

HIV Infection Risk, Prevention, and Testing Behaviors Among Persons Who Inject Drugs (PWID)



National HIV Behavioral Surveillance • 2022

Denver • CO

283 PWID were interviewed

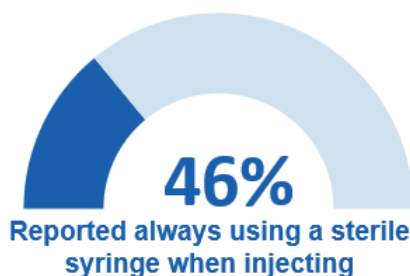
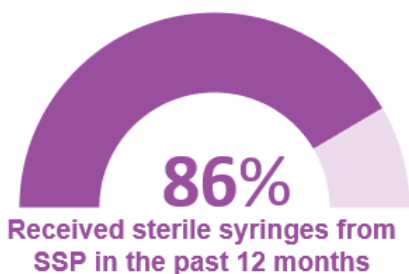
5% were **living with HIV**

PWID should get tested for HIV at least once a year.

42% tested for HIV in the past 12 months

Access to sterile syringes is critical for preventing HIV and other infections.

Syringe services programs (SSPs) are community-based prevention programs that can provide a range of services, including linkage to substance use disorder treatment; access to and disposal of sterile syringes and injection equipment; and vaccination, testing, and linkage to care and treatment for infectious diseases.



Housing status is a social determinant of health and has significant impact on HIV prevention.

75% currently experiencing
homelessness

1 in 4 for first time



7 in 8 for over a year



PrEP (pre-exposure prophylaxis) reduces HIV transmission from sex or injection drug use.

49% aware of PrEP, but only **6%** of those used PrEP



1 in 3
PWID overdosed
in the past 12 months

Medication-assisted treatment (MAT) combines medications (such as buprenorphine and methadone) and behavioral therapy to **treat substance use disorders** and **prevent overdose**.

22% of PWID tried but were **unable to obtain MAT** for opioid use treatment

NHBS collects data to guide HIV prevention efforts at local and national levels by characterizing and monitoring HIV risk behaviors and use of testing and other prevention services among people at highest risk for HIV infection.

For more information on Denver NHBS data visit <https://www.phidenverhealth.org/health-data/nhbs>