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AIDS Knowledge and Attitudes of Hispanic Americans

Provisional Data From the 1988 National Health Interview Survey

Deborah A. Dawson, Ph.D. and Ann M. Hardy, Dr.P.H., Division of Health Interview Statistics

Introduction

This report is one of two special reports examining knowledge and attitudes about acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) and the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) among selected minority subgroups of the U.S. population. Based on data collected in the National Health Interview Survey (NHIS), this report describes various aspects of AIDS-related knowledge, attitudes and behavior for Hispanic adults 18 years of age and over. It presents differentials by age, sex, education, and specific Hispanic ancestry and compares selected measures for Hispanic and non-Hispanic individuals. The other special report (*Advance Data From Vital and Health Statistics*, No. 165) presents data for black adults and compares them with data for their white counterparts.

Both reports are based on provisional data for the period May–October 1988. These 6 months of data have been combined to provide a sufficient number of respondents to examine differences in knowledge among various subgroups of the Hispanic and non-Hispanic populations. Even with this aggregation, the sample of Hispanic adults is fairly small, and sampling errors are large. Thus, only large differences are statistically significant. Some changes in knowledge occurred over this 6-month period; however, the changes were of similar magnitude for Hispanic and non-Hispanic adults and should not affect the comparisons made in this report.

Since 1987, the National Center for Health Statistics has included a special set of supplemental questions on the adult population's knowledge and attitudes about AIDS and HIV in the NHIS. The first AIDS Knowledge and Attitudes Survey was in the field from August through December 1987. Provisional results of that survey were

published on a monthly basis in *Advance Data From Vital and Health Statistics* (Nos. 146, 148, 150, 151, and 153). During the first 4 months of 1988, the NHIS AIDS questionnaire was revised to meet current program needs for information about AIDS awareness. The revised AIDS Knowledge and Attitudes Survey entered the field in May 1988. Provisional findings for the total population for the period May–October 1988 have been published in *Advance Data From Vital and Health Statistics*, Nos. 160, 161, 163, and 164.

The AIDS questionnaires were designed to estimate public knowledge and attitudes about AIDS transmission and prevention of AIDS virus infection. The data were needed as input for the planning and development of AIDS educational campaigns and for monitoring major educational efforts, for example, the series of radio and television public service announcements entitled "America Responds to AIDS" and the brochure "Understanding AIDS," both developed by the Centers for Disease Control.

The 1987 and 1988 AIDS questionnaires were developed by the National Center for Health Statistics and interagency working groups established by the Information, Education and Risk Factor Reduction Subcommittee of the Public Health Service Executive Task Force on AIDS. The working groups included representatives from the Centers for Disease Control; the National Institutes of Health; the Alcohol, Drug Abuse and Mental Health Administration; and the Health Resources and Services Administration.

The current AIDS questionnaire includes items on sources of AIDS information; self-assessed levels of AIDS knowledge; basic facts about the AIDS virus and how it is transmitted; blood donation experience; awareness of and experience with the blood test for the AIDS virus; perceived effectiveness of selected preventive measures; self-

assessed chances of getting the AIDS virus; personal acquaintance with persons with AIDS or the AIDS virus; and willingness to take part in a proposed national seroprevalence survey. A general risk behavior question, similar to that asked by the Red Cross of potential blood donors, is included in the 1988 AIDS questionnaire.

This report presents provisional data for May–October 1988 for most items included in the AIDS questionnaire. Tables 1 and 2, for Hispanic and non-Hispanic adults, respectively, display percent distributions of persons 18 years of age and over by response categories according to age, sex, education, and specific Hispanic ancestry. In most cases, the actual questions asked of the respondents are reproduced verbatim in tables 1 and 2, along with the coded response categories. In a few cases, questions or response categories have been rephrased or combined for clearer or more concise presentation of results. Refusals and other nonresponse categories are excluded from the denominator in the calculation of estimates, but responses of “don’t know” are included.

Questions in the NHIS AIDS survey used the term “the AIDS virus” rather than HIV, because it was felt that the general population might not be familiar with the more scientific terminology when the survey began. In this report, “the AIDS virus” will be used in place of HIV when it reflects the way an individual question was worded.

For this report, characterization of Hispanic origin is based on respondents’ descriptions of their ancestry or origin. For each member of a household, the household respondent for the main NHIS interview was shown a list of Hispanic groups and asked “Are any of these groups _____’s national origin or ancestry?” If this question was not understood, the interviewer probed “Where did _____’s ancestors come from?” The choices on the list were Puerto Rican, Cuban, Mexican/Mexicano, Mexican American, Chicano, other Latin American, and other Spanish.

The “Mexican” category in table 1 includes persons classified as Mexican/Mexicano, Mexican American, or Chicano. The “other Hispanic” category includes all the other diverse Hispanic groups listed above, none of which was sufficiently large to analyze individually. Persons of unknown Hispanic origin were not included in either of these categories but were included in the Hispanic total and breakdowns by age, sex, and education. Persons for whom it was not known whether they were of Hispanic origin were excluded from the analysis altogether and do not appear in either table 1 or table 2.

Ethnicity does not indicate race. Both persons classified as Hispanic and those classified as non-Hispanic may be white, black, or other race.

Selected findings

Patterns of knowledge and attitudes about AIDS and HIV were essentially the same within the Hispanic population as for the U.S. population as a whole, with the highest levels of knowledge occurring among the young and the well educated. Among Hispanic individuals, those of

Mexican ancestry generally were less knowledgeable about AIDS and HIV than were those of all other Hispanic origins combined; it is important to realize, however, that estimates for the latter residual group are averages based on figures for many diverse national origins. Compared to non-Hispanic adults, those of Hispanic origin were less knowledgeable about many aspects of AIDS and HIV.

The following highlights describe various aspects of AIDS knowledge and attitudes observed in the NHIS data for the period May–October 1988, focussing on differentials within the Hispanic population and differences between Hispanic and non-Hispanic individuals. All differences cited in the text are statistically significant unless otherwise noted (see tables II and III for approximate standard errors of estimates).

Sources of information about AIDS and HIV—According to data collected in May–October 1988, 84 percent of Hispanic adults saw public service announcements about AIDS on television in the month preceding the NHIS interview, and 56 percent heard such announcements of the radio. Of those who saw or heard public service announcements about AIDS, one-fourth reported that the announcements were part of the series called “America Responds to AIDS.”

The proportion of Hispanic individuals who saw public service announcements on television decreased with age (from 87 percent of those 18–29 years of age to 78 percent of those 50 years and over) and was lower for persons with less than 12 years of school than for those with more education (78 versus 87 percent). The proportion who heard radio announcements was greater for Hispanic men than women (61 versus 51 percent) and for persons with more than 12 years of school than for those with less education (64 versus 53 percent). Hispanic adults of Mexican ancestry were less likely than other Hispanic persons to have heard radio announcements, 51 compared to 62 percent.

Persons of Hispanic origin were as likely as non-Hispanic adults to have seen announcements about AIDS on television and more likely to have heard radio announcements, 56 compared to 46 percent. Below age 30, though, there was no difference in the proportion of Hispanic and non-Hispanic adults who had heard radio announcements; the greatest difference was among individuals 50 years of age and over.

Thirty-six percent of Hispanic adults read brochures or pamphlets about AIDS in the month preceding the NHIS interview. This figure probably reflects the national mailing of the brochure “Understanding AIDS” during June and July 1988. Half (51 percent) of Hispanic adults reported ever having read brochures or pamphlets about AIDS. The proportion who had ever read such materials decreased sharply with age, (from 59 percent of those age 18–29 years to 32 percent of those 50 years of age and over) and increased with education (from 34 percent of those with less than 12 years of school to 63 percent of those with 12 or more years). Forty-five percent of persons of Mexican ancestry had ever read brochures or pamphlets about AIDS, compared to 57 percent of other Hispanic

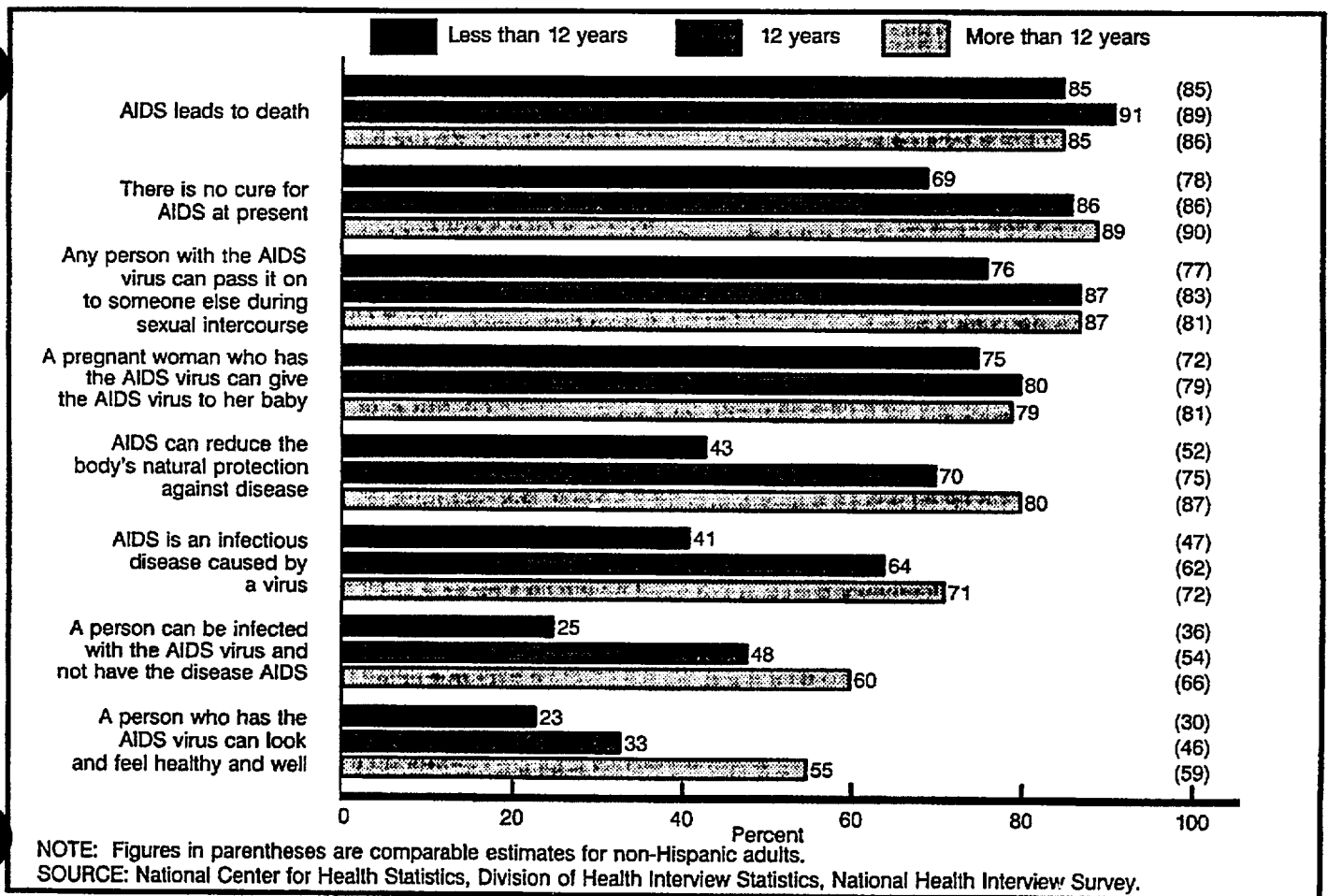


Figure 1. Provisional estimates of percent of Hispanic adults who thought selected statements about AIDS definitely true, by education: United States, May-October 1988

individuals. On the whole, Hispanic adults were less likely than non-Hispanic adults to have read brochures or pamphlets about AIDS, 51 compared to 64 percent.

Almost half of all Hispanic adults reported having discussed AIDS with their children age 10-17 years, and a slightly larger proportion (60 percent) stated that their children in that age range had received instruction about AIDS in school. Hispanic men were less likely than Hispanic women to have discussed AIDS with their children (39 versus 56 percent), and persons of Mexican ancestry were less likely than other Hispanic individuals to have done so (42 versus 57 percent). Hispanic and non-Hispanic adults were equally likely to report that their children had received instruction about AIDS in school, but Hispanic persons were less likely to have discussed AIDS with their children—48 percent compared to 62 percent for non-Hispanic adults.

General knowledge about AIDS and HIV—In terms of self-assessed knowledge about HIV and AIDS, 21 percent of Hispanic adults felt they knew a lot, 36 percent some, 21 percent a little, and 13 percent nothing. The proportion of Hispanic adults claiming to know a lot about AIDS increased with education, from 12 percent of those with less than 12 years of school to 37 percent of those with more than 12 years. Hispanic persons 50 years of age and over were less likely than younger adults to feel that they

knew a lot about AIDS, 14 compared to 22 percent. Persons of Mexican ancestry were more likely than other Hispanic adults to feel that they knew nothing about AIDS (16 versus 9 percent) and less likely to feel that they knew a lot (16 versus 25 percent). In comparison to non-Hispanic adults, Hispanic adults were less likely to feel that they knew some about HIV/AIDS (36 versus 44 percent) and more likely to feel that they knew little or nothing (44 versus 33 percent).

Objective measures of knowledge about HIV and AIDS varied by education for both Hispanic and non-Hispanic individuals, as illustrated in figure 1. For most of the well known facts, e.g., that there is no cure for AIDS at present and that HIV can be transmitted perinatally and through sexual intercourse, persons with 12 or more years of school were more likely than those with less than 12 years to correctly identify these statements as definitely true. For the less well-known facts, knowledge differed between individuals with 12 years and more than 12 years of school, as well. For example, 23 percent of Hispanic adults with less than 12 years of school thought it definitely true that “a person who has the AIDS virus can look well and healthy.” For Hispanic persons with 12 years and more than 12 years of school, the respective proportions were 33 and 55 percent. For the less well-known facts about AIDS and HIV, there was a consistent difference in knowledge

between persons of Mexican ancestry and other Hispanic adults, with the latter the more knowledgeable.

There was no consistent difference in general knowledge about HIV and AIDS between Hispanic and non-Hispanic individuals. Within all levels of education, non-Hispanic adults were the more likely to know that a person with HIV can look healthy, that a person can be infected with HIV and not have AIDS, and that AIDS impairs the body's immune function. For some of the other items shown in figure 1, though, Hispanic/non-Hispanic differences either did not exist or were observed only among persons with less than 12 years of school.

Misperceptions about HIV transmission—Figure 2 shows the proportions of Hispanic and non-Hispanic adults who thought it very unlikely or definitely not possible to become infected with HIV through various forms of nonintimate contact with persons infected with HIV. These proportions increased with education for both Hispanic and non-Hispanic individuals. For example, the proportion of Hispanic adults who thought it very unlikely or definitely not possible to become infected with HIV by using public toilets increased from 35 percent of persons with less than 12 years of school to 55 and 65 percent, respectively, of those with 12 years or more than 12 years.

Individuals of Mexican ancestry were less likely than those of other Hispanic origins to consider it very unlikely

or impossible to transmit HIV through most of the activities shown in figure 2, for example, living near a hospital or home for AIDS patients (66 versus 73 percent), attending school with a child who has the AIDS virus (62 versus 68 percent), using public toilets (44 versus 53 percent), and so forth.

Blood donation and testing—Approximately one-quarter (26 percent) of all Hispanic adults in the United States reported ever having donated blood, including 10 percent who had donated since March 1985 (when routine screening for HIV antibodies began) and 4 percent who had donated in the 12 months preceding interview. In comparison, 42 percent of non-Hispanic adults reported ever donating blood.

About half (51 percent) of Hispanic adults believed that blood donations are now routinely tested, compared to 68 percent of non-Hispanic adults. Much of this difference is from the lower proportion of Hispanic adults who had ever heard of the blood test to detect HIV antibodies, 65 percent compared to 77 percent of non-Hispanic adults.

Among Hispanics, the proportion who had ever heard of the blood test for HIV infection varied by age and education. Sixty-nine percent of those under 50 years of age had heard of the test compared with 49 percent of those age 50 years and over. The proportion who had heard

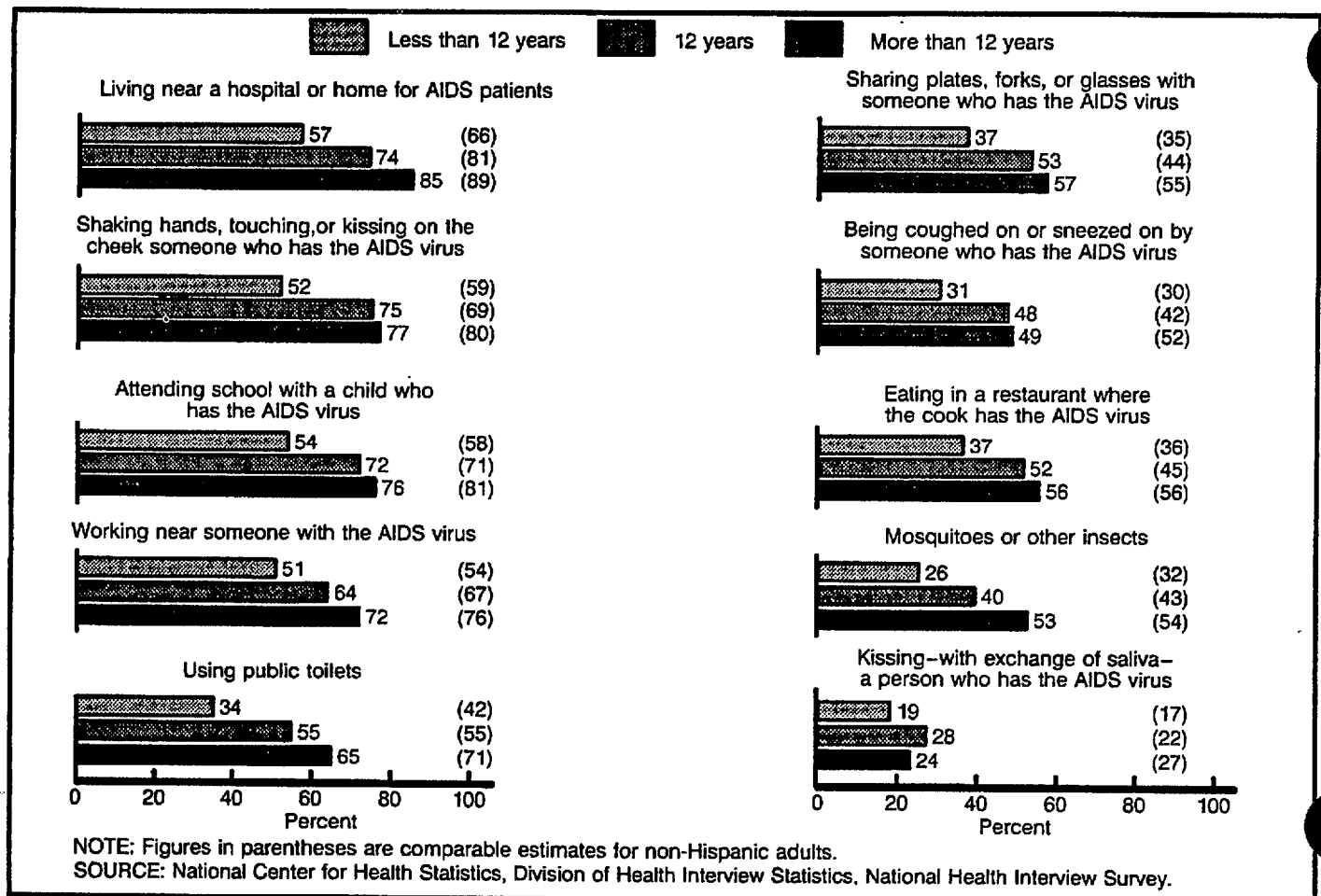


Figure 2. Provisional estimates of percent of Hispanic adults who thought it very unlikely or definitely not possible to transmit HIV in selected ways, by education: United States, May-October 1988

of the test increased with educational level from 47 percent of those with less than 12 years of school to 86 percent of those with more than 12 years. Persons of Mexican ancestry were less likely to have heard of the test than other Hispanic persons (61 versus 69 percent).

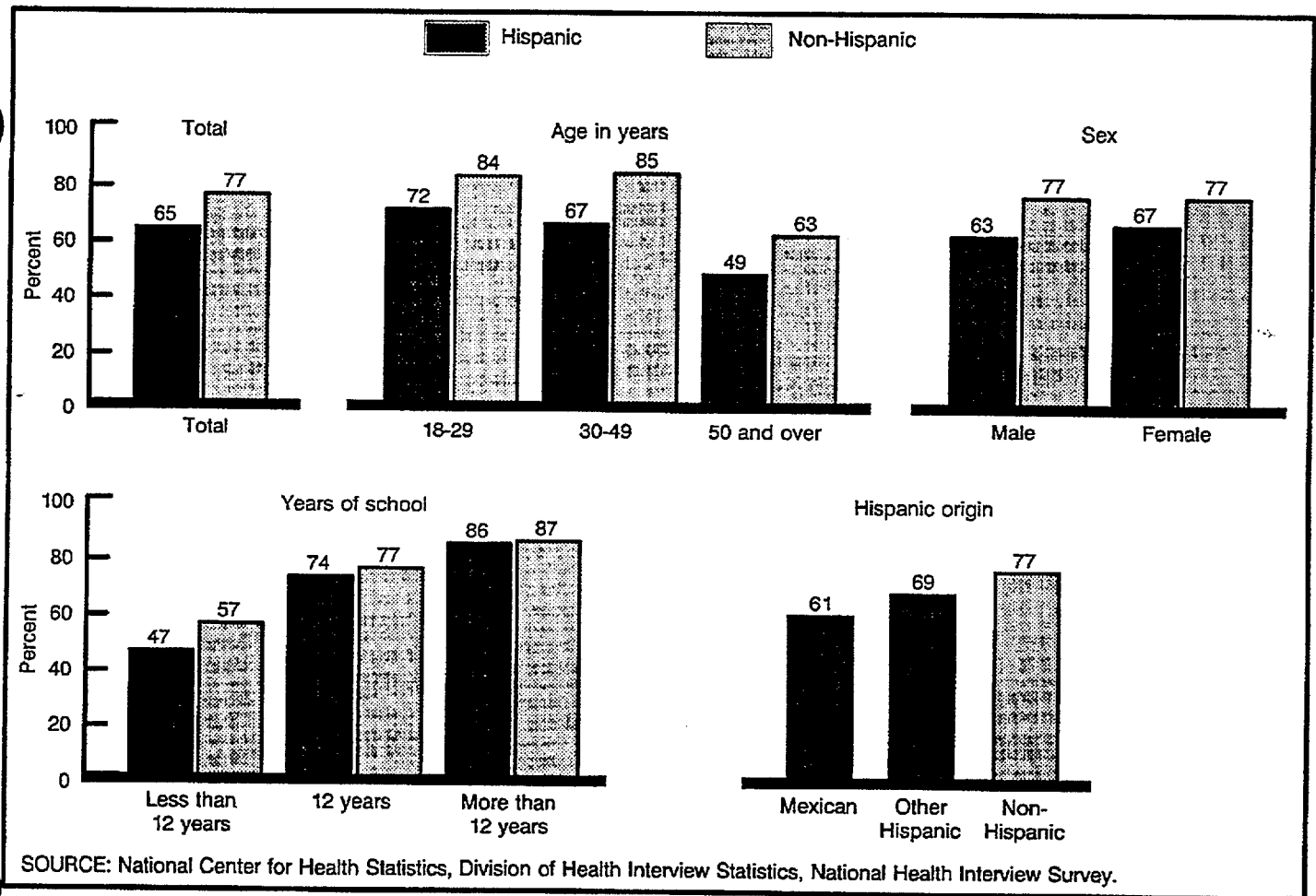
Among persons with less than 12 years of school, Hispanic individuals were less likely than non-Hispanic individuals to have heard of the blood test for HIV antibodies. Among persons with 12 or more years of school, though, Hispanic and non-Hispanic adults were equally likely to have heard of this test (figure 3).

Overall, 14 percent of Hispanic adults had taken the blood test for HIV antibodies, including 8 percent who reported having had the test and another 6 percent who claimed they had not been tested but who reported donating blood since March 1985, when routine screening of donated blood for HIV antibodies began. The proportion of Hispanic persons who had ever had their blood tested for HIV infection decreased with age (from 19 percent of those 18-29 years to 6 percent of those 50 years and over), and increased with education (from 9 percent for those with less than 12 years of school to 20 percent for those with more than 12 years).

A slightly lower proportion of Hispanic than of non-Hispanic adults had had their blood tested for HIV (14 versus 17 percent). This difference primarily resulted from a larger number of non-Hispanic individuals who did not report having their blood tested but who had donated blood since routine screening began. Eight percent of Hispanic adults reported plans to have their blood tested in the next 12 months, similar to the 6 percent of non-Hispanic adults who reported such plans.

Four percent of all Hispanic adults and 6 percent of non-Hispanic adults reported receiving blood transfusions between 1977, when HIV is thought to have entered the United States, and 1985, when routine screening of donated blood for HIV began. At the time of interview (May-October 1988), one-third (32 percent) of Hispanic adults thought the blood supply was safe for transfusions. This proportion increased with education but was lower than for non-Hispanic individuals in all educational categories except those with more than 12 years of school.

Prevention of HIV transmission—Twenty-eight percent of Hispanic adults thought condoms were very effective in preventing HIV transmission, and 45 percent thought that they were somewhat effective. The proportion of Hispanic



SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, Division of Health Interview Statistics, National Health Interview Survey.

Figure 3. Provisional estimates of percent of Hispanic adults who reported knowing about the blood test for the AIDS virus by selected characteristics: United States, May-October 1988

persons who considered this method to be very or somewhat effective increased with education from 58 percent of those with less than 12 years of school to 87 percent of those with more than 12 years. A lower proportion of persons of Mexican ancestry than of other Hispanic individuals thought that condoms were somewhat or very effective (69 versus 77 percent). Ten percent of Hispanic adults thought condoms were not at all effective, twice the proportion of non-Hispanics (5 percent).

The proportion of Hispanic adults who considered maintaining a monogamous relationship with a person not infected with HIV a very effective means of protection against infection was 77 percent, somewhat lower than the estimate of 83 percent for non-Hispanic adults. Again, this proportion increased with educational level, from 69 percent of Hispanic adults with less than 12 years of school to 87 percent of those with more than 12 years. A smaller proportion of persons of Mexican descent than of other Hispanic persons felt this method was very effective (73 percent compared with 82 percent).

Perceived risk of HIV infection—Seventy-six percent of Hispanic adults felt that there was no chance of their becoming infected with HIV, 13 percent assessed their chance of infection as low, 3 percent believed their risk was medium, and 1 percent reported their risk as high. Another 1 percent thought that there was a high chance that they were already infected with HIV, and 6 percent could not assess their risk of HIV infection. Perceived risk of infection decreased with age but did not vary according to sex or education. In the non-Hispanic population, the overall perception of risk was similar except that slightly more (21 percent) felt that their chance of becoming infected was low, and perceived risk did vary for men and women and within categories of education.

Two percent of Hispanic adults reported belonging to one or more groups associated with an increased risk of HIV infection, homosexual men, intravenous drug users, hemophiliacs, etc. Within the Hispanic population, the proportion reportedly belonging to one or more of these

groups did not differ by age, sex, or education. For all subgroups, the proportions were similar to those in the non-Hispanic population.

Nine percent of Hispanic adults reported knowing someone with AIDS or HIV. This proportion increased with education, from 4 percent of Hispanic adults with less than 12 years of school to 17 percent of those with more than 12 years. Among Hispanic persons, those not of Mexican ancestry were slightly more likely to report knowing someone with AIDS than were those of Mexican ancestry (11 percent compared with 6 percent). Hispanic and non-Hispanic adults were equally likely to know or have known someone with HIV or AIDS.

Reaction to government AIDS efforts—Two-thirds (67 percent) of Hispanic adults stated that they would be willing to participate in a national seroprevalence survey. This proportion declined with age (from 74 percent of those 18–29 years of age to 59 percent of those 50 years and over) and increased with education (from 63 to 75 percent, respectively, of those with less than 12 and more than 12 years of school). Hispanic ancestry (Mexican as opposed to all others) did not affect stated willingness to participate. Within categories of education, Hispanic adults were as likely as non-Hispanic adults to indicate willingness on this issue.

Sixty-nine percent of Hispanic individuals stated that they believed information about AIDS provided by federal public health officials, and 77 percent said that they believed advice on how to avoid HIV infection. Trust in government information and advice was more often expressed by persons younger than age 50 than by those 50 years of age and over, and by persons with more than 12 years of school than by those with less education. Persons of Mexican ancestry were more skeptical, on average, than those of other Hispanic origins. Hispanic adults were slightly more likely than non-Hispanic adults to believe government information about AIDS (69 versus 64 percent) and equally likely to trust government advice on how to avoid HIV infection.

Table 1. Provisional estimates of the percent of Hispanic adults 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1988 National Health Interview Survey, by age, sex, education, and ethnicity: United States, May-October 1988

[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	Age			Sex		Education			Hispanic origin	
	18-29	30-49	50 years	Male	Female	Less than	More than	Other		
	Total	years	years	and over		12 years	12 years	Mexican	Hispanic	
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Percent distribution ¹										
1. In the past month, have you—										
1a. Seen any public service announcements about AIDS on television?										
Yes	84	87	83	78	85	83	78	86	89	83
No	15	11	15	20	14	16	20	12	10	14
Don't know	1	1	1	2	1	2	2	1	1	2
1b. Heard any public service announcements about AIDS on the radio?										
Yes	56	57	57	51	61	51	52	55	64	51
No	41	41	39	45	36	46	45	44	32	47
Don't know	3	2	4	3	3	3	3	2	5	2
2. Were any of those public service announcements called "America Responds to AIDS"?										
Yes	25	31	25	16	24	27	27	26	20	26
No	14	14	14	13	15	14	14	14	13	15
Don't know	47	45	47	51	50	45	42	48	58	46
Neither heard nor saw any public service announcements	13	10	13	19	12	14	17	11	9	13
3. In the past month, have you read any brochures or pamphlets about AIDS?										
Yes	36	41	38	24	34	38	24	43	46	31
No	64	59	62	75	65	62	75	56	53	69
Don't know	0	—	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0
4. Have you ever read any brochures or pamphlets about AIDS?										
Yes	51	59	52	32	48	53	34	62	65	45
No	48	39	47	67	50	46	65	37	34	54
Don't know	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1
5. Where did you get the pamphlets or brochures? ^{1,2}										
Clinic, other than work clinic	6	8	6	1	5	7	7	6	7	6
Doctor's office (HMO)	12	11	13	13	9	15	15	10	13	16
Drug store	3	3	4	—	3	3	1	4	2	1
Public health department	2	1	2	2	2	1	0	2	2	2
Received in mail without asking	34	33	35	33	30	37	27	40	34	34
Red Cross/Red Cross blood donation	1	2	1	—	1	1	1	0	3	1
Other blood donation	0	0	—	—	0	0	—	0	0	0
School	7	13	3	1	6	8	5	7	8	8
Sent/phoned for/requested it	1	—	2	2	1	1	2	—	3	1
Federal/State/local government	22	21	22	24	26	18	17	24	23	23
Work, other than clinic or nurse	13	8	16	20	17	10	11	12	18	15
Work, nurse or clinic	4	3	4	4	3	4	3	5	2	4
Other	21	20	24	17	27	17	24	20	19	20
Don't know	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15. Have you ever discussed AIDS with any of your children aged 10-17? ³										
Yes	48	40	50	37	39	56	32	66	63	42
No	51	60	50	61	61	44	68	34	37	58
Don't know	0	—	—	2	0	—	0	—	—	—
16. Have any or all of your children aged 10-17 had instruction at school about AIDS? ³										
Yes	60	58	61	59	54	65	59	63	58	57
No	12	10	13	4	10	14	10	11	17	11
Don't know	28	32	26	37	36	21	31	26	25	32
21. How much would you say you know about AIDS?										
A lot	21	23	22	14	21	20	12	20	37	16
Some	36	43	35	26	36	35	25	45	43	36
A little	31	28	33	33	31	32	39	30	18	32
None	13	6	11	27	12	13	24	5	2	16
Don't know	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
22. To the best of your knowledge, is there a difference between having the AIDS virus and having the disease AIDS?										
Yes	48	53	50	35	49	47	28	53	76	41
No	23	23	25	17	23	22	23	28	14	25
Other	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	—	1
Don't know	29	24	25	47	28	30	49	18	10	34
23a. AIDS can reduce the body's natural protection against disease.										
Definitely true	61	66	63	47	65	57	43	70	80	56
Probably true	14	14	15	11	14	13	15	14	12	15
Probably false	3	4	2	3	4	3	3	4	2	4
Definitely false	2	3	2	0	2	2	2	2	1	2
Don't know	20	14	17	38	15	25	37	10	5	24

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Provisional estimates of the percent of Hispanic adults 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1988 National Health Interview Survey, by age, sex, education, and ethnicity: United States, May–October 1988—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	Age			Sex		Education			Hispanic origin		
	18–29	30–49	50 years	Male	Female	Less than	More than	Other			
	Total	years	years	and over		12 years	12 years	12 years	Mexican	Hispanic	
Percent distribution ¹											
23b. AIDS is especially common in older people.											
Definitely true	2	2	3	2	3	2	4	2	0	2	2
Probably true	2	2	2	3	2	3	4	1	2	3	1
Probably false	18	17	18	18	18	18	18	20	15	18	18
Definitely false	65	68	67	57	65	66	52	72	79	64	67
Don't know	12	10	11	20	13	12	22	6	4	13	11
23c. AIDS can damage the brain.											
Definitely true	25	23	27	26	27	24	23	32	19	23	28
Probably true	26	26	28	23	25	28	23	25	34	26	27
Probably false	8	10	8	4	8	8	4	11	10	8	8
Definitely false	7	9	6	4	8	6	5	6	10	8	6
Don't know	33	32	30	43	32	34	45	25	26	36	30
23d. AIDS usually leads to heart disease.											
Definitely true	12	10	12	15	13	12	14	13	6	12	12
Probably true	24	29	22	22	26	23	20	26	30	26	23
Probably false	13	13	16	5	12	13	8	15	18	13	12
Definitely false	11	13	12	7	12	11	8	13	14	11	12
Don't know	39	34	38	51	36	42	49	33	32	37	41
23e. AIDS is an infectious disease caused by a virus.											
Definitely true	56	57	63	39	61	52	41	64	71	50	62
Probably true	19	21	17	21	16	22	17	21	19	20	19
Probably false	3	3	2	4	3	3	3	3	2	4	2
Definitely false	3	3	3	1	3	2	3	3	2	3	2
Don't know	19	16	14	35	18	20	36	9	6	23	15
23f. Teenagers cannot get AIDS.											
Definitely true	3	2	3	2	2	3	4	2	1	2	3
Probably true	1	1	1	2	1	2	3	0	—	2	1
Probably false	5	4	5	9	3	7	7	4	4	6	5
Definitely false	84	90	85	73	88	81	74	90	92	84	84
Don't know	6	3	5	14	5	7	11	3	3	6	7
23g. AIDS leads to death.											
Definitely true	87	88	87	85	88	86	85	91	85	86	89
Probably true	8	9	8	7	8	8	7	7	12	9	7
Probably false	0	0	0	0	—	0	0	—	0	0	0
Definitely false	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1
Don't know	3	2	3	7	3	4	6	2	2	3	4
23h. A person can be infected with the AIDS virus and not have the disease AIDS.											
Definitely true	41	45	46	24	45	38	25	48	60	34	49
Probably true	23	23	22	25	21	25	19	28	21	25	21
Probably false	3	3	2	4	3	3	3	3	2	4	2
Definitely false	7	8	9	4	8	7	9	6	8	8	7
Don't know	25	21	21	43	24	27	43	15	9	29	21
23i. Looking at a person is enough to tell if he or she has the AIDS virus.											
Definitely true	3	1	5	2	3	3	3	4	2	3	4
Probably true	7	5	7	8	7	6	8	8	4	7	7
Probably false	16	19	14	13	15	16	16	16	14	19	12
Definitely false	57	63	60	41	58	57	44	63	73	54	61
Don't know	17	11	14	36	16	18	29	10	7	19	16
23j. Any person with the AIDS virus can pass it on to someone else during sexual intercourse.											
Definitely true	83	87	82	76	83	83	76	87	87	80	86
Probably true	10	9	10	13	11	10	13	8	9	13	8
Probably false	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0
Definitely false	1	1	1	—	1	1	0	1	1	0	1
Don't know	6	3	6	10	5	6	10	3	2	7	5
23k. A person who has the AIDS virus can look and feel healthy and well.											
Definitely true	34	40	36	19	38	30	23	33	55	30	38
Probably true	26	32	23	25	24	29	24	28	29	27	26
Probably false	7	6	7	6	5	8	9	7	2	8	5
Definitely false	13	10	16	13	13	13	13	19	6	12	15
Don't know	20	12	18	37	20	20	32	14	8	23	16
23l. A pregnant woman who has the AIDS virus can give the AIDS virus to her baby.											
Definitely true	78	82	78	71	77	79	75	80	79	75	81
Probably true	14	13	15	16	14	14	13	15	15	16	13
Probably false	0	—	1	1	1	0	1	—	1	1	0
Definitely false	1	1	1	—	0	1	1	0	1	1	1
Don't know	7	4	6	13	7	6	10	4	5	8	5

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Provisional estimates of the percent of Hispanic adults 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1988 National Health Interview Survey, by age, sex, education, and ethnicity: United States, May-October 1988—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	Age			Sex		Education			Hispanic origin	
	18-29	30-49	50 years	Male	Female	Less than	More than		Other	
	Total	years	years	and over		12 years	12 years	12 years	Mexican	Hispanic
23m. There is a vaccine available to the public that protects a person from getting the AIDS virus.	Percent distribution ¹									
Definitely true	2	3	2	1	2	2	2	3	3	1
Probably true	4	5	3	6	4	4	6	3	3	4
Probably false	10	11	10	9	9	11	10	11	9	9
Definitely false	63	66	65	53	66	61	50	69	79	67
Don't know	20	15	20	31	19	21	31	15	9	19
23n. There is no cure for AIDS at present.										
Definitely true	80	83	80	72	81	79	69	86	89	82
Probably true	7	6	8	8	6	9	9	6	5	5
Probably false	2	1	1	4	2	2	3	1	2	2
Definitely false	3	4	2	4	4	2	4	3	1	3
Don't know	8	6	8	13	8	9	15	4	3	8
24. How likely do you think it is that a person will get AIDS or the AIDS virus infection from—										
24a. Living near a hospital or home for AIDS patients?										
Very likely	4	2	5	6	4	4	8	2	2	4
Somewhat likely	6	5	5	9	5	6	7	6	4	4
Somewhat unlikely	7	7	6	7	6	7	5	8	6	5
Very unlikely	32	38	30	27	31	33	26	32	42	32
Definitely not possible	38	39	40	30	40	35	31	42	43	42
Don't know	13	10	13	20	13	14	23	9	3	13
24b. Working near someone with the AIDS virus?										
Very likely	5	4	6	6	5	5	7	5	2	5
Somewhat likely	11	9	11	16	10	12	12	11	10	9
Somewhat unlikely	11	12	9	14	9	13	9	12	13	11
Very unlikely	32	37	33	20	31	32	27	31	40	34
Definitely not possible	29	32	29	22	33	26	25	32	32	31
Don't know	12	6	12	22	12	12	21	9	2	11
24c. Eating in a restaurant where the cook has the AIDS virus?										
Very likely	10	7	9	19	9	12	15	8	7	8
Somewhat likely	14	13	15	17	14	15	15	14	14	11
Somewhat unlikely	12	14	11	12	11	13	10	13	16	13
Very unlikely	25	27	27	16	26	24	18	26	34	30
Definitely not possible	22	26	22	12	24	19	19	26	21	23
Don't know	16	13	16	24	15	17	23	13	8	14
24d. Kissing—with exchange of saliva—a person who has the AIDS virus?										
Very likely	25	19	24	36	24	25	29	23	19	22
Somewhat likely	25	24	25	27	26	25	22	24	33	26
Somewhat unlikely	12	14	13	8	12	12	8	15	16	13
Very unlikely	13	16	14	5	13	13	10	15	17	16
Definitely not possible	10	13	11	3	11	9	9	13	7	9
Don't know	15	13	14	21	14	15	23	10	8	13
24e. Shaking hands, touching, or kissing on the cheek someone who has the AIDS virus?										
Very likely	5	3	5	6	5	5	9	2	0	4
Somewhat likely	8	5	8	13	8	8	9	4	10	6
Somewhat unlikely	10	12	9	12	10	11	9	12	11	10
Very unlikely	30	28	33	26	31	29	24	31	40	31
Definitely not possible	36	44	34	25	36	35	29	45	37	39
Don't know	11	8	11	17	9	13	20	7	2	10
24f. Sharing plates, forks, or glasses with someone who has the AIDS virus?										
Very likely	11	10	10	14	10	11	14	7	9	10
Somewhat likely	17	14	16	22	16	17	17	16	17	16
Somewhat unlikely	10	10	11	9	9	11	8	12	12	10
Very unlikely	25	26	26	19	24	25	19	26	34	27
Definitely not possible	23	27	24	12	26	19	19	28	22	24
Don't know	15	13	13	24	14	16	23	12	6	13
24g. Using public toilets?										
Very likely	8	5	9	11	8	9	13	6	4	7
Somewhat likely	17	12	17	26	15	19	21	15	12	15
Somewhat unlikely	9	10	9	7	11	8	7	9	11	8
Very unlikely	25	30	26	16	25	26	19	27	36	27
Definitely not possible	23	28	24	13	26	21	17	28	29	26
Don't know	16	14	14	26	14	18	23	14	7	17

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Provisional estimates of the percent of Hispanic adults 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1988 National Health Interview Survey, by age, sex, education, and ethnicity: United States, May–October 1988—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	Age			Sex		Education			Hispanic origin		
	18–29 Total years	30–49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	Less than 12 years	12 years	More than 12 years	Mexican	Other Hispanic	
Percent distribution ¹											
24h. Sharing needles for drug use with someone who has the AIDS virus?											
Very likely	89	91	89	87	90	89	84	93	94	88	90
Somewhat likely	3	4	3	3	4	3	4	2	3	4	3
Somewhat unlikely	0	–	1	–	0	0	0	0	–	0	0
Very unlikely	2	2	2	0	2	2	2	2	1	2	2
Definitely not possible	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Don't know	4	3	4	9	4	5	9	2	1	5	4
24i. Being coughed or sneezed on by someone who has the AIDS virus?											
Very likely	10	8	9	14	8	11	13	7	8	11	8
Somewhat likely	19	14	21	20	19	18	18	17	19	19	18
Somewhat unlikely	15	18	14	10	14	15	11	15	19	16	14
Very unlikely	23	26	23	17	23	23	18	24	32	21	25
Definitely not possible	17	20	18	11	18	17	13	24	17	14	21
Don't know	17	14	14	27	17	16	27	13	6	19	15
24j. Attending school with a child who has the AIDS virus?											
Very likely	4	2	4	5	3	4	6	3	1	5	2
Somewhat likely	7	4	7	14	7	8	8	5	8	8	6
Somewhat unlikely	10	9	10	11	9	11	9	11	11	9	12
Very unlikely	30	35	30	24	32	29	26	30	41	32	29
Definitely not possible	35	41	35	24	34	35	28	42	35	31	38
Don't know	14	10	14	22	14	14	24	8	5	16	12
24k. Mosquitoes or other insects?											
Very likely	13	12	11	17	12	13	18	10	7	13	13
Somewhat likely	19	17	20	21	20	18	18	21	16	18	20
Somewhat unlikely	7	6	8	5	6	7	6	8	6	8	6
Very unlikely	18	21	18	11	19	16	12	19	26	17	18
Definitely not possible	19	22	20	12	19	19	14	21	27	18	20
Don't know	25	22	23	33	23	26	31	21	18	27	23
25. Have you ever donated blood?											
Yes	26	22	27	30	33	20	17	26	41	27	25
No	73	77	72	69	67	79	83	73	59	73	74
Don't know	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	–	–	1
26a. Have you donated blood since March 1985?											
Yes	10	12	11	4	12	8	4	12	16	10	10
No	90	88	88	96	88	91	95	87	84	90	89
Don't know	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	–	1
26b. Have you donated blood in the past 12 months?											
Yes	4	5	4	2	5	3	1	4	8	3	4
No	95	95	95	98	94	96	98	94	92	97	94
Don't know	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	2	0	–	2
27. Have you ever heard of a blood test that can detect the AIDS virus infection?											
Yes	65	72	67	49	63	67	47	74	86	61	69
No	30	25	29	44	32	29	45	24	11	35	26
Don't know	5	4	5	7	5	5	8	2	3	5	5
28. To the best of your knowledge, are blood donations routinely tested now for the AIDS virus infection?											
Yes	51	57	53	34	52	49	34	56	74	46	55
No	5	6	5	5	3	7	3	8	6	5	5
Don't know	9	9	9	10	8	10	10	10	6	9	9
Never heard of test ⁴	35	28	33	51	37	34	53	26	14	39	31
29a. Have you ever received counseling or had a talk with a health professional about taking the AIDS virus test?											
Yes	4	6	4	2	4	5	3	6	4	3	5
No	61	65	63	47	59	62	44	67	82	57	64
Don't know	0	–	0	–	–	0	–	0	–	–	0
Never heard of test ⁴	35	28	33	51	37	34	53	26	14	39	31
29b. Was the discussion— ^{1,5}											
With a private doctor?	40	46	26	67	37	43	49	36	39	45	37
At a family-planning clinic?	6	10	3	–	3	9	–	11	5	5	7
On an AIDS hotline?	4	5	3	–	6	2	–	–	17	3	4
At a prenatal clinic?	2	4	–	–	–	3	–	4	–	–	3
At an STD or sexually transmitted disease clinic?	5	3	9	–	6	4	–	4	12	9	2
At an AIDS/HIV counseling and testing site?	12	5	26	–	9	15	–	8	36	16	9
With some other health professional?	30	34	25	33	28	32	54	16	30	26	34
With some other counselor?	2	–	6	–	3	2	4	3	–	3	2
30. During that discussion, did you receive information about how to avoid getting or passing on the AIDS virus? ⁶											
Yes	55	49	61	63	47	62	53	44	82	58	54
No	45	51	39	37	53	38	47	56	18	42	46
Don't know	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Provisional estimates of the percent of Hispanic adults 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1988 National Health Interview Survey, by age, sex, education, and ethnicity: United States, May-October 1988—Con.

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AIDS knowledge or attitude	Age			Sex		Education			Hispanic origin		
	18-29	30-49	50 years	Male	Female	Less than 12 years	12 years	More than 12 years	Mexican	Other Hispanic	
	Total	years	years								and over
Percent distribution ¹											
31. Have you ever been advised by a health professional not to have the blood test for the AIDS virus infection?											
Yes	0	0	0	—	—	0	0	0	—	0	0
No	65	71	67	49	63	66	47	73	86	60	69
Don't know	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Never heard of test ⁴	35	28	33	51	37	33	53	26	14	39	31
32. Have you ever been advised by friends or relatives not to have the blood test for the AIDS virus infection?											
Yes ⁶	0	1	0	—	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
No	65	71	66	49	63	66	47	73	86	60	69
Don't know	0	—	0	—	—	0	0	—	—	—	0
Never heard of test ⁴	35	28	33	51	37	33	53	26	14	39	31
33. Have you had your blood tested for the AIDS virus infection?											
Yes	14	19	14	6	16	12	9	18	20	14	14
No	51	55	52	41	48	54	39	56	67	47	55
Don't know	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	1
Never heard of test ⁴	34	26	32	50	35	33	52	25	12	37	30
35a. How many times have you had your blood tested for the AIDS virus infection? ⁷											
Once	6	10	5	3	6	6	5	9	5	6	7
Twice	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	1	1
3-5 times	0	0	0	—	0	—	—	0	0	0	0
6-12 times	0	—	1	—	0	—	—	0	0	0	—
More than 12 times	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Don't know	7	8	8	3	8	6	3	8	12	7	6
Never heard of or never took test ⁶	86	81	86	94	84	88	91	82	81	86	86
35b. How many times in the past 12 months have you had your blood tested for the AIDS virus infection? ⁷											
None in the past 12 months	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	1	1
Once	6	9	5	2	6	5	4	9	5	5	6
More than once	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0
Don't know	7	8	8	3	8	5	3	8	12	7	6
Never heard of or never took test ⁶	86	81	86	94	84	88	91	82	80	86	86
36. Was the test/were any of the tests, including those you had before the past 12 months— ^{1,7}											
Part of a blood donation? ⁸	58	48	68	58	63	52	44	56	71	60	56
Part of a blood transfusion?	2	3	—	—	3	—	3	2	—	2	2
Voluntarily sought?	22	23	18	30	14	30	24	21	21	17	27
Part of some other activity that requires a blood sample? ⁹	23	31	16	18	26	20	34	26	11	22	24
38. Did you get the results of your test/any of your tests? ⁹											
Yes	70	68	76	53	58	83	81	70	58	76	64
No	28	32	23	26	37	17	19	26	39	20	35
Don't know	3	—	2	20	5	—	—	4	2	4	1
41. Do you expect to have a blood test for the AIDS virus infection in the next 12 months?											
Yes	8	12	7	4	8	9	6	9	12	7	10
No	49	51	53	39	49	50	34	56	68	47	52
Don't know	7	9	6	6	6	8	6	9	6	7	7
Never heard of test ⁴	35	28	33	51	37	33	53	26	14	39	31
42. Will the test be— ^{1,10}											
Part of a blood donation?	23	18	33	17	23	24	9	39	20	26	22
Voluntarily sought?	68	67	63	90	62	72	74	62	69	65	71
Part of some other activity that requires a blood sample? ⁹	15	27	3	—	18	13	16	9	19	15	15
44a. Did you have a blood transfusion at any time between 1977 and 1985?											
Yes	4	4	5	3	3	5	5	4	4	5	4
No	95	95	95	95	96	94	94	95	95	94	95
Don't know	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	0	1	1	0
44b. Do you think the present supply of blood is safe for transfusions?											
Yes	32	35	34	24	36	29	23	35	46	30	35
No	36	39	35	33	31	40	37	38	30	37	34
Other	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Don't know	32	25	32	43	32	31	40	27	23	33	31
45. Here are some methods people use to prevent getting the AIDS virus through sexual activity. How effective is—											
45a. Using a diaphragm?											
Very effective	3	2	3	3	3	2	3	3	1	3	2
Somewhat effective	10	12	10	6	9	11	8	11	11	9	11
Not at all effective	46	51	49	29	43	48	28	54	65	41	51
Don't know how effective	22	21	19	33	24	20	29	21	13	25	19
Don't know method	19	14	19	29	20	18	32	10	10	22	16

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Provisional estimates of the percent of Hispanic adults 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1988 National Health Interview Survey, by age, sex, education, and ethnicity: United States, May–October 1988—Con.

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AIDS knowledge or attitude	Age			Sex		Education			Hispanic origin		
	Total	18–29	30–49	50 years and over		Less than 12 years		More than 12 years		Other	
		years	years	and over	Male	Female	12 years	12 years	12 years	Mexican	Hispanic
Percent distribution ¹											
45b. Using a condom?											
Very effective	28	28	30	22	29	27	21	36	29	26	30
Somewhat effective	45	49	47	34	46	45	37	45	58	43	47
Not at all effective	10	11	8	11	8	11	13	9	5	10	9
Don't know how effective	12	9	8	23	12	11	17	7	7	13	10
Don't know method	6	3	6	10	5	6	11	3	1	7	4
45c. Using a spermicidal jelly, foam, or cream?											
Very effective	2	2	3	2	3	1	2	3	1	3	1
Somewhat effective	10	13	10	7	10	11	7	13	13	11	10
Not at all effective	48	53	50	33	43	52	38	51	61	42	53
Don't know how effective	25	22	24	34	28	22	29	26	17	28	22
Don't know method	15	10	14	23	15	14	24	7	9	16	14
45d. Having a vasectomy?											
Very effective	2	2	3	0	2	2	1	3	1	2	2
Somewhat effective	3	6	2	1	4	2	3	3	2	4	3
Not at all effective	58	58	63	47	57	59	43	62	78	56	60
Don't know how effective	19	18	17	28	21	18	23	19	13	20	19
Don't know method	17	16	16	23	16	18	29	12	5	18	17
45e. Two people who do not have the AIDS virus having sex only with each other?											
Very effective	77	77	79	74	79	76	69	80	87	73	82
Somewhat effective	8	7	9	7	6	10	9	8	7	10	7
Not at all effective	4	7	3	2	5	4	5	5	1	5	3
Don't know how effective	7	7	5	12	7	7	10	6	4	9	6
Don't know method	3	2	3	5	3	3	6	1	1	3	3
46. What are your chances of having the AIDS virus?											
High	1	1	1	—	0	1	0	0	1	1	1
Medium	3	3	3	2	4	1	3	4	1	3	2
Low	9	16	7	1	10	8	7	9	13	7	11
None	82	75	84	88	80	84	81	83	83	82	82
Don't know	6	5	5	9	6	6	10	4	2	8	4
47. What are your chances of getting the AIDS virus?											
High	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	—	1	0
Medium	3	4	3	2	4	2	3	5	1	4	2
Low	13	21	11	4	16	11	10	12	21	13	14
None	76	70	78	81	74	78	76	78	74	74	78
Don't know	6	4	5	12	5	7	10	4	2	7	5
High chance of already having AIDS virus	1	1	1	—	0	1	0	0	1	1	1
49. Do you say your chance of getting AIDS is high or medium because you— ¹¹											
Have had a blood transfusion?	4	4	—	15	6	—	6	—	17	6	—
Have had sexual contact with someone who might have the virus?	10	12	8	15	15	3	9	10	14	9	13
Some other reason?	75	63	81	85	69	86	52	93	69	66	95
52. Have you ever discussed AIDS with a friend or relative?											
Yes	57	65	60	36	53	60	40	66	75	52	62
No	43	35	39	64	46	39	59	34	25	48	37
Don't know	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	—	—	0	1
53. When was the last time you discussed AIDS with a friend or relative?											
0–3 days ago	8	7	10	6	7	9	5	10	12	6	10
4–7 days ago	12	13	13	7	11	12	8	13	16	9	14
8–14 days ago	6	5	9	3	8	5	4	8	9	5	7
15–31 days ago	13	16	10	12	12	13	9	17	14	13	12
More than 31 days ago	15	20	16	5	12	18	12	17	20	15	15
Don't know	3	3	2	3	3	2	2	2	5	2	3
Never discussed ¹²	43	36	40	64	47	40	60	34	26	49	38
54. Have you ever personally known anyone with AIDS or the AIDS virus?											
Yes	9	11	8	6	6	11	4	9	17	6	11
No	89	86	91	92	91	87	94	89	81	92	86
Don't know	2	3	2	2	2	2	3	2	1	2	2
55. How long has it been since you saw this person?											
Within past 2 weeks	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	3	1	1
2 weeks—less than 1 month	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	—	—
1 month—less than 3 months	1	1	0	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
3 months—less than 6 months	2	2	2	0	1	2	0	2	3	1	2
6 months or more	4	6	4	3	3	5	2	4	9	3	6
Don't know	0	—	0	—	0	—	—	—	0	—	0
Never knew anyone with AIDS ¹³	91	89	92	94	94	89	96	91	83	94	89

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Provisional estimates of the percent of Hispanic adults 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1988 National Health Interview Survey, by age, sex, education, and ethnicity: United States, May–October 1988—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	Age			Sex		Education			Hispanic origin	
	18–29 Total	30–49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	Less than 12 years	12 years	More than 12 years	Mexican	Other Hispanic
Percent distribution ¹										
56. How well do you know this person?										
Very well	1	2	1	1	2	1	2	2	1	2
Fairly well	2	3	2	1	3	0	2	6	2	3
Not very well	3	4	3	1	3	1	3	6	1	4
Don't really know personally	1	2	1	2	1	1	0	3	1	1
Other	1	1	1	2	1	2	1	1	1	1
Don't know how well	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Never knew anyone with AIDS ¹³	91	89	92	94	89	96	91	83	94	89
57. Is any of these statements true for you?										
a. You have hemophilia and have received clotting factor concentrates since 1977.										
b. You are a native of Haiti or Central or East Africa who has entered the United States since 1977.										
c. You are a man who has had sex with another man at some time since 1977, even 1 time.										
d. You have taken illegal drugs by needle 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 (57 a-d).										
f. You have had sex for money or drugs at any time since 1977.										
Yes to at least 1 statement	2	2	4	—	3	2	1	3	3	2
No to all statements	97	98	96	100	97	98	98	97	96	98
Refused	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Don't know	0	0	1	—	0	1	—	0	1	—
58. The U.S. Public Health Service has said that AIDS is one of the major health problems in the country but exactly how many people it affects is not known. The Surgeon General has proposed that a study be conducted and blood samples be taken to help find out how widespread the problem is. If you were selected in this national sample of people to have their blood tested with assurances of privacy of test results, would you have the test?										
Yes	67	74	67	59	70	65	63	68	75	66
No	25	20	25	31	23	26	27	26	19	25
Other	1	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	2	1
Don't know	7	5	7	9	6	7	9	5	8	5
59. Why wouldn't you take part in the test? ¹⁴										
Don't want to know if I have AIDS	7	6	8	7	8	6	9	5	5	8
Don't want any counseling about AIDS	4	8	3	2	4	4	6	3	3	5
Fear I'll get AIDS	9	9	10	9	11	8	8	13	5	9
Don't like to give blood	16	20	15	13	7	23	14	18	18	13
Don't trust Government programs	4	4	5	4	2	6	5	3	5	3
It is a waste of money	4	5	4	3	3	4	5	4	1	4
Don't believe AIDS can really be cured anyway	5	2	6	5	5	4	6	5	0	5
Other	39	32	39	45	45	34	31	43	52	40
Don't know	16	17	15	17	16	16	20	9	13	16
61. When Federal public health officials give information about AIDS, do you believe what they say or are you doubtful about the information they give?										
Believe	69	71	69	64	69	70	66	69	74	67
Doubtful	22	25	22	19	22	22	19	27	22	24
Don't know	9	4	9	16	9	8	15	4	4	9
62. When they [public health officials] give advice about how to help keep from getting AIDS, do you believe their advice or are you doubtful about what they say?										
Believe	77	78	78	74	76	78	71	76	88	74
Doubtful	15	17	15	12	15	15	16	18	9	17
Don't know	8	5	7	14	8	7	13	6	3	9

¹Multiple responses may sum to more than 100.
²Based on persons answering yes to question 4 (includes yes to question 3).
³Based on persons answering yes to question 11, "Do you have any children aged 10 through 17?" Question 12 was "How many do you have?"
⁴Persons answering no or don't know to question 27.
⁵Based on persons answering yes to question 29a.
⁶Includes persons answering yes to question 26a and no or don't know to questions 27 and 33.
⁷Based on yes answers to question 33. See footnote 6.
⁸Persons answering no or don't know to questions 26a, 27, and 33.
⁹Based on persons answering yes to question 33; excludes persons answering yes to question 26a and no or don't know to question 27 or 33.
¹⁰Based on persons answering yes to question 41.
¹¹Based on persons answering high or medium to question 46.
¹²Based on persons answering no or don't know to question 52.
¹³Based on persons answering no or don't know to question 54.
¹⁴Based on persons not answering yes to question 58.

Table 2. Provisional estimates of the percent of non-Hispanic adults 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1988 National Health Interview Survey, by age, sex, and education: United States, May-October 1988

[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		Education		
		18-29 years	30-49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	Less than 12 years	12 years	More than 12 years
Total	100	100	100	100	Percent distribution ¹		100	100	100
					100	100			
1. In the past month, have you—									
1a. Seen any public service announcements about AIDS on television?									
Yes	85	85	86	82	84	85	78	87	86
No	13	14	12	15	14	13	19	11	12
Don't know	2	1	2	3	2	2	3	1	2
1b. Heard any public service announcements about AIDS on the radio?									
Yes	46	54	49	36	50	42	36	46	51
No	50	42	46	59	45	54	59	50	45
Don't know	4	4	5	5	4	5	5	4	5
2. Were any of those public service announcements called "America Responds to AIDS"?									
Yes	22	30	23	15	21	23	21	24	21
No	11	12	11	11	12	10	11	11	12
Don't know	54	46	54	59	54	54	49	54	56
Neither heard nor saw any public service announcements	13	11	11	16	13	13	19	11	12
3. In the past month, have you read any brochures or pamphlets about AIDS?									
Yes	40	42	44	35	37	43	29	40	47
No	59	58	55	64	62	56	70	60	52
Don't know	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
4. Have you ever read any brochures or pamphlets about AIDS?									
Yes	64	68	70	54	60	67	45	64	74
No	36	32	29	45	39	32	54	36	26
Don't know	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
5. Where did you get the pamphlets or brochures? ^{1,2}									
Clinic, other than work clinic	2	3	2	1	2	2	4	2	2
Doctor's office (HMO)	11	13	11	8	8	13	11	11	10
Drug store	1	2	1	1	1	1	2	1	1
Public health department	2	3	2	1	2	2	3	1	2
Received in mail without asking	37	31	36	44	36	38	41	39	34
Red Cross/Red Cross blood donation	2	2	2	1	2	2	1	2	2
Other blood donation	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	1
School	7	14	6	2	7	7	5	5	10
Sent/phoned for/requested it	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	1
Federal/State/local government	27	21	28	32	28	27	28	27	28
Work, other than clinic or nurse	12	10	16	7	13	10	5	11	14
Work, nurse or clinic	4	3	4	2	2	5	2	3	5
Other	13	15	13	12	15	12	12	13	14
Don't know	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1
15. Have you ever discussed AIDS with any of your children aged 10-17? ³									
Yes	62	39	64	54	49	74	49	61	69
No	38	61	36	46	51	26	51	39	31
Don't know	0	—	0	—	0	0	—	0	0
16. Have any or all of your children aged 10-17 had instruction at school about AIDS? ³									
Yes	58	41	58	59	54	61	52	56	62
No	14	23	14	10	11	16	12	14	14
Don't know	29	36	28	31	35	23	35	30	24
21. How much would you say you know about AIDS?									
A lot	23	21	29	17	22	24	11	19	34
Some	44	51	47	35	43	45	31	47	48
A little	25	25	21	31	27	24	35	29	17
None	8	3	3	16	9	7	24	6	2
Don't know	0	—	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
22. To the best of your knowledge, is there a difference between having the AIDS virus and having the disease AIDS?									
Yes	66	66	72	58	65	66	41	64	80
No	15	21	15	10	16	15	17	17	12
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Don't know	19	12	12	31	19	19	41	18	8
23a. AIDS can reduce the body's natural protection against disease.									
Definitely true	75	78	82	65	76	74	52	75	87
Probably true	12	11	9	14	12	11	16	13	8
Probably false	2	2	1	2	1	2	3	2	1
Definitely false	3	3	2	4	3	3	5	3	1
Don't know	9	6	5	16	8	9	24	7	3

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Provisional estimates of the percent of non-Hispanic adults 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1988 National Health Interview Survey, by age, sex, and education: United States, May–October 1988—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		Education		
		18–29 years	30–49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	Less than 12 years	12 years	More than 12 years
Percent distribution ¹									
23b. AIDS is especially common in older people.									
Definitely true	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	0
Probably true	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1
Probably false	19	22	17	20	20	19	19	20	19
Definitely false	71	70	77	67	70	72	60	72	76
Don't know	8	6	5	12	8	7	17	6	4
23c. AIDS can damage the brain.									
Definitely true	27	23	27	29	27	26	26	26	28
Probably true	31	32	30	32	31	31	30	31	32
Probably false	9	11	11	6	10	9	5	9	12
Definitely false	7	8	8	4	7	6	4	7	8
Don't know	26	26	24	29	25	27	34	28	21
23d. AIDS usually leads to heart disease.									
Definitely true	8	6	8	11	8	9	11	8	7
Probably true	22	22	21	22	21	22	21	23	21
Probably false	19	20	22	14	20	17	11	17	25
Definitely false	15	17	18	9	17	13	9	14	19
Don't know	37	35	32	43	34	39	48	38	29
23e. AIDS is an infectious disease caused by a virus.									
Definitely true	63	67	70	52	64	62	47	62	72
Probably true	19	20	17	21	20	19	22	20	17
Probably false	2	3	2	3	2	2	3	3	2
Definitely false	4	4	3	4	3	4	4	4	3
Don't know	12	8	8	20	11	13	24	11	6
23f. Teenagers cannot get AIDS.									
Definitely true	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1
Probably true	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
Probably false	3	2	2	5	3	3	6	3	2
Definitely false	92	96	95	87	92	92	83	93	96
Don't know	3	1	2	6	3	3	9	2	1
23g. AIDS leads to death.									
Definitely true	87	87	89	85	86	88	85	89	86
Probably true	9	10	8	9	10	8	7	8	11
Probably false	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
Definitely false	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Don't know	2	1	1	4	2	2	6	2	1
23h. A person can be infected with the AIDS virus and not have the disease AIDS.									
Definitely true	55	57	62	46	54	56	36	54	66
Probably true	22	22	20	24	22	22	23	24	20
Probably false	4	5	4	3	4	3	4	4	3
Definitely false	5	6	5	4	5	4	6	5	4
Don't know	14	9	9	23	14	15	31	13	7
23i. Looking at a person is enough to tell if he or she has the AIDS virus.									
Definitely true	2	2	1	2	2	2	3	1	1
Probably true	4	4	3	4	4	4	6	4	2
Probably false	16	15	14	19	17	16	20	17	13
Definitely false	69	75	76	57	69	70	50	69	79
Don't know	9	4	5	17	9	9	22	8	4
23j. Any person with the AIDS virus can pass it on to someone else during sexual intercourse.									
Definitely true	81	83	83	77	79	82	77	83	81
Probably true	13	12	12	14	14	12	12	12	14
Probably false	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	2
Definitely false	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Don't know	4	2	2	7	4	4	9	3	2
23k. A person who has the AIDS virus can look and feel healthy and well.									
Definitely true	47	52	55	36	49	46	30	46	59
Probably true	30	31	28	32	29	31	28	32	29
Probably false	7	6	5	8	6	7	10	7	4
Definitely false	4	4	4	5	4	4	6	5	3
Don't know	12	8	8	19	11	12	25	11	6
23l. A pregnant woman who has the AIDS virus can give the AIDS virus to her baby.									
Definitely true	78	81	82	73	76	81	72	79	81
Probably true	15	15	14	17	17	14	16	15	15
Probably false	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Definitely false	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	1
Don't know	5	3	4	9	6	5	11	4	3

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Provisional estimates of the percent of non-Hispanic adults 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1988 National Health Interview Survey, by age, sex, and education: United States, May–October 1988—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		Education		
		18–29 years	30–49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	Less than 12 years	12 years	More than 12 years
23m. There is a vaccine available to the public that protects a person from getting the AIDS virus.					Percent distribution ¹				
Definitely true	1	2	1	1	1	1	2	1	1
Probably true	2	3	2	3	2	2	4	2	1
Probably false	10	11	8	11	11	9	11	11	8
Definitely false	74	76	81	66	75	74	57	74	83
Don't know	12	9	8	20	11	14	26	12	6
23n. There is no cure for AIDS at present.									
Definitely true	86	86	89	82	85	86	78	86	90
Probably true	6	6	6	8	7	6	8	7	5
Probably false	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Definitely false	3	4	2	2	3	3	3	3	2
Don't know	4	3	3	7	4	4	10	4	2
24. How likely do you think it is that a person will get AIDS or the AIDS virus infection from—									
24a. Living near a hospital or home for AIDS patients?									
Very likely	1	2	1	1	1	1	3	1	1
Somewhat likely	3	4	3	3	4	3	4	4	2
Somewhat unlikely	8	8	7	8	8	7	9	9	6
Very unlikely	38	39	39	37	40	36	34	39	39
Definitely not possible	43	43	46	39	40	45	32	42	50
Don't know	7	4	4	12	7	7	18	6	3
24b. Working near someone with the AIDS virus?									
Very likely	2	2	2	3	2	2	5	2	1
Somewhat likely	10	10	9	10	9	10	12	10	8
Somewhat unlikely	13	14	13	12	13	12	12	14	12
Very unlikely	39	39	41	37	40	37	32	38	43
Definitely not possible	29	31	31	26	28	30	22	29	33
Don't know	7	4	4	13	7	8	17	6	3
24c. Eating in a restaurant where the cook has the AIDS virus?									
Very likely	6	6	6	7	6	6	10	7	4
Somewhat likely	18	20	18	18	19	18	20	20	16
Somewhat unlikely	15	17	17	13	16	15	11	16	17
Very unlikely	31	32	33	28	32	30	25	29	37
Definitely not possible	16	18	18	14	15	17	12	16	19
Don't know	12	8	9	20	11	13	24	12	7
24d. Kissing—with exchange of saliva—a person who has the AIDS virus?									
Very likely	23	19	23	26	22	24	27	25	20
Somewhat likely	29	29	28	29	29	29	26	29	29
Somewhat unlikely	14	16	15	10	14	13	9	13	17
Very unlikely	16	19	18	13	18	15	11	15	20
Definitely not possible	7	9	7	5	7	7	6	7	7
Don't know	11	8	9	17	11	12	21	11	7
24e. Shaking hands, touching, or kissing on the cheek someone who has the AIDS virus?									
Very likely	2	1	2	3	2	2	4	2	1
Somewhat likely	6	6	6	7	7	6	8	7	5
Somewhat unlikely	14	14	13	13	14	13	12	16	12
Very unlikely	38	39	39	36	39	37	34	37	41
Definitely not possible	33	36	36	29	31	36	25	32	39
Don't know	7	3	5	13	7	7	17	6	3
24f. Sharing plates, forks, or glasses with someone who has the AIDS virus?									
Very likely	8	7	8	9	8	9	11	9	6
Somewhat likely	20	19	19	21	20	19	21	21	17
Somewhat unlikely	14	16	15	13	15	14	11	14	16
Very unlikely	29	31	30	26	30	28	22	27	34
Definitely not possible	18	21	19	14	17	18	13	17	21
Don't know	11	7	9	17	10	12	21	11	6
24g. Using public toilets?									
Very likely	5	5	4	7	4	6	9	5	2
Somewhat likely	12	12	10	13	11	12	16	13	8
Somewhat unlikely	13	15	13	12	14	13	10	15	13
Very unlikely	34	34	37	31	36	33	25	32	40
Definitely not possible	25	27	27	20	25	24	17	23	30
Don't know	11	8	8	17	10	12	22	11	6

See footnotes at end of table.

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AIDS knowledge or attitude	Total	Age			Sex		Education			
		18–29 years	30–49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	Less than 12 years	12 years	More than 12 years	
24h. Sharing needles for drug use with someone who has the AIDS virus?		Percent distribution ¹								
Very likely	94	96	96	90	94	94	88	95	96	
Somewhat likely	3	2	2	3	3	2	4	2	2	
Somewhat unlikely	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Very unlikely	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	
Definitely not possible	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	
Don't know	2	1	1	5	2	2	7	2	1	
24i. Being coughed or sneezed on by someone who has the AIDS virus?										
Very likely	7	5	6	9	6	7	11	7	4	
Somewhat likely	20	19	19	23	20	20	22	22	18	
Somewhat unlikely	17	20	18	15	18	17	14	17	19	
Very unlikely	29	31	32	23	30	27	20	28	34	
Definitely not possible	15	18	16	11	14	15	10	14	18	
Don't know	12	8	9	19	11	13	23	12	7	
24j. Attending school with a child who has the AIDS virus?										
Very likely	2	1	1	2	2	2	4	2	1	
Somewhat likely	6	5	6	7	6	6	8	7	4	
Somewhat unlikely	12	13	12	10	12	11	11	13	10	
Very unlikely	40	41	42	38	42	38	34	40	44	
Definitely not possible	32	35	33	28	30	33	24	31	37	
Don't know	8	4	5	15	8	9	20	7	4	
24k. Mosquitoes or other insects?										
Very likely	7	9	7	7	9	6	12	8	5	
Somewhat likely	16	19	15	15	17	15	18	17	14	
Somewhat unlikely	9	11	9	8	9	9	7	10	10	
Very unlikely	24	24	27	22	25	23	17	23	28	
Definitely not possible	21	20	23	19	20	22	14	20	25	
Don't know	22	18	19	29	20	24	31	22	18	
25. Have you ever donated blood?										
Yes	42	33	45	45	54	31	33	38	50	
No	58	66	55	55	46	69	66	62	50	
Don't know	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
26a. Have you donated blood since March 1985?										
Yes	13	19	16	6	16	11	5	12	19	
No	86	80	83	93	83	89	94	87	81	
Don't know	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	
26b. Have you donated blood in the past 12 months?										
Yes	6	9	8	3	8	5	2	6	9	
No	93	90	91	96	91	94	97	93	90	
Don't know	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	
27. Have you ever heard of a blood test that can detect the AIDS virus infection?										
Yes	77	84	85	63	77	77	57	77	87	
No	19	14	13	29	19	19	36	19	10	
Don't know	5	3	3	8	4	5	7	5	3	
28. To the best of your knowledge, are blood donations routinely tested now for the AIDS virus infection?										
Yes	68	75	77	53	68	68	47	68	79	
No	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	
Don't know	5	5	5	6	5	5	7	5	5	
Never heard of test ⁴	24	16	15	38	24	24	43	23	13	
29a. Have you ever received counseling or had a talk with a health professional about taking the AIDS virus test?										
Yes	3	6	4	1	4	3	2	3	5	
No	73	78	80	61	72	73	55	74	82	
Don't know	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Never heard of test ⁴	24	16	15	37	24	24	43	23	13	
29b. Was the discussion— ^{1,5}										
With a private doctor?	46	45	46	53	41	52	46	39	50	
At a family-planning clinic?	6	10	3	2	5	6	14	8	3	
On an AIDS hotline?	2	2	2	4	2	3	2	1	4	
At a prenatal clinic?	5	9	1	2	3	6	6	4	5	
At an STD or sexually transmitted disease clinic?	3	4	4	2	5	2	1	5	3	
At an AIDS/HIV counseling and testing site?	8	7	8	6	9	6	7	7	8	
With some other health professional?	44	39	47	49	46	41	42	44	44	
With some other counselor?	13	14	11	10	16	9	20	11	12	
30. During that discussion, did you receive information about how to avoid getting or passing on the AIDS virus? ⁵										
Yes	66	75	60	56	69	63	71	75	60	
No	33	23	40	44	30	37	27	24	40	
Don't know	1	1	0	—	1	1	2	1	0	

See footnotes at end of table.

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[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		Education		
		18–29 years	30–49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	Less than 12 years	12 years	More than 12 years
31. Have you ever been advised by a health professional not to have the blood test for the AIDS virus infection?					Percent distribution ¹				
Yes	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
No	76	83	84	62	76	76	56	76	86
Don't know	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Never heard of test ⁴	24	16	15	38	24	24	43	24	13
32. Have you ever been advised by friends or relatives not to have the blood test for the AIDS virus infection?									
Yes ⁸	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
No	76	83	84	62	76	76	56	76	86
Don't know	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Never heard of test ⁴	24	16	15	38	24	24	43	24	13
33. Have you had your blood tested for the AIDS virus infection?									
Yes	17	25	21	7	21	14	8	16	23
No	59	59	64	54	56	62	48	61	63
Don't know	2	2	1	2	2	1	2	1	2
Never heard of test ⁴	22	15	14	36	22	23	42	22	12
35a. How many times have you had your blood tested for the AIDS virus infection? ⁷									
Once	5	7	6	2	5	4	3	4	6
Twice	1	2	1	0	2	1	1	1	2
3–5 times	1	1	1	0	2	0	0	1	2
6–12 times	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
More than 12 times	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Don't know	10	13	11	5	12	8	4	9	13
Never heard of or never took test ⁸	83	76	80	93	80	87	92	85	77
35b. How many times in the past 12 months have you had your blood tested for the AIDS virus infection? ⁷									
None in the past 12 months	2	3	2	1	2	1	1	2	2
Once	4	6	5	1	5	3	2	4	5
More than once	2	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	2
Don't know	9	13	11	5	11	8	4	9	13
Never heard of or never took test ⁸	83	76	80	93	79	86	92	85	77
36. Was the test/were any of the tests, including those you had before the past 12 months— ^{1,7}									
Part of a blood donation? ⁸	74	72	74	76	73	75	63	74	75
Part of a blood transfusion?	1	1	2	2	1	2	1	2	1
Voluntarily sought?	15	16	16	12	15	16	21	14	15
Part of some other activity that requires a blood sample?	13	16	12	10	16	10	15	13	13
38. Did you get the results of your test/any of your tests? ⁹									
Yes	53	55	53	46	54	52	65	49	53
No	46	44	46	53	45	47	34	50	47
Don't know	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	0
41. Do you expect to have a blood test for the AIDS virus infection in the next 12 months?									
Yes	6	11	7	2	8	5	4	6	7
No	66	67	73	58	64	67	48	66	75
Don't know	4	6	5	3	5	4	4	4	4
Never heard of test ⁴	24	16	15	37	24	23	43	23	13
42. Will the test be— ^{1,10}									
Part of a blood donation?	42	39	46	39	44	40	26	41	48
Voluntarily sought?	53	60	48	44	51	56	63	54	48
Part of some other activity that requires a blood sample?	17	15	17	23	20	13	19	17	16
44a. Did you have a blood transfusion at any time between 1977 and 1985?									
Yes	6	3	5	8	5	6	7	6	5
No	93	96	93	90	93	93	92	93	93
Don't know	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1
44b. Do you think the present supply of blood is safe for transfusions?									
Yes	45	48	48	40	49	42	33	44	53
No	27	29	27	25	24	29	31	28	24
Other	0	—	0	—	0	0	—	0	0
Don't know	28	23	25	35	26	29	36	27	24
45. Here are some methods people use to prevent getting the AIDS virus through sexual activity. How effective is—									
45a. Using a diaphragm?									
Very effective	3	3	2	3	3	2	4	3	2
Somewhat effective	13	15	11	14	13	13	11	13	13
Not at all effective	57	60	66	44	55	58	39	56	67
Don't know how effective	21	17	17	30	22	21	33	22	15
Don't know method	6	5	5	9	7	5	13	6	3

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Provisional estimates of the percent of non-Hispanic adults 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1988 National Health Interview Survey, by age, sex, and education: United States, May–October 1988—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		Education		
		18–29 years	30–49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	Less than 12 years	12 years	More than 12 years
Percent distribution ¹									
45b. Using a condom?									
Very effective	30	36	33	23	33	28	23	29	36
Somewhat effective	54	54	56	51	53	54	44	56	56
Not at all effective	5	4	5	5	4	6	7	5	3
Don't know how effective	9	5	5	16	8	10	20	8	4
Don't know method	2	1	1	4	2	2	5	2	1
45c. Using a spermicidal jelly, foam, or cream?									
Very effective	2	2	2	1	2	1	2	1	2
Somewhat effective	15	18	15	13	16	15	10	15	18
Not at all effective	54	58	61	42	51	56	40	54	60
Don't know how effective	23	18	17	33	24	22	35	24	17
Don't know method	7	4	5	10	7	6	13	6	4
45d. Having a vasectomy?									
Very effective	2	2	1	1	2	1	2	2	1
Somewhat effective	3	4	2	2	3	2	3	3	2
Not at all effective	71	71	81	62	71	72	52	71	82
Don't know how effective	18	18	12	25	18	18	30	19	11
Don't know method	7	5	5	10	7	6	14	6	3
45e. Two people who do not have the AIDS virus having sex only with each other?									
Very effective	83	83	87	77	84	82	70	83	89
Somewhat effective	8	10	7	8	7	9	10	8	7
Not at all effective	2	3	2	2	2	2	4	3	1
Don't know how effective	5	3	3	9	5	5	12	4	2
Don't know method	2	1	1	3	1	2	4	1	1
46. What are your chances of having the AIDS virus?									
High	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Medium	2	2	2	1	2	1	1	2	2
Low	15	20	17	8	17	13	9	14	19
None	81	75	78	88	78	83	85	82	77
Don't know	2	2	2	3	2	2	5	2	1
47. What are your chances of getting the AIDS virus?									
High	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Medium	2	3	2	1	2	2	2	2	2
Low	21	28	24	12	24	18	11	19	27
None	74	65	70	83	70	77	81	75	68
Don't know	3	3	2	4	3	3	6	3	2
High chance of already having AIDS virus	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
49. Do you say your chance of getting AIDS is high or medium because you— ¹¹									
Have had a blood transfusion?	8	5	9	14	7	9	10	11	5
Have had sexual contact with someone who might have the virus?	17	22	16	5	19	13	28	13	15
Some other reason?	65	66	63	66	60	71	51	65	70
52. Have you ever discussed AIDS with a friend or relative?									
Yes	66	72	74	51	62	69	46	65	77
No	34	28	25	48	38	30	54	35	22
Don't know	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
53. When was the last time you discussed AIDS with a friend or relative?									
0–3 days ago	8	9	9	6	8	8	7	8	10
4–7 days ago	11	10	13	8	10	11	8	10	12
8–14 days ago	8	8	8	6	7	8	5	8	9
15–31 days ago	15	17	17	11	14	16	10	15	18
More than 31 days ago	19	24	22	13	18	20	12	19	23
Don't know ¹²	5	4	5	6	5	5	4	5	5
Never discussed ¹²	35	28	26	49	38	31	55	36	23
54. Have you ever personally known anyone with AIDS or the AIDS virus?									
Yes	10	11	13	7	10	11	6	8	15
No	88	88	85	91	88	87	93	90	83
Don't know	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
55. How long has it been since you saw this person?									
Within past 2 weeks	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1
2 weeks—less than 1 month	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
1 month—less than 3 months	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1
3 months—less than 6 months	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1
6 months or more	7	7	9	5	6	7	4	5	10
Don't know	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Never knew anyone with AIDS ¹³	90	90	87	93	90	89	94	92	85

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Provisional estimates of the percent of non-Hispanic adults 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1988 National Health Interview Survey, by age, sex, and education: United States, May–October 1988—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	Age			Sex		Education			
	Total	18–29 years	30–49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	Less than 12 years	12 years	More than 12 years
Percent distribution ¹									
56. How well do you know this person?									
Very well	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	2
Fairly well	2	2	3	1	2	2	1	2	3
Not very well	4	4	5	3	4	4	2	3	6
Don't really know personally	2	2	2	1	1	2	1	1	2
Other	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	2
Don't know how well	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Never knew anyone with AIDS ¹³	90	90	87	93	90	89	94	92	85
57. Is any of these statements true for you?									
a. You have hemophilia and have received clotting factor concentrates since 1977.									
b. You are a native of Haiti or Central or East Africa who has entered the United States since 1977.									
c. You are a man who has had sex with another man at some time since 1977, even 1 time.									
d. You have taken illegal drugs by needle 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 (57 a-d).									
f. You have had sex for money or drugs at any time since 1977.									
Yes to at least 1 statement	2	4	3	0	3	2	2	2	3
No to all statements	97	96	97	99	97	98	98	98	97
Refused	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Don't know	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
58. The U.S. Public Health Service has said that AIDS is one of the major health problems in the country but exactly how many people it affects is not known. The Surgeon General has proposed that a study be conducted and blood samples be taken to help find out how widespread the problem is. If you were selected in this national sample of people to have their blood tested with assurances of privacy of test results, would you have the test?									
Yes	71	76	74	64	72	70	65	72	73
No	22	19	18	27	21	22	26	20	20
Other	2	1	2	3	2	2	2	2	2
Don't know	5	4	6	6	5	6	6	5	5
59. Why wouldn't you take part in the test? ¹⁴									
Don't want to know if I have AIDS	5	8	6	2	5	5	4	5	5
Don't want any counseling about AIDS	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Fear I'll get AIDS	6	6	6	6	6	7	8	7	5
Don't like to give blood	13	18	14	10	12	14	11	15	12
Don't trust Government programs	7	7	9	5	9	5	3	6	9
It is a waste of money	3	2	3	4	4	3	4	4	2
Don't believe AIDS can really be cured anyway	2	2	1	2	2	1	2	2	1
Other	53	46	50	60	53	53	54	50	56
Don't know	13	15	12	12	11	14	15	12	11
61. When Federal public health officials give information about AIDS, do you believe what they say or are you doubtful about the information they give?									
Believe	54	71	66	58	64	65	55	63	70
Doubtful	29	24	29	32	30	28	31	30	26
Don't know	7	5	5	10	6	7	13	6	4
62. When they [public health officials] give advice about how to help keep from getting AIDS, do you believe their advice or are you doubtful about what they say?									
Believe	78	82	81	73	79	78	68	78	84
Doubtful	16	14	15	19	16	16	20	17	13
Don't know	5	4	4	8	5	6	11	5	3

¹Multiple responses may sum to more than 100.
²Based on persons answering yes to question 4 (includes yes to question 3).
³Based on persons answering yes to question 11, "Do you have any children aged 10 through 17?" Question 12 was "How many do you have?"
⁴Persons answering no or don't know to question 27.
⁵Based on persons answering yes to question 29a.
⁶Includes persons answering yes to question 28a and no or don't know to questions 27 and 33.
⁷Based on yes answers to question 33. See footnote 6.
⁸Persons answering no or don't know to questions 28a, 27, and 33.
⁹Based on persons answering yes to question 33; excludes persons answering yes to question 28a and no or don't know to question 27 or 33.
¹⁰Based on persons answering yes to question 41.
¹¹Based on persons answering high or medium to question 46.
¹²Based on persons answering no or don't know to question 52.
¹³Based on persons answering no or don't know to question 54.
¹⁴Based on persons not answering yes to question 58.

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
 - # Figure suppressed to comply with confidentiality requirements
-

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 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. Supplemental information is collected for all or a sample of household members. The 1988 National Health Interview Survey of AIDS Knowledge and Attitudes was asked of a single randomly chosen adult 18 years of age or over in each family. The estimates in this report are based on completed interviews with 1,022 Hispanic and 19,963 non-Hispanic white individuals—about 89 percent of eligible respondents.

Table I contains the estimated population size of each of the demographic subgroups included in tables 1 and 2 to allow readers to derive provisional estimates of the number of people in the United States with a given characteristic, for example, the number of Hispanic men age 18–29 years who have had their blood tested for the AIDS virus. The population figures in table I are based on data from the NHIS for the period May–October 1988; they are not official population estimates. Tables II and III show approximate standard errors of the estimates presented in tables 1 and 2. Both the estimates in tables 1 and 2 and the standard errors in tables II and III are provisional. They may differ slightly from estimates made using the final data file because they were calculated using a simplified

weighting procedure that does not adjust for all the factors used in weighting the final data file. A final data file covering the entire data collection period for 1988 will be available in 1989.

Table I. Hispanic and non-Hispanic sample sizes for the 1988 National Health Interview Survey of AIDS Knowledge and Attitudes and estimated Hispanic and non-Hispanic adult populations 18 years of age and over, by selected characteristics: United States, May–October 1988

Characteristic	Sample size		Estimated population in thousands	
	Hispanic	Non-Hispanic	Hispanic	Non-Hispanic
All adults	1,102	19,963	10,594	164,571
Age				
18-29 years	369	4,544	3,706	42,123
30-49 years	501	7,575	4,718	63,836
50 years and over	232	7,844	2,170	58,612
Sex				
Male	462	8,411	5,017	77,975
Female	640	11,552	5,577	86,595
Education				
Less than 12 years	473	4,405	4,376	33,433
12 years	335	7,627	3,590	65,672
More than 12 years	277	7,721	2,462	63,826
Hispanic origin				
Mexican	533	NA	5,338	NA
Other Hispanic	569	NA	5,073	NA

Table II. Standard errors, expressed in percentage points, of estimated percents for Hispanic adults from the 1988 National Health Interview Survey of AIDS Knowledge and Attitudes, by selected characteristics: United States, May–October 1988

Estimated percent	Total	Age			Sex		Education			Hispanic origin	
		18–29 years	30–49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	Less than 12 years	12 years	More than 12 years	Mexican	Other Hispanic
5 or 95	0.8	1.5	1.3	1.8	1.3	1.1	1.3	1.5	1.7	1.2	1.2
10 or 90	1.2	2.0	1.7	2.5	1.8	1.5	1.8	2.1	2.3	1.7	1.6
15 or 85	1.4	2.4	2.1	3.0	2.1	1.8	2.1	2.5	2.8	2.0	1.9
20 or 80	1.6	2.7	2.3	3.4	2.4	2.0	2.4	2.8	3.1	2.2	2.2
25 or 75	1.7	2.9	2.5	3.7	2.6	2.2	2.6	3.0	3.3	2.4	2.3
30 or 70	1.8	3.1	2.6	3.9	2.7	2.3	2.7	3.2	3.5	2.6	2.5
35 or 65	1.8	3.2	2.7	4.0	2.9	2.4	2.8	3.4	3.7	2.7	2.6
40 or 60	1.9	3.3	2.8	4.1	2.9	2.5	2.9	3.4	3.8	2.7	2.6
45 or 55	1.9	3.3	2.9	4.2	3.0	2.5	2.9	3.5	3.8	2.8	2.7
50	1.9	3.3	2.9	4.2	3.0	2.5	3.0	3.5	3.9	2.8	2.7

Table III. Standard errors, expressed in percentage points, of estimated percents for non-Hispanic adults from the 1988 National Health Interview Survey of AIDS Knowledge and Attitudes, by selected characteristics: United States, May–October 1988

Estimated percent	Total	Age			Sex		Education		
		18–29 years	30–49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	Less than 12 years	12 years	More than 12 years
5 or 95	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3
10 or 90	0.3	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.4	0.4
15 or 85	0.3	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.7	0.5	0.5
20 or 80	0.4	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.8	0.6	0.6
25 or 75	0.4	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.8	0.6	0.6
30 or 70	0.4	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.5	0.9	0.7	0.7
35 or 65	0.4	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.9	0.7	0.7
40 or 60	0.4	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.9	0.7	0.7
45 or 55	0.5	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.6	1.0	0.7	0.7
50	0.5	1.0	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.6	1.0	0.7	0.7

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