



CDC-Funded HIV Testing, HIV Positivity, Linkage, and Referral Services in Correctional Facilities in the United States

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Background

- Incarcerated persons are often at higher risk for multiple health issues, including HIV.
- HIV services in correctional facilities provide an opportunity to target a medically underserved population who may not access health care services and may be undiagnosed or at high risk for HIV infection.
- **Present Study:** CDC-funded HIV testing, HIV positivity, linkage to HIV medical care, and referral services in correctional facilities were examined.

Data Source and Measures

- Data are from persons who received a CDC-funded HIV test at a correctional facility in one of the 61 health department jurisdictions.

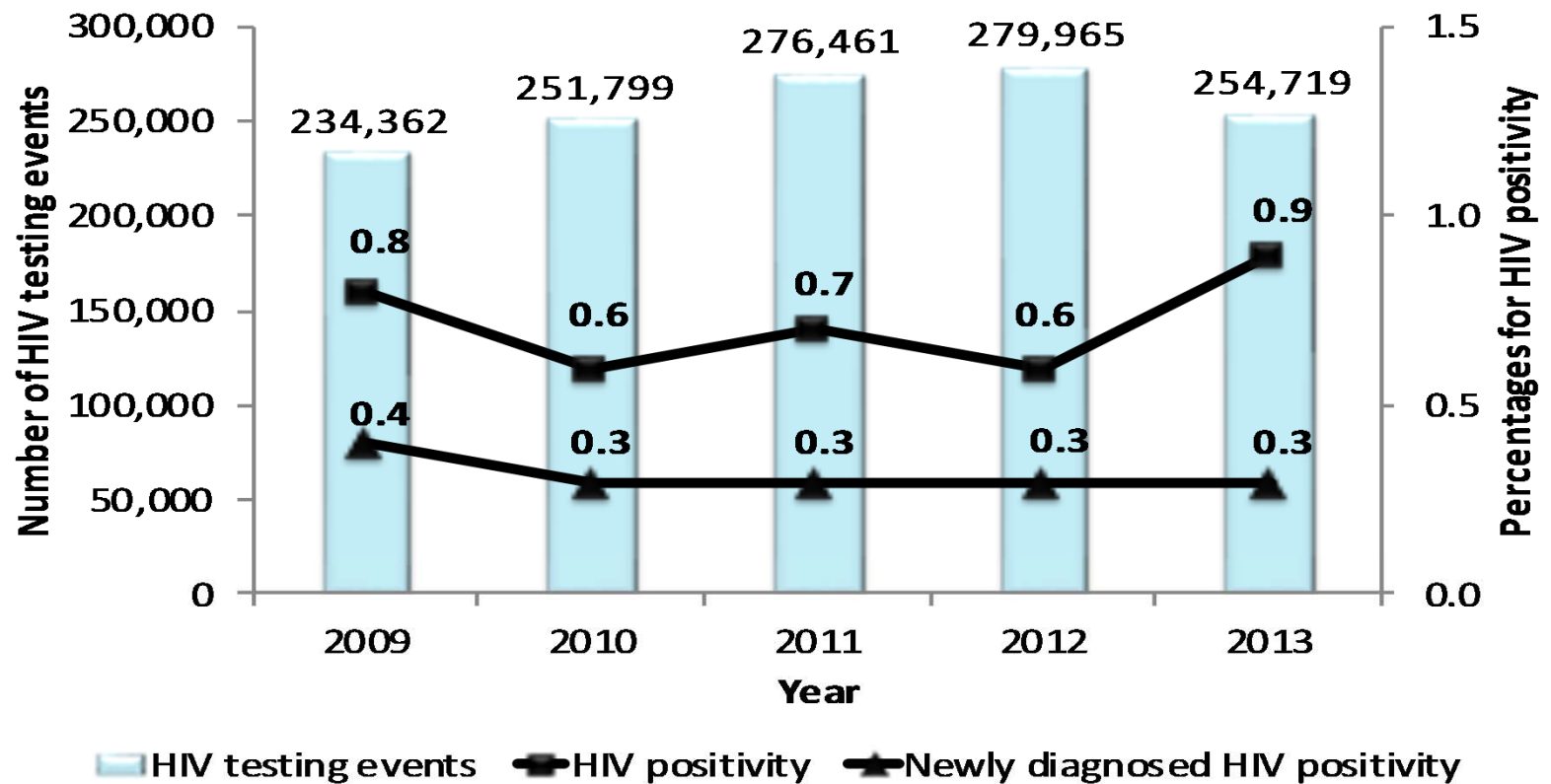
Measures

- **HIV testing events**
- **HIV positivity** – total positives and newly diagnosed positives
- **Linkage to HIV medical care**– attendance at 1st medical appointment
- **Referral to partner services**
- **Referral to HIV prevention services**

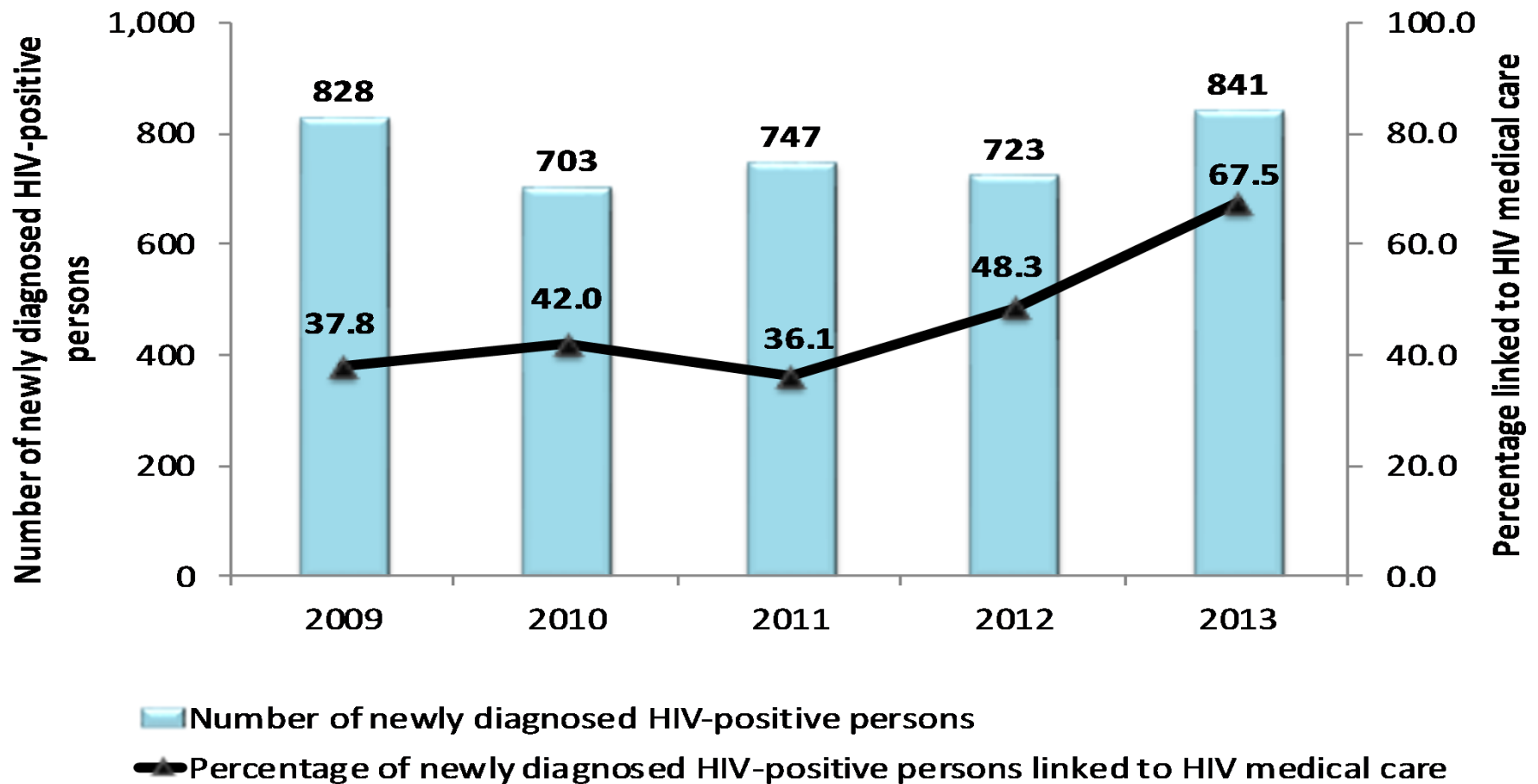
HIV testing and HIV positivity among persons in correctional facilities by demographic characteristics, 2013

Demographic Characteristics	HIV Testing Events		HIV-Positive Persons	Newly Diagnosed HIV-Positive Persons	Linkage to HIV Medical Care	Referral to Partner Services	Referral to HIV Prevention Services
	N	Col %	%	%	%	%	%
Age groups							
18-29	112,526	44.2%	0.5%	0.2%	65.3%	60.2%	51.5%
30-39	67,440	26.5%	0.9%	0.3%	67.9%	47.2%	40.6%
40-49	39,849	15.6%	1.6%	0.5%	67.3%	41.2%	45.7%
50+	24,527	9.6%	2.0%	0.6%	72.3%	44.6%	39.9%
Gender							
Male	192,994	75.8%	0.9%	0.3%	67.9%	49.1%	45.5%
Female	60,990	23.9%	0.7%	0.3%	66.7%	50.9%	43.6%
Race/Ethnicity							
White	75,403	29.6%	0.5%	0.2%	59.1%	42.2%	48.7%
Black	116,691	45.8%	1.3%	0.5%	69.6%	51.0%	44.6%
Hispanic/Latino	48,263	18.9%	0.6%	0.2%	73.2%	44.6%	42.0%
Total	254,719	100%	0.9%	0.3%	67.5%	49.7%	45.2%

HIV testing events and percentages of HIV-positive and newly diagnosed HIV-positive persons in correctional facilities, 2009-2013



Number of newly diagnosed HIV-positive persons and percentage linked to HIV medical care in correctional facilities, 2009-2013



Conclusions

- Routine HIV testing and provision of HIV services in correctional facilities can reduce infections and improve the health of HIV-positive persons as well as their sexual and drug-using networks.
- CDC funds HIV testing programs through health departments and community-based organizations that account for over 250,000 of HIV tests conducted in prisons and jails each year in the United States.
- The current findings and previous research have found that improvements are needed with increasing linkage and referral percentages for HIV-positive persons while incarcerated and post-release.

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The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

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