

HIV Infections among Females in the United States¹

According to estimates from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) of HIV infections, 7,312 (19 percent) of the 38,281 new diagnoses of HIV infection in the United States in 2017 were among adult or adolescent females. The rate of new reported diagnoses of HIV infection among adult or adolescent females decreased from 6.2 per 100,000 population in 2012 to 5.2 per 100,000 population in 2017. Black/African-American females are disproportionately affected by HIV compared to other races and ethnicities and accounted for 60 percent (n=4,395) of new diagnoses among females. Whites made up 20 percent (n=1,474) and Hispanic/Latinas made up 15 percent (n=1,117) of new diagnoses in females in 2017. Among new diagnoses of HIV infection in 2017 among females, eighty-six percent (n=6,259) were infected by their male partner, but 14 percent (n=1,009) were reported as having injection drug use (IDU) as the transmission category.

According to CDC, nearly a quarter (n=235,004) of the 991,447 persons living with diagnosed HIV in the United States at the end of 2016 were females. Of these, sixty percent (n=139,845) were black/African-American and 17 percent (n=39,548) were white.

¹Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *HIV Surveillance Report*, 2017; vol. 29. <http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/library/reports/hiv-surveillance.html>. Published November 2018. Accessed 8/7/19.

New Reported Diagnoses of HIV Infection Among Females in Ohio

There were 989 new diagnoses of HIV infection reported in Ohio in 2018. Of these, females accounted for 18 percent (n=174) (Figure 1). Forty-five percent (n=79) of the new diagnoses of HIV infection among females in Ohio in 2018 were among blacks/African-Americans and 49 percent (n=86) were among whites. Of the 174 new diagnoses of HIV among females in Ohio in 2018, 63 percent were in females aged 20-39 and 33 percent were in females aged 40 and over. Of the 815 new diagnoses of HIV among males in Ohio in 2018, 65 percent of were in males aged 20-39 and 29 percent were in males aged 40 and over.

Figure 1. Reported New Diagnoses of HIV Infection by Sex at Birth, Ohio, 2014-2018

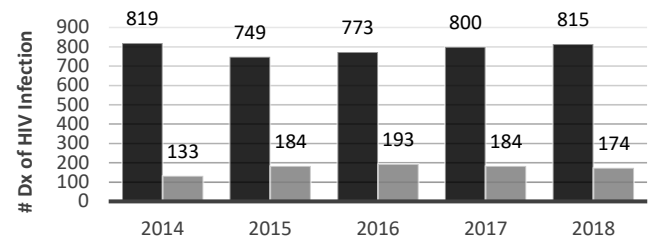


Figure 2 shows that the rate of new diagnoses of HIV infection in black/African-American females was nearly six times higher than that for white females in 2018.

Figure 2. Rates of Reported New Diagnoses of HIV Infection by Race/Ethnicity, FEMALES, Ohio, 2018

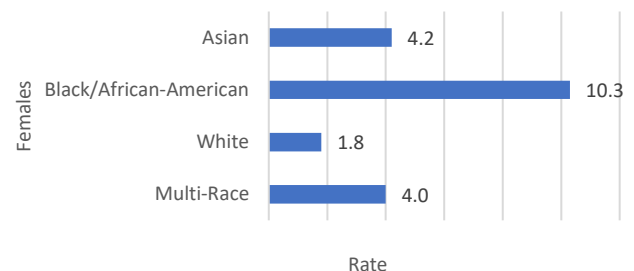
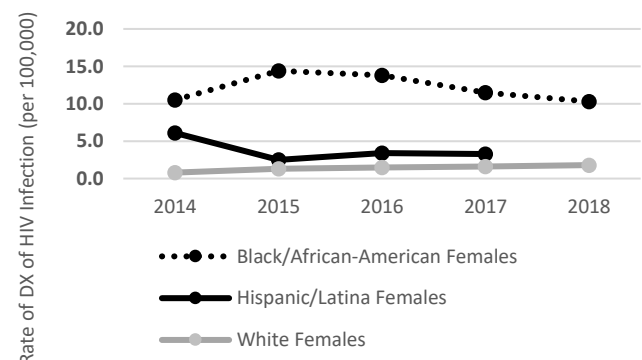
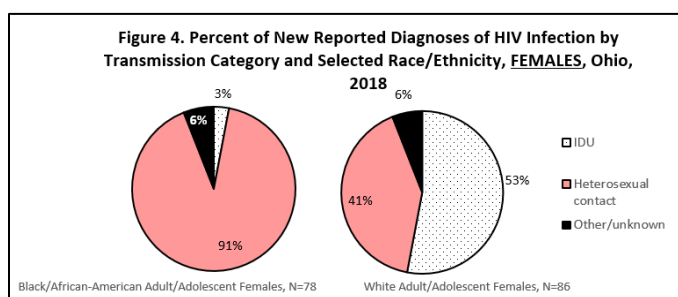


Figure 3 shows that rates of new diagnoses of HIV infection are consistently higher in black/African-American females than in females of other race/ethnicity categories.

Figure 3. Rates of Reported New Diagnoses of HIV Infection by Selected Race/Ethnicity, FEMALES, Ohio, 2014-2018

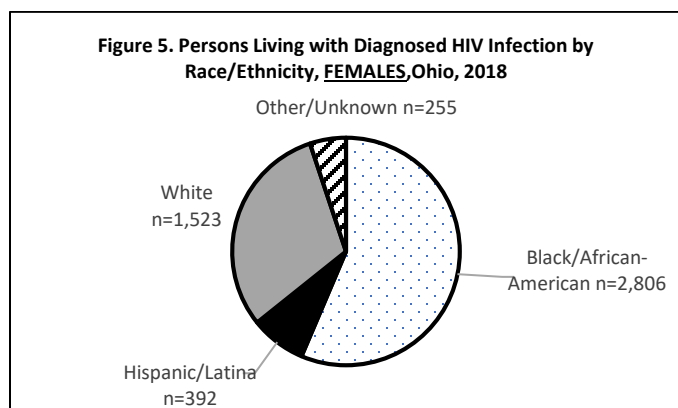


HIV transmission in females occurs primarily through heterosexual contact, with 66 percent of the new diagnoses of HIV infection among females reported with heterosexual contact as the transmission category. The second most common transmission category is injection drug use (IDU) and in 2018, 48 new diagnoses (28%) of HIV infection among females were reported with IDU as the transmission category. This number was 12 in 2014. Figure 4 illustrates the comparison of transmission categories of new diagnoses of HIV infection in Ohio in 2018 between white and black/African-American females.



Females Living with Diagnosed HIV Infection in Ohio

There were 24,130 persons living with diagnosed HIV infection in Ohio at the end of 2018. Of these, 4,976 (21 percent) were female. Figure 5 illustrates that of the females in Ohio living with diagnosed HIV infection, more than half (n=2,806) are black/African-American. The rate for Black/African-American females (365.3 per 100,000 population) living with diagnosed HIV infection was more than 11 times higher than that for white females (32.5 per 100,000 population).



Black/African-American, Hispanic/Latina, and Multi-Race females are disproportionately represented in females living with diagnosed HIV infection. Table 1 shows the number, percent, and rate of females living with diagnosed HIV infection by race/ethnicity in Ohio as of the end of 2018.

Table 1. Number, Percent and Rates of Females Living with Diagnosed HIV Infection by Race/Ethnicity, FEMALES, Ohio, 2018

Race/Ethnicity	No.	Rate	%
American Indian/Alaskan Native	6	52.8	<1%
Asian	37	24.9	1%
Black/African-American	2,806	365.3	56%
Hispanic/Latina	392	175.0	8%
White	1,523	32.5	31%
Multi-Race	180	144.0	4%
Unknown	32	-	1%
Total	4,976	83.5	

Explanation of Terms:

- Diagnoses of HIV infection include persons with a diagnosis of HIV (not AIDS), a diagnosis of HIV and an AIDS diagnosis within 12 months (HIV & later AIDS), and concurrent diagnoses of HIV and AIDS (AIDS). The rate is the number of persons with a reported diagnosis of HIV infection per 100,000 population calculated using U.S. Census estimates for that year.

- Living with diagnosed HIV infection represents all persons ever diagnosed and reported with HIV or AIDS who have not been reported as having died as of December 31, 2018. Persons living with diagnosed HIV infection represent persons living in Ohio as of December 31, 2018, regardless of whether the person was a resident of Ohio at time of initial HIV and/or AIDS diagnosis. The rate is the number of persons living with diagnosed HIV infection per 100,000 population calculated using 2018 U.S. Census estimates.

- Males and Females refer to sex assigned at birth.

- Hispanics/Latinx may be of any race. Persons with a race of American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian/Pacific Islander, Black/African-American, White, or Multi-Race are not-Hispanic. Asian/Pacific Islander includes Native Hawaiians.

- Transmission categories are mutually exclusive, hierarchical categories defined by the CDC and system-calculated using sex at birth and risk factor history to determine mode of transmission. A person with multiple risks is only represented in the highest category based on the CDC hierarchical algorithm. Thus, transgender women are included in the male-to-male sexual contact transmission category if assigned male at birth and risk factor history indicates sex with males. Please note this is for the categorization of HIV transmission categories only and not to describe sexual orientation.

- Source: Ohio Department of Health, HIV Surveillance Program. Data reported through June 30, 2019.

Please direct questions about this report to: Ohio Department of Health / Division of Health Improvement and Wellness / HIV Surveillance Program / 614-387-2722