

## Section 4. Newly Diagnosed AIDS Cases

This section summarizes newly diagnosed and reported AIDS cases between 2007 and 2011. An AIDS case refers to a person who had a diagnosis of HIV infection and later had a diagnosis of AIDS, or a person with a concurrent diagnosis of HIV infection and AIDS. This is illustrated in Figure 12, which looks at the time from an HIV diagnosis to an AIDS diagnosis among cases diagnosed and reported in this time period.

Confidential name based AIDS case surveillance has been conducted in the District since 1985. An AIDS diagnosis is made when a person infected with HIV has a CD4+ T-cell count less than 200 cells/ $\mu$ L and/or the person is diagnosed with an opportunistic infection. CD4+ T-cells measure the immune system's ability to fight infections; when they are low (<200 cells/ $\mu$ L), it is an indication that the immune system may be weakening. This section includes all newly diagnosed AIDS cases and includes all age groups, different than in previous years.

**Table 6.** Newly Diagnosed AIDS Cases by Year of Diagnosis  
District of Columbia, 2007-2011

	Year of HIV Diagnosis				
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Number of AIDS cases	682	536	507	498	363

### Summary

There were 2,586 AIDS cases diagnosed among residents of the District between 2007 and 2011. The number of newly diagnosed AIDS cases declined each year, from 682 cases in 2007 to 363 cases in 2011; this represents a 47% decline in the number of diagnosed cases. More than two-thirds of these cases (68.5%) were among men, the majority (82.4%) were black, and over one-half (51.1%) were between 40 and 59 years of age at AIDS diagnosis. The leading modes of transmission among newly diagnosed cases were men who had sex with men (MSM) sexual contact (31.9%) and heterosexual contact (31.5%). In 21.4% of cases the mode of transmission was not identified. [Refer to appendix tables A4 and A5](#) for additional data regarding newly diagnosed AIDS cases.

### Table 6

- There has been a steady decline in newly diagnosed AIDS cases during this five year period.
- This decline occurred at the same time the District expanded HIV testing and people living with HIV were diagnosed and linked to care closer to their diagnosis date.

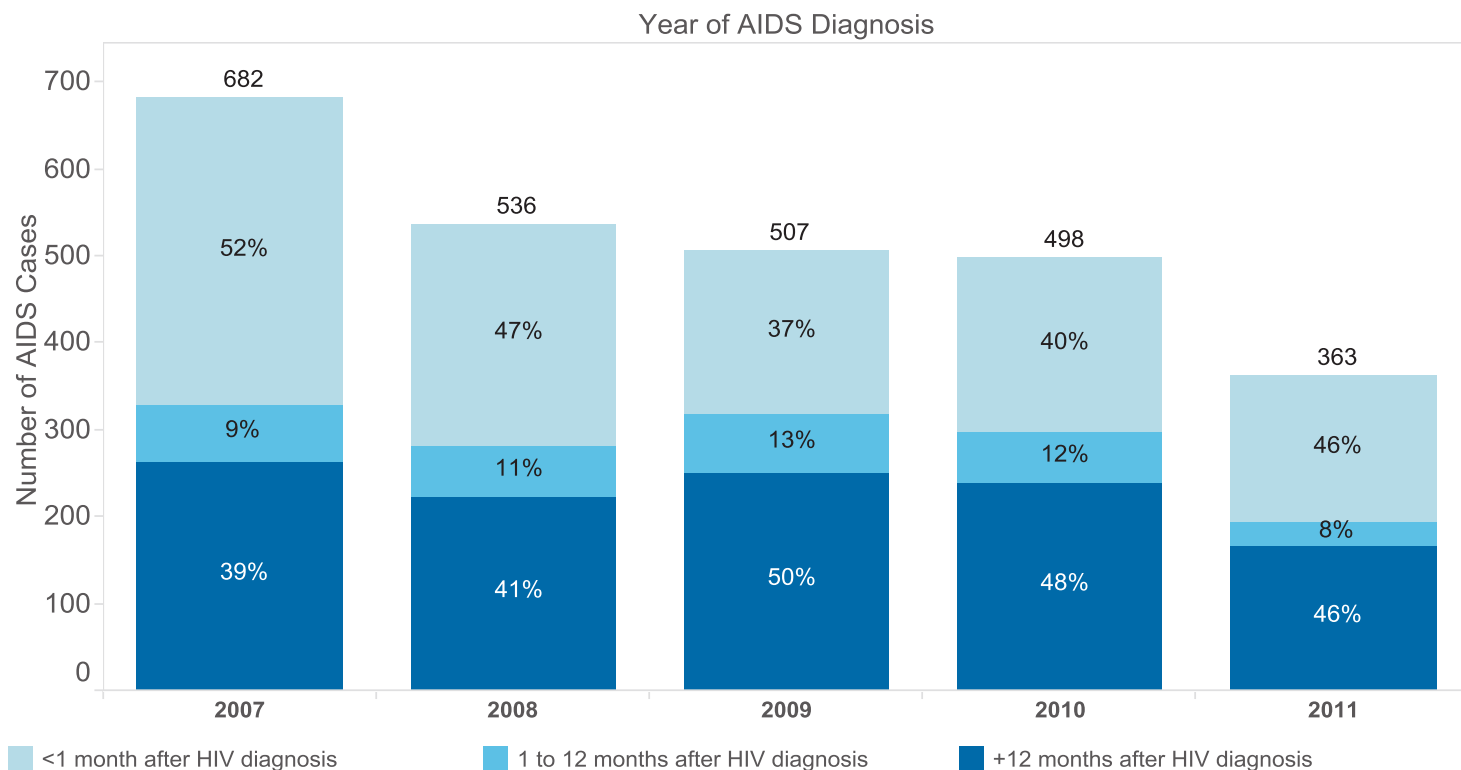
### Figure 12

- Being diagnosed with AIDS within a month of an HIV diagnosis indicates a delay in testing or accessing health care, as well as a failure to identify the case closer to the time of infection.
- Among persons diagnosed with AIDS in 2007, 52% were diagnosed within one month of receiving a positive HIV test result and 9% were diagnosed between one and 12 months after a positive HIV test result.
- Among 39% of the newly diagnosed AIDS cases in 2007, at least one year had passed since they were diagnosed with HIV. In fact, it could have been many years since their initial HIV diagnosis.
- The proportion of newly diagnosed AIDS cases that occurred within one month of an HIV diagnosis declined slightly from 52% in 2007 to 46% in 2011.

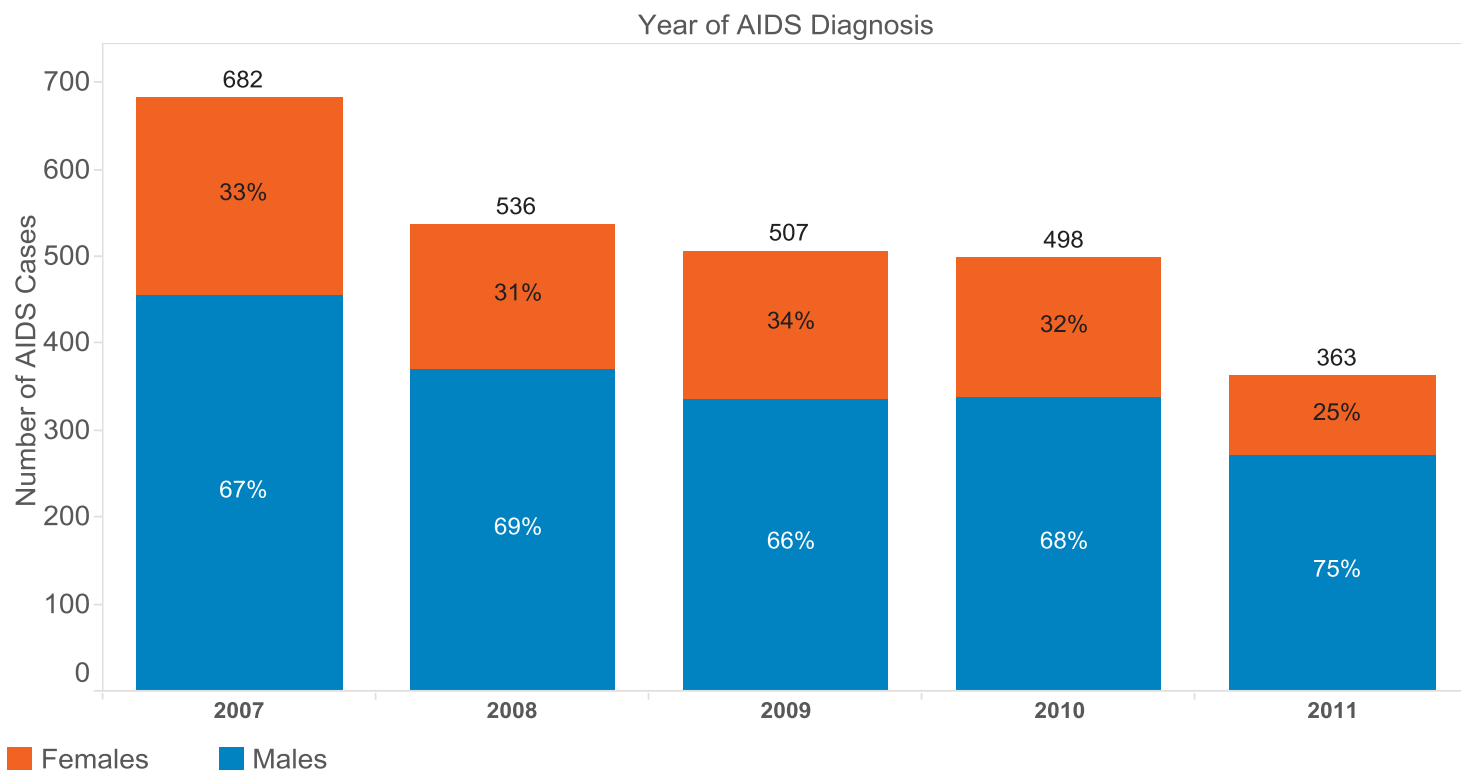
### Figure 13

- Overall 68.5% of AIDS cases diagnosed between 2007 and 2011 in the District were among men; this is similar to the proportion of men diagnosed with HIV in the District.
- Between 2007 and 2010 the proportion of newly diagnosed cases among men were relatively stable (66% to 69%). In 2011 the proportion of newly diagnosed cases among men increased to 75%.

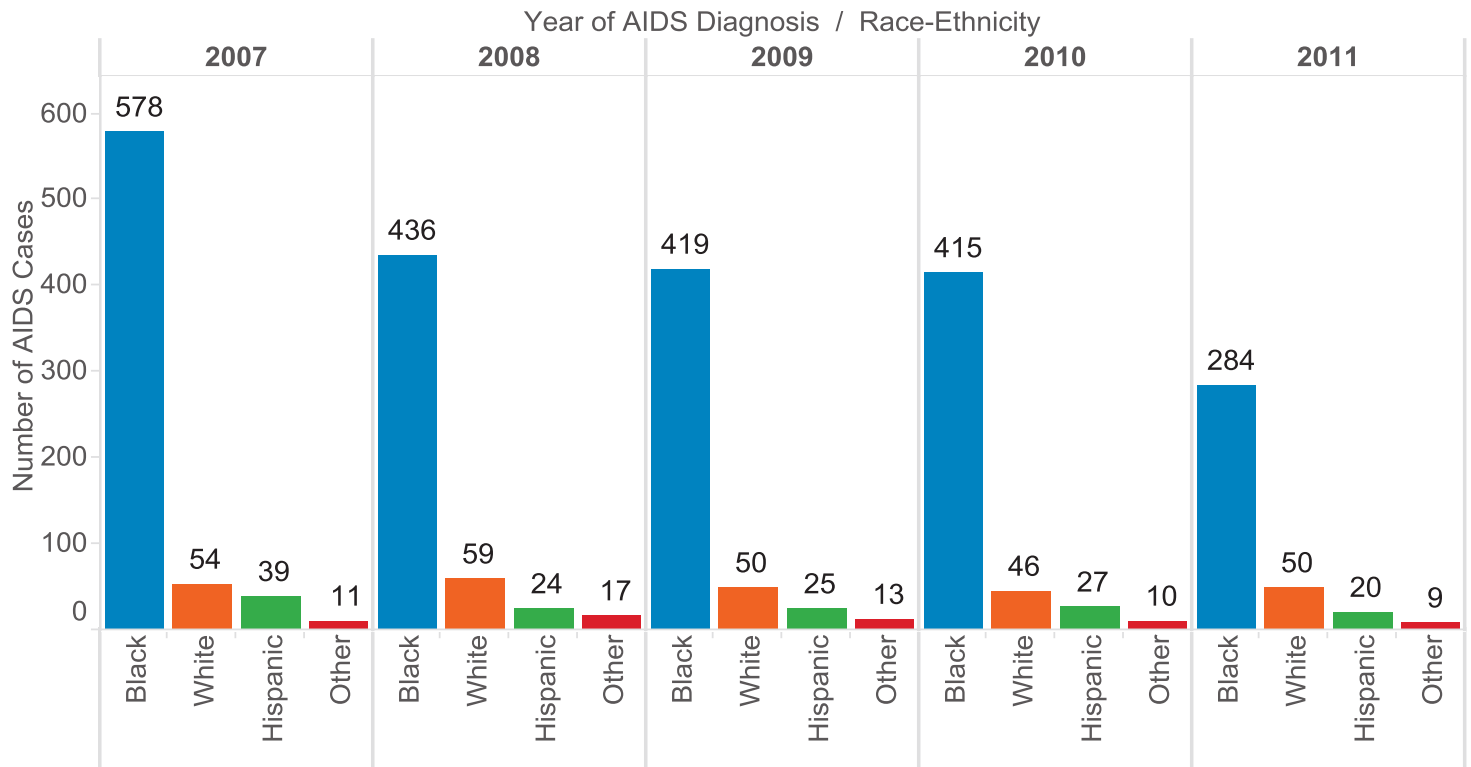
**Figure 12. Newly Diagnosed AIDS Cases by Year of Diagnosis and Time to AIDS Diagnosis**  
 District of Columbia, 2007-2011



**Figure 13. Newly Diagnosed AIDS Cases by Year of Diagnosis and Sex**  
 District of Columbia, 2007-2011

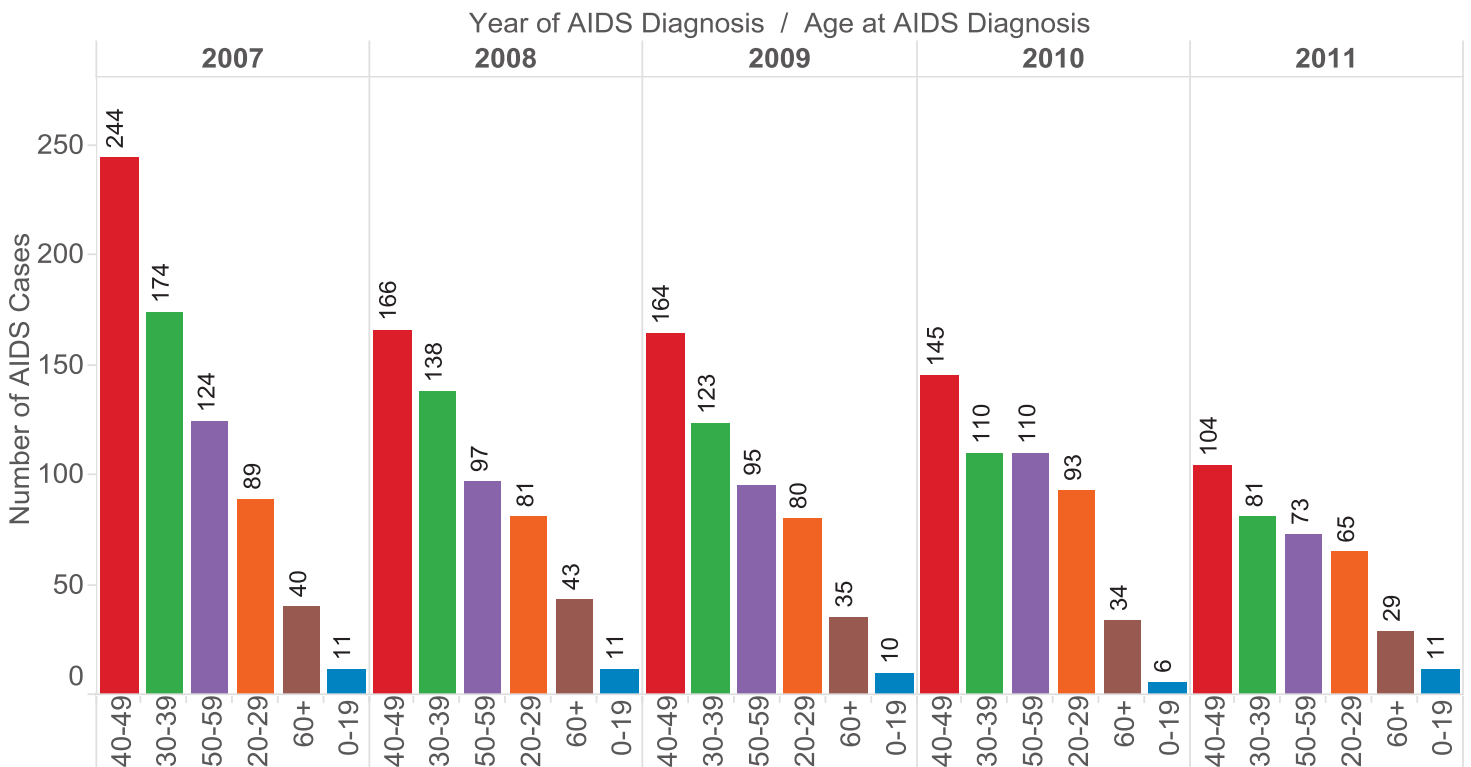


**Figure 14. Newly Diagnosed AIDS Cases by Year of Diagnosis and Race/Ethnicity**  
District of Columbia, 2007-2011

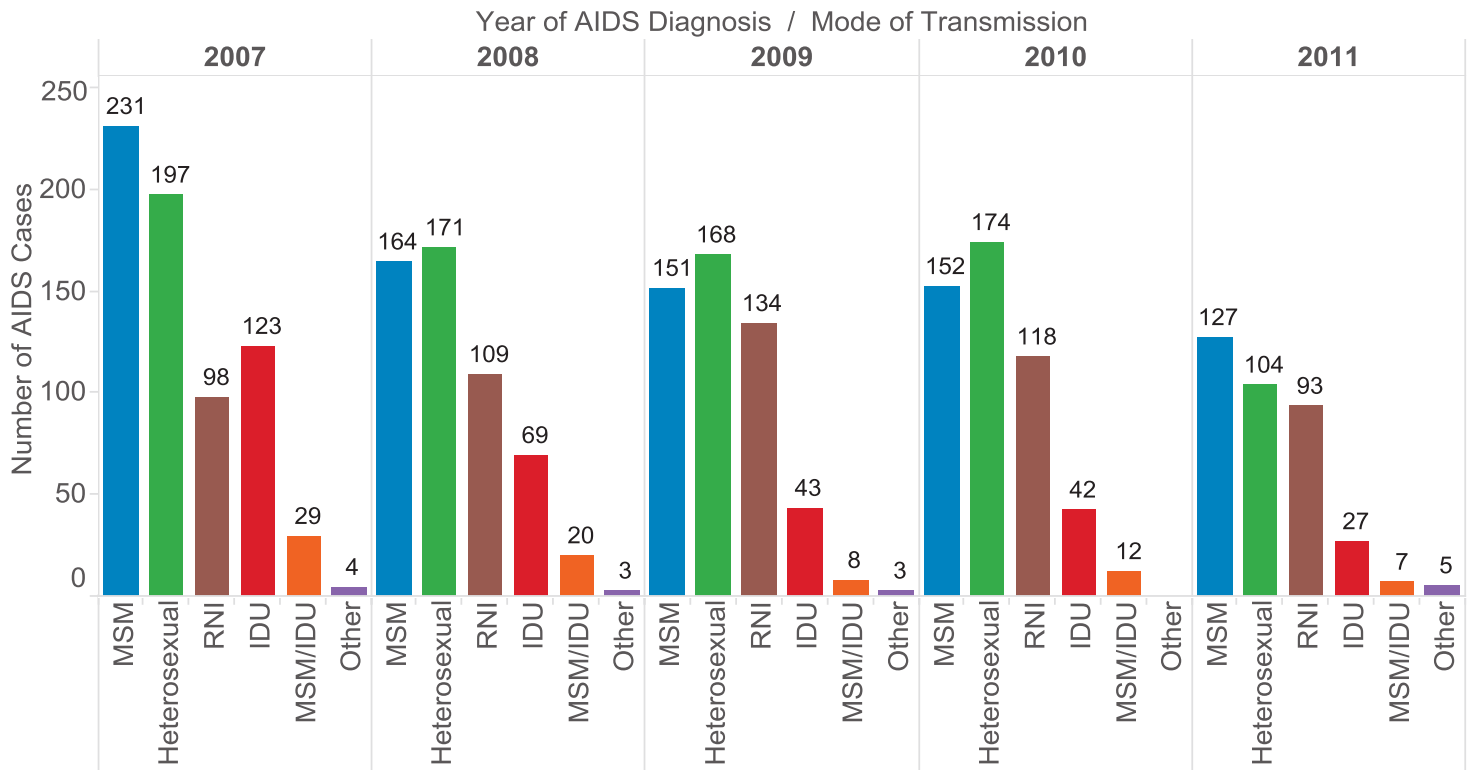


\*Other race includes mixed race individuals, Asians, Alaska Natives, American Indians, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islanders, and unknown

**Figure 15. Newly Diagnosed AIDS Cases by Year of Diagnosis and Age at AIDS Diagnosis**  
District of Columbia, 2007-2011



**Figure 16. Newly Diagnosed AIDS Cases by Year of Diagnosis and Mode of Transmission**  
 District of Columbia, 2007-2011



**Figure 14**

- There was a 51% decrease in the number of newly diagnosed AIDS cases among blacks between 2007 and 2011 and a 9% decrease among whites.
- Although the number of diagnoses among the other race groups were small, there was also an almost 50% decrease in cases among Hispanics between 2007 and 2011.
- The proportion of AIDS cases among blacks in 2007 was 84% and in 2011 was 78%.

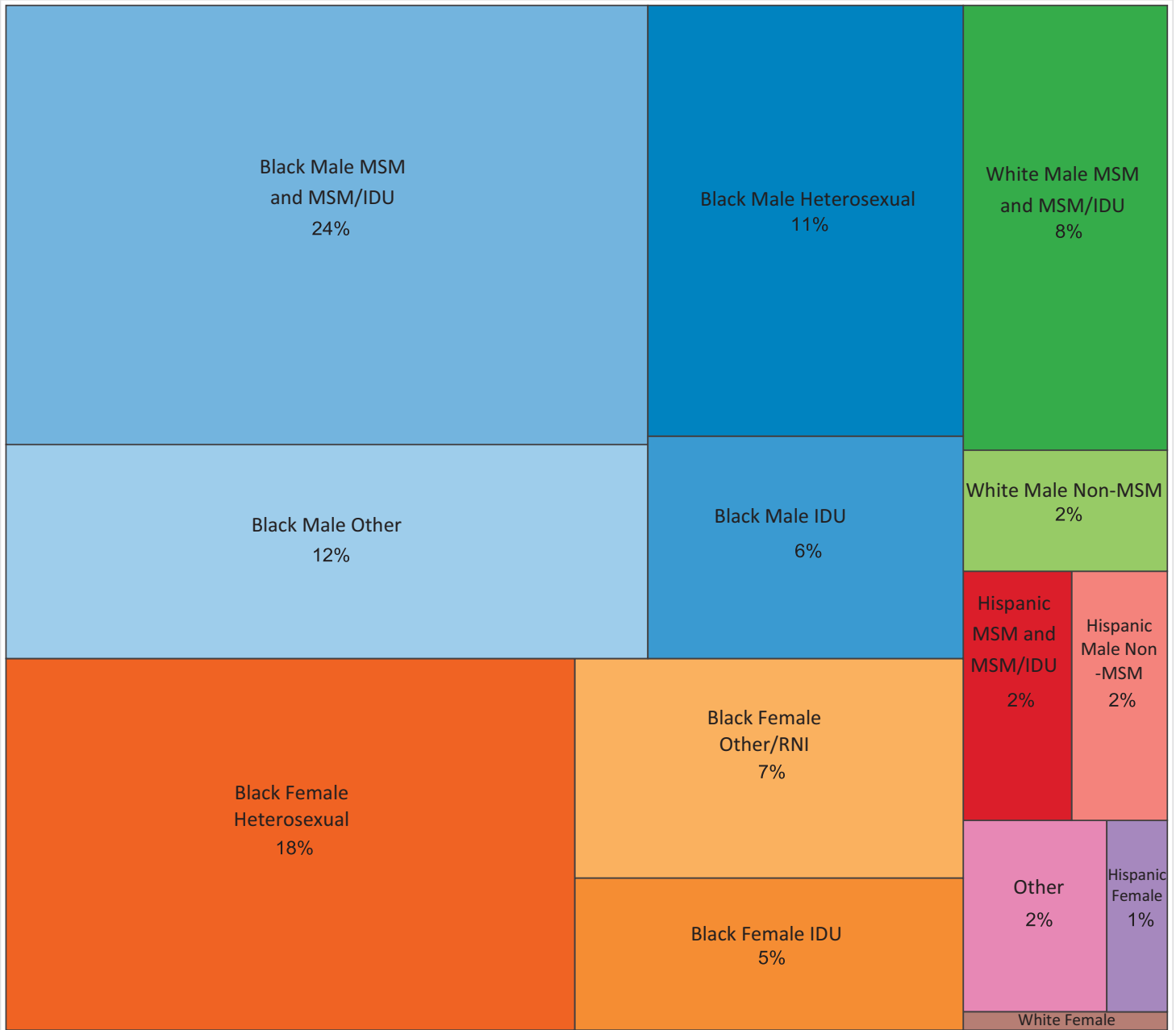
**Figure 15**

- The number of AIDS cases diagnosed between 2007 and 2011 declined 48% among those 20 years of age and older (2007: 671 cases; 2011: 352 cases).
- Among children and adolescents (0-19 years old), the number of newly diagnosed AIDS cases is consistently low, but is still remains a public health concern.

**Figure 16**

- The number of newly diagnosed AIDS cases in which mode of transmission is not known (RNI) remains high due to incomplete provider reports which makes it difficult to assess the burden of AIDS on specific modes of transmission.
- The number of cases diagnosed among intravenous drug users has decreased significantly, a 78% drop, compared to other transmissions types.

**Figure 17.** Proportion of all Newly Diagnosed AIDS Cases in DC by Race/Ethnicity, Sex, and Mode of Transmission District of Columbia, 2007-2011 (n=2,586)



\*MSM: includes men who have sex with men; IDU: injection drug use; RNI: risk not identified; Other: perinatal transmission, hemophilia, blood transfusion, and occupational exposure (healthcare workers); Non-MSM: All modes of transmission excluding MSM and MSM/IDU.

Hispanic Male non-MSM: Heterosexual, IDU, RNI and other modes of transmission

Black Female Other: RNI and other modes of transmission

Black Male Other: RNI and other modes of transmission

Hispanic Female: All modes of transmission

White Female: All modes of transmission

Other: All persons of other race with all modes of transmission

**Figure 17**

- Figure 17 represents newly diagnosed AIDS cases in the District of Columbia (n=2,586) by sex, race/ethnicity, and mode of transmission.
- Approximately one-quarter (24%) of persons newly diagnosed with AIDS in the District were black MSM.
- Black women with heterosexual mode of transmission represent the second largest group (18%) of persons newly diagnosed with AIDS in the District.