

Mapping HIV Prevention and Treatment in Los Angeles County

**A Countywide Snapshot of Publicly-funded
Testing, Prevention, and Treatment**

March 2009



Los Angeles County Department of Public Health

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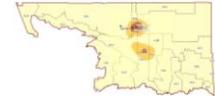
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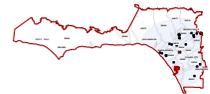
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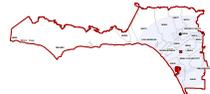
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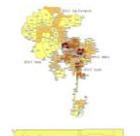
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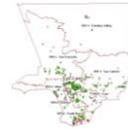


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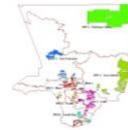
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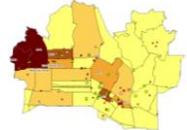
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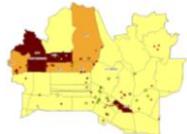
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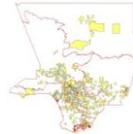
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Map Title

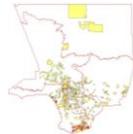
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Background

Geographic Information Systems (GIS) are an important tool in the planning for public health services. The Office of AIDS Programs and Policy (OAPP), Planning & Research Division has been developing maps using GIS technology since 2004. These maps have been used in conjunction with other data sources to evaluate HIV prevention and care services in Los Angeles County. In addition, OAPP has been working collaboratively with the Public Health GIS Users Group (GISUG) to share information and best practices. As a result, OAPP has developed a number of maps which display HIV testing and treatment services data.

OAPP has three sources of geographic data: HIV counseling & Testing (HCT), HIV care services, and the Los Angeles Coordinated HIV Needs Assessment (LACHNA).

HIV Counseling & Testing

As of 2009, zip code-level geographic data are available for residence of individual testers and address-level for testing site for all OAPP-funded HIV tests. Discussions regarding the feasibility and benefit of collecting these data at the census tract level are ongoing. Geographic data collected from HCT have been used to prioritize services in the Los Angeles County HIV Prevention Plan (2009-2013)¹, to strategize targeted testing efforts including HIV Counseling and Testing Week², and to evaluate current services.

HIV Care Services

Geographic data are collected at the address level for both client residence and service provider sites. While address-level data are used within Planning & Research division to evaluate and prioritize services, they are not available to the public. Maps and geographic data shared with the public and included in this report do not include confidential client-level data. Geographic data collected from HIV care services have been used to evaluate services and to plan for future services across the County.

LACHNA

LACHNA was a large-scale needs assessment conducted in 2007 and 2008 to assess HIV risk, service utilization, and service barriers among persons either at risk for HIV or currently living with HIV/AIDS. LACHNA was a pilot in collecting small-area geographic data for the purposes of planning and prioritizing services as well as for conducting spatial analysis. Geographic data collected in LACHNA include census-tract level data for respondent residence, HIV care provider (for HIV-positive respondents), work location, and main hang-out. These data are currently being analyzed. Preliminary analyses have been used in the development of the Los Angeles County HIV Prevention Plan (2009-2013)¹, as well as planning for 2008 HIV Counseling and Testing Week.

Map Features

Maps which feature Los Angeles County are drawn at 1:600,000 scale and may not have labels for small features such as service delivery sites or geographical areas including zip code and census tracts. However, the resolution of these features will display on larger sized documents such as presentation posters. Maps detailing smaller geographic areas show more detailed features including zip code and site labels. Additional detail is available on request. To protect confidentiality, client-level detail is not displayed and aggregate data is not displayed for geographic areas where 5 or less individuals or tests are contained. All maps include a legend and data source.

¹ Los Angeles County HIV Prevention Plan (2009-2013), <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/aids/PreventionPlan.htm>

² HIV Counseling and Testing Annual Report, 2007, <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/aids/reports/HCTCY2007ReportFinal.pdf>

Data Requests

The maps in this report have been included for public consumption. Additional maps and map layers are available upon request. These requests should be submitted using OAPP's request form, available online at <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/aids/reports/ExternalDataRequestForm.pdf>. Questions regarding OAPP's GIS activities should be directed to Mike Janson, MPH, Chief Research Analyst, mjanson@ph.lacounty.gov.