

HIV infection among Hispanics in Oregon

Background

Among 989 Hispanic HIV cases estimated to be living in Oregon at the end of 2017, 62% (610/989) were born in another country with 37% (367/989) born in Mexico. Hispanic cases born outside the United States were more likely to be male (88%) than female (12%). Since 1994, the number of Hispanic cases born outside the United States generally exceeded the number of U.S.-born Hispanic cases (Figure 1).

Recent trends (2008–2017)

Among Hispanic Oregon residents during 2008–2017, the mean rate of new HIV diagnoses was nearly twice the rate of new diagnoses among Whites (431 new Hispanic cases; 9.1 vs. 5.4 per 100,000 residents; Figure 2). Hispanic cases diagnosed during 2012–2016 were more likely than Whites to progress to meeting criteria for AIDS within 12 months of testing positive (42% vs. 34%); this indicates that, on average, Hispanics have been infected for a longer time prior to diagnosis. Sixty-eight percent of recently diagnosed Hispanic cases were born in another country (295/295), with 41% of recently diagnosed cases born in Mexico.

Recently diagnosed Hispanic cases were mostly males (91%). Seventy-eight percent (305/391) of all male cases occurred in men who reported sex with other men (MSM), with or without a history of injection drug use (IDU). No likely transmission category was reported for 17% (66/391) of recently diagnosed Hispanic men.

Hispanics* living with HIV in Oregon, 2017 facts at a glance

- Thirteen percent (989/7,557) of people estimated to be living with HIV/AIDS in Oregon at the end of 2017 were Hispanic.
- Thirty-eight percent (379/989) of Oregon Hispanics living with HIV/AIDS were born in the United States with another 1 percent (13 cases) born in Puerto Rico.
- Thirty-seven percent of Oregon Hispanics living with HIV/AIDS were born in Mexico.
- Forty-three percent (372/874) of all foreign-born people living with HIV in Oregon were born in Mexico.

Diagnosed with HIV infection in Oregon, 2008–2017

- Eighteen percent (431/2,425) were Hispanic.
- Sixty-eight percent (295/431) of Hispanics diagnosed with HIV in Oregon were born outside the United States (41% in Mexico).
- No clear transmission mode was identified for 18% (78/431) of recently diagnosed Hispanic cases.

* Schema prioritizes Hispanic identity over White or Black/African American race; e.g., a person who identifies as Black or African American and Hispanic would be classified here as Hispanic.

Among the 40 Hispanic females diagnosed with HIV infection during 2008–2017, 58% (23/40) reported a known heterosexual risk. Another 30% (12/40) did not report any known risk such as injection drug use or heterosexual contact with someone with HIV or a man who was known to be bisexual. Injection drug use among Hispanic females diagnosed with HIV infection was 10% (4/40) compared to 28% (50/178) reported among White females (Table 1).

Figure 1 Hispanics diagnosed in Oregon, 1981–2017

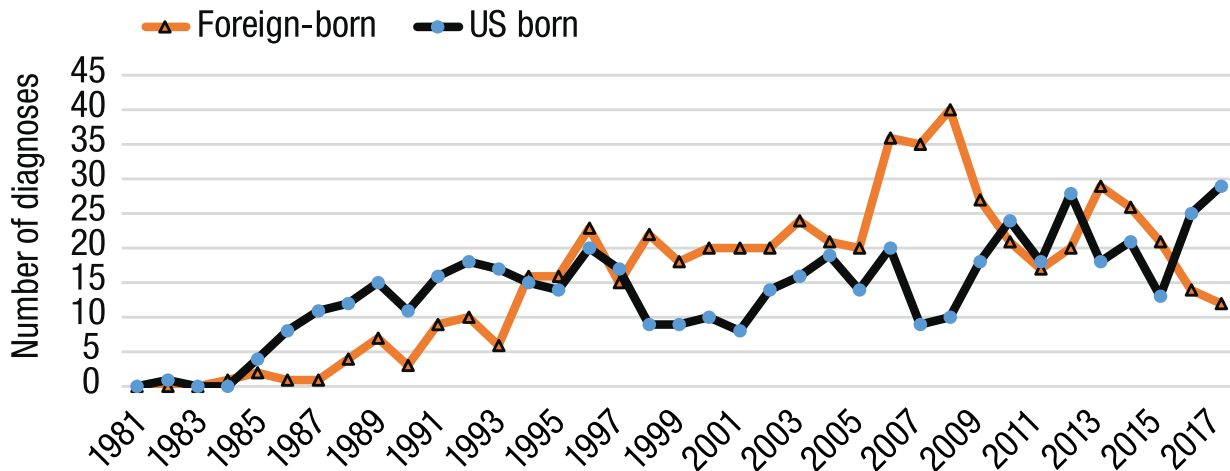


Figure 2 Rates of HIV diagnosis by race/ethnicity per 100,000 population, Oregon, 2008–2017

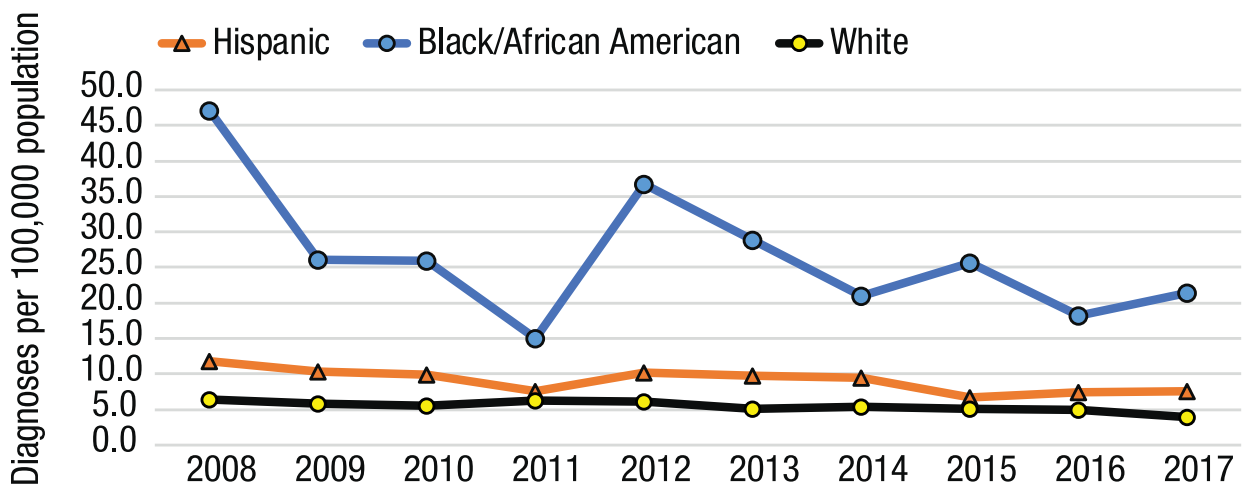


Table 1 HIV transmission* by sex and race/ethnicity, Oregon 2008–2017

Male transmission	Hispanic		Black and African American		White	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Men having sex with men only	285	73%	71	53%	1,028	70%
IDU only	9	2%	5	4%	86	6%
Men having sex with men/injection drug use	20	5%	14	11%	173	12%
Heterosexual	10	3%	11	8%	34	2%
Unknown	66	17%	27	20%	156	11%
Pediatric	1	0%	5	4%	0	0%
Total	391	100%	133	100%	1,477	100%
Female transmission	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Injection drug use only	4	10%	3	6%	50	28%
Heterosexual	23	58%	32	63%	74	42%
Unknown	12	30%	14	27%	54	30%
Pediatric	1	3%	2	4%	0	0%
Total	40	100%	51	100%	178	100%

* For Table 1, transmission category (sometimes known as “risk category”) has been assigned based on a schema used by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Epidemiologic resources:

Oregon Health Authority, HIV/AIDS epidemiology: <https://public.health.oregon.gov/DiseasesConditions/CommunicableDisease/DiseaseSurveillanceData/HIVData/Pages/index.aspx>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: www.cdc.gov/hiv.

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