

National HIV Testing Day — June 27, 2015

National HIV Testing Day, June 27, promotes the importance of testing in detecting, treating, and preventing human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection. HIV testing is the essential entry point to a continuum of prevention, health care, and social services that improve the quality of life and the length of survival for persons with HIV (1). Recent findings show significantly greater health benefits for persons who start antiretroviral therapy (ART) earlier (2). Persons with HIV who receive appropriate treatment, monitoring, and health care also reduce their chances of transmitting HIV to others (3). The key to HIV treatment, care, and prevention is learning one's status through testing.

In 2011, an estimated 1.2 million persons were living with HIV infection in the United States; an estimated 86% were diagnosed with HIV, 40% were engaged in HIV medical care, 37% were prescribed ART, and 30% achieved viral suppression (1). This issue of *MMWR* includes a report presenting estimates of the prevalence of diagnosed and undiagnosed HIV infections by state during 2008–2012.

Additional information on National HIV Testing Day is available at <http://www.cdc.gov/features/HIVtesting>. Basic testing information for consumers is available at <http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/basics/testing.html>.

Additional information on HIV testing for health professionals is available at <http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/testing>. CDC's guidelines for HIV testing of serum and plasma specimens are available at <http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/testing/laboratorytests.html>.

References

1. Bradley H, Hall HI, Wolitski RJ, et al. Vital signs: HIV diagnosis, care, and treatment among persons living with HIV—United States, 2011. *MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep* 2014;63:1113–7.
2. National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. Starting antiretroviral treatment early improves outcomes for HIV-infected individuals. Available at <http://www.niaid.nih.gov/news/newsreleases/2015/Pages/START.aspx>.
3. Cohen MS, Chen YQ, McCauley M, et al. Prevention of HIV-1 infection with early antiretroviral therapy. *N Engl J Med* 2011;365:493–505.

Prevalence of Diagnosed and Undiagnosed HIV Infection — United States, 2008–2012

H. Irene Hall, PhD¹; Qian An, PhD¹; Tian Tang, MS²; Ruiguang Song, PhD¹; Mi Chen, MS¹; Timothy Green, PhD¹; Jian Kang, PhD³
(Author affiliations at end of text)

Persons unaware of their human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection contribute nearly one third of ongoing transmission in the United States (1). Among the estimated 1.2 million persons living with HIV in the United States in 2011, 14% had undiagnosed infections (2). To accelerate progress toward reducing undiagnosed HIV infection, CDC and its partners have pursued an approach that includes expanding HIV testing in communities with high HIV infection rates (3). To measure the prevalence of diagnosed and undiagnosed HIV infection for the 50 states and the District of Columbia (DC), CDC analyzed data from the National HIV Surveillance System. In 42 jurisdictions with numerically stable estimates, HIV prevalence in 2012 ranged from 110 per 100,000 persons (Iowa) to 3,936 per 100,000 (DC). The percentage of persons living with diagnosed HIV ranged from 77% in Louisiana to

INSIDE

- 663 Identifying New Positives and Linkage to HIV Medical Care — 23 Testing Site Types, United States, 2013
- 668 Outbreaks of Illness Associated with Recreational Water — United States, 2011–2012
- 673 State Tobacco Control Program Spending — United States, 2011
- 679 Notes from the Field: Measles Transmission in an International Airport at a Domestic Terminal Gate — April–May 2014
- 680 QuickStats

Continuing Education examination available at http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/cme/conted_info.html#weekly.

