

## HIV Infections Among People Aged 50 and Over in the United States<sup>1, 2</sup>

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reported 38,281 people were newly diagnosed with an HIV infection in the United States in 2017. Of these, 6,513 (17 percent) were aged 50 and over. Forty-one percent of new diagnoses in persons aged 50 and over were in persons aged 50 to 54. Among persons aged 50 and over, black/African-Americans accounted for 42 percent of new diagnoses in 2016 in the United States, Hispanic/Latinx accounted for 18 percent, and whites accounted for 37 percent. In the United States, older people are more likely than younger people to have been diagnosed with AIDS at the time of initial diagnosis.

The CDC reported that 991,447 persons were living with diagnosed HIV infection in the United States at the end of 2016. Persons aged 50 and over accounted for 477,886 (48 percent) of all persons living with diagnosed HIV infection at the end of 2016. Persons 50 to 54 years of age comprised 17 percent of the persons living with diagnosed HIV infection, making it the age group with the highest number of persons living with diagnosed HIV infection in the United States. Advancements in treatments have allowed those infected with HIV to live longer lives which contributes to the growing number of persons aged 50 and over living with HIV.

<sup>1</sup>Source: 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 7/30/2019.

<sup>2</sup>Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *HIV and Older Americans*. <https://www.cdc.gov/hiv/group/age/olderamericans/index.html>. Published September 2018. Accessed 7/30/2019.

## New Reported Diagnoses of HIV Infection Among People Aged 50 and Over in Ohio

There were 989 new diagnoses of HIV infection reported in Ohio in 2018. Of these, persons aged 50 and over accounted for 13 percent (n=132) (Figure 1). Of new diagnoses of HIV infection among persons aged 50 and over in Ohio in 2018, 81 percent were male, and 19 percent were female.

Forty-one percent of new diagnoses of HIV infection among persons aged 50 and over in Ohio in 2018 were among black/African-Americans, and 55 percent were among whites.

Figure 1. Reported New Diagnoses of HIV Infection by Age Group, Ohio, 2018

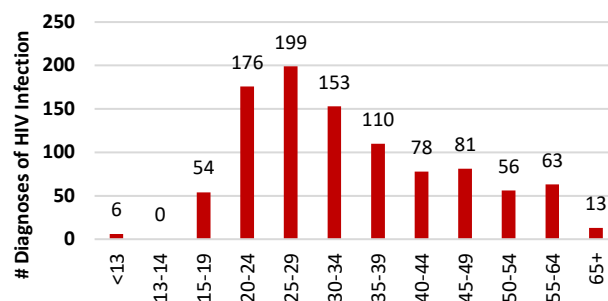


Table 1 shows HIV transmission categories for persons under age 50 compared to persons aged 50 and over. A higher percentage of persons under age 50 had male-to-male sexual contact as the HIV transmission category compared to those 50 and over. A higher percentage of persons over age 50 had heterosexual contact as the HIV transmission category compared to those under 50. However, it is important to note that the percent of those with the other/unknown transmission category is higher in persons aged 50 and older.

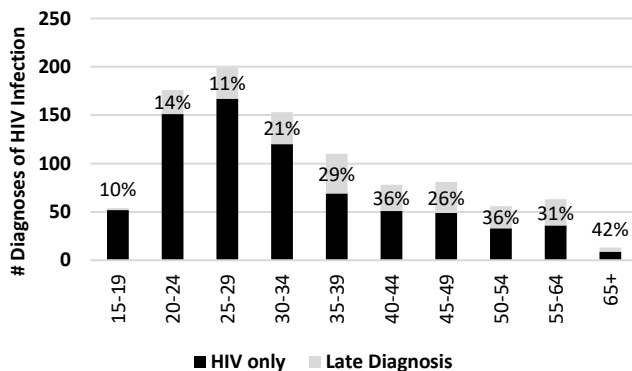
Table 1. Percent of Reported New Diagnoses of HIV Infection by Transmission Category and Age Group, Ohio, 2018

| Transmission Category               | Under Age 50 | Over Age 50 |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|-------------|
| Male-to-male sexual contact         | 54%          | 36%         |
| Injection Drug Use (IDU)            | 12%          | 9%          |
| Male-to-male sexual contact and IDU | 4%           | -           |
| Heterosexual contact                | 7%           | 10%         |
| Other/Unknown                       | 23%          | 45%         |

\*Total may not add to 100% due to rounding.

Figure 2 illustrates the number of new diagnoses of HIV infection, by age group, showing a comparison between cases initially diagnosed with HIV only and those with a late diagnosis (defined as progressing to AIDS within 12 months of initial HIV diagnosis or being diagnosed with HIV and AIDS simultaneously). Older people in Ohio are more likely than younger people to have a late diagnosis of HIV infection.

**Figure 2. Reported New Diagnoses of HIV Infection by Age Group, Ohio, 2018**



### People Aged 50 and Over 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, 47 percent (n=11,274) were aged 50 and older. Eighty-one percent of persons aged 50 and older living with diagnosed HIV infection in Ohio at the end of 2018 were male, and 19 percent were female. Figure 3 shows the number of persons living with diagnosed HIV infection in Ohio at the end of 2018, by age group.

**Figure 3. Persons Living with Diagnosed HIV Infection by Age Group, Ohio, 2018**

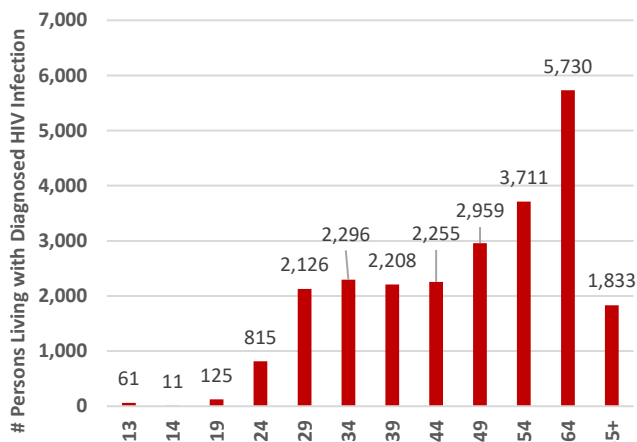


Figure 4 reveals persons aged 50 and over account for the age group in Ohio with the largest burden of AIDS at the end of 2018.

**Figure 4. Persons Living with Diagnosed HIV Infection by Selected Age Groups, Ohio, 2018**

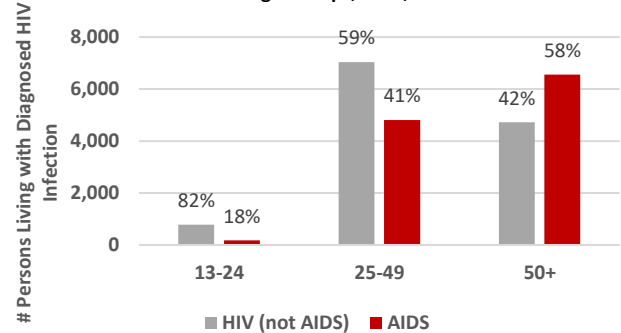
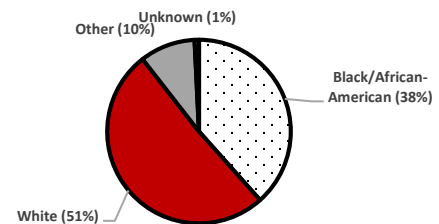


Figure 5 shows that whites make up 51 percent of persons aged 50 and older living with diagnosed HIV in Ohio at the end of 2018 and black/African-Americans make up 38 percent.

**Figure 5. Persons Aged 50+ Living with Diagnosed HIV Infection by Race/Ethnicity, Ohio, 2018**



#### 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