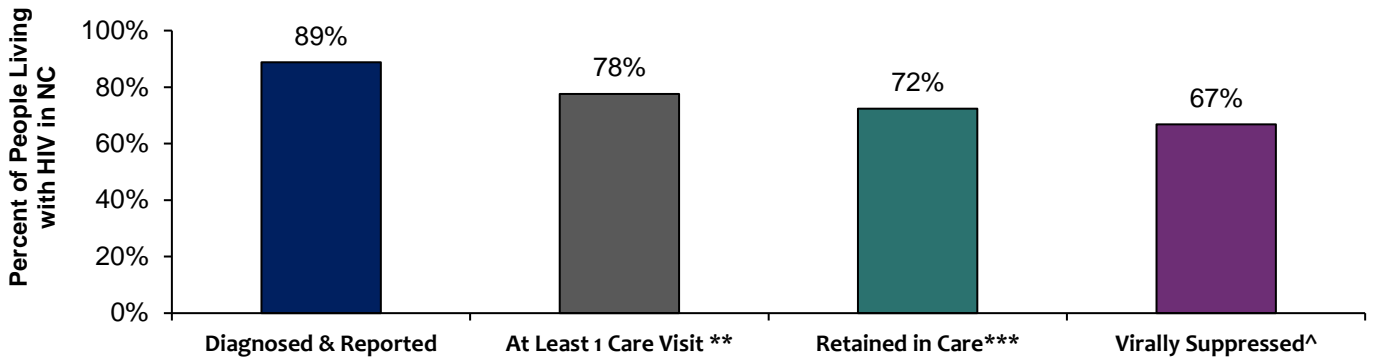




HIV Care Outcomes in North Carolina, 2021



A majority of people living with HIV (PLWH) in NC receive care and are virally suppressed. Some PLWH are not receiving regular care.



^People over the age of 13 diagnosed with HIV in NC through 2021 and living in NC at the end of 2021.

**At least 1 indicator of care (lab, Medicaid claim, or ARV dispense) in 2021.

***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 2021.

^Virally suppressed is defined as the last viral load in 2021 with a value of <200 copies/mL.

Three of the 10 The National HIV/AIDS Strategy indicators to monitor progress in controlling HIV 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: Not Met

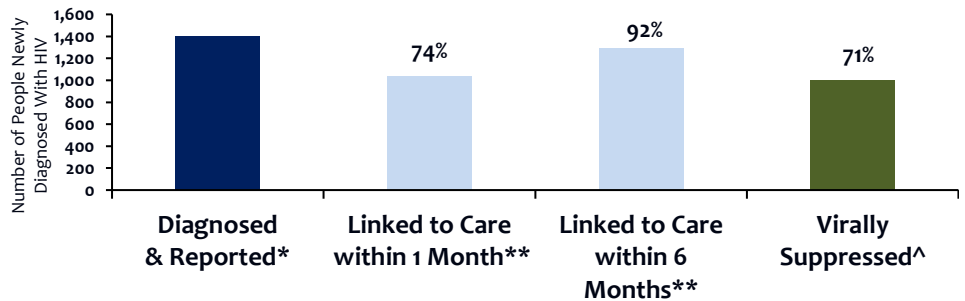
- Of the estimated 40,085 PLWH 13 years and over in NC, 35,632 (89%) have been diagnosed; the remainder may not be aware that they have HIV.

Most people newly diagnosed with HIV are rapidly linked to care, but some are not.

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 Status: Not Met

- In 2021, 74% of people newly diagnosed with HIV in NC were linked to care within one month.



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

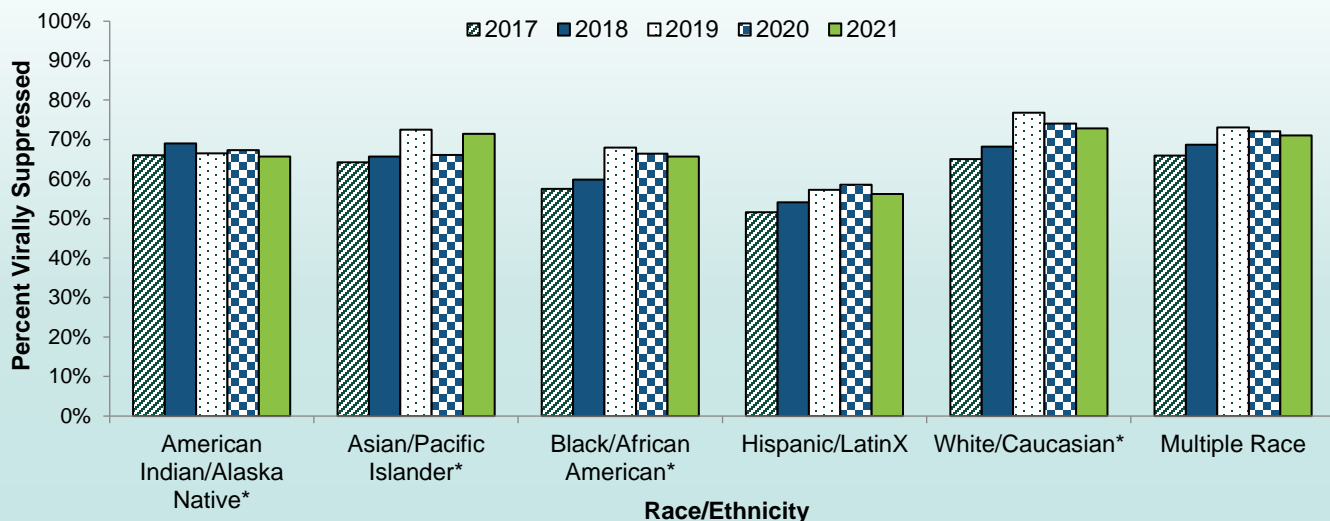
North Carolina Status: Not Met

- Among PLWH in NC through 2021, 67% 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 2021, 86% were suppressed in 2021. When we include people who did not receive care, the statewide indicator decreases to 67%.
- 84% of PLWH receiving any Ryan White Part B services were virally suppressed in 2021.
- 85% of PLWH in the HIV Medication Assistance Program (HMAP) were virally suppressed in 2021 (more information: <https://epi.dph.ncdhhs.gov/cd/hiv/hmap.html>).



There are differences in HIV viral suppression between race and ethnicity groups; viral suppression is lowest for Hispanic/LatinX people.

Viral Suppression in NC by Race/Ethnicity, 2016-2021



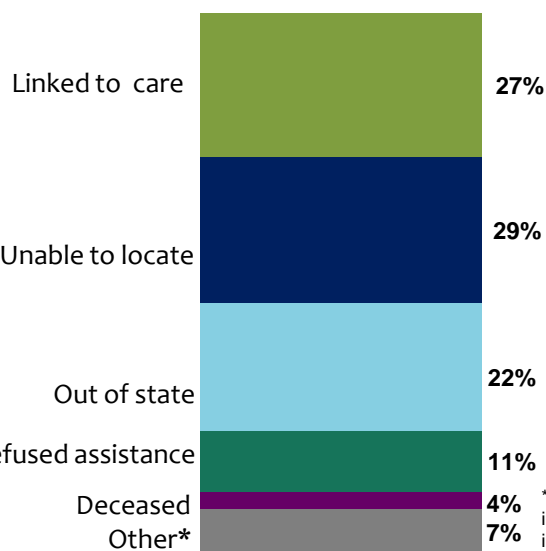
Note: 2020 data should be treated with caution due to reduced availability of testing caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

*People 13 and over living with HIV in NC through 2021 and living in NC at the end of 2021. Data are preliminary and is subject to change (does not include 2021 vital statistics information).

^^Virally suppressed is defined as the last viral load in 2021 with a value of <200 copies/ml.

*Non-Hispanic/LatinX.

NC bridge counselors reach out to PLWH to assist with access to HIV care.



NC Division of Public Health bridge counselors, practice-based linkage to care counselors, and members of the HIV care community reached out to PLWH to support their access to HIV care.

- 27% were linked to care through these efforts.
- 26% were found to be deceased or living in another state, so their inclusion in NC records was incorrect; this process allowed the records to be corrected.
- The remainder could not be confirmed to be in care. Obstacles to regular care attendance include distrust of the medical or government systems, limited access to funds, 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).