**HIV Incidence Estimate Facts**

**Incidence** is defined as the number of new cases of a disease that occur in a population over a certain period of time.

The Serologic Testing Algorithm for Recent HIV Seroconversion (STARHS) method uses a laboratory test (the BED HIV-1 Capture Enzyme for 2010-2013 and the Avidity Assay for 2014) to classify newly diagnosed infections as either long-standing or recent (occurring within approximately the past 5 months).

The STARHS result of the first positive blood sample along with demographic data, HIV testing history and antiretroviral use are used to estimate HIV incidence.

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**2014 Incidence Estimation for Virginia (13+ years of age)**

**Figure 1. Estimated Rate of New HIV Infections in the United States and Virginia, 2010-2014**

*2010 National data are the most recent data released by the CDC. Comparisons with later years should be interpreted with caution.*

**Figure 2. Estimated Rate of New HIV Infections in Virginia by sex, race/ethnicity, and age, 2014**

**Figure 3. Estimated Rate of New HIV Infections in Virginia by transmission risk, 2014**

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**References**

Between 2010-2014:

- The number of annual HIV infections for adults in Virginia remained relatively stable with new infections ranging from 732-916 each year; Yearly incidence estimations did not differ across years at a statistically significant level.

- Males accounted for 75-83% of estimated new cases. In 2014, the estimated new infection rate per 100,000 for males was 5 times that of females.

- Blacks represented 19% of the adult population in Virginia; but accounted for a range of 55-65% of new infections.

- Approximately 63-71% of all new infections were estimated to occur in the 13-34 year old population.

- The estimated number of new infections in men who have sex with men (MSM) increased; while it appeared that transmission by other means decreased (e.g., injection drug use, heterosexual contact).

†Incidence data are processed by the CDC and finalized datasets are returned to states. Incidence data for 2011-2014 have yet to be released at the time of this report.