

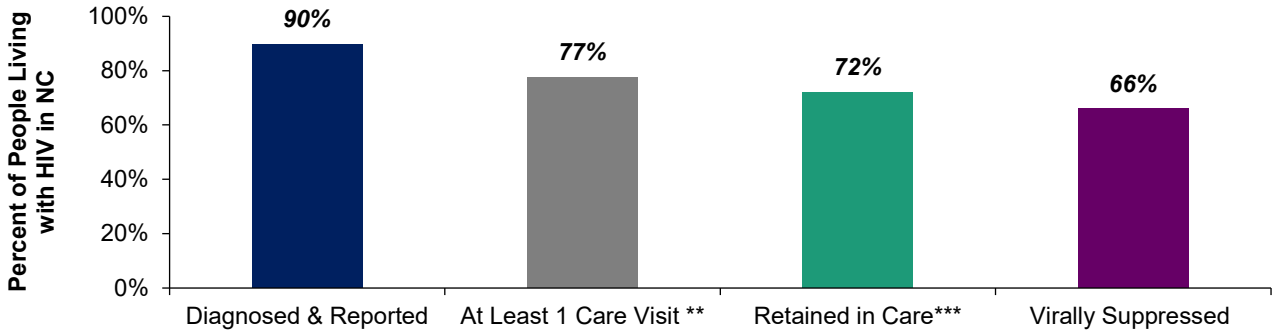


# HIV Care Outcomes in North Carolina, 2020



**Most people receiving HIV care are virally suppressed. Some people living with HIV (PLWH) are not receiving regular care.**

HIV Continuum of Care in North Carolina, 2020<sup>^</sup>



Note: 2020 data should be treated with caution due to reduced availability of testing caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Data is italicized for this reason.

<sup>^</sup>People over the age of 13 diagnosed with HIV in NC through 2020 and living in NC at the end of 2020. Data are preliminary and is subject to change (does not include 2020 vital statistics information).

\*\*At least 1 indicator of care (lab, Medicaid claim, or ARV dispense) in 2020.

\*\*\*Retained in care is defined as having 2 or more indicators of care (lab, Medicaid claim, or ARV dispense) at least 90 days apart OR virally suppressed in 2020.

<sup>^</sup>Virally suppressed is defined as the last viral load in 2020 with a value of <200 copies/mL.

## HIV Continuum of Care Key Results

The National HIV/AIDS Strategy (NHAS) for the United States released 2020 goals. Three of the 10 indicators to monitor progress are listed below:

**Indicator 1: Increase the percentage of people living with HIV who know their HIV status to at least 90%.**

**North Carolina Status: Met**

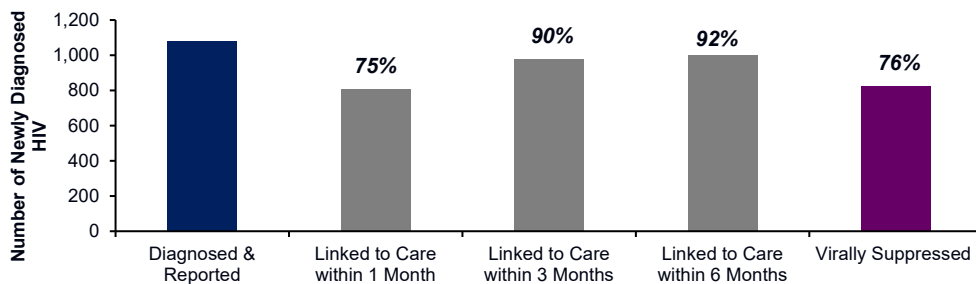
- Of the estimated 38,900 PLWH over the age of 13 in NC, 34,903 (90%) were diagnosed and reported with HIV through 2020.

**Indicator 4: Increase the percentage of newly diagnosed PLWH linked to HIV medical care within one month of diagnosis to at least 85%.**

**North Carolina: Not Met Yet**

- In 2020, 75% of people newly diagnosed with HIV in NC were linked to care within one month.

People newly diagnosed with HIV in 2020 are rapidly linked to care



**Indicator 6: Increase the percentage of people virally suppressed to at least 80%.**

**North Carolina Status: Not Met Yet**

- Among PLWH in NC through 2020, 66% were virally suppressed (viral load <200 copies/mL), which is higher than the national suppression of 62%, (CDC 2019).
- Among PLWH receiving medical care in 2020, 85% were suppressed in 2020. When we include people who did not receive care, the statewide indicator decreases to 66%.
- 83% of PLWH receiving any Ryan White Part B services were virally suppressed in 2020.
- 86% of PLWH in the HIV Medication Assistance Program (HMAP) were virally suppressed in 2020 (more information: <https://epi.dph.ncdhhs.gov/cd/hiv/hmap.html>).

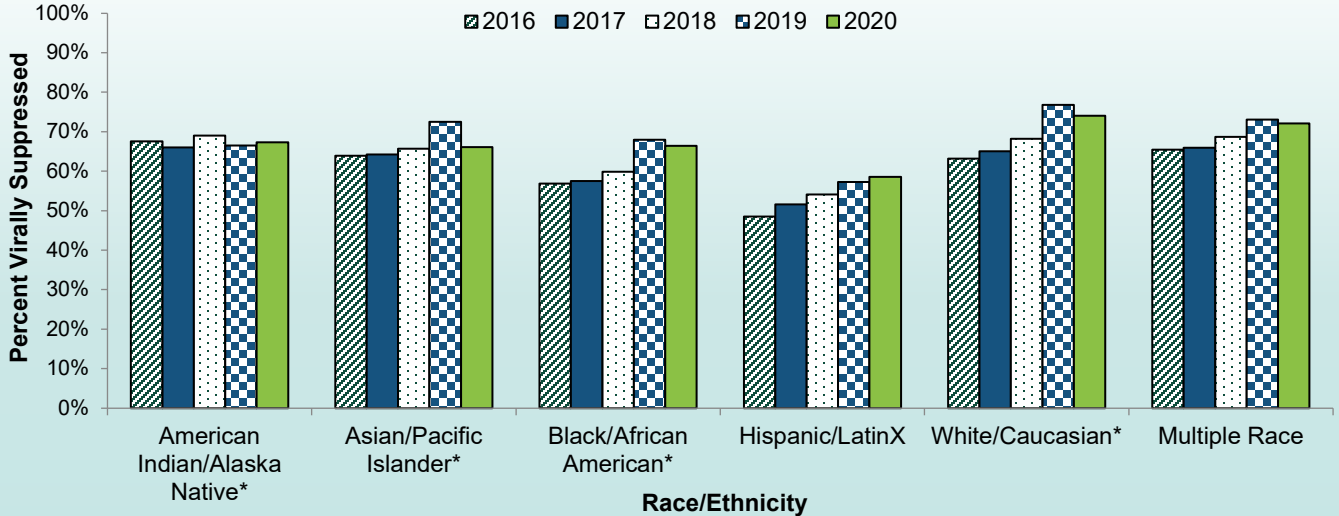


# HIV Care Outcomes in North Carolina, 2020\*



**While racial and ethnic disparities in viral suppression still exist, overall viral suppression is increasing for most groups.**

**Viral Suppression in NC by Race/Ethnicity, 2016-2020\***



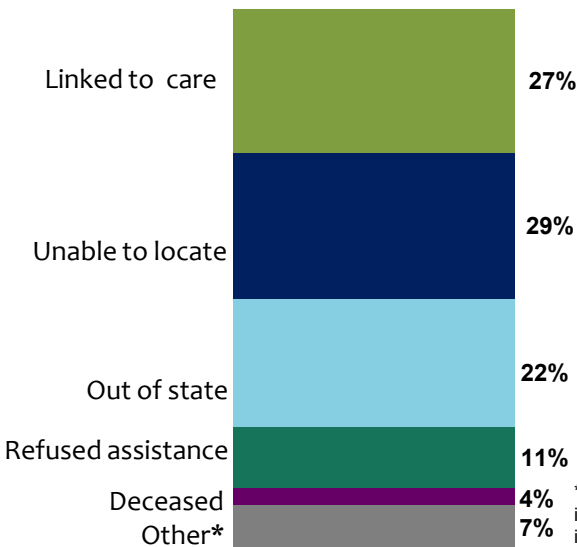
Note: 2020 data should be treated with caution due to reduced availability of testing caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

\*People over the age of 13 diagnosed with HIV in NC through 2020 and living in NC at the end of 2020. Data are preliminary and is subject to change (does not include 2020 vital statistics information).

\*\*Virally suppressed is defined as the last viral load in 2020 with a value of <200 copies/ml.

\*Non-Hispanic/Latinx.

## NC bridge counselors assist PLWH access services necessary for linkage and retention in HIV care.



State-wide efforts by public health and clinical staff attempted to contact 2,581 people not receiving care for HIV in 2020 to offer assistance in linking to care.

- 27% were linked to care through these efforts.
- 29% were not locatable.
- 22% were found to be living in another state.
- Obstacles to regular care attendance include distrust of the medical or surveillance systems, uncertain access to money, housing, or transportation, and the complexity of accessing insurance and benefits.

\*Other includes incarcerated and cases with incomplete information.

Data Sources: enhanced HIV/AIDS Reporting System (eHARS) (June 28, 2021) and North Carolina Engagement in Care Database for HIV Outreach (NC ECHO) (data as of July 2021).