



HIV/AIDS

AND

ADOLESCENTS

& Y O U N G A D U L T S

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates that today there are 850,000–950,000 HIV-positive people living in the United States, more than at any other time in the epidemic. An estimated 180,000–280,000 HIV-positive individuals do not know they are infected, and therefore are not benefiting from HIV care and treatment, and may also be unknowingly transmitting the virus. An additional 250,000 people living with HIV who are aware of their status may not be getting the care they need or prevention support to help them protect their partners. Altogether, roughly half of all people living with HIV in the United States are untested, untreated, or both.¹

- Of the 853,452 AIDS cases reported to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention through December 2001, 33,093 were among persons **13–24 years of age**.²
- During 2001 alone, 1,833 AIDS cases were reported among young people, including 372 among adolescents **13–19 years old** and 1,461 among young adults **20–24 years old**.²
- Black males **ages 13–24** comprised **38 percent** of AIDS cases for their age group among males, while Black females accounted for **60 percent** of AIDS cases among females in the same age group.²
- Although only **15 percent** of the adolescent population in the United States is Black, **61 percent** of AIDS cases reported in 2000 among **13- to 19-year-olds** were among Blacks. Hispanics, comprising **15 percent** of the adolescents in this age group, accounted for **21 percent** of the newly reported AIDS cases.³
- Persons **ages 13–24** accounted for **13 percent** of HIV (not AIDS) cases reported in 2001 in areas with confidential HIV reporting. Of these persons, females accounted for **45 percent** of the cases in this age group.²
- Through December 2001, 4,428 adolescents **13–19 years of age** had been reported with AIDS, and 6,587 persons in this age group had been reported with HIV (not AIDS), according to data from areas with confidential HIV surveillance.²
- As of December 2001, young Black females between **13 and 19 years of age** represented **72 percent** of all young women diagnosed with HIV (but who had not developed AIDS) in this age group.²
- As of December 2001, young Black adults **ages 20–24** represented **53 percent** of all persons diagnosed with HIV (but who had not developed AIDS). Whites were **35 percent** of HIV cases in this age group, and Hispanics were **10 percent**.²

HIV/AIDS is devastating communities of color around the globe in ways that we don't fully comprehend. What we DO know about HIV/AIDS is that it is preventable. Know the facts and join us in the fight against HIV/AIDS!

For more information on HIV/AIDS and Adolescents & Young Adults, contact the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at 1-800-458-5231 or on the Internet at www.cdcnpin.org.



The terms "African-American" and "Black" are used interchangeably to include those individuals who self-identify as either. The term "Hispanic" includes those individuals who self-identify as "Latino/a" or "Hispanic."

¹ Fleming, P.L., et al., "HIV Prevalence in the United States, 2000," 9th Annual Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections, Feb. 24–28, 2002, Seattle, WA, Abstract 11.

² Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, *HIV/AIDS Surveillance Report 2001*, Vol. 13, No. 2.

³ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, *HIV/AIDS Surveillance in Adolescents*, L256 Slide Series (through 2001) on the Internet at www.cdc.gov/hiv/graphics/adolesnt.htm.