HIV and AIDS in America: A Snapshot

National Overview

- Nearly 1.2 million people are living with HIV in the U.S. (an estimated 1,178,350 adults and adolescents), and one in five of those (20 percent) are unaware of their infections.

- Despite increases in the total number of people living with HIV in the U.S. in recent years, the annual number of new infections has remained relatively stable overall.

- However, HIV infections continue at far too high a level, with approximately 50,000 Americans becoming newly infected with HIV each year.

- More than 16,000 people with AIDS still die each year in the U.S.

Heavily Affected Populations

- **Men Who Have Sex With Men (MSM):** By risk group, gay and bisexual men of all races remain the population most severely impacted by HIV:
  - MSM represent just 2 percent of the U.S. population, but account for 61 percent of all new HIV infections in the U.S. each year, as well as nearly half of people living with HIV (49 percent).
  - According to the most recent trend data, the only risk group in which new HIV infections are increasing is young MSM aged 13–29 years. These increases are driven by alarming increases among young, black MSM (48 percent increase between 2006 and 2009).
  - White MSM account for the largest number of annual new HIV infections of any group in the U.S., followed by black MSM and Hispanic MSM.
  - The rate of new HIV diagnoses among MSM in the U.S. is more than 44 times that of other men (range: 522–989 per 100,000 MSM vs. 12 per 100,000 other men), and more than 40 times that of women (13 per 100,000 women).

- **Heterosexuals and Injection Drug Users:** Heterosexuals and injection drug users also continue to be affected by HIV:
  - Individuals infected through heterosexual contact account for 27 percent of annual new HIV infections and 28 percent of people living with HIV.
  - Injection drug users represent 9 percent of annual new HIV infections and 17 percent of those living with HIV.

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1 The term men who have sex with men is used in CDC surveillance systems. It indicates the behaviors that transmit HIV infection, rather than how individuals self-identify in terms of their sexuality.
By Race/Ethnicity

- **African Americans**: Among racial/ethnic groups, African Americans face the most severe burden of HIV and AIDS in the nation:
  - While blacks represent approximately 14 percent of the U.S. population, the latest CDC estimates show that they account for almost half of people living with HIV in the U.S. (46 percent), as well as nearly half of new infections each year (44 percent).
  - At some point in their lives, approximately one in 16 black men will be diagnosed with HIV, as will one in 32 black women.
  - The rate of new HIV infections for black men is more than six times as high as that of white men, and more than two times that of Hispanic men and of black women.
  - The HIV incidence rate for black women is 15 times as high as that of white women, and more than three times that of Hispanic women.
  - HIV infections among blacks overall have been roughly stable in recent years.

- **Latinos**: Latinos are also disproportionately impacted:
  - Hispanics represent approximately 16 percent of the population and the latest CDC estimates show that they account for more than 17 percent of people living with HIV in the U.S., as well as 20 percent of new infections each year.
  - At some point in their lives, approximately one in 36 Hispanic men will be diagnosed with HIV, as will one in 106 Hispanic women.
  - The rate of new HIV infections among Hispanic men is almost three times that of white men, and the rate among Hispanic women is more than four times that of white women.
  - HIV infections among Hispanics overall have been roughly stable in recent years.

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**Estimated New HIV Infections in the U.S., 2009, for the Most-Affected Subpopulations**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subpopulation</th>
<th>Number of new HIV infections</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White MSM*</td>
<td>11,400</td>
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<tr>
<td>Black MSM</td>
<td>10,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic MSM</td>
<td>6,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Heterosexual Women</td>
<td>5,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Heterosexual Men</td>
<td>2,400</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hispanic Heterosexual Women</td>
<td>1,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Heterosexual Women</td>
<td>1,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Male IDUs</td>
<td>1,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Female IDUs</td>
<td>940</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The term men who have sex with men is used in CDC surveillance systems because it indicates the behaviors that transmit HIV than how individuals self-identify in terms of their sexuality.

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