

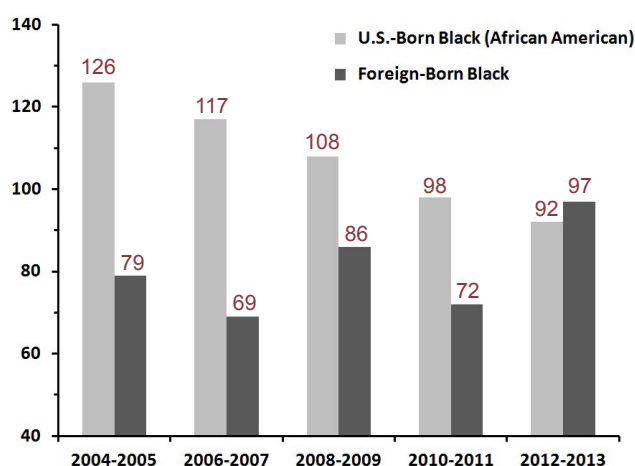
HIV among Foreign-Born Blacks



DOH 150-046 July 2014

Foreign-born blacks have become a larger and larger part of Washington's HIV epidemic in recent years. Between 2009 and 2013, blacks born outside the United States made up nearly half (48%) of all new HIV cases* among all black cases in Washington. Compared to U.S.-born blacks, foreign-born blacks represent a more diverse mixture of languages, cultures, and health behaviors. Also, while it is not always easy to determine where someone became infected with HIV, most foreign-born HIV cases are thought to have become infected while living outside the United States. Nevertheless, as the number of foreign-born black cases continues to grow, so does the chance that more people will be exposed to HIV within Washington. Therefore, it is important that we continue to monitor this growing HIV population as closely as possible.

Black New HIV Cases by Foreign-Born Status, Washington State, 2004-2013

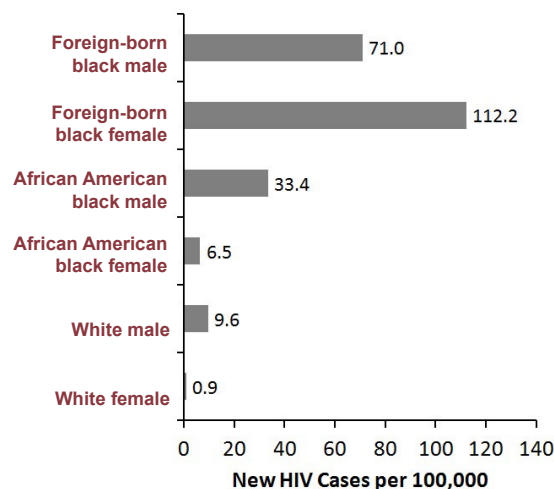


Note: Excludes blacks of Hispanic origin

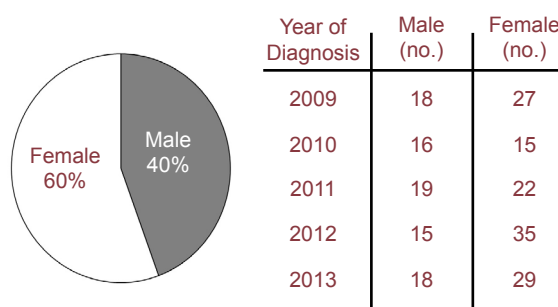
NEW HIV CASES

HIV rates among foreign-born blacks are much higher than those of U.S.-born African Americans. HIV rates are also much higher among female foreign-born blacks compared to male foreign-born blacks.

HIV Rates by Race, Gender and Foreign-Born Status, Washington State, 2009-2013 **



Foreign-Born Black New HIV Cases by Gender, Washington State, 2009-2013



* Refers to all newly diagnosed cases of HIV disease, with or without AIDS. Although many have already been diagnosed, some foreign-born cases are mis-categorized as being a new case since they do not have adequate documentation of the earlier diagnosis.

** These are annualized, crude disease rates based on new HIV cases diagnosed between 2009 and 2013; reported as of June 30, 2014.

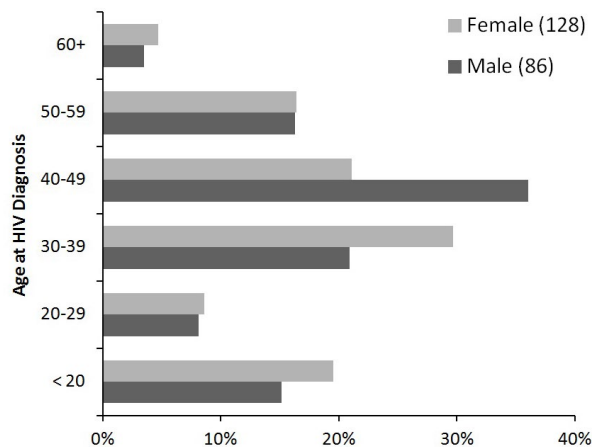
HIV AMONG FOREIGN-BORN BLACKS

NEW HIV CASES (continued)

By Age and Late Diagnosis

In Washington, most foreign-born blacks with HIV are first diagnosed as middle or older aged adults. About 40% are diagnosed late: they either have AIDS or progress to AIDS within 12 months of their first documented HIV diagnosis.

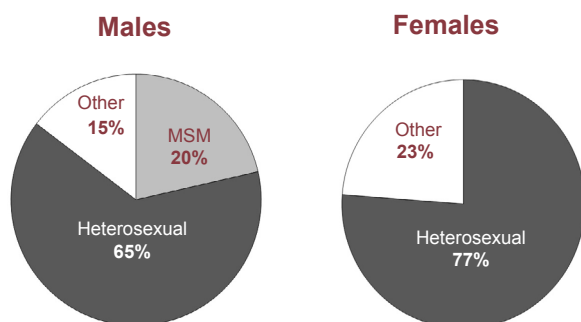
Foreign-Born Black New HIV Cases, by Age at Diagnosis, Washington State, 2009-2013



By HIV Exposure Category

Regardless of gender, most foreign-born black cases are probably the result of unprotected sex with a heterosexual partner. Being heterosexual is not traditionally considered a risk factor for HIV among cases born in the United States.

New HIV Cases among Foreign-Born Blacks by Gender and HIV Exposure, Washington State, 2009-2013

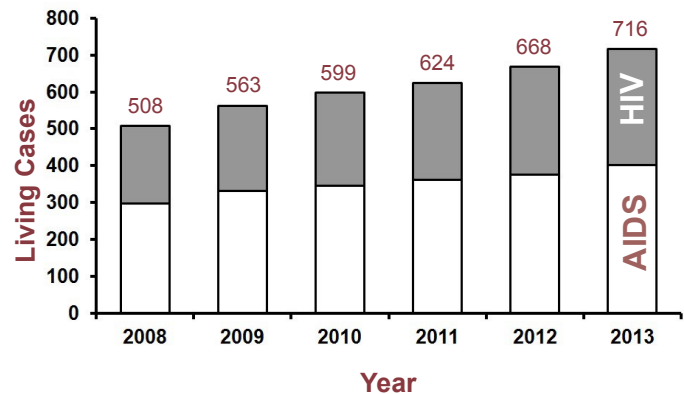


Note: MSM = men who have sex with men, including those who are also injection drug users

HIV PREVALENCE*

As of 2013, there were more than 700 foreign-born blacks were reported to be living with HIV disease in Washington, 56% of whom had been diagnosed with AIDS. Each year, the number of foreign-born blacks with HIV increases by about seven percent.

Foreign-Born Blacks Living with HIV Disease in Washington State, 2008-2013



By Country of Birth

In Washington State, foreign-born black HIV cases come from more than 60 different countries. This diverse group represents a wide variety of cultures, languages, and religious beliefs. Most cases (92%) are from sub-Saharan Africa, or the part of Africa that lies south of the Sahara desert. Another three percent of foreign-born black cases are from countries located in the Caribbean Islands.

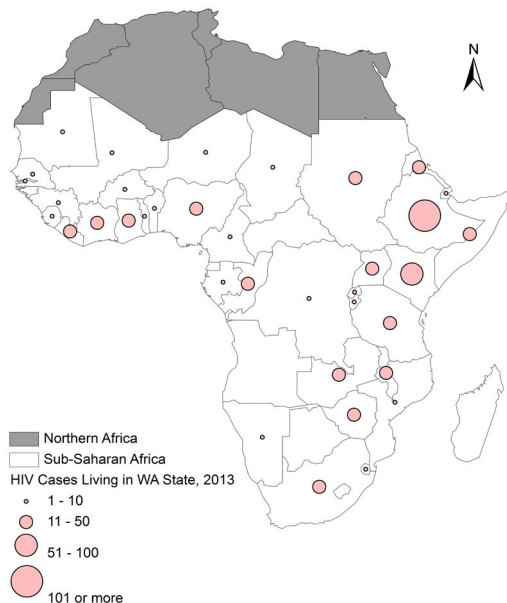
Foreign-Born Black People Living with HIV Disease by Country of Birth, Washington State, 2013

Country of Birth	Case Count (%)	Country's Primary Language
Ethiopia	244 (34%)	Amharic
Kenya	95 (13%)	Swahili
Zambia	27 (4%)	Bemba
Eritrea	23 (3%)	Tigrinya / Arabic
Zimbabwe	23 (3%)	Shona / Ndebele
Somalia	23 (3%)	Somali
Sudan	20 (3%)	Arabic
Liberia	19 (3%)	English
Other (52)	242 (32%)	-----

*Based on new methodology to include all persons presumed living with HIV in Washington as of December 31, 2013 regardless of where the case was diagnosed.

HIV AMONG FOREIGN-BORN BLACKS

Countries of Birth among Foreign-Born Blacks Living with HIV Disease, Washington State, 2013

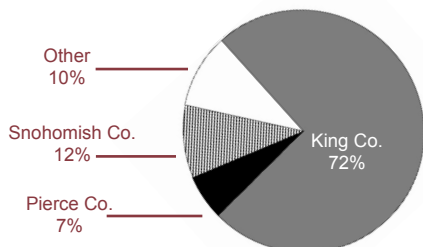


Globally, more than 70 percent of the world's HIV-positive population lives in sub-Saharan Africa. The map above shows the countries where most of Washington's foreign-born black cases were born. These cases tend to be more concentrated on the eastern side of Africa. However, African countries containing the largest HIV epidemics are traditionally located towards the southern end of the continent.

By County of Residence

In 2013, the majority (72%) of HIV-positive foreign-born blacks live in King County. However, the proportion of foreign-born black cases living elsewhere in Washington is slowly increasing.

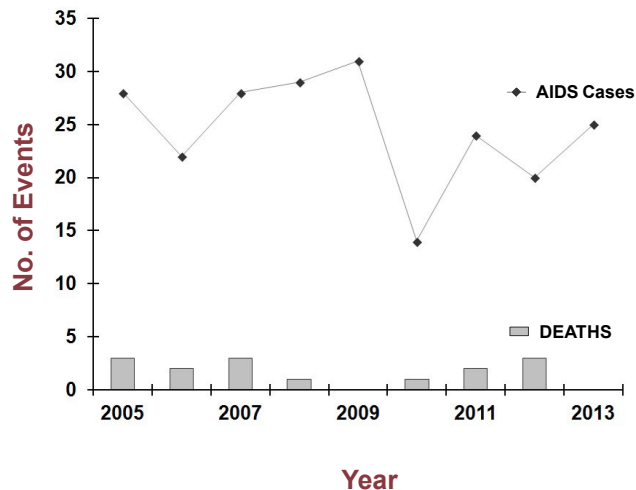
Foreign-Born Blacks Living with HIV Disease by County of Residence, Washington State, 2013



AIDS DIAGNOSES & DEATHS

As of December 2013, at least 422 foreign-born blacks had been diagnosed with AIDS in Washington State. Forty-four have died as a result of HIV or AIDS.[†]

Foreign-Born Black AIDS Cases and HIV-Related Deaths, 2005-2013



[†] We used death certificate information to select only cases in which HIV or AIDS was determined by a physician to have been a contributing factor in the patient's death.

For more information...

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