

Lyme Disease Surveillance in Massachusetts, 2009

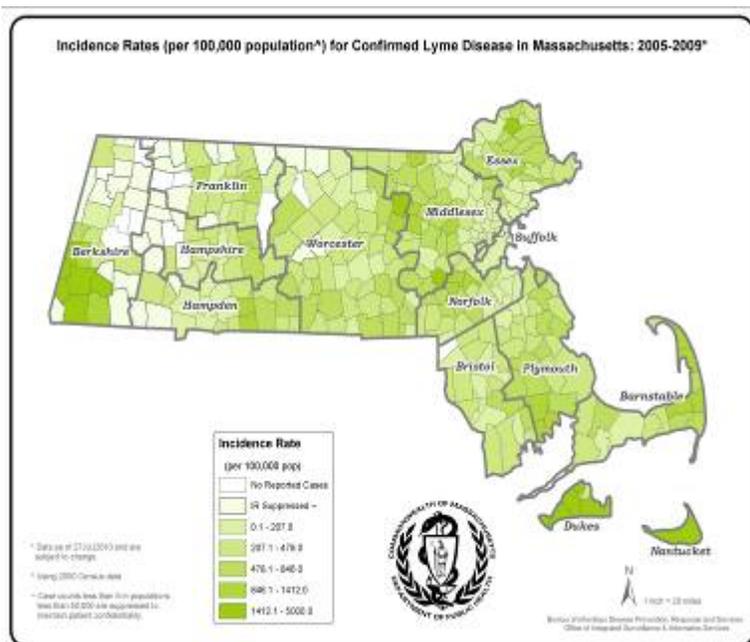
Massachusetts Department of Public Health

2009 Surveillance Highlights

- 4,028 confirmed Lyme disease cases were reported in Massachusetts in 2009, representing a 1.6% decrease statewide over the number of cases reported in 2008 (4,094).
- Incidence rates of Lyme disease in 2009 did not change dramatically for many counties, compared with 2008. An exception to this was Dukes County, which reported 127 fewer cases per 100,000 in 2009.
- The majority of confirmed cases had onsets in June, July and August.
- The highest incidence was among children aged 5-14 years and adults aged 55-69 years.
- 77% of confirmed cases did reported an erythema migrans (“bull’s-eye”) rash.

The map below illustrates Lyme disease incidence rates per 100,000 by city and town in Massachusetts from 2005-2009. The darker the shading, the higher the incidence. Lyme disease is considered endemic in all of Massachusetts.

Areas of high incidence include much of the eastern half of the state outside of the greater Boston area. Regions of particularly high incidence include Cape Cod and the Islands, as well as some areas in Norfolk, Middlesex, Essex, and southern Berkshire Counties. More isolated areas of high incidence were in Franklin, Hampshire, and Hampden Counties.



County*	2009 Confirmed Cases (#)	2009 Incidence Rate (per 100,000)
Barnstable	184	83
Berkshire	105	78
Bristol	232	43
Dukes	28	187
Essex	300	41
Franklin	53	74
Hampden	193	42
Hampshire	117	77
Middlesex	633	43
Nantucket	43	452
Norfolk	456	70
Plymouth	376	80
Suffolk	64	9
Worcester	420	56
State Total	4028	63

* County was unknown for 824 cases

Figure 1

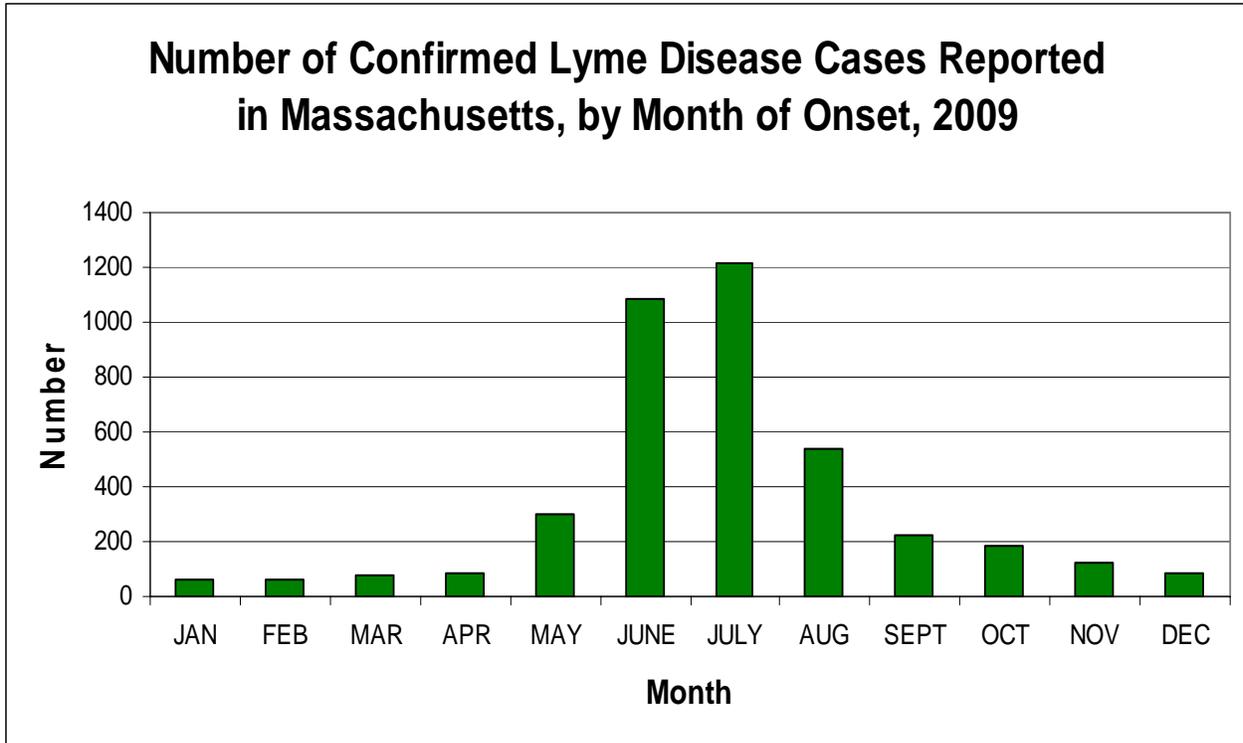
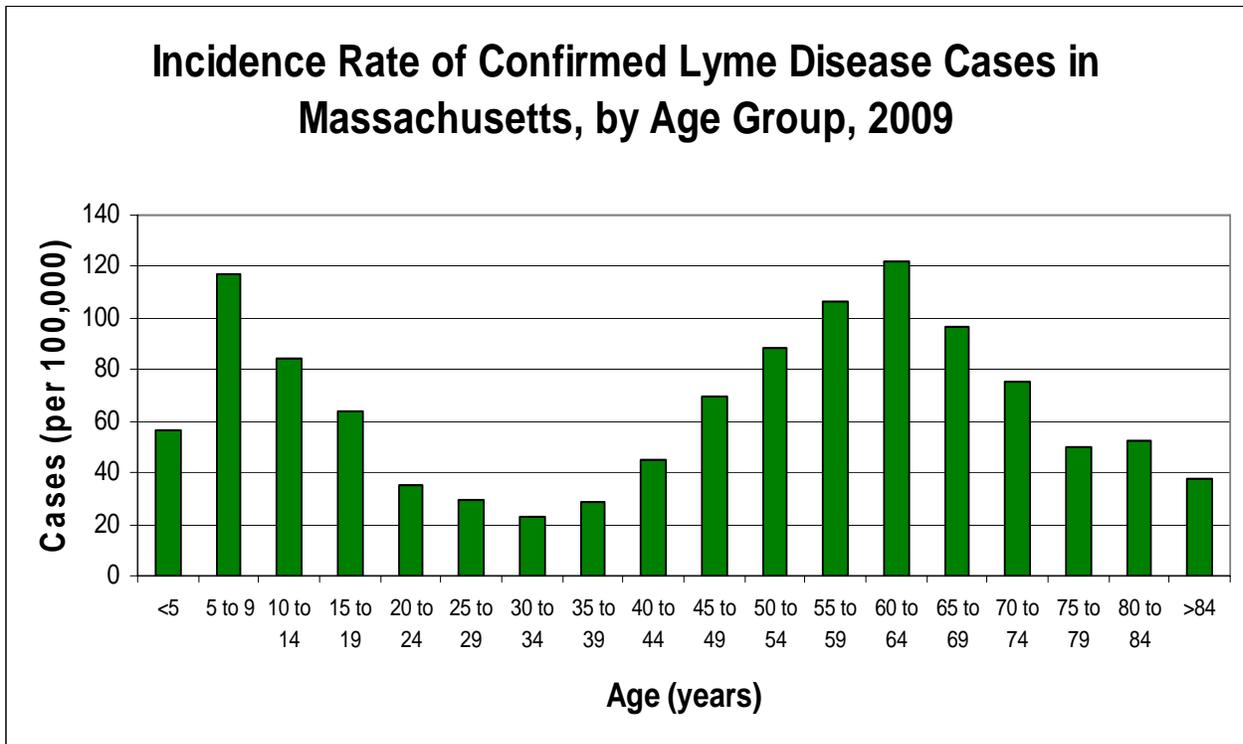


Figure 2



Data as of 21JUN2010 and are subject to change.