

The Criminalization of HIV AND HEPATITIS B AND C IN MISSOURI

Between 1990 and October of 2019, at least 593 people have been arrested in Missouri for an HIV/hepatitis crime. This includes 318 people who have been convicted for these crimes. Missouri has had one arrest for an HIV crime for every 60 people living with HIV currently living in the state.

MISSOURI LAWS CRIMINALIZE FIVE DIFFERENT TYPES OF HIV/HEPATITIS EXPOSURES

HIV Crimes

These three laws apply only to those who are HIV positive. They criminalize people living with HIV (PWH) who engage in the following actions:

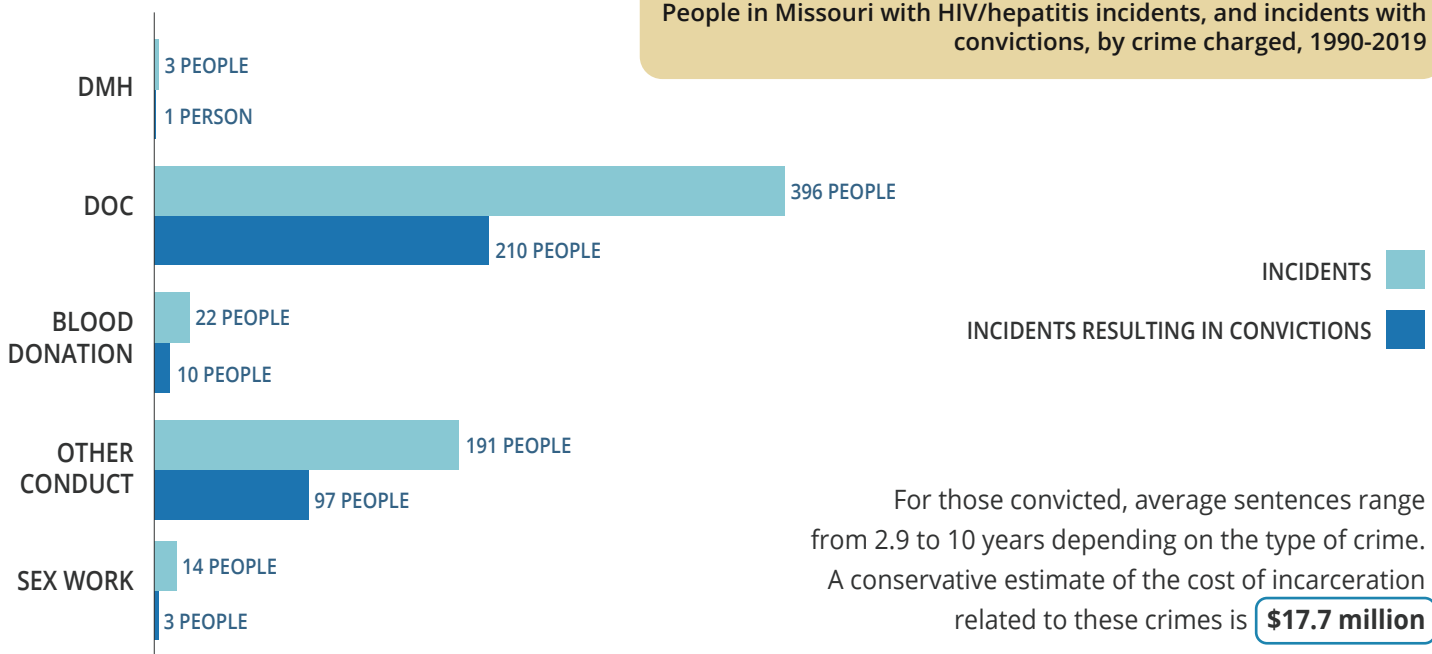
- donate blood or organs
- engage in commercial sex work
- expose others to bodily fluids through sex, sharing needles, biting, or Other Conduct

Department of Corrections and Mental Health Crimes (DOC/DMH Crimes)

These two laws focus on defendants who expose employees and others to bodily fluids in the following settings:

- the Department of Corrections
- the Department of Mental Health

People in Missouri with HIV/hepatitis incidents, and incidents with convictions, by crime charged, 1990-2019

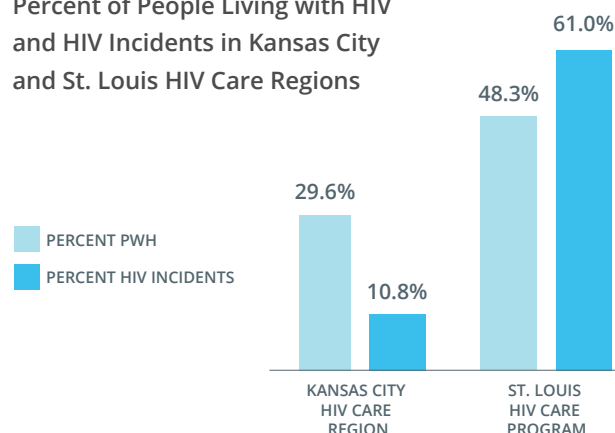


HIV Crimes

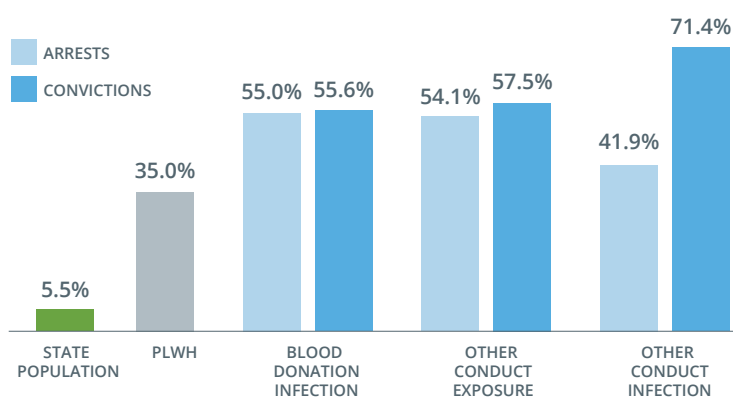
Between 1990 and 2019, 209 people have been arrested — and 107 have been convicted — for HIV crimes in 263 separate incidents.

HIV crimes appear to be disproportionately enforced in the Saint Louis HIV Care Region, particularly in St. Louis City and St. Louis counties.

Percent of People Living with HIV and HIV Incidents in Kansas City and St. Louis HIV Care Regions



Arrests and Convictions of Black Men in Missouri for Select HIV Crimes



Black men are the most disproportionately impacted by both HIV disease and the enforcement of HIV criminal laws in Missouri.

DOC/DMH Crimes

Enforcement of laws criminalizing the exposure of state employees and others involved with DOC/DMH to bodily fluids significantly outpaces the enforcement of the Missouri's HIV crimes. DOC/DMH incidents appear to be disproportionately concentrated in just a few counties. St. Francois, Mississippi, and Texas counties account for 33.6% of the Missouri's DOC/DMH incidents.

Percent of Missouri's Incarcerated Population and DOC/DMH in the 10 Counties with the Largest Number of DOC/DMH Incidents

