



Adinkra

Feb. 7, 2006
6th Annual National
Black HIV/AIDS
Awareness Day

Southern Prevention Intervention Center of the
African American Prevention Intervention Network

HIV/AIDS among African-Americans a health crisis

National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day (NBHAAD) is a major national mobilization effort designed to encourage African-Americans across the United States and territorial areas to *get educated, get tested, get involved and get treated*, as HIV/AIDS continues to devastate black communities.

NBHAAD was co-founded by five national organizations: Jackson State University's Mississippi Urban Research Center, Concerned Black Men, Inc., Philadelphia; Health Watch Information and Promotion Service, Brooklyn, N.Y.; National Black Alcoholism and Addiction Council, Orlando, Fla.; and the National Black Leadership Commission on AIDS, Inc., New York, NY.

In the United States the HIV/AIDS epidemic is a health crisis for African-Americans. In 2002, HIV/AIDS was among the top three causes of death for African-American men ages 25-54 years and among the top four causes of death for African-American women ages 25-54 years. It was the number one cause of death for African-American women ages 25-34 years [1].

STATISTICS HIV/AIDS in 2004

According to the 2000 Census, African-Americans make up 12.3 percent of the U.S. population. However, African-Americans accounted for 19,206 (50 percent) of the 38,730 new HIV/AIDS diagnoses in the United States in the 35 areas with long-term, confidential name-based HIV reporting [2].

During 2001-2004, the rate of HIV/AIDS diagnoses for African-Americans decreased, although the rate for African-Americans was still the highest rate for all racial and ethnic groups [3].

The primary mode of HIV transmission among African-American men was sexual contact with other men, followed by heterosexual contact and injection drug use. [2]

The primary mode of HIV transmission among African-American women was heterosexual contact, followed by injection drug use. [2].

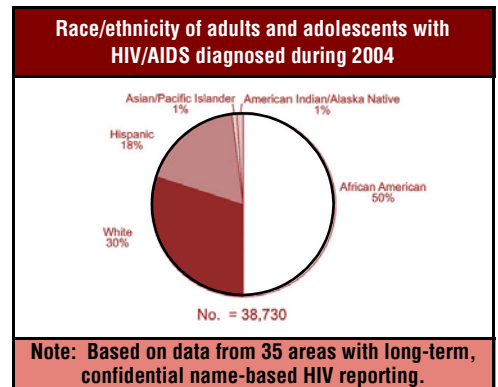
Of the estimated 145 infants perinatally infected with HIV, 105 (73 percent) were African-American (CDC, HIV/AIDS Reporting System, unpublished data, June 2005).

Of the estimated 18,849 people under the age of 25 whose diagnosis of HIV/AIDS was made during 2001-2004 in the 33 states with HIV reporting, 11,554 (61 percent) were African-American [4].

Of the estimated 80,187 African-Americans whose diagnosis of HIV/AIDS was made during 2001-2004 in the 33 states with HIV reporting, 49,704 (62 percent) were males, and 30,483 (38 percent) were females [4].

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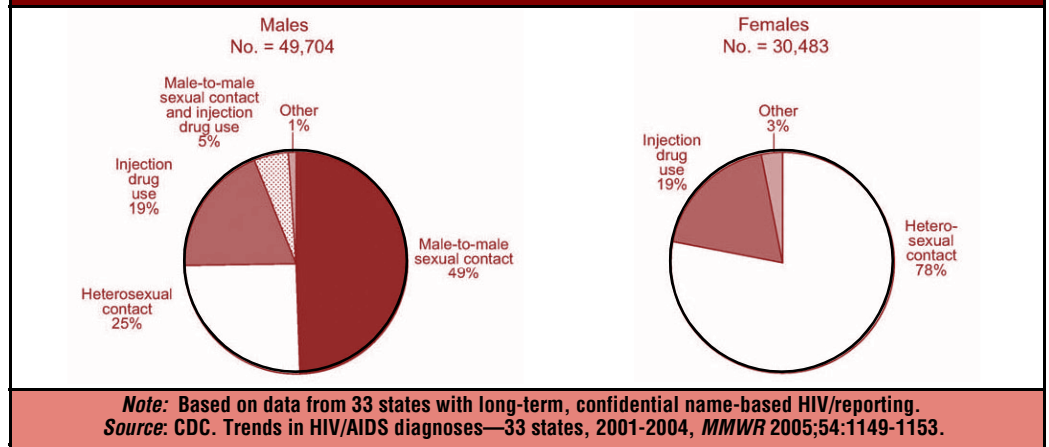
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Adinkra is a bi-annual publication of the Jackson State University Mississippi Urban Research Center's Southern Prevention Intervention Center of the African American Prevention Intervention Network (S-PIC/APIN).

Adinkra is published as a resource for community-based organizations funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Inquiries about articles appearing in this issue or requests for additional information concerning capacity-building assistance should be directed to: Southern Prevention Intervention Center, Jackson State University, JSU Box 17309, Jackson, MS 39217; Toll-free: 1-866-JSU-MURC; Telephone: (601) 979-4100; Fax: (601) 368-2021.

HIV/AIDS among African-Americans cont.

Transmission categories for African-American adults and adolescents with HIV/AIDS diagnosed during 2001-2004



AIDS in 2004

African-Americans accounted for 20,965 (49 percent) of the 42,514 estimated AIDS cases diagnosed in the United States (including U.S. dependencies, possessions and associated nations) [2].

The rate of AIDS diagnoses for African-American adults and adolescents was 10 times the rate for whites and almost three times the rate for Hispanics. The rate of AIDS diagnoses for African-American women was 23 times the rate for white women. The rate of AIDS diagnoses for African-American men was eight times the rate for white men [2].

The 178,233 African-Americans living with AIDS in the United States accounted for 43 percent of all people in the United States living with AIDS [2].

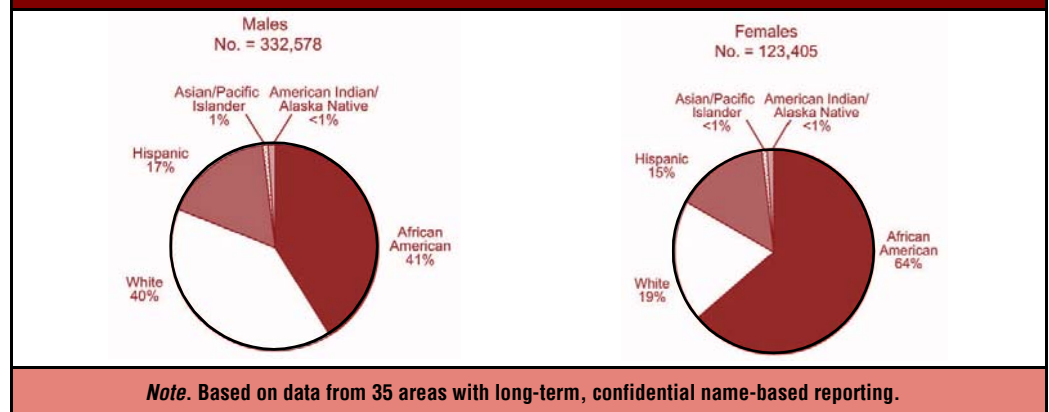
Of the 48 U. S. children (younger than 13 years of age) who had a new AIDS diagnosis, 29 were African-American [2].

Since the beginning of the epidemic, African-Americans have accounted for 379,278 (40 percent) of the estimated 944,306 AIDS cases diagnosed [2].

From the beginning of the epidemic through December 2004, an estimated 201,045 African-Americans with AIDS died [2].

Of persons whose diagnosis of AIDS had been made since 1996, a smaller portion of African-Americans (64 percent) were alive after nine years compared with American Indians and Alaska Natives (65 percent), Hispanics (72 percent), whites (74 percent) and Asians and Pacific Islanders (81 percent) [2].

Race/ethnicity of adults and adolescents living with HV/AIDS, 2004



HIV/AIDS among African-Americans cont.

RISK FACTORS AND BARRIERS TO PREVENTION

Race and ethnicity, by themselves, are not risk factors for HIV infection. Even though HIV testing rates are higher for African-Americans than for other racial and ethnic groups [5], African-Americans are more likely to face challenges associated with risk for HIV infection, including the following.

Sexual Risk Factors

African-American women are most likely to be infected with HIV as a result of sex with men [2]. They may not be aware of their male partners' possible risks for HIV infection, such as unprotected sex with multiple partners, bisexuality or injection drug use [6,7]. In a study of HIV-infected persons, 34 percent of African-American men who have sex with men (MSM) reported having had sex with women, even though only six percent of African-American women reported having had sex with a bisexual man [8].

Lack of Awareness of HIV Serostatus

Not knowing one's HIV serostatus is risky for African-American men and their partners. In a recent study of MSM in five cities participating in CDC's National HIV Behavioral Surveillance, 46 percent of the African-Americans were HIV-positive, compared with 21 percent of the whites and 17 percent of the Hispanics. The study also showed that of the participating MSM who tested positive for HIV, 64 percent of the African-American men, 18 percent of the Hispanic men, 11 percent of the white men and 6 percent of multiracial/other men were unaware of their HIV infection.

Substance Use

Injection drug use is the second leading cause of HIV infection for African-American women and the third leading cause of HIV infection for African-American men [2]. In addition to being at risk from sharing needles, casual and chronic substance users are more likely to engage in high-risk behaviors such as unprotected sex, when they are under the influence of drugs or alcohol [10].

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Source: <http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/topics/aa/resources/factsheets/pdf/aa.pdf>



Skills-Building Course Calendar

Facilitating Small Groups

Tuesday - Thursday, Feb. 20-23, 2006

Columbia, South Carolina

The Basics of Motivational Interviewing

Wednesday - Thursday, March 1-2, 2006

Columbia, South Carolina

Risk Assessments

Friday, March 3, 2006

Columbia, South Carolina

For more information about these or other capacity-building assistance skills-building course offerings, please call the Southern Prevention Intervention Center of the African American Prevention Intervention Network, toll-free, at: 1-866-JSU-MURC (578-872).



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