

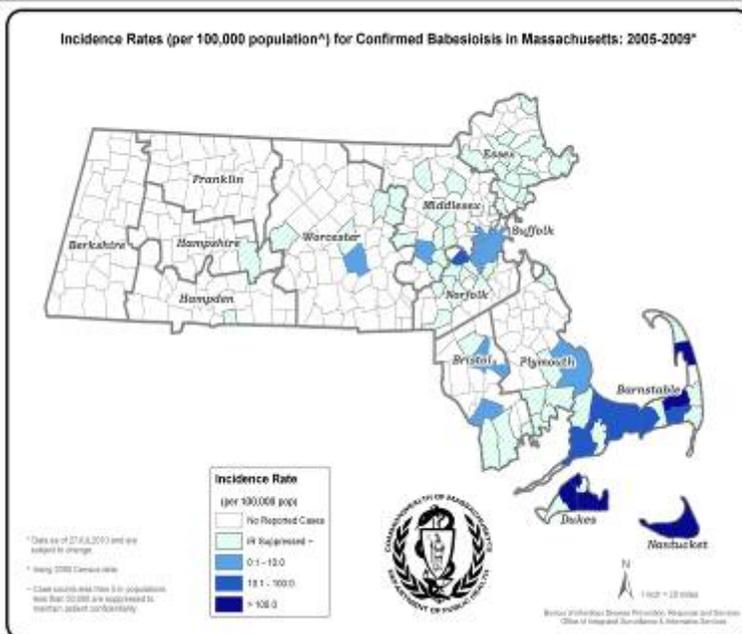
# Babesiosis Surveillance in Massachusetts, 2009

## Massachusetts Department of Public Health

### 2009 Surveillance Highlights

- 78 confirmed cases of babesiosis were reported in Massachusetts in 2009, representing a 53% increase from the number of cases reported in 2008.
- Counties with the highest incidence included Barnstable, Dukes and Nantucket.
- The majority of confirmed cases occurred in June, July and August. Only 28% of cases were people who reported a recent tick bite.
- 70% of confirmed cases were over the age of 55 years. The average age for a confirmed babesiosis case was 61 years, and 55% were male.
- 53% of confirmed cases were hospitalized. The symptoms most commonly reported in confirmed cases included fever (93%), fatigue (94%) and chills (76%).
- Five confirmed cases (6%) reported receiving a blood transfusion, tissue products or organ donation in the year prior to becoming ill.

The map below illustrates babesiosis incidence rates per 100,000 by city and town of residence in Massachusetts from 2005-2009. Areas of highest incidence include Cape Cod and the islands of Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket, as well as Boston and Worcester. No cases of babesiosis were reported from Berkshire, Franklin, or Hampden Counties in 2009.



County	2009 Confirmed Cases (#)	2009 Incidence Rate (per 100,000)
Barnstable	21	9.4
Berkshire	0	0
Bristol	1	0.2
Dukes	10	66.7
Essex	7	1.0
Franklin	0	0
Hampden	0	0
Hampshire	2	1.3
Middlesex	8	0.5
Nantucket	16	168.1
Norfolk	5	0.8
Plymouth	3	0.6
Suffolk	2	0.3
Worcester	3	0.4
<b>State Total</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>1.2</b>

Figure 1.

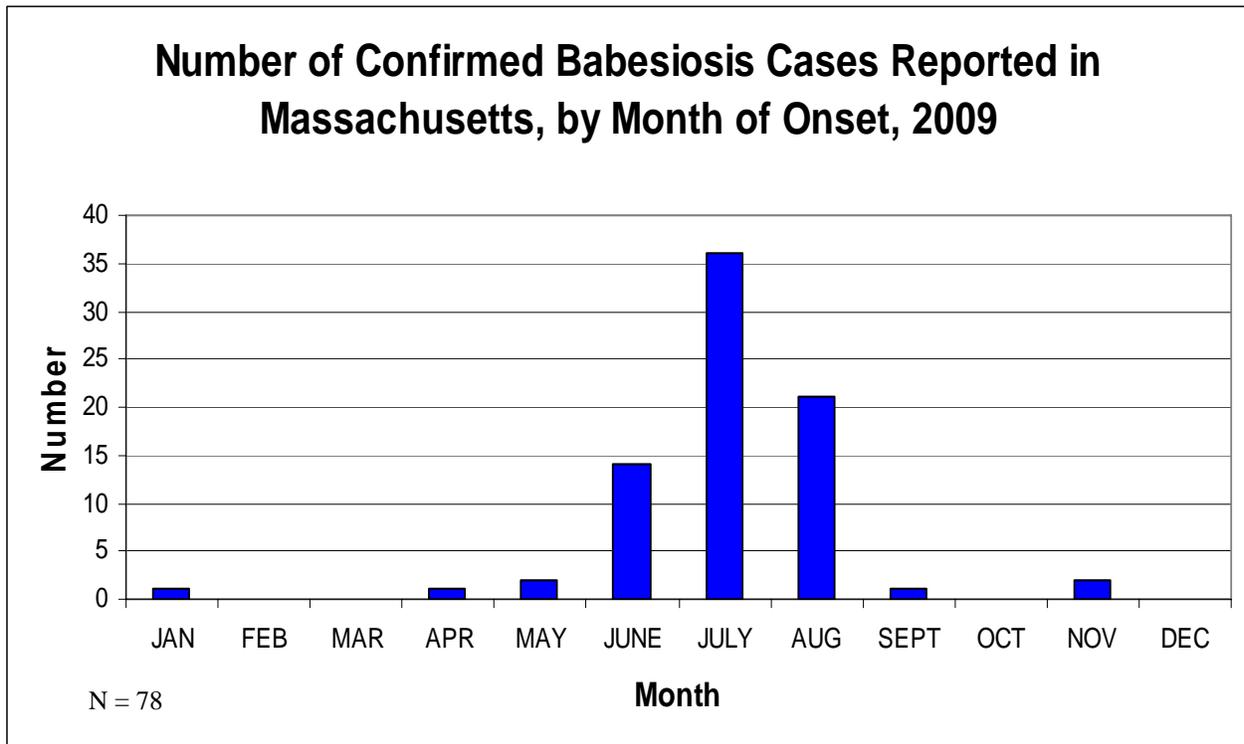


Figure 2.

