Fast Facts

- Reported HIV infection diagnoses and deaths among people living with HIV/AIDS in Massachusetts have both decreased by 41% during the period 2000 to 2013.
- The improvement of health and longevity due to current HIV treatment has meant that the number of people living with HIV/AIDS has continued to grow (at a rate of approximately three percent per year).
- While the reduction in new cases and survival of people living with HIV/AIDS is good news, vulnerable populations remain disproportionately impacted:
  - The proportion of new HIV infection diagnoses among MSM increased from 33% in 2003 (N=318/958) to 46% in 2012 (N=317/694).
  - Persons with IDU risk constitute about half of all deaths among persons with HIV/AIDS and 19% of all persons living with HIV/AIDS (as of 1/1/14).
  - Black (non-Hispanic) and Hispanic/Latino populations are diagnosed with HIV infection at levels ten and seven times that of the white (non-Hispanic) population, respectively.

HIV/AIDS Trends from 2000 to 2012

- Since 2000, there are more people living with HIV/AIDS in Massachusetts but fewer people being diagnosed with HIV infection and fewer people with HIV who die. From 2000 to 2012, the number of people living with HIV/AIDS increased by 49% (Figure 1). During the same time period the number of HIV infection diagnoses decreased by 41%, and the number of deaths among people reported with HIV/AIDS also decreased by 41% (Figure 2).

General Statistics

- As of December 31, 2013, a cumulative total of 32,345 individuals were diagnosed with HIV infection and reported in Massachusetts, with or without an AIDS diagnosis.
  - 41% (N=13,180) have died and 59% (N=19,165) are living with HIV/AIDS
  - As of December 31, 2013, there were 19,165 people living with HIV/AIDS who were diagnosed in Massachusetts. An additional 3,162 people living with HIV/AIDS in Massachusetts were first diagnosed in another state.¹
• Including estimates of Massachusetts residents infected with HIV who do not yet know their status, or have not been reported, or were first reported in another state, there are 25,000 – 26,000 individuals currently living with HIV/AIDS in the Commonwealth.
  • An estimated 15.8% of people with HIV infection do not know their status.

### Who is most impacted by HIV infection?

• Among individuals recently diagnosed with HIV infection (within the three-year period 2010 to 2012), male-to-male sex was the leading reported exposure mode, accounting for 43% of diagnoses, followed by people of undetermined risk (22%) (Figure 3).

![Figure 3. People Diagnosed with HIV Infection Within the Years 2010–2012 by Exposure Mode: Massachusetts](image)

- Male-to-Male Sex: 43%
- Undetermined: 22%
- Presumed Heterosexual Sex: 12%
- Heterosexual Sex: 11%
- Injection Drug Use: 8%
- MSM/IDU: 3%
- Other: 1%

Data Source: MDPH HIV/AIDS Surveillance Program, Data as of 1/1/14

• From 2003 to 2012, the number of white (non-Hispanic) individuals diagnosed with HIV infection decreased by 31% (from 382 to 265); the number of black (non-Hispanic) individuals decreased by 37% (from 336 to 211); the number of Hispanic/Latino individuals decreased by 14% (from 222 to 190).

• While 45% of males diagnosed with HIV infection within the years 2010 to 2012 were white (non-Hispanic), 54% of females diagnosed during this time period were black (non-Hispanic).

• With age-adjusted average annual rates of HIV diagnosis from 2010 to 2012 of 52.7 and 29.8 cases per 100,000 population, black (non-Hispanic) and Hispanic/Latino populations are affected by HIV/AIDS at levels ten and six times that of the white (non-Hispanic) population (5.1 per 100,000).

• With age-adjusted average annual rates of HIV diagnosis from 2010 to 2012 of 59.3 and 45.3 cases per 100,000 population, black (non-Hispanic) and Hispanic/Latino males are affected by HIV/AIDS at levels seven and five times that of white (non-Hispanic) males (9.0 per 100,000).

• With age-adjusted average annual rates of HIV diagnosis from 2010 to 2012 of 46.5 and 15.4 cases per 100,000 population, black (non-Hispanic) and Hispanic/Latina females are affected by HIV/AIDS at levels 33 and 11 times that of white (non-Hispanic) females (1.4 per 100,000).

• Fifty-five percent of black (non-Hispanic) individuals diagnosed with HIV infection within the three-year period 2010 to 2012 were born outside the US, compared with 39% of Hispanic/Latino individuals and 8% of white (non-Hispanic) individuals. An additional 27% percent of Hispanic/Latino individuals diagnosed with HIV infection during this time period were born in Puerto Rico or another US Dependency, compared to less than one percent of both black (non-Hispanic) and white (non-Hispanic) individuals (Figure 4).

• The proportion of all HIV infection diagnoses with male-to-male sex as an exposure mode increased from 33% in 2003 to 46% in 2012.

• Among males, the proportion of HIV diagnoses with male-to-male sex as the primary reported exposure mode increased from 49% in 2003 to 61% in 2012.

• During the same time period, the proportion of reported cases with injection drug use as the reported exposure mode decreased from 15% in 2003 to 6% in 2012 and the number of cases decreased by 71% (from 146 to 43).
From 2003 to 2012, the number of males diagnosed with HIV infection decreased by 20% (from 649 to 517) while the number of females diagnosed with HIV infection decreased by 43% (from 309 to 177).

Who is currently living with HIV/AIDS?

- Male-to-male sex and injection drug use are the leading reported exposure risks for HIV infection among all people living with HIV/AIDS, accounting for 37% and 19% of all exposures, respectively. iii
- Forty-three percent of people living with HIV/AIDS in Massachusetts are white (non-Hispanic), 30% are black (non-Hispanic), 24% are Hispanic/Latino, 2% are Asian/Pacific Islander, and less than 1% are of other/undetermined race/ethnicity. Black (non-Hispanic) individuals make up 6%, and Hispanic/Latino individuals 10% of the total Massachusetts population.
- Among males living with HIV/AIDS, 51% are white (non-Hispanic), 24% are black (non-Hispanic) and 23% are Hispanic/Latino.
- Among females living with HIV/AIDS, 25% are white (non-Hispanic), 46% are black (non-Hispanic) and 27% are Hispanic/Latina.

Who is being concurrently diagnosed with HIV and AIDS?

- From 2010 to 2012, 662 people had AIDS when HIV infection was diagnosed (or were diagnosed with AIDS within two months), representing 32% of the 2,065 diagnoses of HIV infection during this time period.

Who is dying with HIV/AIDS and how has this changed over time?

- In 2012, the annual number of deaths of people reported with HIV/AIDS declined to a low of 208.
- From 2003 to 2013, the distribution of deaths among people reported with HIV/AIDS by exposure mode remained fairly stable, with roughly half of deaths each year in people with a primary reported risk of injection drug use and 16% to 22% in people with a risk of male-to-male sex.
- From 2003 to 2012, the proportion of deaths among people reported with HIV/AIDS by race/ethnicity remained fairly stable with roughly half of deaths each year among white (non-Hispanic) individuals and roughly one quarter each among black (non-Hispanic) and Hispanic/Latino individuals.

Data Source

HIV/AIDS Case Data: Massachusetts Department of Public Health, HIV/AIDS Surveillance Program, all data as of 1/1/14

i Effective January 1, 2011, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, HIV/AIDS fact sheets, epidemiologic reports, and other data presentations have been updated to remove all HIV/AIDS cases that were first diagnosed in another state before being reported in Massachusetts.


iii The category of presumed heterosexual is used exclusively for females, to define HIV exposure mode in cases when sex with males is the only reported risk factor for HIV infection.