



HIV in Louisiana

- ⌘ The HIV epidemic continues to have a significant impact on the public health of Louisiana. As of December 31, 2008, a cumulative total of **28,676** persons have been diagnosed with HIV infection in Louisiana, including **312** cases in children under the age of 13.
- ⌘ At the end of 2008, **16,277** persons were living with HIV infection in Louisiana, of whom **8,684** (53%) were diagnosed with AIDS. There are persons living with HIV in every parish in Louisiana, and this number continues to increase each year.
- ⌘ In the most recent CDC *HIV/AIDS Surveillance Report* (Vol. 19), Louisiana ranked **5th** highest in state AIDS case rates and **11th** in the number of AIDS cases reported in 2007. The metropolitan New Orleans area ranked **2nd** and the metropolitan Baton Rouge area ranked **3rd** in AIDS case rates in 2007 among the large metropolitan areas in the nation.

NEW DIAGNOSES

- ⌘ In 2008, **1,168** persons were diagnosed with HIV. New diagnoses occurred in 61 of Louisiana's 64 parishes.
- ⌘ The New Orleans region had the highest number of new HIV diagnoses (398) and the highest rate of new diagnoses (49.3 cases per 100,000) in 2008. Following Hurricane Katrina in August 2005, there was a dramatic decline in the population of the New Orleans region which led to a decrease in the number of new HIV diagnoses. Since then, the population of New Orleans has increased along with the number of new HIV diagnoses.
- ⌘ The case rate for African Americans continues to be disproportionately high; the rate for African Americans is seven times higher than that among whites. Although African Americans make up only 32% of the state's population, **72%** of newly-diagnosed HIV cases and **70%** of newly-diagnosed AIDS cases were among African Americans in 2008.
- ⌘ Women represented **33%** of new HIV diagnoses in 2008. The HIV rate among women has remained relatively stable over time. The HIV rate among men declined from 2002 to 2006 but increased to higher levels for 2007 and 2008.
- ⌘ The annual number of new AIDS diagnoses has remained relatively stable since 2003.
- ⌘ In 2008, **24%** of persons newly diagnosed with HIV had AIDS at the time of their diagnosis, and an additional **10%** of persons developed AIDS within six months of their diagnosis. Men, Latinos, and persons aged 35 and older were most likely to be diagnosed late in the course of their disease.
- ⌘ Perinatal transmission rates have dropped dramatically from 19% in 1994 to **1.8%** in 2007 due to increased screening of pregnant women and increased use of antiretroviral therapy by pregnant women with HIV and their infants.

OTHER STDs

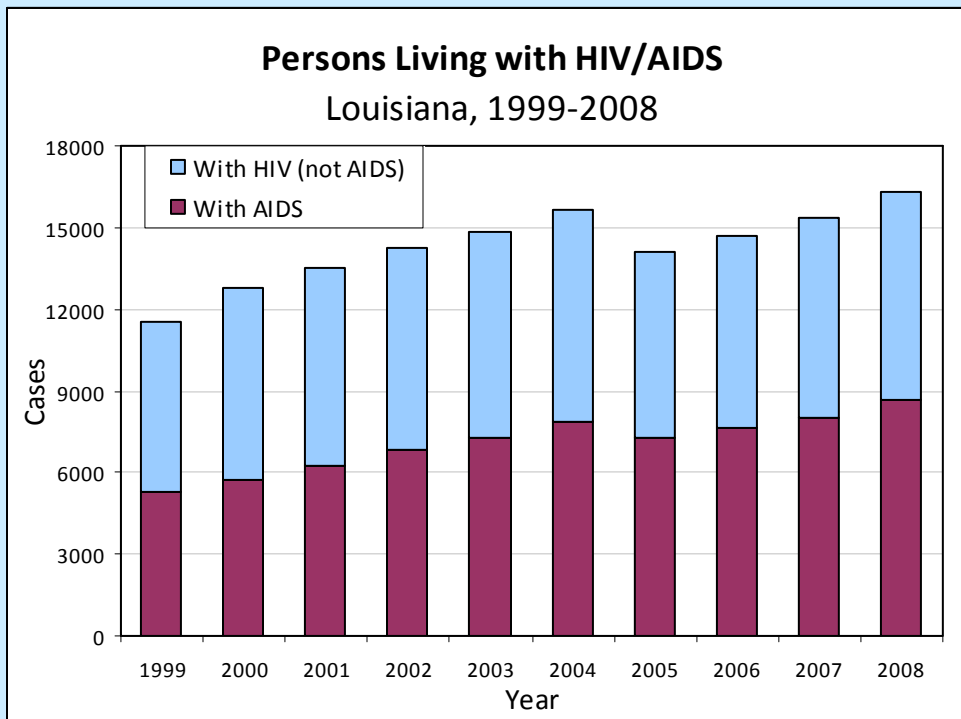
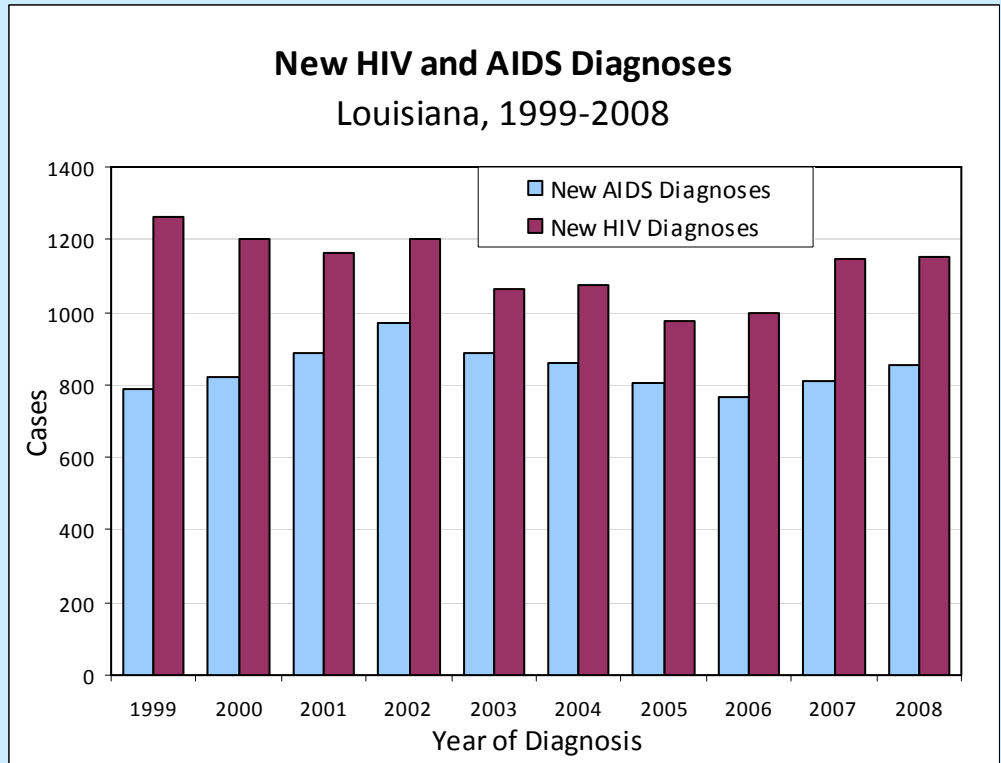
- ⌘ Because of the association between sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) and HIV transmission, testing and treatment of STDs is an important factor in preventing the spread of HIV. Louisiana continues to have very high rates of STDs. In 2007, Louisiana ranked **1st** in the nation in primary and secondary syphilis rates (12.4 per 100,000), **2nd** in gonorrhea rates (259.7 per 100,000) and **7th** in chlamydia rates (451.6 per 100,000) according to the CDC's *2007 STD Surveillance Report*.



HIV in Louisiana

⌘ In 2008, **1,168** new HIV cases were diagnosed in Louisiana. The number of new HIV diagnoses declined from 1999 to 2005 but since then have increased to early 2000 levels. This increase may be due, in part, to expanded testing programs that identify more people living with HIV.

⌘ In 2008, **860** new AIDS cases were diagnosed in Louisiana. The number of AIDS cases has remained relatively stable over the past 5 years, with a small decrease post Hurricane Katrina.



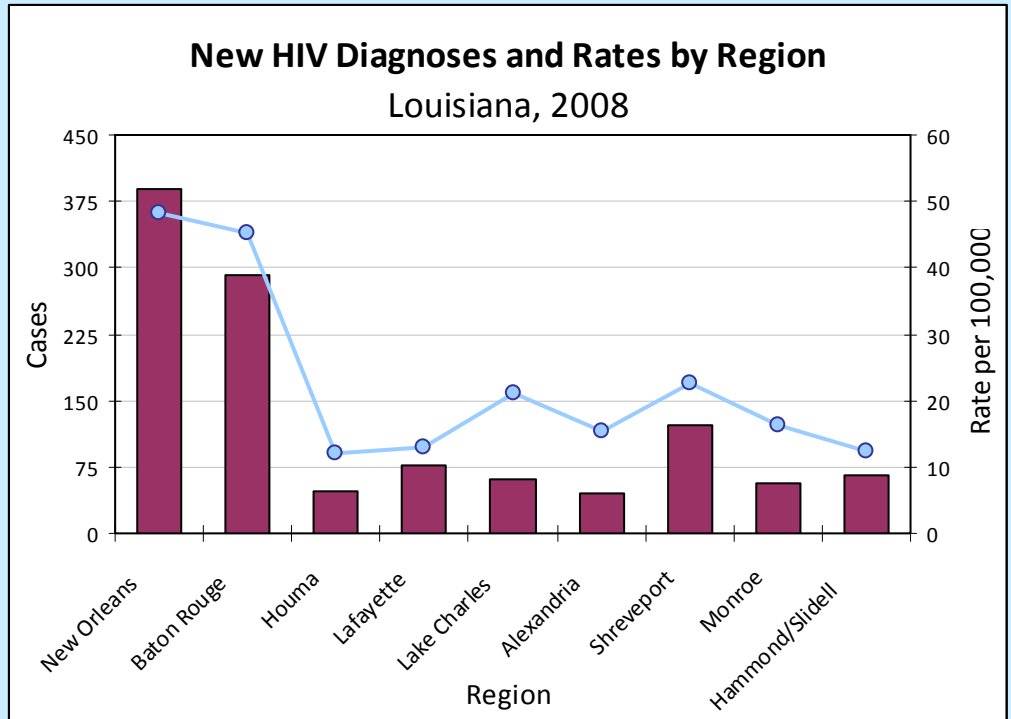
⌘ The number of persons living with HIV infection in Louisiana increased each year from 1999 to 2004. The decrease from 2004 to 2005 is due to the large number of persons from the New Orleans metropolitan area who left Louisiana after Hurricane Katrina in August 2005. Since 2005, the number of people living with HIV infection in Louisiana has increased and in 2008 the number reached its highest point ever, **16,277** persons.



HIV in Louisiana

⌘ In 2008, the New Orleans region had the highest number of new HIV diagnoses and the highest HIV diagnosis rate (number of new cases per 100,000 population).

⌘ New Orleans has historically had the highest number of new HIV diagnoses but Baton Rouge has had the highest HIV diagnosis rate. In 2008, Baton Rouge had both the 2nd highest number and rate of new diagnoses.



Persons Diagnosed with HIV in 2008

	Cases	Percent
TOTAL	1168	100%
Sex		
Female	388	33.2%
Male	780	66.8%
Race/Ethnicity		
African American	838	71.7%
Hispanic/Latino	69	5.9%
White	234	20.0%
Other	27	2.4%
Age Group		
0-12	5	0.4%
13-19	67	5.7%
20-24	179	15.3%
25-34	344	29.5%
35-44	259	22.2%
45-54	216	18.5%
55-64	76	6.5%
65+	22	1.9%

⌘ The majority of new infections are in males, African Americans, and persons aged 25-44.

⌘ Although the number of cases in the Hispanic/Latino population is small, it is noteworthy that the number of cases has increased each year since Hurricane Katrina.

⌘ African Americans continue to be disproportionately affected by the HIV epidemic. African Americans constitute approximately 32% of Louisiana's population but 72% of all new diagnoses.