

# 2012 Profile of HIV in the Detroit Metro Area

## Ranked Behavioral Group: IDU

Data from enhanced HIV/AIDS Reporting System (eHARS)

### Overview:

Injection drug users (IDU) are the third ranked behavioral group in the Detroit Metro Area (DMA) and account for 14 percent (1,415 cases) of reported HIV-positive persons (including MSM/IDU). MDCH estimates that there are 1,860 IDU currently living with HIV in the DMA, including 480 HIV-positive males who reported male-male sex and injecting drugs (MSM/IDU) (table 3, page 163).

### Race/ethnicity and sex:

Of the 1,415 IDU and MSM/IDU living with HIV, 68 percent are male (957 cases). Black males make up the largest proportion of all IDU and MSM/IDU currently living with HIV in the DMA (49 percent), followed by black females (26 percent), white males (14 percent), white females (5 percent), and Hispanic males (3 percent). In total, three quarters (74 percent, 1,052 cases) of all IDU and MSM/IDU HIV infection cases occur among black persons (table 5, page 165).

### Age at HIV diagnosis:

Among males diagnosed in their 30s and 40s, IDU (including MSM/IDU) is nearly tied with undetermined risk for the second most common risk (17 percent vs. 19 percent, respectively). As age at diagnosis increases, the proportion with a risk of IDU increases (as opposed to MSM, where the proportion decreases with age). This proportion peaks, however, with males 40-49 years at diagnosis and then begins to decrease (table 7, page 167).

Overall, IDU is the second most common risk for females. However, this is true only for females between 30 and 49 years old at the time of HIV diagnosis (23 to 29 percent). For females in all other age groups, IDU falls behind undetermined risk and becomes the third most common risk. When considering males and females together, there are few HIV infection cases with a risk of IDU or MSM/IDU among persons who were teens (13-19 years) at the time of HIV diagnosis (3 percent).

### Late diagnoses:

Of the 9,919 persons living with HIV infection in the 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). IDU make up 16 percent (890 cases) of persons living with stage 3 infection, of whom 34 percent (301 cases) had late diagnoses. These data indicate that IDU are more likely than heterosexuals and MSM to get tested earlier in the course of HIV infection (table 3).

### Geographic distribution:

The majority (63 percent) of IDU and MSM/IDU currently living with HIV infection in Michigan live in the DMA. Within high prevalence counties of the DMA, 14 percent of reported cases are IDU (including MSM/IDU), while in the lower prevalence counties 12 percent of persons living with HIV infection are IDU (data not included in tables; see figure 3 on page 18 of the statewide chapter for high/low prevalence county classification).

### Trends and conclusions:

Between 2006 and 2010, the proportion of persons diagnosed in the DMA who were injection drug users (IDU) decreased by an average of 10 percent per year (Trends). This a continuation of the decreasing trend seen in the past seven trend analyses. Data from Michigan's HIV Behavioral Surveillance suggest reductions among IDU may be partly attributable to the success of harm reduction programs, such as needle exchange. The majority of IDU are black males (table 5). Additional information on IDU 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 38-40 of the Statewide chapter of this document.