

## Netherlands

<b>Population (January 2013):</b>	16 779 575
<b>Human development Index (2013):</b>	0.915
<b>HAV vaccine recommendations:</b>	Hepatitis A vaccine is not part of the routine childhood immunisation programme.
<b>Seroprevalence studies by quality score:</b>	score 0: 0 study score 1: 3 study score 2: 2 studies
<b>Seroprevalence studies timeframe:</b>	1977–2004

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

Seroprevalence levels reported in 1977 (Frezner 1979) indicate low endemicity levels, with about 36% seropositivity among 20–29 years old and 64% among 30–39 years old. One study (Termorshuizen 2000) conducted in 1999 reported 20% seroprevalence in the age group 15–49. Two studies published after 2000 both suggest that the Netherlands should be considered a very low endemicity country. Transition from low to very low endemicity most likely happened during the early 1990s.

**Netherlands\_Table 1. Hepatitis A seroprevalence level by time period**

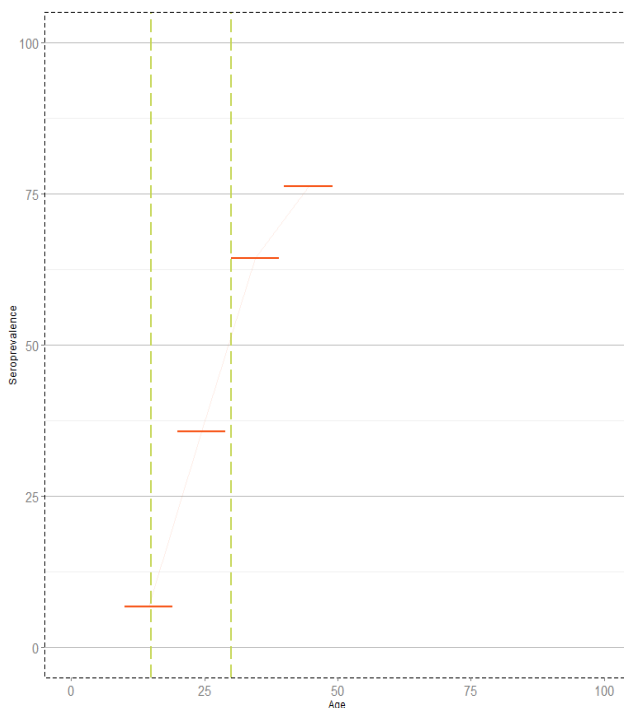
	Very low endemicity	Low endemicity	Intermediate endemicity
1975–1989			
1990–1999			
2000–2013			

Studies published since the 1990s report incidence levels always below 10 cases per 100 000 (Figure 2). Between 2006 and 2012, TESSy data show reported hepatitis A incidence to be below 2 cases per 100 000. The current level of incidence is in line with the very low endemicity level assessed through seroprevalence surveys.

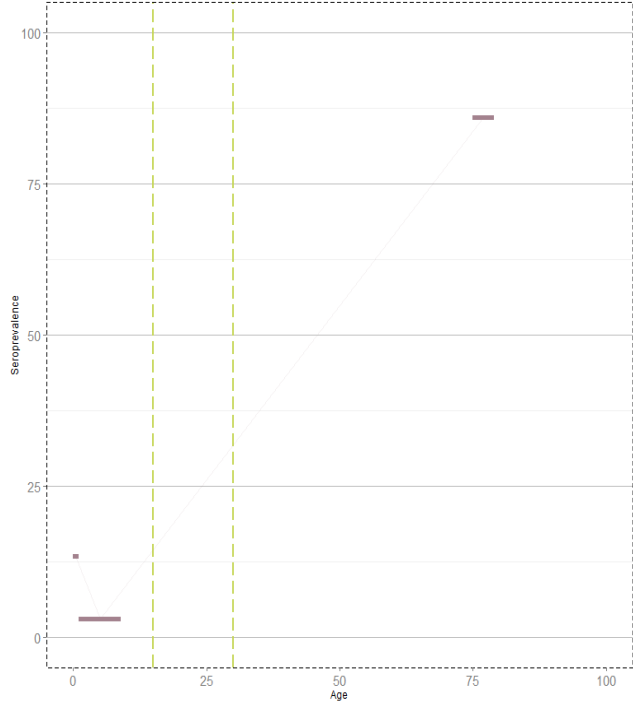
The susceptibility among adults has to be considered high, with at least 60% susceptible population by 30 years and around 40% susceptibility at 50 years of age.

**Netherlands\_Figure 1 (panel a). Summary of seroprevalence in the Netherlands, by age and time period.**

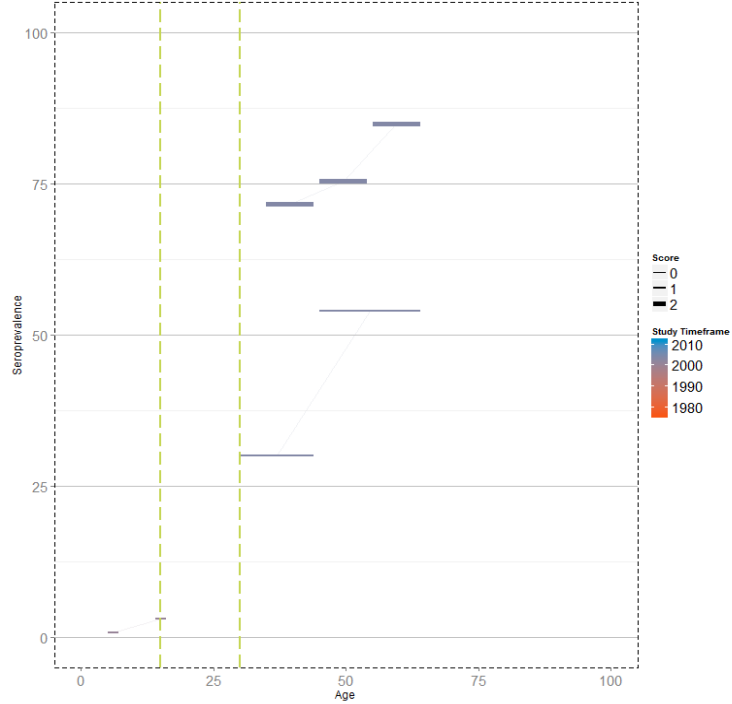
Panel a.1: 1975–1989



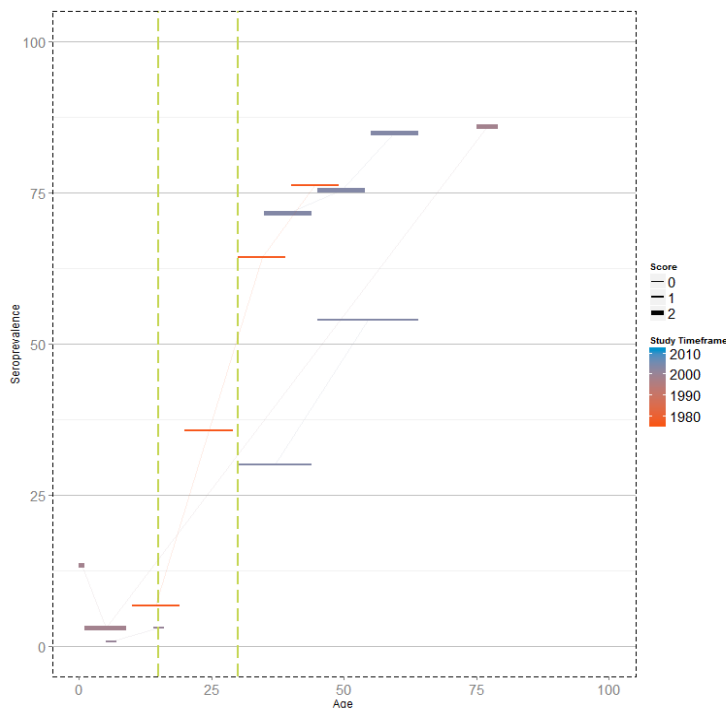
Panel a.2: 1990–1999



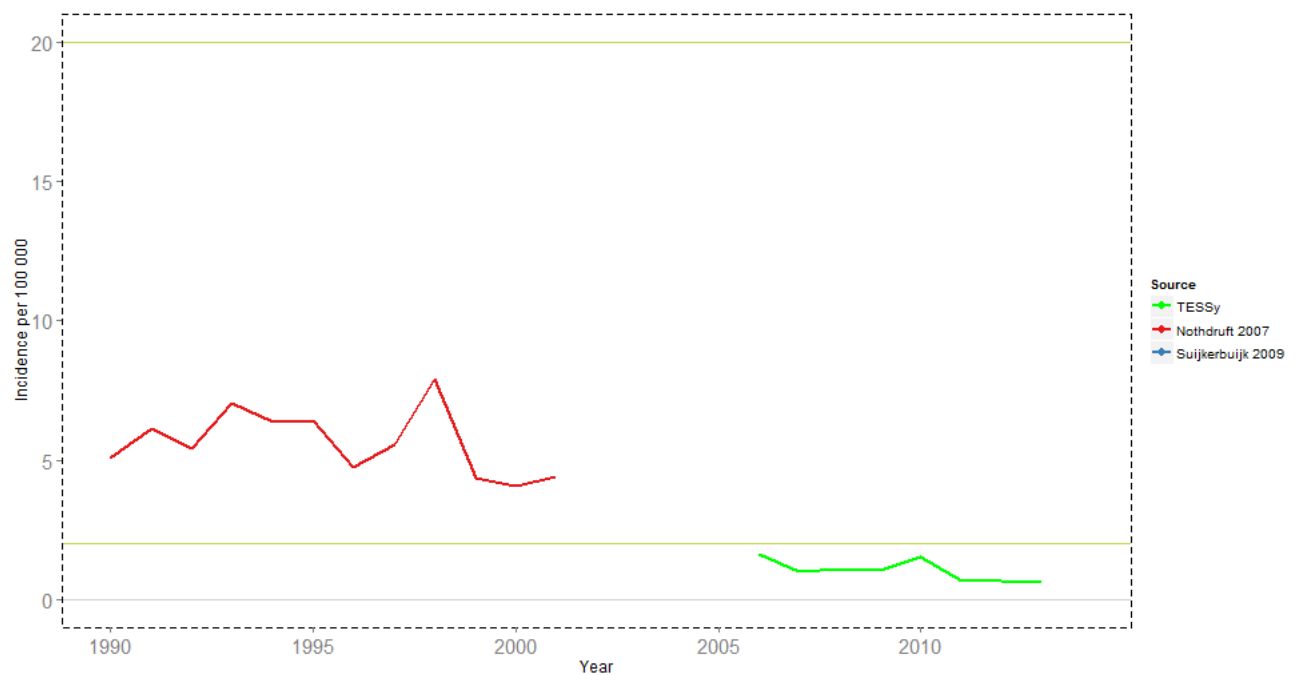
Panel a.3: 2000–2013



**Netherlands\_Figure 1 (panel b). Summary of seroprevalence in the Netherlands, by age and time period (1975–2013)**



**Netherlands\_Figure 2. Reported incidence of hepatitis A, the Netherlands, 1989–2013**



### Bibliography

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