

Decreasing Deaths Among People with HIV

Diagnose and Treat: Save Lives

15,500

Around 15,500 people with HIV died from any cause in 2018.

↓ 37%

Death rates* among people with HIV decreased by about 37% from 2010 to 2018.

1 in 3

About 1 in 3 deaths among people with HIV were due to HIV-related causes in 2017.

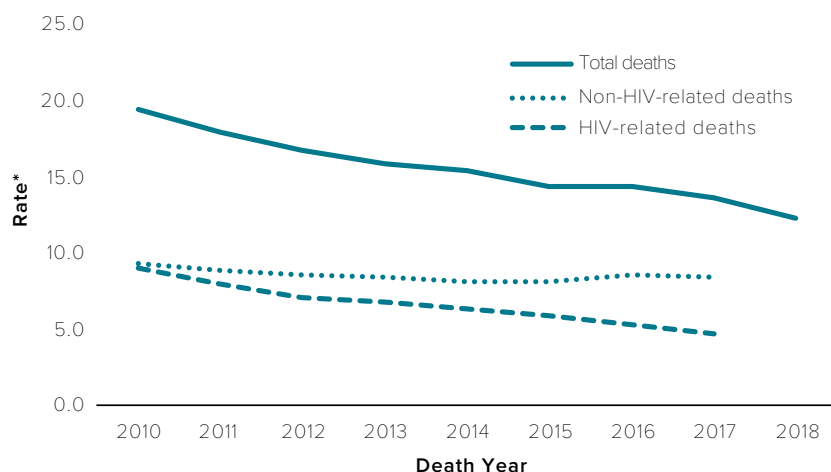
Overview

About 1.2 million people are living with HIV in the United States. Improvements in HIV care and treatment have made it possible for people with HIV to live nearly as long as people who don't have HIV. Yet, in 2017 HIV was among the 10 leading causes of death for some groups. To decrease HIV-related deaths, people need to know their HIV status so they can take medicine to treat HIV and get the virus under control† if they have it. People who have HIV and control the virus can live long, healthy lives and have effectively no risk of sexually transmitting HIV.

* Age-adjusted rates per 1,000 people with HIV were calculated using the US 2000 standard population.

† HIV that is under control or virally suppressed means less than 200 copies of HIV per milliliter of blood.

Among people with HIV, deaths from all causes decreased mainly because of declines in HIV-related deaths.



Problem

HIV-related deaths are preventable but persist.

- From 2010 to 2017, rates of HIV-related deaths decreased overall for people with HIV, yet differences continue to exist for certain populations.
- In 2017, by race/ethnicity, Black/African American people had a higher rate of HIV-related deaths compared to White and Hispanic/Latino people.
- In 2017, by US geographic region, rates of HIV-related deaths were higher among people in the South compared to other regions.
- In 2017, populations with higher rates of HIV-related deaths also had lower proportions of individuals with their virus under control.
- Other research suggests that social and structural factors, such as poverty, unemployment, lack of health insurance or access to care, and HIV-related stigma could affect timely diagnosis and access to treatment and contribute to higher rates of HIV-related deaths among Black/African American people and people in the South.

