

# HIV/AIDS among Hispanic/Latino Men Who Have Sex with Men (MSM)



## Background

MSM, or men who have sex with men, refers to all men who have sex with other men, regardless of how they identify themselves (gay, bisexual, or heterosexual). MSM have experienced high rates of HIV infection since the beginning of the epidemic. Rising rates for Hispanic/Latino MSM indicate that more support and culturally relevant prevention efforts are needed. Additionally, more research is needed to understand the causes for these higher rates, especially in young MSM (29 years or younger).

## THE FACTS<sup>1</sup>

- In 2013, an estimated **9,266 Hispanic/Latino males were diagnosed with HIV** infection in the US and 6 dependent areas, including Puerto Rico.
  - This accounted for 85% of infections among Hispanic/Latino adults and adolescent diagnosed in 2013.
- Among all Hispanic/Latino males diagnosed with HIV, male-to-male sexual contact was the most frequent transmission category, accounting for 81% (7,527) or **8 out of 10 infections in 2013**.
  - MSM and Injecting Drug Use (IDU) transmission account for an additional 285 cases or 3%, contributing to an increased 84% of diagnosed HIV infection among Hispanic/Latino males attributed to male-to-male sex.
- Among all MSM in the US diagnosed with HIV in 2013, **about one in four (24.3%) are Hispanic/Latino**.<sup>2</sup>
- Differences among regions in the US exist with regard to HIV infection among MSM.
  - Numbers of HIV diagnoses for Hispanic/Latino MSM are highest in the South, then the West, followed by the Northeast, Midwest and US Dependent Areas.<sup>3</sup>
- The rate of diagnosed HIV infections in 2013 among Hispanic/Latino men is three times (41.8) greater than non-Hispanic white men (13.8), with MSM bearing the greatest burden.
- **Hispanics/Latinos account for 21%** or 1 in 5 of the 8,018 diagnoses of HIV infections among MSM aged 13-24 in 2013.
- At the end of 2012, **103,545 Hispanic/Latino MSM** were living with diagnosed HIV infection in the US and 6 dependent areas including Puerto Rico.
  - About 22% or 1 in 5 of the 481,385 MSM living with diagnosed HIV at the end of 2012 were Hispanic/Latino.
- There were 996 deaths of Hispanic/Latino MSM diagnosed with HIV infection in 2012.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Note: Unless otherwise noted, all statistics represent data from the CDC's HIV Surveillance Report of the United States and its six dependent areas from the year 2013, the year in which the most recent data is available. Citation information follows below.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2015, February). HIV Surveillance Report, 2013; vol.25. Retrieved from [http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/pdf/g-l/hiv\\_surveillance\\_report\\_vol\\_25.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/pdf/g-l/hiv_surveillance_report_vol_25.pdf)

<sup>2,3,4</sup>Centers for Disease Control (2013). HIV/AIDS Surveillance – Men who Have Sex with men (MSM). Retrieved from: [http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/pdf/statistics\\_surveillance\\_msm.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/pdf/statistics_surveillance_msm.pdf)