

HIV Infections Among Transgender People in the United States¹

Transgender is a term used to describe persons whose current gender identity is different than their sex (male or female) assigned at birth. Gender identity is used to describe a person's internal experience of their own gender, while gender expression is how that person outwardly exhibits their gender. A person's gender identity may be different from their gender expression.

Estimates from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) of HIV infections diagnosed among transgender people in the United States indicate that this population is at high risk of acquiring HIV. There were 2,351 diagnoses of HIV infection among transgender people in the United States from 2009 to 2014. Of these, 1,974 (84 percent) were among transgender women (identify as female, but were assigned male at birth) and 361 (15 percent) were among transgender men (identify as male, but were assigned female at birth). Black/African-Americans make up half of the diagnoses of HIV infection among transgender people in the United States from 2009 to 2014.

¹Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. HIV and Transgender People. <https://www.cdc.gov/hiv/group/gender/transgender/index.html> Published April 2018. Accessed 8/8/19.

New Reported Diagnoses of HIV Infection Among Transgender People in Ohio

Of the 989 new reported diagnoses of HIV infection in Ohio in 2018, 18 were documented as transgender people. Table 1 displays the total number of reported diagnoses of HIV infection in 2018, by disease status and current gender. Caution is advised when interpreting small numbers, and it is important to note that data related to current gender may be underestimated due to underreporting.

Current Gender	HIV (not AIDS)	HIV & later AIDS	AIDS	Total
Males	588	169	40	797
Females	137	31	6	174
Transgender Men	-	-	-	-
Transgender Women	16	2	-	18
Total	741	202	46	989

In Table 2, the total number of diagnoses of HIV infection in Ohio among transgender people is

displayed, by age at diagnosis, for the past five years. In each of the last five years, the majority of the diagnoses of HIV in transgender people are in those aged 15-29 years.

Age at Diagnosis	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
15-19	1	3	3	1	2
20-24	3	8	4	3	6
25-29	6	6	6	2	5
30+	8	5	4	8	5
Total	18	22	17	14	18

Table 3 shows the total number of diagnoses of HIV infection among transgender people in Ohio, by race/ethnicity, for the past five years. In each of the last five years, the majority of diagnoses of HIV in transgender people are among black/African-Americans.

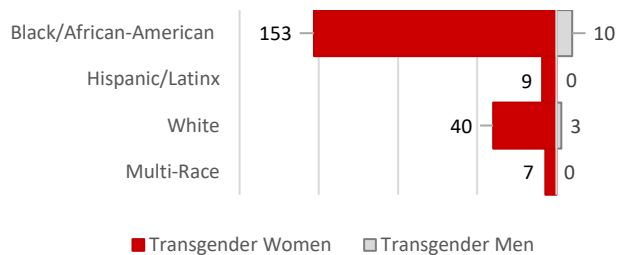
Race/Ethnicity	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Black/African-American	11	19	15	10	10
Hispanic/Latinx	1	-	-	-	2
White	6	2	2	4	4
Multi-race	-	1	-	-	2
Total	18	22	17	14	18

Table 4 displays the total number of reported diagnoses of HIV infection in Ohio in 2018, by transmission category. 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.

Current Gender	Sexual Contact	IDU	Sexual Contact/IDU	Other/Unknown	Total
Transgender Men	16	-	2	-	18
Transgender Women	-	-	-	-	-
Total	16	-	2	-	18

There have been 222 new reported diagnoses of HIV infection documented among transgender people in Ohio since the beginning of the epidemic. Of these, 94 percent were transgender women (n=209) and only six percent (n=13) were transgender men (Figure 1). However, it is important to note that data related to current gender may be underestimated due to underreporting and the recency of which this data was collected.

Figure 1. Cumulative New Reported Diagnoses of HIV Infection Among Transgender Persons by Race/Ethnicity and Current Gender, Ohio (n=222)



Of those transgender persons living with diagnosed HIV infection in Ohio at the end of 2018, 68 percent are black/African-American, 19 percent are white, eight percent are Hispanic/Latinx and four percent are Multi-Race.

Table 7. Number of Transgender People Living with Diagnosed HIV Infection by Race/Ethnicity, Ohio, 2018

Race/Ethnicity	Transgender Men	Transgender Women	Total
Asian/Pacific Islander	-	-	-
Black/African-American	10	143	153
Hispanic/Latinx	2	17	19
White	4	39	43
Multi-race	1	9	10
Total	17	208	225

Transgender People Living with Diagnosed HIV Infection in Ohio

Of the 24,130 persons reported as living with diagnosed HIV infection in Ohio at the end of 2018, 225 were documented as transgender people. Table 5 displays persons living with diagnosed HIV infection by current disease status and current gender. Ninety-two percent of those living with diagnosed HIV infection among transgender people were transgender women (n=208), while only eight percent (n=17) were transgender men.

Table 5. Persons Living With Diagnosed HIV Infection by Disease Status and Current Gender, Ohio, 2018

Current Gender	HIV (not AIDS)	AIDS	Total
Males	9,755	9,191	18,946
Females	2,684	2,275	4,959
Transgender Men	9	8	17
Transgender Women	131	77	208
Total	12,579	11,551	24,130

In table 6, the number of transgender people living with diagnosed HIV in Ohio at the end of 2018 is displayed by current age. Over a third of the transgender people living with diagnosed HIV in Ohio at the end of 2018 are aged 15-29 years.

Table 6. Number of Transgender People Living with Diagnosed HIV Infection by Current Age, Ohio, 2018

Race/Ethnicity	Transgender Men	Transgender Women	Total
15-19	-	3	3
20-24	-	22	22
25-29	3	50	53
30-34	1	45	46
35-39	3	21	24
40-44	2	11	13
45-49	4	16	20
50+	4	40	44
Total	17	208	225

Table 7 shows the number of transgender people living with HIV at the end of 2018, by race/ethnicity.

In table 8, the number of transgender people living with HIV at the end of 2018 is displayed by transmission category. See Explanation of Terms regarding transmission categories.

Table 8. Transgender People Living with Diagnosed HIV Infection by Transmission Category and Current Gender, Ohio, 2018

Current Gender	Sexual Contact	IDU	Sexual Contact/IDU	Other/Unknown	Total
Transgender Men	184	2	15	7	208
Transgender Women	16	-	-	1	17
Total	200	2	15	8	225

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.

- 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.

- 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