

An Overview of HIV in Texas: 2021

Texas Department of State Health Services HIV/STD Program

The Big Picture

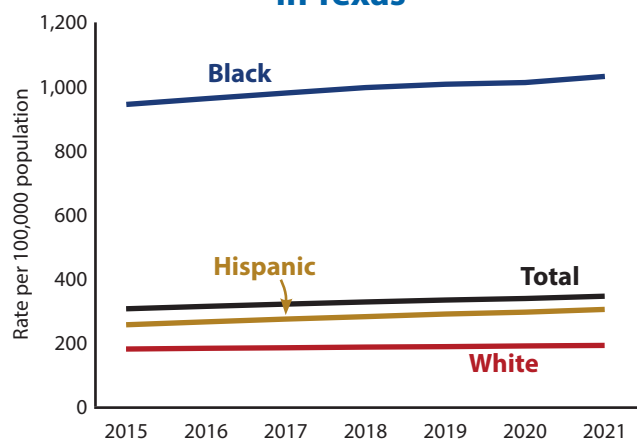
Advances in medical care have enabled people living with HIV (PLWH) to live healthier and longer lives. The percent of deaths per year caused by HIV/AIDS among PLWH has decreased by 15 percent over the last eight years, from 62 percent to 47 percent. During the same period, the annual number of new HIV diagnoses has remained relatively stable at about 4,400. As a result, the number of PLWH in Texas has steadily increased from about 74,000 in 2012 to over 102,000 in 2021.

Despite the advancements already made, there are always improvements that can be made to reduce new HIV transmissions and improve the lives of PLWH by increasing testing, linkage to and retention in HIV care, and viral suppression. An estimated 16 percent of Texans are living with HIV but have not yet been diagnosed.

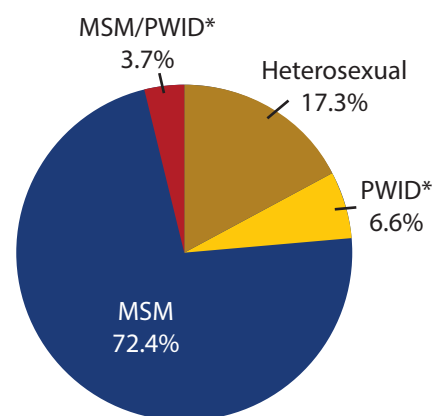
How Do People Get HIV in Texas?

Most the new HIV diagnoses in Texas were among men who have sex with men (MSM). The percent of newly diagnosed MSM in Texas has increased from 68 percent in 2012 to 72 percent in 2021.

Rate of People Living with HIV in Texas



New HIV Diagnoses by Transmission Category in Texas, 2021



*PWID - people who inject drugs



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FACTS TO CONSIDER

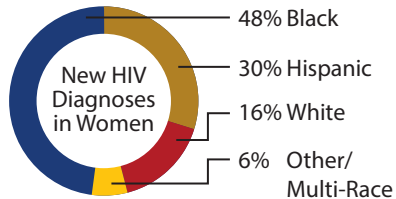
How many Texans are living with HIV?

1 in every 287

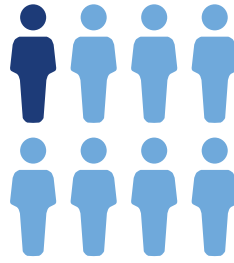
Black Texans: 1 in 98

Hispanic Texans: 1 in 331

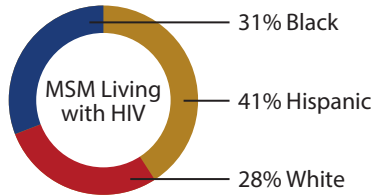
White Texans: 1 in 517



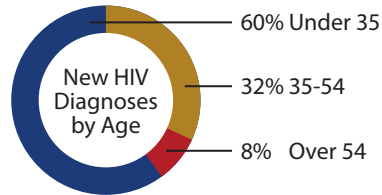
Black women represent 12.6 percent of the female population in Texas. However they accounted for 48 percent of new HIV diagnoses among women.



Almost one in eight MSM in Texas are living with HIV.



Black and Hispanic MSM account for the majority of new HIV diagnoses and PLWH among MSM.



In 2021, 60 percent of new HIV diagnoses were among those under 35 years of age.

Almost three in four new HIV diagnoses in Texas are among men who have sex with men.

Men and Hispanic Texans are most likely to test late in their HIV infection.

In 2021, about one in four people diagnosed with HIV did not receive medical care for their HIV infection.

Treating HIV and Preventing Transmission

Early diagnosis and effective treatment of HIV are important for reducing new HIV transmission. Routine HIV screening for all persons seeking health care helps identify PLWH earlier by removing barriers to testing. Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) and non-occupational post-exposure prophylaxis (nPEP) are effective at preventing transmission of HIV for people at increased risk.

PLWH are less likely to transmit HIV when effective treatment lowers the amount of virus in their bodies. Removing barriers to testing and care improves health outcomes for PLWH, saves money, and further reduces the risk of HIV transmission. Client and structural-level interventions aim to increase client stability and reduce barriers to access HIV prevention and care services

Free and low-cost testing and medical care for HIV are available across Texas. The Texas HIV Medication Program and the Ryan White Program connect PLWH with medical care and treatment. Many agencies provide services in both English and Spanish.

DSHS HIV/STD Program

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dshs.texas.gov/hivstd

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