

National Latinx AIDS Awareness Day — October 15, 2019

National Latinx AIDS Awareness Day, October 15, is observed each year to focus on the continuing and disproportionate impact of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection and acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) on Hispanics/Latinos in the United States. In 2017, 26% of newly diagnosed HIV infections occurred in Hispanics/Latinos (1). Seventy-five percent of these newly diagnosed HIV infections in Hispanics/Latinos were in men who have sex with men (MSM), and an additional 3% were in MSM who inject drugs (1).

An analysis of the behaviors of Hispanic/Latino MSM included in CDC's National HIV Behavioral Surveillance system found that nearly 75% reported having had condomless anal sex during 2017 (2). However, because some of these MSM reported using preexposure prophylaxis (PrEP), fewer than 60% of those who were non-U.S.-born and fewer than 50% of those who were U.S.-born were having unprotected anal sex (2).

National Latinx AIDS Awareness Day is an opportunity to encourage increased HIV prevention efforts among Hispanics/Latinos. CDC supports testing, linkage to and engagement in care and treatment, and other efforts to reduce the risk for acquiring or transmitting HIV infection. More information is available at <https://www.cdc.gov/hiv/group/raciaethnic/hispaniclatinos/index.html> and <https://www.cdc.gov/hiv/group/msm/hispanic-latino.html>.

References

1. CDC. Diagnoses of HIV infection in the United States and dependent areas, 2017. HIV surveillance report, vol. 29. Atlanta, GA: US Department of Health and Human Services, CDC; 2018. <https://www.cdc.gov/hiv/pdf/library/reports/surveillance/cdc-hiv-surveillance-report-2017-vol-29.pdf>
2. Trujillo L, Chapin-Bardales J, German EJ, Kanny D, Wejnert C; National HIV Behavioral Surveillance Study Group. Trends in sexual risk behaviors among Hispanic/Latino men who have sex with men—19 urban areas, 2011–2017. *MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep* 2019;68:873–9.

Trends in Sexual Risk Behaviors Among Hispanic/Latino Men Who Have Sex with Men — 19 Urban Areas, 2011–2017

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Correct and consistent condom use and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) preexposure prophylaxis (PrEP) are protective against sexual transmission of HIV (1,2). The incidence of HIV infection among Hispanic/Latino men who have sex with men (MSM) in the United States is increasing (3). HIV risk among Hispanic/Latino MSM differs based on their place of birth and years of U.S. residence (4). Data from CDC's National HIV Behavioral Surveillance (NHBS)* for 2011–2017 were analyzed to assess changes in sexual risk

*NHBS is a cross-sectional biobehavioral surveillance system conducted in urban areas with high HIV prevalence. The number of urban areas participating differs temporally.

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