



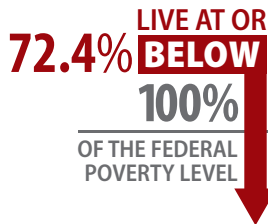
HRSA's Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program

January 2018



YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS: RYAN WHITE HIV/AIDS PROGRAM CLIENTS, 2016

Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Client Fast Facts: Youth and Young Adults



The Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRSA) Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program (RWHAP) provides a comprehensive system of HIV primary medical care, medications, and essential support services for low-income people living with HIV (PLWH). More than half the people living with diagnosed HIV in the United States—an estimated 551,000 people in 2016—receive services through RWHAP each year. RWHAP funds grants to states, cities/counties, and local community-based organizations to provide care and treatment services to PLWH to improve health outcomes and reduce HIV transmission among hard-to-reach populations.

Youth and young adults aged 13 to 24 years represent 4.6 percent of the more than half a million RWHAP clients, slightly more than 25,000 clients. This age group accounts for the highest rate of new infections each year in the United States. Below are more details about this RWHAP client population:

- ▶ **The majority of RWHAP clients aged 13 to 24 years are from racial and ethnic minority populations.** Among clients in this age group, 86.3 percent are from racial and ethnic minority populations. Nearly two-thirds

(61.4 percent) of youth and young adult clients identify as black/African American, which is higher than the national RWHAP average (47.1 percent). Hispanics/Latinos represent 21.0 percent of youth and young adults, which is slightly lower than the national RWHAP average (23.1 percent).

- ▶ **The majority of RWHAP clients aged 13 to 24 years are male.** Data show that 73.7 percent of clients aged 13 to 24 years are male, 24.3 percent are female, and 2.0 percent are transgender.
- ▶ **The majority of RWHAP clients aged 13 to 24 years are low income.** Of youth and young adult RWHAP clients, 72.4 percent are living at or below 100 percent of the federal poverty level, which is higher than the national RWHAP average (62.8 percent).
- ▶ **Data show that 5.9 percent of clients aged 13 to 24 years have unstable housing.** This is slightly higher than the national RWHAP average (5.2 percent).

Medical care and treatment improve health outcomes and decrease the risk of HIV transmission. Approximately 71.1 percent of clients aged 13 to 24 years receiving RWHAP HIV medical care are virally suppressed,* which is significantly lower than the national RWHAP average (84.9 percent).

- ▶ 72.8 percent of young men who have sex with men (MSM) receiving RWHAP HIV medical care are virally suppressed.
- ▶ 69.6 percent of young black/African American MSM receiving RWHAP HIV medical care are virally suppressed.
- ▶ 66.8 percent of young black/African American women receiving RWHAP HIV medical care are virally suppressed.
- ▶ 63.4 percent of transgender youth and young adults receiving RWHAP HIV medical care are virally suppressed.

* Viral suppression is defined as a viral load result of less than 200 copies/mL at most recent test, among PLWH who had at least one outpatient ambulatory health services visit and one viral load test during the measurement year.

