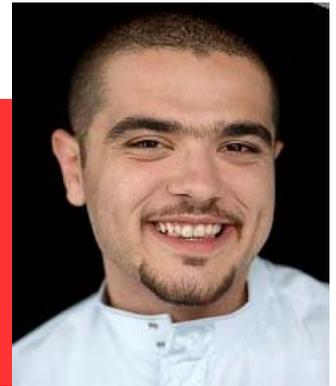




HIV Among Arab Americans, Michigan



Number of Cases and Recent Trends:

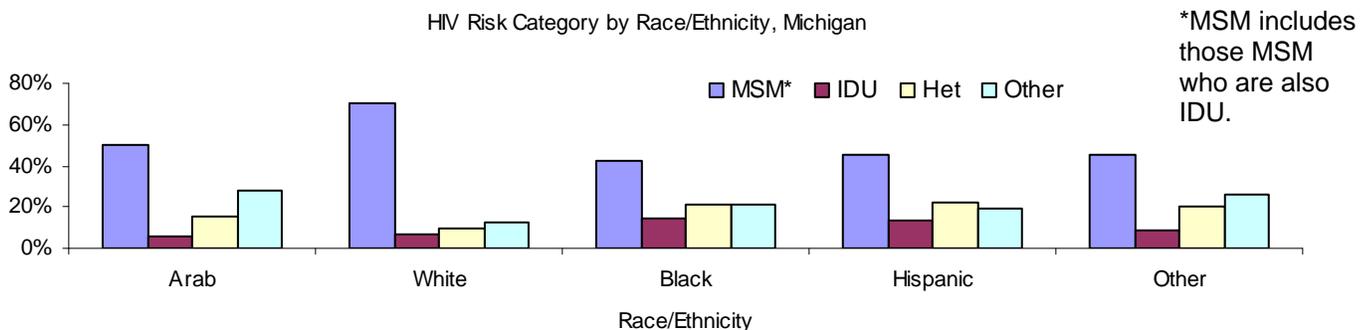
- The number of HIV-infected persons of Arabic descent are underestimated because it has been routinely collected by the HIV surveillance system since 2001.
- The MDCH has received only 110 reports of HIV/AIDS (83 of which are living) of persons of Arabic descent.

Demographics:

- Males account for 86 percent of living Arabic HIV cases in Michigan.
- Over half (55 percent) of the male Arabic HIV infections were attributed to MSM, including MSM/IDU.
- The distribution of age at diagnosis of individuals of Arabic descent is similar to the rest of the population with 34 percent between the ages of 30 and 39.

Other Facts:

- Within the US, the largest population of Arab-Americans live in Dearborn, Michigan.
- The Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services (ACCESS) conducted 15 rounds of focus groups with mostly (95%) Arab-American men from Metro Detroit, between the ages of 13-58 who identified as gay or bisexual. They believed that if they only have sex with other Arab-American men there was no risk of contracting HIV. The attendees were afraid of getting tested for HIV for fear of the results and backlash from family and community.



Program Efforts:

- In 2009, 1,021 Arabs and Chaldeans were tested at publicly funded testing sites.
- Of the 7,035 persons receiving publicly funded HIV care services 28 (0.3%) identified as Arab.
- ACCESS is funded by the MDCH to provide testing and skills building workshops for Arab and Chaldean MSM, including activities planned by a core group of young gay and bisexual men to build positive social connections and support safer sex.

Michigan Department of Community Health



Rick Snyder, Governor
Olga Dazzo, Director

For more information:

Michigan Department of Community Health
HIV/AIDS Surveillance Program

(313) 876-0353
(517) 335-8165

(www.michigan.gov/hivstd) → HIV/AIDS → Statistics and Reports
State of Michigan HIV/AIDS Statistics and Reports

Michigan Department of Community Health
HIV/AIDS Prevention and Intervention Services
(517) 241-5900

(www.michigan.gov/hivstd) → HIV/AIDS → Prevention and Care
State of Michigan HIV/AIDS Programmatic Information

Michigan Counseling, Testing, & Referral Sites
www.inspot.org/michigan --click "get checked"

Michigan AIDS Hotline 1-800-872-2437