

# Fact Sheet

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

2024 HIV/AIDS summary: Midlands Public Health Region



## New HIV infections (including AIDS cases), 2022-2023

Midlands Public Health Region includes twelve counties: Aiken, Barnwell, Chester, Edgefield, Fairfield, Kershaw, Lancaster, Lexington, Newberry, Richland, Saluda, and York.

HIV in the Midlands Public Health Region (PHR) For the two-year period 2022-2023, 478 people were newly diagnosed with HIV. This represents 30 percent of the total cases diagnosed in South Carolina.

New HIV/AIDS cases diagnosed in S.C. Midlands Public Health Region

**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 greatest proportion of new HIV/AIDS cases were among people ages 20-29 (40 percent), 27 percent were among people ages 30-39, 12 percent were among people ages 40-49, and 15 percent were age 50 and up. Six percent of new cases were under the age of 20.

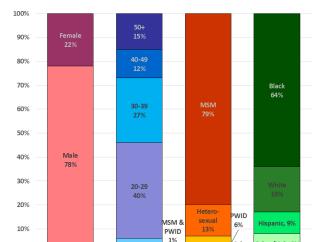
**By risk**, among the 223 people who reported a risk,

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 (13 percent); Six percent were people who inject drugs (IDU); and one percent were the combined risk of MSM and IDU.

**By race/ethnicity**, among people newly diagnosed with HIV/AIDS in the Midlands PHR, 64 percent were African American; 19 percent were white; and nine percent were Hispanic. In 2022-2023, African Americans had 3.4 times the cases than whites in the Midlands PHR.

**Among women** recently diagnosed with HIV/AIDS in the Midlands PHR, most were African American (69 percent); 23 percent were White; and five percent were Hispanic. Of the 19 women reporting risk, 79 percent indicated heterosexual sex as their exposure to HIV; 21 percent were people who inject drugs.

**Among men** recently diagnosed in the Midlands PHR, 65 percent were African American; 18 percent were white; and ten percent were Hispanic. Of the 200 men reporting risk, 87 percent were men who have sex with men, Seven percent were exposed through heterosexual sex; four percent were people who inject drugs; and three percent were both MSM and IDU.



# **Total People Living with HIV/AIDS through December 2023**

As of December 2023, there were 6,561 residents of the Midlands Public Health Region living with a diagnosis of HIV (including AIDS). This represents 32 percent of the S.C. total. Of these, 4,715 were men and 1,846 were women. Most people (3,355) were ages 50 and over; 1,158 were ages 40-49; 1,374 were ages 30-39; 605 were ages 20-29; 69 were children and teens under 20 years of age.

As with new infections, African Americans are disproportionately impacted. Most (50 percent) of the people living with HIV in the Midlands Public Health Region were African American men, 17 percent were White men, 23 percent were African American women, and four percent were White women. Six percent of people living with HIV were Hispanic/Latino (men & women).

Of the 4,875 people living with HIV who reported a risk, 60 percent reported a risk of men who have sex with men; followed by men and women exposed through heterosexual sex (27 percent); people who inject drugs (eight percent); and the combined risk of men who have sex with men and people who inject drugs (four percent).

### 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.

Among remaining priority populations for HIV prevention services:		
S.C. HIV Prevention Program Priority Populations (1,2)	2022/2023 Diagnosed HIV/AIDS Cases by Population % of Total Cases w/Risks Identified (244 Total) *	People Living with HIV/AIDS, 2023 By Population % of Total Cases w/Risks Identified (4,997 Total)
2. African American MSM	48%	38%
3. African American WSM	5%	14%
4. African American MSW	5%	7%
5. White MSM	10%	15%
6. PWID	5%	7%
7. ♦Hispanic/Latino ³	18%	7%

<sup>\*</sup>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 12/2024