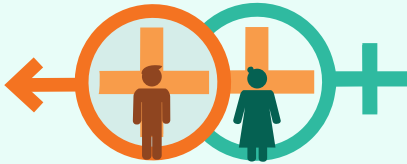


# HIV/AIDS among Hispanic/Latinos

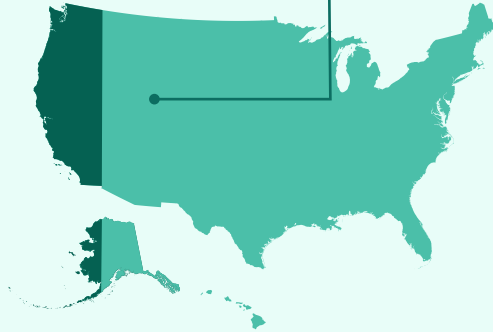
## Ages 50+

**TO DEFEAT HIV**  
YOU'RE A SUPERHERO.  
USE YOUR SUPERPOWERS.

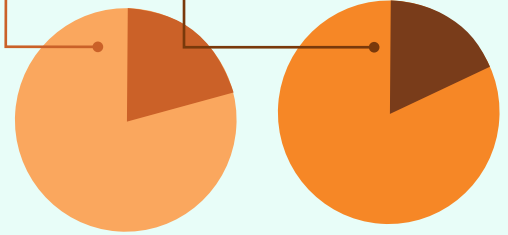
**84,874**  
HISPANICS/  
LATINOS AGES 50+  
WERE LIVING WITH  
HIV AT THE END OF  
2014



HISPANICS/LATINOS AGES 50+ ARE **11%** OF THE US POPULATION



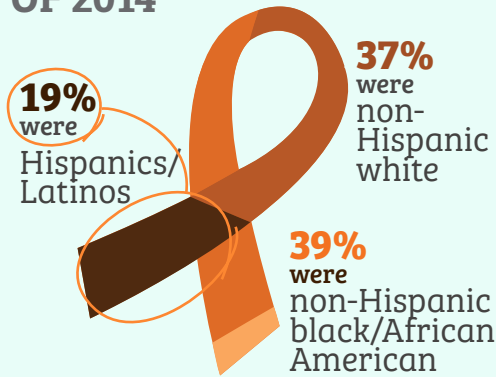
THEY ACCOUNTED FOR  
**18%** OF HIV INFECTIONS  
& **16.5%** OF AIDS CASES  
IN 2015



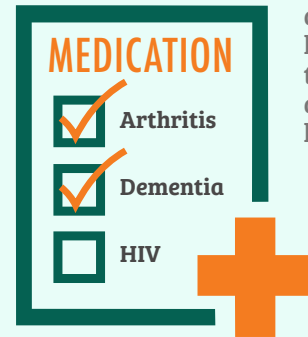
HISPANICS/  
LATINOS AGES 50+  
UNDERESTIMATE  
THEIR HIV RISK DUE  
TO THEIR AGE



OF THE ESTIMATED  
**437,671** PERSONS  
AGES 50+ DIAGNOSED  
WITH AIDS BY THE END  
OF 2014



MANY HISPANICS/  
LATINOS AGES 50+  
PRIORITIZE URGENT  
HEALTH CONCERNS OVER  
SEXUAL HEALTH



due to their lack of access to quality affordable healthcare

STIGMA AMONG HIV POSITIVE  
HISPANICS/LATINOS AGES 50+  
PREVENTS THEM FROM  
DISCUSSING SEXUALITY  
WITH OTHERS



THERE IS A LACK OF QUALITY SERVICES  
FOCUSED ON THE NEEDS OF BILINGUAL  
OLDER LGBT PEOPLE, & OLDER MEN &  
WOMEN WHO HAVE SEX WITH MEN



# HIV/AIDS AMONG HISPANIC/LATINOS AGES 50+



## THE FACTS

- Approximately 45% of all people living with HIV by the end of 2014 are over the age of 50.<sup>1</sup> As the US population ages and mortality from HIV decreases, it is estimated that 65% of all people living with HIV will be over 50 in the next few years.<sup>2</sup>
- In the United States and 6 dependent territories there were an estimated 6,891 diagnoses of HIV infection in 2015 among all adults older than 50 and an estimated of 5,320 diagnoses of new cases of Stage 3 AIDS.
- Hispanics/Latinos older than 50 years old are overrepresented in the group of new diagnoses of HIV compared to their size in the general population. Although accounting roughly 11% of the total US and PR population aged 50 and older,<sup>2</sup> Hispanics/Latinos in this age range comprise an estimated 19% (1,281) of diagnoses of HIV, and an estimated 16% (878) of the new diagnoses of Stage 3 AIDS during 2015.<sup>1</sup>
- An estimated 84,874 Hispanic/Latino adult ages 50 and over were living with HIV by the end of 2014 in the US and 6 dependent areas, representing 19% of the total number of cases (437, 671), compared to 37% non-Hispanic White and 39% non-Hispanic Black/African American individuals.<sup>1</sup>
- Of the estimated 283,687 persons aged 50 and older with diagnosed HIV infection ever classified as Stage 3 AIDS in the year 2014, 21% (59,465) were Hispanic/Latinos, 39% (109,729) were non-Hispanic Black/African American and 35% (100,659) were non-Hispanic white.<sup>1</sup>

## THE TAKEAWAY

- » 1 in every 10 older adults living in the US is Hispanic/Latino<sup>2</sup>
- » 1 in every 5 new HIV infections is Hispanic/Latino<sup>1</sup>
- » 1 in every 5 older adults living with HIV is Hispanic/Latino<sup>1</sup>

## RISK FACTORS

- Risk factors for HIV are complex, and are heightened by the process of aging and magnified by social determinants of health. The following risk factors related to aging may complicate HIV prevention, transmission and treatment.

1. Biological changes: Thinning of the vaginal walls and decreased lubrication leave older women at increased risk for HIV infection during sexual intercourse.
  2. Mental health: higher levels of depression and depressive symptoms are found in older adults compared to those under the age of 50, and in older adults living with HIV.
  3. Decreased socialization/increased isolation often occurs as one ages, and friends, family members and other support network become less accessible, infirm, or pass away.<sup>3</sup>
- Social determinants of health such as poverty, geographic location and educational attainment may act as barriers to accessing quality, comprehensive healthcare, remaining in treatment, and/or adhering to a healthcare regimen, including medications. Knowledge and awareness may vary – older adults may not have had access to or given knowledge related to sexuality, sexual health and/or reproduction that may strengthen prevention efforts.<sup>3</sup>
  - Individual-level factors, such as assessment of one's risk, also play a role. Older adults may underestimate their risk for HIV because of their age (i.e. "I am too old to become infected"). Competing morbidities also influence behaviors and outcomes: older Latinos, like all older adults, experience the effects of the aging process and resulting morbidities. However, Latinos without health insurance or access to affordable quality healthcare may forgo sexual and reproductive health (SRH) in order to give priority to more urgent and immediate health concerns.<sup>3</sup>
  - Community-level factors such as stigma and discrimination: Older adults experience barriers related to discussing sexuality with providers, partners, family members and other members of their communities including shame and fear. Ageism is a source of discrimination, where younger individuals and groups may judge the older individuals and groups with disdain. A lack of culturally-responsive and quality services that focus on the needs of non-English speaking or bi-lingual seniors, older LGBT, older men who have sex with men (MSM) and older women who have sex with men (WSM) leave these individuals at risk.<sup>3</sup>

1. Center for Disease Control (2015). HIV Surveillance Report, Volume 27. Diagnoses of HIV Infection in the United States and Dependent Areas, 2015. Retrieved from <https://www.cdc.gov/hiv/pdf/library/reports/surveillance/cdc-hiv-surveillance-report-2015-vol-27.pdf>

2. Census Bureau: Annual estimates of the resident population by sex, age, race and Hispanic origin

in the United States: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2015. (2015). Retrieved from: <http://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?src=bkmk>

3. Center for Disease Control: HIV among people aged 50 and over (2016). Retrieved from: <https://www.cdc.gov/hiv/group/age/olderamericans/index.html>