

New HIV infections (including AIDS cases), 2018-2019

Upstate Public Health Region includes eleven counties: Abbeville, Anderson, Cherokee, Greenville, Greenwood, Laurens, McCormick, Oconee, Pickens, Spartanburg, and Union.

HIV in the Upstate Public Health Region (PHR) For the two-year period 2018-2019, 345 people were newly diagnosed with HIV. This represents 22 percent of the total cases diagnosed in South Carolina.

By gender, 80 percent of new HIV/AIDS cases occur among men; 20 percent were among women.

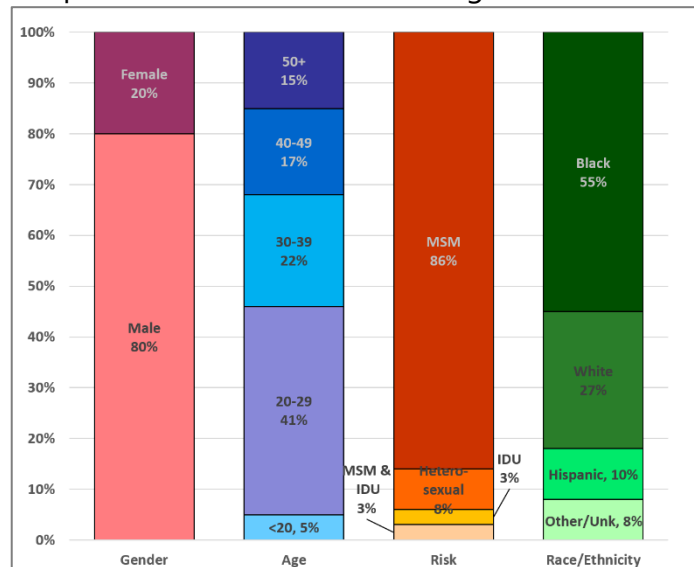
By age, the majority of new HIV/AIDS cases were among people ages 20-29 (41 percent), 22 percent were among people age 30-39, 17 percent were among people age 40-49, and 15 percent were age 50 and up. Five percent of new cases were under the age of 20.

By risk, among the 207 people who reported a risk, men who have sex with men (MSM) represent the largest proportion of recent infections (86 percent), followed by those indicating heterosexual sex as their exposure to HIV (8 percent); three percent reported injecting drug use (IDU); and three percent were the combined risk of MSM and IDU.

By race/ethnicity, among people newly diagnosed with HIV/AIDS in the Upstate PHR, 55 percent were African American; 27 percent were white; and 10 percent were Hispanic. In 2018-2019, African Americans had a case rate 7.7 times greater than whites in the Upstate PHR.

Among women recently diagnosed with HIV/AIDS in the Upstate PHR, most were African American (63 percent); 26 percent were White; and 1 percent were Hispanic. Of the 15 women reporting risk, 87 percent indicated heterosexual sex as their exposure to HIV; 13 percent reported injecting drug use.

Among men recently diagnosed in the Upstate PHR, 53 percent were African American; 27 percent were white; and 12 percent were Hispanic. Of the 192 men reporting risk, 93 percent were men who have sex with men, two percent were exposed through heterosexual sex; two percent reported injecting drug use; and three percent were both MSM and IDU.



Total People Living with HIV/AIDS through December 2019

As of December 2019, there were 4,013 residents of the Upstate Public Health Region living with a diagnosis of HIV (including AIDS). This represents 20 percent of the S.C. total. Of these, 3,019 were men and 994 were women. Most people (1,976) were ages 50 and over; 799 were ages 40-49; 788 were ages 30-39; 418 were ages 20-29; and 32 were children and teens under 20 years of age.

As with new infections, African Americans are disproportionately impacted. Most of the people living with HIV in the Upstate Public Health Region were African American men (42 percent), 27 percent were White men, 17 percent were African American women and six percent were White women. Seven percent of people living with HIV were Hispanic/Latino (men & women).

Of the 3,242 people living with HIV who reported a risk, 62 percent reported a risk of men who have sex with men; followed by men and women exposed through heterosexual sex (23 percent); injecting drug use (eight percent); and the combined risk of men who have sex with men and injecting drug use (five percent).

S.C. HIV Prevention Program Priority Populations

Care, treatment and prevention services for persons living with HIV/AIDS are a top priority for the State of South Carolina's HIV Program.

Among remaining priority populations for HIV prevention services:		
S.C. HIV Prevention Program Priority Populations ^(1,2)	2018/2019 Diagnosed HIV/AIDS Cases by Population % of Total Cases w/Risks Identified (215 Total) *	People Living with HIV/AIDS, 2019 By Population % of Total Cases w/Risks Identified (3,304 Total)
2. African American MSM	44%	31%
3. African American WSM	4%	11%
4. African American MSW	1%	5%
5. White MSM	24%	24%
6. IDU	3%	8%
7. ♦Hispanic/Latino ³	15%	8%

*Caution: Due to small numbers, must interpret recent case proportions with caution.

NOTES:

1. Populations: MSM = Men who have Sex with Men; IDU = Injecting Drug User; WSM = Women who have Sex with Men; MSW = Men who have Sex with Women.
2. Priority Populations are a subset of the Epi Profile data and are not directly comparable to incidence and prevalence counts/percentages.
3. Ethnicity, in and of itself, is not a risk factor for HIV; however, in the context of Priority Populations, Hispanic/Latino is included as a 'Risk' for reporting purposes.

Source: SCDHEC, STD/HIV Division 10/2020