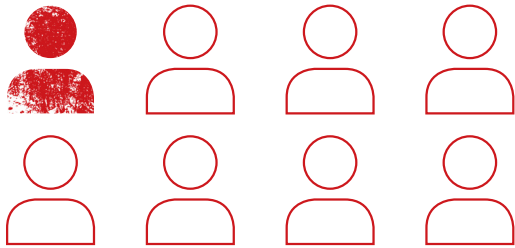




# IMPLICATIONS OF HEALTH STIGMA, Mental Health and HIV/AIDS

About **1 IN 8** people living with HIV is being denied health services due to discrimination or stigma.



Source: UNAIDS(2017). Make some noise for zero discrimination on 1 March 2017. Retrieved from: [https://aidsdatahub.org/sites/default/files/publication/UNAIDS\\_zero-discrimination\\_2017.pdf](https://aidsdatahub.org/sites/default/files/publication/UNAIDS_zero-discrimination_2017.pdf)

Individuals who are receiving care for a mental health condition are **4x as likely to be living with HIV** compared to the general population.

Source: Blank, M. B., Himelhoch, S. S., Balaji, A. B., Metzger, D. S., Dixon, L. B., Rose, C. E., Heffelfinger, J. D. (2014). A multisite study of the prevalence of HIV with rapid testing in mental health settings. *American journal of public health, 104*(12), 2377-2384 doi:10.2105/AJPH.2013.301633

Compared to the general population, people living with HIV are diagnosed with **depression** at a rate of **2-5x higher** and are diagnosed with **generalized anxiety disorder** at a rate almost **8x higher**.

Source: Bing, E., Burnam, M., Longshore, D., Fleishman, J., Sherbourne, C., London, A., et al. (2001). Psychiatric disorders and drug use among human immunodeficiency virus infected adults in the United States. *Archives of General Psychiatry, 58*, 721-728

## According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention - Medical Monitoring Project:



**4 IN 5** HIV patients report feeling internalized HIV-related stigma.

Source: UCenters for Disease Control and Prevention. (2018). Medical Monitoring Project. Retrieved from: <https://www.cdc.gov/hiv/statistics/systems/mmp/resources.html#Fact%20Sheets,%20Infographics,%20and%20Slide%20Sets>



**2 IN 3** say that it is difficult to tell others about their HIV infection.



**1 IN 3** report feeling guilty or ashamed of their HIV status.



**1 IN 4** say that being HIV-positive makes them feel dirty or worthless.

## According to the Center for HIV Law & Policy - HIV Criminalization in the United States:

**19** states require persons who are aware that they have HIV to **disclose their status to sexual partners**

sex/non-disclosure, exposure to bodily fluids, needle-sharing, sex work, and blood/ organ/semen donation

**12** states require disclosure to needle-sharing partners

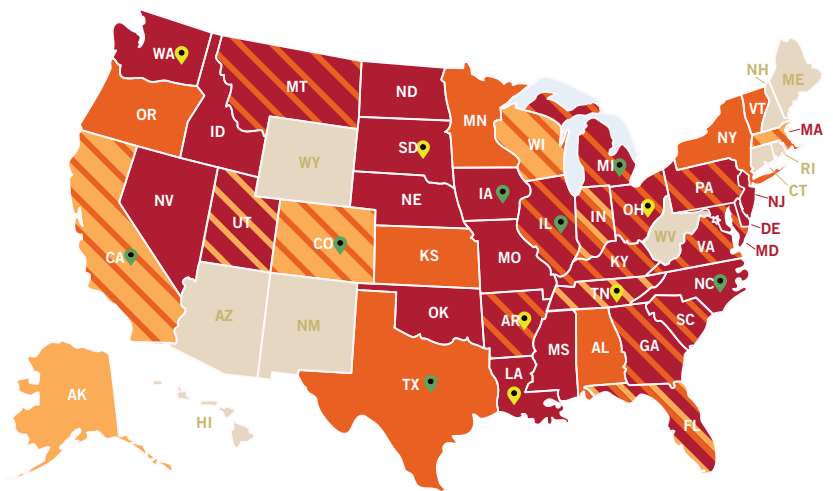
**24** states have prosecuted plhiv under non-hiv-specific, general criminal laws (this number represents known prosecutions within the last 10 years)

**6** states may require registration as a sex offender

**29** states have HIV-specific criminal laws including laws targeting

**7** states have reformed or repealed one or more parts of their HIV-specific criminal laws

The maximum sentence length for violating an HIV-specific statute is also a matter of state law. Some states have a maximum sentence length **as high as up to life in prison**, while others have maximum sentence lengths that are less than 10 years.



Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (Updated: July, 2019). HIV and STD Criminal Laws. Retrieved from: <https://www.cdc.gov/hiv/policies/law/states/exposure.html>

Source: The Center for HIV Law and Policy. (Updated: March 1, 2019). HIV Criminalization in the United States. Retrieved from: <https://www.hivlawandpolicy.org/sites/default/files/CHLP%20HIV%20Crim%20Map%20030119.pdf>