



Massachusetts HIV/AIDS Data Fact Sheet

Who is currently living with HIV/AIDS?

Fast Facts

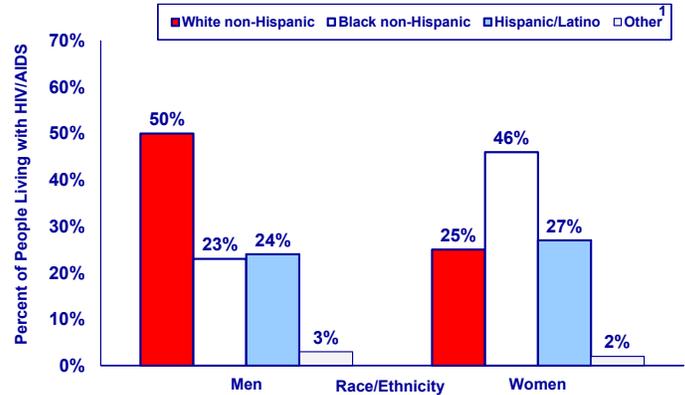
- More people with HIV/AIDS in Massachusetts are staying healthy.
- However, challenges to the achievement of health equity in the prevention, care and treatment of HIV/AIDS remain:
 - Racial/ethnic disparities persist among persons living with HIV/AIDS, with marked differences by reported risk, gender, place of birth and residence in the state when data are analyzed by race and ethnicity.
 - Male-to-male sex accounts for HIV infection risk among the largest proportion (38%) of people living with HIV/AIDS.
 - Undetermined risk is highest among black men living with HIV/AIDS (35%).
 - Injection drug use remains the predominant reported risk among Latinos living with HIV/AIDS.

Overview

On December 31, 2014 there were 19,737 people living with HIV in Massachusetts, and an additional 3,380 residents who were first diagnosed in another state.ⁱ Since the beginning of the epidemic, the total number of people living with HIV/AIDS in Massachusetts, as reported to the MDPH, has increased every year. In the past ten years, it has increased by 29%, while new diagnoses of HIV infection fell by 24% and deaths in persons with HIV infection also declined by 47%.

Among those currently known to be living with HIV/AIDS in Massachusetts, who were first diagnosed in the state, there is considerable diversity by gender, race/ethnicity and other demographic characteristics. For example, while just over half of men living with HIV/AIDS are white (non-Hispanic) (50%), the largest proportion of women living with HIV/AIDS are black (non-Hispanic) (46%) (Figure 1).ⁱⁱ

Figure 1. People Living with HIV/AIDS on December 31, 2014 by Gender and Race/Ethnicity: Massachusetts



¹ Other include Asian/Pacific Islander and American Indian/Alaska Native
Data Source: MDPH HIV/AIDS Surveillance Program, Data as of 1/1/15

While roughly half (53%) of men living with HIV/AIDS were reported with an HIV infection risk of male-to-male sex and 18% had undetermined risk, 34% of women were reported with an HIV infection risk of sex with men of known risk and/or HIV status (heterosexual), and 32% were exposed through sex with men of unknown risk and HIV status (presumed heterosexualⁱⁱⁱ). Reported risk for HIV infection also varies by race/ethnicity. The predominant reported risk among white (non-Hispanic) individuals living with HIV/AIDS is male-to-male sex (60%) and among Hispanic/Latino individuals is injection drug use (IDU) (29%), followed by male-to-male sex (24%). Among black (non-Hispanic) individuals the largest proportion is reported with undetermined risk (24%), followed by presumed heterosexual sex (24%) and heterosexual sex (21%).

Gender and Reported Risk:

- Male-to-male sex and injection drug use are the leading reported risks for HIV infection among all people living with HIV/AIDS, accounting for 38% and 18% of all exposure modes, respectively.

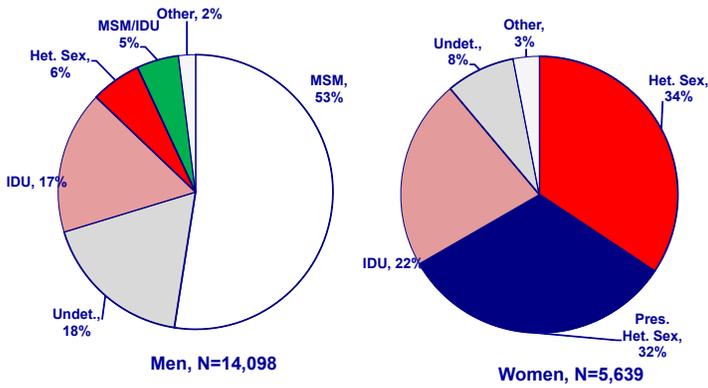




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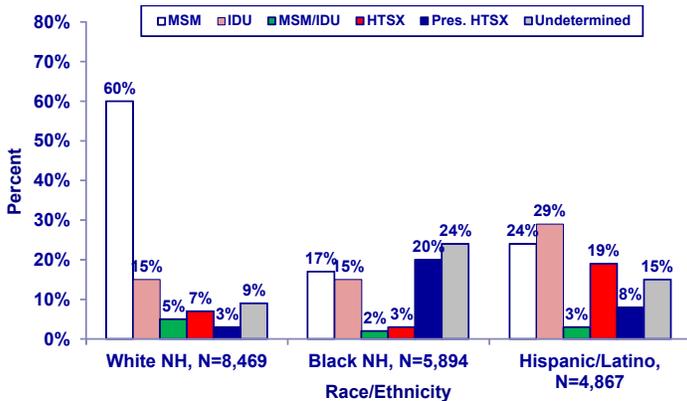
Figure 2. People Living with HIV/AIDS on December 31, 2014 by Gender and Reported Risk: Massachusetts



MSM=Male-to-Male Sex, IDU=Injection Drug Use, Pres.=Presumed, Het. Sex=Heterosexual Sex, Undet.=Undetermined
Data Source: MDPH HIV/AIDS Surveillance Program, Data as of 1/1/15

Race/Ethnicity and Reported Risk:

Figure 3. People Living with HIV/AIDS on December 31, 2014 by Reported Risk and Race/Ethnicity: Massachusetts



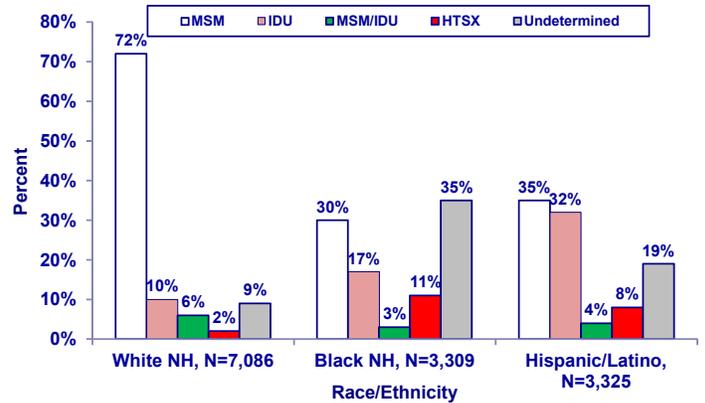
NH= Non-Hispanic, Data Source: MDPH HIV/AIDS Surveillance Program, Data as of 1/1/15

Race/Ethnicity and Reported Risk by Gender:

- Among white (non-Hispanic) men living with HIV/AIDS, male-to-male sex is the primary reported risk for HIV infection, accounting for 72% of HIV infections, followed by injection drug use at 10%; for 9% risk is undetermined (Figure 4).
- Risk is undetermined in 35% of black (non-Hispanic) men living with HIV/AIDS. Among those with a reported risk, male-to-male sex is most frequently reported, accounting for 30% of all HIV infections, followed by injection drug use at 17% and heterosexual sex at 11% of reported risk.

- Among Hispanic/Latino men living with HIV/AIDS, injection drug use and male-to-male sex are the leading reported risks for HIV infection, each accounting for 35% and 32% of HIV infections, respectively; for 18% risk is undetermined.

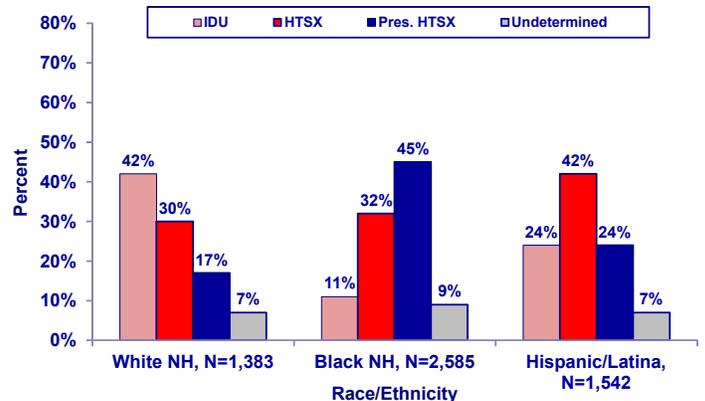
Figure 4. Men Living with HIV/AIDS on December 31, 2014 by Reported Risk and Race/Ethnicity: Massachusetts



NH= Non-Hispanic, Data Source: MDPH HIV/AIDS Surveillance Program, Data as of 1/1/15

- While the predominant reported risk among white (non-Hispanic) women living with HIV/AIDS is injection drug use (42%), the predominant risk among black (non-Hispanic) women is sex with men of unknown risk and HIV status (presumed heterosexual sex, 45%) and among Hispanic/Latina women is heterosexual sex with men of known risk and/or HIV status (42%) (Figure 5).

Figure 5. Women Living with HIV/AIDS on December 31, 2014 by Reported Risk and Race/Ethnicity: Massachusetts



NH= Non-Hispanic, Data Source: MDPH HIV/AIDS Surveillance Program, Data as of 1/1/15



For detailed data tables and technical notes see Appendix
 Massachusetts Department of Public Health Office of HIV/AIDS
 250 Washington St. 3rd Floor Boston, MA 02108
 617-624-5300 FAX 617-624-5399 www.mass.gov/dph/aids





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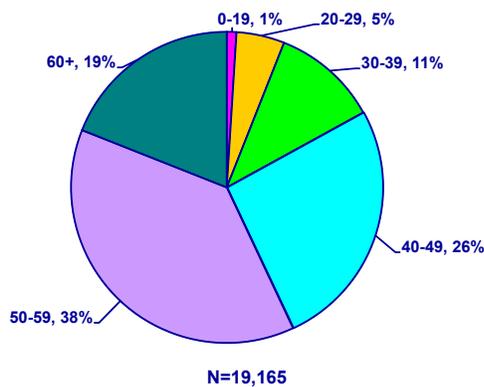
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Place of Birth, Race/Ethnicity and Gender:

- Seventy-one percent of people living with HIV/AIDS in Massachusetts are men and 29% are women.
- Twenty-five percent of people living with HIV/AIDS were born outside the US, 10% were born in Puerto Rico or another US Dependency and 65% were born in the US.
- Among people living with HIV/AIDS who are Asian/Pacific Islander, 78% were born outside the US, compared to 47% of black (non-Hispanic), 27% of Hispanic/Latino and 6% of white (non-Hispanic) individuals. An additional 40% percent of Hispanic/Latino individuals living with HIV/AIDS were born in Puerto Rico or another US Dependency.
- Thirty-six percent of females living with HIV/AIDS were born outside the US, and an additional 12% were born in Puerto Rico or another US Dependency, compared to 21% and 9%, respectively, of males.

Current Age:

Figure 6. People Living with HIV/AIDS on December 31, 2014 by Age: Massachusetts

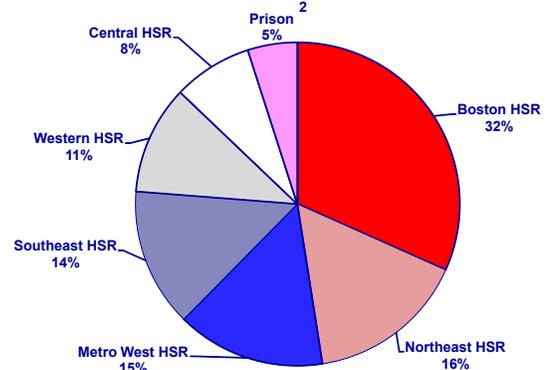


Data Source: MDPH HIV/AIDS Surveillance Program, Data as of 1/1/15

Distribution by Health Service Region (HSR):^{iv}

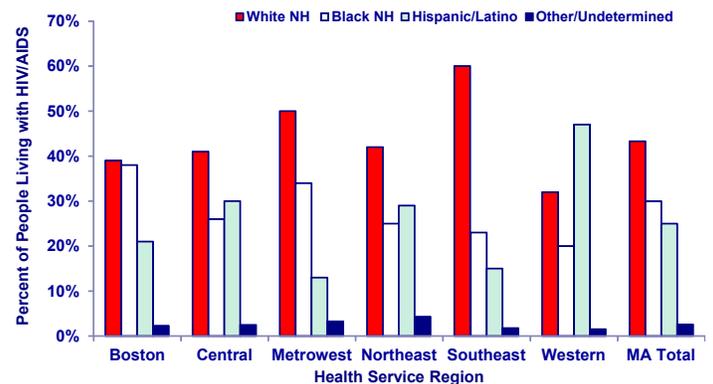
- See Figures 7 and 8 for the distribution of HIV/AIDS by Health Service Region (HSR) and race/ethnicity.

Figure 7. People Living with HIV/AIDS on December 31, 2014 by Massachusetts Health Service Region¹



¹ Reflects the health service region of a person's residence at the time of report (not necessarily current residence)
² Prisons include persons who were diagnosed with HIV/AIDS while in a correctional facility. While prisons are not a region, the prison population is presented separately in this analysis because of its unique service planning needs.
 Data Source: MDPH HIV/AIDS Surveillance Program, Data as of 1/1/15

Figure 8. People Living with HIV/AIDS on December 31, 2014 by Health Service Region¹ and Race/Ethnicity: Massachusetts



¹ Reflects the health service region of a person's residence at the time of report (not necessarily current residence)
 NH= Non-Hispanic; Data Source: MDPH HIV/AIDS Surveillance Program, Data as of 1/1/15

- Male-to-male sex is the exposure mode reported for the largest proportion of people living with HIV/AIDS in the Boston (48%), Metro West (42%), Southeast (40%), and Northeast (33%) regions (Figure 9).
- Male-to-male sex and injection drug use account for nearly the same proportion of people living with HIV/AIDS in the Central (both 26%) and Western (27% and 26%, respectively) regions.



For detailed data tables and technical notes see Appendix
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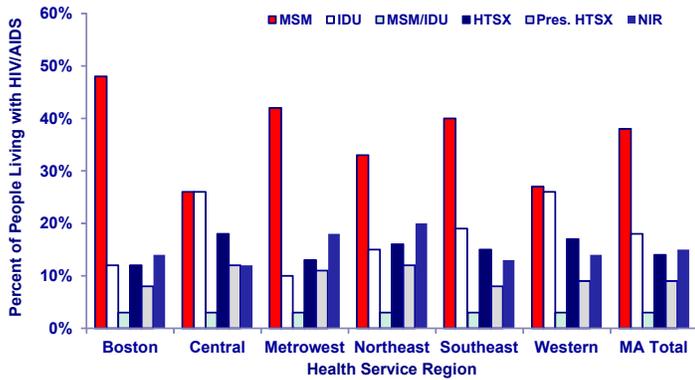




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Figure 9. People Living with HIV/AIDS on December 31, 2014 by Health Service Region¹ and Reported Risk: Massachusetts



¹ Reflects the health service region of a person's residence at the time of report (not necessarily current residence)
NH= Non-Hispanic; Data Source: MDPH HIV/AIDS Surveillance Program, Data as of 1/1/15

Data Source

HIV/AIDS Case Data: Massachusetts Department of Public Health, HIV/AIDS Surveillance Program, all data as of 1/1/15

ⁱ Effective January 1, 2011, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, HIV/AIDS fact sheets, epidemiologic reports, and other data presentations have been updated to remove all HIV/AIDS cases that were first diagnosed in another state before being reported in Massachusetts.

ⁱⁱ Please note "women" and "men" are used for stylistic reasons to describe female and male populations diagnosed with HIV infection that include a small number of girls and boys (N=23 children living with HIV/AIDS under age 13 as of 1/1/15).

ⁱⁱⁱ The category of presumed heterosexual is used exclusively for females, to define HIV exposure mode in cases when sex with males is the only reported risk factor for HIV infection.

^{iv} Reflects the health service region of a person's residence at the time of diagnosis (not necessarily current residence). HSRs are regions defined geographically to facilitate targeted health service planning. See Epidemiologic Profile General Appendices, Health Service Region Maps, available at http://www.mass.gov/dph/aids/research/profile2006/app5_hrs_maps.pdf for configuration of health service regions.



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