

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASENovember 25, 2025 | Contact: Amy Dillon, Public Information Officer, adillon@phd5.id.gov**Health Officials Recognize Steep Increase in HIV/AIDS Cases in Southern Idaho**

SOUTH CENTRAL IDAHO – South Central Public Health District (SCPHD) is urging residents to practice vigilance as a recent analysis shows steep increases in HIV and HIV-3 (also referred to as AIDS) cases across South Central Idaho. In SCPHD’s eight county region (Blaine, Camas, Cassia, Gooding, Jerome, Lincoln, Minidoka, and Twin Falls), new cases of HIV and HIV-3 in 2025 have far outpaced total case numbers from 2024.

Sexually Transmitted Disease	January 1 – December 31, 2024	January 1- November 21, 2025
HIV	5 cases	15 cases
HIV-3 (AIDS)	1 case	9 cases

While this is concerning news, SCPHD urges residents to reduce their risk of HIV by using condoms and obtaining timely HIV and STI testing following sexual contact with new partners.

“HIV is now a manageable condition with proper treatment; however, cases that are undiagnosed or go untreated remain a serious concern,” said Jacob Ward, SCPHD Epidemiologist. “When HIV is not treated, it can progress to AIDS. This severely weakens the immune system and increases the risk of life-threatening infections and illnesses. Early testing and consistent treatment are so important to protecting long-term health.”

In recognition of World AIDS Day on Monday, December 1, SCPHD will offer free, all-day HIV screenings during select days in December at its Twin Falls and Jerome locations to support community health and early detection. **Residents are invited to walk in for testing at the Twin Falls Office on Thursday, December 4, and at the Jerome Office on Tuesday, December 9, any time between 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.** Spanish-speaking services will be available at both locations.

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