

Needle Exchange Update



November 2012
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.

This report satisfies the legislative requirement for a biennial update to maintain needle exchange services in Contra Costa County.

2012 Legislation



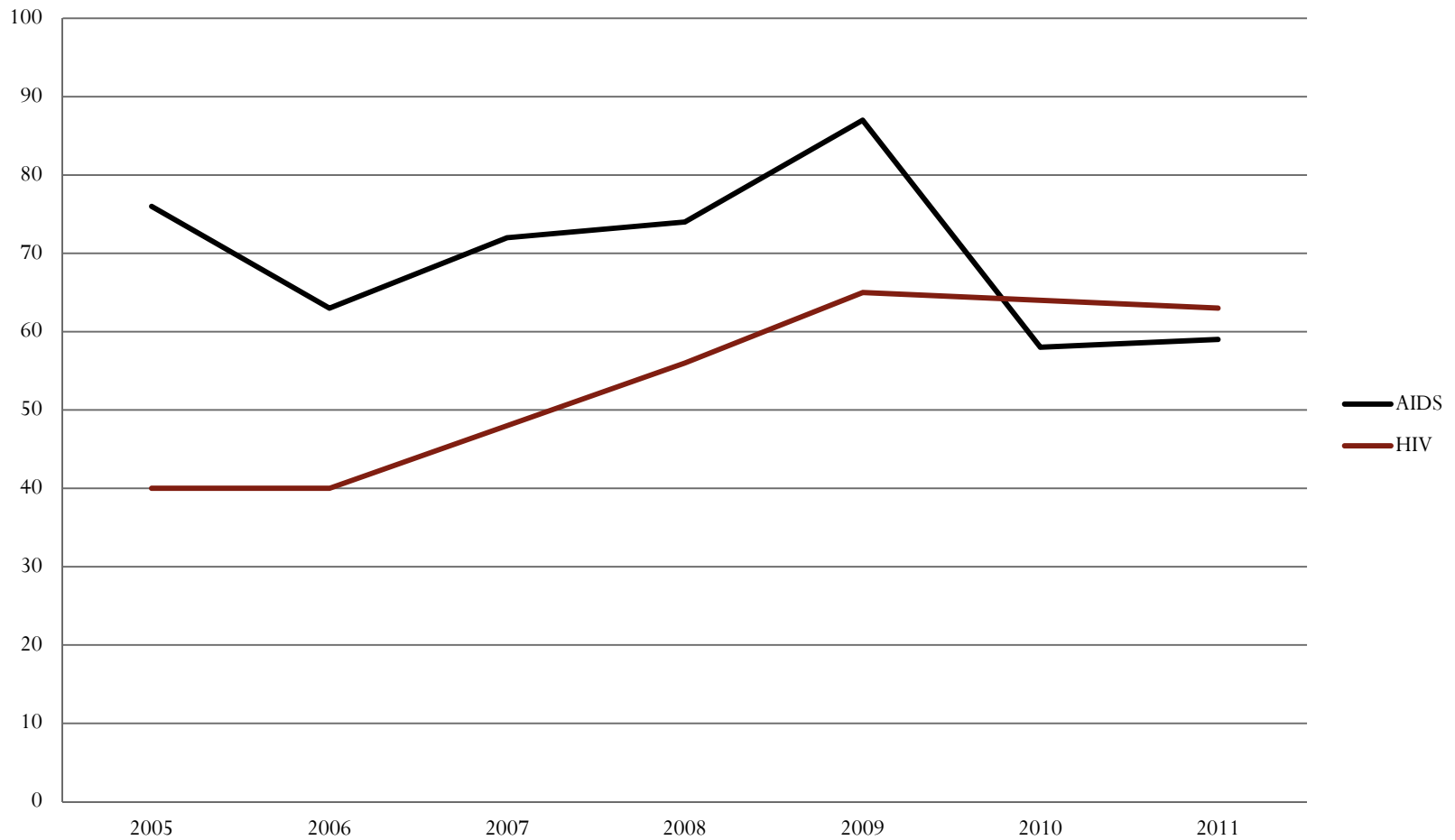
SB 41 (Yee) took effect in January this year and allows nonprescription syringe sales or distribution (NPSS) through licensed pharmacies, physicians and syringe exchange programs to individuals aged 18 and older.

AB 604 (Skinner) also took effect this year and streamlines the process for initiating syringe exchange programs (SEP) in areas without local endorsement for exchange, and decreases reporting requirements to every two years in areas with established SEPs in California.

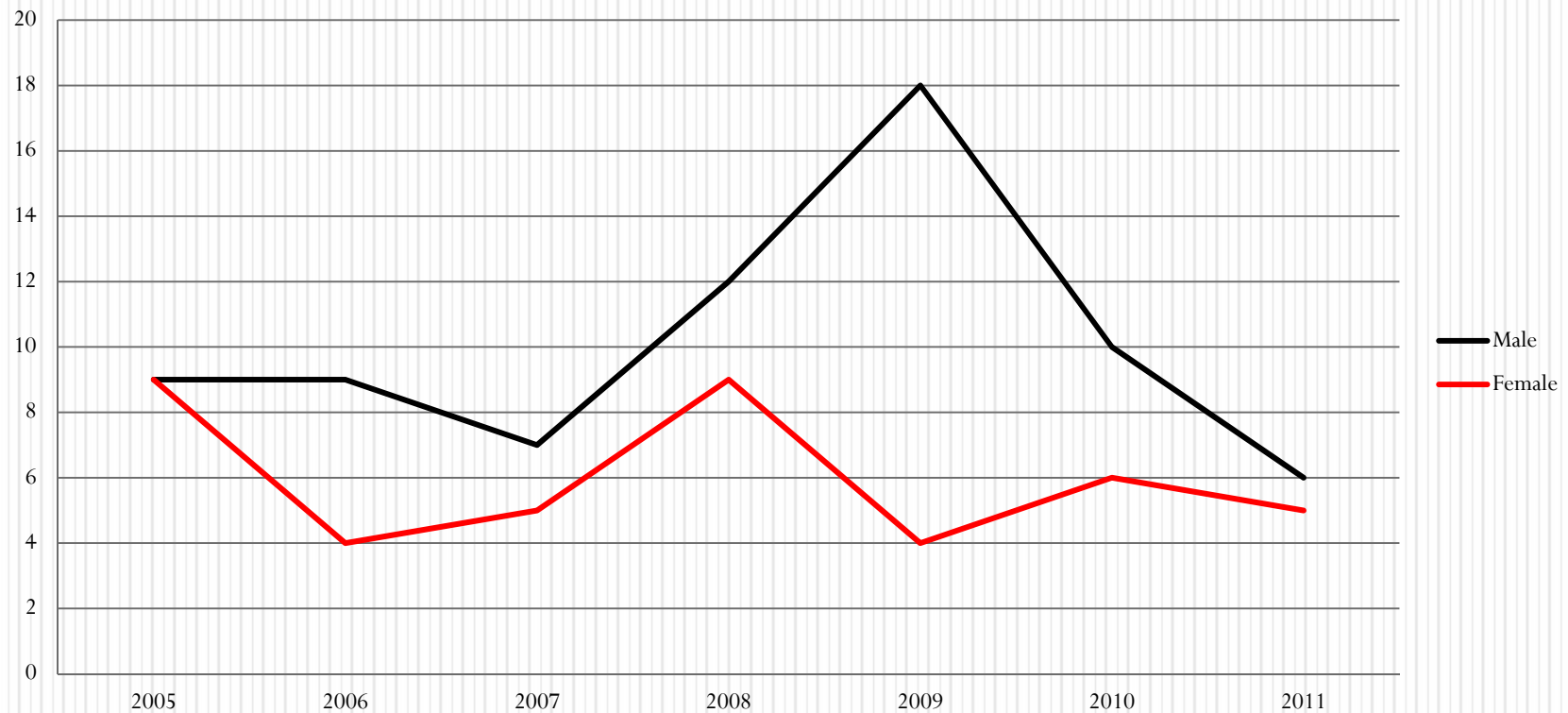
HIV/AIDS in Contra Costa County

- As of December 31 2011, more than **1,900** individuals were reported 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 nearly 19%.
- Predominant transmission among those living with HIV or AIDS remains men who have sex with other men (MSM). Injection Drug Use is about 17% of the caseload.

New HIV and AIDS Reports by Year



HIV/AIDS Attributed to Injection Drug Use (IDU) by Gender



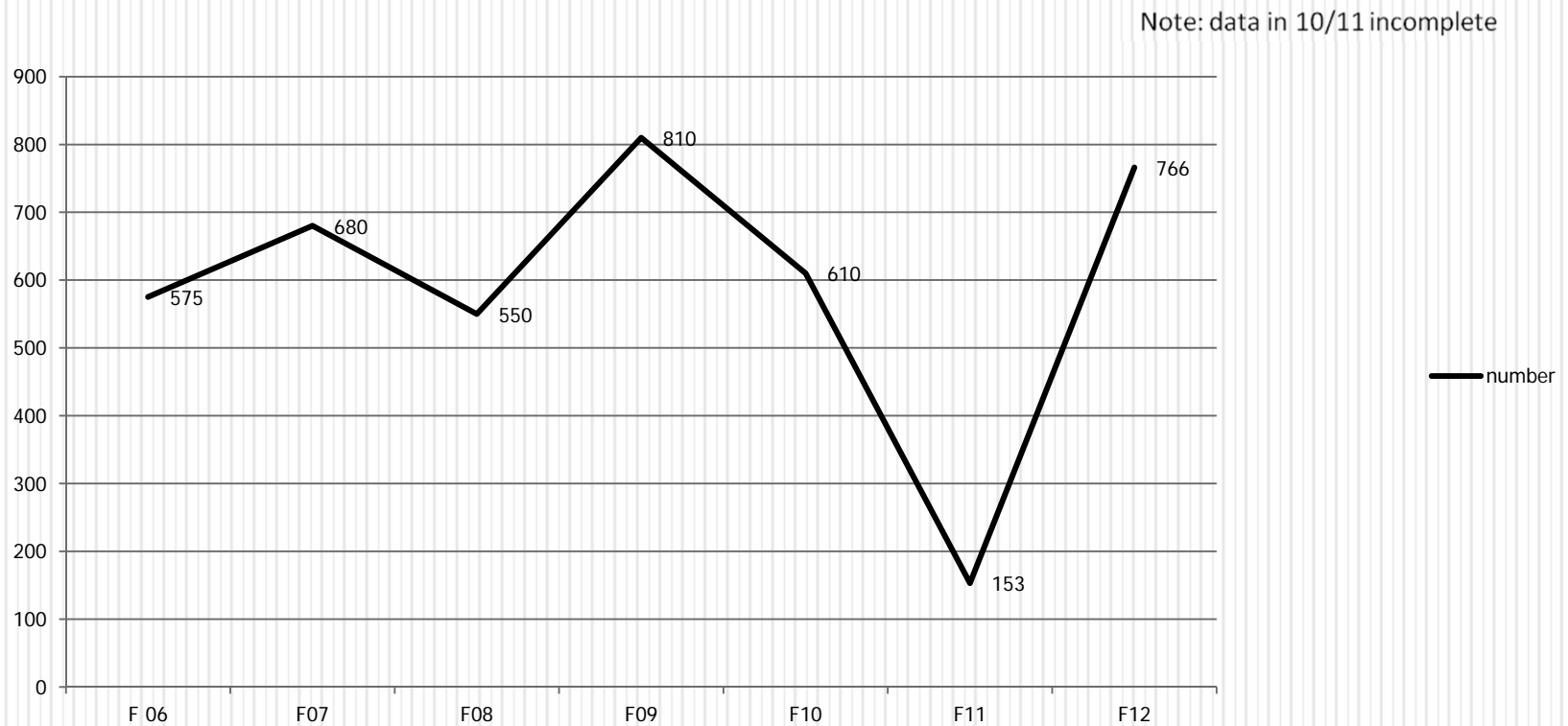
Children with HIV and AIDS



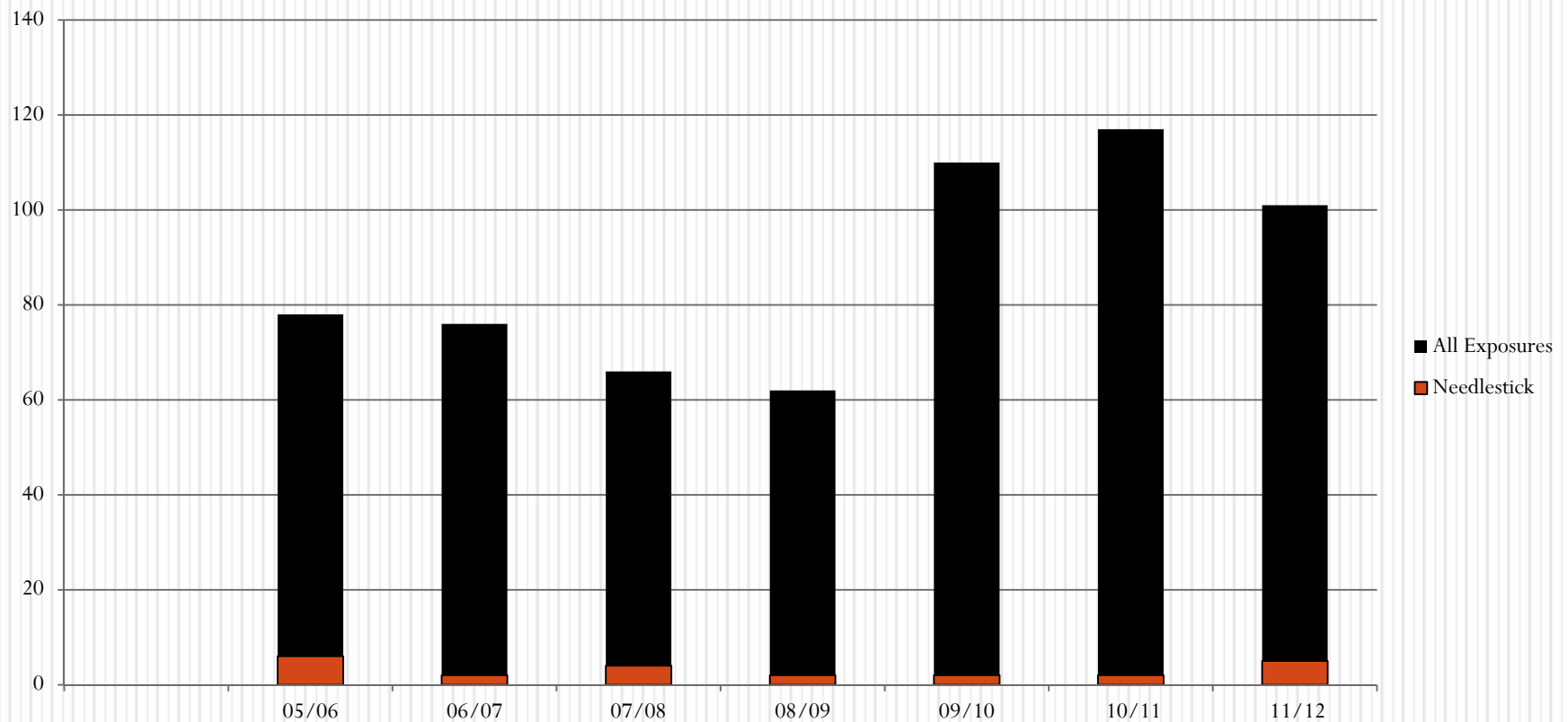
Infant Exposure has not been tracked by Stanford University since 2009.

Of the 3,058 AIDS cases ever reported in Contra Costa, 24 have been pediatric cases (1-12 years of age). Seventeen of those pediatric cases (0.56%) were born to women with HIV/AIDS, and six were infected through blood/blood products. Of 725 HIV cases ever reported in Contra Costa, there were eight pediatric cases. Five (0.69%) were born to women with HIV/AIDS, and three have undetermined transmission.

Reported Chronic Hepatitis C Cases Over Time



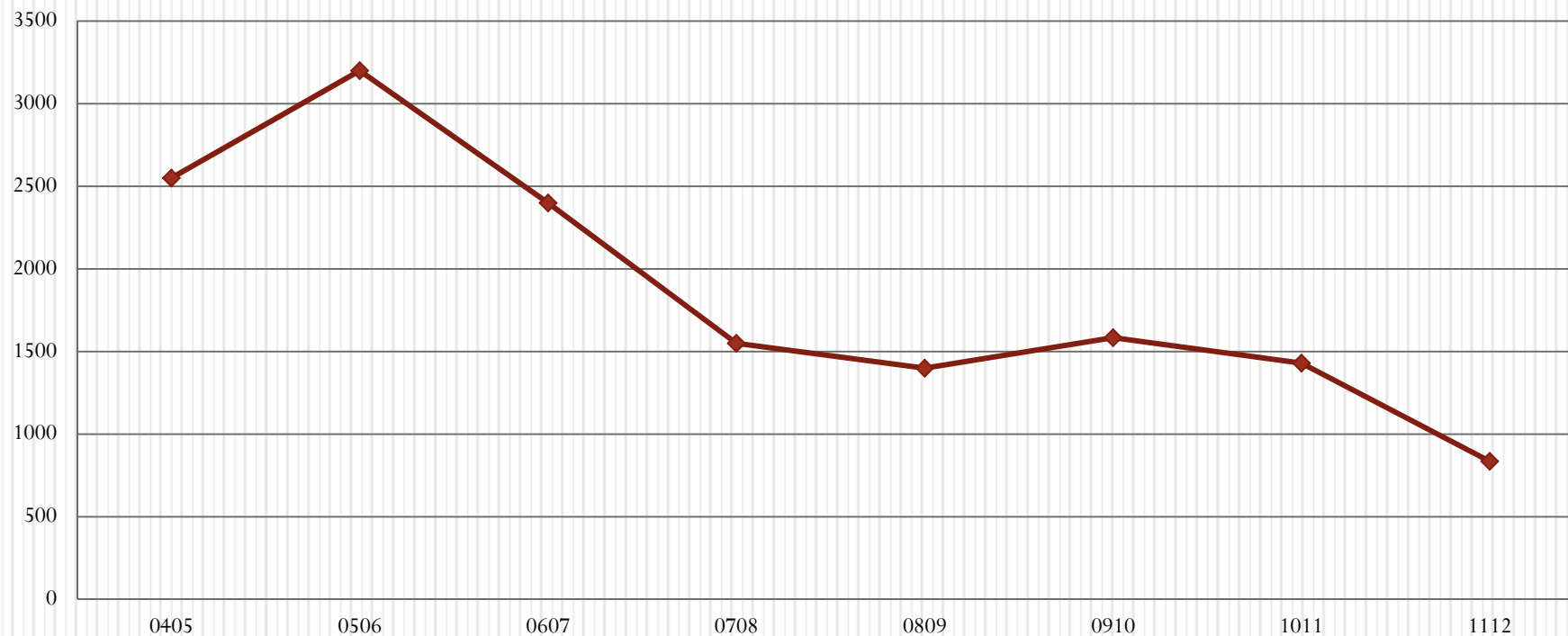
Law Enforcement and First Responder Exposures



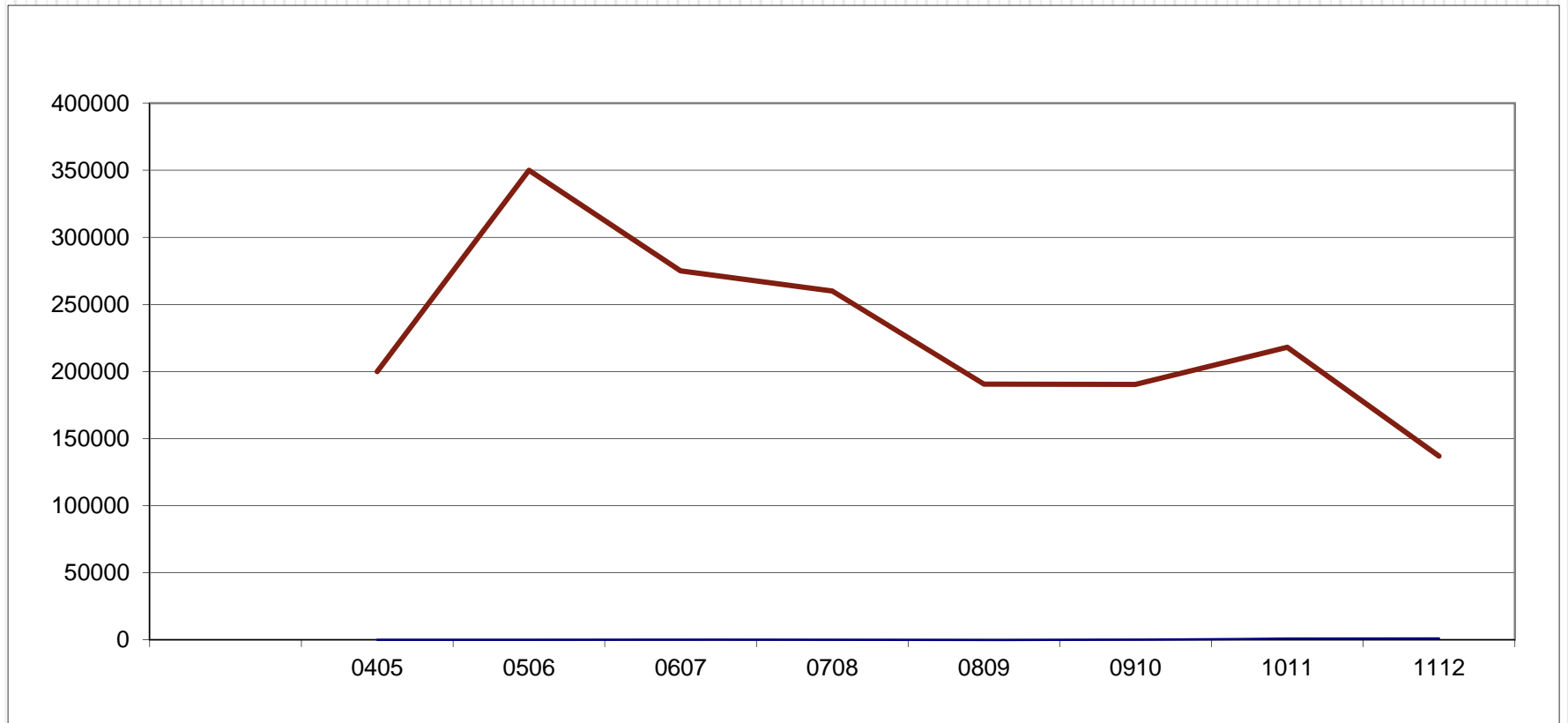
Needle Exchange and CHE

- Services continue under HEPPAC
- One-for-one exchange offered in East and West County: roughly 70% of those served were at East County sites.
- Approximately 55% of participants are White, 31% African American, and 14% Latino.
- Men are 64% of those served.
- Approximately 3% of those served accept referrals to health and support services.

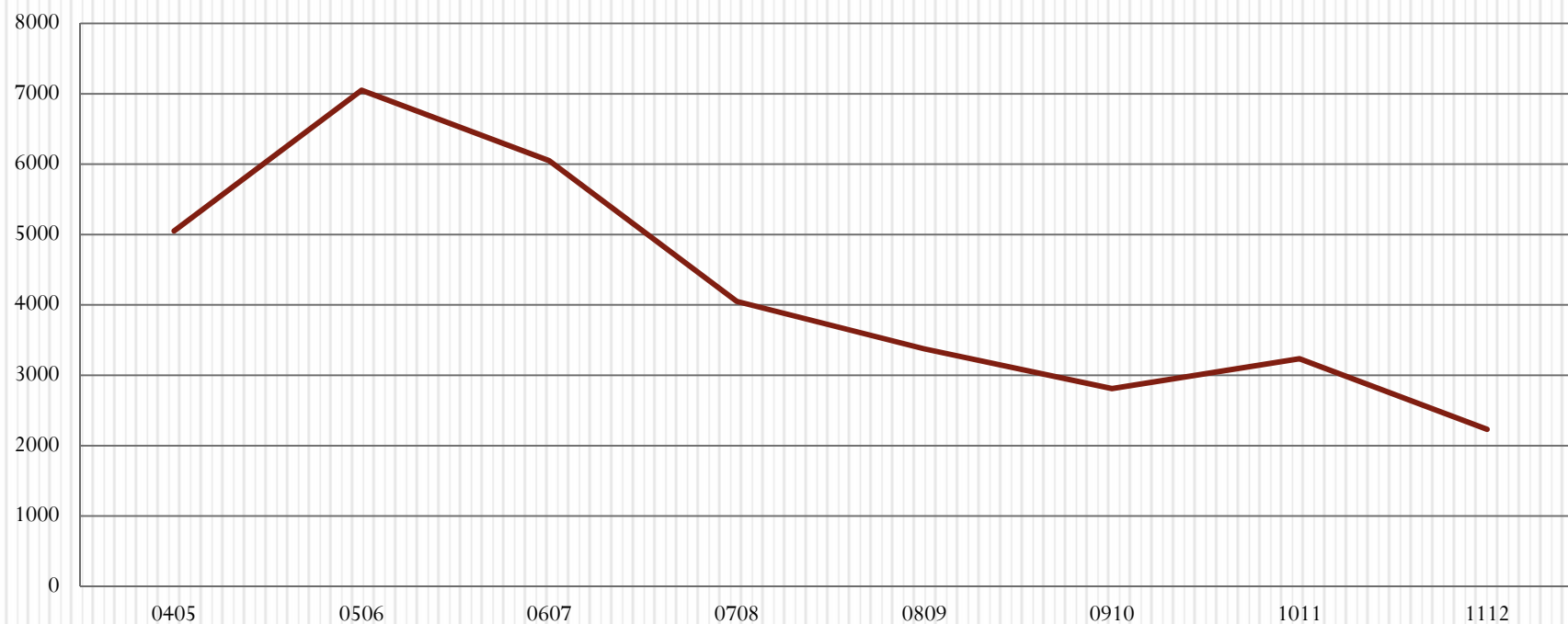
Reported Contacts (Individuals) at Needle Exchange Sites Over Time



Number of Syringes Distributed By CHE Over Time



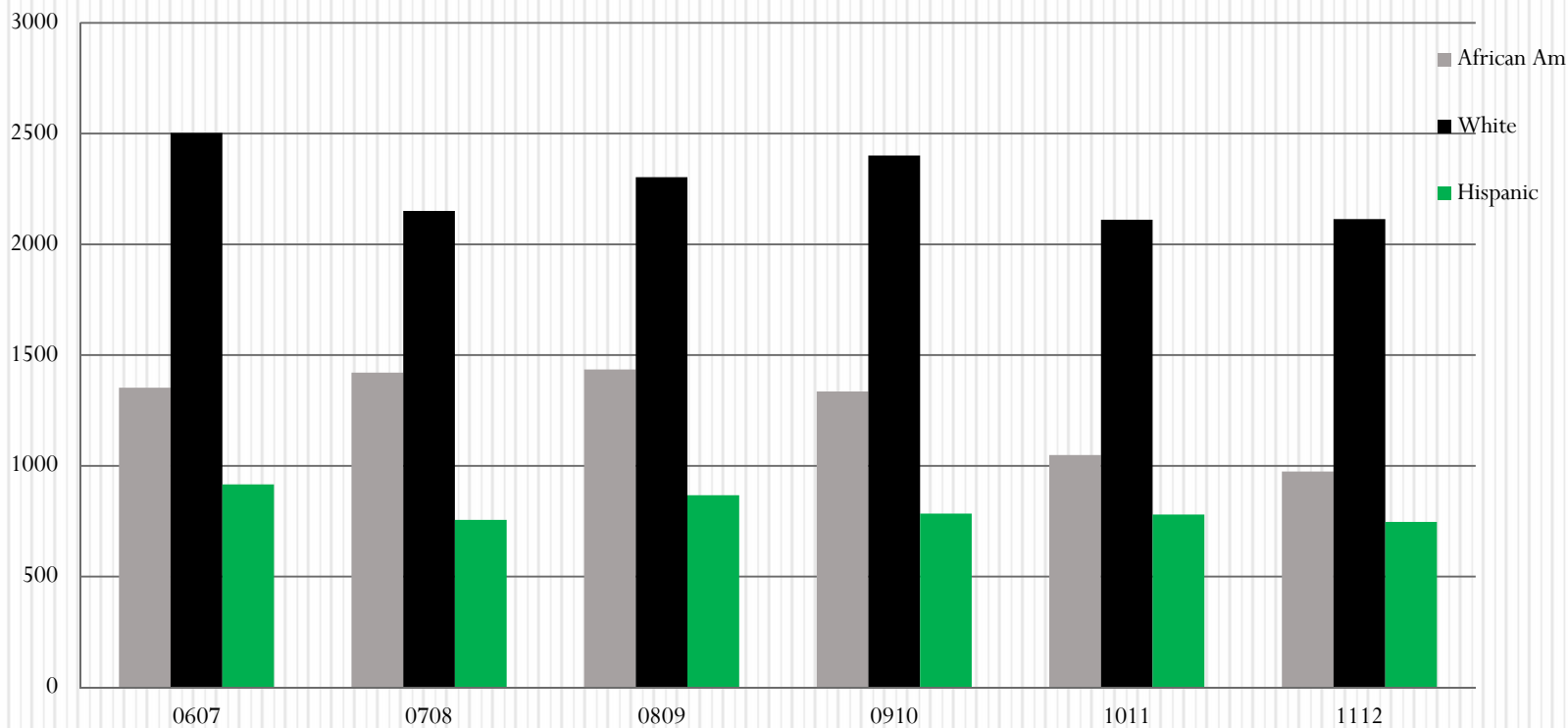
Secondary Exchanges Reported By CHE Over Time



AODS Service Enrollment



2011/2012 Enrollment n= 3996

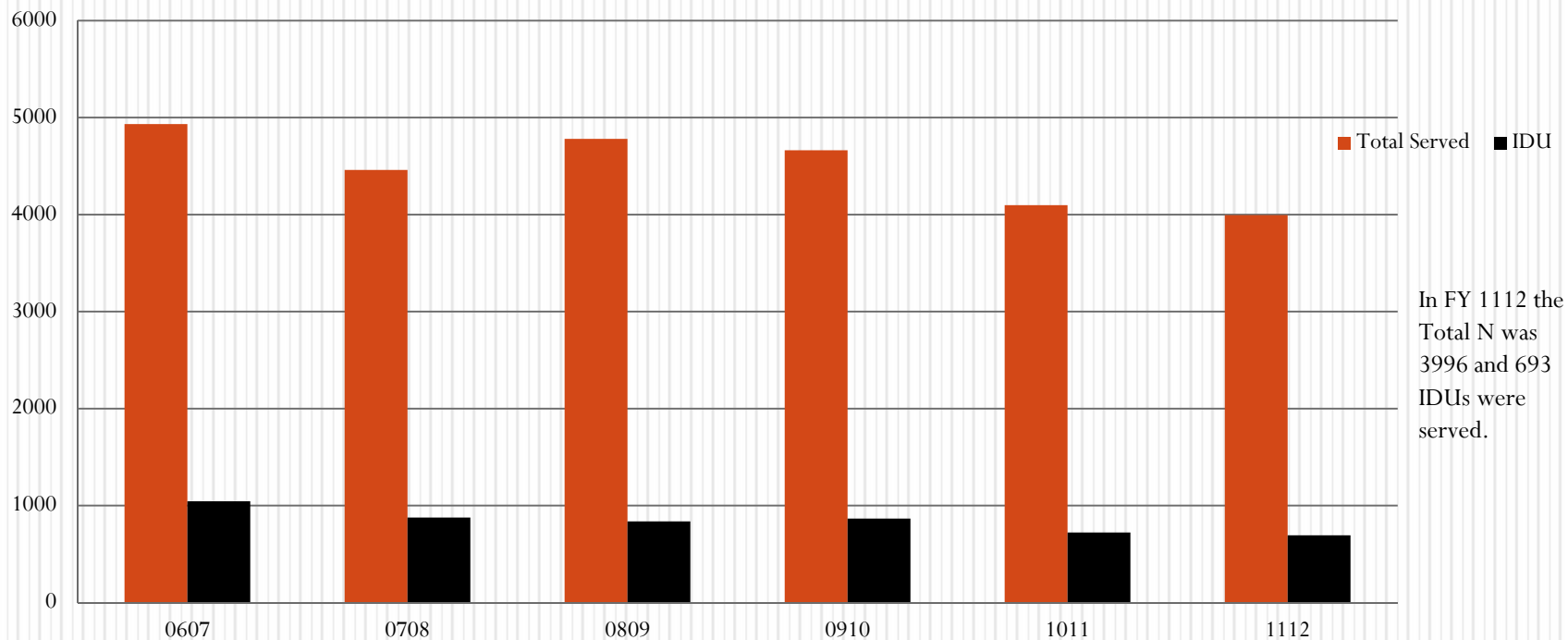


AODS IDU Service Enrollment

IDU/Non IDU



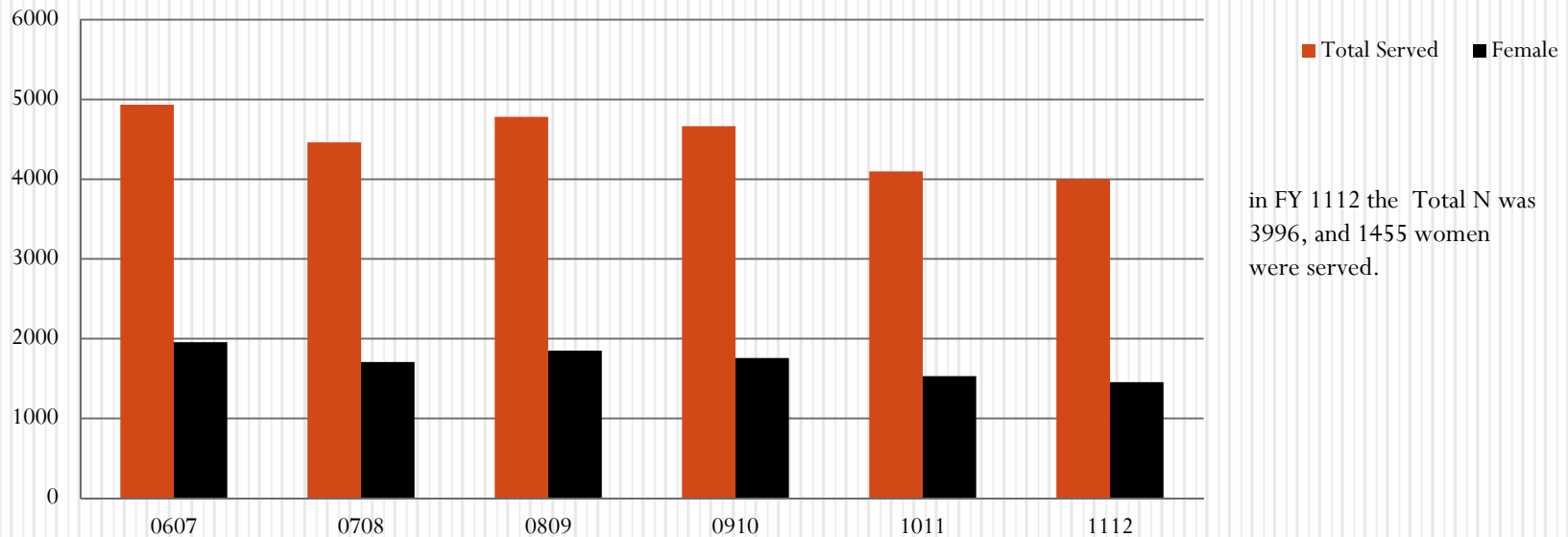
IDUs are about 17% of All AODS Service Users



AODS Service Enrollment By Gender



In 2011/2012 Women were Approximately 36% of Those Served By AODS



Other Prevention Strategies to Reduce Transmission of HIV in IDUs

- > Partner counseling and Anonymous Partner notification and counseling services;
- > Hepatitis C testing for highest risk IDUs;
- > HIV and STD testing services in community and in Alcohol and Other Drugs Services programs;
- > New evidence-based interventions in three agencies;
- > Cross training of staff and agencies.

Syringe Disposal Options



Adults anywhere in California may now purchase up to 30 syringes without a prescription.

A number of locations for safe disposal of syringes are now available in Contra Costa. A link to the full list is maintained by the Contra Costa Environmental Health Program, as is a list of frequently asked questions on syringe and needle disposal and links to syringe disposal mail back services. More information on disposal is located at

http://www.cchealth.org/eh/medical_waste/

CONCLUSIONS



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- 1. Access to clean needles is making a difference in Contra Costa and remains an important component of the strategy to reduce transmission of blood borne diseases.** The number of infections attributed to injection drug use has declined over time and the availability of needle exchange and pharmacy syringe sales has played a role in this trend.
 - 2. Reported local law enforcement exposure to potential blood borne pathogens via needle stick injury remains at the same level as prior to implementation of needle exchange and pharmacy sales.** Materials for Law Enforcement to document potential exposure and request assistance remain available on the website.
 - 3. The Health Department is no longer required to provide an annual status report, but is required to provide a biennial report.** No major impact is anticipated in Contra Costa.