



# National Gay Men's HIV/AIDS Awareness Day

## September 27, 2012

### United States

- ⌘ The term 'Men Who Have Sex with Men' (MSM) refers to all men who have sex with other men, regardless of how they identify themselves (gay, bisexual, or heterosexual).
- ⌘ MSM account for nearly half of the more than one million people living with HIV in the US (56%, or an estimated 441,669 total persons).
- ⌘ MSM account for more than half of all new HIV infections in the US each year (53%, or an estimated 28,700 infections).
- ⌘ While CDC estimates that MSM account for just 2% of the US male population age 13 and older, in 2009, MSM accounted for more than half of all new HIV infections in the United States (61%).
- ⌘ MSM is the only risk group in the US in which new HIV infections are increasing. While new infections have declined among both heterosexuals and injection drug user, the annual number of new HIV infections among MSM has been steadily increasing since the early 1990's.
- ⌘ In the US, 49% of all black males living with HIV infection had a transmission category of MSM. For whites males, 77% had a transmission category of MSM and for Hispanic/Latino males, 62% had a transmission category of MSM.

### Louisiana

- ⌘ In 2011, there were 1,282 new HIV diagnoses in Louisiana, of whom 806 reported a risk. Of those who reported a risk, 502 (62%) were among MSM; 3% of the newly diagnosed MSM also identified as injection drug users (IDU).
- ⌘ Of the 502 new diagnoses among MSM who reported risk in 2011, 322 (64%) were black, 149 (30%) were white, and 26 (5%) were Hispanic/Latino; 36% were between the age of 13-24; 34% between 25-34; 13% between 35-44; 12% between 45-54; and 4% were over the age of 55.
- ⌘ Of all persons living with HIV infection who reported a risk at the end of 2011 in Louisiana, 56% were MSM, 12% of whom also identified as injection drug users.
- ⌘ Of the MSM living with HIV infection in Louisiana at the end of 2011, 51% were black, 45% were white, and 3% were Hispanic/Latino.

- ⌘ **The CDC recommends that all sexually active MSM be tested for HIV at least once a year and those who engage in high-risk behaviors be tested more frequently. Prevention efforts should aim to increase the number of MSM who are aware of their HIV status and reduce high risk behaviors.**