



HIV/AIDS In the Houston Area

2014 Epidemiologic Supplement for HIV/AIDS Prevention and Care
Services Planning

CONTENTS

Notes.....	2
Executive Summary.....	3
Comparison of HIV Rates in Houston, Texas, and the U.S., 2012.....	4
Houston/Harris County	5
New HIV Diagnoses, 2012.....	5
Persons Living with HIV Disease, 2010.....	6
Houston Eligible Metropolitan Area (EMA)	7
New HIV Diagnoses, 2012.....	7
Persons Living with HIV Disease, 2012.....	8
Comparison of the Houston EMA Population to the Population Living with HIV Disease, 2012.....	9
Houston HIV Treatment Cascade, 2012.....	11

Disclaimer:

This document is a supplement to and should be used in conjunction with the *2013 Houston Area Integrated Epidemiologic Profile for HIV/AIDS Prevention and Care Services Planning* (May 2013). This document contains data on selected epidemiological measures of HIV disease (including AIDS) for the jurisdictions of Houston/Harris County and the Houston Eligible Metropolitan Area (EMA) for the reporting period of January 1 to December 31, 2012 (unless otherwise noted). It is intended for use in HIV/AIDS prevention and care services planning conducted in calendar year 2014. The separation of jurisdictions in the data presentation is intended to enhance the utility of this document as a tool for planning both HIV prevention and HIV care services. Data for the third geographic service jurisdiction in the Houston Area, the Houston Health Services Delivery Area (HSDA), are not presented here due to the overlap of data and data sources with the EMA, which makes the data virtually identical. The 2013 Epidemiologic Profile should be referenced for a comprehensive discussion of data pertaining to the epidemiological questions outlined in joint guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Health Resources and Services Administration. More recent data may have become available since the time of publication.

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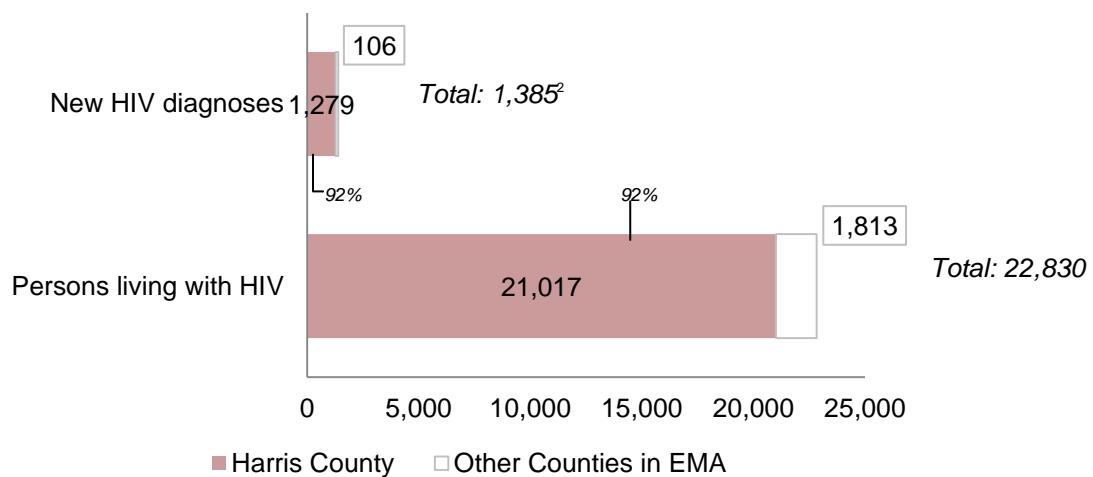
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Data on patterns of HIV disease, or HIV epidemiology, are used by local communities to better understand who is infected and living with HIV. This information helps local communities make more informed decisions about HIV services, funding, and quality.

This document is a supplement to the Houston Area's current epidemiological profile of HIV (published in May 2013) and provides updated data on core HIV indicators used in local planning, including new HIV cases and cumulative persons living with HIV, for the two local jurisdictions of Houston/Harris County and the Houston Eligible Metropolitan Area (EMA), a six-county area that includes Houston/Harris County.¹ A summary of key data is below:

- At the end of calendar year 2012, there were 22,830 people living with HIV/AIDS in the Houston EMA, a 5% increase from 2011 (92% resided in Harris County.)
- Also in 2012, 1,385² new diagnoses of HIV were made in the Houston EMA, a 5% increase from 2011. 92% resided in Harris County at the time of diagnosis.

Number of New HIV Diagnoses and Persons Living with HIV in the Houston EMA, by County, 2012



Sources:

Texas eHARS, as of 12/31/2012

Definitions:

New HIV diagnoses=People diagnosed with HIV, regardless of AIDS status, with residence at diagnosis in Houston EMA.

Persons living with HIV= People living with HIV disease, regardless of AIDS status, at the end of the calendar year.

- Rates of new HIV cases and prevalence in both Houston/Harris County and the Houston EMA continue to exceed rates both for Texas and the U.S.
- Compared to the general population in the Houston EMA, people living with HIV/AIDS are disproportionately male, African American, and ages 45 to 54. There is a larger proportion of persons ages 25 to 34 among *new* HIV diagnoses.
- It is estimated that 82% of persons living with HIV in the Houston EMA are aware of their infection. Of those aware, 73% were in HIV medical care in 2012, 51% had been retained in care over the course of the year, and 46% had a suppressed viral load.

¹ HIV prevalence data for Houston/Harris County is only available through the end of 2010, while HIV prevalence data for the Houston EMA is available through the end of 2012. For this reason, pages marked "EMA" in the top left corner use 2012 Harris County/Houston EMA HIV prevalence data, and pages marked "H/H/C" in the top left corner use 2010 Houston/Harris County HIV prevalence data, unless otherwise noted.

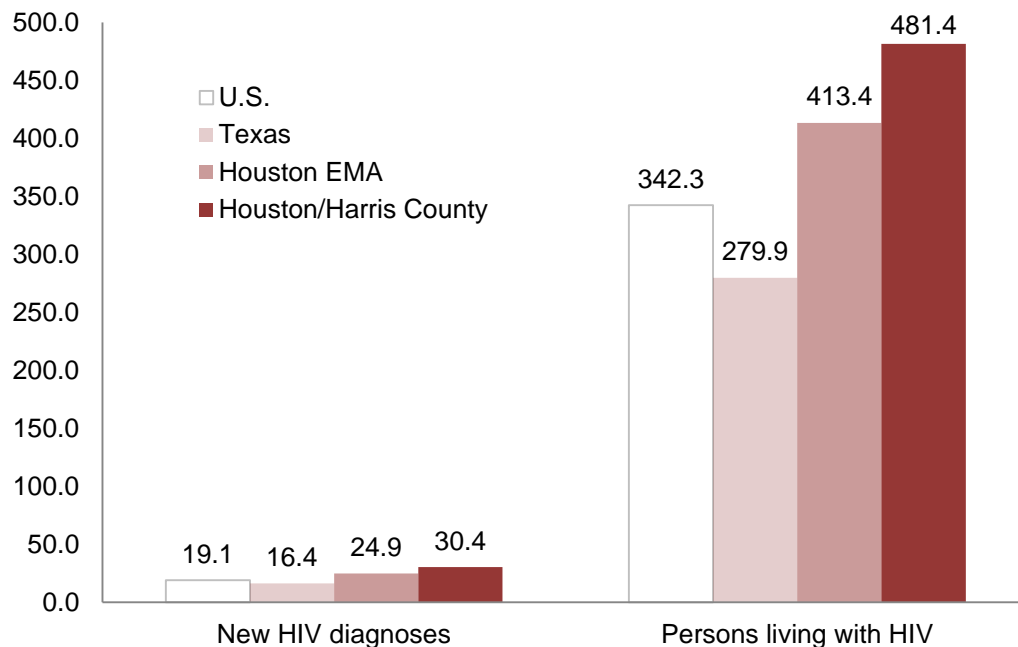
² The number of new diagnoses in the Houston EMA in 2012 is shown as 1,337 cases on page 7. This difference is attributable to the date the data were accessed in the Texas eHARS database.

COMPARISON OF HIV RATES IN HOUSTON, TEXAS, AND THE U.S.

A comparison of core HIV epidemiological indicators between the two Houston Area jurisdictions (Houston/Harris County and the Houston EMA), the State of Texas, and the U.S. provides context for the local HIV burden data described in this document.

Overall, both Houston/Harris County and the Houston EMA have higher rates of new HIV cases and HIV prevalence (or persons living with HIV per 100,000 population) than both Texas and the U.S. This suggests that the HIV burden in the Houston Area is greater than for the state and the nation, even when population size is controlled. In 2012, Harris County had the second-highest HIV rate of all counties in Texas (Dallas County was #1), and the Houston Metropolitan Area had the ninth-highest rate of new HIV cases of all metropolitan areas in the nation.

Rate of New HIV Diagnoses and of Persons Living with HIV for the U.S., Texas, and Houston Area Jurisdictions



*Rate is per 100,000 population in the respective jurisdiction.

Sources:

U.S.: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Diagnosed HIV infection among adults and adolescents in metropolitan statistical areas—United States and Puerto Rico, 2011. HIV Surveillance Supplemental Report 2013;18(No. 8). Published October 2013. Diagnoses, 2011; Prevalence, 2010.

Texas: Texas Department of State Health Services, Epidemiology and Special Projects Unit. Texas HIV Surveillance Report, 2012 Annual Report. All data, 2012.

Houston EMA: Texas eHARS. All data, 2012.

Houston/Harris County: Houston/Harris County eHARS. Diagnoses, 2012; Prevalence, 2010.

NEW HIV DIAGNOSES IN HOUSTON/HARRIS COUNTY (H/HC)

In 2012, 1,297 new diagnoses of HIV disease (including AIDS) were reported in Houston/Harris County, a 4% increase from 2011. The rate of new HIV/AIDS diagnoses in Houston/Harris County remained the same at 30 new HIV cases and 19 new AIDS cases for every 100,000 residents.

Small increases in rates compared to 2011 occurred among males, Hispanic/Latinos, and persons of other or multiple races.

Proportionally, African Americans were most of all new HIV diagnoses in 2012 at 47%, followed by Hispanic/Latinos at 35%. Male-to-male sexual activity or MSM accounted for the most transmission risk at 65%, followed by heterosexual contact at 27%.

New Diagnoses of HIV and AIDS in Houston/Harris County by Sex, Race/Ethnicity, Age, and Risk Category, 2012 ^a						
	New HIV Disease ^b			New AIDS ^c		
	Cases	%	Rate ^d	Cases	%	Rate ^d
Total	1,297	100.0%	30.4	813	100.0%	19.1
Sex^e						
Male	1,024	79.0%	47.5	598	73.6%	27.7
Female	273	21.0%	13.0	215	26.4%	10.2
Race/Ethnicity						
White	182	14.0%	15.3	104	12.8%	8.7
Black/African American	615	47.4%	82.2	425	52.3%	56.8
Hispanic/Latino	456	35.2%	23.0	257	31.6%	12.9
Other/Multiple Races	44	3.4%	13.1	27	3.3%	8.0
Age at Diagnosis						
0 - 24	326	25.1%	21.4	93	11.4%	6.1
25 - 34	425	32.8%	57.1	220	27.1%	29.6
35 - 44	256	19.7%	34.5	205	25.2%	27.6
45 - 54	205	15.8%	39.6	205	25.2%	39.6
55+	85	6.6%	11.6	90	11.1%	12.2
Transmission Risk^f						
Male-to-male sexual activity (MSM)	837.7	64.6%	*	435.2	53.5%	*
Injection drug use (IDU)	75.4	5.8%	*	83.5	10.3%	*
MSM/IDU	27.4	2.1%	*	33.0	4.1%	*
Heterosexual contact	351.5	27.1%	*	257.3	31.6%	*
Perinatal transmission	5.0	0.4%	*	4.0	0.5%	*

^aSource: Houston/Harris County eHARS.

^bHIV Disease = People diagnosed with HIV, regardless of AIDS status, with residence at diagnosis in Houston/Harris County.

^cAIDS = People diagnosed with AIDS with residence at diagnosis in the Houston/Harris County.

^dRate per 100,000 population. Source: DSHS Center for Health Statistics 2011 Population Projection:

<http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/chs/popdat/detailX.shtm>

^eSurveillance systems do not include an option for transgender. Therefore, transgender persons are included as their sex assigned at birth.

^fCases with unknown risk have been redistributed based on historical patterns of risk ascertainment and reclassification.

*Population data are not available for risk groups; therefore, it is not possible to calculate rate by risk.

PERSONS LIVING WITH HIV IN HOUSTON/HARRIS COUNTY (H/HC)

Data on the total number of people living with HIV in Houston/Harris County are available only as of the end of calendar year 2010. At that time, there were 19,700 people living with HIV (regardless of AIDS status) in Houston/Harris County. This is a prevalence rate of 481 people living with HIV for every 100,000 people in the jurisdiction.

Of those living with HIV in Houston/Harris County, 74% are male, 50% are African American, 78% are age 35 and older, and 51% report male-to-male sexual activity or MSM as their primary transmission risk.

People Living with HIV in Houston/Harris County by Sex, Race/Ethnicity, Age, and Risk, 2010^a			
	Cases ^b	%	Rate ^c
Total	19,700	100.0%	481.4
Sex^d			
Male	14,603	74.1%	716.7
Female	5,097	25.9%	248.0
Race/Ethnicity			
White	4,502	22.9%	327.9
Black/African American	9,809	49.8%	1269.5
Hispanic/Latino	4,763	24.2%	284.9
Other/Multiple Races	626	3.2%	227.3
Age at Diagnosis			
0 - 24	927	4.7%	59.4
25 - 34	3512	17.8%	530.8
35 - 44	5579	28.3%	948.4
45 - 54	6237	31.7%	1137.0
55+	3445	17.5%	470.2
Transmission Risk^e			
Male-to-male sexual activity (MSM)	10,107	51.3%	*
Injection drug use (IDU)	2,271	11.5%	*
MSM/IDU	1,044	5.3%	*
Heterosexual contact	6,013	30.5%	*
Perinatal transmission	214	1.1%	*
Other adult risk	51	0.3%	*

^aSource: Houston/Harris County eHARS. Living HIV cases as of 12/31/10.

^bPLWH at end of 2010 = People living with HIV disease, regardless of AIDS status.

^cRate per 100,000 population. Source: DSHS Center for Health Statistics 2011 Population Projection: <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/chs/popdat/detailX.shtm>

^dSurveillance systems do not include an option for transgender. Therefore, transgender persons are included as their sex assigned at birth.

^ePatients with no risk reported were recategorized into standard categories using the multiple imputation or risk program of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

*Population data are not available for risk groups; therefore, it is not possible to calculate rate by risk.

NEW HIV DIAGNOSES IN THE HOUSTON EMA

In 2012, 1,377* new diagnoses of HIV disease (including AIDS) were reported in the Houston EMA, a 5% increase from 2011. The rate of new HIV/AIDS diagnoses for every 100,000 people in the Houston EMA remained the same at 25 new HIV and 15 new AIDS.

Noticeable increases in rates compared to 2011 occurred among males, Hispanic/Latinos, and persons aged 25 to 34.

Proportionally, African Americans were most of all new HIV diagnoses in 2012 at 47%, followed by Hispanic/Latinos at 34%. Male-to-male sexual activity or MSM accounted for the most transmission risk at 64%, followed by heterosexual contact at 28%.

New Diagnoses of HIV and AIDS in the Houston EMA by Sex, Race/Ethnicity, Age, and Risk Category, 2012^a

	New HIV Disease ^b			New AIDS ^c		
	Cases	%	Rate ^d	Cases	%	Rate ^d
Total	1,377*	100.0%	24.9	847	100.0%	15.3
Sex^e						
Male	1,075	78.1%	39.1	621	73.3%	22.6
Female	302	21.9%	10.9	226	26.7%	8.1
Race/Ethnicity						
White	207	15.0%	10.0	115	13.6%	5.6
Black/African American	646	46.9%	66.4	436	51.5%	44.8
Hispanic/Latino	474	34.4%	23.1	267	31.5%	13.0
Other/Multiple Races	50	3.6%	11.7	29	3.4%	6.8
Age at Diagnosis^f						
0 - 24	323	24.2%	15.7	92	11.8%	4.5
25 - 34	446	33.4%	52.7	216	27.6%	25.5
35 - 44	277	20.8%	34.9	207	26.5%	26.1
45 - 54	207	15.5%	27.9	193	24.7%	26.0
55+	81	6.1%	7.5	74	9.5%	6.8
Transmission Risk^g						
Male-to-male sexual activity (MSM)	884	64.2%	*	449	53.0%	*
Injection drug use (IDU)	78	5.7%	*	90	10.6%	*
MSM/IDU	32	2.3%	*	32	3.8%	*
Heterosexual contact	378	27.5%	*	272	32.1%	*
Perinatal transmission	6	0.4%	*	¶	¶	*
Adult other risk	0	0.0%	*	¶	¶	*

^aSource: Texas eHARS.

^bHIV Disease = People diagnosed with HIV, regardless of AIDS status.

^cAIDS = People diagnosed with AIDS.

^dRate per 100,000 population. Source: National Center for Health Statistics. Vintage 2012 postcensal estimates. Prepared under a collaborative arrangement with the U.S. Census. Available from: http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/bridged_race.htm as of June 13, 2013.

^eSurveillance systems do not include an option for transgender. Therefore, transgender persons are included as their sex assigned at birth.

^fAge is calculated for living HIV cases as of 12/31/12. Deceased persons are not included in age counts. Therefore, total cases by age do not sum to total cases for the jurisdiction, and proportions are based on total cases by age.

^gCases with unknown risk have been redistributed based on historical patterns of risk ascertainment and reclassification.

*Population data are not available for risk groups; therefore, it is not possible to calculate rate by risk.

¶Data has been suppressed to meet the cell size minimum of 5. This ensures confidentiality of cases and reliability of data.

PERSONS LIVING WITH HIV IN THE HOUSTON EMA

At the end of calendar year 2012, there were 22,830 people living with HIV or AIDS in the Houston EMA, a 5% increase from 2011. The rate of HIV/AIDS prevalence also increased in 2012 to 413 people living with HIV/AIDS for every 100,000 people in the Houston EMA.

Noticeable increases in rates compared to 2011 occurred among males, Whites, Hispanic/Latinos, persons of other or multiple races, and persons over age 24, with the largest jump occurring among those age 35 to 44.

Proportionally, most of all people living with HIV/AIDS in the Houston EMA are African American at 49% of prevalence. Male-to-male sexual activity or MSM accounts for the most transmission risk at 53%, followed by heterosexual contact at 31%.

People Living with HIV and AIDS in the Houston EMA by Sex, Race/Ethnicity, Age, and Risk Category, 2012^a

	Living with HIV Disease ^b			Living with AIDS ^c		
	Cases	%	Rate ^d	Cases	%	Rate ^d
Total	22,830	100.0%	413.4	12,913	100.0%	233.8
Sex^e						
Male	16,922	74.1%	616.1	9,743	75.5%	354.7
Female	5,908	25.9%	212.8	3,170	24.5%	114.2
Race/Ethnicity						
White	5,203	22.8%	251.7	3,035	23.5%	146.8
Black/African American	11,135	48.8%	1143.9	6,057	46.9%	622.2
Hispanic/Latino	5,744	25.2%	279.5	3,413	26.4%	166.1
Other/Multiple Races	748	3.3%	175.2	408	3.2%	95.6
Age at Diagnosis						
0 - 24	1,339	5.9%	65.0	325	2.5%	15.8
25 - 34	4,215	18.5%	498.0	1,646	12.7%	194.5
35 - 44	6,168	27.0%	777.9	3,455	26.8%	435.7
45 - 54	6,943	30.4%	935.2	4,600	35.6%	619.6
55+	4,165	18.2%	384.9	2,887	22.4%	266.8
Transmission Risk[†]						
Male-to-male sexual activity (MSM)	12,087	52.9%	*	6,622	51.3%	*
Injection drug use (IDU)	2,362	10.3%	*	1,511	11.7%	*
MSM/IDU	1,059	4.6%	*	736	5.7%	*
Heterosexual contact	7,009	30.7%	*	3,933	30.5%	*
Perinatal transmission	291	1.3%	*	97	0.8%	*
Adult other risk	21	0.1%	*	15	0.1%	*

^aSource: Texas eHARS. Living HIV cases as of 12/31/12.

^bHIV Disease = People diagnosed with HIV, regardless of AIDS status.

^cAIDS = People diagnosed with AIDS.

^dRate per 100,000 population. Source: National Center for Health Statistics. Vintage 2012 postcensal estimates. Prepared under a collaborative arrangement with the U.S. Census. Available from: http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/bridged_race.htm as of June 13, 2013.

^eSurveillance systems do not include an option for transgender. Therefore, transgender persons are included as their sex assigned at birth.

[†]Cases with unknown risk have been redistributed based on historical patterns of risk ascertainment and reclassification.

*Population data are not available for risk groups; therefore, it is not possible to calculate rate by risk.

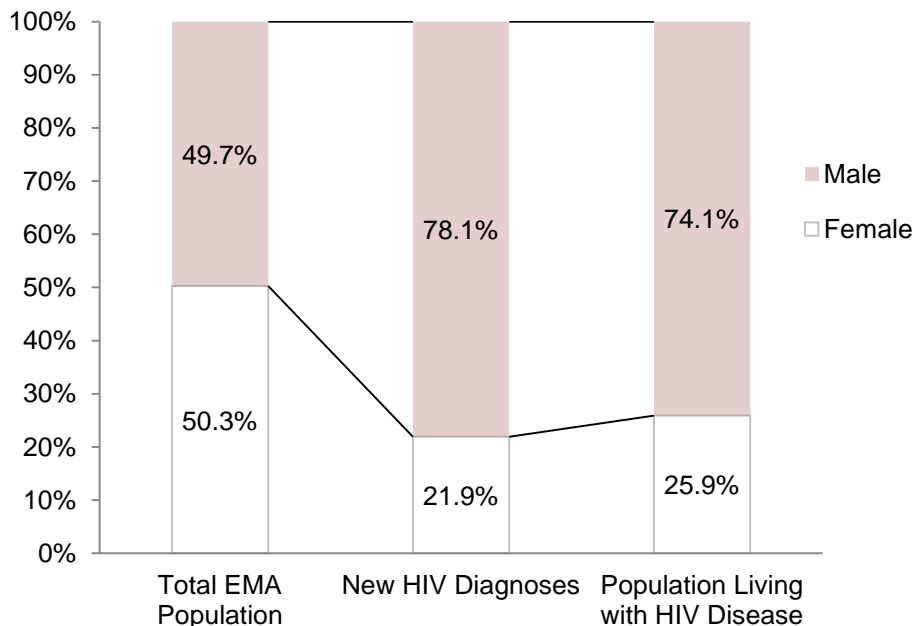
COMPARISON OF THE HOUSTON EMA POPULATION TO THE POPULATION LIVING WITH HIV DISEASE

By Sex: In 2012, the Houston EMA population was divided almost equally between males and females. However, more males than females were both newly-diagnosed with HIV/AIDS in 2012 (78% vs. 22%) and living with HIV/AIDS (74% vs. 26%) at the end of 2012. This difference increased slightly when compared to 2011 data.

By Race/Ethnicity: The newly-diagnosed population and those living with HIV/AIDS in the Houston EMA are more racially diverse than the general EMA population. While African Americans, Hispanic/Latinos, and persons of other or multiple races account for 63% of the total Houston EMA population, they were 85% of all new HIV/AIDS diagnoses in 2012 and 77% of all people living with HIV/AIDS at the end of 2012. Notably, African Americans account for 18% of the total Houston EMA population, and they were almost half of all new HIV/AIDS diagnoses (47%) in 2012 and of all people living with HIV/AIDS (49%) in the region at the end of 2012. This difference lessened slightly when compared with 2011. Conversely, though still less than their proportion of total EMA population, the Hispanic/Latino proportion of new HIV/AIDS diagnoses increased by almost 20 percentage points in 2012 compared to 2011.

By Age: People aged 25 to 34 accounted for a larger proportion of new HIV/AIDS diagnoses (33%) than their share of the Houston EMA population (15%) in 2012. Similarly, people aged 45 to 54 accounted for a larger proportion of those living with HIV/AIDS (30%) at the end of 2012 than their share of the population (13%). This same trend was observed in 2011 as well.

Comparison of Total Population^a in the Houston EMA to the HIV-Infected Population^b by Sex,^c 2012

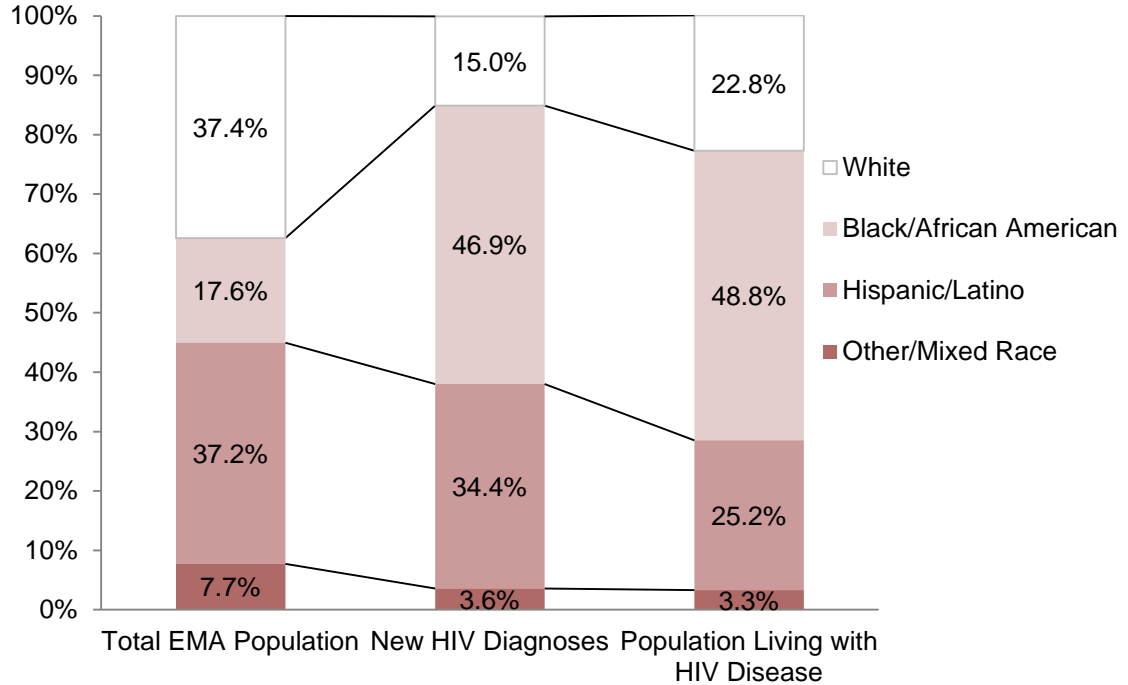


^aSource: National Center for Health Statistics. Vintage 2012 postcensal estimates. Prepared under a collaborative arrangement with the U.S. Census. Available from: http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/bridged_race.htm as of June 13, 2013.

^bSource: Texas eHARS. Living HIV cases as of 12/31/12.

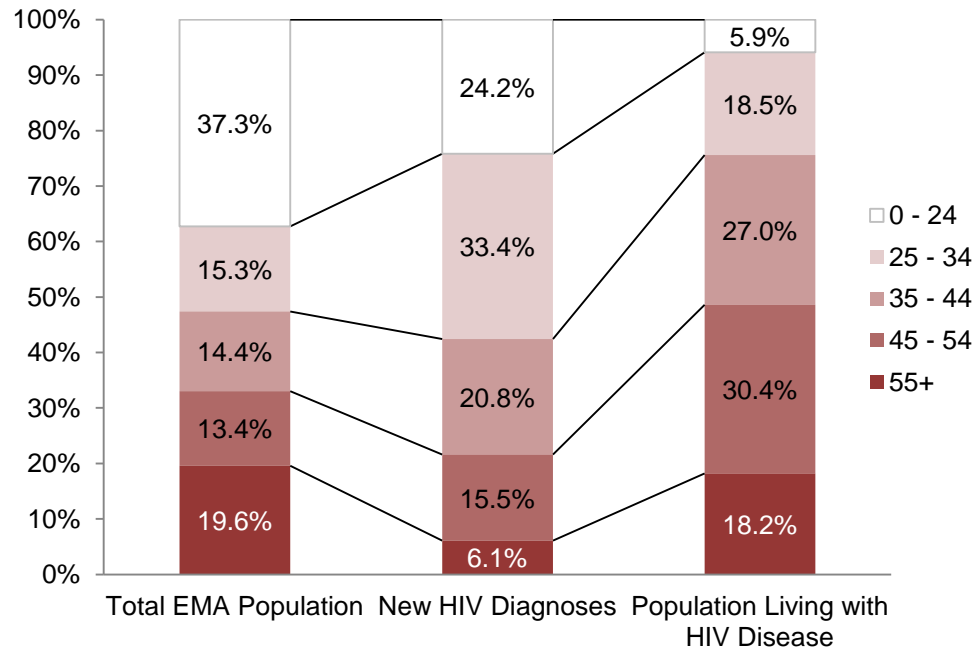
^cSurveillance systems do not include an option for transgender. Therefore, transgender persons are included as their sex assigned at birth.

Comparison of Total Population^a in the Houston EMA to the HIV-Infected Population^b by Race/Ethnicity, 2012



^aSource: National Center for Health Statistics. Vintage 2012 postcensal estimates. Prepared under a collaborative arrangement with the U.S. Census. Available from: http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/bridged_race.htm as of June 13, 2013.
^bSource: Texas eHARS. Living HIV cases as of 12/31/12.

Comparison of Total Population^a in the Houston EMA to the HIV-Infected Population^b by Age,^c 2012



^aSource: National Center for Health Statistics. Vintage 2012 postcensal estimates. Prepared under a collaborative arrangement with the U.S. Census. Available from: http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/bridged_race.htm as of June 13, 2013.
^bSource: Texas eHARS. Living HIV cases as of 12/31/12.
^cAge is calculated for living HIV cases as of 12/31/12. Deceased persons are not included in age counts. Proportions are based on total living cases and not total cases for the jurisdiction.

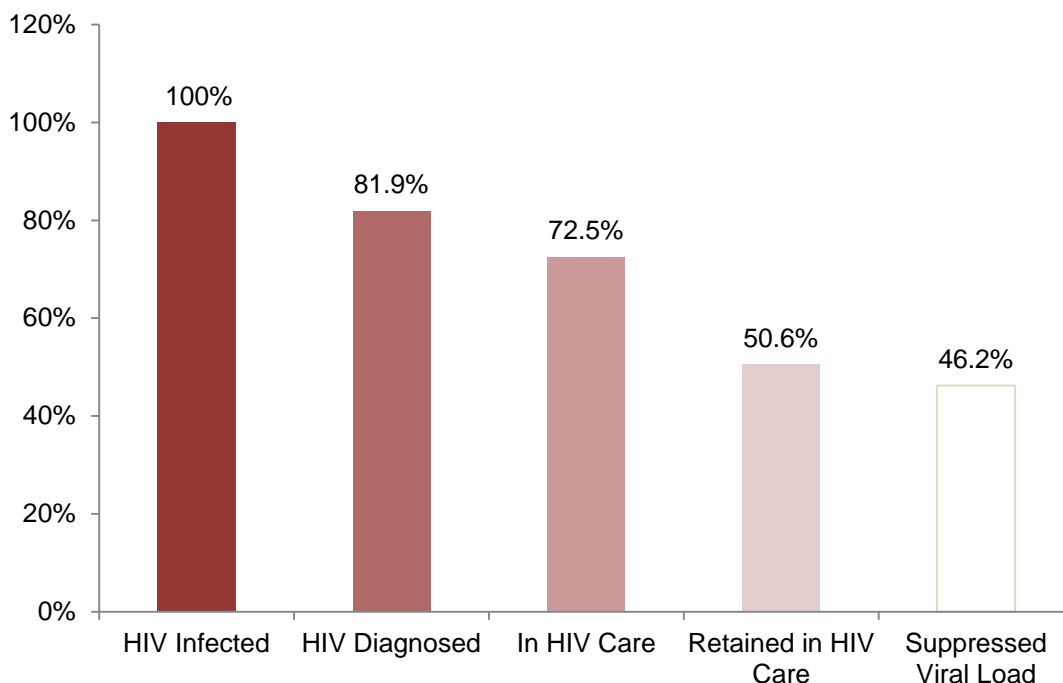
THE HOUSTON HIV TREATMENT CASCADE

In July 2012, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released an analysis of the number and percentage of people in the U.S. at each stage of HIV care, from being diagnosed with HIV to suppressing the HIV virus through treatment. Today, this analysis is referred to as the HIV Treatment Cascade, and it is used to measure the extent to which communities are achieving national goals related to HIV prevention and care.

According to this model, 82% of people who are HIV infected in the Houston EMA are also aware of their infection, and, of those aware, 51% are continuously engaged in HIV medical care. In addition, 46% of diagnosed persons in the EMA also have a suppressed HIV viral load. The cascade model can be used to identify gaps in the HIV care continuum to be addressed through HIV prevention and care planning.

The Houston EMA Treatment Cascade: Percent of People with HIV in Selected Stages of the Continuum of HIV Care, 2012

Version developed 12-17-13



Source: Program Planning and Evaluation Group, HIV/STD Branch at the Texas Department of State Health Services, August, 2013
Local Methodology:

HIV Infected: Total number of HIV infected persons (both aware/diagnosed and unaware/undiagnosed) in the Houston EMA, 2012.

Source: TXDHS, Program Planning and Evaluation Group, HIV/STD Branch, August 2013. *Definition:* unaware/undiagnosed persons have been estimated at 18.1% using a national calculation (CDC, June 2012). This is in addition to the number of HIV+ individuals (alive) residing in Texas at the end of 2012 (Texas eHARS data as of July 2013).

HIV Diagnosed: No. of HIV-infected persons who are aware of their HIV diagnosis, alive, and residing in the Houston EMA, 2012.

Source: Texas eHARS data as of July 2013. *Definition:* number of adults and adolescents (≥ 13 years of age as of end of the year 2011) residing in Texas diagnosed with HIV infection through 2012 and living with HIV infection on 12/31/2012.

In HIV Care: No. of diagnosed persons in the Houston EMA who have a "met need" for HIV care, 2012. Source: TXDHS, HIV Unmet Need Project, 2012. *Definition:* evidence of ≥ 1 of the following in the previous 12 months: (1) an HIV primary medical care visit, (2) a prescription for HIV medication, or (3) an HIV monitoring test (e.g., a viral load or CD-4 test) (HRSA). Data sources are: eHARS, ELR, ARIES, ADAP, Medicaid, and private payer data.

Retained in HIV Care: No. of diagnosed persons retained in HIV care in the Houston EMA, 2012. Source: TXDHS, TXDHS, HIV Unmet Need Project, 2012. *Definition:* evidence of ≥ 2 primary care visits or HIV monitoring tests at least 3 to 6 months apart in a 12-month period (NHAS). Data sources are: eHARS, ELR, ARIES, ADAP, Medicaid, and private payer data.

Suppressed Viral Load: No. of diagnosed persons with viral load suppression (VL test ≤ 200 copies/mL) at last lab visit in the Houston EMA, 2012. Source: Texas Electronic Lab Records, 2012.



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