Persons 50 Years and Older
The number of persons ≥50 years living with HIV disease has been increasing in the United States. In addition to new cases diagnosed among those ≥50 years, improved treatment regimens have resulted in increased longevity among persons living with HIV disease. From 2007 to 2009, the prevalence of U.S. adults ≥50 years living with diagnosed HIV disease increased from 241 to 281 per 100,000 population (CDC, 2013).

HIV Disease Diagnoses
In Illinois, 1,346 adults ≥50 years were diagnosed with HIV disease from 2009–2013. This age group accounted for 15% of all new HIV disease diagnoses during this time period. Incidence among older adults has declined since 2000 and in 2013, the rate of new diagnoses was 6.4 per 100,000 population.

Figure 1. HIV Disease Diagnoses among Adults ≥50 Years by Year of Diagnosis, Illinois, 2000–2013

Source: Illinois Department of Public Health, June, 2014

Geography
Chicago, Cook County, and the surrounding region had the highest number of new HIV disease diagnoses among adults ≥50 years from 2009–2013.

Figure 2. HIV Disease Diagnoses among Adults ≥50 Years by Region, Illinois, 2009–2013

Source: Illinois Department of Public Health, June, 2014

Sex
Among older adults, reflecting the overall HIV epidemic, the majority of new HIV disease diagnoses from 2009–2013 in Illinois were among men (73%). However, in this age group, women accounted for a higher proportion of new HIV disease diagnoses compared to the proportion in the overall population from 2009–2013 (27% vs. 19%).

Figure 3. HIV Disease Diagnoses among Adults ≥50 Years by Sex, Illinois, 2009–2013

Source: Illinois Department of Public Health, June, 2014
Transmission Risk Category
Among adults ≥50 years diagnosed with HIV disease from 2009–2013, MSM represented the highest proportion of cases (51%). However, in this age group, individuals who reported heterosexual contact as the risk factor for transmission and injection drug users (IDUs) made up a higher proportion of cases than among younger age groups (see section, “Overview of HIV Disease in Illinois”).

Figure 4. HIV Disease Diagnoses among Adults ≥50 Years by Transmission Risk Category, Illinois 2009–2013

Source: Illinois Department of Public Health, June, 2014

Race/Ethnicity
Non-Hispanic (NH) blacks made up the largest proportion of adults ≥50 years diagnosed with HIV disease from 2009–2013 (51%). The next largest proportion of HIV disease diagnoses were among NH white adults (32%).

Figure 5. HIV Disease Diagnoses among Adults ≥50 Years by Race/Ethnicity, Illinois 2009–2013

Source: Illinois Department of Public Health, June, 2014

Persons Living with HIV Disease
At the end of 2013, there were 14,415 adults ≥50 years living with HIV disease in Illinois. There has been a steady increase in the number of older adults living with HIV disease with the rate in 2013 six-fold higher than in 2000 (338 vs. 49 per 100,000 population).

Figure 6. Rate of Adults ≥50 Years Living with HIV Disease by Year, Illinois, 2000–2013

Source: Illinois Department of Public Health, June, 2014

AIDS Diagnoses
Incidence of AIDS diagnoses among adults ≥50 years has declined since 2000 to 4.4 diagnoses per 100,000 population in 2013. From 2000–2013, 3,028 Illinois adults ≥50 years living with HIV disease progressed to AIDS with an annual average of 216 diagnoses.

Late HIV disease diagnoses, or diagnoses with AIDS at the time of initial HIV disease diagnosis or within 12 months of initial diagnosis, are more likely to occur at older ages (see section, “Late HIV Diagnosis”). From 2008-2012, over 42% of adults diagnosed at ≥50 years had a late HIV disease diagnosis.
Mortality
The number of deaths among adults ≥50 years living with HIV disease increased between 2000–2013. A total of 3,933 deaths were reported in this age group from 2000-2013 with an average of 281 deaths annually. As more persons living with HIV disease survive to older ages, the number of deaths in this age group is expected to increase.

Figure 8. Deaths among Adults ≥50 Years Living with HIV Disease by Year of Death, Illinois, 2000–2013

Source: Illinois Department of Public Health, April, 2015

REFERENCES