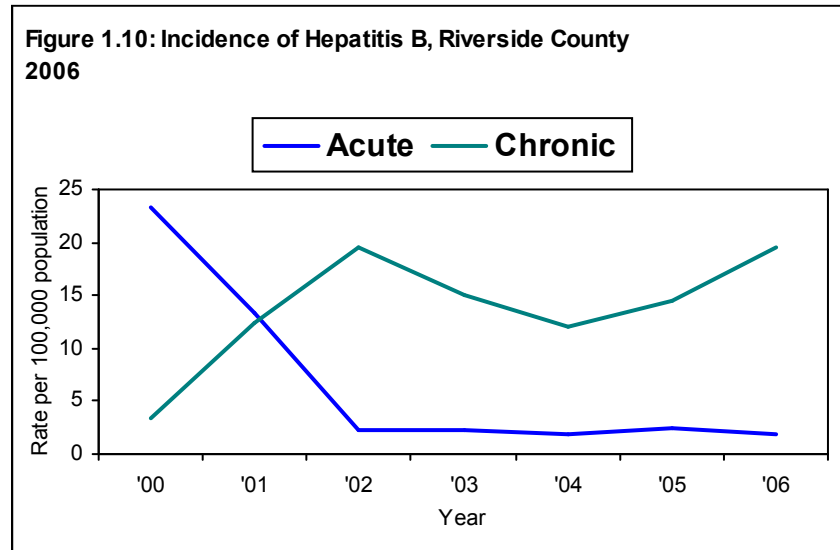


# HEPATITIS B

## DISEASE ABSTRACT

- In 2006, the incidence rate of acute hepatitis B was 1.9 cases per 100,000 population and prevalence of chronic hepatitis B was 19.5 cases per 100,000 population.
- Males aged 30-34 years had the highest incidence of acute hepatitis B with a rate of 5.7 cases per 100,000 population.
- Asian/Pacific Islanders comprised the highest proportion of reported chronic disease (44.8%).



## TRENDS

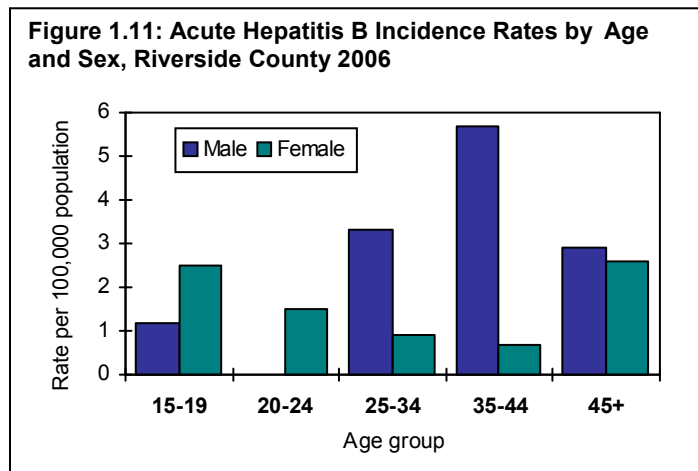
In 2001, Riverside County implemented a change in the case definitions for acute and chronic hepatitis B. The incidence rate for acute disease declined and remained below Healthy People 2010 objectives. The Healthy People 2010 objective for hepatitis B is 2.4 cases per 100,000 among 14-19 year olds, 5.1 cases per 100,000 among 25-39 year olds and 3.8 cases per 100,000 for those 40 years and older. Widespread use of hepatitis B vaccine has contributed to the decline in reported cases of hepatitis B.

## AGE

Acute hepatitis B is observed most often in adults. Persons aged 35-44 years had the highest incidence in 2006, with a rate of 3.2 cases per 100,000 population. This was followed by those 45 years and older with 2.7 cases per 100,000 population.

## GENDER

Males are disproportionately affected by acute hepatitis B. The incidence rate for males was 2.3 cases per 100,000 population, which was twice the female rate of 1.4 cases per 100,000 population. Exposure to hepatitis B virus may be more common in high risk groups such as men having sex with men and injection drug users.



**RACE/ETHNICITY**

In 2006, non-Hispanic Blacks had the highest incidence of acute hepatitis B in Riverside County with 4.4 cases per 100,000 population. This rate is higher compared to non-Hispanic Whites, Hispanics, and Asian/Pacific Islanders. Among chronic carriers of hepatitis B, Asian/Pacific Islanders carry the burden of the disease with a prevalence rate of 186.7 cases per 100,000 population, which may be due to the endemic hepatitis B in their countries of origin.

**GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION**

Cases of acute hepatitis B occurred throughout the four defined regions of the county. The incidence rates of infection for West, South, Mid/Pass, and East County regions were 1.8, 1.0, 1.5, and 2.3 cases per 100,000 population.

