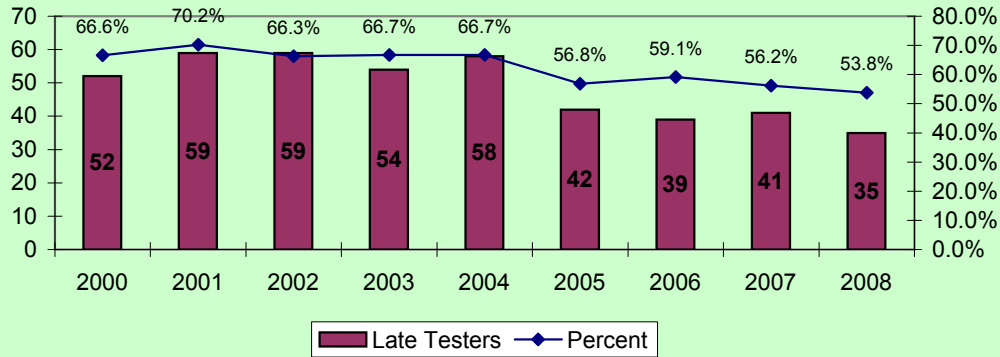


Late Testers in Contra Costa County 2000 - 2008



Year	Late Testers	Percent
2000	52	66.6%
2001	59	70.2%
2002	59	66.3%
2003	54	66.7%
2004	58	66.7%
2005	42	56.8%
2006	39	59.1%
2007	41	56.2%
2008	35	53.8%

L A T E T E S T E R S: Missed Opportunities.
 Many people test positive for HIV for the first time when seriously ill (with AIDS), presumably many years after they are first infected.

In this nine year period 439 people in Contra Costa County were diagnosed with AIDS within twelve months of their HIV diagnosis. Very likely, these People with AIDS lived several years with an HIV infection undiagnosed and untreated. Important opportunities to prevent and or delay an AIDS diagnosis may have been missed.

Since 2000 "late testers" have represented over 50% of the newly diagnosed cases of AIDS. The reduction in the number of cases in more recent years (2005-2008) may be an indication that fewer HIV infected persons are becoming "late testers". Although this is encouraging, there are many who still miss the opportunity to benefit from early HIV testing.