

NC Department of Health and Human Services

Viral Hepatitis B and C Epidemiology in North Carolina, 2024

**Division of Public Health/Epidemiology
Section/Communicable Disease Branch**

October 2025

Where to find Hepatitis B/C Surveillance Information?

The screenshot shows the NCDHHS (North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services) website. The main navigation bar includes links for Individuals & Families, Local Health Departments, Healthcare Providers, Schools, Businesses & Community Groups, and Facts & Figures. The 'Facts & Figures' section is highlighted, showing a sidebar with links to Communicable Disease HOME, A-Z Diseases & Topics, STDs/STIs, HIV, Disease Surveillance & Reporting, and Related Programs. The main content area is titled 'Facts & Figures' and 'North Carolina HIV/AIDS, STDs, and Viral Hepatitis B and C'. It includes a 'What We Do' section, a 'Please Note' about data release policy, and a 'Data' section with buttons for Annual Reports, Quarterly Reports, Fact Sheets and Slides, Archive, North Carolina HIV/STD Epidemiologic Profile, and Forms. A 'Most Recent' section displays a thumbnail of the 'North Carolina HIV/STD Quarterly Surveillance Report Vol. 2019, No. 2'.

<http://epi.publichealth.nc.gov/cd/stds/figures.html>

Viral Hepatitis B (HBV)

Hepatitis B in United States and North Carolina

- Number of reported acute HBV cases in 2023¹: 2,214
 - Estimated number of new HBV cases in 2023¹: 14,400
- Using national prevalence data, CDC estimates that 640,000 people are living with HBV in the U.S.²
- Data reveal 47%-70% of people living with HBV in the U.S. were born in other countries where routine HBV immunization was introduced more recently than U.S.³
 - Of people with HBV born outside the U.S., an estimated 58% migrated from Asia⁴
- In North Carolina ⁵:
 - 177 people were diagnosed with acute HBV in 2024*
 - There were 27,019 people diagnosed with chronic HBV and presumed alive at the end of 2024
 - 1,119 people were newly diagnosed with chronic HBV in 2024*

¹Data only available for 2023. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Viral Hepatitis Surveillance Report – United States, 2023.

<https://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis-surveillance-2023/about/index.html>. Published April 2025.

²Hepatitis B Overview. <https://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis-b/about/index.html>.

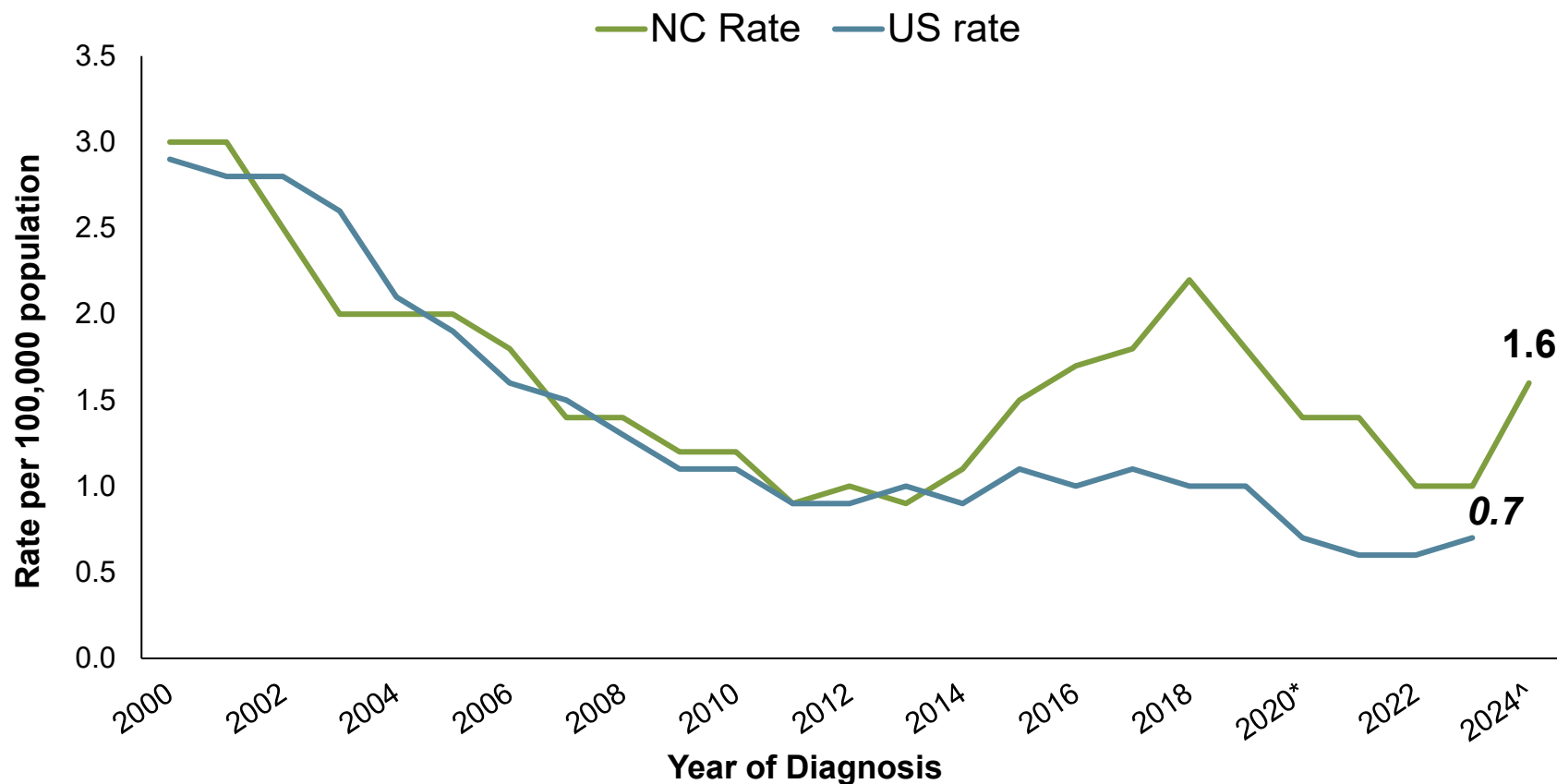
³Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Recommendations for identification and public health management of persons with chronic hepatitis B virus infection. MMWR. 2008;57(RR-08):1-18. <https://archive.cdc.gov/#/details?url=https://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/statistics/2014surveillance/commentary.htm>.

⁴Kowdley KV, Wang CC, Welch S, Roberts H, Brosgart CL. Prevalence of chronic hepatitis B among foreign-born persons living in the United States by country of origin. Hepatology 2012;56(2):422-33. <https://archive.cdc.gov/#/details?url=https://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/statistics/2014surveillance/commentary.htm>.

⁵Data Source: North Carolina Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NC EDSS) (data as of September 2025)

*The hepatitis B case definition was updated in 2024; therefore, comparisons with previous years should be interpreted with caution. The 2024 case definition increased the sensitivity and specificity of acute case classification by increasing the liver enzyme cutoff level, removing the clinical signs/symptoms requirements, and adding criteria for excluding persons with previous history of hepatitis B or evidence of hepatitis B reactivation.

Acute HBV Rates in North Carolina and United States, 2000-2024

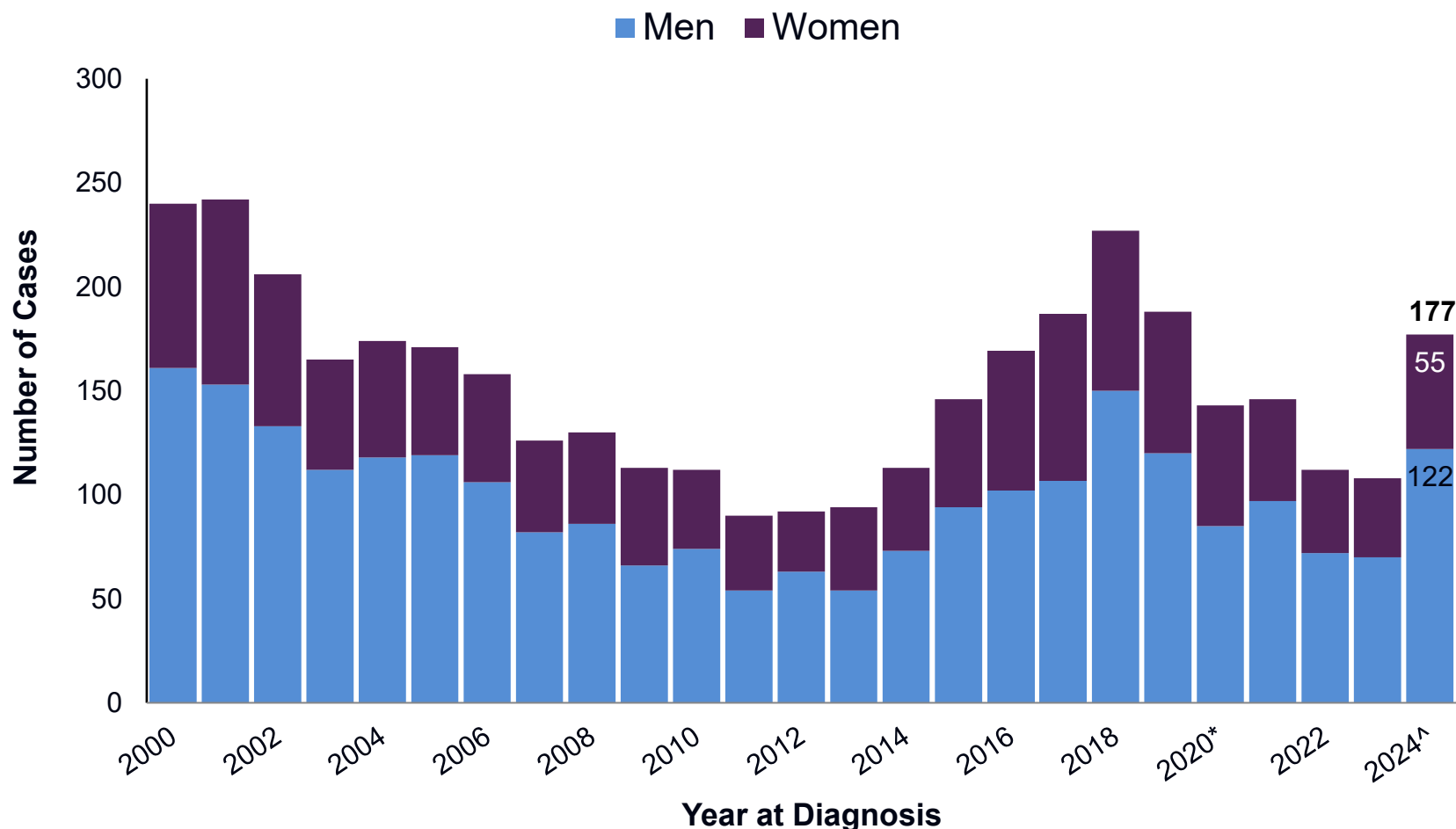


*2020 data should be treated with caution due to reduced availability of testing caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

^The hepatitis B case definition was updated in 2024; therefore, comparisons with previous years should be interpreted with caution.

Data Source: North Carolina Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NC EDSS) (data as of September 2025) and Surveillance for Viral Hepatitis, United States, 2000-2023 CDC reports (<https://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis-surveillance-2023/hepatitis-b/index.html>).

Acute HBV Cases by Gender in North Carolina 2000-2024

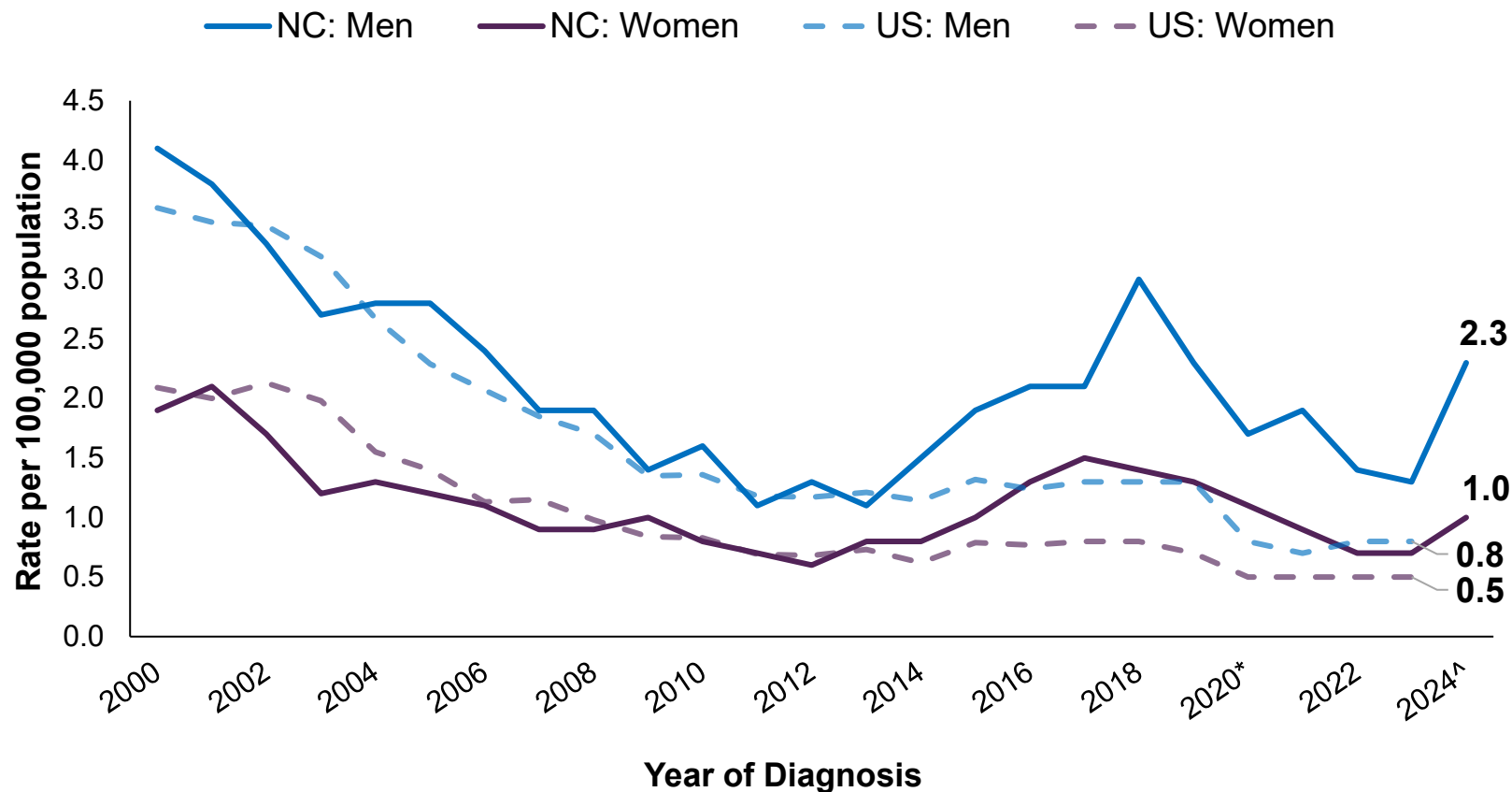


*Note: 2020 data should be treated with caution due to reduced availability of testing caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

^The hepatitis B case definition was updated in 2024; therefore, comparisons with previous years should be interpreted with caution.

Data Source: North Carolina Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NC EDSS) (data as of September 2025).

Acute HBV Rates by Gender in North Carolina and United States, 2000-2024

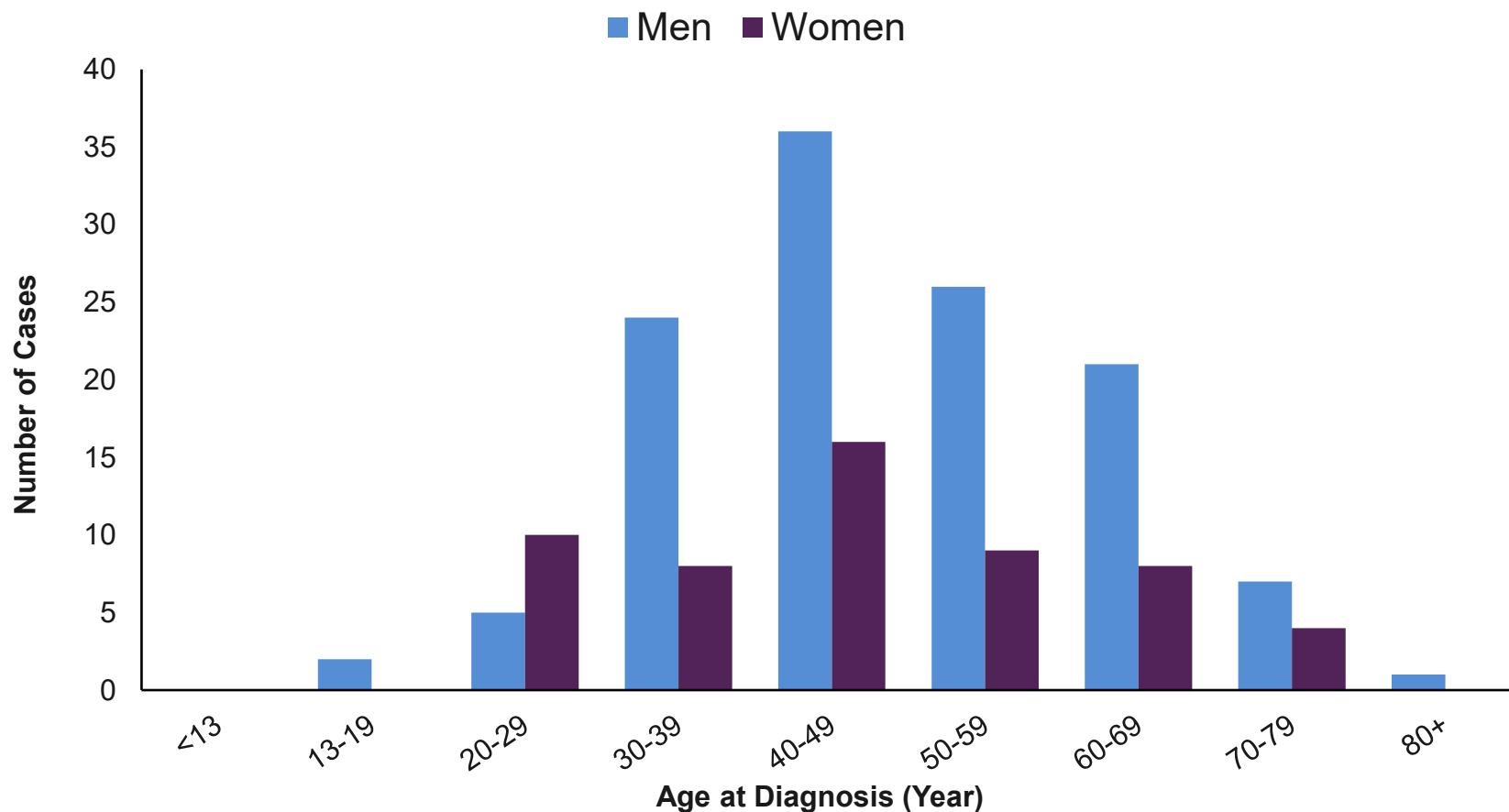


*Note: 2020 data should be treated with caution due to reduced availability of testing caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

^The hepatitis B case definition was updated in 2024; therefore, comparisons with previous years should be interpreted with caution.

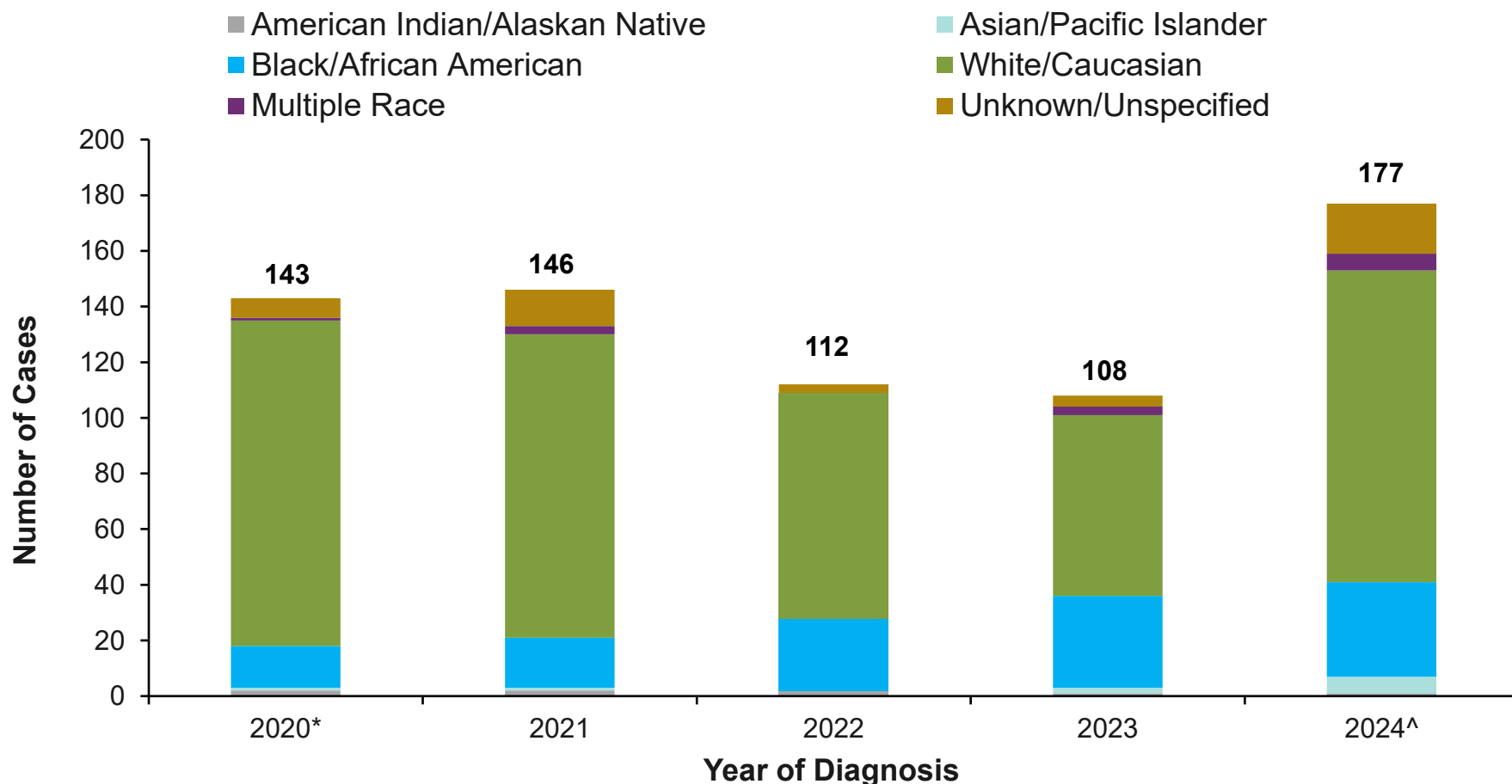
Data Source: North Carolina Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NC EDSS) (data as of September 2025) and Surveillance for Viral Hepatitis, United States, 2000-2023 CDC reports (<https://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis-surveillance-2023/hepatitis-b/index.html>).

Age Distribution of Acute HBV Cases by Gender in North Carolina, 2024



Data Source: North Carolina Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NC EDSS) (data as of September 2025).

Acute HBV Cases by Race, North Carolina 2020-2024

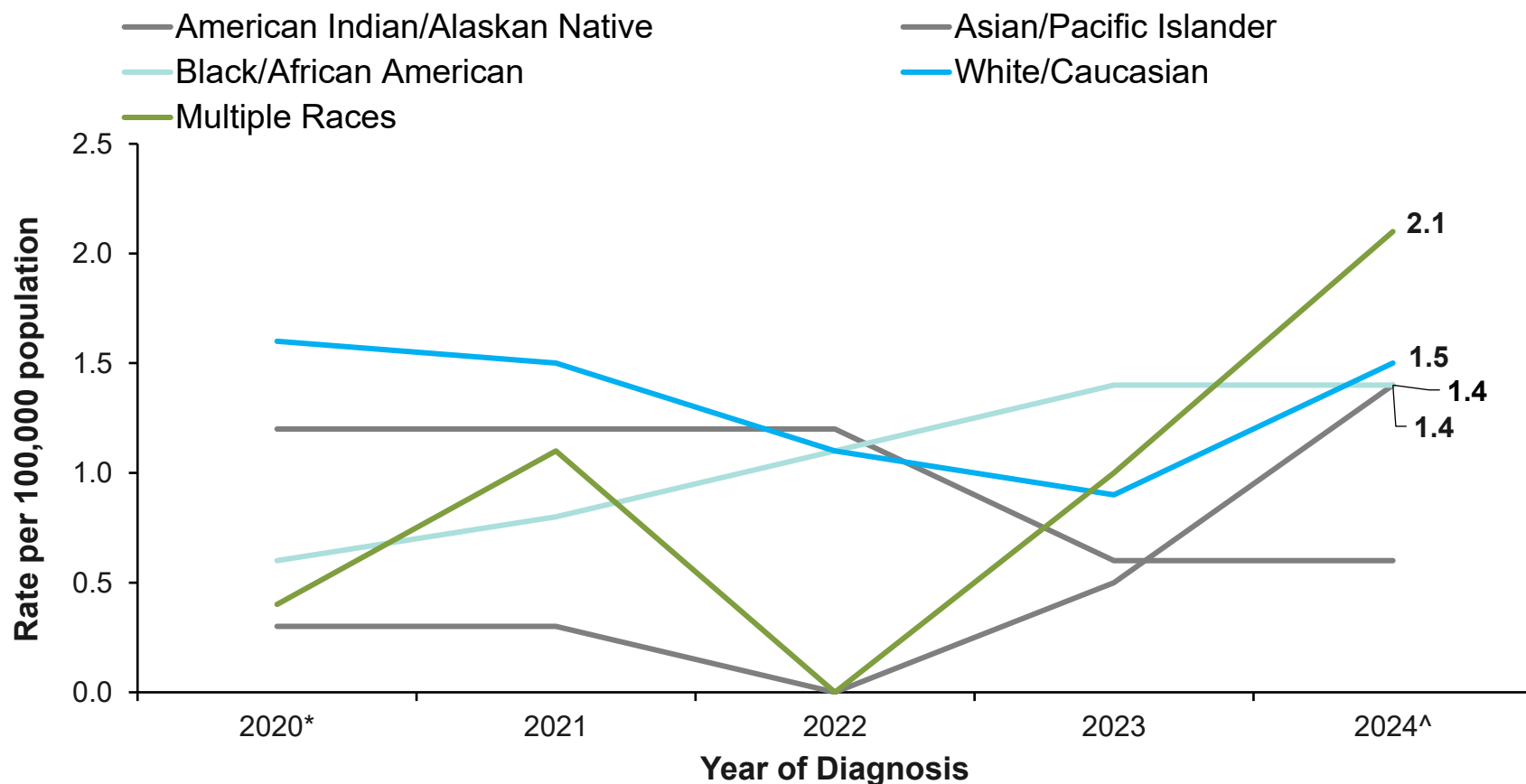


*Note: 2020 data should be treated with caution due to reduced availability of testing caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

^The hepatitis B case definition was updated in 2024; therefore, comparisons with previous years should be interpreted with caution.

Data Source: North Carolina Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NC EDSS) (data as of September 2025).

Acute HBV Rates by Race, North Carolina 2020-2024

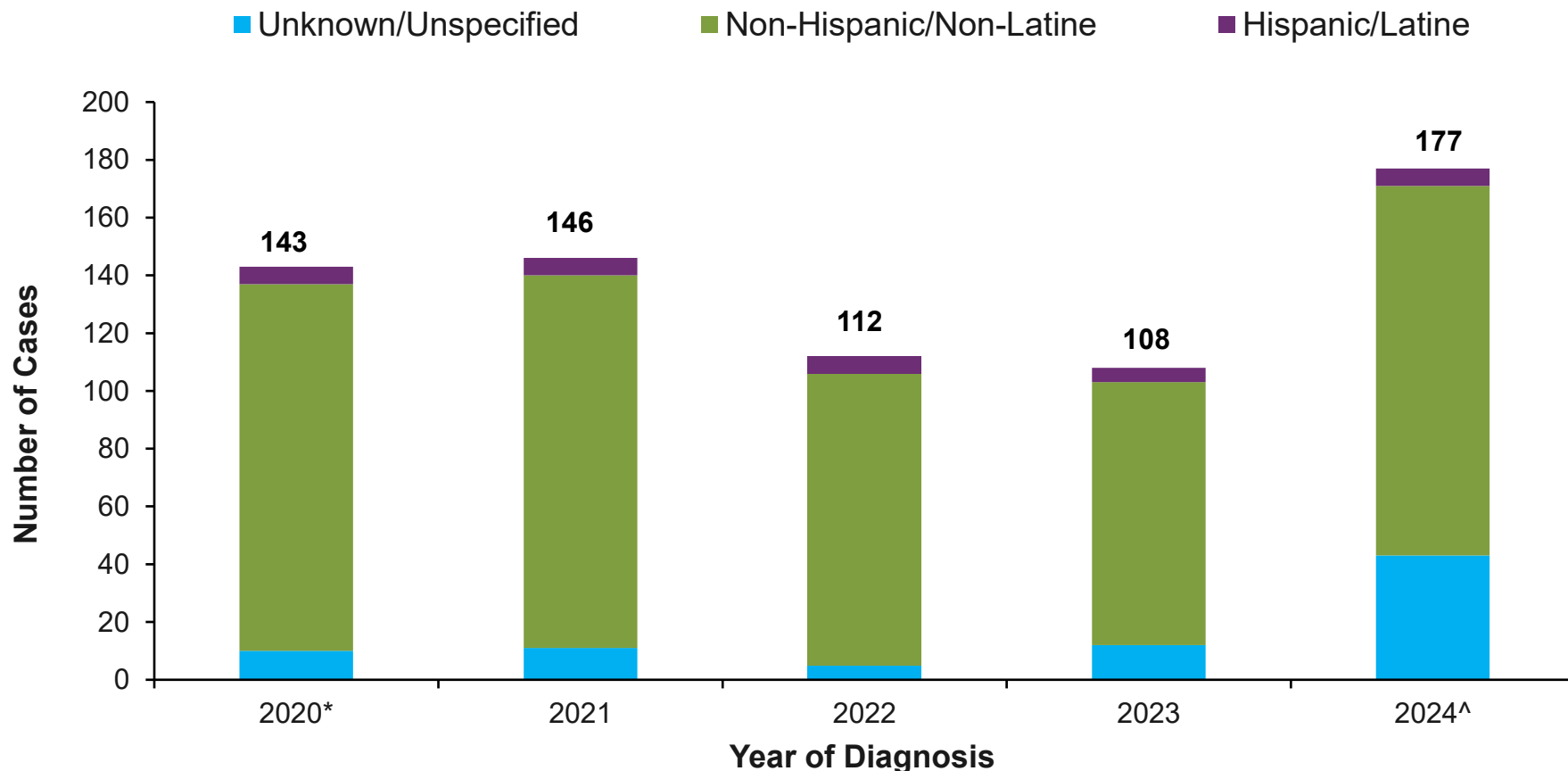


*Note: 2020 data should be treated with caution due to reduced availability of testing caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

^The hepatitis B case definition was updated in 2024; therefore, comparisons with previous years should be interpreted with caution.

Data Source: North Carolina Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NC EDSS) (data as of September 2025).

Acute HBV Cases by Ethnicity, North Carolina 2020-2024

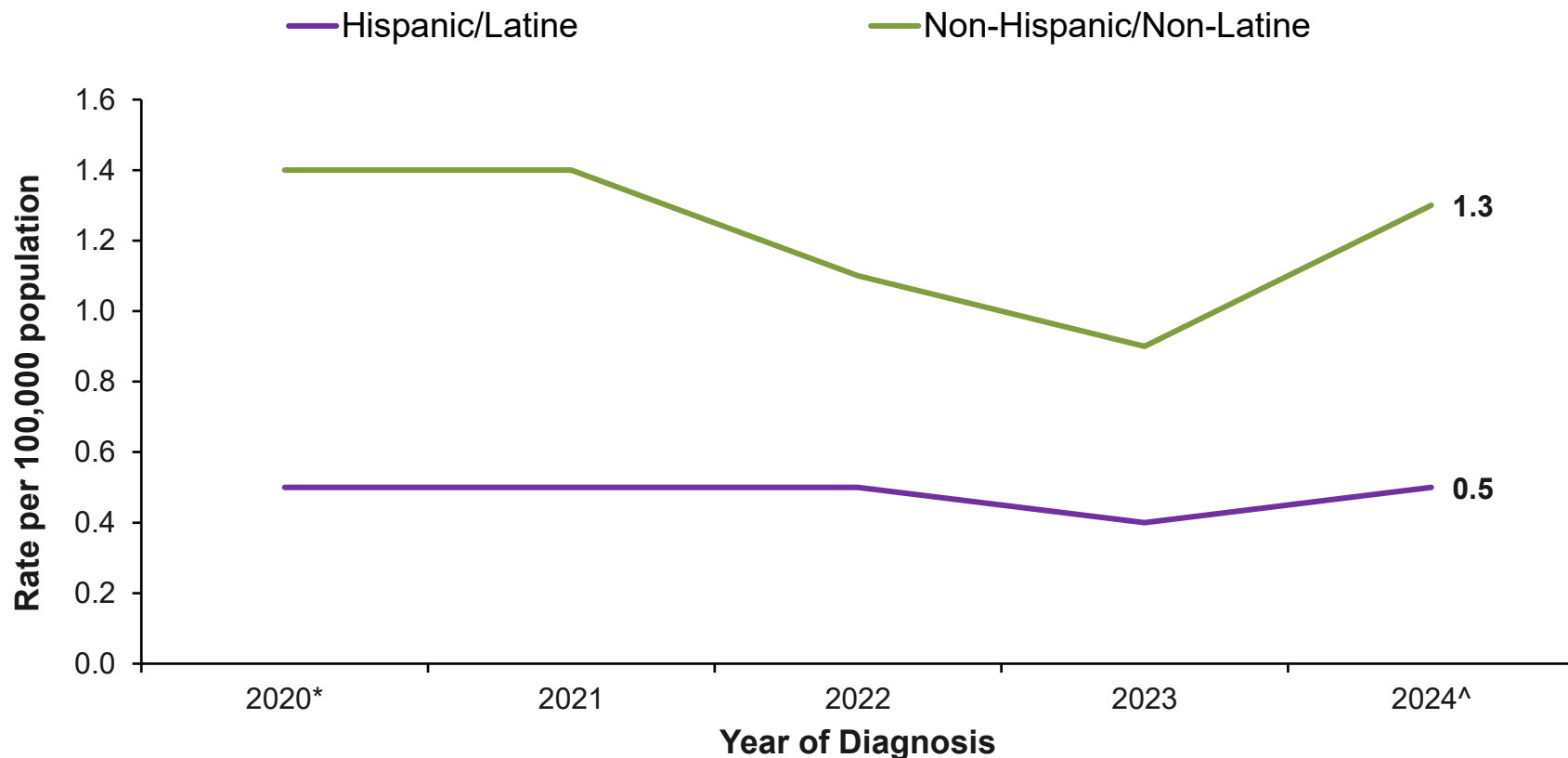


*Note: 2020 data should be treated with caution due to reduced availability of testing caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

^The hepatitis B case definition was updated in 2024; therefore, comparisons with previous years should be interpreted with caution.

Data Source: North Carolina Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NC EDSS) (data as of September 2025).

Acute HBV Rates by Ethnicity, North Carolina 2020-2024

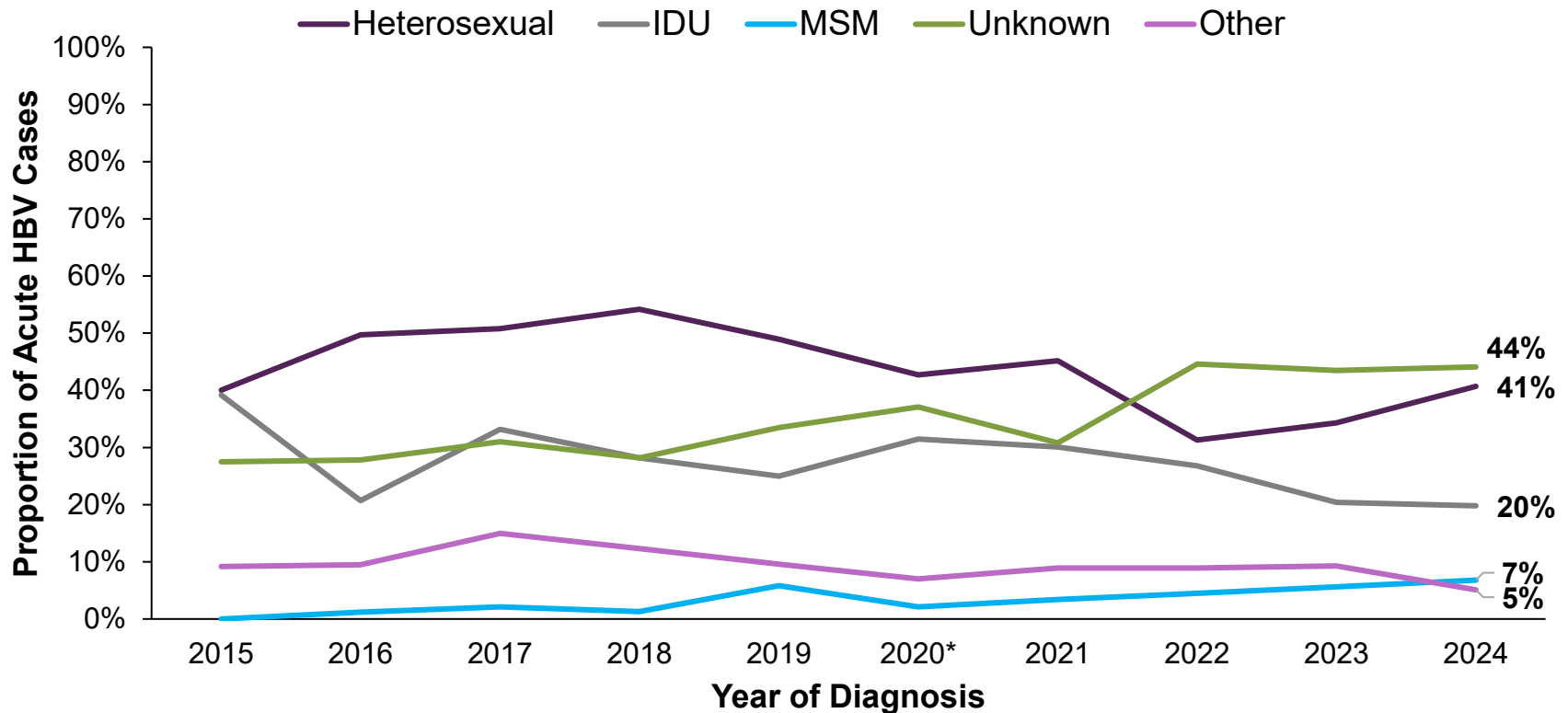


*Note: 2020 data should be treated with caution due to reduced availability of testing caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

^The hepatitis B case definition was updated in 2024; therefore, comparisons with previous years should be interpreted with caution.

Data Source: North Carolina Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NC EDSS) (data as of September 2025).

Acute HBV Cases by Self-Reported Risk[^] North Carolina 2015-2024

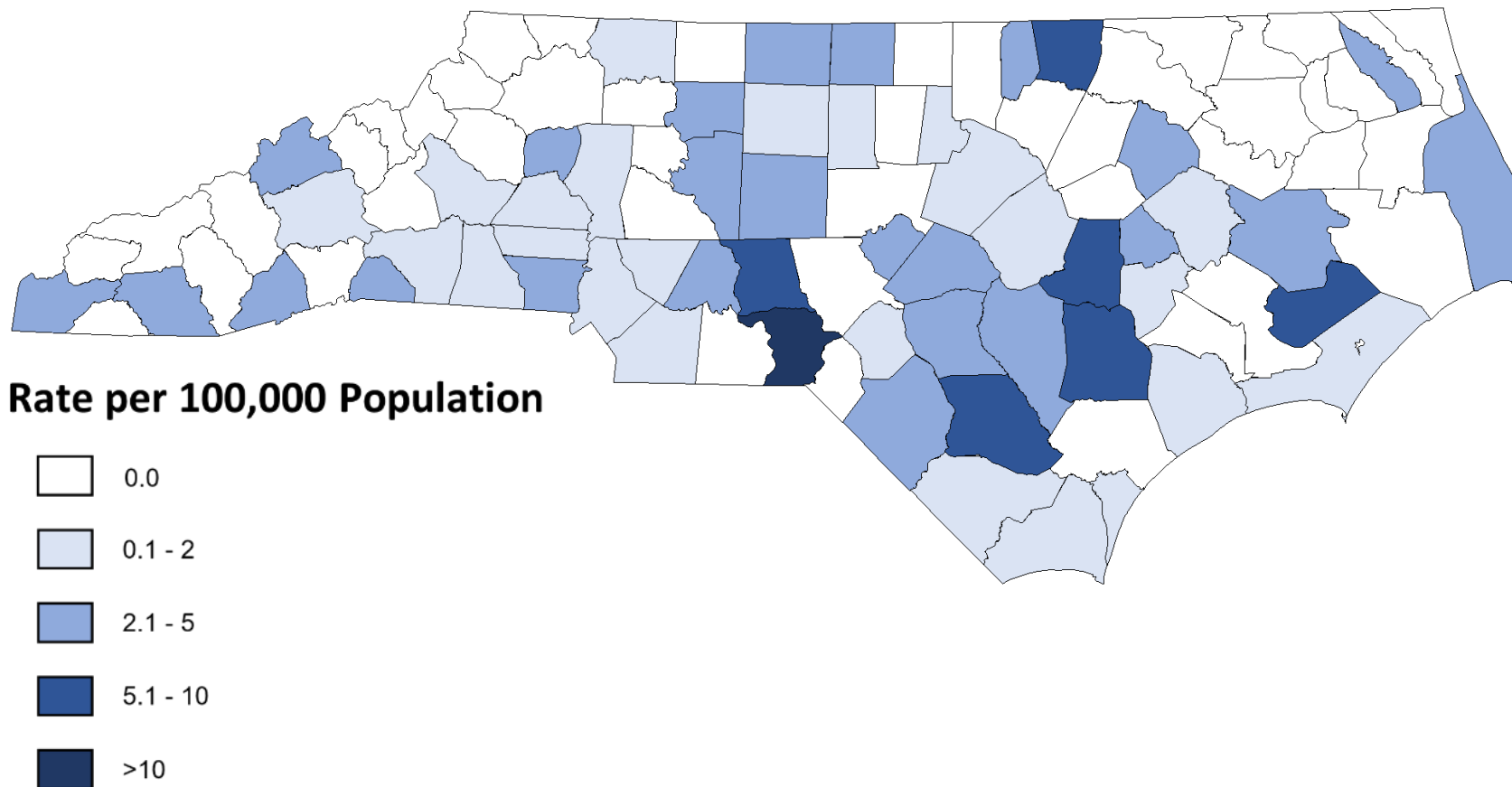


*Note: 2020 data should be treated with caution due to reduced availability of testing caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

[^]People may report more than one risk, so totals may not add up to the case total. Rates are not presented due to the lack of population data for the exposure groups.

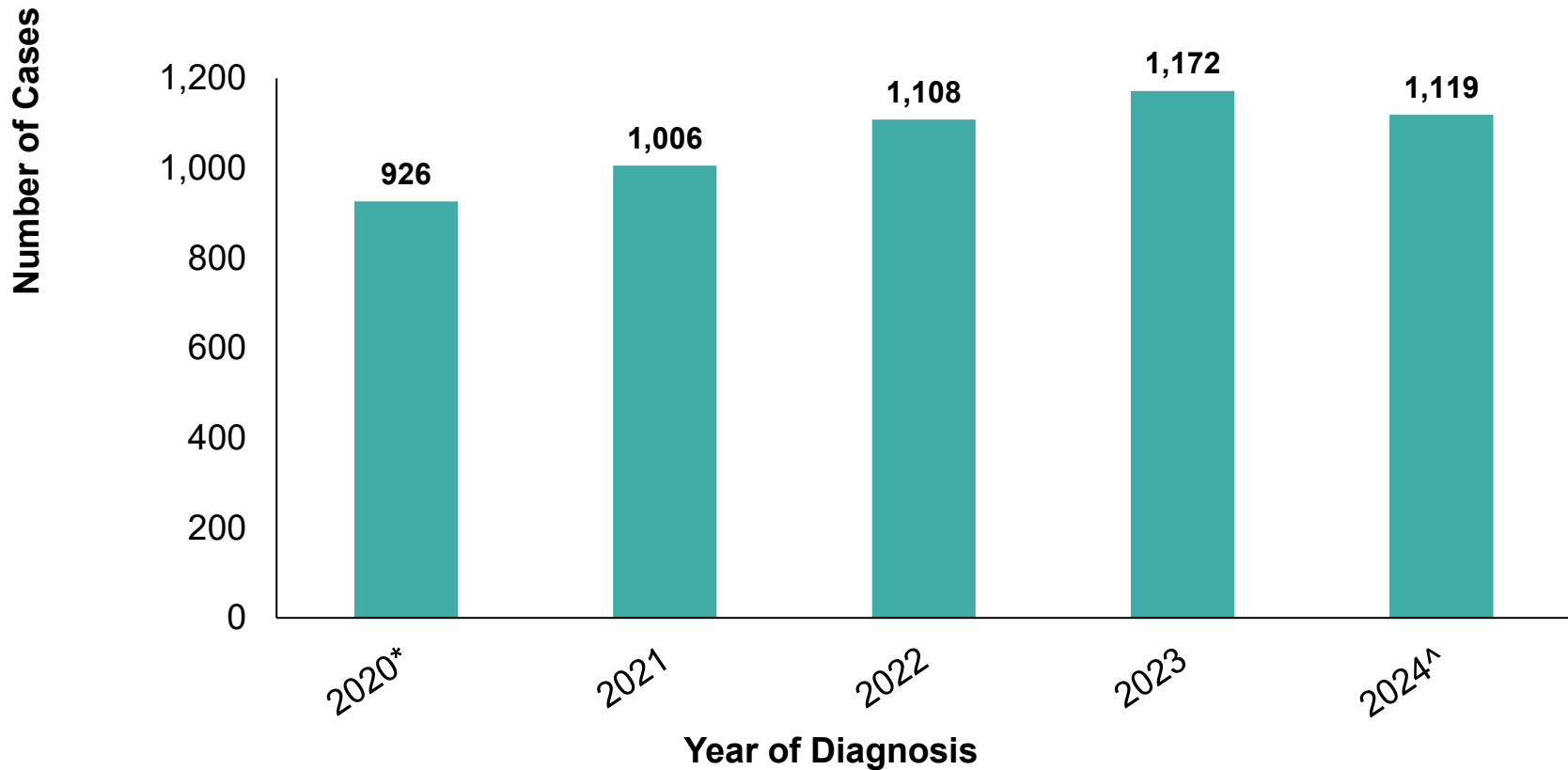
Data Source: North Carolina Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NC EDSS) (data as of September 2025).

Acute HBV County Rates in North Carolina 2024



Data Source: North Carolina Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NC EDSS) (data as of September 2025).

Number of Newly Reported Chronic HBV Reported in North Carolina, 2020-2024

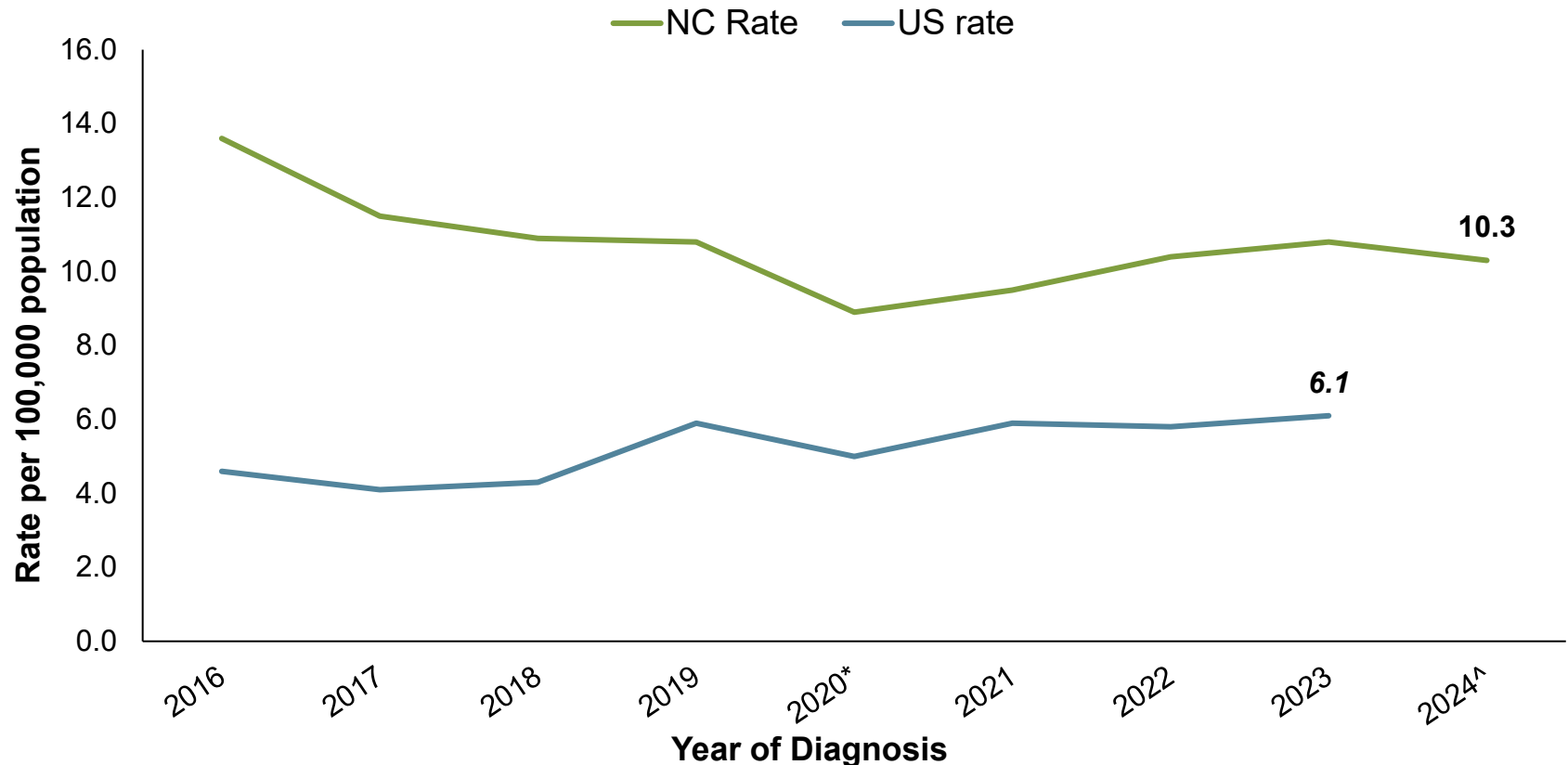


*Note: 2020 data should be treated with caution due to reduced availability of testing caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

^The hepatitis B case definition was updated in 2024; therefore, comparisons with previous years should be interpreted with caution.

Data Source: North Carolina Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NC EDSS) (data as of September 2025).

Newly Diagnosed Chronic HBV Rates in North Carolina and United States, 2016-2024

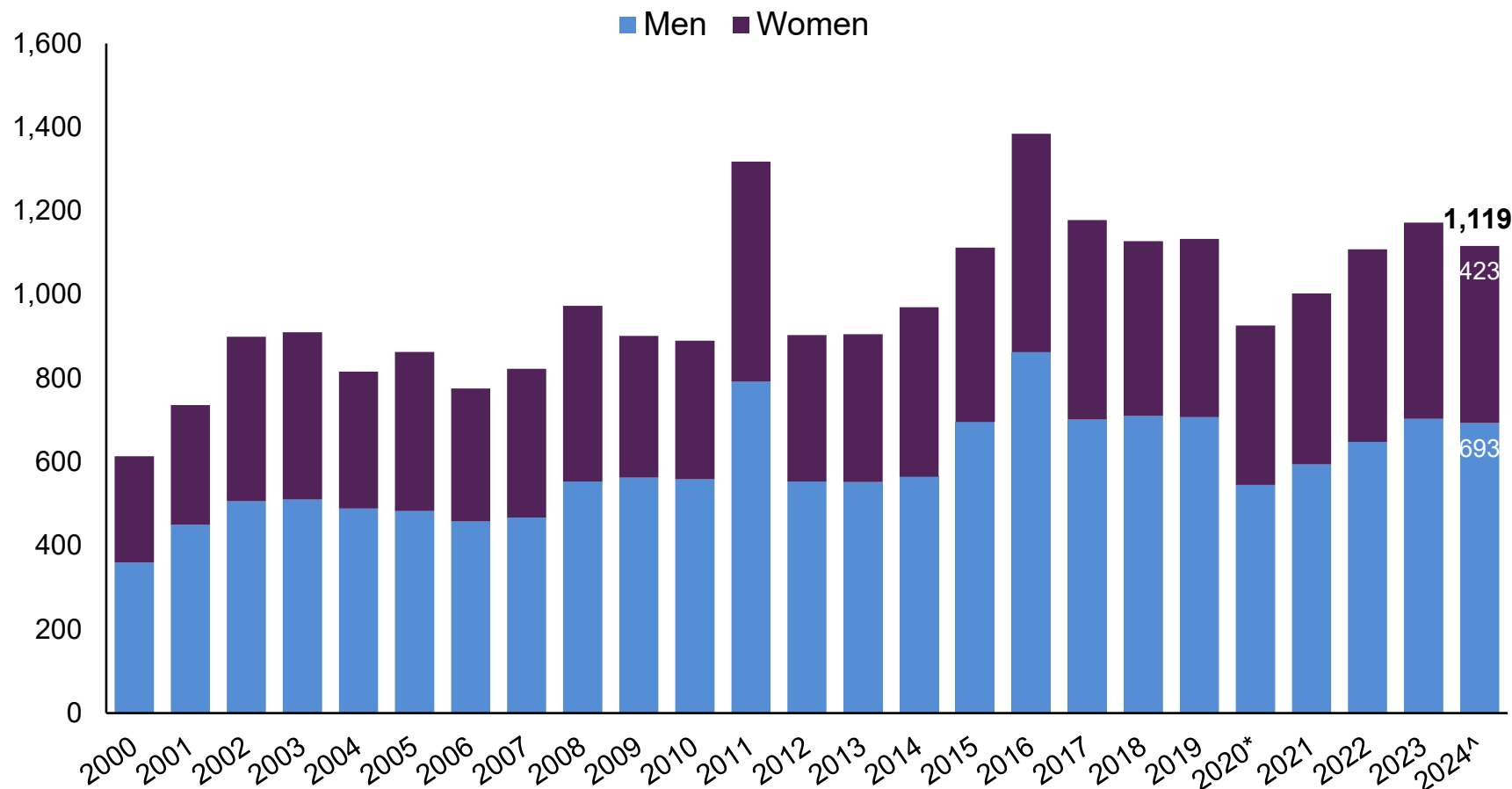


*Note: 2020 data should be treated with caution due to reduced availability of testing caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

^The hepatitis B case definition was updated in 2024; therefore, comparisons with previous years should be interpreted with caution.

Data Source: North Carolina Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NC EDSS) (data as of September 2025) and Surveillance for Viral Hepatitis, United States, 2000-2023 CDC reports (<https://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis-surveillance-2023/hepatitis-b/index.html>).

Chronic HBV Cases By Gender North Carolina, 2000-2024

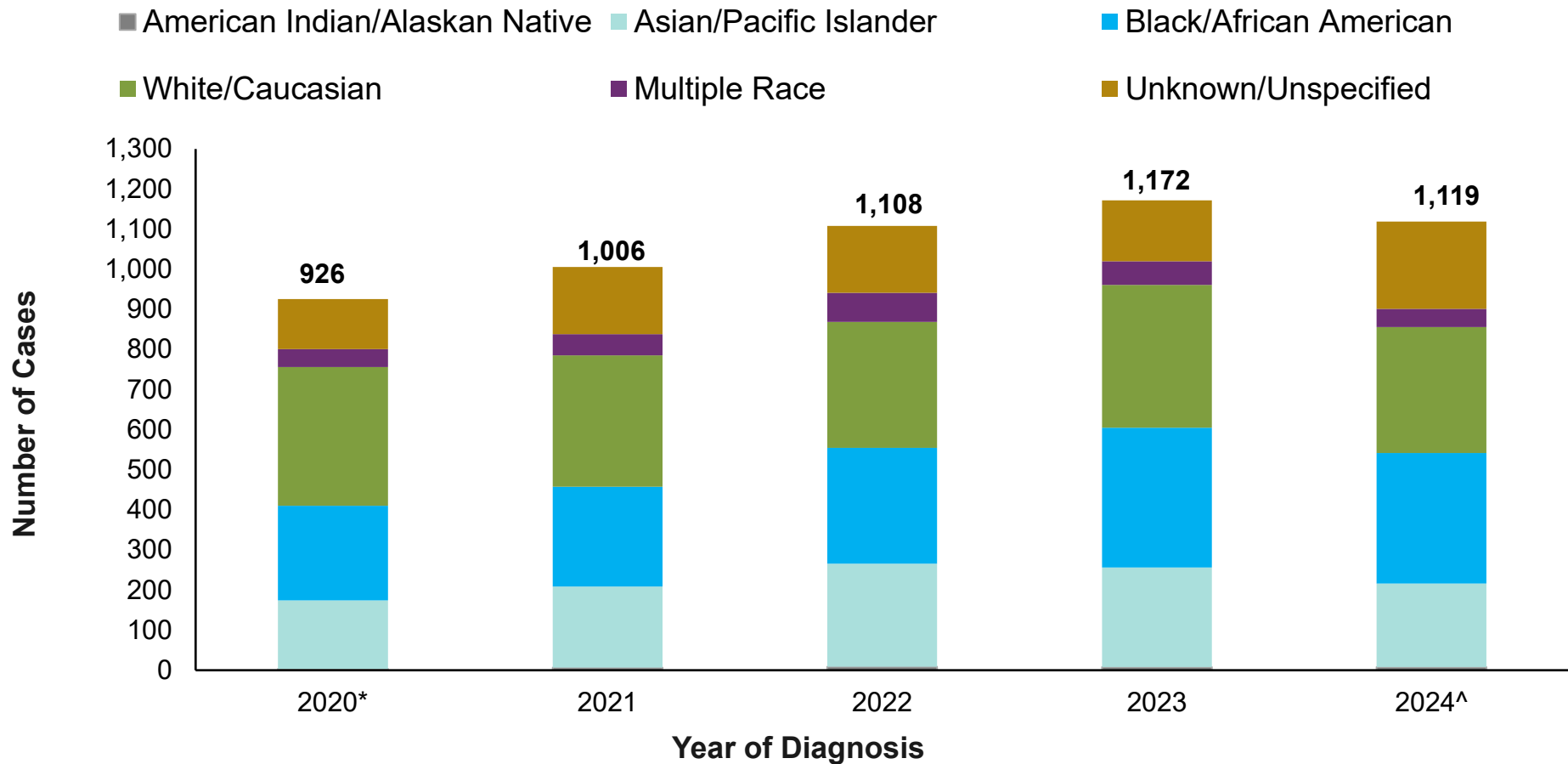


*Note: 2020 data should be treated with caution due to reduced availability of testing caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

^The hepatitis B case definition was updated in 2024; therefore, comparisons with previous years should be interpreted with caution.

Data Source: North Carolina Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NC EDSS) (data as of September 2025).

Newly Diagnosed Chronic HBV Cases by Race, North Carolina, 2020-2024

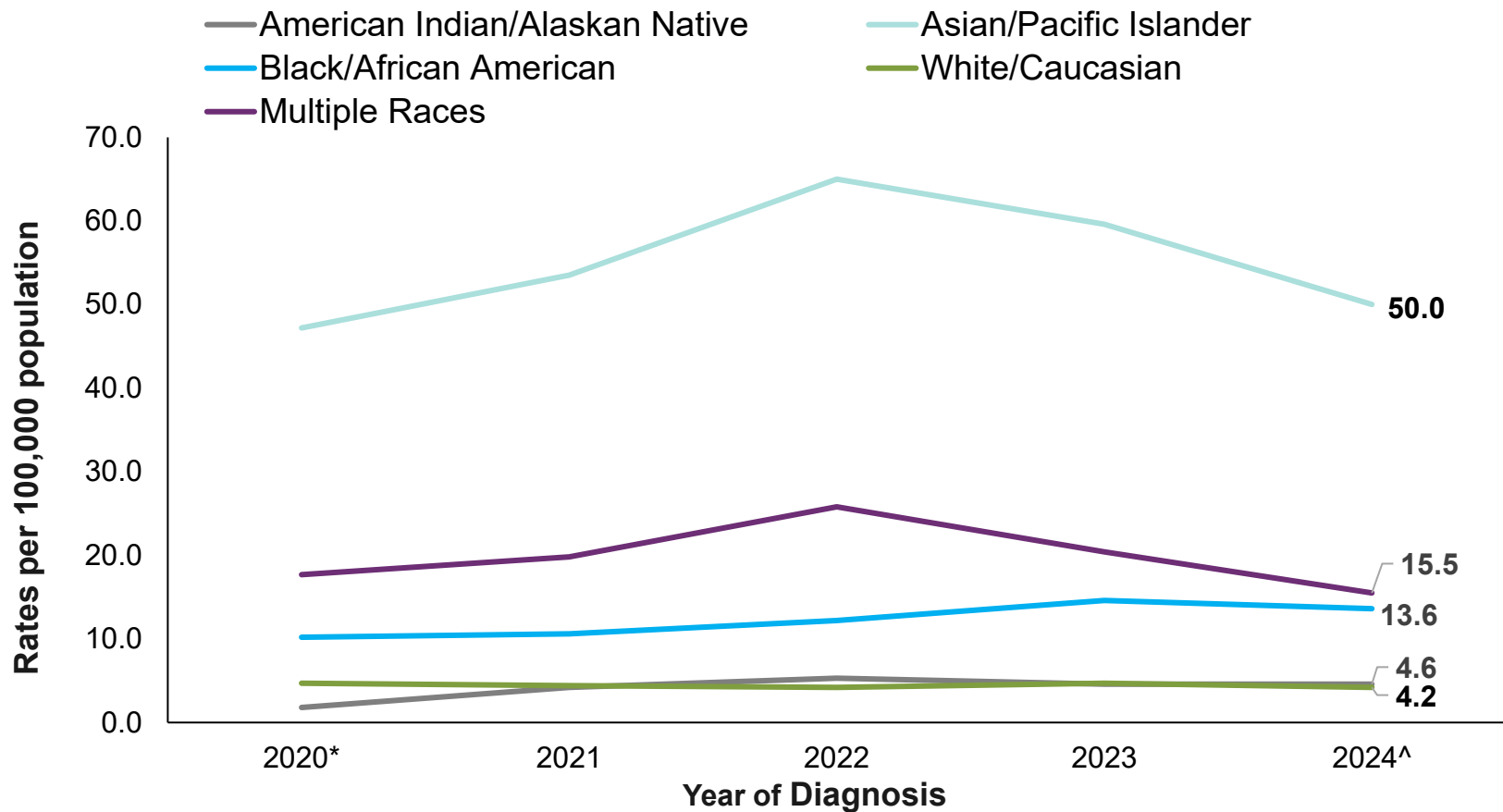


*Note: 2020 data should be treated with caution due to reduced availability of testing caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

^The hepatitis B case definition was updated in 2024; therefore, comparisons with previous years should be interpreted with caution.

Data Source: North Carolina Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NC EDSS) (data as of September 2025).

Newly Diagnosed Chronic HBV Rates by Race, North Carolina, 2020-2024

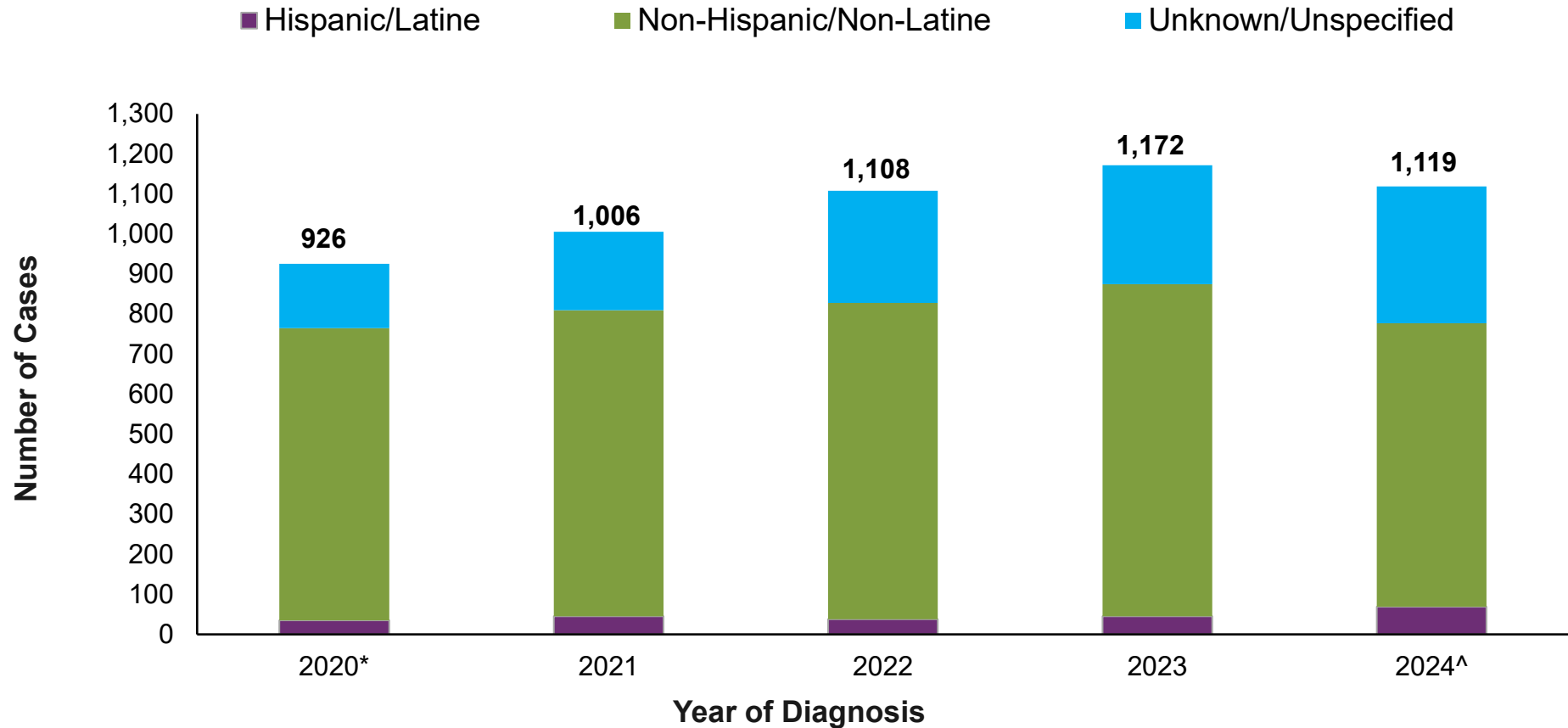


*Note: 2020 data should be treated with caution due to reduced availability of testing caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

^The hepatitis B case definition was updated in 2024; therefore, comparisons with previous years should be interpreted with caution.

Data Source: North Carolina Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NC EDSS) (data as of September 2025).

Newly Diagnosed Chronic HBV Cases by Ethnicity, North Carolina, 2020-2024

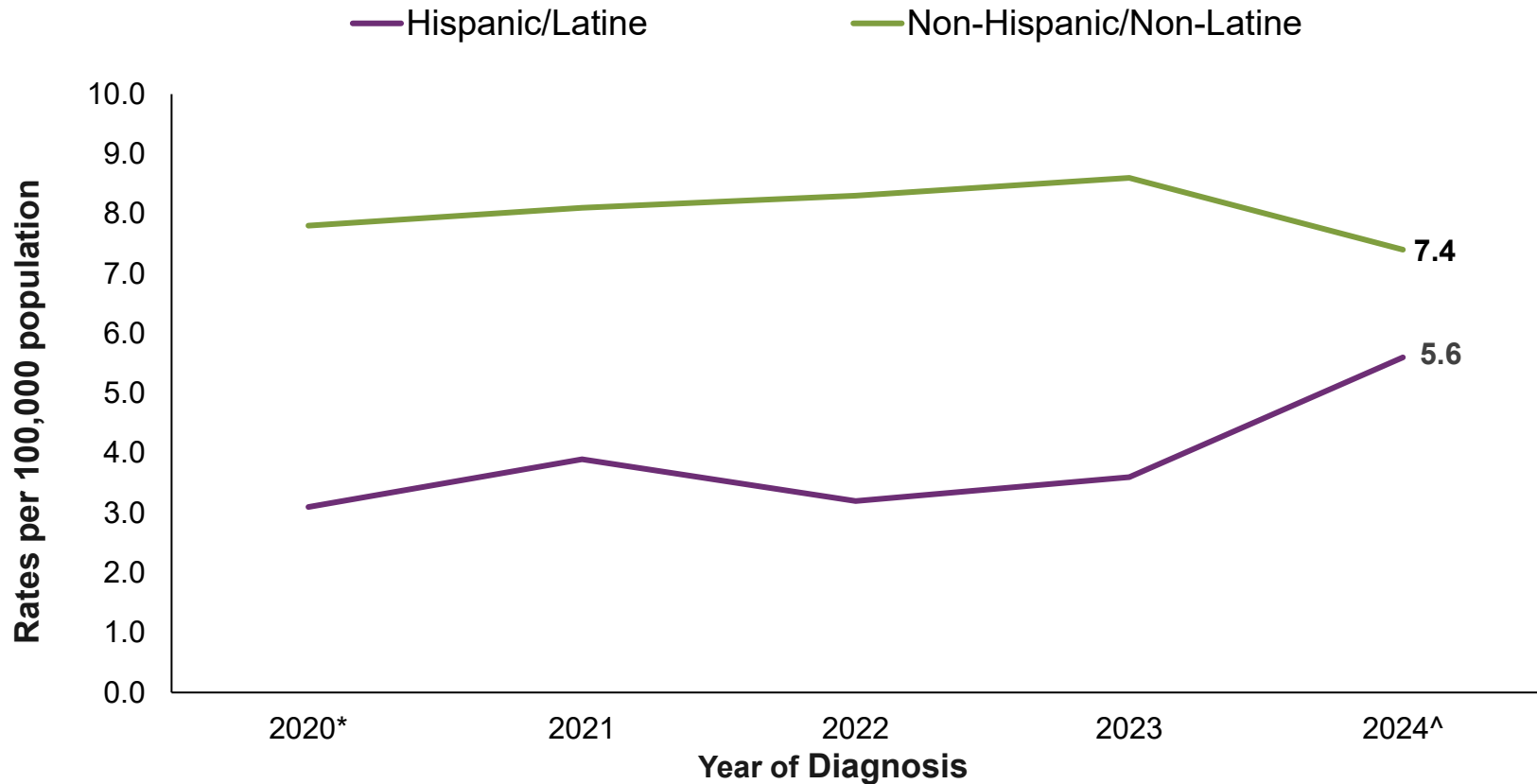


*Note: 2020 data should be treated with caution due to reduced availability of testing caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

^The hepatitis B case definition was updated in 2024; therefore, comparisons with previous years should be interpreted with caution.

Data Source: North Carolina Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NC EDSS) (data as of September 2025).

Newly Diagnosed Chronic HBV Rates by Ethnicity, North Carolina, 2020-2024

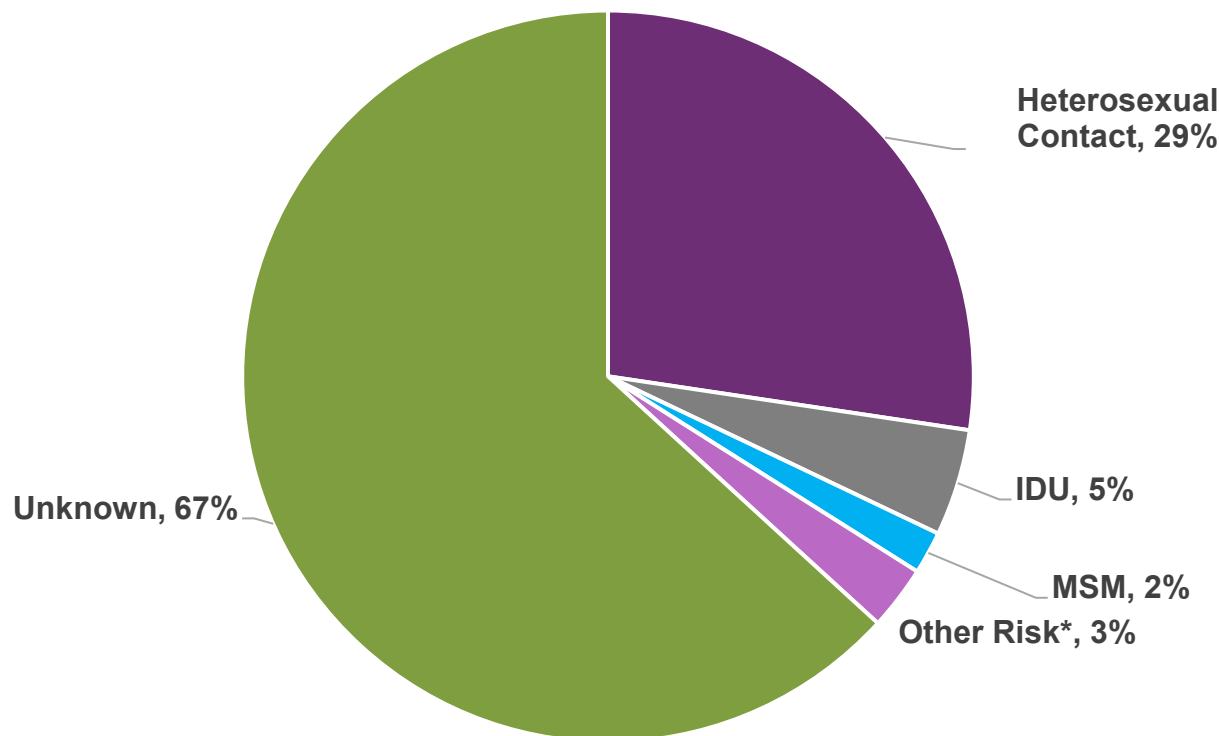


*Note: 2020 data should be treated with caution due to reduced availability of testing caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

^The hepatitis B case definition was updated in 2024; therefore, comparisons with previous years should be interpreted with caution.

Data Source: North Carolina Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NC EDSS) (data as of September 2025).

Newly Diagnosed Chronic HBV Cases By Self-Reported Risk, North Carolina, 2024

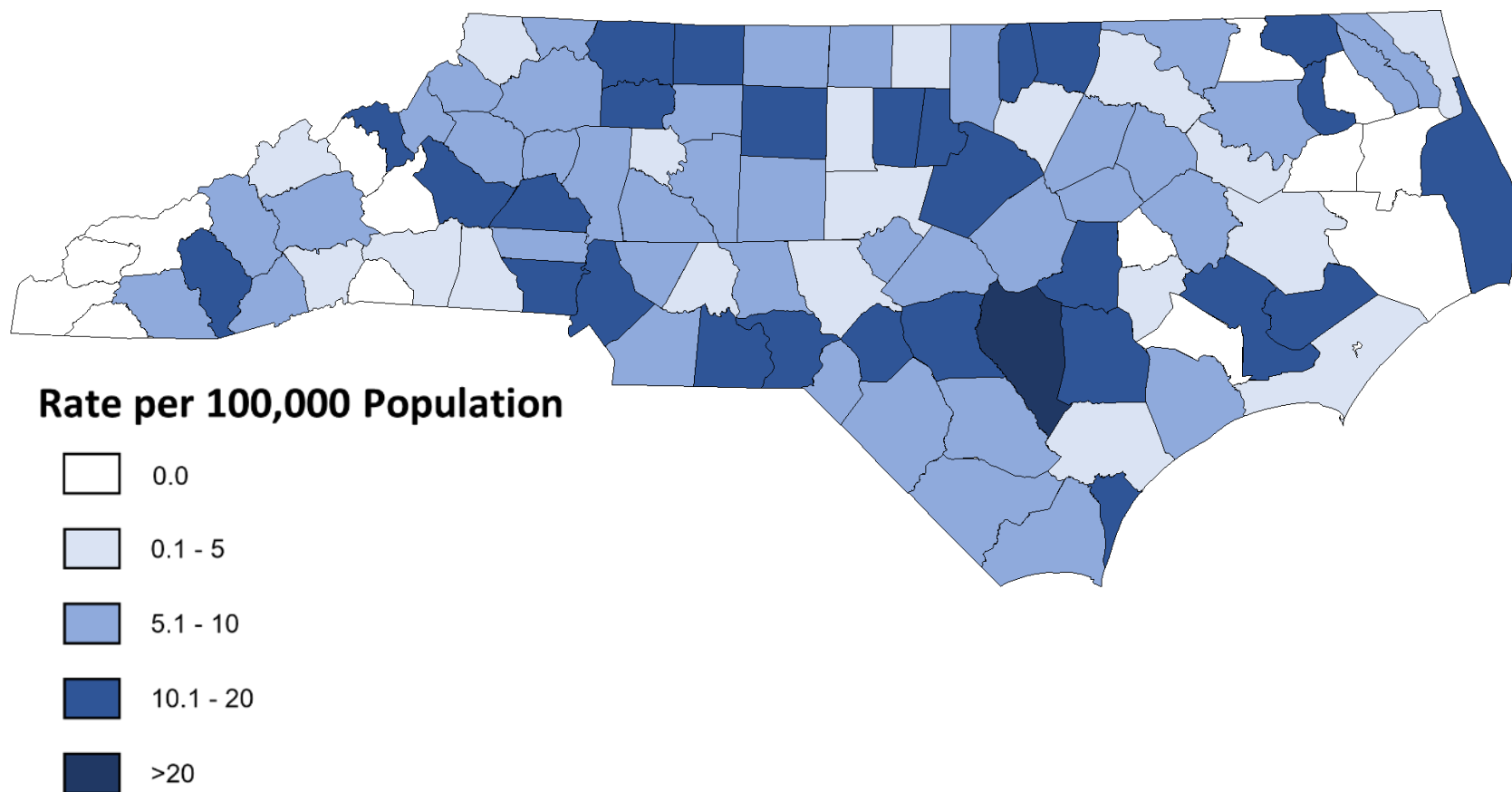


*Other risk includes health care exposure or contact with a positive hepatitis B individual.

^People may report more than one risk, so totals may not add up to the case total. Rates are not presented due to the lack of population data for the exposure groups.

Data Source: North Carolina Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NC EDSS) (data as of September 2025).

Newly Diagnosed Chronic HBV County Rates, North Carolina 2024



Data Source: North Carolina Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NC EDSS) (data as of September 2025).

Hepatitis C (HCV)

Hepatitis C in United States and North Carolina

- Number of reported acute HCV cases in 2023¹: 4,966
 - Estimated number of new HCV cases in 2023¹: 69,000
- Using national prevalence data, CDC estimates that 2.4 million people – and as many as 4 million people – are living with HCV in the U.S.²
- In North Carolina, we estimate at least 200,000 people are living with HCV
- In North Carolina³:
 - 44 people were diagnosed with acute HCV in 2024
 - There were 97,292 people diagnosed with chronic HCV and presumed alive at the end of 2024
 - 8,966 people were newly reported with chronic HCV in 2024
- There is no vaccine for HCV, but there is a cure!!

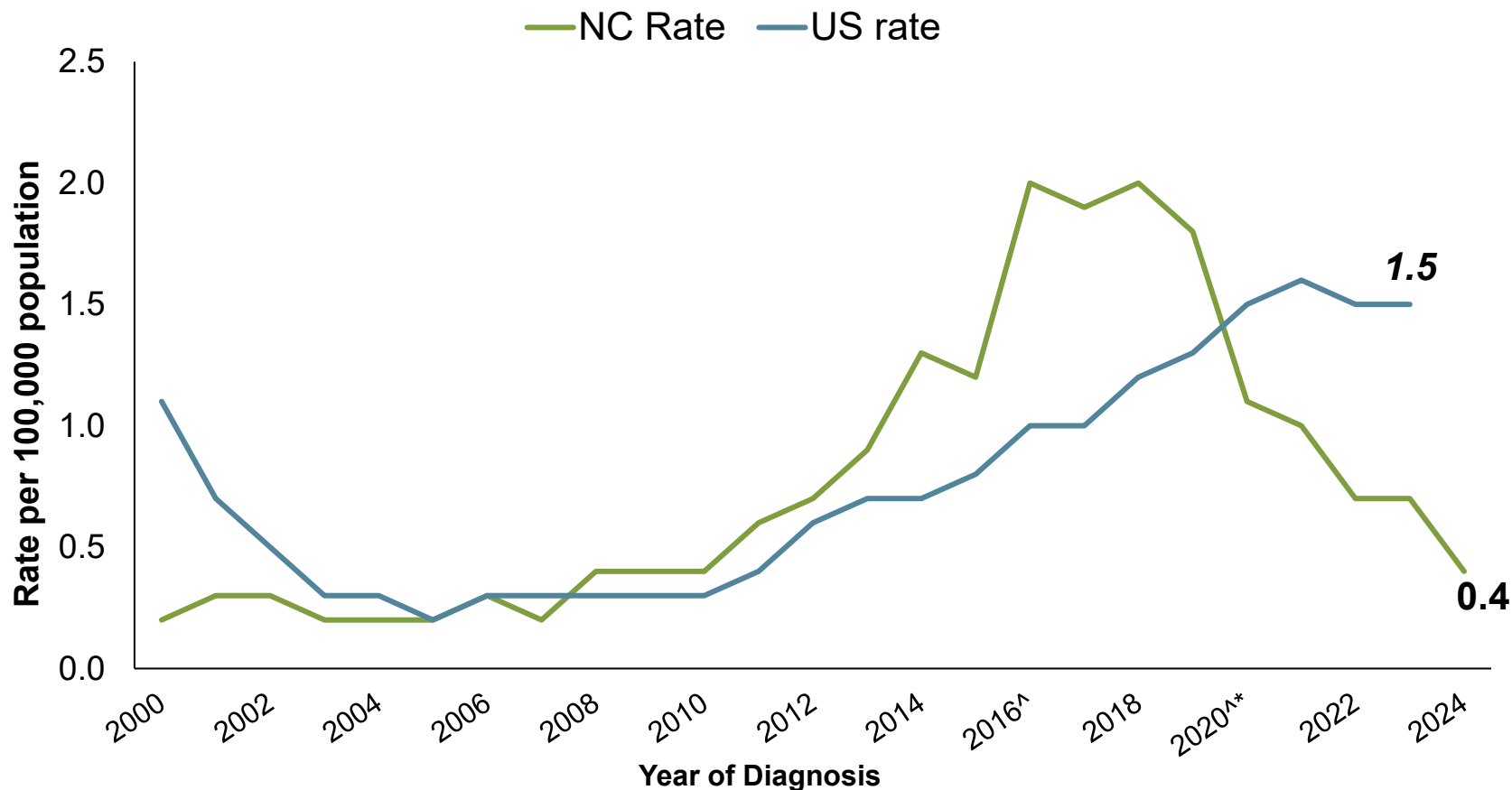
¹Data only available for 2023. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Viral Hepatitis Surveillance Report – United States, 2023.

<https://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis-surveillance-2023/about/index.html>. Published April 2025.

²Hepatitis C Basics. <https://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis-c/about/index.html>

³Data Source: North Carolina Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NC EDSS) (Data as of September 2025).

Acute HCV Rates in North Carolina and United States, 2000-2024

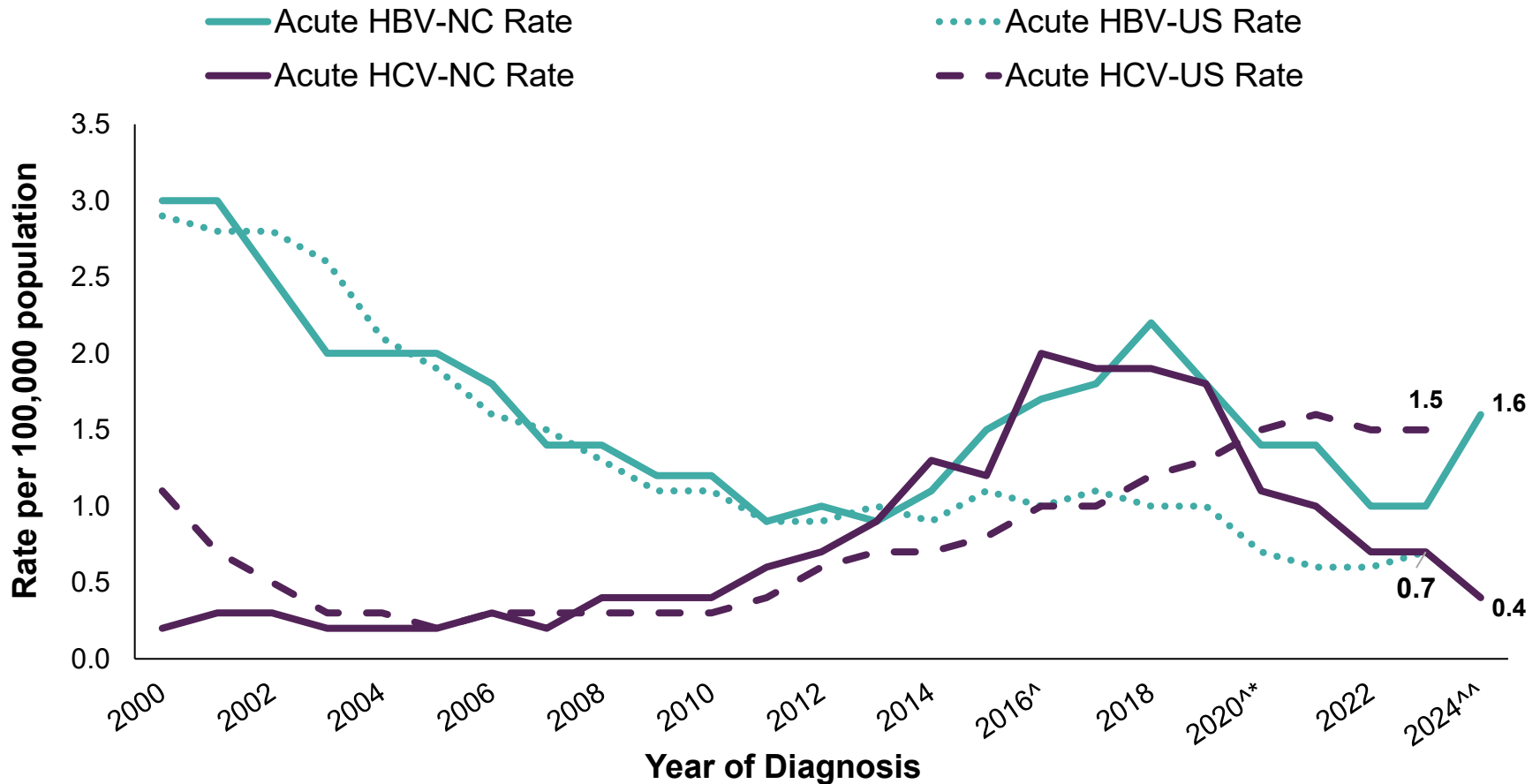


*2020 data should be treated with caution due to reduced availability of testing caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

^Case definition for hepatitis C changed in 2016 and in 2020.

Data Source: North Carolina Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NC EDSS) (data as of September 2025) and Surveillance for Viral Hepatitis, United States, 2000-2023 CDC reports (<https://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis-surveillance-2023/hepatitis-c/index.html>).

Acute HBV and HCV Rates in North Carolina and United States, 2000-2024



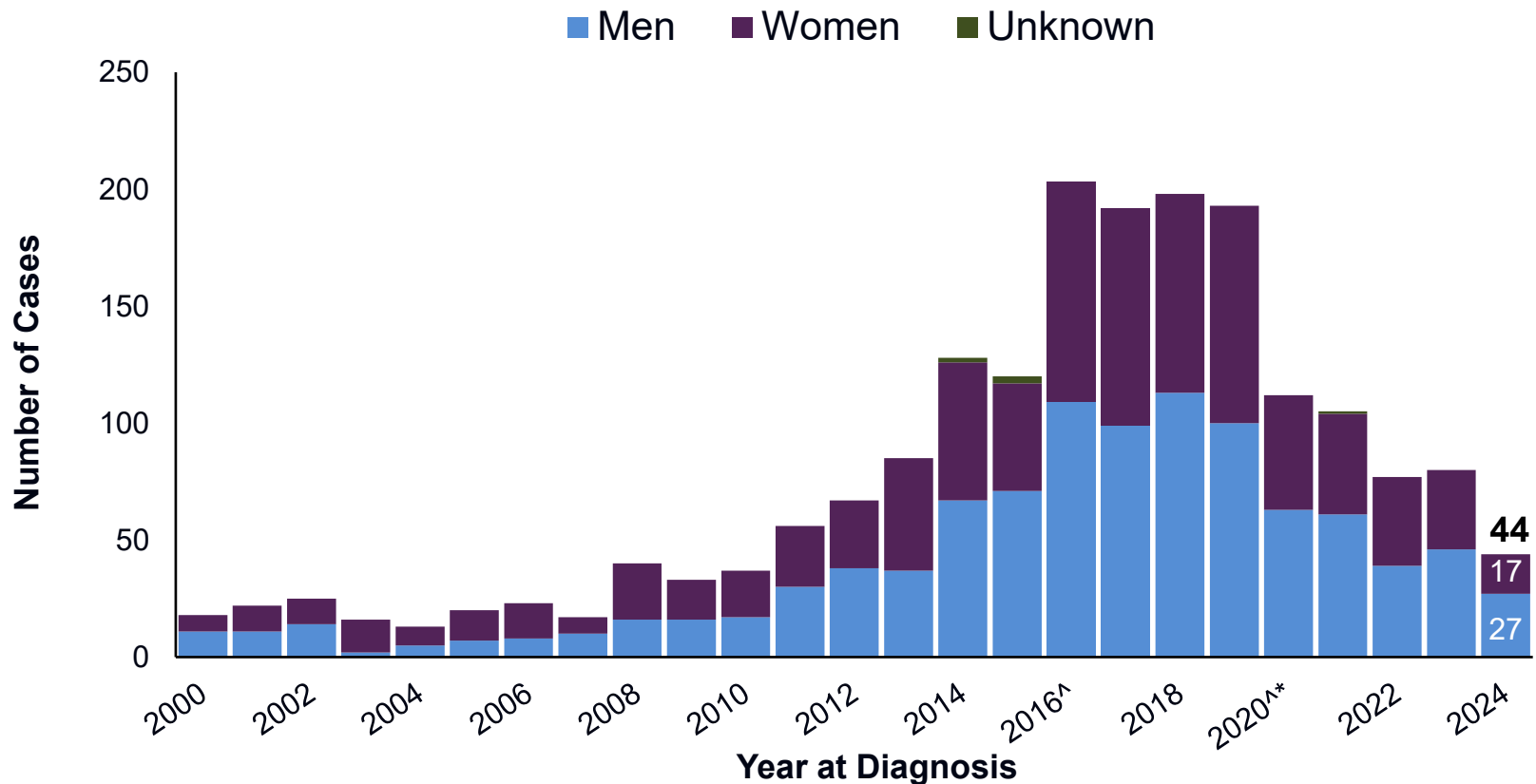
*2020 data should be treated with caution due to reduced availability of testing caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

^Case definition for hepatitis C changed in 2016 and in 2020.

^^The hepatitis B case definition was updated in 2024; therefore, comparisons with previous years should be interpreted with caution.

Data Source: North Carolina Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NC EDSS) (data as of September 2025) and Surveillance for Viral Hepatitis, United States, 2000-2023 CDC reports (<https://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis-surveillance-2023/hepatitis-c/index.html>).

Acute HCV Cases by Gender in North Carolina 2000-2024

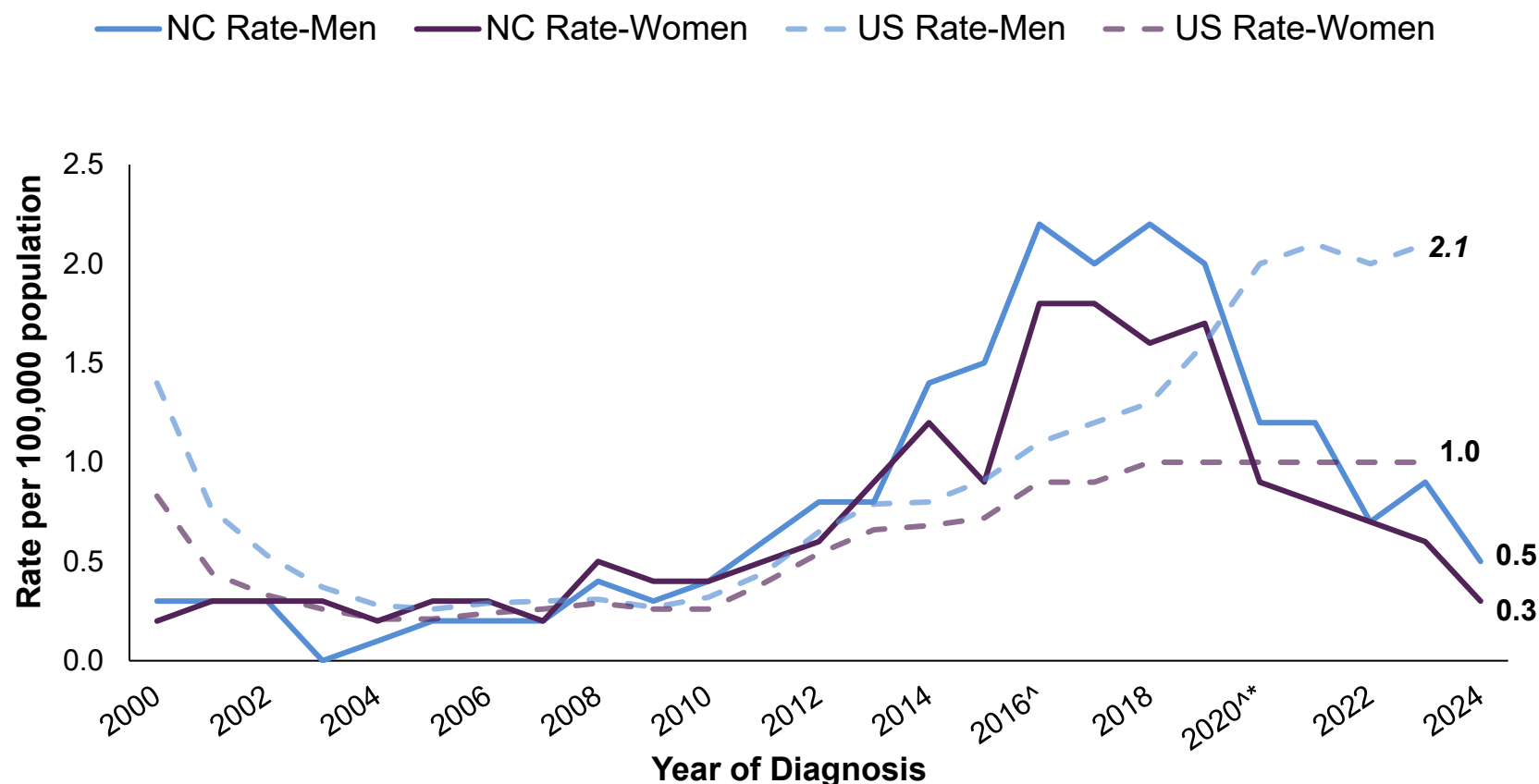


Note: *2020 data should be treated with caution due to reduced availability of testing caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

^Case definition for hepatitis C changed in 2016 and then again in 2020.

Data Source: North Carolina Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NC EDSS) (data as of September 2025).

Acute HCV Rates by Gender in North Carolina and United States, 2000-2024



*2020 data should be treated with caution due to reduced availability of testing caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

^Case definition for hepatitis C changed in 2016 and in 2020.

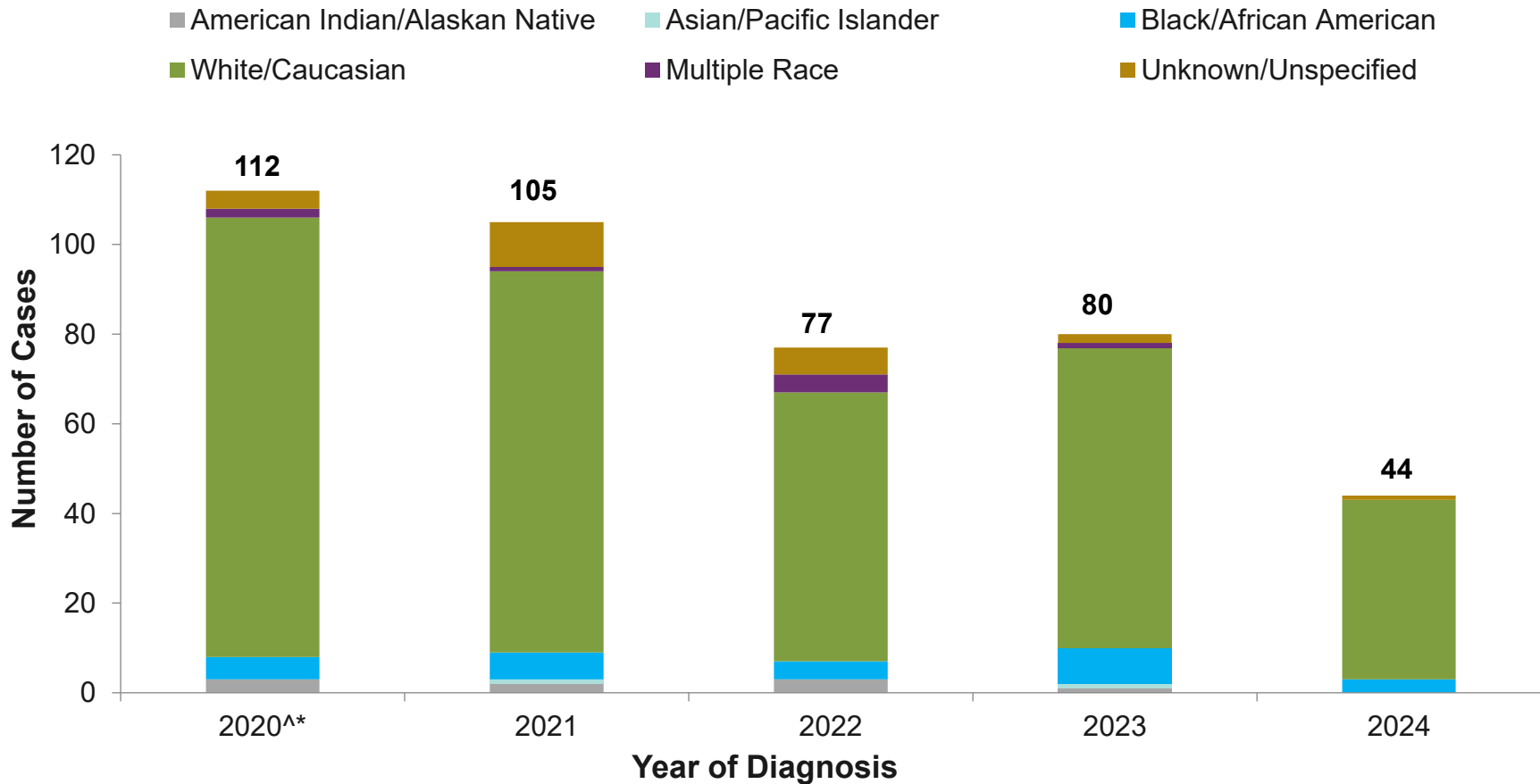
Data Source: North Carolina Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NC EDSS) (data as of September 2025) and Surveillance for Viral Hepatitis, United States, 2000-2023 CDC reports (<https://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis-surveillance-2023/hepatitis-c/index.html>).

Age Distribution of Acute HCV Cases by Gender in North Carolina, 2024



Data Source: North Carolina Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NC EDSS) (data as of September 2025).

Acute HCV Cases by Race North Carolina, 2020-2024

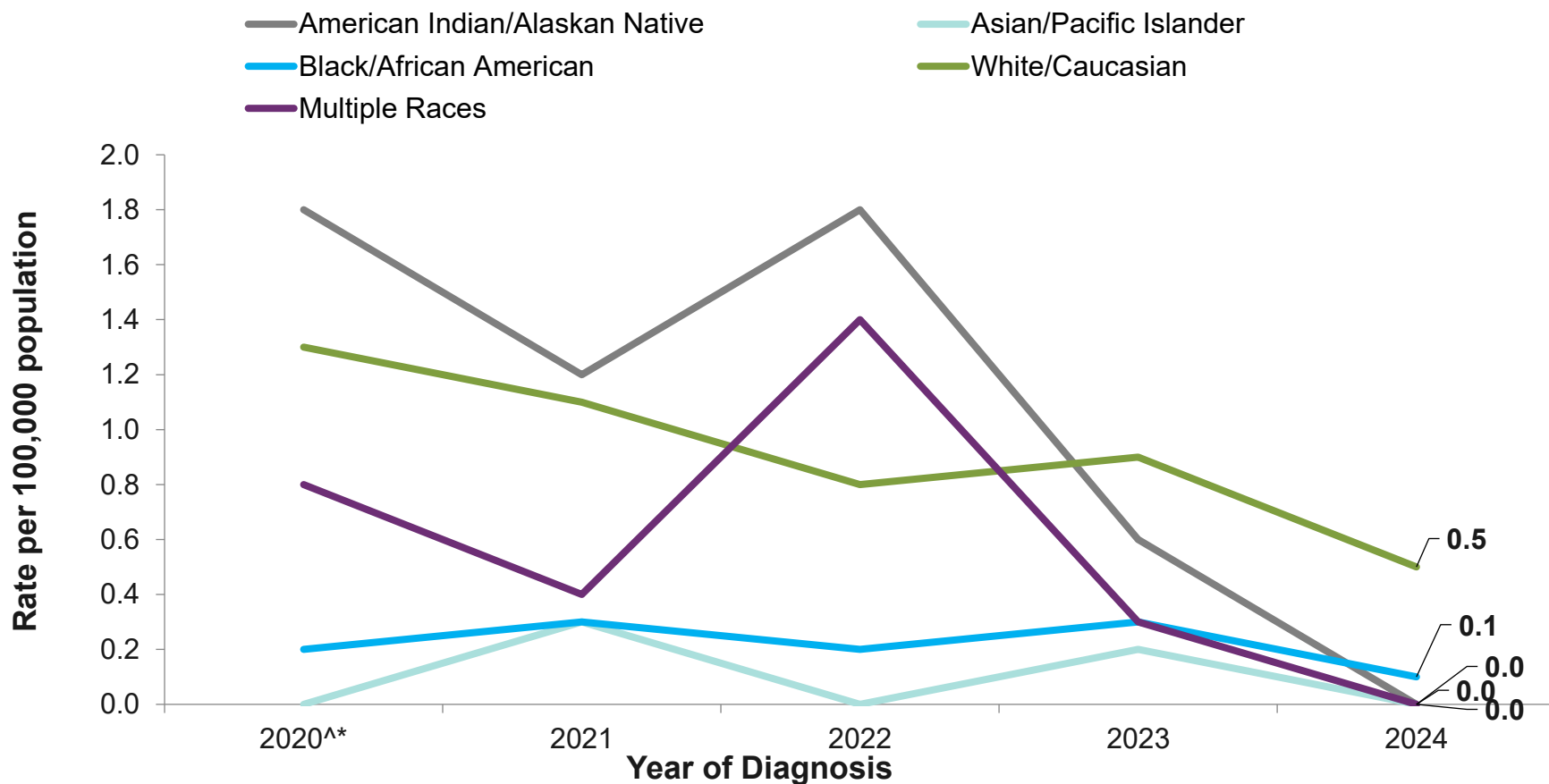


*Note: 2020 data should be treated with caution due to reduced availability of testing caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

^Case definition for hepatitis C changed in 2016 and in 2020.

Data Source: North Carolina Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NC EDSS) (data as of September 2025).

Acute HCV Rates by Race North Carolina, 2020-2024

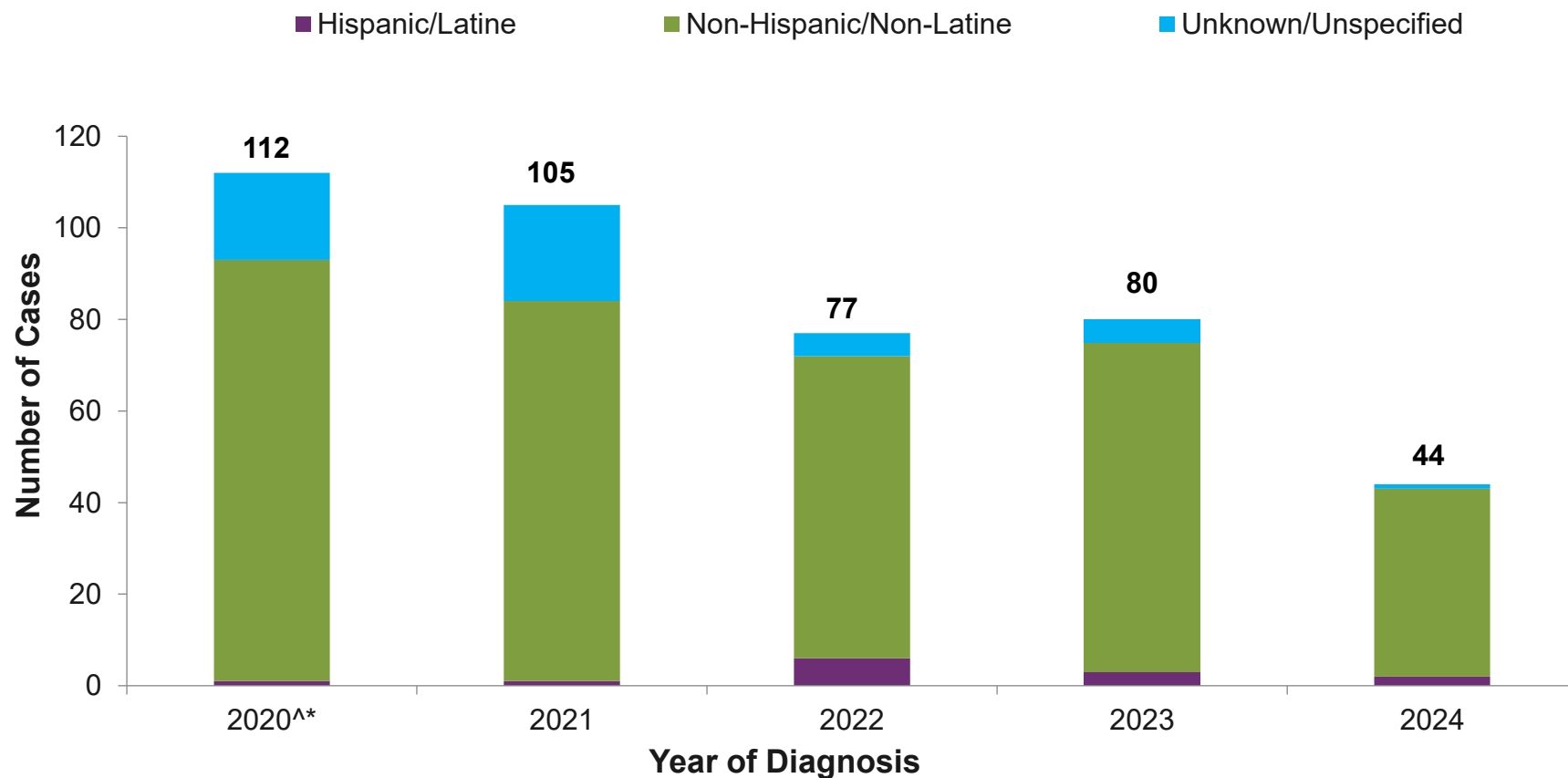


*Note: 2020 data should be treated with caution due to reduced availability of testing caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

[^]Case definition for hepatitis C changed in 2016 and in 2020.

Data Source: North Carolina Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NC EDSS) (data as of September 2025).

Acute HCV Cases by Ethnicity North Carolina, 2020-2024

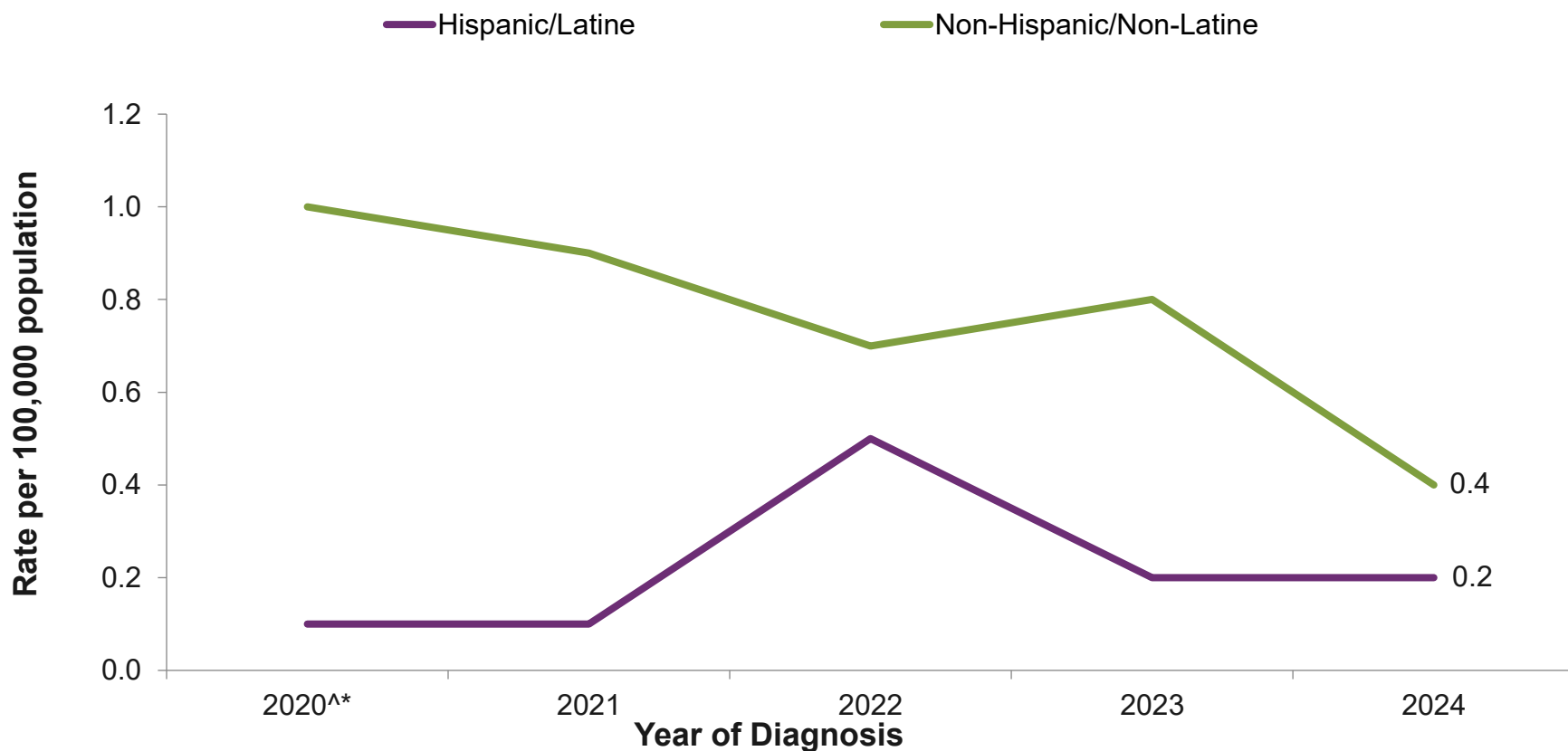


*Note: 2020 data should be treated with caution due to reduced availability of testing caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

^Case definition for hepatitis C changed in 2016 and in 2020.

Data Source: North Carolina Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NC EDSS) (data as of September 2025).

Acute HCV Rates by Ethnicity North Carolina, 2020-2024

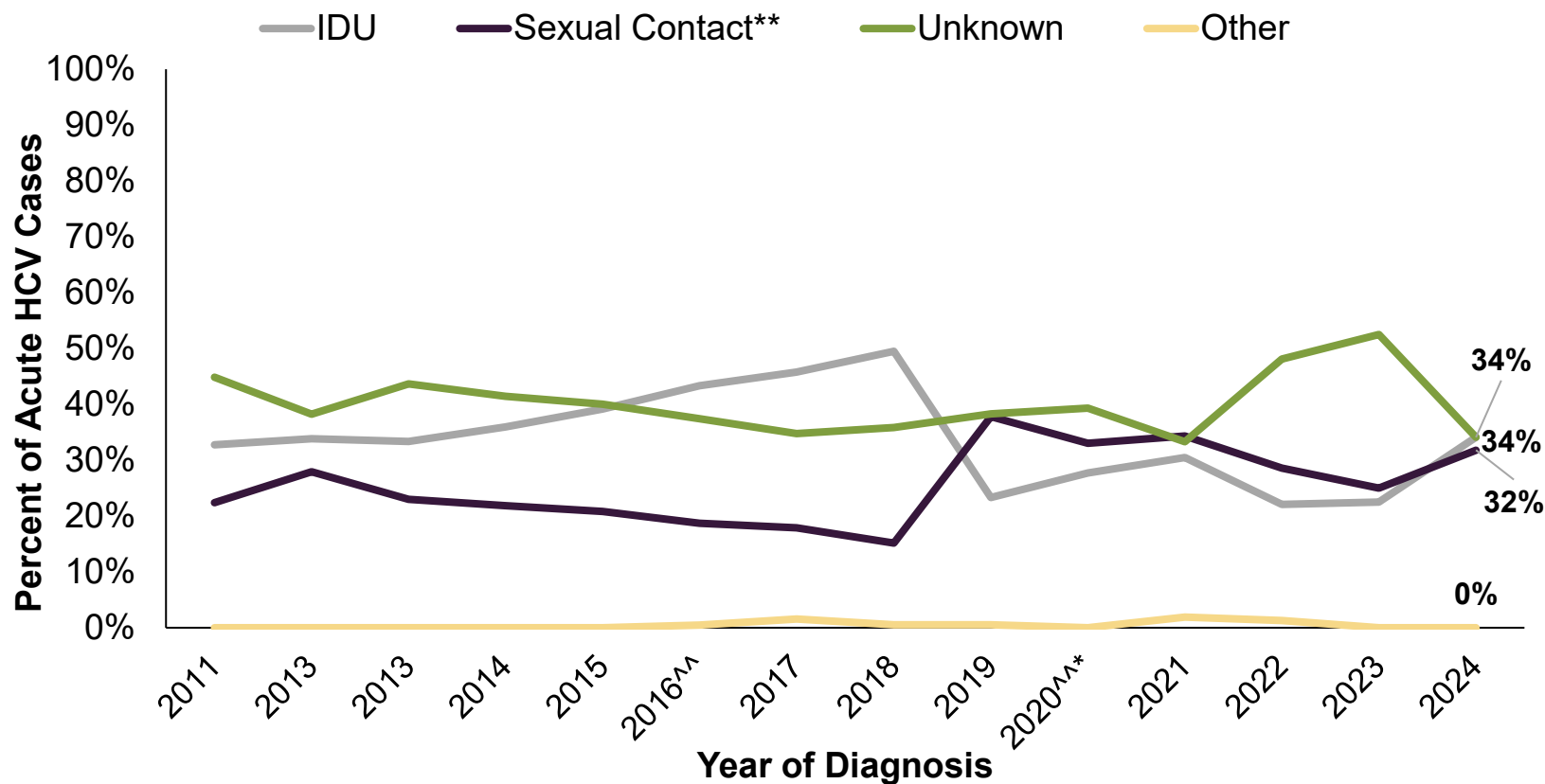


*Note: 2020 data should be treated with caution due to reduced availability of testing caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

[^]Case definition for hepatitis C changed in 2016 and in 2020.

Data Source: North Carolina Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NC EDSS) (data as of September 2025).

Acute HCV Cases by Self-Reported Risk[^] North Carolina 2011-2024



*Note: 2020 data should be treated with caution due to reduced availability of testing caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

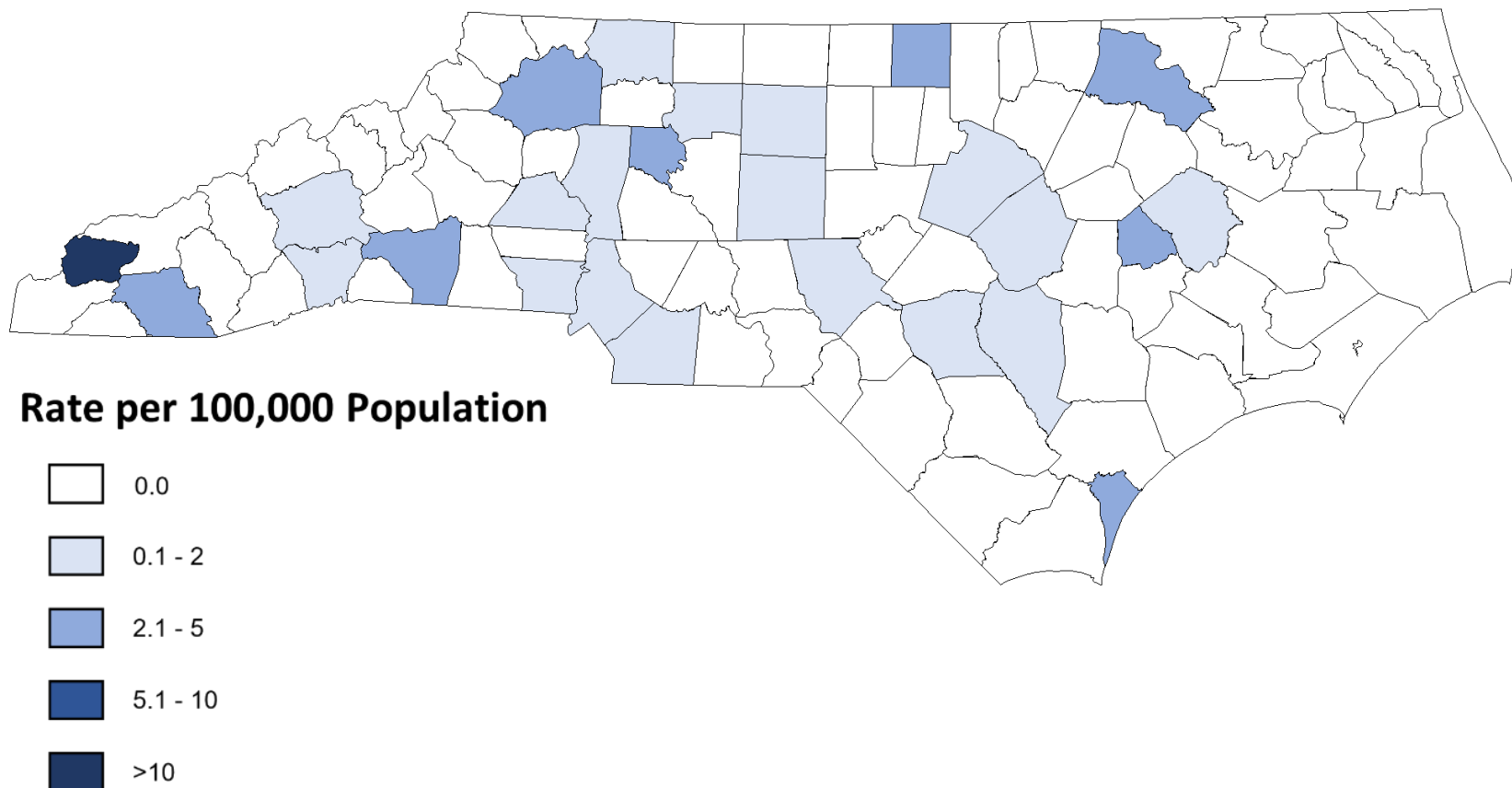
[^]Risk is based on a hierarchical risk. Rates are not presented due to the lack of population data for the exposure groups. Other risk includes healthcare exposure or contact with a positive HCV individual.

**It is likely that sexual contact (heterosexual or MSM), while true for the patient, is not the transmission route for the virus. These data likely reflect under-reporting of higher-risk exposures such as injecting drug use.

^^Case definition for hepatitis C changed in 2016 and in 2020.

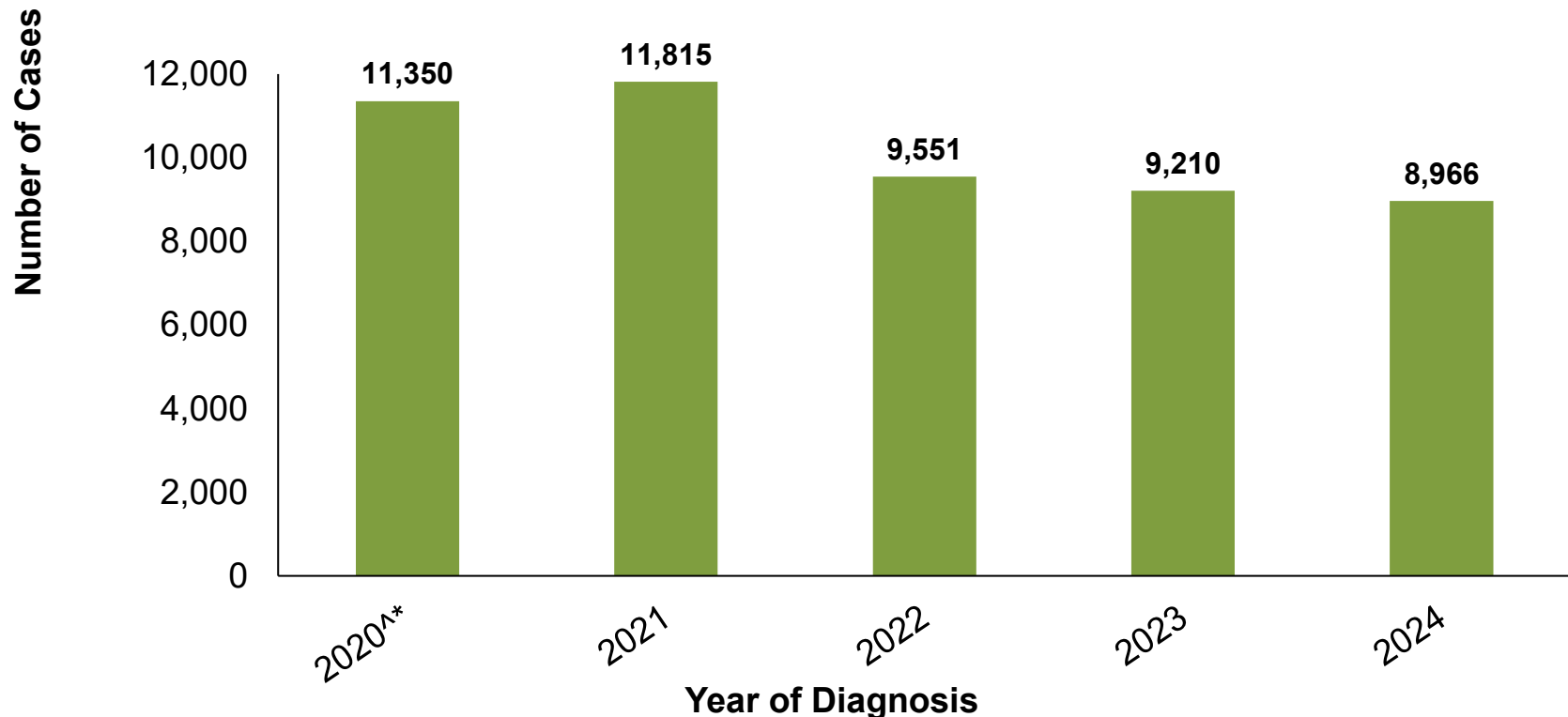
Data Source: North Carolina Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NC EDSS) (data as of September 2025).

Acute HCV County Rates in North Carolina 2024



Data Source: North Carolina Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NC EDSS) (data as of September 2025).

Number of Newly Reported Chronic HCV in North Carolina, 2020[^]-2024

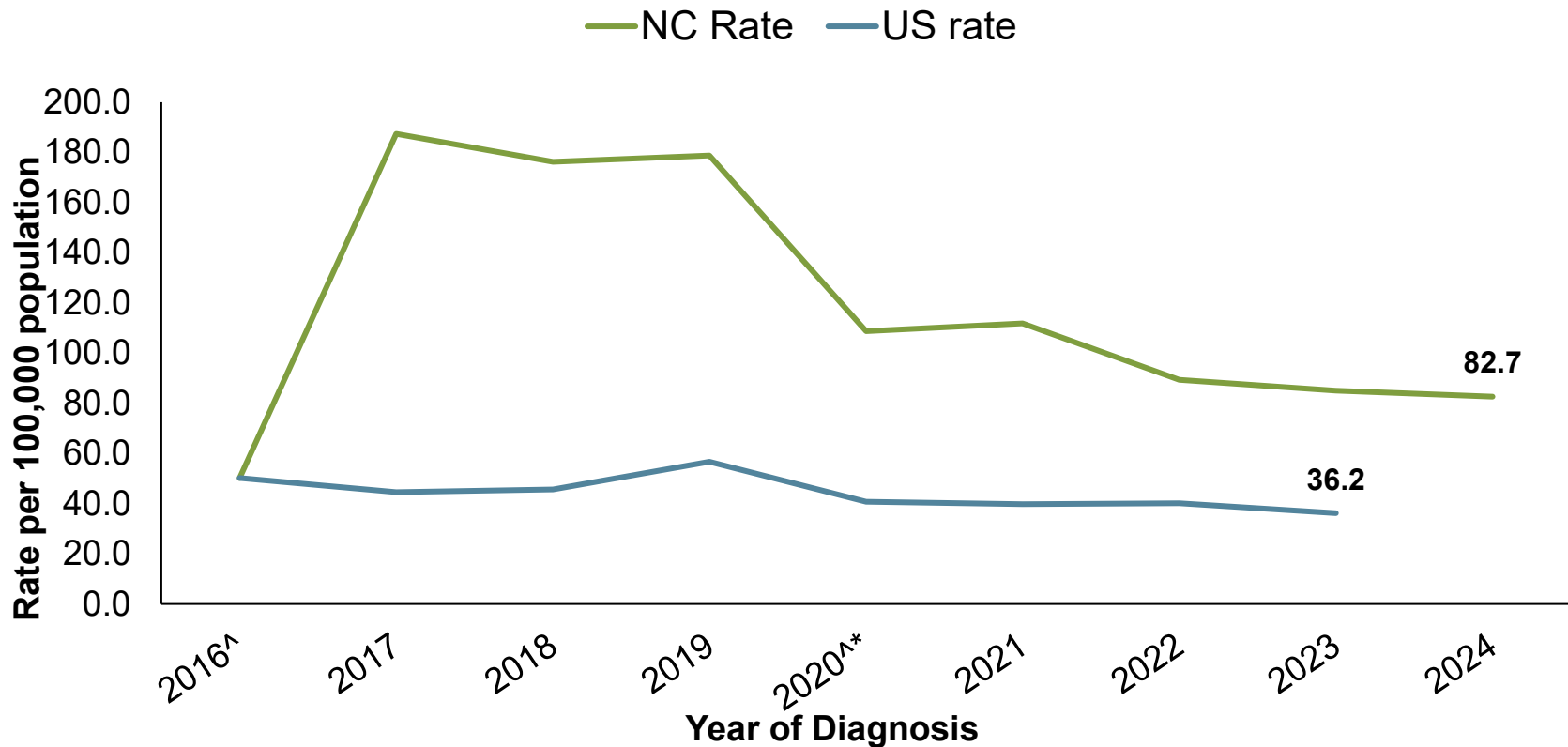


*Note: 2020 data should be treated with caution due to reduced availability of testing caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

[^]Case definition for hepatitis C changed in in 2020.

Data Source: North Carolina Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NC EDSS) (data as of September 2025).

Newly Reported Chronic HCV Rates in North Carolina and United States, 2016[^]-2024

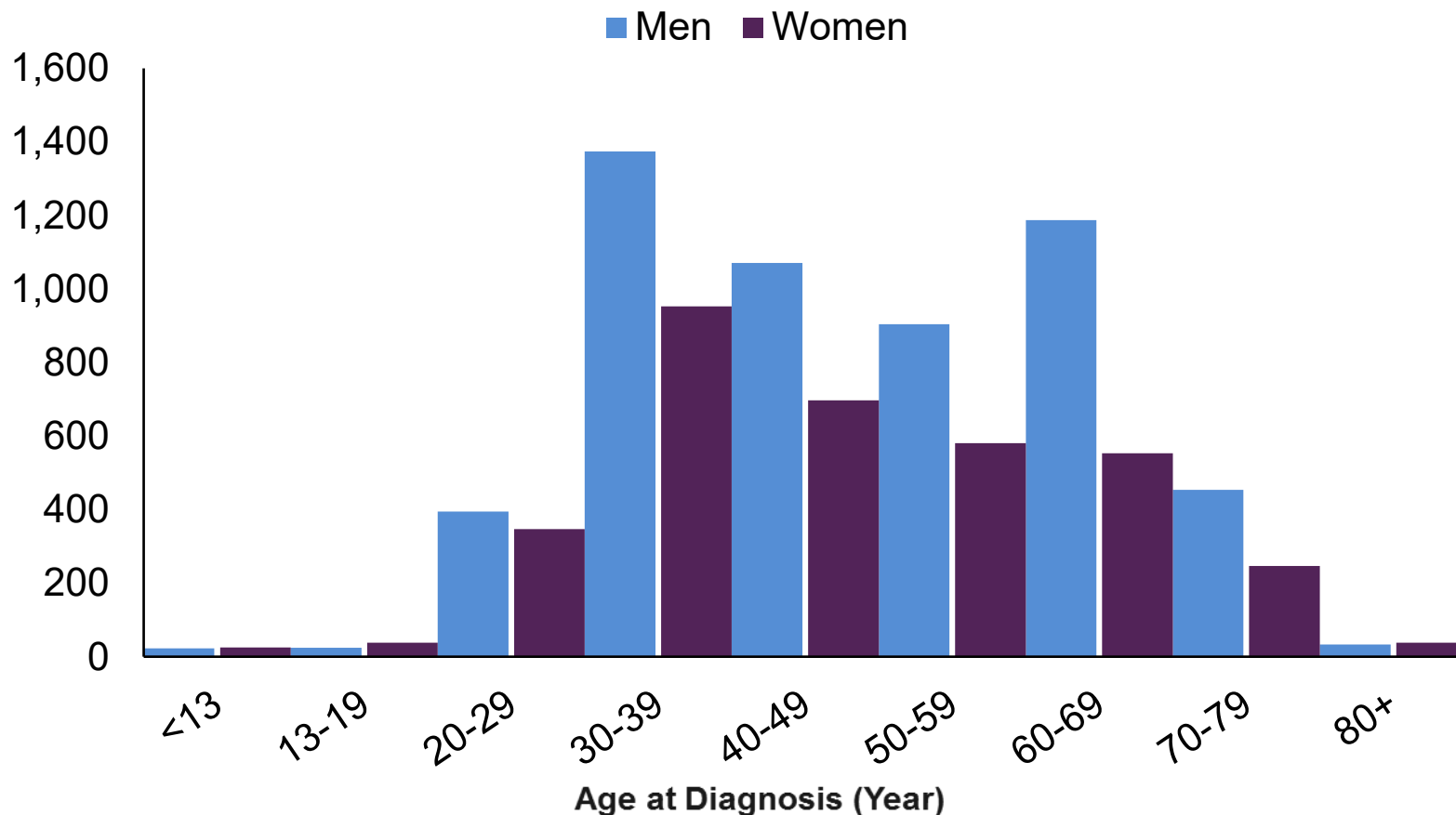


*2020 data should be treated with caution due to reduced availability of testing caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

[^]Case definition for hepatitis C changed in 2016 and then again in 2020.

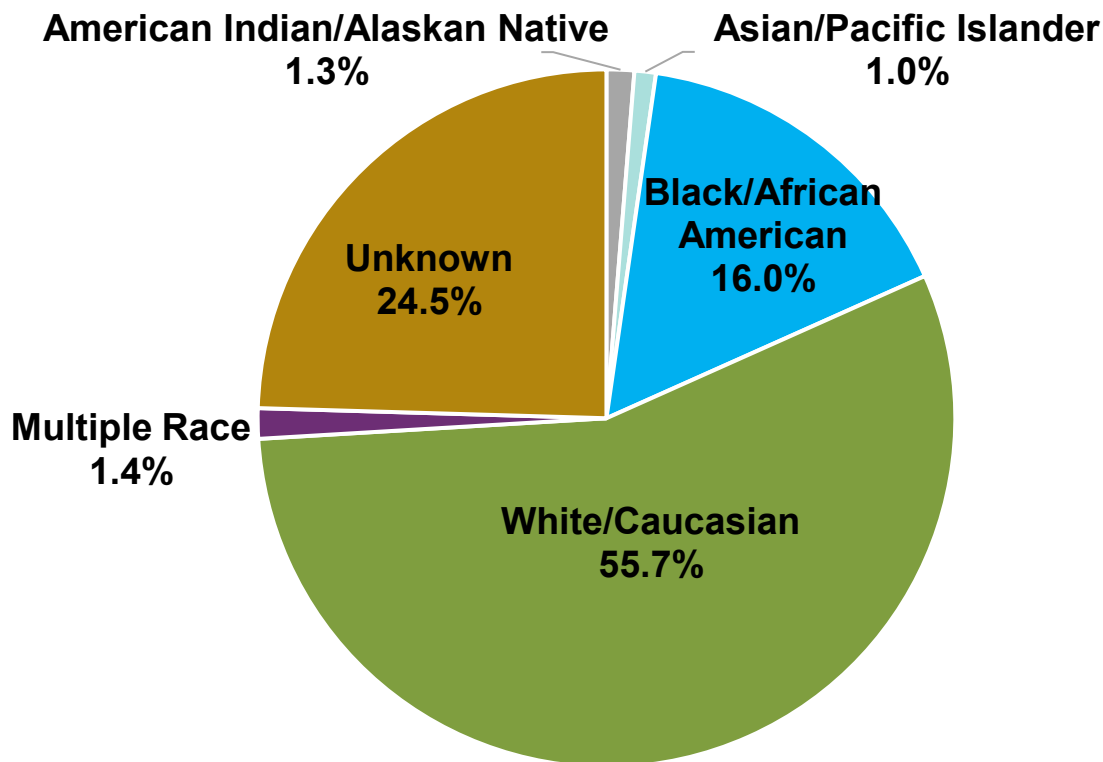
Data Source: North Carolina Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NC EDSS) (data as of September 2025) and Surveillance for Viral Hepatitis, United States, 2000-2023 CDC reports (<https://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis-surveillance-2023/hepatitis-c/index.html>).

Age Distribution of Newly Reported Chronic HCV Cases by Gender in North Carolina, 2024



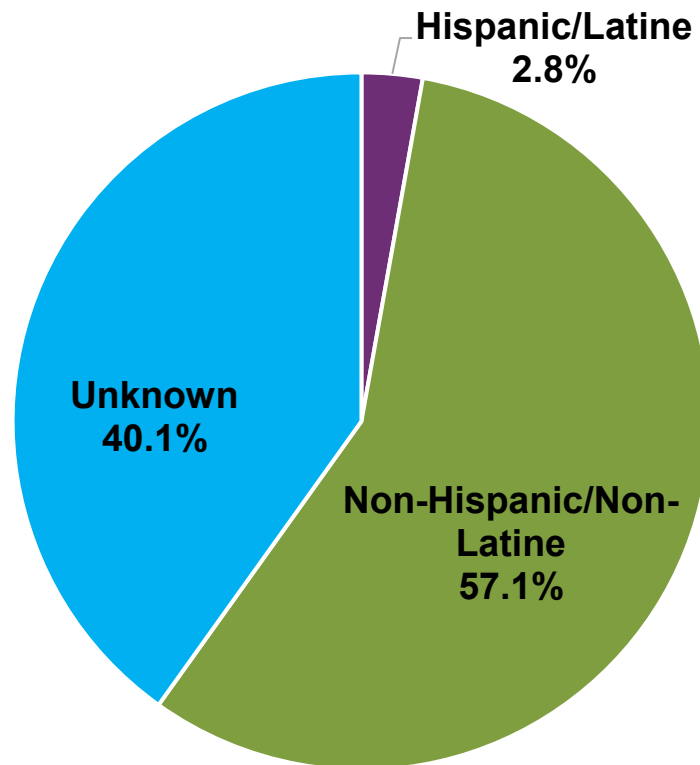
Data Source: North Carolina Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NC EDSS) (data as of September 2025).

Newly Reported Chronic HCV Cases by Race, North Carolina 2024



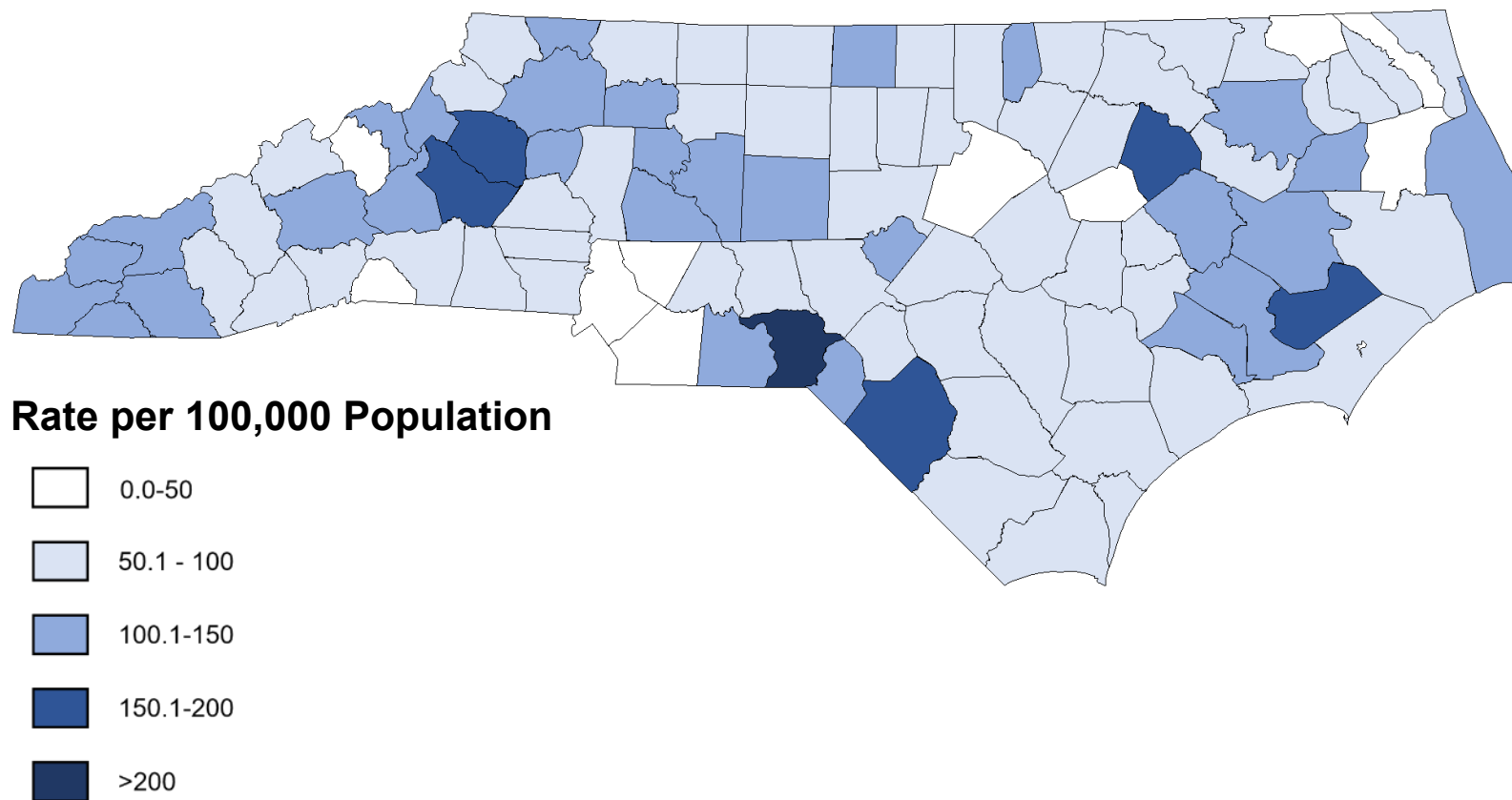
Data Source: North Carolina Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NC EDSS) (data as of September 2025).

Newly Reported Chronic HCV Cases by Ethnicity, North Carolina 2024



Data Source: North Carolina Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NC EDSS) (data as of September 2025).

Newly Reported Chronic HCV County Rates in North Carolina 2024



Data Source: North Carolina Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NC EDSS) (data as of September 2025).

Hepatitis C Treatment Cascade

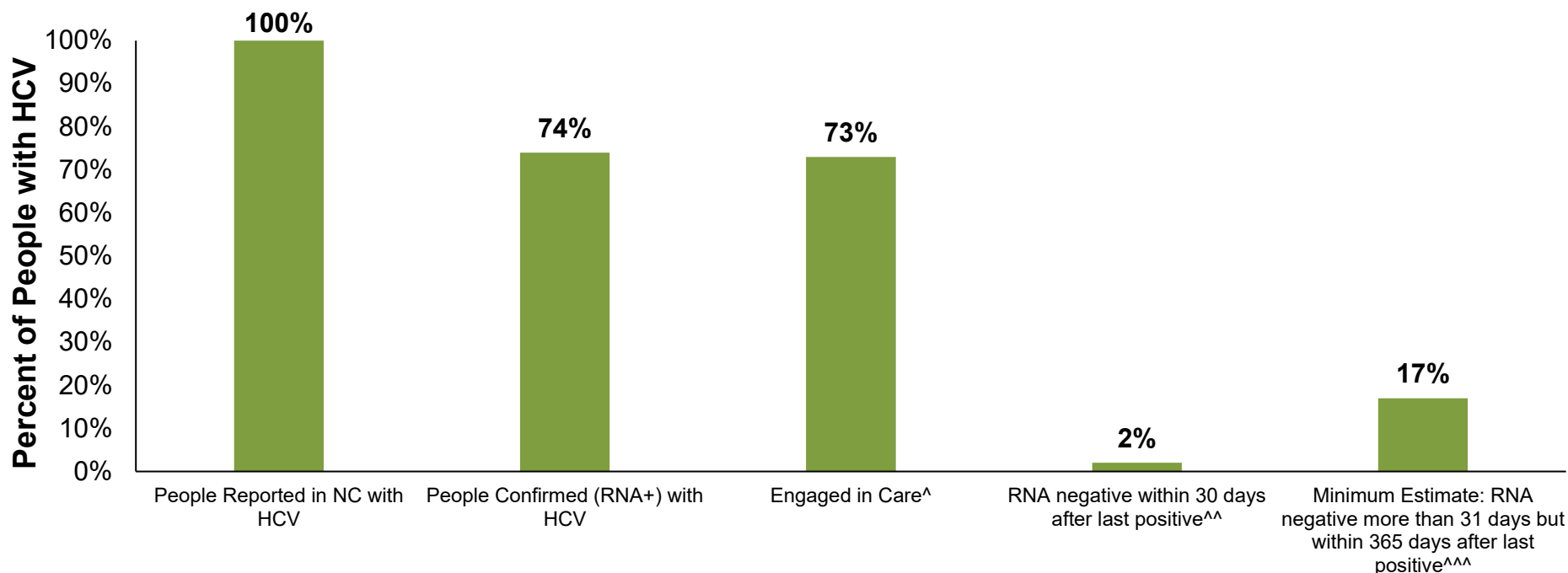
Hepatitis C Surveillance-Based Treatment Cascade

- Anyone reported with HCV, including acute HCV in 2023 and over the age of three
- Based on labs only
- Anyone alive at the end of 2023

Hepatitis C Treatment Outcome	Definition
1.) RNA detectable	Classified as “confirmed” in NC EDSS
2.) Engaged in care	Having an additional HCV RNA or genotype after their initial date of report to public health
3.) RNA negative* within 30 days of last positive	Having positive HCV RNA or genotype, followed by a negative HCV RNA within 30 days (potential indicator of natural clearance)
4.) RNA negative* more than 30 days, but within 365 days of last positive	Having a negative or undetectable HCV RNA ≥ 31 days but within a year of last positive

*negative RNA results are reported into the surveillance system only where an HCV record matches to a subsequent negative test

Hepatitis C Clearance Cascade, North Carolina 2020-2024



^Engaged in care is defined as having an additional RNA after their initial date of report to public health.

^^RNA-negative less than 30 days of positive is a potential indicator of natural clearance and therefore is its own parameter.

^^^Defined as the minimum number of all confirmed HCV cases that achieved SVR. This is likely a significant underestimate of treatment and cure as not all negative laboratory results are reported and persons may not receive a final RNA result after treatment. Negative RNA results are reported into the surveillance system only where an HCV record matches to a subsequent negative test.

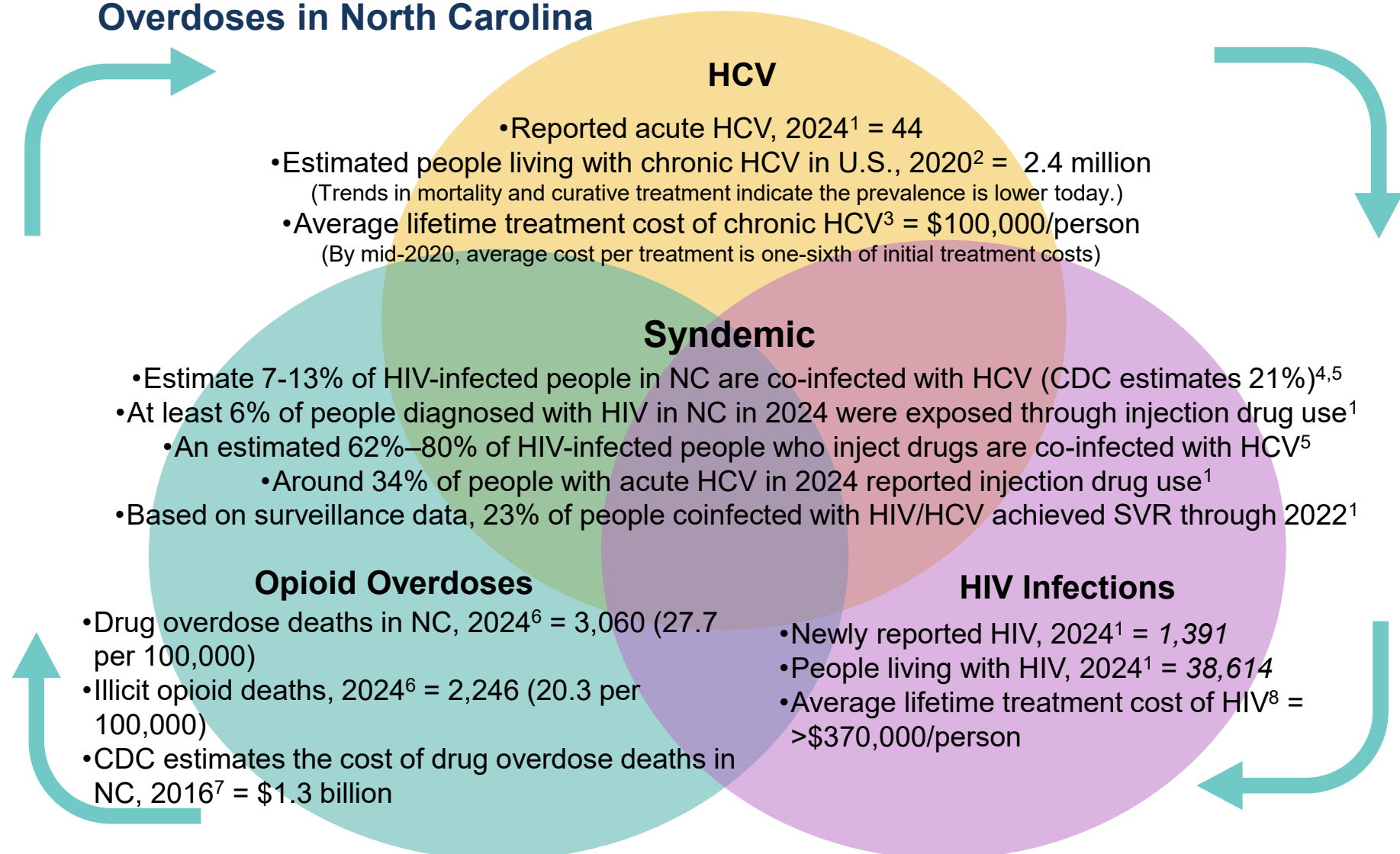
Case definition for hepatitis C changed in 2016 and in 2020.

Includes people reported with acute hepatitis C starting in 2020.

Data Source: North Carolina Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NC EDSS) (data as of September 2025).

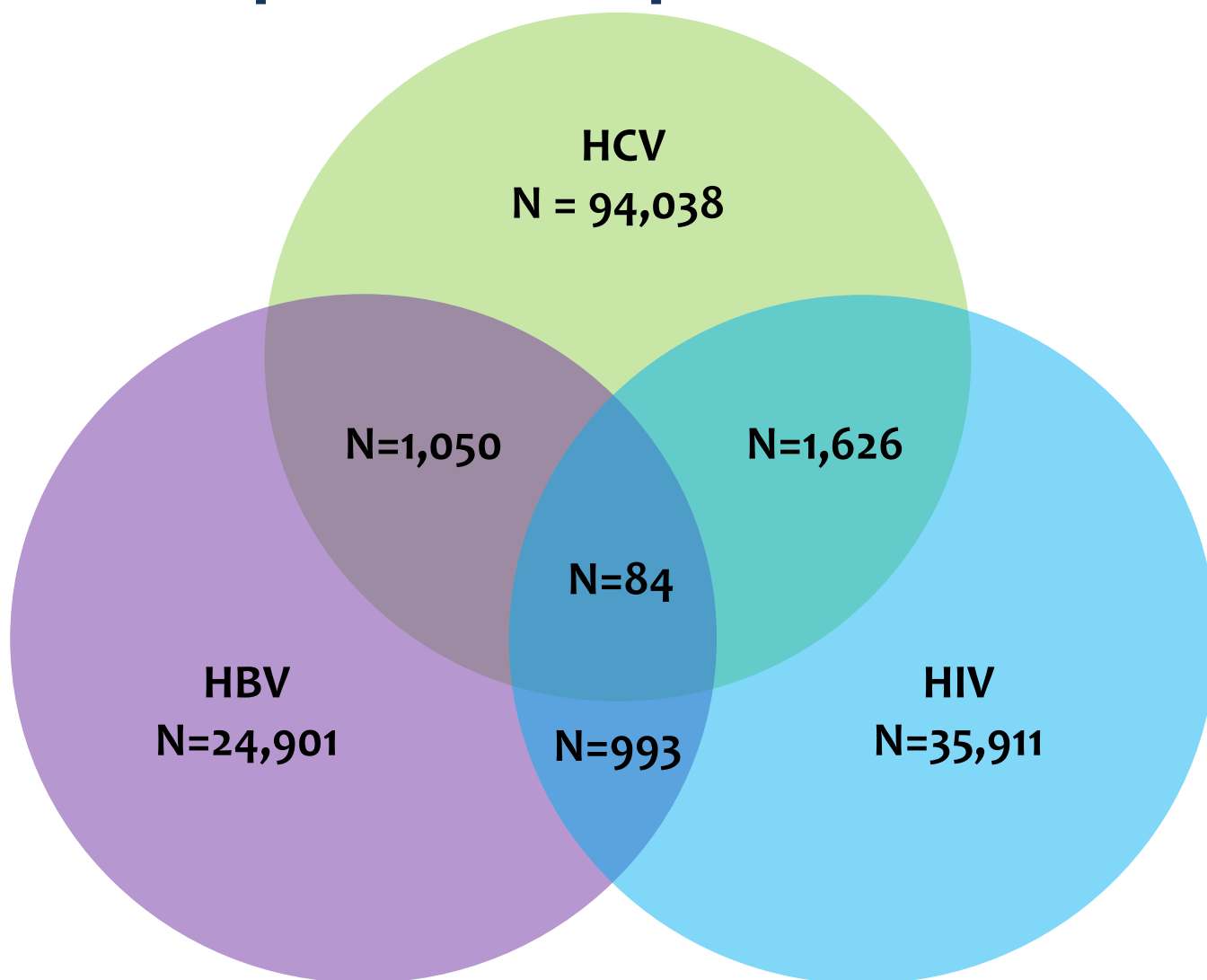
Viral Hepatitis and HIV

Conquering the Syndemic: The Impact of HCV, HIV, and Opioid Overdoses in North Carolina



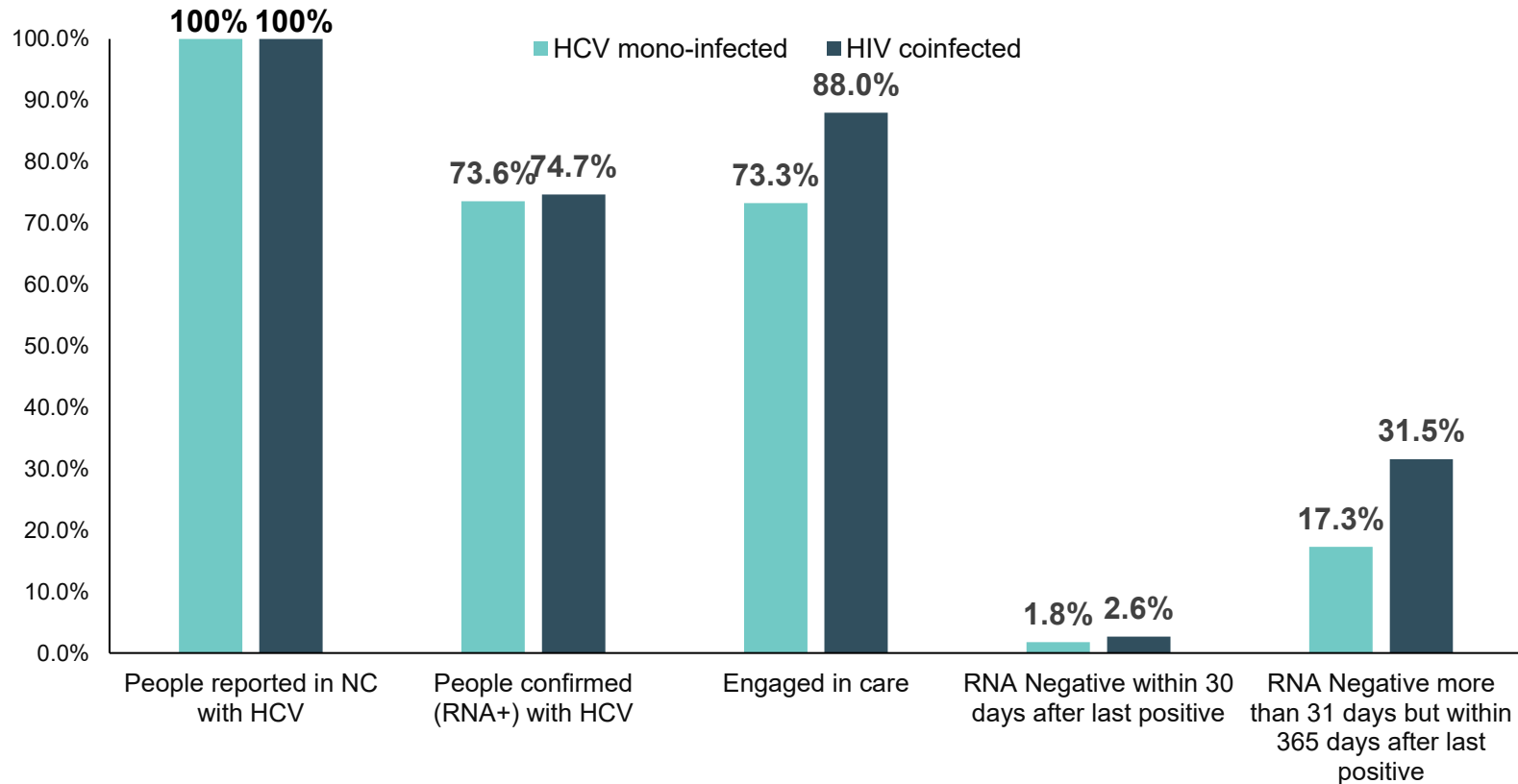
¹NC HIV/STD/Hepatitis Annual Surveillance Report, 2024; ²CDC Surveillance for Viral Hepatitis (<https://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis-c/hcp/clinical-overview/index.html>); ³In the absence of liver transplant (National Viral Hepatitis Roundtable and Center for Health Law and Policy Innovation of Harvard Law School <https://stateofhepc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/State-of-Hep-C-Treatment-Costs-Fact-Sheet.pdf>); ⁴Based on estimates from NC Ryan White CAREWare and the Medical Monitoring Project in NC; ⁵People Coinfected with HIV and Viral Hepatitis <https://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/populations/hiv.htm>; ⁶Opioid and Substance Use Action Plan Data Dashboard <https://www.dph.ncdhhs.gov/programs/chronic-disease-and-injury/injury-and-violence-prevention-branch/north-carolina-overdose-epidemic-data>; ⁷<https://www.ncdhhs.gov/prescription-fact-sheet-final-03-07-17/download>; ⁸Bingham A, Shrestha R, Khurana N, et al. Estimated lifetime HIV-related medical costs in the United States. Special Issue of Sex Transm Dis 2021

2024 HIV/Hepatitis B/Hepatitis C Coinfection



Data Source: North Carolina Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NC EDSS) (data as of September 2025) and enhanced HIV/AIDS Reporting System (NC EDSS) (data as of July 2025).

HIV and HCV Coinfected Clearance Cascade, 2020-2024



[^]Engaged in care is defined as having an additional RNA after their initial date of report to public health.

^{^^}RNA-negative less than 30 days of positive is a potential indicator of natural clearance, and therefore is its own parameter.

Negative RNA results are reported into the surveillance system only where an HCV record matches to a subsequent negative test.

Case definition for hepatitis C changed in 2016 and in 2020.

Includes people reported with acute hepatitis C starting in 2020.

Data Source: North Carolina Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NC EDSS) (data as of September 2025).