

HIV in Greater Manchester





“Although HIV diagnoses have roughly halved in the last eight years, this may make it harder to identify people diagnosed or living with HIV. The last four decades have seen remarkable improvements in preventing and detecting HIV and support, but ending transmission will be challenging for a number of reasons.

As new infections decline, we can expect to see [that] the people who do acquire HIV are more likely to have complex lives.

They may be having higher levels of risk behaviours. They may be poorly engaged with existing treatment and care services. They may be dealing with many of the social and structural drivers of transmission, including poverty, insecure immigration status and other key structural factors. It means that what got us to this point will not be sufficient to get us to 2030.”



Professor Kevin Fenton

Statutory health adviser to Sir Sadiq Khan
(taken from his speech to the London Assembly)



1. 95-95-95 targets



UNAIDS¹ set ambitious new targets of 95-95-95 in 2021 to be achieved by 2025.



95% of all people living with HIV to be diagnosed



95% of all people with diagnosed HIV infection to receive sustained antiretroviral therapy



95% of all people receiving antiretroviral therapy to have viral suppression²

2. National HIV action plan and targets

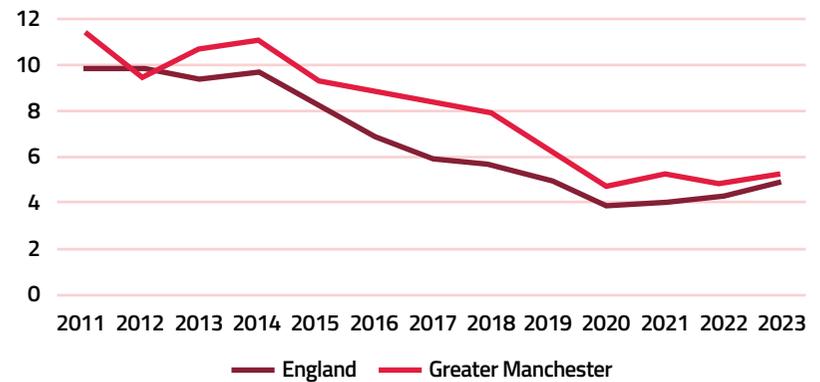
In January 2019³, the Health Secretary committed England to ending new HIV transmissions by 2030 and the associated action plan⁴ followed in December 2021.

In 2019 there were 175⁵ new diagnoses⁶ in Greater Manchester, 139 in 2022 and 155 in 2023.^{7,8} This represents an 11.4% reduction between 2019 and 2023 which compares with a .03% increase nationally.

Our target for new diagnoses in Greater Manchester by 2025 is 35.



New HIV diagnoses among people first diagnosed in the UK rate per 100,000



¹ Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)

² UKHSA (2023) 'HIV Action Plan Monitoring and Evaluation Framework 2023'

³ Let's pledge to do our part to end HIV - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

⁴ Towards Zero: the HIV Action Plan for England - 2022 to 2025 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

⁵ Note this figure was originally 177, additional data is added annually and integrated into the HIV data retrospectively hence the change in this figure

⁶ New diagnosed figures here refer to First diagnosed in the UK

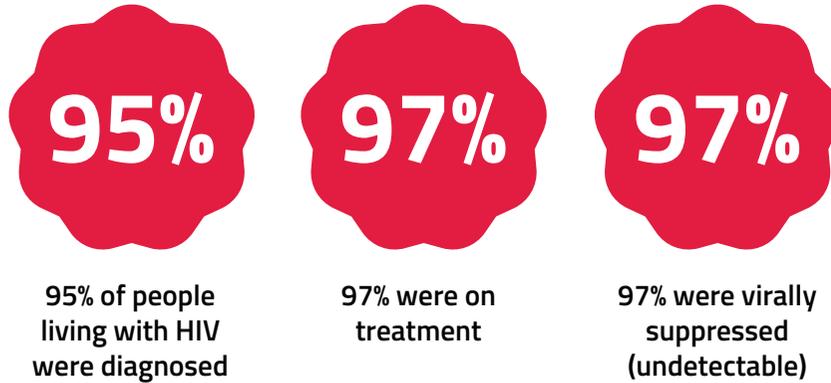
⁷ UKHSA Sexual and Reproductive Health Profiles

⁸ Note UKHSA estimates that nationally between 9 and 15% of diagnoses categorised as first made in England may be for people actually first diagnosed abroad. See new diagnoses section of report.



3. HIV in Greater Manchester

Greater Manchester met (and exceeded) the UNAIDs 95-95-95 targets in 2023.



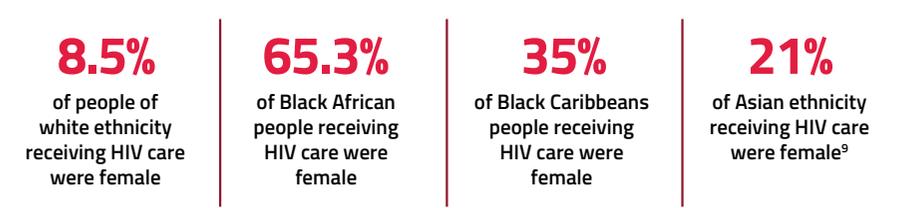
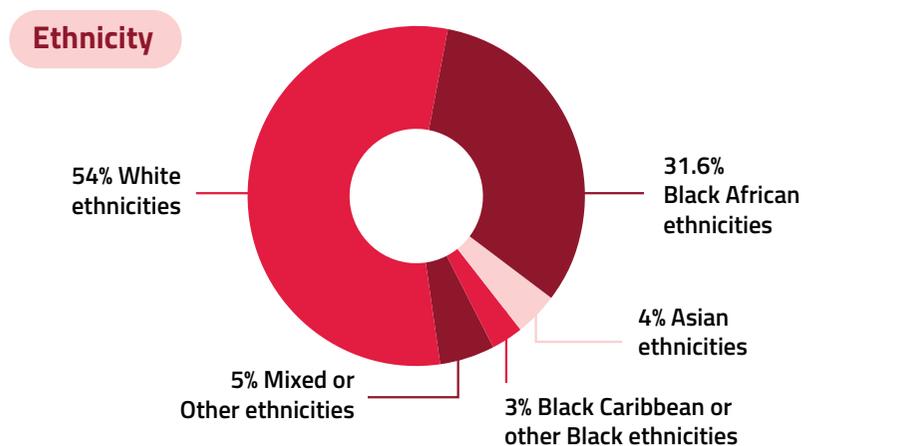
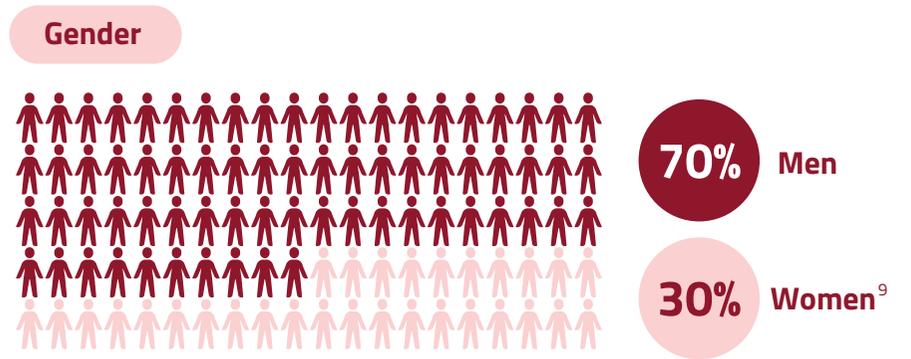
UKHSA modelling estimates are that in 2023, 6,500 people were living with HIV in Greater Manchester with an estimated 6,100 adults living with diagnosed HIV, 6,060 adults estimated to be living with HIV on ART and 5,890 estimated adults living with HIV virally suppressed.

The modelling suggests that there are 400 people living with undiagnosed HIV in Greater Manchester. There is uncertainty about the estimated number of people living with undiagnosed HIV due in part to the impact of the contribution of opt-out HIV testing in emergency departments on the approach to modelling the estimates for people living with diagnosed and undiagnosed HIV.

⁹ UKHSA (2023) HIV surveillance data tables for local authorities

4. People living with HIV in Greater Manchester

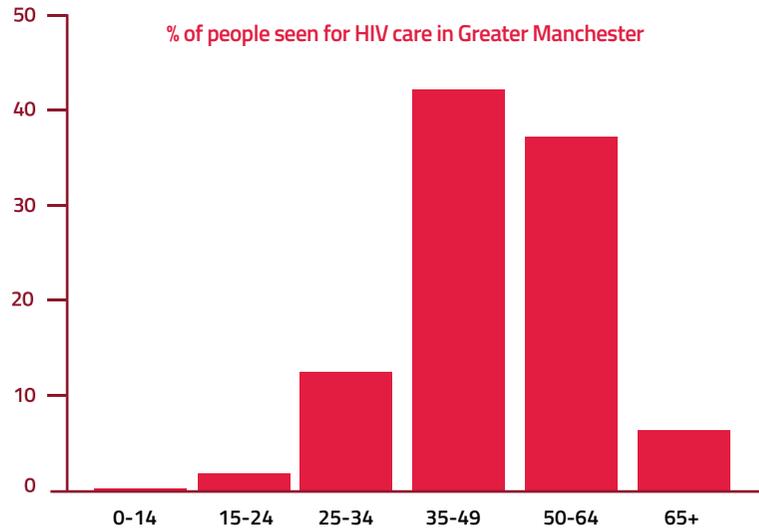
From 2013 to 2023, the number of people accessing HIV care increased by 37.7% (from 4,709 to 6,486). The demographic breakdowns of this total are below:





Age

As people live longer, healthier lives with HIV we have seen the number of people with a HIV diagnosis who are aged 50 and over increase in recent years.



Route of transmission

6,057 people (93.3%) had acquired HIV via sexual transmission:

<p>51%</p> <p>3,202 men had acquired HIV via sex with other men</p>	<p>28%</p> <p>1,760 women had acquired HIV via heterosexual sex</p>	<p>17.5%</p> <p>1,093 men had acquired HIV via heterosexual sex</p>
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209 people had acquired HIV via other routes of transmission including injecting drug use (1.26%) or vertical transmission (2.1%).¹⁰

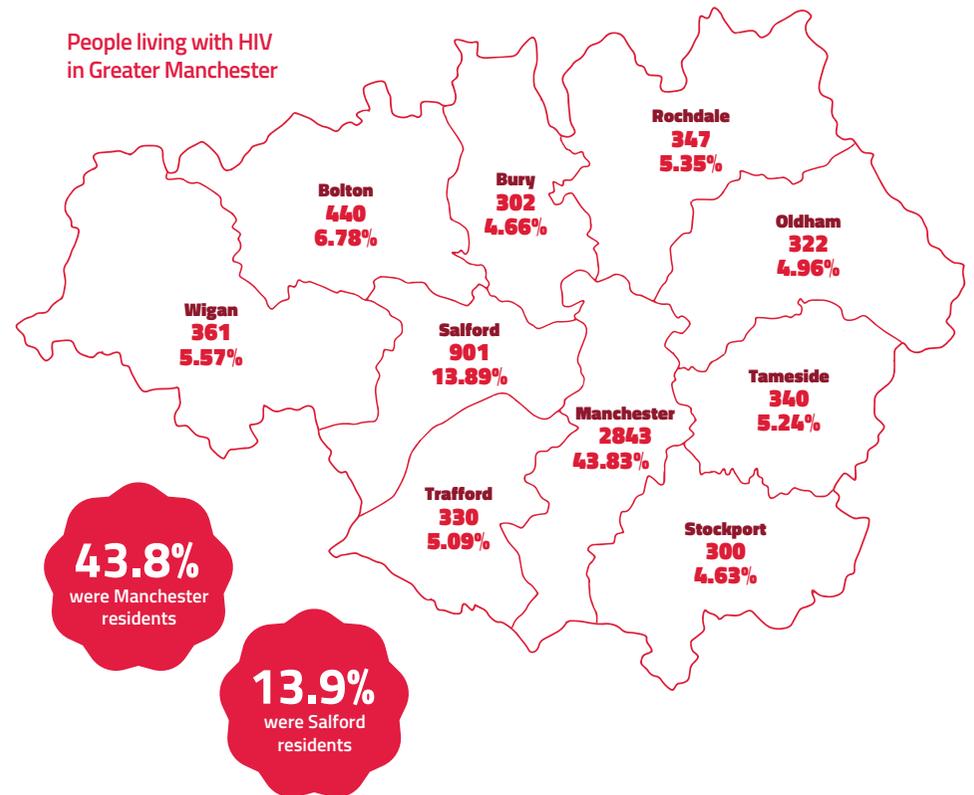
¹⁰ UKHSA (2023) HIV surveillance data tables for local authorities

¹¹ UKHSA Sexual and Reproductive Health Profiles



Area of residence

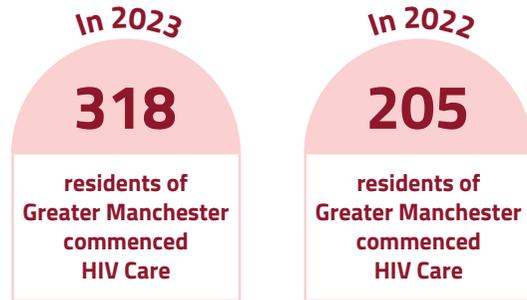
Residents of Greater Manchester accounted for 6.5% (6486) of the 100,063 people seen for HIV care in England in 2023.¹¹





5. New diagnoses of HIV in Greater Manchester

The general trajectory of new diagnosis in Greater Manchester is down; decreasing by 51% since we saw a peak number in 2014 (302 new diagnoses).¹² Those first diagnosed abroad do not reflect transmission within the UK.



Of these, 49% (155) were first diagnosed in England and 51% (163) had previously been diagnosed abroad.¹³

Of these, 68% (139) were first diagnosed in England and 32% (66) had previously been diagnosed abroad.

Some of these differences may be driven by changing patterns of migration and the implementation of ED testing in Manchester and Salford.

Probable route of transmission

Of the 155 residents of Greater Manchester who received a new HIV diagnosis in the UK in 2023, probable route of exposure due to sexual transmission has been ascertained for 132 people (85% of the total).

In 2023, the probable exposure that saw the largest number of new HIV diagnoses in Greater Manchester were:

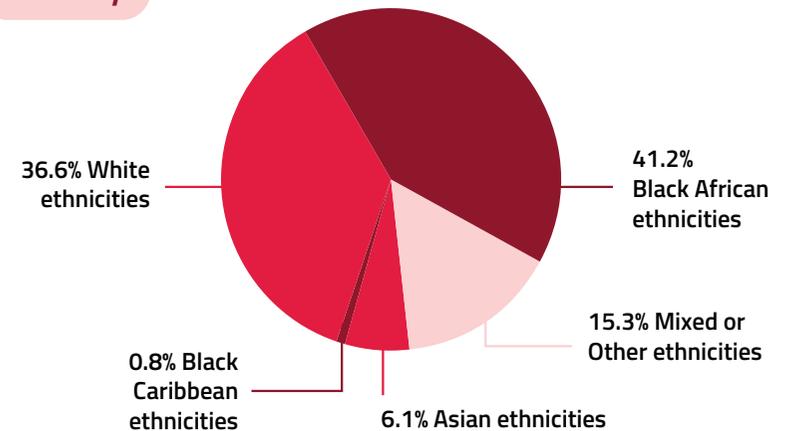


Gender

There is an accelerating trend of less men being diagnosed and more women in 2023.



Ethnicity



¹² UKHSA Sexual and Reproductive Health Profiles

¹³ UKHSA Sexual and Reproductive Health Profiles

¹⁴ UKHSA Sexual and Reproductive Health Profiles



Age

There was a slight increase in the number aged 15-24 (17) compared to 2022 (12) but the overall trend is downwards.



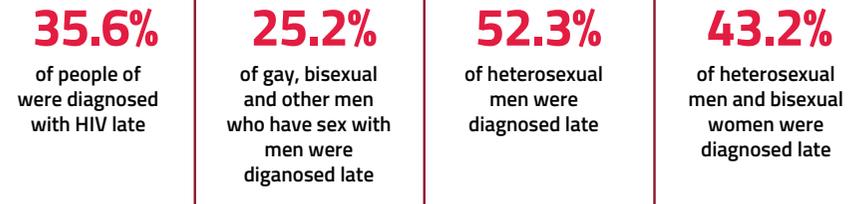
of people newly diagnosed with HIV in GM 2023 were aged between 25 and 49



6. Late diagnosis

People who are diagnosed late have been living with undiagnosed HIV for around three to five years, on average.

For public reporting via the UKHSA Fingertips tool, late diagnosis in Greater Manchester is reported over a three-year period with the latest being 2021-2023:



7. HIV testing in Sexual Health Services

In 2023 the HIV testing rate within Sexual Health services for Greater Manchester residents was 1698 per 100,000 which is lower than the England average of 2,770.

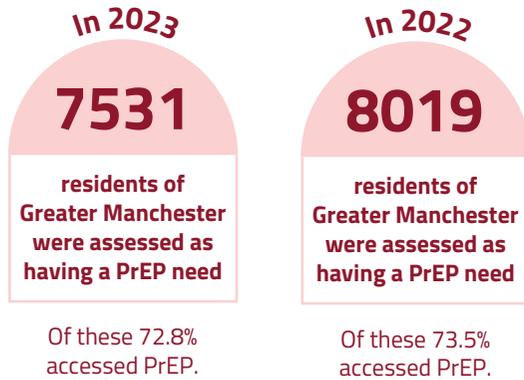
Manchester (2,626) and Salford (2,556) rates were similar to the England rate with all other areas being lower.



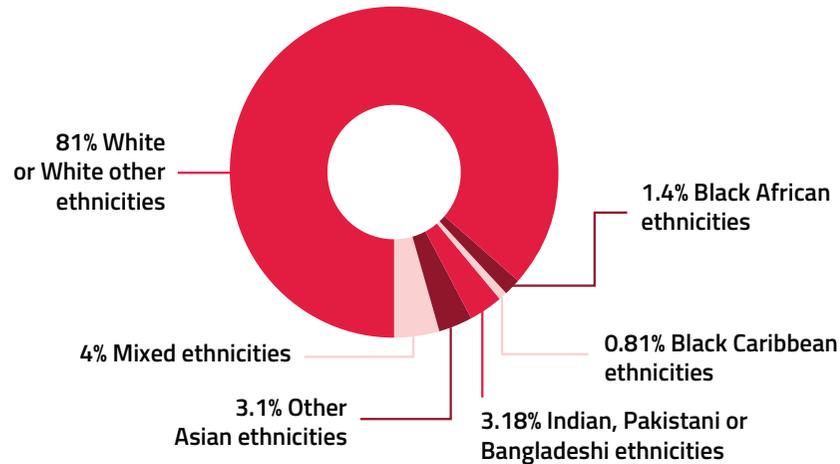


8. PrEP

In 2023, 5488 people initiated or continued PrEP in Greater Manchester a 7% reduction from the 5891 in 2022.



In the North West, attendees of specialist sexual health services who initiated or continued use of PrEP in 2023 included:



Acknowledgements

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The PaSH  Partnership

Passionate about Sexual Health across Greater Manchester

