

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, 2007 & 2008									
Patient's City of Residence	Population*	2007 Cases	2008 Cases	2008 Rate*	Patient's City of Residence	Population*	2007 Cases	2008 Cases	2008 Rate*
Group 1: Towns over 150,000 population:					Group 4: continued				
Boston	599,351	549	571	95.3	Chelsea	38,203	32	56	146.6
Worcester	173,966	60	59	33.9	Danvers	26,736	0	2	--
TOTAL Group 1:	773,317	609	630	81.5	Dartmouth	31,241	8	10	32.0
Group 2: Towns 75,000-150,000 population:					Dracut	29,498	3	3	--
Brockton	93,092	85	86	92.4	Everett	37,269	20	19	51.0
Cambridge	101,388	10	18	17.8	Falmouth	33,247	13	14	42.1
Fall River	90,905	45	57	62.7	Fitchburg	39,835	27	22	55.2
Lowell	103,512	46	35	33.8	Franklin	31,381	0	0	0.0
Lynn	87,122	46	48	55.1	Gloucester	30,308	1	3	--
New Bedford	91,849	93	103	112.1	Holyoke	39,737	28	21	52.8
Newton	83,271	2	2	--	Leominster	41,128	5	13	31.6
Quincy	91,622	13	11	12.0	Lexington	30,332	1	0	0.0
Springfield	149,938	187	147	98.0	Marlborough	38,065	2	4	--
TOTAL Group 2:	892,699	527	507	56.8	Melrose	26,782	6	2	--
Group 3: Towns 50,000-75,000 population:					Methuen	43,979	10	11	25.0
Brookline	54,809	1	4	--	Milford	27,263	4	4	--
Chicopee	53,876	7	10	18.6	Milton	25,691	6	5	19.5
Framingham	64,786	6	12	18.5	N Andover	27,637	0	2	--
Haverhill	59,902	14	15	25.0	N Attleboro	27,907	3	5	17.9
Lawrence	70,066	58	52	74.2	Natick	31,975	2	6	18.8
Malden	55,712	21	27	48.5	Needham	28,263	0	0	0.0
Medford	55,565	14	14	25.2	Northampton	28,411	1	2	--
Peabody	51,441	7	10	19.4	Norwood	28,172	3	3	--
Plymouth	55,188	12	13	23.6	Pittsfield	42,931	13	24	55.9
Somerville	74,405	21	23	30.9	Randolph	30,168	15	13	43.1
Taunton	55,783	21	29	52.0	Revere	55,341	23	15	27.1
Waltham	59,758	6	6	10.0	Salem	40,922	5	3	--
Weymouth	53,272	11	8	15.0	Saugus	27,192	4	4	--
TOTAL Group 3:	764,563	199	223	29.2	Shrewsbury	33,489	1	1	--
Group 4: Towns 25,000-50,000 population:					Stoughton	26,951	2	2	--
Agawam	28,333	1	5	--	Tewksbury	29,607	1	0	0.0
Amherst	34,275	2	0	--	W Springfield	27,603	8	3	--
Andover	33,284	2	1	--	Watertown	32,521	3	2	--
Arlington	41,144	6	1	--	Wellesley	26,985	1	1	--
Attleboro	43,113	4	8	18.6	Westfield	40,160	2	4	--
Barnstable	46,738	5	14	30.0	Woburn	37,042	4	1	--
Beverly	39,198	1	0	--	TOTAL Group 4:	1,621,193	284	324	20.0
Billerica	42,038	3	4	--	Group 5: Towns under 25,000 population:²				
Braintree	34,422	2	4	--	TOTAL Group 5:	2,397,983	191	189	7.9
Bridgewater	25,514	0	4	--	Massachusetts:³				
Burlington	25,034		1	--	TOTAL Statewide:	6,449,755	1929	1940	30.1
Chelmsford	34,128	1	2	--					

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, 2007 Population Estimates

All rates are crude rates 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=119 in 2007, n=67 in 2008).

Prepared by the Injury Surveillance Program, Massachusetts Department of Public Health (April, 2009).