



BOSTON PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION (BPHC)

Communicable Disease Control Division

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Boston COVID-19 Report - For the Week Ending 4/16/2020

1/3/2020 - 4/16/2020

COVID-19 Cases (Boston Residents)	#
Active Cases	3933
Recovered Cases	708
Deaths	122
TOTAL CASES	4763

COVID-19 Confirmed Hospitalizations (through 4/16/2020)	
YEAR	# HOSPITALIZED
2020	485

Boston ED CLI ¹ Syndromic Surveillance (All Visits)	
This Week Overall % CLI (4/10-4/16/2020)	11.2%
Last Week Overall % CLI (4/3-4/9/2020)	11.0%

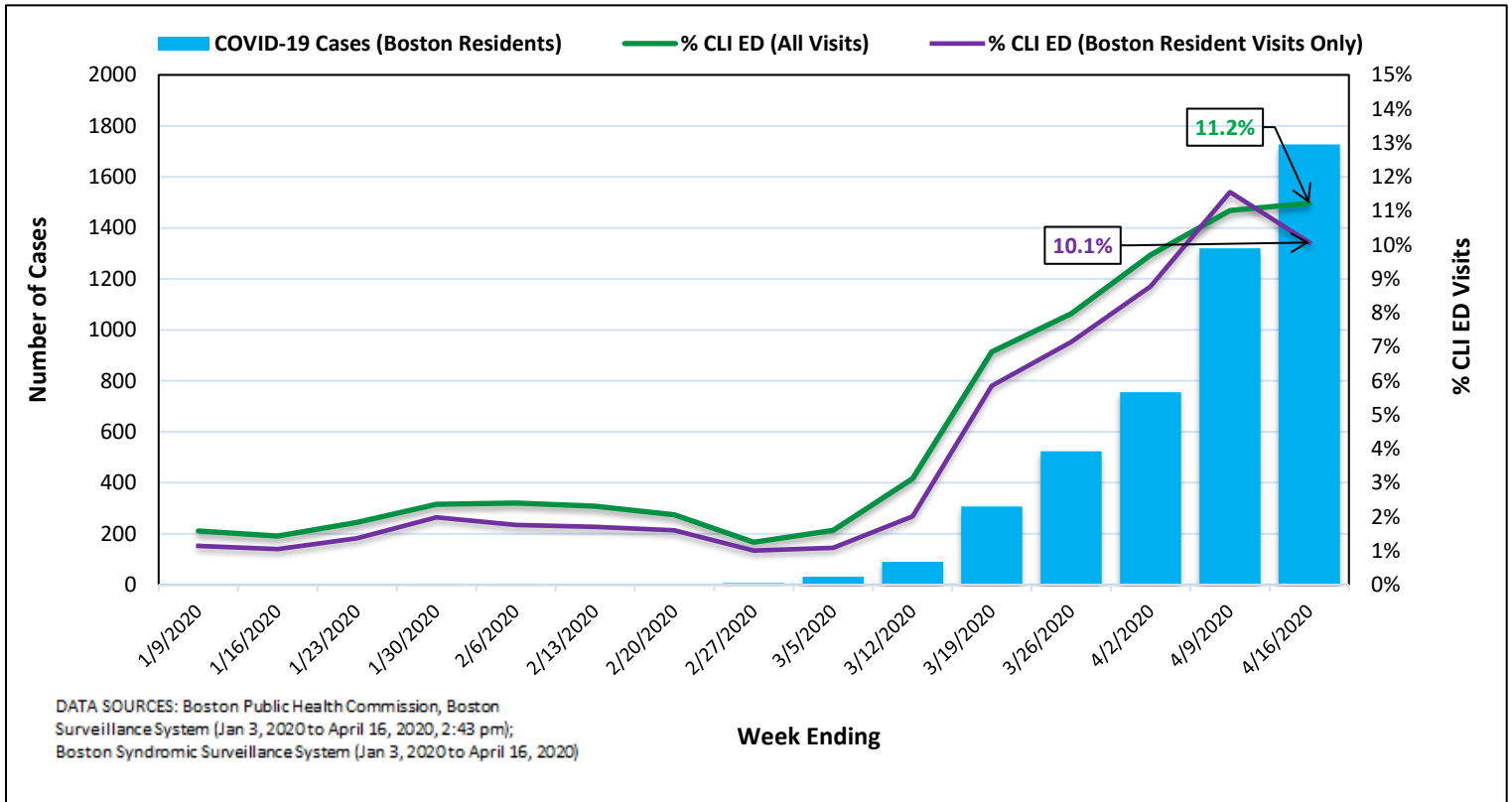
Summary: As of 2:43 pm on 4/16/2020, a total of 4763 cases of laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 among Boston residents have been reported to the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC). This represents a 67% increase in cases from the previous week's report. Of reported cases, 485 required hospitalization. One hundred and twenty-two residents have died. Seven hundred and eight (14.9%) have recovered.

One hundred and seventy-five cases (3.7%) were healthcare workers.

Emergency Department (ED) visits for COVID-19-like illness (CLI) comprised 11.2% of all ED visits between 4/10/2020-4/16/2020, up slightly from 11.0% the prior week.

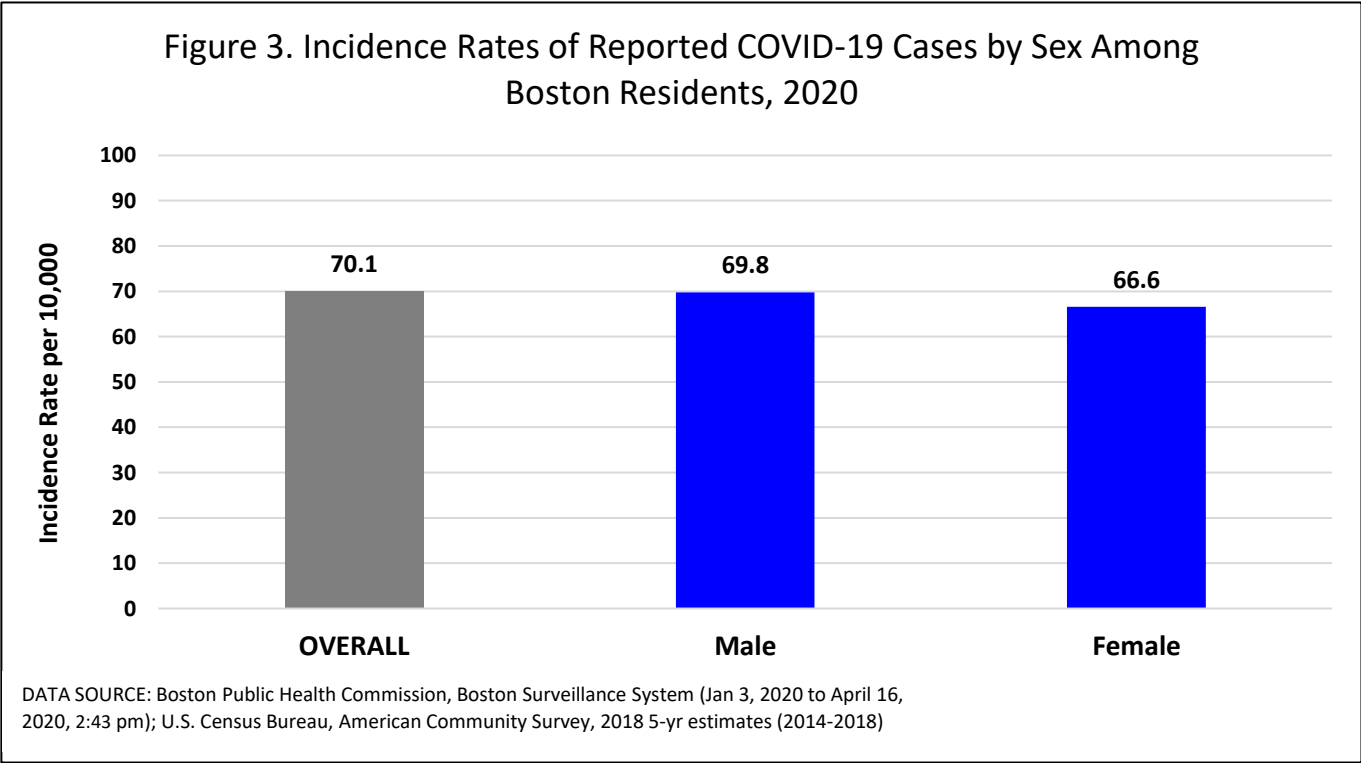
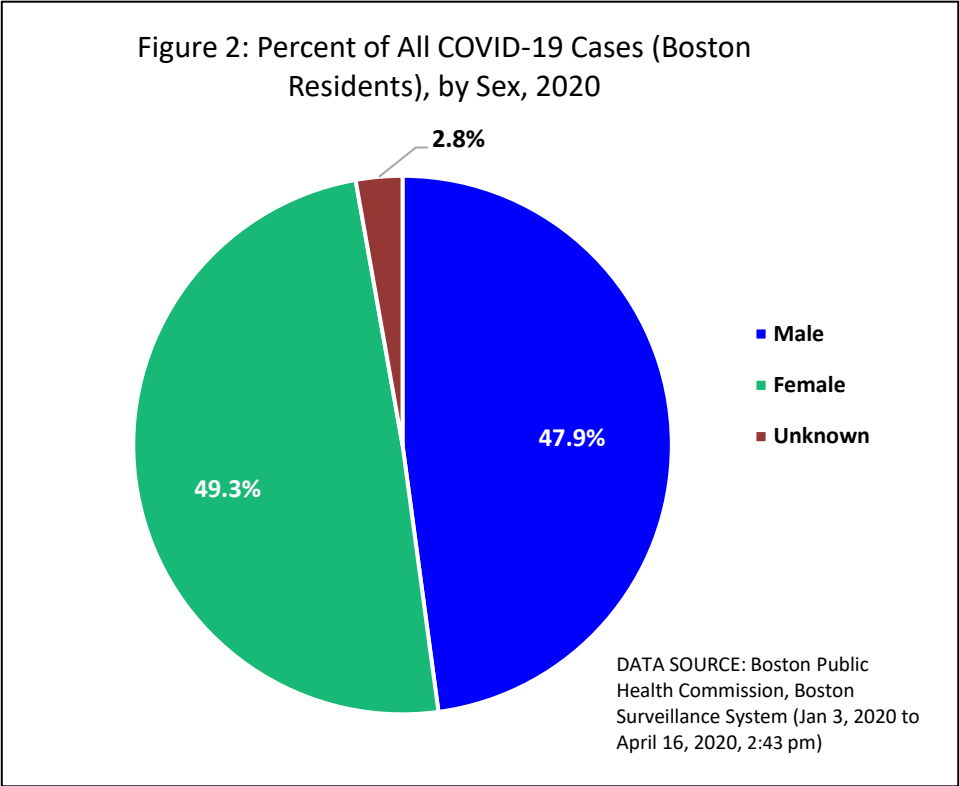
¹COVID-19-like illness (CLI) is defined as "Covid or (fever and (cough or respiratory distress))" in ED chief complaint data from Boston acute care hospitals, captured by BPHC Syndromic Surveillance System. Due to a change in methodology, all CLI values for 2020 have been updated. One facility has been removed from the calculation due to a lack of detailed chief complaint data. While the individual CLI values have changed, the overall general trends remain similar to what had been presented in previous reports.

Figure 1. Reported COVID-19 Cases and % CLI Emergency Department Visits, by Week, 2020



Notes:

- Dates associated with cases are "event dates." An event date is the earliest associated date corresponding to each disease event and is hierarchical based on available information. When available, symptom onset date serves as the earliest associated date. In the absence of an onset date, the test date is used. As additional information becomes available (e.g., reporting of symptom onset date), event dates may shift for reported cases. These numbers are rolling and subject to weekly variations based on case data availability.
- %CLI ED (All Visits) is a percentage of CLI visits among all ED including irrespective of residence. %CLI ED (Boston Resident Visits Only) is a percentage of CLI visits by Boston residents among all ED visits by Boston residents.



There was a similar distribution of male cases and female cases (Figure 2). The incidence rate of COVID-19 among female residents was similar compared to male residents (Figure 3).

FIGURE 4. PERCENT OF ALL COVID-19 CASES BY AGE AMONG BOSTON RESIDENTS

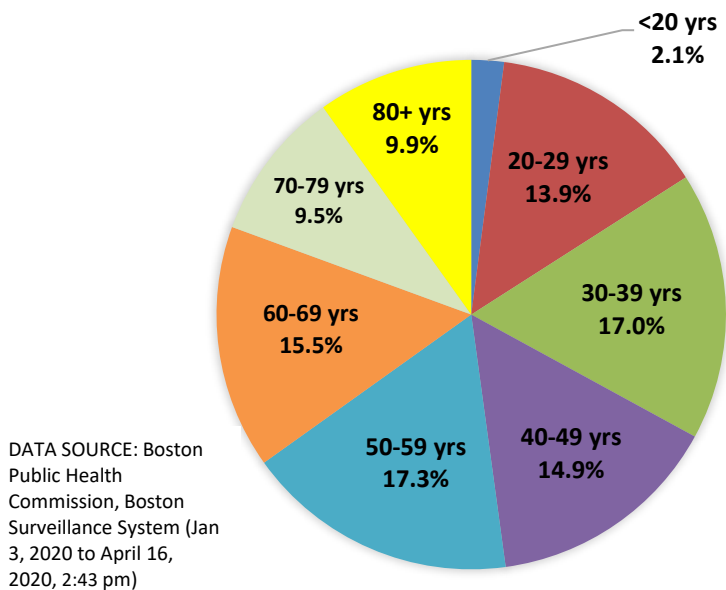
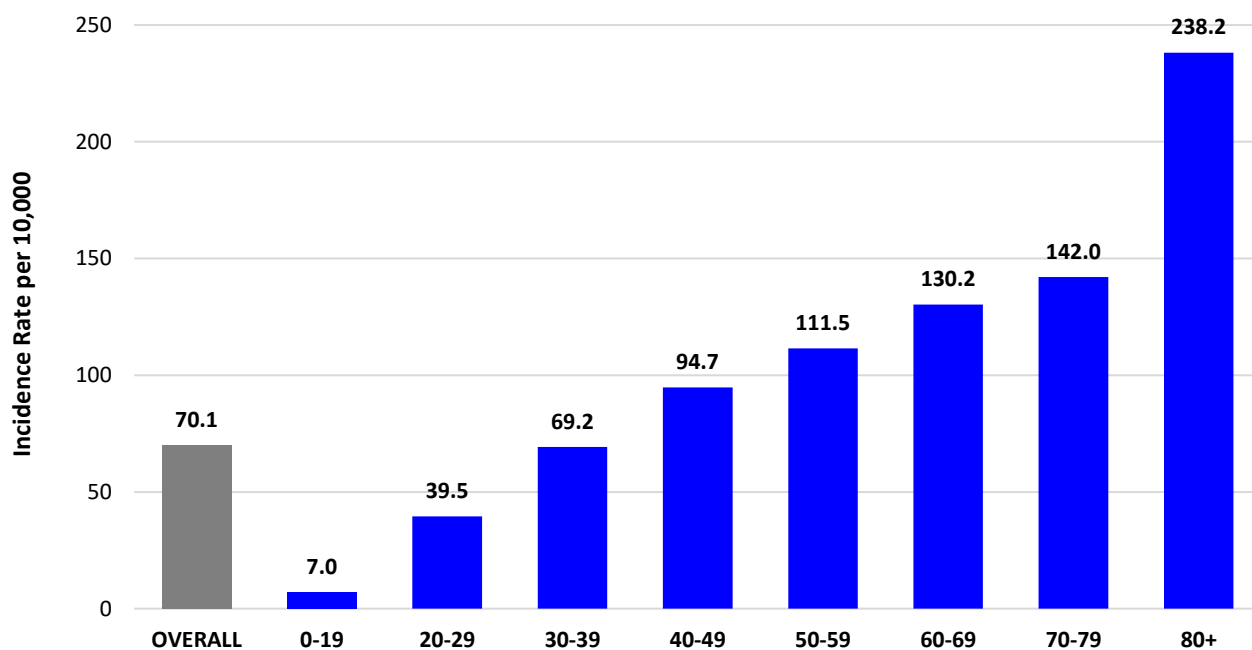


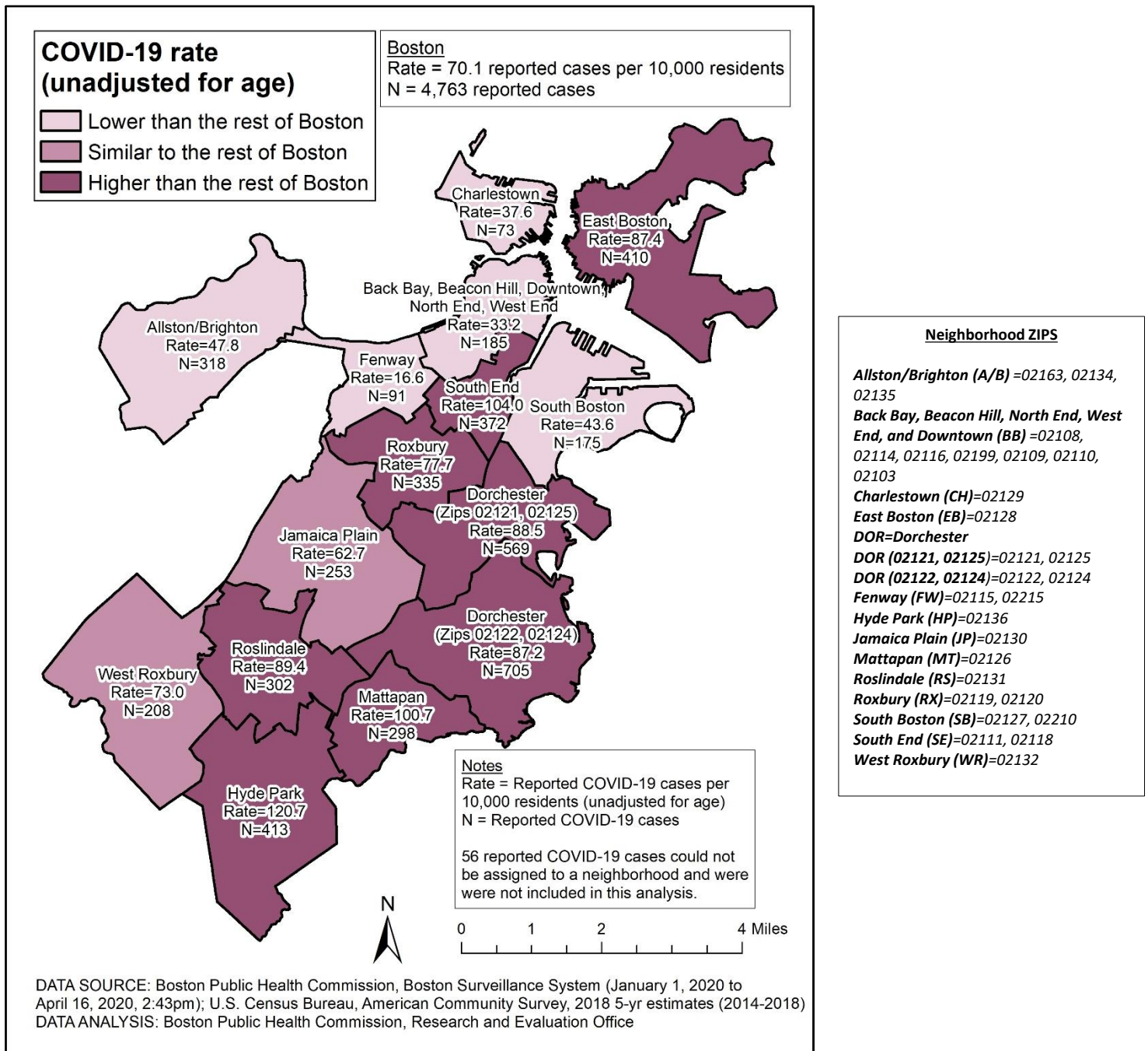
Figure 5. Incidence Rates of Reported COVID-19 Cases by Age Among Boston Residents, 2020



DATA SOURCE: Boston Public Health Commission, Boston Surveillance System (Jan 3, 2020 to April 16, 2020, 2:43 pm); U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2018 5-yr estimates (2014-2018)

There continues to be a low percentage of Boston resident COVID-19 cases under 20 years of age (Figure 4). Nearly 35% of COVID-19 cases were in persons age 60 years and above. In general, COVID-19 rates increase with age (Figure 5).

Figure 6: Incidence Rates of Reported COVID-19 Cases by Neighborhood Among Boston Residents



The incidence rate of COVID-19 was higher for Dorchester (zips 02121, 02125), Dorchester (zips 02122, 02124), East Boston, Hyde Park, Mattapan, Roslindale, Roxbury, and the South End compared with the rest of Boston. The incidence rate of COVID-19 was lower for Allston/Brighton, Back Bay (including Beacon Hill, Downtown, the North End, and the West End), Charlestown, Fenway, and South Boston compared with the rest of Boston (Figure 6). To test neighborhood differences, an individual neighborhood is compared with the rest of Boston (i.e., all other neighborhoods combined), rather than to Boston overall so that individual neighborhood's contribution to the Boston overall rate does not mask a difference from the rest of Boston.

Race/Ethnicity¹	# of Cases	% of All Cases	% of Cases with Known Race/Ethnicity²
Asian, nL/nH	118	2.5%	3.7%
Black, nL/nH	1308	27.5%	41.3%
Latinx/Hispanic	535	11.2%	16.9%
Other, nL/nH ³	327	6.9%	10.3%
White, nL/nH	881	18.5%	27.8%
Unknown/Missing Data	1594	33.5%	

¹nL/nH=non-Latinx/non-Hispanic

² Total with Known Race/Ethnicity=3169 cases

³ Other, nL/nH includes American Indian/Alaska Native and multiracial

DATA SOURCE: Boston Public Health Commission, Boston Surveillance System (Jan 3, 2020 to April 16, 2020, 2:43 pm); U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2018 5-yr estimates (2014-2018)

Of cases where race/ethnicity is known, 3.7% were Asian, 41.3% were Black, 16.9% were Latinx or Hispanic, 27.8% were White, and 10.3% were another race/ethnicity or multi-racial. When the percent of information that is missing or unknown is greater than 20%, percentages are calculated among the known cases, but both are presented here. Interpret these data with caution due to the high percentage missing and unknown.