

# STI/HIV/Hepatitis B & C Update

2023



## Louisiana Factsheets



LOUISIANA  
**DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH**

*STD/HIV/Hepatitis Program*



# HIV Annual Summary - 2023

## Louisiana

New HIV Diagnoses  
**869**

HIV Diagnosis Rate  
**18.9**  
per 100,000 population

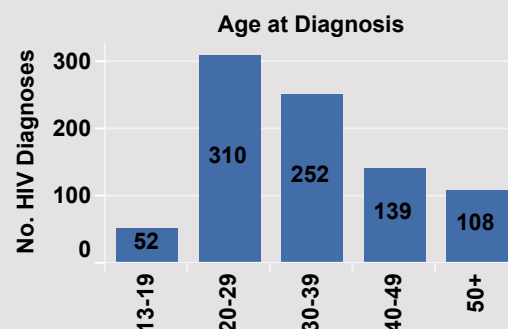
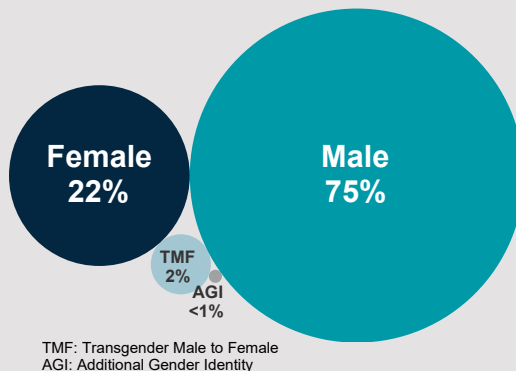
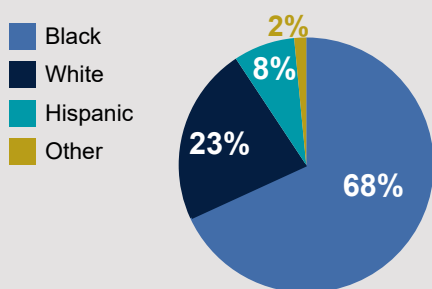
2022 National Ranking  
**4th**  
Highest Diagnosis Rate

### Of the 869 new HIV diagnoses in 2023:

The majority of diagnoses (68%) were among Black people.

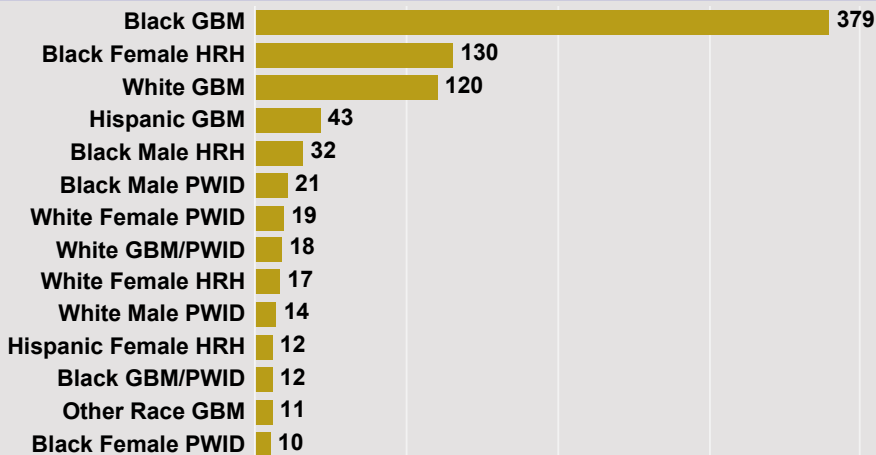
Males comprised 75% of diagnoses.

Over one-third of diagnoses (36%) were among people 20 to 29 years old.



### Affected subpopulations

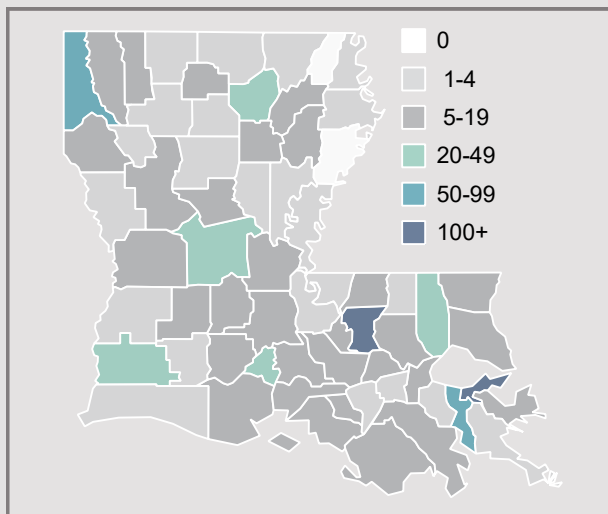
People of color and gay & bisexual men (GBM) are impacted by HIV more than other groups. Over one-third (44%) of diagnoses in 2023 were among Black GBM.



GBM = Gay & bisexual men; HRH = High risk heterosexual; PWID = People who inject drugs

### Geographic distribution

Almost one-third of new HIV diagnoses in 2023 were from East Baton Rouge (15%) and Orleans (15%) parishes.



### HIV Care among People Living with HIV in Louisiana in 2023:



Engagement in care: at least one CD4 or viral load (VL) lab in 2023

Retention in care: two or more CD4 tests or VLs at least 90 days apart in 2023

Viral suppression or an 'undetectable' viral load: VL result < 200 copies per milliliter in 2023

Among persons engaged in HIV care, those who are virally suppressed in 2023

Interpreting the Data: Please note that 2023 data may still be impacted from the COVID-19 pandemic.



# Primary and Secondary (P&S) Syphilis

## Annual Summary - 2023

### Louisiana

New P&S Syphilis  
Diagnoses  
**1,196**

P&S Syphilis  
Diagnosis Rate  
**26.1**  
per 100,000 population

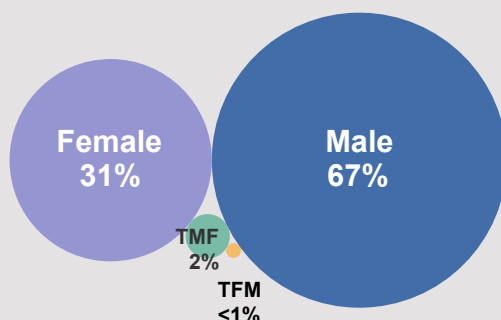
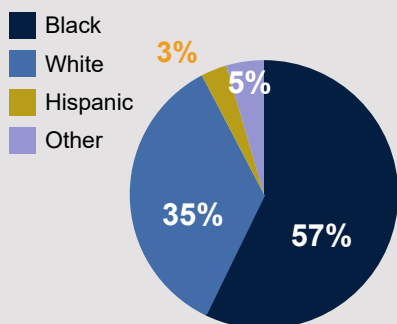
2023 National Ranking  
**8th**  
Highest Diagnosis Rate

## Of the 1,196 P&S syphilis diagnoses in 2023:

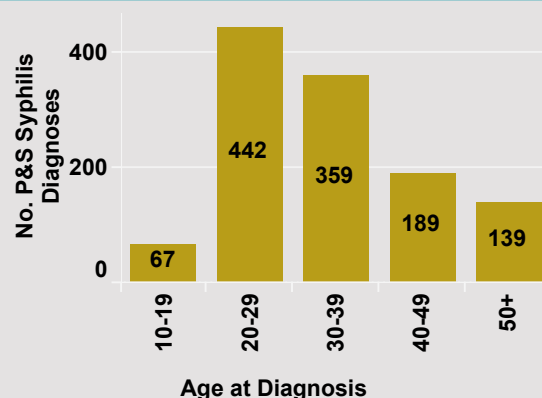
The majority (57%) of diagnoses were among Black people.

Males comprised 68% of diagnoses.

Over one-third of diagnoses (37%) were among people 20 to 29 years old.

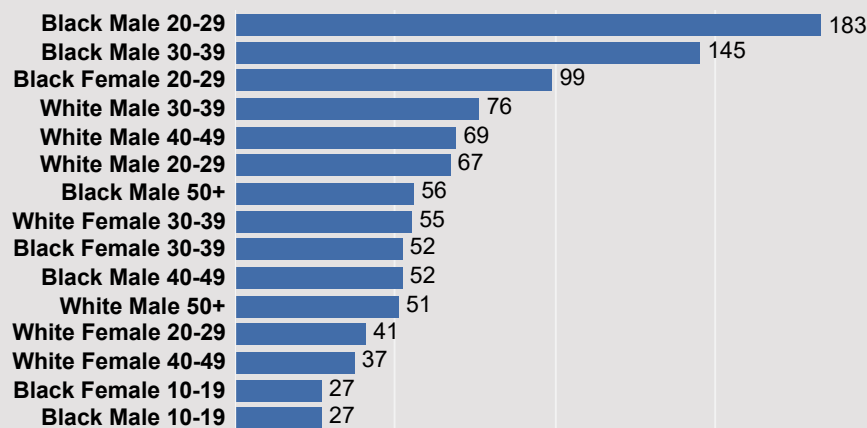


TMF: Transgender Male to Female  
TFM: Transgender Female to Male



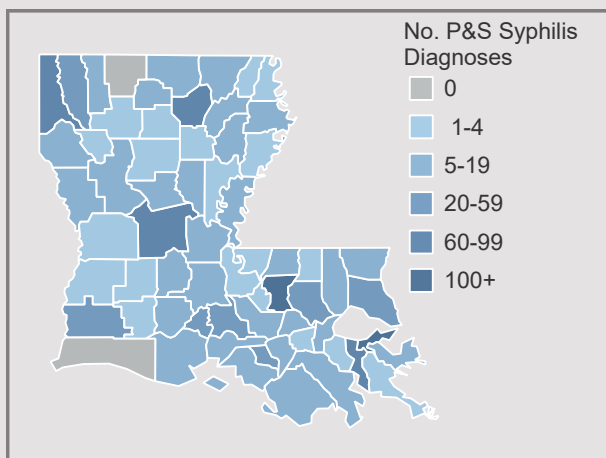
## Affected subpopulations

People of color and males are impacted by P&S syphilis more than other groups. In 2023, over one-quarter (29%) of P&S syphilis diagnoses were among Black males 20-39 years old.

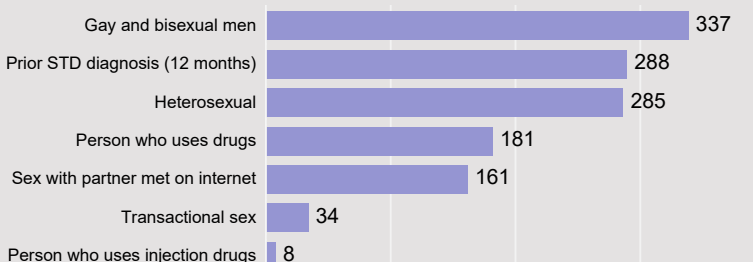


## Geographic distribution

In 2023, almost one-third of new P&S diagnoses were from East Baton Rouge (17%) and Orleans (14%) parishes.



## Behavioral Factors



\*An individual can report more than one behavioral factor

## Syphilis Treatment Guidelines

STAGE OF SYPHILIS	REGIMEN	DOSE/ROUTE
Primary, Secondary, or Early Non-Primary Non-Secondary (<12 months)	Benzathine Pencillin G*	2.4 million units IM in a single dose
Late or Unknown Duration Syphilis (>12 months)	Benzathine Penicillin G*	7.2 million units IM administered as 3 doses of 2.4 million units IM each, at 1-week intervals

\*Benzathine Penicillin G is the only CDC approved treatment for pregnant women

Interpreting the Data: Please note that 2023 data may still be impacted from the COVID-19 pandemic.





# Early Non-P&S Syphilis

## Annual Summary - 2023

### Louisiana

New Early Non-P&S  
Syphilis Diagnoses  
**897**

Early Non-P&S Syphilis  
Diagnosis Rate  
**19.5**  
per 100,000 population

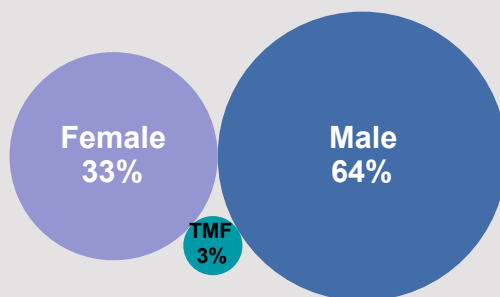
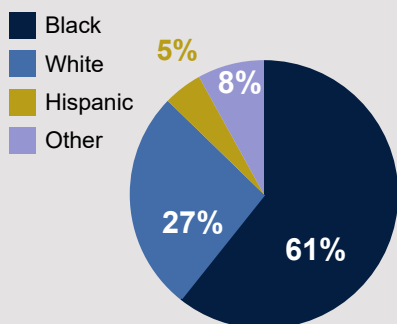
2021 National Ranking  
**13th**  
Highest Diagnosis Rate

## Of the 897 early non-P&S syphilis diagnoses in 2023:

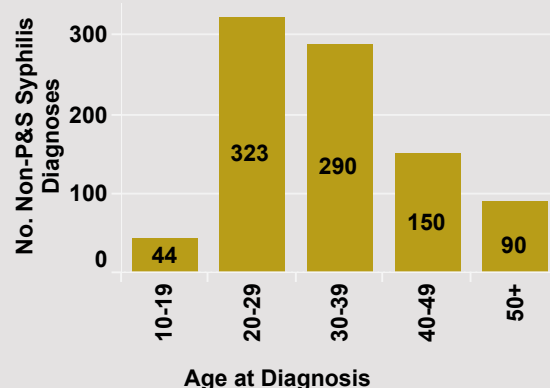
The majority (61%) of diagnoses were among Black people.

Males comprised 64% of diagnoses.

Over two-thirds of diagnoses (68%) were 20 to 39 years old.

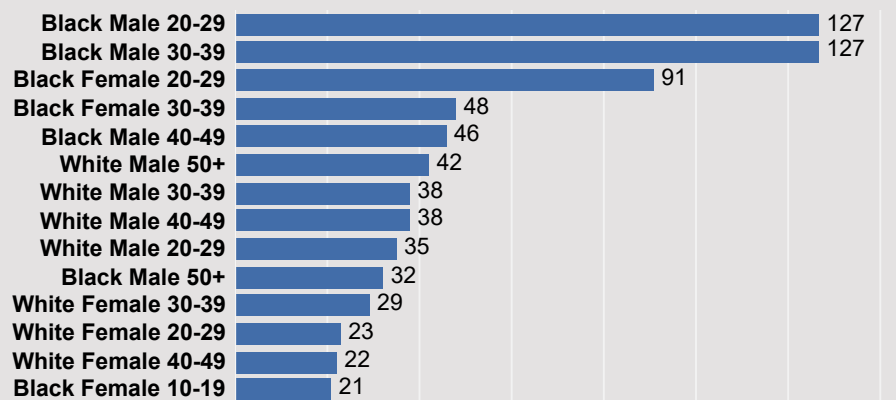


TMF: Transgender Male to Female



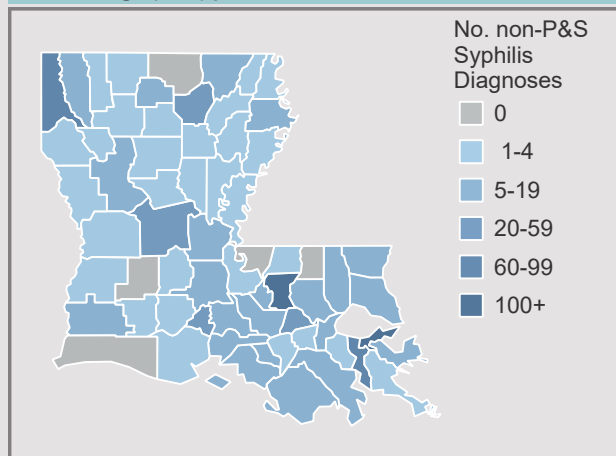
## Affected subpopulations

People of color and males are impacted by early non-P&S syphilis more than other groups. In 2023, 28% of early non-P&S syphilis diagnoses were among Black males 20-39 years old.

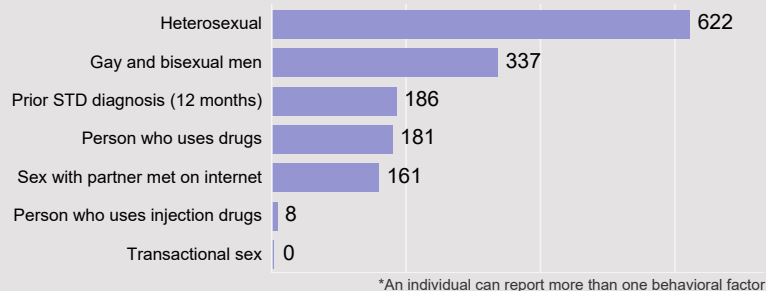


## Geographic distribution

In 2023, the parishes with the highest number of early non-P&S syphilis diagnoses were Orleans (22%) and East Baton Rouge (16%) parishes.



## Behavioral Factors



\*An individual can report more than one behavioral factor

## Syphilis Treatment Guidelines

STAGE OF SYPHILIS	REGIMEN	DOSE/ROUTE
Primary, Secondary, or Early Non-Primary Non-Secondary (<12 months)	Benzathine Pencillin G*	2.4 million units IM in a single dose
Late or Unknown Duration Syphilis (>12 months)	Benzathine Penicillin G*	7.2 million units IM administered as 3 doses of 2.4 million units IM each, at 1-week intervals

\*Benzathine Penicillin G is the only CDC approved treatment for pregnant women

Interpreting the Data: Please note that 2023 data may still be impacted from the COVID-19 pandemic.



# Congenital Syphilis (CS)

## Annual Summary - 2023

### Louisiana

Pregnant Mothers  
Diagnosed with Syphilis  
**302**

#### Congenital Syphilis Cases

**109**

Case count reflects the total number of individual infants

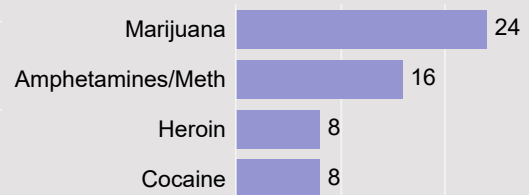
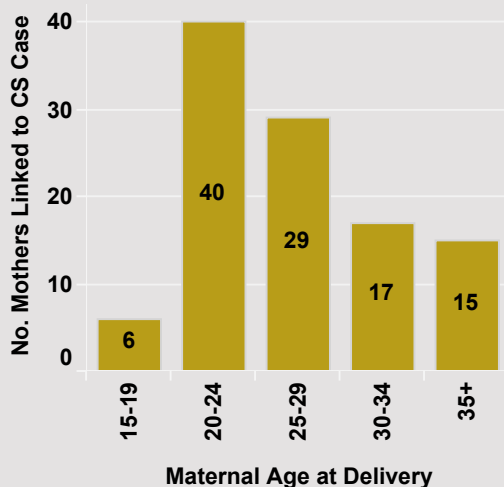
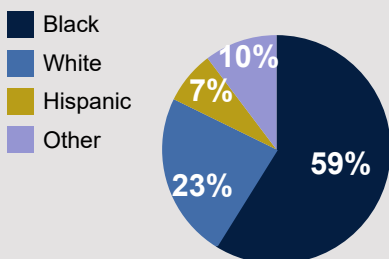
Infant Deaths Linked to  
Congenital Syphilis  
**10**

## Of the 107 pregnant mothers linked to a 2023 CS case:

The majority (59%) were Black women.

Over one-third (37%) of mothers were between 20 to 24 years of age at delivery.

One-third (33%) had a positive toxicology screen during pregnancy.



**1 in 502**  
live births were born with  
CS in 2023

2023 National Ranking  
**7th**  
Highest Case Rate

## Among pregnant mothers linked to a 2023 CS case:

Timely PNC **73%**

Timely PNC with  
Timely Initial Test **85%**

Timely PNC with  
Recommended Testing **46%**

Those who received prenatal care (PNC) at least 60 days before delivery

Those who received timely PNC and were initially tested for syphilis at least 45 days before delivery

Those who received timely PNC, a timely initial test, and were re-tested for syphilis at least 45 days before delivery

## Syphilis Guidelines for Pregnant Mothers

A case of congenital syphilis (CS) occurs when an infant is exposed to inadequately treated syphilis in utero or during delivery. This may result in stillbirth, death of the newborn, or significant future health and developmental problems.

Congenital syphilis is completely preventable through early detection of maternal syphilis and treatment that begins at least 30 days before delivery. Current treatment guidelines are as follows:

**Primary, Secondary, or Early Non-Primary Non-Secondary Syphilis**  
2.4 M units benzathine penicillin (1 dose)

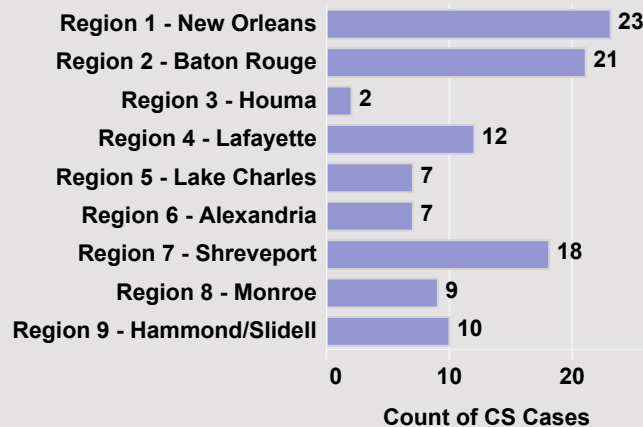
**Unknown/Late Latent Syphilis**  
7.2 M units benzathine penicillin (3 doses, 7 days apart)

### Louisiana Testing Law

Act 459 was passed in Louisiana in 2014. This requires "opt-out" syphilis and HIV testing for all women at the first prenatal visit, the 1st prenatal visit in the 3rd trimester, and at delivery (if testing/status is not noted in medical charts).

## Geographic distribution

In 2023, the regions with the highest number of CS cases were New Orleans and Baton Rouge.





# Gonorrhea Annual Summary - 2023

## Louisiana

New Gonorrhea Diagnoses  
**13,192**

Gonorrhea Diagnosis Rate  
**287.4**  
per 100,000 population

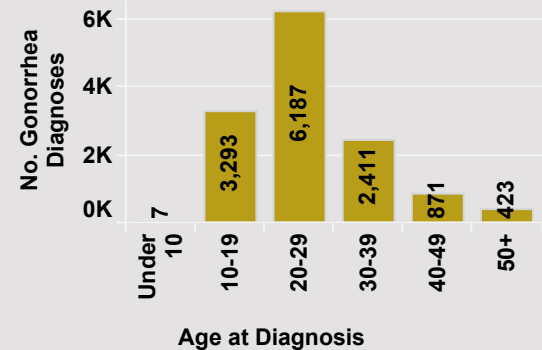
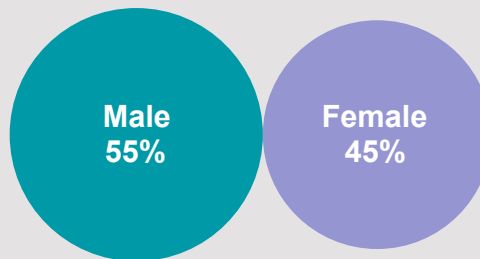
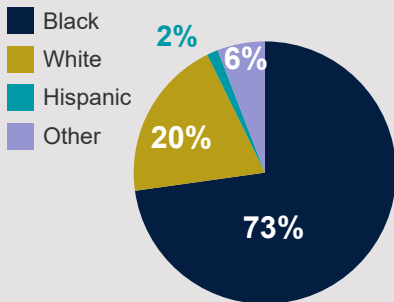
2023 National Ranking  
**2nd**  
Highest Diagnosis Rate

### Of the 13,192 gonorrhea diagnoses in 2023:

The majority (73%) of diagnoses were among Black people.

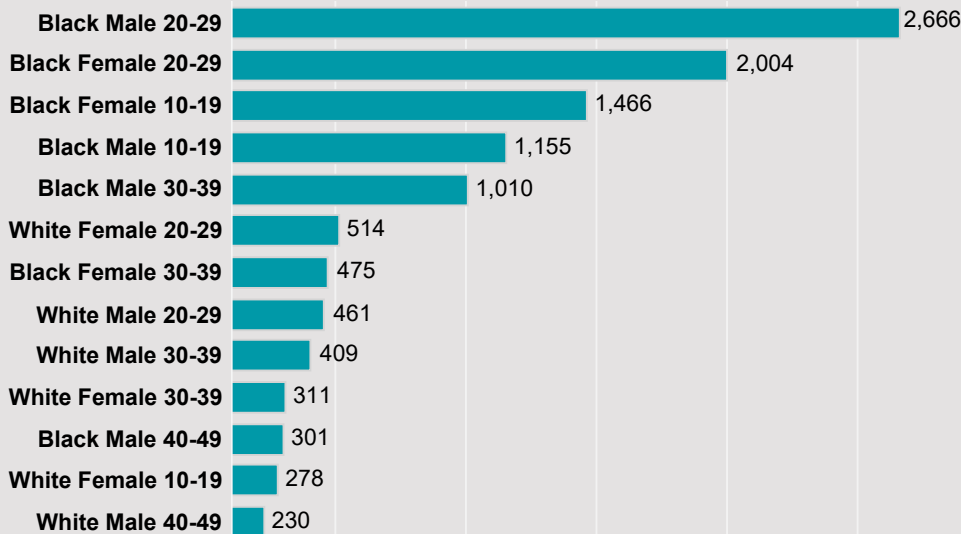
By sex at birth, males comprised 55% of diagnoses.

Almost half of diagnoses (47%) were among people 20 to 29 years old.



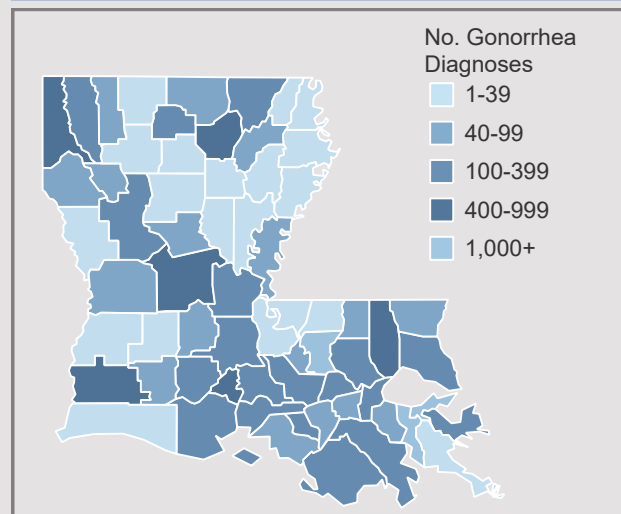
### Affected subpopulations

Young people of color are impacted by gonorrhea more than other groups. Over half (52%) of gonorrhea diagnoses in 2023 were among Black people 10 to 29 years old.



### Geographic distribution

In 2023, over one-third of new gonorrhea diagnoses were from Orleans (17%), East Baton Rouge (14%), and Jefferson (8%) parishes.



### Gonorrhea Screening and Treatment Guidelines

#### Screening Recommendations:

All sexually active women and pregnant women, under 25 years of age, and sexually active women and pregnant women, 25 years of age and older, if at increased risk.

At least annually for sexually active gay and bisexual men (GBM).

#### Treatment:

Most cases can be treated with a single 500mg injection of ceftriaxone.

- Help minimize the threat of drug-resistant gonorrhea
- Test-of-cure for throat infections only
- Retest patients 3 months after treatment
- Treat partners



# Chlamydia Annual Summary - 2023

## Louisiana

New Chlamydia Diagnoses  
**36,242**

Chlamydia Diagnosis Rate  
**789.5**  
per 100,000 population

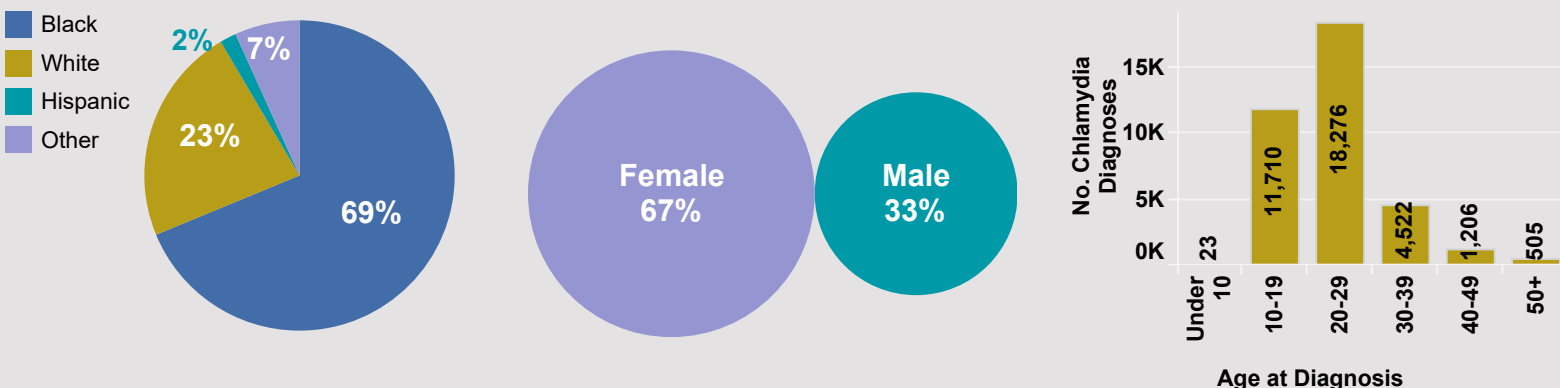
2023 National Ranking  
**1st**  
Highest Diagnosis Rate

### Of the 36,242 chlamydia diagnoses in 2023:

The majority (69%) of diagnoses were among Black people.

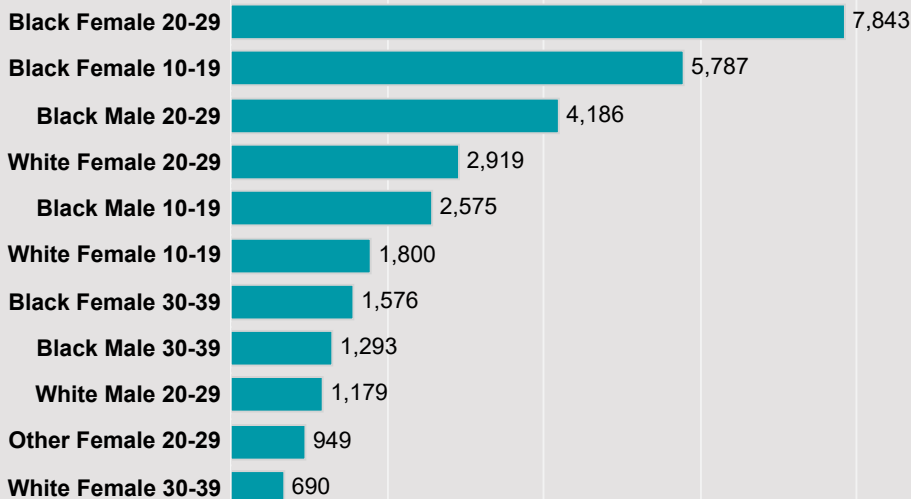
By sex at birth, females comprised 67% of diagnoses.

Half of diagnoses (50%) were among people 20 to 29 years old.



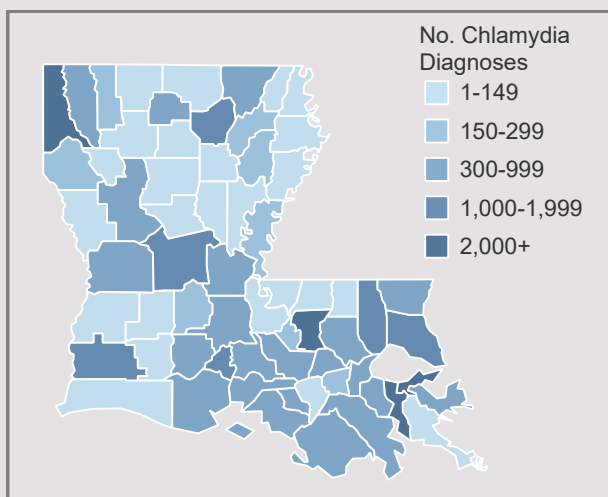
### Affected subpopulations

People of color and young females are impacted by chlamydia more than other groups. Over one-third (38%) of chlamydia diagnoses in 2023 were among Black females 10 to 29 years old.



### Geographic distribution

In 2023, over one-third of new chlamydia diagnoses were from East Baton Rouge (13%), Orleans (13%), Jefferson (9%), and Caddo (6%) parishes.



### Chlamydia Screening and Treatment Guidelines

#### Screening Recommendations:

All sexually active women and pregnant women, under 25 years of age, and sexually active women and pregnant women, 25 years of age and older, if at increased risk.

At least annually for sexually active gay and bisexual men (GBM).

#### Treatment:

Adults and adolescents:

Recommended: Doxycycline 100 mg orally 2x/day for 7 days

Alternatives: Azithromycin 1 gm orally in a single dose OR Levofloxacin 500 mg orally 1x/day for 7 days

Pregnancy:

Recommended: Azithromycin 1 gm orally in a single dose

Alternatives: Amoxicillin 500 mg orally 3x/day for 7 days



# Acute Hepatitis B Annual Summary - 2023

## Louisiana

Acute HBV Diagnoses

18

Acute HBV Diagnosis Rate

0.4

2

acute HBV diagnoses  
reported recent injection  
drug use

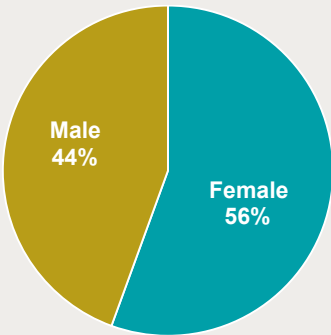
### Of the 18 acute HBV diagnoses in 2023:

56% of diagnoses were female.

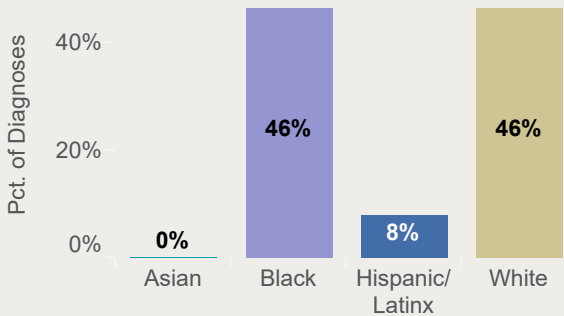
46% of diagnoses were among White people and  
46% of diagnoses were among Black people.

61% of diagnoses were  
between 30-49 years old.

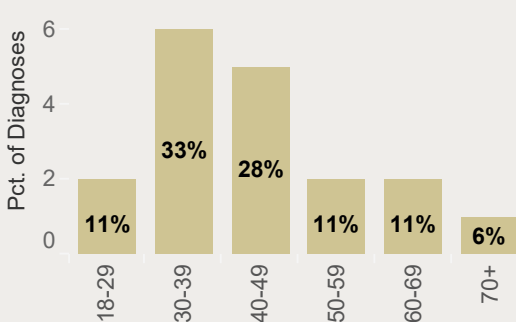
BirthSex



Race/Ethnicity

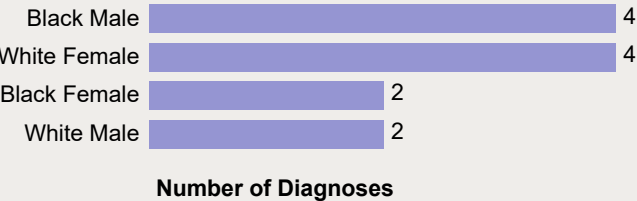


AgeGroup



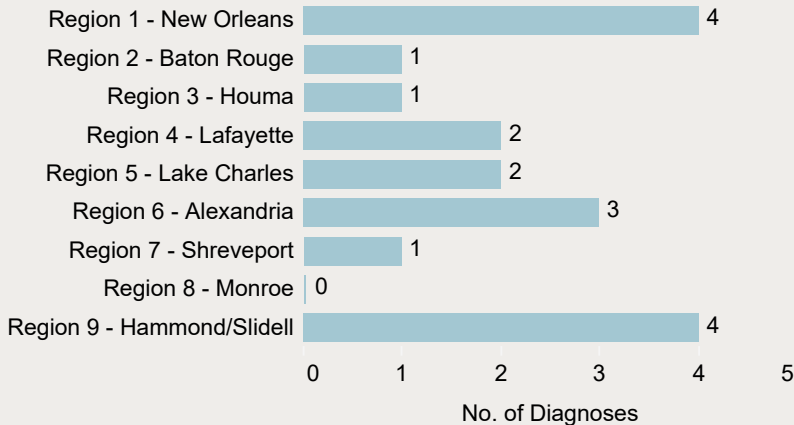
### Affected Subpopulations

Black males and White females had the highest number of acute HBV diagnoses.



### Geographic Distribution

The New Orleans and Hammond/Slidell Regions had the largest number of diagnoses, followed by the Alexandria Region.



### Prevention and Treatment

A safe and effective vaccine is available to prevent hepatitis B. The most common ways that hepatitis B is spread is by injection drug use and sexual contact. HBV can also be spread during childbirth if appropriate prophylaxis isn't given. Some people may clear HBV on their own, while others will progress to a long-term chronic illness. For those who progress to a chronic illness, treatment is available to prevent liver damage, but it is not curative.

Interpreting the Data: Please note that 2023 data may still be impacted from the COVID-19 pandemic.





# Chronic Hepatitis B Annual Summary - 2023

## Louisiana

Chronic HBV Diagnoses

**733**

Chronic HBV Diagnosis Rate

**15.9**

per 100,000 population

Driven by HBV & HCV, Louisiana had the **3rd** highest rate of liver and bile duct cancers and **4th** highest rate of death from liver and bile duct cancers (2018).

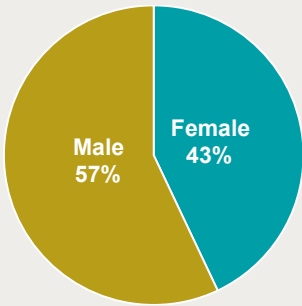
### Of the 733 new chronic HBV diagnoses in 2023:

57% of diagnoses were male.

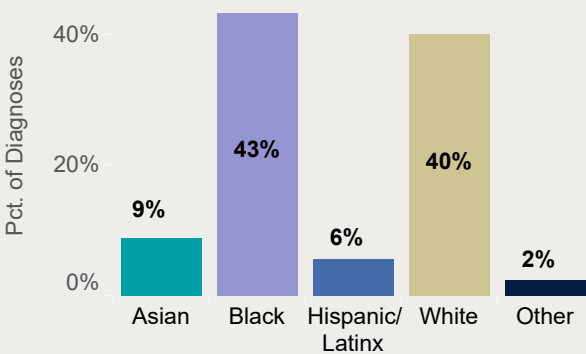
43% of diagnoses were among Black people and 40% of diagnoses among White people.

People 30-59 years old accounted for the majority of diagnoses.

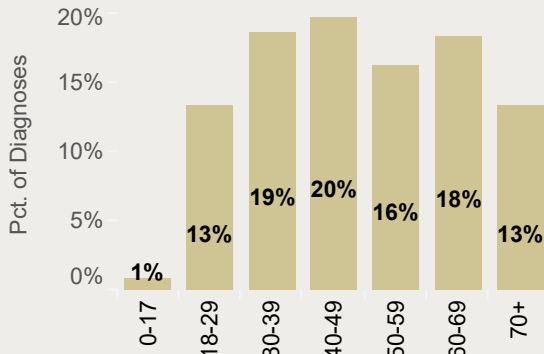
BirthSex



Race/Ethnicity

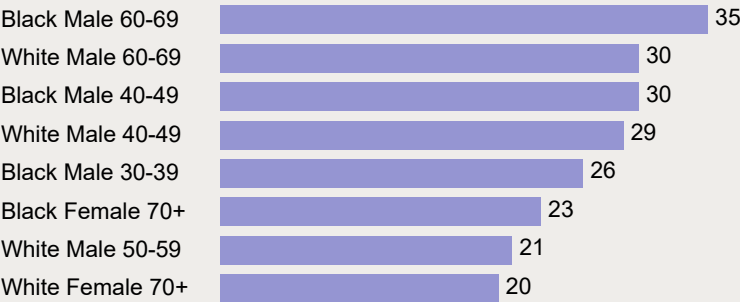


Age at Diagnosis



### Affected Subpopulations

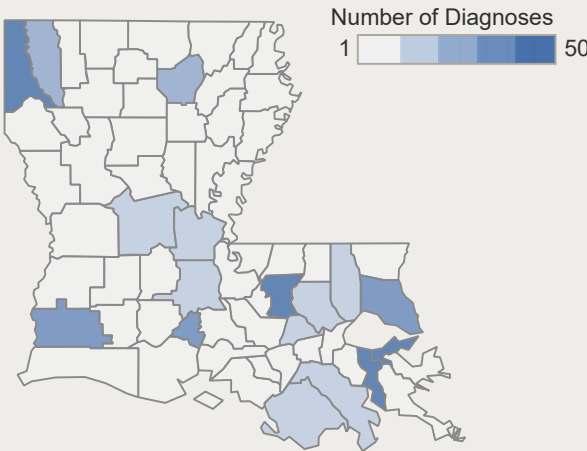
Black males 60-69 had the highest number of chronic HBV diagnoses.



Number of Diagnoses

### Geographic Distribution

East Baton Rouge, Jefferson, and Orleans Parish had the highest number of chronic HBV diagnoses.



### Prevention and Treatment

A safe and effective vaccine is available to prevent hepatitis B. The most common ways that hepatitis B is spread is by injection drug use and sexual contact. HBV can also be spread during childbirth if appropriate prophylaxis isn't given. Some people may clear HBV on their own, while others will progress to a long-term chronic illness. For those who progress to a chronic illness, treatment is available to prevent liver damage, but it is not curative.



# Acute Hepatitis C Annual Summary - 2023

Louisiana

Acute HCV Diagnoses

**106**

Acute HCV Diagnosis Rate

**2.3**

per 100,000 population

**9**

acute HCV diagnoses reported  
recent injection drug use

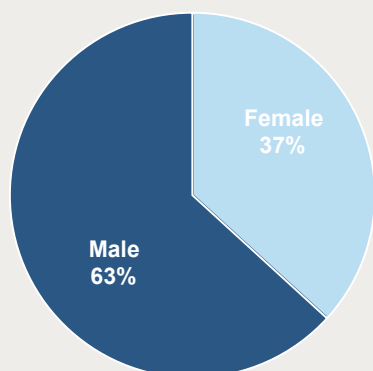
## Of the 106 acute HCV diagnoses in 2023:

63% of diagnoses were male.

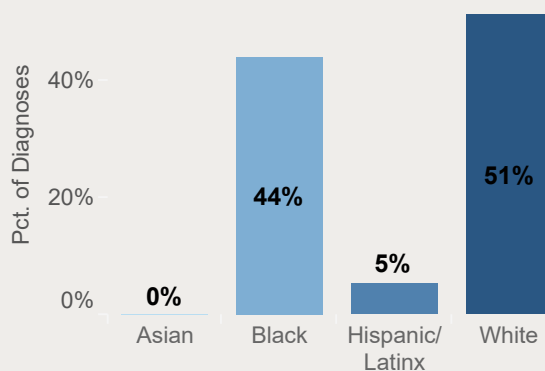
51% of diagnoses occurred in White people  
and 44% in Black people.

The majority of diagnoses were among people  
30-49 years old.

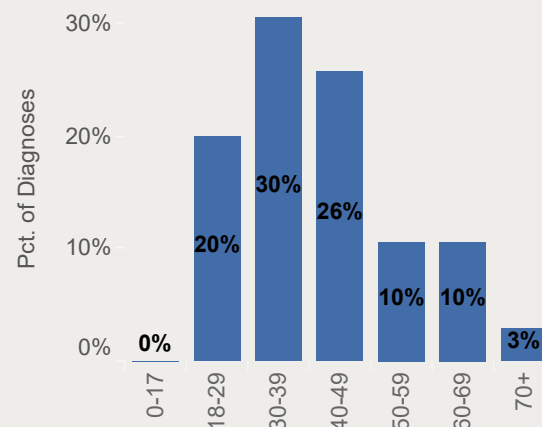
Birth Sex



Race/Ethnicity

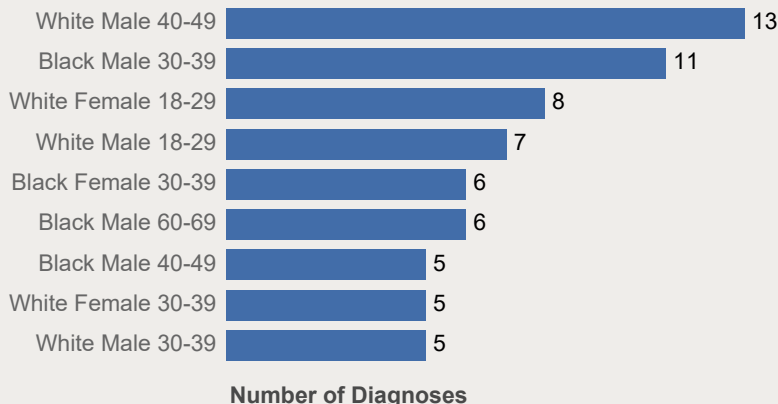


Age at Diagnosis



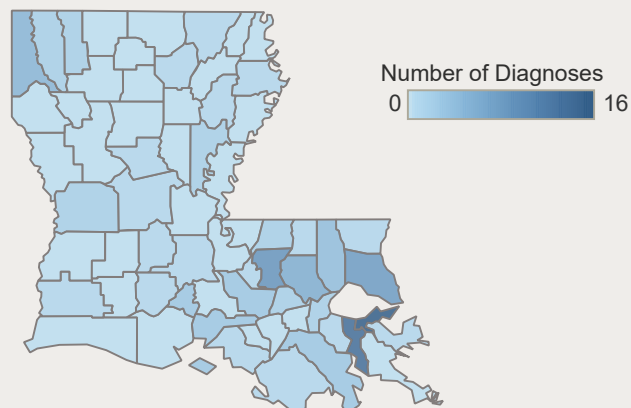
## Affected Subpopulations

White males 40-49 had the highest number of acute HCV diagnoses.



## Geographic Distribution

East Baton Rouge, St. Tammany, Orleans, and Jefferson Parishes had the highest number of new diagnoses.



## Hepatitis C: A Disease We Can Cure

The Louisiana Department of Health is committed to creating a "Hep C Free Louisiana" where hepatitis C is no longer a threat to public health, the quality of life for our citizens is improved, and health inequities related to hepatitis C are eliminated. Getting tested is the first step in eliminating HCV. CDC recommends universal testing of **ALL** adults for hepatitis C at least once in their lifetime. Visit [louisianahealthhub.org](https://louisianahealthhub.org) to find out where to get tested & treated.



# Chronic Hepatitis C Annual Summary - 2023

Louisiana

Chronic HCV Diagnoses

**3,589**

Chronic HCV Diagnosis Rate

**77.6**

per 100,000 population

Driven by HBV & HCV, Louisiana had the **3rd** highest rate of liver and bile duct cancers and **4th** highest rate of death from liver and bile duct cancers (2018).

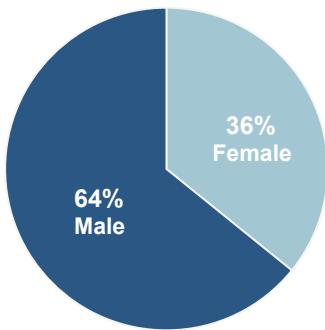
## Of the 3,589 new chronic HCV diagnoses in 2023:

Males comprised 64% of diagnoses.

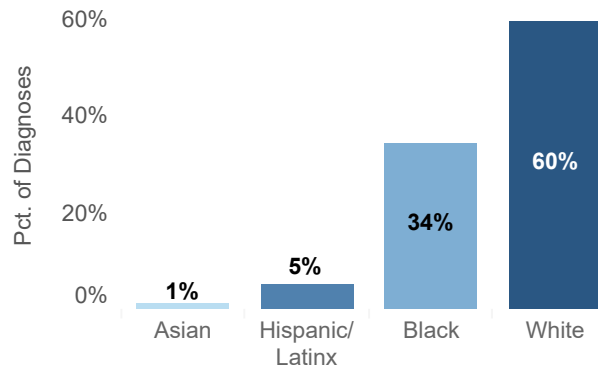
60% of diagnoses were among White people and 34% of diagnoses were among Black people

The highest percentage of diagnoses were among people 60-69 years old.

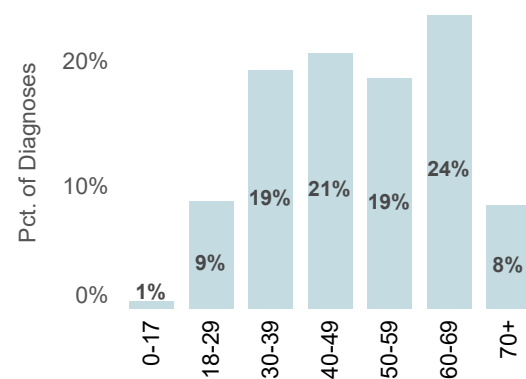
Birth Sex



Race/Ethnicity



Age at Diagnosis



## Affected Subpopulations

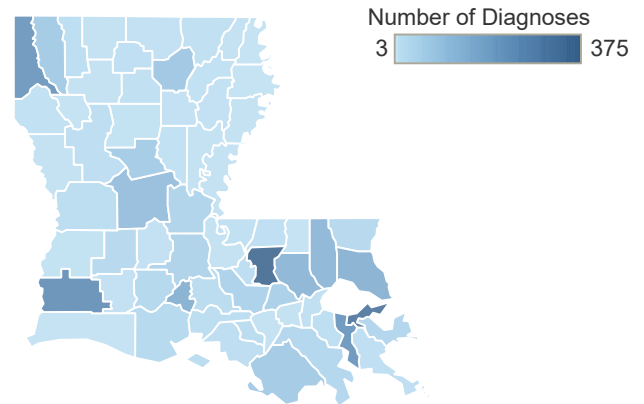
White males 40 to 49 years old and Black males 60 to 69 years old had the highest number of diagnoses.



Number of Diagnoses

## Geographic Distribution

East Baton Rouge, Orleans, and Calcasieu Parish had the highest number of diagnoses.



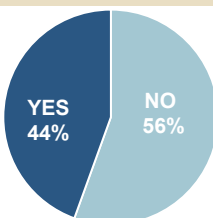
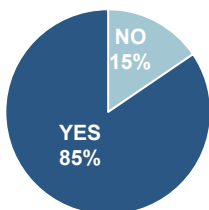
## Hepatitis C Testing and Treatment

In 2023, 85% of individuals with positive diagnostic tests also had confirmatory testing done.

As of December 2023, 44% of individuals with confirmed HCV have evidence of an HCV negative lab and have cleared the virus.

HCV antibody testing with reflex to confirmatory testing, HCV RNA test, should be utilized to ensure complete diagnostic testing. Doing so, reduces the number of required healthcare visits and streamlines treatment.

A safe and effective treatment is available to cure hepatitis C. Treatment for hepatitis C is available at no cost for everyone enrolled in Medicaid and people who are incarcerated in Louisiana. Visit [louisianahealthhub.org](https://louisianahealthhub.org) to find out more.



**Interpreting the Data:** Please note that 2023 data may still be impacted from the COVID-19 pandemic.