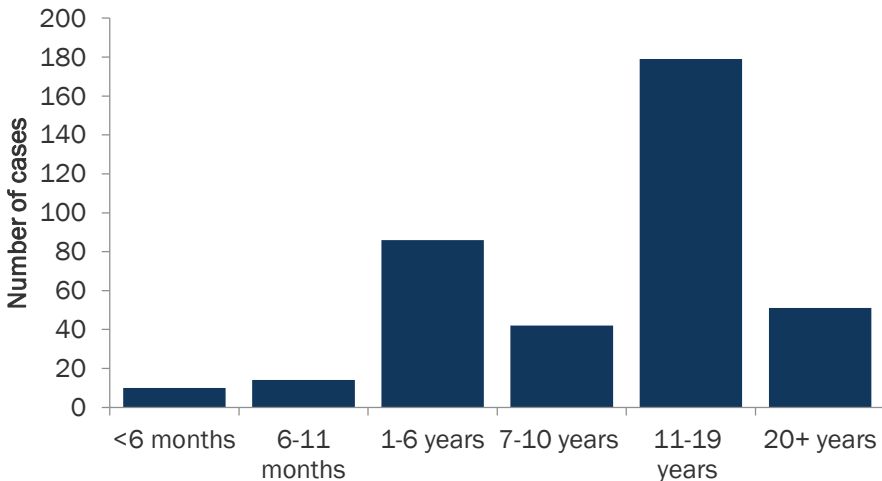
<sup>1</sup>1 unknown, <sup>2</sup>2 unknown, <sup>3</sup>1 unknown

**3** Cases were hospitalized

**20 days**

Average cough duration

## Demographics:



## County Level Information

Seven counties had rates of pertussis above the 2019 state rate of 28.4:

- Cumberland County (32.70)
- Hancock County (120.41)
- Knox County (85.49)
- Lincoln County (40.77)
- Waldo County (128.48)
- Washington County (44.46)
- York County (32.97)



## Vaccination Status

64%

Of cases were up to date on vaccinations

89%

Of eligible cases had received at least one dose of vaccine

Age	Unvaccinated	Under-vaccinated	Up to Date on Vaccines	Unknown vaccination status	Total
<6 months	0	0	10	0	10
6-11 months	0	2	16	0	18
1-6 years	1	2	37	0	40
7-10 years	7	15	62	0	84
11-19 years	1	61	108	2	172
>18 years	9	17	11	22	59
<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>383</b>

### Prevention:

- The best way to prevent pertussis (whooping cough) is to get vaccinated.
- Being up-to-date with pertussis vaccines is especially important for families with, and caregivers of, new babies because pertussis in babies can be severe and in rare instances fatal. Getting the Tdap vaccine during pregnancy is an important step to protect your baby, especially before they are old enough to be vaccinated.
- Keep babies and other people at high risk for pertussis complications away from infected people.
- Like many respiratory illnesses, pertussis spreads by coughing and sneezing while in close contact with others, who then breathe in the bacteria.



Practicing good hygiene is the best way to prevent the spread of respiratory illnesses including:

- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze.
- Put your used tissue in the waste basket.
- Cough or sneeze into your upper sleeve or elbow, not your hands, if you don't have a tissue.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Use an alcohol-based hand rub if soap and water are not available.

For more information visit:

[www.maine.gov/dhhs/pertussis](http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/pertussis)  
<https://www.cdc.gov/pertussis/index.html>