

HIV and Transgender People

HIV Diagnoses in the US, 2009-2014

2,351 TRANSGENDER PEOPLE RECEIVED AN HIV DIAGNOSIS. OF THESE:

84% WERE TRANSGENDER WOMEN

15% WERE TRANSGENDER MEN*

ABOUT HALF LIVED IN THE SOUTH



Transgender: people whose gender identity or expression is different from their sex assigned at birth.



Gender identity: person's internal understanding of their own gender.



Gender expression: person's outward presentation of their gender (example, how they dress).

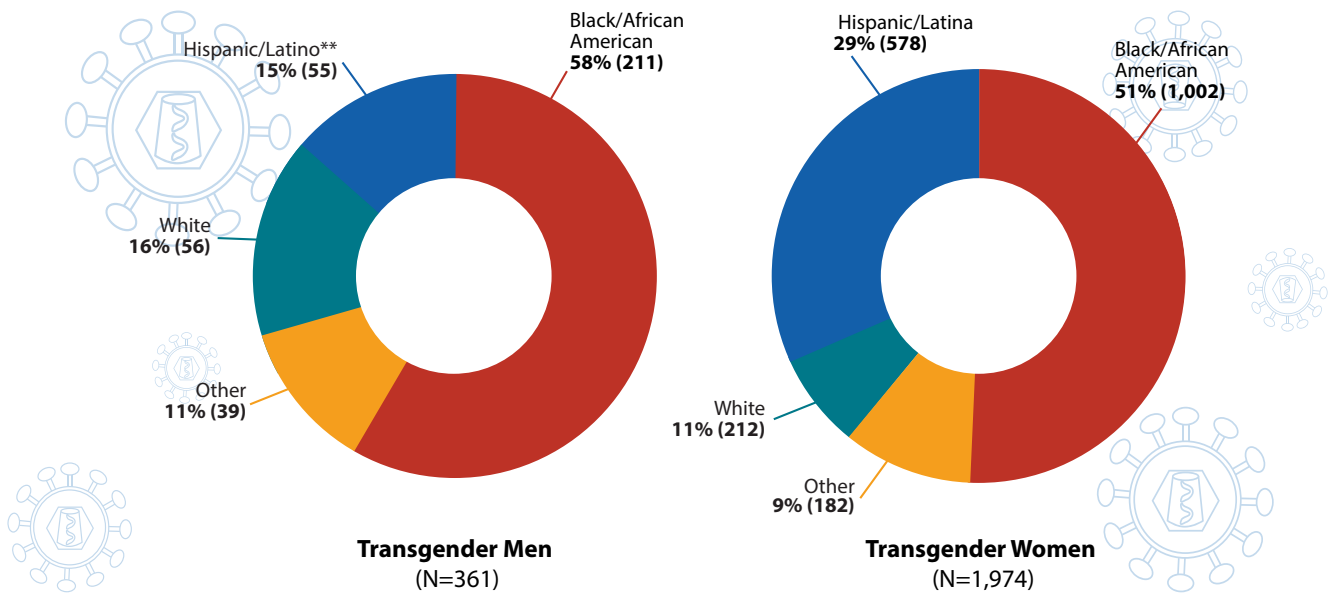


Transgender women: people who were assigned the male sex at birth but identify as women.



Transgender men: people who were assigned the female sex at birth but identify as men.

HIV Diagnoses Among Transgender People in the United States by Race/Ethnicity, 2009-2014



* Less than 1% had another gender identity
** Hispanics/Latinos can be of any race



Around 1.1 million people are living with HIV in the US. People living with HIV need to know their HIV status so they can take medicine to treat HIV. Taking HIV medicine as prescribed can make the level of virus in their body very low (called viral suppression) or even undetectable. A person living with HIV who gets and stays virally suppressed or undetectable can stay healthy and has effectively no risk of sexually transmitting HIV to HIV-negative partners.

Why are transgender people at higher risk?

- Some things that may put transgender people at higher risk for getting or transmitting HIV include multiple sexual partners, anal or vaginal sex without condoms or medicines to prevent or treat HIV, and sharing syringes to inject hormones or drugs.
- Many transgender people face stigma, discrimination, social rejection, and exclusion. These factors may affect their well-being and put them at increased risk for HIV.
- HIV prevention programs designed for other at-risk groups may not address all the needs of transgender people.
- When health care providers are not sensitive to transgender issues, this can be a barrier for transgender people living with HIV and looking for treatment and care.
- Current HIV testing programs may not be enough to reach transgender women and men.

How is CDC making a difference?

- Conducting prevention research and providing guidance to those working in HIV prevention.
- Supporting health departments and community organizations by funding HIV prevention work for transgender people and providing technical assistance.
- Helping health care providers improve care for transgender people living with HIV.
- Promoting testing, prevention, and treatment through campaigns like *Act Against AIDS*.

Visit www.cdc.gov/hiv for more information about CDC's HIV prevention activities among transgender people.

According to current estimates, around a quarter (22-28%) of transgender women are living with HIV.

An estimated 56% of black transgender women were living with HIV—the highest percentage among all transgender women.

Reduce Your Risk



Not having sex



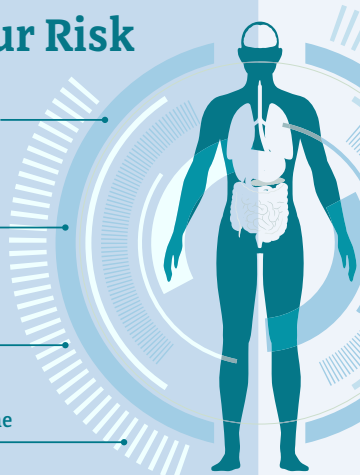
Using condoms



Not sharing needles



Taking medicine to prevent or treat HIV



HIV IS A VIRUS THAT ATTACKS THE BODY'S IMMUNE SYSTEM.

It is usually spread by anal or vaginal sex or sharing needles with a person who is living with HIV. The only way to know you have HIV is to be tested. Everyone aged 13-64 should be tested at least once, and people at high risk should be tested at least once a year. Ask your doctor, or visit gettested.cdc.gov to find a testing site. Without treatment, HIV can make a person very sick or may even cause death. If you are living with HIV, start treatment as soon as possible to stay healthy and help protect your partners.

For More Information

Call 1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636)
Visit www.cdc.gov/hiv