

Sexual Health is a key Public Health issue, affecting individual's physical and mental wellbeing. This factsheet highlights some of the key indicators of the sexual health in the borough of Hammersmith and Fulham, including STI screening and HIV status, use of contraception, HPV vaccination and cervical screening.

KEY INDICATORS

Rate of new STI diagnoses
2023 (all ages)

2,418 per 100,000 ↑

New HIV diagnosis rate
2023 (15-59 years)

22 per 100,000 ●

Abortion rate
2022 (15-44 years)

19.1 per 1,000 ●

Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs)

London has the highest prevalence of STIs and HIV in the country.

New STI diagnoses
rate / 100,000

2,418 ↑
London 1,448

STI testing

rate / 100,000 (excluding
chlamydia in under 25-year-olds)

14,351 ↑
London 9,369

The diagnostic rates of the most common STIs:

Chlamydia
rate / 100,000

845 ●
London 592

Gonorrhoea
rate / 100,000

647 ↑
London 397

Genital warts
rate / 100,000

138.2 ↓
London 79.0

Genital Herpes
rate / 100,000

171.1 ↑
London 81.5

Syphilis
rate / 100,000

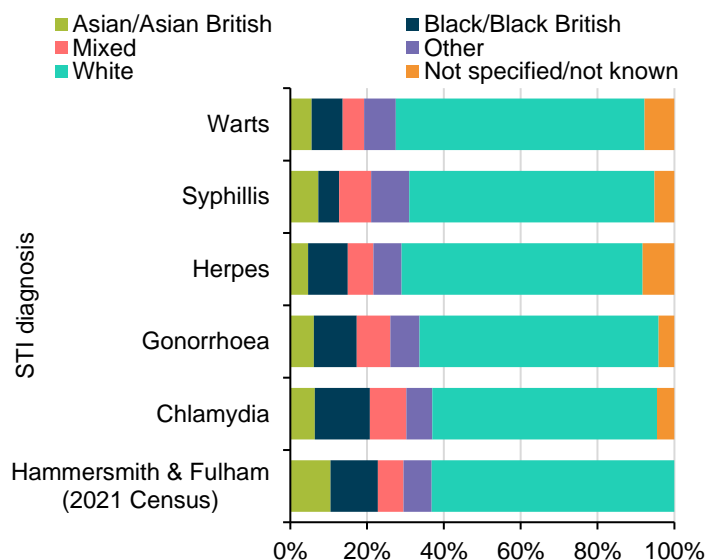
76.7 ↑
London 49.6

Chlamydia is the most diagnosed STI. The chlamydia diagnostic rate for all age groups in Hammersmith & Fulham was significantly higher than London and England

H&F	845 per 100,000 ●
London	592 per 100,000 ●
England	341 per 100,000 ●

STI Diagnosis Demographics

Ethnicity: Between 2018 and 2023 White residents had the highest number of STI diagnoses, though often below their population proportion. Black, Mixed, and Other ethnic groups showed disproportionately higher rates for several STIs, especially chlamydia, gonorrhoea, and syphilis. Asian residents had consistently lower diagnosis rates, possibly due to lower disease burden or reduced service access.



Age: Individuals aged 25-34-years made up the largest proportion of new STI diagnoses in 2023.

Gender: Males made up a larger proportion of new STI diagnosis (66.6%) compared to females (33.2%).

Sexual orientation: Gay men made up the greatest proportion of diagnoses (38%), followed by heterosexual women (29%) and heterosexual men (23%).

Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)

HIV testing coverage

Since 2020 the rate of HIV testing has increased year on year. In 2023 there was a 33 per cent increase on 2020. H&F was **ranked 9th highest nationally** for HIV testing.

H&F	19,022 per 100,000	↑
London	6,817 per 100,000	↑
England	2,771 per 100,000	↑

HIV Diagnoses

New HIV diagnoses
rate / 100,000

22.0 ●
London 17.2

New HIV diagnoses amongst individuals first diagnosed in the UK
rate / 100,000

15.3 ●
London 11.3

HIV diagnosed prevalence
rate per 1,000

6.07 ●
London 4.30

HIV Treatment Care

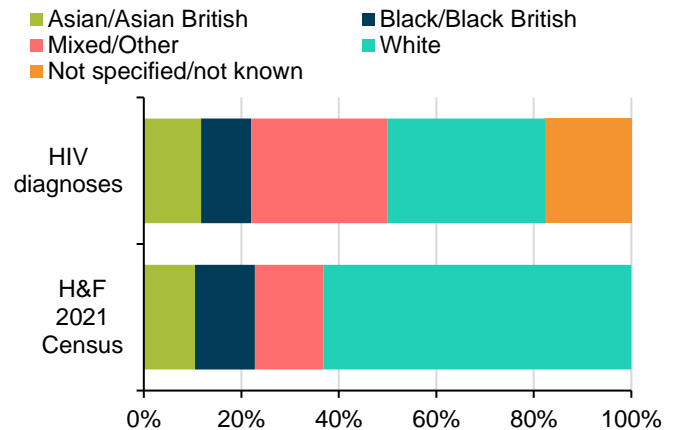
Sex between men accounted for the greatest proportion of probable exposure for people living with HIV in Hammersmith & Fulham (**58.3%**).

ART coverage and **virological suppression** are high, **both at 99 per cent**, exceeding the Fast Track Cities Initiative targets of 95 per cent.

Men accounted for **97 per cent of PrEP uptake** in local service provision.

HIV Diagnoses Demographics

Ethnicity: Individuals of White ethnicity made up the highest number of new HIV diagnoses between 2021 and 2023, but below the population proportion. Mixed/Other and Asian ethnic groups showed disproportionately higher rates for new HIV diagnosis.



Age: Individuals aged 35-49-years accounted for the largest proportion (44.1%) of new HIV diagnoses

Gender: Males made up a larger proportion of new HIV diagnosis between 2021 and 2023 (79.4%) compared to females (20.6%).

HIV Late Diagnoses

Late diagnosis of HIV is when someone tests positive for HIV after the virus has already caused significant damage to their immune system.

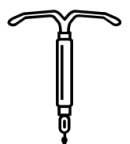
Late HIV diagnosis
(2021-2023) Per cent

28.8%
London 41.1%



Contraception and Reproductive Health

Rates of long acting reversible contraception (LARC) based on resident female population aged 15-44 in the borough:



Total prescribed LARC
(Excluding injections)
rate / 1,000

37.8
London 33.2

GP prescribed LARC
(Excluding injections)
rate / 1,000

8.2
London 10.6

SRH Services prescribed LARC
(Excluding injections)
rate / 1,000

29.6
London 22.6

Contraception Choices

From women accessing sexual and reproduction health services within the borough:

33.6% London 34.6%
of women aged **under 25 years** choose **LARC (excluding injections)**

44.9% London 51.4%
of women aged **over 25 years** choose **LARC (excluding injections)**

55.0% London 52.0%
of women (all ages) choose **user-dependant methods**

Abortion Services

In 2022, there was a drop in the rate of abortions in H&F for women aged 15-to-44-years compared to an increase seen in London.

Total abortion rate
rate / 1,000 **19.1**
London 22.5

Teenage Pregnancy

Under 18s conception
(2021) rate / 1,000 **5.4** ↓
London 9.5

Under 18s birth rate
(2022) rate / 1,000 **0.0** ●
London 2.0



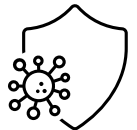
HPV Vaccination

First dose coverage (females)
Per cent **57.5%**
London 59.0%

Second dose coverage (females)
Per cent **19.4%**
London 52.9%

First dose coverage (males)
Per cent **39.4%**
London 55.0%

Data for HPV vaccination coverage should be interpreted **with caution** as provisional denominators (the number of children eligible for HPV vaccination) were used to calculate vaccine coverage.



Cervical Screening

Uptake in cervical screening (25-49-years)
Per cent **50.3%**
London 58.0%

Uptake in cervical screening (50-64-years)
Per cent **64.2%**
London 70.7%

Cervical screening in both 25-49-year-olds and 50-64-year-olds is **lower than the national target of 80 per cent.**

Local data shows **declining cervical screening** for both 25-49-year-olds and 50-64-year-olds in the last decade.

Data trends shown by:

Increase, negative: ↑

Increase positive: ↑

Decrease, positive: ↓

No significant change: ●