

Assault-related Gunshot & Sharp Instrument Cases

Injury Cases Reported by Hospital Emergency Departments to the Weapon Related Injury Surveillance System¹

Massachusetts Residents, Selected Cities & Towns, 2004 & 2005									
Patient's City of Residence	Population*	2004 Cases	2005 Cases	2005 Rate*	Patient's City of Residence	Population*	2004 Cases	2005 Cases	2005 Rate*
Group 1: Towns over 175,000 population:					Group 4: continued				
Boston	569,165	419	503	88.4	Chelsea	33,227	26	37	111.4
TOTAL Group 1:	569,165	419	503	88.4	Danvers	25,659	1	1	--
Group 2: Towns 75,000-175,000 population:					Dartmouth	31,317	4	3	--
Brockton	95,009	69	81	85.3	Dracut	28,681	2	4	--
Cambridge	100,771	13	15	14.9	Everett	37,195	11	10	26.9
Fall River	92,526	64	69	74.6	Falmouth	33,806	3	6	17.7
Lowell	103,655	45	58	56.0	Fitchburg	39,910	24	33	82.7
Lynn	89,485	48	31	34.6	Franklin	30,192	2	2	--
New Bedford	93,979	100	77	81.9	Gloucester	30,817	5	2	--
Newton	83,802	2	3	--	Holyoke	40,058	25	40	99.9
Quincy	89,909	17	10	11.1	Leominster	41,911	6	6	14.3
Somerville	75,621	20	21	27.8	Lexington	30,419	0	0	--
Springfield	152,091	165	194	127.6	Marlborough	37,699	2	5	13.3
Worcester	175,966	73	79	44.9	Melrose	26,533	0	2	--
TOTAL Group 2:	1,152,814	616	638	55.3	Methuen	44,845	7	6	13.4
Group 3: Towns 50,000-75,000 population:					Milford	27,410	1	4	--
Brookline	56,188	3	2	--	Milton	25,855	3	4	--
Chicopee	54,838	16	15	27.4	N Andover	27,979	2	1	--
Framingham	65,598	16	10	15.2	N Attleboro	28,176	2	2	--
Haverhill	60,482	9	5	8.3	Natick	32,113	1	1	--
Lawrence	71,858	72	121	168.4	Needham	29,022	0	0	--
Malden	55,340	8	13	23.5	Northampton	28,930	7	4	--
Medford	54,197	8	6	11.1	Norwood	28,548	3	0	--
Peabody	50,370	3	5	9.9	Pittsfield	44,285	7	16	36.1
Plymouth	54,604	6	7	12.8	Randolph	30,748	9	15	48.8
Taunton	56,648	13	19	33.5	Revere	46,169	13	22	47.7
Waltham	59,232	4	7	11.8	Salem	41,912	4	8	19.1
Weymouth	54,202	9	6	11.1	Saugus	26,762	6	1	--
TOTAL Group 3:	693,557	167	216	31.1	Shrewsbury	33,161	0	2	--
Group 4: Towns 25,000-50,000 population:					Stoughton	26,902	5	3	--
Agawam	28,616	2	6	21.0	Tewksbury	29,130	3	0	--
Amherst	34,255	3	3	--	W Springfield	28,048	3	4	--
Andover	32,141	1	2	--	Watertown	32,603	0	0	--
Arlington	41,546	3	0	--	Wellesley	26,515	0	3	--
Attleboro	43,506	8	5	11.5	Westfield	40,559	7	5	12.3
Barnstable	48,535	7	11	22.7	Woburn	37,448	5	4	--
Beverly	40,166	1	4	--	TOTAL Group 4:	1,586,585	233	296	18.7
Billerica	39,951	2	2	--	Group 5: Towns under 25,000 population:²				
Braintree	33,873	3	3	--	TOTAL Group 5:	2,414,344	162	176	7.3
Bridgewater	25,723	1	3	--	Massachusetts:³				
Chelmsford	33,769	3	1	--	TOTAL Statewide:	6,416,505	1,705	1935	30.2
(continued)									

Source: Weapon Related Injury Surveillance System, Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

*Cases are defined as any assault-related gunshot or sharp instrument wound treated in a hospital emergency department.

*Population data used to calculate rates are from the US Census Bureau, 2004 Population Estimates

All rates are per 100,000 residents. Rates are not calculated on counts less than 5; rates that are based on counts less than 20 may be unstable. Caution should be used when interpreting these data.

¹ Based on past record reviews, the statewide hospital reporting level is estimated to be between 70 and 80%.

² Counts for cities and towns in Group 5 (those having populations of less than 25,000 residents) are not shown individually.

³ Statewide totals include cases for which patient's city of residence was unknown or missing (n=108 in 2004; n=106 in 2005).

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