



Varicella (Chicken Pox)

Maine Surveillance Report | 2022

Case Information:

41

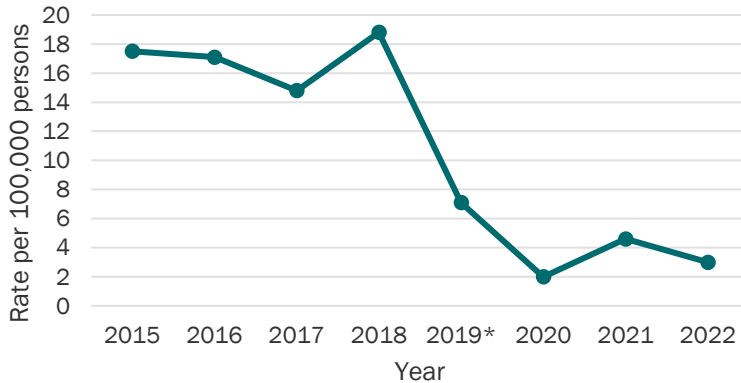
Patients diagnosed with varicella

3.0

Cases per 100,000 people

1.6%

decrease since 2021



*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

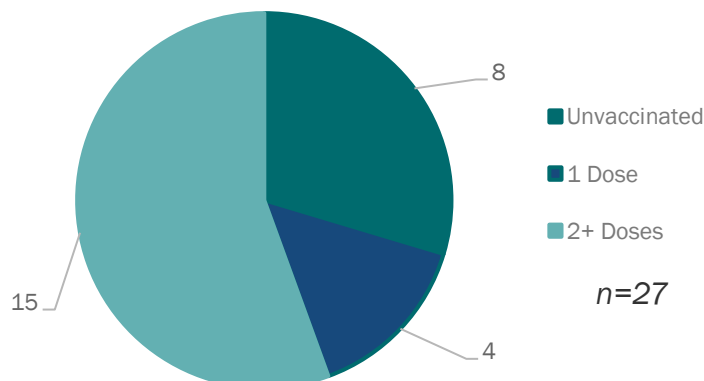
Age	# Cases	% Cases
0-4	15	49%
5-9	9	27%
10-14	7	16%
15-19	6	2%
20-34	3	3%
35-49	1	3%
50+	0	0%
Total	41	100%

Vaccination Status of Patients ≥4 and ≤25 years old



56%

of varicella cases 4-25 years old were fully vaccinated (2+ doses)



Demographics:



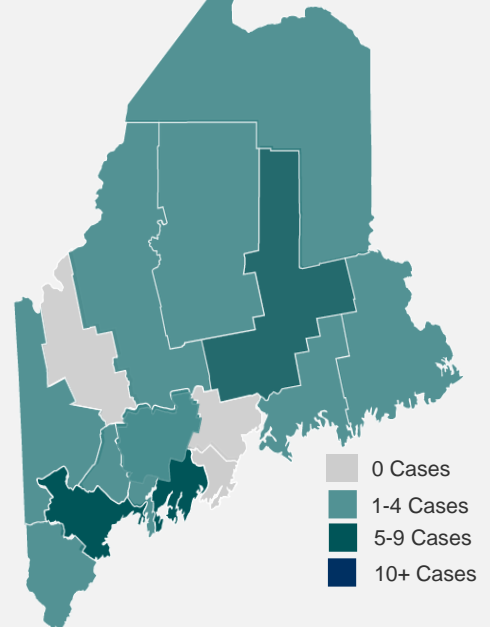
51% male
49% female

Median age: 7 years
Age range: 1 month - 43 years

71% White
10% Black or African American
7% Unknown
5% Asian
5% Multi-Racial
2% American Indian or Alaska Native

7% Hispanic or Latino

Geography:



There were cases in 13 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>

All cases of varicella must be reported to Maine CDC within 48 hours of recognition or strong suspicion of disease.

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