

Needle Exchange Update



November 2010
Prepared for the
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
by Contra Costa Health Department

NEEDLE EXCHANGE

- ❑ In 1999, the Contra Costa Board of Supervisors endorsed a State of Emergency with respect to HIV and AIDS to allow for the provision of needle exchange services. A major interest was to reduce transmission in women and to their unborn children.
 - ❑ Since 2006, a State of Emergency declaration is not needed if an annual update on activities is provided and public comment is invited.
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HIV/AIDS in Contra Costa County

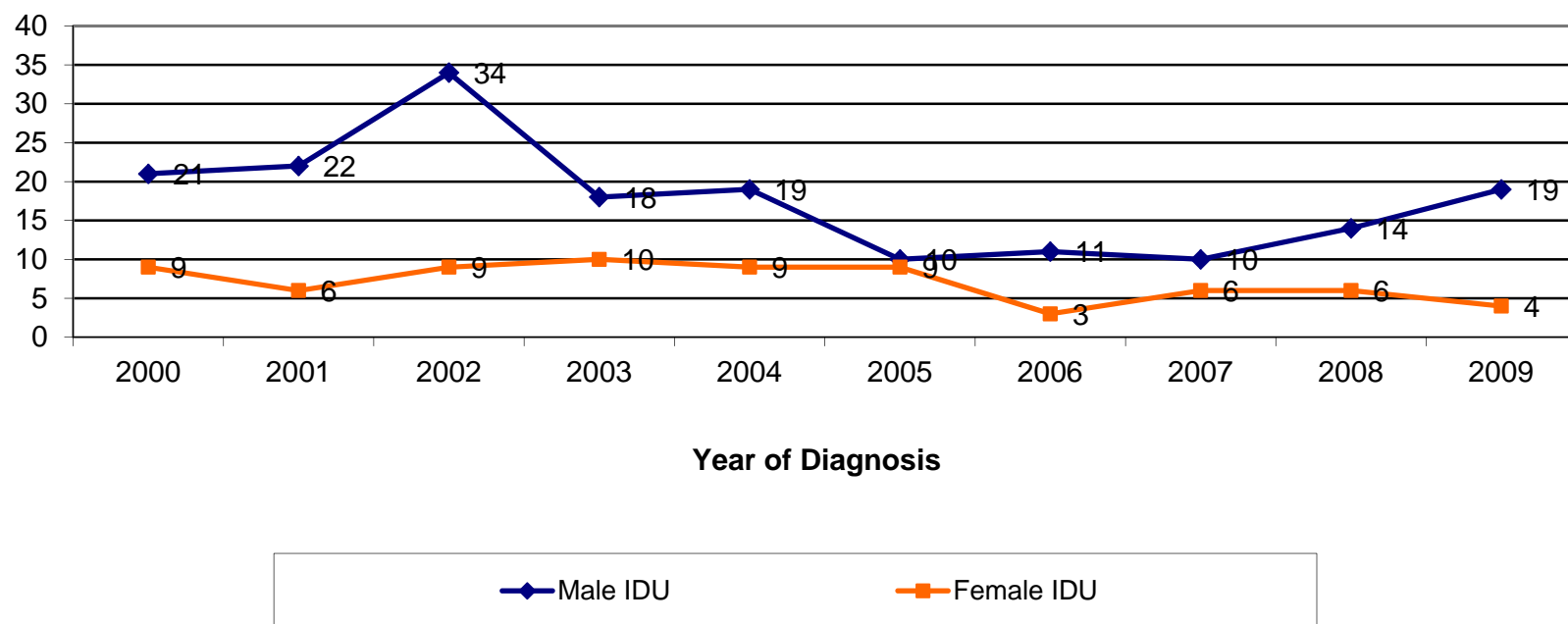
- ❑ As of December 31 2009, 1,816 individuals were living with AIDS or HIV in Contra Costa.
- ❑ Approximately 81% are male and 19% are female. African Americans are 30% of those living with HIV or AIDS, Whites 47% and Hispanics have increased to nearly 19%. The predominant transmission among those living with HIV or AIDS remains men who have sex with other men (MSM).

Changes In Legislation

- ❑ Federal law now allows use of selected federal funds for syringe exchange in limited circumstances. CDC guidance issued to the State Office of AIDS includes authorization for use of some CDC pass-through funds for this purpose.
 - ❑ SB 1159 was extended through 2018, allowing registered pharmacies to sell syringes without a prescription.
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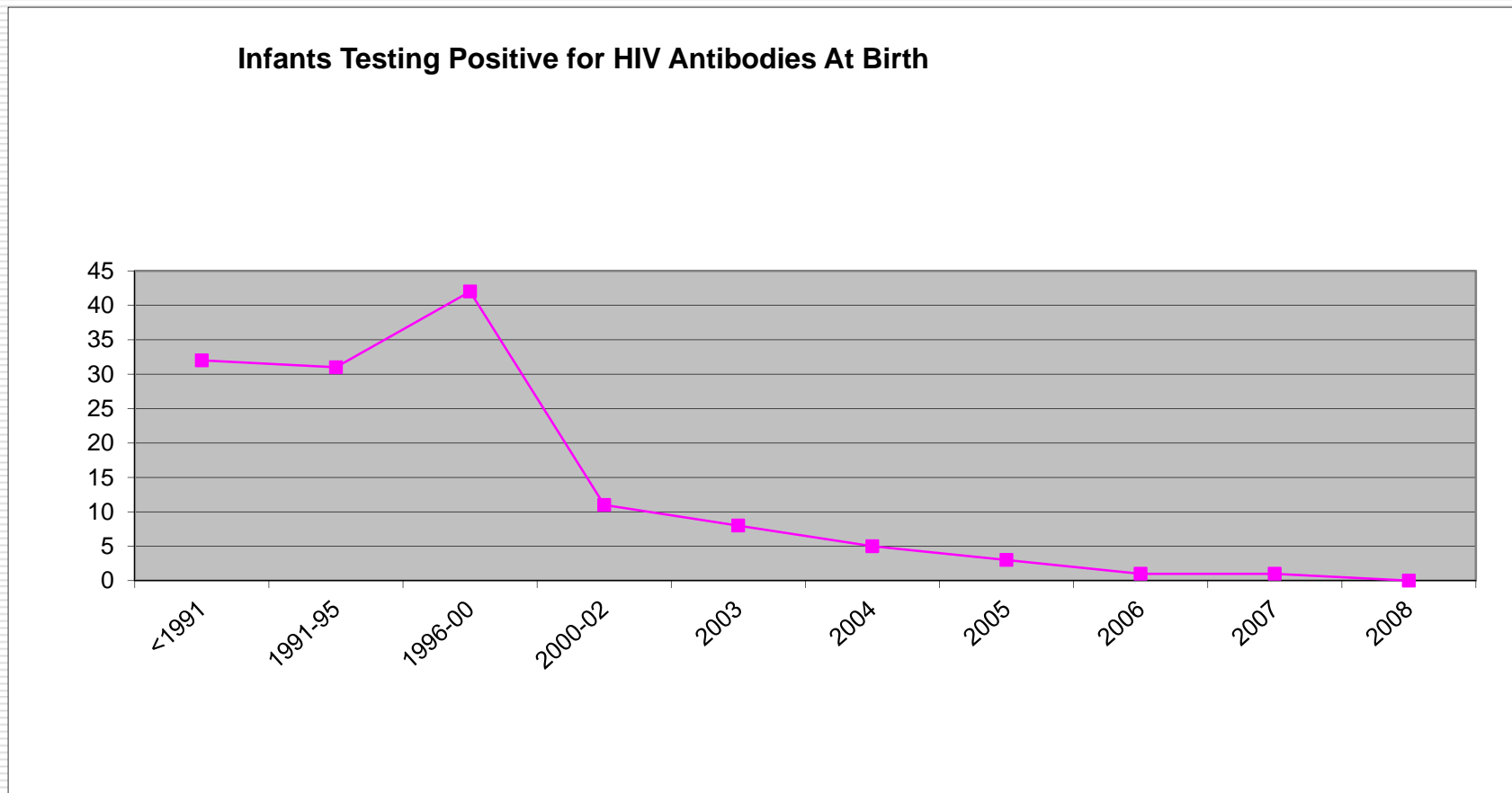
HIV/AIDS Attributed to Injection Drug Use (IDU)

HIV AIDS Diagnoses Among Injection Drug Users (IDU) in Contra Costa County 2000 - 2009

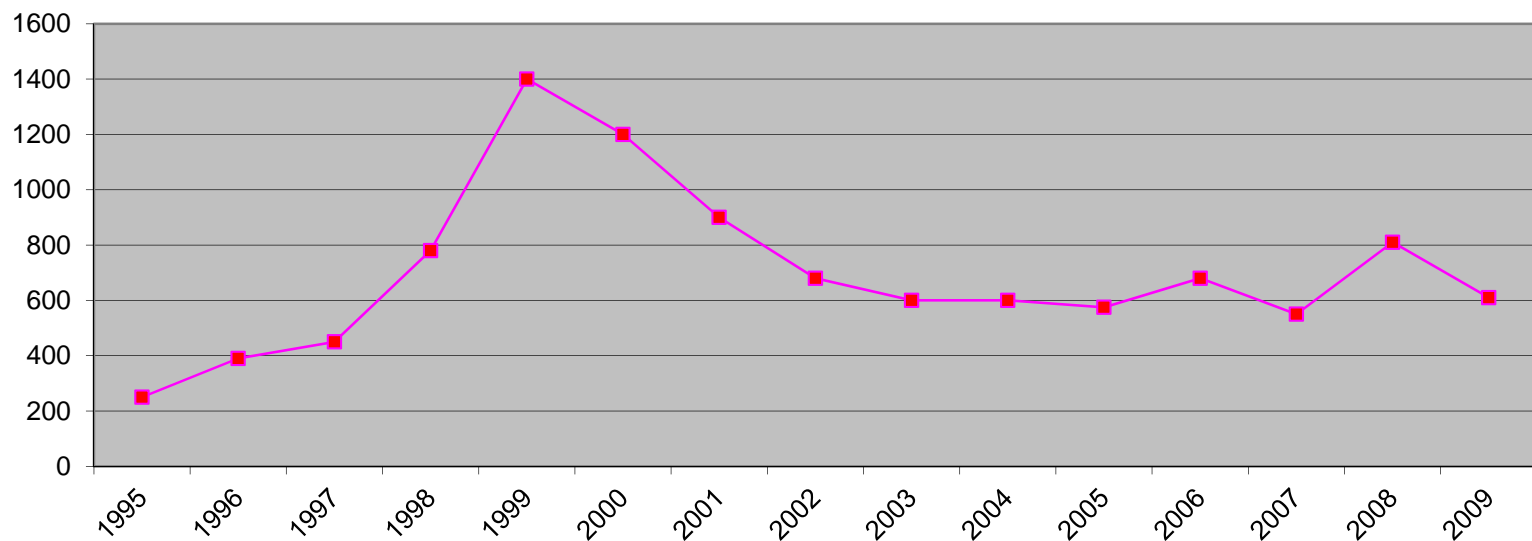


Infants Testing Positive for HIV Antibodies at Birth Over Time

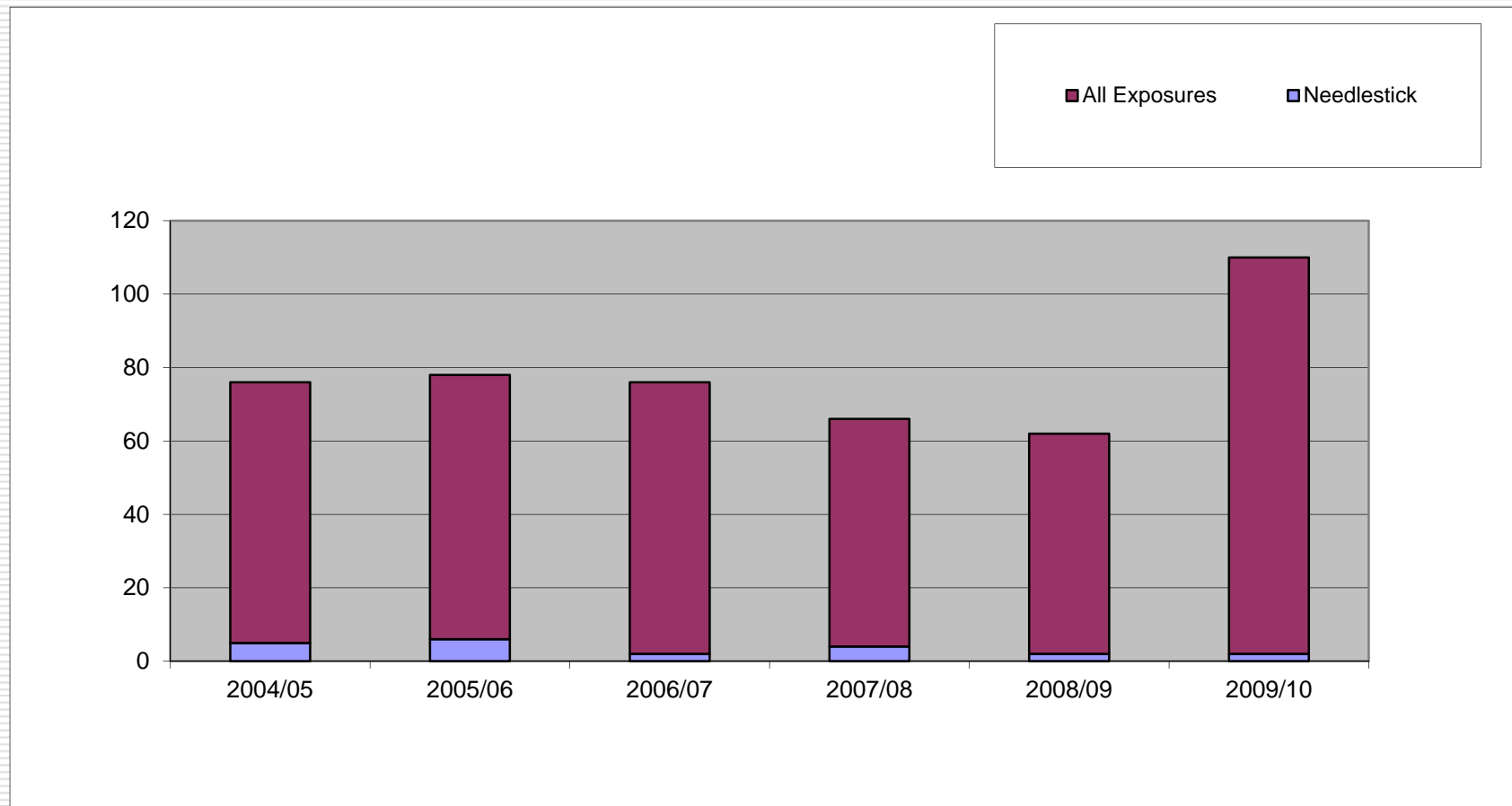
(total n=130)



Reported Chronic Hepatitis C Cases



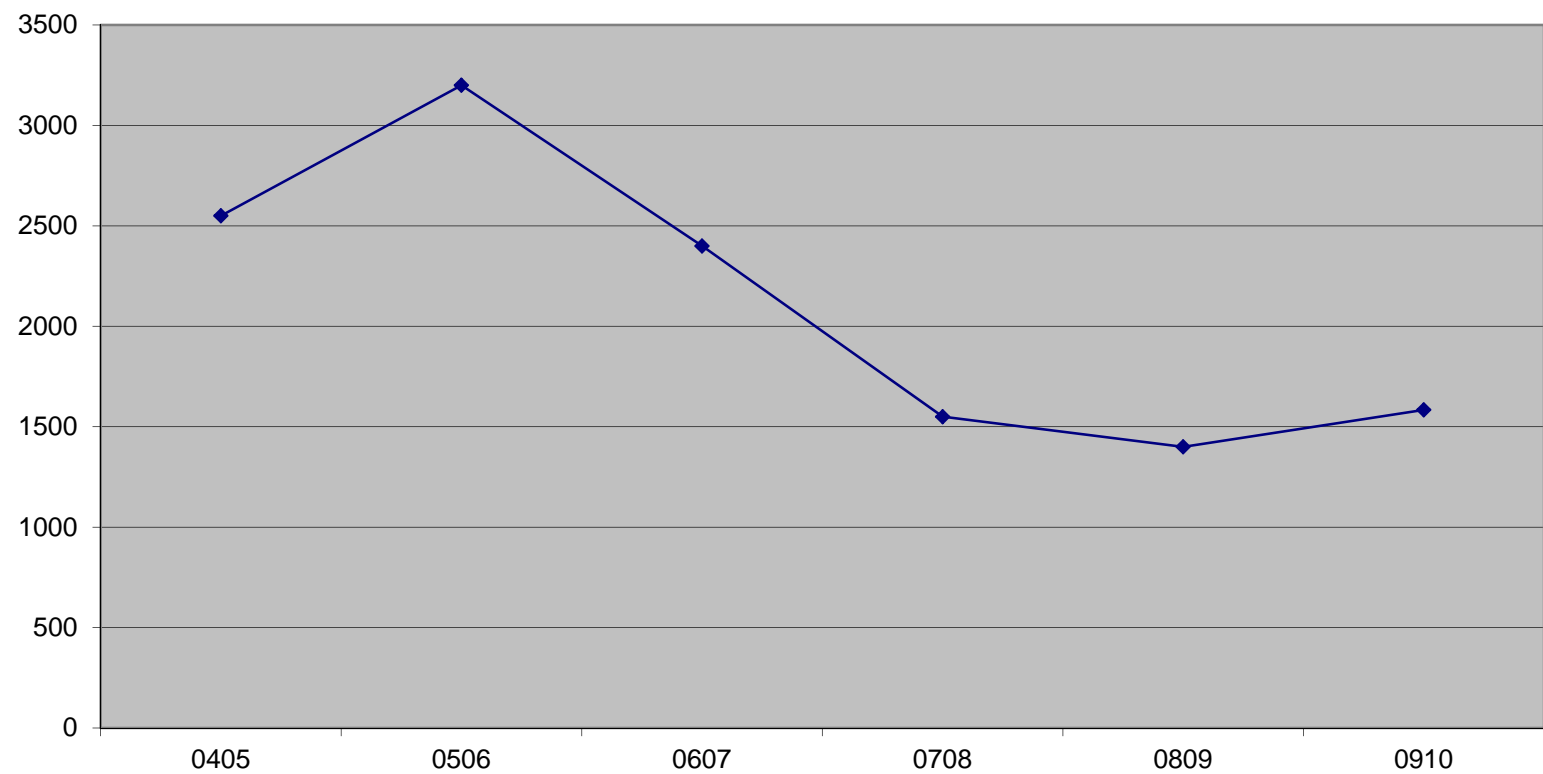
Law Enforcement and First Responder Exposures



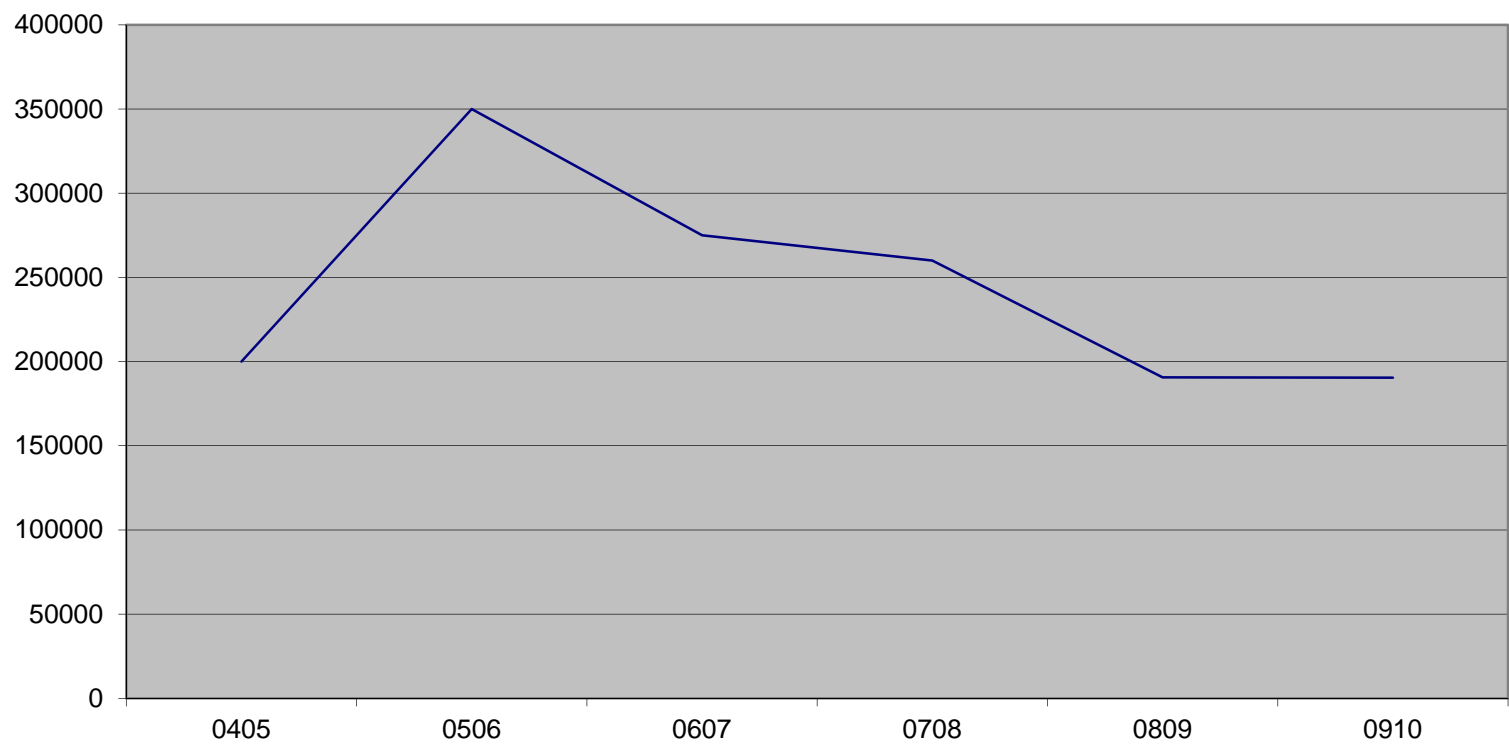
Funding for Needle Exchange

- ❑ Current (10/11) contract for \$59,000 includes \$10,000 in one-time only funds from the State.
 - ❑ Offer condoms and other risk reduction materials as available
 - ❑ Agency continues to seek and receive small sums of other private funding to support operations
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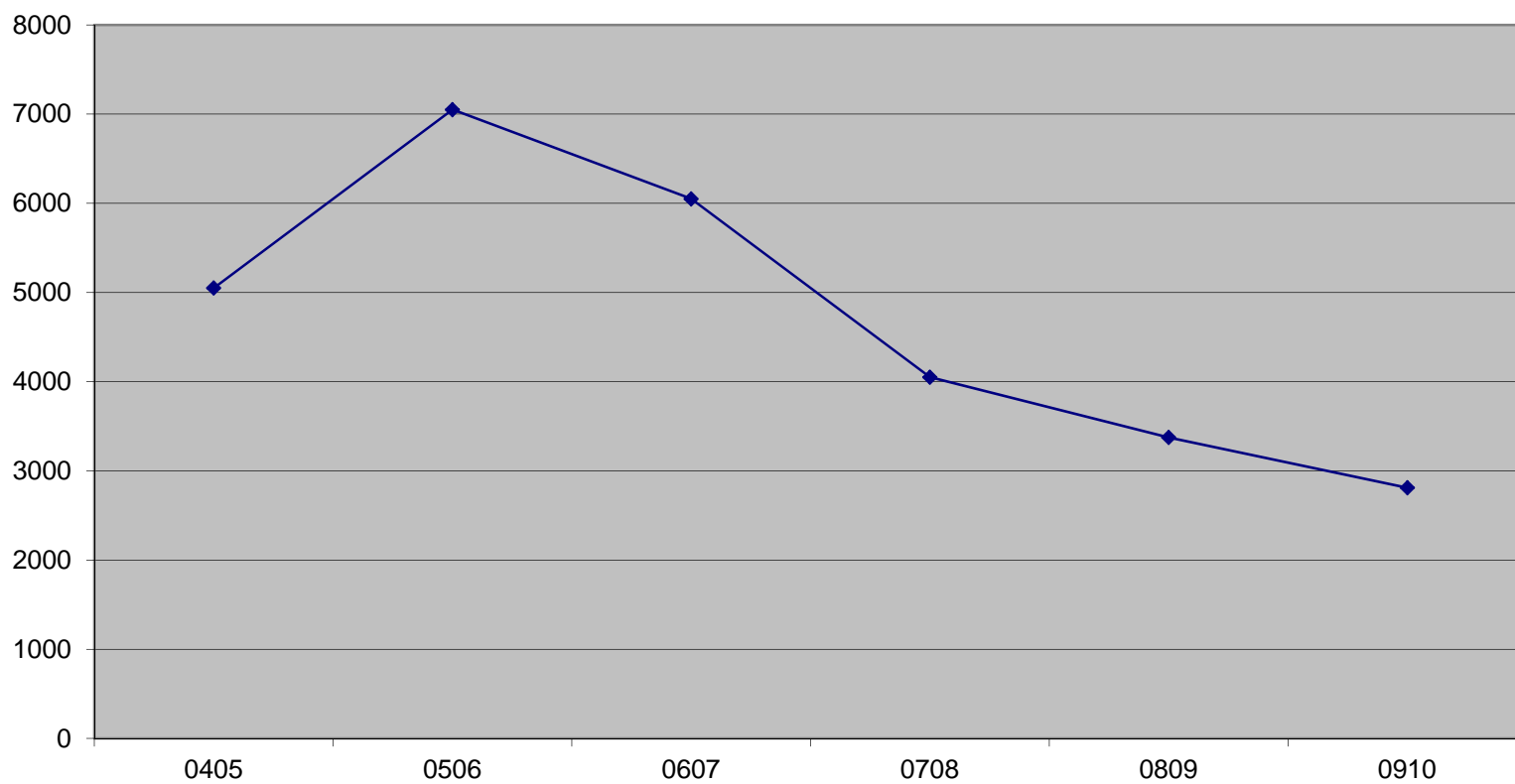
Contacts at Needle Exchange Sites



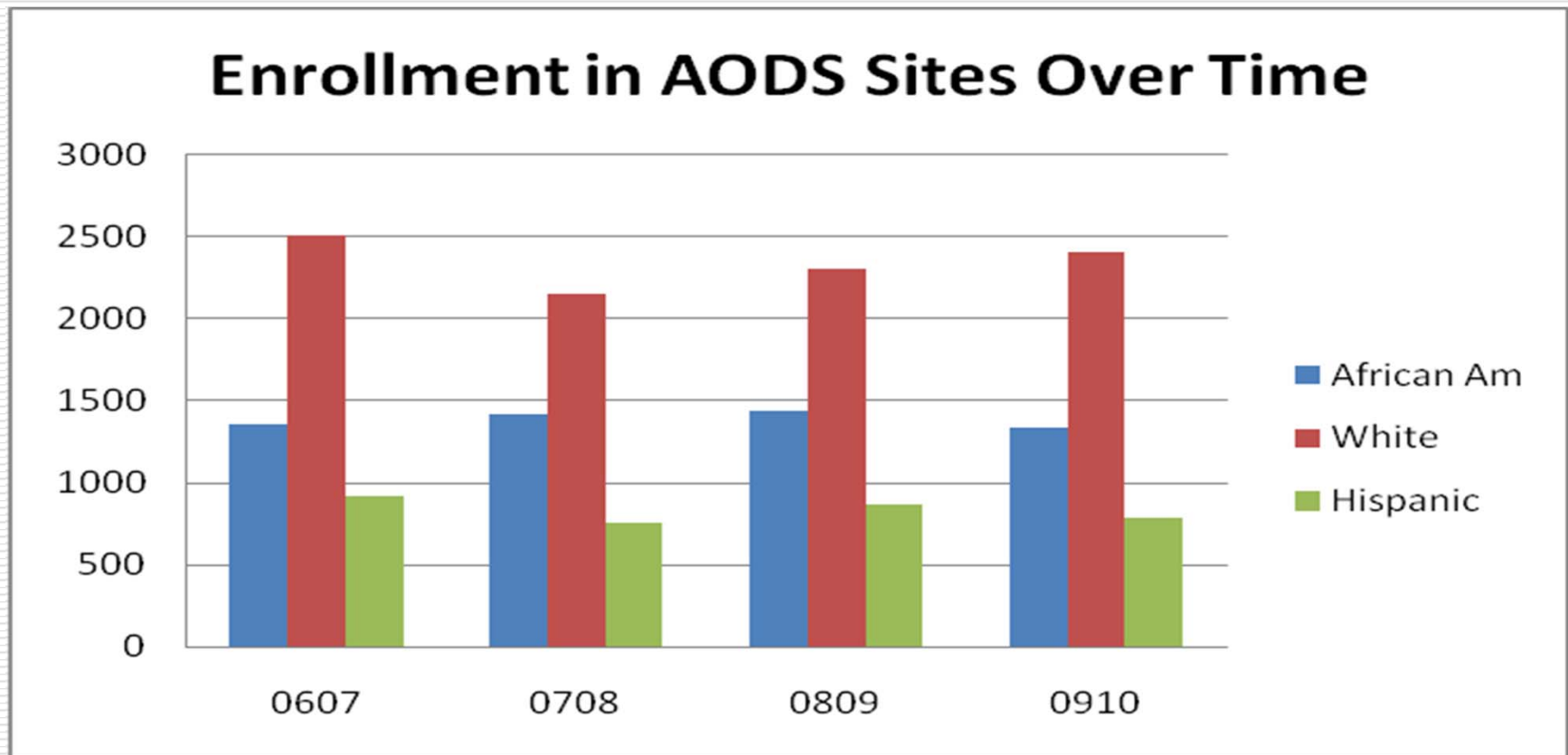
Number of Syringes Distributed



Secondary Exchanges Reported



AODS Service Enrollment



Other Prevention Strategies to Reduce Transmission of HIV in IDUs

- ☐ Anonymous Partner notification and counseling services
 - ☐ Prevention with positives program
 - ☐ Homeless collaborative
 - ☐ HIV testing services in community and in Alcohol and Other Drugs Services programs.
 - ☐ Pharmacy syringe sales (State DPDP) in two chains and a few other stores.
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Syringe Disposal Options

☐ **West County**

Household Hazardous Waste facility

101 Pittsburg Ave., Richmond, CA 94801 1-888-412-9277

☐ **East County**

Delta Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility

2550 Pittsburg/Antioch Highway, Antioch, CA 94509 925-756-1990

☐ **All Contra Costa County residents**

Sutter Regional Medical Foundation

4053 Lone Tree Way, Antioch, CA 94509 925-756-3400

John Muir Pharmacy

1220 Rossmoor Pkwy, Walnut Creek, CA 94598

CONCLUSIONS

- 1. Access to clean needles through needle exchange and pharmacy syringe services remains a necessary Public Health measure to reduce transmission of blood borne diseases.** While overall infections attributed to injection drug use have declined over time, over the last 3 years there has been an increase in the number of new cases of HIV / AIDS attributed to injection drug use among men. The availability of needle exchange and pharmacy syringe sales is necessary to control this trend.
 - 2. Reported local law enforcement exposure to potential blood borne pathogens via needle stick injury has not increased since needle exchange and pharmacy sales have been implemented.** Materials for Law Enforcement to document potential exposure and request assistance are available on the website.
 - 3. The contract for needle exchange services remains an important HIV prevention service component and should remain in effect so long as the service is provided.** The service is a necessary component to reduce transmission of HIV and Hepatitis.
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