

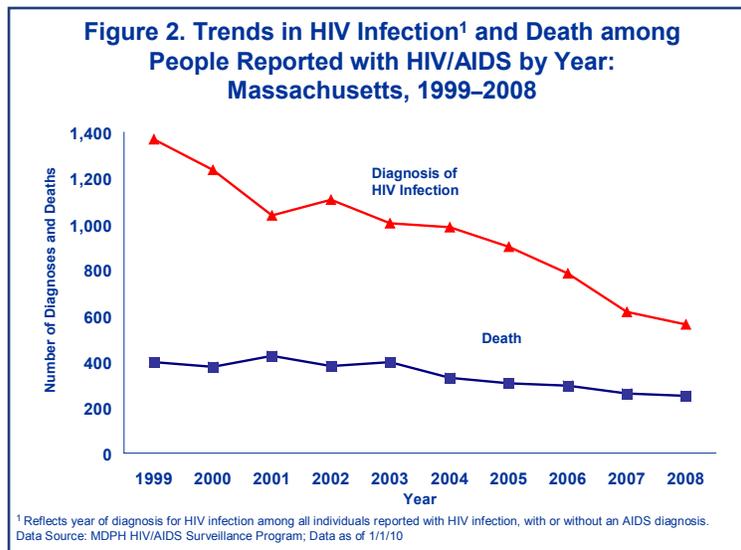
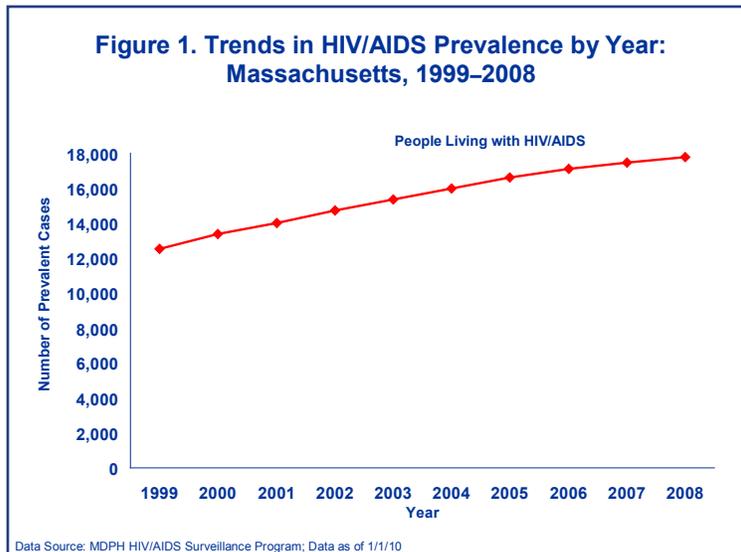


# Massachusetts HIV/AIDS Data Fact Sheet

## The Massachusetts HIV/AIDS Epidemic at a Glance

### HIV/AIDS Trends from 1999 to 2008

Every year, there have been more people living with HIV/AIDS in Massachusetts. In the past ten years, the number of people living with HIV/AIDS has increased annually as new HIV infection diagnoses exceeded the number of deaths among people reported with HIV/AIDS. From 1999 to 2008, the number of people living with HIV/AIDS increased by 42%.



### General Statistics

- As of December 31, 2009, a cumulative total of 30,537 Massachusetts residents have been diagnosed and reported with HIV infection, with or without an AIDS diagnosis.
  - 41% (N=12,492) have died and 59% (N=18,045) are living with HIV/AIDS
  - As of October 1, 2009, there were 18,045 people known to be living with HIV/AIDS in Massachusetts
- Including estimates of Massachusetts residents infected with HIV who do not yet know their status or who have not been reported, there are 25,000 – 27,000 individuals currently living with HIV/AIDS in the Commonwealth.
  - An estimated 21% of people with HIV infection do not know their status<sup>i</sup>

### Who is currently living with HIV/AIDS?

- Forty-four percent of people living with HIV/AIDS in Massachusetts are white (non-Hispanic), 29% are black (non-Hispanic), 25% are Hispanic, 1% are Asian/Pacific Islander, and less than 1% are American Indian/Alaska Native. To illustrate racial and ethnic disparities in infection rates, Black (non-Hispanic) and Hispanic people each comprise 6% of the total Massachusetts population.
- Male-to-male sex and injection drug use are the leading reported exposure modes for HIV infection among all people living with HIV/AIDS, accounting for 35% and 24% of all exposures, respectively.
- Among **males** living with HIV/AIDS, 51% are white (non-Hispanic), 23% are black (non-Hispanic) and 24% are Hispanic.
- Among **females** living with HIV/AIDS, 28% are white (non-Hispanic), 42% are black (non-Hispanic) and 28% are Hispanic.

### Who is experiencing differential impact from HIV/AIDS?

- With age-adjusted prevalence rates of 1,718 and 1,512 cases per 100,000 population, black (non-Hispanic) and Hispanic individuals are affected by HIV/AIDS at levels 12 and 11 times that of white (non-Hispanic) individuals (142 per 100,000).





# Massachusetts HIV/AIDS Data Fact Sheet

## The Massachusetts HIV/AIDS Epidemic at a Glance

- With age-adjusted prevalence rates of 2,177 and 2,214 cases per 100,000 population, black (non-Hispanic) and Hispanic **males** are each affected by HIV/AIDS at levels 9 times that of white (non-Hispanic) **males** (241 per 100,000).
- With age-adjusted prevalence rates of 1,338 and 902 cases per 100,000 population, black (non-Hispanic) and Hispanic **females** are affected by HIV/AIDS at levels 27 and 18 times that of white (non-Hispanic) **females** (50 per 100,000).

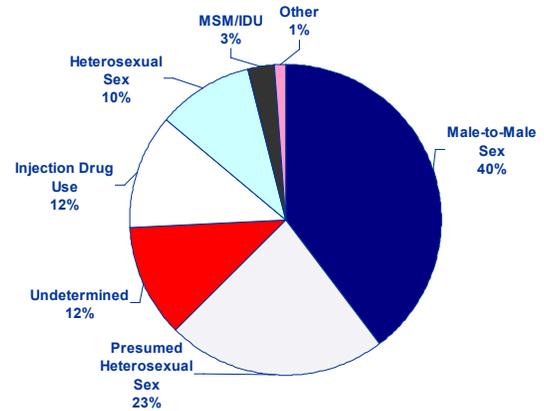
### Who is most at risk of HIV infection?

Trends in the distribution of HIV infection diagnoses from 1999 to 2008 are used to highlight populations at elevated risk of HIV infection. These trends, as well as the distribution of people who were recently diagnosed with HIV infection within the three-year period 2006 to 2008, provide useful information for planning and targeting HIV prevention programs.

- Of all people diagnosed and reported with HIV/AIDS in Massachusetts, 20,626 were diagnosed with HIV infection before 1999.
- The number of annual HIV diagnoses reported decreased from 1,369 in 1999 to 617 in 2007.
- As of January 1, 2010, 563 HIV diagnoses had been reported for 2008. This number will continue to increase as additional cases are reported, lessening the apparent decline in the number of HIV infection diagnoses in recent years. As Massachusetts providers who report HIV diagnoses are still transitioning from code to name-based reporting requirements (effective January 1, 2007), the 2008 HIV infection diagnosis data are incomplete. Caution should be exercised when considering changes in trends for 2008 due to the potential for differential reporting by providers at the beginning of the new reporting system.
- From 1999 to 2008, the distribution of people diagnosed with HIV infection by gender ranged from 68% to 74% male and 26% to 32% female.
- From 1999 to 2008, the proportion of HIV diagnoses ranged from 38% to 42% among white (non-Hispanic) individuals, from 30% to 35% among black (non-Hispanic) individuals and from 23% to 26% among Hispanic individuals.

- Among females diagnosed with HIV infection from 1999 to 2008, the proportion of black (non-Hispanic) females increased from 39% to 53%, while the proportion of white (non-Hispanic) females decreased from 29% to 18%. From 1999 to 2008, the proportion of Hispanic females ranged from 24% to 31%.
- From 1999 to 2008, the proportion of HIV diagnoses where injection drug use was the mode of exposure decreased from 29% to 10%.
- Among individuals recently diagnosed with HIV infection (within the three-year period 2006 to 2008), male-to-male sex and presumed heterosexual sex (with partners of unknown risk and HIV status) were the leading reported exposure modes.

**Figure 3. People Diagnosed with HIV Infection Within the Years 2006–2008 by Exposure Mode: Massachusetts**



Data Source: MDPH HIV/AIDS Surveillance Program. Data as of 1/1/10

- Among males diagnosed with HIV infection, the proportion of HIV diagnoses with male-to-male sex as the primary reported exposure mode increased from 41% in 1999 to 57% in 2008.
- From 1999 to 2008, the proportion of HIV diagnoses among females exposed to HIV through heterosexual sex with partners of unknown risk and HIV status (presumed heterosexual sex) increased from 30% to 45%.
- From 1999 to 2008, the proportion of people born outside the US among those diagnosed with HIV infection increased from 18% to 29%.



For detailed data tables and technical notes see Appendix  
**Massachusetts Department of Public Health Office of HIV/AIDS**  
 250 Washington St. 3rd Floor Boston, MA 02108  
 617-624-5300 FAX 617-624-5399 [www.mass.gov/dph/aids](http://www.mass.gov/dph/aids)



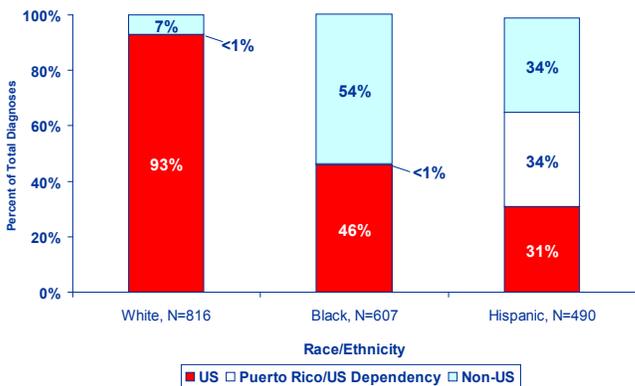


# Massachusetts HIV/AIDS Data Fact Sheet

## The Massachusetts HIV/AIDS Epidemic at a Glance

- During the same time period the proportion of HIV infections diagnosed among females born outside the US increased from 27% to 47%.
- Fifty-four percent of black (non-Hispanic) individuals diagnosed with HIV infection within the three year period 2006 to 2008 were born outside the US, compared to 34% of Hispanic and 7% of white (non-Hispanic) individuals.

**Figure 4. People Diagnosed with HIV Infection Within the Years 2006–2008 by Race/Ethnicity and Place of Birth: Massachusetts**



Data Source: MDPH HIV/AIDS Surveillance Program, Data as of 1/1/10

### Who is infected with HIV but does not yet know?

People who already have AIDS when HIV infection is diagnosed (or who are diagnosed with AIDS within two months of HIV infection diagnosis) represent a population that may have first learned about their HIV status late in the progression of HIV disease. It is likely that people who are concurrently diagnosed with HIV and AIDS had been HIV infected but unaware of their status for a longer period of time compared to those without a concurrent diagnosis.

- From 2006 to 2008, 592 people already had AIDS when HIV infection was diagnosed (or were diagnosed with AIDS within two months), representing 30% of the 1,964 diagnoses of HIV infection during this time period.

- Thirty-eight percent of people born outside the US who were diagnosed with HIV infection from 2006 to 2008 already had AIDS when they were diagnosed (or were diagnosed with AIDS within two months), compared to 26% of people born in the US and 29% of people born in Puerto Rico and other US dependencies.

### How have patterns of AIDS diagnoses changed over time?

- After reaching a plateau of incidence approaching 900 new diagnoses each year from 1997 to 1999, reported AIDS incidence declined from 2000 to 2008, when 324 cases of AIDS were reported.
- From 1999 to 2008, the proportion of newly diagnosed AIDS cases among white (non-Hispanic) individuals ranged from 45% to 36%. The proportion of AIDS cases among Hispanic individuals from 1999 to 2008 ranged from 26% to 28%. The proportion among black (non-Hispanic) individuals ranged from 26% to 34% from 1999 to 2008.
- For 10 years, from 1992 through 2003, the number of new AIDS diagnoses with injection drug use as the reported exposure mode surpassed the number of AIDS diagnoses with male-to-male sex as the reported exposure mode. From 2004 through 2008, the trend reversed with the number of new AIDS diagnoses with male-to-male sex as the reported exposure mode exceeding the number of those with injection drug use (171 in 2004 vs. 57 in 2008).

### Who is dying with HIV/AIDS and how has this changed over time?

- After reaching a peak of 1,212 in 1994 (data not shown), deaths among people reported with AIDS declined each year until 1998, when there were 332 deaths. (Deaths in people reported with HIV infection [non-AIDS]<sup>ii</sup> are not available prior to 1999 because HIV infection was not a reportable condition before that time.)



For detailed data tables and technical notes see Appendix  
 Massachusetts Department of Public Health Office of HIV/AIDS  
 250 Washington St. 3rd Floor Boston, MA 02108  
 617-624-5300 FAX 617-624-5399 www.mass.gov/dph/aids

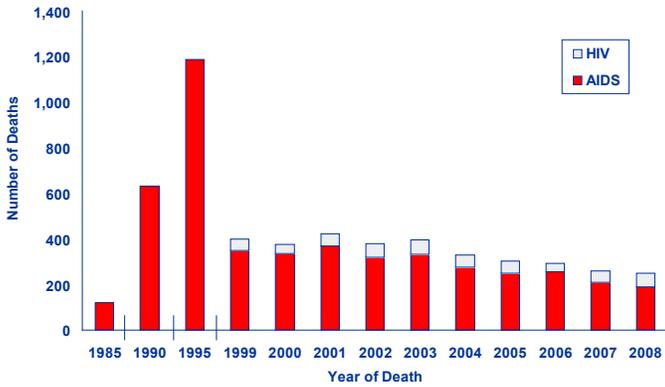




# Massachusetts HIV/AIDS Data Fact Sheet

## The Massachusetts HIV/AIDS Epidemic at a Glance

**Figure 5. Number of Deaths Among People Reported with HIV Infection and AIDS by Year of Death: Massachusetts, 1985–2008**



Note: Death data for people with HIV who had not yet progressed to AIDS are not available before 1999 and therefore not included here. Data Source: MDPH HIV/AIDS Surveillance Program; Data as of 1/1/10

- From 2003 to 2008, the annual number of deaths of people reported with HIV (non-AIDS)<sup>ii</sup> and AIDS declined each year to a low of 250 in 2008.
- Deaths among people with HIV (non-AIDS)<sup>ii</sup> as a proportion of total deaths among people reported with HIV/AIDS increased from 12% in 1999 to 25% in 2008.
- From 1999 to 2008, the proportion of deaths among people reported with HIV/AIDS who were female ranged from 24% to 31%.
- From 1999 to 2008, the proportionate distribution of deaths among people reported with HIV/AIDS by race/ethnicity fluctuated without a clear trend. The proportion of deaths among white (non-Hispanic) individuals during this time period ranged from 47% to 55%, black (non-Hispanic) from 22% to 29% and Hispanic from 18% to 27%.
- From 1999 to 2008, the distribution of deaths among people reported with HIV/AIDS by exposure mode remained fairly stable, with roughly half of deaths each year in people with a primary reported risk of injection drug use and 16% to 22% in people with a risk of male-to-male sex.

- From 1999 to 2008, the proportion of deaths among people reported with HIV/AIDS with a primary reported risk of heterosexual sex (with partners with known risk and HIV status) ranged from 7% to 12%, of presumed exposure through heterosexual sex from 6% to 12%, of male-to-male sex and injection drug use (MSM/IDU) from 4% to 7%, and of other risks 1% to 3%.

### Data Sources

All HIV/AIDS Case Data: Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH) HIV/AIDS Surveillance Program, Data as of 1/1/10

<sup>i</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. HIV Prevalence Estimates — United States, 2006. MMWR 2008;57:1073-1076.

<sup>ii</sup> People with HIV infection (non-AIDS) refers to those who were reported with an HIV infection diagnosis and did not progress to AIDS before death



For detailed data tables and technical notes see Appendix  
**Massachusetts Department of Public Health Office of HIV/AIDS**  
 250 Washington St. 3rd Floor Boston, MA 02108  
 617-624-5300 FAX 617-624-5399 [www.mass.gov/dph/aids](http://www.mass.gov/dph/aids)

