In 2016, 857 (17%) of the 4,972 persons diagnosed with HIV in Florida were young people (ages 13–24). Youth diagnosed with HIV vary by age, race, and mode of exposure but certain groups are more at risk than others. Eighty percent of cases among youth were young adults (ages 20–24) compared to adolescents (ages 13–19). Young men who have sex with men accounted for nearly 74% of the cases among youth. Blacks represented 53% of the cases among youth.

**Youth diagnosed with HIV vary by race...**

Over half of young people diagnosed with HIV in 2016 were **black**

- Black: 53%
- Hispanic: 30%
- White: 15%
- Other: 2%

“Other” includes Asian/Pacific Islanders, American Indians/Native Alaskans, and mixed races.

**...and by mode of exposure**

- **8%** of young women diagnosed with HIV in 2016 (ages 13–24) acquired HIV through injection drug use
- **1%** of young men (ages 13–24) acquired HIV through male to male sexual contact, compared to **9%** from heterosexual contact

- 3% decrease in HIV diagnoses among young **black men** from 2012–2016 in Florida
- 55% increase in HIV diagnoses among young **Hispanic men** from 2012–2016 in Florida
- 13% decrease in HIV diagnoses among young **white men** during the same time
Florida’s 2016 HIV Care Continuum reflects the series of steps a person living with HIV (PLWH) takes from initial diagnosis to being retained in care and achieving a very low level of HIV in the body (viral suppression). A PLWH with a suppressed viral load is highly unlikely\(^1\) to transmit the virus to others.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Youth living with HIV</th>
<th>Ever in Care</th>
<th>In Care</th>
<th>Retained in Care</th>
<th>Suppressed Viral Load</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3,591 (100%)</td>
<td>3,309 (92%)</td>
<td>2,902 (81%)</td>
<td>2,430 (68%)</td>
<td>1,918 (53%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**In Care:** Documented care at least once in 2016. **Retained in Care:** Documented care two or more times, three months apart in 2016.

49% of black youth living with HIV had a suppressed viral load in 2016 — compared to 62% of virally suppressed white and Hispanic youth.

### HIV Care and Prevention in Florida

#### HIV Testing
All adolescents and adults (ages 13–64) should be tested for HIV at least once during their lifetime. Persons at increased risk for HIV should be tested **annually.**

Per Florida law, all pregnant women are to be tested for HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases (STD) at their initial prenatal care visit, again at 28–32 weeks and at labor and delivery if status is unknown.

[www.knowyourhivstatus.com](http://www.knowyourhivstatus.com)

#### Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP)
For persons at increased risk for HIV, once daily Truvada®, in the form of a pill, can reduce the risk of acquiring HIV by over 90%. Condoms are still recommended during sex to prevent other STDs, which are often diagnosed in youth, and which can increase HIV risk.

[www.preplocator.org](http://www.preplocator.org)

#### Antiretroviral Therapy (ART)
For persons newly diagnosed with HIV, starting ART with a provider immediately after diagnosis improves health outcomes by preventing disease progression and reducing viral load, making transmission highly unlikely.

Florida HIV/AIDS Hotline
1-800-FLA-AIDS (352-2437) English
1-800-545-SIDA (545-7432) Spanish
1-800-AIDS-101 (243-7101) Haitian Creole
1-800-503-7118 Hearing/Speech Impaired
[www.211bigbend.org/flhivaidshotline](http://www.211bigbend.org/flhivaidshotline)

Text ‘FLHIV’ or ‘flhiv’ to 898211

For more information contact:
[DiseaseControl@flhealth.gov](mailto:DiseaseControl@flhealth.gov)

To find a care provider or to learn more about the resources available to persons living with HIV visit:
[www.floridaaids.org](http://www.floridaaids.org)

Published April 2018