



New HIV Diagnoses

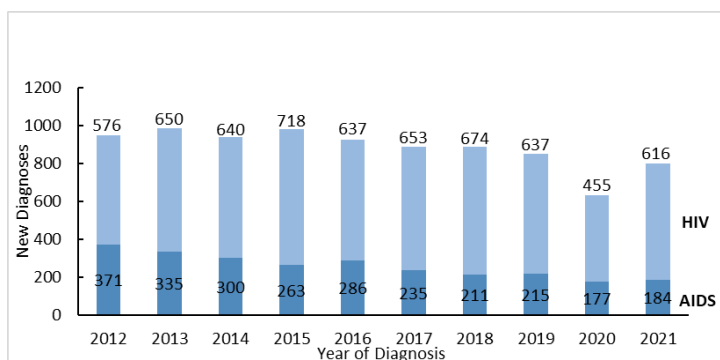
In 2021, there were 36,136 new HIV diagnoses in the United States (US).¹ From 2017 to 2021, the number of new diagnoses in the US decreased by 7%.¹ This decline in new diagnoses suggests a decrease in new infections but may be due to lower rates of testing and medical appointments during the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic.

Nationally, men who have sex with men (MSM) are the population most affected with HIV, accounting for 67% of new diagnoses in 2021.¹ Among MSM, new diagnoses were consistent across Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino and Asian populations. In 2021, Black/African American people accounted for 40% of new HIV diagnoses.¹ Geographically, rates of HIV are highest among metropolitan areas with populations of more than 500,000 people. In the U.S. the South has the highest number of people living with HIV, but the rates (cases per 100,000 people), are highest in the Northeast.¹

NEW HIV DIAGNOSES IN VIRGINIA

In 2021, Virginia had 800 newly diagnosed cases of HIV and AIDS. This was a substantial increase from 2020, but a decrease from years prior to 2020, in which the COVID-19 pandemic may have impacted testing services. In 2021, VDH received reports of 616 new HIV diagnoses and 184 new AIDS diagnoses. The impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic may have led to lower testing and diagnoses.

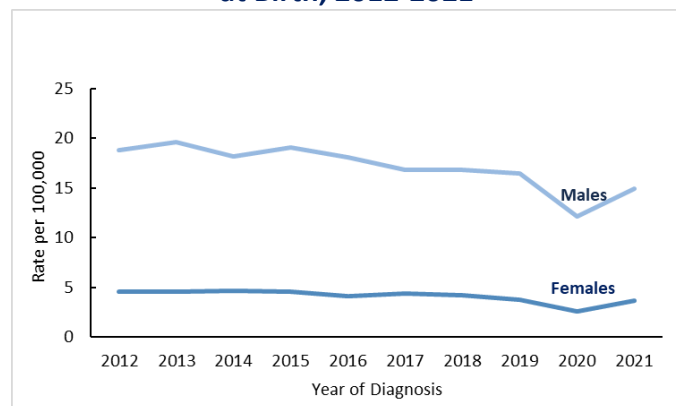
Figure 1: Newly Diagnoses HIV and AIDS Cases in Virginia, 2012-2021



By Sex Assigned at Birth

In 2021, the rate of new HIV diagnoses among males was 15.0 per 100,000 and among females the rate of new HIV diagnoses was 3.7 per 100,000. In 2012, the rate of new HIV cases among men was 18.8 per 100,000 and 4.6 per 100,000 females. The rates in both men and women decreased in the last 10 years but increased from 2020.

Figure 2: Newly Diagnosed Cases by Sex Assigned at Birth, 2012-2021



By Age At Diagnosis

The rate of new HIV diagnoses was highest among the 25-34 age group in 2021, with a rate of 26.2 per 100,000 people, an increase from the 2012 rate of 24.5 per 100,000 people. Across all other age groups there was a decrease in rates from 2012 to 2021 including those aged 35-44 with a 13.9 per 100,000 in 2021 and 17.5 per 100,000 in 2012.

Figure 3: Newly Diagnosed HIV Cases by Age at Diagnosis, 2012 versus 2021

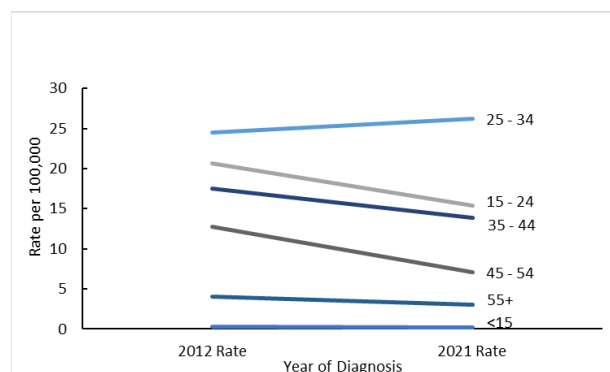
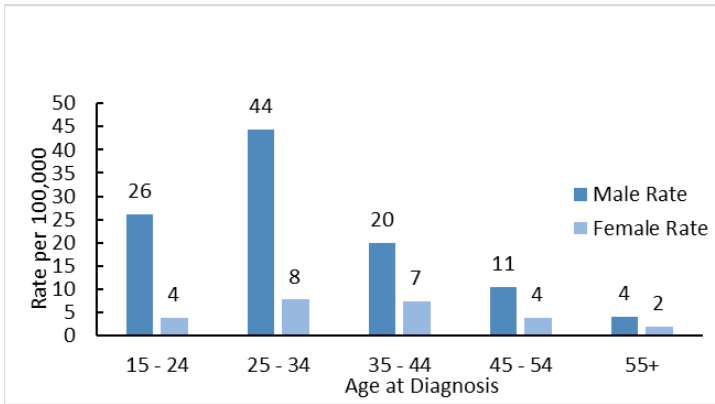


Figure 4: Newly Diagnosed HIV Cases by Age at Diagnosis and Sex Assigned at Birth, 2021

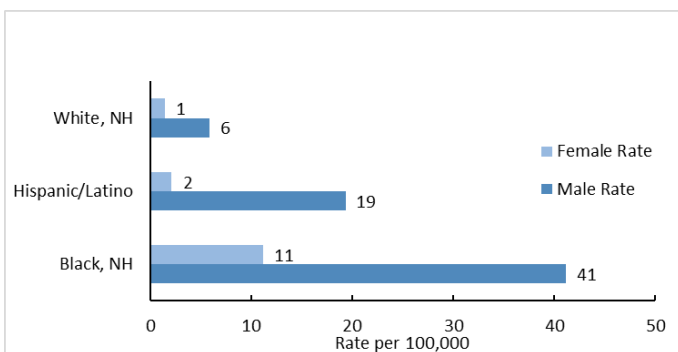


The highest rate of new diagnoses in 2021 was among males aged 25-34 with a rate of 44.0 per 100,000 new diagnoses. This was then followed by a rate of 26.0 per 100,000 of males aged 15-24, and 20.0 per 100,000 of males aged 35-44. The highest rate among females occurred in the 25-35 group (8.0 per 100,000 people) and females aged 35-44 (7.0 per 100,000 people). Males aged 25-34 were six times more likely to be diagnosed with HIV than females of the same age group.

By Race/Ethnicity

In 2021, Black/non-Hispanic men had the highest number of newly diagnosed HIV cases with 344 new diagnoses (41.0 per 100,000 people). White males accounted for 173 new cases (rate of 6.0 per 100,000 people), Hispanic/Latino males accounted for 88 cases (19.0 per 100,000 persons) and Asian males accounted for 16 new diagnoses.

Figure 5: Newly Diagnosed HIV Cases by Race and Sex Assigned at Birth, 2021

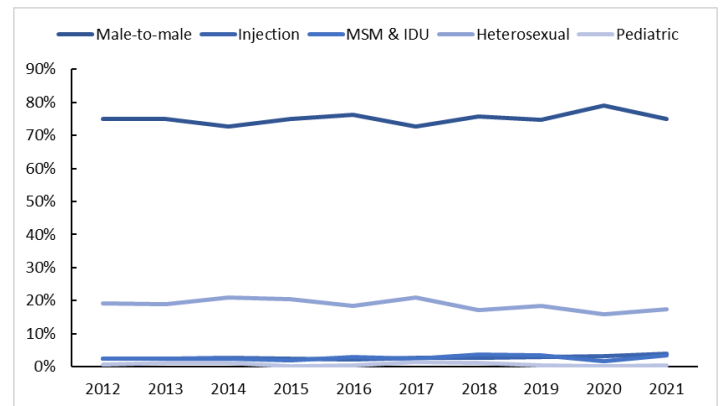


In 2021, Black/African American females were much more likely to be diagnosed with HIV than their White counterparts and Hispanic/Latina females were two times more likely to be diagnosed than White females. Among the male population in Virginia, Black males were over six times more likely to be diagnosed than White males and two times more likely to be diagnosed than Hispanic/Latino males. The greatest disparities in gender were among Hispanic/Latino males, almost ten times more likely to be diagnosed with HIV than their female counterpart, followed by White males, six times more likely to be diagnosed with HIV than their female counterparts, and Black/African American males were four times more likely to be diagnosed with HIV than their female counterpart.

By Transmission Risk

HIV transmission was estimated using a multiple imputation (MI) process provided by the CDC which probabilistically assigned those who did not report or identify a specific risk and estimated a potential risk factor for transmission. Between 2012 and 2021, an average of 23.96% of reported HIV cases had no reported transmission risk.

Figure 6: Newly Diagnosed HIV Cases by Transmission Risk 2012-2021



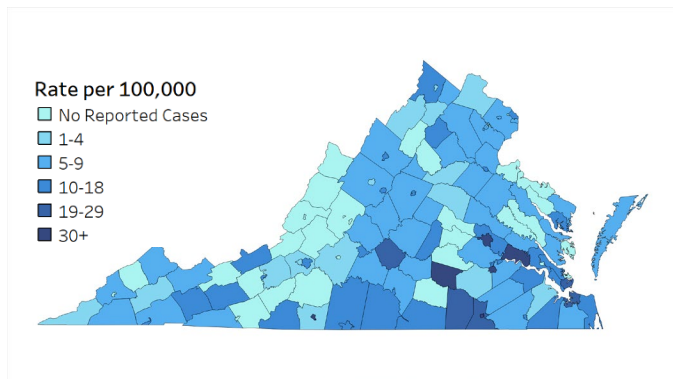
From 2012 to 2021, the percent of newly diagnosed cases attributed to male-to-male sexual contact remained very stable with 74.97% in 2012, and 74.88% in 2021. There was an increase from 2012 to 2021 for injection drug use (IDU) from 2.54% to 3.95% and an increase from 2.54% to

3.32% for persons identifying both injection drug use and male-to-male sexual contact.

By Health Region

Virginia is divided into five health regions: Central, Eastern, Northern, Northwest, and Southwest. In 2021, the rate of new diagnosis was highest in the Central and Eastern regions at 13.2 and 13.7 per 100,000 persons, respectively. The lowest diagnosis rates occurred in the Northern and Southwest regions with 6.2 and 6.7 per 100,000 persons, respectively.

Figure 7: Newly Diagnosed HIV Cases by City/County, 2021



REFERENCES

1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *HIV in the United States: Basic Statistics*. <https://www.cdc.gov/hiv/basics/statistics.html>. Accessed July 2023.