

## Section 5. HIV Mortality

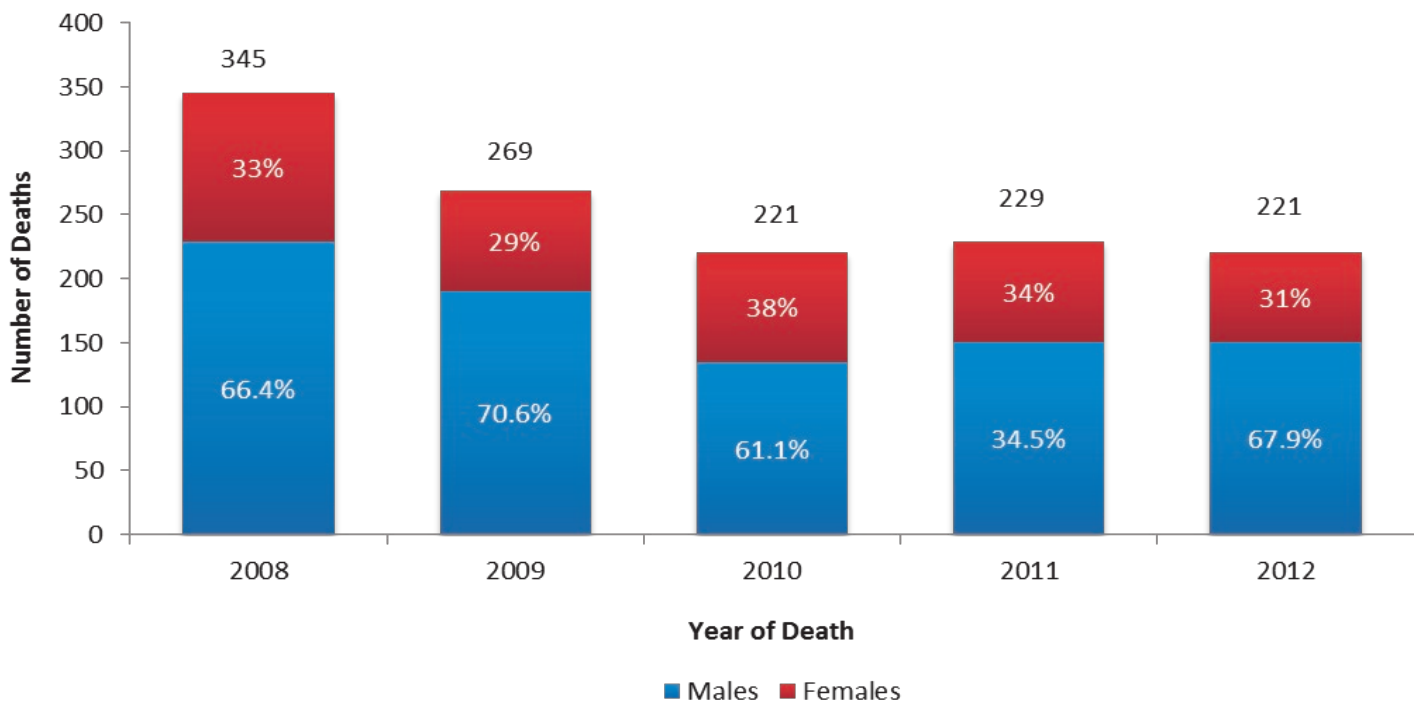
Between 2008 and 2012, there were 1,285 deaths among persons with HIV in the District of Columbia. Two-thirds (66.5%) of deaths occurred among men, and 85.5% of deaths were among blacks. Over two-thirds (36.6%) of deaths occurred in people 50 to 59 years old, and almost one-third (28.5%) were among people 40 to 49 years of age. By mode of transmission, the largest proportion of deaths was among those with transmission attributed to IDU (30.2%), followed by heterosexual contact (24.9 %), and MSM (22.4%), although all declined over the 5-year period. Among total deaths, 41% of the deaths were HIV-related.

**Table 7.** Number of Deaths among HIV cases by Year of Death  
District of Columbia, 2008-2012

	Year of Death				
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Number of deaths	345	269	221	229	221

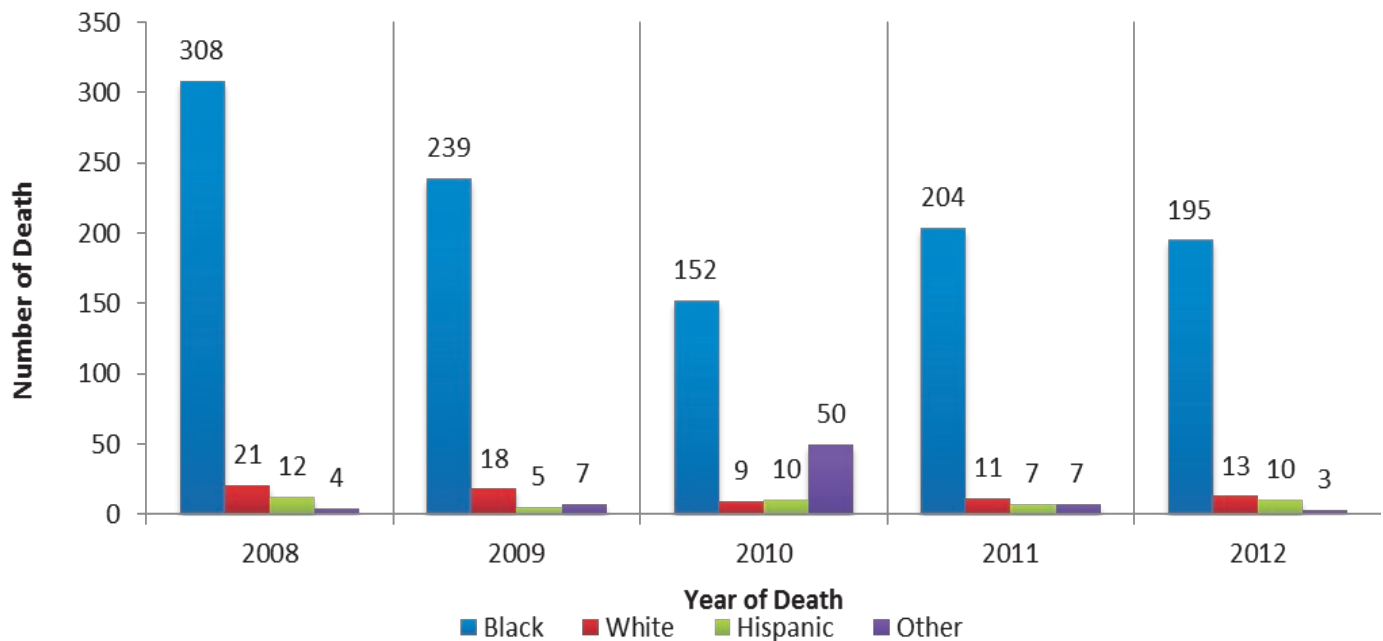
There was a steady decline in the number of deaths among HIV cases, with an overall decline of 36% between 2008 and 2012.

**Figure 18.** Deaths Among HIV Cases by Year of Death and Sex  
District of Columbia, 2008-2012



Two-thirds (66.5%) of deaths during this 5-year time period were among men, while the proportion of new HIV diagnoses among men was 71.2% during the same time period. The ratio of deaths comparing men and women has not changed between 2008 and 2012.

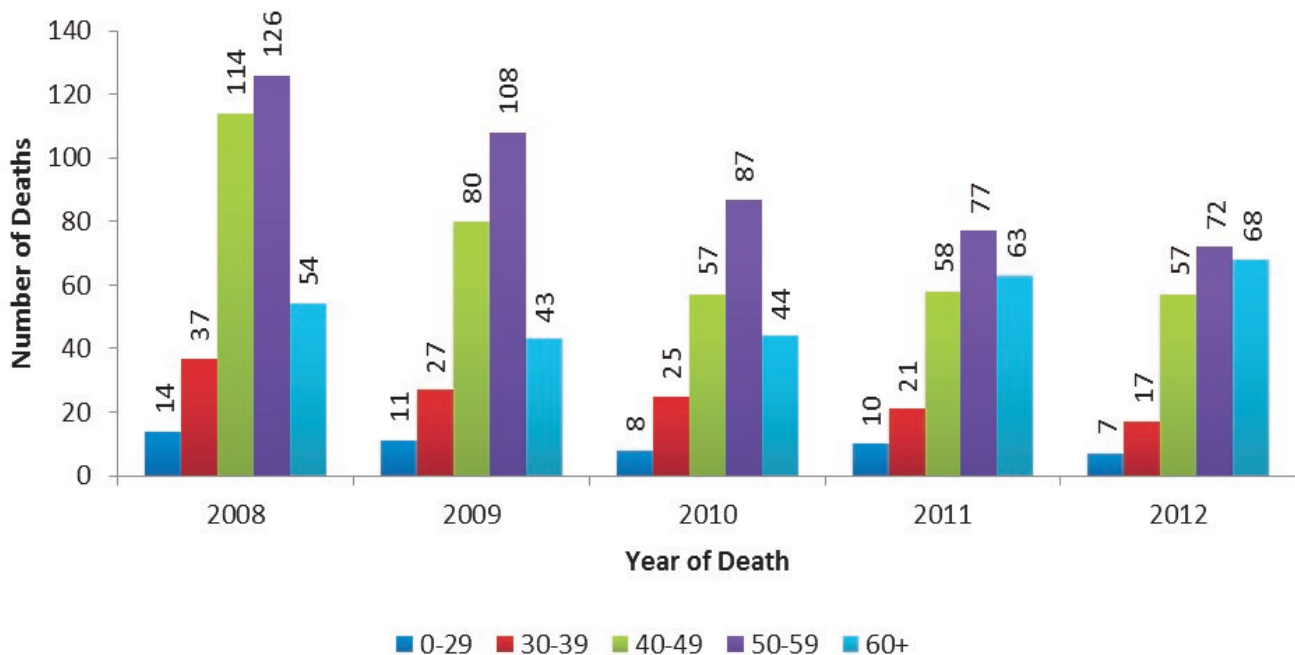
**Figure 19. Deaths among HIV Cases by Year of Death and Race/Ethnicity**  
District of Columbia, 2008-2012



\*Other race includes mixed race individuals, Asians, Alaska Natives, American Indians, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islanders, and unknown

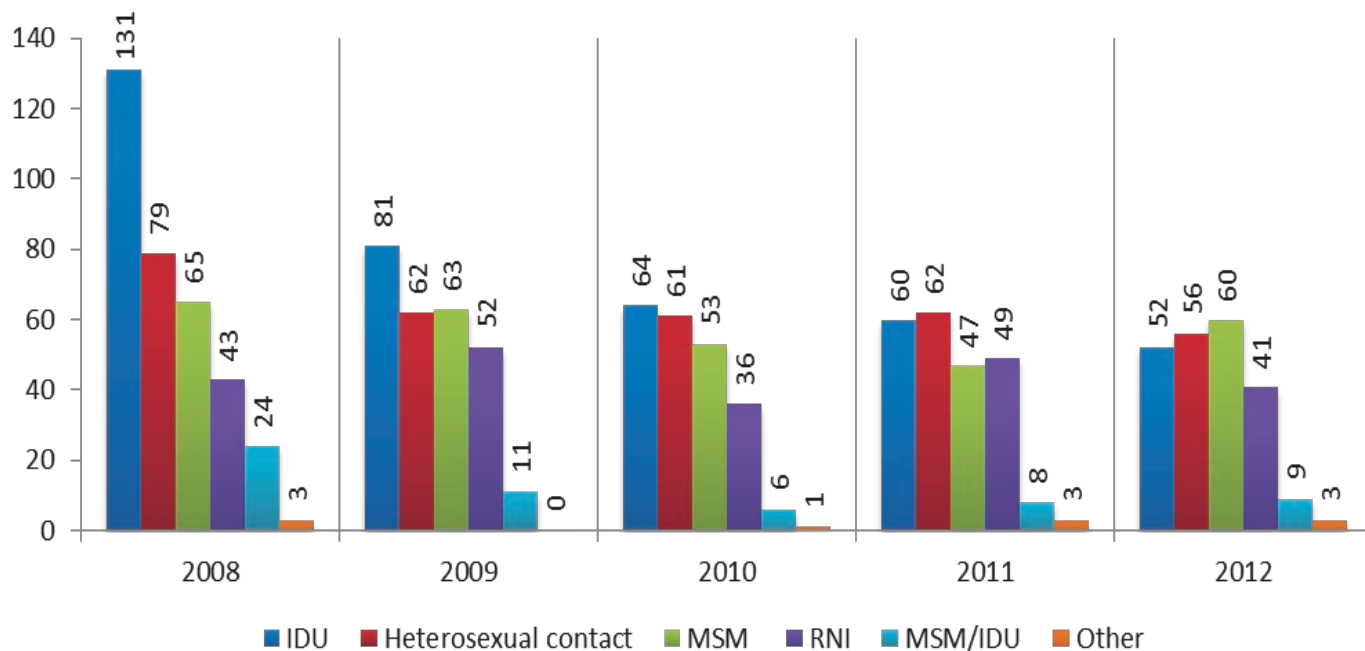
Overall, the number of deaths among HIV cases in all race groups declined between 2008 and 2012.

**Figure 20. Deaths among HIV Cases by Year of Diagnosis and Age at Death**  
District of Columbia, 2008-2012



- The age at death has increased; median age at death in 2008 was 50 years while the median age at death in 2012 was 54 years.
- Between 2008 and 2012, the greatest number of deaths occurred among those 50 to 59 years of age.
- Between 2010 and 2011 there was an increase of 43% in the number of deaths among 60 to 69 year olds.

**Figure 21. Deaths Among HIV Cases by Year of Diagnosis and Mode of Transmission**  
District of Columbia, 2008-2012



\*Other mode of transmission includes perinatal transmission, hemophilia, blood transfusion, and occupational exposure (health care workers).

- The largest decrease in number of deaths by mode of transmission was among cases reported as MSM/IDU and IDU. Deaths among these group decreased by 63% and 60%, respectively between 2008 and 2012.
- The number of deaths among HIV cases with heterosexual contact and MSM/IDU reported as the mode of transmission decreased 29% during this 5-year period.

**Table 8. Cause of Death Among Persons with HIV by Year of Death**

District of Columbia, 2008-2012

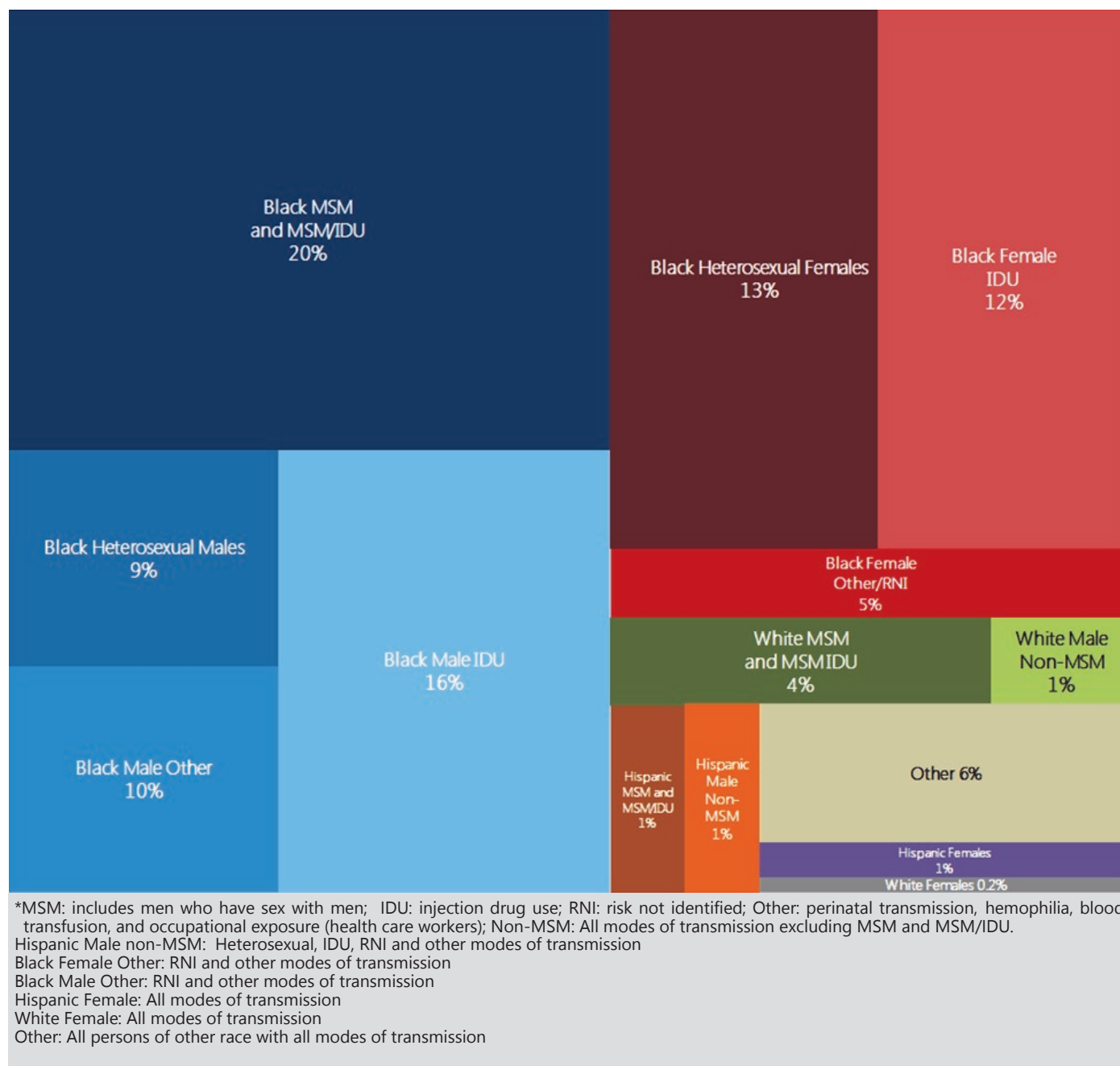
Cause of Death	2008		2009		2010		2011		2012		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
HIV-related causes*	190	55.1	97	36.1	96	43.4	77	33.6	72	32.6	532	41.1
Non-AIDS-defining malignancies	38	11.0	18	6.7	21	9.5	46	20.1	39	17.6	162	12.6
Cardiovascular	35	10.1	15	5.6	24	10.9	28	12.2	40	18.1	142	11.1
Substance Use	0	0	2	0.7	0	0	4	1.8	4	1.8	10	0.8
Accidental death	7	2.0	5	1.9	18	8.1	10	4.4	13	5.9	53	4.1
Other**	43	12.5	16	6.0	28	12.7	33	14.4	44	19.9	164	12.8
Unknown	32	9.3	116	43.1	34	15.4	31	13.5	9	4.1	222	17.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>345</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>269</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,285</b>	<b>100.0</b>

\*HIV-related causes include opportunistic infections and AIDS-defining cancers.

\*\*Other causes of death include suicide, pneumonia, COPD, and diabetes, etc.

- Over 40% of deaths between 2008 and 2012 among persons diagnosed with HIV in the District were due to HIV-related causes, such as opportunistic infections and AIDS-defining cancers.
- The underlying cause of death was unknown for 17.3% of deaths in this 5-year period. Those who died in 2009 had the highest proportion of unknown cause of death (43.1%).

**Figure 22.** Proportion of All Deaths Among HIV Cases in DC by Race/Ethnicity, Sex and Mode of Transmission  
District of Columbia, 2008-2012 (N=1,285)



- Figure 22 represents deaths that occurred among persons diagnosed with HIV in the District of Columbia between 2008 and 2012 (n=1,285) by sex, race/ethnicity, and mode of transmission.
- Nearly one-fifth of deaths among persons with HIV were among black men with injection drug use reported as their mode of transmission; another 20% were black men with MSM and MSM/IDU reported as their mode of transmission.