

# HIV/AIDS Among Women

**United States 2007\***

**Florida 2009**

As of December 2007, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) received reports of 201,205 AIDS cases among women (ages 13+) in the United States. The percentage of AIDS cases among female adults and adolescents (age ≥13 years) increased from 7% in 1985 to 20% in 1995 and then up to 27% in 2007.

Of those 47 states reporting confidential HIV (not AIDS), adult women accounted for 23% of the HIV cases reported in 2007.

According to the 2000 US Census, 75% of the US female population are white, 13% are black, 12% are Hispanic and 5% are other races. Black and Hispanic women in the United States are disproportionately affected by HIV/AIDS.

Percent of Female US HIV/AIDS Cases Reported		
by Race/Ethnicity, 2007	AIDS	HIV**
White	19%	20%
Black	60%	62%
Hispanic	19%	16%
Asian/Pacific Islander	1%	1%
American Indian/Alaska Native	<1%	1%

Among female adults and adolescents diagnosed with HIV/AIDS in 2007, 83% HIV/AIDS cases were attributed to high-risk heterosexual contact, 16% to injection drug use and 1% to other or unidentified risk factors.

Younger women are more likely than older women to get HIV.

CDC currently estimates that approximately one in five people living with HIV in the United States is unaware of his or her HIV infection. This can lead to unknowingly transmitting the virus to others. So the first step to protecting yourself and others is to get tested for HIV. Prompt and early diagnosis of HIV is critical to protecting your health and that of others. If you are a pregnant woman, it is especially important that you get tested early to help ensure, that if you are HIV positive, you do not transmit the virus to your unborn child.

Of the 201,205 AIDS cases reported among women in the United States, it is estimated 93,984 women have died. The number of HIV-related deaths is highest for black women. In 2006, HIV was the 3<sup>rd</sup> leading cause of death among black women ages 25-34.

CDC HIV/AIDS Surveillance 2007 (Vol. 19)

\*2008 US data is not yet available

For additional data: <http://www.kff.org/hivaids/6092.cfm> & <http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/topics/women/resources/factsheets/women.htm>

## Global Impact of HIV/AIDS on Women

Of the estimated 33.4 million people living with HIV in 2008, 15.7 million (47%) were women. Women are most severely affected by AIDS in places where heterosexual contact is the dominant mode of transmission. According to the WHO, most women become infected through their partner's high-risk behavior, which they have little or no control over. Women who are financially dependent on male partners are at a disadvantage in negotiating condom use.

For more information on the global impact of HIV/AIDS on women see the AIDS Epidemic Update, December 2009 produced by the WHO and UNAIDS at <http://www.unaids.org>

Note: Women represent cases diagnosed with HIV/AIDS at ages 13 and over.

In Florida, women (ages 13+) accounted for 11% of reported AIDS cases in 1987. That figure steadily rose to 33% in 2009. Women accounted for 26% of the HIV cases reported in 2009.

In 2009, 1,448 AIDS and 1,966 HIV cases were reported among women, with the majority being black:

Number & Percent of Florida's Female HIV/AIDS Cases Reported				
by Race/Ethnicity, 2009	AIDS		HIV	
	White	213	15%	273
Black	1,008	69%	960	66%
Hispanic	187	13%	200	14%
Asian/Pacific Islander	8	1%	9	1%
Multi-race	32	2%	9	1%

In 2009, the female population (age 13+) of Florida was 63% white, 15% black, 20% Hispanic and 2% other races\*\*.

Women are most likely to be infected through heterosexual sex, followed by injection drug use.

Number & Percent of Florida's Female HIV/AIDS Cases Reported				
by Mode of Exposure, 2009	AIDS		HIV	
	Injection Drug Use	176	12%	135
Heterosexual Contact	1,255	87%	1,293	89%
Other Risk	17	1%	23	2%

Through 2009, a total of 28,878 women were living with HIV/AIDS of which 13,842 (48%) were women of childbearing age (25-44). The breakdown by age group is as follows:

Living Female HIV/AIDS Cases Reported in Florida by Current Age Group		
13-19	539	2%
20-29	3,169	11%
30-39	7,009	24%
40-49	9,710	34%
50+	8,451	29%
TOTAL	28,878	

Through 2008\*\*\*, 1 in 296 women (ages 13+) in Florida were living with HIV/AIDS, including 1 in 64 blacks, 1 in 445 Hispanics, 1 in 1,153 whites and 1 in 466 other races.

HIV is the 3<sup>rd</sup> leading cause of death among females between the ages of 25-44. Among females of this age group by race ethnicity, HIV is the 9<sup>th</sup> leading cause among whites, the 1<sup>st</sup> leading cause among blacks and the 3<sup>rd</sup> leading cause among Hispanics.

\*Cases with no identified risks (NIRs) were redistributed for ALL modes of exposure data.

\*\*2008 Population Estimates, DOH, Office of Planning, Evaluation and Data Analysis

\*\*\*2009 Living HIV/AIDS data are not yet available. DOH, Bureau of HIV/AIDS

