

Hepatitis C in Durham Region 2020-2024

Hepatitis C is a viral infection that attacks the liver and is spread through contact with contaminated blood





There were slightly more male cases than female cases

On average,

97

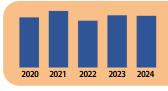
cases of hepatitis C were reported in Durham Region each year between 2020 and 2024



of cases were age 25 - 69 years



The average age at time of illness was 48 years



Case counts remained relatively stable between 2020 and 2024. Interpret 2020 and 2021 data with caution due to changes in the availability of health care and health seeking behaviour during the COVID-19 pandemic.

11%

of cases reported



fatigue

10%

of cases reported



liver toxicity

9%

of cases reported



abdominal pain



Did You Know? 76% of cases reported having no symptoms

49%

of cases reported



tattoo or body-piercing

37% of cases reported



injection drug use

24% of cases reported



inhalation drug use

21%

of cases reported



intranasal drug use

21% of cases reported



being born in an endemic country

Hepatitis C can be cured, and early treatment can prevent serious complications.

Suspected cases should be referred to an infectious disease specialist or a gastroenterologist for testing and treatment

With early diagnosis and treatment, hepatitis C can be cured in over 95% of cases.

Treatment is short-term (12 or 24 weeks)

Medications now have fewer adverse effects

For detailed guidelines on hepatitis C testing and treatment, see: **Hepatitis C: An In-Depth Guide, CATIE**- Canada's source for HIV and hepatitis C information

- Data Source: Ontario Ministry of Health, integrated Public Health Information System (iPHIS) database, 2020-2024
- To see Durham compared to Ontario and other public health units go to Infectious Disease Trends in Ontario





