

AIDS and HIV Infection

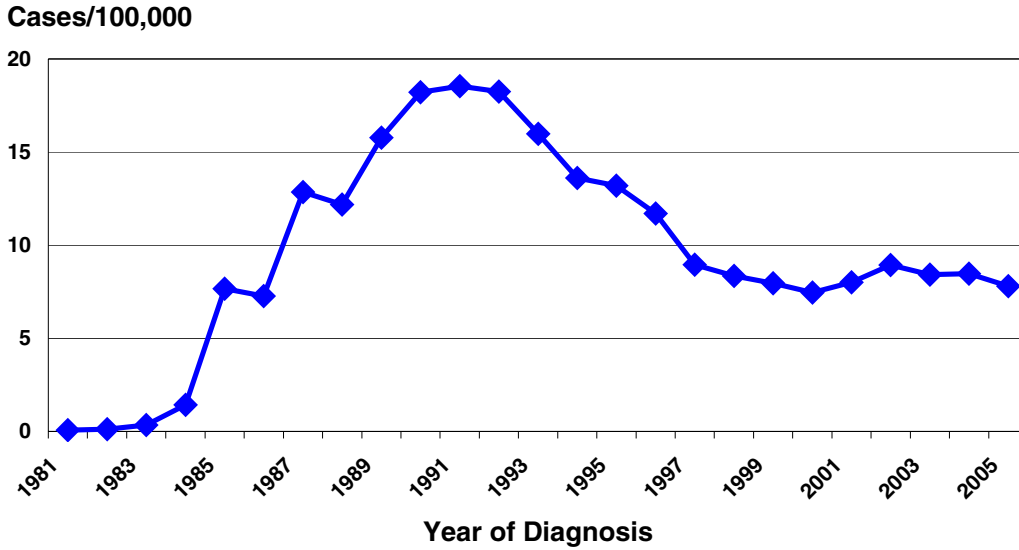
Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) is usually spread by having sex, sharing injection drug equipment, or receiving a transfusion or transplant from an infected person. It can also be spread from mother to fetus or infant at the time of delivery or by breastfeeding. Rarely, it is also spread by accidental exposure to bodily fluids of an infected person such as an accidental contaminated needle stick in a healthcare worker. The acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) represents the late stage of HIV infection, indicated by either low CD4 (immune system) cell counts or the manifestation of an opportunistic infection indicative of poor immune system functioning. Although there is no cure for HIV infection treatment can prolong and enhance the quality of life.

HIV infection can be prevented by abstaining from sex outside of a monogamous relationship with an uninfected partner and by not injecting recreational drugs. Those who are sexually active outside of a mutually monogamous relationship or who inject drugs can protect themselves by using a condom when engaging in sexual activity and by not sharing injection drug equipment. Pregnant women who are infected with HIV can minimize transmission of infection to their fetus by taking medication during pregnancy and by refraining from breastfeeding. Caesarean section may also prevent transmission when the mother's infection is not well controlled.

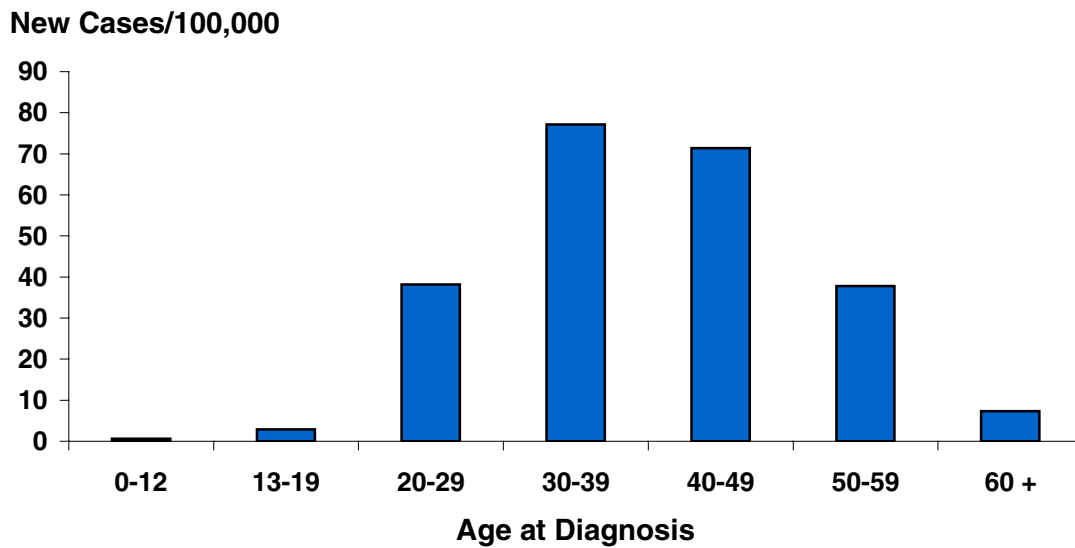
From 1981 through 2005, 5,855 cases of AIDS were diagnosed in Oregon, including 3,114 deaths. Men accounted for 92% of cases. Most AIDS cases were white (4,992, 85%) with 321 (6%) African Americans, 408 (7%) Hispanics, 48 (1%) Asians, and 63 (1%) Native Americans reported. Only 20 cases of pediatric AIDS have been diagnosed in Oregon.

In 2005, 284 new cases of HIV/AIDS were diagnosed, 40% of which had AIDS as their first diagnosis or had progressed from HIV to AIDS within 12-months. HIV infection (as opposed to AIDS) became reportable in Oregon on October 1, 2001. Through December 2005, 1,625 cases of HIV were diagnosed; 97% of which were alive at the end of 2005. The majority of HIV occurred among white males, though rates (per 100,000 population) are highest in Black-African Americans.

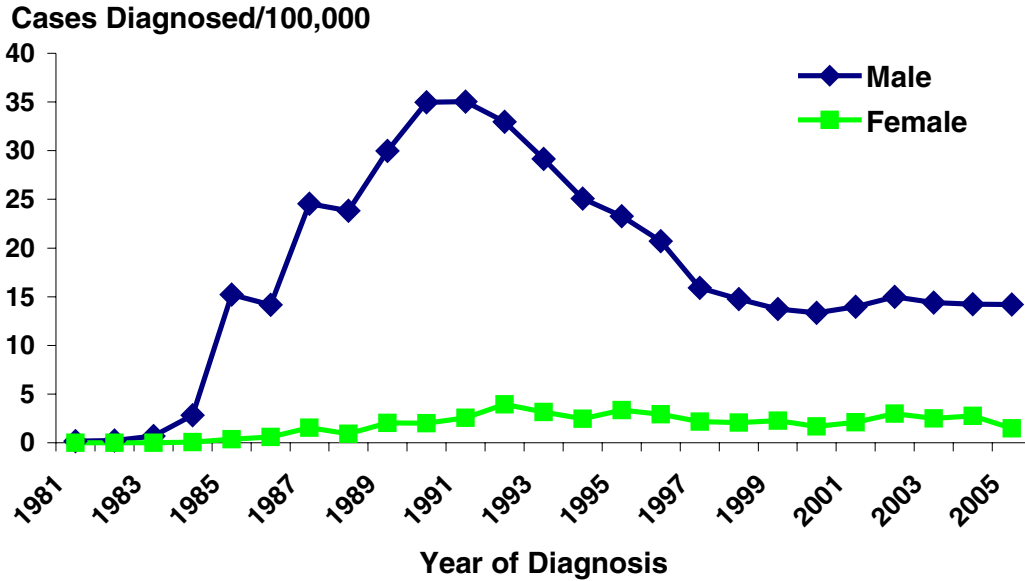
HIV/AIDS Incidence by Year of Diagnosis Oregon, 1981-2005



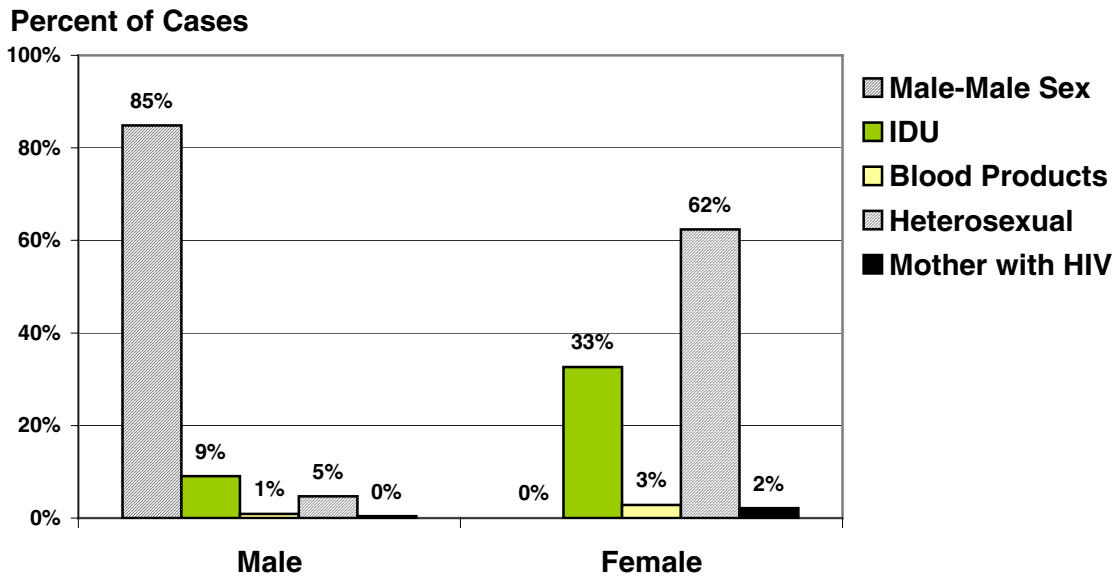
HIV/AIDS Rates by Age at First Diagnosis Oregon, 2002-2005



New HIV/AIDS Rate by Year and Sex at First Diagnosis Oregon, 1981-2005



Factors in HIV Disease Diagnosis Oregon, 2002-2005



Incidence of HIV/AIDS by County of Residence Oregon, 2005

