

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



National HIV Behavioral Surveillance • 2024

Denver • CO

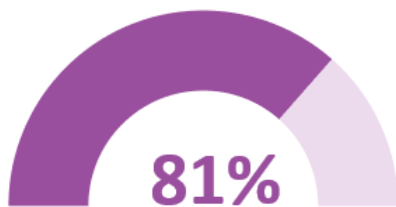
631 PWID were interviewed | **2%** were **living with HIV**

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

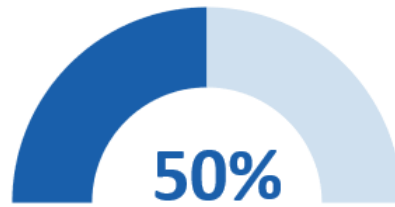
73% saw a provider, but only **28%** offered HIV test

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.



Received sterile syringes from SSP in the past 12 months



Reported always using a sterile syringe when injecting



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

65% currently experiencing homelessness

1 in 3 for first time



7 in 8 for over a year



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

42% aware of PrEP, but only **7%** of those used PrEP in past 12 month

88%
witnessed at least one
overdose
in the past 12 months



Naloxone is a safe medicine that can reverse an overdose from opioids, including heroin and fentanyl.

90% currently had naloxone or knew where to easily get some

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>