HIV/AIDS & Viral Hepatitis

Division of Behavioral Health
Phone: 515-242-5150
www.idph.state.ia.us/HivStdHep/

Promoting & Protecting the Health of Iowans

IDPH Iowa Department of Public Health

You could be one of more than 600 Iowans who doesn't know they are infected with HIV. Maybe you're one of the 50,000 Iowans who has chronic hepatitis C, but doesn't know it. Knowledge is power, especially when it comes to disease. Finding out early that you are HIV-positive or have chronic hepatitis C means that you can receive treatment earlier and live a longer, healthier life.

The HIV/AIDS and Viral Hepatitis programs provide prevention, counseling, testing, and treatment services. Disease Prevention Specialists help people newly diagnosed with HIV learn about the disease, talk to their partners about being exposed, and learn how to get into care. One person wrote the following to their disease prevention specialist: "You told me at a very low point in my life that I would be fine. You even called me six months later to say 'I told you so,' and you were right. Since then, I have regained my health, and have returned to work. My outlook is now happy and hopeful. Thank you."

Through personal awareness and community support, the HIV/AIDS and Viral Hepatitis programs are helping save lives.

Did you know?

Nearly half of the people diagnosed with HIV last year were considered late testers – meaning that they had been infected for many years before they were tested. Should you be tested?

Why are HIV/AIDS & Viral Hepatitis programs important to promoting and protecting the health of Iowans?

- There were 120 HIV diagnoses in 2011, an increase of 6 (5%) from 2010. On average, there are 115 persons diagnosed in Iowa each year, but HIV diagnoses have been increasing at a rate of about three persons per year since 2000.
- The estimated number of Iowans living with HIV/AIDS has grown to over 2,400 people, including over 600 who are infected that do not know it.
- The number of Iowans living with hepatitis C is estimated to be over 53,000. Over 80% of these people are not aware of their infections.
- Early detection of both diseases can greatly increase the life expectancy of someone who is infected.
- Medications are available to treat HIV and hepatitis C. The AIDS Drug Assistance Program provides life-saving medications and helps with insurance premiums and co-pays to over 700 Iowans each month.
- Early treatment of HIV infection means an individual is less likely to transmit the infection to partners. It also decreases the number of hospital visits, costs less, and increases the quality of life.

Which Iowa Public Health Goals are we working to achieve?

Prevent epidemics & the spread of disease

Strengthen the public health infrastructure

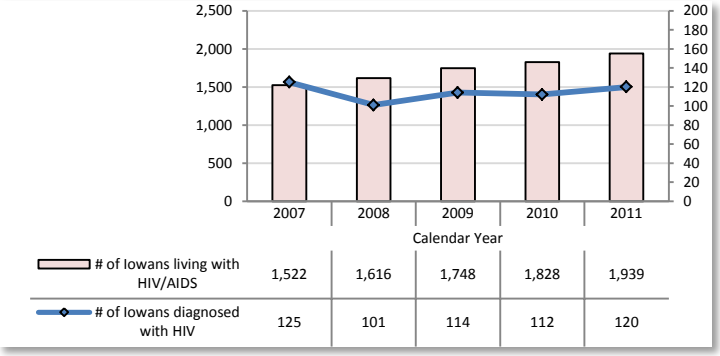
Promote healthy behaviors

What do we do?

- Provide information, training, and funding to local public health agencies and community-based organizations for prevention programs.
- Offer counseling, testing, and referral services, including services for the partners of HIV-positive individuals.
- Provide medication, case management, and supportive services.
- The AIDS Drug Assistance program provides life-saving medication for HIV infected Iowans when no other resources, including Medicaid, are available.
- Study and investigate ways to decrease transmission among disproportionately affected people, such as African Americans, Latinos, men who have sex with men, and injection drug users.

How do we measure our progress?

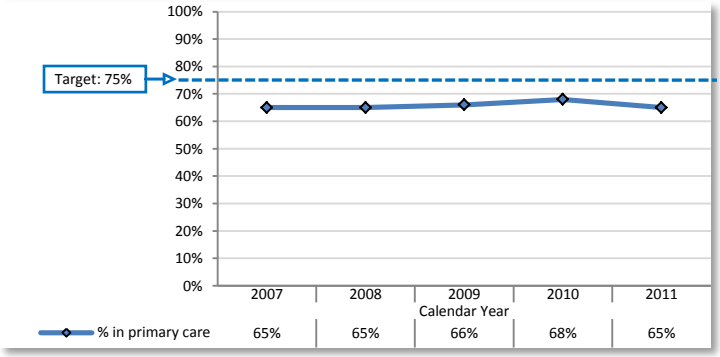
❶ **Number of Iowans diagnosed with HIV.**
❷ **Number of Iowans living with HIV/AIDS.**



Data Source: HIV/AIDS reporting system. Data are available annually.

How are we doing? Diagnoses have been increasing recently, particularly among white, non-Hispanic males. The number of Iowans living with HIV/AIDS is now increasing by about 115 per year.

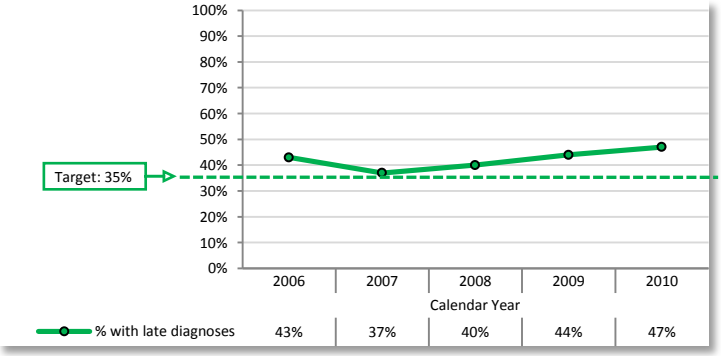
❸ **Percent of diagnosed HIV-positive people who are in HIV primary medical care.**



Data Source: HIV/AIDS reporting system. Data are available annually.

How are we doing? The percentage of diagnosed HIV-positive people who are in HIV primary medical care is steady at 65-68%.

❹ **Percent of people with late diagnoses of HIV infection (AIDS diagnosis made within 1 year of HIV diagnosis).**



Data Source: HIV/AIDS reporting system. Data are available annually, one year after diagnosis. 2011 data are not yet available.

How are we doing? The percentage of people with late diagnoses of HIV infection is lower than in previous years.

What can Iowans do to help?

1. All Iowans who are at risk for HIV or hepatitis C should be tested to learn their statuses. To find out if you're at risk, go to www.idph.state.ia.us/adper/hepatitis.asp.
2. All Iowans can encourage people who have tested positive for HIV or hepatitis C to follow their treatment providers directions and take their medications faithfully.
3. Health professionals can learn about screening for HIV and hepatitis C through training programs.
4. Health professionals can learn about good resources for patients interested in the disease, medications, and testing. For more information, go to www.idph.state.ia.us/adper/hiv_aids.asp.

Expenditures

HIV: general fund, federal funds, intra state receipts* (Dept of Education), & private grant*: K07-0761; 0153-0804/0806/1568/1570/ 1572/1574/ 1580/1582/1584. **Hepatitis:** general fund: K15-1529

	State Fiscal Year 2011 Actual	State Fiscal Year 2012 Estimate	State Fiscal Year 2013 Estimate
State funds	$619,425	$613,816	$662,011
Federal funds	$5,562,990	$4,883,487	$5,151,434
Other funds*	$14,015	$1,303,812	$502,467
Total funds	**$6,196,430**	**$6,801,115**	**$6,315,912**
FTEs	15.49	14.94	14.50

Note: Funding information is intended to provide an overview of funding related to the program area. It does not include all federal and state requirements and/or restrictions for the use of funds. Contact the program area for more detailed budget information.

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