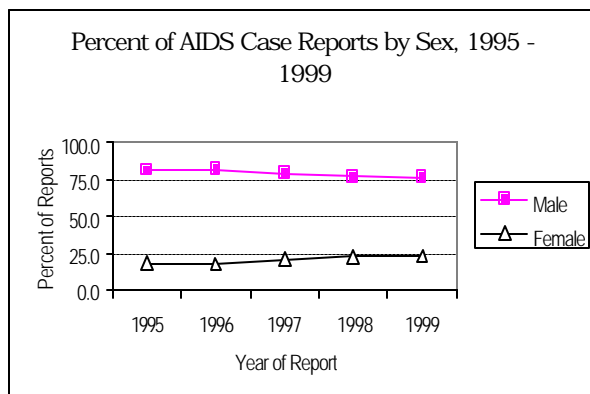


AIDS Trends in Virginia, 1995—1999

Introduction. This article summarizes AIDS cases reported in Virginia from 1995 through 1999. Comparing current data to case data from prior years provides context for understanding trends. A lag exists between when a case is diagnosed and when it is reported; the number of 1999 AIDS case reports in this article does not represent all cases diagnosed in 1999. Frequencies used in this report are in tables on page 52.

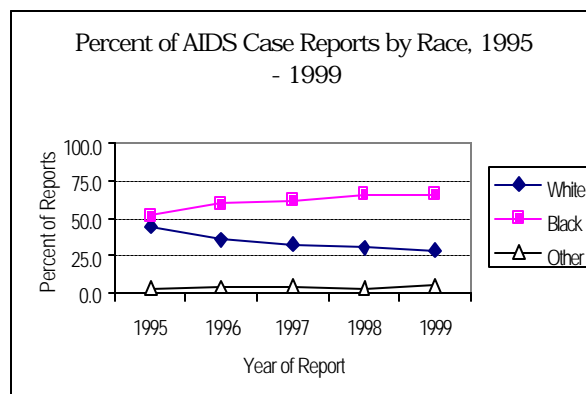
Gender. In 1995, females accounted for 18.4% of AIDS cases. Female cases first rose above 20% in 1997 (20.7%). By 1999, this figure had risen to 23.3%. The number of female cases declined each year between 1995 and 1999 from 1,458 to 913; as a percentage, the decline was 37.4%. However, AIDS among females declined more slowly than it did among males. Male cases declined over



40% (from 1,190 to 700) but female cases declined only 21% (from 268 to 213).

Race. The disproportionate representation of African Americans among AIDS cases became increasingly pronounced between 1995 and 1999. In 1995, African Americans accounted for 52% of cases. This percentage

increased to 66.2% in 1998 and 66.3% in 1999. The number of African American cases declined between 1995 and 1999 from 754 to 605; the decline was 19.8%. In contrast, cases of AIDS among the white population

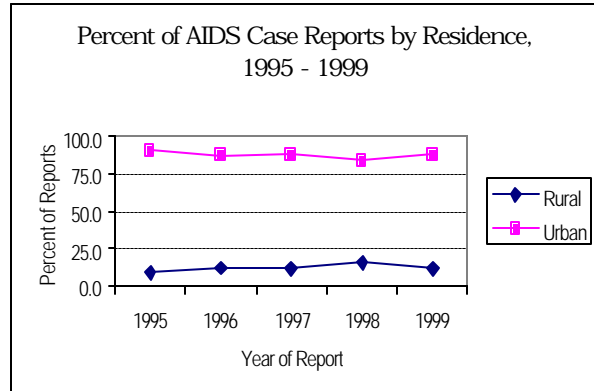
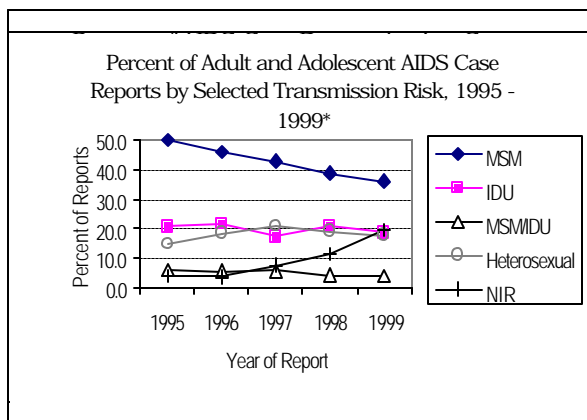


declined by 59.8%, from 655 in 1995 (44.9% of the total) to 263 in 1999 (28.8%). There were 40 Hispanic AIDS cases in 1995, 47 at the highest in 1997, and 41 in 1999. Although the number of Hispanic cases is relatively small, this is the only group that increased. Asian and Pacific Islander cases fell from 8 in 1995 to 4 in 1999 (50%). Among American Indian/Alaskan Natives, one case each was reported in 1995, 1996, and 1998.

Age. Pediatric AIDS (cases reported between ages 0 and 12) declined by 83% from 18 reports in 1995 to 3 in 1999. As a percentage, pediatric AIDS declined from 1.2% to 0.3% of all cases. Increased testing, improved prenatal treatment of pregnant HIV-infected women, and more effective postnatal treatment of HIV-exposed infants are primarily responsible for this decline. The number of reports in the 13-19 year-old group fell from 7 in 1995 to 4 in 1999 (43%).

The major trend among adult cases between the ages of 20 and 49 is that the age groups 20-29 and 30-39 declined as a proportion of all cases while the percentage in the 40-49 year old group increased. The 20-29 group began the period with 18% of all cases and declined gradually to 13.5%. The overall decline in this group was from 263 to 123 cases, a 53% reduction. The 30-39 year old group remained the largest in the population but declined from 47.6% of the total to 43.4%. In contrast, case reports for the 40-49 year old group increased from 23.9% of the total in 1995 to 31.3% in 1999. This group also showed a smaller decline in number of cases from 349 to 286 (18.1%). The trend in Virginia is toward an increased proportion of older AIDS patients.

Mode of transmission. Despite declining 55%, from 729 cases in 1995 to 328 in 1999, men having sex with men (MSM) remained the primary mode of transmission for AIDS in this period. However, cases in this category did decrease from 50% of all cases in 1995 to 36% in 1999. The next largest transmission mode, injecting drug use (IDU), remained relatively stable throughout the period at between 20.8% of all cases in 1995 to 18.6% in 1999. Cases in this category declined from 303 to 170, a 44% decrease. Transmission due to heterosexual behavior increased throughout the period. From 14.9% of cases in 1995, cases due to heterosexual risk rose to a peak of 20.8% in 1997



before declining to 17.7% in 1999. The cases attributed to this risk also declined less than ones attributed to MSM and IDU. In contrast to the 55% decline for MSM cases and the 44% IDU decline, heterosexual cases declined only 25%. Measures to reduce mother to infant transmission of HIV and better treatment of HIV infections combined to reduce cases of pediatric AIDS from 20 in 1995, which was 1.4% of all cases, to 5 or 0.5%, in 1999. The overall decline in pediatric AIDS is 75%. (The number of pediatric AIDS cases classified by risk is two higher than the number classified by age group because two pediatric HIV cases with hemophilia as the risk did not become AIDS cases until after age 12.)

Residence. AIDS in Virginia remains a primarily urban disease; urban and rural are distinguished by whether the patient resides within a Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA). Patients not living in an MSA are classified as living in rural locations. Urban cases accounted for 90.9% of all cases in 1995 and 88.0% in 1999 and rural cases varied from 9.1% to 12%. In the context of an overall decline in the number of cases, rural cases declined 17.3% in this period but urban cases declined 39.4%.

Submitted by J. Martin, Statistical Analyst Sr., Division of HIV/STD

AIDS Cases by Year of Report, 1995 - 1999

Sex	1995		1996			1997			1998			1999			1995-1999 %+/-**
	f	%	f	%	%+/-*	f	%	%+/-*	f	%	%+/-*	f	%	%+/-*	
Male	1,190	81.6	992	81.9	-16.6	930	79.3	-6.3	742	77.2	-20.2	700	76.7	-5.7	-41.2
Female	268	18.4	219	18.1	-18.3	243	20.7	11.0	219	22.8	-9.9	213	23.3	-2.7	-20.5
Total	1,458	100.0	1,211	100.0	-16.9	1,173	100.0	-3.1	961	100.0	-18.1	913	100.0	-5.0	-37.4

Race/ ethnicity	1995		1996			1997			1998			1999			1995-1999 %+/-**
	f	%	f	%	%+/-*	f	%	%+/-*	f	%	%+/-*	f	%	%+/-*	
White	655	44.9	433	35.8	-33.9	386	32.9	-10.9	294	30.6	-23.8	263	28.8	-10.5	-59.8
Black	754	51.7	725	59.9	-3.8	732	62.4	1.0	636	66.2	-13.1	605	66.3	-4.9	-19.8
Hispanic	40	2.7	41	3.4	2.5	47	4.0	14.6	25	2.6	-46.8	41	4.5	64.0	2.5
ASPI	8	0.5	11	0.9	37.5	8	0.7	-27.3	3	0.3	-62.5	4	0.4	33.3	-50.0
Am. Indian	1	0.1	1	0.1	0.0	0	0.0	-100.0	1	0.1	0.0	0	0.0	-100.0	-100.0
Unknown	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	2	0.2	0.0	0	0.0	-100.0	0.0
Total	1,458	100.0	1,211	100.0	-16.9	1,173	100.0	-3.1	961	100.0	-18.1	913	100.0	-5.0	-37.4

Age group	1995		1996			1997			1998			1999			1995-1999 %+/-**
	f	%	f	%	%+/-*	f	%	%+/-*	f	%	%+/-*	f	%	%+/-*	
0-12	18	1.2	10	0.8	-44.4	10	0.9	0.0	4	0.4	-60.0	3	0.3	-25.0	-83.3
13-19	7	0.5	7	0.6	0.0	8	0.7	14.3	4	0.4	-50.0	4	0.4	0.0	-42.9
20-29	263	18.0	218	18.0	-17.1	179	15.3	-17.9	151	15.7	-15.6	123	13.5	-18.5	-53.2
30-39	694	47.6	521	43.0	-24.9	534	45.5	2.5	422	43.9	-21.0	396	43.4	-6.2	-42.9
40-49	349	23.9	327	27.0	-6.3	323	27.5	-1.2	285	29.7	-11.8	286	31.3	0.4	-18.1
>49	127	8.7	128	10.6	0.8	119	10.1	-7.0	95	9.9	-20.2	101	11.1	6.3	-20.5
Unknown	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total	1,458	100.0	1,211	100.0	-16.9	1,173	100.0	-3.1	961	100.0	-18.1	913	100.0	-5.0	-37.4

Transmission mode	1995		1996			1997			1998			1999			1995-1999 %+/-**
	f	%	f	%	%+/-*	f	%	%+/-*	f	%	%+/-*	f	%	%+/-*	
MSM	729	50.0	556	45.9	-23.7	500	42.6	-10.1	373	38.8	-25.4	328	35.9	-12.1	-55.0
IDU	303	20.8	261	21.6	-13.9	203	17.3	-22.2	201	20.9	-1.0	170	18.6	-15.4	-43.9
MSMIDU	88	6.0	67	5.5	-23.9	68	5.8	1.5	41	4.3	-39.7	36	3.9	-12.2	-59.1
Hemophil.	9	0.6	6	0.5	-33.3	5	0.4	-16.7	5	0.5	0.0	6	0.7	20.0	-33.3
Heterosex.	217	14.9	223	18.4	2.8	244	20.8	9.4	185	19.3	-24.2	162	17.7	-12.4	-25.3
Transfusion	20	1.4	15	1.2	-25.0	17	1.4	13.3	12	1.2	-29.4	7	0.8	-41.7	-65.0
Multi-hetero.	14	1.0	25	2.1	78.6	34	2.9	36.0	29	3.0	-14.7	21	2.3	-27.6	50.0
Unk. (NIR)	58	4.0	47	3.9	-19.0	89	7.6	89.4	111	11.6	24.7	178	19.5	60.4	206.9
Pediatric	20	1.4	11	0.9	-45.0	13	1.1	18.2	4	0.4	-69.2	5	0.5	25.0	-75.0
Total	1,458	100.0	1,211	100.0	-16.9	1,173	100.0	-3.1	961	100.0	-18.1	913	100.0	-5.0	-37.4

Residence	1995		1996			1997			1998			1999			1995-1999 %+/-**
	f	%	f	%	%+/-*	f	%	%+/-*	f	%	%+/-*	f	%	%+/-*	
Rural	133	9.1	149	12.3	12.0	140	11.9	-6.0	153	15.9	9.3	110	12.0	-28.1	-17.3
Urban	1,325	90.9	1,062	87.7	-19.8	1,033	88.1	-2.7	808	84.1	-21.8	803	88.0	-0.6	-39.4
Total	1,458	100.0	1,211	100.0	-16.9	1,173	100.0	-3.1	961	100.0	-18.1	913	100.0	-5.0	-37.4

*% increase (+) or decrease (-) from previous year; **% increase (+) or decrease (-) between 1995 and 1999