

# STI/HIV/Hepatitis B & C Update

2023



## Region 5 Factsheets



LOUISIANA  
**DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH**

*STD/HIV/Hepatitis Program*



# HIV Annual Summary - 2023

## Region 5 - Lake Charles

New HIV Diagnoses  
**49**

Louisiana Diagnoses: 869

HIV Diagnosis Rate  
**16.4**  
per 100,000 population  
-----  
Louisiana Rate: 18.9 per 100,000

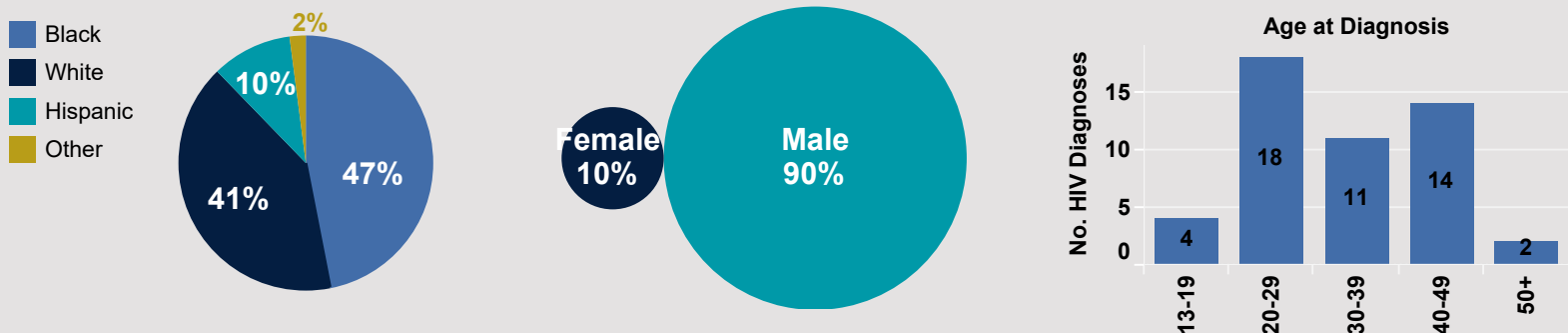
HIV Diagnosis Rate  
Regional Ranking  
**6th**  
among Louisiana's nine public health regions

### Of the 49 new HIV diagnoses in 2023:

Almost half of diagnoses (47%) were among White people.

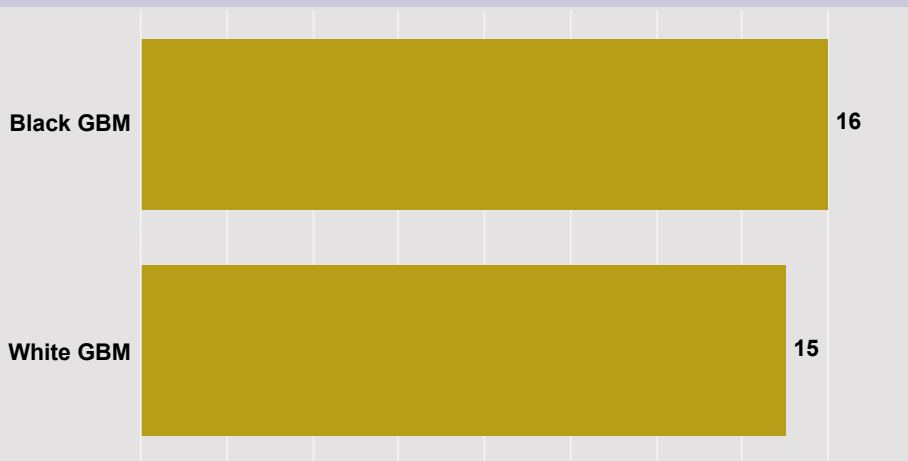
Males comprised 90% of diagnoses.

Over one-third of diagnoses (38%) were among people 20 to 29 years old.



### Affected subpopulations

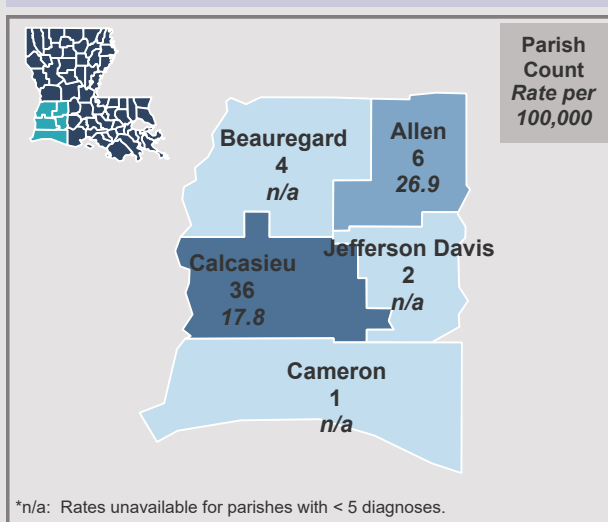
Gay & bisexual men (GBM) are impacted by HIV more than other groups. In Region 5, over half (63%) of diagnoses in 2023 were among Black and White GBM.



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

### Geographic distribution

In 2023, the majority of new HIV diagnoses in Region 5 were from Calcasieu Parish (73%).



### HIV Care among People Living with HIV in Region 5 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

### Region 5 - Lake Charles

New P&S Syphilis  
Diagnoses

**39**

Louisiana Diagnoses: 1,196

P&S Syphilis Diagnosis Rate

**13.1**

per 100,000 population

Louisiana Rate: 26.1 per 100,000

P&S Syphilis Diagnosis Rate  
Regional Ranking

**8th**

among Louisiana's nine public  
health regions

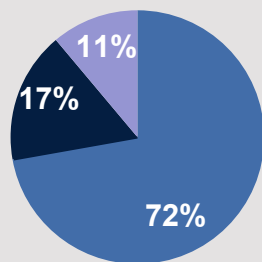
## Of the 39 P&S syphilis diagnoses in 2023:

The majority of the diagnoses (72%)  
were among White people.

Males comprised 62% of diagnoses.

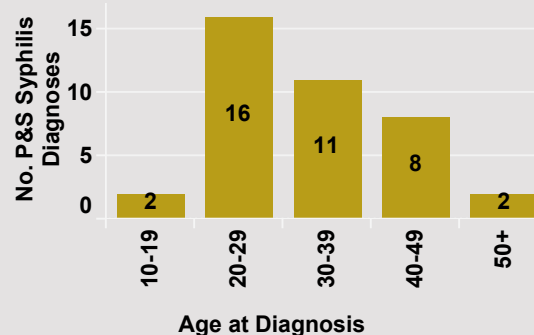
Over one-third of diagnoses (41%) were  
among people 20 to 29 years old.

White  
Black  
Other



Female  
38%

Male  
62%



## Affected subpopulations

Males are impacted by P&S syphilis more than other groups. In Region 5, 49% of P&S syphilis diagnoses were among Black and White males.

## Geographic distribution

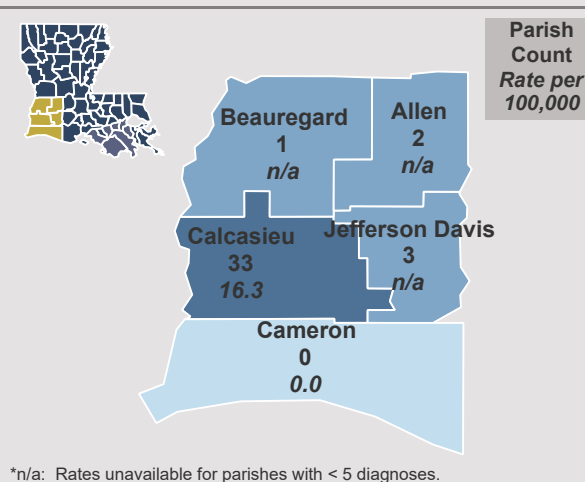
In 2023, the majority of new P&S syphilis diagnoses (85%) in Region 5 were from Calcasieu Parish.

White Female 30-39

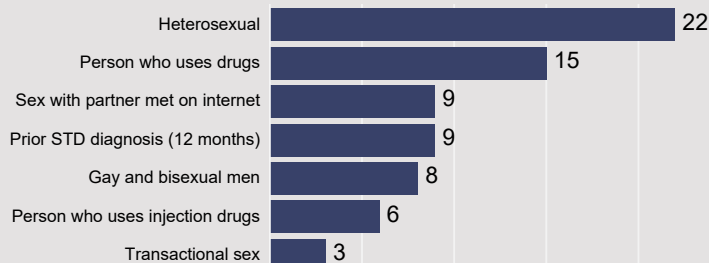
5

White Female 20-29

5



## 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 5 - Lake Charles

#### New Early Non-P&S Syphilis Diagnoses

**19**

Louisiana Diagnoses: 897

#### Early Non-P&S Syphilis Diagnosis Rate

**6.4**

per 100,000 population

Louisiana Rate: 19.5 per 100,000

#### Early Non-P&S Syphilis Diagnosis Rate Regional Ranking

**9th**

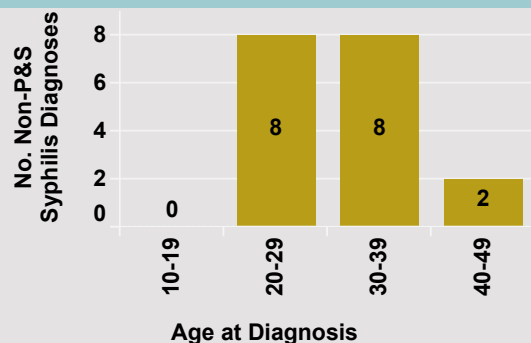
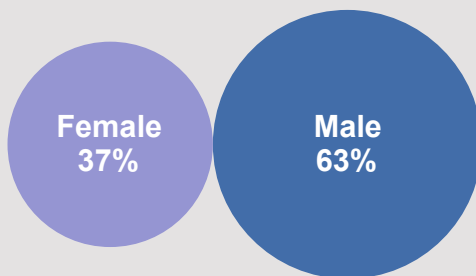
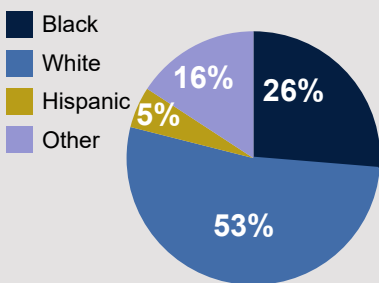
among Louisiana's nine public health regions

## Of the 19 early non-P&S syphilis diagnoses in 2023:

Over half (53%) of the diagnoses were among White people.

Males comprised 63% of diagnoses.

84% of diagnoses were among people 20 to 39 years old.



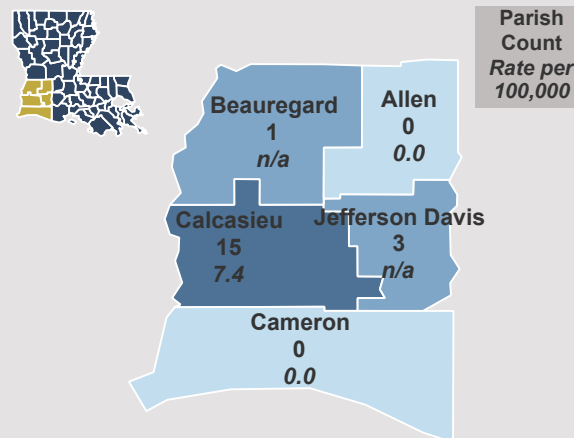
## Affected subpopulations

Young people are more impacted by early non-P&S syphilis than other groups. In Region 5, over one-third (37%) of early non-P&S diagnoses were among people ages 20-29.

All subpopulations have counts less than 5.

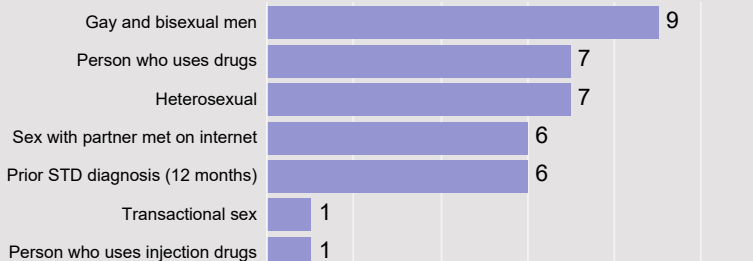
## Geographic distribution

In 2023, the majority of new early non-P&S syphilis diagnoses (79%) in Region 5 were from Calcasieu 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 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

### Region 5 - Lake Charles

Pregnant Mothers  
Diagnosed with Syphilis  
**13**

#### Congenital Syphilis Cases

**7**

Case count reflects the total number of individual infants

Infant Deaths Linked to  
Congenital Syphilis  
**0**

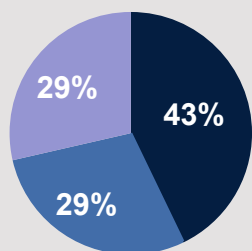
## Of the 7 pregnant mothers linked to a 2023 CS case:

Almost half (43%) of mothers were Black women.

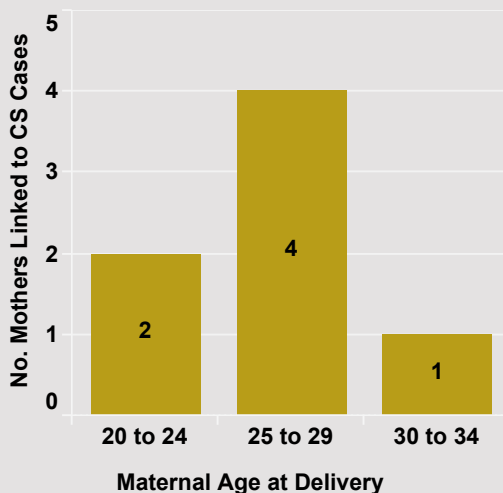
Over half (57%) of mothers were between 25 and 29 years of age at delivery.

Almost half (43%) had a positive toxicology screen during pregnancy.

Black  
White  
Other



**1 in 531**  
live births were born with  
CS in 2023



Amphetamines 2  
Marijuana 2

2023 Regional Ranking  
**8th**  
Highest case count among  
Louisiana's nine public health  
regions

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

Timely PNC 86%

Timely PNC with  
Timely Initial Test 100%

Timely PNC with  
Recommended Testing 50%

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 a 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).

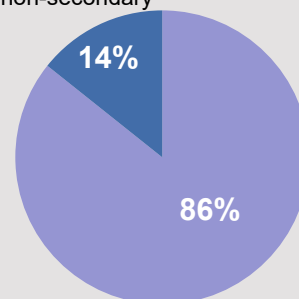
## Maternal Stage of Syphilis

The majority (86%) of mothers, linked to a CS case, were diagnosed with late or late latent syphilis.

### Surveillance stage

Late or late latent  
Early non-primary non-secondary

This reflects the latest stage of syphilis identified during the pregnancy linked to the reported 2023 congenital syphilis case.





# Gonorrhea Annual Summary - 2023

## Region 5 - Lake Charles

### New Gonorrhea Diagnoses

**533**

Louisiana Diagnoses: 13,192

### Gonorrhea Diagnosis Rate

**178.7**

per 100,000 population

Louisiana Rate: 287.4 per 100,000

### Gonorrhea Diagnosis Rate Regional Ranking

**8th**

among Louisiana's nine public health regions

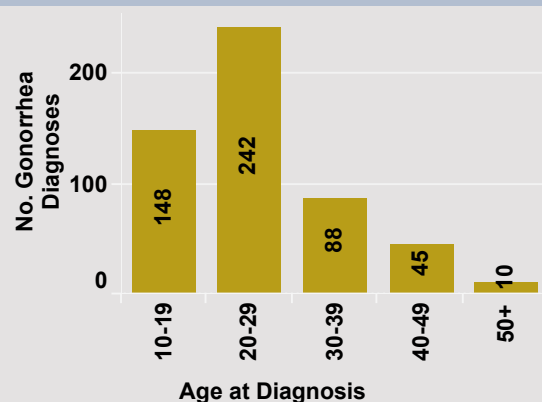
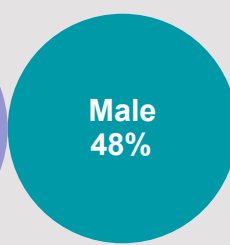
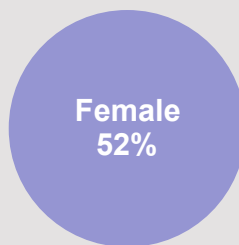
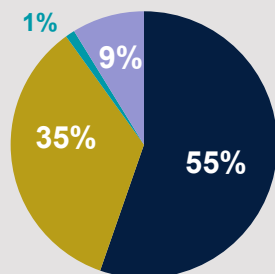
## Of the 533 gonorrhea diagnoses in 2023:

55% of diagnoses were among Black people.

By sex at birth, females comprised 52% of diagnoses.

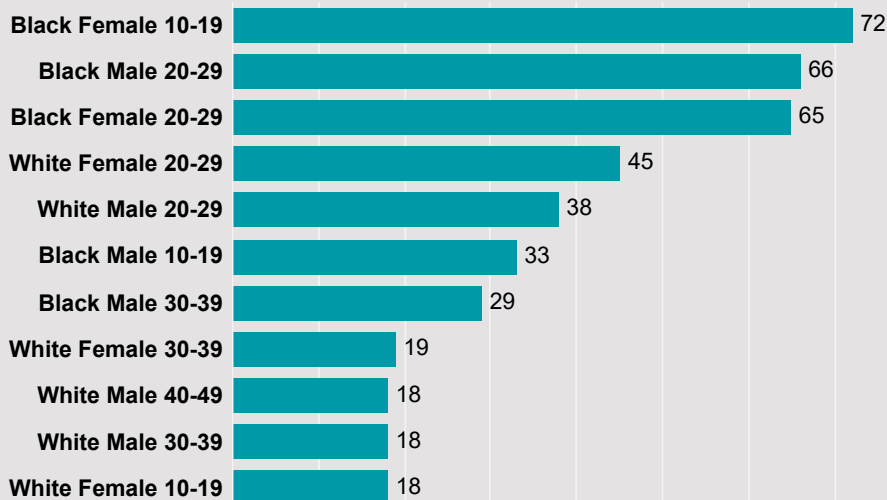
Almost half of diagnoses (45%) were among people 20 to 29 years old.

Black  
White  
Hispanic  
Other



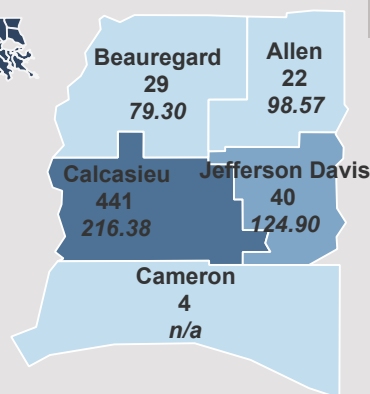
## Affected subpopulations

Young people of color are impacted by gonorrhea more than other groups. In Region 5, a quarter (25%) of gonorrhea diagnoses in 2023 were among young Black people 20 to 29 years old.



## Geographic distribution

In 2023, the majority of new gonorrhea diagnoses (83%) in Region 5 were from Calcasieu Parish.



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

## 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 5 - Lake Charles

New Chlamydia Diagnoses  
**1,713**

Louisiana Diagnoses: 36,242

Chlamydia Diagnosis Rate

**574.4**

per 100,000 population

Louisiana Rate: 789.5 per 100,000

Chlamydia Diagnosis Rate  
Regional Ranking

**8th**

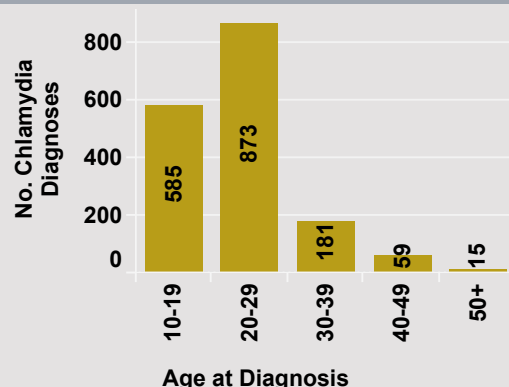
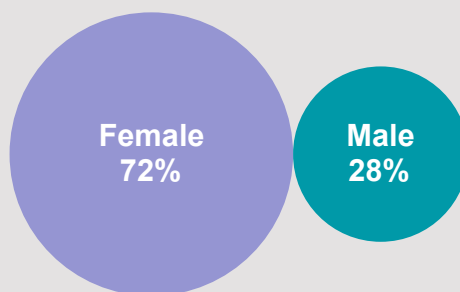
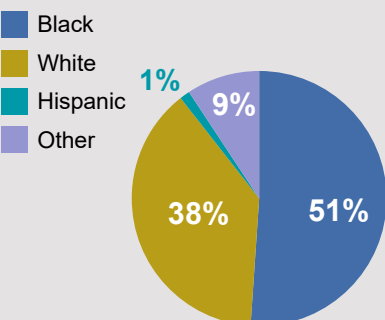
among Louisiana's nine public  
health regions

## Of the 1,713 chlamydia diagnoses in 2023:

Black people comprised 51% of diagnoses.

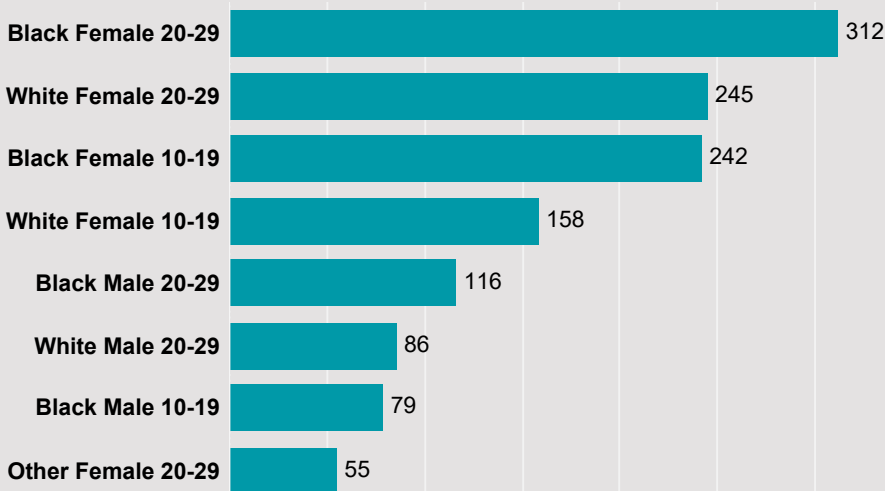
By sex at birth, females comprised 72% of diagnoses.

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



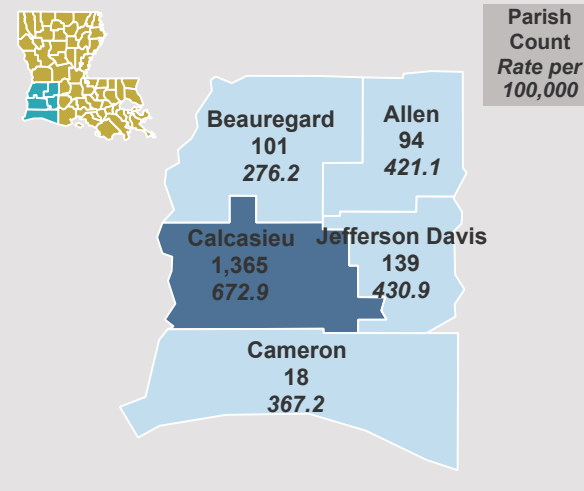
## Affected subpopulations

Young females are impacted by chlamydia more than other groups. In Region 5, over half (53%) of chlamydia diagnoses were among Black and White females 10 to 29 years old.



## Geographic distribution

In 2023, the majority of new chlamydia diagnoses (76%) in Region 5 were from Calcasieu 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 5 - Lake Charles

### Acute HBV Diagnoses

**2**

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Louisiana Diagnoses: 18

### Acute HBV Diagnosis Rate

**\* n/a**

per 100,000 population

-----  
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.

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





# Chronic Hepatitis B Annual Summary - 2023

## Region 5 - Lake Charles

### Chronic HBV Diagnoses

**46**

Louisiana Diagnoses: 733

### Chronic HBV Diagnosis Rate

**15.2**

per 100,000 population

Louisiana Rate: 15.9 per 100,000

Ranked **9th** in number of diagnoses and **5th** in diagnoses per 100,000 population among Louisiana's nine public health regions

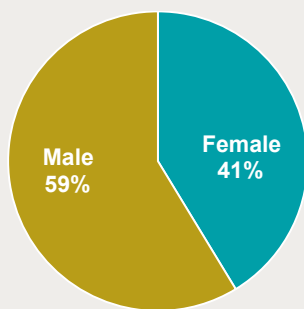
## Of the 46 new chronic HBV diagnoses in 2023:

59% of diagnoses were male.

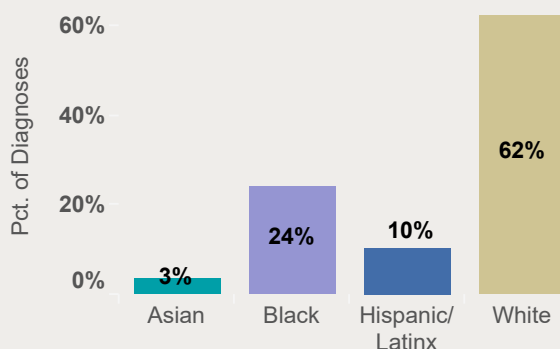
62% of diagnoses were among White people and 24% of diagnoses were among Black people.

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

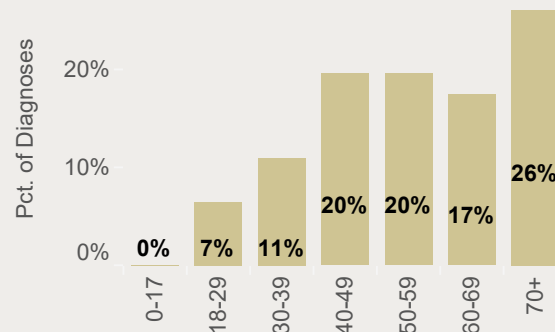
### Birth Sex



### Race/Ethnicity



### Age at Diagnosis



## Affected Subpopulations

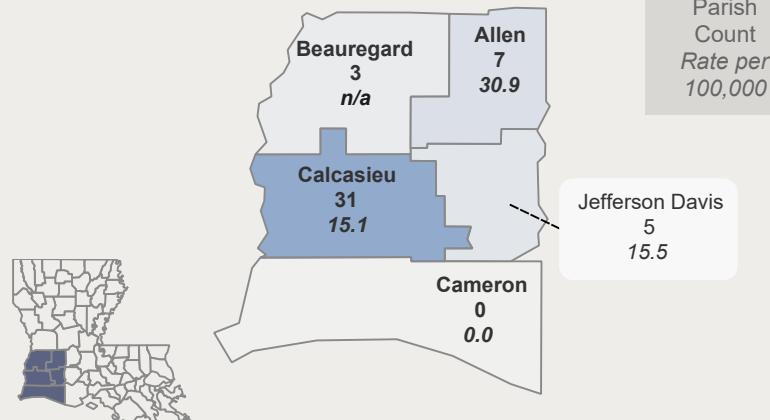
White males and females had the highest number of chronic HBV diagnoses.



Number of Diagnoses

## Geographic distribution

Calcasieu Parish had the highest number of HBV diagnoses and Allen Parish had 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.

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



# Acute Hepatitis C Annual Summary - 2023

Region 5 - Lake Charles

Acute HCV Diagnoses

1

Louisiana Diagnoses: 106

Acute HCV Diagnosis Rate

\* n/a

per 100,000 population

Louisiana Rate: 2.3 per 100,000

Ranked **9th** in number of diagnoses  
and **7th** in diagnoses per 100,000  
people among Louisiana's nine public  
health regions

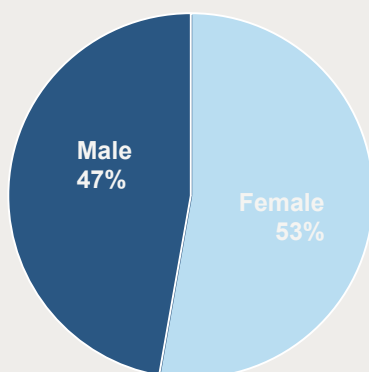
## Of the 8 acute HCV diagnoses in 2022:

Diagnoses were split evenly between  
males and females.

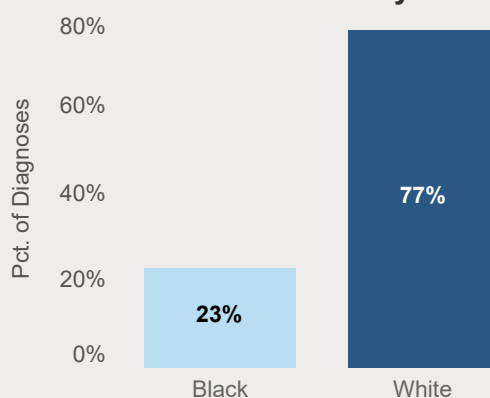
The majority of diagnoses were among White  
people.

The highest proportion of diagnoses were among  
people 30-39 years old.

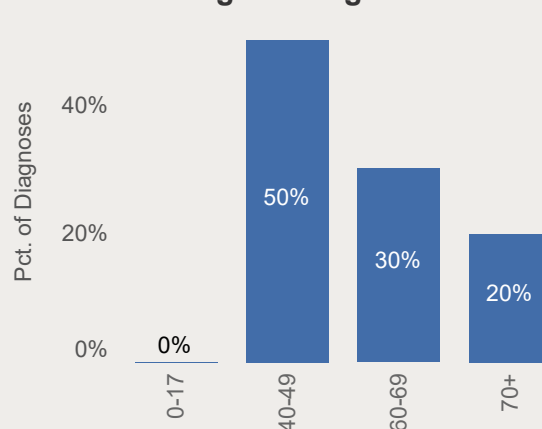
Birth Sex



Race/Ethnicity

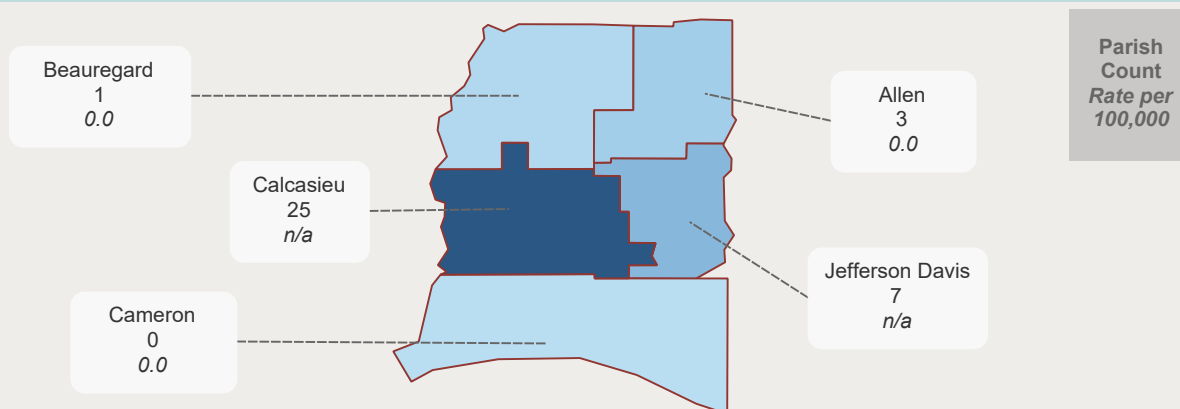


Age at Diagnosis



## Geographic Distribution

Calcasieu Parish and Jefferson Davis had the same number of 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.

**Interpreting the Data:** Please note that 2022 data may still be impacted from the COVID-19 pandemic.



# Chronic Hepatitis C Annual Summary - 2023

Region 5 - Lake Charles

Chronic HCV Diagnoses

**326**

Louisiana Diagnoses: 4,132

Chronic HCV Diagnosis Rate

**108.0**

per 100,000 population

Louisiana Rate: 89.4 per 100,000

Ranked **6th** in number of diagnoses and **1st** in diagnoses per 100,000 population among Louisiana's nine public health regions

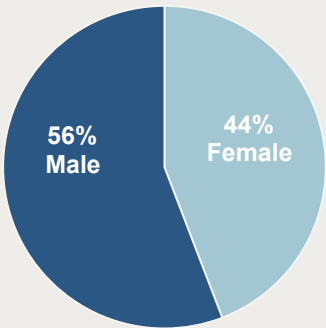
## Of the 326 new chronic HCV diagnoses in 2023:

Males comprised 56% of diagnoses.

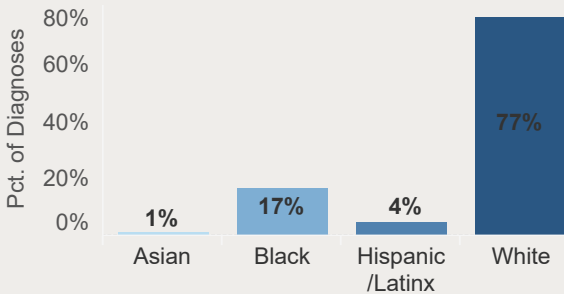
The majority of diagnoses were among White people.

The largest proportion of diagnoses were among people 40-49 and 60-69 years old.

### Birth Sex

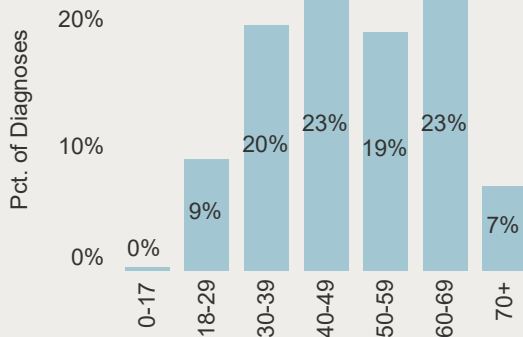


### Race/Ethnicity



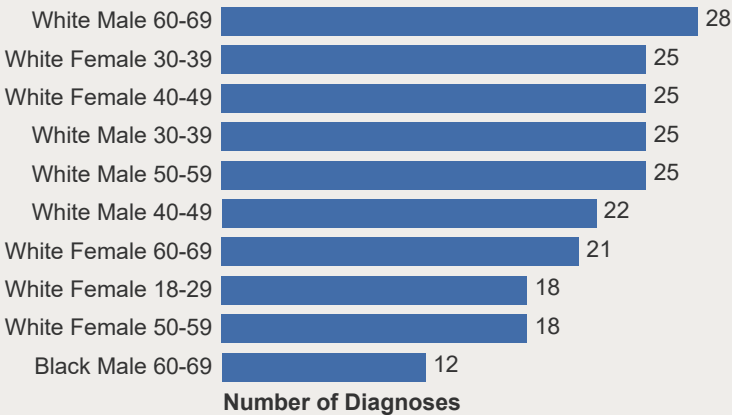
Note: People of Hispanic origin had a lower percentage of diagnoses, but they had a disproportionately higher rate of diagnoses per 100,000 population.

### Age at Diagnosis



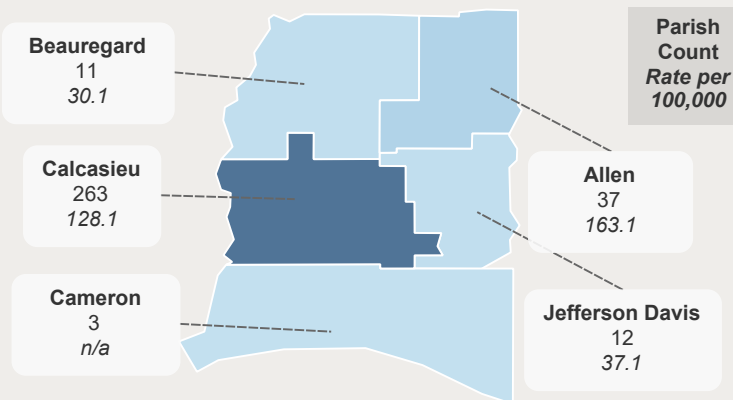
## Affected Subpopulations

White males 60 to 69 years old had the highest number of new diagnoses.



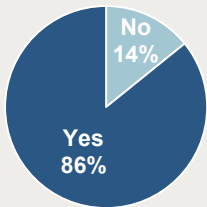
## Geographic Distribution

Calcasieu Parish had the highest number of diagnoses, while Allen Parish had the highest rate per 100,000 population.

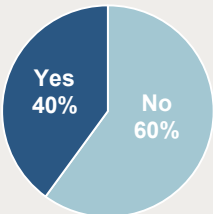


## Hepatitis C Testing and Treatment

In 2023, 86% of individuals with positive diagnostic tests also had confirmatory testing done.



As of December 2023, 40% 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.