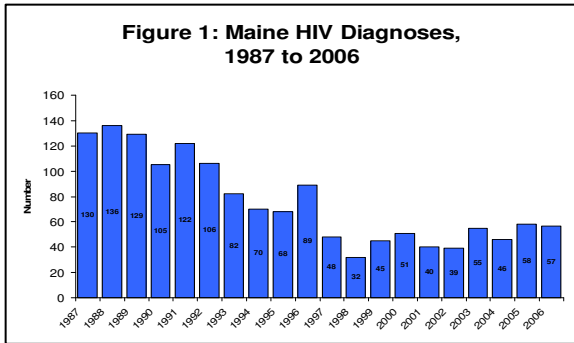


HIV/AIDS Overview



Approximately 1,130 people are estimated to be living in Maine with diagnosed HIV infection. In addition, Maine CDC estimates that 500 persons in Maine may be infected but unaware of their HIV status. The total estimate of people living with HIV in Maine is approximately 1,600.

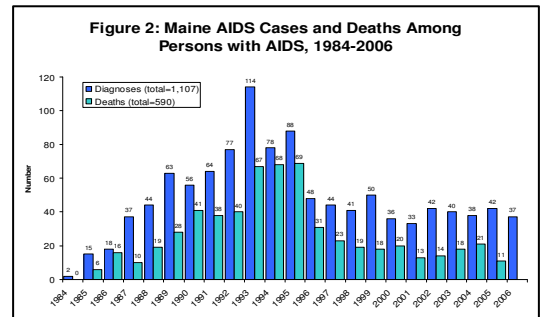


Annual totals of new HIV diagnoses declined steadily from the late 1980s and have remained relatively stable in recent years.

Fifty-seven new HIV diagnoses were reported during 2006, including eight females and 49 males. This represents a slight decline from 2005, when a total of 58 cases were reported.

It is important to note that not all new HIV diagnoses represent new infections. During the past five years approximately 40% of people diagnosed with HIV were ill enough to be classified with AIDS within one year of their initial HIV+ test, likely indicating that they'd been infected with HIV for a long while.

Figure 2 illustrates Maine AIDS diagnoses by year of diagnosis from 1984 to 2006, and reported deaths among persons with AIDS from 1984 to 2005. Forty-two people were diagnosed with AIDS in Maine during 2005, with 11 deaths. Thirty-seven AIDS diagnoses were reported as occurring in 2006, although this number may increase because of reporting delays.



Each year since 1985 there have been more new AIDS diagnoses than deaths, meaning that the overall number of people living with AIDS has continued to increase over time. These data suggest that there are more people living with HIV/AIDS in Maine than ever before.

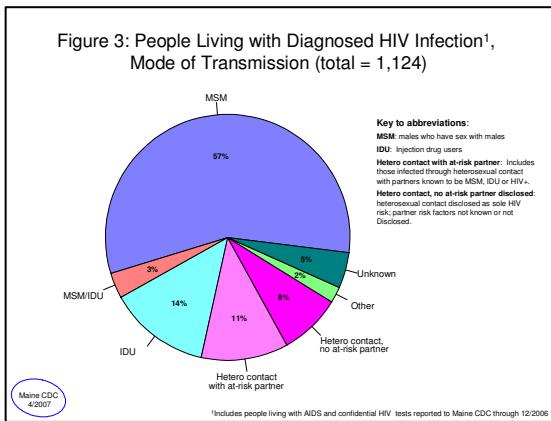


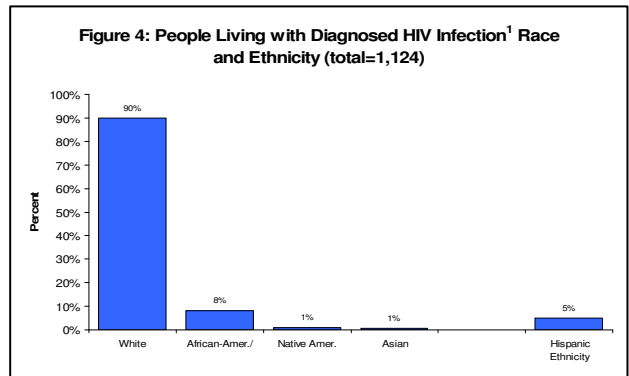
Figure 3 shows the mode of HIV transmission for people living with diagnosed HIV infection in Maine. Approximately 57% of all diagnoses were attributed to male-to-male sexual contact, followed by sharing needles during injection drug use, at 14%. Another 3% of individuals had a dual risk of male-to-male sex and injection drug use.

Heterosexual sex with an at-risk partner accounted for approximately 11% of infections. Another 8% of individuals reported heterosexual sex with a non-at-risk partner.

Mode of transmission was unknown or undisclosed for 5% of diagnoses.

An estimated 83% of people living with diagnosed HIV infection are male and 17% are female. The large proportion of males is due to those infected through male-to-male sex, as well as the fact that a majority of injection drug users living with diagnosed HIV (69%) are male.

Figure 4 shows the race and ethnicity of people living with diagnosed HIV infection in Maine. The majority of cases, 95%, were among individuals identified as White. This total includes approximately 5% of individuals identified as White and Hispanic. While the non-White and Hispanic population of Maine comprises approximately 3% of the state's total population (2000 US Census), 15% of people living with diagnosed HIV were from racial/ethnic minority groups. The most prominently represented among these groups is African Americans, comprising 8% of total diagnoses.



For more information, please visit www.maine.gov.