# Human Immunodeficiency Virus Infections Among Adults and Adolescents in New Mexico

HIV Surveillance and Epidemiology

New Mexico Department of Health

Annual Report

2018



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https://nmhealth.org/about/erd/ideb/haep/

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The HIV Epidemiology and Surveillance Program would like to thank the many dedicated individuals who contribute to HIV surveillance in New Mexico. These providers, laboratories, and surveillance staff support the collection of data upon which this report is based. HIVSEP also thanks its partners within the New Mexico Department of Health, including the Public Health Division's HIV Prevention, HIV Services, and Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) Programs. This publication was supported by Cooperative Agreement Number NU62PS924535 from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of the CDC.



#### **Confidential HIV Case Report**

State regulations\* require reporting of all HIV infection diagnosed or treated in New Mexico.

Reports may be phoned to: (505) 476-3515 or securely faxed to (505) 476-3544, or mailed to:

New Mexico Department of Health

1190 St. Francis Dr., N 1359

1190 St. Francis Dr., N 1359 Santa Fe, NM 87502-6110 Attn: Surveillance Coordinator

Person Completing Form:	Facility:		Phone:	Date:
Patient Name	Dat	e of Birth	Phone	
Patient Alias	Pati	ent Maiden Name		
Current Address	City	County	State	Zip Code
Sex at Birth   Male   Female Current Geno Is patient currently pregnant?   Yes   No   Ur	■Unknown ■Other gen			
Ethnicity □ Hispanic □ Non-Hispanic Race □	White ■ Native Am ■ Africa	n Am Asian/Pacific Is	lander Other	(Specify)
Social Security #	Country of Birth			(Specify)
Vital Status □Living □Deceased Date of Deat	h	Place of Death		
				(City, State)
Sex with male □Yes □ No □ Unknown Sex w	vith female  Yes  No	Jnknown Injected nor	-prescription dru	gs 🗆 Yes 🗀 No 🗖 Unknown
Received clotting factor before diagnosis	es   No   Unknown If yes	specify Factor VIII	■Factor IX ■Othe	er
Received transfusion of blood components be	fore diagnosis   Yes   No	■Unknown If yes, spe	cify year First	Last
Received tissue/organ transplant or artificial in	nsemination before diagnos	s □Yes □No □Unkno	own If yes, specif	y year
Worked in health-care or clinical laboratory se	tting before diagnosis   Ye	□No □Unknown I	f yes, specify year	
HETEROSEXUAL RELATIONS WITH ANY OF 1	THE FOLLOWING (applies or	ly to those reporting h	eterosexual conta	ct):
Injection drug user □Yes □No □Unkno	own Bisexual male	Yes ■No ■Unknown		
Person with hemophilia/coagulation disc	order □Yes □No □Unkno	wn Transfusion reci	pient □Yes □No	■Unknown
Transplant recipient □Yes □No □Unk	nown Person with docum	ented HIV Infection or	AIDS □Yes □No	□Unknown
Earliest HIV diagnosis date	Test type(s) □EIA/ELISA	■ WB ■ Multispot ■	detectable viral lo	adcopies/m
Residence at HIV diagnosis	Fa <sup>c</sup>	ility of HIV diagnosis		
(City, State				
Ever progressed to AIDS TYes No Unkn	OWN (if No or Unknown, skip thi	section)		
Earliest <u>AIDS</u> diagnosis date	■CD4 count			
Residence at AIDS diagnosis		CD4 count res ility of AIDS diagnosis	sult)	(CD4 % result)
(City, S Opportunistic Illness(es) ☐Yes ☐None If				

### To report HIV or AIDS in New Mexico:

New Mexico Department of Health 1190 Saint Francis Drive, N1350 Santa Fe, NM 87502-6110

**Attention: HIV Surveillance Coordinator** 

Phone: (505) 476-3515 Secure fax: (505) 476-3544

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#### INTRODUCTION

The New Mexico Department of Health (NMDOH) Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Epidemiology and Surveillance Program (HIVSEP) collects, analyzes, and disseminates surveillance data on HIV infections in New Mexico. This annual surveillance report summarizes information about HIV infections diagnosed in New Mexico by the end of calendar 2018 and analyzed after the end of calendar year 2019. This information is used by NMDOH's public health partners including other agencies, health departments, nonprofit organizations, academic institutions, health care providers and the public to help optimize prevention efforts, plan services, allocate resources, develop policy, and monitor trends in HIV infection.

The 2018 HIV Surveillance Report includes data for adult and adolescent (aged 13 years or older) New Mexicans who were newly diagnosed with an HIV infection and who were living with HIV through the end of 2018. To ensure that the 2018 data are complete and accurate, HIVSEP conducts data collection and follow-up activities for 12 months following the end of 2018 before analyses are performed. Case ascertainment was based on the 2014 revised HIV case definition for adults and adolescents age ≥ 13 years, which updated the laboratory criteria for a confirmed case due to the development of new testing algorithms.<sup>2</sup>

#### ORGANIZATION OF THE REPORT

The 2018 HIV Surveillance Report is organized into five sections:

- 1. New Diagnoses of HIV Infection Stage 1 through Stage 3 (i.e., Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome or AIDS)
- 2. Persons Living with Diagnosed HIV Infection or with Infection Ever Classified as Stage 3 (i.e., AIDS)
- 3. New Diagnoses of HIV Infection and Persons Living with Diagnosed HIV by New Mexico Public Health Region
- 4. Deaths and Survival after a Diagnosis of HIV Infection or Stage 3 HIV Infection (i.e., AIDS)
- 5. Methods and Limitations

HIVSEP staff are available to assist with interpretation of these data and to provide additional analyses. Surveillance data will continue to guide HIV prevention strategies and resource allocation for care services in New Mexico. For questions or comments, please call the *HIV Report Hotline* at (505) 476-3515.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Selik RM, Mokotff ED, Branson B, Owen SM, Whitmore S, Hall HI. Revised surveillance case definition for HIV infection – United States, 2014. MMWR 2014;63(RR-03):1-10.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Schneider E, Whitmore S, Glynn KM, Dominguez K, Mitsch A, McKenna MT. Revised surveillance case definitions for HIV infection among adults, adolescents, and children aged <18 months and for HIV infection and AIDS among children aged 18 months to <13 years – United States, 2008. MMWR Recomm Rep 2008, 57:1-12.

#### **OVERVIEW NEW MEXICO 2018**

#### **SECTION 1: NEW DIAGNOSES OF HIV INFECTION STAGE 1 THROUGH STAGE 3**

#### **NEWLY DIAGNOSED STAGE 1 AND STAGE 2 HIV INFECTIONS**

During 2018, 125 adult and adolescent (ages 13 years and older) New Mexico residents were diagnosed with a new HIV infection (**Table 1.1**). This represents a 9.7% decrease from the number of persons diagnosed in 2017. This is consistent with a slight downward trend in new diagnoses of HIV infection observed in New Mexico from 2009 to 2018 (**Figure 1.1**). Over the most recent five years, there have been an average of 135 new diagnoses per year with no consistent upward or downward trend. The current rate of new diagnoses of HIV infection is 7.1 per 100,000 individuals 13 years and older in New Mexico. This is about half of the 2018 average rate in the United States (13.3 per 100,000). New Mexico is considered a low-moderate HIV morbidity state.

Males constituted the overwhelming majority (79.2%) of people with new diagnoses of HIV infection, with a rate of 11.5 per 100,000. The male rate of these infections is almost 6 times higher than the female rate of 2.0 per 100,000. However, the proportion of newly diagnosed HIV infections among females increased yearly over the last four years from 6.7% of total infections in 2015 to 14.4% in 2018. There was also an increase in new infections among transgender individuals in 2018 compared to the previous four years. An increase in awareness about the importance of collecting gender identity information on newly reported cases may have contributed to this increase.

Hispanic New Mexicans composed 54.4% of new HIV infections, followed by American Indian/Alaska Natives (AIAN) (19.2%) and White individuals (18.4%) (**Table 1.1**). However, African Americans had the highest rate of new diagnoses (18.4 per 100,000), followed by AIANs (15.6 per 100,000) and Hispanic people (8.3 per 100,000). For both, African Americans and AIANs the rates were 5.8 and 4.9 times higher, respectively, compared to White individuals (3.2 per 100,000). From 2017 to 2018, the rate of new HIV infections increased among Hispanics by 9.2% from 7.6 per 100,000 to 8.3 per 100,000 whereas rates in African Americans, AIANs, and White individuals decreased (**Figure 1.2**).

Although the total number of new HIV infections decreased over the last 3 years, there were differences observed across age groups (**Table 1.1**). As in the prior four years, persons 25-34 years of age had the highest proportion (40.8%) and rate (17.9 per 100,000) of new HIV infections in 2018. The rate in this age group increased by 24.3% in the past year, from 14.4 to 17.9 per 100,000 (**Figure 1.3**). There was also a 34.4% increase in the rate

of new infections among persons 45-54 years of age from 6.5 to 8.7 per 100,000 within the same period. In comparison, the number of new HIV infections in adolescents and young adults 13-24 years old decreased by 43.9% from 36 to 20. The rate of new HIV infections among persons 35-44 years also dropped by 28.6% (**Figure 1.3**). As New Mexico is a low morbidity state for HIV, small changes in numbers (e.g., 16 to 21 in the 45-54 years age group) may be due to the normal fluctuation of new diagnoses over time and may not represent a statistically significant change in the age-specific rate.

### OF THE 37,968 NEW HIV DIAGNOSES IN THE UNITED STATES (US) AND DEPENDENT AREAS IN 2018:

69% WERE AMONG GAY, BISEXUAL, AND OTHER MEN WHO HAVE SEX WITH MEN

24% WERE AMONG HETEROSEXUALS 7% WERE AMONG PEOPLE WHO INJECT DRUGS

Source: CDC, Diagnoses of HIV Infection in the United States and Dependent Areas, 2018 (updated), 2020.

NMDOH follows definitions from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in categorizing persons living with HIV by risk factor. Gay/bisexual men and other men who have sex with men (MSM) are historically the most affected group with HIV infection in the United States, as well as in New Mexico. Sixty-nine percent of new HIV diagnoses in the U.S. in 2018 were among MSM. In New Mexico, MSM represent the route of transmission in 67.7% of new infections in males (Figure 1.4). Injection drug use (IDU) and persons with both the MSM and IDU risk factors represent the next most frequent modes of transmission (7.1% each). Since 2015, the proportion of newly diagnosed HIV infections has decreased in males and increased in females. Due to the way that risk categories are defined by CDC, most females living with HIV were categorized as unknown or unreported risk category (NIR or NRR), which accounted for more than three-quarters of all females with new HIV infections in 2018, followed by IDU (16.7%) (Figure 1.5) (See Technical Note about transmission categories). It is likely that high risk heterosexual contact (HRH) plays an important role in new HIV infections for women. More information on the risk behaviors of male partners is needed to correctly categorize transmission of HIV infection among heterosexual females. Improving the completeness of risk factor information collected for all new HIV infections will help to better target prevention activities and connect individuals to care.





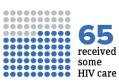
At the end of 2018, an estimated 1,173,900 people had HIV.





It is important for people to know their HIV status so they can take medicine to treat HIV if they have the virus. Taking mediane every day can make the viral load undetectable. People who get and keep an undetectable viral load (or stay virally suppressed) have effectively no risk of transmitting HIV to HIV-negative sex partners.

Although more than half of adults and adolescents with HIV are virally suppressed, more work is needed to increase these rates. For every 100 adults and adolescents with HIV in 2018:



were retained in care †



were virally suppressed ‡

\*11 out of 17 Southern states fell below this estimate.
† Had 2 viral load or CD4 tests at least 3 months apart in a year.
‡ Based on most recent viral load test.

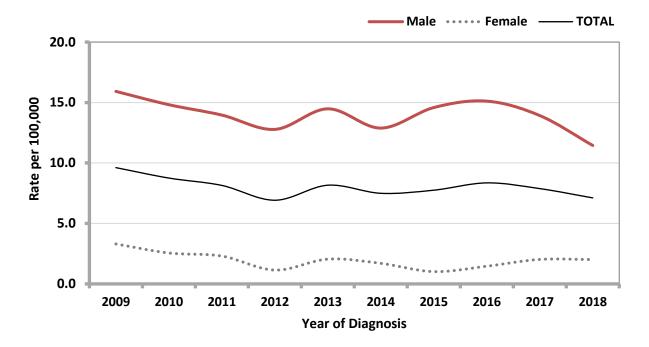
Source: CDC. Estimated HIV Incidence and prevalence in the United States 2014–2018. HIV Surveillance Supplemental Report 2019;25(1). Source: CDC. Selected national HIV prevention and care outcomes (slides). Accessed May 20, 2020.

**Table 1.1** New Diagnoses of HIV Infection Among Adults & Adolescents, by Year of Diagnosis & Selected Characteristics, 2014—2018, New Mexico

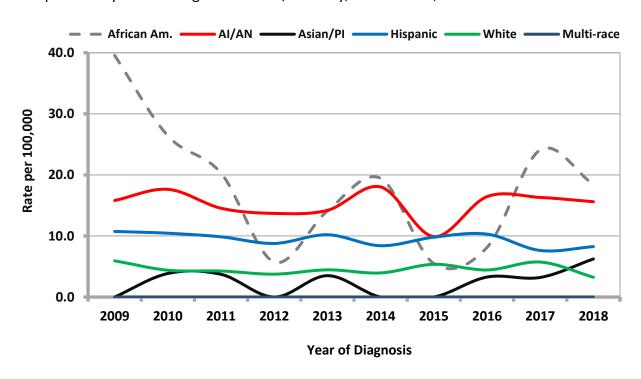
	N	2014		N	2015		N	2016		N	2017		N	2018**	
	IN	Rate <sup>a</sup>	% of Total	N	Rate	% of Total	N	Rate <sup>a</sup>	% of Total	N	Rate	% of Total	IN	Rate	% of Tota
TOTAL	130	7.5		135	7.8		146	8.4		138	7.9	-	125	7.1	
SEX		-						-	-					-	_
Male	110	12.9	84.6%	125	14.6	92.6%	130	15.1	89.0%	120	13.9	87.0%	99	11.5	79.2%
Female	15	1.7	11.5%	9	1.0	6.7%	13	1.5	8.9%	18	2.0	13.0%	18	2.0	14.49
Transgender (all)	5		3.8%	1		0.7%	3		2.1%	0		0.0%	8		6.4%
RACE/ETHNICIT Y	,														
African Am.	7	19.4	5.4%	2	5.5	1.5%	3	8.1	2.1%	9	24.1	6.5%	7	18.4	5.6%
AI/AN	27	18.0	20.8%	15	9.9	11.1%	25	16.4	17.1%	25	16.3	18.1%	24	15.6	19.2%
Asian/PI	0	0.0	0.0%	0	0.0	0.0%	1	3.3	0.7%	1	3.2	0.7%	2	6.2	1.6%
Hispanic	66	8.4	50.8%	78	9.8	57.8%	83	10.3	56.8%	62	7.6	44.9%	68	8.3	54.4%
White	29	3.9	22.3%	39	5.4	28.9%	32	4.4	21.9%	41	5.7	29.7%	23	3.2	18.4%
Multi-race	1		0.8%	1		0.7%	2		1.4%	0		0.0%	1		0.8%
AGE															
13-24	24	6.8	18.5%	31	8.9	23.0%	31	9.0	21.2%	36	10.6	26.1%	20	5.9	16.0%
25-34	48	17.1	36.9%	50	17.8	37.0%	58	20.5	39.7%	41	14.4	29.7%	51	17.9	40.8%
35-44	26	10.6	20.0%	26	10.6	19.3%	31	12.6	21.2%	33	13.3	23.9%	24	9.5	19.2%
45-54	21	7.9	16.2%	19	7.3	14.1%	17	6.7	11.6%	16	6.5	11.6%	21	8.7	16.8%
55+	11	1.9	8.5%	9	1.5	6.7%	9	1.5	6.2%	12	1.9	8.7%	9	1.4	7.2%
TRANSMISSION C	ATEGO	RY*					-	_	-					_	-
MALE															
MSM	77		70.0%	78		62.4%	79		60.8%	81		67.5%	67		67.79
IDU	9		8.2%	8		6.4%	6		4.6%	4		3.3%	7		7.1%
MSM/IDU	4		3.6%	14		11.2%	9		6.9%	9		7.5%	7		7.1%
HRH	3		2.7%	3		2.4%	4		3.1%	2		1.7%	0		0.0%
Other	0		0.0%	0		0.0%	0		0.0%	0		0.0%	0		0.0%
NIR or NRR	12		10.9%	22		17.6%	32		24.6%	24		20.0%	18		18.2%
FEMALE															
IDU	1		6.7%	3		33.3%	2		15.4%	4		22.2%	3		16.7%
HRH	9		60.0%	1		11.1%	3		23.1%	1		5.6%	0		0.0%
Perinatal	0		0.0%	0		0.0%	0		0.0%	0		0.0%	0		0.0%
Other	0		0.0%	0		0.0%	0		0.0%	0		0.0%	0		0.0%
NIR or NRR	5		33.3%	5		55.6%	8		61.5%	13		72.2%	15		83.3%
REGION															
Northwest	26	14.1	20.0%	25	13.5	18.5%	23	12.5	15.8%	22	12.0	15.9%	28	15.3	22.4%
Northeast	17	6.7	13.1%	12	4.7	8.9%	20	7.9	13.7%	11	4.3	8.0%	13	5.1	10.4%
Metro	64	8.5	49.2%	64	8.4	47.4%	76	9.9	52.1%	63	8.2	45.7%	55	7.1	44.0%
Southeast	7	3.0	5.4%	14	5.9	10.4%	9	3.8	6.2%	18	7.6	13.0%	11	4.6	8.8%
Southwest	16	5.2	12.3%	20	6.5	14.8%	18	5.8	12.3%	24	7.8	17.4%	17	5.5	13.6%
Missing	0		0.0%	0		0.0%	0		0.0%	0		0.0%	1		0.8%

\*Percentages represent the proportion of persons with the risk behavior from the total respective gender group (i.e., denominator was the total number of males or females for the respective analysis year). <sup>a</sup>Number of cases per 100,000 NM residents ≥13 years of age.

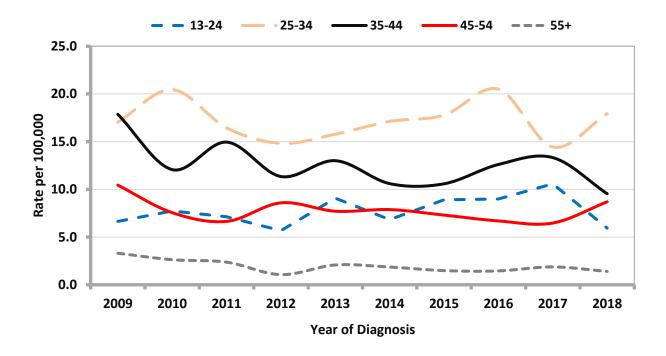
**Figure 1.1** Rate of New Diagnoses of HIV Infection Among Adults & Adolescents per 100,000 Population by Year of Diagnosis & Sex, New Mexico, 2009—2018



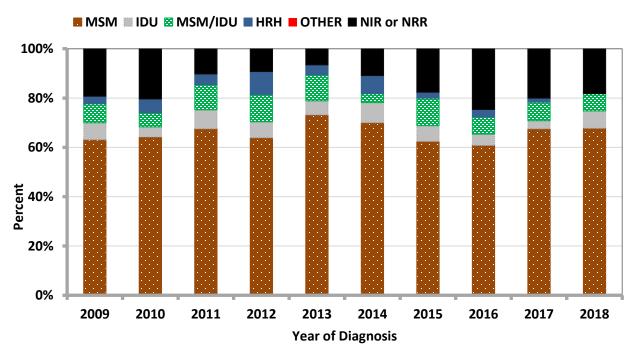
**Figure 1.2** Rate of New Diagnoses of HIV Infection Among Adults & Adolescents per 100,000 Population by Year of Diagnosis & Race/Ethnicity, New Mexico, 2009—2018



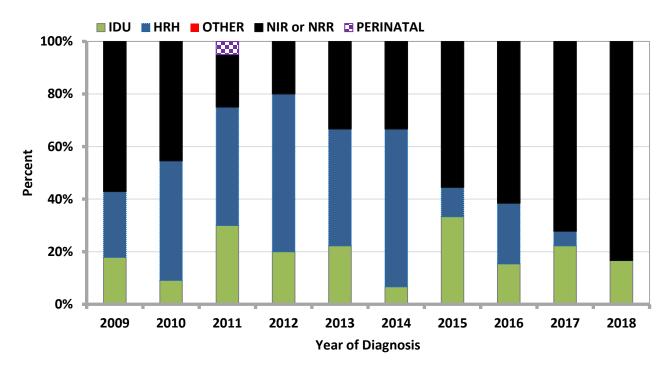
**Figure 1.3** Rate of New Diagnoses of HIV Infection Among Adults & Adolescents per 100,000 Population by Year of Diagnosis & Age (Years) at Diagnosis, New Mexico, 2009—2018



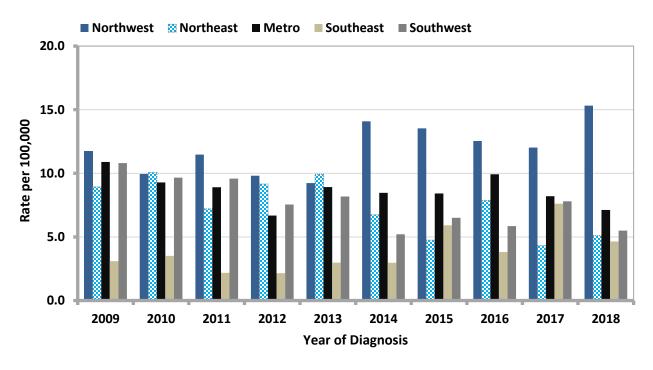
**Figure 1.4** Percent of New Diagnoses of HIV Infection Among Adult & Adolescent <u>Males</u> by Year of Diagnosis & <u>Transmission Category</u>, New Mexico, 2009—2018



**Figure 1.5**. Percent of New Diagnoses of HIV Infection Among Adult & Adolescent <u>Females</u> by Year of Diagnosis & <u>Transmission Category</u>, New Mexico, 2009—2018



**Figure 1.6** New Diagnoses of HIV Infection Among Adults & Adolescents by Year of Diagnosis & Region, New Mexico, 2009—2018

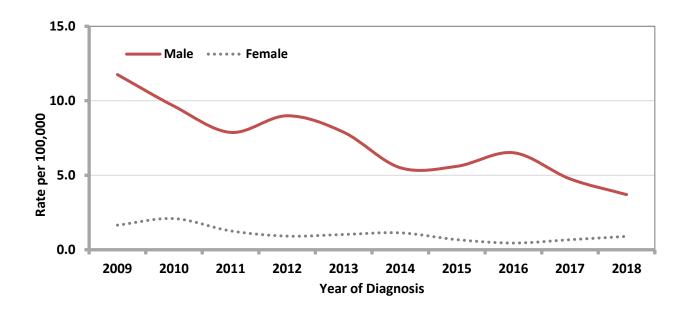


NMDOH has categorized the state into five regional areas for public health as a tool for planning and resource allocation. Over the last 5 years, the Northwest Region had the highest rate of new HIV infections, peaking in 2018 with 15.3 per 100,000, an increase of 27.3% compared to 2017 (**Figure 1.6**). The highly populated Metro Region had the largest number (55) of new HIV diagnoses in 2018, although the rate of new infections has declined annually over the last 3 years from 9.9 per 100,000 in 2016 to 7.1 per 100,000 in 2018. Rates in the southern half of NM, including the Southwest and Southeast Regions decreased by 38.9% and 29.2% respectively compared to 2017, which were the highest regional HIV rates in the last 5 years.

#### **NEWLY DIAGNOSED STAGE 3 HIV INFECTIONS (i.e., AIDS)**

During 2018, 43 individuals were newly classified as having a Stage 3 HIV Infection (i.e., AIDS) (**Table 1.2**). This continued the general downward trend among males over the past 10 years (**Figure 1.7**). However, females experienced a slight increase of new Stage 3 diagnoses over the last three years, from 0.5 per 100,000 in 2016 to 0.9 in 2018. This represents an average annual increase of 40%. Three transgender individuals were classified as Stage 3 in 2018. Although the largest proportion of new Stage 3 infections were among Hispanics (48.8%), African Americans had the highest new Stage 3 HIV rate in 2018 (15.3 per 100,000) (**Figure 1.8**). This represents the highest rate detected in the last five years with a doubling of newly diagnosed Stage 3 infections from 3 in 2017 to 6 in 2018. Interestingly, the cases among White individuals decreased 46.7% from 15 to 8 in the past year.

**Figure 1.7** Rate of New Stage 3 HIV Infection (i.e., AIDS) Among Adults & Adolescents per 100,000 Population by Year of Diagnosis & Sex, New Mexico, 2009—2018

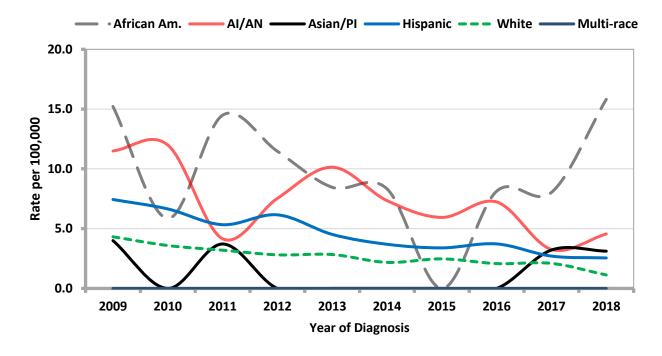


From 2017 to 2018, there was a 50% reduction in the number of new Stage 3 infections in young people 13 to 24 years of age from 8 to 4; and a 45.5% increase in adults aged 25 to 34 years from 11 to 16 (**Figure 1.9**). There has been an overall decrease in new Stage 3 infections in other age groups, except for those in the 45 to 54 years age group.

As new Stage 3 rates in the Metro Region declined over the last 5 years from 4.2 in 2014 to 1.7 in 2018, there was a 75% increase in the rate in the Southwest Region from 2017 to 2018 (**Figure 1.11**).

About 25% of persons with developed Stage 3 HIV infection or AIDS within 12 months after a diagnosis of HIV (data not shown).

**Figure 1.8** Rate of New Stage 3 HIV Infection (i.e., AIDS) Among Adults & Adolescents per 100,000 Population by Year of Diagnosis & Race/Ethnicity, New Mexico, 2009—2018



**Table 1.2** New Stage 3 HIV Infection (i.e., AIDS) Diagnoses Among Adults & Adolescents, by Year of Diagnosis & Selected Characteristics, 2014—2018, New Mexico

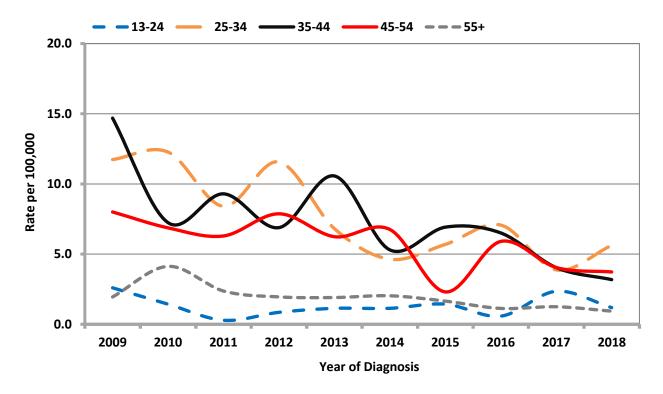
		2014			2015			2016			2017			2018**	
	N	Rate <sup>a</sup>	% of Total	N	Rate	% of Total	N	Rate <sup>a</sup>	% of Total	N	Rate	% of Total	N	Rate	% of Total
TOTAL	60	3.5	-	54	3.1		60	3.4		47	2.7		43	2.5	_
SEX		-						_	-				-		_
Male	47	5.5	78.3%	48	5.6	88.9%	56	6.5	93.3%	41	4.8	87.2%	32	3.7	74.4%
Female	10	1.1	16.7%	6	0.7	11.1%	4	0.5	6.7%	6	0.7	12.8%	8	0.9	18.6%
Transgender (all)	3		5.0%	0		0.0%	0		0.0%	0		0.0%	3		7.0%
RACE/ETHNICITY		<u>-</u>					_	_	_						_
African Am.	3	8.3	5.0%	0	0.0	0.0%	3	8.1	5.0%	3	8.0	6.4%	6	15.8	14.0%
AI/AN	11	7.3	18.3%	9	5.9	16.7%	11	7.2	18.3%	5	3.3	10.6%	7	4.6	16.3%
Asian/PI	0	0.0	0.0%	0	0.0	0.0%	0	0.0	0.0%	1	3.2	2.1%	1	3.1	2.3%
Hispanic	29	3.7	48.3%	27	3.4	50.0%	30	3.7	50.0%	22	2.7	46.8%	21	2.5	48.8%
White	16	2.2	26.7%	18	2.5	33.3%	15	2.1	25.0%	15	2.1	31.9%	8	1.1	18.6%
Multi-race	1		1.7%	0		0.0%	1		1.7%	1		2.1%	0		0.0%
AGE, years															
13-24	4	1.1	6.7%	5	1.4	9.3%	2	0.6	3.3%	8	2.4	17.0%	4	1.2	9.3%
25-34	13	4.6	21.7%	16	5.7	29.6%	20	7.1	33.3%	11	3.9	23.4%	16	5.6	37.2%
35-44	13	5.3	21.7%	17	6.9	31.5%	16	6.5	26.7%	10	4.0	21.3%	8	3.2	18.6%
45-54	18	6.8	30.0%	6	2.3	11.1%	15	5.9	25.0%	10	4.0	21.3%	9	3.7	20.9%
55+	12	2.0	20.0%	10	1.6	18.5%	7	1.1	11.7%	8	1.2	17.0%	6	0.9	14.0%
TRANSMISSION CAT	EGOR	Y*													
MALE															
MSM	28		59.6%	25		52.1%	29		51.8%	24		58.5%	20		62.5%
IDU	6		12.8%	5		10.4%	5		8.9%	2		4.9%	3		9.4%
MSM/IDU	2		4.3%	4		8.3%	4		7.1%	3		7.3%	0		0.0%
HRH	4		8.5%	1		2.1%	3		5.4%	0		0.0%	1		3.1%
NIR or NRR	7		14.9%	13		27.1%	15		26.8%	12		29.3%	7		21.9%
Perinatal	0		0.0%	0		0.0%	0		0.0%	0		0.0%	1		3.1%
FEMALE															
IDU	1		10.0%	1		17.0%	0		0.0%	1		17.0%	2		25.0%
HRH	6		60.0%	3		50.0%	2		50.0%	0		0.0%	2		25.0%
Other	0		0.0%	0		0.0%	0		0.0%	0		0.0%	0		0.0%
NIR or NRR	3		30.0%	2		33.0%	2		50.0%	5		8.0%	4		50%
REGION									-						
Northwest	9	4.9	15.0%	12	6.5	22.2%	12	6.5	20.0%	2	1.1	4.3%	8	4.4	18.6%
Northeast	7	2.8	11.7%	9	3.6	16.7%	10	3.9	16.7%	4	1.6	8.5%	4	1.6	9.3%
Metro	32	4.2	53.3%	17	2.2	31.5%	23	3.0	38.3%	22	2.9	46.8%	13	1.7	30.2%
Southeast Southwest	6 6	2.6 3.6	10.0% 10.0%	5 11	2.1 3.6	9.3% 20.4%	6 8	2.5 2.6	10.0% 13.3%	11 8	4.6 2.6	23.4% 17.0%	3 14	1.3 4.5	7.0% 32.6%
Missing	0	3.0	0.0%	0	3.0	0.0%	1	2.0	1.7%	0	2.0	0.0%	14		2.3%
iviissirig	U	-	0.0%	U		0.0%			1.7%	U		0.0%	- 1		2.5%

NOTE: Due to rounding, percentages may not total to 100%. \*\*Includes persons incarcerated in federal ICE facilities in NM.

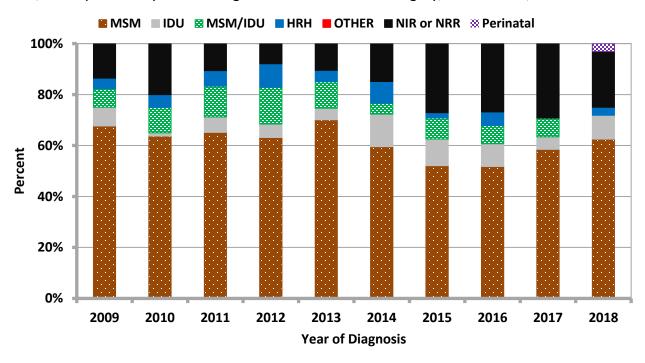
\*Percentages represent the proportion of persons with the risk behavior from the total respective gender group (i.e., denominator was the total number of males or females for the respective analysis year). 

\*Number of cases per 100,000 NM residents ≥13 years of age.

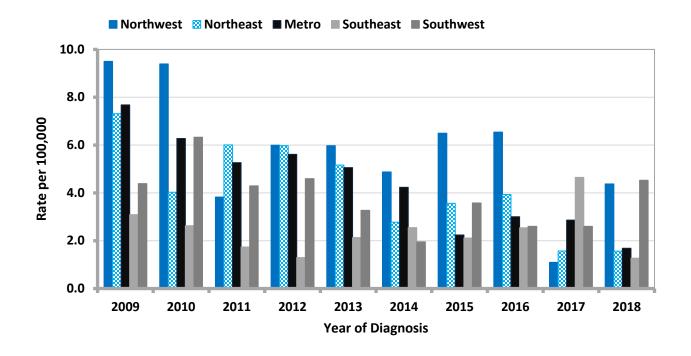
**Figure 1.9** Rate of New Stage 3 HIV Infection (i.e., AIDS) Among Adults & Adolescents per 100,000 Population by Year of Diagnosis & Age at Diagnosis, New Mexico, 2009—2018



**Figure 1.10** Percent of New Stage 3 HIV Infection (i.e., AIDS) Among Adult & Adolescent Males per 100,000 Population by Year of Diagnosis & Transmission Category, New Mexico, 2009—2018



**Figure 1.11** Rate of New Stage 3 HIV Infection (i.e., AIDS) Among Adults & Adolescents per 100,000 Population by Year of Diagnosis & Region, New Mexico, 2009—2018



# SECTION 2: PERSONS LIVING WITH DIAGNOSED HIV INFECTION OR WITH HIV INFECTION EVER CLASSIFIED AS STAGE 3 (I.E., AIDS)

By the end of 2018, a total of 3,875 persons were living with HIV infection (Stages 1 through 3) in New Mexico. More than half or 54.1% of these New Mexicans have were diagnosed with Stage 3 HIV infection in their lifetime. Males comprised 86.7% of the population living with HIV infection, followed by females (12.0%) and transgender individuals (1.3%) (**Table 2.1**). The highest prevalence rate was in African Americans (658.8 per 100,000) followed by Hispanics (216.7 per 100,000) and AIANs (215.9 per 100,000). Looking at the percentage of HIV Stage 1,2 and 3 infections in each racial/ethnic group, there was a higher proportion of HIV Stage 1/2 infections in African Americans compared to Stage 3, whereas there was a higher proportion of Stage 3 in Hispanic and White New Mexicans. Apart from the age at time of diagnosis, the demographic characteristics of persons currently living with HIV was comparable to persons that were newly diagnosed with HIV in 2018. The highest percent of individuals living with HIV infection (Stage 1 through 3) were in the 55+ age group (n=1,372), followed by the 45—54 (n=1,056), 35—44 (n=750), 25—34 (n=585), and 13—24 (n=112), reflecting the fact that individuals aged with the disease due to new medications and treatment options.

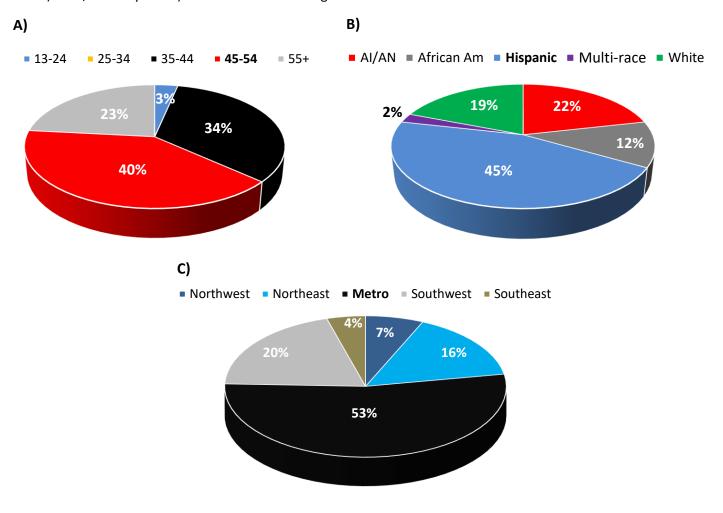
**Table 2.1** Adults & Adolescents Living with HIV or Stage 3 HIV infection (i.e., AIDS) by Selected Characteristics, Year-end 2018, New Mexico\*\*

			HIV		Stag	e 3 HIV Infe	ction		Total	
		N	Rate <sup>a</sup>	% of total	N total	Rate	% of	N	Rate <sup>a</sup>	% of total
TOTAL		1,777	101.1	45.9%	2,098	119.4	54.1%	3,875	220.5	100%
SEX		4 544	174.8	85.0%	1 0/17	213.6	88.0%	2 250	388.4	96 79/
	Male	1,511	174.0	65.0%	1,847	213.0	00.0%	3,358	300.4	86.7%
	male	237	26.6	13.3%	229	25.7	10.9%	466	52.2	12.0%
Transgender	(all)	29		1.6%	22		1.0%	51		1.3%
RACE/ETHNICITY								-		
Africa	n Am.	141	371.6	7.9%	109	287.3	5.2%	250	658.8	6.5%
	AI/AN	173	112.5	9.7%	159	103.4	7.6%	332	215.9	8.6%
As	ian/PI	16	49.9	0.9%	11	34.3	0.5%	27	84.2	0.7%
	spanic	847	102.8	47.7%	938	113.9	44.7%	1,785	216.7	46.1%
	White	573	80.7	32.2%	836	117.8	39.8%	1,409	198.5	36.4%
	ti-race	27		1.5%	45		2.1%	72		1.9%
AGE		00								
	13-24	89	26.4	5.0%	23	6.8	1.1%	112	33.2	2.9%
	25-34	431	151.4	24.3%	154	54.1	7.3%	585	205.5	15.1%
	35-44	417	165.8	23.5%	333	132.4	15.9%	750	298.2	19.4%
	45-54	408	168.9	23.0%	648	268.3	30.9%	1,056	437.2	27.3%
	55+	432	67.3	24.3%	940	146.4	44.8%	1,372	213.6	35.4%
TRANSMISSION C	ATEG	ORY <sup>*</sup>								
MALE	MCM	1073		74.00/	4004		60.09/	2.264		70.49/
	MSM	72		71.0%	1291		69.9%	2,364		70.4%
MCN	M/IDU	142		4.8% 9.4%	121		6.6% 11.0%	193 346		5.7%
IVISIV	HRH	61		9.4 % 4.1%	204		4.1%	137		10.3% 4.1%
					76					
	Other	3		0.2%	12		0.6%	15		0.4%
NIR or	NKK	160		10.6%	143		7.7%	303		9.0%
FEMALE	IDU	40		40.00/	00		20.20/	100		04.50/
	HRH	108		16.9%	60		26.2%	226		21.5%
				45.6%	118		51.5%			48.5%
	Other	4 85		1.7%	7 44		3.1%	11 129		2.4%
NIR or REGION	INIVE	00	-	35.9%	44		19.2%	129		27.7%
	hwest	196	107.2	11.0%	186	101.7	8.9%	382	208.9	9.9%
Nort	heast	278	108.8	15.6%	401	157.0	19.1%	679	265.8	17.5%
	Metro	893	115.6	50.3%	1,057	136.8	50.4%	1,950	252.4	50.3%
	heast	113	47.7	6.4%	123	51.9	5.9%	236	99.6	6.1%
	hwest	285	92.2	16.0%	342	39.8	15.4%	609	131.9	10.5%
	issing	12	-	0.7%	7	-	0.3%	19	-	0.5%
IVI	issiriy									

NOTE: Due to rounding, percentages may not total to 100%. \*\*Includes persons incarcerated in federal ICE facilities in NM in 2018.
\*Percentages represent the proportion of persons with the risk behavior from the total respective gender group (i.e., denominator was the total number of males or females for the respective analysis year). <sup>a</sup>Number of cases per 100,000 NM residents ≥13 years of age.

As there are still difficulties in collecting adequate information about gender identity, the number of transgender individuals living with HIV was likely underreported in New Mexico. Of the 51 transgender persons that live with HIV in New Mexico, 93.3% identify as Male to Female (MTF) and only 6.7% identify as Female to Male (FTM). The largest percentage of cases were in the 45- 54 years age group (40%) followed by 35-44 (34%) and 55+ (23%) years (Figure 2.1). Hispanic persons were by far the most prevalent racial/ethnic group (45%) among the HIV-positive transgender community. The majority of transgender persons living with HIV resided in the Metro Region (53%), followed by the Southwest (20%) and Northeast (16%) Regions. Currently trans women are still reported as men (sex at birth) when it comes to transmission risk, resulting in their transmission risk being reported as MSM and not as HRH. As trans women have the highest percentage of lifetime HIV infections, it is important to improve data collection and analysis in the future.

**Figure 2.1.** Transgender Individuals Living with HIV at Any Stage in New Mexico in 2018 by A) Age Group and B) Race/Ethnicity and C) New Mexico Health Region



### SECTION 3: NEW DIAGNOSES OF HIV INFECTION AND PERSONS LIVING WITH DIAGNOSED HIV INFECTION BY NM PUBLIC HEALTH REGION

The largest number of persons living with HIV infection in 2018 resided in the Metropolitan Region (n=1,950); however, the region with the highest rate of HIV was the Northeast (265.8 per 100.000) (**Table 3.3**).

Compared to other regions, the Northeast Region, which includes large cities like Santa Fe, had the largest percentage of HIV positive individuals who were White (48.9%) (**Table 3.1**). Most persons living with HIV in the Northeast Region were 55+ years old (48.3%), making this region of the state by far the "oldest" when it comes to HIV infected individuals, followed by the Metro Region (36.2%). The Northeast Region had an exceptionally high rate of African Americans (901.9 per 100,000) living with HIV, which was almost three times the rate of the Southeast (**Table 3.4**). Northwest New Mexico, home to the Navajo Nation, Zuni Pueblo, and the Jicarilla Apache Tribe, had the highest number (189) and proportion (49.5%) of HIV infections among AIAN in the state. (**Table 3.2**). Although transmission risk in New Mexico was mostly MSM for males and HRH for females, injection drug use was a common mode of transmission, especially in the Southwest Region for both males (20.0%) and females (22.4%) (**Table 3.5**) and in the Metro Region for females (26.5%). The percentage of "Other" transmission risk factors was very high for women in the Northwest Region, while it was negligible in the rest of the state.

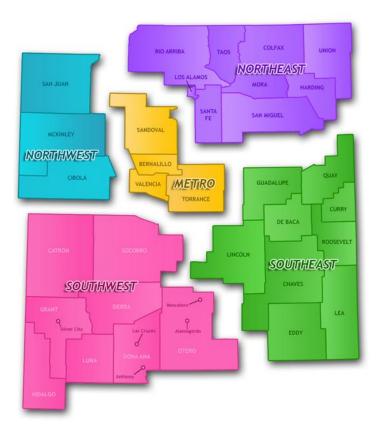


Table 3.1 New Diagnoses of HIV Infection Among Adults & Adolescents, 2014—2018, & Persons Living with HIV or Stage 3 HIV infection (i.e., AIDS), Year-end 2018, by Selected Characteristics — Northeast Region

	2014-2018 New Diagnoses of HIV					2018 I	Persons L	iving wi	ith HIV or	Stage 3 H	IIV Infec	tion	
	l	Diagnoses o	f HIV			HIV		Stag	e 3 HIV in	fection		Total	
	N	Average Annual Rate <sup>a</sup>	% of Total		N	Rate <sup>a</sup>	% of Total	N	Rate <sup>a</sup>	% of Total	N	Rate <sup>a</sup>	% of Total
TOTAL	73	28.6	-		278	108.8	40.9%	401	157.0	59.1%	679	265.8	-
SEX			_		_	_	_						
Male	64	51.1	87.7%		245	195.6	88.1%	365	291.3	91.0%	610	486.9	89.8%
Female	8	6.1	11.0%		31	23.8	11.2%	35	26.9	8.7%	66	50.7	9.7%
Transgender (all)	1		1.4%		2		0.7%	1		0.2%	3		0.4%
RACE/ETHNICITY													
African Am.	2	75.2	2.7%		10	375.8	3.6%	14	526.1	3.5%	24	901.9	3.5%
AI/AN	3	29.1	4.1%		9	87.2	3.2%	9	87.2	2.2%	18	174.5	2.7%
Asian/PI	2	49.0	2.7%		5	122.5	1.8%	5	122.5	1.2%	10	245.0	1.5%
Hispanic	44	32.4	60.3%		119	87.6	42.8%	165	121.5	41.1%	284	209.1	41.8%
White	22	21.5	30.1%		130	126.8	46.8%	202	197.0	50.4%	332	323.8	48.9%
Multi-race	0		0.0%		5		1.8%	6		1.5%	11		1.6%
AGE													
13-24	8	20.5	11.0%		6	15.3	2.2%	2	5.1	0.5%	8	20.5	1.2%
25-34	3	9.0	4.1%		42	125.9	15.1%	20	59.9	5.0%	62	185.8	9.1%
35-44	24	73.4	32.9%		53	162.2	19.1%	54	165.3	13.5%	107	327.5	15.8%
45-54	24	121.9	32.9%		62	171.7	22.3%	112	310.2	27.9%	174	481.9	25.6%
55+	7	6.1	9.6%		115	100.7	41.4%	213	186.5	53.1%	328	287.3	48.3%
TRANSMISSION CA	ATEG	ORY*				-	-					=	
MALE													
MSM	43		67.2%		189		77.1%	281		77.0%	470		77.0%
IDU	1		1.6%		10		4.1%	13		3.6%	23		3.8%
MSM/IDU	5		7.8%		20		8.2%	40		11.0%	60		9.8%
HRH	2		3.1%		8		3.3%	7		1.9%	15		2.5%
Other	0		0.0%		1		0.4%	1		0.3%	2		0.3%
NIR or NRR	13		20.3%		17		6.9%	23		6.3%	40		6.6%
FEMALE													
IDU	0		0.0%		4		12.9%	8		22.9%	12		18.2%
HRH	2		25.0%		14		45.2%	18		51.4%	32		48.5%
Other	0		0.0%		0		0.0%	1		2.9%	1		1.5%
Perinatal	0		0.0%		0		0.0%	0		0.0%	0		0.0%
NIR or NRR	6		75.0%		13		41.9%	8		22.9%	21		31.8%

NOTE: Due to rounding, percentages may not total to 100%.
\*Percentages represent the proportion of persons with the risk behavior from the total respective gender group (i.e., denominator was the total number of males or females for the respective analysis year). <sup>a</sup>Number of cases per 100,000 NM residents ≥13 years of age.

**Table.3.2** New Diagnoses of HIV Infection Among Adults & Adolescents, 2014—2018, & Persons Living with HIV or Stage 3 HIV infection (i.e., AIDS), Year-end 2018, by Selected Characteristics\*\* — **Northwest Region** 

		2014—2018 N		2	018 Person	s Living	with HIV	or Stage	ge 3 HIV infection			
	L	Diagnoses of	HIV		HIV		Stag	e 3 HIV Ir	nfection		Tota	I
	N	Average Annual Rate <sup>a</sup>	% of Total	N	Rate <sup>a</sup>	% of Total	N	Rate	% of Total	N	Rate	% of Total
TOTAL	124	67.8		196	107.2	51.3%	186	101.7	48.7%	382	208.9	
SEX												
Male	97	108.5	78.2%	158	176.7	80.6%	145	162.1	78.0%	303	338.8	79.3%
Female	19	20.3	15.3%	27	28.9	13.8%	37	39.6	19.9%	64	68.5	16.8%
Transgender (all)	8		6.5%	11		5.6%	4		2.2%	15		3.9%
RACE/ETHNICITY												
African Am.	0		0.0%	4	265.1	2.0%	2	132.5	1.1%	6	397.6	1.6%
AI/AN	81	88.3	65.3%	96	104.7	49.0%	93	101.4	50.0%	189	206.1	49.5%
Asian/PI	0		0.0%	0		0.0%	0		0.0%	0		0.0%
Hispanic	32	91.4	25.8%	61	174.3	31.1%	49	140.0	26.3%	110	314.2	28.8%
White	10	18.8	8.1%	32	60.2	16.3%	39	73.4	21.0%	71	133.5	18.6%
Multi-race	1		0.8%	3		1.5%	3		1.6%	6		1.6%
AGE												
13-24	19	51.2	15.3%	13	35.1	6.6%	1	2.7	0.5%	14	37.7	3.7%
25-34	65	201.9	52.4%	58	180.2	29.6%	19	59.0	10.2%	77	239.2	20.2%
35-44	16	57.9	12.9%	50	180.8	25.5%	47	170.0	25.3%	97	350.8	25.4%
45-54	17	67.6	13.7%	48	190.8	24.5%	59	234.6	31.7%	107	425.4	28.0%
55+	7	11.5	5.6%	27	44.4	13.8%	60	98.8	32.3%	87	143.2	22.8%
TRANSMISSION CATI	EGORY	,										
MALE												
MSM	53		54.6%	97		61.4%	84		57.9%	181		59.7%
IDU	10		10.3%	12		7.6%	15		10.3%	27		8.9%
MSM/IDU	3		3.1%	15		9.5%	14		9.7%	29		9.6%
HRH	3		3.1%	5		3.2%	10		6.9%	15		5.0%
Other	0		0.0%	0		0.0%	1		0.7%	1		0.3%
NIR or NRR	28		28.9%	29		18.4%	21		14.5%	50		16.5%
FEMALE												
IDU	2		10.5%	4		14.8%	5		13.5%	9		14.1%
HRH	7		36.8%	11		40.7%	23		62.2%	34		53.1%
Other	0		0.0%	0		0.0%	1		2.7%	1		1.6%
NIR or NRR	10		52.6%	12		44.4%	8		21.6%	20		31.3%

NOTE: Due to rounding, percentages may not total to 100%. \*\*Includes persons incarcerated in federal ICE facilities in NM in 2018. 
\*Percentages represent the proportion of persons with the risk behavior from the total respective gender group (i.e., denominator was the total number of males or females for the respective analysis year). 
<sup>a</sup>Number of cases per 100,000 NM residents ≥13 years of age.

Table 3.3 New Diagnoses of HIV Infection Among Adults & Adolescents, 2014—2018, & Persons Living with HIV or Stage 3 HIV infection (i.e., AIDS), Year-end 2018, by Selected Characteristics — Metropolitan Region

		2014-2018 N	lew		2018	Persons	Living w	ith HIV c	or Stage 3	HIV infe	ction	
		Diagnoses of	f HIV		HIV		Stage	3 HIV inf	ection		Total	
	N	Average Annual Rate <sup>a</sup>	% of Total	N	Rate <sup>a</sup>	% of Total	N	Rate	% of Total	N	Rate	% of Total
TOTAL	322	41.7	-	893	115.6	45.8%	1,057	136.8	54.2%	1,950	252.4	-
SEX												
Male	285	75.6	88.5%	783	207.6	87.7%	957	253.8	90.5%	1,740	461.4	89.2%
Female	32	8.1	9.9%	99	25.0	11.1%	90	22.8	8.5%	189	47.8	9.7%
Transgender (all)	5		1.6%	11		1.2%	10		0.9%	21		1.1%
RACE/ETHNICITY			-		<del>-</del>	=					_	_
African Am.	19	92.5	5.9%	99	482.0	11.1%	68	331.1	6.4%	167	813.0	8.6%
AI/AN	31	73.9	9.6%	58	138.2	6.5%	49	116.8	4.6%	107	255.0	5.5%
Asian/PI	1		0.0%	7	35.2	0.8%	6	30.2	0.6%	13	65.3	0.7%
Hispanic	191	0.3	0.3%	421	115.6	47.1%	479	131.5	45.3%	900	247.1	46.2%
White	77	58.6	59.3%	293	89.9	32.8%	432	132.5	40.9%	725	222.4	37.2%
Multi-race	3		23.9%	15		1.7%	23		2.2%	38		1.9%
AGE												
13-24	84	60.0	26.1%	53	37.8	5.9%	9	6.4	0.9%	62	44.3	3.2%
25-34	114	87.5	35.4%	232	178.1	26.0%	77	59.1	7.3%	309	237.2	15.8%
35-44	62	53.2	19.3%	195	167.3	21.8%	149	127.8	14.1%	344	295.1	17.6%
45-54	44	39.7	13.7%	201	181.4	22.5%	329	296.9	31.1%	530	478.3	27.2%
55+	18	6.5	5.6%	212	77.1	23.7%	493	179.4	46.6%	705	256.5	36.2%
TRANSMISSION (	CATEG	ORY*										
MALE												
MSM	201		70.5%	587		75.0%	687		71.8%	1,274		73.2%
IDU	19		6.7%	24		3.1%	57		6.0%	81		4.7%
MSM/IDU	21		7.4%	75		9.6%	109		11.4%	184		10.6%
HRH	7		2.5%	30		3.8%	36		3.8%	66		3.8%
Other	0		0.0%	1		0.1%	7		0.7%	8		0.5%
NIR or NRR	37		13.0%	66		8.4%	61		6.4%	127		7.3%
FEMALE												
IDU	7		21.9%	22		22.2%	28		31.1%	50		26.5%
HRH	3		9.4%	42		42.4%	43		47.8%	85		45.0%
Other	0		0.0%	2		2.0%	3		3.3%	5		2.6%
NIR or NRR	22		68.8%	33		33.3%	16		17.8%	49		25.9%

NOTE: Due to rounding, percentages may not total to 100%.
\*Percentages represent the proportion of persons with the risk behavior from the total respective gender group (i.e., denominator was the total number of males or females for the respective analysis year). <sup>a</sup>Number of cases per 100,000 NM residents ≥13 years of age.

Table 3.4 New Diagnoses of HIV Infection Among Adults & Adolescents, 2014—2018, & Persons Living with HIV or HIV Stage 3 infection (i.e., AIDS), Year-end 2018, by Selected Characteristics — Southeast Region

			•													
		2014-2018 Diagnoses				2018	Persons	ons Living with HIV or Stage 3 HIV infection								
		Diagnoses	), LIIV			HIV		Stage	3 HIV inf	ection		Total				
	N	Average Annual Rate <sup>a</sup>	% of Total		N	Rate <sup>a</sup>	% of Total	N	Rate <sup>a</sup>	% of Total	N	Rate <sup>a</sup>	% of Total			
TOTAL	59	24.9			113	47.7	47.9%	123	51.9	52.1%	236	99.6				
SEX																
Male	52	43.5	88.1%		78	65.3	69.0%	107	89.6	87.0%	185	154.9	78.4%			
Female	6	5.1	10.2%		32	27.2	28.3%	16	13.6	13.0%	48	40.8	20.3%			
Transgender (all)	1		1.7%		3		2.7%	0		0.0%	3		1.3%			
RACE/ETHNICITY																
African Am.	4	57.8	6.8%		14	202.3	12.4%	9	130.0	7.3%	23	332.3	9.7%			
AI/AN	0		0.0%		0		0.0%	1	39.0	0.8%	1	39.0	0.4%			
Asian/PI	1	38.9	1.7%		3	116.7	2.7%	0		0.0%	3	116.7	1.3%			
Hispanic	30	26.4	50.8%		58	51.0	51.3%	58	51.0	47.2%	116	102.0	49.2%			
White	23	20.7	39.0%		37	33.3	32.7%	52	46.8	42.3%	89	80.0	37.7%			
Multi-race	1		1.7%		1		0.9%	3		2.4%	4		1.7%			
AGE			_			-	_					-	=			
13-24	12	23.6	20.3%		4	7.9	3.5%	5	9.8	4.1%	9	17.7	3.8%			
25-34	19	46.4	32.2%		39	95.3	34.5%	13	31.8	10.6%	52	127.1	22.0%			
35-44	14	40.4	23.7%		26	75.0	23.0%	23	66.4	18.7%	49	141.4	20.8%			
45-54	11	34.9	18.6%		23	73.0	20.4%	38	120.6	30.9%	61	193.6	25.8%			
55+	3	3.8	5.1%		21	26.6	18.6%	44	55.7	35.8%	65	82.2	27.5%			
TRANSMISSION C	ATEG	ORY*														
MALE																
MSM	30		57.7%		50		64.1%	70		65.4%	120		64.9%			
IDU	0		0.0%		5		6.4%	8		7.5%	13		7.0%			
MSM/IDU	3		5.8%		8		10.3%	11		10.3%	19		10.3%			
HRH	1		1.9%		2		2.6%	3		2.8%	5		2.7%			
Other	0		0.0%		0		0.0%	1		0.9%	1		0.5%			
NIR or NRR	18		34.6%		13		16.7%	14		13.1%	27		14.6%			
FEMALE							_									
IDU	1		16.7%		3		9.4%	4		25.0%	7		14.6%			
HRH	0		0.0%		19		59.4%	8		50.0%	27		56.3%			
Other	0		0.0%		2		6.3%	1		6.3%	3		6.3%			
NIR or NRR	5		83.3%		8		25.0%	3		18.8%	11		22.9%			

NOTE: Due to rounding, percentages may not total to 100%.
\*Percentages represent the proportion of persons with the risk behavior from the total respective gender group (i.e., denominator was the total number of males or females for the respective analysis year). <sup>a</sup>Number of cases per 100,000 NM residents ≥13 years of age.

**Table 3.5** New Diagnoses of HIV Infection Among Adults & Adolescents, 2014—2018, & Persons Living with HIV or HIV Stage 3 infection (i.e., AIDS), Year-end 2018, by Selected Characteristics\*\* — **Southwest Region** 

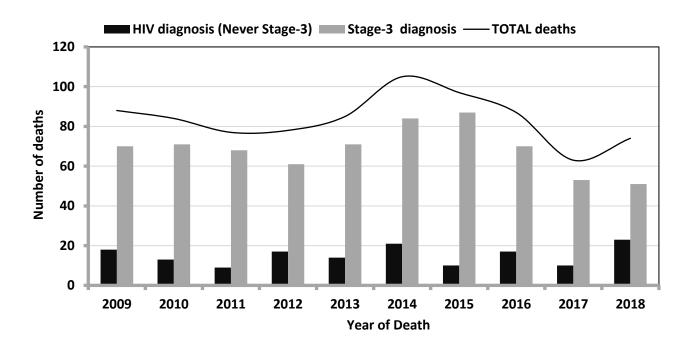
	ĺ	2014-2018 Diagnoses o			201 HIV	8 Persons	•	with HIV o	•	HIV infe	ection Total	
	N	Average Annual Rate <sup>a</sup>	% of Total	N	Rate <sup>a</sup>	% of Total	N	Rate <sup>a</sup>	% of Total	N	Rate <sup>a</sup>	% of Total
TOTAL	95	30.7	-	285	92.2	46.8%	324	104.8	53.2%	609	196.9	
SEX		-		-	=	-					=	=
Male	85	55.5	89.5%	235	153.3	82.5%	267	174.2	82.4%	502	327.5	82.4%
Female	8	5.1	8.4%	48	30.8	16.8%	50	32.1	15.4%	98	62.8	16.1%
Transgender (all)	2		2.1%	2		0.7%	7		2.2%	9		1.5%
RACE/ETHNICITY												
African Am.	3	47.5	3.2%	14	221.8	4.9%	15	237.6	4.6%	29	459.4	4.8%
AI/AN	1	13.9	1.1%	5	69.5	1.8%	3	41.7	0.9%	8	111.1	1.3%
Asian/PI	0	0.0	0.0%	1	24.5	0.4%	0	0.0	0.0%	1	24.5	0.2%
Hispanic	60	34.3	63.2%	186	106.4	65.3%	186	106.4	57.4%	372	212.8	61.1%
White	31	26.5	32.6%	76	65.0	26.7%	111	95.0	34.3%	187	160.0	30.7%
Multi-race	0		0.0%	3		1.1%	9		2.8%	12		2.0%
AGE												
13-24	19	27.1	20.0%	12	17.1	4.2%	5	7.1	1.5%	17	24.3	2.8%
25-34	26	54.2	27.4%	55	114.7	19.3%	24	50.1	7.4%	79	164.8	13.0%
35-44	24	60.0	25.3%	91	227.6	31.9%	58	145.1	17.9%	149	372.7	24.5%
45-54	12	31.6	12.6%	71	187.0	24.9%	108	284.5	33.3%	179	471.5	29.4%
55+	14	12.3	14.7%	56	49.4	19.6%	129	113.8	39.8%	185	163.2	30.4%
TRANSMISSION												
CATEGORY*												
MALE			0.4.70/			04.007	400		00.00/	0.10		04.00/
MSM	55		64.7%	144		61.3%	166		62.2%	310		61.8%
IDU	4		4.7%	20		8.5%	28		10.5%	48		9.6%
MSM/IDU	10		11.8%	23		9.8%	29		10.9%	52		10.4%
HRH	4		4.7%	15		6.4%	19		7.1%	34		6.8%
Other	0		0.0%	1		0.4%	2		0.7%	3		0.6%
NIR or NRR	12		14.1%	32		13.6%	23		8.6%	55		11.0%
FEMALE	•		07.50/	-		44.00/	45		20.007	00		00.40/
IDU	3		37.5%	7		14.6%	15		30.0%	22		22.4%
HRH	2		25.0%	22		45.8%	26		52.0%	48		49.0%
Other	0		0.0%	0		0.0%	1		2.0%	1		1.0%
NIR or NRR	3		37.5%	19		39.6%	8		16.0%	27		27.6%

NOTE: Due to rounding, percentages may not total to 100%. \*\*Includes persons incarcerated in federal ICE facilities in NM in 2018.
\*Percentages represent the proportion of persons with the risk behavior from the total respective gender group (i.e., denominator was the total number of males or females for the respective analysis year). <sup>a</sup>Number of cases per 100,000 NM residents ≥13 years of age.

## SECTION 4: DEATHS AND SURVIVAL AFTER A DIAGNOSIS OF HIV INFECTION OR STAGE 3 HIV INFECTION (I.E., AIDS)

The number of deaths among persons living with HIV or Stage 3 HIV Infection in New Mexico has decreased over the past 10 years (Figure 4.1). While the numbers of deaths among both HIV Stage 1/2 and Stage 3 classified individuals in 2017 decreased by about 74.4% compared to 2016, there was an increase in deaths for HIV Stage 1/2 infected individuals from 2017 to 2018. The number of deaths among persons with Stage 3 infections remained virtually the same in the past two years. However, there was an increase in deaths among persons who have HIV, but not a Stage 3 diagnosis. During the 2009—2013 period (i.e., the most recent period with 1, 3 and 5 years of complete survival data), survival after diagnosis with Stage 3 HIV infection has remained high after 5 years (85.2%), with people classified as Stage 3 in 2013 having the least chance of survival over the 60-month period (81.0%) (Table 4). Whereas young individuals almost all survived for at least 5 years, those over 55 years old had a death rate of 28.3%. American Indian/Alaska Native persons with Stage 3 infection had the lowest survival rate with 1 in 4 people dying within 60 months and 1 in 10 within the first year. African Americans (91.7%) and Whites (90.0%) had the highest probabilities of survival at five years. HIV positive persons that injected drugs had the lowest chance of survival (74.3% in males and 80.6% in females) after 5 years.

**Figure 4.1** Deaths of Persons with Diagnosed HIV Infection or Stage 3 (i.e., AIDS), by Year of Death, New Mexico, 2009—2018



**Table 4.** Survival of HIV Stage 3 (i.e., AIDS) cases that were classified as such between 2009 and 2013 for more than 12, 36, and 60 months.

	Total Number Stage3 HIV (i.e., AIDS)	Pe	eriod of Survi	val after S	stage 3 HIV infe	fection Diagnosis			
	Infections (2009-2013)	> 12 n	nonths	>	36 months	> 6	0 months		
	N	N	% Survival	N	% Survival	N	% Survival		
TOTAL	717	671	93.6%	637	88.8%	611	85.2%		
SEX									
Male	620	581	93.7%	552	89.0%	532	85.8%		
Female	91	84	92.3%	79	86.8%	73	80.2%		
Transgender (all)	6	6	100.0%	6	100.0%	6	100.0%		
RACE/ETHNICITY									
African Am.	48	48	100.0%	46	95.8%	44	91.7%		
AI/AN	101	91	90.1%	83	82.2%	73	72.3%		
Asian/PI	4	4	100.0%	4	100.0%	3	75.0%		
Hispanic	311	285	91.6%	272	87.5%	263	84.6%		
White	229	219	95.6%	210	91.7%	206	90.0%		
Multi-race	24	24	100.0%	22	91.7%	22	91.7%		
AGE					-				
13-24	45	45	100.0%	44	97.8%	43	95.6%		
25-34	213	201	94.4%	196	92.0%	190	89.2%		
35-44	221	209	94.6%	199	90.0%	190	86.0%		
45-54	146	137	93.8%	126	86.3%	122	83.6%		
55+	92	79	85.9%	72	78.3%	66	71.7%		
TRANSMISSION CA	TEGORY*				-				
MALE									
MSM	402	386	96.0%	371	92.3%	360	89.6%		
IDU	35	32	91.4%	27	77.1%	26	74.3%		
MSM/IDU	74	70	94.6%	67	90.5%	64	86.5%		
HRH	38	33	86.8%	32	84.2%	29	76.3%		
Other	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%		
NIR or NRR	71	60	84.5%	55	77.5%	53	74.6%		
FEMALE									
IDU	31	30	96.8%	27	87.1%	25	80.6%		
HRH	32	31	96.9%	30	93.8%	28	87.5%		
Other	1	1	100.0%	1	100.0%	1	100.0%		
NIR or NRR	27	22	81.5%	21	77.8%	19	70.4%		
YEAR of STAGE-3 H						-			
2000	102	176	01 70/	160	00.00/	162	04.00/		
2009	192	176	91.7%	169	88.0%	163	84.9%		
2010	156	146	93.6%	137	87.8%	131	84.0%		
2011	128	121	94.5%	118	92.2%	115	89.8%		
2012	125	121	96.8%	115	92.0%	108	86.4%		
2013	ding percentages may not total t	107	92.2%	98	84.5%	94	81.0%		

NOTE: Due to rounding, percentages may not total to 100%.

<sup>\*</sup>Percentages represent the proportion of persons with the risk behavior from the total respective gender group (i.e., denominator was the total number of males and/or females for the respective analysis year).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>Number of cases per 100,000 NM residents ≥13 years of age.

#### STRENGTHS AND LIMITATIONS

HIV surveillance reports are not representative of all persons infected with HIV because not all infected persons have been tested and reported to NMDOH. According to the 2018 CDC HIV Surveillance report it is estimated that about 14% (or 1 in 7) of infections are not detected yet and individuals may live for years with an untreated HIV infection (<a href="https://www.cdc.gov/hiv/library/reports/hiv-surveillance.html">https://www.cdc.gov/hiv/library/reports/hiv-surveillance.html</a>). Some persons infected with HIV may have been tested anonymously; these cases are not included in this report. It is also possible that some tested and HIV positive persons living in NM have not been reported to the NMDOH. The data presented in this report provide a minimum estimate of New Mexico residents known to be infected with HIV.

Due to the ongoing nature of HIV data collection, readers may notice differences between the statistics reported across annual reports. These differences result from a variety of factors including: the national interstate de-duplication process (i.e., Routine Interstate De-Duplication Report, a.k.a, 'RIDR'), Enhanced HIV/AIDS Reporting System (eHARS) database conversions and updates, data quality checks, and occasional redefinition of terms. As it is difficult for NMDOH to monitor migration of individuals into and out of New Mexico, the most recent known address may not reflect current residence.

Another consideration involves incidence estimation. To monitor the cases, it is ideal to estimate 'true incidence' using the date of infection. There exist specific laboratory methods that can estimate the date of infection; however, these methods are not available in New Mexico. Therefore, because the actual date of infection for an individual is not known, this report emphasizes new diagnoses of HIV rather than incidence of HIV infection.

Data on transgender individuals is particularly subject to limitations. Information on transgender individuals is dependent on reporting health care providers indicating them as such in case report forms sent to the NMDOH HIVSEP; however, given issues of stigma and lack of awareness among health care providers, it is likely that the data reported here are an underestimate of the burden in the state.

The NMDOH HIVSEP actively obtains data (e.g., Vital Records of NM, Social Security - and National Death Reports) annually to determine the number of deaths among HIV-infected individuals in addition to what was directly reported to the surveillance program. This typically includes all individuals living in New Mexico as well as deaths that occurred out of state. Although there was a lack of data matching for 2016 and 2017, the data should reflect the actual deaths after updating of the dataset in 2019.

Individuals who have tested out of state and are not currently seeking care in New Mexico may not be included in this report because reporting issues between different states. Despite these limitations, HIV surveillance data in most of the states are more than 85% complete.<sup>3</sup> For this reason, epidemiologic surveillance data are one of the major sources to inform both HIV prevention and HIV care planning.

Lastly, in some instances, analyses in this report were conducted using a small number of events (e.g., the number of diagnoses of HIV infection within a certain age group). A small number of events can lead to concerns about statistical reliability and validity. Over time, small numbers may fluctuate due to random variation, rather than true changes in the epidemic. Readers are cautioned against drawing formal conclusions from data included in this report that may be subject to reliability and validity concerns. Please contact HIVSEP with any questions or concerns you may have about any of the estimates published in this report.

#### **DATA SOURCES**

#### HIV CASE SURVEILLANCE DATA

All persons with HIV Stage 1/2 or Stage 3 HIV infection (i.e., AIDS) who are diagnosed or treated in New Mexico are required be reported to the HIV Epidemiology and Surveillance Program at the NMDOH based on the New Mexico Administrative Code (Section 7.4.3). All laboratory-confirmed positive HIV antibody tests, tests for HIV RNA or HIV DNA (i.e., viral loads), tests to detect HIV proteins, any positive HIV culture, or any other tests or conditions indicative of HIV infection or Stage 3 HIV infection, including opportunistic infections, are reportable to NMDOH. Stage 3 HIV infection has been a statutorily reportable condition in the state of New Mexico since 1988 and HIV since 1998. As of February 29<sup>th</sup>, 2014, all CD4 lymphocyte counts and percentages became reportable too.

Standardized case report forms are used to collect sociodemographic information, transmission risk categories, laboratory and clinical information, perinatal exposure, vital status, and referrals for treatment or services. To allow for reporting delays, 2018 data are considered complete at the end of December 2019.

#### **POPULATION DATA**

The New Mexico population data were obtained from the DOH New Mexico Indicator-Based Information System (NM IBIS) (<a href="https://ibis.health.state.nm.us/query/builder/pop/PopMain/Count.html">https://ibis.health.state.nm.us/query/builder/pop/PopMain/Count.html</a>) query module and represent revised estimates from the University of New Mexico, Geospatial and Population Studies (GPS;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Hall HI, Song R, Gerstle JE III, Lee LM (on behalf of the HIV/AIDS Reporting System Evaluation Group) (2006) Assessing the completeness of reporting of human immunodeficiency virus diagnoses in 2002–2003: capture-recapture methods. Am J Epidemiol. 164:391–397.

http://www.unm.edu/~bber). GPS conducts economic and demographic research and analyses related to New Mexico and provides population estimates for the state based on the 2011 U.S. Census Tracts. Intercensal population estimates were re-calculated after the release of the 2011 census, so they will not match earlier 2000 postcensal estimates from GPS. Race/ethnicity categorizations were determined by the NMDOH.

#### **TECHNICAL NOTES**

#### **NEW DIAGNOSES OF HIV INFECTION**

These data include newly diagnosed HIV infections during a specific calendar year. This may include individuals that meet the CDC surveillance definition for Stage-3 (AIDS) at the time of their initial diagnosis of HIV (i.e., concurrent diagnosis). The number of new HIV diagnoses only reflects HIV infections of persons that reside in New Mexico during the in the year of interest. Individuals moving to New Mexico and that have been diagnosed with HIV infection and reported in another state or country are excluded. Age-group assignment is based on the person's age at the time of diagnosis.

#### PERSONS LIVING WITH DIAGNOSED HIV INFECTION

Our prevalence data includes all New Mexicans living with HIV infection, including those with a Stage 3 (AIDS) classification, as of December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018. To be included in the dataset, a person must reside in New Mexico as of December 31, 2018. The most recent known address was used to determine the status of residence. Agegroup assignment was based on the person's age as of December 31, 2018. Persons are presumed alive until their death is notified to NMDOH or indicated in other yearly population reports including the NMDOH Bureau of Vital Records and Health Statistics annual mortality data.

#### RACE AND ETHNICITY

NMDOH collects race and ethnicity data according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Management and Budget (OMB) standards.<sup>4</sup> These standards provide five categories in regard to race: American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, Black or African American, Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander, and White. The OMB standards also provide two categories for ethnicity (independent of race): Hispanic or Latino, and Not Hispanic or Latino. In this report the size of race and ethnicity groups were calculated according to the NMDOH guidelines. These guidelines combine race and ethnicity into a single construct for data presentation. Persons of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity were classified as Hispanic without consideration of reported race. Persons not of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity were classified according to race. NMDOH recognizes that these categories are

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Federal Register (October 30, 1997) Revisions to the Standards for the Classification of Federal Data on Race and Ethnicity (Notice of Decision) 26:210, 58782.

social-political constructs and do not interpret them as being biologic or anthropologic in nature; rather, the categories provide a common language for uniformity and comparability in the collection and use of data.

#### TRANSMISSION CATEGORIES

NMDOH summarizes a person's possible HIV risk factors using a hierarchical order of possible risks for transmission. Persons whose transmission category is classified as MSM (male-to-male sexual contact) include men who report sexual contact with other men and men who report sexual contact with both men and women. Persons whose transmission category is classified as high risk heterosexual (HRH) contact include individuals who report heterosexual contact with a person known to have, or to be at high risk for, HIV infection (e.g., heterosexual sexual contact with bi-sexual males, injection drug users, persons with hemophilia, HIV-infected transfusion recipient, or other HIV-infected persons with unknown risk) as well as persons who report heterosexual contact while simultaneously denying all other risk factors. Persons whose transmission category is classified as IDU are persons who report injecting illicit or nonprescription drugs. Except for men who report sexual contact with other men and injection drug use, persons with more than one reported risk factor are classified according to the category listed first in the hierarchy. Men who report sexual contact with other men and injection drug use comprise a separate transmission risk category, MSM/IDU. Persons with no reported exposure to HIV through any of the categories in the hierarchy are classified as "no risk factor identified or reported" (NIR or NRR). The "other" category includes hemophilia, blood transfusion, and perinatal exposure.

#### RATES

Rates per 100,000 population were calculated using population denominators provided by the Geospatial and Population Studies (GPS), located at the University of New Mexico. Rates were calculated by dividing the total number of the events of interest (e.g., new diagnoses of HIV infection) during a certain time period of interest (e.g., a calendar year) by the number of individuals in a certain population within the selected time period and multiplying by 100,000.

#### CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS

Persons imprisoned in a federal, state or county correctional or detention facility, including U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) facilities, or who were housed in a residential facility (e.g., drug treatment facility), were included in the data presented unless otherwise noted.

#### **ACRONYMS**

AA African American

AI/AN American Indian/Alaskan Native

AIDS Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome

Asian/PI Asian or Pacific Islander

**CDC** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

**DPT** Disease Prevention Team

**eHARS** Enhanced HIV/AIDS Reporting System **GPS** Geospatial and Population Studies

HIV/AIDS Reporting System
HIV
Human Immunodeficiency Virus

HIVSEP HIV Surveillance and Epidemiology Program

HRH High-risk heterosexual IDU Injection Drug User

MSM Men who have sex with men

MSM/IDU Male injection drug users who have sex with men

NIR/NRR No identified risk/No reported risk

NM New Mexico

NMDOH New Mexico Department of Health

SEP New Mexico Department of Health HIV Surveillance and

**Epidemiology Program** 

STI Sexually Transmitted Infection

#### **DEFINITIONS**

<u>eHARS (ENHANCED HIV/AIDS REPORTING SYSTEM</u>): A database that uses web-based technology for expanded, document-based collection of HIV-related surveillance data.

<u>HRH (HIGH RISK HETEROSEXUAL CONTACT)</u>: Persons who have any history of heterosexual contact with a partner having any history of injection drug use; a bi-sexual male (applies to females only); a person having any history of hemophilia/coagulation disorder; a person having any history of receiving a blood transfusion; a person having any history of receiving an organ transplant; or a person known to have HIV infection. Alternatively, persons with a history of heterosexual contact and no other risk for HIV infection.

<u>HIV (HUMAN IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS)</u>: Diagnosis of HIV infection is defined by either laboratory or clinical evidence, with the former preferred. Laboratory criteria requires a multitest algorithm consisting of 1) a positive (reactive) result from an initial HIV antibody or combination antigen/antibody test, and 2) an accompanying or subsequent positive result from a supplemental HIV test different from the initial test. Clinical criteria for a confirmed case are met by the combination of 1) a note in the medical record by a physician or other qualified medical care provider that states the patient has HIV infection, and 2) the laboratory criteria for HIV infection were met after physician's note was written and/or presumptive

evidence of HIV infection (e.g., receipt of HIV antiretroviral therapy or prophylaxis for an opportunistic infection), an otherwise unexplained CD4+ T-lymphocyte count, or an otherwise unexplained diagnosis of an opportunistic illness.

<u>IDU (INJECTION DRUG USER)</u>: Persons who have any history of receiving an injection, either self-administered or given by another person, of a drug that was not prescribed by a physician for this person. This includes illicit drugs as well as prescription drugs (e.g., estrogen, testosterone, anabolic steroids, or human growth hormone) that were not prescribed for this person.

<u>MSM (MEN WHO HAVE SEX WITH MEN)</u>: Men who have a history of sexual contact with men or with both men and women.

<u>NIR OR NRR (NO IDENTIFIED OR REPORTED RISK)</u>: Persons who have no identified history of risk of exposure to HIV, as defined by the CDC. Persons reported with no identified risk can be under investigation, have incomplete histories because they have died, have refused to divulge their history, or have been lost to follow up.

<u>OTHER (OTHER RISK)</u>: Persons who have a history of hemophilia or coagulation disorder, receipt of blood transfusion, blood components or tissue, or persons who have any of the adolescent/adult risk factors for HIV infection which occurred before age 13 years or who were born to a mother with HIV infection.

<u>STAGE 3 HIV INFECTION (i.e., AIDS)</u>: Diagnosis of stage 3 HIV infection (i.e., AIDS) is defined as a confirmed case that meets the criteria for diagnosis of HIV infection with 1) a CD4+ T-lymphocyte count < 200 or a CD4+ T-lymphocyte percentage < 14% of total lymphocytes (if the CD4 count is missing or unknown); or 2) the diagnosis of a stage 3-defining opportunistic illness.

#### **NMDOH RESOURCES**

#### HIV SURVEILLANCE & EPIDEMIOLOGY PROGRAM

Conducts state-wide surveillance and analysis of HIV. (505) 476-3515

http://nmhealth.org/about/erd/ideb/haep/

#### **HIV PREVENTION PROGRAM**

Supports community planning and HIV prevention and HIV testing activities across the state, including training, capacity building, funding, and oversight.

(505) 476-3612

http://nmhealth.org/about/phd/idb/happ/

#### HIV SERVICES PROGRAM

Supports a statewide array of providers in the Health Management Alliance (HMA) network that provide case management, medical care and support services for people with HIV/AIDS. (505) 476-3628

#### NEW MEXICO HIV, STD AND HEPATITIS RESOURCE GUIDE

www.nmhivguide.org

#### **COMMUNITY PARTNERS**

#### NEW MEXICO HIV PREVENTION COMMUNITY PLANNING AND ACTION GROUP (CPAG)

This group is co-chaired by representatives from NMDOH, the community, and persons living with HIV. The CPAG collaborates with NMDOH to develop a statewide Comprehensive HIV Prevention Plan www.nmcpag.org/

#### HIV SERVICE PROVIDERS (HSP)

HSPs are non-profit organizations that offer comprehensive services including medical and case management, support, and prevention for HIV

#### UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER (UNM-HSC), TRUMAN HEALTH SERVICES

Based in Albuquerque and serves the metro area and northwestern New Mexico in collaboration with New Mexico AIDS Services

(505) 272-1312

http://www.unmtruman.com/

#### FIRST NATIONS COMMUNITY HEALTH SOURCE

Based in Albuquerque, Gallup and Farmington and serves the American Indian/Alaska Native community

(505) 262-2481

www.fnch.org

#### SOUTHWEST CARE CENTER (SWCC)

Based in Santa Fe, Albuquerque and Farmington and serves northeastern and central New Mexico (888) 320-8200

www.southwestcare.org

#### ALIANZA OF NEW MEXICO

Based in Roswell and Las Cruces and serves southern New Mexico (575) 623-1995

http://www.alianzaofnewmexico.org/

#### COMMUNITY COLLABORATIVE CARE (CCC)

Based in Las Cruces and serves southwestern New Mexico (575) 528-5001

http://nmhealth.org/about/phd/region/sw/cccp/

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