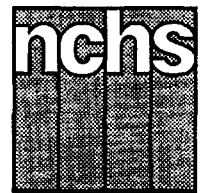


Advance Data



From Vital and Health Statistics of the CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION/National Center for Health Statistics

AIDS Knowledge and Attitudes for 1992

Data From the National Health Interview Survey

by Charlotte A. Schoenborn, M.P.H., Shannon L. Marsh, and Ann M. Hardy, Dr.P.H.,
Division of Health Interview Statistics

Highlights

In 1992, levels of knowledge about the major modes of human immunodeficiency (HIV) transmission remained high in all sociodemographic groups examined. Knowledge about other aspects of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) was more variable with older and less educated adults generally being less knowledgeable. Changes in knowledge between 1991 and 1992 included:

- An increase from 86 to 95 percent in the proportion who had heard the AIDS virus referred to as "HIV"
- An increase from 15 to 22 percent in the proportion of young adults (18–29 years of age) who planned to be tested in the next year
- An increase from 13 to 17 percent in the proportion of adults who had a coworker, relative, or friend with AIDS
- An increase from 69 to 75 percent in the proportion of parents of 10–17-year-olds who had ever discussed AIDS with their children

Introduction

The National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) has included

questions about HIV and AIDS as part of the National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) since 1987. The purpose of these questions is to provide population-based data on adults' knowledge about AIDS and transmission of HIV and on their experience with HIV antibody testing. Such information is used to help plan and monitor various educational and prevention programs. The questionnaire used in 1991 and 1992 is the fourth version of this survey. While new questions have been introduced in each version to meet changing data needs, many questions have been used repeatedly to allow for examination of trends. NCHS has routinely published results from this survey in the *Advance Data From Vital and Health Statistics* series (1–8). In addition, public use data tapes of the 1987–92 surveys are currently available and more detailed exploration of the data is encouraged.

The NHIS AIDS questionnaires have been developed by NCHS and an Interagency Task Force created by the Public Health Service Health Data Policy Committee. The Task Force includes representatives from other centers within the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and from the

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health, the National AIDS Program Office, the National Institutes of Health, the Food and Drug Administration, the Office of Population Affairs, the Indian Health Service, the Agency for Health Care Policy and Research, and the Health Resources and Services Administration.

Data and methods

This report presents data from the 1992 National Health Interview Survey of Aids Knowledge and Attitudes. The 1992 questionnaire was identical to the 1991 NHIS on AIDS. Thus, trend comparisons between 1991 and 1992 can be readily made. Caution should be exercised when comparing these data with data from earlier years due to changes in question wording, placement, and skip patterns in the 1991–92 questionnaire. A discussion of issues related to such trend comparisons may be found in the annual report of 1991 findings (8). Details about the sample design and the estimation procedures can be found in the Technical notes at the end of this report.



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
National Center for Health Statistics



Table 1 shows percent distributions by response categories to most of the items included in the 1992 NHIS AIDS questionnaire for the total adult population, ages 18 years and over, as well as various subgroups defined by age, sex, race and ethnicity, and education. In most cases, the actual questions asked are reproduced verbatim in the tables along with the response categories. Refusals and other nonresponse categories (generally less than 1 percent of total responses) are excluded from the denominator in the calculation of estimates, but responses of "don't know" are included. The NHIS AIDS survey uses the phrase "the AIDS virus" rather than "HIV" because it is felt to be more widely recognized; however, in this report the two terms are used synonymously.

Selected findings

Sources of information

In 1992, 87 percent of adults stated that they had received information about AIDS in the past month. Of all sources listed, television programs (75 percent), newspaper articles (52 percent), magazine articles (44 percent), and radio programs (38 percent) comprised the primary sources of information. Each of these represent modest increases over 1991 estimates.

When specifically asked about exposure in the previous month to public service announcements (PSA's), 84 percent reported viewing them on television, 49 percent hearing them on radio, and 10 percent seeing public service posters in airports. Generally speaking, persons under age 50 and those with more than 12 years of education appeared to have had more exposure to PSA's than had their counterparts.

Of the parents of 10–17-year-olds, 75 percent reported ever discussing AIDS with them, up from 69 percent in 1991. Overall, white (77 percent) and black (75 percent) parents were more likely to talk to their children than Hispanic parents (67 percent). Women were much more likely than men to have discussed the topic with their children (84 percent versus 64 percent),

and parents 30–49 years old were more likely to have done so than both younger and older parents. The percent of parents discussing AIDS with their children increased with years of education, from 64 percent for those with less than 12 years of education to 79 percent for those with more than 12 years of education. Seventy-six percent of parents reported that their children received instruction on AIDS at school.

General AIDS knowledge

In 1992, of the adults asked to assess their knowledge of AIDS, 26 percent stated they knew "a lot" while 45 percent stated they knew "some." About 28 percent of adults said they knew "little" (21 percent) or "nothing" (7 percent) about AIDS. Marked educational differences were noted: 46 percent of adults with less than 12 years of education felt they knew at least "some" about AIDS compared with 85 percent of those with more than 12 years of education.

Concerning the three main modes of transmission, the level of AIDS knowledge was high in 1992—as it had been the previous year. Ninety-six percent of adults knew that the AIDS virus can be transmitted through sexual intercourse, 94 percent knew that it can pass from a pregnant woman to her baby, and 96 percent said it was "very likely" that a person can get the AIDS virus from sharing needles with an infected person. Knowledge was lowest for items related to the effects and treatment associated with AIDS infection. Fifty-four percent knew that AIDS can damage the brain, 71 percent knew that certain drugs can lengthen the life of an infected person, and 60 percent knew that early treatment of the disease reduces symptoms. Between 20 and 30 percent of respondents did not know the correct responses to these questions. Overall, minority persons, persons with less than 12 years of education, and those 50 years of age and older were less likely to respond correctly to the general AIDS knowledge questions.

The most striking difference in general AIDS awareness between 1991 and 1992 was a 9 percentage point

increase, from 86 percent to 95 percent, in adults who heard the AIDS virus referred to as "HIV." Also in 1992, a greater proportion of adults understood that AIDS was an infectious disease caused by a virus (85 percent versus 81 percent in 1991), a person can be infected with HIV and yet not have AIDS (84 percent versus 78 percent), an infected person can look and feel healthy (86 percent versus 80 percent), drugs can lengthen the life of an infected person (71 percent versus 67 percent), and early treatment of the disease can reduce symptoms (60 percent versus 56 percent). There was little change noted in the proportions of correct responses for other items, such as: there is no cure (93 percent versus 92 percent) and there is no vaccine available (83 percent versus 82 percent).

Misperceptions about HIV transmission

Respondents were asked to evaluate the likelihood that HIV transmission could occur with various forms of casual contact, for example, working near an infected person. Since 1991, the NHIS has used a revised response format with six response categories ranging from "very likely" to "definitely not possible" and "don't know." There was little change between 1991 and 1992 in the estimates for misperceptions. The most notable difference was a 3-point increase in the percent of respondents who felt it was very unlikely that someone could become infected with HIV by attending school with an HIV-infected child or working near someone who is infected with HIV (44 percent in 1992 compared with 41 percent a year earlier). In both items there was a corresponding decrease in the estimate for those who felt transmission was "definitely not possible," suggesting that there might have been a shift between these two response categories. The proportion of adults who felt contracting AIDS through being cared for by an infected health care worker was "very likely" remained relatively unchanged between 1991 (27 percent) and 1992 (26 percent) while the proportions who said it was

“somewhat likely” (36 percent) or “somewhat unlikely” (15 percent) in 1992 were slightly higher than in 1991 (33 percent and 13 percent, respectively).

The 1992 NHIS revealed little difference between males and females regarding misperceptions about transmission. Overall, white persons, adults under 50 years of age, and persons with more than 12 years of education were more likely to believe that HIV transmission through casual contact was “very unlikely” or “definitely not possible.” The modes of casual contact with the lowest percentage of respondents believing that HIV transmission was “very likely” or “somewhat likely” were working near someone (7 percent) and attending school with someone who is infected with HIV (7 percent). The mode of transmission that was most likely to be perceived incorrectly as “very likely” or “somewhat likely” was being cared for by an infected health care worker (62 percent). Regarding all other modes of casual contact, between 17 and 27 percent of adults believed HIV transmission was “very likely” or “somewhat likely.”

Blood donation and blood screening

Patterns of past blood donation remained unchanged compared with earlier years. In 1992, 19 percent of adults reported having donated blood since March 1985 (when routine screening of donated blood for HIV began), and 6 percent had donated in the past year. As was found in previous years, the proportion of adults reporting blood donations increased steadily with years of education: only 2 percent of persons with less than 12 years of education had donated blood in the past 12 months compared with 9 percent of adults with more than 12 years of education. Similarly striking education differences were noted for donations since March 1985: 7 percent of non-high school graduates had donated during this time period compared with 16 percent of high school graduates and 27 percent of adults who had post-high school education.

In 1992, 62 percent of adults reported that a person could not get HIV while giving or donating blood for use by others, 29 percent felt they could, and 9 percent of adults did not know. Misperceptions about transmission of HIV by donating blood were higher among black adults (43 percent reporting AIDS could be transmitted this way compared with 26 percent of white adults), and those with less than 12 years of education (39 percent compared with 23 percent of those with more than 12 years of school). It should be noted that we cannot distinguish if respondents believe such transmission is likely or only a theoretical possibility if standard blood bank practices are not followed. Also, despite attempts to make this question clear, some respondents may still mistakenly believe we are asking about getting HIV from *receiving* blood. Further refinement of this question may help clarify the responses being elicited.

Seventy-nine percent of adults believed that blood donations are routinely tested for the AIDS virus. Men and women did not differ in terms of their knowledge of routine screening of blood donations, but other sociodemographic differences were noted. Knowledge was higher among adults 18–29 years of age (82 percent) and 30–49 years (84 percent) than among persons over age 50 (72 percent). White persons were more knowledgeable (82 percent) than black persons or Hispanic persons (68 percent). Finally, those with more than 12 years of education were considerably more knowledgeable about routine screening (87 percent knew blood was routinely screened) than persons with fewer years of education (62 to 79 percent).

HIV antibody testing

Considering HIV testing done for all reasons, including blood donation, in 1992 an estimated 32 percent of adults in the United States had ever been tested for antibodies to HIV (data not shown) compared with 29 percent a year earlier. All questions related to HIV testing told the respondent to specifically exclude testing that was done as part of blood donations. Thus,

the following discussion is limited to testing not done as part of blood donations.

In 1992, not including blood donations, about 18 percent of adults said they had been tested for the AIDS virus. Testing was more common among persons in the younger age groups: 27 percent of persons ages 18–29 years and 22 percent of those 30–49 years had been tested at least once compared with 8 percent of adults aged 50 years and over. Of those who had been tested, about 6 in 10 had been tested only once. About one-half of those who had been tested were most recently tested in the 12 months prior to interview (9 percent).

In general, the reasons for having had their most recent HIV antibody test did not change dramatically between 1991 and 1992, although the percent of persons who were tested solely to find out if they were infected did increase slightly (from 25 percent in 1991 to 30 percent in 1992). Another 7 percent were referred by their doctor, the health department, or their sex partner for testing. Twelve percent had been tested for hospitalization or a surgical procedure, 16 percent to apply for health or life insurance, 6 percent for military induction, and 6 percent for employment. While immigration was only mentioned by 4 percent of all adults tested, it was mentioned by 23 percent of Hispanic adults tested. Although still quite high, the proportion of Hispanic persons giving this reason in 1992 was down noticeably from 1991 when 31 percent of Hispanic adults cited immigration as a reason for testing. As in 1991, most of those in 1992 who reported testing had their last test at their doctor or HMO (28 percent), at a hospital, emergency room, or an outpatient clinic (24 percent), or at a community health clinic (8 percent).

Eighty percent of persons who had been tested for AIDS received the results of their most recent test. Persons under 30 years of age were slightly more likely than older persons to have gotten their results. The percent of persons receiving their test results remained unchanged between 1991 and 1992 for persons 18–29 years (83 percent) and persons 30–49 years (79 percent), but rose among persons 50

years and older (78 percent compared with 72 percent in 1991). Black adults (85 percent) and Hispanic adults (84 percent) were more likely to have obtained their results than were white adults (78 percent). Among those who received their test results, 58 percent received them in person, 17 percent received them by telephone, and 16 percent were notified in the mail. In 1992, almost all adults tested said they felt their results were accurate (97 percent) and that their results were handled properly in terms of confidentiality (94 percent).

The proportion who indicated that they plan to be tested in the next year was 11 percent, up from 9 percent in 1991. The largest increase in the proportion who planned to be tested was seen among persons 18–29 years of age (22 percent compared with 15 percent in 1991) and among black persons (26 percent compared with 21 percent a year earlier). Of those who planned to be tested, 72 percent said one reason that they would be tested was that they “wanted to know if they were infected,” compared with 67 percent in 1991. Black adults (82 percent) were much more likely than white adults (65 percent) to give this answer. Other reasons cited for testing expected in the next year were blood donation (17 percent), application for a job (7 percent), and application for life or health insurance (9 percent).

In 1992, the NHIS asked those adults who had not been tested for HIV why they had not done so. The most common response, given by 81 percent of those never tested, was that they did not consider themselves to be at risk for AIDS. Very few respondents (less than 2 percent) chose as reasons for not having been tested any of the recognized barriers to testing such as fear of discrimination, not knowing where to go for testing, and not trusting the medical community to keep results confidential. The remainder listed fear of needles (1 percent), another unspecified reason (9 percent), or said they did not know why they had not been tested (9 percent). There were no meaningful changes between 1991 and 1992.

In 1992, 79 percent of adults recognized that after one is infected

with HIV there is a period of time before the blood test shows the infection. Only 2 percent did not believe this to be true and another 18 percent responded “don’t know.” In 1991, 74 percent knew about this latent period. Knowledge levels increased across all sociodemographic groups, but persons with less than 12 years of education (63 percent), Hispanic adults (70 percent), and those 50 years and over (70 percent) remained the least likely to be aware of the fact that HIV infection does not show in blood tests immediately.

Awareness about zidovudine

The drug zidovudine (AZT), also known as Retrovir, was the first approved antiviral drug used for the treatment of HIV. Awareness of AZT increased from 51 percent in 1991 to 58 percent in 1992. Awareness was highest among persons between the ages of 30–49 (68 percent) compared with younger and older persons. Sharp educational differences were found. Only 30 percent of adults with less than 12 years of education had heard of AZT compared with about three-fourths of those with more than 12 years. Of the race-ethnic groups shown, knowledge was markedly lower among Hispanic adults (36 percent) compared with black adults (52 percent) and white adults (62 percent). Although significant sociodemographic differentials persist, knowledge levels increased in all subgroups between 1991 and 1992.

Of the adults who had heard of AZT, 83 percent knew that it can delay or slow down the symptoms of HIV infection, 92 percent were aware that AZT does not cure people with AIDS, 61 percent knew that the drug has side effects, and 35 percent knew AZT is only appropriate for an HIV-infected individual at certain times during the illness. Fifty-five percent of the adults surveyed knew there are other drugs available to treat AIDS-related illnesses, up from 50 percent in 1991. Thirty-two percent answered “don’t know” and 12 percent said they did not believe other drugs exist. Knowledge of AZT, like most other AIDS-related knowledge, was lowest among less educated adults

and persons 50 years or older. Men and women generally did not differ in their knowledge of AZT but they did differ in terms of their knowledge of the existence of drugs other than AZT for treatment of AIDS-related illnesses. Fifty-nine percent of the men knew such drugs existed compared with 52 percent of the women. The pattern of sociodemographic variations did not change between 1991 and 1992.

Perceptions about condoms

The NHIS surveyed respondents about their knowledge of condoms. The survey questions included the perceived efficacy of condoms in preventing sexual transmission of HIV, the relative efficacy of latex versus natural-membrane condoms, and the effect of oil-based lubricants on condoms. In 1992, about 8 out of 10 adults believed that condoms were either “very effective” (26 percent) or “somewhat effective” (54 percent) in preventing sexual transmission of HIV. Males were more likely than females to believe that condom use is “very effective” (30 percent versus 22 percent). Not surprisingly, the percent of adults who responded “very effective” increased with education and decreased with age.

The 1992 NHIS also contained two questions intended to measure understanding of correct condom use. The items asked the relative efficacy of latex and natural-membrane condoms and if oil-based lubricants cause condoms to break. Despite a high percent of adults (80 percent) who considered condom use to be at least somewhat effective in preventing HIV transmission, only 27 percent knew that there was a difference in efficacy between latex and natural-membrane condoms. A strikingly high percent of adults (55 percent) said they did not know if latex and natural-membrane condoms were equally effective and 16 percent believed there was no difference.

One-third of adults correctly responded that oil-based lubricants may destroy the effectiveness of condoms while 60 percent did not know the effect of oil-based lubricants. Five percent believed there was no harmful effect. White and black adults were more likely

to respond correctly (34 percent) than were Hispanic adults (28 percent). Younger adults and persons with more than 12 years of education were twice as likely to understand the damaging effect of oil-based lubricants (44 percent and 42 percent, respectively) as were persons 50 years and older (19 percent) or those with less than 12 years of education (21 percent). The latter groups were most likely to respond "don't know" (74 percent and 70 percent, respectively) of all population subgroups shown. Finally, men were somewhat more knowledgeable than women with 36 percent responding that oil-based lubricants destroyed condom effectiveness, compared with 30 percent of women; women were more likely to say they didn't know (63 percent compared with 56 percent of men.)

Risk of HIV infection

The percent of adults who felt there was no chance they currently had AIDS virus declined from 80 percent to 73 percent between 1991 and 1992. The percent who felt they had no chance of contracting HIV in the future also declined, from 72 percent in 1991 to 64 percent a year later. The 7 to 8 percent difference between 1991 and 1992 appears to have shifted from those who feel they have no chance to those who feel they have a low chance. The percent of adults who felt they had no chance of having or getting the virus increased with age. About one-half of persons under age 30 years felt they had no chance of getting AIDS compared with three-fourths of those 50 years and older. Perception of personal risk increased with level of education; 72 percent of persons with less than 12 years of education felt they had no chance of getting the virus compared with 57 percent of persons with more than 12 years of education. Finally, women (67 percent) were more likely than men (62 percent) to report that they were not at any risk of getting the AIDS virus.

Overall, 2 percent of adults reported a "high" or "medium" chance of currently having AIDS. Persons under age 30 years, black persons, and Hispanic persons were the most likely to

believe that they might have been infected (4 percent each). In terms of the chances for future infection, 4 percent of respondents reported a "high" or "medium" chance of becoming infected. Again, younger adults, black persons, and Hispanic persons were the most likely to feel they had at least a "medium" chance of getting AIDS in the future.

In 1992, 4 percent of adults reported participating in one or more high risk behaviors associated with HIV infection. This percentage does not vary significantly from past years. The only significant difference between sociodemographic groups can be found in individuals 50 years of age and older. Only 1 percent of persons in this age group reported participation in any of the high risk behaviors compared with 3 to 6 percent of persons in the other population subgroups.

Knowing someone with AIDS

Since 1991, respondents have been asked whether they ever had a coworker, friend, or relative who has had AIDS or the AIDS virus. In 1992, 5 percent of the respondents reported having had a coworker with HIV or AIDS. Adults 30–49 years of age and those with more than 12 years of education were the most likely of all groups shown to have had a coworker with HIV or AIDS (8 percent and 9 percent, respectively).

In 1992, excluding coworkers, 12 percent of adults reported having a friend or relative with HIV or AIDS compared with 9 percent a year earlier. Black adults were more likely than white adults to report having a friend or relative with HIV or AIDS (17 percent versus 12 percent). Age and educational differences were also noted. Eight percent of adults 50 years of age and older had a friend or relative with HIV or AIDS compared with 15 percent of persons 30–49 years of age. Similarly, 7 percent of persons with less than 12 years of education had an infected friend or relative compared with 16 percent of persons with more than 12 years of education.

References

1. Dawson DA, Thornberry OT. AIDS knowledge and attitudes for December 1987: Provisional data from the National Health Interview Survey. Advance data from vital and health statistics; no 153. Hyattsville, Maryland: National Center for Health Statistics. 1988.
2. Hardy AM, Dawson DA. AIDS knowledge and attitudes for December 1988: Provisional data from the National Health Interview Survey. Advance data from vital and health statistics; no 175. Hyattsville, Maryland: National Center for Health Statistics. 1989.
3. Hardy AM. AIDS knowledge and attitudes for October–December 1989: Provisional data from the National Health Interview Survey. Advance data from vital and health statistics; no 186. Hyattsville, Maryland: National Center for Health Statistics. 1990.
4. Dawson DA. AIDS knowledge and attitudes for January–March 1990: Provisional data from the National Health Interview Survey. Advance data from vital and health statistics; no 193. Hyattsville, Maryland: National Center for Health Statistics. 1990.
5. Fitti JE, Cynamon M. AIDS knowledge and attitudes for April–June 1990: Provisional data from the National Health Interview Survey. Advance data from vital and health statistics; no 195. Hyattsville, Maryland: National Center for Health Statistics. 1990.
6. Adams PF, Hardy AM. AIDS knowledge and attitudes for July–September 1990: Provisional data from the National Health Interview Survey. Advance data from vital and health statistics; no 198. Hyattsville, Maryland: National Center for Health Statistics. 1991.
7. Hardy AM. AIDS knowledge and attitudes for October–December 1990: Provisional data from the National Health Interview Survey. Advance data from vital and health statistics; no 204. Hyattsville, Maryland: National Center for Health Statistics. 1991.
8. Hardy AM. AIDS knowledge and attitudes for January–March 1991: Provisional data from the National Health Interview Survey. Advance data from vital and health statistics; no 216. Hyattsville, Maryland: National Center for Health Statistics. 1992.

Symbols

- - - Data not available
 - . . . Category not applicable
 - Quantity zero
 - 0.0 Quantity more than zero but less than 0.05
 - Z Quantity more than zero but less than 500 where numbers are rounded to thousands
 - * Figure does not meet standard of reliability or precision (see Technical notes)
-

Table 1. Estimates of the percent of persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1992 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, 1992

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in Technical notes]

AIDS knowledge or attitude	Total	Race or ethnicity										
		Age			Sex		Non-Hispanic			Education		
		18-29 years	30-49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	Less than 12 years	12 years	More than 12 years
Percent distribution												
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1. How much would you say you know about AIDS?												
A lot	26	31	31	18	26	27	27	25	25	14	23	36
Some	45	50	50	37	45	45	47	39	40	32	48	49
A little	21	17	17	29	22	20	20	23	27	32	24	13
Nothing	7	2	3	16	7	7	6	13	8	22	5	2
Don't know	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	0	0	0
2. In the past month have you—												
2a. Seen any Public Service Announcements about AIDS on television?												
Yes	84	85	87	80	84	84	84	86	81	77	86	86
No	14	14	12	18	15	14	14	13	18	21	13	13
Don't know	2	1	1	3	2	2	2	1	1	3	1	1
2b. Heard any Public Service Announcements about AIDS on the radio?												
Yes	49	57	54	37	52	46	47	57	57	37	48	55
No	48	40	43	60	45	52	50	42	40	60	49	42
Don't know	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	3	3	3
2c. Seen any Public Service Posters in airports about AIDS?												
Yes	10	11	11	8	11	10	9	14	15	7	8	13
No	88	87	87	90	87	89	90	84	82	91	90	85
Don't know	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	2	2	2
3. In the past month, have you received information about AIDS from any of these sources? ¹												
Television programs	75	77	77	71	75	74	74	76	75	69	75	77
Radio programs	38	45	41	29	42	34	36	44	46	28	37	43
Magazine articles	44	49	47	37	41	47	44	44	41	26	42	55
Newspaper articles	52	48	56	51	53	51	53	49	49	35	51	62
Street signs/billboards	19	27	21	12	21	18	18	25	25	12	18	24
Store displays/store distributed brochures	9	12	9	6	9	8	7	12	14	7	9	9
Bus/streetcar/subway displays	7	12	8	4	8	7	5	14	13	6	6	9
Health department brochures	16	23	17	10	14	18	14	24	22	13	15	18
Workplace distributed brochures	12	13	16	6	12	13	11	17	12	5	11	17
School distributed brochures	10	18	11	3	9	11	9	13	12	7	9	12
Church distributed brochures	5	5	5	5	5	6	4	11	8	4	5	6
Community organization	5	6	6	4	5	5	4	9	5	4	4	7
Friend/acquaintance	10	15	11	6	10	11	9	15	13	8	10	12
AIDS hotline	1	2	2	1	1	2	1	3	3	1	1	1
Other	3	3	4	2	3	4	3	4	3	2	2	5
Don't know	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	0
Received no AIDS information in past month	13	9	11	17	12	13	13	13	12	21	13	8
4. Have you heard the AIDS virus called by the name "HIV"?												
Yes	95	97	97	91	95	95	96	94	84	85	96	98
No	4	3	3	7	4	4	3	4	14	12	3	1
Don't know	1	0	0	2	1	1	1	1	2	3	1	0
5. Tell me whether you think the following statements are true or false or if you don't know if they are true or false.												
5a. AIDS can reduce the body's natural protection against disease.												
True	87	90	92	79	88	86	90	76	79	68	87	96
False	3	3	3	4	3	4	3	8	5	6	4	2
Don't know	10	7	6	17	9	10	8	17	16	26	9	3
5b. AIDS can damage the brain.												
True	54	46	55	59	54	54	53	59	59	55	54	54
False	15	24	17	7	16	14	16	11	14	8	14	20
Don't know	30	30	27	34	30	31	31	30	27	37	32	26
5c. AIDS is an infectious disease caused by a virus.												
True	85	92	90	75	87	83	85	88	86	75	85	91
False	4	3	4	6	4	5	5	2	4	4	5	4
Don't know	10	5	6	19	9	12	10	10	10	21	10	5
5d. A person can be infected with the AIDS virus and not have the disease AIDS.												
True	84	88	89	75	84	84	86	80	77	68	84	92
False	4	5	4	4	4	4	3	6	7	6	4	3
Don't know	12	7	7	21	12	12	11	14	16	26	11	5
5e. ANY person with the AIDS virus can pass it on to someone else through sexual intercourse.												
True	96	98	98	93	96	96	96	95	96	91	97	98
False	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1
Don't know	3	2	2	6	3	3	3	4	3	8	3	1

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Estimates of the percent of persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1992 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, 1992—Con.

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in Technical notes]

AIDS knowledge or attitude	Total	Age			Sex		Race or ethnicity			Education		
		18-29 years	30-49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	Non-Hispanic			Less than 12 years	12 years	More than 12 years
							White	Black	Hispanic			
Percent distribution												
5f. A pregnant women who has the AIDS virus can give it to her baby.												
True	94	96	96	91	93	95	95	92	94	89	94	96
False	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Don't know	5	3	4	9	6	4	5	8	6	10	5	3
5g. A person who has the AIDS virus can look and feel well and healthy.												
True	86	91	91	77	87	85	88	84	75	69	87	94
False	5	4	4	7	4	6	4	5	11	10	5	3
Don't know	9	5	5	16	9	9	8	11	14	22	8	3
5h. There are drugs available which can lengthen the life of a person infected with the AIDS virus.												
True	71	71	75	65	71	71	73	67	60	54	68	81
False	7	9	7	6	8	7	6	9	12	8	8	6
Don't know	22	20	18	29	22	22	21	24	27	37	24	13
5i. Early treatment of the AIDS virus infection can reduce symptoms in an infected person.												
True	60	61	65	53	61	59	61	59	54	46	57	70
False	10	12	10	8	10	10	9	11	12	10	11	9
Don't know	30	27	25	39	30	31	30	31	34	45	33	21
5j. There is a vaccine available to the public that protects a person from getting the AIDS virus.												
True	3	4	2	4	3	3	2	6	6	6	3	2
False	83	85	88	75	84	82	86	74	73	66	83	91
Don't know	14	11	9	21	13	15	12	19	22	28	14	7
5k. There is no cure for AIDS at present.												
True	93	93	95	90	93	93	95	90	84	83	94	96
False	2	3	2	3	3	2	2	3	6	4	2	2
Don't know	5	4	3	7	5	5	4	7	10	12	4	2
6. How likely do you think it is that a person will get AIDS or the AIDS virus infection from—												
6a. Working near someone with the AIDS virus?												
Very likely	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	4	6	4	2	1
Somewhat likely	5	4	5	5	5	5	4	6	6	6	6	4
Somewhat unlikely	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	9	8	8	6
Very unlikely	44	45	44	44	46	43	46	43	32	38	45	47
Definitely not possible	36	39	39	31	35	37	37	32	40	29	35	40
Don't know	6	3	3	11	5	6	5	8	7	15	4	2
6b. Eating in a restaurant where the cook has the AIDS virus?												
Very likely	7	5	6	8	6	7	5	10	10	10	7	4
Somewhat likely	17	18	16	17	17	17	17	19	16	20	19	13
Somewhat unlikely	13	15	14	11	13	13	13	13	12	11	13	14
Very unlikely	35	37	37	32	37	34	37	30	28	25	33	42
Definitely not possible	19	19	21	15	18	19	19	16	23	15	17	22
Don't know	10	5	7	17	9	11	9	13	10	19	10	5
6c. Sharing plates, forks, or glasses with someone who has the AIDS virus?												
Very likely	9	7	9	11	9	9	9	12	12	14	11	6
Somewhat likely	18	15	17	20	18	17	18	19	15	19	19	16
Somewhat unlikely	13	15	14	11	13	13	14	11	13	10	13	15
Very unlikely	32	36	34	27	33	32	33	28	29	24	31	37
Definitely not possible	18	22	19	14	17	19	18	16	22	14	17	21
Don't know	10	5	7	16	9	10	9	13	10	20	10	5
6d. Using public toilets?												
Very likely	6	5	5	7	5	6	4	10	9	10	6	3
Somewhat likely	11	11	9	14	11	12	11	12	14	16	12	8
Somewhat unlikely	11	13	11	10	11	11	11	11	11	9	12	11
Very unlikely	38	39	40	35	39	37	40	33	29	29	37	43
Definitely not possible	26	28	29	21	25	26	26	22	27	18	24	31
Don't know	9	4	6	15	8	9	8	12	9	19	8	4
6e. Sharing needles for drug use with someone who has the AIDS virus?												
Very likely	96	97	97	92	96	95	96	94	94	90	96	98
Somewhat likely	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	2	1	1
Somewhat unlikely	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Very unlikely	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Definitely not possible	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Don't know	2	1	1	5	2	2	2	4	2	7	2	1

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Estimates of the percent of persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1992 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, 1992—Con.

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in Technical notes]

AIDS knowledge or attitude	Total	Race or ethnicity										
		Age			Sex		Non-Hispanic			Education		
		18-29 years	30-49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	Less than 12 years	12 years	More than 12 years
Percent distribution												
6f. Being coughed or sneezed on by someone who has the AIDS virus?												
Very likely	9	5	8	12	9	9	8	12	10	13	10	5
Somewhat likely	18	15	17	21	17	19	18	18	20	21	19	16
Somewhat unlikely	15	16	16	13	15	15	15	15	13	11	15	16
Very unlikely	32	36	36	25	33	31	33	28	26	21	31	39
Definitely not possible	15	20	16	11	15	16	15	14	20	13	14	17
Don't know	11	7	7	18	10	11	10	13	11	21	11	6
6g. Attending school with a child who has the AIDS virus?												
Very likely	2	1	2	2	2	2	1	3	3	4	2	1
Somewhat likely	5	4	5	6	5	5	4	6	5	7	5	3
Somewhat unlikely	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	8	8	7	8	7
Very unlikely	44	43	46	43	46	43	46	42	32	36	45	48
Definitely not possible	35	43	37	29	34	37	35	31	43	30	34	38
Don't know	7	3	4	13	7	7	6	10	8	17	6	3
6h. Mosquitoes or other insects?												
Very likely	9	9	9	9	9	9	8	12	12	13	10	6
Somewhat likely	16	18	16	15	17	16	15	21	18	19	17	14
Somewhat unlikely	9	11	9	6	10	8	9	7	10	7	9	10
Very unlikely	25	25	27	23	26	25	27	22	18	17	24	30
Definitely not possible	20	20	22	17	19	21	21	14	21	14	18	24
Don't know	21	16	17	29	20	22	21	23	21	31	22	16
6i. Being cared for by a nurse, doctor, dentist, or other health care worker who has the AIDS virus?												
Very likely	26	22	24	30	24	27	24	33	30	33	29	19
Somewhat likely	36	38	36	34	35	36	37	33	32	30	37	37
Somewhat unlikely	15	17	17	11	16	14	15	12	13	9	13	19
Very unlikely	15	16	16	12	17	13	16	9	12	10	12	20
Definitely not possible	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	6	4	2	3
Don't know	6	4	4	10	6	7	5	9	7	14	5	3
7. Can a person get AIDS or the AIDS virus infection while giving or donating blood for use by others?												
Yes	29	31	28	30	30	28	26	43	36	39	31	23
No	62	61	66	56	61	62	66	45	51	42	60	72
Don't know	9	8	6	14	9	10	8	12	13	19	9	5
10. Have you ever discussed AIDS with any of your children aged 10-17? ²												
Yes	75	55	76	68	64	84	77	75	67	64	74	79
No	25	43	23	30	35	16	23	25	33	36	25	20
Don't know	0	0	0	—	0	0	0	0	—	0	0	0
11. Have any or all of your children aged 10-17 had instruction at school about AIDS? ²												
Yes	76	64	77	77	72	80	77	74	75	72	77	78
No	8	20	8	5	7	10	8	8	8	9	8	8
Don't know	15	15	15	16	20	10	14	17	16	19	15	14
12. Have you ever given or donated blood?												
Yes	42	34	45	44	53	32	45	34	28	27	39	52
No	58	66	55	55	47	67	54	66	72	72	61	48
Don't know	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
13a. Have you donated blood since March 1985?												
Yes	19	26	23	9	23	16	20	14	14	7	16	27
No	80	73	76	90	76	84	79	85	85	92	83	72
Don't know	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
13b. Have you donated blood in the past 12 months?												
Yes	6	8	8	3	7	5	7	4	4	2	5	9
No	93	91	91	96	91	94	92	95	95	97	94	90
Don't know	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
14. How many times in the past 12 months have you donated blood?												
Once	3	5	4	1	4	3	3	2	3	1	3	5
Twice	2	2	2	1	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	2
Three times or more	1	1	2	1	2	1	1	0	1	0	1	2
Don't know	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	—	—	0	0	0
Did not donate blood in past 12 months ³	94	92	92	97	93	95	93	96	96	98	95	91

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Estimates of the percent of persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1992 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, 1992—Con.

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in Technical notes]

AIDS knowledge or attitude	Total	Age			Sex		Race or ethnicity			Education		
		18-29 years	30-49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	Non-Hispanic			Less than 12 years	12 years	More than 12 years
							White	Black	Hispanic			
Percent distribution												
15. To the best of your knowledge, are blood donations routinely tested for the AIDS virus infection?												
Yes	79	82	84	72	79	80	82	68	68	62	79	87
No	7	6	6	8	7	7	6	12	9	10	7	5
Don't know	14	12	10	20	15	13	12	19	23	28	14	7
16. Was one of your reasons for donating blood because you wanted to be tested for the AIDS virus infection? ⁴												
Yes	3	4	2	1	3	2	2	7	3	4	3	2
No	88	87	89	90	89	88	89	88	85	81	88	89
Don't know	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
17a. Except for blood donations since 1985, have you had your blood tested for the AIDS virus infection?												
Yes	18	27	22	8	20	17	16	29	28	14	17	22
No	76	69	73	83	74	77	78	64	67	78	77	74
Don't know	6	4	5	9	6	6	6	7	5	8	6	5
17b. Why haven't you been tested? ^{1,5}												
Don't consider myself at risk of AIDS	81	71	82	86	79	83	83	73	76	76	81	84
Don't believe anything can be done if I am positive	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	0
Don't like needles	1	2	1	0	1	1	1	3	1	1	1	1
Afraid of losing job, insurance, housing, friends, family if people knew I was positive	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Don't trust medical clinics/hospitals to keep test results confidential	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Already know whether I have the AIDS virus infection	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	1
Don't know where to go for a test	1	2	1	0	1	1	0	1	2	1	1	0
Other	9	12	9	7	9	9	8	11	11	9	8	9
Don't know	9	13	8	7	10	7	8	12	9	13	9	6
18. How many times have you had your blood tested for the AIDS virus infection, not including blood donations?												
Once	11	16	14	5	12	11	10	15	20	9	10	14
Twice	3	5	4	1	3	3	3	7	5	2	3	4
Three times or more	3	4	3	1	4	2	2	6	3	2	2	3
Don't know	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
Never had test ⁶	82	73	78	93	81	84	85	71	72	86	84	79
19. How many times in the past 12 months have you had your blood tested for the AIDS virus infection, not including blood donations?												
None	9	12	11	3	10	8	8	11	15	6	8	11
Once	8	12	8	3	8	7	6	14	11	6	7	9
Twice	1	2	1	0	1	1	1	3	1	1	1	1
Three times or more	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Don't know	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Never had test ⁶	82	73	78	93	81	84	85	71	73	86	84	79
20. Did you have any of the AIDS blood tests: ^{1,7}												
For hospitalization or a surgical procedure?	13	12	12	23	10	17	14	14	10	20	15	10
To apply for health insurance?	5	3	6	4	6	3	5	4	2	2	4	6
To apply for life insurance?	12	6	17	10	16	8	15	7	5	2	9	17
For employment?	6	7	7	3	8	5	5	7	10	5	7	6
To apply for a marriage license?	4	7	3	2	4	5	5	3	5	3	6	4
For military induction or military service?	7	11	5	1	11	2	7	8	3	2	8	7
For immigration?	5	5	5	3	4	5	1	2	23	13	2	3
Just to find out if you were infected?	30	35	28	23	28	32	28	39	27	28	33	29
Because of referral by the doctor?	5	5	4	7	4	5	4	8	4	6	5	3
Because of referral by the Health Department?	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	2	0	1	1	1
Referred by your sex partner?	1	2	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Other	20	22	18	22	14	25	21	19	12	22	21	18
Don't know	0	—	0	1	0	0	0	0	—	0	—	0
21. When was your last AIDS blood test for the AIDS virus infection not including blood donation? ⁷												
1992	26	29	24	24	26	26	25	30	23	24	27	25
1991	29	31	28	30	28	31	28	37	24	29	30	30
1990	13	12	13	11	13	12	14	9	14	10	13	14
1989	9	8	10	10	9	9	10	7	9	8	9	9
1988	7	6	7	5	7	7	6	4	11	8	7	6
1987	3	3	4	3	3	3	4	1	2	3	3	3
1986	2	1	2	2	2	1	2	1	3	1	1	2
1985	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1
Don't know	6	6	6	8	6	7	5	7	8	9	6	5

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Estimates of the percent of persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1992 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, 1992—Con.

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in Technical notes]

AIDS knowledge or attitude	Total	Age			Sex		Race or ethnicity			Education		
		18-29 years	30-49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	Non-Hispanic			Less than 12 years	12 years	More than 12 years
							White	Black	Hispanic			
Percent distribution												
22. Did you have your last AIDS blood test— ^{1,7}												
For hospitalization or a surgical procedure?	12	10	11	22	9	16	13	12	11	18	14	10
To apply for health insurance?	4	3	6	4	6	3	5	3	2	1	3	6
To apply for life insurance?	12	6	16	10	16	7	15	6	5	2	8	17
For employment?	6	7	7	4	8	5	5	7	10	5	7	6
To apply for a marriage license?	3	5	3	2	3	3	4	2	4	2	4	3
For military induction or military service?	6	9	5	2	10	2	7	7	3	2	7	7
For immigration?	4	5	4	3	4	5	1	1	23	13	2	3
Just to find out if you were infected?	30	34	29	23	27	32	28	38	27	29	31	28
Because of referral by the doctor?	5	4	4	7	4	5	4	9	4	6	5	3
Because of referral by the Health Department?	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	0
Referred by your sex partner?	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1
Other	20	22	18	23	15	25	22	17	12	21	21	19
Don't know	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
23. Not including a blood donation, where did you have your last blood test for the AIDS virus? ⁷												
AIDS clinic/counseling/testing site	1	2	2	0	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1
Community health clinic	8	10	7	6	7	8	6	13	11	10	8	7
Clinic run by employer	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	2
Doctor/HMO	28	28	27	31	24	32	29	28	22	24	29	28
Hospital/emergency room/outpatient clinic	24	22	23	31	21	27	23	26	23	31	24	22
STD clinic	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	—	0	0	0
Family planning clinic	1	2	1	—	1	2	1	1	2	1	2	1
Prenatal clinic	0	1	0	—	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	0
Tuberculosis clinic	0	—	0	—	—	0	—	—	0	—	0	—
Public clinic	5	7	4	1	5	5	3	7	11	9	6	3
Other clinic	4	3	4	3	4	3	3	2	6	5	3	4
Drug treatment facility	0	0	0	0	1	—	0	0	—	0	1	0
Military induction/service site	6	9	5	2	10	2	7	7	3	2	7	7
Immigration site	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	4	2	1	1
Other	10	8	11	10	12	8	11	6	8	7	9	12
Don't know	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
25. Did you get the results of your last test? ⁷												
Yes	80	83	79	78	78	82	78	85	84	80	83	78
No	19	16	21	20	21	17	21	15	15	18	17	21
Don't know	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	2	0	1
26. Was this because you decided you didn't want the results or was it because you were unable to get the results? ⁸												
Didn't want	9	10	8	10	9	8	7	10	17	8	7	10
Unable to get	21	20	24	12	26	15	18	28	34	26	24	18
Both	1	1	1	—	1	1	1	1	—	1	1	1
Other	56	57	55	54	52	60	61	44	35	49	51	60
Don't know	13	12	10	23	11	15	12	16	10	17	15	10
28. Were the results given in person, by telephone, by mail, or in some other way? ⁹												
In person	58	62	55	59	54	63	52	68	74	75	61	51
By telephone	17	14	19	18	17	18	20	14	10	12	18	19
By mail	16	13	17	16	20	12	18	13	12	9	14	20
Other	8	9	7	6	9	6	9	5	4	4	7	10
Don't know	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	—	0	0	1
29. Do you believe the results of your last test were accurate? ⁹												
Yes	97	97	98	97	97	98	98	97	97	96	97	98
No	1	1	1	—	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	1
Don't know	2	2	1	3	2	1	1	2	3	4	2	1
30. Do you feel that the confidentiality of the results of your last test for the AIDS virus infection was handled properly? ⁹												
Yes	94	94	94	92	94	94	94	95	91	92	95	93
No	2	4	2	1	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	3
Don't know	4	2	4	6	4	3	3	3	6	6	2	3
31. Do you expect to have a blood test for the AIDS virus infection in the next 12 months?												
Yes	11	22	11	4	13	10	9	26	17	11	11	12
No	81	68	81	89	79	82	85	59	70	78	81	81
Don't know	8	11	8	7	8	8	6	15	12	11	8	7

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Estimates of the percent of persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1992 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, 1992—Con.

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in Technical notes]

AIDS knowledge or attitude	Total	Age			Sex		Race or ethnicity			Education		
		18-29 years	30-49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	Non-Hispanic			Less than 12 years	12 years	More than 12 years
							White	Black	Hispanic			
Percent distribution												
32. Tell me if each of these statements explain why you expect to have the blood test in the next 12 months. ¹⁰												
Because it will be part of a blood donation	17	15	18	18	18	15	21	10	8	10	15	21
Because it will be part of hospitalization or surgery you expect to have	6	6	6	8	5	8	5	7	9	12	6	4
Because you expect to apply for life or health insurance.	9	10	9	4	11	6	7	10	12	8	9	9
Because you expect to apply for a job	7	10	7	2	9	6	4	11	12	9	9	6
Because you expect to join the military	2	3	1	2	3	1	1	3	4	4	1	2
Because you expect to apply for a marriage license	7	11	5	1	8	6	8	7	7	10	6	7
Because you want to know the results	72	76	69	66	68	76	65	82	78	80	73	67
Because it will be a required part of some other activity that includes automatic AIDS testing	20	19	20	21	22	18	18	24	21	22	22	18
33. Where will you go to have a blood test for the AIDS virus infection? ¹⁰												
AIDS clinic/counseling/testing site	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	1	3	2	2	2
Community health clinic	10	12	10	9	9	12	8	17	9	13	11	9
Clinic run by employer	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	4	1	3	2
Doctor/HMO	36	32	38	46	35	38	38	36	32	31	36	39
Hospital/emergency room/outpatient clinic	17	17	16	20	18	16	15	19	15	21	18	14
STD clinic	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	—	0	0	0
Family planning clinic	1	2	1	—	1	2	2	1	1	1	2	1
Prenatal clinic	0	0	—	—	—	0	—	0	—	—	0	—
Tuberculosis clinic	0	—	0	—	—	0	—	—	0	—	0	—
Public clinic	6	7	6	2	6	6	5	8	8	9	7	4
Other clinic	3	3	2	3	2	3	2	2	5	4	3	2
Drug treatment facility	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Military induction/service site	3	3	3	1	5	1	4	3	2	1	3	4
Immigration site	0	0	0	—	0	0	0	—	0	—	0	0
Other	1	1	2	2	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	2
Don't know	7	9	5	3	7	6	6	6	13	9	7	5
34. Tell me whether you think the following statements about the blood test for the AIDS virus infection are true or false or if you do not know whether they are true or false.												
34a. Sometimes the results of a blood test for the AIDS virus infection can be wrong.												
True	76	76	79	73	76	76	78	74	65	62	75	83
False	6	8	7	3	6	6	6	6	10	7	6	6
Don't know	18	16	14	24	18	18	17	20	25	32	18	11
34b. After a person becomes infected with the AIDS virus, there can be a period of time before the test shows the infection.												
True	79	85	83	70	79	80	81	80	70	63	79	88
False	2	3	3	2	3	2	2	2	3	3	3	2
Don't know	18	12	14	28	19	18	17	18	27	35	18	10
37. Have you ever heard of a drug called AZT, also known as zidovudine or Retrovir?												
Yes	58	56	68	48	59	57	62	52	36	30	54	76
No	38	42	30	46	37	39	34	43	61	65	42	22
Don't know	4	2	3	5	4	4	3	5	3	5	4	2
38. Tell me whether you think the following statements about AZT are true or false or if you don't know whether they are true or false. ¹¹												
38a. AZT can delay or slow down the symptoms of AIDS virus infection.												
True	83	86	85	77	83	82	83	79	82	70	78	88
False	2	1	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	3	2	1
Don't know	15	12	13	22	15	16	15	19	16	27	20	11
38b. AZT cures people with AIDS.												
True	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
False	92	94	93	88	92	91	92	88	91	82	90	94
Don't know	7	5	6	11	7	8	7	10	8	16	9	5
38c. AZT has no known side effects.												
True	4	4	4	5	4	4	3	7	6	5	4	4
False	61	65	65	51	61	61	62	57	56	45	54	69
Don't know	35	30	31	44	35	35	34	36	37	51	42	27

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Estimates of the percent of persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1992 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, 1992—Con.

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in Technical notes]

AIDS knowledge or attitude	Race or ethnicity											
	Total	Age			Sex		Non-Hispanic			Education		
		18-29 years	30-49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	Less than 12 years	12 years	More than 12 years
Percent distribution												
38d. AZT is appropriate for a person with the AIDS virus infection only at certain times during the illness.												
True	35	40	37	27	35	35	34	36	41	25	30	40
False	12	12	13	10	12	12	11	15	15	12	12	12
Don't know	53	48	50	63	52	54	54	49	43	63	58	48
38e. There are other drugs available to treat AIDS-related illnesses.												
True	55	54	60	50	59	52	57	49	47	39	47	63
False	12	14	11	11	11	13	11	15	19	15	13	10
Don't know	32	32	29	39	30	35	32	36	33	46	39	26
39. Did you have a blood transfusion at any time between 1977 and 1985?												
Yes	5	2	5	7	5	5	5	5	4	5	5	5
No	94	97	94	91	93	94	94	93	95	92	94	94
Don't know	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1
40. Do you have frequent blood transfusions because of sickle cell or chronic anemia?												
Yes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
No	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Don't know	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
41. How effective do you think the use of a condom is to prevent getting the AIDS virus through sexual activity?												
Very effective	26	32	28	18	30	22	25	26	27	19	24	30
Somewhat effective	54	56	57	49	52	56	56	47	46	42	56	58
Not at all effective	4	3	4	5	3	5	4	5	5	6	4	3
Don't know how effective	14	7	10	24	13	15	13	20	16	28	14	7
Don't know method	2	1	1	3	1	2	1	2	6	5	2	1
42. Tell me whether you think the following statements are true or false or whether you don't know whether they are true or false.												
42a. Latex condoms and natural-membrane condoms are equally good at preventing transmission of the AIDS virus.												
True	16	23	17	11	19	14	15	21	19	15	18	15
False	27	34	33	15	30	25	29	20	21	13	22	39
Don't know	55	42	49	71	50	59	55	56	54	68	58	45
Don't know method	2	1	1	3	1	2	1	2	6	5	2	1
42b. Oil-based lubricants can cause latex condoms to break.												
True	33	44	38	19	36	30	34	34	28	21	29	42
False	5	7	6	4	7	4	5	6	7	4	6	6
Don't know	60	47	55	74	56	63	60	58	59	70	63	51
Don't know method	2	1	1	3	1	2	1	2	6	5	2	1
43. What are your chances of having the AIDS virus?												
High	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	0
Medium	2	3	2	1	2	2	2	3	3	2	2	2
Low	22	32	25	12	23	21	23	22	17	13	20	28
None	73	62	71	83	72	74	74	67	74	78	75	68
Don't know	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	6	5	5	2	1
44. What are your chances of getting the AIDS virus?												
High	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1
Medium	3	5	3	1	3	3	3	4	4	3	3	3
Low	29	38	33	18	31	27	30	27	22	17	26	37
None	64	53	60	77	62	67	65	60	67	72	68	57
Don't know	3	2	3	4	3	3	2	6	5	6	3	2
N/A—High chance of already having the AIDS virus	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	0
45. Have you ever had a coworker who had AIDS or the AIDS virus?												
Yes	5	5	8	3	6	5	5	6	5	2	4	9
No	86	86	83	89	84	87	86	84	83	90	89	82
Never worked, never had a coworker	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	3	2	1	0
Don't know	8	8	9	7	10	6	8	9	8	7	7	9
46. Besides a co-worker, have you ever had a friend or relative who had AIDS or the AIDS virus?												
Yes	12	13	15	8	11	13	12	17	14	7	10	16
No	84	83	81	89	85	84	85	78	81	89	86	80
Don't know	4	4	4	3	4	3	3	5	4	4	4	4

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Estimates of the percent of persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1992 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, 1992—Con.

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in Technical notes]

AIDS knowledge or attitude	Percent distribution											
	Total	Age			Sex		Race or ethnicity			Education		
		18-29 years	30-49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	Less than 12 years	12 years	More than 12 years
47. Are any of these statements true for you?												
a. You have hemophilia or another clotting disorder and have received clotting factor concentrations since 1977.												
b. You are a man who has had sex with another man at some time since 1977, even 1 time.												
c. You have taken illegal drugs by needle at any time since 1977.												
d. You have had sex for money or drugs at any time since 1977.												
e. Since 1977, you are or have been the sex partner of any person who would answer yes to any of the items above (a-d)												
Yes to at least 1 statement	4	6	5	1	4	3	4	5	5	3	4	4
No to all statements	96	94	95	99	95	97	96	95	95	97	96	96
Don't know	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0

¹Multiple responses may add to more than 100.
²Based on persons answering "yes" to question 8, "Do you have any children aged 10 through 17?"
³Based on persons answering "no" or "don't know" to questions 12, 13a, or 13b.
⁴Based on persons answering "yes" to questions 13a and 15.
⁵Based on persons answering "no" to question 17a.
⁶Based on persons answering "no" or "don't know" to question 17a.
⁷Based on persons answering "yes" to question 17a.
⁸Based on persons answering "no" or "don't know" to question 25.
⁹Based on persons answering "yes" to question 25.
¹⁰Based on persons answering "yes" to question 31.
¹¹Based on persons answering "yes" to question 37.

NOTE: HMO is health maintenance organization. STD is sexually transmitted disease.

Technical notes

The National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) is a continuous, cross-sectional household interview survey. Each week, a probability sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population residing in the United States is interviewed by personnel of the U.S. Bureau of the Census to obtain information on the health and other characteristics of each member of the household. Information on special health topics is collected for all or a sample of household members. The 1992 National

Health Interview Survey of AIDS Knowledge and Attitudes was asked of one randomly chosen adult 18 years of age or over in each family. The AIDS portion of the 1992 NHIS was administered in one-half of sample households; thus estimates in this report are based on completed interviews with 20,974 individuals—approximately one-half of the sample size in 1991. Responses were weighted to produce population estimates, although variances are somewhat larger due to the reduced sample size. In 1992, the response rate to the basic NHIS core questionnaire

was 95.7 percent; for the NHIS AIDS supplement it was 86.9 percent. Therefore, the overall response rate to the 1992 AIDS survey was 83.2 percent (core response rate \times supplement response rate).

Table I contains the estimated population size of each of the demographic subgroups included in table 1 to allow readers to derive estimates of the number of people in the United States with a given characteristic, for example, the number of women who have had their blood tested for HIV. The population estimates in table I are based on 1992 data from the NHIS inflated to national population controls by age, race, and sex. The population controls are based on the 1980 census carried forward to 1992. These estimates, therefore, may differ from 1990 census results brought forward to the survey date. Population controls incorporating 1990 census results will be used for survey estimation beginning later in the decade.

Table II shows approximate standard errors for most of the estimates presented in table 1. These standard error estimates were derived by applying a design effect of 1.3 to the standard errors that would have been obtained with a simple random sample design. The reader is cautioned about comparing estimates when the denominator is small (for example, when looking only at those persons who did not receive the results of their HIV antibody test). A final data file covering the entire 1992 data collection period is available.

Table I. Sample sizes for 1992 National Health Interview Survey of AIDS Knowledge and Attitudes and estimated adult population 18 years of age and over, by selected characteristics: United States, 1992

<i>Characteristic</i>	<i>Sample size</i>	<i>Estimated population in thousands</i>
All adults	20,974	184,963
<i>Age</i>		
18–29 years	4,679	44,049
30–49 years	8,729	76,840
50 years and over	7,566	64,074
<i>Sex</i>		
Male	8,922	88,157
Female	12,052	96,806
<i>Race and ethnicity</i>		
Non-Hispanic white	15,863	140,497
Non-Hispanic black	2,781	20,287
Hispanic	1,456	14,398
<i>Education</i>		
Less than 12 years	4,332	37,722
12 years	7,652	69,315
More than 12 years	8,947	75,764

Table II. Standard errors, expressed in percentage points, of estimated percents from the 1992 National Health Interview Survey of AIDS Knowledge and Attitudes, by selected characteristics: United States, 1992

<i>Estimated percent</i>	<i>Age</i>			<i>Sex</i>		<i>Race and ethnicity</i>			<i>Education</i>			
	<i>Total</i>	<i>18–29 years</i>	<i>30–49 years</i>	<i>50 years and over</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>White</i>	<i>Black</i>	<i>Hispanic</i>	<i>Less than 12 years</i>	<i>12 years</i>	<i>More than 12 years</i>
5 or 95	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.5	0.7	0.4	0.3	0.3
10 or 90	0.3	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.7	1.0	0.6	0.4	0.4
15 or 85	0.3	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.9	1.2	0.7	0.5	0.5
20 or 80	0.4	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.4	1.0	1.3	0.8	0.6	0.5
25 or 75	0.4	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.4	1.1	1.5	0.8	0.6	0.6
30 or 70	0.4	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.5	1.1	1.5	0.9	0.7	0.6
35 or 65	0.4	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.5	1.2	1.6	0.9	0.7	0.6
40 or 60	0.4	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.5	1.2	1.7	1.0	0.7	0.7
45 or 55	0.4	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.5	1.2	1.7	1.0	0.7	0.7
50	0.4	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.5	1.2	1.7	1.0	0.7	0.7

*U.S. Government Printing Office: 1994 — 301-050/80019

Suggested citation

Schoenborn CA, Marsh SL, Hardy AM. AIDS knowledge and attitudes for 1992: data from the National Health Interview Survey. Advance data from vital and health statistics; no 243. Hyattsville, Maryland: National Center for Health Statistics. 1994.

Copyright information

All material appearing in this report is in the public domain and may be reproduced or copied without permission; citation as to source, however, is appreciated.

National Center for Health Statistics

Director
Manning Feinleib, M.D., Dr. P.H.
Deputy Director
Jack R. Anderson

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES
Public Health Service
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
National Center for Health Statistics
6525 Belcrest Road
Hyattsville, Maryland 20782

BULK RATE POSTAGE & FEES PAID PHS/NCHS PERMIT NO. G-281
--

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, \$300

To receive this publication regularly, contact
the National Center for Health Statistics by
calling 301-436-8500

DHHS Publication No. (PHS) 94-1250