

2012 Profile of HIV in the Detroit Metro Area

Ranked Behavioral Group: MSM

Data from enhanced HIV/AIDS Reporting System (eHARS)

Overview:

Men who have sex with men (MSM) are the number one ranked behavioral group in the DMA for HIV infection. MSM remain the single largest behavioral group affected by the epidemic and account for over half (53 percent) of all reported HIV-positive persons, including MSM/IDU. MDCH estimates that there are approximately 6,840 MSM living with HIV infection in the DMA. This includes an estimated 480 HIV-positive males whose risk is a combination of having sex with other males and injecting drugs (table 3, page 163).

Race/ethnicity:

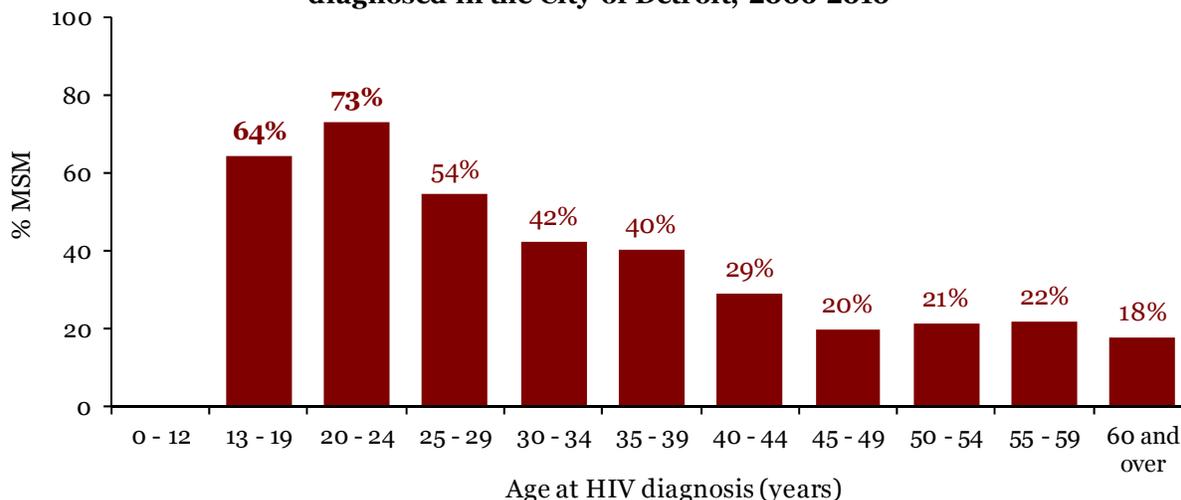
MSM account for most HIV infections among males in the DMA for all racial and ethnic groups. When considering reported cases for MSM and MSM/IDU of all races (5,207 reported cases), white males comprise 36 percent of males in this combined category (1,864 cases); black males account for well over half (59 percent, 3,062 cases); and Hispanic males account for three percent (156 cases) (table 5, page 164).

Age at HIV diagnosis:

Among those reporting male-male sex (including MSM/IDU), the highest proportion of all living HIV infection cases were 30-39 years old at diagnosis (35 percent). MSM is the predominant mode of transmission for males ages 13 and up; male-male sex accounts for 78 percent and 81 percent of infections among males ages 13-19 years and 20-29 years at diagnosis, respectively (table 7, page 167).

Among newly diagnosed cases in the City of Detroit, younger age groups are more likely to be MSM than those at older ages (Trends). Figure 13 shows that 73 percent of newly diagnosed 20-24 year olds and 64 percent of 13-19 year olds are MSM. The proportion who are MSM decreases as age at diagnosis increases, with MSM representing less than half of new diagnoses among persons 30 years and older. Additionally, 61 percent of newly diagnosed teens (13-19 year olds) are black MSM, compared to 38 percent of persons who are 20 years and older (Trends).

Figure 14: Percent MSM by age at HIV diagnosis among persons diagnosed in the City of Detroit, 2006-2010



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Late diagnoses:

Of the 9,919 persons living with HIV infection in the DMA, 55 percent (5,466 cases) have progressed to stage 3 HIV infection. Of these, 2,325 (43 percent) were diagnosed with stage 3 infection at the time of their initial HIV diagnoses (late HIV diagnoses). MSM and MSM/IDU make up 53 percent (2,936 cases) of persons living with stage 3 infection, of whom 42 percent (1,238 cases) had late HIV diagnoses (table 3, page 163). This suggests that MSM get tested for HIV later in the course of their infections than persons in other risk groups.

Geographic distribution:

About two thirds (61 percent) of HIV-positive MSM statewide reside in the DMA, which is similar to the proportion of all cases that reside in the DMA. Within high prevalence counties (City of Detroit, Macomb, Oakland, and Wayne), MSM comprise 52 percent of persons living with HIV infection, while in the lower prevalence counties (Lapeer, Monroe, and St. Clair), 61 percent of reported persons living with HIV infection are MSM (data not shown in tables; see figure 3 on page 18 of the statewide chapter for high/low prevalence county classification). The majority of HIV-positive MSM and MSM/IDU in the DMA live in the city of Detroit (49 percent).

Behaviorally bisexual males:

Case reporting data are collected statewide but have only limited information on male bisexual behavior. Case reports are completed by health care providers and surveillance staff reviewing medical records rather than through interviews with HIV-positive persons. Only 55 percent of all completed case reports among persons currently living in the DMA have complete 'yes' or 'no' answers to both of the following: "Before the 1st positive HIV test/AIDS diagnosis, patient had: Sex with male" and "Before the 1st positive HIV test/AIDS diagnosis, patient had: Sex with female." Based on these complete forms, 58 percent of all HIV-positive MSM (including MSM/IDU) reported also having sex with females. These more complete forms also show that three percent of females report having sex with behaviorally bisexual males. These data should be viewed as minimum estimates of these behaviors as 45 percent of case reports did not have the two questions answered completely (data not shown in tables).

Trends and conclusions:

The estimated number of new HIV infections among men who have sex with men (MSM) in the Detroit Metro Area increased from 2006 to 2010 by an average one percent per year. The estimated number of new HIV infections among MSM who were also IDU (MSM/IDU) did not change. MSM and MSM/IDU together constituted 51 percent of all new diagnoses in the DMA in 2010 (Trends). Additional information on MSM from National HIV Behavioral Surveillance (NHBS) and the Medical Monitoring Project (MMP) focuses largely on the Detroit Metro Area and can be found on pages 31-33 in the Statewide chapter of this document.