



MARCH 28, 2024

Fast Facts: HIV and Transgender People

AT A GLANCE

Nearly 1 million people (.3%) identify as transgender in the United States (US), and transgender people made up 2% (671) of new HIV diagnoses in the US and dependent areas in 2019. Get the latest data on HIV among transgender people.



Fast facts

HIV affects some groups more than others. Social and structural issues—such as HIV stigma, homophobia, discrimination, poverty, and limited access to high-quality health care— influence health outcomes and continue to drive inequities.

HIV Diagnoses

HIV diagnoses refers to the number of people who received an HIV diagnosis during a given year.

HIV diagnoses among transgender people in the US and dependent areas, 2019



Of the **36,801 new HIV diagnoses** in the US and dependent areas in 2019, 2% (671) were among transgender people.



Overall Goal: Decrease the number of new HIV diagnoses to 9,588 by 2025 and 3,000 by 2030.

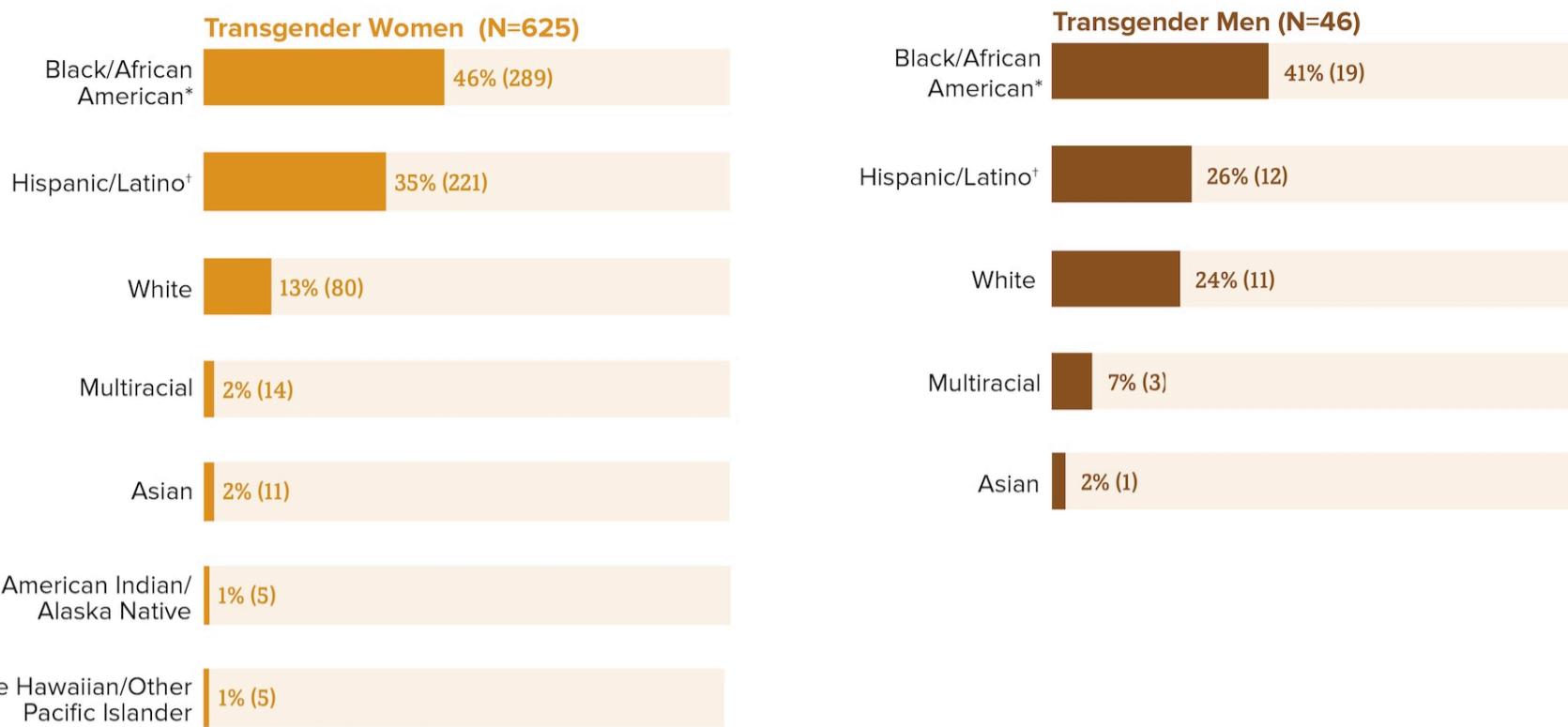


Learn more about HIV diagnoses among transgender people.

Source: CDC. [Diagnoses of HIV infection in the United States and dependent areas, 2019](#). HIV Surveillance Report 2021;32.

HIV diagnoses among transgender people by race/ethnicity in the US and dependent areas, 2019

Most new HIV diagnoses among transgender people were among Black/African American people.



Learn more about HIV diagnoses among transgender people by race and ethnicity.

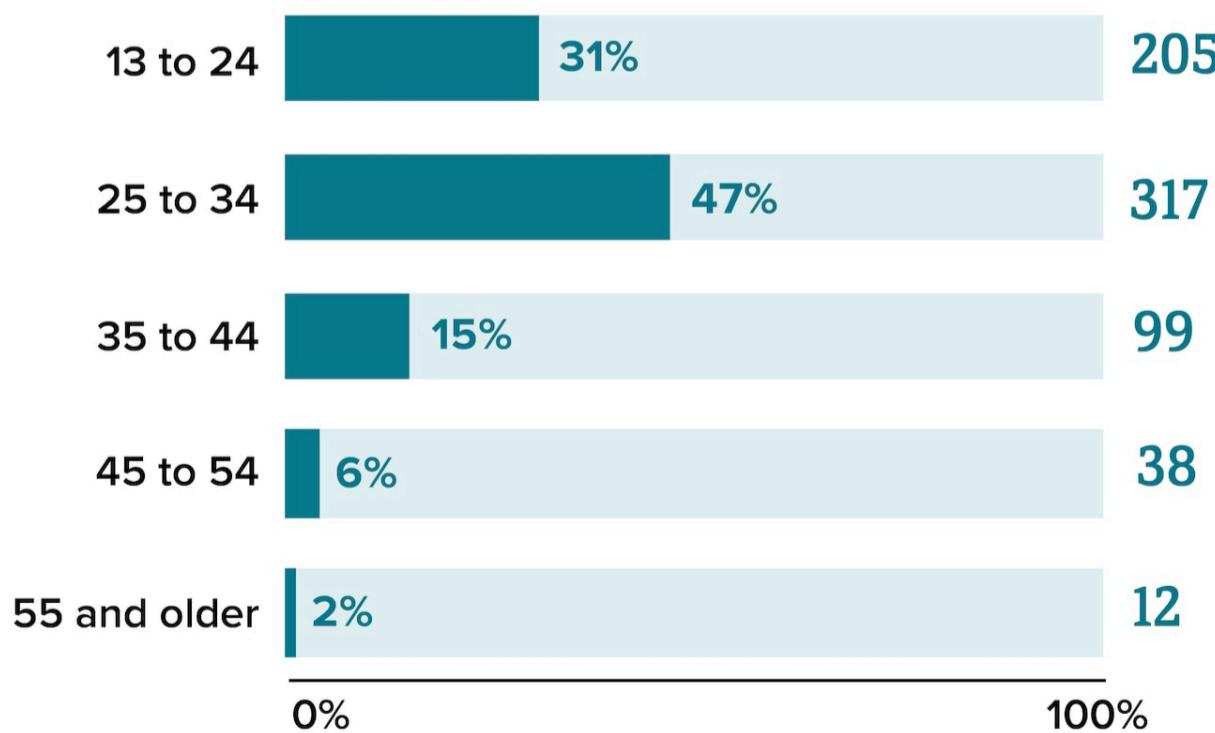
*Black refers to people having origins in any of the Black racial groups of Africa. African American is a term often used for people of African descent with ancestry in North America.

† Hispanic/Latino people can be of any race.

Source: CDC. [Diagnoses of HIV infection in the United States and dependent areas, 2019](#). HIV Surveillance Report 2021;32.

HIV diagnoses among transgender people by age in the US and dependent areas, 2019

Among transgender people, most new HIV diagnoses were among people age 25 to 34.

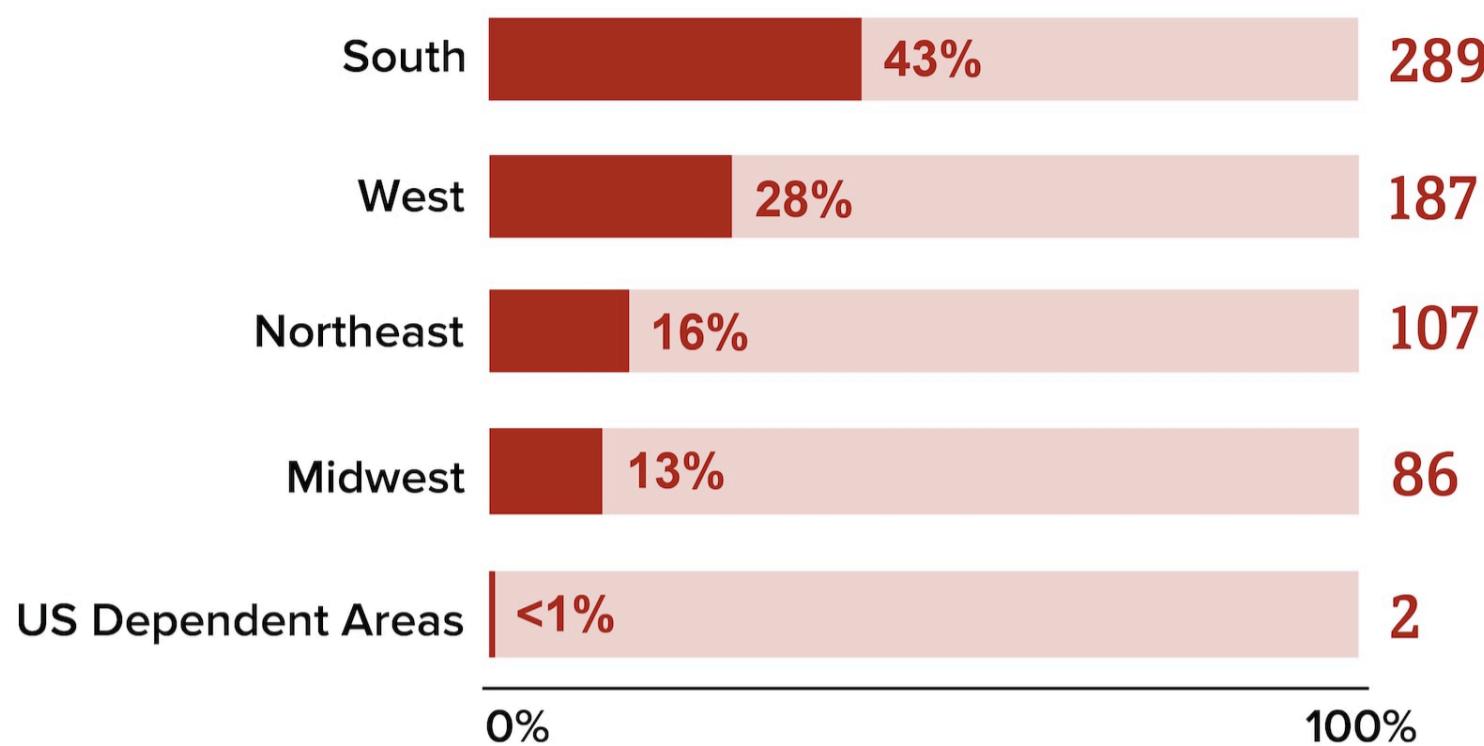
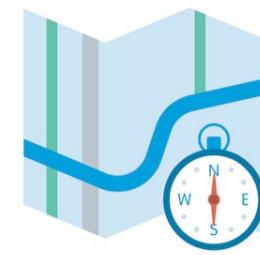


Learn more about HIV diagnoses among transgender people by age.

Source: CDC. [Diagnoses of HIV infection in the United States and dependent areas, 2019](#). HIV Surveillance Report 2021;32.

HIV diagnoses among transgender people by region in the US and dependent areas, 2019*

The highest number of new HIV diagnoses among transgender people were in the South.

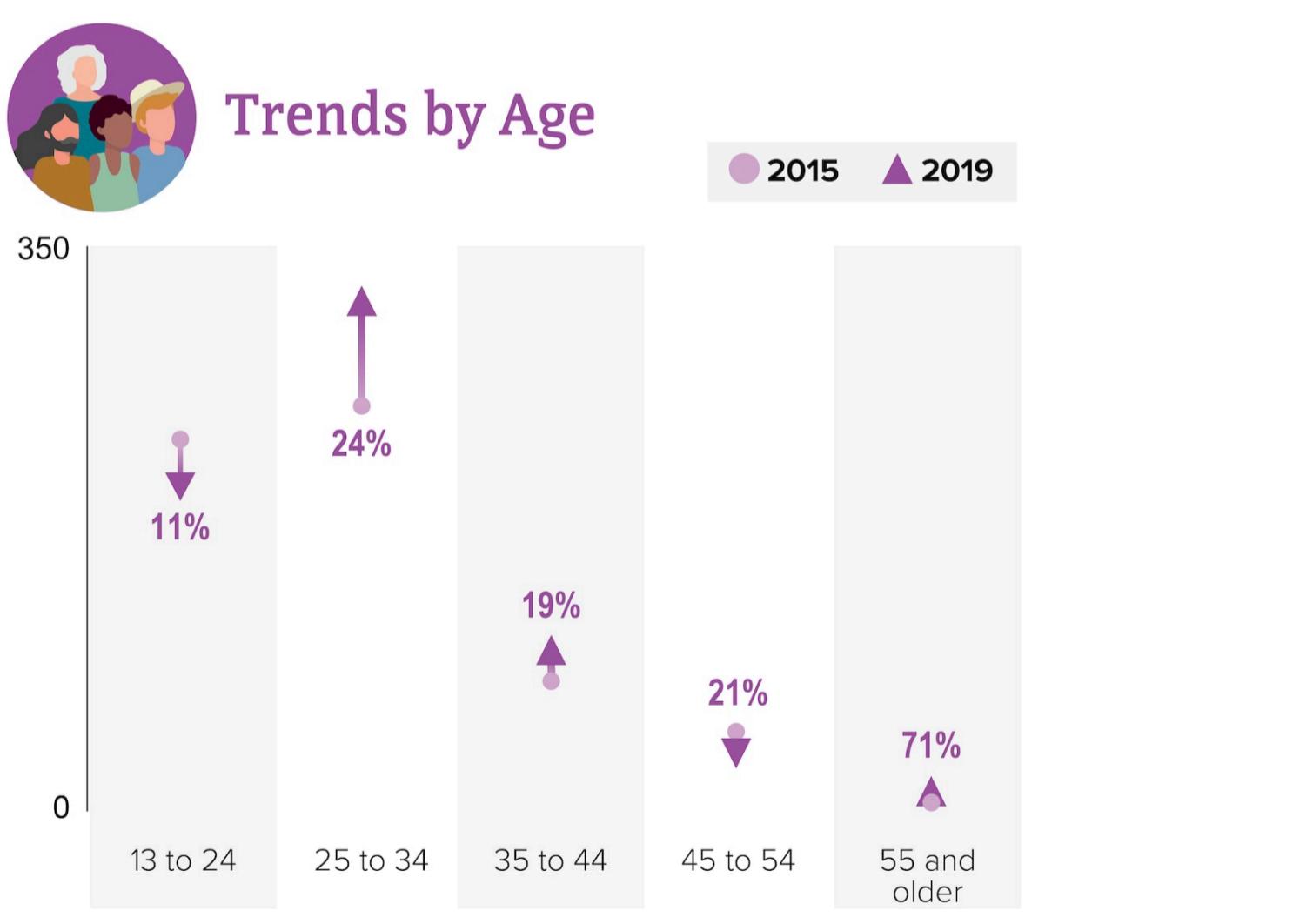


Learn more about HIV diagnoses among transgender people by region.

*Regions used in CDC's National HIV Surveillance System: Northeast: CT, ME, MA, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VT Midwest: IL, IN, IA, KS, MI, MN, MO, NE, ND, OH, SD, WI South: AL, AR, DE, DC, FL, GA, KY, LA, MD, MS, NC, OK, SC, TN, TX, VA, WV West: AK, AZ, CA, CO, HI, ID, MT, NV, NM, OR, UT, WA, WY

Source: CDC. [Diagnoses of HIV infection in the United States and dependent areas, 2019](#). HIV Surveillance Report 2021;32.

HIV diagnoses among transgender people in the US and dependent areas, 2015–2019*



Learn more about trends in HIV diagnoses among transgender people.

*Changes in subpopulations with fewer HIV diagnoses can lead to a large percentage increase or decrease.

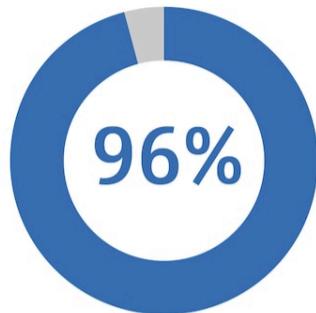
Source: CDC. [Diagnoses of HIV infection in the United States and dependent areas, 2019](#). HIV Surveillance Report 2021;32.

HIV testing

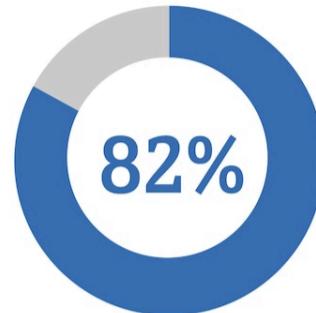
HIV testing is the gateway to care for people who have HIV and to prevention services for people who don't have HIV. CDC recommends that everyone between the ages of 13 and 64 get tested for HIV at least once as part of routine health care. People with certain risk factors should get tested at least once a year. A recent study found that transgender women have high rates of recent and lifetime HIV testing.

HIV testing among transgender women in 7 US cities, 2019-2020*

Getting tested for HIV is the only way for people to learn their status.



of transgender women had ever tested for HIV



of transgender women were tested for HIV in the past 12 months

Learn more about HIV testing among transgender women.

*Among people aged 18 and older.

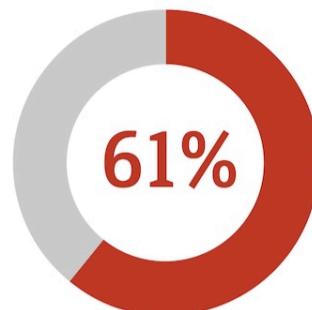
Source: CDC. [HIV infection, risk, prevention, and testing behaviors among transgender women—National HIV Behavioral Surveillance—7 U.S. Cities, 2019-2020](#). *HIV Surveillance Special Report* 2021.

HIV prevention

There are many HIV prevention strategies available, including [condoms](#); [pre-exposure prophylaxis \(PrEP\)](#); [post-exposure prophylaxis \(PEP\)](#); as well as interventions focused on risk reduction; adherence to HIV medicine; linkage to, retention in, and re-engagement in care; structural approaches; and engagement in PrEP care. Additionally, for people with HIV, [treatment](#) provides substantial benefits for personal health and reduces HIV transmission to others. This is sometimes called HIV treatment as prevention.

HIV prevention interventions among transgender women in 7 US cities, 2019-2020*

HIV prevention interventions can reduce risk behaviors.



of transgender women who do not have HIV participated in an individual or group level HIV prevention intervention

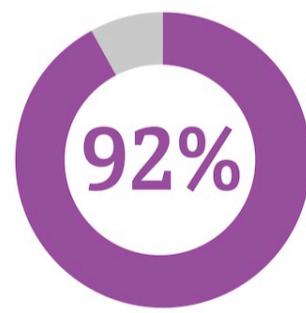
Learn more about HIV prevention interventions among transgender women.

*Among people aged 18 and older.

Source: CDC. [HIV infection, risk, prevention, and testing behaviors among transgender women—National HIV Behavioral Surveillance—7 U.S. Cities, 2019–2020](#). HIV Surveillance Special Report 2021.

PrEP awareness and use among transgender women in 7 US cities, 2019–2020*

PrEP is highly effective for preventing HIV from sex or injection drug use.



of transgender women without HIV were aware of PrEP



of transgender women without HIV used PrEP

Learn more about PrEP awareness and use among transgender women.

*Among people aged 18 and older.

Source: CDC. [HIV infection, risk, prevention, and testing behaviors among transgender women—National HIV Behavioral Surveillance—7 U.S. Cities, 2019–2020](#). HIV Surveillance Special Report 2021.

HIV prevalence

HIV prevalence is the number of people with HIV at a given time regardless of the time of infection.

Racial and ethnic disparities exist among transgender women with HIV.



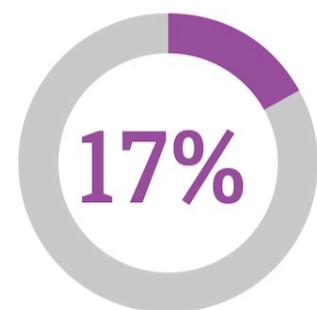
Among transgender women interviewed, 42% had HIV.



of Black/African American transgender women had HIV



of Hispanic/Latina transgender women had HIV



of White transgender women had HIV

Learn more about HIV prevalence among transgender women.

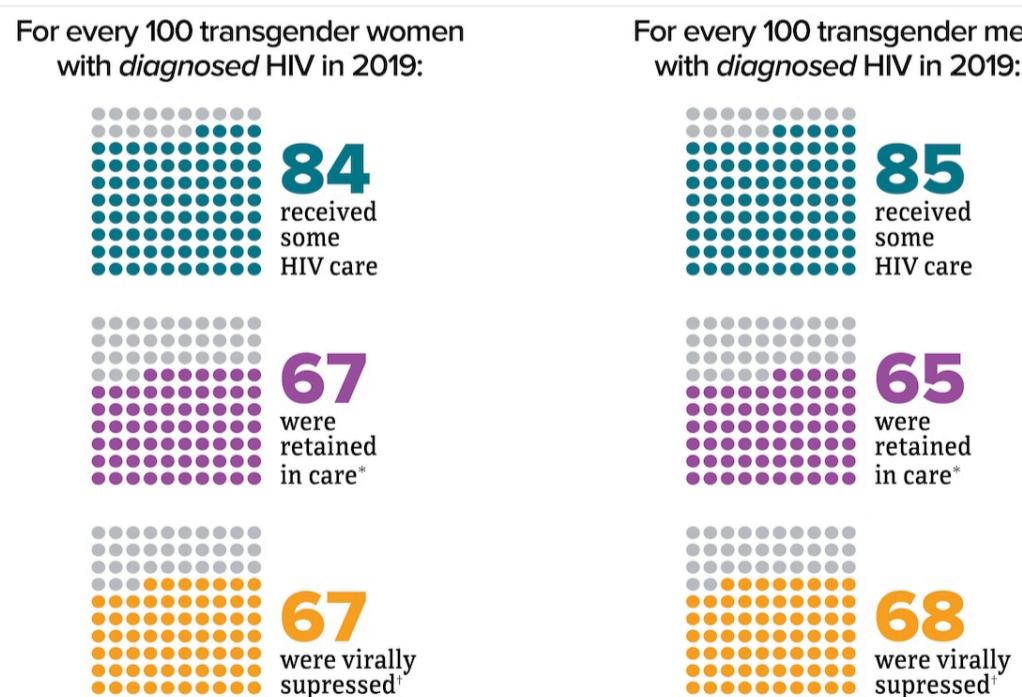
*Among people aged 18 and older.

Source: CDC. [HIV infection, risk, prevention, and testing behaviors among transgender women—National HIV Behavioral Surveillance—7 U.S. Cities, 2019–2020. HIV Surveillance Special Report 2021](#).

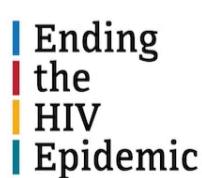
Viral suppression and barriers to care

Viral suppression refers to the percentage of people with diagnosed HIV who have less than 200 copies of HIV per milliliter of blood.

Transgender people with diagnosed HIV in 44 states and the District of Columbia, 2019



For comparison, for every **100 people overall** with diagnosed HIV, **76 received some care**, **58 were retained in care**, and **66 were virally suppressed**.



Overall Goal: Increase the percentage of people with diagnosed HIV who are virally suppressed to at least 95% by 2025 and remain at 95% by 2030.



Learn more about HIV care and viral suppression among transgender people with diagnosed HIV.

*Had 2 viral load or CD4 tests at least 3 months apart in a year.

[†] Had less than 200 copies of HIV per milliliter of blood on most recent viral load test.

Source: CDC. [Monitoring selected national HIV prevention and care objectives by using HIV surveillance data—United States and 6 Dependent Areas, 2019](#). *HIV Surveillance Special Report* 2021; 26(2).

Many people with HIV experience challenges with achieving and maintaining viral suppression over time. Some of these challenges include missing HIV medical appointments, needing but not receiving other important health care services, or missing doses of HIV treatment.

Missed HIV medical care appointments among transgender people with diagnosed HIV in the US, 2020*

Staying in HIV care is important to achieving and maintaining viral suppression.



missed at least 1 medical appointment in the past 12 months

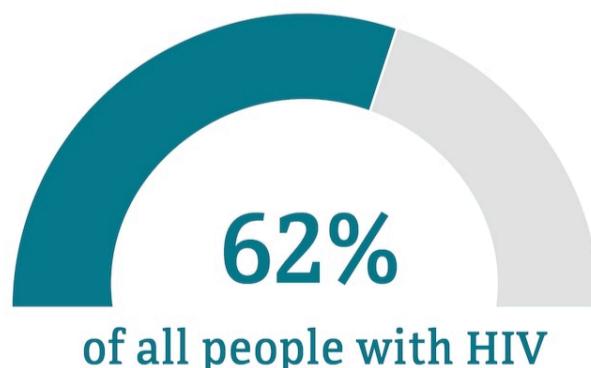
Learn more about missed HIV medical care appointments among transgender people with diagnosed HIV.

*Among people aged 18 and older.

Source: CDC. [Medical Monitoring Project](#).

HIV treatment among transgender people with diagnosed HIV in the US, 2020*

Taking HIV medicine consistently and as prescribed is the best way to achieve and maintain viral suppression.



reported taking all of their doses of HIV medicine over the last 30 days

Learn more about HIV treatment among transgender people with diagnosed HIV.

*Among people aged 18 and older.

Source: CDC. [Medical Monitoring Project](#).

Needed HIV ancillary services among transgender people with diagnosed HIV in the US, 2020[†]

HIV ancillary care services are essential for supporting people in staying in HIV care and maintaining viral suppression.



THE TOP SERVICE TRANSGENDER PEOPLE WITH HIV REPORTED NEEDING IN 2020 WAS DENTAL CARE, WITH 17% SAYING THEY NEEDED BUT DID NOT RECEIVE IT.



Forty-one percent (41%) of all people with HIV needed, but did not receive, at least 1 HIV ancillary service in the past 12 months.

Learn more about needed HIV ancillary services among transgender people with diagnosed HIV.

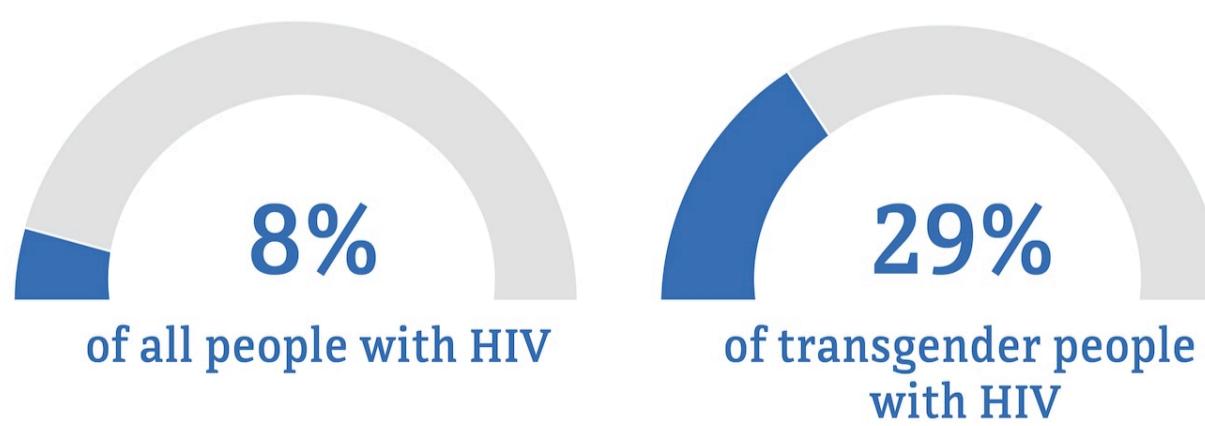
*Among people aged 18 and older.

[†] HIV ancillary services, such as case management and mental health services, are services that support retention in HIV care and viral suppression.

Source: CDC. [Medical Monitoring Project](#).

Homelessness among transgender people with diagnosed HIV in the US, 2020*

People who experience homelessness may find it difficult to get HIV care and treatment.



reported homelessness in the past 12 months

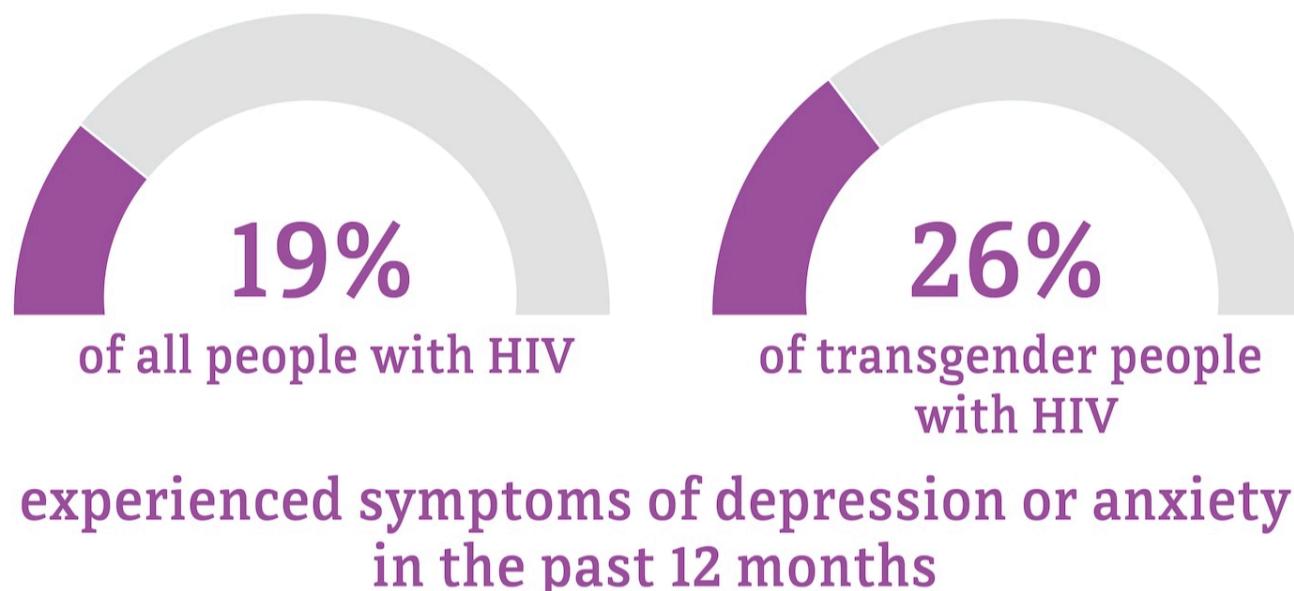
Learn more about homelessness among transgender people with diagnosed HIV.

*Among people aged 18 and older.

Source: CDC. [Medical Monitoring Project](#).

Depression and anxiety among transgender people with diagnosed HIV in the US, 2020*

Some transgender people with diagnosed HIV may have difficulty getting treatment.



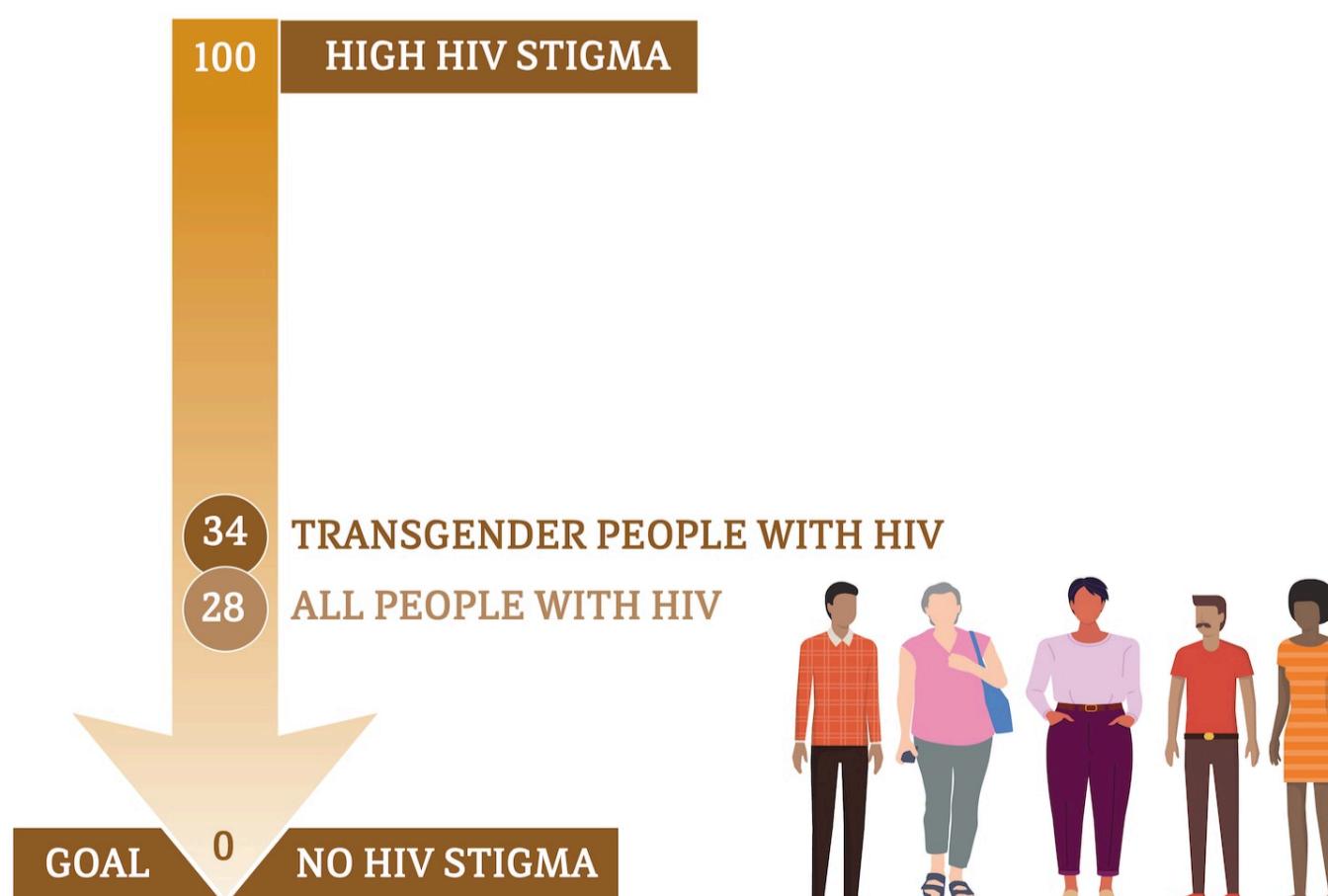
Learn more about depression and anxiety among transgender people with diagnosed HIV.

*Among people aged 18 and older.

Source: CDC. [Medical Monitoring Project](#).

Median HIV stigma score among transgender people with diagnosed HIV in the US, 2020*

Transgender people with HIV experienced HIV stigma.



Learn more about HIV stigma experienced by transgender people with diagnosed HIV.

Median HIV stigma scores are presented based on a ten-item scale ranging from 0 (no stigma) to 100 (high stigma) that measures personalized stigma during the past 12 months, current disclosure concerns, current negative self-image, and current perceived public attitudes about people with HIV.

*Among people aged 18 and older.

Source: CDC. [Medical Monitoring Project](#).

SOURCES

CONTENT SOURCE:

National Center for HIV, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and Tuberculosis Prevention; Division of HIV Prevention