

HIV in the District of Columbia

Epidemic Proportions

- 2.7% of the D.C. population is living with HIV, exceeding the World Health Organization definition of 1% as a generalized epidemic.
- District residents between 40-49 years of age and black men have the highest rates of HIV at 6.6% and 6.3%, respectively. 5.5% of residents 50-59 years of age are living with HIV.
- Men who have sex with men and heterosexual contact are the two leading transmission modes of new HIV cases.

Disproportionate Impact among African Americans

- Approximately 1.8% of Hispanic residents and 1.2% of white residents are living with HIV, with African Americans disproportionately impacted at 4.3%.
- Although blacks accounted for just under half (46.0%) of District residents over the age of 12, three quarters (75.4%) of District residents living with HIV were black.

HIV among Women and Men

- Approximately 4.2% of men and 1.4% of women in D.C. are diagnosed and living with HIV.
- Men accounted for less than half (46.7%) of District residents but almost three-quarters (72.3%) of living HIV cases.
- Among District women, black women accounted for the majority of living HIV cases (92.4%).

Hopeful Trends

- The number of newly diagnosed HIV cases in the District decreased slightly from 853 cases in 2009 to 835 cases in 2010, however there has been a 24% reduction from 1,103 cases in 2006.
- The number of newly diagnosed HIV cases among whites in DC decreased by 36% from 171 cases in 2006 to 109 cases in 2010. The number of newly diagnosed HIV cases among blacks in DC decreased by 24% from 857 cases in 2006 to 648 in 2010.
- There have been no children born with HIV in DC since 2009.
- There was a 72% decrease in the number of newly diagnosed HIV cases attributable to injection drug use from 150 in 2007 – prior to the scale up of DC's needle exchange program – to 42 in 2010.
- The number of deaths among persons with HIV decreased by almost half from 399 in 2006 to 207 in 2010.

Source: All data from, *Government of the District of Columbia, Department of Health, 2011 Annual Report, HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis, STD, and TB Epidemiology in the District of Columbia*, available at www.doh.dc.gov/hahsta.