



Babesiosis

Maine Surveillance Report | 2024

Case Information:

322

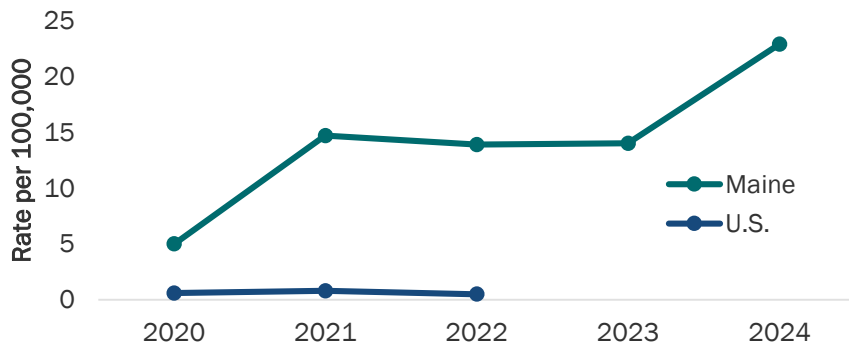
Confirmed and probable cases of babesiosis

22.9

Cases per 100,000 people

64%

Increase from 2023



Characteristics:



91% reported an outdoor exposure

33% immune compromised or with underlying condition



20% hospitalized

0% increase from 2023

Demographics:

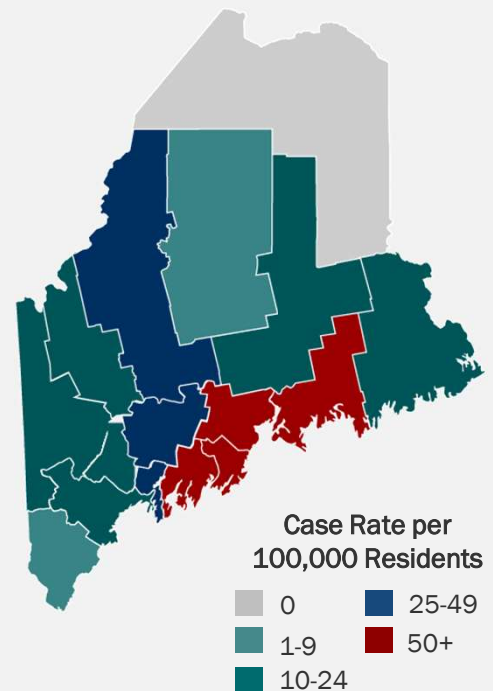


60% of patients were male

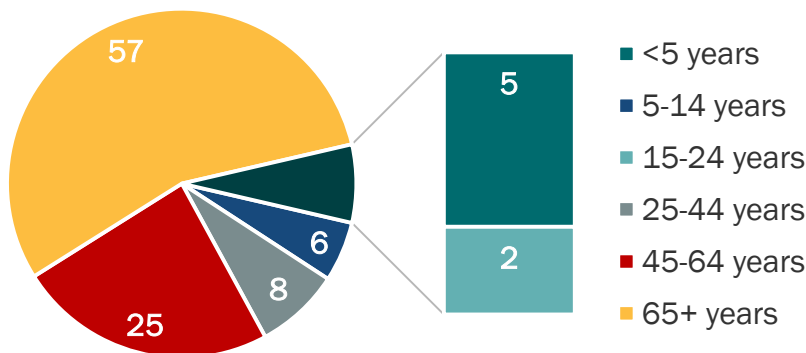
Median age of 67
Age range of 2 years-94 years

97% of patients were White

Geography:



Case Rate by Age Group (per 100,000):



Trends in 2024:

- Cases reported in 15 out of 16 counties.
- Highest rate in Knox County.
- Highest rate in 65+ age group.
- Lowest rate in 15-24 age group.
- Most common symptoms reported are fevers, muscle aches, chills, headaches, sweats, and joint pain.

For more information visit:

- www.maine.gov/dhhs/vectorborne
- www.cdc.gov/babesiosis



Clinical Information:



35%
reported history
of tick bite

39%
co-infected with
Lyme disease

4%
co-infected with
anaplasmosis

3%
co-infected with all
three diseases



69%
reported a
fever

71%
reported
muscle aches

50%
reported
chills

57%
reported a
headache



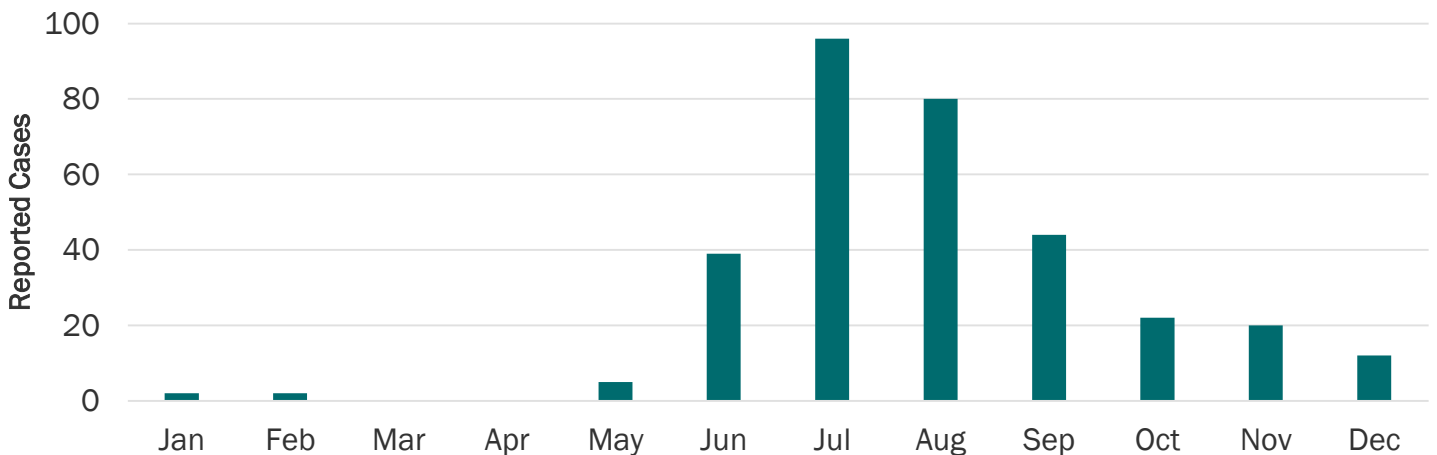
40%
had low platelet
counts

47%
had low red
blood cell counts

47%
reported
sweats

30%
reported joint
pain

Monthly Distribution (by date of report):



Prevention:

Wear light-colored clothing, including long-sleeved shirts, long pants, and socks

Use EPA-approved repellants on skin and clothing

Avoid infested areas like wooded and brushy areas with high grass and leaf litter

Do a full-body tick check including your clothing and gear when coming back indoors

Call a healthcare provider if symptoms develop