



# AKOMA FACT SHEET

January 2003

No. 4

## A Glance at the HIV Epidemic

There are an estimated 800,000 to 900,000 people currently living with HIV in the U.S., with approximately 40,000 new HIV infections occurring in the U.S. every year. By gender, 70 percent of new HIV infections each year occur among men, although 30 percent of women are also significantly affected. By risk, men who have sex with men (MSM) represent 42 percent of the largest proportion of new infections, followed by 33 percent of men and women infected through heterosexual sex and 25 percent representing the injection drug use (IDU) population. By race, more than half of new HIV infections occur among blacks, though they only represent 13 percent of the U.S. population. Hispanics, who make up about 12 percent of the U.S. population, are also disproportionately affected.

To better understand how the HIV/AIDS epidemic is affecting men and women, it is critical we look at race and risk by gender.

### Estimates of Annual New Infections, U.S., by Race and Risk

Women		Men	
Black = 64 %	Heterosexual = 75%	Black = 50%	MSM = 60%
Hispanic = 18%	IDU = 25%	Hispanic = 20%	Heterosexual = 15%
White = 18 %		White = 30 %	IDU = 25%

### AIDS Cases

As of December 2000, 774,467 AIDS cases have been reported in the U.S., including 640,022 cases diagnosed among men and 134,441 among women. By race/ethnicity, 330,160 AIDS cases have been diagnosed among whites, 292,522 among Blacks, and 141,694 among Hispanics.

### AIDS Deaths

Since the beginning of the epidemic, 448,060 deaths were reported through December 2000, including 381,611 among men and 66,448 among women. Of these, 206,909 whites, 158,892 Blacks, and 77,698 Hispanics with AIDS have died from HIV-related causes.

### Slow Decline in AIDS Cases and Deaths

During the mid-to-late 1990s, advances in HIV treatments led to dramatic declines in AIDS deaths and slowed the progression from HIV to AIDS. However, in recent years, the rate of decline for both cases and deaths began to slow, and in 1999 the annual number of AIDS cases appears to be leveling, while the decline in AIDS deaths has slowed considerably.

	1997	1998	1999	%Decline 1997-1998	%Decline 1998-1999
AIDS Cases	49,999	43,183	41,849	13%	3%
AIDS Deaths	22,067	18,214	16,765	17%	8%

### More People are living with AIDS in the U.S. than Ever Before

Better treatments have also led to an increasing number of people living with AIDS in this country. This growing population represents an increasing need for continued HIV prevention services for HIV-infected individuals and for treatment and care services.

	1998	1999	2000
	274,624	299,944	322,865

Source: Centers for Disease Control Prevention (2002). *A Glance at the HIV Epidemic*.

<http://www.cdc.gov/nchstp/od/news/At-a-Glance.pdf>

Funding provided in whole or in part by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention through Cooperative Agreement Number U22/CCU418193.

