

2012 Profile of HIV in the Detroit Metro Area

Description of the Epidemic by Age: 50 years and older

Data from enhanced HIV/AIDS Reporting System (eHARS)

Overview:

As of January 2012, there were 894 persons living with HIV infection in the Detroit Metro Area (DMA) who were 50 years and older at the time of diagnosis. They comprise nine percent of all reported HIV-positive persons, and three quarters (75 percent) are male. Sixty-six percent are black, 27 percent are white, and seven percent are Hispanic or other/unknown race (table 6, page 166).

Risk-males:

When examining risk, those who were in their fifties at the time of HIV diagnosis have a different risk profile than those who were ages 60 and older. Therefore, the risks of these two populations are discussed separately.

As of January 2012, there were 541 males currently living with HIV in the DMA who were diagnosed in their 50s (74 percent of all persons 50-59 years at diagnosis) (table 7, page 167). Of all persons 60 and over at HIV diagnosis, 126 are males (75 percent). Figures 27 and 28 show the risk profiles of males diagnosed in their 50s and at 60 and older, respectively.

Figure 27: Males ages 50-59 at diagnosis currently living with HIV infection in the Detroit Metro Area, by risk transmission category (n = 541)

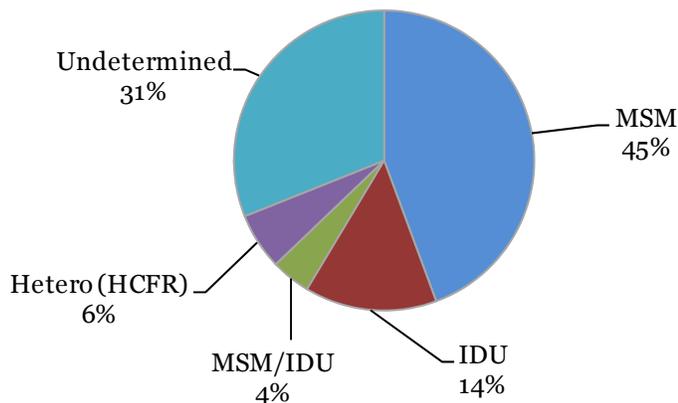
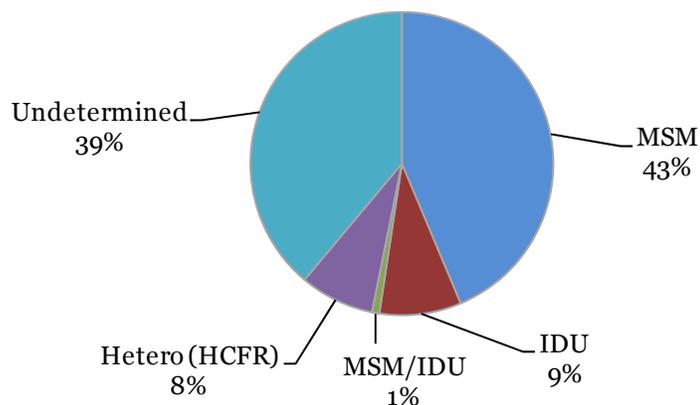


Figure 28: Males ages 60 and older at diagnosis currently living with HIV infection in the Detroit Metro Area, by risk transmission category (n = 126)



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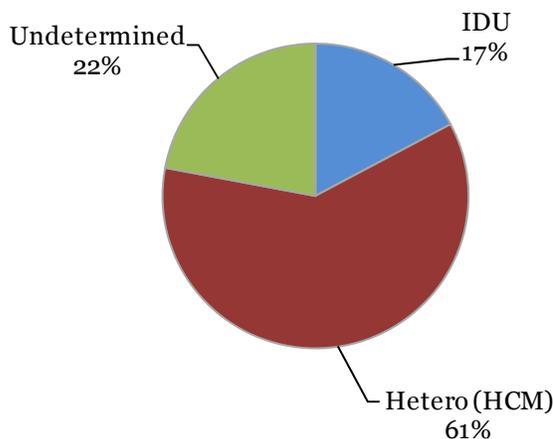
Data from enhanced HIV/AIDS Reporting System (eHARS)

As with males in all other age groups (excluding 0-12 year olds), male-male sex (MSM) is the most common risk (including those who also inject drugs, or MSM/IDU). However, the proportion who are MSM decreases with increasing age. Both males 50-59 years old and 60 years and older at HIV diagnosis have higher proportions of undetermined risk than males diagnosed at younger ages (31 and 39 percent, respectively). Males who were in their 50s at HIV diagnosis are more likely to be injection drug users (IDU) compared to males 60 years and older (18 percent vs. 10 percent, respectively). This includes males with a dual risk of male-male sex and IDU (MSM/IDU). The proportion of males reporting heterosexual risk (HCFR) increases with age, representing six percent of males who were 50-59 years old at HIV diagnosis and eight percent of males 60 and older at diagnosis.

Risk-females:

Overall, females who were in their 50s at HIV diagnosis have similar risks to females who were 60 years and older at diagnosis (figures 29 and 30). As with HIV-positive females in other age groups, the most common risk is heterosexual contact (HC) (61 percent and 58 percent, respectively). Five percent of females 60 years and older at diagnosis were recipients of HIV-infected blood products (compared to none in those 50-59 years at diagnosis), and females in their 50s at diagnosis are more likely to be injection drug users (17 percent vs. 15 percent, respectively).

Figure 29: Females ages 50-59 at diagnosis currently living with HIV infection in the Detroit Metro Area, by risk transmission category (n = 186)

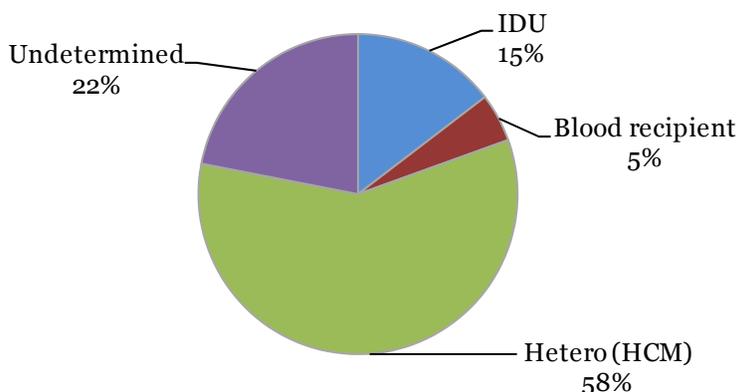


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Data from Michigan Disease Surveillance System (MDSS) & enhanced HIV/AIDS Reporting System (eHARS)

Figure 30: Females ages 60 and older at diagnosis currently living with HIV infection in the Detroit Metro Area, by risk transmission category (n = 41)



STDs:

Gonorrhea and chlamydia are epidemics that largely affect young people in the Detroit Metro Area (DMA), with less than one percent of chlamydia cases and just over two percent of gonorrhea cases occurring among persons over 50 years of age at diagnosis. In contrast, seven percent of primary and secondary syphilis cases are over the age of 50 at diagnosis. These individuals are more likely to be male (100 percent vs. 90 percent, respectively) and more likely to be white than black (43 percent vs. 20 percent, respectively) than the rest of persons diagnosed with syphilis in the DMA (age/race/sex breakdown not shown in tables).

Late diagnoses:

Of the 9,919 persons living with HIV infection in the Detroit Metro Area (DMA), 55 percent (5,466 cases) have progressed to stage 3 infection. Of these, 2,325 (43 percent) were diagnosed with stage 3 infection at the time of their initial HIV diagnoses (late HIV diagnoses). Persons who were in their fifties at HIV diagnosis make up eight percent (420 cases) of persons living with stage 3 infection, of whom 60 percent had late HIV diagnoses. Those who were 60 years and older at diagnosis make up two percent of persons living with stage 3 infection (101 cases), of whom 69 percent had late diagnoses. These two age groups have the highest proportion of late diagnoses of all age groups (table 3, page 163).

Trends and conclusions:

In the DMA, the rate of persons who were 50 years and older at the time of HIV diagnosis remained level between 2006 and 2010 (Trends). Although persons 50 years and older have the lowest rates of new diagnoses (except for those 0-12 years), it is important to understand the specific challenges faced by older Michiganders and to ensure that they receive information and services to help protect them from infection.

Although it is still low, males who were 50-55 years and 65 years and older at HIV diagnosis have the highest proportion of heterosexual risk of males in any age group (6 percent and 8 percent, respectively) (table 7, page 167). This is an important distinction when preparing targeting prevention and interventions.