

STI/HIV/Hepatitis B & C Update

2023

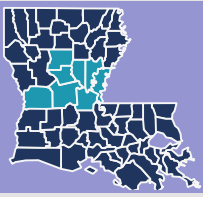


Region 6 Factsheets



LOUISIANA
**DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH**

STD/HIV/Hepatitis Program



HIV Annual Summary - 2023

Region 6 - Alexandria

New HIV Diagnoses
49

Louisiana Diagnoses: 869

HIV Diagnosis Rate
16.6
per 100,000 population

Louisiana Rate: 1896 per 100,000

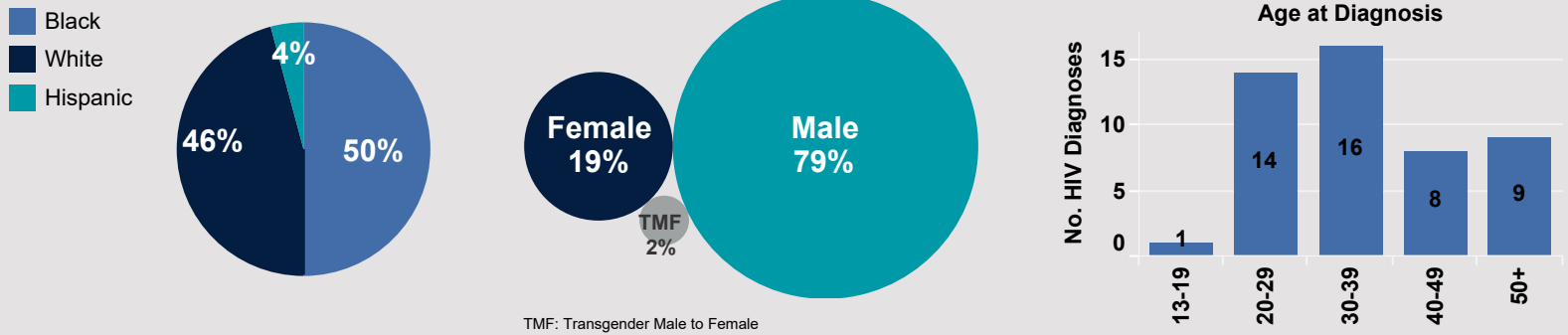
HIV Diagnosis Rate
Regional Ranking
5th
among Louisiana's nine public health regions

Of the 49 new HIV diagnoses in 2023:

Half of new diagnoses (50%) were among Black people.

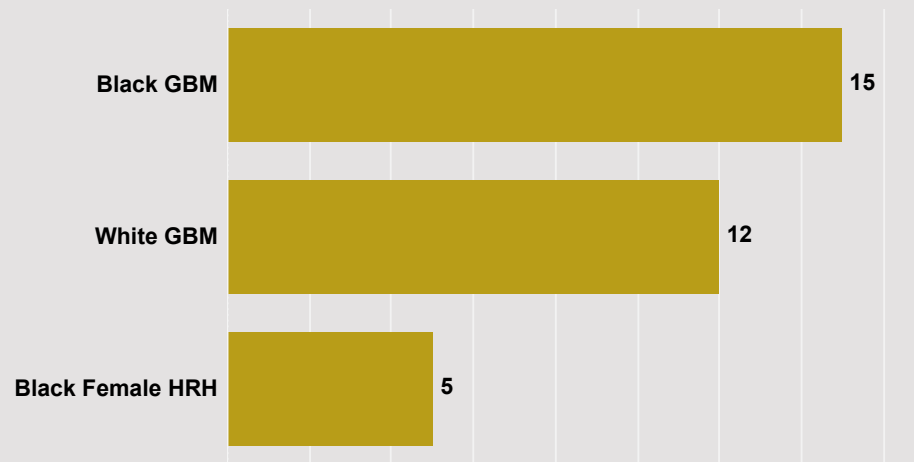
Males comprised 79% of diagnoses.

One-third of diagnoses (33%) were among people 30 to 39 years old.



Affected subpopulations

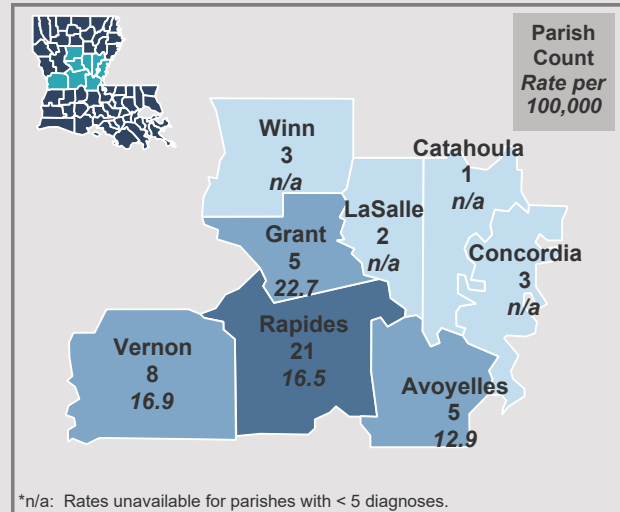
People of color and gay & bisexual men (GBM) are impacted by HIV more than other groups. In Region 6, over half (55%) of diagnoses in 2023 were among Black and White GBM.



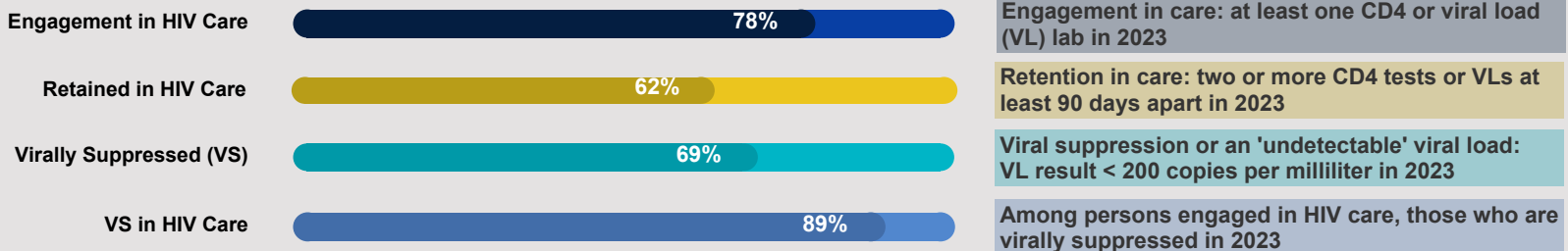
GBM = Gay & bisexual men; HRH = High risk heterosexual; PWID = People who inject drugs

Geographic distribution

In 2023, almost half of new HIV diagnoses (43%) in Region 6 were from Rapides Parish.



HIV Care among People Living with HIV in Region 6 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 6 - Alexandria

New P&S Syphilis
Diagnoses

116

Louisiana Diagnoses: 1,196

P&S Syphilis Diagnosis Rate

40.0

per 100,000 population

Louisiana Rate: 26.1 per 100,000

P&S Syphilis Diagnosis Rate
Regional Ranking

2nd

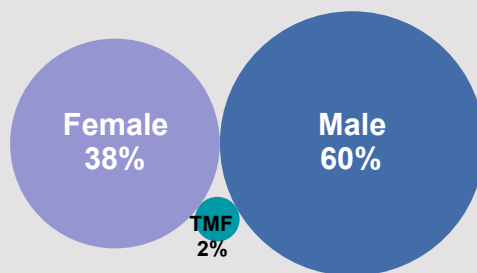
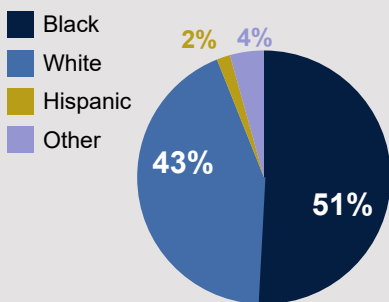
among Louisiana's nine public
health regions

Of the 116 P&S syphilis diagnoses in 2023:

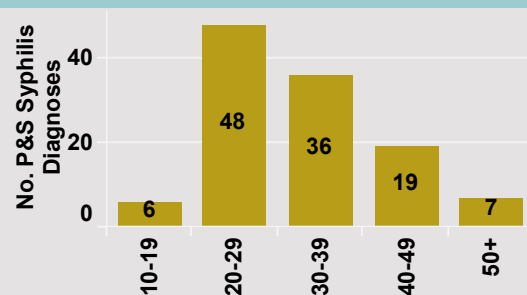
Over half (51%) of the diagnoses were
among Black people.

Males comprised 60% of diagnoses.

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



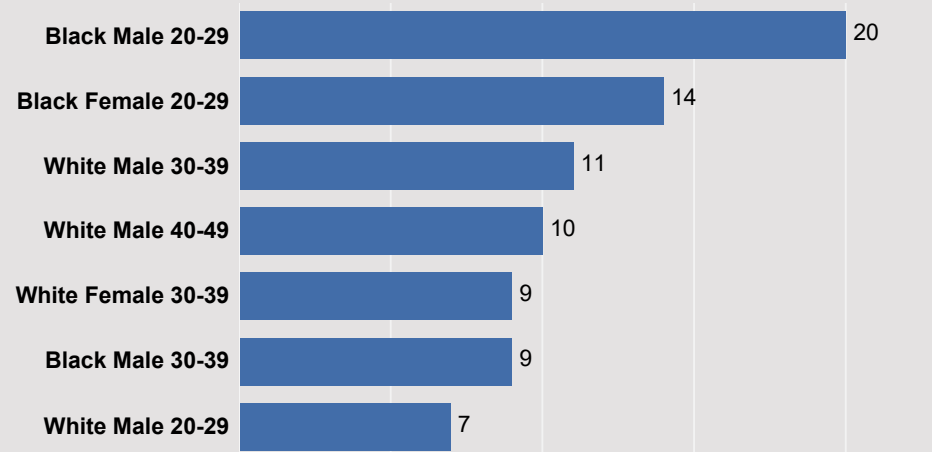
TMF: Transgender male to female



Age at Diagnosis

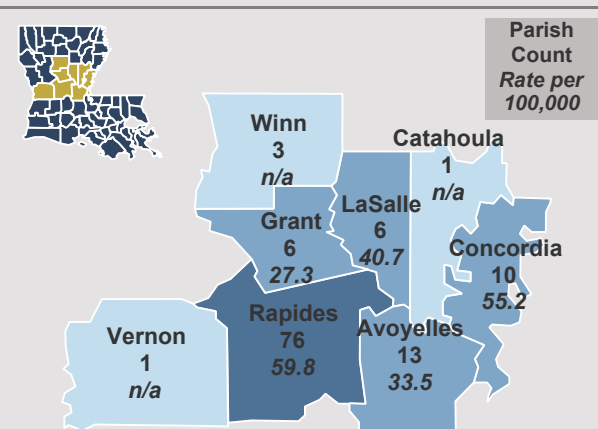
Affected subpopulations

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



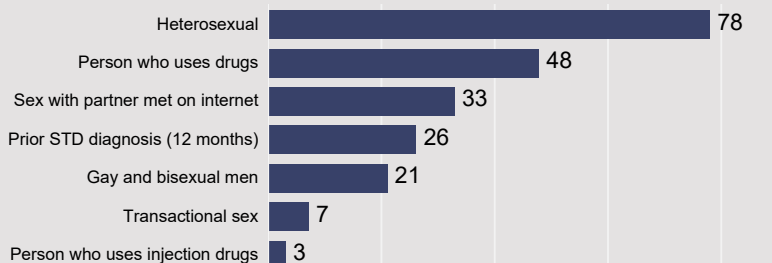
Geographic distribution

In 2023, two-thirds of new P&S syphilis diagnoses (66%) in Region 6 were from Rapides 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.



Early Non-P&S Syphilis

Annual Summary - 2023

Region 6 - Alexandria

New Early Non-P&S
Syphilis Diagnoses

45

Louisiana Diagnoses: 897

Early Non-P&S Syphilis Diagnosis
Rate

15.5

per 100,000 population

Louisiana Rate: 19.5 per 100,000

Early Non-P&S Syphilis Diagnosis
Rate Regional Ranking

6th

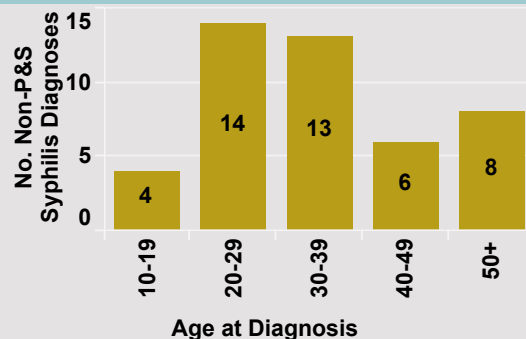
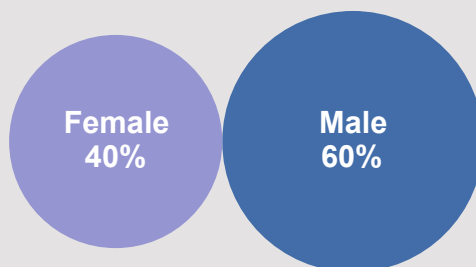
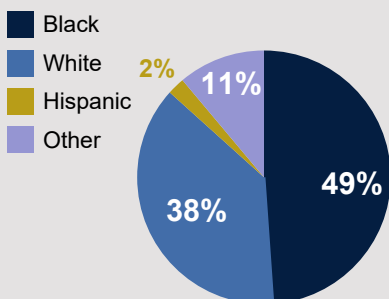
among Louisiana's nine public
health regions

Of the 45 early non-P&S syphilis diagnoses in 2023:

Almost half (49%) of the diagnoses were
among Black people.

Males comprised 60% of diagnoses.

Almost one-third of diagnoses (32%)
were among people 20 to 29 years old.



Affected subpopulations

White people are more impacted by early non-P&S syphilis than other groups. In Region 6, over one-third (42%) of early non-P&S syphilis diagnoses were among Black people under 40.

Black Male 30-39

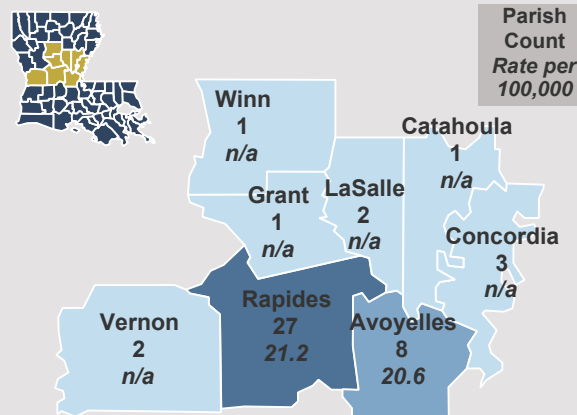
5

Black Male 20-29

5

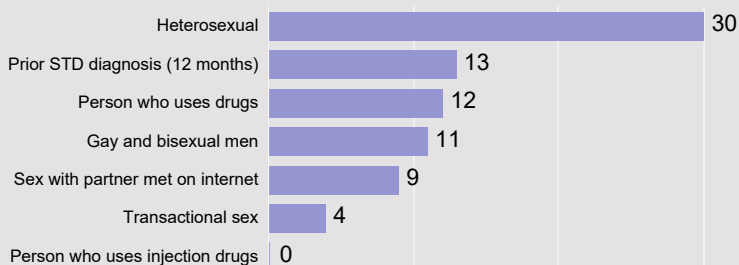
Geographic distribution

In 2023, over half of new early non-P&S syphilis diagnoses (60%) in Region 6 were from Rapides 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 6 - Alexandria

Pregnant Mothers
Diagnosed with Syphilis
21

Congenital Syphilis Cases

7

Case count reflects the total number of individual infants

Infant Deaths Linked to
Congenital Syphilis
1

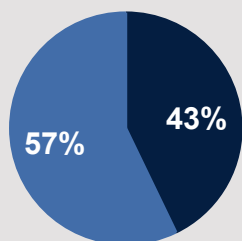
Of the 7 pregnant mothers linked to a 2023 CS case:

Over half (57%) of mothers were White women.

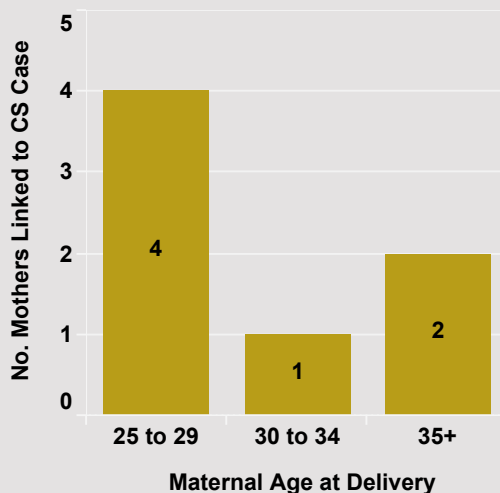
Over half (57%) of mothers were between 25 to 29 years of age at delivery.

One mother (14%) had a positive toxicology screen during pregnancy.

Black
White



1 in 156
live births were born with
CS in 2023



Amphetamines 1
Heroin 1

2023 Regional Ranking
7th
Highest case count among
Louisiana's nine public health
regions

Among pregnant mothers linked to a 2023 CS case:

Timely PNC 43%

Timely PNC with
Timely Initial Test 67%

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 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).

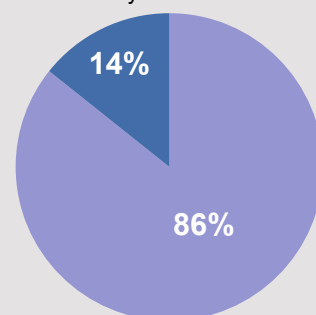
Maternal Stage of Syphilis

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 6 - Alexandria

New Gonorrhea Diagnoses

883

Louisiana Diagnoses: 13,192

Gonorrhea Diagnosis Rate

304.7

per 100,000 population

Louisiana Rate: 287.4 per 100,000

Gonorrhea Diagnosis Rate Regional Ranking

5th

among Louisiana's nine public health regions

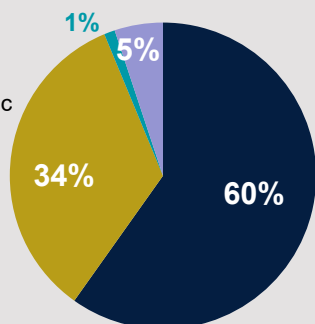
Of the 883 gonorrhea diagnoses in 2023:

The majority of diagnoses (60%) were among Black people.

By sex at birth, there were equal diagnoses of males and females.

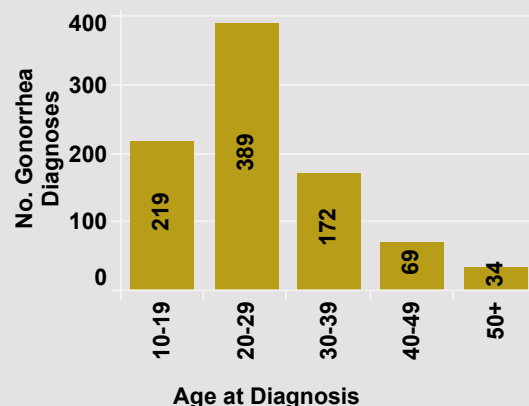
Almost half of diagnoses (44%) were among people 20 to 29 years old.

Black
White
Hispanic
Other



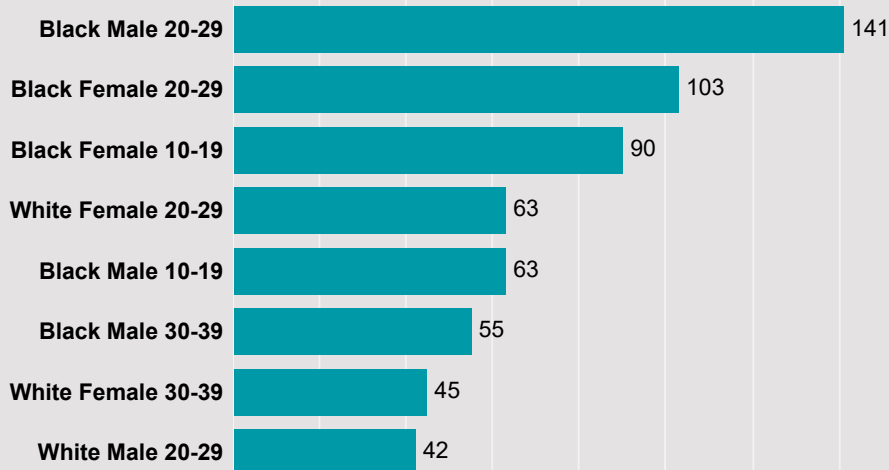
Female
50%

Male
50%



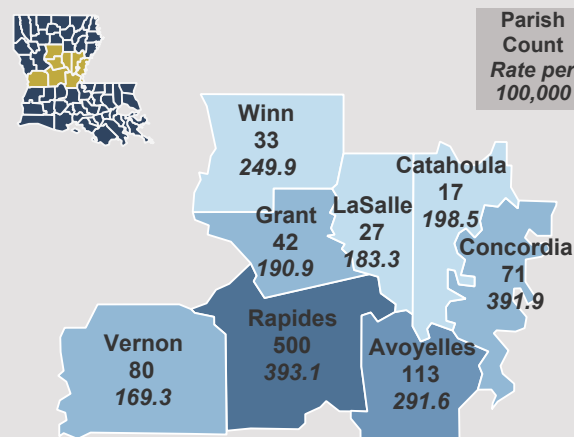
Affected subpopulations

Young people of color are impacted by gonorrhea more than other groups. In Region 6, almost half (45%) of gonorrhea diagnoses in 2023 were among young Black people 10 to 29 years old.



Geographic distribution

In 2023, the majority of gonorrhea diagnoses (57%) in Region 6 were from Rapides 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 6 - Alexandria

New Chlamydia Diagnoses
2,291

Louisiana Diagnoses: 36,242

Chlamydia Diagnosis Rate

790.5

per 100,000 population

Louisiana Rate: 789.5 per 100,000

Chlamydia Diagnosis Rate
Regional Ranking

5th

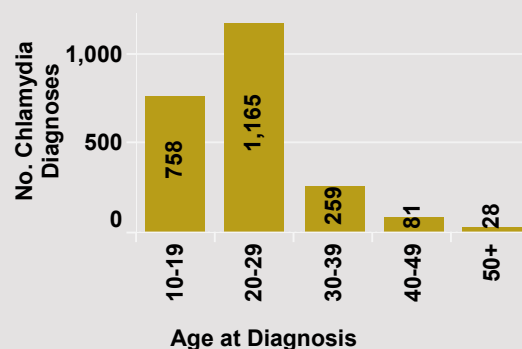
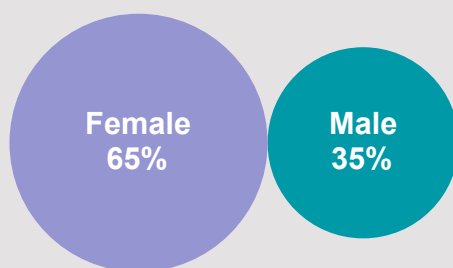
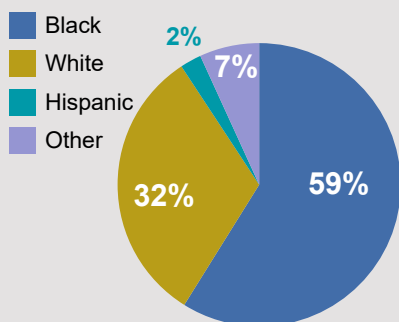
among Louisiana's nine public
health regions

Of the 2,291 chlamydia diagnoses in 2023:

The majority (59%) of diagnoses were among Black people.

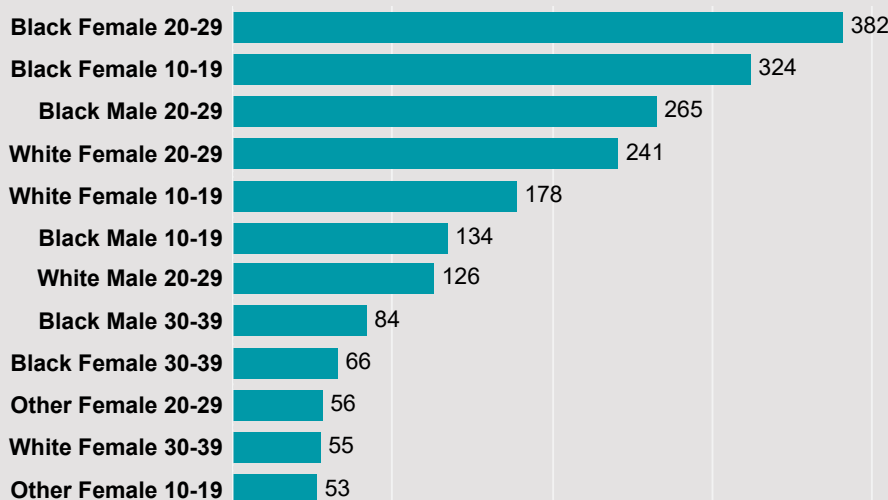
By sex at birth, females comprised 65% of diagnoses.

Over half of diagnoses (51%) were among people 20 to 29 years old.



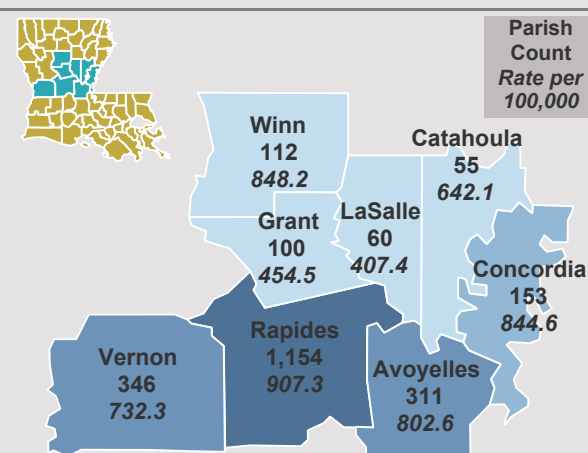
Affected subpopulations

People of color and young females are impacted by chlamydia more than other groups. In Region 6, almost one-third (31%) of chlamydia diagnoses in 2023 were among Black females 10 to 29 years old.



Geographic distribution

In 2023, over half of new chlamydia diagnoses (51%) in Region 6 were from Rapides 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:

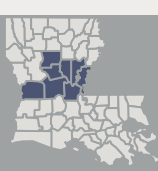
Recommended: Doxycycline 100 mg orally 2x/day for 7 days

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 6 - Alexandria

Acute HBV Diagnoses

3

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 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 6 - Alexandria

Chronic HBV Diagnoses

64

Louisiana Diagnoses: 733

Chronic HBV Diagnosis Rate

21.8

per 100,000 population

Louisiana Rate: 15.9 per 100,000

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

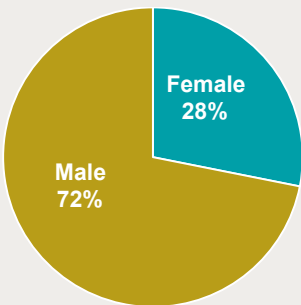
Of the 67 new chronic HBV diagnoses in 2023:

72% of diagnoses were male.

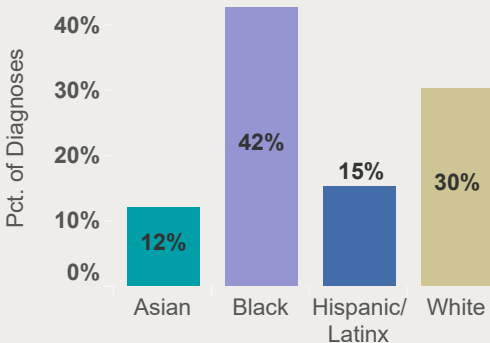
42% of diagnoses were among Black people and 30% of diagnoses were among White people.

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

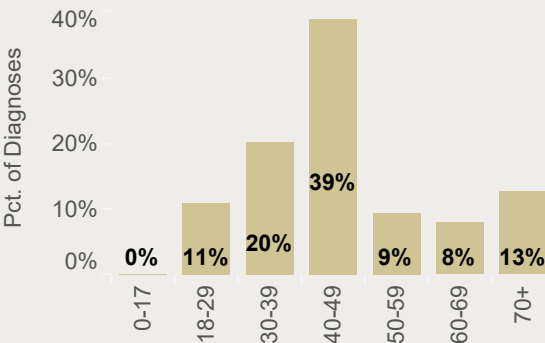
Birth Sex



Race/Ethnicity



Age at Diagnosis



Affected Subpopulations

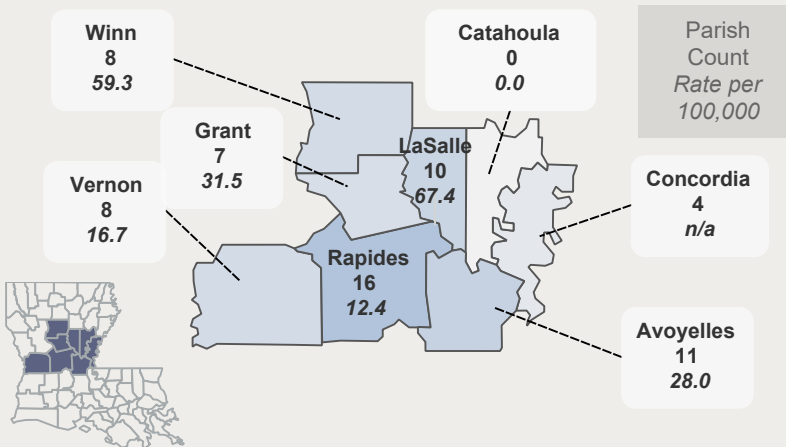
White males had the highest number of chronic HBV diagnoses.



Number of Diagnoses

Geographic distribution

Rapides Parish had the highest number of HBV diagnoses and LaSalle 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.



Acute Hepatitis C Annual Summary - 2023

Region 6 - Alexandria

Acute HCV Diagnoses

6

Louisiana Diagnoses: 106

2.0

per 100,000 population

Louisiana Rate: 2.3 per 100,000

Ranked **7th** in number of diagnoses and **4th** in diagnoses per 100,000 people among Louisiana's nine public health regions

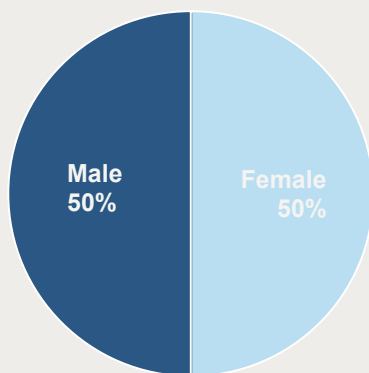
Of the 6 acute HCV diagnoses in 2023:

New diagnoses were split evenly between females and males.

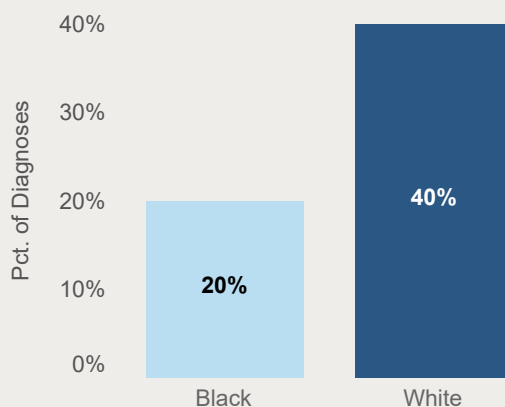
40% of new diagnoses were among White people.

The majority of new diagnoses were among people 30-39 years old.

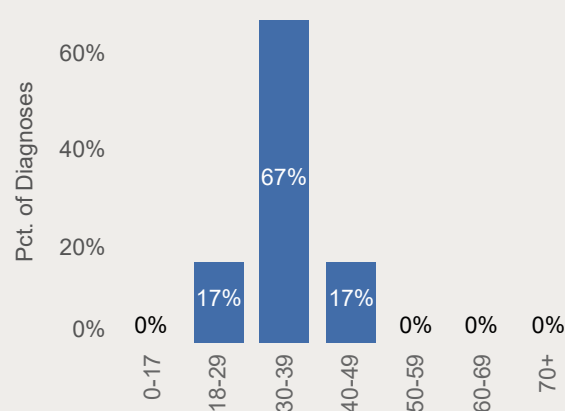
Birth Sex



Race/Ethnicity

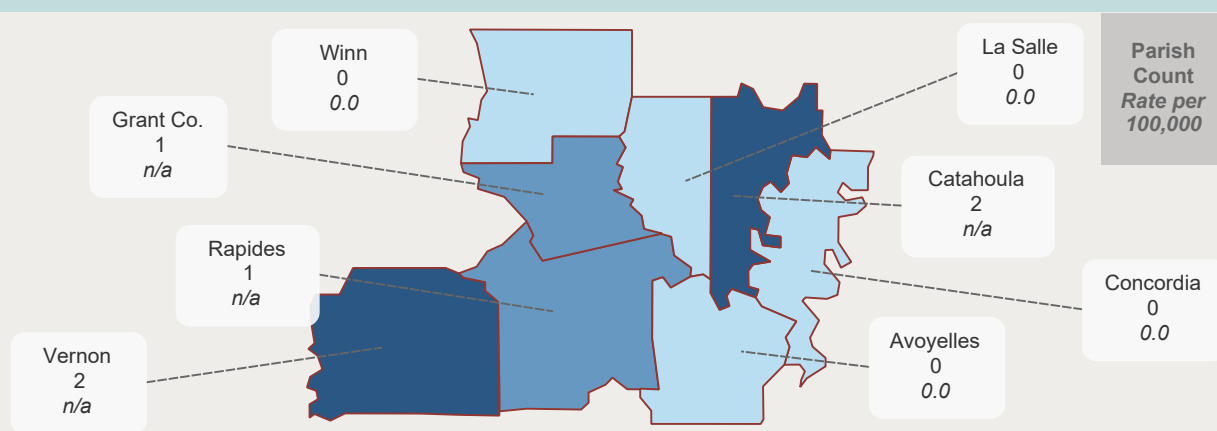


Age at Diagnosis



Geographic Distribution

Rapides 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 to find out where to get tested & treated.



Chronic Hepatitis C Annual Summary - 2023

Region 6 - Alexandria

Chronic HCV Diagnoses

317

Louisiana Diagnoses: 3,589

Chronic HCV Diagnosis Rate

107.9

per 100,000 population

Louisiana Rate: 77.6 per 100,000

Ranked **7th** in number of diagnoses
and **2nd** in diagnoses per 100,000
population among Louisiana's nine
public health regions

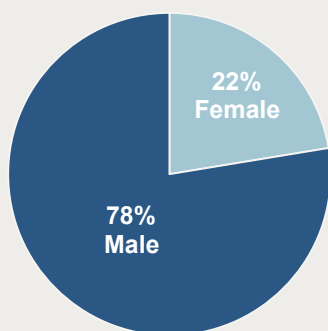
Of the 317 new chronic HCV diagnoses in 2023:

Males comprised 78% of diagnoses.

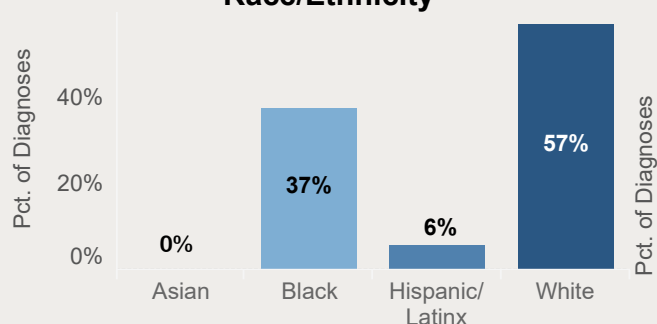
The majority of diagnoses were among White people.

People 30-39 years old had the highest
proportion of diagnoses.

Birth Sex

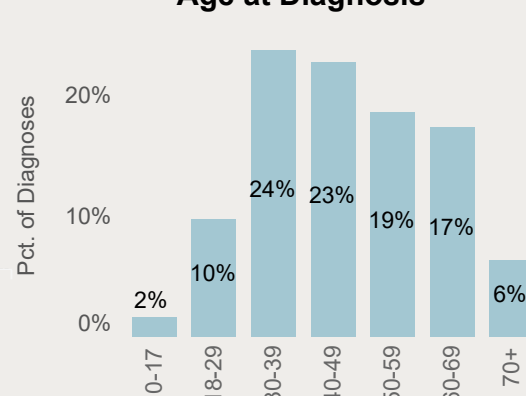


Race/Ethnicity



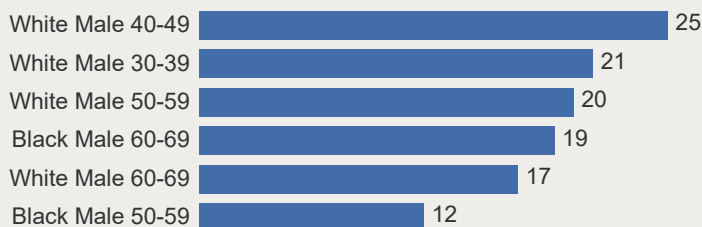
Note: People of Hispanic origin had a lower percentage of diagnoses, but they had a disproportionately higher rate of diagnoses per 100,000 population.

Age at Diagnosis



Affected Subpopulations

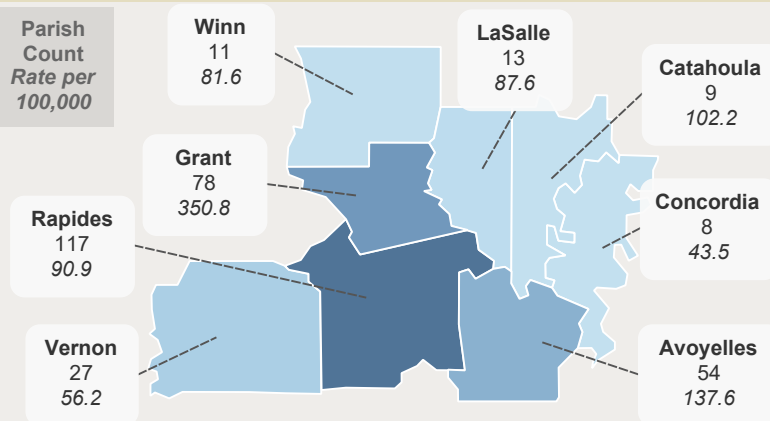
White males 30 to 49 years old, had the highest number of new diagnoses.



Number of Diagnoses

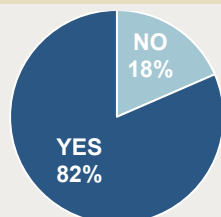
Geographic Distribution

Rapides Parish had the highest number of diagnoses, while Grant Parish had the highest rate per 100,000 population.

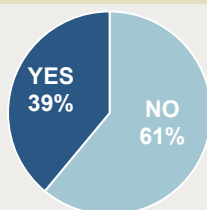


Hepatitis C Testing and Treatment

In 2023, 82% of individuals with positive diagnostic tests also had confirmatory testing done.



As of December 2023, 39% 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 to find out more.

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