New HIV Diagnoses

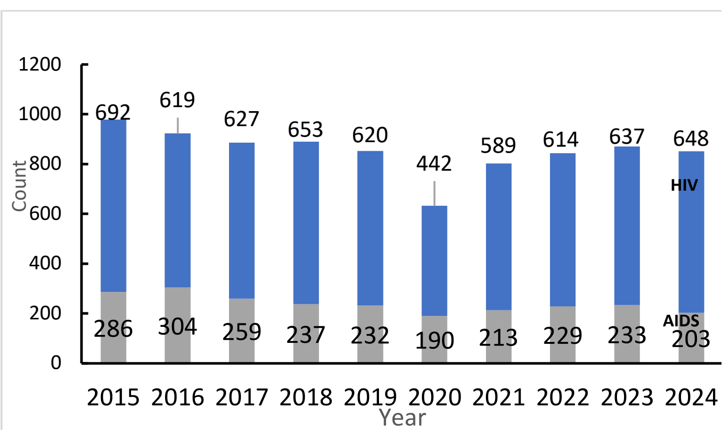
In 2023, the CDC estimated there were over 39,000 new HIV diagnoses in the United States (US)[1]. From 2018 to 2022, the total number of new diagnoses in the US decreased by 12%[1]. This decline may be due to the COVID-19 pandemic, during which fewer HIV tests were conducted than in previous and subsequent years.

Nationally, male-to-male sexual contact (MMSC) was attributed to 66% of new diagnoses in 2023[1]. Among MMSC, new diagnoses were consistent across Black/African American, White, Hispanic/Latino, and Asian populations. In 2023, Black/African American people accounted for 38% of new HIV diagnoses[1]. Geographically, rates of HIV are highest in metropolitan areas with populations of more than 500,000 people. In 2023, 51% of new infections diagnosed nationally were in the South.

NEW HIV DIAGNOSES IN VIRGINIA

In 2024, Virginia reported 851 newly diagnosed cases of HIV and AIDS, a 1.5% decrease from 2023 (n=865). The 851 new diagnoses were comprised of 648 new HIV diagnoses and 203 new AIDS diagnoses.

Figure 1: Newly Diagnosed HIV and AIDS Cases in Virginia, 2015-2024

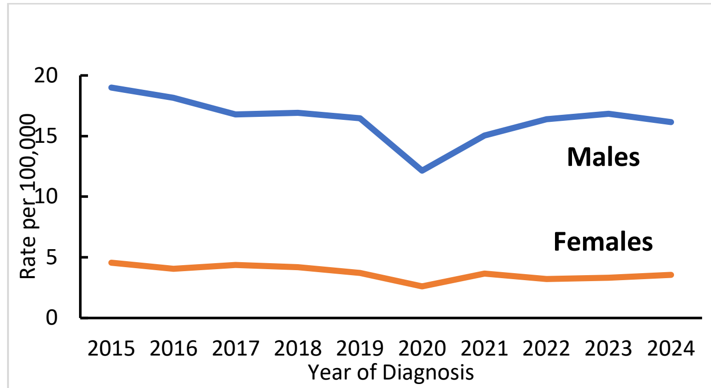


By Sex Assigned at Birth

In 2024, the rate of new HIV diagnoses among males was 16.2 per 100,000, compared to 19.1 in 2015. The rate among females was 3.5 per 100,000 in 2024 and 4.5 in 2015.

Overall, the rates in both men and women decreased over the last ten years but have remained steady since 2022 (Figure 2).

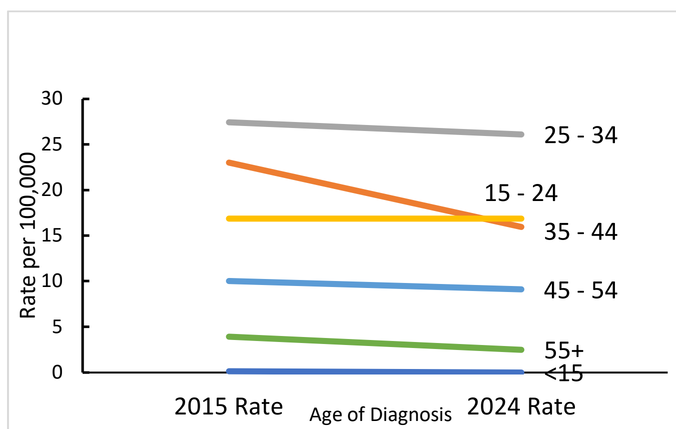
Figure 2: Newly Diagnosed Cases by Sex Assigned at Birth, 2015-2024



By Age at Diagnosis

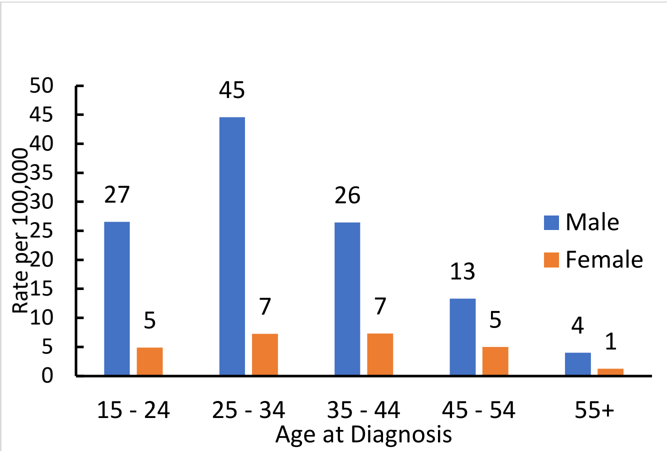
The rate of new HIV diagnoses was highest in the 25–34-year-old age group in 2024 (26.1 per 100,000); a decrease from 2015 (27.5 per 100,000). Across all other age groups, the rates fluctuated from 2015 to 2022.

Figure 3: Newly Diagnosed HIV Cases by Age at Diagnosis, 2015 versus 2024



In 2024, VDH reported the highest rates of new diagnoses among males aged 25-34 (45 per 100,000), males aged 15-24 (27 per 100,000), and males aged 35-44 (26 per 100,000). The highest rates among females were reported among those aged 35-44 (7 per 100,000) and those aged 25-34 (7 per 100,000). Males aged 25-34 were 6.4 times more likely to be diagnosed with HIV than females of the same age group.

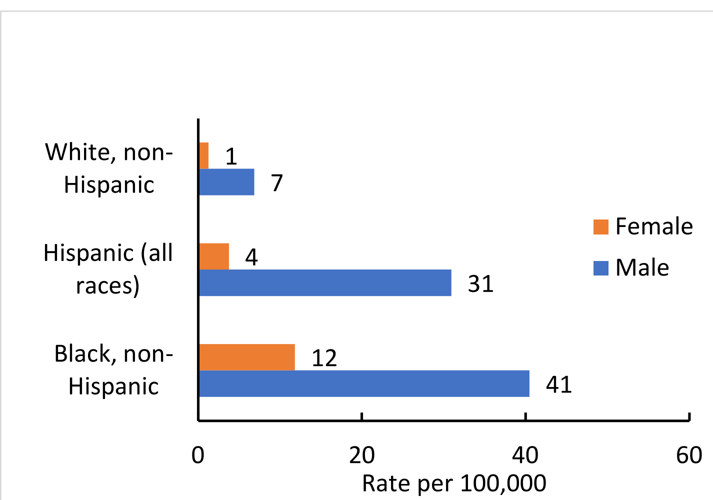
Figure 4: Newly Diagnosed HIV Cases by Age at Diagnosis and Sex Assigned at Birth, 2024



By Race/Ethnicity

In 2024, Black/African American non-Hispanic men made up the highest number of newly diagnosed HIV cases, with 325 new diagnoses (a rate of 20 per 100,000). White males accounted for 176 new diagnoses (a rate of 3 per 100,000), Hispanic/Latino men accounted for 176 new diagnoses (a rate of 15 per 100,000), and Asian men accounted for 16 new diagnoses. Among males in Virginia, Black/African American males were six times more likely to be diagnosed than White males and 1.4 times more likely to be diagnosed than Hispanic/Latino males.

Figure 5: Newly Diagnosed HIV Cases by Race and Sex Assigned at Birth, 2024



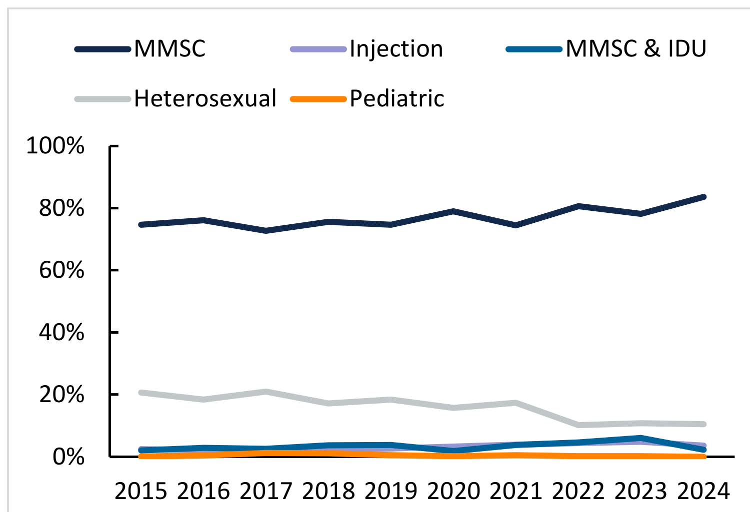
In 2024, Black/African American females were six times more likely to be diagnosed with HIV than White females, and Hispanic/Latina females were more than twice as likely to be diagnosed than White females.

Hispanic/Latino males were 7.5 times more likely to be diagnosed with HIV than Hispanic/Latino females. White males were three times more likely to be diagnosed with HIV than White females. Black/African American males were three times more likely to be diagnosed with HIV than Black/African American females.

By Transmission Risk

For people diagnosed with HIV who did not report a risk factor, transmission risk was estimated using a multiple imputation (MI) process provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). It assigned those with no risk reported a highly probable risk factor for transmission. Between 2015 and 2024, an average of 27.2% of reported HIV cases had no reported transmission risk documented.

Figure 5: Newly Diagnosed HIV Cases by Transmission Risk 2015-2024

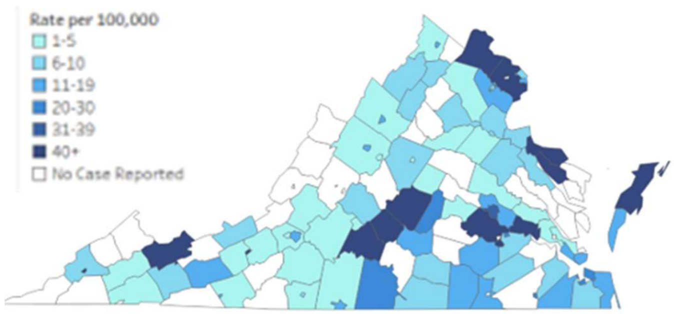


The percentage of newly diagnosed cases attributed to MMSC increased from 74.7% in 2015 to 83.6% in 2024. Between 2015 to 2024, reported injection drug use (IDU) increased from 2.5% to 3.6%. An increase from 2% to 2.3% of people reporting IDU along with MMSC risk was also identified during this period.

By Health Region

Virginia is divided into five health regions: Central, Eastern, Northern, Northwest, and Southwest. In 2024, the rate of new diagnoses was highest in the Central and Eastern regions, at 15.0 and 14.6 per 100,000 people, respectively. The lowest diagnosis rates occurred in the Northwest and Southwest regions, with 7 per 100,000 and 6.6 per 100,000 people, respectively.

Figure 7: Newly Diagnosed HIV Cases by City/County, 2024



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1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *HIV Diagnoses, Deaths, and Prevalence: 2025 Update.* https://www.cdc.gov/hiv-data/nhss/hiv-diagnoses-deaths-and-prevalence-2025.html. Accessed August 2025.