

Good Hands

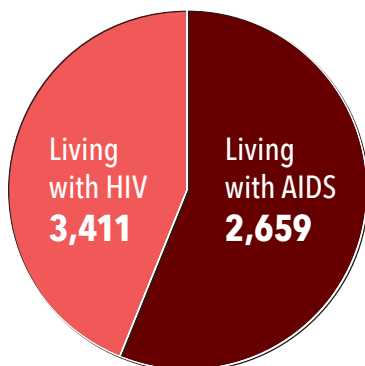
CHCA
COMMUNITY
HEALTH CENTERS
OF ARKANSAS

Health care professionals are the initial touchpoint for those individuals at risk for HIV. Establishing effective treatment and education plans are the first steps for patients who test positive or who are at-risk.

DEMOGRAPHICS, 2018

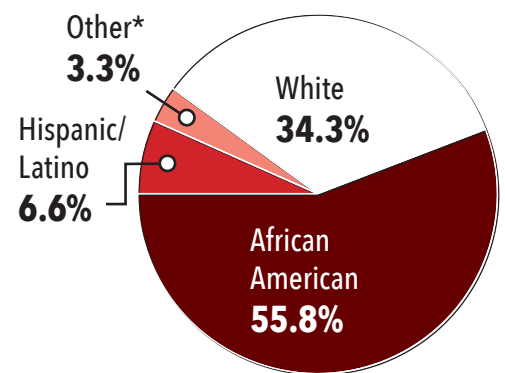
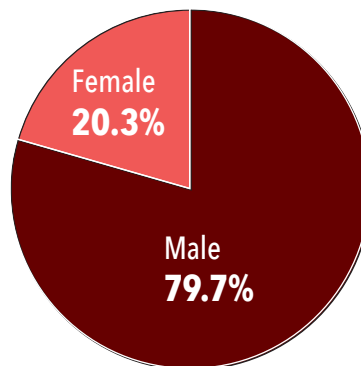
- NATIONAL:** Number of People Living with HIV: **1,039,680** | Number of New HIV Diagnoses: **37,864**

- Total Arkansans Living with HIV/AIDS: 6,070**



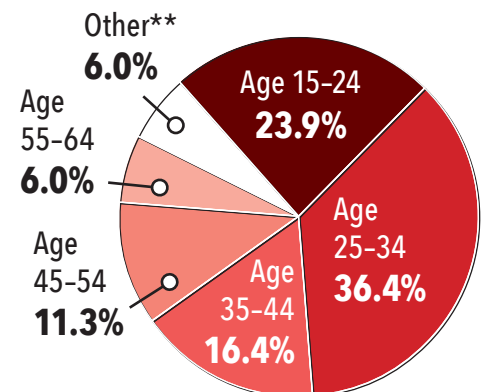
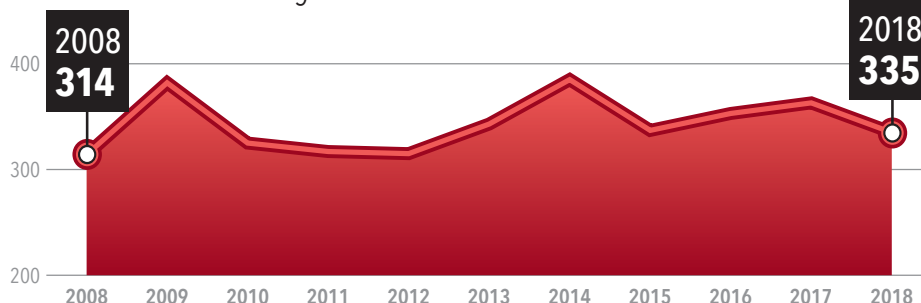
- Arkansas New HIV Cases: 335**

Total of new HIV cases stages 0-2 and new AIDS cases. Values less than 5% were unspecified.



- Arkansas New HIV Cases, 2008-2018**

Total of new HIV cases stages 0-2 and new AIDS cases.



*Other includes American Indian/Native Alaskan (NH), Asian/Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander (NH), Other (NH) and unknown. • **Other Includes under age 13, 13-14, 65+ and unknown.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TESTING AND TREATMENT



Ensure that your staff has completed training for voluntary counseling and testing (VCT).

The Arkansas Department of Health (ADH) offers VCT training designed to motivate people to change their behaviors in order to prevent the acquisition and transmission of HIV, reduce anxiety over possible infection, facilitate safe disclosure of infection status, future planning and improve access to HIV prevention and treatment services. More information is available at www.healthy.arkansas.gov/programs-services/topics/voluntary-counseling-testing-vct.



Establish a baseline for at-risk patients.

Currently in Arkansas, the primary groups most at-risk for HIV are African American males engaging in male-to-male sex ages 25–34 and high-risk heterosexuals, such as those engaging in sex with multiple partners, inconsistent condom use, intravenous drug users who share needles or those with other sexually transmitted infections (STI).



Advise and recommend HIV testing, ensuring HIPAA compliance and confidentiality.

Using community health workers (CHW) and clinic staff, advise patients to undergo HIV testing after providing brief HIV/AIDS information and education in a confidential safe space within the Community Health Center (CHC).



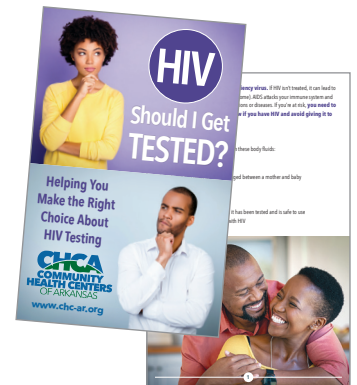
Obtain and test specimen sample for HIV and evaluate results.

Confirm and validate test results and provide them to the patient.



If the test is negative, provide patient education and guidance.

Provide the patient with educational materials such as the Community Health Centers of Arkansas (CHCA) "Should I Be Tested?" HIV education booklet, which provides helpful information on HIV/AIDS contraction and transmission.



Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) is available for those at high risk for HIV.

PrEP is for individuals who are HIV negative and want to remain HIV negative. If taken daily, it can block HIV. In 2018, Arkansas had 4,878 people at high risk for HIV that could have benefitted from PrEP; of those, 611 were prescribed PrEP in 2018. For more information about PrEP, visit www.cdc.gov/hiv/prep and ask your provider.



If the test is positive, refer the patient to CHC medical, treatment and support services.

Assign a CHW, patient navigator or advocate to the patient, to initiate contact with the patient and schedule a meeting, complete a health assessment and schedule a medical exam with CHC medical staff.



Enter the patient information into CHC HIPAA-compliant database.

Report the case to ADH.

To download this flier or CHCA's "Should I Be Tested" booklet, visit www.chc-ar.org/health-infographics.

SOURCES: www.healthy.arkansas.gov/images/uploads/pdf/HIV_Surveillance_Report_2018.pdf • www.healthy.arkansas.gov/images/uploads/pdf/AR_HIV_EPI_Profile.pdf • www.cdc.gov/hiv/pdf/policies/profiles/cdc-hiv-arkansas-PrEP.pdf • aidsvu.org/local-data/united-states/

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