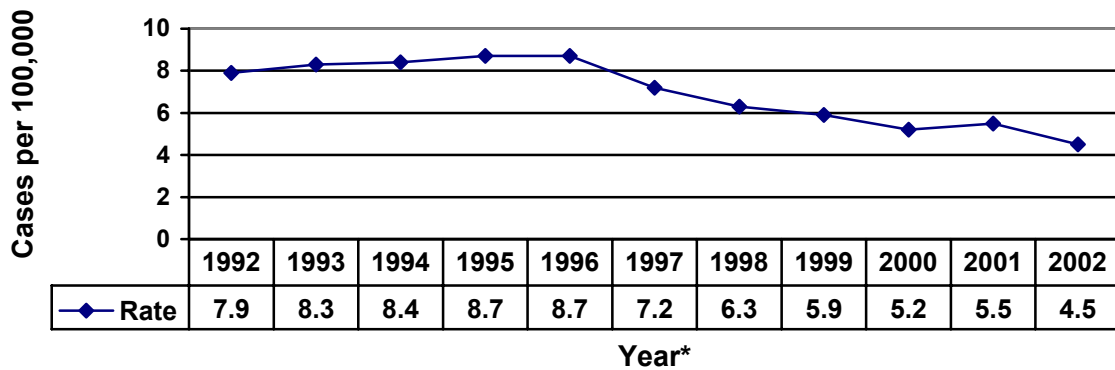


AIDS

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
1992-2002**



* 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 from 1996 through 2000 was most likely due to advances in retroviral therapy and treatments for opportunistic infections. In the year 2001 a slight increase in the AIDS incidence rate was observed. While it appears that the incidence rate decreased for the year 2002, it must be noted that data for the years 2001 and 2002 are provisional due to reporting delays. The trend in the incidence of AIDS in Kentucky will continue to be monitored as more data become available. The incidence rates presented here are not adjusted for reporting delay. All data are current as of December 31, 2002.

Epidemiology

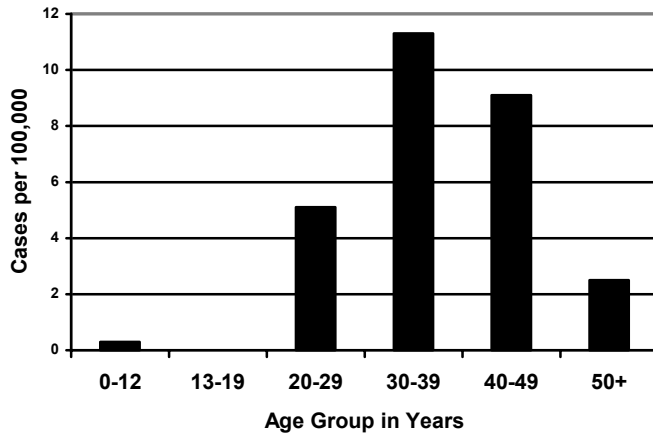
Kentucky 2002 Rate per 100,000
 Cases 184 4.5

Cases by Gender		Rate per 100,000	Cases by Race		Rate per 100,000
Female	45	2.2	White and other	121	3.2
Male	139	7.0	African-American	63	21.2

The highest percentage of AIDS cases diagnosed in 2002, with mode of exposure information reported, were among men who have sex with men. Forty-eight percent of cases had an undetermined mode of exposure. These include cases that are under investigation.

AIDS Cases by Mode of Exposure Kentucky, 2002		
Mode of Exposure	Cases	%
Men who Have Sex with Men (MSM)	60	33%
Injecting Drug Use (IDU)	14	8%
MSM and IDU	7	4%
Heterosexual	13	7%
Perinatal	2	1%
Undetermined	88	48%
TOTAL	184	100%

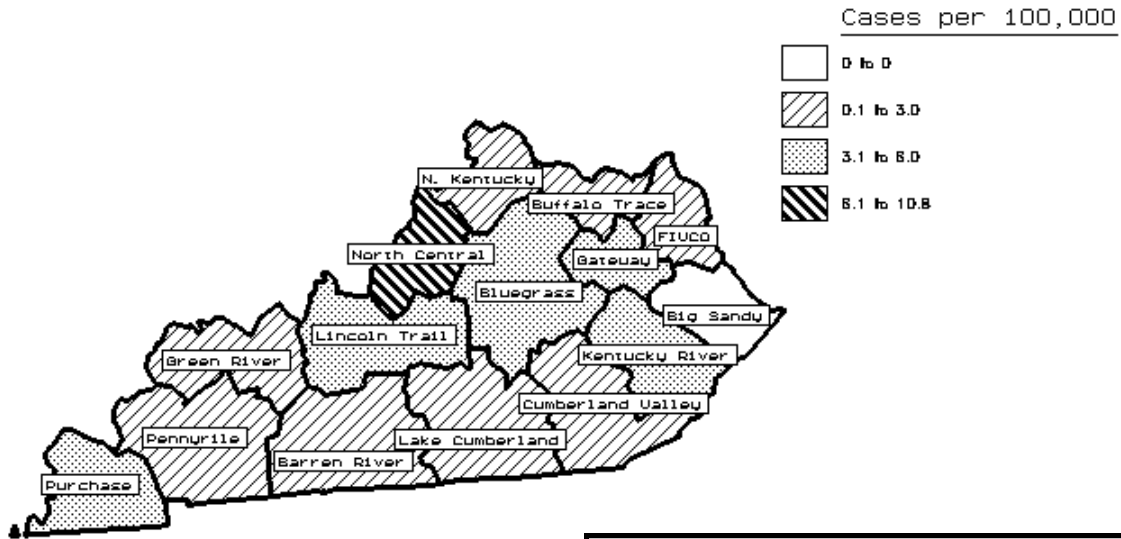
**AIDS, Age-Specific Incidence
Kentucky 2002**



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+
2002	0.3	0.0	5.1	11.3	9.1	2.5

AIDS Incidence by District, Kentucky Annual Incidence 2002



The North Central District reported the highest annual incidence at 10.8 per 100,000 persons. The Gateway District reported the next highest incidence at 5.2 per 100,000, followed by the Bluegrass District at 4.5 per 100,000 and the Purchase and Kentucky River Districts both at 4.1 per 100,000. Data for 2002 are provisional due to reporting delays and rates by ADD may change as more data become available.

AIDS Incidence by ADD	
	2002
Purchase	4.1
Pennyrile	2.8
Green River	1.4
Barren River	2.7
Lincoln Trail	3.3
North Central	10.8
Northern Kentucky	2.3
Buffalo Trace	1.8
Gateway	5.2
FIVCO	1.5
Big Sandy	0.0
Kentucky River	4.1
Cumberland Valley	2.1
Lake Cumberland	0.5
Bluegrass	4.5