

African American HIV/AIDS Awareness Day

Highlights



Nationally, African Americans account for 43% of new HIV diagnoses.¹



In 2019, only 65% of black people in the US were virally suppressed within six months of diagnosis.

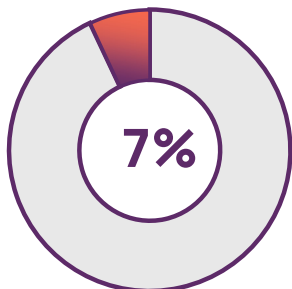


African Americans make up about 2% of New Mexico's population 13 years and older. In 2023, they accounted for almost 6% of newly reported HIV cases.

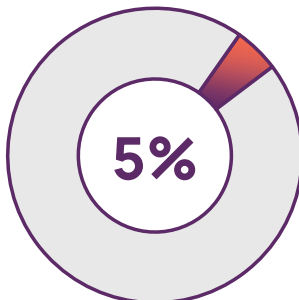
As of 2022, out of 4051 people living with HIV in New Mexico, 5.3% are African American. African Americans have the highest rate (598.52 people per 100,000) of persons living with HIV among all racial/ethnic groups in the state.

In 2019, only 8% of African American people who could benefit from PrEP were prescribed PrEP, compared to 23% of people who could benefit from PrEP overall.²

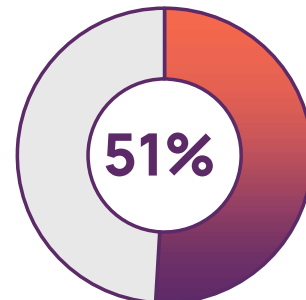
Regional Prevalence



In 2023, African Americans with HIV were over-represented in Metropolitan counties (~7%) compared to African Americans with HIV across New Mexico (~5%).



Mixed Urban/Rural counties contained the second highest number of African Americans with HIV (~5%).



In 2023, 51% of all New Mexicans with HIV lived in a Metropolitan region of the state.

Mode of Exposure



58%

MSM is the most reported exposure among African Americans with HIV in New Mexico (58%).

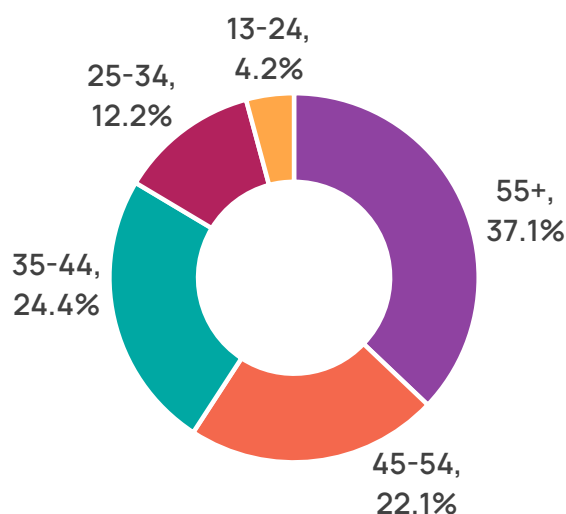


18%

HRH (18%) and IDU (8%) are the second and third most common modes of exposure among African Americans with HIV in New Mexico.

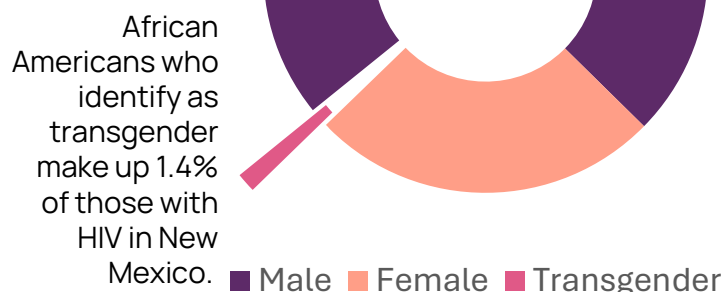
Mode of exposure categories: Men who have sex with men (MSM), injection drug users (IDU), men who have sex with men and inject drugs (MSM/IDU), high risk heterosexual behavior (HRH), hemophiliacs, transfusion/transplant recipients, healthcare workers, perinatal, or pediatric (Other).

Age & Gender Identity



African Americans 55 and older make up the largest age group living with HIV in New Mexico at 37.1%, followed by ages 35-44 (24.4%), ages 45-54 (22.1%), ages 25-34 (12.2%), and ages 13-24 (4.2%).

Among African Americans with HIV, males make up most cases at 73.2%, followed by females at 25.4%.



Prevention

The New Mexico Department of Health (NMDOH) HIV Prevention Program has highlighted the need for enhanced and expanded HIV prevention efforts that are culturally specific and target the African American community. Programs should be tailored to varying groups across the state, including African Americans who have lived in New Mexico for generations, new immigrants, and Non-English speakers.

New funds for the African American MSM Initiative will support these activities in 2025:

- 1 Funding **National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day (NBHAAD, Feb 7)** events in various locations around the state to educate and raise awareness of HIV in New Mexico.
- 2 Partnership with the Office of African American Affairs to **establish HIV and syphilis testing** for communities disproportionately impacted by HIV.
- 3 Using the Social Network Strategy for HIV Testing Recruitment, HIV Prevention contractors are **recruiting young Latinx MSM (men who have sex with men) and Black MSM to increase HIV testing and linkage to care** within their communities.
- 4 Continuing to offer PrEP (a medication to prevent HIV) to the community at **no cost to participants**.

References

1. CDC. National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day 2022. <https://www.cdc.gov/nchhstp/newsroom/releases/2022/NBHAAD-2022.html>. February 5, 2025.
2. AIDSvu. National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day 2021. <https://aidsvu.org/news-updates/national-black-hiv-aids-awareness-day-2021/>. February 5, 2025.

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