HIV Care Continuum – Houston EMA (2019 – 2021)

**Persons living with HIV in Houston EMA**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>HIV diagnosed</th>
<th>Met need</th>
<th>Retained in care</th>
<th>Virologically suppressed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>30,198</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>31,002</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>31,816</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Linkage to Care Among Persons Newly Diagnosed**

- **2019**
  - Within 1 month: 803 (63%)
  - Within 2-3 months: 204 (16%)
  - Within 4-12 months: 123 (10%)
  - Within 12+ months: 9 (1%)
  - Not linked: 131 (10%)

- **2020**
  - Within 1 month: 638 (64%)
  - Within 2-3 months: 153 (15%)
  - Within 4-12 months: 88 (9%)
  - Within 12+ months: 118 (12%)
  - Not linked: 118 (12%)

- **2021**
  - Within 1 month: 896 (73%)
  - Within 2-3 months: 146 (12%)
  - Within 4-12 months: 68 (6%)
  - Within 12+ months: 2 (0%)
  - Not linked: 116 (9%)

*HIV Care Continuum - Houston EMA*  
Last revised: 02/03/2023
From 2019-2021, the total number of persons diagnosed with HIV increased each year and the percentage of those with met need, and viral suppression remained relatively constant. The percentage of PLWH retained in HIV medical care decreased by 5% from 2019 (61%) to 2021 (58%).

- The percentage of newly diagnosed PLWH linked to care within one month of diagnosis saw a 16% increase between 2019 (63%) to 2021 (73%).
- The percentage of newly diagnosed PLWH never linked to care after diagnosis saw a 10% decrease between 2019 (10%) to 2021 (9%).
- Younger adults had lower percentages of retention and viral suppression compared to older adults.
- Youth and young adults (13-24 years old) had the lowest proportion of newly diagnosed PLWH who were linked to care within one month of diagnosis when compared to other age groups.
Houston EMA HIV Care Continuum by Sex Assigned at Birth, 2021

![Graph showing HIV care continuum by sex assigned at birth, 2021.](image)

**Linkage to Care Among Persons Newly Diagnosed**

- Within 1 month: 725 (72%)
- Within 2-3 months: 119 (12%)
- Within 4-12 months: 57 (6%)
- Within 12+ months: 2 (0%)
- Not linked: 96 (10%)

**Within 1 month**

- 171 (74%) Within 1 month
- 27 (12%) Within 2-3 months
- 11 (5%) Within 4-12 months
- 0 (0%) Within 12+ months
- 20 (9%) Not linked

HIV Care Continuum - Houston EMA

Last revised: 02/03/2023

[Logo: Houston Health Department]
Females and males living with HIV in the Houston EMA in 2021 had similar proportions of individuals with met need, retention in care, and viral suppression.

The proportion of newly diagnosed females linked to care within the first month after diagnosis was higher than that of males (74% vs. 72%).
Houston EMA HIV Care Continuum by Current Gender, 2021

**HIV Care Continuum - Houston EMA**  
Last revised: 02/03/2023
Houston EMA HIV Care Continuum by Current Gender, 2021

- Transgender women living with HIV in the Houston EMA in 2021 had the highest proportion of individuals with met need, and retention in care.
- Transgender men living with HIV in the Houston EMA in 2021 had the highest proportion of viral suppression but the lowest proportion of retention in care.
- Transgender men living with HIV in the Houston EMA in 2020 had the lowest proportion of individuals with met need, retention in care, and viral suppression.
- The proportion of newly diagnosed people linked to care within the first month after diagnosis was highest among transgender women (81%) and lowest among cisgender men (72%).

**NOTE:** Extreme caution should be exercised in interpretation, however, due to the very small numbers of transgender men represented in this data.
Houston EMA HIV Care Continuum by Sex Assigned at Birth = Male and Race/Ethnicity, 2021

**White (non-Hispanic)**
- HIV diagnosed: 4,526
- Met need: 3,557
- Retained in care: 3,162
- Virally suppressed: 2,617

**Black (non-Hispanic)**
- HIV diagnosed: 10,153
- Met need: 7,534
- Retained in care: 5,878
- Virally suppressed: 5,162

**Hispanic**
- HIV diagnosed: 8,152
- Met need: 6,180
- Retained in care: 5,282
- Virally suppressed: 4,939

**Other (non-Hispanic)**
- HIV diagnosed: 403
- Met need: 229
- Retained in care: 282
- Virally suppressed: 277

**Multiracial**
- HIV diagnosed: 713
- Met need: 562
- Retained in care: 610
- Virally suppressed: 562

**Linkage to Care Among Persons Newly Diagnosed**

- **Within 1 month**: 79% (White), 73% (Black), 81% (Hispanic), 3% (Other), 5% (Multiracial)
- **Within 2-3 months**: 11% (White), 13% (Black), 10% (Hispanic), 10% (Other), 11% (Multiracial)
- **Within 4-12 months**: 5% (White), 3% (Black), 3% (Hispanic), 2% (Other), 1% (Multiracial)
- **Within 12+ months**: 0% (White), 0% (Black), 0% (Hispanic), 0% (Other), 0% (Multiracial)
- **Not linked**: 0% (White), 0% (Black), 0% (Hispanic), 2% (Other), 0% (Multiracial)

HIV Care Continuum - Houston EMA

Last revised: 02/03/2023
Houston EMA HIV Care Continuum by Sex Assigned at Birth and Race/Ethnicity, 2021

- Compared to all other males living with HIV, Black (non-Hispanic) males had the lowest proportions of met need, retention in care, and viral suppression in 2021.
- Among females, White and Other (non-Hispanic) PLWH had the lowest proportion of individuals with evidence of met need, retention in care and viral suppression in 2021.
- Among those newly diagnosed with HIV, Black (non-Hispanic) females and Other (non-Hispanic) males had the highest proportion linked to care within 1 month of diagnosis in 2021. However, Other (non-Hispanic) males had few individuals and percentages can vary widely with small increases/decreases.
- Overall, White (non-Hispanic) females living with HIV had the lowest proportion of individuals with met need across all birth sex and race/ethnicity groups. Black (non-Hispanic) males living with HIV had the next lowest proportion of individuals with met need.
- Overall, White (non-Hispanic) and Other (non-Hispanic) females living with HIV had the lowest proportion of individuals retained in care across all birth sex and race/ethnicity groups. However, Other (non-Hispanic) group had few individuals and percentages can vary widely with small increases/decreases.
- Overall, White (non-Hispanic) females and Black (non-Hispanic) males living with HIV had the lowest proportion of individuals virally suppressed across all birth sex and race/ethnicity groups. Other (non-Hispanic) males living with HIV had the highest proportion of individuals virally suppressed.
Houston EMA HIV Care Continuum by Transmission Risk, 2021

- Although MSM have a higher number of PLWH than the other risk groups, the proportion of diagnosed MSM living with HIV with evidence of met need and retention in care is similar to those observed for other risk groups. Of note, persons who inject drugs (PWID) did have the lowest met need compared other risk groups.
- MSM have the highest proportion of diagnosed PLWH who are virally suppressed in 2021.
- Those with a transmission risk factor of heterosexual and MSM contact had the highest proportion of people linked to care within one month of initial diagnosis (75% and 73%, respectively).
- Overall, PWID as a primary transmission risk factor exhibited the lowest proportions of individuals with met need and viral suppression.