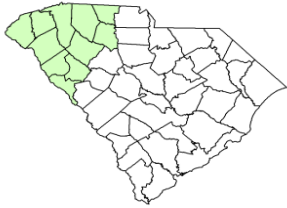




# Fact Sheet

South Carolina Department of Public Health – www.dph.sc.gov

2023 HIV/AIDS summary: Upstate Public Health Region



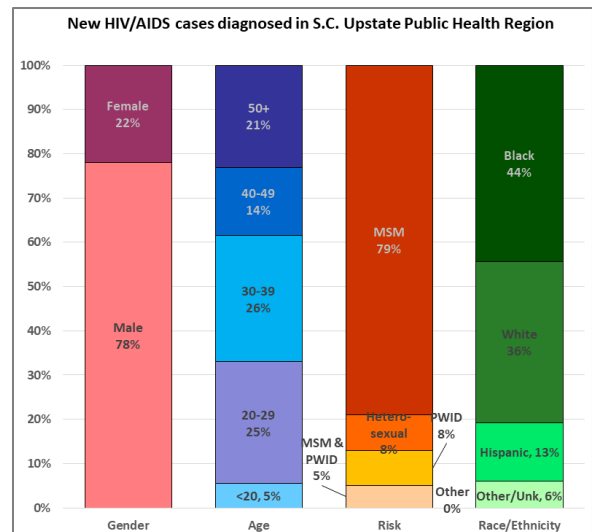
## New HIV infections (including AIDS cases), 2021-2022

Upstate Public Health Region includes eleven counties: Abbeville, Anderson, Cherokee, Greenville, Greenwood, Laurens, McCormick, Oconee, Pickens, Spartanburg, and Union.

**HIV in the Upstate Public Health Region (PHR)** For the two-year period 2021-2022, 371 people were newly diagnosed with HIV. This represents 24 percent of the total cases diagnosed in South Carolina.

**By gender assigned at birth**, 78 percent of new HIV/AIDS cases occur among men; 22 percent were among women. All references to women and men in this fact sheet indicate gender assigned at birth.

**By age**, the largest proportion of new HIV/AIDS cases were among people ages 30-39 (26 percent), 25 percent were among people ages 20-29, 14 percent were among people ages 40-49, and 21 percent were age 50 and up. Five percent of new cases were under the age of 20.



**By risk**, among the 237 people who reported a risk, men who have sex with men (MSM) represent the largest proportion of recent infections (79 percent), followed by those indicating heterosexual sex as their exposure to HIV (eight percent); eight percent were people who inject drugs (PWID); and five percent were the combined risk of MSM and PWID.

**By race/ethnicity**, among people newly diagnosed with HIV/AIDS in the Upstate PHR, 44 percent were African American; 36 percent were white; and 13 percent were Hispanic. In 2021-2022, African Americans had 1.2 times the cases than whites in the Upstate PHR.

**Among women** recently diagnosed with HIV/AIDS in the Upstate PHR, most were African American (48 percent); 31 percent were White; and 16 percent were Hispanic. Of the 24 women reporting risk, 75 percent indicated heterosexual sex as their exposure to HIV; 25 percent were people who inject drugs.

**Among men** recently diagnosed in the Upstate PHR, 43 percent were African American; 38 percent were white; and 13 percent were Hispanic. Of the 213 men reporting risk, 86 percent were men who have sex with men, two percent were exposed through heterosexual sex; six percent were people who inject drugs; and five percent were both MSM and PWID.

## **Total People Living with HIV/AIDS through December 2022**

As of December 2022, there were 4,260 residents of the Upstate Public Health Region living with a diagnosis of HIV (including AIDS). This represents 22 percent of the S.C. total. Of these, 3,179 were men and 1,081 were women. Most people (2,097) were ages 50 and over; 798 were ages 40-49; 933 were ages 30-39; 401 were ages 20-29; and 31 were children and teens under 20 years of age.

As with new infections, African Americans are disproportionately impacted. Most of the people living with HIV in the Upstate Public Health Region were African American men (41 percent), 27 percent were White men, 18 percent were African American women and six percent were White women. Nine percent of people living with HIV were Hispanic/Latino (men & women).

Of the 3,372 people living with HIV who reported a risk, 65 percent reported a risk of men who have sex with men; followed by men and women exposed through heterosexual sex (21 percent); people who inject drugs (seven percent); and the combined risk of men who have sex with men and people who inject drugs (five percent).

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### **S.C. HIV Prevention Program Priority Populations**

Care, treatment and prevention services for persons living with HIV/AIDS are a top priority for the State of South Carolina's HIV Program.

<b>Among remaining priority populations for HIV prevention services:</b>		
<b>S.C. HIV Prevention Program Priority Populations <sup>(1,2)</sup></b>	<b>2021/2022 Diagnosed HIV/AIDS Cases by Population % of Total Cases w/Risks Identified (255 Total) *</b>	<b>People Living with HIV/AIDS, 2022 By Population % of Total Cases w/Risks Identified (3,465 Total)</b>
2. African American MSM	36%	33%
3. African American WSM	1%	10%
4. African American MSW	2%	4%
5. White MSM	25%	23%
6. PWID	7%	7%
7. ♦Hispanic/Latino <sup>3</sup>	19%	10%

\*Caution: Due to small numbers, must interpret recent case proportions with caution.

#### **NOTES:**

1. Populations: MSM = Men who have Sex with Men; PWID = People who Inject Drugs; WSM = Women who have Sex with Men; MSW = Men who have Sex with Women.
2. Priority Populations are a subset of the Epi Profile data and are not directly comparable to incidence and prevalence counts/percentages.
3. Ethnicity, in and of itself, is not a risk factor for HIV; however, in the context of Priority Populations, Hispanic/Latino is included as a 'Risk' for reporting purposes.

Source: SCDPH, STD/HIV Section 11/2024

For more information visit: <https://dph.sc.gov/professionals/public-health-data/hiv-aids-stds-data-and-reports> or call the S.C. AIDS/STD Hotline toll free at 1-800-322-AIDS