

France

Population (January 2013):	65 578 819
Human development Index (2013):	0.884
HAV vaccine recommendations:	France does not offer vaccination against hepatitis A in the national childhood immunisation programme. Vaccination is recommended for patients with: 1.chronic liver diseases or cystic fibrosis, 2.institutionalised children, 3.children aged 1 year or more born to a family with at least one parent originating from an endemic country and who are susceptible to stay in this country, 4.MSM and households contacts of HAV patients.
Seroprevalence studies by quality score:	score 0: 6 studies score 1: 12 studies score 2: 2 studies
Seroprevalence studies timeframe:	1977–2010

Seroprevalence assessment: **very low**
Incidence assessment: **low**
Susceptibility in adults: **moderate**

Nine studies were conducted before 1990: four reports estimates HAV seroprevalence by 30 years of age and all estimates are above 50%; in the same time period, four studies report estimates by 15 years of age: three below 50% and one above 50% (74% in the age group 15-18) (Lemaire 1980). Nine studies were conducted from 1990 to 2000 with consistent results. Four of these report HAV seroprevalence estimates by 30 years of age and all estimates are below 50%. One of the two studies conducted after 2000 reports seroprevalence estimates in the adult general population to be below 30% by the age of 30 years (Lepoutre 2013). Therefore France can currently be defined as a very low endemicity country (France_Figure 1), with a transition from a higher endemicity level occurring in the 1980s.

France_Table 1. Hepatitis A seroprevalence level by time period

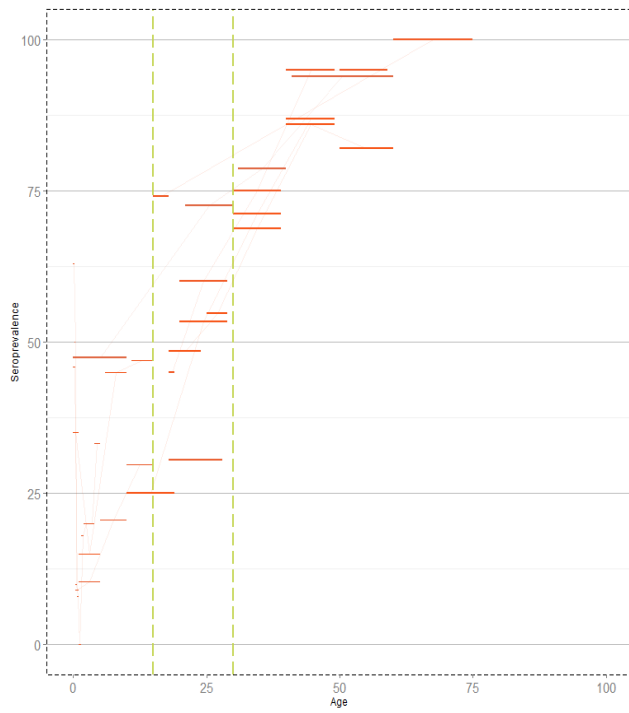
	Very low endemicity	Low endemicity	Intermediate endemicity
1975–1989			
1990–1999			
2000–2013			

Reported incidence has been steadily declining from 15/100 000 in the early 1990s (France_Figure 2). TESSy data are consistent with a low/very low endemicity picture, with notification rate oscillating around 2/100 000 since 2006.

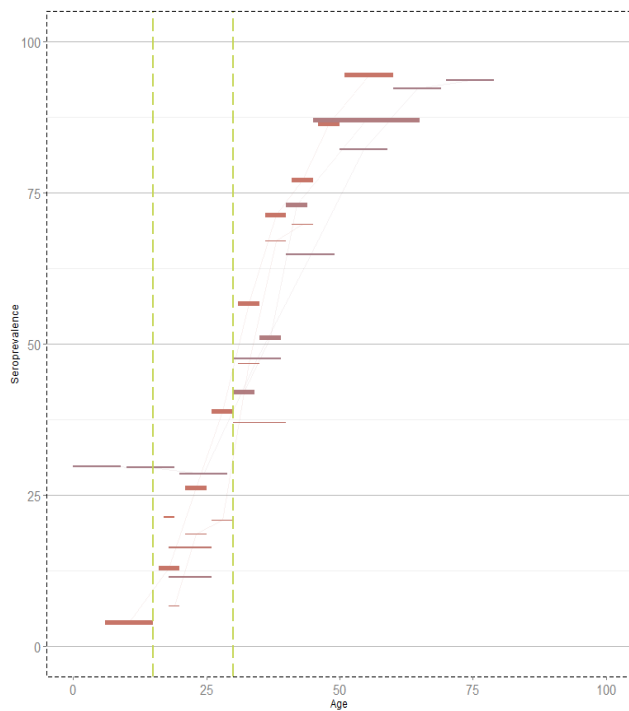
At the end of the 1990s, the susceptibility was estimated to be above 50% by the age of 30 and around 25% at the age of 50. Considering the current very low seroprevalence in young adults, and the incidence picture of the past years, the susceptibility in adults may today be considered moderate.

France_Figure 1 (panel a). Summary of seroprevalence in France, by age and time period.

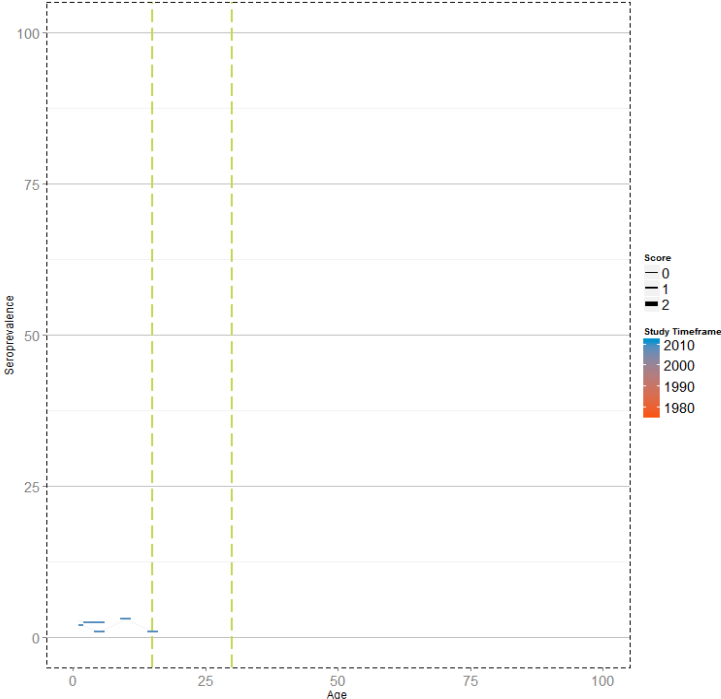
Panel a.1: 1975–1989



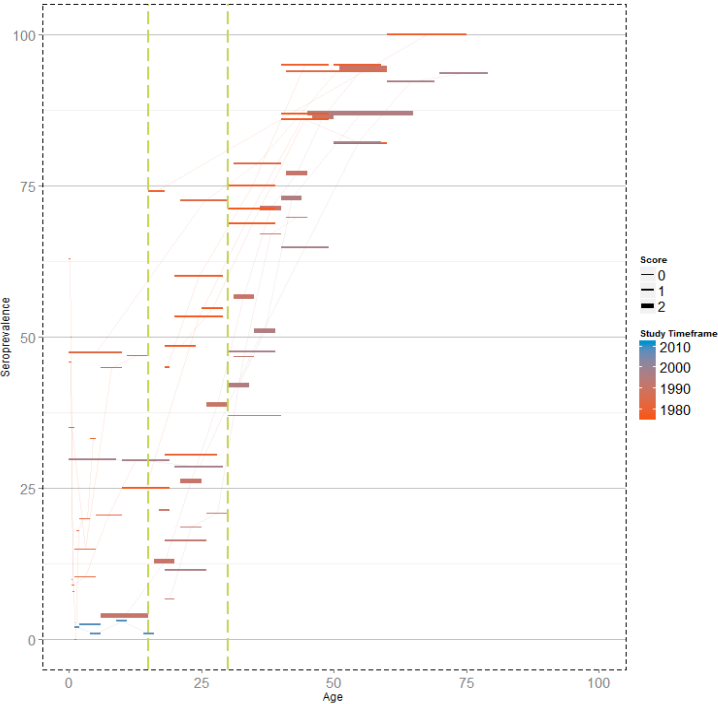
Panel a.2: 1990–1999

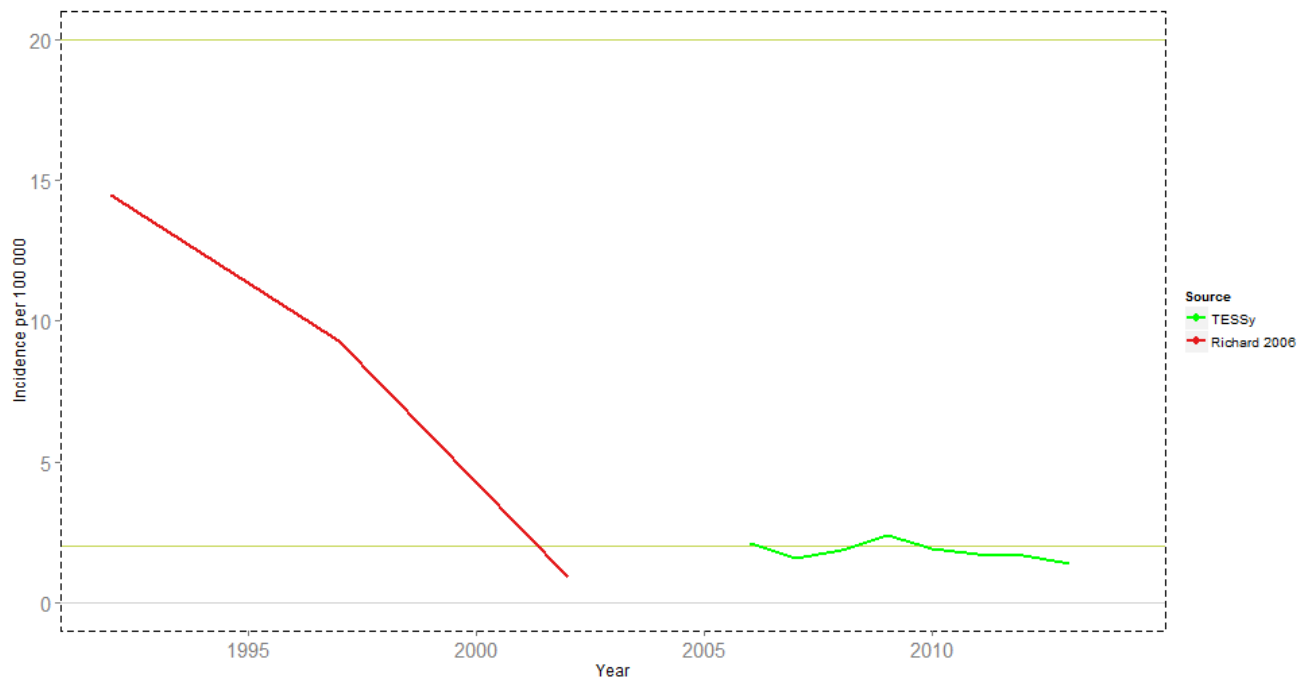


Panel a.3: 2000–2013



France_Figure 1 (panel b). Summary of seroprevalence in France, by age and time period (1975-2013)



France_Figure 2. Reported incidence of hepatitis A, France, 1990–2013

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