

# Ending the Latino HIV Crisis

## Collective Action Now!

### Conversation Guide



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**Note to facilitators:** This conversation guide should be used as a companion tool to the video and/or flipbook to facilitate conversations on World AIDS Day and beyond. Begin the discussion by setting up the context, then unpack the data and reflect on possible opportunities to mitigate Latino HIV prevention and treatment inequities.

#### STEP 1

**Objective:** Reflect on the messaging in the video & flipbook.  
Understand the problem and why it matters.

Contextualize the  
Invisible Latino  
HIV Crisis

Overall, new HIV infections in the U.S. have decreased by 19% from 2010 to 2020. However, in the same period, new HIV infections among Latinos have increased by 12%.<sup>(1)</sup> What are your thoughts and reactions to this information? What information did you learn that was NEW for you from the video and/or flipbook? Why does the Invisible Latino HIV Crisis matter? How does it impact our nation's ability to end HIV/AIDS for all?

#### STEP 2

**Objective:** Unpack data around key barriers that impact HIV prevention, care and treatment for Latinos.

Discuss  
barriers to Latino  
HIV prevention,  
care & treatment

##### PrEP USE

Overall, PrEP access and use among Latinos is much lower than the needed levels to prevent new infections in the Latino community. Why do you think this is the case? Discuss HIV prevention and treatment workforce challenges that impact PrEP information and outreach services that specifically address Latinos.

##### ACCESS & ENGAGEMENT

Discuss healthcare system factors that might make Latino patients less likely to seek and stay engaged with HIV prevention and treatment services.

##### HIV TESTING

In 2022, 16% of Latinos living with HIV did not know their status – This figure is higher than the overall percentage of individuals unaware of their HIV+ status.<sup>(2)</sup> What factors are related to the sub-optimal uptake of HIV testing among Latinos? For example, perceptions of not being at risk for HIV, providers not offering HIV testing, fear of discrimination, stigma and anti-immigrant sentiment, lack of health insurance. What else?

##### TREATMENT

Each year between 2017 and 2022, between 26%-29% of Latinos living with HIV did not receive any care. In 2022, approximately 36% of Latinos did not achieve viral suppression.<sup>(3)</sup> Discuss how stigma, discrimination and lack of services designed and delivered specifically for Latinos affects HIV treatment outcomes.

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#### STEP 3

**Objective:** Explore four key challenges driving the Invisible Latino HIV Crisis and discuss potential solutions.

Identify opportunities to mitigate Latino HIV health inequities

#### Challenges



Latino Invisibility



Latino Prevention & Treatment Inequities



Latino-Specific Local HIV Service Implementation



Context and Structural Drivers of Latino HIV Inequities

#### Solutions

Talk about ways this can be reversed: increase Latino leadership in public health; engage the media; invest in culturally and linguistically tailored health campaigns; and fund Latino-specific HIV programs and research.

Talk about ways this can be reversed: establish measurable goals to eliminate Latino HIV prevention and treatment inequities; expand comprehensive care models; redefine and expand the HIV workforce; and eliminate implicit and explicit bias in healthcare design and delivery.

Talk about ways this can be reversed: conduct meaningful engagement of Latino communities in HIV program leadership, design and implementation; create multisectoral partnerships characterized by shared decision-making and resource allocation; and ensure accountability for improved Latino community HIV prevention and treatment outcomes.

Talk about ways this can be reversed: enact laws and policies that increase access to HIV prevention and treatment for Latinos; scale up policies and programs that eliminate root causes of Latino health inequities; and identify and mitigate the harmful social determinants of health that affect Latino communities.

#### Sources:

- (1) CDC. NCHHSTP AtlasPlus.
- (2) CDC. NCHHSTP AtlasPlus; CDC. HIV Surveillance Supplemental Report 2024;29 (No. 2).
- (3) CDC. NCHHSTP AtlasPlus; CDC. HIV Surveillance Supplemental Report 2024;29 (No. 2).

#### STEP 4

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