

## AIDS and HIV infection

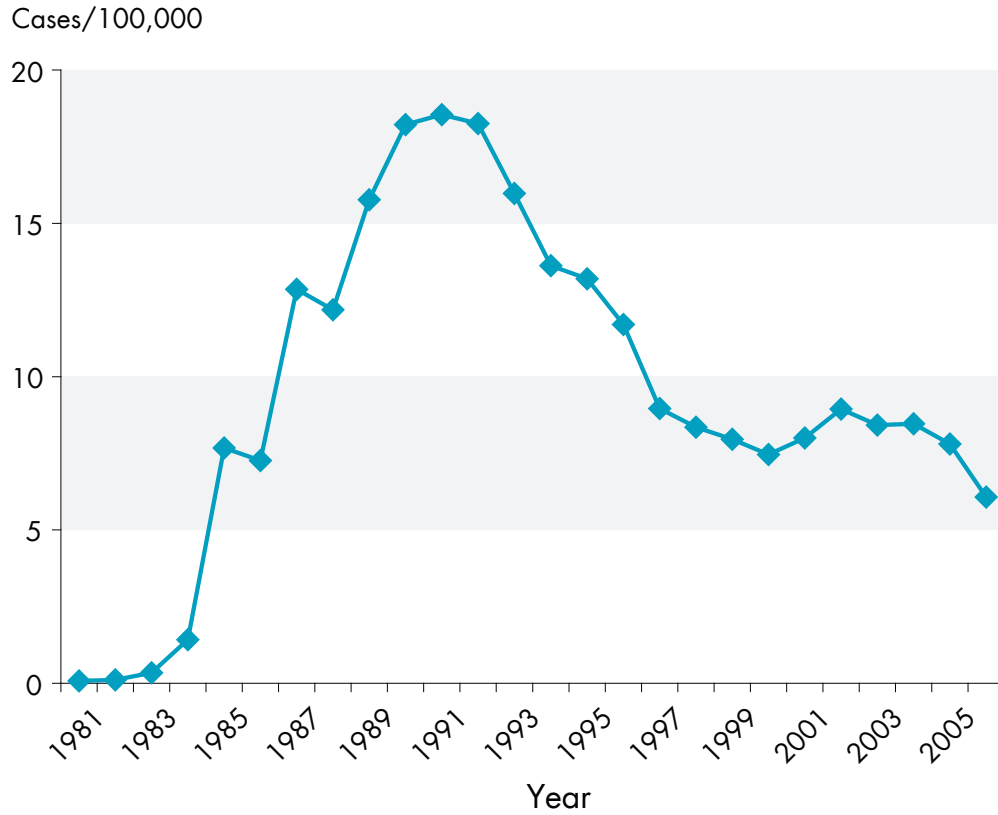
Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) is spread by having sex, sharing injection drug equipment, or receiving a transfusion or transplant from an infected person. It can be spread from mother to fetus or infant at the time of delivery or by breastfeeding. Rarely, it is also spread by inadvertent exposure to bodily fluids of an infected person such as a contaminated needle stick in a health care worker. The acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) represents the late stage of HIV infection, indicated by either low CD4 (immune system) lymphocyte counts or by 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.

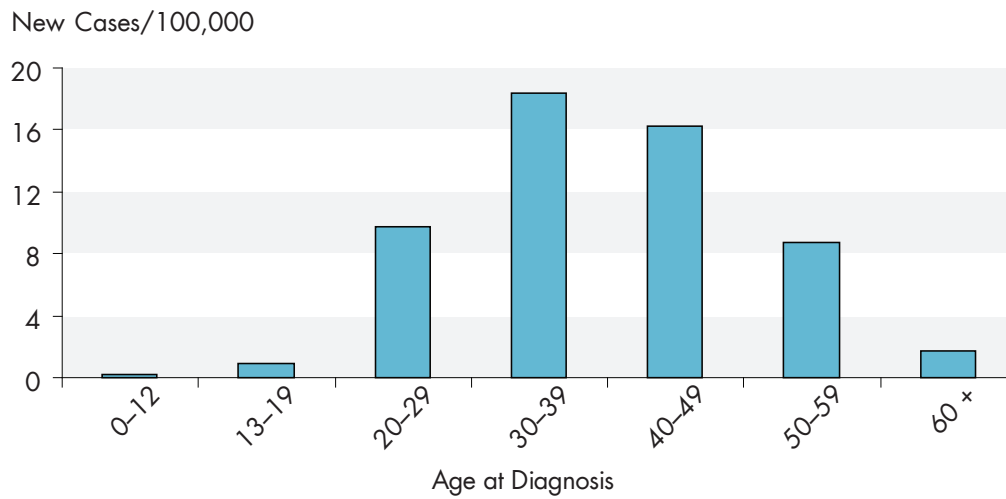
From 1981 through 2006, 6,040 persons were diagnosed with AIDS in Oregon; 3,168 of whom died. Men accounted for 92% of cases. Most AIDS cases were white (5,123, 85%) with 326 (5%) African Americans, 449 (7%) Hispanics, 53 (1%) Asians, and 67 (1%) Native Americans reported. The majority of HIV occurred among white males, though rates (per 100,000 population) were highest among African American males. Of the 7,940 HIV infection cases diagnosed in Oregon between 1981 and 2006, 50 were cumulative pediatric cases.

In 2006, 270 cases of HIV/AIDS were diagnosed, 44% 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 October 1, 2001.

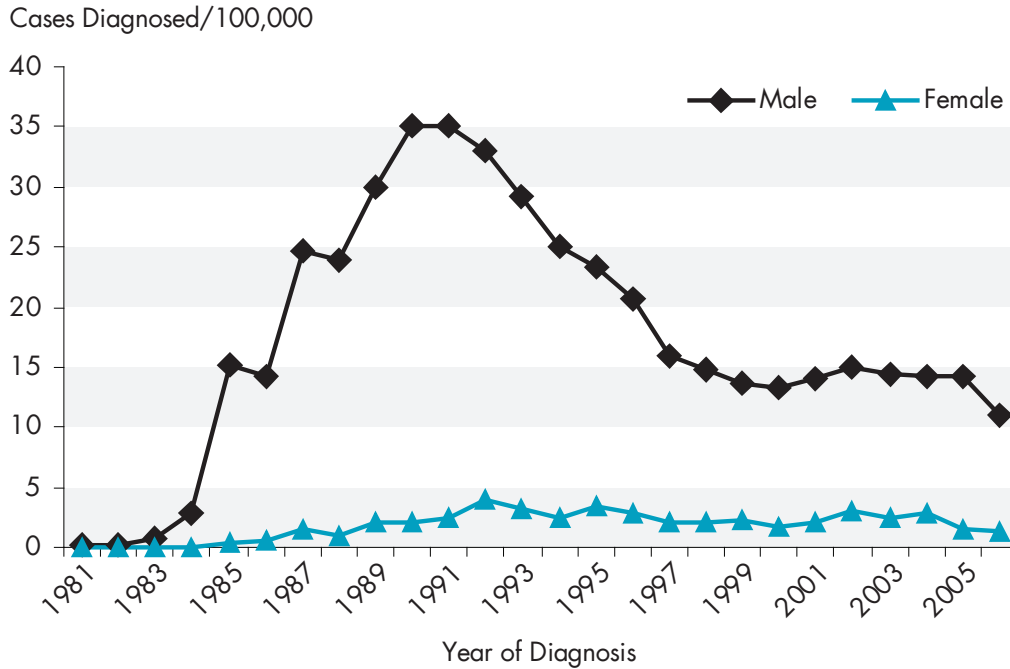
Incidence of HIV or AIDS by year of diagnosis - Oregon, 1981–2006



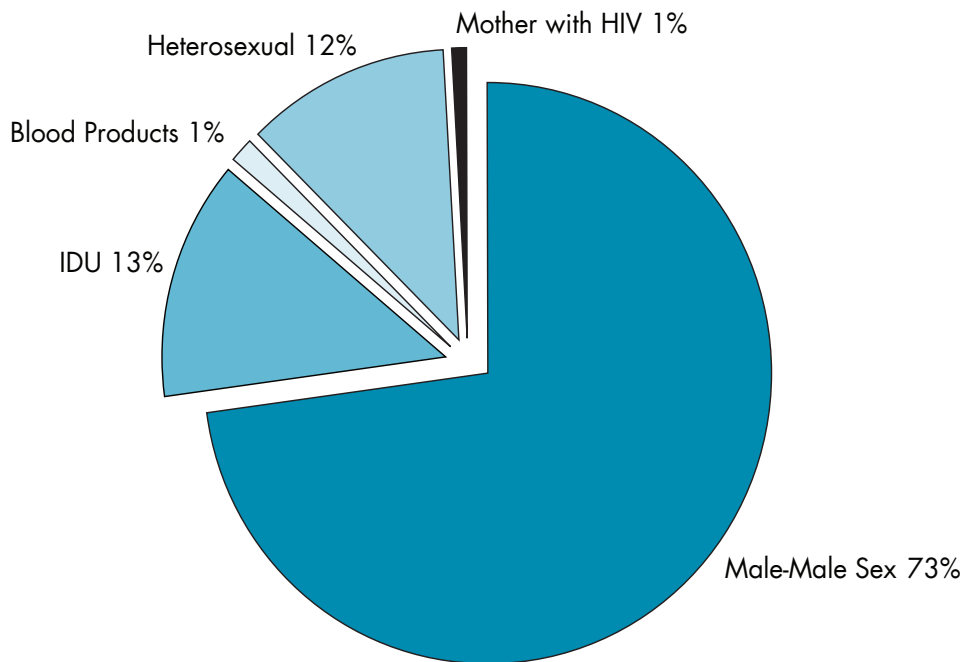
Incidence of HIV or AIDS by age at first diagnosis - Oregon, 2002–2006



## New HIV or AIDS incidence by year and sex at first diagnosis - Oregon, 1981–2006



## Factors in HIV disease diagnosis - Oregon, 2002–2006



IDU: Injection drug use

Persons living with HIV or AIDS by county of residence - Oregon, 2006

