

2012 Profile of HIV in Out-State Michigan

Ranked Behavioral Group: IDU

Data from enhanced HIV/AIDS Reporting System (eHARS)

Overview:

Injection drug users (IDU) are the third ranked behavioral group in Out-State Michigan and account for 12 percent (670 cases) of reported HIV-positive persons, including HIV-positive males who reported male-male sex and injecting drugs (MSM/IDU). MDCH estimates that there are 890 IDU currently living with HIV in Out-State Michigan, including 370 MSM/IDU (table 3, page 211).

Race/ethnicity and sex:

Of the 670 IDU and MSM/IDU living with HIV in Out-State Michigan, 75 percent are male (504 cases). White males make up the largest proportion of all IDU and MSM/IDU currently living with HIV in Out-State Michigan (41 percent), followed by black males (24 percent), black females (13 percent), white females (10 percent), and Hispanic males (7 percent). Over half of all IDU cases in Out-State Michigan (51 percent, 345 cases) are among white persons, and more than half of these are MSM/IDU (table 6, page 215).

Age at HIV diagnosis:

Among males diagnosed between the ages of 25 and 49 in Out-State Michigan, 13 to 14 percent are IDU (including MSM/IDU). 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 8, page 217).

Overall, IDU is the second most common risk for HIV-positive females. However, this is true only for females who were diagnosed at 20-24 years, 30-39 years, and 40-49 years. 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 (5 percent).

Late diagnoses:

Of the 5,389 persons living with HIV infection in Out-State Michigan, 53 percent (2,877 cases) have progressed to stage 3 infection. Of these, 1,213 (42 percent) were diagnosed with stage 3 infection at the time of their initial HIV diagnoses (late HIV diagnoses). IDU make up 13 percent (372 cases, including MSM/IDU) of persons living with stage 3 infection, of whom 32 percent (119 cases) had late diagnoses. These data indicate that IDU are less likely than either heterosexuals or MSM to get tested later in the progression of HIV infection (table 3).

Geographic distribution:

Within high prevalence counties of Out-State Michigan, 12 percent of reported cases are IDU (including MSM/IDU), while in the lower prevalence counties 13 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).

Conclusions:

The majority of IDU and MSM/IDU cases in Out-State Michigan are among males, particularly white males. Over half of these white male cases are MSM/IDU. As age at diagnosis increases, IDU becomes a larger proportion of the risk for HIV-positive males. For females, however, the pattern is less clear, and IDU is the second most common risk for 20-24 and 30-49 year old HIV-positive females.

The number of new diagnoses that are IDU and MSM/IDU has remained low in recent years (figure 8), representing an average six percent of new diagnoses each year (data not adjusted for reporting delay).