

# Hepatitis C Virus

## IN IOWA



### WHAT IS HEPATITIS C?

Hepatitis C is a liver disease caused by the Hepatitis C Virus (HCV). HCV is the most common blood-borne illness in the United States. Hepatitis C can cause serious health problems, including liver damage, cirrhosis, liver cancer, and even death.

### HOW MANY PEOPLE HAVE HCV?

As of December 31, 2016, there were 23,588 Iowans diagnosed with hepatitis C who were reported to the Iowa Department of Public Health. Based on this number of reports, there are likely 39,215 to 149,173 Iowans with hepatitis C infections, with **17,647 (45%) to 126,797 (85%), of these people undiagnosed.**

### WHERE IN IOWA?

Over 55% of people living with HCV who were ages 18 to 64 reported residency in one of six counties: **Polk, Linn, Scott, Woodbury, Pottawattamie, and Black Hawk.**

### HEPATITIS C DIAGNOSES ARE INCREASING

HCV diagnoses have increased sharply in Iowa since 2000. There were 2,287 Iowans diagnosed in 2016, **an increase of over 200% since 2000.** HCV diagnoses among those 30 and under have increased 237% since 2010.

### WHO SHOULD GET TESTED?

- Those who currently or have **ever injected drugs**
- Those who were born between **1945 and 1965**
- Those who received a blood transfusion or organ transplant before 1992
- Those who are living with HIV

For more information on hepatitis C and to view the recently released profile of Hepatitis C in Iowa, please visit:

<http://idph.iowa.gov/hivstdhep/hep/hep-c>.

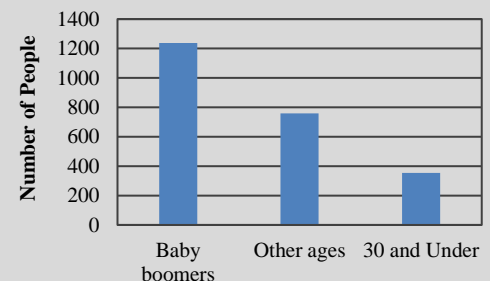
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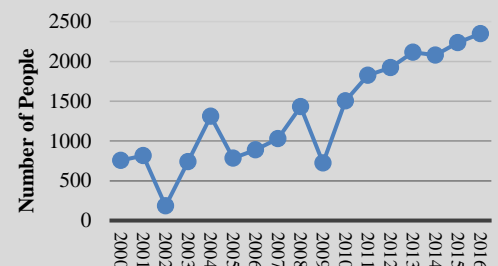
### WHO IS INFECTED?

53% of people with hepatitis C reported to IDPH in 2016 were baby boomers. However, a growing percentage of people reported with HCV are those 30 years of age and younger.

Age Distribution of People Diagnosed with HCV in 2016



Hepatitis C Diagnoses Reported by Year



Men make up a majority of people with HCV ever reported to the IDPH.

