

# 2010 Profile of HIV/AIDS in Michigan

## Ranked Behavioral Group: Heterosexuals

Data from HIV/AIDS Reporting System (eHARS)

### Overview:

Heterosexual transmission is the number-two ranked behavioral group in Michigan. Heterosexual sex accounts for 17 percent of reported infected persons. MDCH estimates that 3,280 persons living with HIV disease in Michigan were infected through heterosexual sex. Heterosexual transmission is comprised of High-Risk Heterosexuals (HRH) and females who are presumed to have heterosexual risk (PH-Fem). HRH are defined as HIV-infected persons whose heterosexual sex partners are known to be IDUs, behaviorally bisexual men, blood recipients known to be HIV +, and/or HIV+ individuals without additional behavioral information. PH-Fem are defined as females whose only reported risk is heterosexual contact, and their male partner's risk and HIV status are unknown. Currently there are an estimated 2,340 infected persons who are classified as HRH and 940 who are PH-Fem. (See Table 5, page 3-85).

Not all heterosexuals are at equal risk for HIV, as the risk for contracting HIV is higher for persons living in areas where prevalence of HIV is higher. Data from behavioral studies across the US, including Wayne County, show a strong connection between poverty and heterosexual HIV risk in urban areas.

### Race/Ethnicity and Sex:

Among the 2,663 men and women living with HIV/AIDS and infected heterosexually, under three-quarters (71 percent) are HRH and 29 percent are PH-Fem. Of the 2,663 HRH, 27 percent reported their heterosexual partner as injecting drug users (73 percent women, 27 percent men), six percent as behaviorally bisexual men (this applies to women only) and two percent as persons infected through blood products (80 percent women, 20 percent men). Just less than two-thirds (64 percent; 66 women, 34 percent men) reported their partner(s) as HIV-infected without reporting the partner(s) risk for contracting HIV. See Table 7, page 3-88.

While women account for 22 percent of all reported HIV/AIDS cases in Michigan, they have consistently accounted for over three-quarters of heterosexually acquired infections -- currently 79 percent. Over half of all black women were infected heterosexually (60 percent). Sixty-three percent of white women, 71 percent of Hispanic women, and 63 percent of women of other or unknown race, at least two-thirds of each group, were infected through heterosexual sex. Black women and women of other or unknown race have higher proportions of PH-Fem than white or Hispanic women (black-24 percent, other/unk-29 percent, Hispanic-17 percent, white-15 percent).

Most heterosexual cases of HIV/AIDS are among black persons--71 percent of both females and males. It should be noted that the overall proportion of men infected heterosexually is low--five percent of cases among men of all races. See Table 7, page 3-88.

As noted above, the HRH transmission category includes subcategories to describe mode of transmission in more detail. This is especially helpful for women since they make up most (79 percent) of the heterosexually transmitted cases. Risk breakdowns for black and white women living with HIV/AIDS are shown in Figures 26 and 27.

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Figure 26: Black Females Living with HIV/AIDS in Michigan, by Expanded Mode of Transmission (N = 2,500)

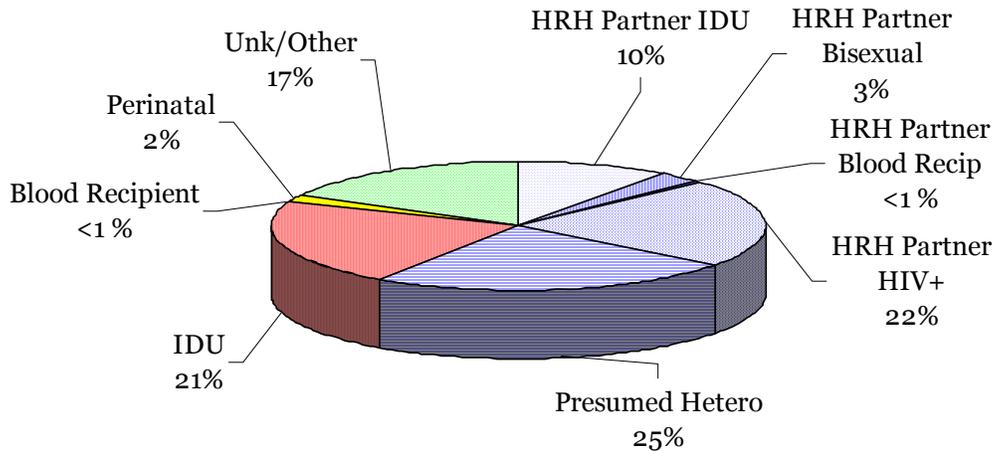
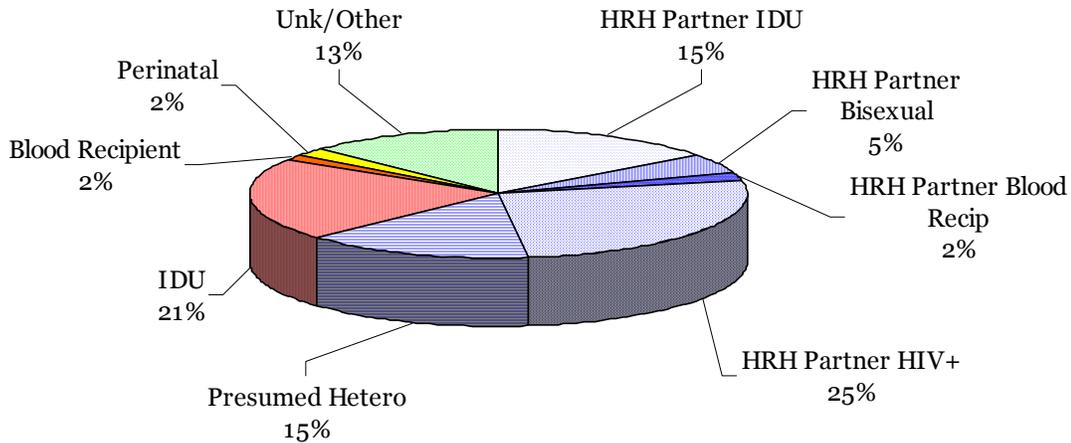


Figure 27: White Females Living with HIV/AIDS in Michigan, by Expanded Mode of Transmission (N = 696)



### Age at HIV Diagnosis:

Heterosexual transmission is the predominant mode of HIV transmission for females who were 13 years of age and older at the time of their HIV diagnosis. Three-quarters (76 percent) of those 13-19 at the time of HIV diagnosis report heterosexual sex (64 percent HRH, 36 percent PH-Fem). As age increases, the proportion made up by heterosexual sex decreases, but still remains higher than IDU for all age groups 13 years and older.

Among men, the percentage with heterosexual sex as the mode of HIV transmission remains low (5 percent). However as the age at diagnosis gets older, HRH makes up a larger proportion, but never surpasses 10 percent. See Table 9, page 3-90.

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### **Concurrent Diagnoses:**

Of the 15,285 persons living with HIV/AIDS in Michigan, 54 percent (8,317 cases) have progressed to AIDS. Of these, 3,561 (43 percent) had concurrent HIV and AIDS diagnoses. Heterosexual sex makes up 16 percent (N = 1,359) of persons living with AIDS, of which 38 percent (N = 521) had concurrent HIV and AIDS diagnoses. Overall, heterosexuals are more likely than IDUs and less likely than MSMs to get tested late in the progression of HIV disease. See Table 5, page 3-85.

### **Geographic Distribution:**

In the high and low prevalence areas (Figure 2 on page 3-15), persons living with HIV/AIDS who acquired HIV heterosexually comprise 18 percent and 16 percent, respectively, of reported cases in these areas. Of these, 64 percent reside in the Detroit Metro Area. Data not included on Tables.

### **Trends and Conclusions:**

Between 2004 and 2008, new HIV diagnoses attributed to heterosexual sex decreased by an average of six percent per year. The data also show that although there is heterosexual transmission from women to men, it is a much smaller problem in Michigan (and the U.S.) than transmission from men to women. In light of the much lower seroprevalence rates among heterosexuals compared with men who have sex with men, this mode of transmission is unlikely to surpass that of MSM. However, trends show that heterosexually acquired cases have surpassed the proportion of cases attributed to IDU. For more information on trends overtime, see the section on Trends in HIV/AIDS Data on pages 3-18—21.

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## Ranked Behavioral Group: Heterosexuals: Condom Usage

**Data from Supplement to HIV/AIDS Surveillance Project II (SHAS) & Medical Monitoring Project (MMP)**

In SHAS, 64 percent (213) of female respondents reported having vaginal, oral, and/or anal sex in the 12 months prior to the interview. Of these, 68 (33 percent) reported having sex with a man other than a steady male partner in the 12 months prior to interview. Sixty-three percent (529) of male SHAS respondents reported having vaginal, oral, and/or anal sex during the 12 months prior to the interview. Of these, 115 (50 percent) reported having sex with a woman other than a steady female partner in the 12 months prior to interview.

Table 3 shows that around three-quarters of females and males used a condom during vaginal sex with their most recent, non-steady partner (70 and 78 percent, respectively). Additionally, 35 percent of females and 29 percent of males reported condom use during their most recent oral sex with a non-steady partner.

**Table 3: Barrier/Condom Use with Most Recent Non-Steady Partner, Among Heterosexuals**

	<b>Females (n=68)</b> Percent (barrier use/sexual activity)	<b>Males (n=115)</b> Percent (condom use/sexual activity)
<b>Sexual Activity*</b>		
Vaginal sex	70% (46/66)	78% (84/108)
**Oral sex	35% (7/20)	29% (14/48)

*\*Categories are not mutually exclusive*

*\*\*Oral sex: mouth-vagina and penis-mouth*

Figure 28 shows that among the persons living with HIV who were in care and interviewed for MMP in 2007, males and females reported discordant experiences with condom use during heterosexual sex. While almost two-thirds (63 percent) of females reported condom use, only less than one-quarter (22 percent) of men reported condom use. For Figure 28, “WSM” = Woman having sex with a man and “MSW” = Man having sex with a woman.

**Figure 28: Condom Use Among Males and Females During Heterosexual Sex (MMP, 2007)**

