

Whittier Health District

HIV & STD Epidemiologic Profile 2021

This epidemiologic profile provides updated information about HIV and STDs in the Whittier Health District in Los Angeles County (LAC). **All data represent persons aged ≥ 13 years. All rates are per 100,000.** See technical notes for additional details.

Percent of LAC PLWDH* residing in Whittier

Whittier residents make up **3%** of the LAC population

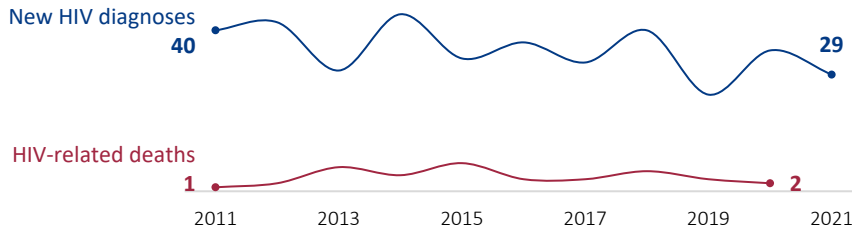


In 2021, Whittier residents made up **1%** of the total number of PLWDH in LAC



*PLWDH = Persons living with diagnosed HIV

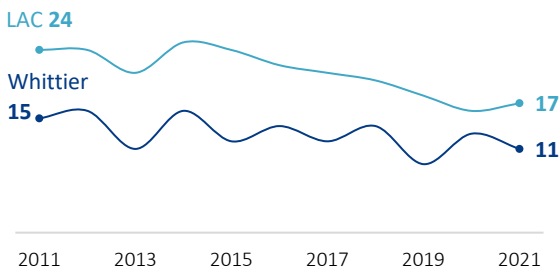
New Reported HIV Diagnoses & HIV-related Deaths



New reported HIV diagnoses in Whittier have been on a declining trend since 2011. HIV-related deaths among PLWDH have remained relatively stable.

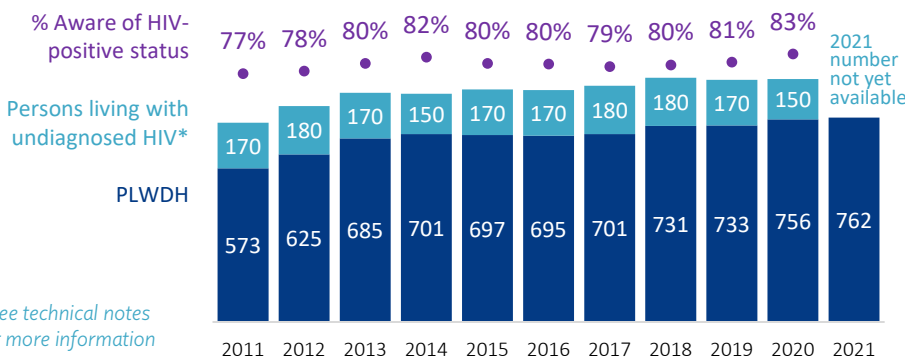
Note: It is recommended that 2014 and 2020 data be interpreted with caution due to situational factors. See technical notes for more information.

HIV Diagnosis Rates: Whittier vs. LAC

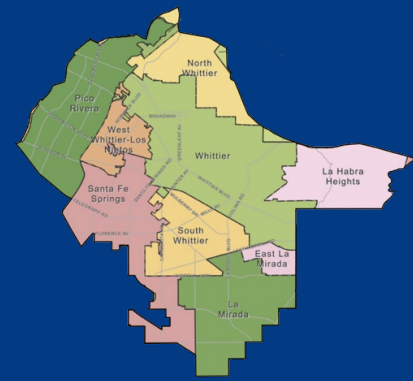


Between 2011 and 2021, HIV diagnosis rates in Whittier have been consistently lower than in LAC overall. Rates have been decreasing in Whittier and LAC.

Number of Persons Living with HIV & Percent Aware of HIV-Positive Status



* See technical notes for more information



274,094

Residents of Whittier Health District in 2021 aged ≥ 13 years

29

New reported HIV diagnoses in 2021

165

New reported syphilis diagnoses in 2020

471

New reported gonorrhea diagnoses in 2020

1,414

New reported chlamydia diagnoses in 2020

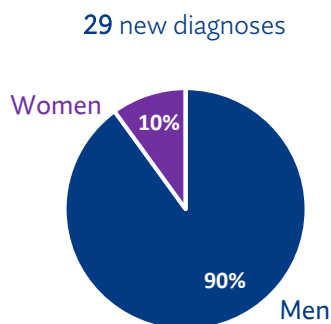
53%

STD coinfection among new reported HIV diagnoses in 2020

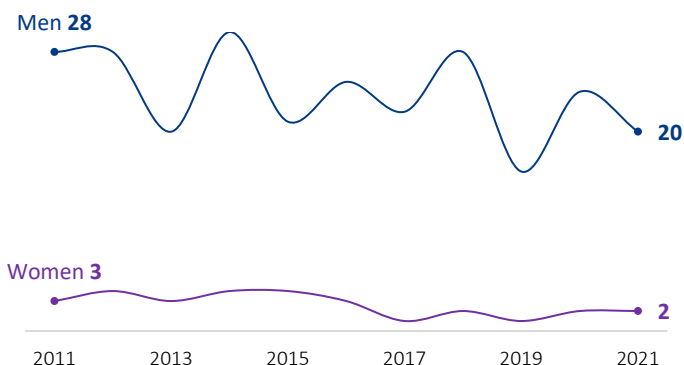
Whittier Health District Epidemiologic Profile - 2021

Characteristics of New HIV Diagnoses– Gender, Race/Ethnicity, Age

2021 new HIV diagnoses by **gender**



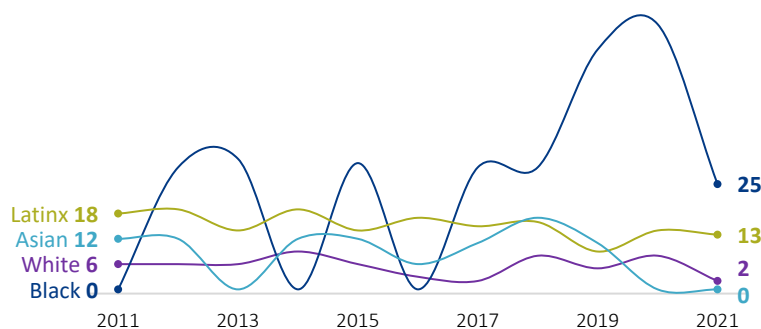
New HIV diagnosis rates¹ by **gender**



New HIV diagnosis rates have remained substantially higher among men than women, but rates among men are on the decline. Rates among women have remained relatively stable since 2011.

Note: There were no new reported HIV diagnoses among trans men or trans women in Whittier Health District in 2021.

New HIV diagnosis rates¹ by **race/ethnicity**

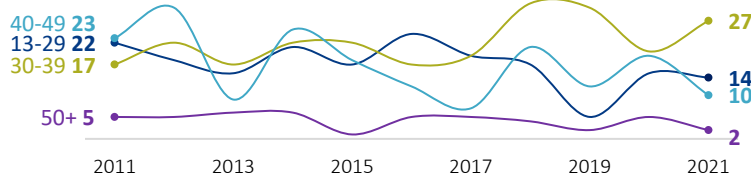


New HIV diagnosis rates generally have remained highest among Black persons. Rates among White and Latinx persons have declined modestly since 2011.

Note: Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders, American Indians and Alaska Natives, and persons of multiple race/ethnicities are not included in this profile due to small numbers in Whittier.

The volatility in new diagnosis rates among race/ethnicity groups may be associated with small population sizes in Whittier.

New HIV diagnosis rates¹ by **age group**



Since 2011, new HIV diagnosis rates have declined among persons aged 13-29, 40-49, and 50+, while rates among persons aged 30-39 have increased.

¹ New HIV diagnosis rates are presented per 100,000 population
Due to small numbers, rates may be unreliable and should be interpreted with caution

Whittier Health District Epidemiologic Profile - 2021

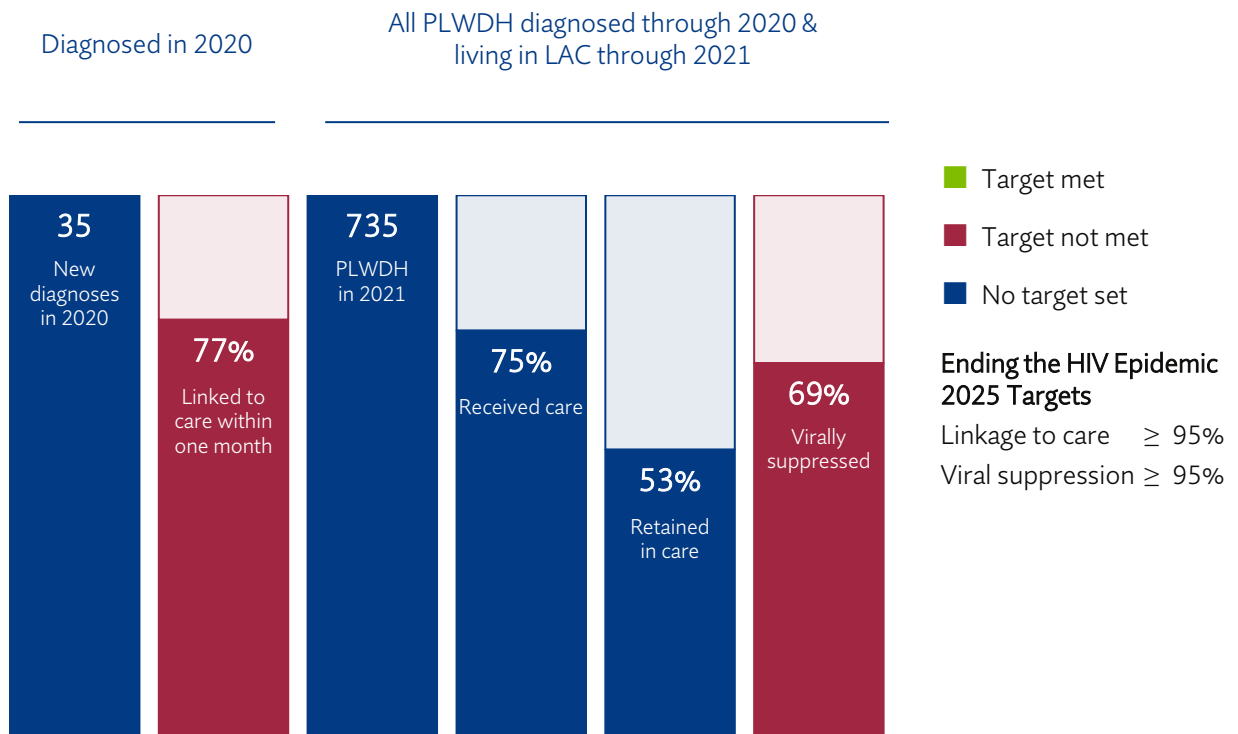
Transmission Category among Persons Newly Diagnosed with HIV by Gender

In 2021, the primary HIV transmission category among men was having sex with other men (MSM). For women, the primary HIV transmission category was sex with men. Data was unavailable on HIV transmission category for trans persons in this health district.

To protect the privacy of persons with HIV, Los Angeles County applies data suppression rules when the total number in a stratum is less than 100. In accordance with those rules, a chart/table of transmission category among persons newly diagnosed with HIV by gender could not be presented for this health district.

HIV Care Continuum

The HIV care continuum is a series of steps starting from when a person is diagnosed with HIV through their achievement of viral suppression. The base population for measuring linkage to HIV care is persons who received an HIV diagnosis in a given calendar year, whereas the base population for the downstream steps in the continuum is all persons who were diagnosed with HIV through 2020 and were living in LAC as of year end 2021. The latter ensures at least one year of follow-up to measure receipt of care, retention in care, and viral suppression.

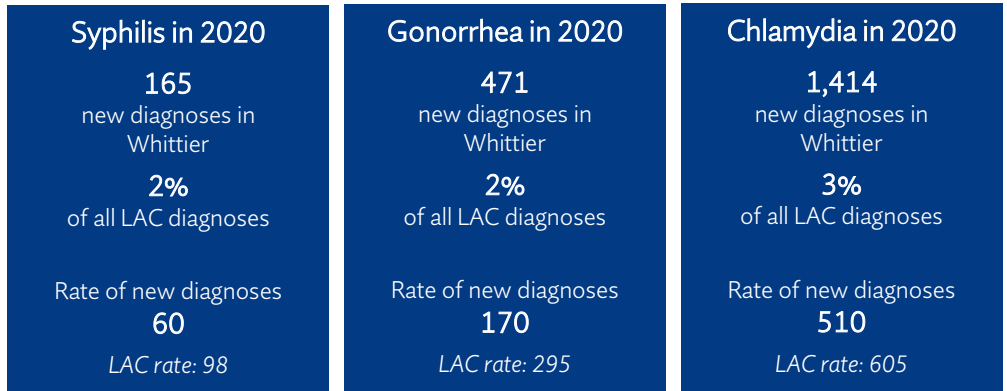


Linkage to care and viral suppression levels have not yet met the 2025 targets set for the Ending the HIV Epidemic (EHE) Initiative.

Whittier Health District Epidemiologic Profile - 2021

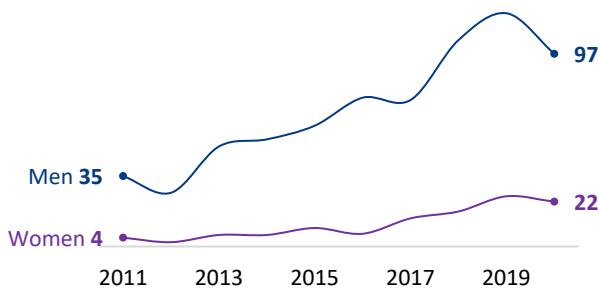
New Syphilis, Gonorrhea & Chlamydia Diagnoses and Rates: Whittier vs. LAC

In 2020, a total of 2,050 new diagnoses of syphilis, gonorrhea, and chlamydia were reported among Whittier Health District residents aged 13+ years. The rates of new diagnoses of syphilis, gonorrhea, and chlamydia were lower than in LAC.



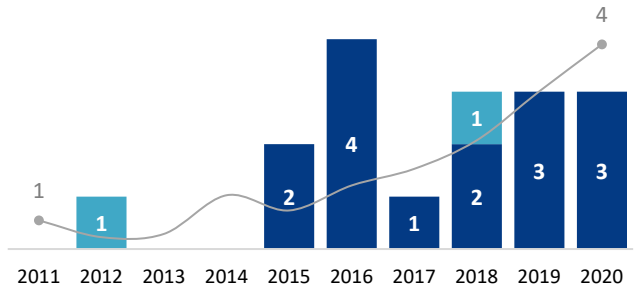
New STD Diagnosis Rates by Gender & New Congenital Syphilis Diagnoses

New syphilis diagnosis rates¹ by gender



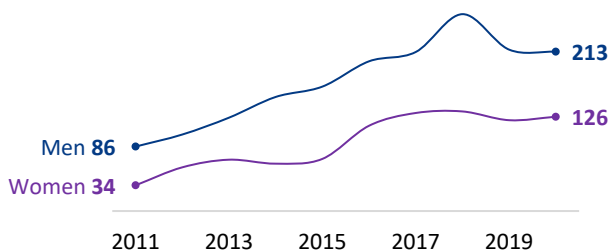
Since 2011, new syphilis diagnosis rates in Whittier have increased for men and women. The decline in 2020 may be due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on testing and diagnosis.

Number of new congenital syphilis (CS) diagnoses by type: Non-Stillbirths & Stillbirths vs. Expected number of CS diagnoses



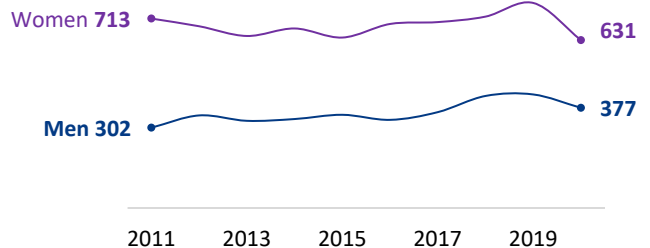
The number of new CS diagnoses in Whittier has increased from 2011 to 2020. In 2020, the number of CS diagnoses was lower than expected. Whittier has reported two new stillbirth diagnoses since 2011.

New gonorrhea diagnosis rates¹ by gender



New gonorrhea diagnosis rates in Whittier have increased for men and women since 2011. Rates among men in Whittier have been almost consistently double the rates among women.

New chlamydia diagnosis rates¹ by gender



Since 2013, new chlamydia diagnosis rates in Whittier have been increasing for both men and women. Rates among women in Whittier have been consistently higher than rates among men.

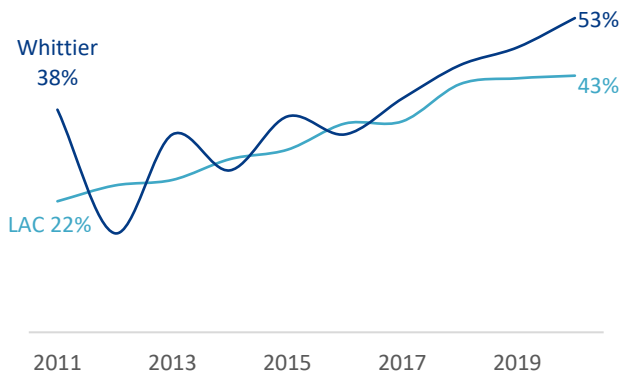
¹ New STD diagnosis rates are presented per 100,000 population. Due to small numbers, rates may be unreliable and should be interpreted with caution.

Whittier Health District Epidemiologic Profile - 2021

Coinfection of HIV and STDs: Whittier vs. LAC

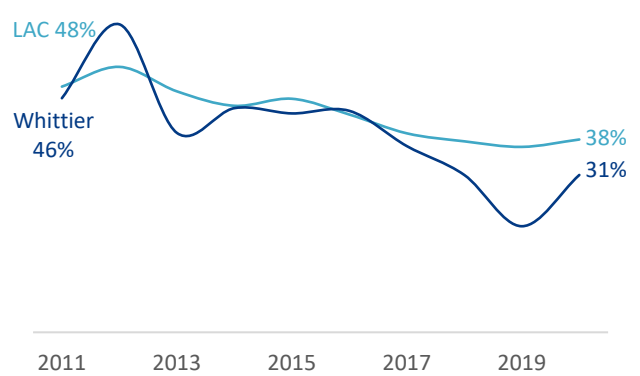
HIV and other STDs are syndemic in LAC. Persons with syphilis, gonorrhea, and/or chlamydia are at an increased risk of acquiring HIV due to biological and behavioral factors. STDs among PLWH can also increase HIV viral load and the risk of HIV transmission.

Percent of new HIV diagnoses coinfecting with an STD



The percentage of new HIV diagnoses in Whittier with syphilis, gonorrhea, and/or chlamydia coinfection has increased from 38% in 2011 to 53% in 2020. This has tracked the trend in LAC overall but has been generally higher.

Percent of new syphilis diagnoses coinfecting with HIV



In 2020, almost a third of all new syphilis diagnoses in Whittier were coinfecting with HIV. This proportion has declined from almost half in 2011 and has remained consistently lower than LAC overall after 2012.

Coinfection with STDs among New HIV Diagnoses

Among persons newly diagnosed with HIV in 2019 & 2020, syphilis had the highest coinfection followed by chlamydia and gonorrhea, in the same year as their HIV diagnosis.

To protect the privacy of persons with HIV, Los Angeles County applies data suppression rules when the total number in a stratum is less than 100. In accordance with those rules, a chart/table showing STD coinfection among persons newly diagnosed with HIV could not be presented for this health district.