

Health Disparities in the Medi-Cal Population

Annual HIV Visit



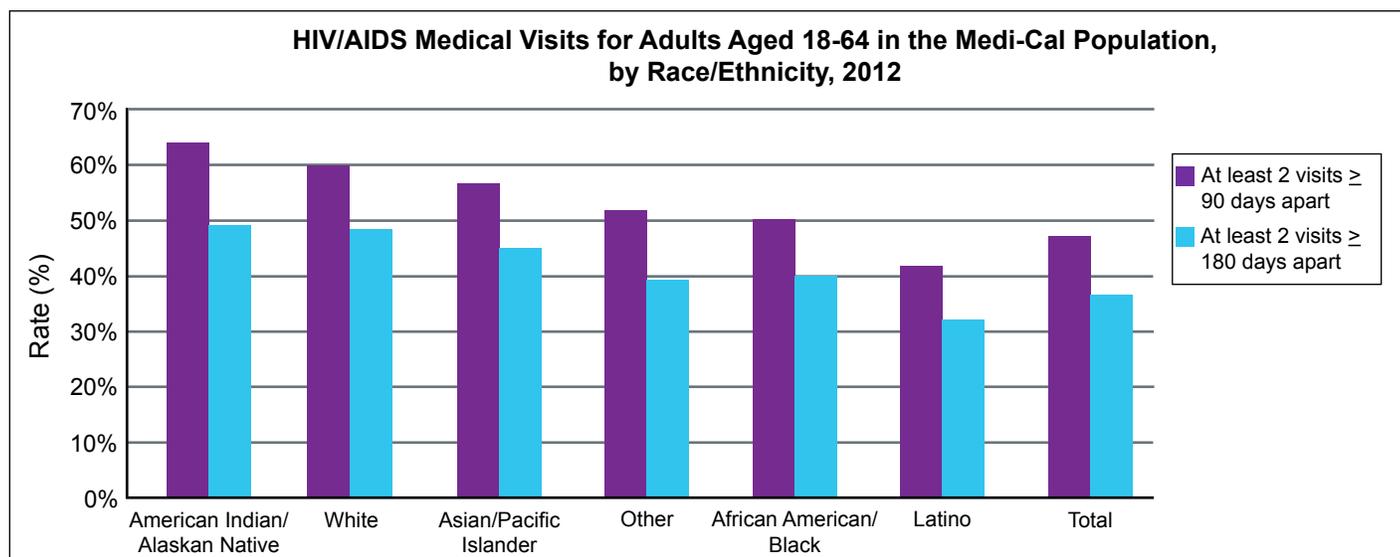
The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) surveillance report indicated that HIV continues to be a serious health issue.¹ It is estimated that 1,144,500 people, aged 13 and older, are living with HIV in the United States, including 180,900 who are unaware of their HIV status.¹ The highest prevalence rate is among African Americans/Blacks and Latinos, and the lowest rate is among Whites and Asians.¹ California has been significantly impacted by HIV/AIDS and, at the end of 2013, there were 218,075 people living with HIV/AIDS in the state.²

Routine medical visits for HIV patients are important for optimal care and treatment so their CD4 cell counts and HIV viral load can be monitored.³ Failing to access health care has been associated with increased mortality,⁴ low CD4 counts, and lack of prescribed antiretroviral therapy.³

Among HIV-positive California Medi-Cal adults, aged 18 to 64, American Indians/Alaskan Natives were more likely to have visited a doctor two or more times with a minimum of 90 days between visits (64%), and Latinos (42%) were least likely (see Figure).



Figure



Source: Medi-Cal Management Information System/Decision Support System (MIS/DSS), 2012

Note: Members eligible for both Medicare and Medicaid were excluded

[Click to link to more detailed graph by race/ethnicity](#)

1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Monitoring selected national HIV prevention and care objectives by using HIV surveillance data—United States and 6 dependent areas—2011. HIV Surveillance Supplemental Report 2013;18(No. 5). http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/pdf/2011_Monitoring_HIV_Indicators_HSSR_FINAL.pdf. Published October 2013. Accessed November 2014.
2. California Department of Public Health. HIV/AIDS surveillance in California. <http://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/aids/Documents/SSQtr2Jun2010.pdf>. Accessed November 2014.
3. Sullivan PS, Juhasz M, McNaghten AD, et al. Time to first annual HIV care visit and associated factors for patients in care for HIV infection in 10 US sites. *AIDS care*: 2011;23:10;1314-1320.
4. Horberg MA, Hurley LB, Silverberg MJ. Missed office visits and risk of mortality among HIV-infected subjects in a large healthcare system in the United States. *AIDS Patient Care and STDs*. 2013;27(8);442-449.

Link to Data Sources and Methods