

FIGURE 226-10 Global adult HIV prevalence rate, 2013. Data are estimates for adults aged 15–49 years. (From UNAIDS.)

the primary mode of HIV transmission in sub-Saharan Africa, with women and girls disproportionately affected, accounting for ~60 percent of all HIV infections in that region. In 2013, an estimated 230,000 people were living with HIV in the Middle East/North Africa region. Cases are largely concentrated among IDUs, men who have sex with men, and sex workers and their clients.

In Asia and the Pacific, an estimated 4.8 million people were living with HIV at the end of 2013. In this region of the world, HIV prevalence is highest in southeast Asian countries, with wide variation in trends between different countries. Among countries in Asia, only Thailand has an adult seroprevalence rate of >1%. However, the populations of many Asian nations are so large (especially India and China) that even low infection and seroprevalence rates result in large numbers of people living with HIV. Although Asia's epidemic has been concentrated for some time among specific populations—sex workers and their clients, men who have sex with men, and IDUs—it is expanding to the heterosexual partners of those most at risk.

The epidemic is expanding in Eastern Europe and Central Asia, where ~1.1 million people were living with HIV at the end of 2013. The Russian Federation and Ukraine account for the majority of HIV cases in the region. Driven initially by injection drug use and increasingly by heterosexual transmission, the number of new infections in this region has increased dramatically over the past decade.

Approximately 1.9 million people are living with HIV/AIDS in Central and South America and the Caribbean. Brazil is home to the largest number of HIV-infected people in the region. However, the epidemic has been slowed in that country due to successful treatment and prevention efforts. Men who have sex with men account for the largest proportion of HIV infections in Central and South America. The Caribbean region has the highest regional adult seroprevalence rate after Africa. Heterosexual transmission, often tied to sex work, is the main driver of transmission in the region.

Approximately 2.3 million people are living with HIV/AIDS in North America and western and central Europe. The number of new infections among men who have sex with men has increased over the past decade in these mostly high-income areas, while rates of new infections among heterosexuals have stabilized and infections among women and IDUs have fallen.

HIV INFECTION AND AIDS IN THE UNITED STATES

About 1.7 million people have been infected with HIV in the United States since the beginning of the epidemic, of whom >630,000 have died. Approximately 1.1 million individuals in the United States are living with HIV infection, ~16–18% of whom are unaware of their infection, according to recent estimates. As illustrated in Fig. 226-11,

only a fraction of HIV-infected people are able to negotiate the steps in the HIV “care continuum,” from diagnosis, to entering into and staying in care, to receiving antiretroviral therapy, and ultimately to achieving a suppressed viral load (see “Treatment,” below).

More than 60% of those living with HIV/AIDS are Black/African-American or Hispanic/Latino, and more than half are men who have sex with men. The estimated HIV seroprevalence rate among all individuals age 13 years or older in the United States is ~0.5%. Approximately 2% of Black/African-American adults are HIV-infected in the United States, higher than any other group.

The number of new HIV infections in the United States, *HIV incidence*, peaked at about 130,000 per year in the late 1980s, followed by declines. For more than a decade, HIV incidence has remained stable at approximately 50,000 per year, with the proportion of new infections increasing in recent years among men who have sex with men and falling among women and IDUs. Among adults and adolescents newly diagnosed with HIV infection in 2011 (regardless of stage of infection), ~79% were males and ~21% were women. Of new HIV diagnoses among men, ~79% were attributed to male-to-male sexual contact, ~12% to heterosexual contact, ~6% to injection drug use, and ~4% to a combination of male-to-male sexual contact and injection drug use. Of new HIV diagnoses among women, ~86% were due to heterosexual contact and ~14% to injection drug use

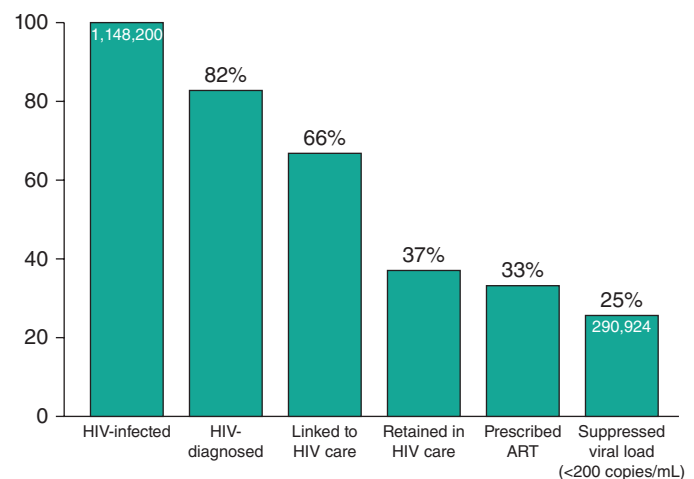


FIGURE 226-11 Estimated percentage of HIV-infected people engaged in selected stages of the continuum of HIV care in the United States. (Adapted from HI Hall et al: *JAMA Intern Med* 173:1337, 2013.)