

**MECKLENBURG COUNTY REPORTED HIV DISEASE Cases\***  
**CASES BY YEAR OF REPORT**  
**2004 THROUGH 2008**

Year	2004 (N= 344)		2005 (N-327)		2006 (N= 390)		2007 (N = 387)		2008 (N= 498)	
Characteristics	Cases	%	Cases	%	Cases	%	Cases	%	Cases	%
<b>Age</b>										
0- 12	***	***	***	***	3	1%	***	***	***	1%
13-19	11	3%	10	3%	16	4%	20	5%	20	4%
20-29	69	20%	63	19%	93	24%	93	24%	124	25%
30-39	102	30%	99	30%	133	34%	121	31%	132	27%
40-49	111	32%	104	32%	96	25%	104	27%	143	29%
Over 49	50	15%	50	15%	49	13%	47	12%	77	15%
Missing/Unknown	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	***	***	***	***
<b>Race</b>										
White**	105	31%	77	24%	79	20%	91	24%	109	22%
Black**	228	66%	228	70%	270	69%	265	68%	361	72%
Hispanic	10	3%	20	6%	39	10%	30	8%	20	4%
Asian/Pacific**	***	***	***	***	***	***	0	0%	***	***
Am. Indian/Alaskan**	***	***	***	***	0	0%	***	***	***	***
Missing/Unknown	0	0%	0	0%	***	***	***	***	5	1%
<b>Gender</b>										
Male	268	78%	248	76%	271	70%	285	74%	372	75%
Female	76	22%	79	24%	119	30%	102	26%	126	25%
<b>Exposure Mode</b>										
MSM	133	39%	123	38%	141	36%	171	44%	208	42%
IDU	9	3%	10	3%	8	2%	10	3%	20	4%
MSM and IDU	5	1%	7	2%	6	2%	***	***	***	***
Hemophilia	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Heterosexual	34	10%	32	10%	25	6%	27	7%	41	8%
Blood/Tissue	5	1%	3	1%	***	***	0	0%	0	0%
Pediatric	***	***	***	***	3	1%	***	***	***	***
Unknown/Other	157	46%	151	46%	205	53%	175	45%	225	45%

Definitions: MSM=men who have sex with men      IDU=injecting drug use  
Percentages are rounded and may not total to 100% as a result.

\*AIDS cases are included in HIV Disease counts      \*\*Non-Hispanic      \*\*\* Cells/numbers less than three are excluded

Source: NC DHHS, HIV/STD Prevention and Care  
Prepared by Mecklenburg County Health Department/Epidemiology, 07/2008

# Technical Notes for HIV Surveillance Data

**HIV DISEASE CASES:** HIV disease refers to the entire spectrum of disease, from initial infection of the virus to the deterioration of the immune system and presentation of opportunistic infections (full-blown AIDS). This term includes:

- persons with a diagnosis of HIV infection (not AIDS),
- persons previously reported with an HIV infection who have progressed to AIDS, or
- persons with a concurrent diagnoses of HIV infection and AIDS.

HIV disease cases are counted by the date on which HIV infection was first diagnosed and reported. In some cases the date of infection is based on the date of report for an AIDS diagnosis because the infected individual was never reported with an HIV infection prior to the AIDS diagnosis.

**HIV DISEASE CASE RATES:** Rates are expressed as cases per 100,000 population. Each rate is calculated by dividing the number of cases reported in a geographic area during a specific time period by the area's population during that time period, multiplied by 100,000. Population denominators used to calculate rates for North Carolina and Mecklenburg County were based on county and state population projections calculated by the NC State Demographics Unit.

**HIV DISEASE SURVEILLANCE:** Advances in treatment and technology, such as the introduction of highly active antiretroviral therapy (HAART), have increased life expectancy for persons infected with HIV and slowed the progression to acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS). Consequently, AIDS surveillance no longer provides an accurate picture of current changes in the HIV epidemic. Monitoring trends in the HIV epidemic today requires collecting information on HIV cases that have not progressed to AIDS. Areas with confidential name-based HIV infection reporting requirements use the same uniform system for data collection on HIV cases as for AIDS cases.

***United States:*** While AIDS is a reportable condition in all 50 states, name-based HIV data are not reportable in all states. As of November 2005, a total of 33 states have conducted name-based HIV/AIDS reporting for at least 4 years. A complete listing of these states can be found on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website ([www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)).

***North Carolina:*** AIDS case reporting in North Carolina began in 1984 with name-based HIV reporting starting in 1990. By state law, morbidity reports of HIV and AIDS from health providers are submitted to local health departments on confidential case report forms and communicable disease report cards. These reports along with laboratory diagnostics of HIV-positive results are forwarded to the NC HIV/STD Prevention and Care Branch which maintains a database for all NC counties.

**HIV DISEASE RISK CATEGORY (EXPOSURE MODE):** HIV disease risk category refers to an individual's most likely method of becoming infected with HIV. Although an HIV-infected person may report a number of behaviors that place them at risk for the disease, the CDC uses a hierarchical model to select the one risk factor most likely to have been responsible for HIV infection. This does not mean that the HIV infection is known to have been caused by the assigned risk category, but rather that the assigned risk category is the most likely mode of transmission.

**HIV DISEASE CASES WITH NON-IDENTIFIED RISK (NIR):** HIV disease cases that are classified as non-identified risk include:

- cases that are under current investigation by local health departments,
- cases in persons whose exposure history is missing because they have died, declined to be interviewed, or were lost to follow-up, and
- cases in persons who were interviewed for risks but did not meet any of the CDC-defined risk classifications.

Many of the female NIR cases in North Carolina report heterosexual contact as their only mode of exposure. However, to be included in the CDC-defined definition for heterosexual contact, a person must know their partners' HIV status or risk for HIV. Without this information, the case is categorized as NIR. The NC HIV/STD Prevention and Care Branch has reevaluated these cases and where appropriate have reassigned some cases into a "presumed heterosexual" risk category. For more information on HIV NIR case reports in North Carolina, read the annual ***HIV Prevention & Community Planning Epidemiologic Profile for North Carolina*** located on NC HIV/STD Prevention and Care Branch's website:

[www.epi.state.nc.us/epi/hiv/surveillance.html](http://www.epi.state.nc.us/epi/hiv/surveillance.html).