

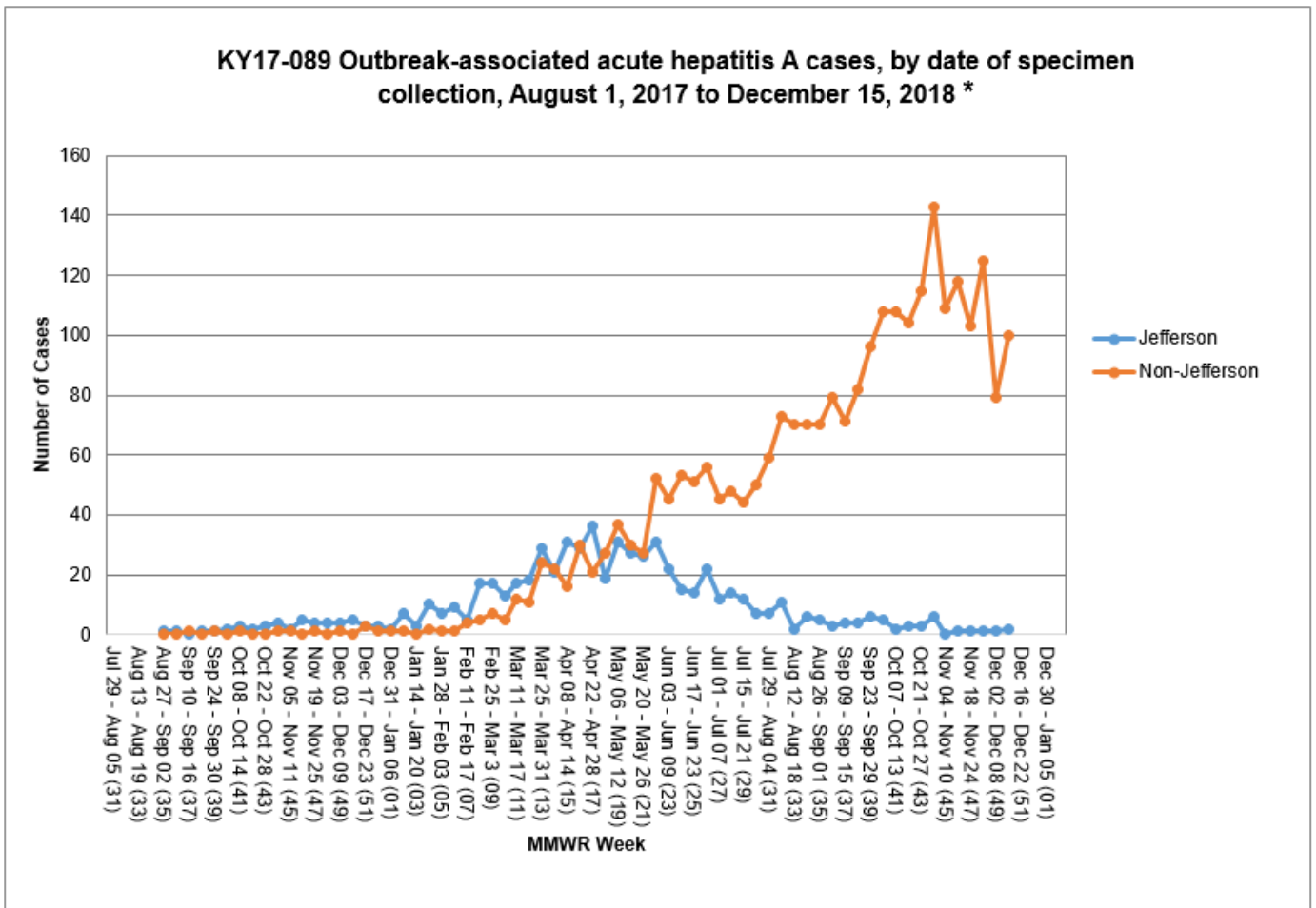


Please Continue to Test and Vaccinate for Hepatitis A

As rates across the state and region continue to rise, they fall in Louisville.

The state of Kentucky declared an outbreak of acute hepatitis A on November 21, 2017.

Infection rates in Jefferson County have fallen from a high of more than four new cases per day in April 2018 to about 0.25 new cases per day in December 2018. Nonetheless, rates of hepatitis A virus infection continue to climb throughout the state and the region as new states continue to be added to the outbreak list in the U.S. Kentucky has outpaced other states, and the Kentucky outbreak had reached 3,265 hepatitis A cases with 1,625 hospitalizations and 21 deaths as of December 8, 2018.



Remember that continued vaccination, in addition to early diagnosis of hepatitis A virus with hepatitis A IgM antibody, elevated transaminase levels, and symptoms of viral hepatitis and prompt reporting to the Louisville Metro Department of Public Health and Wellness Communicable Disease staff is essential to continue to keep this outbreak under control. Please fax new case reports to (502) 574-5865.

Thanks for your continued efforts to control the hepatitis A outbreak!

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