



## Affirmation

I must confess that I have enjoyed being on this mountaintop and I am tempted to want to stay here and retreat to a more quiet and serene life. But something within reminds me that the valley calls me in spite of all its agonies, dangers, and frustrating moments.

I must return to the valley. Something tells me that the ultimate test of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and moments of convenience, but where he stands in moments of challenge and moments of controversy.

~ Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

## National Conference Schedule

2004 HIV Prevention  
Leadership Summit  
Atlanta, Ga. ...**June 16-19, 2004**

United States Conference on  
AIDS  
Philadelphia, Pa. ...**Oct. 21-24, 2004**

## INSIDE

- 2..The impact of HIV infection  
A Closer Look at a Serious  
Health Crisis
- 3..Youth  
Cumulative Toll: Disease and  
Death  
Understanding HIV and AIDS  
Data  
African-Americans Contend  
with Multiple HIV Risk Factors
- 4..National Black HIV/AIDS  
Awareness & Information Day

# Adinkra

## SPECIAL NATIONAL BLACK HIV/AIDS AWARENESS DAY EDITION

### Fourth annual National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness & Information Day observance set for Feb. 7, 2004

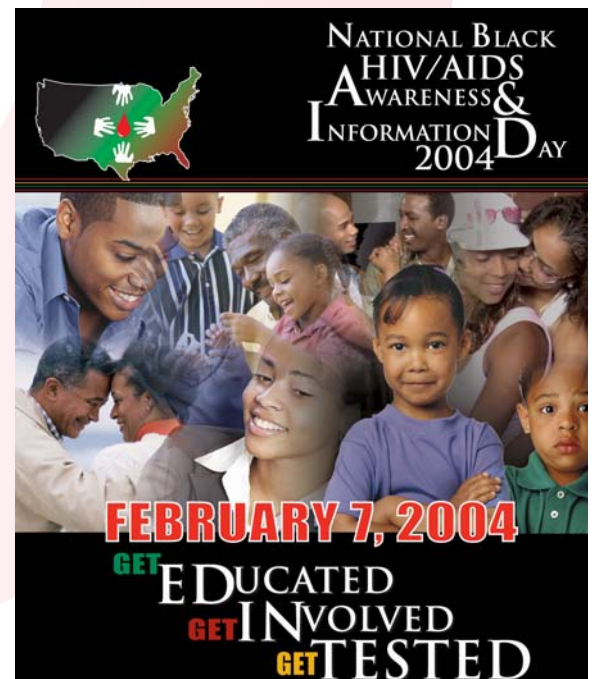
The fourth annual observance of National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness & Information Day (NBHAAD) will be held Saturday, Feb. 7, throughout the nation to heighten the consciousness of African-Americans about the increasing devastation that the HIV/AIDS epidemic is having on the black population and to enhance and further a national mobilization effort to stem the rising tide of the infection of African-Americans all across the United States and within its territories.

The national theme, "Get Educated, Get Involved, Get Tested," urges African-Americans to become active participants in preventing the spread of this disease that continues to have a devastating effect on all members of the black community—men, women and children.

According to the Nov. 28, 2003 issue of the *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)*, the majority of new HIV diagnoses during 1999-2002 among racial/ethnic populations in 29 HIV-reporting states, were among non-Hispanic blacks, accounting for an estimated 71.8 percent of all diagnoses in females and 48.6 percent of all diagnoses in males.

NBHAAD was co-founded by five national organizations: Jackson State University's Mississippi Urban Research Center, Jackson, Miss.; Concerned Black Men, Inc., Philadelphia, Pa.; Health Watch Information and Promotion Service, Inc., Brooklyn, N.Y.; National Black Alcoholism & Addiction Council, Orlando, Fla.; and the National Black Leadership Commission on AIDS, Inc., New York, N.Y. This group is commonly referred to as the Community Capacity-Building Coalition. Funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, these organizations provide HIV/AIDS prevention capacity-building assistance to community-based organizations and stakeholders serving African-American communities.

For more information on activities and events occurring on National Black HIV/AIDS Information & Awareness Day in your area, please call toll free: 1-877-867-1466 or visit the NBHAAD Web site at: [www.blackaidsday.org](http://www.blackaidsday.org).





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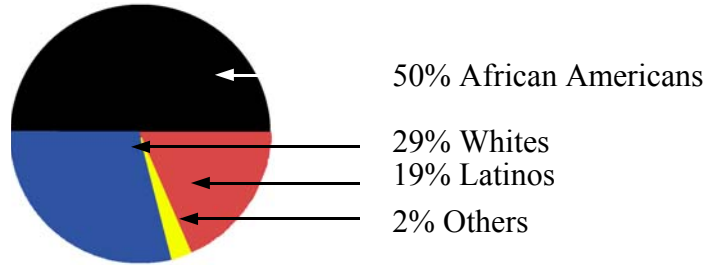
**THE IMPACT OF HIV INFECTION  
HIV/AIDS AMONG AFRICAN-AMERICANS**

The HIV/AIDS epidemic continues to be a major health crisis facing the African-American community.

Although African-Americans make up only about 12 percent of the U. S. population, they accounted for half of the new HIV infections reported in the United States in 2001.

Numerous studies suggest that many new infections occur among young African-Americans.

**Reported HIV Infections by Gender and Race 2001**  
N=35,575

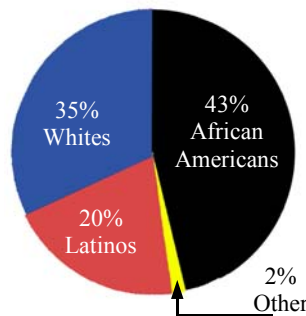


**A CLOSER LOOK AT A SERIOUS HEALTH CRISIS**

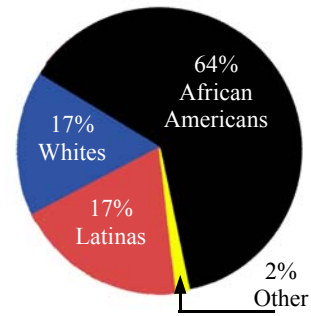
In the early 1980s, HIV/AIDS was considered a primarily gay white male disease in the United States. Today, however, the epidemic has expanded and the disease is also a major health problem in the African-American community, where men and women of every age and sexual orientation are affected.

**Reported HIV Infections by Gender and Race 2001**

**MEN**  
N=23,899



**WOMEN**  
N=11,133



**MEN**

**WOMEN**

African-American men account for 43 percent of HIV cases reported among men in 2001.

Thirty-two percent of African-American men who have sex with men were found to be infected with HIV in a recent multi-city study of men ages 23 to 29 years, compared to 14 percent of Latinos and 7 percent of whites in the study.

While information on recent HIV infection is limited, data reported to CDC through 2001 suggest that the leading cause of HIV infection among African-American men is sexual contact with other men, followed by injection drug use and heterosexual contact.

African-American women accounted for nearly 64 percent of HIV cases reported among women in 2001.

The rate of HIV infection among African-American women, ages, 20-44, in 25 states with HIV reporting before 1994, was 80.1 per 100,000 population from 1994 to 1998 – four times higher than the rates among Latinas of the same age, and more than 16 times higher than the rates among white women.

While information on recent HIV infection is limited, available data suggest that the leading cause of HIV infection among African-American women is heterosexual contact, followed by injection drug use.

## YOUTH

A CDC study of Job Corps entrants, ages 16 to 21, found that compared to their white counterparts, African-American women were seven times more likely to be infected with HIV, and African-American men were four times more likely to be infected.

14 percent of young African-American men who have sex with men were infected with HIV, nearly four times the rate of their white counterparts, in a five-year study of almost 3,500 gay and bisexual men ages 15 to 22 in seven U. S. cities between 1944 and 1998.

## CUMULATIVE TOLL: DISEASE AND DEATH

In addition to experiencing historically higher rates of HIV infection, African-Americans continue to face challenges in accessing health care, prevention services, and treatment.

African-Americans have accounted for more than 320,000, or 38 percent of the more than 833,000 estimated AIDS cases diagnosed since the beginning of the epidemic. By the end of December 2001, more than 168,000 African-Americans had died from AIDS.

In 2001, African-Americans accounted for about 21,000, or 50 percent of the more than 41,000 estimated new AIDS cases diagnosed among adults. AIDS (HIV disease) is the leading cause of death among African-American women ages 25 to 34 and African-American men ages 35 to 44. AIDS (HIV disease) is among the top three causes of death for African-American men ages 25-54 and African-American women ages 35 to 44.

From 1996 to 1998, overall AIDS incidence (the number of people with HIV who progress to AIDS each year) declined rapidly, falling 38 percent among whites, but only 23 percent among African-Americans. AIDS deaths during those years showed a similar pattern, declining 58 percent among whites and only 44 percent among African-Americans. Since 1998, the falling rates of AIDS cases have stalled among African-Americans. In 2001, the AIDS rate among African-Americans was nine times the rate reported among whites.

A recent CDC study of 9,113 patients in 11 U.S. cities found that HIV-infected African-Americans were less likely than infected whites to receive the life-enhancing antiretroviral therapies for HIV.

## UNDERSTANDING HIV AND AIDS DATA

Two datasets are used to track the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the United States.

**HIV Surveillance:** Since before 1994, 25 states have collected HIV surveillance information for reporting to CDC. Data from these states are used to estimate risk behaviors for HIV infection and monitor HIV trends over time. Fourteen additional areas more recently began confidential, name-based HIV surveillance. Data from the 25 states plus these additional areas can be used to describe the more recent epidemiology of HIV cases in the United States and its territories.

**AIDS Surveillance:** AIDS diagnoses are reported to CDC by all U.S. states and territories. AIDS data can no longer be used to show trends in new HIV infections because of lengthy interval between HIV infection and an AIDS diagnosis. AIDS data can show the continuing toll of HIV disease. These data are statistically adjusted for reporting delays and are used to look at AIDS trends in the United States.

## AFRICAN-AMERICANS CONTEND WITH MULTIPLE HIV RISK FACTORS

Race and ethnicity are not, themselves, risk factors for HIV infection. However, African-Americans are more likely to face challenges associated with risk for HIV infection, including: poverty, denial and discrimination, partners at risk, substance abuse and sexually transmitted disease.

**Source:** <http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/pubs/Facts/afam.htm>

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## Jackson State University



H. T. Sampson Library

Jackson State University is the fourth largest institution of higher learning in Mississippi and the only public four-year institution in the central Mississippi area.

## Mississippi Urban Research Center



Mississippi Urban Research Center

The Mississippi Urban Research Center (MURC), a division of Jackson State University's Office of Research Development Support and Federal Regulations, has a mission to improve the quality of life through the conduct of basic and applied research and policy analysis and provide insight on solutions to urban problems.

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**NATIONAL BLACK  
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AWARENESS &  
INFORMATION DAY**  
February 7, 2004

[www.blackaidsday.org](http://www.blackaidsday.org) 877-867-1446

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INFORMATION DAY**  
February 7, 2004

**National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness & Information Day** is an initiative of the Community Capacity Building Coalition (CCBC)

**Concerned Black Men, Inc. of Philadelphia**  
[www.cbmphilly.org](http://www.cbmphilly.org)

**Health Watch Information and Promotion Service, Inc.**  
[www.hwatch.org](http://www.hwatch.org)

**Jackson State University  
Mississippi Urban Research Center**  
[www.murc.org](http://www.murc.org)

**National Black Alcoholism & Addictions Council**  
[www.nbacinc.org](http://www.nbacinc.org)

**National Black Leadership Commission on AIDS**  
[www.blca.org](http://www.blca.org)

**GET EDUCATED  
GET INVOLVED  
GET TESTED**



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**APIN**



African American Prevention Intervention Network

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