



GOBIERNO DE PUERTO RICO

Departamento de Salud



DAPuC

Data Analysis & Publication Core

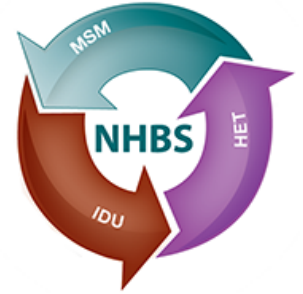
University of Puerto Rico
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THE ROLE OF THE NATIONAL HIV BEHAVIORAL SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM IN PUERTO RICO.

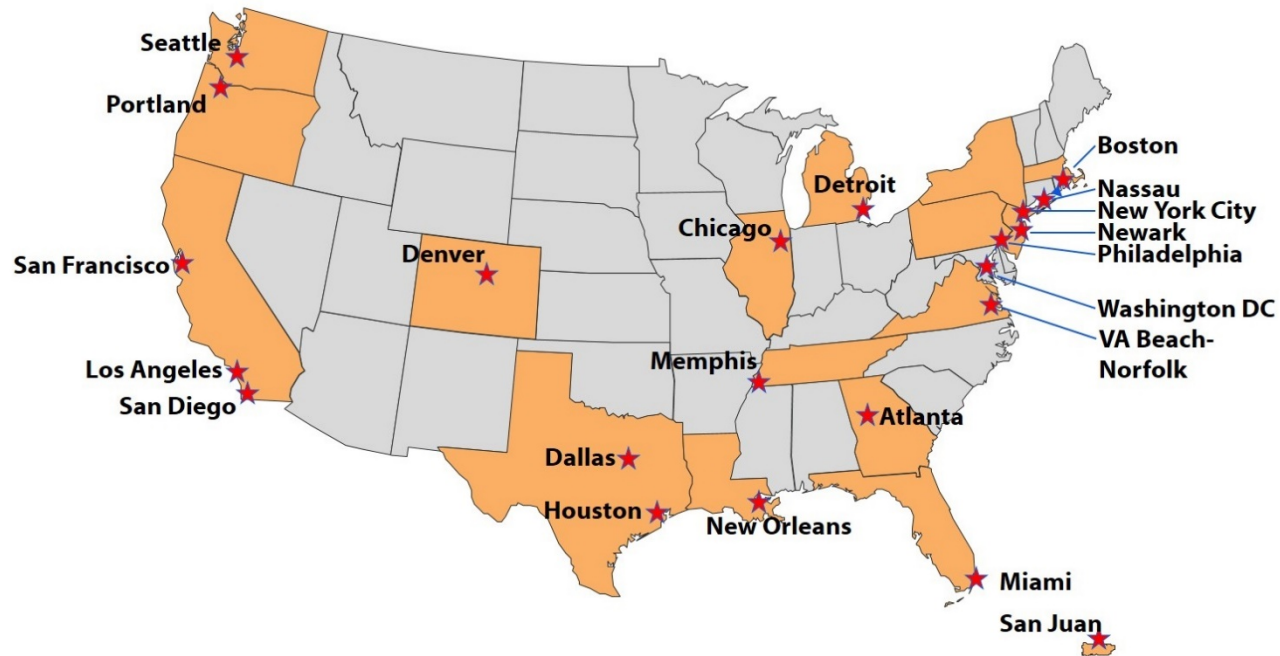
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NATIONAL HIV BEHAVIORAL SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM (NHBS)



- Funded 2003 by Centers for Diseases Control and Prevention (CDC), designed collaboratively
- 22 metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs) in United States and Puerto Rico
- Cross-sectional study design



NHBS



- NHBS was developed to help state and local health departments establish and maintain a surveillance system to monitor selected behaviors and prevention services among groups at highest risk for HIV infection.
 - Men who have Sex with Men (MSM)
 - Persons who inject drugs (PWID); known as the injection drug use or IDU cycle
 - Heterosexuals at increased risk for HIV infection (HET)

NHBS

SAMPLING AND RECRUITMENT METHODS

Venue based sampling
(VBS)



Venues (e.g., bars, clubs, organizations,
beaches and street locations)

Round 5



Respondent-driven
sampling (RDS)

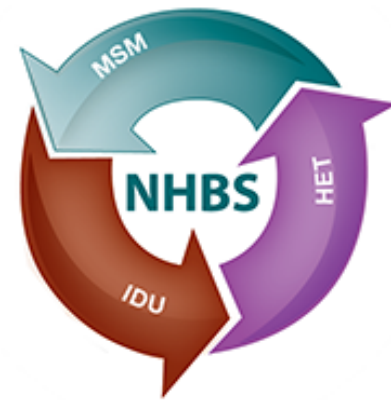
Respondent-driven
sampling (RDS)

➔ RDS starts with a limited number of persons (**Seeds**)

➔ A chain- referral sampling, strategy similar to snowball sampling

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

- 18 years of age or older
- Residents of the San Juan Metropolitan statistical area (SJMSA)
- Have not previously participated in the current cycle of NHBS
- Able to complete the interview in English or Spanish



MSM

- Male of age 18 or older.
- Having had oral or anal sex with another man in the last 12 months

IDU

- Present a valid NHBS- PWID coupon
- 18 years of age or older
- Has injected drugs in the past 12 months
- Male or female (not transgender)

HET

- Present a valid NHBS- PWID coupon
- Is between 18 and 60 years ago
- Has vaginal or anal sex with a person of the opposite sex in the past 12 months
- Male or female (not transgender)

NHBS OBJECTIVES

Assess and estimate the prevalence of HIV infection

Seroprevalence

Assess the prevalence of and trends in risk behaviors

Risk Behaviors

Describe utilization of and trends in HIV testing, linkage to care, and antiretroviral therapy

HIV Testing and Treatment

Assess the exposure to and use of HIV prevention services

Prevention



DATA COLLECTION PROCESS



Administration of anonymous standard questionnaire

- \$20 incentive after completion

HIV testing

- Insti™ HIV-1/HIV-2 Antibody Test
- Alere Determine™ HIV 1 & 2 Ag/Ab combo
- \$20 incentive

HCV Testing (only IDU cycle – 2018)

- HCV Rapid Antibody Test
- Hepatitis C RNA by PCR Qualitative
- \$20 incentive

Recruitment Incentive (only IDU & HET cycles)

- \$10 incentive per recruited individual

PR-NHBS



Puerto Rico National HIV Behavioral Surveillance System

- CDC awarded supplemental funds to state and local health departments to develop and implement National HIV Behavioral Surveillance (NHBS)

PR- NHBS

HIV IN PUERTO RICO



PR ranks the 10th position nationwide for reported cases of HIV/AIDS

SJ-MSA has the highest incidence and prevalence of HIV

As of June 2019, there are 47,222 reported cases of HIV/AIDS infection and 20,516 persons living with HIV

Transmission mode: the injection drug use (42%), followed by heterosexual contact (29%) and male to male sexual contact (21%)

DATA ANALYSIS AND PUBLICATION CORE

DAPuC

Data Analysis & Publication Core

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Medical Sciences Campus

Main Focus

Epidemiology of HIV in
Puerto Rico



What we do

Conduct multiple types of
analyses, publications and
dissemination

DAPuC CONTRIBUTIONS USING NHBS DATA

DAPuC

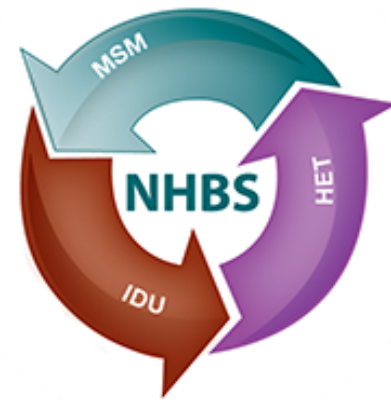
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- Decrease in mortality rates for modes of transmission in both men and women.¹
- IDU presents the highest decrease in mortality.¹
- Risk of getting a new HIV diagnosis was significantly higher among males.²
- The 13-24 age group presented a significant increased risk in new HIV diagnosis.²

1. COLÓN-LÓPEZ V, MIRANDA-DE LEÓN S, MACHIN-RIVERA M, MARRERO E, ROLÓN-COLÓN Y, VALENCIA-TORRES IM, SUÁREZ E. **MORTALITY DISPARITIES AMONG HIV+ MEN AND WOMEN IN PUERTO RICO: DATA FROM THE HIV/AIDS SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM 2003-2014**. P R HEALTH SCI J. 2017 MAR;36(1):24-28.
2. COLÓN-LÓPEZ, V.; MIRANDA-DE LEÓN, S.; MACHIN-RIVERA, M.; SOTO-ABREU, R.; MARRERO-CAJIGAS, E.L.; ROLÓN-COLÓN, Y.; VALENCIA-TORRES, I.M.; SUÁREZ-PÉREZ, E.L. **NEW DIAGNOSES AMONG HIV+ MEN AND WOMEN IN PUERTO RICO: DATA FROM THE HIV SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM 2003-2014**.

FINDINGS WITH NHBS DATA



MSM¹ Stable HIV prevalence: 2011 vs 2014

Higher prevalence of behavioral characteristics in 2014

Sex initiation at mean age of 16 years

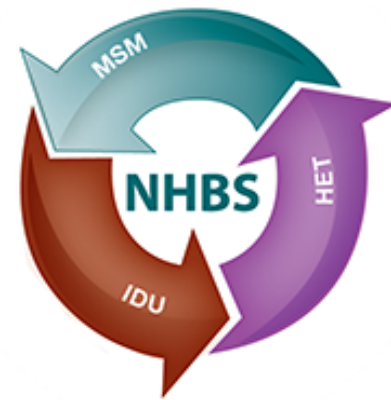
More than 5 partners in the past 12 months

Disclose sexual orientation to healthcare provider

Decrease in HIV unawareness

¹Miranda de León S, Sánchez-Díaz CT, Machin-Rivera M, Valencia-Torres IM, Rolón Y, Colón-López V. **HIV infection and unawareness among men who have sex with men in Puerto Rico: data from The National HIV behavioral surveillance system 2011-2014.** Ethn Health. 2017 Apr; 10:1-13.

DAPuC CONTRIBUTIONS USING NHBS DATA



IDU

- During 2012-2015 HIV diagnoses among Persons who inject drugs (PWID) declined
- Decrease in the frequency of sharing needles was recently observed
- A higher proportion of participants reported sharing injection equipment (cooker, cotton or water).
- Men and women PWIDs showed an increase in unprotected sexual practices with a partner of the opposite sex with unknown HIV status.

Look for us in the poster session!

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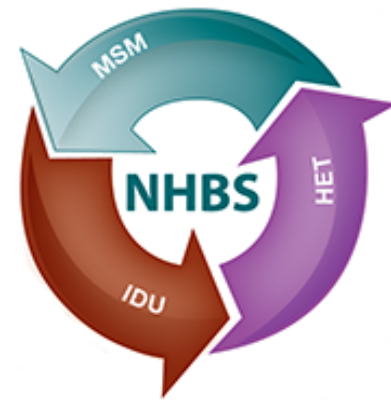
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Sociodemographic, Health-Related Factors and Behavioral Practices Among People Who Inject Drugs: Data From The PR NHBS-PWID 3 (2012) and NHBS-PWID 4 (2015)

Roxana Soto, MS¹; Ivony Agudelo, MS²; Sandra Miranda de León, MPH³; Yadira Rolón, MS³; Maria Pabón, TS³; Jovan Ortiz, MPH²; Vivian Colón-López, MPH, PhD^{1,2}

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DAPuC CONTRIBUTIONS USING NHBS DATA

HET

- Majority of individuals are utilizing healthcare services.
- High prevalence of low risk perception.
- Low prevalence of HIV testing offer from provider in healthcare settings.
- Individuals who practice high-risk sexual activities are less likely to receive and HIV test offer from provider.

Look for us in the poster session!



Provider Initiated HIV Testing Predictors among Heterosexuals at Increased Risk of HIV in Puerto Rico: Data from NHBS – HET Cycle, 2016

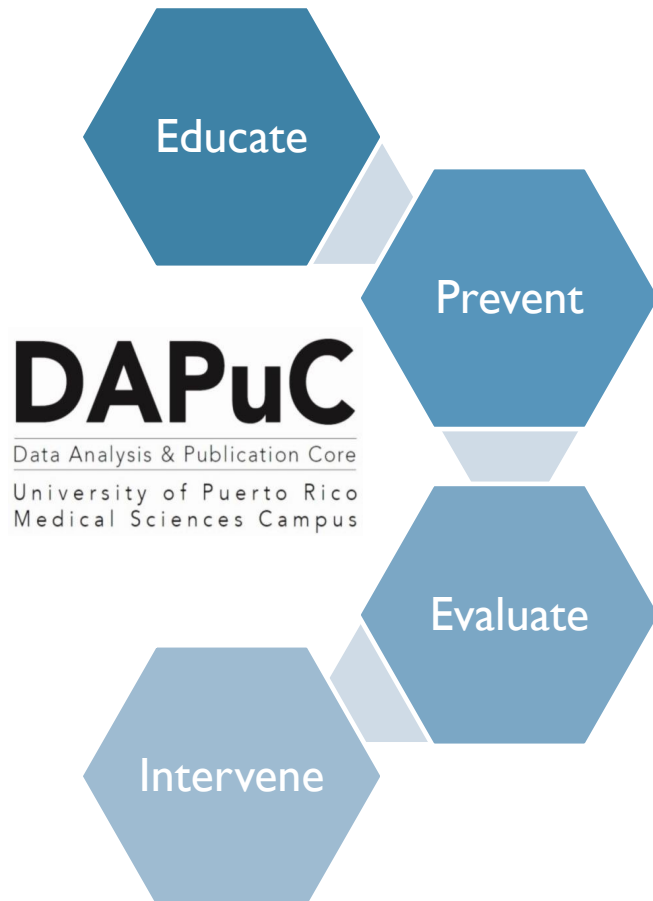
M. Canario de la Torre, MPH¹; I. Agudelo Salas, Ms¹; S. Miranda de León, MPH³; Y. Rolón Colón, Ms³;
M. Pabón Martínez³; V. Colón-López, PhD^{1,2}

¹Graduate School of Public Health, Medical Sciences Campus, University of Puerto Rico; ²Cancer Control and Population Sciences Program, Comprehensive Cancer Center, University of Puerto Rico; ³HIV/AIDS Surveillance Program, Puerto Rico Health Department



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OPPORTUNITIES FOR PUBLIC HEALTH ACTION:



- Educational material for healthcare providers and the general population
- Targeted prevention efforts in order to decrease HIV unawareness
- Monitor progress towards national strategies and local efforts.
- Health empowerment
- Creation of public policy

CONTACT

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QUESTIONS?

