

Lyme Disease Surveillance in Massachusetts, 2012

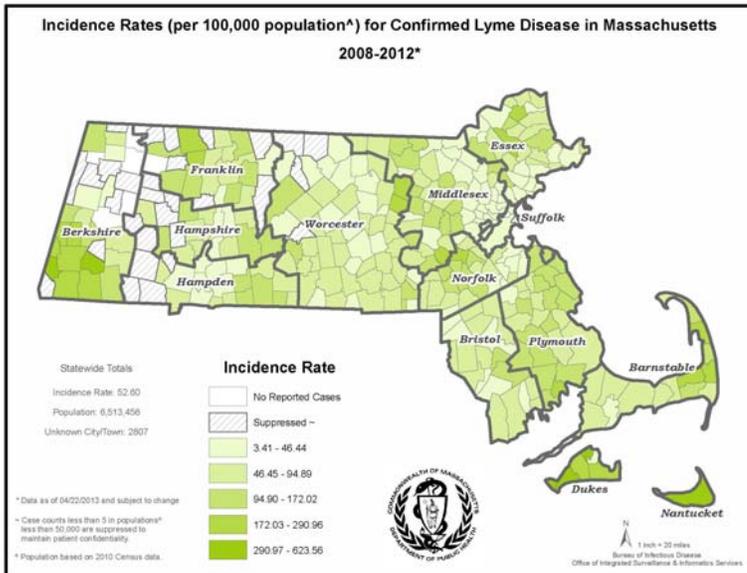
Massachusetts Department of Public Health

2012 Surveillance Highlights

- 3,342 confirmed and 1,708 probable Lyme disease cases were reported in Massachusetts in 2012, representing a 19% increase over the number of probable and confirmed cases reported in 2011.
- Incidence rates of confirmed Lyme disease in 2012 were higher for most counties, compared with 2011. Exceptions included Berkshire County, where the incidence rate decreased from 92 to 45 per 100,000, and Suffolk County, which remained at 8 per 100,000 from 2011 to 2012. The chart below shows the combined incidence rates for all confirmed and probable cases, by county.
- The highest incidence rates were among children aged 5-9 years and adults aged 65-69 years.
- The majority of cases had onsets in June, July, and August.
- 68% of confirmed cases reported an erythema migrans (“bull’s-eye”) rash.
- MDPH was unable to classify approximately 20% of all cases reported during 2012 due to insufficient clinical information.

The map illustrates Lyme disease incidence rates per 100,000 by city and town in Massachusetts from 2008-2012; the darker the shading, the higher the incidence. **Lyme disease is endemic in all of Massachusetts.**

Areas of highest incidence include much of the eastern half of the state. Regions of particularly high incidence include Plymouth, Cape Cod and the Islands, and parts of Middlesex, Essex, and southern Berkshire Counties. More isolated areas of high incidence are reported from Franklin, Hampshire, and Worcester Counties.



County	2012 Confirmed Cases (#)	2012 Probable Cases (#)	Incidence of Confirmed and Probable Cases (per 100,000)
Barnstable	183	107	134
Berkshire	59	29	67
Bristol	351	161	93
Dukes	46	37	502
Essex	311	194	68
Franklin	45	19	90
Hampden	104	67	37
Hampshire	74	50	78
Middlesex	485	289	51
Nantucket	44	21	639
Norfolk	371	167	80
Plymouth	496	189	138
Suffolk	61	56	16
Worcester	290	149	55
Unknown	422	173	-
State Total	3,342	1,708	77

Figure 1

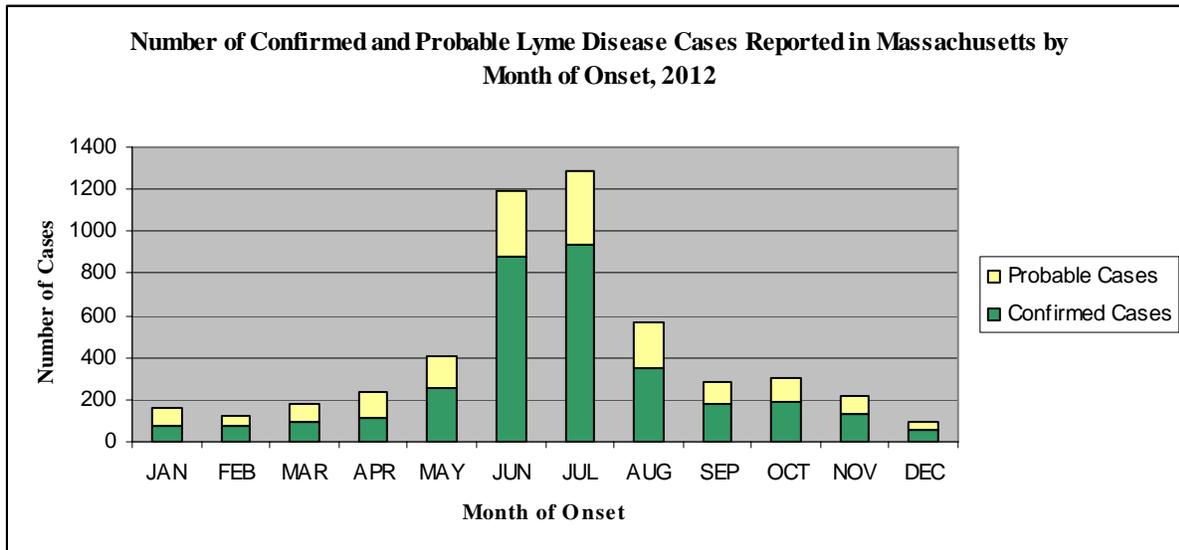


Figure 2

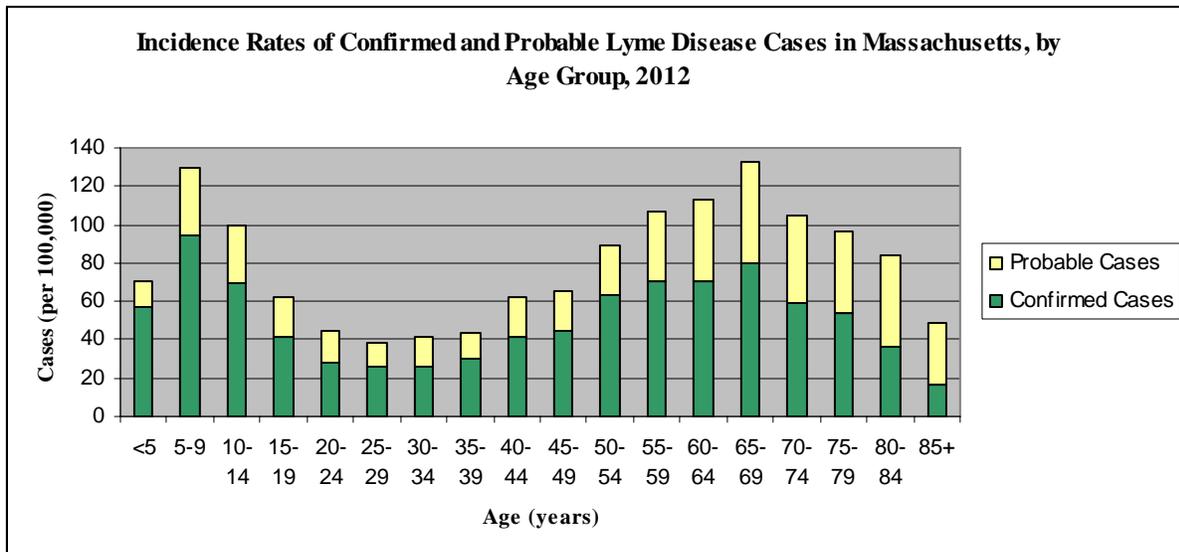
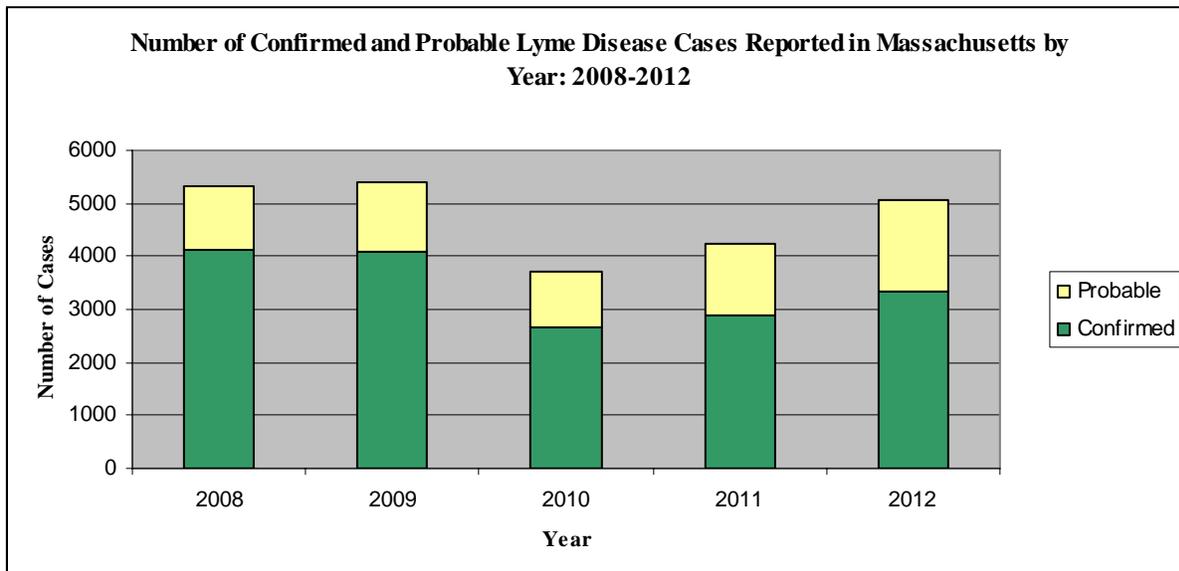


Figure 3



Data as of 22APR2013 and subject to change.