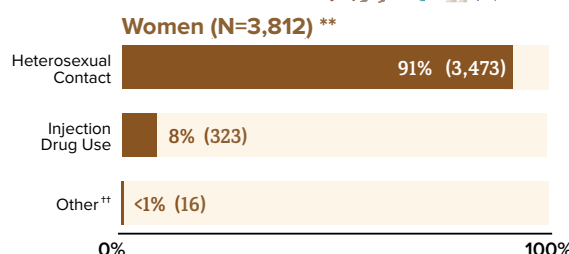
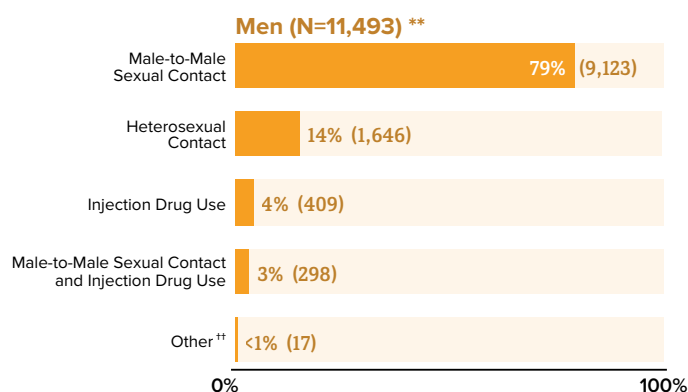


HIV and African American People

42% Black/African American* people made up 42% (15,305)[†] of the **36,801 new HIV diagnoses** in the US and dependent areas[‡] in 2019.

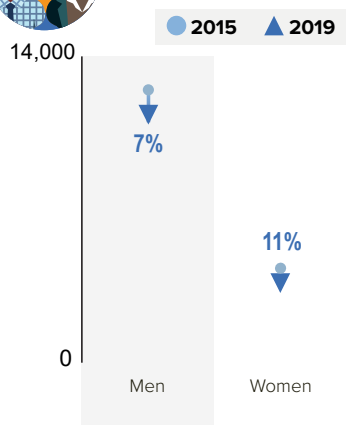
Among Black/African American people, most new HIV diagnoses were among men.



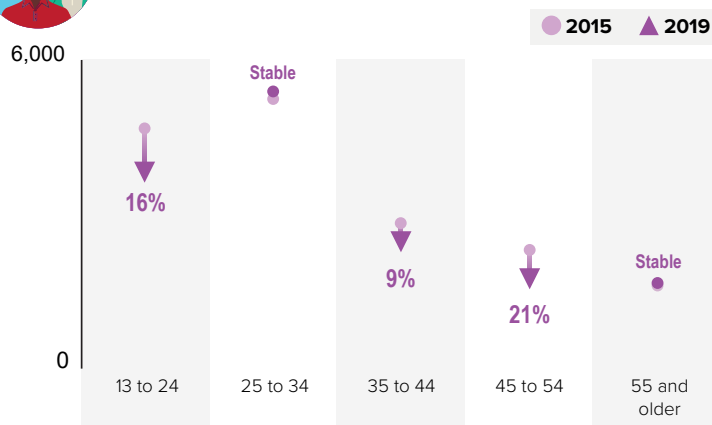
Progress has been made with reducing HIV diagnoses among most age groups, with HIV diagnoses decreasing 8% among Black/African American people overall from 2015 to 2019.



Trends by Sex



Trends by Age^{‡‡}



* *Black* refers to people having origins in any of the Black racial groups of Africa. *African American* is a term often used for people of African descent with ancestry in North America. This fact sheet uses *African American*, unless referencing surveillance data.

[†] Adult and adolescent Black/African American people aged 13 and older.

[‡] American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, the Republic of Palau, and the US Virgin Islands.

^{**} Based on sex assigned at birth and includes transgender people. For more information about transgender people, visit www.cdc.gov/hiv/group/gender/transgender.

^{††} Includes perinatal exposure, blood transfusion, hemophilia, and risk factors not reported or not identified.

^{‡‡} Does not include *perinatal* and *other* transmission categories.



Black/African American people who don't know they have HIV can't get the care and treatment they need to stay healthy.

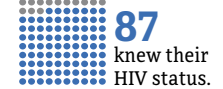


In 2019, an estimated **1.2 MILLION PEOPLE** had HIV. Of those, **479,300 were Black/African American people.*****

For every 100 people with HIV

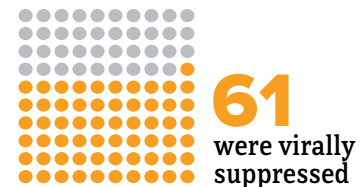
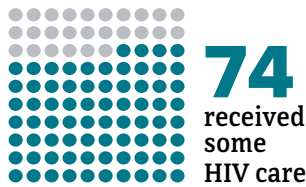


For every 100 Black/African American people with HIV



It is important for Black/African American people to know their HIV status so they can take medicine to treat HIV if they have the virus. Taking HIV medicine every day can make the viral load undetectable. People who get and keep an undetectable viral load (or remain virally suppressed) can stay healthy for many years and have effectively no risk of transmitting HIV to their sex partners.

Compared to all people with diagnosed HIV, Black/African American people have lower viral suppression rates. More work is needed to increase these rates. For every **100 Black/African American people with diagnosed HIV** in 2019:†††



For comparison, for every **100 people overall** with diagnosed HIV, **76 received some HIV care**, **58 were retained in care**, and **66 were virally suppressed**.

There are several challenges that place some African American people at higher risk for HIV.

Viral Suppression



African American people have lower percentages of viral suppression compared to all people with HIV. Getting and keeping an undetectable viral load (or staying virally suppressed) can prevent transmission to others.

Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs)



African American people are disproportionately affected by some other STDs. Having another STD can increase a person's chance of getting or transmitting HIV.

Racism, HIV Stigma, and Homophobia



Racism, HIV stigma, and homophobia can negatively impact risk-taking behaviors, knowledge of HIV status, HIV care, and other needed services for many African American people.

Social and Economic Issues



African American people experiencing poverty may find it harder to get HIV prevention and care services.

How is CDC making a difference for African American people?



Collecting and analyzing data and monitoring HIV trends, including among African American people.



Supporting community organizations that increase access to HIV testing and care for African American people.



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.



Strengthening successful HIV prevention programs in African American communities and supporting new efforts funded through the *Ending the HIV Epidemic in the U.S.* initiative.

*** In 50 states and the District of Columbia.

††† In 44 states and the District of Columbia.

For more information about HIV surveillance data, read the "Technical Notes" in the HIV surveillance reports at www.cdc.gov/hiv/library/reports/hiv-surveillance.html.

For data on HIV risk behaviors and barriers to HIV care, visit www.cdc.gov/hiv/group/raciaethnic/africanamericans.