



**Massachusetts HIV/AIDS Epidemiologic Profile:
Data as of 2/1/2021
Population Report: Adolescents and Young Adults**

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Requests for additional data

<https://www.mass.gov/lists/infectious-disease-data-reports-and-requests>

Slide sets for HIV/AIDS Epidemiologic Profile Reports

<https://www.mass.gov/lists/hivaids-epidemiologic-profiles>

ADOLESCENTS AND YOUNG ADULTS

N=245 13%

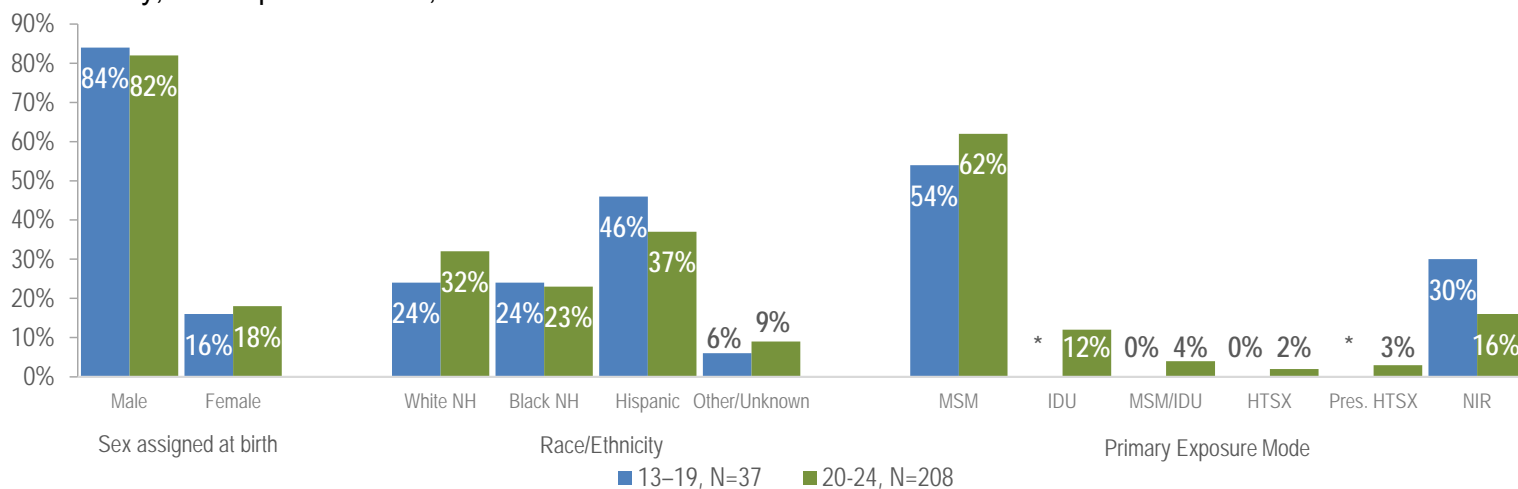
of new HIV diagnoses from 2017-2019 were among adolescents and young adults

N=416 2%

of persons living with HIV infection in MA as of 12/31/2019 were adolescents and young adults

KEY FACT: Nationally, from 2017 to 2019, 21% of HIV infections were diagnosed among adolescents and young adults (aged 13 to 24 years),ⁱ compared to 13% in Massachusetts.

FIGURE 1. Individuals diagnosed with HIV infection at age 13–19 years vs. 20–24 years by sex assigned at birth, race/ethnicity, and exposure mode, Massachusetts 2017–2019

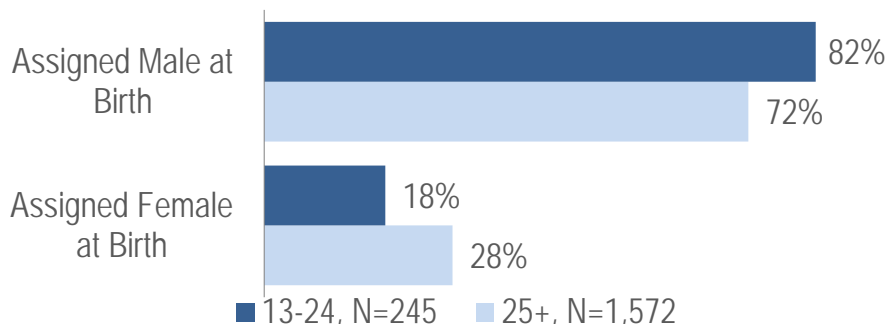


* Values less than five are suppressed for populations less than 50,000 or for populations of unknown size. Percentages do not add up to 100% due to suppressed values. NH=non-Hispanic, MSM=male-to-male sex, IDU= injection drug use, HTSX=heterosexual sex, Pres.=presumed, NIR=no identified risk

- Among adolescents and young adults (aged 13–24 years) recently diagnosed with HIV infection (2017–2019), 85% (N=208) were 20 to 24 years of age and 15% (N=37) were 13 to 19 years of age.
- The distribution by sex assigned at birth was similar for youth recently diagnosed with HIV infection at age 13–19 years and those diagnosed at age 20–24 years.
- A smaller proportion of youth diagnosed with HIV infection at age 13–19 years than at age 20–24 years was white (non-Hispanic) (24% vs. 32%), and a larger proportion was Hispanic/Latino (46% vs. 37%).
- The proportion of youth recently diagnosed with HIV infection at age 13–19 years with no identified risk for HIV exposure mode (30%) was nearly double that among youth diagnosed at age 20–24 years (16%).

SEX ASSIGNED AT BIRTH

FIGURE 2. HIV infection diagnoses by age at HIV diagnosis and sex assigned at birth, Massachusetts 2017–2019



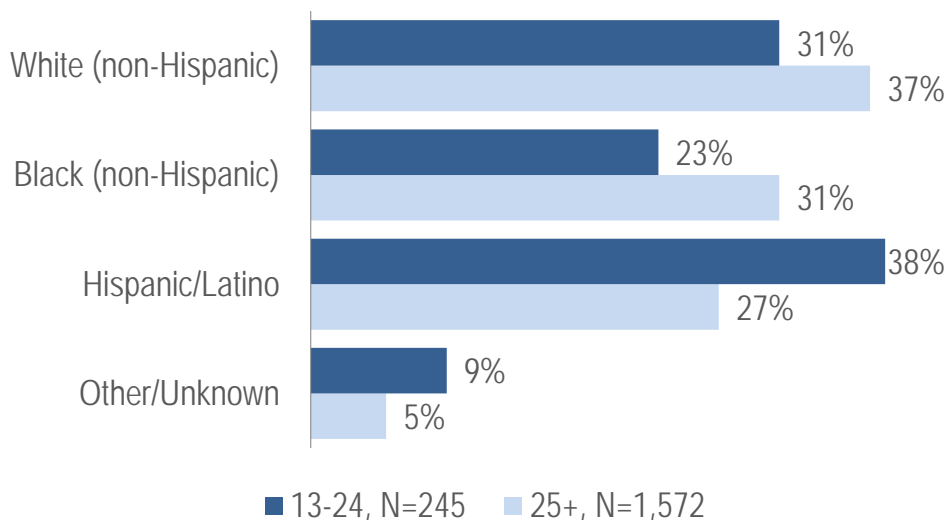
- A larger proportion of adolescents and young adults recently diagnosed with HIV infection at age 13–24 years (82%) than at age 25 years and older (72%) was assigned male at birth (AMAB).

ⁱ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. HIV Surveillance Report, 2019; vol.32. <http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/library/reports/hiv-surveillance.html>. Published May 2021. Accessed [11/2/2021].

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RACE/ETHNICITY

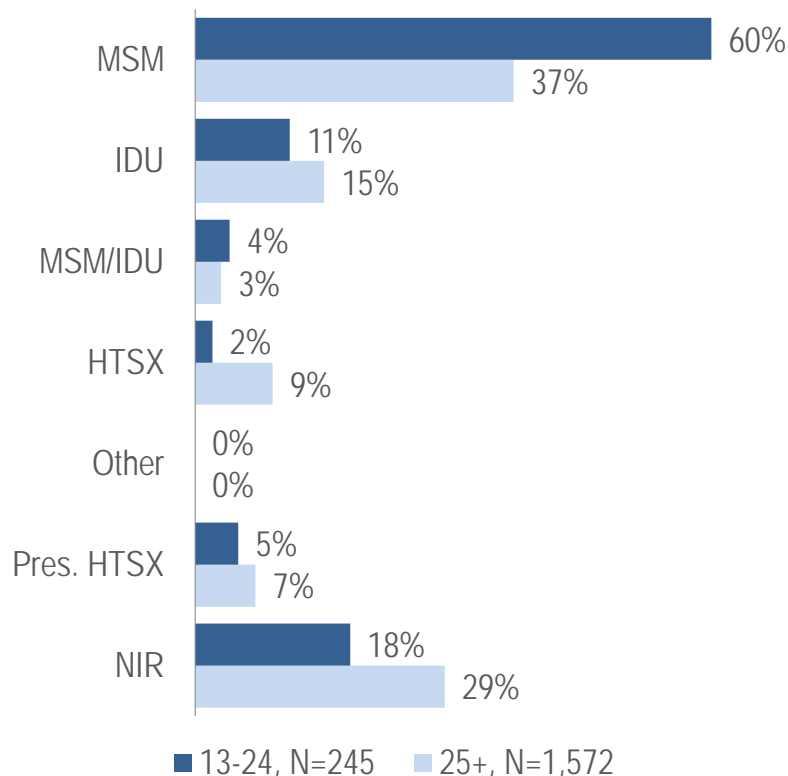
FIGURE 3. HIV infection diagnoses by age at HIV diagnosis and race/ethnicity, Massachusetts 2017–2019



- While the largest proportion of adolescents and young adults recently diagnosed with HIV infection at age 13–24 years was Hispanic/Latino (38%), the largest proportion of individuals recently diagnosed at age 25 years and older was white (non-Hispanic) (37%).

EXPOSURE MODE

FIGURE 4. HIV infection diagnoses by age at HIV diagnosis and exposure mode, Massachusetts 2017–2019



KEY FACT

- A larger proportion of individuals recently diagnosed with HIV infection at age 13–24 years (60%) than at age 25 years and older (37%) had MSM exposure mode.

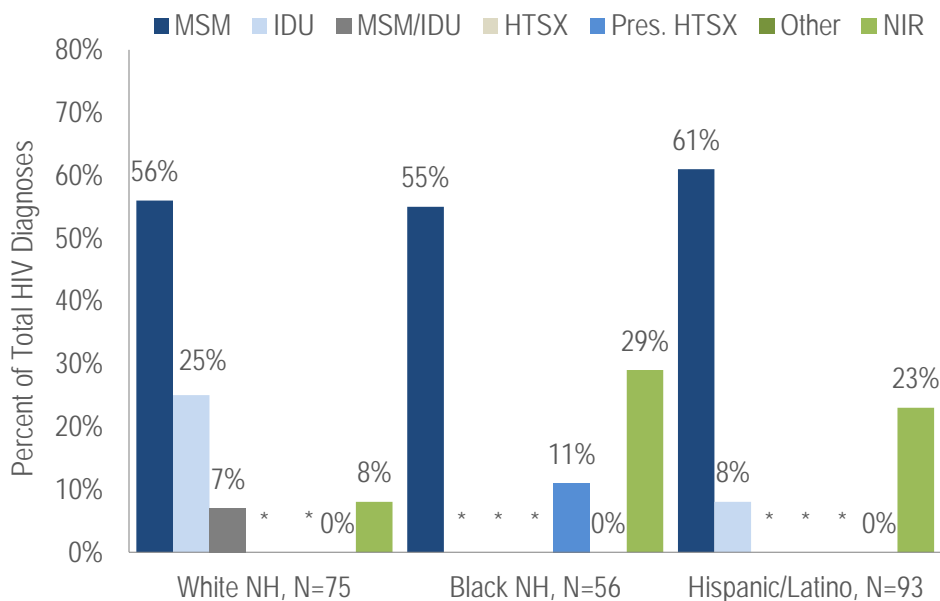
KEY FACT

- A larger proportion of individuals AMAB recently diagnosed with HIV infection at age 13–24 years (73%, N=148/202) than at age 25 years and older (51%, N=574/1,127) had MSM exposure mode.

MSM=male-to-male sex, IDU= injection drug use, HTSX=heterosexual sex, Pres.=presumed, NIR=no identified risk

ADOLESCENTS AND YOUNG ADULTS

FIGURE 5. HIV infection diagnoses among individuals aged 13–24 years by race/ethnicity and exposure mode, Massachusetts 2017–2019



* Values less than five are suppressed for populations less than 50,000 or for populations of unknown size. Percentages do not add up to 100% due to suppressed values.

- The proportion of adolescents and young adults (aged 13–24 years) recently diagnosed with MSM exposure mode was 61% among Hispanic/Latino youth, 56% among white (non-Hispanic) youth, and 55% among black (non-Hispanic) youth.
- IDU was the exposure mode for a larger proportion of adolescents and young adults (aged 13–24 years) recently diagnosed with HIV among white (non-Hispanic) youth (25%) than among other race/ethnicities.

AREA OF RESIDENCE

TABLE 1. Massachusetts cities/townsⁱ with the highest percentage of HIV diagnoses among adolescents and young adults (13–24 years old), 2017–2019

	HIV Diagnoses Among 13–24 Year-Olds (N)	HIV Diagnoses Among 13–24 Year-Olds as Percent of Total HIV Diagnoses (%)
Massachusetts Total	245	13%
Top Cities/Towns		
Springfield	19	24%
Framingham	6	23%
Waltham	5	20%
Quincy	5	18%
Worcester	17	16%
Lawrence	10	16%
Cambridge	5	15%
Malden	5	15%
All Other Cities/Townsⁱⁱ	173	12%

ⁱ City/town is based on residence at HIV infection diagnosis.

ⁱⁱ All Other Cities/Towns includes individuals diagnosed in a correctional facility

- Among cities and towns with at least 20 reported HIV diagnoses in 2017–2019, Springfield, Framingham, and Waltham had the largest proportions of HIV infections diagnosed among adolescents and young adults (aged 13–24 years old). Each had at least 20% of new HIV infections diagnosed between the ages of 13 and 24 years.

INFORMATION FROM ADDITIONAL DATA SOURCES

Massachusetts Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS): An anonymous survey of public high school students conducted every odd year that collects data on health-related behaviors that may threaten the health and safety of young people.

Sexual behaviors

- Respondents to the 2019 Massachusetts YRBS reported the following rates of sexual behaviors:
 - ever having sexual intercourse: 36.9% (95% Confidence Interval [CI]: 32.8%–41.3%, n=1,946);
 - sexual intercourse in the past three months: 26.9% (95% CI: 23.6%–30.4% n=1,943);
 - condom use at last intercourse: 51.4% (95% CI: 45.3%–57.4%, n=427);
 - alcohol or drug use at last intercourse: 23.4% (95% CI: 19.5%–27.9%, n=434);
 - having four or more lifetime sexual partners: 7.8% (95% CI: 6.3%–9.5%, n=1,938); and
 - sexual intercourse before age 13: 2.5% (95% CI: 1.7%–3.4%, n=1,951).

Drug use

Both injection and non-injection substance use have been documented to increase risk for HIV and hepatitis C virus infection.

- Respondents to the 2019 Massachusetts YRBS reported the following rates of drug use:
 - ever using marijuana: 41.9% (95% CI: 37.5%–46.4%, n=1,917);
 - ever using cocaine: 3.7% (95% CI: 2.8%–5.0%, n=1,937);
 - ever using ecstasy 3.4% (95% CI: 2.4%–4.9%, n=1,933);
 - ever using methamphetamines: 2.2% (95% CI: 1.4%–3.5%, n=2,162); and
 - ever using heroin: 1.9% (95% CI: 1.2%–3.0%, n=2,152).

Data Source for Youth Risk Behavior Survey Data: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). 2019 High School Youth Risk Behavior Survey Data. Available at <http://nccd.cdc.gov/youthonline/>. Accessed on [9/2/2020] CDC, Accessed at Youth Online, <https://nccd.cdc.gov/Youthonline/App/Default.aspx>.