

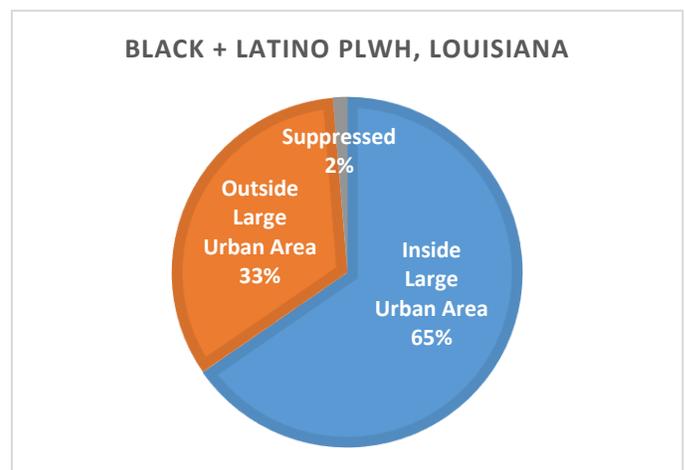


New SASI Analysis: In Louisiana, a Significant Percentage of People Most Impacted by HIV Live Outside Large Urban Areas¹ Demonstrating a Need for Increased Federal Resources

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), 36% of People Living with HIV (PLWH) in Louisiana 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 Black/African American or Hispanic/Latino populations, 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 Louisiana in particular.

Black/African American and Hispanic/Latino People Living with HIV

In Louisiana, only 66% of Black/African American PLWH live in a large urban area. The remaining 34% live in small cities and rural areas. Further, 28% of Hispanic/Latino PLWH live outside of a large urban area, away from community organizations directly funded by the CDC. Only 63% – less than two-thirds – live in a large urban area, and 9% of total cases have been suppressed. **This results in a third of Black and Latino PLWH living in underfunded suburban and rural counties in Louisiana.**⁶



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>

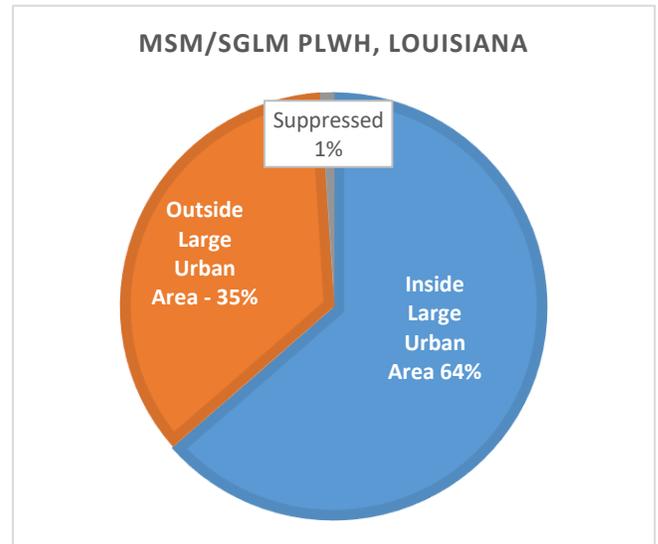
⁴ *New SASI Analysis: In the Deep South, Significant Percentages of People Most Impacted by HIV Live Outside Large Urban Areas Demonstrating a Need for Increased Federal Resources*. All data collected from the CDC Atlas Database, <https://gis.cdc.gov/grasp/nchhstpatlas/tables.html>.

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*.

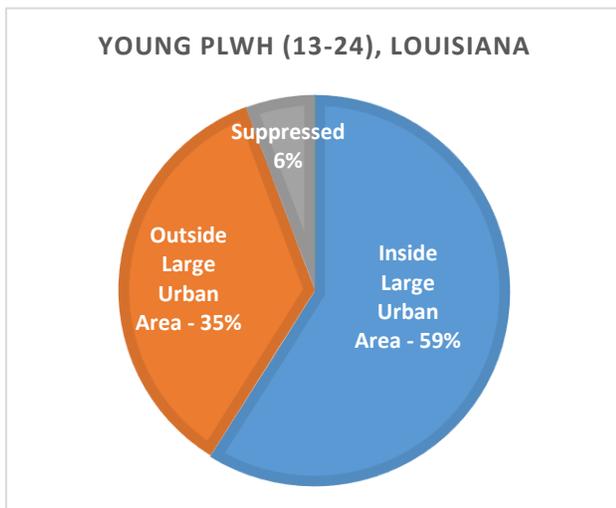
⁶ <https://southernaids.files.wordpress.com/2016/03/sasi-analysis-of-ps17-1704-funding-distribution-final.pdf>

Men who have Sex with Men/ Same Gender Loving Men Living with HIV

Rates of new HIV diagnoses in the Deep South are rising faster than the national average among Men who have Sex with Men, who may also identify as Same-Gender-Loving Men (SGLM). More than a third of PLWH who identify as MSM/SGLM in Louisiana live outside of a large urban area, with only 64% reported to be living in one of the urban counties where community organizations can receive direct prevention funding from 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,⁷ making transmission much more likely within this group. Testing outreach and linkage to care are essential for young PLWH. However, over a third of PLWH ages 13-24 in Louisiana live outside of a large urban area, and only 59% are reported to live in one of the urban counties where community organizations can receive direct CDC prevention funding. Six percent of cases were suppressed.

⁷ <https://www.cdc.gov/hiv/pdf/group/age/youth/cdc-hiv-youth.pdf>

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

LOUISIANA	Total Cases	Cases in Large Urban Area	Cases Outside Large Urban Area	% in Large Urban Area	% Outside Large Urban Area	% Suppressed
Black/African American	13,302	8,720	4,473	66%	34%	<1%
Hispanic/Latino	875	547	246	63%	28%	9%
Black + Latino	14,177	9,267	4,719	65%	33%	2%
MSM	9,427	5,994	3,337	64%	35%	1%
Female	5,759	3,721	1,997	65%	35%	<1%
Injection Drug Use	2,469	1,549	692	63%	28%	9%
Youth (13-24)	1,118	659	395	59%	35%	6%

Appendix 2: Black/African American and Hispanic/Latino People Living with HIV, Louisiana

