

# STI/HIV/Hepatitis B & C Update

2023



## Region 3 Factsheets



LOUISIANA  
**DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH**

*STD/HIV/Hepatitis Program*



# HIV Annual Summary - 2023

## Region 3 - Houma

### New HIV Diagnoses

**46**

Louisiana Diagnoses: 869

HIV Diagnosis Rate  
**12.1**  
per 100,000 population

Louisiana Rate: 18.9 per 100,000

HIV Diagnosis Rate  
Regional Ranking

**8th**

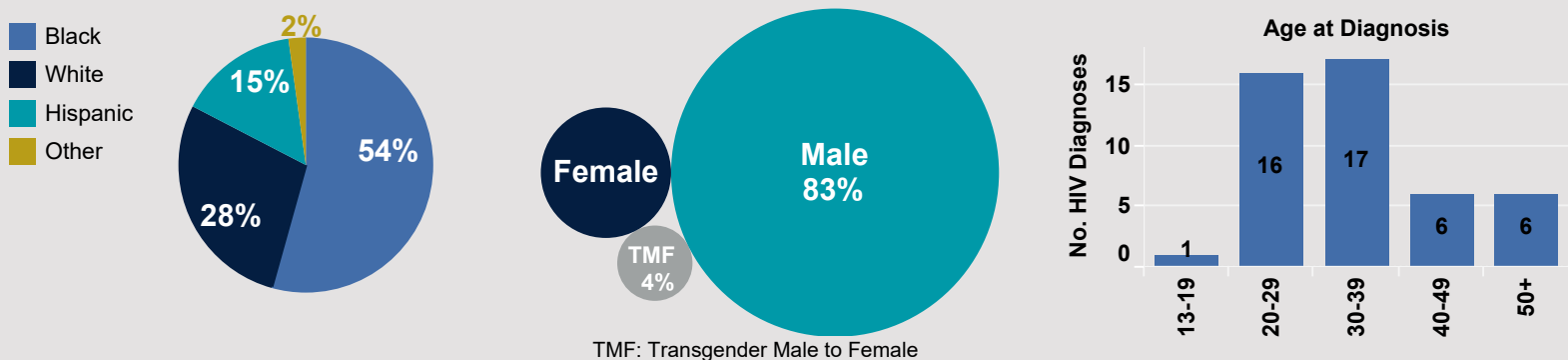
among Louisiana's nine public health regions

## Of the 46 new HIV diagnoses in 2023:

Over half of diagnoses (54%) were among Black people.

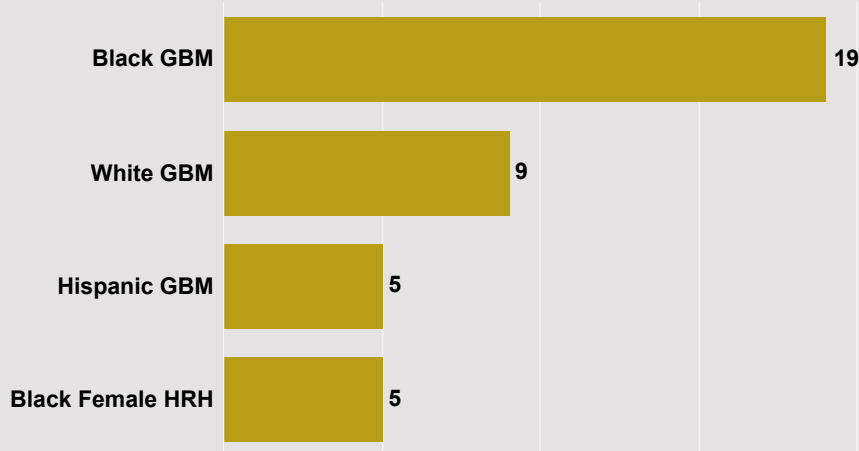
Males comprised 83% of diagnoses.

The highest number of diagnoses were among people 30 to 39 years old (37%).



## Affected subpopulations

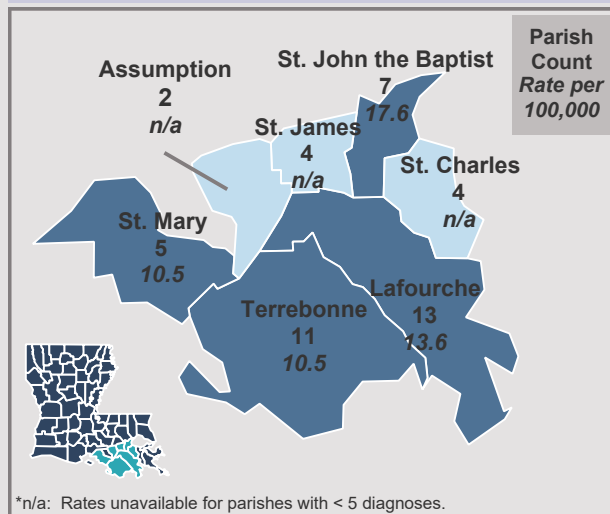
People of color and gay & bisexual men (GBM) are impacted by HIV more than other groups. In Region 3, 41% of diagnoses in 2023 were among Black GBM.



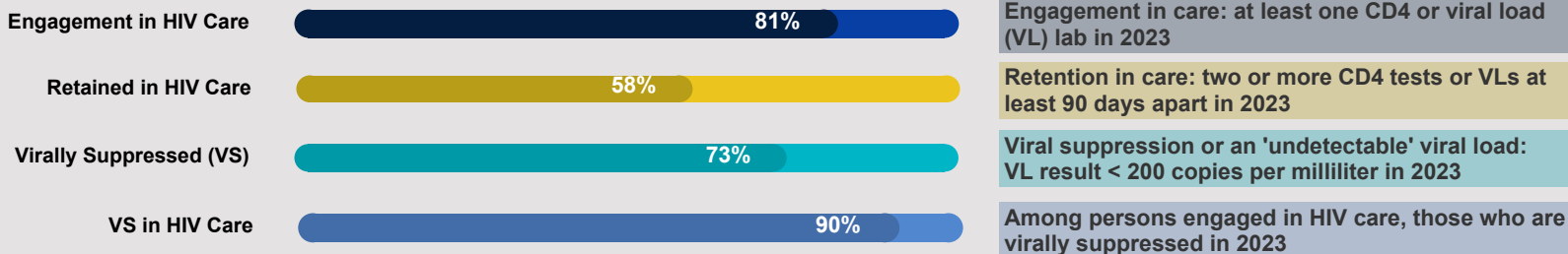
GBM = Gay & bisexual men; HRH = High risk heterosexual; PWID = People who inject drugs

## Geographic distribution

In 2023, almost half of new HIV diagnoses in Region 3 were from Lafourche (28%) and Terrebonne (24%) parishes.



## HIV Care among People Living with HIV in Region 3 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

### Region 3 - Houma

New P&S Syphilis  
Diagnoses

**42**

Louisiana Diagnoses: 1,196

P&S Syphilis Diagnosis Rate

**11.1**

per 100,000 population

Louisiana Rate: 26.1 per 100,000

P&S Syphilis Diagnosis Rate  
Regional Ranking

**9th**

among Louisiana's nine public  
health regions

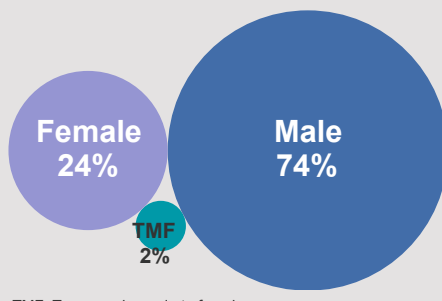
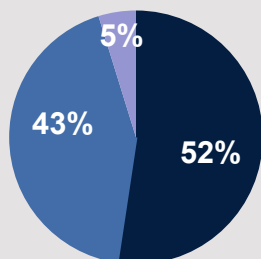
## Of the 42 P&S syphilis diagnoses in 2023:

Over half (52%) of diagnoses were  
among Black people.

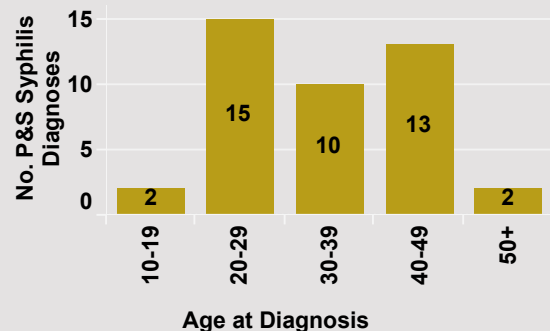
Males comprised 74% of diagnoses.

26% of diagnoses were among people 20  
to 29 years old.

Black  
White  
Other



TMF: Transgender male to female



## Affected subpopulations

People of color and males are impacted by P&S syphilis more than other groups. In Region 3, almost one-third (29%) of P&S syphilis diagnoses were among Black males 20-29 years old.

White Male 40-49

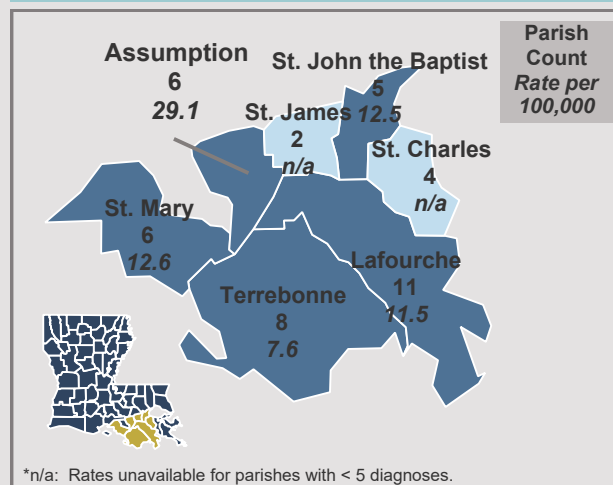
8

Black Male 20-29

8

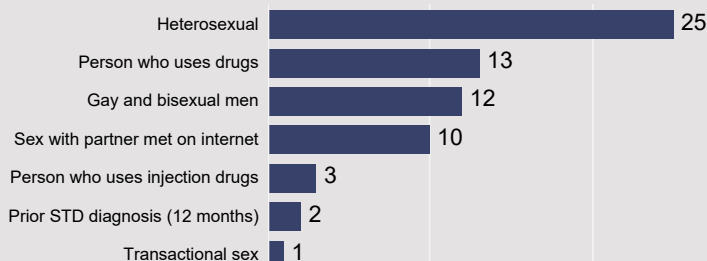
## Geographic distribution

In 2023, over a quarter of new P&S syphilis diagnoses (26%) in Region 3 were from Terrebonne Parish.



\*n/a: Rates unavailable for parishes with < 5 diagnoses.

## 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 Penicillin 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

### Region 3 - Houma

New Early Non-P&S  
Syphilis Diagnoses

**44**

Louisiana Diagnoses: 897

Early Non-P&S Syphilis Diagnosis  
Rate

**11.6**

per 100,000 population

Louisiana Rate: 19.5 per 100,000

Early Non-P&S Syphilis Diagnosis  
Rate Regional Ranking

**7th**

among Louisiana's nine public  
health regions

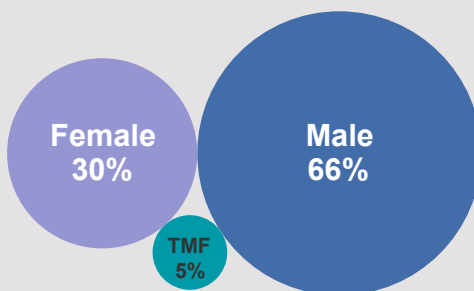
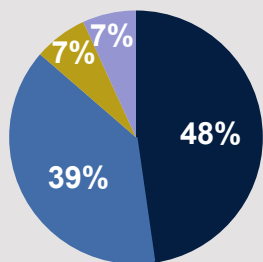
## Of the 44 early non-P&S syphilis diagnoses in 2023:

Almost half (48%) of diagnoses were  
among Black people.

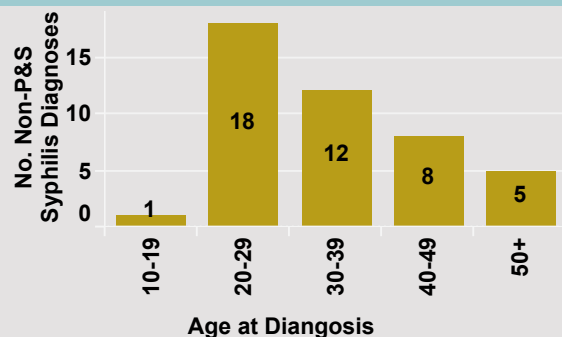
Males comprised 66% of diagnoses.

Almost half of the diagnoses (41%)  
were among people 20 to 29 years old.

Black  
White  
Hispanic  
Other

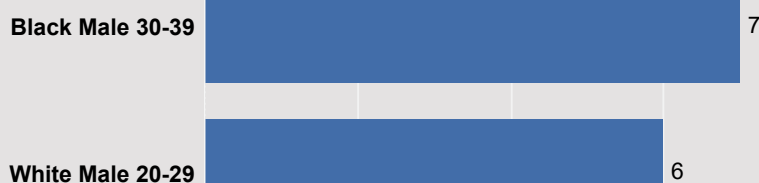


TMF: Transgender male to female



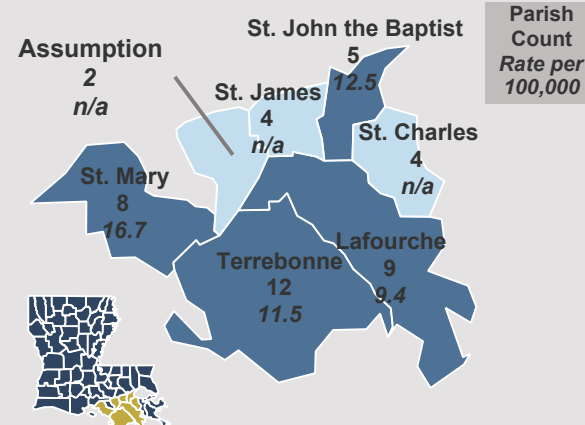
## Affected subpopulations

People of color are impacted by early non-P&S syphilis more than other groups. In Region 3, 16% of early non-P&S diagnoses were among Black people 20-29 years-old.



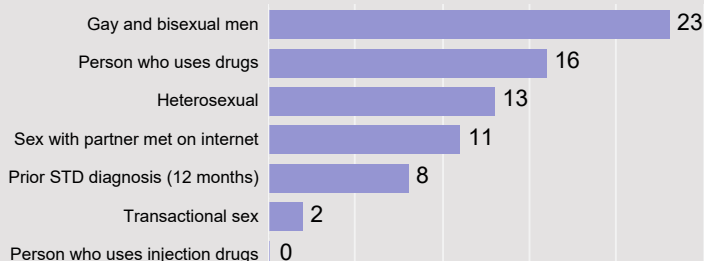
## Geographic distribution

In 2023, over one quarter of new early non-P&S syphilis diagnoses (27%) in Region 3 were in Terrebonne Parish.



\*n/a: Rates unavailable for parishes with < 5 diagnoses.

## 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 Penicillin 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

### Region 3 - Houma

Pregnant Mothers  
Diagnosed with Syphilis  
**7**

Congenital Syphilis Cases

**2**

Case count reflects the total number of individual infants

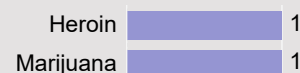
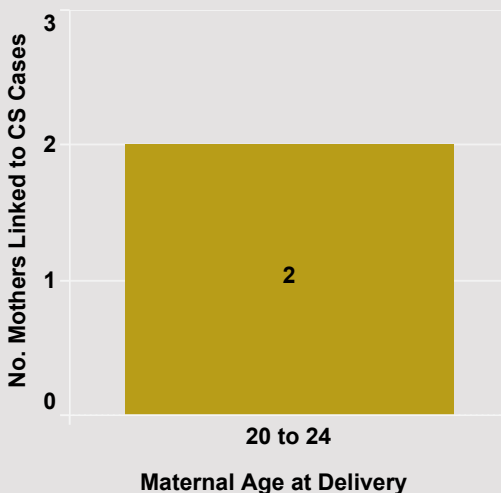
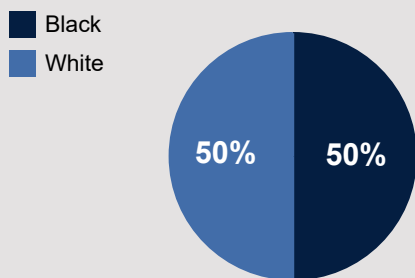
Infant Deaths Linked to  
Congenital Syphilis  
**0**

## Of the 2 pregnant mothers linked to a 2023 CS case:

An equal number of mothers were Black and White women.

All of the mothers were between 20 to 24 years of age at delivery.

One mother (50%) had positive a toxicology screen during pregnancy.



**1 in 2,142**  
live births were born with  
CS in 2023

2023 Regional Ranking  
**9th**  
Highest case count among  
Louisiana's nine public health  
regions

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

Timely PNC **100%**

Timely PNC with  
Timely Initial Test **100%**

Timely PNC with  
Recommended Testing **0%**

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)

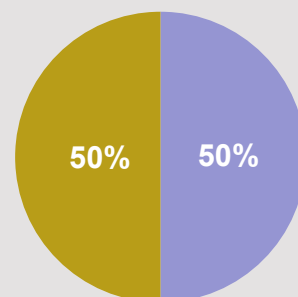
### Louisiana Testing Law

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).

## Maternal Stage of Syphilis

An equal number of mothers, linked to a CS case, were diagnosed with late or late latent or other syphilis.

Surveillance stage  
Late or late latent  
Other





# Gonorrhea Annual Summary - 2023

## Region 3 - Houma

### New Gonorrhea Diagnoses

**744**

Louisiana Diagnoses: 13,192

### Gonorrhea Diagnosis Rate

**196.1**

per 100,000 population

Louisiana Rate: 287.4 per 100,000

### Gonorrhea Diagnosis Rate Regional Ranking

**7th**

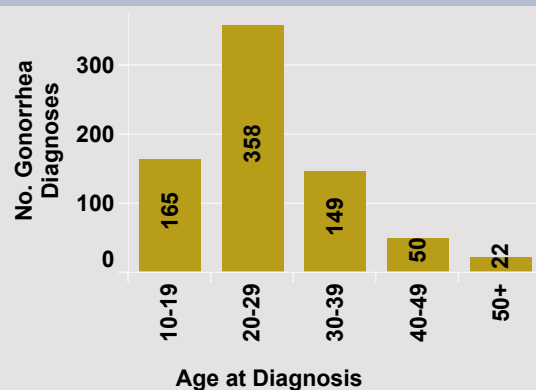
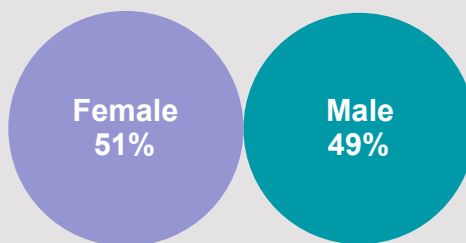
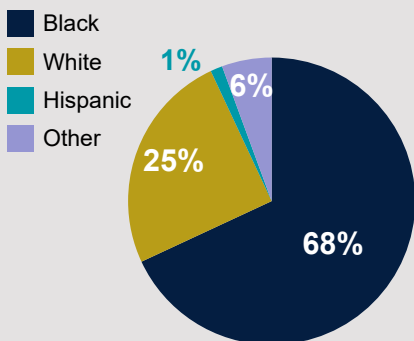
among Louisiana's nine public health regions

## Of the 744 gonorrhea diagnoses in 2023:

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

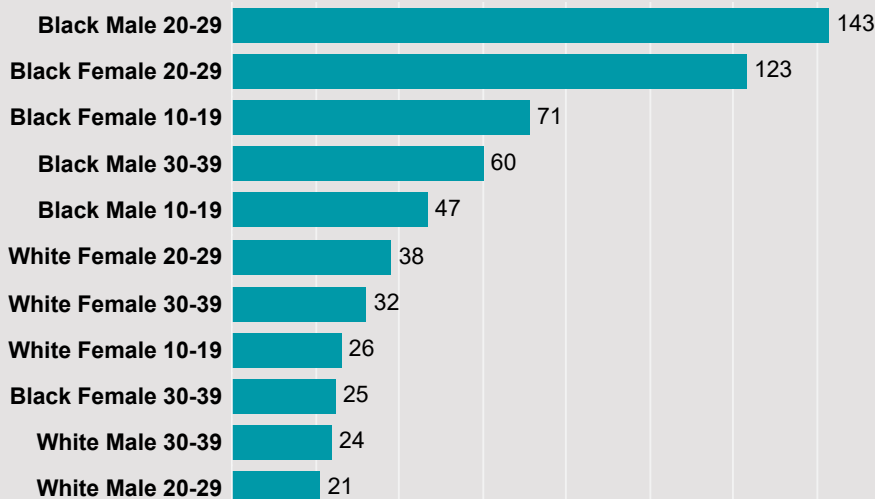
By sex at birth, females comprised 51% of diagnoses.

Almost half of diagnoses (48%) were among people 20 to 29 years old.



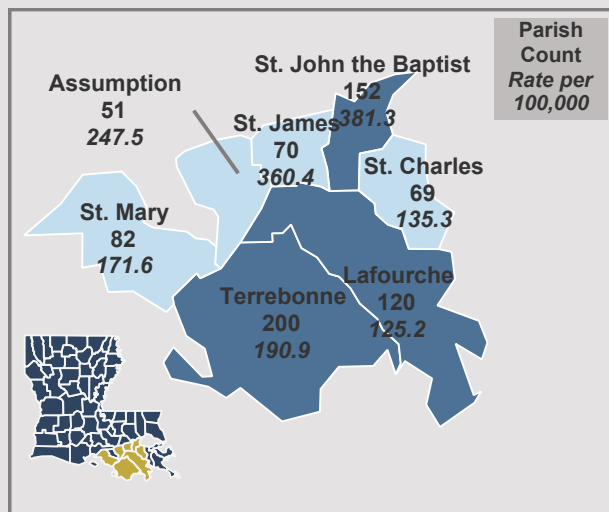
## Affected subpopulations

Young people of color are impacted by gonorrhea more than other groups. In Region 3, over one-third (36%) of gonorrhea diagnoses in 2023 were among young Black people 20 to 29 years old.



## Geographic distribution

In 2023, over one-fourth of new gonorrhea diagnoses (27%) in Region 3 were from Terrebonne Parish.



## 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

## Region 3 - Houma

New Chlamydia Diagnoses  
**2,658**

Louisiana Diagnoses: 36,242

Chlamydia Diagnosis Rate  
**700.7**  
per 100,000 population

Louisiana Rate: 789.5 per 100,000

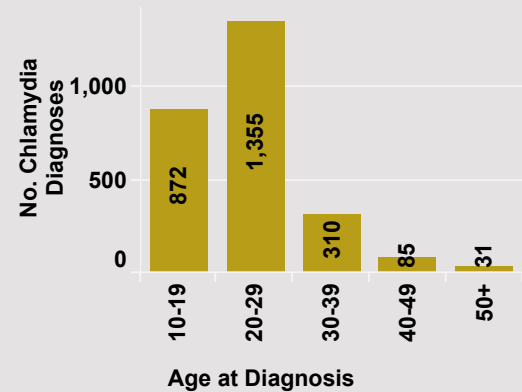
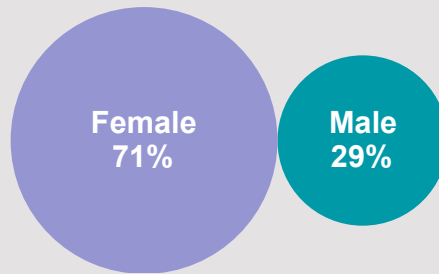
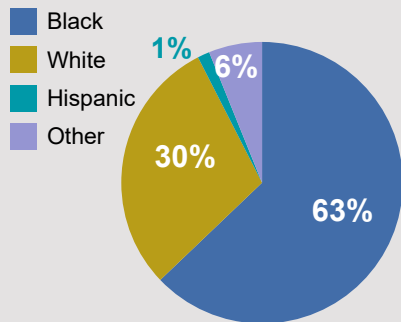
Chlamydia Diagnosis Rate  
Regional Ranking  
**7th**  
among Louisiana's nine public  
health regions

## Of the 2,658 chlamydia diagnoses in 2023:

The majority (63%) of diagnoses were among Black people.

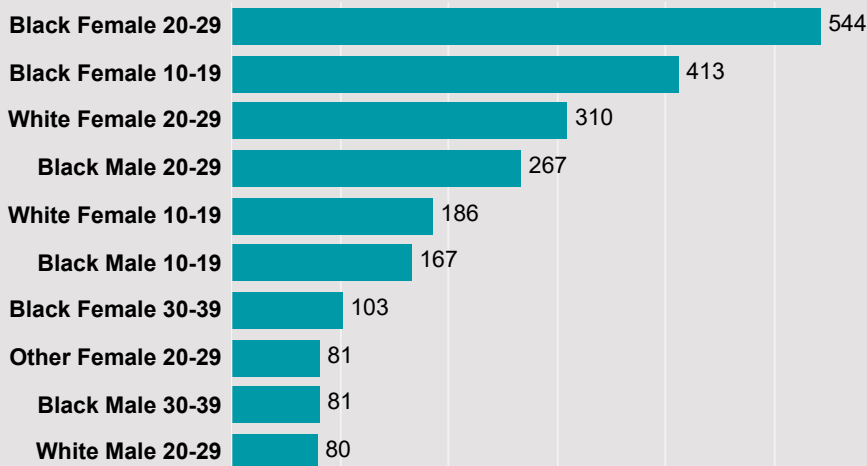
By sex at birth, females comprised 71% of diagnoses.

Over half of diagnoses (52%) were among people 20 to 29 years old.



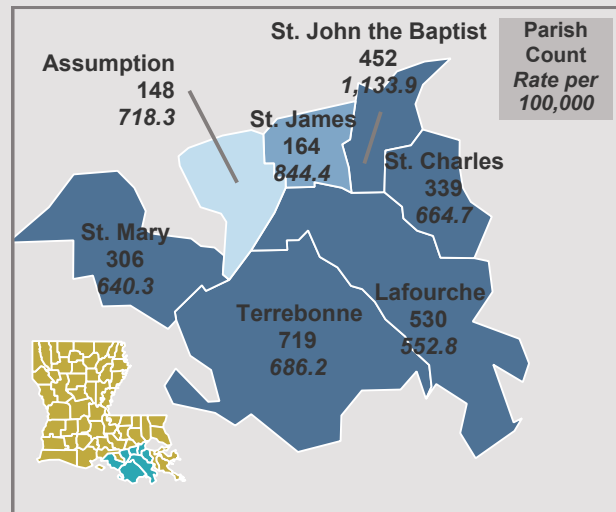
## Affected subpopulations

People of color and young females are impacted by chlamydia more than other groups. In Region 3, over one-third (37%) of chlamydia diagnoses in 2023 were among Black females 10 to 29 years old.



## Geographic distribution

In 2023, over one-quarter of new chlamydia diagnoses (28%) in Region 3 were from Terrebonne Parish.



## 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

## Region 3 - Houma

### Acute HBV Diagnoses

1

-----  
Louisiana Diagnoses: 18

### Acute HBV Diagnosis Rate

\* n/a

per 100,000 population

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Louisiana Rate: 0.4 per 100,000

A safe and effective vaccine is available to prevent hepatitis B.

*Due to low counts, regional profiles of acute hepatitis B do not contain demographic and geographic breakdowns.*

*\*n/a: Rates are unavailable for regions with <5 diagnoses.*

## What is hepatitis B?

Hepatitis B is a vaccine-preventable liver infection caused by the hepatitis B virus (HBV). New infections cause a short term illness, referred to as an acute infection. Some people are able to clear HBV on their own and will no longer have HBV in their body, while others will progress to a long-term chronic illness.

## How is hepatitis B spread and prevented?

HBV is most commonly spread through injection drug use and sexual contact. HBV can also be spread during childbirth if appropriate prophylaxis isn't administered. A safe and effective vaccine is available to prevent hepatitis B. Anyone at risk should get vaccinated.

## Who is at risk for hepatitis B?

People at greater risk include infants born to mothers with hepatitis B, people who inject drugs or share needles, syringes, and other types of drug equipment, sex partners of people with hepatitis B, gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men, people who live with someone who has hepatitis B, healthcare and public safety workers exposed to blood on the job, and people on dialysis.

## How common is hepatitis B?

CDC estimates that around 12,600 people acquire acute HBV each year in the United States. People with acute hepatitis B may not experience symptoms or may experience very mild symptoms. Consequently, not everyone with acute hepatitis B may seek medical care. Research estimates only 1 out of 7 people with acute hepatitis B are identified and reported to public health. It is likely that the burden of disease from acute hepatitis B is much greater than reported, and the number of cases that are reported to and confirmed by public health are only a small proportion of the true burden of disease.

Visit [louisianahealthhub.org](https://louisianahealthhub.org) for more information.





# Chronic Hepatitis B Annual Summary - 2023

## Region 3 - Houma

### Chronic HBV Diagnoses

**55**

Louisiana Diagnoses: 733

### Chronic HBV Diagnosis Rate

**14.1**

per 100,000 population

Louisiana Rate: 15.9 per 100,000

Ranked **8th** in number of diagnoses and **7th** in diagnoses per 100,000 population among Louisiana's nine public health regions

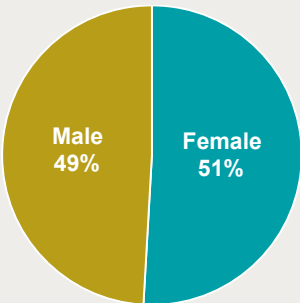
## Of the 55 new chronic HBV diagnoses in 2023:

51% of diagnoses were male.

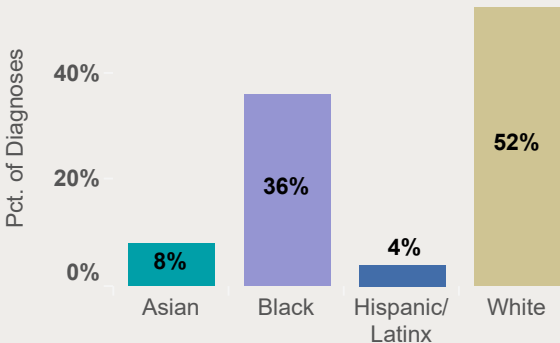
52% of diagnoses were among White people and 36% of diagnoses were among Black people.

The majority of diagnoses were among people 40-69 years old.

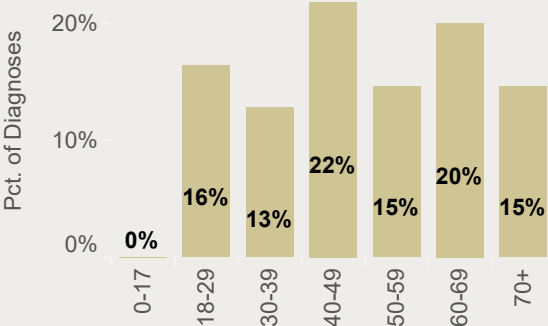
### Birth Sex



### Race/Ethnicity



### Age at Diagnosis



## Affected Subpopulations

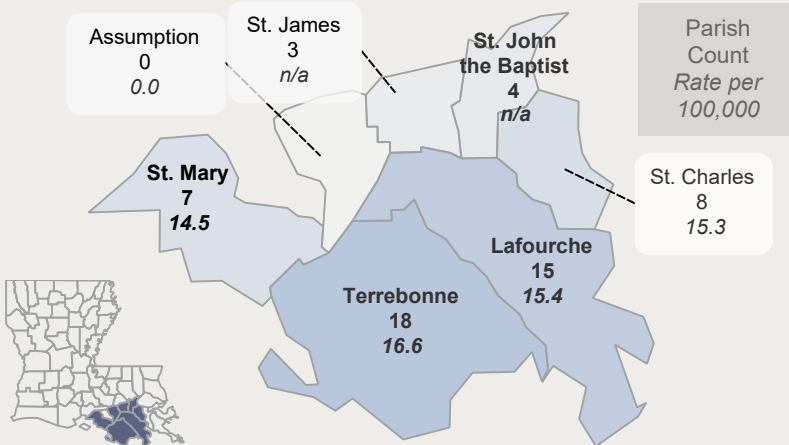
White males had the highest number of chronic HBV diagnoses.



Number of Diagnoses

## Geographic Distribution

Terrebonne Parish had the highest number of HBV diagnoses and the highest rate per 100,000 population.



\*n/a: Rates unavailable for parishes with <5 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

Region 3 - Houma

Acute HCV Diagnoses

8

-----  
Louisiana Diagnoses: 106

Acute HCV Diagnosis Rate

2.1

per 100,000 population

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Louisiana Rate: 2.3 per 100,000

Ranked **6th** in number of diagnoses and **4th** in diagnoses per 100,000 people among Louisiana's nine public health regions

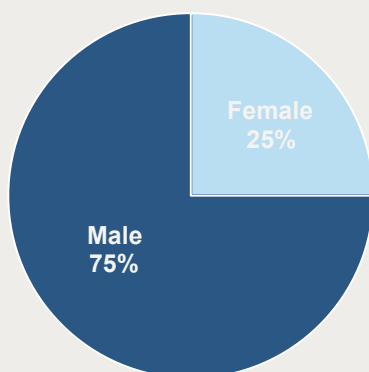
## Of the 8 acute HCV diagnoses in 2023:

75% of diagnoses were male.

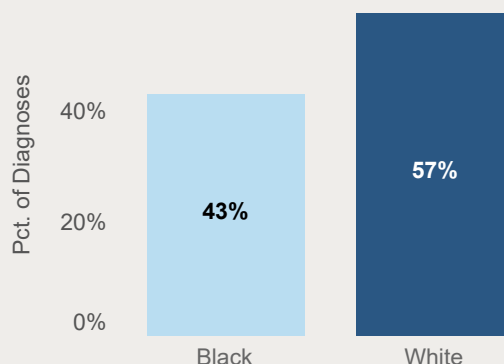
The majority of diagnoses were among White people.

The age group with the highest number of diagnoses were 40-49 year old.

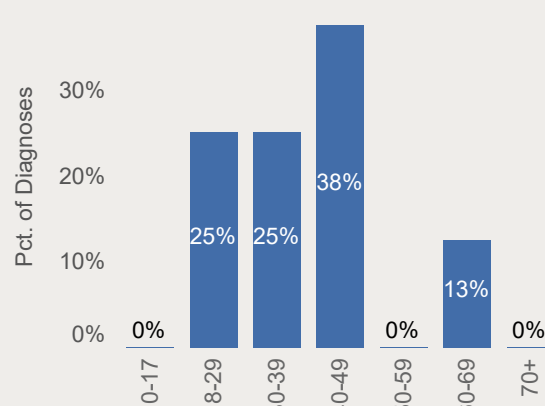
Birth Sex



Race/Ethnicity

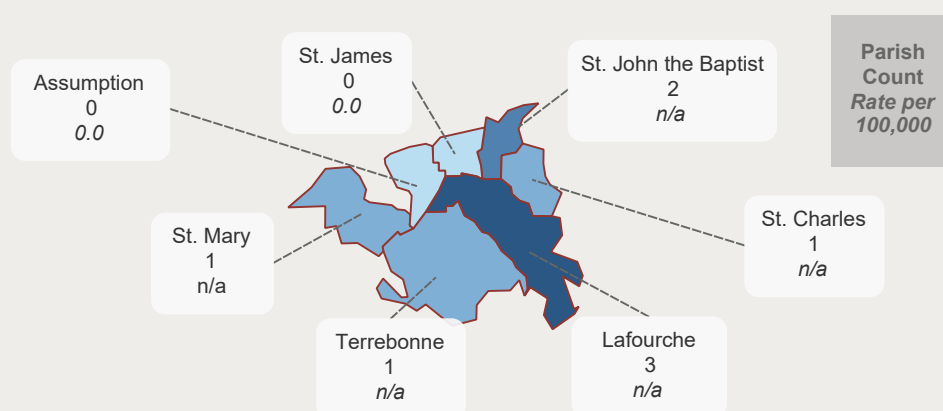


Age at Diagnosis



## Geographic Distribution

Lafourche Parish had the highest number of new diagnoses.



\*n/a: Rates unavailable for parishes with < 5 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

Region 3 - Houma

Chronic HCV Diagnoses

**207**

Louisiana Diagnoses: 3,589

Chronic HCV Diagnosis Rate

**53.2**

per 100,000 population

Louisiana Rate: 77.6 per 100,000

Ranked **9th** in number of diagnoses  
and **9th** in diagnoses per 100,000  
population among Louisiana's nine  
public health regions

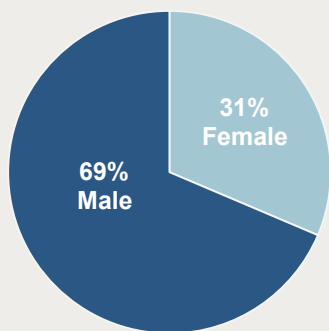
## Of the 207 new chronic HCV diagnoses in 2023:

Males comprised 69% of diagnoses.

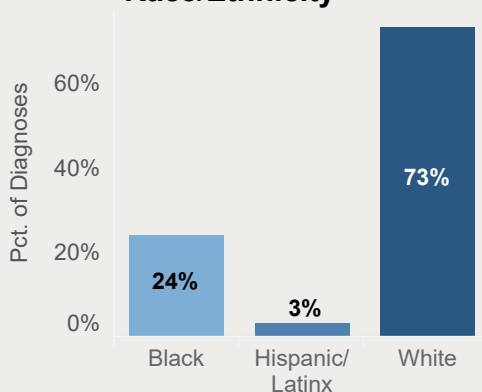
The majority of diagnoses were among White people.

People 40-49 years old had the highest  
proportion of diagnoses.

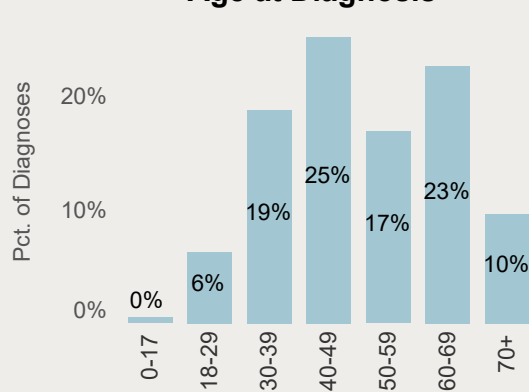
Birth Sex



Race/Ethnicity

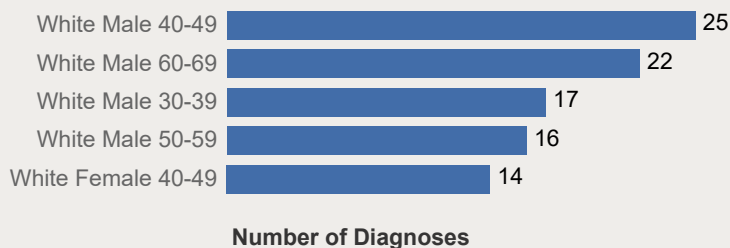


Age at Diagnosis



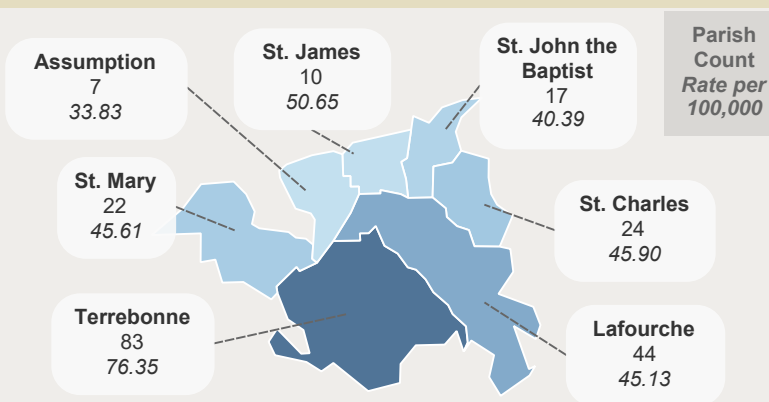
## Affected Subpopulations

White males 40 to 49 years old had the highest number of new diagnoses.



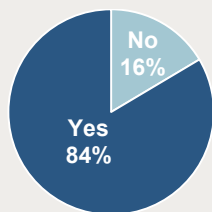
## Geographic Distribution

Terrebonne Parish had the highest number of diagnoses and the highest rate per 100,000 population.

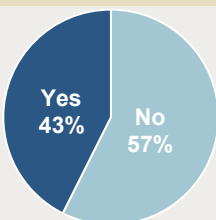


## Hepatitis C Testing and Treatment

In 2023, 84% of individuals with positive diagnostic tests also had confirmatory testing done.



As of December 2023, 43% 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.