National HIV/AIDS Partnership

HIV/AIDS Fact Sheet

In the 25 years since the first case of AIDS was diagnosed, the face of HIV/AIDS epidemic in the United States has changed dramatically. More than half a million lives have been lost, and millions more Americans are considered at high risk for being infected with HIV. People of color, women, and youth are now the fastest growing groups impacted by the disease.

Prevention has helped slow the rate of new HIV infections in the U.S. from over 150,000 in the mid-1980s to an estimated 40,000 per year; however, this number is still unacceptably high.

**HIV/AIDS in America**

- HIV/AIDS was first diagnosed in the United States 25 years ago.
- More than **one million people are living with HIV/AIDS** in the U.S. -- an average of **one out of 300 Americans**.
- An estimated **one-fourth of Americans living with HIV don’t know they are infected**.
- Nearly **530,000 Americans** have died of AIDS -- about the same number as the population of Washington, D.C.
- Half of the U.S. workforce is aged 25-44. **AIDS is a leading cause of death for this age group** and affects family members and coworkers indirectly, causing a major impact on American business.
- In 2004, **African Americans represented only 12% of the population, but accounted for almost 70% of new HIV cases** -- about 6 times their representation in the population.

**HIV/AIDS and Women**

- Nearly **300,000 women were living with HIV/AIDS** at the close of 2003 in the U.S., an average of **one in 500 women**.
- In 2004 alone, more than **11,000 women** were diagnosed with AIDS in the United States.
- **To date, more than 80,000 American women have died of AIDS**.
• In 2003, **African American and Hispanic women** combined represented only one-fourth of all U.S. women, yet **accounted for 83% of new AIDS cases**, more than three times their proportion of the population.

• **Heterosexual transmission now accounts for 4 out of 5 new AIDS cases** among women ages 20-24.

**HIV/AIDS and Young People**

• In the four years from 1999 to 2003, the number of AIDS cases reported in people ages 15 to 24 increased by more than 29%, to nearly 2,000 cases.

• While women make up about one third of the annual U.S. AIDS diagnoses, among teens (ages 13 to 19) girls represent half of new HIV cases.

• Through 2004, about **40,000 young people (ages 13-24) had received a diagnosis of AIDS**.

• Through 2004, more than **10,000 young people (ages 13-24) have died of AIDS**.

• Through 2004, **more than 5,000 children under the age of 13 have died of AIDS**.
African Americans and HIV/AIDS Fact Sheet

Today, African Americans face a serious health crisis in the HIV/AIDS epidemic. In 2002, African Americans accounted for 55% of deaths related to HIV. The survival after an AIDS diagnosis is lower among African Americans than other racial/ethnic groups.

HIV/AIDS Statistics for African Americans

• In 2002, HIV/AIDS was the third leading cause of death for African Americans aged 25-34 years.

• On average, 100 African Americans become infected with HIV every day.

• From the beginning of the epidemic through 2004, more than 200,000 African Americans with AIDS have died.

• In 2004, African Americans -- only 13% of the total population -- accounted for about half of the more than 40,000 new HIV/AIDS diagnoses.

• In 2002, HIV/AIDS was the number one cause of death for African American women aged 25-34 years.

• Nearly two out of five African Americans diagnosed with HIV/AIDS in 2001-2004 were women.

• Out of 100,000 American men with AIDS, 18 are white, while 125 are African American.

• The rate of AIDS cases among African Americans per 100,000 population is more than 10 times the rate among whites.

• From 1985 to 2004, the African American portion of AIDS diagnoses rose from one-fourth to half of all cases over time.
Hispanics and HIV/AIDS Fact Sheet

The HIV/AIDS epidemic is a growing health threat to the Hispanic community, affecting numbers disproportionate to its population. A number of cultural, socioeconomic, and health-related factors, including language barriers, attitudes regarding sex, poverty, and lack of access to health care have all contributed to rising rates of HIV/AIDS among Latinos. Hispanics comprise the largest U.S. minority group, and the fastest-growing one.

HIV/AIDS Statistics for Hispanics

- In 2002, one out of five people in the United States living with AIDS was Hispanic.

- Hispanic women accounted for **15% of new AIDS cases** -- about one in seven -- in 2004.

- As of 2004, **nearly 22,000 Latinos with AIDS lived in New York, and over 16,000 lived in California.**

- U.S. Latino teens (ages 13-19) compose **16% of the national teenage population**, but accounted for **21% of the cumulative AIDS cases** reported in 2003.

- In 2002, Hispanics accounted for approximately **20% of the more than 40,000 new AIDS diagnoses** in the U.S.

- By the end of 2004, **93,000 U.S. Hispanics had died of AIDS** since the epidemic began.

- The rate of AIDS cases among U.S. Hispanics per 100,000 population is **3.5 times the rate among whites.**
Native Americans and HIV/AIDS Fact Sheet

HIV/AIDS is a growing threat to the Native American/Alaska Native community. They are at risk whether they reside on reservations, in rural areas, in urban settings. Though Native Americans only account for 1% of the total U.S. population, they rank third in AIDS diagnoses. Due to underreporting and racial misclassification, the rate of HIV/AIDS among Native Americans may be greater than current statistics indicate.

In the context of other severe health and social problems faced by the American Indian/Alaska Native community, including diabetes, alcoholism, and unemployment, the impact of HIV is often viewed as less significant.

HIV/AIDS Statistics for Native Americans

- Despite its small size, the American Indian and Alaska Native population ranked third in rates of AIDS diagnoses in 2003.

- This population has had a higher rates of AIDS diagnoses than whites for more than a decade.

- More than 1,500 American Indian and Alaska Native adults and adolescents were living with AIDS in 2004 – equivalent to one-sixth of the entire Shoshone tribe.

- The rate of HIV/AIDS diagnoses among American Indians and Alaska Natives increased 16% from 2001 to 2004 (from 9.5 per 100,000 population to 11.1 per 100,000).


- HIV/AIDS was diagnosed in more than 200 American Indians and Alaska Natives in 2004.

- From the beginning of the epidemic through 2004, nearly 1,600 American Indians and Alaska Natives have died of AIDS.