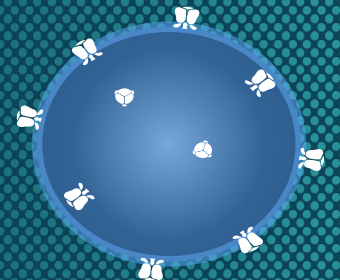




# HIV in Person Who Inject Drugs: Confronting a New Outbreak

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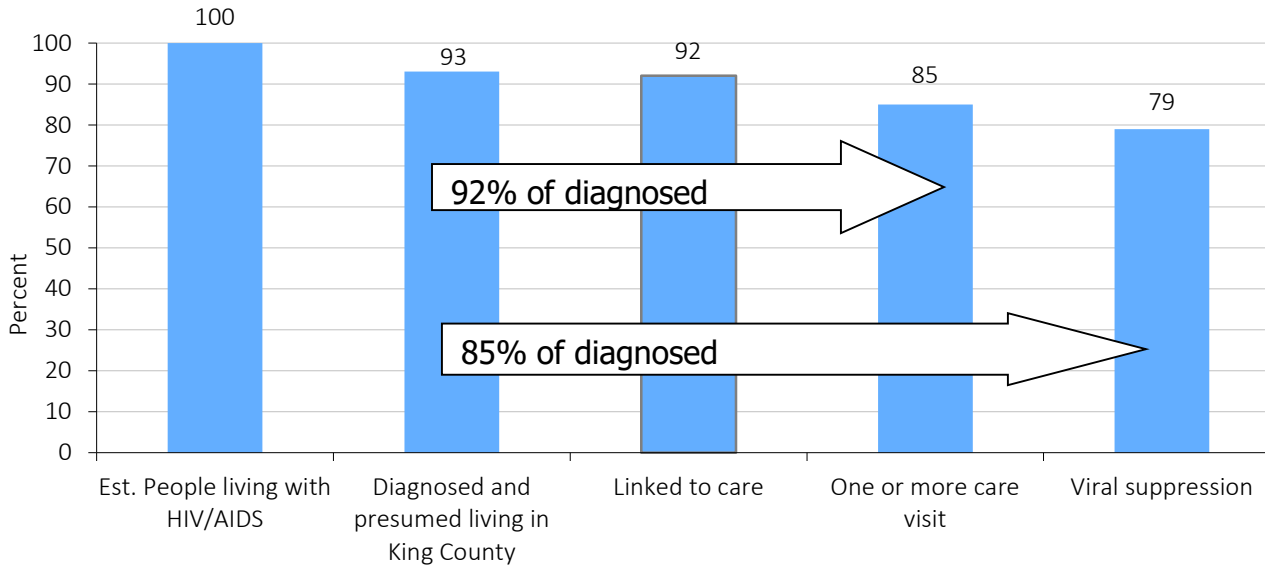


# Overview

- HIV epidemiology in King County
- New epidemic in PWID
- Community response

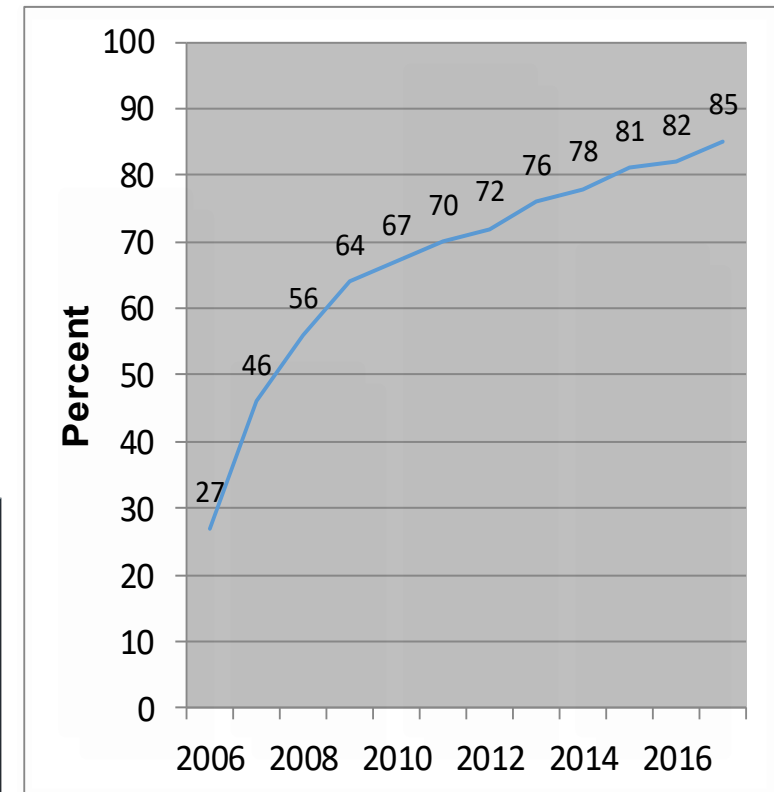
# King County HIV Care Continuum & Trends in HIV Viral Suppression\* 2006-17

## King County HIV Care Continuum, 2017



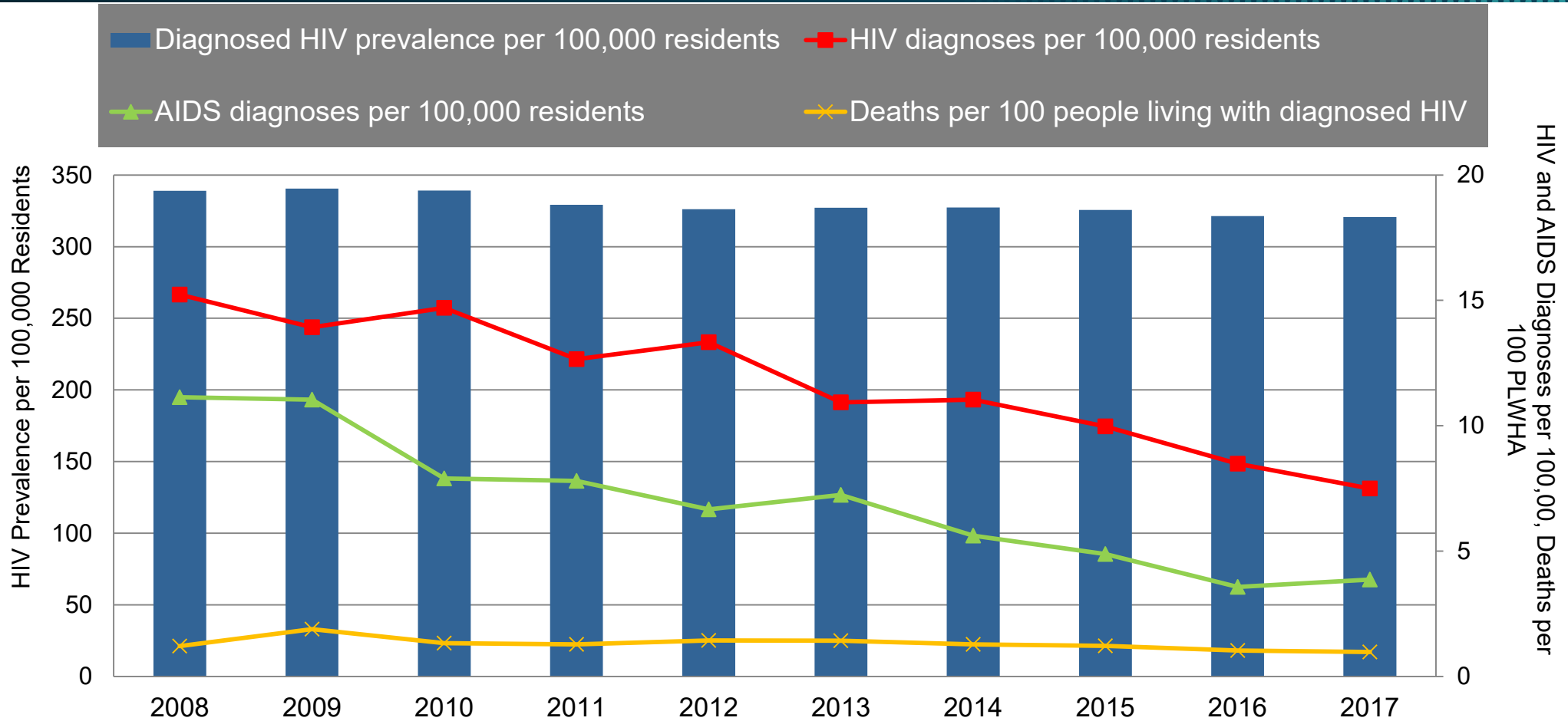
- In 2015, King County reached the World Health Organization 90-90-90 goal
- Perhaps the first urban area in the U.S. to achieve this milestone
- Highest level viral suppression in the U.S.

## Percentage of Diagnosed Persons with HIV Who were Virally Suppressed, King County, WA 2006-17



\*HIV RNA <200 copies/ml

# Incidence of New HIV Diagnoses, AIDS & Mortality in Persons with HIV, King County, WA 2008-2017

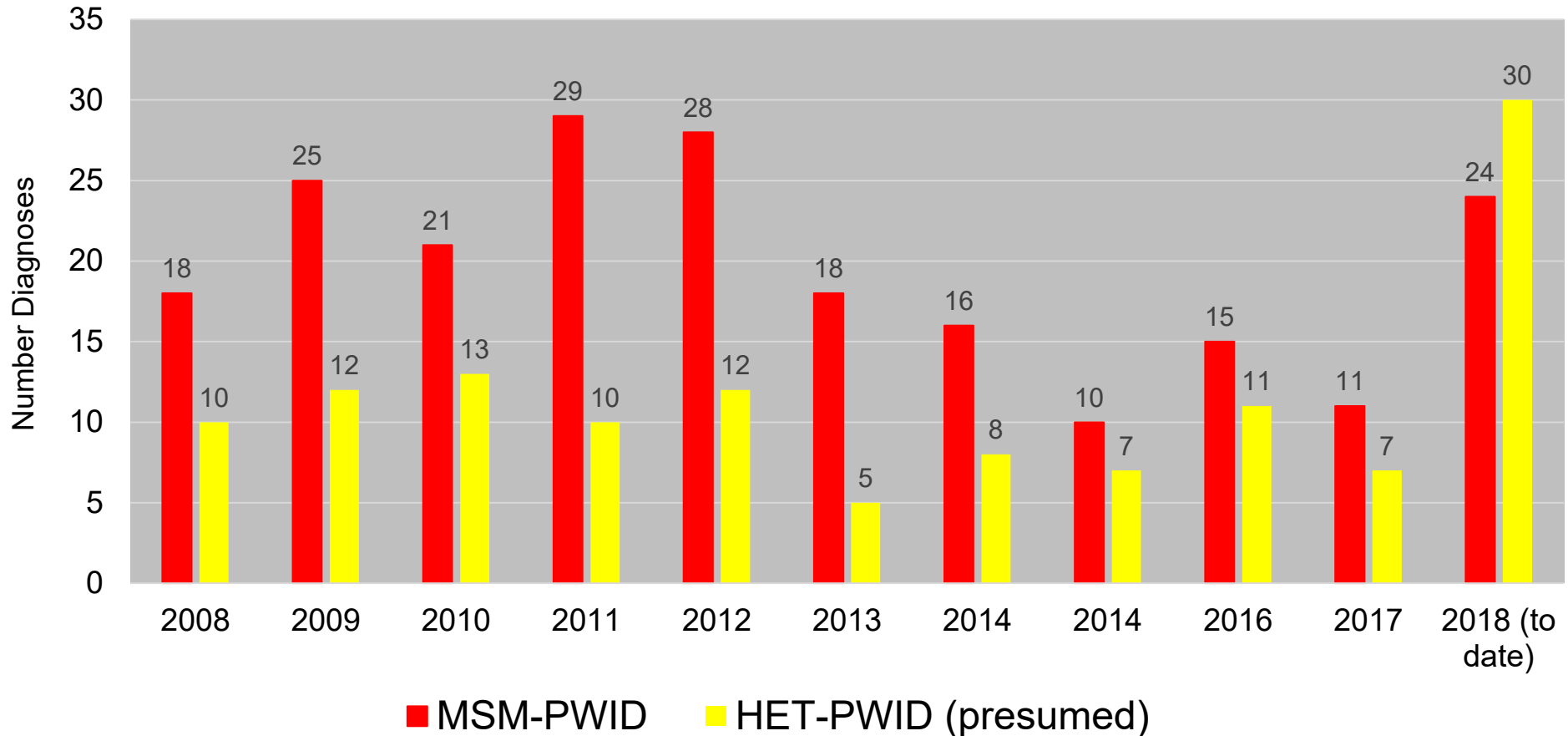


- **49% ↓ new HIV diagnoses 2010-2017**
- 161 true new cases in 2017
- 7 Cases heterosexual persons who inject drugs (PWID)

# 2018 Outbreak Among Heterosexual PWID in North Seattle

- 8/3/18 – Disease investigators identify 3 linked cases in North Seattle
- 8/7/18 - First public alert to medical providers
  - PHSKC contacts ED directors
- 9/18-Present
  - Expansion HIV testing and syringe exchange in North Seattle
  - Initial expansion of jail testing

# Number of PWID Diagnosed with HIV, King County, WA 2008-2018, by MSM Status



PWID=People who inject drugs  
MSM = men who have sex with men  
HET = heterosexual

Data entered  
through 1-3-19

# 2018 Characteristics Newly Diagnosed KC HIV Cases by non-MSM PWID Status

	Non-MSM PWID dx in 2018 (N=30) N (%)	North Seattle Cluster (N=16)* N (%)
Viral suppression	14 (47)	8 (50)
Female sex assigned @ birth	15 (50)	12 (75)
White, non Latinx	26 (87)	13 (81)
Black, non Latinx	1 (3)	2 (14)
Other race/ethnicity	3 (10)	1 (7)
Heroin + Meth use	NA	11 (69)
Methamphetamine alone	NA	2 (12)
Heroin alone	NA	0
Homeless	21 (70)	16 (100)
CSW or other exchange	10 (50)	10 (83)
Diagnosed NWH	4 (13)	4 (25%)

\* Includes 2 non-PWID and one person diagnosed 2019



# Public Health Response to Date

- Field testing – 57 events – 492 persons tested – 4 positives
- Jail-based testing – 1 new positive
- ED testing – UW/HMC/NHW - Swedish
- Syringe exchange – 325 encounters – 13,270 syringes
- Naloxone kits – 210 distributed
- Condoms – All outreach includes condom distribution



# SHE Clinic & Aurora Commons

- Services for women who exchange sex in Aurora Blade
- Aurora Commons (<https://www.auroracommons.org/>)
  - 287 women access services - >90% exchange sex
  - Unknown number men
  - 40-60 persons receive services daily
  - Case management
- SHE clinic
  - Mobile clinic ½ day (3 hour) per week
  - 68 women served in 6 months ~150 visits ~7 per 1/2 day
  - Proposal to expand to 2 half-days per week

# MAX Clinic

- Open-access HIV clinic at HMC
  - Walk-in care 5 half days per week
  - Intensive case management
  - Harm reduction approach
  - Incentives – food vouchers, \$25 for blood draw, \$50 for viral suppression
- Serves mostly substance using persons with HIV - ~50% unstably housed
- 170 patients enrolled to date
- 65% viral suppression
- Not ideally located for north Seattle PWID

# Unmet Needs

- HIV testing – early identification of cases is critical
- Syringe exchange
  - Newly purchased van
- Comprehensive primary care organized as a walk-in service
  - Includes HIV testing, PrEP, Suboxone, HIV care (as needed), contraception, wound care, HCV Rx, etc.
  - PHSKC working to identify collaborators
- Social services/Case management

# Summary & Conclusions

- King County is experiencing a new epidemic of HIV among heterosexuals who inject drugs
- Center of the epidemic is Aurora area of North Seattle
- We do not think that we can simply treat this as an outbreak that will go away
  - We believe that the dominant underlying causes is the expanding population of drug users who are living homeless
- Northwest Hospital is a key partner in our community's effort to confront this epidemic
- Recommendations:
  - Quarterly HIV and syphilis testing of all PWID and homeless persons in Aurora area (q6 months county-wide)
  - HIV testing of all persons presenting with symptoms consistent with acute HIV infection (e.g. **fever**, fatigue, pharyngitis, diarrhea, rash)