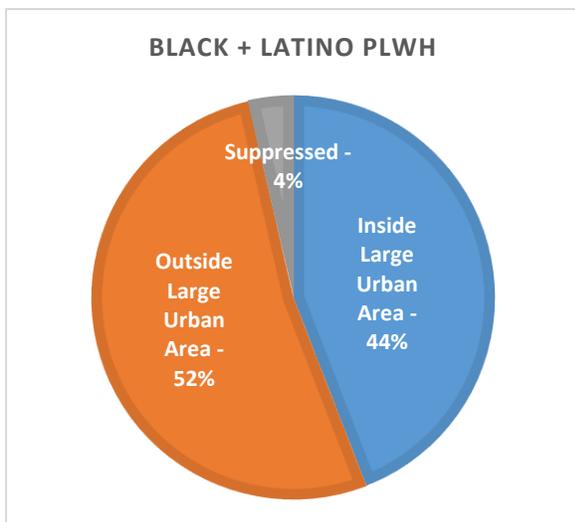




New SASI Analysis: In Mississippi a Significant Percentage of People Most Impacted by HIV Live Outside Large Urban Areas¹ Demonstrating a Need for Increased Federal Resources

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), 61% of People Living with HIV (PLWH) in Mississippi 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 Mississippi in particular.

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



In Mississippi, only 45% of Black/African American PLWH live in a large urban area. More than half (53%) live in small cities and rural areas. Further, 26% of Hispanic/Latino PLWH live outside a large urban area, away from community organizations directly funded by the CDC. Only 47% – less than half – live in a large urban area. **This results in 52% of Black and Latino PLWH living in underfunded suburban and rural counties, with less than half living in urban areas with community organizations that currently receive direct CDC prevention funding.**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.

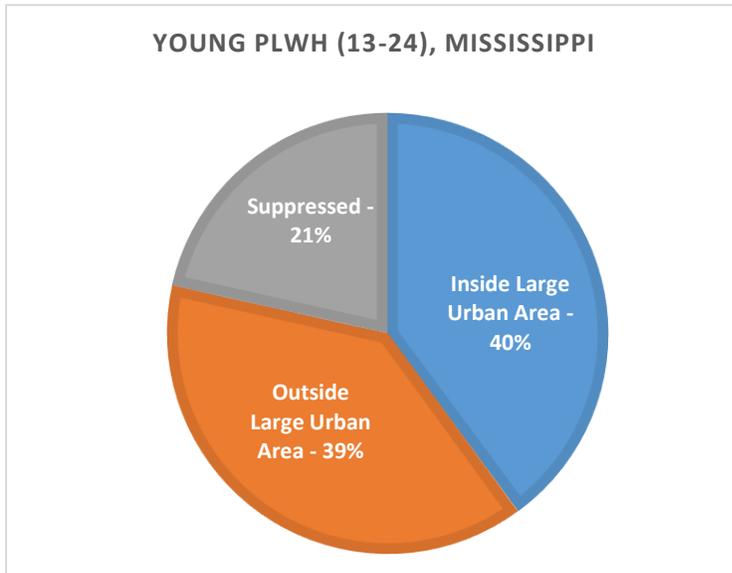
³ <https://southernaids.files.wordpress.com/2018/06/deep-south-hiv-burden-outside-large-urban-areas2.pdf>

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>

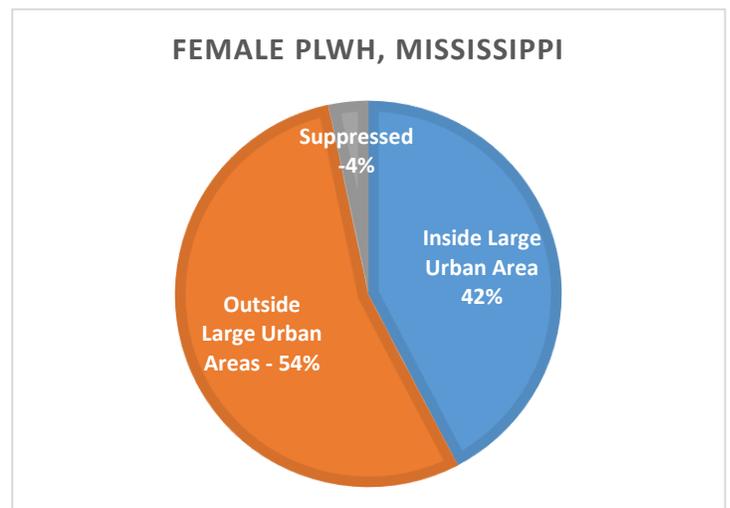
Young People (ages 13-24) Living with HIV



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. Over a third of PLWH ages 13-24 in Mississippi live outside a large urban area with only 40% reported to live in a large urban area. When taking into account that in 21% of cases, data was suppressed, this means that reported cases are almost evenly split between large urban and suburban/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 Mississippi, 54% of women living with HIV live outside a large urban area. Only 42% live in a large urban area where community organizations receive direct CDC prevention funding.

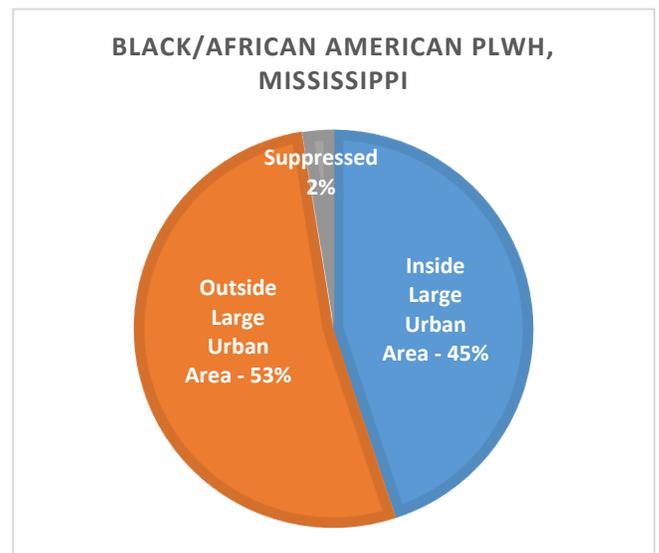
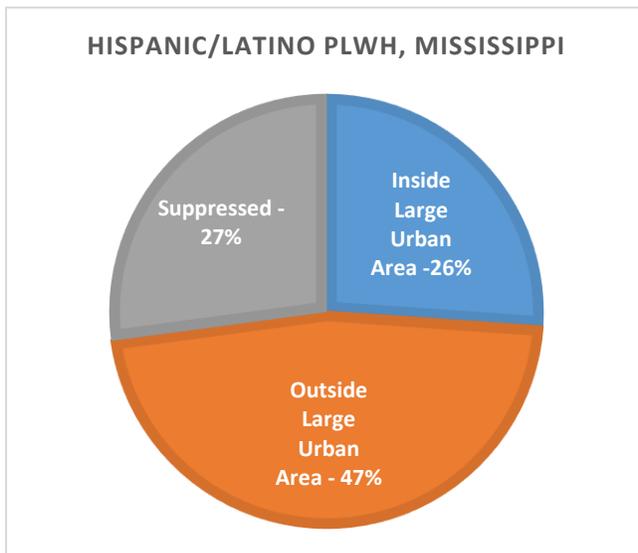


⁷ <https://www.cdc.gov/hiv/pdf/group/age/youth/cdc-hiv-youth.pdf>

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

MISSISSIPPI	Total Cases	Cases in Large Urban Area	Cases Outside Large Urban Area	% in Large Urban Area	% Outside Large Urban Area	% Suppressed
Black/African American	6,726	3,022	3,533	45%	53%	2%
Hispanic/Latino	295	77	138	26%	47%	27%
Black + Latino	7,021	3,099	3,671	44%	52%	4%
MSM/SGLM ⁸	****	****	****	****	****	****
Female	2,851	1,207	1,549	42%	54%	4%
Injection Drug Use	****	****	****	****	****	****
Youth (13-24)	591	236	228	40%	39%	21%

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



⁸ All data regarding transmission method was suppressed for counties in Mississippi. MSM/SGLM stands for Men who have Sex with Men, a population which may or may not also identify as SGLM, or Same-Gender-Loving Men.