Black Women and HIV in Texas

The Big Picture

Since 2012, the number of new HIV diagnoses among Black women living in Texas has decreased by 24 percent. Still, as of 2021, Black women have the highest rate of new HIV diagnoses compared to women of other races and ethnicities. In 2021, there were 11,788 Black women living with HIV in Texas. Although Black women make up only 13 percent of the Texas female population, they are 56 percent of women living with HIV. This shows the continued need to promote HIV prevention and education in Black women.

Black Women Living with HIV in Texas

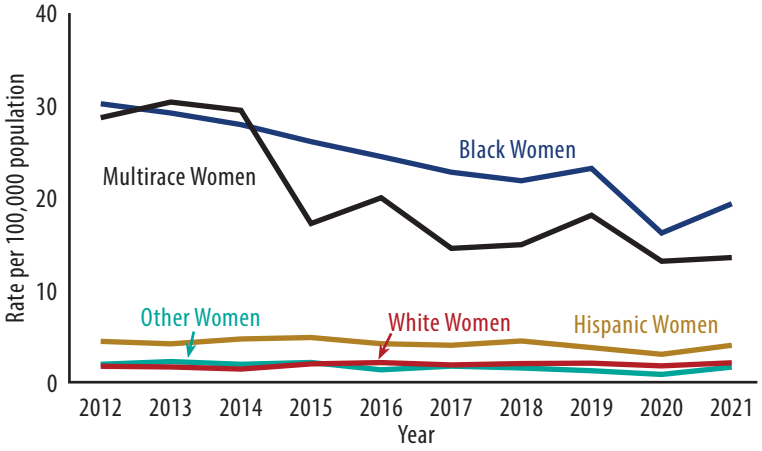
The rate of Black women living with HIV in Texas (631 per 100,000 population) is 6.9 times the rate of Hispanic women living with HIV and 13.6 times the rate of White women living with HIV.

The most common way Black women in Texas get HIV is through sex with a male living with HIV (83 percent).

An early diagnosis of HIV infection helps people get the care they need to stay healthy. Being diagnosed with HIV late (within a year of an AIDS diagnosis) reduces treatment effectiveness. In 2021, 25 percent of Black women diagnosed with HIV in Texas received a late diagnosis

One in every 156 Black women in Texas is living with HIV.

Rate of New HIV Diagnoses in Women by Race/Ethnicity, Texas, 2012-2021



Black Women Without HIV-Related Medical Care in 2021

More than ever before, advances in medical care have enabled people with HIV to stay healthy and live longer. Some persons living with HIV may not seek care because they do not feel ill. Others may have problems affording or accessing health care. Still others may not seek medical care because of substance abuse, mental health issues, or HIV-related stigma.

More Black persons living with HIV (PLWH) (12,105) did not receive HIV medical care in 2021 compared to other racial and ethnic groups in Texas. **Nearly one in three** Black women living with HIV in **Texas** (3,572) were out of care in 2021.

Of Black women living with HIV in Texas whose mode of HIV transmission was sex with males:

- 77 percent had at least one medical visit or lab test for their HIV infection,
- 70 percent had at least two medical visits or lab visits at least three months apart, and
- 60 percent achieved viral suppression.

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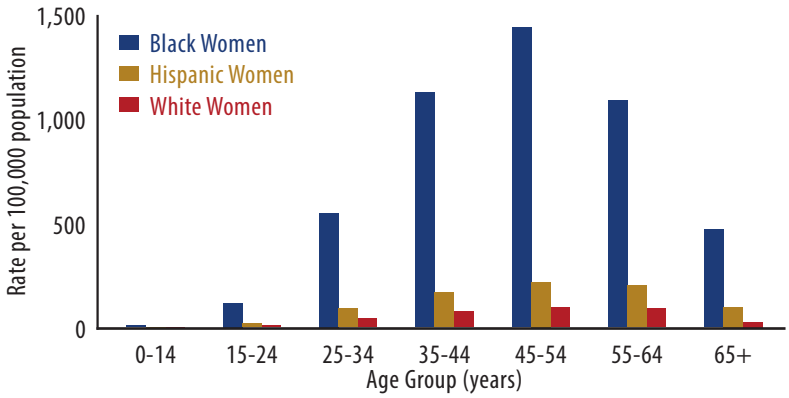
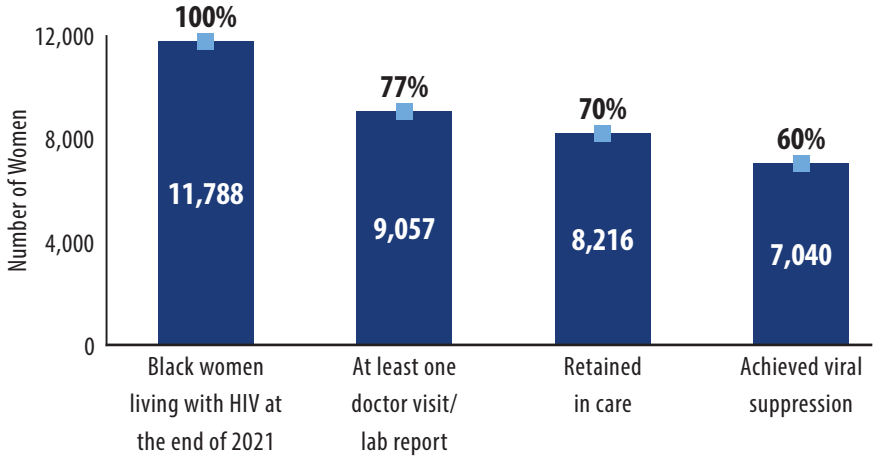
Rate of Women Living with HIV by Age and Race/Ethnicity, Texas, 2021



HIV Treatment Cascade for Black Women in Texas, 2021



HIV Prevention for Black Women in Texas. What Can You Do?

Know the Facts! Early diagnosis and effective treatment of HIV will help reduce HIV transmission. Get tested. Know your partners HIV/STD status. Protect yourself by using condoms. Educate others about safe sex practices. Find out if PrEP is right for you.

To learn more about HIV prevention for Black women in Texas, contact the DSHS HIV/STD Section at hiv.std@dshs.texas.gov.

Texas Black Women's Initiative (TxBWI)

The mission of the Texas Black Women's Initiative (TxBWI) is to promote active, engaged, and empowered communities to address HIV disparity among Black women. TxBWI works to strengthen the ability of DSHS, local health departments, and community-based organizations to effectively implement HIV/AIDS programs focused on Black women.

More About Black Women and HIV in Texas

One in every 690 Texas Women have HIV
One in 156 Black Women
One in 1,080 Hispanic Women
One in 2,146 White Women

Since 2012, **51 percent** of new HIV diagnoses in Texas women under the age of 25 were among young Black women

The rate of new HIV diagnoses among Black women in Texas is **five times** the rate for Hispanic women and **ten times** the rate for White women

Black women have the highest case counts of gonorrhea and the second highest case counts of chlamydia and primary and secondary syphilis in Texas

DSHS HIV/STD Section

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dshs.texas.gov/hivstd

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