

2010 Profile of HIV/AIDS in Michigan

Special Populations: Foreign Born

Data from HIV/AIDS Reporting System (eHARS)

Introduction:

While the majority of HIV infection in Michigan is in persons born in the US (72 percent), almost one-quarter (23 percent) have a missing or unknown country of birth. Five percent (834 cases) of the total number of HIV/AIDS cases living in Michigan were born in a country other than the US (foreign-born, FB). Because of the high proportion of missing data, information reported on FB individuals is considered to be a minimum estimate and must be interpreted with caution.

Trends:

The Immigration and Nationality Act was updated in 1999. This allowed HIV positive refugees to enter the US. From 1999 to 2000 Michigan experienced a 110 percent increase in HIV diagnoses among FB individuals, which was mostly likely an effect of the updated Act. The number of HIV infections diagnosed in Michigan among FB individuals increased from 14 cases in 1985 to 33 cases in 2009, with a peak of 86 cases in 2000. (Figure 63). The majority of these persons were born in Africa and South and Central America, including Mexico (S/C America). In Michigan, these persons may be migrant farm workers, who are mainly from S/C America, and African-born individuals, who are participants in refugee resettlement programs.

Figure 63: All HIV Cases Ever Diagnosed in Foreign Born Individuals, January 2010 (N = 1,129)

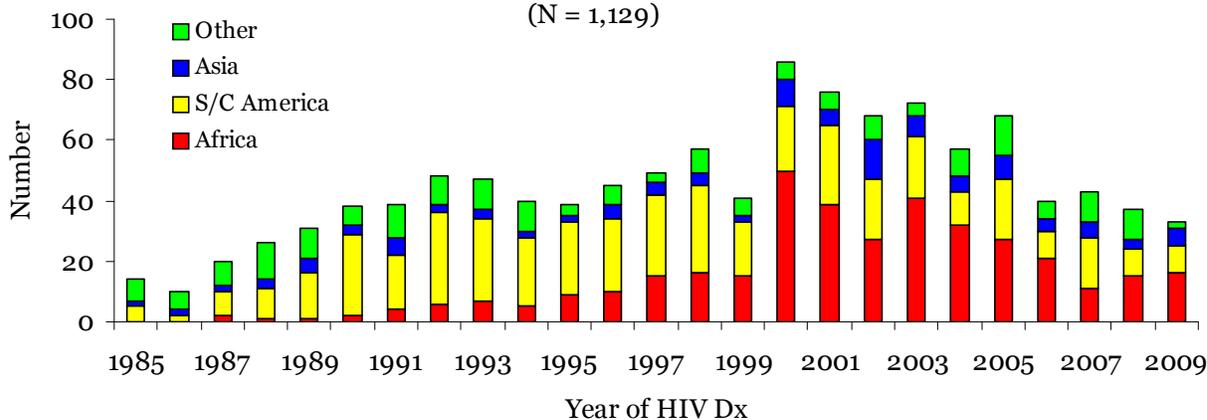
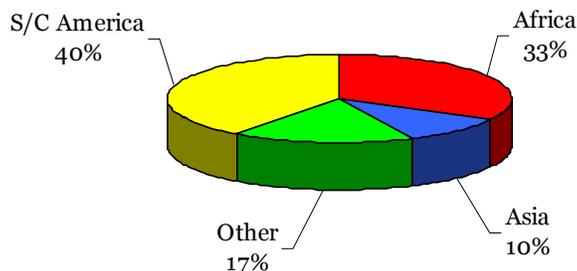


Figure 64: Country of Birth for Foreign Born persons living with HIV/AIDS in Michigan, January 2010 (N = 834)

Country of Origin:

Figure 64 shows that 33 percent of FB individuals living with HIV in Michigan were born in Africa; 40 percent were born in S/C America; 10 percent were born in Asia; and 17 percent were born in other countries.



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Sex:

Overall, 63 percent of FB persons are male and 37 percent are female. This is quite different from the proportion seen among all persons living with HIV in Michigan (77 percent male and 23 percent female). Those born in Africa also have different proportions of males and females (43 percent male and 59 percent female) while those born in S/C America and Asia are closer to the proportion seen among all persons living with HIV (79 percent male and 21 percent female). This reflects the higher proportion in heterosexual cases among HIV infected persons from Africa.

Race:

As would be expected, the racial breakdown among FB individuals is different depending on the country of origin. African born individuals are almost entirely black (99 percent). Persons born in S/C America are 84 percent Hispanic, 11 percent black and four percent white, while persons born in Asia are 50 percent Asian/Pacific Islander/Native Hawaiian, 43 percent white, three percent black and five percent other or unknown race.

Geographical Distribution:

The highest proportion of African-born cases were diagnosed while living in Kent county (18 percent); 13 percent in Wayne county, 10 percent in Berrien county, nine percent in Ingham county, and eight percent in Oakland county. Five percent were diagnosed in a state other than Michigan, 23 percent were diagnosed in an unknown location, and the rest were diagnosed while living throughout the remainder of Michigan.

The highest proportion of S/C American-born cases were diagnosed among residents of Wayne and Kent Counties (16 and 14 percent, respectively). Eight percent were diagnosed in a state other than Michigan, 33 percent were diagnosed in an unknown location, and the rest were diagnosed while living throughout the remainder of Michigan.

Forty-one percent of Asian-born cases were among residents of the Detroit Metro Area (9 percent in Oakland county, 18 percent in Wayne county and 5 percent in Macomb county). Five percent were among residents of Kent county, three percent were diagnosed in a state other than Michigan, 35 percent were diagnosed in an unknown location, and the rest were diagnosed while living throughout the remainder of Michigan.

Persons diagnosed in other foreign countries follow a similar pattern to Asian-born cases: 21 percent were living in Oakland county, 13 percent in Wayne county, nine percent in Kent county and the rest were diagnosed while living throughout the remainder of Michigan, five percent were diagnosed in a state other than Michigan, 21 percent were diagnosed in an unknown location, and the rest were diagnosed while living throughout the remainder of Michigan.

Mode of Transmission:

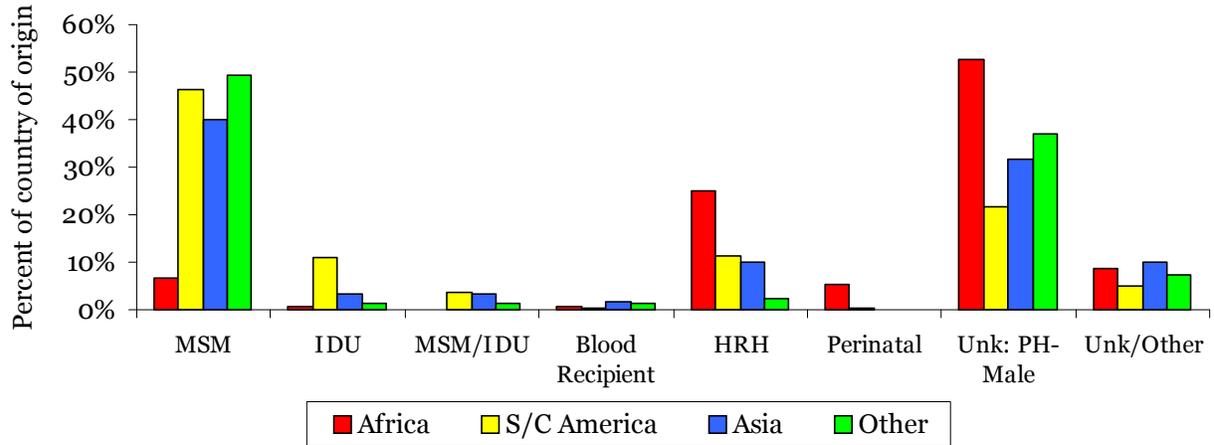
As with race, mode of transmission differs for FB persons by country of origin. Figure 65 (next page) demonstrates that males born in Africa are one-quarter (25 percent) HRH and almost two-thirds unknown (62 percent). Most were likely infected via heterosexual sex. Males born in S/C America are largely MSM (50 percent - including MSM/IDU). Fifteen percent are IDU (including MSM/IDU) and 27 percent have an unknown risk. Males born in Asia have similar risk pattern as those from S/C America, however men born in Asia are less likely to be IDU (6 v 15 percent).

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Figure 65: Foreign Born Males living with HIV in Michigan, by mode of transmission and country of origin (N = 525)



As with males, the risk pattern among female FB persons differs based on country of origin. Figure 66 shows that females born in African countries are over three-quarters heterosexual (overall—30 percent HRH; 46 percent PH-Fem). Twenty-one percent have an unknown risk. Females born in S/C America also have a large proportion infected through heterosexual sex (71 percent: overall—50 percent HRH; 21 percent PH-Fem). These females also have a considerable proportion infected from IDU (21 percent) and less than five percent have an unknown risk. Females born in Asian countries are largely infected through heterosexual sex (65 percent; overall—40 percent HRH; 25 percent PH-Fem). The remainder of cases (30 percent) have an unknown risk. Those females born in other countries have risks similar to those born in S/C America.

Figure 66: Foreign Born Females living with HIV in Michigan, by mode of transmission and country of origin (N = 309)

