

Unduplicated Client Level Data Responses

Questions from July 15, 2014 Presentation to Planning Council

1. What are the main factors why so many Ryan White clients are over 50 years of age?
 - Why so many PLWHA are over 50 years of age (almost a third of all HIV positive people in the US) can be multi-factorial but the main reason is that this cohort of HIV positive people are aging and living longer with the introduction of better treatment regimens – commonly known as HAART, in the last two decades. This coupled with other factors such as the implementation of innovating HIV prevention strategies that reduced new infections during the same period resulted in an increase in the proportion of people in this age group. Interestingly enough, this scenario is in tandem with the explosion of the baby boomer population in the general US population dynamics. In general, the fact that there are older PLWHA compared to younger ones is a testament to the success of HIV treatment and prevention efforts over the past three decades.

2. Why do approximately 25% of clients not have insurance? Are these individuals undocumented? This number seems high given the fact that most clients are Medicaid or QHP-eligible.
 - The 2014 preliminary data shows the percentage of clients without insurance has decreased from 28% in 2013 to 24% presently. This number is expected to continue to decline as more and more newly ACA covered clients receive Ryan White funded services in the EMA. The front staff at Ryan White programs such as navigators and case managers are better situated to inform us about the nature of medical insurance of this pool of consumers that could possibly be a combination of self payers and undocumented individuals.

3. A number of clients have no reported gender. Is there a way to improve these data? Transgender individuals are an important group and I suspect that unknown gender may be falling into that category.
 - For several years prior to 2013 we had data on Gender for almost 100 percent of the clients and the percentages of trans-genders were consistent at nearly 1% of the total Ryan White Part A funded clients every year. Please refer to the PC website for further information.