

Section 1: Core Epidemiologic Questions

Question 1: What are the sociodemographic characteristics of the general population in Ohio?

Question 2: What is the scope of the HIV/AIDS epidemic in Ohio?

Question 3: What are the indicators of HIV/AIDS infection risk in Ohio?

Question 1

What are the sociodemographic characteristics of the general population in Ohio?

This section provides demographic and socioeconomic information to describe the sociodemographic attributes of Ohio residents. The majority of the data presented here are based on Census 2000 data. Census data for prevention and care planning regions are provided in detail in section 3 of the profile.

Highlights

Sociodemographic Characteristics of Ohio's Population

- Ohio is composed of 88 counties with a population of 11,353,140, according to Census 2000. The five largest counties in descending order are Cuyahoga, Franklin, Hamilton, Montgomery and Summit. Twenty-nine counties, located in southeast Ohio, are considered Appalachian counties. There are eight Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) and three major cities (Cleveland, Cincinnati and Columbus).
- Census 2000 estimates 85 percent of Ohio residents are white, 12 percent are black, 2 percent are Hispanic and 1 percent are Asian/Pacific Islander. American Indians/Alaska Natives make up less than 1 percent of the total population. The proportion of females (51 percent) was slightly higher than the proportion of males (49 percent). Sixty-four percent of the population was 25 years of age or older.
- In Ohio, the majority of persons 25 years of age or older are high school graduates (83.0 percent). The median household income in 1999 was \$40,956 and 10.6 percent of the population had incomes that fell below the federally defined poverty level (FPL). Most of the counties with the greater proportion of persons below FPL are Appalachian counties.

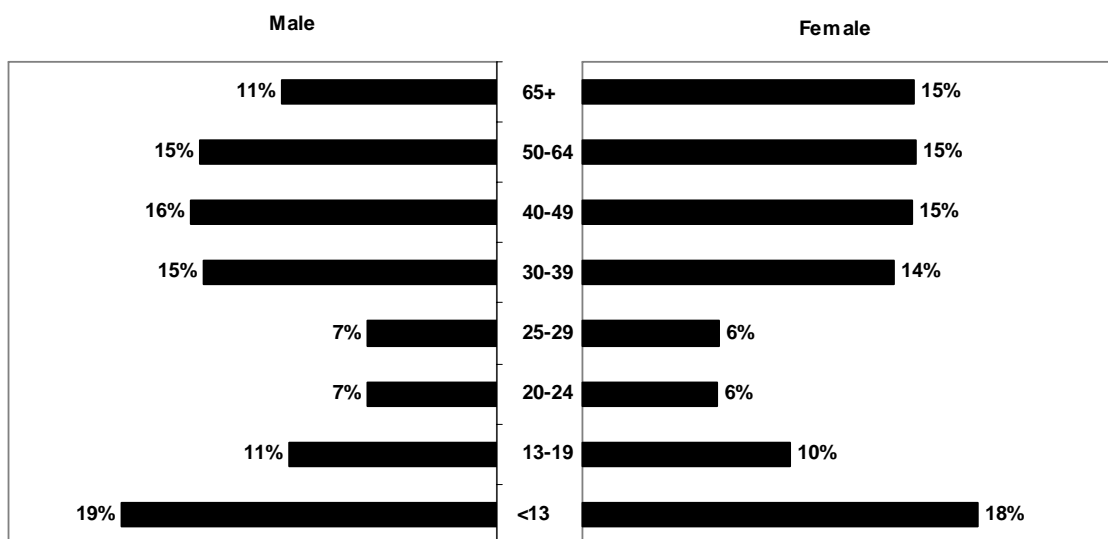
Gender and Age

Table 1. Ohio population distribution, by selected demographics, Census 2000

	Ohio	
	No.	%
Gender		
Male	5,512,262	49%
Female	5,840,878	51%
Age		
<13	2,071,345	18%
13-19	1,144,610	10%
20-24	728,928	6%
25-29	735,582	6%
30-39	1,668,083	15%
40-49	1,756,376	15%
50-64	1,740,459	15%
65+	1,507,757	13%
Total	11,353,140	100%

Forty-nine percent of Ohio residents are male and 51 percent are female. The <13 year age group (18 percent) represent the largest proportion of Ohio residents. (**Table 1**)

Figure 2. Percent distribution of males and females in Ohio, by age group, Census 2000



Source: Census 2000, U.S. Bureau of Census

The age distribution for males and females is similar; however, a greater proportion of females (15 percent) are age 65 and older compared to males (11 percent). (**Figure 2**)

Ethnicity and Gender

Table 2. Percent distribution of Ohio's population, by race/ethnicity and gender, Census 2000

Race/Ethnicity	Male		Female		Ohio	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
White, not Hispanic	4,679,780	85%	4,942,039	85%	9,621,819	85%
Black, not Hispanic	635,016	12%	704,804	12%	1,339,820	12%
Hispanic	112,265	2%	104,858	2%	217,123	2%
Asian/Pacific Islander	70,971	1%	74,724	1%	145,695	1%
American Indian/Alaska Native	14,230	<1%	14,453	<1%	28,683	<1%

Source: Census 2000, U.S. Bureau of Census

The majority of Ohio residents are white (85 percent). Blacks make up 12 percent of the population, Hispanics make up 2 percent, Asian/Pacific Islanders make up 1 percent of the population and less than 1 percent of the population is American Indian/Alaska Native. The racial/ethnic distribution of Ohio residents is the same for males and females. (**Table 2**)

Socioeconomic Status (SES)

Figure 3. Percent of persons below federal poverty level in Ohio (10.6%), by county, Census 2000



Health Insurance

Table 3. Rate of non-elderly (0-64 years of age) uninsured, by race/ethnicity, Ohio data 2000-2001, United States, 2001

	OH		US	
	No.	%	No.	%
White, non-Hispanic	944,630	12	19,333,110	12
Black, non-Hispanic	196,020	16	6,399,140	20
Hispanic^a	56,120	31	12,324,610	35
Other^b	50,410	26	2,877,020	21

^a Persons of Hispanic origin may be any race

^b "Other" includes Asian-Americans, Pacific Islanders, American Indians, Aleutians and Eskimos.

Source: KFF State Health Facts Online. <http://www.statehealthfacts.kff.org>

Among the different race/ethnic groups in the United States and in Ohio, Hispanics have the greatest rate of non-elderly (<65 years of age) persons who do not have health insurance (31 percent in Ohio, 35 percent in the United States). The lowest rate of uninsured is among whites, where 12 percent in Ohio and in the United States are uninsured. The 'Other' race/ethnic group has the second-highest rate of people uninsured at 26 percent in Ohio followed by blacks (16 percent). With the exception of whites, the rate of uninsured is lower in Ohio compared to the United States across race/ethnic groups. (**Table 3**)

Question 2

What is the Scope of the HIV/AIDS Epidemic in Ohio?

The HIV/AIDS epidemic has impacted persons in all gender, age and race/ethnic groups in all geographic regions in Ohio. This impact has not been the same for all population groups. In the beginning of the epidemic, increases in HIV cases were highest among white men who reported having sex with men (MSM). While white MSM continue to be disproportionately impacted by the epidemic, recent trends suggest increases in cases among women, blacks and high-risk heterosexuals. As the HIV epidemic continues to change and the number of persons living with HIV/AIDS continues to grow, it is important to identify populations most impacted and most at risk for HIV infection in order to allocate resources for HIV prevention and care initiatives.

This section provides detailed information about demographic and risk characteristics of HIV-infected individuals and trends in the epidemic over time. The data presented in this section include diagnoses of HIV infection and AIDS through 2003, but reported through 2004. Because data are analyzed using diagnoses dates, allowing for cases to be reported through 2004 increases the completeness of reporting, in order to better reflect the epidemic.

It is estimated that 22,300 to 24,800 persons are living with HIV or AIDS in Ohio. These estimates reflect all persons who are infected with HIV, including persons who are aware of their HIV-positive status and those who are not aware of their HIV-positive status. These estimates were calculated using methods developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Highlights
Scope of the HIV Epidemic in Ohio

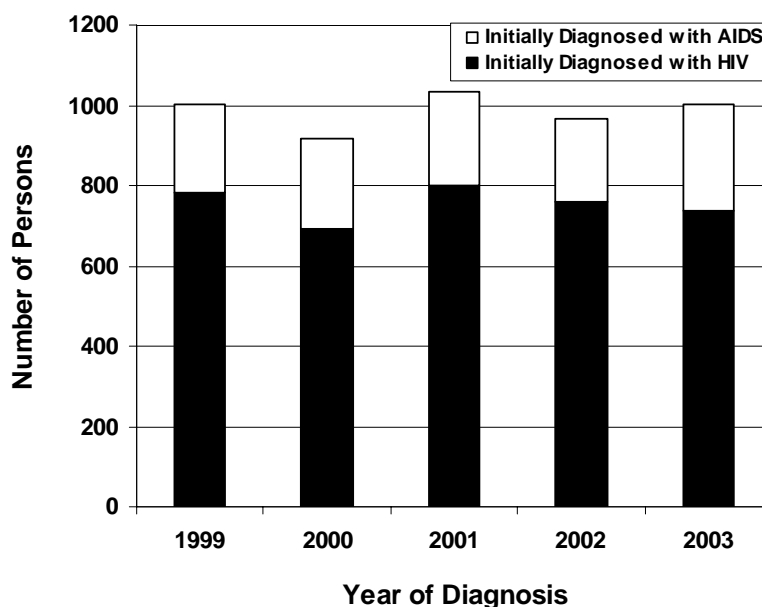
- In Ohio during 2003, there were 1,001 new HIV diagnoses. Among these cases, 23 percent were female, 36 percent were 30-39 years old, 47 percent were white and 44 percent were black.
- The number of persons living with HIV/AIDS in Ohio continues to increase each year. As of 2003, 14,477 persons were known to be living with HIV/AIDS, of whom 46 percent were living with AIDS.
- Blacks and Hispanics are disproportionately impacted by HIV infection. The rate of persons living with HIV/AIDS per 100,000 population is nearly six times higher among blacks compared to whites (450.1 for blacks, compared to 75.5 for whites). Among Hispanics, the rate was slightly more than four times higher than among whites (316.9 for Hispanics).
- Forty percent of persons living with HIV/AIDS in Ohio were in the 40-49-year-old age group and 30 percent of new HIV diagnoses in 2003 were among persons in this age group.
- Male-to-male sexual contact is the leading mode of transmission for HIV among males, followed by injection drug use, then heterosexual contact. Among females, heterosexual contact is the leading mode of transmission, followed by injection drug use.
- Although deaths attributed to HIV/AIDS have decreased, HIV/AIDS was the sixth-leading cause of death among persons 25-44 years of age in Ohio in 2002.

Overall Trends in HIV Infection in Ohio

Trends in HIV Diagnoses

In Ohio during 2003, 1,001 new HIV infections were diagnosed. This number reflects all persons confidentially reported with an HIV diagnosis that had not been previously reported to Ohio Department of Health (ODH). This includes persons diagnosed with HIV (non-AIDS), persons diagnosed with HIV and later updated to AIDS and persons diagnosed with HIV and AIDS at the same time. Persons diagnosed with HIV and AIDS at the same time represent AIDS diagnoses among persons who have not previously been reported with an HIV diagnosis. Among persons reported as having been diagnosed with HIV and AIDS at the same time, it is not possible to determine how many of these cases were not aware of their HIV-positive status until they were diagnosed with an AIDS-defining condition and how many might have previously tested positive for HIV anonymously and not confidentially reported or previously diagnosed out-of-state but were never confidentially reported in Ohio with an HIV diagnosis.

Figure 5. Reported HIV diagnoses among persons in Ohio, 1999-2003



Source: Ohio Department of Health HIV/AIDS Surveillance Program. Data reported through Dec. 31, 2004.

Figure 5 shows the annual number of persons reported with a diagnosis of HIV infection, by persons initially diagnosed with HIV and by persons initially diagnosed with AIDS. This figure shows that for each year, about 23 percent of persons diagnosed with HIV infection were diagnosed with an AIDS-defining condition within the same month. The number of HIV diagnoses fluctuated somewhat from year to year; however, this is not an indicator of increases or decreases among new HIV infections, as these data reflect reported diagnoses of HIV infections which can be affected by reporting practices and delays.

Table 4. Reported persons diagnosed with HIV infection in Ohio, by selected characteristics, 1999-2003

Demographic Characteristics	Year of HIV Diagnosis									
	1999		2000		2001		2002		2003	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Gender										
Male	791	79%	731	80%	795	77%	746	77%	772	77%
Female	212	21%	185	20%	238	23%	221	23%	229	23%
Unknown	1	<1%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Age										
<13	8	1%	7	1%	7	1%	7	1%	6	1%
13-19	27	3%	19	2%	29	3%	21	2%	21	2%
20-24	90	9%	82	9%	95	9%	81	8%	87	9%
25-29	146	15%	104	11%	117	11%	123	13%	128	13%
30-39	408	41%	382	42%	405	39%	353	37%	361	36%
40-49	240	24%	230	25%	266	26%	275	28%	299	30%
50-64	76	8%	83	9%	105	10%	97	10%	95	9%
65+	9	1%	9	1%	9	1%	10	1%	4	<1%
Race/Ethnicity										
White, not Hispanic	485	48%	448	49%	475	46%	473	49%	470	47%
Black, not Hispanic	444	44%	392	43%	449	43%	398	41%	439	44%
Hispanic	36	4%	43	5%	50	5%	40	4%	40	4%
Asian/Pacific Islander	3	<1%	8	1%	5	<1%	4	<1%	6	1%
American Indian/Alaska Native	2	<1%	1	<1%	2	<1%	2	<1%	3	<1%
Unknown	34	3%	24	3%	52	5%	50	5%	43	4%
Race/Gender										
White, not Hispanic Male	412	41%	386	42%	403	39%	401	41%	404	40%
White, not Hispanic Female	73	7%	62	7%	72	7%	72	7%	66	7%
Black, not Hispanic Male	324	32%	289	32%	310	30%	268	28%	298	30%
Black, not Hispanic Female	120	12%	103	11%	139	13%	130	13%	141	14%
Hispanic Male	25	2%	30	3%	34	3%	30	3%	32	3%
Hispanic Female	11	1%	13	1%	16	2%	10	1%	8	1%
Asian/Pacific Islander Male	2	<1%	7	1%	5	<1%	4	<1%	2	<1%
Asian/Pacific Islander Female	1	<1%	1	<1%	-	-	-	-	4	<1%
American Indian/Alaska Native Male	1	<1%	-	-	1	<1%	2	<1%	3	<1%
American Indian/Alaska Native Female	1	<1%	1	<1%	1	<1%	-	-	-	-
Unknown	34	3%	24	3%	52	5%	50	5%	43	4%
Total	1,004	100%	916	100%	1,033	100%	967	100%	1,001	100%

Dash (-) indicates no cases were reported for the given category.

Source: Ohio Department of Health HIV/AIDS Surveillance Program. Data reported through Dec. 31, 2004.

Among persons diagnosed with HIV infection (including persons whose initial diagnosis was AIDS), the majority of diagnoses are among males. However, the proportion of cases diagnosed among females increased from 21 percent of diagnoses in 1999 to 23 percent of diagnoses in 2003. The age distribution of persons diagnosed with HIV infection has remained similar over time, where the majority of new diagnoses were among persons 30-39 years of age. The largest percentage of new diagnoses is among whites; however, blacks and Hispanics are disproportionately impacted by HIV infection. Blacks account for more than 40 percent of HIV diagnoses each year, but represent 12 percent of Ohio's population; and Hispanics account for more than 4 percent of HIV diagnoses each year, but represent less than 2 percent of Ohio's population. It is difficult to determine if there have been any recent shifts in the racial distribution of HIV diagnoses because of the number of cases whose race is unknown or not reported. White males account for the largest proportion of cases, followed by black males, then black females and then white females. (Table 4)

Table 5. Reported persons diagnosed with HIV infection in Ohio, by selected characteristics, 2001-2003

Demographic Characteristics	Total HIV Diagnoses ^a		HIV (non-AIDS) at Initial Diagnosis ^b		HIV with AIDS at Initial Diagnosis ^c		Met AIDS Case Definition at Time of Diagnosis
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	%
Gender							
Male	2,313	77%	1,733	75%	580	82%	25%
Female	688	23%	563	25%	125	18%	18%
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Age							
<13	20	1%	12	1%	8	1%	40%
13-19	71	2%	66	3%	5	1%	7%
20-24	263	9%	237	10%	26	4%	10%
25-29	368	12%	300	13%	68	10%	18%
30-39	1,119	37%	856	37%	263	37%	24%
40-49	840	28%	597	26%	243	34%	29%
50-64	297	10%	213	9%	84	12%	28%
65+	23	1%	15	1%	8	1%	35%
Race/Ethnicity							
White, not Hispanic	1,418	47%	1,048	46%	370	52%	26%
Black, not Hispanic	1,286	43%	997	43%	289	41%	22%
Hispanic	130	4%	91	4%	39	6%	30%
Asian/Pacific Islander	15	<1%	13	1%	2	<1%	13%
American Indian/Alaska Native	7	<1%	7	<1%	-	-	-
Unknown	145	5%	140	6%	5	1%	3%
Transmission Category							
Male Adult or Adolescent							
Male-to-Male Sexual Contact	746	32%	535	31%	211	37%	28%
Injection Drug Use (IDU)	83	4%	56	3%	27	5%	33%
Male-to-Male Sexual Contact and IDU	32	1%	20	1%	12	2%	38%
Heterosexual Contact	76	3%	62	4%	14	2%	18%
Blood Product	6	<1%	5	<1%	1	<1%	17%
Other/Unknown	1,363	59%	1,052	61%	311	54%	23%
Subtotal	2,306	100%	1,730	100%	576	100%	25%
Female Adult or Adolescent							
Injection Drug Use	29	4%	22	4%	7	6%	24%
Heterosexual Contact	137	20%	117	21%	20	17%	15%
Blood Product	3	<1%	2	<1%	1	1%	33%
Other/Unknown	506	75%	413	75%	93	77%	18%
Subtotal	675	100%	554	100%	121	100%	18%
Child (<13 years at diagnosis)							
Perinatal	17	85%	11	92%	6	75%	35%
Other/Unknown	3	15%	1	8%	2	25%	67%
Subtotal	20	100%	12	100%	8	100%	40%
Total	3,001	100%	2,296	77%	705	23%	23%

^a Total HIV diagnoses reflect all cases of HIV infection diagnosed for the first time, including cases diagnosed with HIV infection, not AIDS; cases diagnosed with HIV and later progressed to AIDS; and cases concurrently diagnosed with HIV and AIDS.

^b HIV (non-AIDS) at initial diagnosis includes cases of HIV infection who are initially reported with HIV (non-AIDS).

^c HIV with AIDS at initial diagnosis includes cases who are diagnosed with both HIV and AIDS in the same month.

Dash (-) indicates no cases were reported for the given category.

Source: Ohio Department of Health HIV/AIDS Surveillance Program. Data reported through Dec. 31, 2004.

Table 5 shows the demographic distribution of persons diagnosed with HIV infection at an earlier stage of disease (HIV [non-AIDS] at initial diagnosis) differs from persons diagnosed with HIV infection at a later stage of disease (HIV with AIDS at initial diagnosis). Cases diagnosed initially with HIV represent more recent infections than those initially diagnosed with AIDS and a larger percentage of the more recent infections are among females and blacks compared to diagnoses among persons who might have been infected with HIV for a longer period of time. From 2001 to 2003, an average of 23 percent of new diagnoses was among persons who met the AIDS case definition at the time of diagnosis. A larger percentage of males than females met the AIDS case definition at the time of diagnosis; persons over 30 years of age were more likely to meet the AIDS case definition at time of diagnosis compared to persons under 30; and a larger percentage of whites than blacks and Hispanics met the AIDS case definition at the time of HIV diagnosis. This information should be interpreted with caution because it reflects the date the individual was diagnosed and reported confidentially to the Ohio Department of Health for the first time and might not reflect when the individual became aware of his/her HIV infection.

Trends among Persons Living with HIV/AIDS

As people live longer with HIV infection, the number of persons living with HIV/AIDS continues to increase each year. The number of persons living with HIV/AIDS reflects all persons ever reported with HIV or AIDS who are not known to have died.

Table 6. Reported persons living with HIV/AIDS in Ohio, 1999-2003

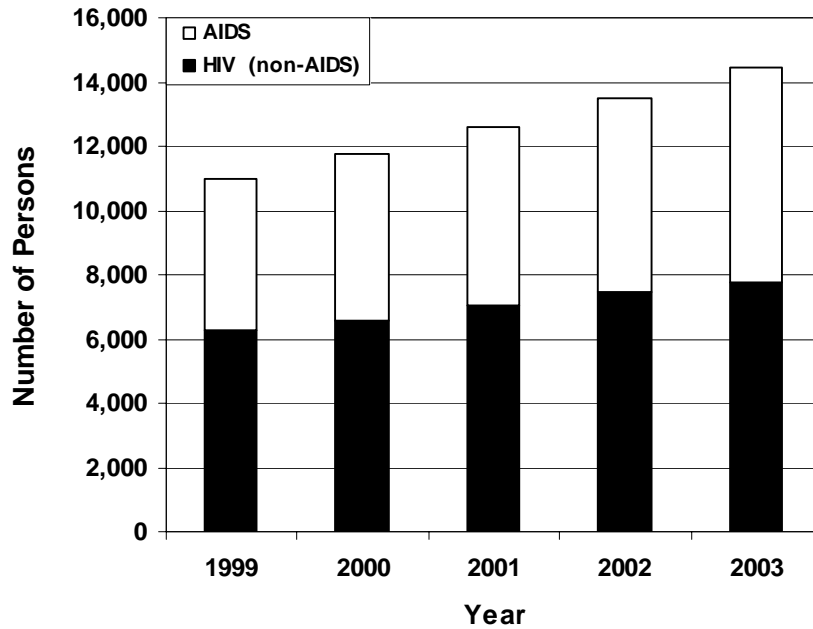
Demographic Characteristics	Persons Living with HIV/AIDS									
	1999		2000		2001		2002		2003	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Gender										
Male	8,918	81%	9,515	81%	10,165	81%	10,844	80%	11,591	80%
Female	2,085	19%	2,241	19%	2,450	19%	2,660	20%	2,884	20%
Unknown	2	<1%	2	<1%	2	<1%	2	<1%	2	<1%
Age										
<13	111	1%	109	1%	111	1%	104	1%	102	1%
13-19	65	1%	63	1%	71	1%	75	1%	84	1%
20-24	337	3%	331	3%	348	3%	347	3%	338	2%
25-29	1,019	9%	904	8%	815	6%	802	6%	821	6%
30-39	4,729	43%	4,804	41%	4,907	39%	4,833	36%	4,709	33%
40-49	3,503	32%	4,040	34%	4,516	36%	5,080	38%	5,728	40%
50-64	1,128	10%	1,378	12%	1,696	13%	2,075	15%	2,463	17%
65+	113	1%	129	1%	153	1%	190	1%	232	2%
Race/Ethnicity										
White, not Hispanic	5,631	51%	5,994	51%	6,383	51%	6,814	50%	7,268	50%
Black, not Hispanic	4,560	41%	4,876	41%	5,246	42%	5,609	42%	6,031	42%
Hispanic	527	5%	565	5%	608	5%	647	5%	688	5%
Asian/Pacific Islander	30	<1%	39	<1%	44	<1%	48	<1%	54	<1%
American Indian/Alaska Native	21	<1%	24	<1%	26	<1%	28	<1%	31	<1%
Unknown	236	2%	260	2%	310	2%	360	3%	405	3%
Race/Gender										
White, not Hispanic Male	4,884	44%	5,201	44%	5,527	44%	5,892	44%	6,283	43%
White, not Hispanic Female	747	7%	793	7%	856	7%	922	7%	985	7%
Black, not Hispanic Male	3,437	31%	3,664	31%	3,913	31%	4,151	31%	4,436	31%
Black, not Hispanic Female	1,122	10%	1,211	10%	1,332	11%	1,457	11%	1,594	11%
Hispanic Male	367	3%	392	3%	421	3%	450	3%	483	3%
Hispanic Female	160	1%	173	1%	187	1%	197	1%	205	1%
Asian/Pacific Islander Male	27	<1%	35	<1%	40	<1%	44	<1%	46	<1%
Asian/Pacific Islander Female	3	<1%	4	<1%	4	<1%	4	<1%	8	<1%
American Indian/Alaska Native Male	16	<1%	17	<1%	18	<1%	20	<1%	23	<1%
American Indian/Alaska Native Female	5	<1%	7	<1%	8	<1%	8	<1%	8	<1%
Unknown	237	2%	261	2%	311	2%	361	3%	406	3%
Transmission Category										
Male Adult or Adolescent										
Male-to-Male Sexual Contact	4,834	55%	5,101	54%	5,325	53%	5,493	51%	5,731	50%
Injection Drug Use (IDU)	825	9%	853	9%	874	9%	892	8%	909	8%
Male-to-Male Sexual Contact and IDU	562	6%	568	6%	568	6%	570	5%	579	5%
Heterosexual Contact	336	4%	356	4%	376	4%	394	4%	421	4%
Blood Product	109	1%	103	1%	100	<1%	102	<1%	103	<1%
Other/Unknown	2,179	25%	2,459	26%	2,846	28%	3,314	31%	3,766	33%
Subtotal	8,845	100%	9,440	100%	10,089	100%	10,765	100%	11,509	100%
Female Adult or Adolescent										
Injection Drug Use	365	18%	366	17%	373	16%	381	15%	388	14%
Heterosexual Contact	879	44%	924	43%	966	41%	1,000	39%	1,038	37%
Blood Product	22	1%	22	1%	22	<1%	22	<1%	25	<1%
Other/Unknown	747	37%	853	39%	1,007	43%	1,173	46%	1,346	48%
Subtotal	2,013	100%	2,165	100%	2,368	100%	2,576	100%	2,797	100%
Child (<13 years at diagnosis)										
Perinatal	111	77%	117	77%	124	78%	128	79%	132	78%
Other/Unknown	34	23%	34	23%	34	22%	35	21%	37	22%
Subtotal	145	100%	151	100%	158	100%	163	100%	169	100%
Total	11,005	100%	11,758	100%	12,617	100%	13,506	100%	14,477	100%

Dash (-) indicates no cases were reported for the given category.

Source: Ohio Department of Health HIV/AIDS Surveillance Program. Data reported through Dec. 31, 2004.

In 1999, there were 11,005 persons who were known to be living with HIV/AIDS and in 2003 this number had increased 32 percent to 14,477. The demographic distribution of the disease remained fairly constant from 1999 to 2003. (Table 6)

Figure 6. Reported persons living with HIV and AIDS in Ohio, 1999-2003



Source: Ohio Department of Health HIV/AIDS Surveillance Program. Data reported through Dec. 31, 2004.

Figure 6 illustrates the increase in the number of persons living with HIV/AIDS. For each year, approximately 55 percent of persons were living with HIV and 44 percent of persons were living with AIDS.

Table 7. Reported persons living with HIV/AIDS in Ohio, by selected characteristics, 2003

Demographic Characteristics	Reported Persons Living with HIV/AIDS ^a			Living with HIV or AIDS by Current Disease Status ^c			
	Rate ^b	No.	%	HIV (non-AIDS)		AIDS	
				No.	%	No.	%
Gender							
Male	210.3	11,591	80%	6,002	77%	5,589	83%
Female	49.4	2,884	20%	1,774	23%	1,110	17%
Unknown	*	2	<1%	2	<1%	-	-
Age							
<13	4.9	102	1%	62	1%	40	1%
13-19	7.3	84	1%	54	1%	30	<1%
20-24	46.4	338	2%	279	4%	59	1%
25-29	111.6	821	6%	598	8%	223	3%
30-39	282.3	4,709	33%	2,712	35%	1,997	30%
40-49	326.1	5,728	40%	2,848	37%	2,880	43%
50-64	141.5	2,463	17%	1,125	14%	1,338	20%
65+	15.4	232	2%	100	1%	132	2%
Race/Ethnicity							
White, not Hispanic	75.5	7,268	50%	3,695	48%	3,573	53%
Black, not Hispanic	450.1	6,031	42%	3,308	43%	2,723	41%
Hispanic	316.9	688	5%	336	4%	352	5%
Asian/Pacific Islander	37.1	54	<1%	25	<1%	29	<1%
American Indian/Alaska Native	108.1	31	<1%	19	<1%	12	<1%
Unknown	*	405	3%	395	5%	10	<1%
Race/Gender							
White, not Hispanic Male	134.3	6,283	43%	3,086	40%	3,197	48%
White, not Hispanic Female	19.9	985	7%	609	8%	376	6%
Black, not Hispanic Male	698.6	4,436	31%	2,347	30%	2,089	31%
Black, not Hispanic Female	226.2	1,594	11%	960	12%	634	9%
Hispanic Male	430.2	483	3%	223	3%	260	4%
Hispanic Female	195.5	205	1%	113	1%	92	1%
Asian/Pacific Islander Male	64.8	46	<1%	21	<1%	25	<1%
Asian/Pacific Islander Female	10.7	8	<1%	4	<1%	4	<1%
American Indian/Alaska Native Male	161.6	23	<1%	14	<1%	9	<1%
American Indian/Alaska Native Female	55.4	8	<1%	5	<1%	3	<1%
Unknown	*	406	3%	396	5%	10	<1%
Total	127.5	14,477	100%	7,778	100%	6,699	100%

^a Living with HIV/AIDS represents all persons ever diagnosed and reported with HIV or AIDS who have not been reported as having died as of Dec. 31, 2003.

^b Living with HIV/AIDS rate is the number of persons living with HIV/AIDS per 100,000 population calculated using 2000 census data.

^c Living with HIV/AIDS by current disease status breaks out the number of persons living with HIV/AIDS by cases who are HIV (non-AIDS) and by those who are diagnosed with AIDS as of Dec. 31, 2003.

Asterisk (*) indicates rates were not calculated for case counts<5.

Dash (-) indicates rates are not calculated because census data are not applicable to the respective category or that no cases were reported for the given category.

Source: Ohio Department of Health HIV/AIDS Surveillance Program. Data reported through Dec. 31, 2004.

The rates in **Table 7** depict the extent to which populations are impacted by HIV/AIDS and how this varies by population groups. The rate of persons living with HIV/AIDS in Ohio was 127.5 per 100,000 population in 2003. The rate of persons living with HIV/AIDS per 100,000 population was nearly six times higher among blacks compared to whites (450.1 for blacks, compared to 75.5 for whites). Among Hispanics, the rate was slightly more than four times higher than among whites (316.9 for Hispanics). The rate of persons living with HIV/AIDS was 210.3 for males compared to 49.4 for females.

The disproportionate impact of HIV/AIDS among blacks and Hispanics in Ohio is seen among both males and females. The rate of persons living with HIV/AIDS was 698.6 per 100,000 population for black males and 430.2 for Hispanic males, compared to 134.3 for white males. For females, the rate was 226.2 for black females, 195.5 for Hispanic females and 19.9 for white females.

Living with HIV or AIDS by current disease status in **Table 7** shows the demographic comparison between persons living with HIV and persons living with AIDS. Persons living with HIV most likely represent persons infected more recently than persons living with AIDS. As was seen in **Table 5**, a larger percentage of cases representing more recent infections (living with HIV) are among females and blacks compared to cases among persons who may have been infected with HIV for a longer period of time (living with AIDS).

Table 8. Reported HIV diagnoses, 2001-2003, reported persons living with HIV/AIDS as of Dec. 31, 2003 and reported deaths among persons with HIV/AIDS as of Dec. 31, 2003, Ohio, by county

County ^b	Total HIV Diagnoses ^a 2001-2003		Reported Persons Living with HIV/AIDS		Known Dead HIV/AIDS		County ^b	Total HIV Diagnoses ^a 2001-2003		Reported Persons Living with HIV/AIDS		Known Dead HIV/AIDS	
	No.	Rate ^c	No.	No.	No.	No.		No.	Rate ^c	No.	No.		
Adams	1	40.2	11	5	Logan	6	45.6	21	13				
Allen	31	106.0	115	46	Lorain	42	74.1	211	121				
Ashland	2	17.1	9	8	Lucas	168	169.2	770	361				
Ashtabula	15	48.7	50	24	Madison	3	44.8	18	12				
Athens	6	45.0	28	19	Mahoning	82	129.7	334	163				
Auglaize	6	36.5	17	7	Marion	4	66.4	44	30				
Belmont	4	32.8	23	18	Medina	3	15.9	24	20				
Brown	7	37.8	16	5	Meigs	4	43.3	10	2				
Butler	35	59.8	199	102	Mercer	1	17.1	7	8				
Carroll	-	24.3	7	6	Miami	19	72.8	72	29				
Champaign	3	54.0	21	12	Monroe	2	*	3	3				
Clark	22	76.0	110	98	Montgomery	204	180.7	1,010	512				
Clermont	13	25.3	45	32	Morgan	1	*	3	1				
Clinton	3	29.6	12	15	Morrow	1	15.8	5	10				
Columbiana	13	39.3	44	28	Muskingum	16	70.9	60	25				
Coshocton	2	24.6	9	4	Noble	-	*	2	-				
Crawford	7	44.7	21	16	Ottawa	3	43.9	18	12				
Cuyahoga	517	232.4	3,240	1,779	Paulding	2	49.3	10	4				
Darke	4	39.4	21	16	Perry	1	35.2	12	7				
Defiance	5	53.2	21	11	Pickaway	2	37.9	20	18				
Delaware	17	47.3	52	23	Pike	1	50.6	14	8				
Erie	12	72.9	58	36	Portage	15	37.5	57	38				
Fairfield	15	48.1	59	36	Preble	1	37.8	16	8				
Fayette	2	42.2	12	9	Putnam	-	*	3	7				
Franklin	668	238.8	2,553	1,406	Richland	24	66.0	85	67				
Fulton	4	38.0	16	11	Ross	6	68.2	50	30				
Gallia	5	41.8	13	6	Sandusky	4	48.5	30	23				
Geauga	2	24.2	22	16	Scioto	11	53.0	42	26				
Greene	18	52.7	78	63	Seneca	2	27.3	16	18				
Guernsey	5	53.9	22	4	Shelby	3	33.4	16	17				
Hamilton	353	214.4	1,812	1,020	Stark	45	69.3	262	159				
Hancock	6	54.7	39	22	Summit	135	107.4	583	354				
Hardin	4	21.9	7	6	Trumbull	27	55.5	125	66				
Harrison	-	*	3	5	Tuscarawas	2	17.6	16	11				
Henry	2	27.4	8	5	Union	3	34.2	14	11				
Highland	4	41.6	17	10	Van Wert	-	*	2	2				
Hocking	1	60.2	17	7	Vinton	1	*	1	1				
Holmes	4	18.0	7	2	Warren	16	43.6	69	28				
Huron	3	21.9	13	12	Washington	4	53.8	34	32				
Jackson	2	42.9	14	9	Wayne	10	34.1	38	21				
Jefferson	10	55.5	41	43	Williams	4	58.7	23	9				
Knox	2	34.9	19	13	Wood	15	42.1	51	29				
Lake	15	39.1	89	76	Wyandot	-	*	3	4				
Lawrence	9	44.9	28	21	No County	226	-	1,174	184				
Licking	23	55.7	81	62	Total	3,001	127.5	14,477	7,678				

^a Total HIV diagnoses reflect all cases of HIV infection diagnosed for the first time, including cases diagnosed with HIV infection, not AIDS; cases diagnosed with HIV and progressed to AIDS within the same year; and cases concurrently diagnosed with HIV and AIDS.

^b County is based on county of residence at time of HIV diagnosis for data reflecting total HIV diagnoses, and county of most recent known residence for data reflecting persons living with HIV/AIDS. Cases whose residence is a correctional facility or whose county is unknown are included in No County.

^c Living with HIV/AIDS rate is the number of persons living with HIV/AIDS per 100,000 population calculated using 2000 census data.

Asterisk (*) indicates rates are suppressed because of small cell size (<5).

Dash (-) indicates no cases were reported for the given category or rates are not calculated because census data are not applicable to the respective category.

Source: Ohio Department of Health HIV/AIDS Surveillance Program. Data reported through Dec. 31, 2004.

HIV/AIDS by Race/Ethnicity and Gender

As discussed above, the demographic distribution of the HIV epidemic in Ohio differs from the distribution of Ohio's population. This section further illustrates the differences among race/ethnicity and gender groups.

Table 9. Reported HIV diagnoses among persons in Ohio, by race/ethnicity and gender, 2003

Race/Ethnicity	Males		Females		Total HIV Diagnoses ^a	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
White, not Hispanic	404	52%	66	29%	470	47%
Black, not Hispanic	298	39%	141	62%	439	44%
Hispanic	32	4%	8	3%	40	4%
Asian/Pacific Islander	2	<1%	4	2%	6	1%
American Indian/Alaska Native	3	<1%	-	-	3	<1%
Unknown	33	4%	10	4%	43	4%
Total	772	100%	229	100%	1,001	100%

^a Total HIV diagnoses reflect all cases of HIV infection diagnosed for the first time, including cases diagnosed with HIV infection, not AIDS; cases diagnosed with HIV and later progressed to AIDS; and cases concurrently diagnosed with HIV and AIDS.

Dash (-) indicates no cases were reported for the given category.

Source: Ohio Department of Health HIV/AIDS Surveillance Program. Data reported through Dec. 31, 2004.

Among males diagnosed with HIV infection in 2003, 52 percent were white, 39 percent were black and 4 percent were Hispanic. Among females, 62 percent of HIV diagnoses were black, 29 percent were white and 3 percent were Hispanic. (**Table 9**)

Table 10. Reported HIV diagnoses among persons in Ohio, by gender and race/ethnicity, 2003

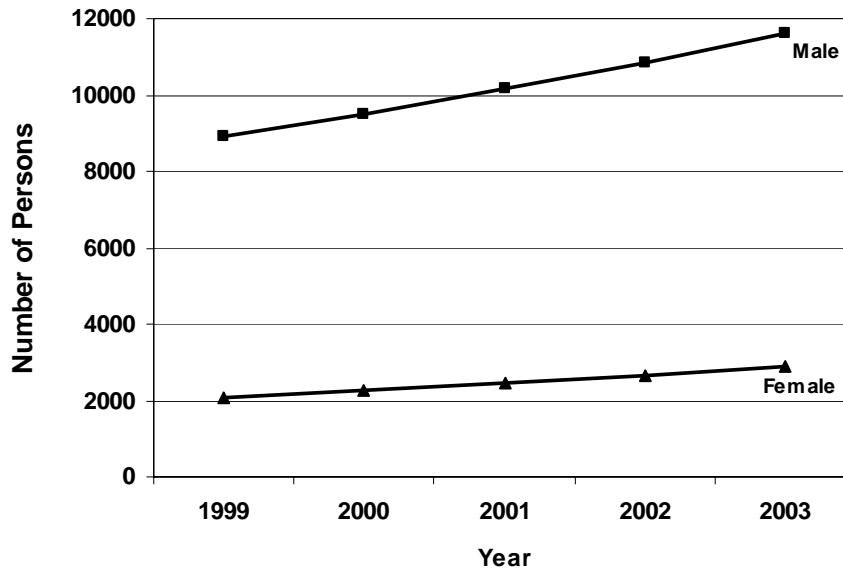
Gender	White, not Hispanic		Black, not Hispanic		Hispanic		Asian/Pacific Islander		American Indian/Alaska Native		Total HIV Diagnoses ^a	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Male	404	86%	298	68%	32	80%	2	33%	3	100%	772	77%
Female	66	14%	141	32%	8	20%	4	67%	-	-	229	23%
Total	470	100%	439	100%	40	100%	6	100%	3	100%	1,001	100%

^a Total HIV diagnoses reflect cases of HIV infection diagnosed for the first time, including cases diagnosed with HIV infection, not AIDS; cases diagnosed with HIV and later progressed to AIDS; and cases concurrently diagnosed with HIV and AIDS. The total includes persons with unknown race. Dash (-) indicates no cases were reported for the given category.

Source: Ohio Department of Health HIV/AIDS Surveillance Program. Data reported through Dec. 31, 2004.

Blacks and Hispanics have a higher proportion of HIV diagnoses who are female than whites. Thirty-two percent of blacks and 20 percent of Hispanic diagnoses in 2003 were female compared to 14 percent of whites. (**Table 10**)

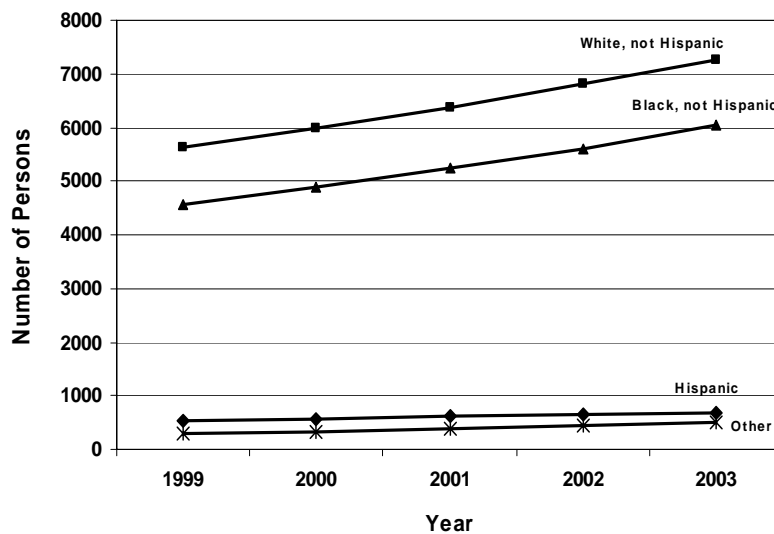
Figure 8. Reported persons living with HIV/AIDS in Ohio, by gender, 1999-2003



Source: Ohio Department of Health HIV/AIDS Surveillance Program. Data reported through Dec. 31, 2004.

The number of persons living with HIV/AIDS has increased steadily among both males and females; however, females increased 38 percent from 1999 to 2003, while males increased 30 percent during this time period. (Figure 8)

Figure 9. Reported persons living with HIV/AIDS in Ohio, by race/ethnicity, 1999-2003



Source: Ohio Department of Health HIV/AIDS Surveillance Program. Data reported through Dec. 31, 2004.

The number of persons living with HIV/AIDS increased from 1999 to 2003 across all racial/ethnic groups. The largest percent increase was seen among blacks (32 percent), followed by Hispanics (31 percent) and then whites (29 percent). (**Figure 9**)

It should be noted that of the 14,477 persons living with HIV/AIDS in Ohio, a minimum of 1.8 percent of these persons are foreign-born. This is considered a minimum because country of birth was reported only for 39 percent of the cases. The percentage of persons that are foreign-born differs across racial/ethnic groups. Less than 1 percent of whites living with HIV/AIDS are known to be foreign-born, slightly more than 2 percent of blacks are foreign-born, 9 percent of Hispanics are foreign-born and 33 percent of Asians living with HIV/AIDS are known to be foreign-born.

HIV/AIDS by Age Group

Table 11. Reported HIV diagnoses among persons in Ohio, by age group and gender, 2003

Age at Diagnosis	Males		Females		Total HIV Diagnoses ^a	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
<13	3	<1%	3	1%	6	1%
13-19	12	2%	9	4%	21	2%
20-24	67	9%	20	9%	87	9%
25-29	87	11%	41	18%	128	13%
30-39	283	37%	78	34%	361	36%
40-49	239	31%	60	26%	299	30%
50-64	78	10%	17	7%	95	9%
65+	3	<1%	1	<1%	4	<1%
Total	772	100%	229	100%	1,001	100%

^a Total HIV diagnoses reflect cases of HIV infection diagnosed for the first time, including cases that are diagnosed with HIV infection, not AIDS; cases that are diagnosed with HIV and later progressed to AIDS; and cases concurrently with HIV and AIDS.

Source: Ohio Department of Health HIV/AIDS Surveillance Program. Data reported through Dec. 31, 2004.

For both males and females, the majority of HIV diagnoses are among persons aged 30-39. Females tend to be diagnosed with HIV at a younger age than males; 65 percent of females were 13-39 years old at diagnosis, compared to 59 percent of males. (**Table 11**)

HIV/AIDS by Mode of Transmission

Risk information is collected on the HIV/AIDS reporting form; however, the number of reports received lacking risk information is increasing and can be greater than 50 percent for some population groups. Reports of HIV infection without risk information receive follow-up investigation in an attempt to classify them into a transmission category; therefore, cases reported in previous years have a higher proportion of cases with a known risk. Because data reflecting recent HIV diagnoses have such a high proportion of cases reported without risk information, data are presented only by transmission category for persons living with HIV/AIDS. To further reduce the percentage of cases without risk information, data are presented for persons living with HIV/AIDS in 2000.

Table 12. Reported persons living with HIV/AIDS in Ohio, by transmission category and gender, 2000

Transmission Category	Males		Females		Total Living with HIV/AIDS ^a	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Adult or Adolescent						
Male-to-Male Sexual Contact	5,101	54%	-	-	5,101	44%
Injection Drug Use (IDU)	853	9%	366	17%	1,219	11%
Male-to-Male Sexual Contact and IDU	568	6%	-	-	568	5%
Heterosexual Contact	356	4%	924	43%	1,280	11%
Blood Product	103	1%	22	1%	125	1%
Other/Unknown	2,459	26%	853	39%	3,312	29%
Subtotal	9,440	100%	2,165	100%	11,605	100%
Child (<13 years at diagnosis)						
Perinatal	48	64%	69	91%	117	77%
Other/Unknown	27	36%	7	9%	34	23%
Subtotal	75	100%	76	100%	151	100%
Total	9,515	100%	2,241	100%	11,758	100%

^a Living with HIV/AIDS represents all persons ever diagnosed and reported with HIV or AIDS who have not been reported as having died as of Dec. 31, 2000, including cases whose gender were not reported.

Dash (-) indicates no cases were reported for the given category or data are not applicable to the respective category.

Source: Ohio Department of Health HIV/AIDS Surveillance Program. Data reported through Dec. 31, 2004.

While the proportion of cases without risk information is still relatively high, as seen in **Table 12**, it is not possible to determine the actual number and percentage of cases in each transmission category; however, it is possible to identify the general patterns of transmission. The leading mode of transmission is male-to-male sexual contact. Among total cases, injection drug use and heterosexual contact each account for a similar percentage of cases. Among males, a larger number of cases were attributed to injection drug use than heterosexual contact. However, among females, the leading mode of transmission was heterosexual contact, followed by injection drug use. Among females there are a larger proportion of cases with unknown mode of transmission than among males.

Table 13. Reported persons living with HIV/AIDS in Ohio, by transmission category and race, 2000

Transmission Category	White, not Hispanic		Black, not		Hispanic		Asian/Pacific Islander		Am Indian/Alaska Native		Total Living with HIV/AIDS ^a	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Male Adult or Adolescent												
Male-to-Male Sexual Contact	3,308	64%	1,624	45%	117	31%	22	63%	12	71%	5,101	54%
Injection Drug Use (IDU)	249	5%	452	12%	148	39%	-	-	1	6%	853	9%
Male-to-Male Sexual Contact and IDU	289	6%	250	7%	26	7%	-	-	-	-	568	6%
Heterosexual Contact	117	2%	211	6%	28	7%	-	-	-	-	356	4%
Blood Product	79	2%	23	<1%	1	<1%	-	-	-	-	103	1%
Other/Unknown	1,127	22%	1,070	29%	63	16%	13	37%	4	24%	2,459	26%
Subtotal	5,169	100%	3,630	100%	383	100%	35	100%	17	100%	9,440	100%
Female Adult or Adolescent												
Injection Drug Use	108	14%	208	18%	48	29%	1	25%	1	14%	366	17%
Heterosexual Contact	375	49%	456	39%	84	51%	1	25%	4	57%	924	43%
Blood Product	11	1%	11	<1%	-	-	-	-	-	-	22	1%
Other/Unknown	277	36%	493	42%	32	20%	2	50%	2	29%	853	39%
Subtotal	771	100%	1,168	100%	164	100%	4	100%	7	100%	2,165	100%
Child (<13 years at diagnosis)												
Perinatal	35	65%	64	83%	18	100%	-	-	-	-	117	77%
Other/Unknown	19	35%	13	17%	-	-	-	-	-	-	34	23%
Subtotal	54	100%	77	100%	18	100%	-	-	-	-	151	100%
Total	5,994	100%	4,876	100%	565	100%	39	100%	24	100%	11,758	100%

^a Living with HIV/AIDS represents all persons ever diagnosed and reported with HIV or AIDS who have not been reported as having died as of Dec. 31, 2000, including cases whose risk and/or race were not reported.

Dash (-) indicates no cases were reported for the given category.

Source: Ohio Department of Health HIV/AIDS Surveillance Program. Data reported through Dec. 31, 2004.

As with the table for transmission category by gender, it is not possible to determine the exact number and percentage of cases in each transmission category for the different race/ethnic groups because of the large proportion of cases without risk information; however, these data can be used to identify the general patterns of transmission by race/ethnic group.

Male-to-male sex is the leading mode of transmission among males across all racial/ethnic groups except Hispanics. Among Hispanic males, injection drug use is the leading mode of transmission followed by male-to-male sexual contact. Black males have a lower percentage of cases attributed to male-to-male sexual contact compared to white males and larger percentage of cases attributed to injection drug use and heterosexual contact. (Table 13)

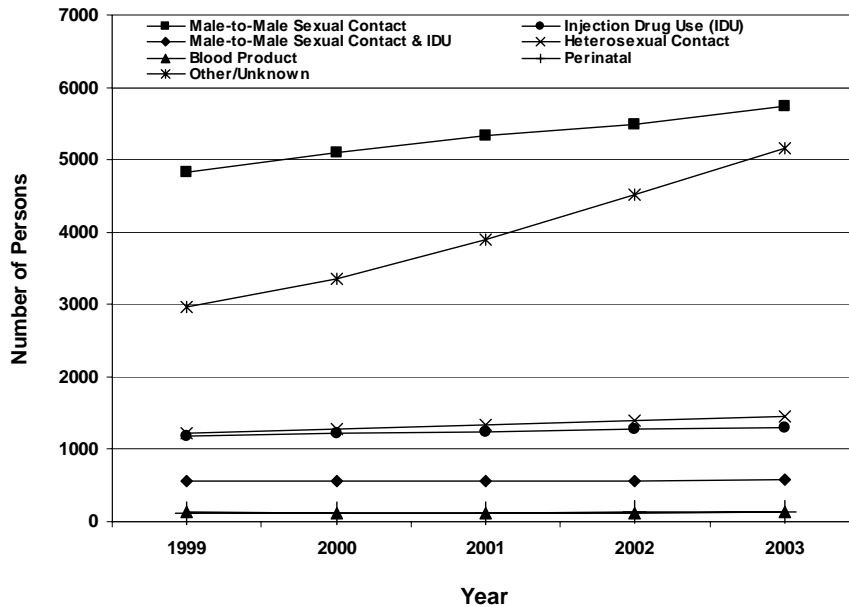
Among women, heterosexual contact is the leading mode of transmission followed by injection drug use in all but Asian/Pacific Islanders. The number of cases reported for Asian Pacific/Islanders and American Indian/Alaska Natives are small, thus interpretation of the data should be done with caution. Overall, the proportion of females with unknown risk is greater than in males. (Table 13)

Table 14. Reported persons living with HIV/AIDS in Ohio, by transmission category, 1999-2003

Transmission Category	Total Living with HIV/AIDS ^a									
	1999		2000		2001		2002		2003	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Male-to-Male Sexual Contact	4,834	44%	5,101	43%	5,325	42%	5,493	41%	5,731	40%
Injection Drug Use (IDU)	1,190	11%	1,219	10%	1,247	10%	1,273	9%	1,297	9%
Male-to-Male Sexual Contact and IDU	562	5%	568	5%	568	5%	570	4%	579	4%
Heterosexual Contact	1,215	11%	1,280	11%	1,342	11%	1,394	10%	1,459	10%
Blood Product	131	1%	125	1%	122	<1%	124	<1%	128	<1%
Perinatal	111	1%	117	<1%	124	<1%	128	<1%	132	<1%
Other/Unknown	2,962	27%	3,348	28%	3,889	31%	4,524	33%	5,151	36%
Total	11,005	100%	11,758	100%	12,617	100%	13,506	100%	14,477	100%

^a Living with HIV/AIDS represents all persons ever diagnosed and reported with HIV or AIDS.
 Source: Ohio Department of Health HIV/AIDS Surveillance Program. Data reported through Dec. 31, 2004.

Figure 10. Reported persons living with HIV/AIDS in Ohio, by transmission category, 1999-2003



Source: Ohio Department of Health HIV/AIDS Surveillance. Data reported through Dec. 31, 2004.

Table 14 and **Figure 10** further illustrate that the leading mode of transmission continues to be male-to-male sexual contact, followed by heterosexual contact and injection drug use. Despite the increasing number of cases reported without risk information, this graph shows that the number of persons living with HIV/AIDS among the three modes of transmission continues to increase. The number of persons living with HIV/AIDS whose risk is heterosexual contact has surpassed the number of persons living with HIV/AIDS whose risk is injection drug use.

AIDS Trends and Mortality

As new drug treatments make it possible to remain asymptomatic with HIV infection, the number of new AIDS diagnoses and AIDS-related deaths has declined since 1996. As a result, AIDS incidence (number of new AIDS diagnoses) is no longer a good measure of the HIV/AIDS epidemic. However, it is important to continue monitoring AIDS incidence and mortality as one measure of the effectiveness of improved treatments and to help identify groups who might not be receiving care or for whom treatment has not been successful. HIV reporting is used to examine the time frame between HIV diagnosis and AIDS diagnosis. This information can be used to help identify persons who might not be getting diagnosed with HIV early in the course of the disease. However, these data should be interpreted with caution because it is possible that some of the cases reported as diagnosed with HIV less than 12 months prior to their AIDS diagnoses might have previously been tested anonymously or tested in a different state and not confidentially reported in Ohio.

Table 15. Reported AIDS diagnoses, by selected characteristics, 2001-2003

Demographic Characteristics	AIDS Diagnoses					
	Total AIDS Diagnoses		≥12 Months after Diagnosis with HIV		<12 Months after Diagnosis with HIV ^a	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Gender						
Male	1,358	80%	570	78%	788	81%
Female	349	20%	161	22%	188	19%
Age						
<13	9	1%	1	<1%	8	1%
13-19	12	1%	5	1%	7	1%
20-24	62	4%	22	3%	40	4%
25-29	136	8%	48	7%	88	9%
30-39	711	42%	332	45%	379	39%
40-49	560	33%	240	33%	320	33%
50-64	200	12%	78	11%	122	13%
65+	17	1%	5	1%	12	1%
Race/Ethnicity						
White, not Hispanic	837	49%	327	45%	510	52%
Black, not Hispanic	773	45%	364	50%	409	42%
Hispanic	84	5%	35	5%	49	5%
Asian/Pacific Islander	5	<1%	3	<1%	2	<1%
American Indian/Alaska Native	1	<1%	1	<1%	-	-
Unknown	7	<1%	1	<1%	6	<1%
Transmission Category						
Male Adult or Adolescent						
Male-to-Male Sexual Contact	609	45%	307	54%	302	39%
Injection Drug Use (IDU)	83	6%	46	8%	37	5%
Male-to-Male Sexual Contact and IDU	56	4%	39	7%	17	2%
Heterosexual Contact	50	4%	31	5%	19	2%
Blood Product	3	<1%	2	<1%	1	<1%
Other/Unknown	550	41%	142	25%	408	52%
Subtotal	1,351	100%	567	100%	784	100%
Female Adult or Adolescent						
Injection Drug Use	38	11%	24	15%	14	8%
Heterosexual Contact	105	31%	72	46%	33	18%
Blood Product	2	1%	-	-	2	1%
Other/Unknown	196	57%	61	39%	135	73%
Subtotal	341	100%	157	100%	184	100%
Child (<13 years at diagnosis)						
Perinatal	10	67%	4	57%	6	75%
Other/Unknown	5	33%	3	43%	2	25%
Subtotal	15	100%	7	100%	8	100%
Total	1,707	100%	731	43%	976	57%

^a Includes cases whose HIV diagnoses and AIDS diagnoses were made at the same time.

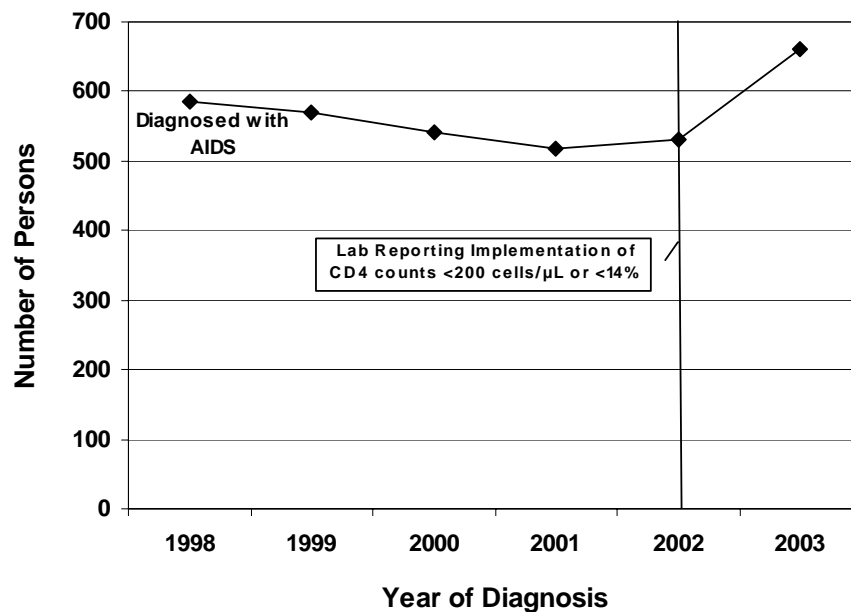
Dash (-) indicates no cases were reported for the given category.

Source: Ohio Department of Health HIV/AIDS Surveillance Program. Data reported through Dec. 31, 2004.

Among total AIDS diagnoses from 2001-2003, 20 percent of diagnoses were among females, 42 percent were among persons 30-39 years of age, 45 percent were among blacks and 5 percent were among Hispanics. The leading mode of transmission among males was male-to-male sexual contact, followed by injection drug use. Similar proportion of cases was attributed to male-to-male sexual contact and injection drug use and heterosexual contact. Among females, heterosexual contact was the leading mode of transmission followed by injection drug use. (Table 15)

Fifty-seven percent of AIDS diagnoses occurred less than 12 months after their first reported HIV diagnosis. Compared to AIDS cases that had a first HIV diagnosis reported at least a year earlier, AIDS cases diagnosed less than a year after first reported HIV diagnosis are represented by a larger proportion of males (81 percent vs. 80 percent), a larger proportion of cases 50 years of age and older (14 percent vs. 13 percent) and a larger proportion of whites (52 percent vs. 49 percent).

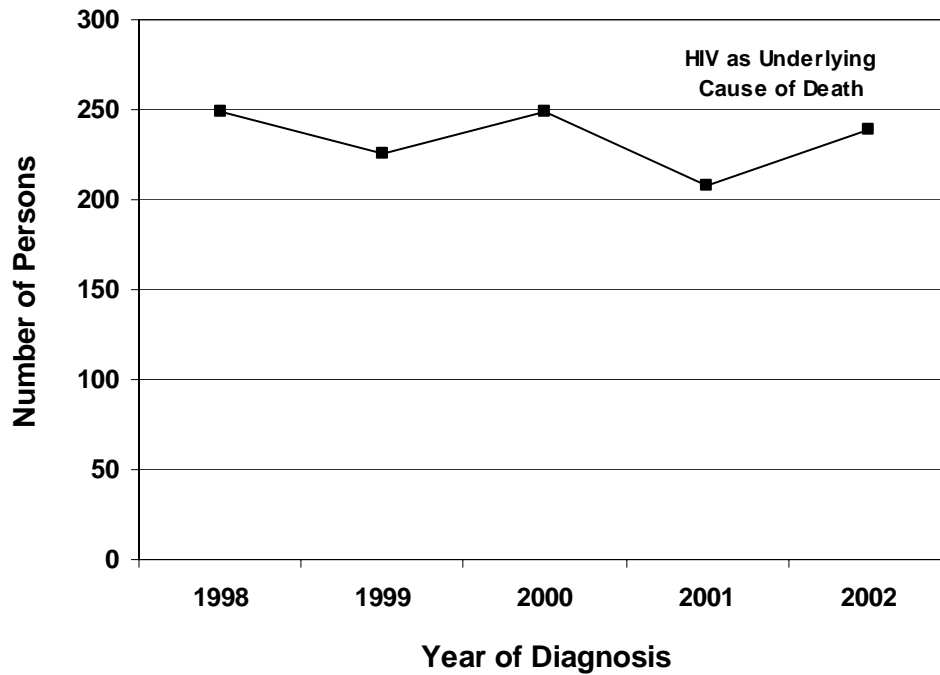
Figure 11. Reported persons diagnosed with AIDS among persons with HIV/AIDS in Ohio, 1998-2003



Source: Ohio Department of Health HIV/AIDS Surveillance. Data reported through Dec. 31, 2004.

Figure 11 illustrates the decline in reported AIDS diagnoses from 1998 to 2001 with an increase in reported cases starting in 2002. The increase in reported AIDS diagnoses may be attributed to the implementation of CD4 lab reporting in 2002.

Figure 12. Number of deaths reported with HIV as an underlying cause, 1998-2002



Source: Ohio Department of Health, Death Certificate Data.

Between 1998 and 2002, there was an average of 234 deaths per year attributed to HIV. In 1998, there were 249 deaths with HIV as an underlying cause and 239 deaths in 2002. **(Figure 12)**

Table 16. Ranking of 10 leading underlying causes of death among persons 25-44 years old in Ohio, 2002

Underlying Cause of Death (25-44 years old)	Ranking	Deaths	Total Deaths (N=4,951)
		No.	%
Accidents (Unintentional Injuries)	1	1,054	21%
Cancer	2	853	17%
Diseases of Heart	3	738	15%
Intentional Self-Harm	4	475	10%
Assault (Homicide)	5	226	5%
HIV Disease	6	152	3%
Stroke	7	116	2%
Chronic Liver Disease	8	116	2%
Diabetes Mellitus	9	106	2%
Chronic Lower Respiratory Disease	10	58	1%

Source: Ohio Department of Health, Death Certificate Data, 2002.

Even though deaths attributed to AIDS are declining, HIV remains a leading cause of death among persons 25-44 years of age. HIV was the sixth-leading cause of death in 2002 among persons 25-44 years old (**Table 16**). Within certain sub-populations of this age group, HIV was ranked higher than the sixth-leading cause of death in 2002. HIV was the fifth-leading cause among blacks and the fourth-leading cause of death among black males 25-44 years old.

