

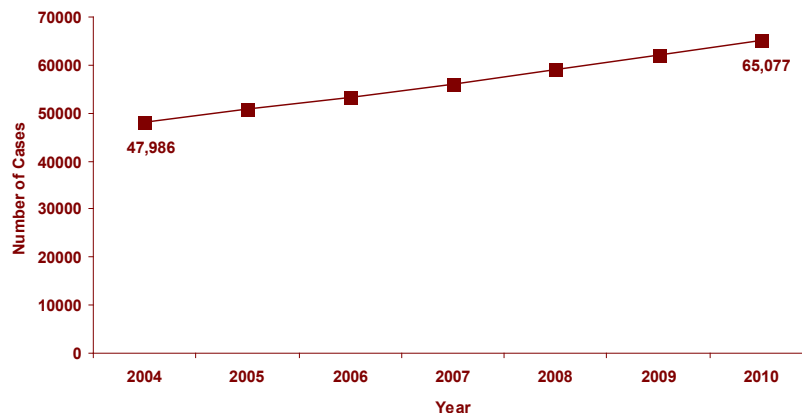
An Overview of HIV in Texas

Texas Department of State Health Services HIV/STD Program

The Big Picture.

More than 65,000 people in Texas are known to have HIV. This is an increase of 36% between 2004 and 2010.

Number of People Living with HIV, 2004-2010



Advances in medical care enable people with HIV to stay healthy and survive longer than ever before. The death rate among HIV-infected people has decreased dramatically in countries with good access to treatment. In fact, it is nearing the death rate among the general uninfected population.



36% more Texans are living with HIV today than just seven years ago. Longer survival means greater costs and challenges for HIV prevention and care.

HIV programs in Texas combine the best prevention and treatment interventions science has to offer. As a result, the number of newly reported HIV diagnoses in Texas has remained relatively stable over the last seven years, with about 4,200 new diagnoses and 1,400 deaths per year. However, not all Texans benefit equally from this progress.

HIV affects Black Texans the most.

The largest proportion of HIV cases in Texas is among Blacks. Although they make up only 12% of the state's population, they represented 38% of people with HIV in 2010. The rate of Black Texans living with HIV is over four times the rate for White and Hispanic Texans.

How many Texans are living with HIV?

One in 390.

One in 117 Black Texans.

One in 523 White Texans.

One in 570 Hispanic Texans.

How do people get HIV in Texas?

Almost all new HIV diagnoses are due to unprotected sex or sharing needles with a person who has HIV. Over 60% of all new cases are a result of sex between men. About 27% of new cases result from sex between men and women. About 9% of new cases are due to injecting drug use.

Too many Texans with HIV are diagnosed late.

HIV is the virus that causes AIDS. Once infected with HIV, people without treatment typically have about 10 years before they progress to AIDS. Many HIV-infected people do not learn they have HIV until they get symptoms of AIDS.

In Texas, one in three HIV-infected persons is diagnosed with AIDS within one year of their HIV diagnosis, meaning that they have been living with HIV for years before their diagnosis.



Early HIV Diagnosis is Critical

When people with HIV are diagnosed early, treatment works better and there are more chances to prevent further spread of HIV.

Early diagnosis is critical to preventing the further spread of HIV. People who know their HIV status and are on treatment are less likely to transmit the infection to others. Late testing results in missed chances for preventing new HIV infections. Late diagnosis increases cost of care and is associated with poor health outcomes and earlier death. Early HIV diagnosis also allows HIV infected people to benefit from life-saving medications.

Everyone should know his or her HIV status.

A little more than 21% of Texans got an HIV test last year. However, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that HIV testing be a routine part of medical care offered to all persons between the ages of 13 and 64. This intervention can speed diagnosis and help curb the epidemic.

What is the cost of HIV?

Nationally, the annual average cost of HIV treatment is almost \$20,000 per person (2006 dollars). HIV is a chronic disease and once diagnosed, treatment is lifelong. Preventing new infections, catching infections earlier and getting infected people into treatment reduces the overall financial impact of the disease. There are free or low cost treatment programs available for low-income, uninsured persons.

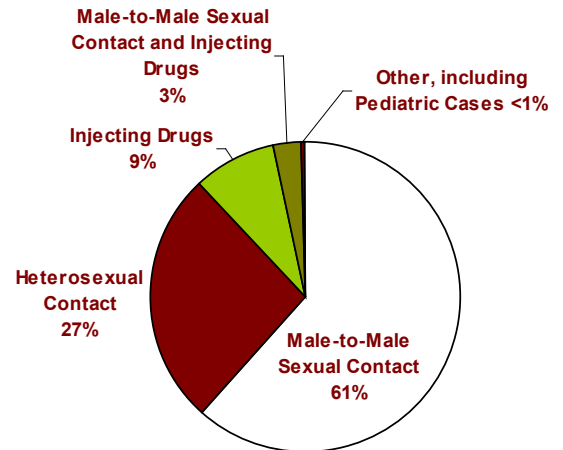
Too many Texans with HIV remain undiagnosed and untreated.

What you don't know *can* hurt you, your friends, your family and your community. How can you make a difference? Know your status. Get medical care if you are infected. And talk openly about HIV, without fear or shame, regardless of your status. If you are a medical provider, consider routine HIV testing in your practice.

Preventing new HIV infections saves money and saves lives.

Data in this fact sheet represent Texas total new HIV diagnoses and people living with HIV through December 31, 2010. For source information, please send an email to hivstd@dshs.state.tx.us.

New HIV Cases by Risk Category, 2010



FACTS TO CONSIDER

Nearly 40% of Texans had an HIV test in their lifetime, and 21% had a test in the last year.

Over 40% of people in the U.S. have had an HIV test in their lifetime.

78% of people living with HIV in Texas are men.

Over 61% of new HIV diagnoses in Texas are among gay or bisexual men and other men who have sex with men.

In 2010, about 1 in 3 diagnosed persons were not getting medical care for their HIV infection.

Texans most likely to test late are male and Hispanic.



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