



Black/African American Clients: HRSA's Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program, 2019

Population Fact Sheet | June 2021

Of the more than half a million clients served by RWHAP, 73.4 percent are from racial/ethnic minority populations, with 46.6 percent of all RWHAP clients identifying as Black/African American.

Below are more details about this RWHAP client population:

- **The majority of Black/African American clients served by RWHAP are male.** Data show that 62.9 percent of clients are male, 34.5 percent of clients are female, and 2.6 percent of clients are transgender. The proportion of Black/African American male clients is lower than the national RWHAP average (72.0 percent), whereas the proportion of Black/African American female clients is higher than the national RWHAP average (26.1 percent).
- **The majority of Black/African American clients served by RWHAP are low income.** Data show that 65.9 percent of Black/African American clients are living at or below 100 percent of the federal poverty level, which is higher than the national RWHAP average (60.7 percent).
- **One in seven Black/African American clients served by RWHAP has temporary or unstable housing.** Among Black/African American clients served by RWHAP, 8.0 percent have temporary housing, and 6.1 percent have unstable housing.
- **Black/African American RWHAP clients are aging.** Data show 44.5 percent of Black/African American RWHAP clients are aged 50 years and older.
- **Among Black/African American male RWHAP clients, 56.9 percent are men who have sex with men (MSM).** Among all males served by RWHAP, MSM account for 65.7 percent.

Medical care and treatment improve health outcomes and decrease the risk of HIV transmission. People with HIV who take HIV medication daily as prescribed and reach and maintain an undetectable viral load have effectively no risk of sexually transmitting the virus to an HIV-negative partner. In 2019, 85.2 percent of Black/African American clients receiving RWHAP HIV medical care are virally suppressed,* which is slightly lower than the national RWHAP average (88.1 percent).

- 84.5 percent of Black/African American men receiving RWHAP HIV medical care are virally suppressed.
- 86.7 percent of Black/African American women receiving RWHAP HIV medical care are virally suppressed.

*Viral suppression is defined as a viral load result of less than 200 copies/mL at most recent test, among people with HIV who had at least one outpatient ambulatory health services visit and one viral load test during the measurement year.



The Health Resources and Services Administration's Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program (RWHAP) provides a comprehensive system of HIV primary medical care, medications, and essential support services for low-income people with HIV. More than half the people with diagnosed HIV in the United States—nearly 568,000 people in 2019—receive services through RWHAP each year. The RWHAP funds grants to states, cities, counties, and local community-based organizations to provide care, treatment, and support services for people with HIV to improve health outcomes and reduce HIV transmission.

Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Fast Facts: Black/African American Clients

