

Southwest Health District

HIV & STD Epidemiologic Profile 2021

This epidemiologic profile provides updated information about HIV and STDs in the Southwest Health District in Los Angeles County (LAC). **All data represent persons aged ≥ 13 years. All rates are per 100,000.** See technical notes for additional details.

Percent of LAC PLWDH* residing in Southwest

Southwest residents make up **4%** of the LAC population

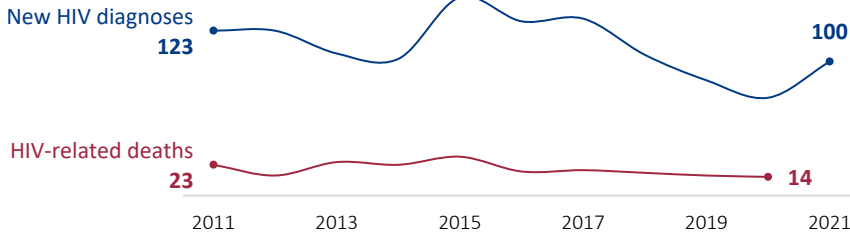


In 2021, Southwest residents made up **6%** of the total number of PLWDH in LAC



*PLWDH = Persons living with diagnosed HIV

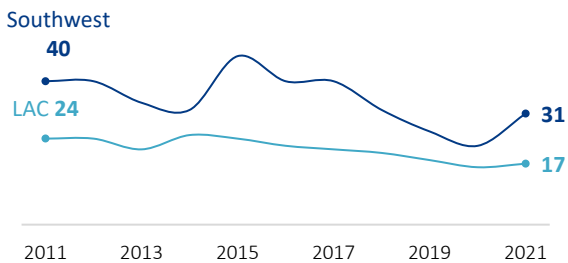
New Reported HIV Diagnoses & HIV-Related Deaths



New reported HIV diagnoses and HIV-related deaths among PLWDH in Southwest have been on a declining trend since 2011.

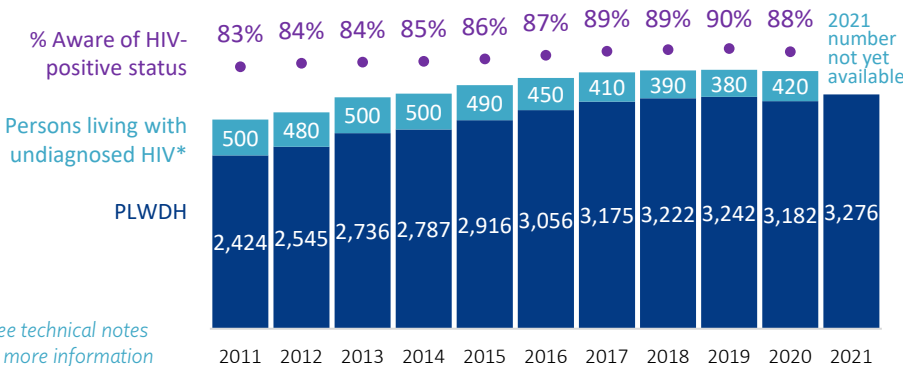
Note: It is recommended that 2014 and 2020 data be interpreted with caution due to situational factors. See technical notes for more information.

HIV Diagnosis Rates: Southwest vs. LAC

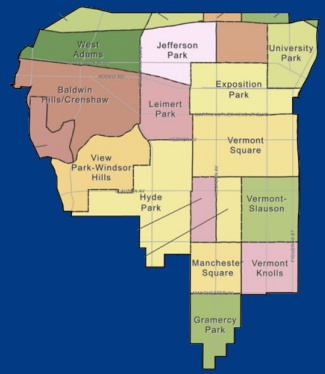


Between 2011 and 2021, HIV diagnosis rates in Southwest have been consistently higher than in LAC overall. Rates have been decreasing in Southwest and LAC.

Number of Persons Living with HIV & Percent Aware of HIV-Positive Status



* See technical notes for more information



320,556

Residents of Southwest Health District in 2021 aged ≥ 13 years

100

New reported HIV diagnoses in 2021

494

New reported syphilis diagnoses in 2020

1,988

New reported gonorrhea diagnoses in 2020

3,587

New reported chlamydia diagnoses in 2020

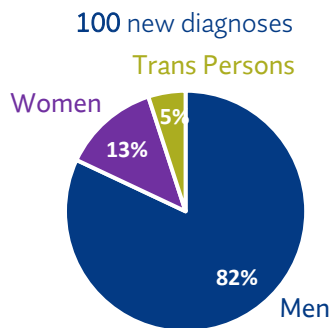
55%

STD coinfection among new reported HIV diagnoses in 2020

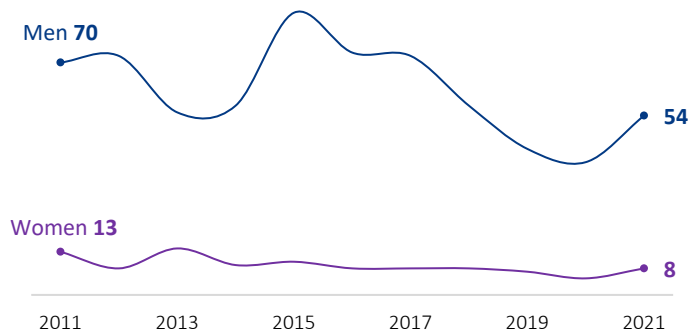
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Characteristics of New HIV Diagnoses – Gender, Race/Ethnicity, Age

2021 new HIV diagnoses by **gender**



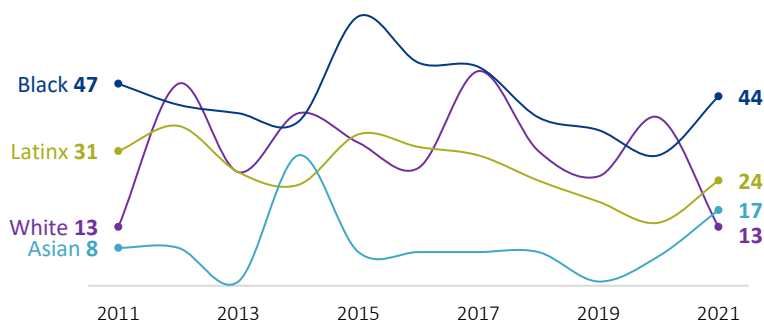
New HIV diagnosis rates¹ by **gender**



New HIV diagnosis rates have remained significantly higher among men than women. Rates among men have declined substantially while the decline in rates among women has been relatively modest.

Note: Trans men and trans women are grouped into one category to maintain confidentiality due to small numbers. New HIV diagnosis rates among trans persons are not presented due to the unavailability of reliable population size estimates in LAC.

New HIV diagnosis rates¹ by **race/ethnicity**

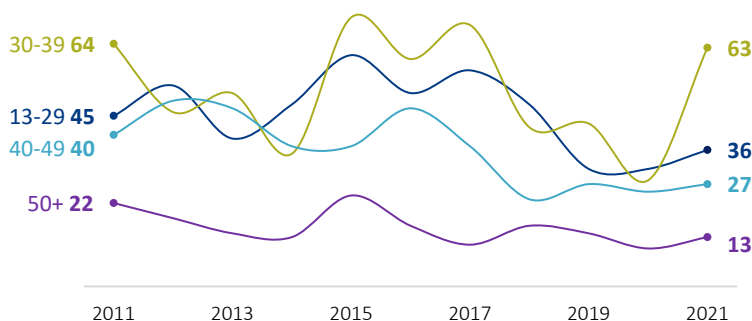


Between 2011 and 2021, rates among Black persons generally have been higher than rates among all other race/ethnicity groups.

Note: Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders, American Indians and Alaska Natives, and persons of multiple race/ethnicities are not included in this profile due to small numbers in Southwest.

The volatility in new diagnosis rates among race/ethnicity groups may be associated with small population sizes in Southwest.

New HIV diagnosis rates¹ by **age group**



In Southwest, new HIV diagnosis rates have been highest among persons aged 30-39. Rates among persons aged 13-29, 40-49, and 50+ have been on a declining trend.

¹ New HIV diagnosis rates are presented per 100,000 population. Due to small numbers, rates may be unreliable and should be interpreted with caution.

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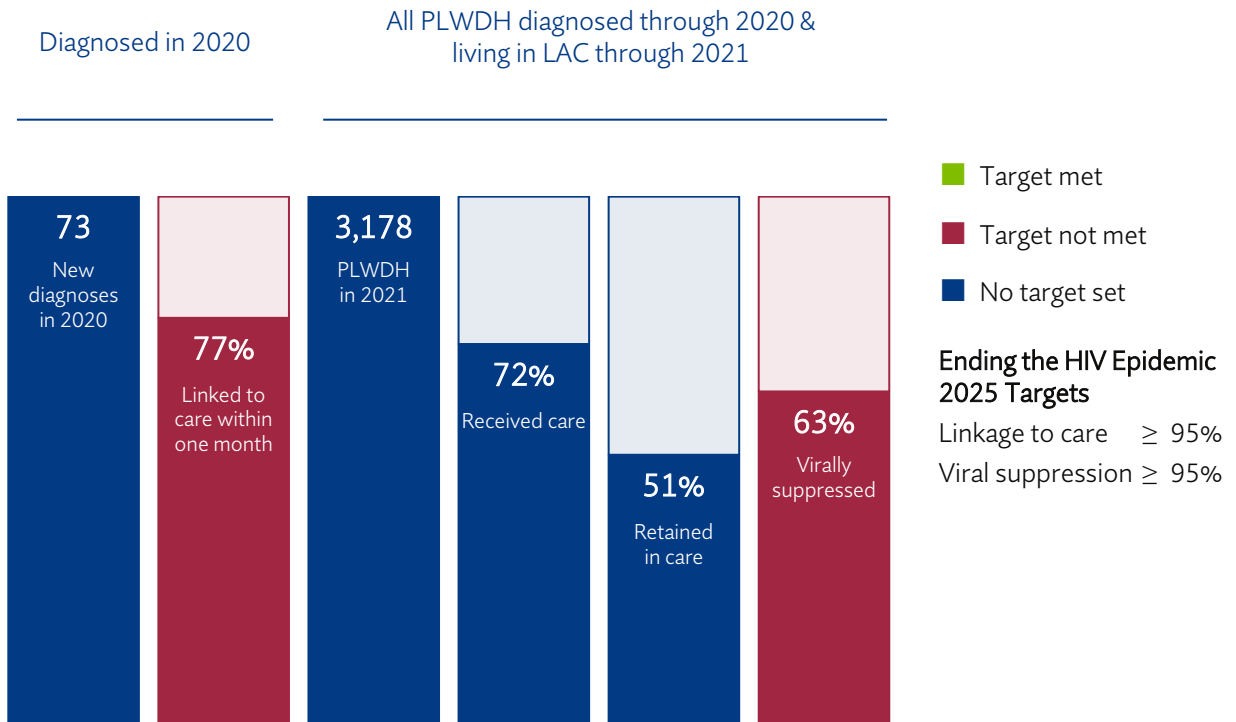
Transmission Category among Persons Newly Diagnosed with HIV by Gender

In 2021, the primary HIV transmission category among men was having sex with other men (MSM). The primary HIV transmission category among women was sex with men. For trans persons, the primary HIV transmission category was sexual contact.

To protect the privacy of persons with HIV, Los Angeles County applies data suppression rules when the total number in a stratum is less than 100. In accordance with those rules, a chart/table of transmission category among persons newly diagnosed with HIV by gender could not be presented for this health district.

HIV Care Continuum

The HIV care continuum is a series of steps starting from when a person is diagnosed with HIV through their achievement of viral suppression. The base population for measuring linkage to HIV care is persons who received an HIV diagnosis in a given calendar year, whereas the base population for the downstream steps in the continuum is all persons who were diagnosed with HIV through 2020 and were living in LAC as of year end 2021. The latter ensures at least one year of follow-up to measure receipt of care, retention in care, and viral suppression.



Linkage to care and viral suppression levels have not yet met the 2025 targets set for the Ending the HIV Epidemic (EHE) Initiative.

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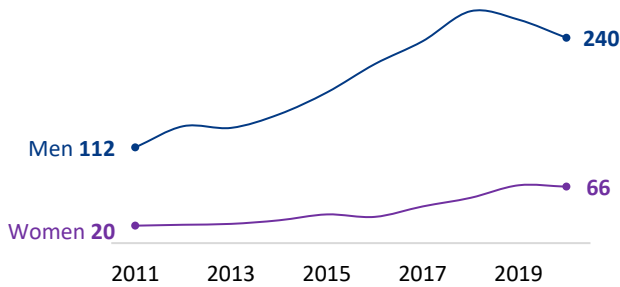
New Syphilis, Gonorrhea & Chlamydia Diagnoses and Rates: Southwest vs. LAC

In 2020, a total of 6,069 new diagnoses of syphilis, gonorrhea, and chlamydia were reported among Southwest Health District residents aged 13+ years. The rates of new diagnoses of syphilis, gonorrhea, and chlamydia were higher than in LAC.

Syphilis in 2020	Gonorrhea in 2020	Chlamydia in 2020
494 new diagnoses in Southwest	1,988 new diagnoses in Southwest	3,587 new diagnoses in Southwest
6% of all LAC diagnoses	8% of all LAC diagnoses	7% of all LAC diagnoses
Rate of new diagnoses 151	Rate of new diagnoses 607	Rate of new diagnoses 1,095
LAC rate: 98	LAC rate: 295	LAC rate: 605

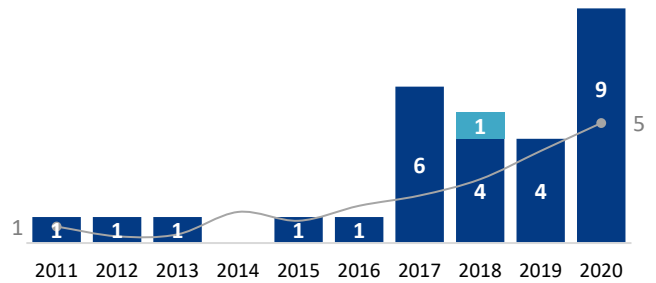
New STD Diagnosis Rates by Gender & New Congenital Syphilis Diagnoses

New syphilis diagnosis rates¹ by gender



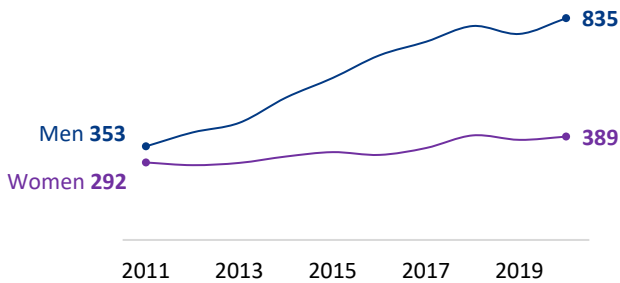
Since 2011, new syphilis diagnosis rates in Southwest have increased for men and women. In 2020, rates for both groups declined, potentially due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on testing and diagnosis.

Number of new congenital syphilis (CS) diagnoses by type: Non-Stillbirths & Stillbirths vs. Expected number of CS diagnoses



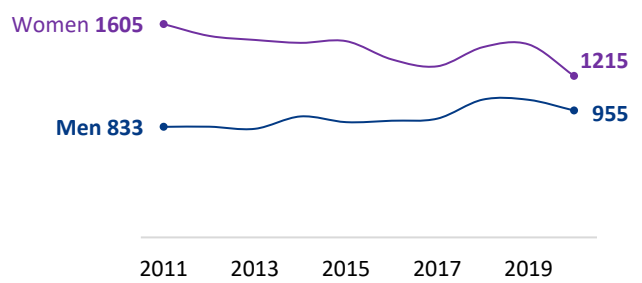
The number of new CS diagnoses in Southwest has increased since 2011. In 2020, the number of CS diagnoses was higher than expected. Southwest has reported one new stillbirth diagnosis since 2011.

New gonorrhea diagnosis rates¹ by gender



New gonorrhea diagnosis rates in Southwest have increased for men and women since 2011. From 2011 to 2020, rates among men in Southwest more than doubled.

New chlamydia diagnosis rates¹ by gender



New chlamydia diagnosis rates among women in Southwest have declined since 2011 while rates among men have increased.

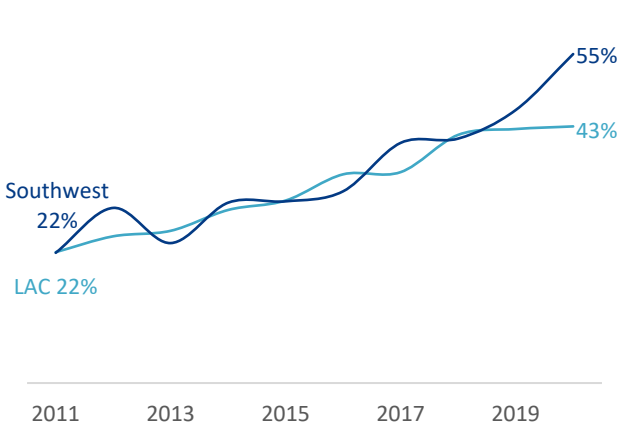
¹ New STD diagnosis rates are presented per 100,000 population. Due to small numbers, rates may be unreliable and should be interpreted with caution.

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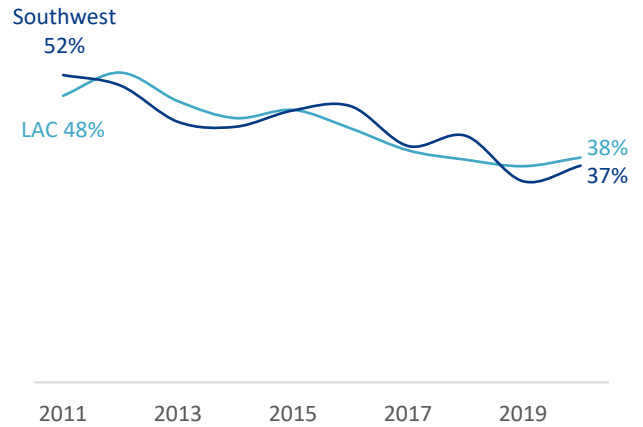
Coinfection of HIV and STDs: Southwest vs. LAC

HIV and other STDs are syndemic in LAC. Persons with syphilis, gonorrhea, and/or chlamydia are at an increased risk of acquiring HIV due to biological and behavioral factors. STDs among PLWH can also increase HIV viral load and the risk of HIV transmission.

Percent of new HIV diagnoses coinfectd with an STD



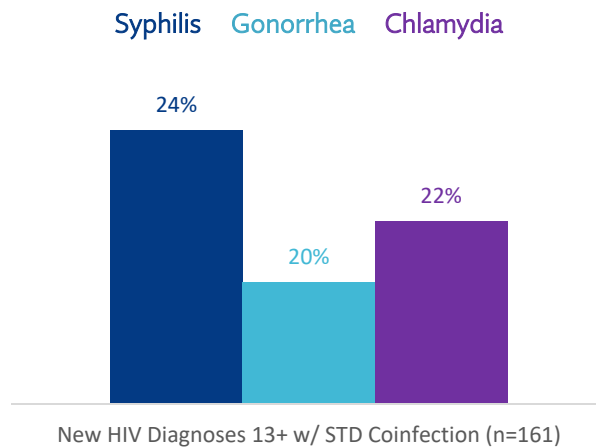
Percent of new syphilis diagnoses coinfectd with HIV



The percentage of new HIV diagnoses in Southwest with syphilis, gonorrhea, and/or chlamydia coinfection has increased from 22% in 2011 to 55% in 2020. This has tracked the trend in LAC overall.

In 2020, 37% of all new syphilis diagnoses in Southwest were coinfectd with HIV. This proportion has declined from over half in 2011.

Coinfection with STDs among New HIV Diagnoses



Among persons newly diagnosed with HIV in 2019 & 2020, 24% had syphilis, 22% chlamydia and 20% had gonorrhea, in the same year as their HIV diagnosis.