Transgender Clients:

HRSA's Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program, 2021



Population Fact Sheet | March 2023

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-more than 576,000 people in 2021—receive services through RWHAP each year. The RWHAP funds grants to states, cities, counties, and local community-based organizations to provide care and treatment services to people with HIV to improve health outcomes and reduce HIV transmission. For more than three decades, RWHAP has worked to stop HIV stigma and reduce health disparities by caring for the whole person and addressing their social determinants of health.

Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Fast Facts: Transgender Clients

2.4%
OF ALL
RWHAP

74.4 %
LIVE AT
OR BELOW
100% of the
Federal Poverty Level

84.8%
ARE VIRALLY SUPPRESSED

10.5%
EXPERIENCE
UNSTABLE
HOUSING



Of the more than half a million clients served by RWHAP, 2.4 percent are transgender, representing approximately 14,000 clients.

Learn more about transgender clients served by RWHAP:

- The majority of transgender clients served by RWHAP are a diverse population. Among transgender clients, 85.7 percent are from racial and ethnic minorities: 51.1 percent of transgender clients are Black/African American people and 29.2 percent are Hispanic/Latino people—both percentages are higher than the national RWHAP averages (45.8 percent and 24.1 percent, respectively).
- The majority of transgender clients served by RWHAP are people with lower incomes. Among transgender RWHAP clients served, 74.4 percent are people living at or below 100 percent of the federal poverty level, which is much higher than the national RWHAP average (59.2 percent).
- Data show that 10.5 percent of transgender clients served by RWHAP are people experiencing unstable housing. This percentage is substantially higher than the national RWHAP average (5.0 percent).
- Transgender clients are younger than the average RWHAP client population. Approximately 23.9 percent of transgender RWHAP clients are aged 50 years and older, which is significantly lower than the national RWHAP average (48.3 percent).

Medical care and treatment improve health outcomes and decrease the risk of HIV transmission. People with HIV who take HIV medication as prescribed and reach and maintain viral suppression cannot sexually transmit the virus to their partner. According to 2021 data, 84.8 percent of transgender clients receiving RWHAP HIV medical care are virally suppressed,* which is lower than the national RWHAP average (89.7 percent).

^{*} Viral suppression is defined as a viral load result of less than 200 copies/mL at the 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.