

HIV Among African Americans



HIV remains a disproportionate risk to African Americans. Young African American gay and bisexual men account for more new HIV infections than any other group, and HIV affects African American heterosexual women more than women of any other race or ethnicity. More than 290,000 African Americans with stage 3 HIV (AIDS) have died since the start of the epidemic.

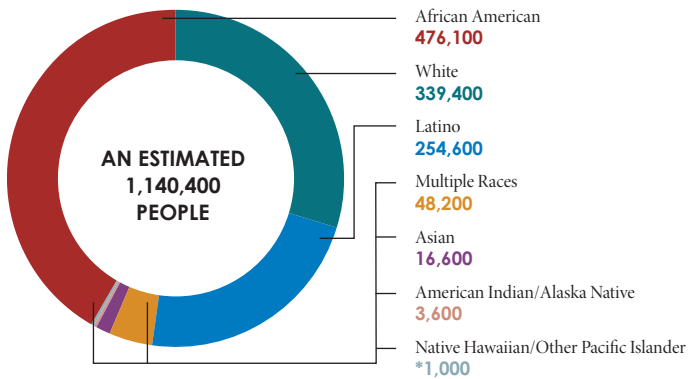
Prevention efforts have led to encouraging decreases in HIV among African Americans, driven by steep declines among African American women. And, after years of troubling increases, infections have stabilized among African American gay and bisexual men.

However, given the continued impact among African Americans, there is still an urgent need to expand access to HIV prevention and treatment, underscoring the importance of the federal initiative *'Ending the Epidemic: A Plan for America'*

AFRICAN AMERICANS CONTINUE TO FACE THE MOST SEVERE BURDEN OF HIV COMPARED TO OTHER RACIAL/ETHNIC GROUPS IN THE NATION

JUST OVER 40% of people with HIV in the United States are African American

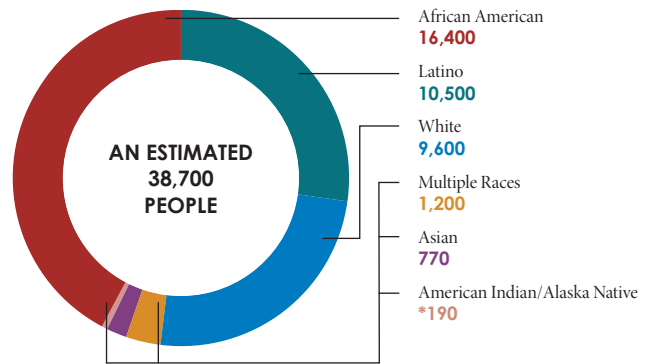
PEOPLE WITH HIV INFECTION IN THE U.S., BY RACE/ETHNICITY, 2016



Complete data set available [here](#)

MORE THAN 40% of new HIV infections in the United States occur among African Americans

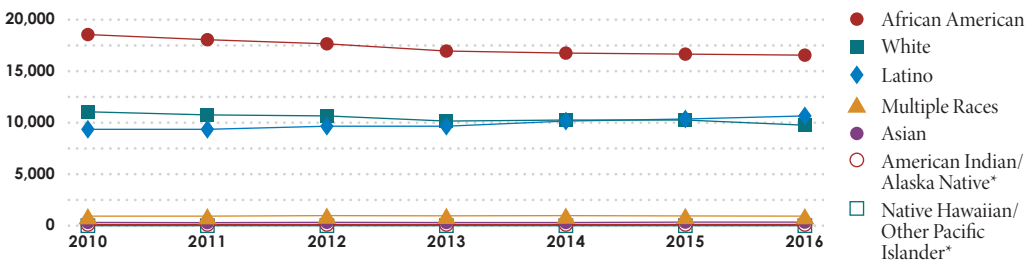
NEW HIV INFECTIONS IN THE U.S., BY RACE/ETHNICITY, 2016



Complete data set available [here](#)

THERE HAVE BEEN ENCOURAGING DECREASES IN RECENT YEARS, but new HIV infections remain higher among African Americans than any other race/ethnicity

NEW HIV INFECTIONS IN THE U.S., BY RACE/ETHNICITY, 2010–2016



Complete data set available [here](#)

LIFETIME HIV RISK

If current rates persist

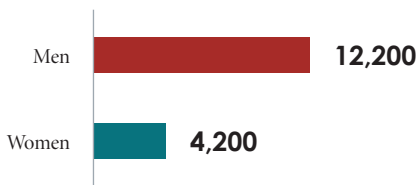
- ▶ **1 IN 2**
African American gay and bisexual men
 - ▶ **1 IN 20**
African American men
 - ▶ **1 IN 48**
African American women
- may be diagnosed with HIV in their lifetime*



* Estimates with a relative standard error (RSE) of 30%–50% are preceded by an asterisk (*) and should be used with caution because they do not meet the standard of reliability. Estimates with an RSE of >50% are not shown.

AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN accounted for three-quarters of new HIV infections among African Americans in 2016, and 80 percent of these were among African American gay and bisexual men

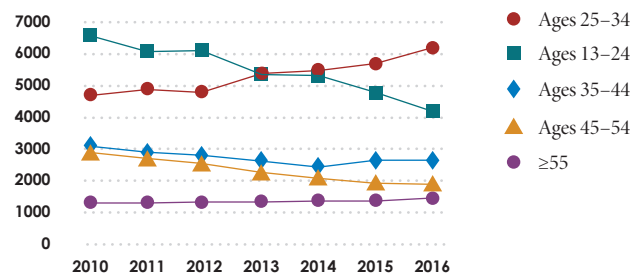
NEW HIV INFECTIONS IN THE U.S. AMONG AFRICAN AMERICANS, BY GENDER, 2016



Complete data set available [here](#)

BY AGE GROUP, 25 to 34 year olds accounted for most new infections among African Americans in 2016

NEW HIV INFECTIONS IN THE U.S. AMONG AFRICAN AMERICANS, BY AGE GROUP, 2010–2016

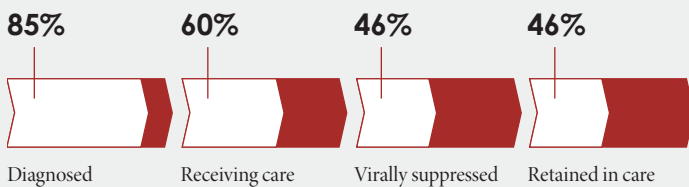


Complete data set available [here](#)

HIV PREVENTION PROGRESS AND CHALLENGES

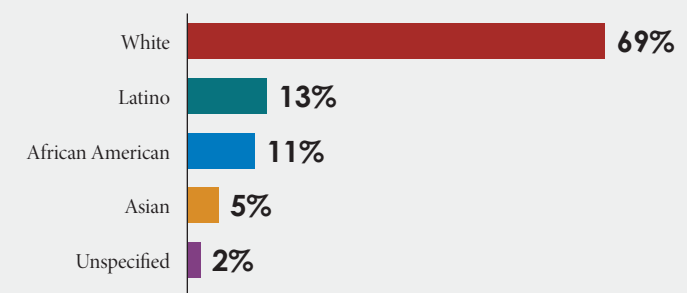
Not all African Americans with HIV are aware of their status, and too few are receiving the HIV care and treatment that will help them live longer, healthier lives and get and keep an undetectable viral load—meaning there is effectively no risk of transmitting HIV.

HIV CARE OUTCOMES FOR AFRICAN AMERICANS, 2015



Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) is a pill that people who do not have HIV take as prescribed to prevent getting HIV. Despite recent increases in PrEP use among African Americans, significant gaps remain.

PREP UPTAKE BY RACE/ETHNICITY, 2016



HIGHER SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASE (STD) PREVALENCE

STD prevalence is higher in African Americans compared to other racial/ethnic group.

Because STDs can place people at higher risk for HIV, higher STD prevalence may contribute to more HIV transmissions among African Americans.

SOCIOECONOMIC FACTORS

Social and economic factors like poverty, racial discrimination, lack of access to health care and higher rates of incarceration—which can disrupt social networks and decrease the number of available partners for women—exist in some African American communities and can increase risk behaviors or be a barrier to receiving HIV care and prevention.

HIGH HIV PREVALENCE

HIV is more prevalent among African Americans compared to other racial/ethnic groups. As a result, while risk behaviors like sex without a condom or having multiple partners are comparable to other races/ethnicities, African Americans face greater exposure risk during sexual encounters than other racial/ethnic groups.

STIGMA

The fear of disclosing risk behaviors or sexual orientation can prevent people from seeking testing, prevention and treatment services, and support from friends and family. As a result, some African Americans may lack critical information about HIV prevention.



For more information visit www.cdc.gov/nchhstp/newsroom