

Lyme Disease Surveillance in Massachusetts, 2006

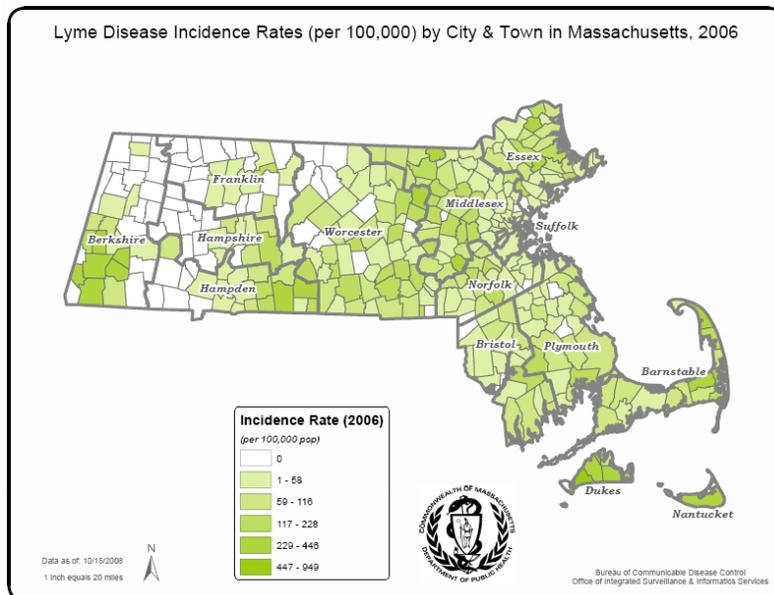
Massachusetts Department of Public Health

2006 Surveillance Highlights

- 2,494 confirmed Lyme disease cases were reported in MA in 2006, representing no significant change statewide from the number reported in 2005.
- Despite the similar numbers statewide, Worcester County saw a 49% increase in 2006 cases compared with 2005.
- The majority of confirmed cases had onsets in June, July and August.
- The average age for a confirmed Lyme disease case was 36 years. The highest reported incidence rates were among children aged 5-9 years and adults aged 55-64 years.
- 34% of confirmed cases did not report an EM rash.

The map below illustrates Lyme disease incidence rates per 100,000 by town in Massachusetts in 2006. The darker the shading the higher the incidence. Lyme disease is considered endemic in the entire state of Massachusetts.

Areas of highest incidence include Cape Cod and southeastern Massachusetts, the islands of Nantucket and Martha's Vineyard, areas north of Boston in Essex county, towns along the upper Middlesex and Worcester county border, along the Quabbin Reservoir watershed, and in southern Berkshire county.



County*	2006 Confirmed Cases (#)	Incidence Rate (per 100,000)
Barnstable	182	82.0
Berkshire	80	59.3
Bristol	194	36.3
Dukes	44	295.3
Essex	278	38.5
Franklin	15	21.1
Hampden	141	31.1
Hampshire	64	42.1
Middlesex	512	34.9
Nantucket	24	252.6
Norfolk	285	43.8
Plymouth	234	49.8
Suffolk	23	3.3
Worcester	381	50.8
State Total	2494	39.3

* County was unknown for 37 cases

Figure 1

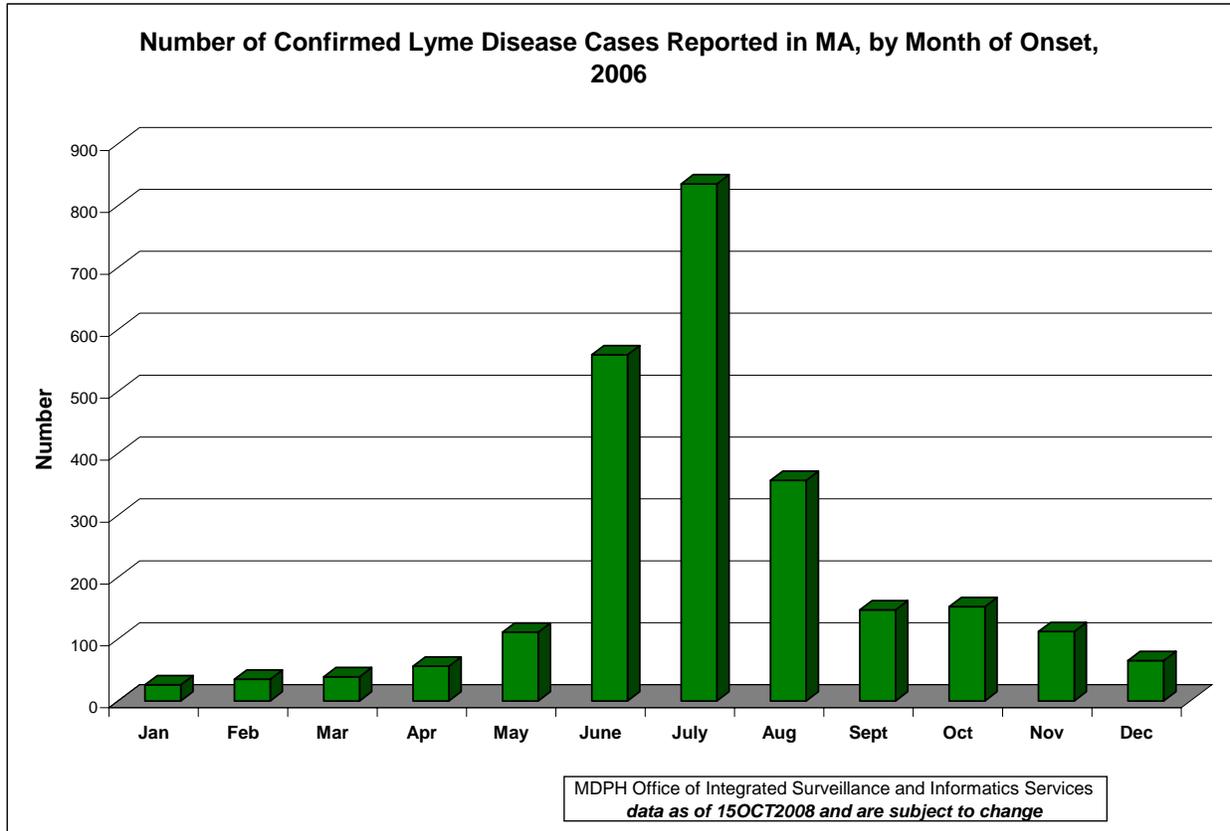


Figure 2

