



Public Health
Agency

Northern Ireland HIV data tables

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Table 1: New HIV diagnoses in Northern Ireland: all persons by demographics and probable route of exposure, all years to 2020

Data to end of December 2020

New diagnoses and deaths ¹		<2011	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
HIV diagnoses	Men	566	59	68	87	70	82	60	66	59	46	47
	Women	182	12	16	13	21	20	14	17	20	17	13
	Subtotal	748	71	84	100	91	102	74	83	79	63	60
AIDS at HIV diagnoses	Men	85	<5	0	<5	10	<10	6	<10	<5	<10	<10
	Women	23	0	0	<5	<5	<5	0	<5	<5	<5	<10
	Subtotal	108	<5	0	<5	<15	8	6	7	5	10	6
Deaths	Men	84	<10	<5	<10	<5	6	5	<5	<5	<10	<5
	Women	15	<5	0	<5	<5	0	<5	0	<5	<5	<5
	Subtotal	99	10	<5	9	<5	6	<10	<5	<5	8	5

Age at diagnosis	<2011	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Under 15	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	<5	0	0	0
15 - 24	105	<10	11	<10	<15	9	12	10	<10	<10	8
25 - 34	278	24	34	29	25	37	22	25	23	14	10
35 - 49	292	24	21	38	40	43	26	29	31	24	28
50 - 64	56	13	18	23	14	13	<15	16	15	16	14
65 and over	7	<5	0	<5	<5	0	<5	<5	<5	<5	0

Probable exposure category and gender ²		<2011	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Sex between men		375	41	53	53	45	62	42	39	40	24	29
Heterosexual contact	Men	153	18	12	23	20	15	13	17	12	16	11
	Women	168	<15	16	12	18	20	12	12	16	13	8
	Subtotal	321	<30	28	35	38	35	25	29	28	29	19
Injecting drug use	Men	12	0	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	0	<5	<5
	Women	5	0	0	0	0	0	<5	<5	0	<5	<5
	Subtotal	17	0	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	0	<5	5
Mother to child	Men	<5	0	0	0	0	0	0	<5	0	0	0
	Women	<10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<5	0
	Subtotal	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	<5	0	<5	0
Other	Men	<25	0	<5	<5	0	0	0	0	0	<5	0
	Women	<5	<5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Subtotal	24	<5	<5	<5	0	0	0	0	0	<5	0

Ethnicity and gender ³		<2011	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
White	Men	488	55	65	75	66	77	55	56	47	36	43
	Women	87	6	9	6	11	11	8	11	12	9	7
	Subtotal	575	61	74	81	77	88	63	67	59	45	50
Black African	Men	52	<5	<5	6	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<10	<5
	Women	71	<5	<10	7	<10	5	<10	<5	<5	8	<5
	Subtotal	123	5	8	13	11	<10	9	<5	7	<15	5
Black Caribbean	<5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Other/mixed	32	<5	<5	5	<5	7	<5	7	6	<5	<5	

Region of birth	<2011	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
UK	323	51	62	58	60	59	49	48	38	23	29
Rest of Europe	82	11	12	8	15	16	12	16	11	9	5
Africa	110	<10	6	13	10	10	7	7	13	17	9
Asia	17	0	0	5	<5	5	<5	<5	6	<5	<5
Other	7	<5	<5	5	0	<5	<5	<5	<5	0	<5

CD4 at diagnosis ⁴	<2011	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Number with a CD4 count	499	64	77	77	84	84	64	71	66	57	50
Number with CD4 <350	239	35	37	42	44	23	28	31	25	22	24
% of CD4 <350	48%	55%	48%	55%	52%	27%	44%	44%	38%	39%	48%
Median CD4	360	321	350	320	330	520	390	410	440	500	375

Notes:

Total includes individuals with incomplete/not reported demographic data.

Subtotals include individuals for whom gender was not reported, or for whom gender was reported in another way (e.g. non-binary or other).

1• Subtotals include HIV diagnoses of persons who do not report gender and from 2015, persons who identify their gender in a different way.

- AIDS at HIV diagnosis indicates reports of an AIDS defining illness within 3 months of HIV diagnosis.

- Figures may be lower than previously published data which presented all reports of AIDS, regardless of the time in relation to HIV diagnosis.

2• Sex between men includes men who also reported injecting drug use.

- Vertical transmission includes individuals born abroad but diagnosed in the United Kingdom.

- Other includes exposures such as contaminated blood products and healthcare related contact.

3• Ethnicity data for new HIV diagnoses has been collected since 1995.

- Other/mixed includes other reported ethnicities such as Black Other.

4 CD4 count data are presented for those with a CD4 count available within 91 days of diagnosis.

Table 2: People seen for HIV care in the UK living in Northern Ireland by demographics and probable exposure route: 2011 to 2020

Data to end of December 2020

Gender	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Men	445	508	591	634	732	787	858	893	913	970
Women	136	160	179	182	209	220	224	237	245	264
Total	581	668	770	816	941	1,007	1,082	1,130	1,158	1,234

Age and gender ¹	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Under 15	Boys	0	0	0	0	0	<5	<5	<5	<5
	Girls	0	0	0	<5	0	0	0	0	0
	Subtotal	0	0	0	<5	0	0	<5	<5	<5
15 - 24	Men	19	21	17	<20	18	25	<35	<25	<25
	Women	6	8	6	<5	5	6	<10	<10	<10
	Subtotal	25	29	23	<25	23	31	<40	<30	<30
25 - 34	Men	110	118	124	126	152	158	162	157	147
	Women	53	53	53	52	55	45	43	33	28
	Subtotal	163	171	177	178	207	203	207	200	180
35 - 49	Men	220	245	281	286	323	334	365	374	370
	Women	61	72	82	84	96	114	113	118	124
	Subtotal	281	317	363	370	419	448	478	492	494
50 - 64	Men	83	110	149	179	209	239	264	292	317
	Women	16	27	38	39	47	50	53	61	67
	Subtotal	99	137	187	218	256	289	317	353	384
65 and over	Men	13	14	20	<30	30	31	36	45	57
	Women	0	0	0	<5	6	5	7	10	15
	Subtotal	13	14	20	27	36	36	43	55	72

Probable exposure category ²	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Sex between men	308	365	419	454	532	582	635	631	625	634
Heterosexual contact	257	282	323	330	372	383	396	376	370	388
Injecting drug use	<10	<10	<10	<10	<10	<10	<15	12	<10	<15
Mother to child	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	5	<5	<5
Other/undetermined	10	14	20	22	28	30	36	106	150	197

Ethnic group	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
White	471	564	638	690	802	859	933	971	992	1,047
Black African	87	84	103	95	103	112	110	117	118	127
Black Caribbean	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5
Black other	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<10	5	5	<5
Asian	8	9	13	13	16	16	17	22	22	23
Other/mixed	10	7	11	13	15	15	16	9	9	27

Antiretroviral therapy and CD4 count/mm ³ ³	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Receiving ART	<350	79	87	126	123	122	120	122	121	110
	350-499	108	128	148	149	164	156	174	169	133
	≥500	260	340	378	460	597	684	778	797	611
	Subtotal	450	558	654	734	888	978	1,080	1,094	1,158
Not receiving ART	<350	21	9	22	5	<5	<5	<5	0	0
	350-499	43	31	32	24	12	<5	0	<5	0
	≥500	66	67	56	52	35	19	<5	<5	0
	Subtotal	131	110	116	82	53	29	<5	36	0
% receiving ART	<350	79%	91%	85%	96%	97%	99%	99%	100%	100%
	350-499	72%	81%	82%	86%	93%	98%	100%	99%	100%
	≥500	80%	84%	87%	90%	94%	97%	100%	100%	100%
	Subtotal	77%	84%	85%	90%	94%	97%	100%	97%	100%
Total	<350	100	96	148	128	126	121	123	121	110
	350-499	151	159	180	173	176	160	174	171	133
	≥500	326	407	434	512	632	703	779	798	611
	Subtotal	581	668	770	816	941	1,007	1,082	1,130	1,158

Viral load suppression ⁴	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
All receiving ART	Number in care with a viral load	448	555	652	734	873	963	1,074	1,090	1,143
	% with viral load	100%	99%	100%	100%	98%	98%	99%	100%	99%
	% of viral load ≤50	64%	64%	69%	70%	84%	94%	78%	80%	75%
	% of viral load ≤200	92%	91%	92%	95%	96%	97%	96%	98%	97%

Notes:
 Figures may be different to those released previously due to improvements in the methods used to identify persons seen more than once within the survey year. This method has been applied to all survey years.
 Persons with missing fields (e.g. ethnicity/age group) may have been assigned values based on subsequent years data.
 Total includes individuals with incomplete/not reported demographic data.
 1 Subtotals include individuals for whom gender was not reported, or for whom gender was reported in another way (e.g. non-binary or other).
 2 Sex between men includes men who also reported injecting drug use.
 3* For records with missing/inconsistent treatment information, status was inferred from viral load data.
 • Subtotals include individuals where ART/CD4 data was not reported.
 4 Persons without viral load reported were excluded from this analysis.

HIV surveillance in Northern Ireland

Summary points 2020:

- 60 new HIV diagnoses were made in Northern Ireland (47 men and 13 women); a 5% decline from 63 in 2019 and a decline of 41% from a peak of 102 new HIV diagnoses reported in 2015. This is the third consecutive year that a decrease has been seen in new HIV diagnoses.
- 29 (48%, 29/60) new HIV diagnoses occurred through gay and bisexual men (GBM) transmission; a 21% increase from 24 in 2019.
- 19 (32%, 19/60) new HIV diagnoses occurred through heterosexual transmission; a 34% decrease from 29 in 2019.
- 5 (8%) new HIV diagnoses occurred through injecting drug use.
- Transmission route was unknown for 7 of the new diagnoses.
- The majority (63%, 38/60) of persons newly diagnosed in 2020 were aged between 25 and 49 years. The proportion of people diagnosed aged 50 years or over increased slightly from 21% in 2011 to 23% in 2020. However, diagnoses in those aged 65+ have remained low with only 18 new diagnoses reported over the past ten years.
- 24 (48%, 24/50) new HIV diagnoses were made at a late stage (cases which had a CD4 count within 91 days of diagnosis, and in whom the CD4 count <350 cells/mm³).
- In 2020 there were six people who were diagnosed with AIDS at their HIV diagnosis (reported AIDS defining illness within 3 months of HIV diagnosis). There were 5 deaths reported in 2020.
- 1,234 HIV-infected residents of Northern Ireland (as defined when last seen for statutory medical HIV-related care in 2020) received care (970 men and 264 women).
- 98% (1022/1038) of those receiving care, and where route of transmission was known, acquired their infection through sexual contact. Of these, 61% (634/1038) acquired their infection through sexual contact involving gay and bisexual men and 37% (388/1038) through heterosexual contact. Two percent (16/1038) acquired their infection through non-sexual contact.
- The greatest number of people who received HIV-related care in 2020 were in the 35-64 year age group (77%: 952/1,234). Of those that received HIV-related care during 2020, 85% were white ethnicity, 10% were black-African and 5% were classified in other ethnic groups or not reported.
- 100% of those in care received antiretroviral therapy, and 97% of those on treatment had viral suppression as defined by ≤ 200 copies/ml (where a viral load was reported).
- During 2020, 65,906 HIV tests were performed in Northern Ireland. This represents a decrease of 6% compared with 2019 (70,393).

Note: The Northern Ireland HIV Surveillance slideset will be available soon