

2023 HIV and Hepatitis Prevention Program Snapshot

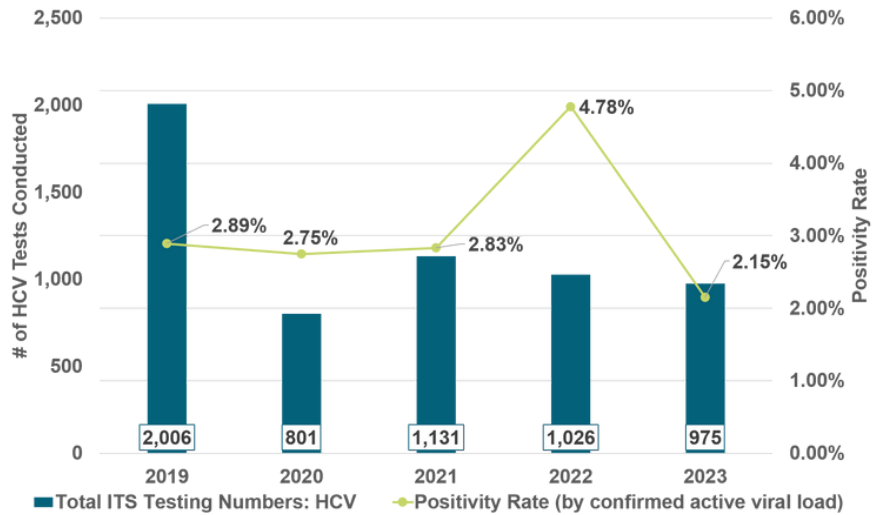
Integrated Testing Services: HCV Screening

The Integrated Testing Services (ITS) program administered **975** hepatitis C (HCV) tests across 12 participating agencies in 2023.

This represents a 4.97% decrease from 2022, and is 19.69% under the five-year average of 1,188 tests per year.

Beginning in 2020, the program prioritized the use of HCV test kits for people with a history of injection drug use (PWID). As a result of this modified guidance, testing levels have declined over the five-year period represented.

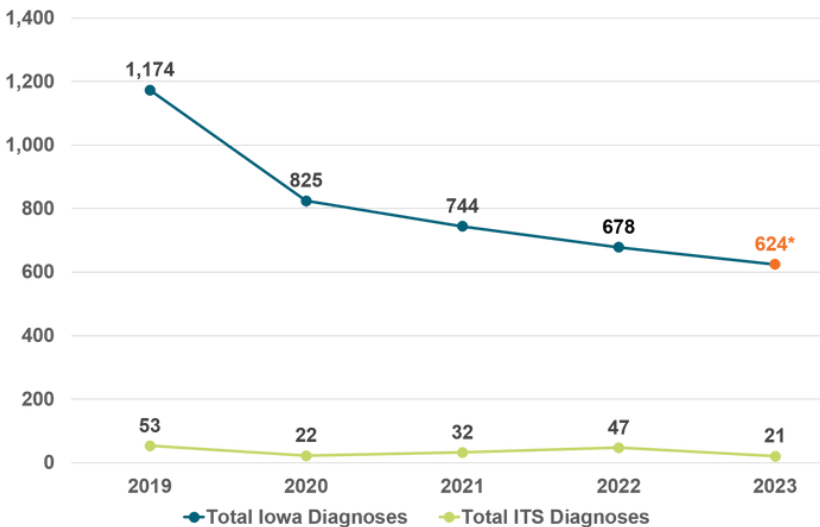
ITS HCV Testing and Positivity 2019 - 2023



The HCV positivity rate (calculated by those individuals as having an active viral load) for 2023 was 2.15%, slightly lower than the five-year positivity rate of 3.01%. The majority of individuals diagnosed with chronic HCV in ITS settings in 2023 (95%) reported a history of injection drug use, consistent with programmatic guidance.

Data are not de-duplicated. Numbers represent test encounters not unique individuals.

ITS HCV Diagnoses vs State Totals 2019 - 2023



The proportion of individuals diagnosed with chronic HCV in Iowa identified through ITS program activities decreased to **3% of new diagnoses in 2023** (as compared to 7% in 2022 and 4% over the five-year period represented).

Overall, Iowa has seen a total decline in newly reported chronic HCV cases of 47% between 2019 and 2023. This decrease has been attributed to a decline in diagnoses among baby boomers (individuals born between 1945 and 1965) as well as those less than 40 years of age.

Preliminary analysis suggests that nearly half (48%) of all newly reported cases of HCV in Iowa were among PWID.

**2023 state total displayed not final at time of publication and may be revised.*