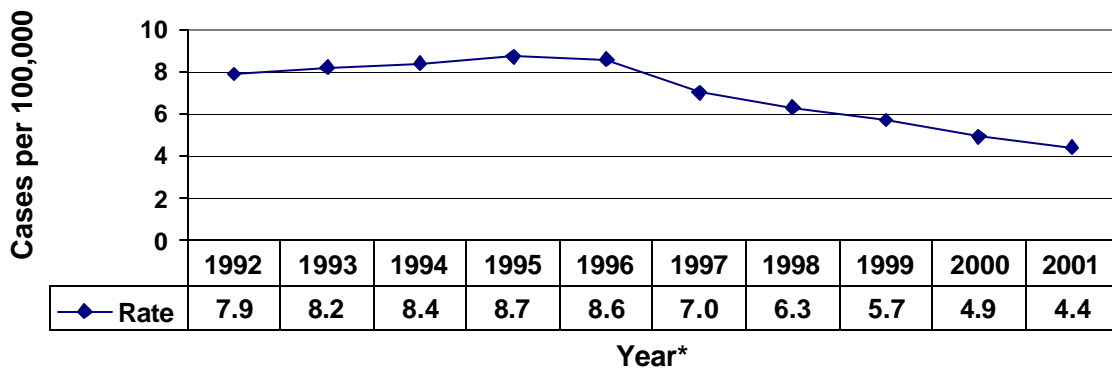


AIDS

Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) is a life threatening condition representing the late stage of an infection caused by the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV). Persons primarily are infected by this retrovirus through sexual exposure or contact with blood infected with HIV, such as by injecting drugs with a contaminated syringe or receiving a contaminated transfusion. Mothers also can pass HIV on to their children during pregnancy and birth. Regular social contact with an HIV infected person harbors no risk for infection.

HIV infects and destroys CD4+ cells, a subset of the T lymphocyte that is critically important in directing the immune response. The decline in the number of CD4+ cells allows certain opportunistic infections, such as *Pneumocystis carinii* pneumonia, to replicate in the body. Certain neurological disorders also may result from HIV infection. Since 1993, the CDC has defined most AIDS cases by the presence of HIV and one or more opportunistic infections and /or a CD4+ count of $<200\text{mm}^3$ or $<14\%$ of total lymphocytes.

**AIDS Incidence, Kentucky
1992-2001**



* Year of Diagnosis is used to examine AIDS epidemiologic trends due to the fact that an AIDS case may be diagnosed in one year and not reported for many years later. Therefore AIDS incidence rates may change, as new data become available.

The decline in AIDS incidence is partially due to advances in retroviral therapy and treatments for opportunistic infections. Also, in more recent years, particularly 2000 and 2001, the decline may be due to delays in reporting. The incidence rates presented in this chapter are not adjusted for reporting delay. All data are current as of December 31, 2001.

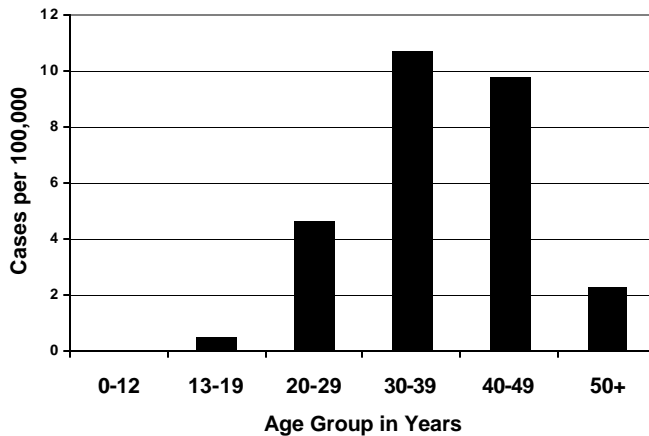
Epidemiology

Kentucky 2001	Rate per 100,000	U.S. Rate (2000)	Rate per 100,000
Cases 179	4.4		14.95
Cases by Gender		Rate by Race	Rate per 100,000
Female 22	1.1	White and other	2.9
Male 157	7.9	African-American	24.3

The highest percentage of reported AIDS cases diagnosed in 2001 were among men who have sex with men, 48%. The undetermined mode of exposure includes cases that are under investigation.

Mode of Exposure	Cases	%
Men who Have Sex with Men (MSM)	86	48%
Injecting Drug Use (IDU)	17	9%
MSM and IDU	7	4%
Heterosexual	15	8%
Undetermined	54	30%
TOTAL	179	100%

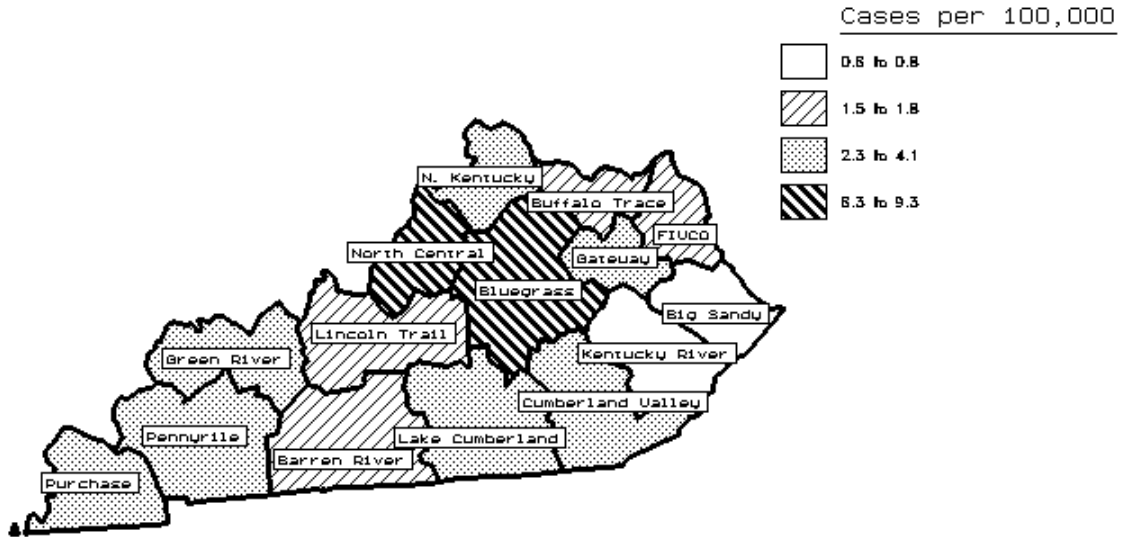
AIDS, Age-Specific Incidence Kentucky 2001



The highest incidence was in the 30-39 year age group, followed by the 40-49 year age group.

Age	0-12	13-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+
2001	.0	.5	4.6	10.7	9.8	2.3

AIDS Incidence by District, Kentucky Annual Incidence 2001



The North Central District reported the highest annual incidence at 9.3 per 100,000 persons. The Bluegrass District reported the next highest incidence at 6.3 per 100,000, followed by the Purchase and Cumberland Valley Districts at 4.1 per 100,000 and 3.4 per 100,000 respectively.

AIDS Incidence by ADD	
	2001
Purchase	4.1
Pennyrile	2.3
Green River	2.4
Barren River	1.6
Lincoln Trail	1.6
North Central	9.3
Northern Kentucky	2.3
Buffalo Trace	1.8
Gateway	2.6
FIVCO	1.5
Big Sandy	0.6
Kentucky River	0.8
Cumberland Valley	3.4
Lake Cumberland	2.6
Bluegrass	6.3