HIV and African American Gay and Bisexual Men

OF THE 37,832 NEW HIV DIAGNOSES IN THE US AND DEPENDENT AREAS* IN 2018, 9,756 WERE AMONG ADULT AND ADOLESCENT BLACK/AFRICAN AMERICAN† GAY AND BISEXUAL MEN.‡ **

BLACK/AFRICAN AMERICAN GAY AND BISEXUAL MEN MADE UP 37% OF HIV DIAGNOSES AMONG ALL GAY AND BISEXUAL MEN. 3 OUT OF 4 BLACK/AFRICAN AMERICAN GAY AND BISEXUAL MEN WHO RECEIVED AN HIV DIAGNOSIS WERE AGED 13 TO 34

New HIV Diagnoses Among Gay and Bisexual Men in the US and Dependent Areas By Age and Race/Ethnicity, 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
<th>White</th>
<th>Black/African American</th>
<th>Hispanic/Latino</th>
<th>Asian</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13–24</td>
<td>3,311</td>
<td>1,242</td>
<td>304</td>
<td>127</td>
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<tr>
<td>25–34</td>
<td>2,452</td>
<td>4,261</td>
<td>304</td>
<td>127</td>
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<tr>
<td>35–44</td>
<td>1,373</td>
<td>1,570</td>
<td>304</td>
<td>127</td>
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<tr>
<td>45–54</td>
<td>1,223</td>
<td>911</td>
<td>304</td>
<td>127</td>
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<tr>
<td>55 and older</td>
<td>960</td>
<td>353</td>
<td>304</td>
<td>127</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Subpopulations representing 2% or less of HIV diagnoses among gay and bisexual men are not reflected in this chart. Hispanics/Latinos can be of any race.

From 2010 to 2017, HIV diagnoses remained stable overall among black/African American gay and bisexual men.† But trends varied by age:

- **Black/African American gay and bisexual men by age‡:**
  - 13 to 24: down 11%
  - 25 to 34: up 42%
  - 35 to 44: down 21%
  - 45 to 54: down 36%
  - 55 and older: stable

* American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, the Republic of Palau, and the US Virgin Islands.
† Black refers to people having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa, including immigrants from the Caribbean and South and Latin America. African American is a term often used for Americans of African descent with ancestry in North America. Individuals may self-identify as either, both, or choose another identity altogether. This fact sheet uses African American, unless referencing surveillance data.
‡ Includes infections attributed to male-to-male sexual contact and injection drug use (men who reported both risk factors).
** This fact sheet uses the term gay and bisexual men to represent gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men.
†† In 50 states and the District of Columbia.
Around 1.1 million people are living with HIV in the US.† People with HIV need to know their HIV status so they can take medicine to treat HIV. Taking HIV medicine as prescribed can make the level of virus in their body very low (called viral suppression) or even undetectable.

For every 100 black/African American gay and bisexual men with HIV in 2016:***

- 75 received some HIV care
- 59 were retained in care
- 57 were virally suppressed

A person with HIV who takes HIV medicine as prescribed and gets and stays virally suppressed or undetectable can stay healthy and has effectively no risk of sexually transmitting HIV to HIV-negative partners.

What places some African American gay and bisexual men at higher risk?

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Delay in Linkage to HIV Medical Care</th>
<th>Lower Viral Suppression Percentages</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Not all African American gay and bisexual men with newly and previously diagnosed HIV are linked to care within 90 days of the diagnosis.</td>
<td>African American gay and bisexual men have lower percentages of viral suppression than gay and bisexual men of other races/ethnicities.</td>
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<th>Socioeconomic Factors</th>
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<td>Issues such as limited access to quality health care, lower income, and education may place some African American gay and bisexual men at higher risk for HIV.</td>
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<th>Stigma</th>
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<td>Stigma, homophobia, and discrimination may affect whether African American gay and bisexual men seek or receive high-quality health services.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

How is CDC making a difference?

- Collecting and analyzing data and monitoring HIV trends.
- Supporting community organizations that increase access to HIV testing and care.
- Conducting prevention research and providing guidance to those working in HIV prevention.
- Promoting testing, prevention, and treatment through the Let’s Stop HIV Together campaign.
- Supporting health departments and community-based organizations by funding HIV prevention work and providing technical assistance.

Reduce Your Risk

- Not having sex
- Using condoms
- Not sharing syringes
- Taking medicine to prevent or treat HIV

HIV IS A VIRUS THAT ATTACKS THE BODY’S IMMUNE SYSTEM.

It is usually spread by anal or vaginal sex or sharing syringes with a person who has HIV. The only way to know you have HIV is to be tested. Everyone aged 13-64 should be tested at least once, and people at high risk should be tested at least once a year. Ask your doctor, or visit gettested.cdc.gov to find a testing site. Without treatment, HIV can make a person very sick or may even cause death. If you have HIV, start treatment as soon as possible to stay healthy and help protect your partners.

For More Information Call 1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636) Visit www.cdc.gov/hiv

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† Includes infections attributed male-to-male sexual contact only. Among black/African American men with HIV infection attributed to male-to-male sexual contact and injection drug use, 94% knew they had HIV.

‡‡ In 41 states and the District of Columbia.

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