



WHITMAN-WALKER CLINIC

HIV/AIDS Among African-Americans

African-Americans represent only 13 percent of the total U.S. population, but made up nearly half (47 percent) of all new AIDS cases reported in the United States in 2007.

- African-Americans are estimated to make up nearly 40 percent of the annual new HIV infections:
 - 57 percent of all infections in women in 2007
 - 34 percent of all infections in men in 2007
 - 39 percent of all total infections in 2007
- In 2002, AIDS was the second leading cause of death for African-Americans age 35-44.
- Researchers estimate that one in 50 African-American men and one in 60 African-American women are infected with HIV.

In 2007, more African-Americans were reported with AIDS than any other racial group:

- 17,507 (47 percent) of the 37,041 new AIDS cases reported that year were among African-Americans
- Almost two-thirds (63 percent) of all women reported with AIDS in 2007 were African-American
- The rate of reported AIDS cases among African-Americans was 77 per 100,000 population, nearly three times the rate for Hispanics and nearly nine times greater than the rate for whites.

HIV/AIDS is spreading especially fast among African-American men

- Thirty-two percent of African-American men who have sex with men (MSM) were found to be infected with HIV in a six-city study of men ages 23-29, compared to 14 percent of Latinos and seven percent of whites in the study.
- African-American men who have sex with men are at two to three times higher risk for HIV infection than white MSM. This may be because cultural bias causes a disproportionate number of African-American men to resist identifying as gay or bisexual and, therefore, not take precautions.

Sources:

Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Surveillance Report, Vol. 19
CDC, "Basic Statistics," <http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/stats.htm>