

2023 Vermont HIV Annual Report

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The 2023 Vermont HIV Annual Report presents HIV surveillance data collected through the end of calendar year 2023.

If you need help accessing or understanding this information, contact Kelly.bachiochi@vermont.gov.

Newly Reported HIV in Vermont

During 2023, there were ten new reports of HIV for which no report could be identified in another jurisdiction. These cases were investigated to verify that they were not previously diagnosed in another jurisdiction.

Over the ten-year period between 2013-2022, there were 135 new reports of HIV among Vermont residents. Newly reported cases of HIV have been seen across all age groups with the highest percentage, 30%, among people 30-39 years of age at the time of report.

Prevalence and Demographics

At the end of December 2023, there were 731 people living with diagnosed HIV infection (PLWDHI) in Vermont, 297 of whom lived in Vermont at the time of HIV diagnosis. The 731 PLWDHI reflects cases reported to the Health Department under the [Reportable and Communicable Diseases Rule](#) that had reported HIV-related lab results (evidence of care) within the last five years. The 731 cases were residents of Vermont at the end of 2023, regardless of where they lived at the time of their HIV diagnosis.

Of the PLWDHI in Vermont in 2022, 363 had received a stage 3 (AIDS) diagnosis and 371 had been diagnosed with HIV infection only. The rate of HIV in Vermont at the end of 2022 was 113.3 cases per 100,000 based on [2022 Census population estimates](#).

Gender

In 2023, 81% of individuals living with diagnosed HIV infection were cisgender males (sex at birth was male with male current gender). Transgender individuals comprise about 2% of the population of people living with diagnosed HIV infection in Vermont.

2023 HIV Surveillance by the Numbers

People living with HIV

731

Newly reported cases of HIV

10

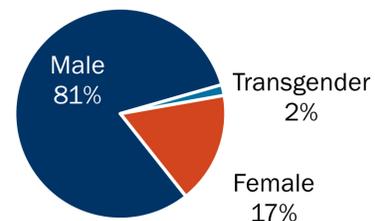
Viral suppression among people living with diagnosed HIV infection

94%

Men who have sex with men cases among newly reported HIV

50%

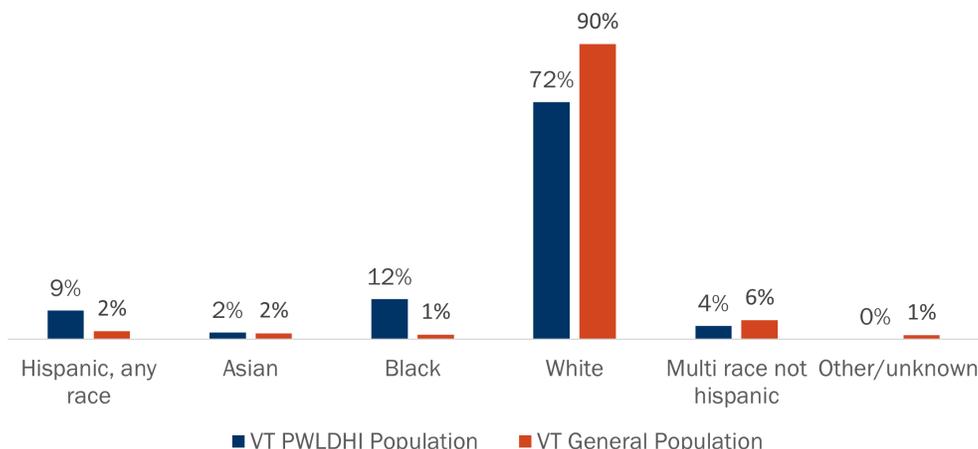
Vermont PLWDHI by Gender, 2023



Race and Ethnicity

While 72.2% (n=528) of Vermont’s PLWDHI population are white non-Hispanic, people of color have a far higher rate of HIV infection based on 2020 census population estimates. Though people of color account for 10.2% of Vermont’s general population, they account for 27.8% of the state’s PLWDHI population (n=200). Black and Hispanic people in particular are disproportionately affected, with 12.2% and 8.8% of PLWDHI reported as Black and Hispanic respectively, despite making up 1.4% and 2.4% of the general Vermont population.

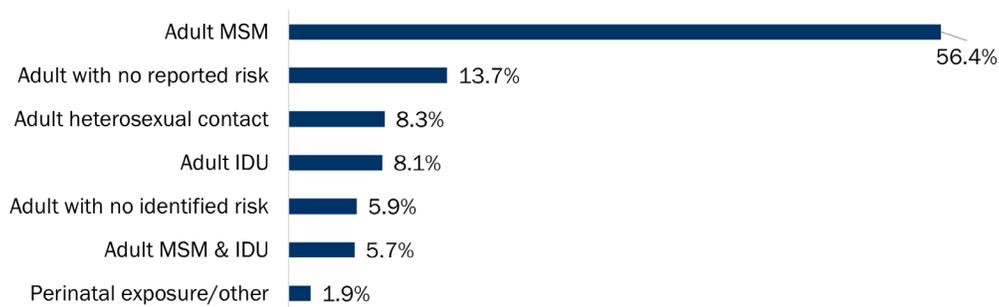
Vermont General Population and PLWDHI Comparison by Race and Ethnicity, 2023



Transmission Category

Most HIV infection in Vermont has occurred among men who have sex with men (MSM), as shown below. In 2023, MSM was the most common transmission category at 56.4% of PLWDHI in Vermont, with the next most common being no reported risk at 13.7%. These categories were followed by heterosexual contact and then injection drug use (IDU).

Vermont PLWDHI by Transmission Category, 2023



HIV Linkage to Care and Viral Suppression

The [National HIV/AIDS Strategy](#) (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services) established three national goals for HIV prevention and care: reducing new infections, improving health outcomes, and reducing HIV-related disparities. One indicator used to monitor progress towards these goals is to “increase linkage to care within one month of diagnosis to 95%.” All newly reported cases in 2023 were linked to care within 30 days of diagnosis.

Another indicator aims to “increase viral suppression among people with diagnosed HIV to 95%.” A person living with diagnosed HIV infection is considered virally suppressed if their viral load is less than 200 per milliliter. In Vermont, 94% of people known to be living with HIV with evidence of care in the last five years have achieved viral suppression. Eighty percent of PLWDHI in Vermont both received care and were virally suppressed in 2023. When looking at PLWDHI who had care in 2023, that percentage remains 94%.

Viral Suppression among Vermont PLWDHI in 2023

