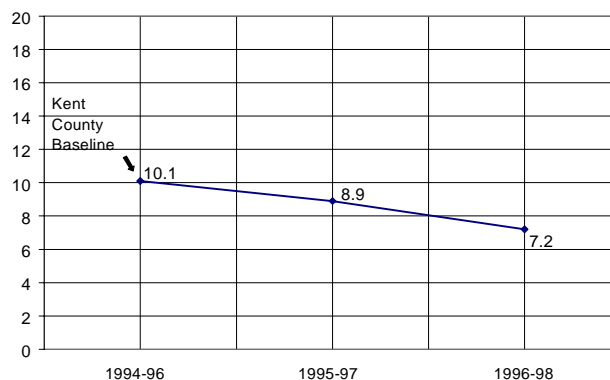


Focus on AIDS and Sexually Transmitted Infections

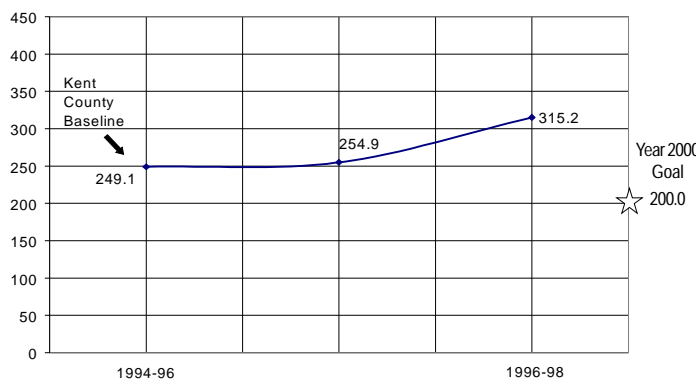
The Community HealthWatch report cards are developed by the Kent County Health Department to present health information that is being monitored by Healthy Kent 2000, a community health committee dedicated to improving our county's health. This report card focuses on AIDS and Sexually Transmitted Infections. Although reaching these goals may take beyond the Year 2000, efforts are being made today to impact the social, environmental, and behavioral factors that contribute to these problems.

AIDS: New Case Rate



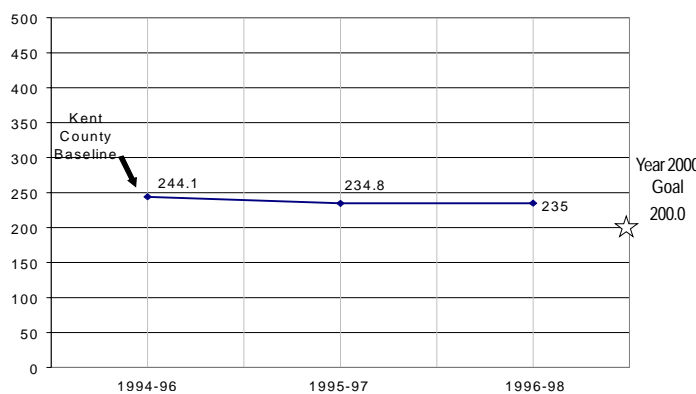
The rate of new cases of **AIDS** has declined approximately 30% since the early 1990's due in large part to new and effective medical treatments for HIV, the virus that causes AIDS. While there has also been a decrease in the number of HIV cases reported, prevention of HIV continues to be a priority.

Chlamydia: New Case Rate



The increase in the new case rate of **Chlamydia** may be partially explained by better reporting of the disease by health care providers, and improved tests that are more sensitive in detecting the disease. In addition, increased awareness among providers and in the community has likely contributed to an increase in the number of people being tested.

Gonorrhea: New Case Rate



Consistent with national trends, the rate of new cases of **Gonorrhea** has declined nearly 50%, from 467 per 100,000 in 1990 to 244 per 100,000 in 1994-96, and has remained relatively stable since.

All rates reported are three year averages of cases per 100,000 Kent County residents.