Hepatitis B in Boston
2015 in Review

Infectious Disease Bureau
Boston Public Health Commission
There were 317 cases of hepatitis B reported to BPHC in 2015
- 51 cases per 100,000
- Most cases were chronic
- Only 3% of cases were confirmed to be acute, though this is likely an underestimate
- Case rate reflects rate of reporting, not disease transmission
Boston

- Hepatitis B rate decreased by 14% from 2011 to 2015.
Men made up the majority (59%) of hepatitis B cases reported in 2015.
Boston 2015: Race/Ethnicity

- Asian residents accounted for the largest proportion of 2015 cases at **45%**, while Black residents accounted for the second largest proportion at **25%**.
Boston 2015: Age Group

- More cases were reported in residents ages **30-39** compared to any other age group; **82%** of 2015 cases were ages **20-59** when reported to BPHC
Majority of cases (63%) were born outside of the United States – 28% had an unknown country of origin

N=317
South End had the highest rate at 142 cases per 100,000 compared to any other Boston neighborhood.
Boston 2015: **Summary**

- Hepatitis B disproportionately affects **Asian residents** in Boston.
- Case rates reflect **rate of reporting**, and not disease transmission in Boston.
- Majority of cases were **men**.
- Most cases were ages **20-59** at diagnosis.
- Majority of cases were born **outside of the U.S.**.
- 2015 rates were highest in the **South End, South Dorchester, and North Dorchester**.
Questions?

Contact: Craig Regis, MPH
cregis@bphc.org