

New HIV infections (including AIDS cases), 2020-2021

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 2020-2021, 340 people were newly diagnosed with HIV. This represents 21 percent of the total cases diagnosed in South Carolina.

By gender, 76 percent of new HIV/AIDS cases occur among men; 24 percent were among women.

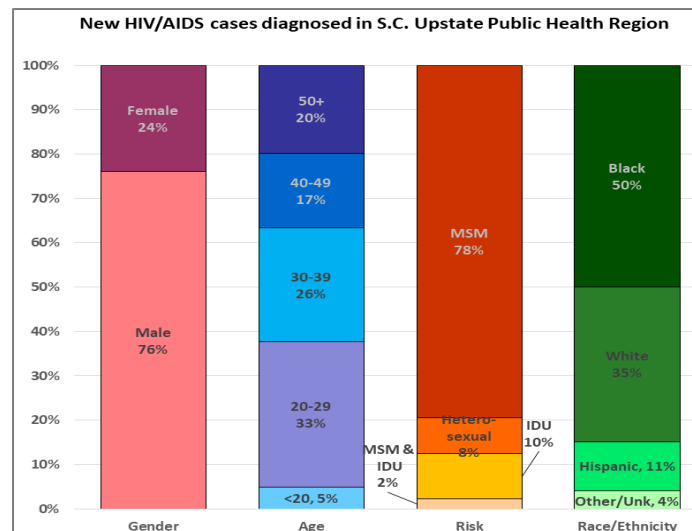
By age, the majority of new HIV/AIDS cases were among people ages 20-29 (33 percent), 26 percent were among people age 30-39, 17 percent were among people age 40-49, and 20 percent were age 50 and up. Five percent of new cases were under the age of 20.

By risk, among the 202 people who reported a risk, men who have sex with men (MSM) represent the largest proportion of recent infections (78 percent), followed by those indicating heterosexual sex as their exposure to HIV (8 percent); ten percent reported Injection drug use (IDU); and two percent were the combined risk of MSM and IDU.

By race/ethnicity, among people newly diagnosed with HIV/AIDS in the Upstate PHR, 50 percent were African American; 35 percent were white; and 11 percent were Hispanic. In 2020-2021, African Americans had 1.4 times the cases than whites in the Upstate PHR.

Among women recently diagnosed with HIV/AIDS in the Upstate PHR, most were African American (63 percent); 23 percent were White; and 5 percent were Hispanic. Of the 10 women reporting risk, 67 percent indicated heterosexual sex as their exposure to HIV; 33 percent reported Injection drug use.

Among men recently diagnosed in the Upstate PHR, 49 percent were African American; 35 percent were white; and 10 percent were Hispanic. Of the 184 men reporting risk, 86 percent were men who have sex with men, three percent were exposed through heterosexual sex; eight percent reported Injection drug use; and three percent were both MSM and IDU.



Total People Living with HIV/AIDS through December 2021

As of December 2021, there were 4,200 residents of the Upstate Public Health Region living with a diagnosis of HIV (including AIDS). This represents 21 percent of the S.C. total. Of these, 3,162 were men and 1,038 were women. Most people (2,074) were ages 50 and over; 794 were ages 40-49; 894 were ages 30-39; 409 were ages 20-29; and 29 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 (40 percent), 26 percent were White men, 17 percent were African American women and six percent were White women. Eight percent of people living with HIV were Hispanic/Latino (men & women).

Of the 3,357 people living with HIV who reported a risk, 64 percent reported a risk of men who have sex with men; followed by men and women exposed through heterosexual sex (22 percent); Injection drug use (seven percent); and the combined risk of men who have sex with men and Injection drug use (five 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)	2020/2021 Diagnosed HIV/AIDS Cases by Population % of Total Cases w/Risks Identified (227 Total) *	People Living with HIV/AIDS, 2021 By Population % of Total Cases w/Risks Identified (3,309 Total)
2. African American MSM	39%	33%
3. African American WSM	1%	11%
4. African American MSW	2%	5%
5. White MSM	23%	23%
6. IDU	10%	7%
7. ♦Hispanic/Latino ³	17%	9%

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

NOTES:

1. Populations: MSM = Men who have Sex with Men; IDU = Injection Drug User; 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: SCDHEC, STD/HIV Division 12/2020

For more information visit: www.scdhec.gov/health/infectious-diseases/hiv-aids-std-data-and-reports
or call the S.C. AIDS/STD Hotline toll free at 1-800-322-AIDS