

# WOMEN & GIRLS HIV/AIDS

awareness day

MARCH 10



HIV prevention  
starts with **ME.**

This nationwide observance brings attention to how HIV and AIDS affect the health and well-being of women and girls in our communities.

**Black women** and **other women of color** are more affected by the HIV epidemic than White women.

In 2020, there were

**243,979**  
**Women**

living with HIV in the  
United States.

Nationally, **1 in 10** women living with HIV are **undiagnosed** and **do not know they have it.**



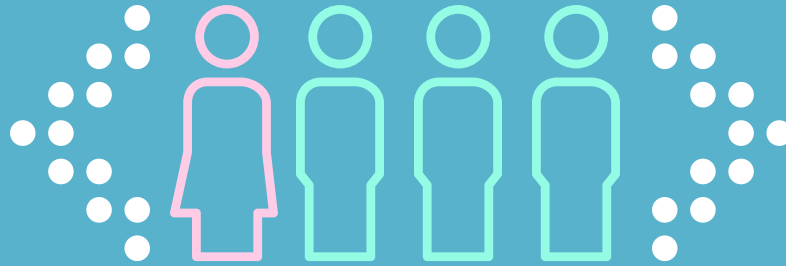
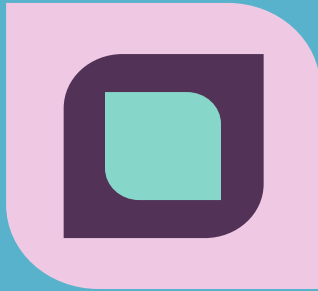
Most women acquire HIV through **heterosexual sex.**

It is especially important **women of child-bearing age** and **pregnant women** receive HIV testing.

If a mother with HIV receives appropriate antiretroviral treatment during pregnancy, labor, & delivery, does not breastfeed, and completes a treatment course for the newborn, there is **a less than 1% chance the mother will transmit HIV to her child.**

From 2016-2020, the annual **number of women diagnosed with HIV** in the U.S. **decreased each year.** **Black women make up over half of the women diagnosed with HIV.**

# HIV/AIDS Among Women and Girls in Louisiana



1 in 4 new HIV diagnoses in Louisiana are **women**.

*6,326 women*  
were living with HIV  
in Louisiana in 2021.

**2 in 3** women living with HIV in Louisiana are **virally suppressed**.

**Viral suppression** is when a person has very low levels of HIV in their blood. People who are virally suppressed cannot pass HIV on to a sex partner.

**Black women are affected by HIV more than other women in Louisiana.**

*Black women make up 33% of Louisiana's female population.*



*Black women make up 71% of Louisiana's female HIV diagnoses.*



Approximately **140-160 women** living with HIV in Louisiana give birth each year.

To prevent mother-to-child transmission of HIV, it is Louisiana Law that all pregnant women be tested for HIV at their first prenatal care visit and again in the third trimester.

## How You Can Prevent HIV Transmission:



If you are living with HIV, taking your medication and maintaining an undetectable viral load means that you cannot pass HIV on to your sexual partners. The science is there: U=U (Undetectable = Untransmittable).



If you are HIV-negative, ask your doctor about pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP), a medication to prevent HIV.



Regardless of your status, use a condom when you have sex. Condoms reduce the risk of getting HIV and other sexually transmitted infections.



Know your status. Get tested for HIV. For information on testing locations near you, visit:



[www.lahhub.org](http://www.lahhub.org)



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