

2010 Profile of HIV/AIDS in The Detroit Metro Area

Ranked Behavioral Group: Heterosexuals

Data from HIV/AIDS Reporting System (eHARS)

Overview:

Heterosexual transmission is the number-two ranked behavioral group in the Detroit Metro Area. Heterosexual sex accounts for 17 percent of reported infected persons. MDCH estimates that 2,100 persons living with HIV disease in the Detroit Metro Area were infected with HIV 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, and 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 1,450 infected persons who are classified as HRH and 650 who are PH-Fem.

Race/Ethnicity and Sex:

Among the 1,699 men and women living with HIV/AIDS and infected heterosexually in the Detroit Metro Area, under three-quarters (69 percent) are HRH and 31 percent are PH-Fem. Of the 1,170 HRH, 28 percent reported their heterosexual partner as injecting drug users (74 percent women, 26 percent men), five percent as behaviorally bisexual men (this applies to women only) and three percent as persons infected through blood products (73 percent women, 27 percent men). Just under two thirds (64 percent; 68 percent women, 32 percent men) reported their partner(s) as HIV-infected without reporting the partner(s) risk for contracting HIV.

While women account for 24 percent of all reported HIV/AIDS cases in the Detroit Metro Area, they have consistently accounted for over three-quarters of heterosexually acquired infections -- currently 80 percent. Over half of all black women were infected heterosexually (58 percent). Fifty-eight percent of white women, 71 percent of Hispanic women, and 57 percent of women of other or unknown race 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-23 percent, other/unk-28 percent, white-16 percent, Hispanic-20 percent).

Most heterosexual cases of HIV/AIDS are black--81 percent. It should be noted that the overall proportion of men infected heterosexually is low--four percent of cases among men of all races. See Table 5, page 4-42.

The heterosexual transmission category includes sub-categories to describe mode of transmission in more detail. This is especially helpful for women since they make up most (80 percent) of the heterosexually transmitted cases. Risk breakdowns for prevalent black and white women are shown in Figures 14 and 15.

Age at HIV Diagnosis:

In the Detroit Metro Area, 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 (75 percent) of those 13-19 at the time of HIV diagnosis report heterosexual sex (46 percent HRH, 30 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 (four percent). However as the age at diagnosis gets older, HRH makes up a larger proportion, but never surpasses 10 percent. See Table 7, page 4-44.

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Figure 14: Black Females Living with HIV/AIDS in the Detroit Metro Area, by Expanded Mode of Transmission (N = 1,915)

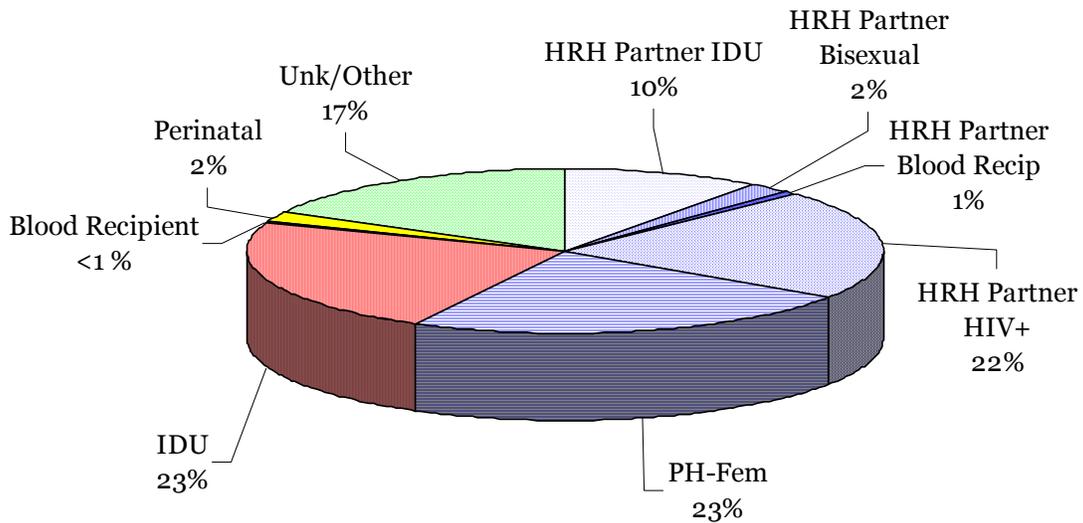
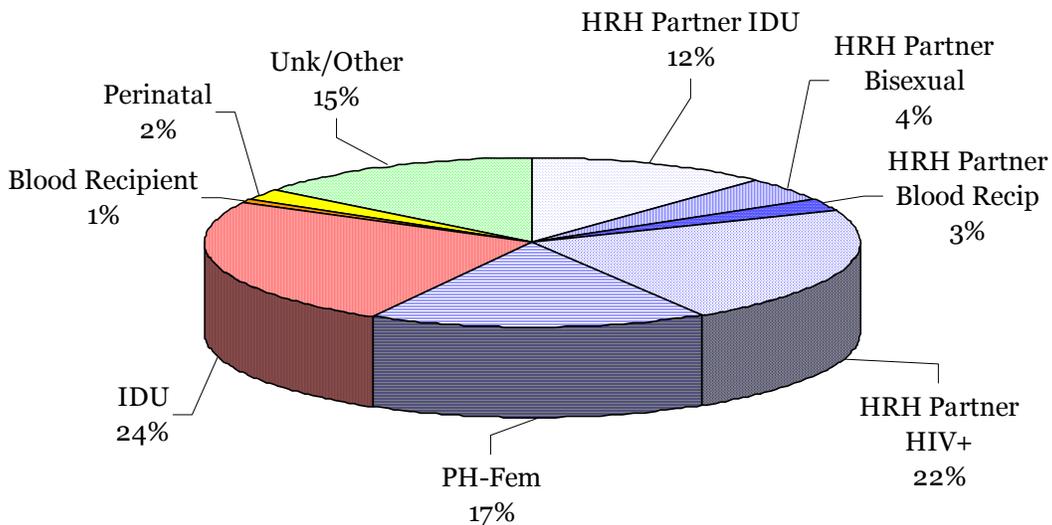


Figure 15: White Females Living with HIV/AIDS in the Detroit Metro Area, by Expanded Mode of Transmission (N = 297)



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Concurrent Diagnoses:

Of the 9,765 persons living with HIV/AIDS in the Detroit Metro Area, 55 percent (5,411 cases) have progressed to AIDS. Of these, 2,376 (44 percent) had concurrent HIV and AIDS diagnoses. Heterosexual sex makes up 17 percent (N = 900) of persons living with AIDS, of which 40 percent (N = 361) 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 4, page 4-41.

Geographic Distribution:

In the high and low prevalence areas of the Detroit Metro Area (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.

Trends and Conclusions:

MDCH estimates that HIV infections among persons having heterosexual sex in the Detroit Metro Area has decreased among persons who were infected through heterosexual sex by an average of three percent per year between 2004 and 2008. The data 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, recent 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 4-11–14.

Ranked Behavioral Group: Heterosexuals: Condom Usage

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

In SHAS (2000-2004), 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 (32 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 (22 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

	Females (n=68) Percent (barrier use/sexual activity)	Males (n=115) Percent (condom use/sexual activity)
Sexual Activity*		
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