

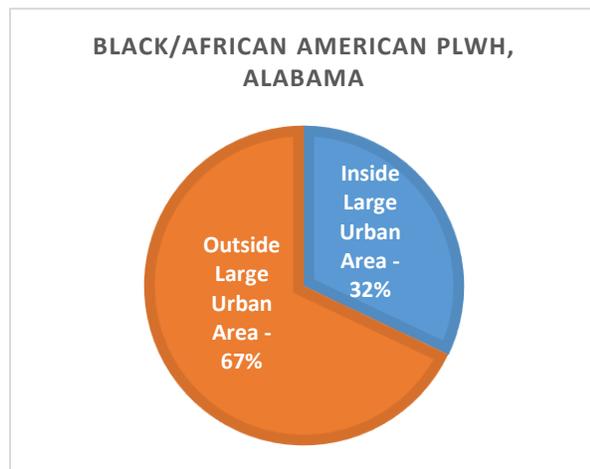


New SASI Analysis: In Alabama a Significant Percentage of People Most Impacted by HIV Live Outside Large Urban Areas¹ Demonstrating a Need for Increased Federal Resources

INTRODUCTION |

The US Deep South² continues to experience a heavy HIV burden outside the large urban areas. According to previous analyses³ by the Southern HIV/AIDS Strategy Initiative (SASI), 68% of People Living with HIV (PLWH) in Alabama live outside a large urban area. Now, a new SASI Report,⁴ released simultaneously with six state-specific reports, shows that this disparity is even starker when examining key populations most impacted by the epidemic – in particular those who are Black/African American or Hispanic/Latino, Men who have Sex with Men/Same Gender Loving Men (MSM/SGLM), Women, and Youth. In recent years, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has provided direct HIV prevention funding only to community-based organizations located in the large urban areas.⁵ In attempting to gain control of the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the South, there continues to be a need for increased federal funding to community-based organizations located outside the large urban areas in the Deep South, and in Alabama in particular.

Black/African American People Living with HIV



In Alabama, only 32% of Black/African American PLWH live in a large urban area. The remaining 67% live in suburban and rural areas that continue to suffer from funding disparities. **Over two thirds** of Black PLWH in Alabama are unable to access community-based organizations directly funded by the CDC – one of the largest disparities we found throughout the Deep South. [Since there is no data suppression for Black PLWH in the 7 urban counties of Alabama, all suppressed data could be attributed to suburban/rural counties increasing the percentage of Black PLWH who live outside large urban counties to 68%.]

¹ The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) subdivides Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) as: (1) $\geq 500,000$ population; (2) 50,000 – 499,999 population, (3) Nonmetropolitan (<50,000 population). For purposes of this policy brief, we define “large urban area” or “large MSA” as having $\geq 500,000$ population.

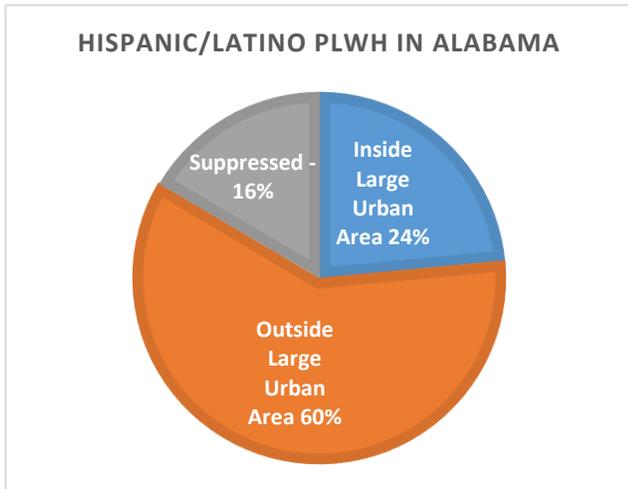
² “Deep South” defined as AL, FL, GA, LA, MS, NC, SC, TN, TX.

³ <https://southernaids.files.wordpress.com/2018/06/deep-south-hiv-burden-outside-large-urban-areas2.pdf>

⁴ *New SASI Analysis: In the Deep South, Significant Percentages of People Most Impacted by HIV Live Outside Large Urban Areas Demonstrating a Need for Increased Federal Resources*. All data collected from the CDC Atlas Database, <https://gis.cdc.gov/grasp/nchhstpatlas/tables.html>.

⁵ *SASI Analysis of Funds Distributed in the United States by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Pursuant to PS15-1502; SASI Analysis of Funds Distributed in the United States by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Pursuant to PS17-1704*.

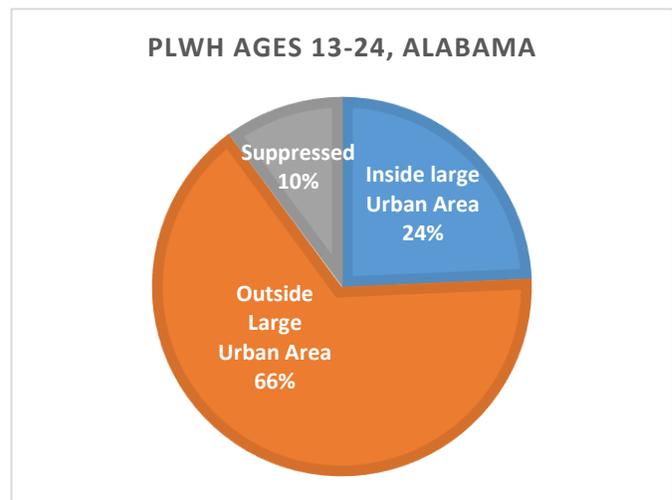
Hispanic/Latino People Living with HIV



In Alabama, 60% of Hispanic/Latino PLWH live outside a large urban area, away from community organizations receiving direct prevention funding from the CDC. Only 24% live in a large urban area, with 16% of total cases having been suppressed. This means that **less than a quarter** of Hispanic/Latino PLWH in Alabama are guaranteed to have access to organizations directly funded by the CDC.

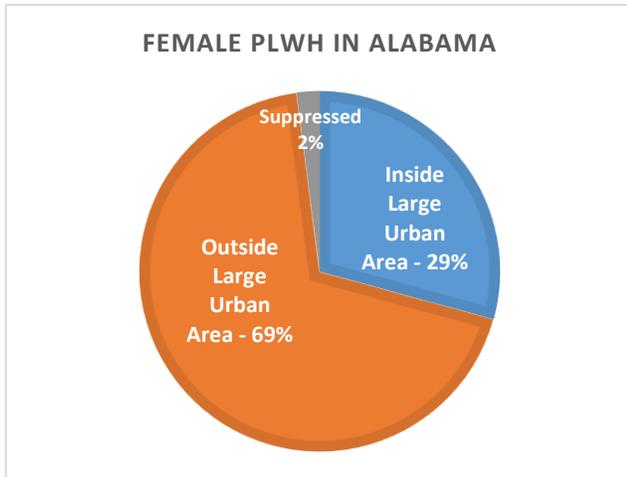
Young People (ages 13-24) Living with HIV

Young people are one of the most at-risk groups for HIV/AIDS transmission. The CDC estimates that 1 in 2 young PLWH did not know they were living with HIV,⁶ making transmission much more likely within this group. **Two-thirds** of PLWH ages 13-24 in Alabama live outside a large urban area with only 24% reported to live in large urban counties – less than a quarter.



⁶ <https://www.cdc.gov/hiv/pdf/group/age/youth/cdc-hiv-youth.pdf>

Females Living with HIV



Although new HIV diagnoses are declining among cisgender women, women in the South bear a disproportionately high burden compared to the nation as a whole, particularly Black women. In Alabama, 69% of women living with HIV live outside a large urban area – **over two thirds** of Alabama women living with HIV are unable to access organizations that receive prevention funds directly from the CDC.

Appendix 1: Chart of Key Alabama Demographics, PLWH

ALABAMA	Total Cases	Cases in Large Urban Area	Cases Outside Large Urban Area	% in Large Urban Area	% Outside Large Urban Area	% Suppressed
Black/African American	7,883	2528	5,254	32%	67%	1%
Hispanic/Latino	370	87	222	24%	60%	16%
Black + Latino	8,253	2615	5,476	32%	66%	1%
MSM	6,683	1,974	Data Suppressed	n/a	n/a	70%
Female	3,418	1000	2348	29%	69%	2%
Injection Drug Use Transmission	1,071	258	Data Suppressed	n/a	n/a	76%
Youth (13-24)	691	168	453	24%	66%	10%