



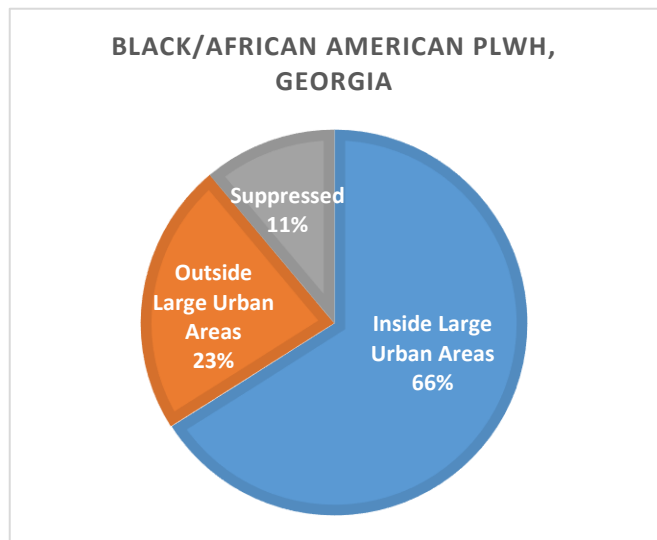
New SASI Analysis: In Georgia a Significant Percentage of People Most Impacted by HIV Live Outside the Large Urban Areas¹ Demonstrating a Need for Increased Federal Resources

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), 31% of People Living with HIV (PLWH) in Georgia 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 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 Georgia in particular.

Black/African American People Living with HIV

In Georgia, only 66% of Black/African American PLWH live in an urban area. **Almost a quarter** – 23% - live in suburban and rural areas that continue to suffer from funding disparities. Further, 11% of cases are in counties suppressing data. The numbers are similar for Hispanic/Latino PLWH with about two-thirds living in large urban areas, and one-third living in suburban or rural counties, or in counties where data has been suppressed.



¹ The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) subdivides 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.

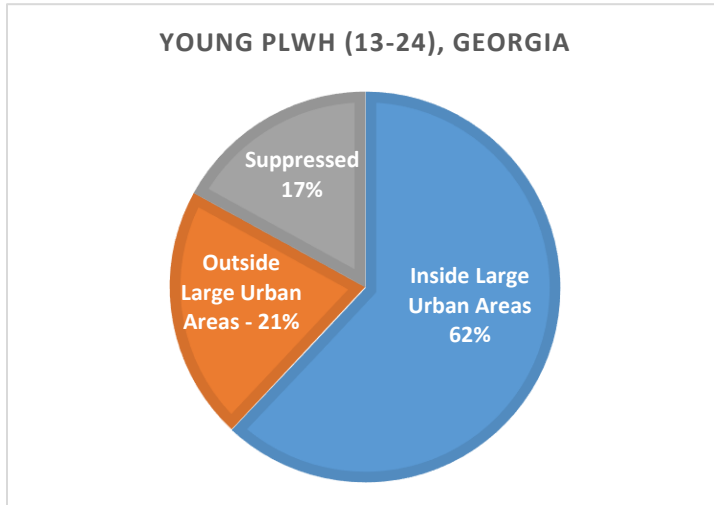
² “Deep South” defined as AL, FL, GA, LA, MS, NC, SC, TN, TX.

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*.

Young People (13-24) Living with HIV

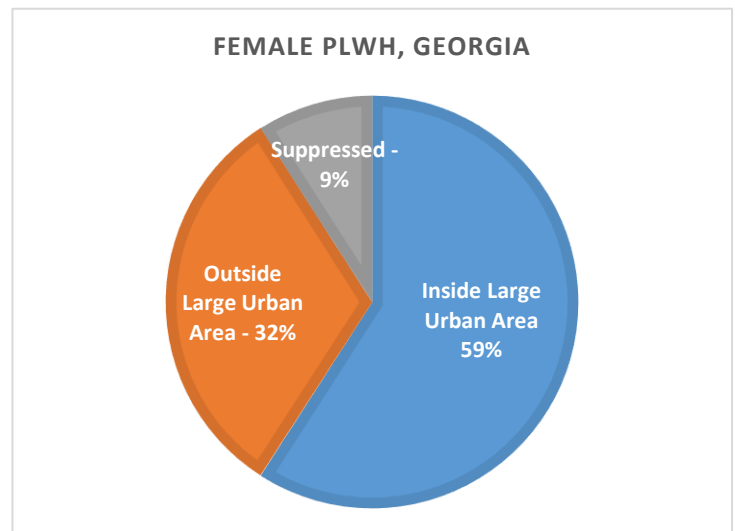


Young people are one of the most at-risk groups for HIV/AIDS transmission. The CDC estimates that 1 in 2 young PLWH did not know they were living with HIV,⁶ making transmission much more likely within this group. Testing outreach and linkage to care are essential for young PLWH. However, in Georgia, **21% of young people living with HIV/AIDS live outside a large urban area**, and only 62% are reported to live in one of the large urban areas where community organizations receive direct CDC prevention funding. Due to high rates of data suppression in Georgia, 17% of young PLWH are

unaccounted for, but we know that some of those also live in underfunded small cities and rural areas.

Females Living with HIV

Although new HIV diagnoses are declining among cisgender women in the United States, women in the South bear a disproportionately high burden compared to the nation as a whole, particularly Black women. In Georgia, 32% of women living with HIV live outside a large urban area – **almost a third**.



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

Appendix 1: Chart of Key Georgia Demographics, People Living with HIV

GEORGIA	Total Cases	Cases in Large Urban Area	Cases Outside Large Urban Area	% in Large Urban Area	% Outside Large Urban Area	% Suppressed
Black/African American	33,946	22,410	7,760	66%	23%	11%
Hispanic/Latino	3,318	2,272	560	68%	17%	15%
Black + Latino	37,264	24,682	8,320	66%	22%	11%
MSM	28,810	20,449	4,858	71%	17%	12%
Female	12,210	7,215	3,891	59%	32%	9%
Injection Drug Use Transmission	4,323	2,434	796	56%	18%	26%
Youth (13-24)	2,348	1,450	495	62%	21%	17%

Appendix 2: Hispanic/Latino People Living with HIV and Injection Drug Use HIV Transmission--Georgia

