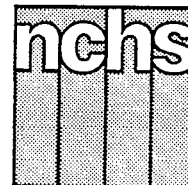


# Advance Data



From Vital and Health Statistics of the National Center for Health Statistics

## AIDS Knowledge and Attitudes of Black Americans: United States, 1990

### Provisional Data From the National Health Interview Survey

by Ann M. Hardy, Dr.P.H., and Ann E. Biddlecom, M.A., Division of Health Interview Statistics

#### Introduction

This report is one of two special reports examining awareness of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) and the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) among racial and ethnic minority groups of the U.S. population. Based on data collected in the 1990 National Health Interview Survey (NHIS), this report describes various aspects of AIDS-related knowledge and HIV antibody testing experience for non-Hispanic black adults 18 years of age and over. It presents differentials by age, sex, and education for the non-Hispanic black population residing in the United States and compares selected measures with the non-Hispanic white population. The second of these special reports (*Advanced Data From Vital and Health Statistics* No. 207) focuses on similar information for Hispanic adults.

The National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) has included

questions about AIDS in the NHIS since 1987. Data concerning the adult population's knowledge about AIDS and transmission of the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) are collected to assist in planning and monitoring AIDS educational programs. Since the initiation of the NHIS AIDS survey, its scope has widened to include more questions on HIV testing and blood donation experience and a general risk behavior question similar to that asked of potential blood donors by the American Red Cross. Detailed information on the NHIS AIDS survey sample is contained in the Technical notes at the end of this report.

The first AIDS Knowledge and Attitudes Survey was in the field from August–December 1987. Provisional results of that survey were published monthly in *Advanced Data From Vital and Health Statistics* (Nos. 146, 148, 150, 151, and 153). In 1988 the NHIS AIDS questionnaire was revised and

this version of the survey entered the field in May 1988. Provisional findings from the 1988 survey were published periodically (*Advance Data From Vital and Health Statistics* Nos. 160, 161, 163, 164, 167, and 175). Although data on black adults has been included in all reports, two special reports focused in detail on minority populations and were published using 1988 data (*Advance Data From Vital and Health Statistics* Nos. 165 and 166).

The 1988 AIDS questionnaire was used without modification throughout 1989 and results were published on a quarterly basis (*Advanced Data From Vital and Health Statistics* Nos. 176, 179, 183, and 186). For 1990 the AIDS questionnaire was revised again, with added emphasis on HIV testing procedures and on the distinction between HIV testing in connection with blood donation and testing for other reasons. Provisional findings have been published quarterly in



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service  
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Manning Feinleib, M.D., Dr. P.H., Director



*Advance Data From Vital and Health Statistics* Nos. 193, 195, 198, and 204.

The NHIS AIDS questionnaires have been developed by NCHS and an Interagency Task Force created by the Public Health Service Data Policy Committee. The Task Force includes representatives from the Centers for Disease Control; Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health; National AIDS Program Office; National Institutes of Health; Alcohol, Drug Abuse and Mental Health Administration; Food and Drug Administration; and Health Resources and Services Administration.

This report presents provisional data for 1990 for most items included in the AIDS questionnaire. Tables 1 and 2, for non-Hispanic black and white adults respectively, show percent distributions by response categories according to age, sex, and education. In most cases, the actual questions asked are reproduced verbatim in the tables along with the response categories. A few questions and responses have been rephrased or combined for more concise presentation of results. 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.

The population subgroups highlighted in this report reflect the respondents' characterizations of race and ethnic origin. For each member of a household, the household respondent for the main NHIS interview was asked "What is the number of the group [on this card] that represents [*name of sample person*]'s race?" The choices on the response card were Aleut, Eskimo, or American Indian; Asian or Pacific Islander; black; white; and another group not listed. The household respondent was then asked "Are any of these groups [*name of sample person*]'s national origin or ancestry?"

The choices on the list were Puerto Rican, Cuban, Mexican/Mexicano, Mexican American, Chicano, other Latin American, and other Spanish. Only those persons classified as black non-Hispanic or white non-Hispanic were included in this analysis.

The population subgroups used in this report differ from those highlighted in the 1988 report on black Americans. That report did not take into account ethnicity; thus Hispanic individuals could have been included in either the black or white groups. In addition, some of the AIDS survey questions were revised in actual wording or in context and location between 1988 and 1990. For these reasons, comparisons between this report and the 1988 report must be made cautiously. The more dramatic changes across time will be noted in this report.

### Selected findings

Patterns of knowledge and attitudes about AIDS and HIV were similar within the non-Hispanic black population to those of the U.S. population as a whole, with the greatest levels of knowledge occurring among the young and the well-educated. There were exceptions, especially in the areas of knowledge of the HIV blood test and perceived risk of HIV transmission through casual contact with an infected individual. The following highlights describe various aspects of AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the NHIS data for 1990, focusing on differences within the non-Hispanic black population and differences between non-Hispanic black adults and non-Hispanic white adults. Unless otherwise noted, all differences cited in the text are statistically significant at the .05 level (see tables II and III for approximate standard errors of estimates).

*Sources of information and communication about AIDS and HIV*—During 1990, 88 percent of non-Hispanic black adults reported having received information about AIDS from any source in the month preceding the NHIS. Television was the most frequently cited source of

information about AIDS among non-Hispanic black adults (77 percent). Similar proportions were noted among non-Hispanic white adults.

Written sources of AIDS information were the next most frequently mentioned sources of AIDS information among non-Hispanic black adults: 45 percent read about AIDS in newspapers and 40 percent received information in magazines. Almost one-third (30 percent) of non-Hispanic black adults reported receiving information about AIDS on the radio, and, interestingly, non-Hispanic black men were much more likely to report the radio as a source of information about AIDS than non-Hispanic black women (34 percent compared with 27 percent).

Overall, some of the most noticeable differences in sources of AIDS information were by education level, especially for written sources of information (figure 1). For example, the proportion of non-Hispanic black individuals who had received information about AIDS in newspapers increased from 33 percent of those adults with less than 12 years of school to 56 percent of those adults with more than 12 years of school. A similar increase by education level was evident in the proportion who received AIDS information from magazines. There was no significant difference by level of education in the proportion of adults who reported having received information about AIDS via television. Similar educational differences noted among non-Hispanic black adults were also evident among non-Hispanic white adults.

Non-Hispanic black parents with children between the ages of 10 and 17 years were just as likely as non-Hispanic white parents to report that they had ever discussed AIDS with their children. A substantial difference existed between men and women regardless of race and ethnicity: 56 percent of non-Hispanic black men and 79 percent of women with children ages 10 to 17 had ever discussed AIDS with their children.

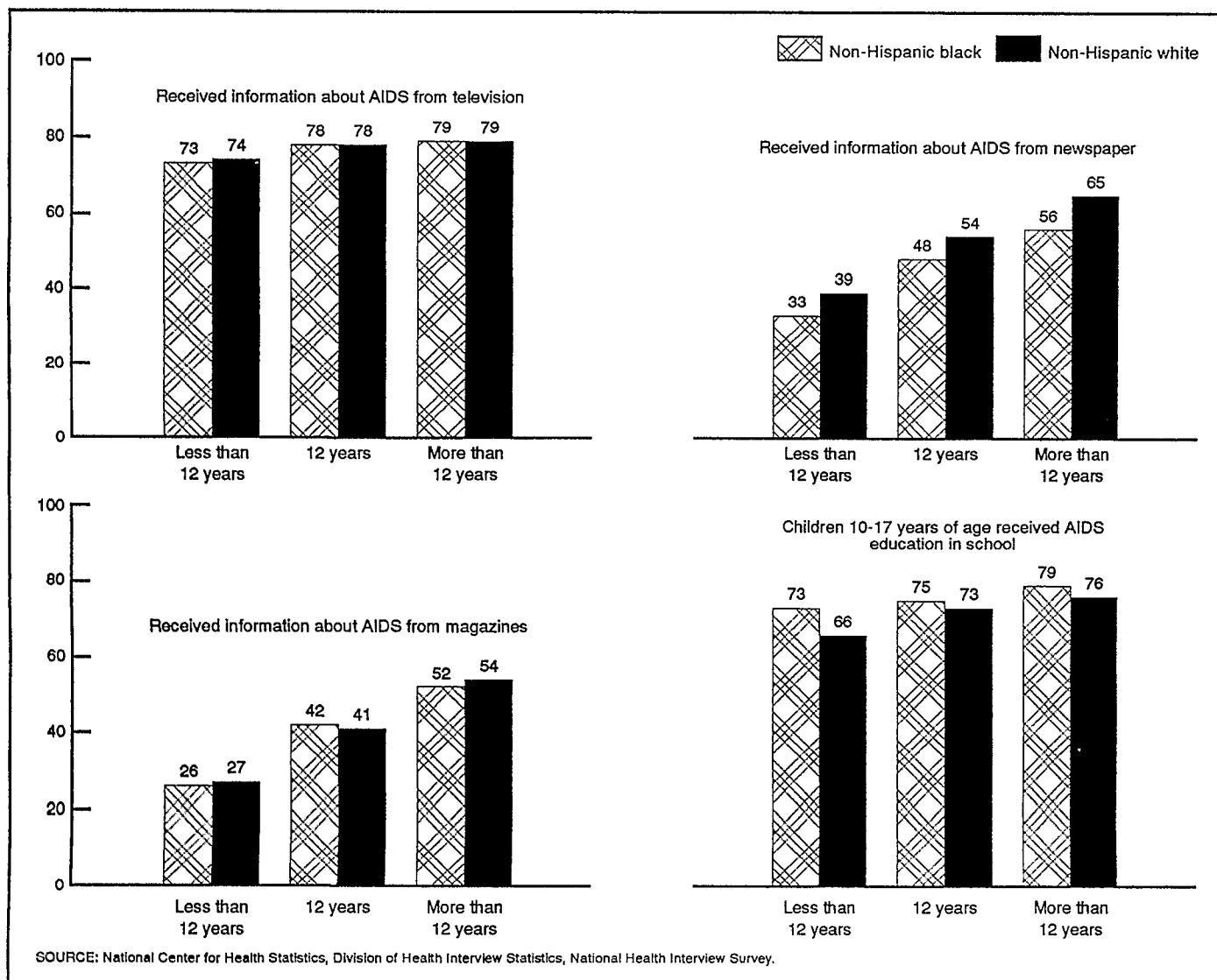


Figure 1. Provisional estimates of percent of non-Hispanic black and non-Hispanic white adults exposed to selected sources of AIDS information, by years of education: United States, 1990.

There was a similar gender difference among non-Hispanic white parents (58 percent compared with 80 percent). Of non-Hispanic black adults with children ages 10 to 17 years, 75 percent stated that their children had received AIDS education in school. Approximately the same proportion (74 percent) of non-Hispanic white adults with children ages 10 to 17 years also stated that their children received AIDS education at school.

When asked if they have ever personally known anyone with AIDS or the AIDS virus, 18 percent of non-Hispanic black adults responded that they had. Over one-quarter (27 percent) of non-Hispanic black persons with more than 12 years of education reported knowing someone

with AIDS or the AIDS virus, compared with 11 percent of those persons with less than 12 years of education. Of non-Hispanic black adults 30 to 49 years of age, 23 percent knew someone with AIDS compared with 16 percent of non-Hispanic black adults ages 18 to 29 years and 13 percent of non-Hispanic black adults 50 years of age and over. Non-Hispanic white individuals were less likely to have personally known someone with AIDS or the AIDS virus (15 percent).

*General AIDS knowledge* – In terms of self-assessed knowledge about AIDS, 16 percent of non-Hispanic black adults stated that they knew a lot about AIDS, 39 percent some, 27 percent a little, and 17 percent nothing. The

proportion of non-Hispanic black adults claiming to know a lot or some about AIDS increased with education, from 31 percent of those with less than 12 years of education to 75 percent of those with over 12 years of education. Young non-Hispanic black adults, ages 18 to 29 years, were much more likely to report knowing a lot or some about AIDS than their counterparts ages 50 years and over (67 percent compared with 29 percent). In comparison to non-Hispanic black adults, non-Hispanic white adults were more likely to feel that they knew a lot or some about AIDS (19 percent and 49 percent, respectively) and less likely to feel that they knew little or nothing (23 percent and 9 percent).

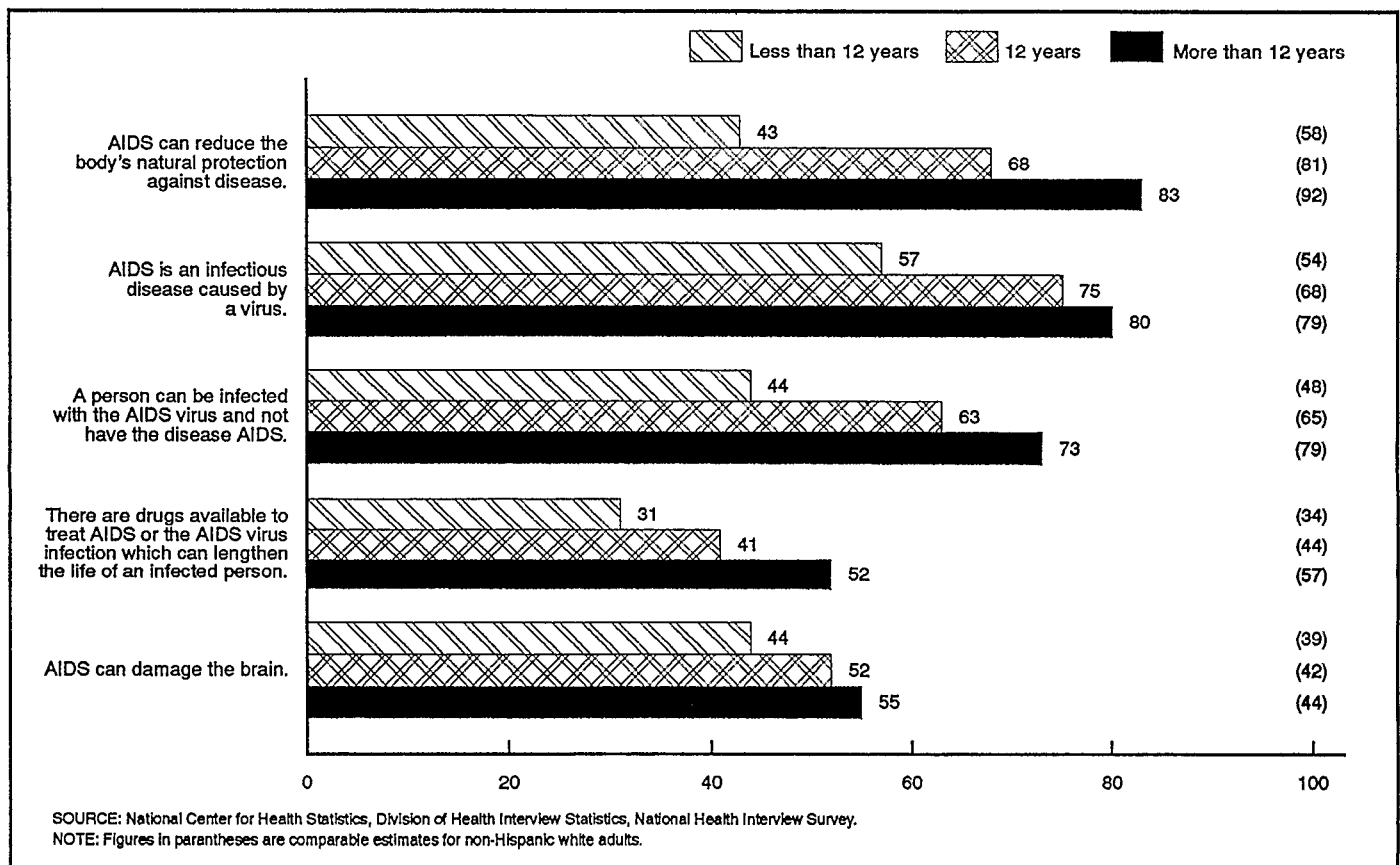


Figure 2. Provisional estimates of percent of non-Hispanic black adults who thought selected statements about AIDS definitely true, by years of education: United States, 1990.

The proportion of non-Hispanic black persons who correctly identified the major modes of AIDS transmission (sexual intercourse, perinatal contact, and shared needles for drug use) was relatively high for all sociodemographic groups, and non-Hispanic black and non-Hispanic white individuals were equally aware of the major modes of HIV transmission. For other facts about AIDS, education differentials were evident in both racial groups. Variations in general knowledge about AIDS also occurred by age with adults 50 years of age and over consistently less likely to identify correctly selected statements about AIDS and the AIDS virus as definitely true or false.

Figure 2 illustrates the differences in objective measures of general knowledge about AIDS by education level within the non-Hispanic black population (corresponding proportions for the non-Hispanic white population are in parentheses). In general, persons with less than 12 years of school were not

as knowledgeable about some of the basic facts about AIDS than were those persons with 12 or more years of school, regardless of race. For example, the proportion of non-Hispanic black adults who knew that AIDS can reduce the body's natural protection against disease varied from 43 percent of individuals with less than 12 years of education to 83 percent of those with more than 12 years of education. Furthermore, less than half (44 percent) of non-Hispanic black adults with under 12 years of education thought that a person can be infected with the AIDS virus and not have the disease AIDS compared with almost three-quarters (73 percent) of those adults with more than 12 years of education.

A new questionnaire item was added to the general AIDS knowledge section in the 1990 survey to ascertain responses to the statement that there are drugs available which can extend the life of an HIV-infected person. There was a positive association between the

proportion of non-Hispanic black adults answering this statement correctly and the education level of the respondent. As illustrated in figure 2, similar education patterns were found for non-Hispanic white adults (with respective percentages in parentheses).

*Misperceptions about HIV transmission*—The NHIS AIDS questionnaire asked respondents to estimate the risk of HIV transmission associated with several forms of casual contact with HIV-infected or potentially infected individuals, such as working near someone with AIDS or sharing eating utensils with an HIV-infected person. Of the five response options for the likelihood of transmission, both "very unlikely" and "definitely not possible" were interpreted as correct responses, even for forms of contact where our current understanding of the virus indicates that there is definitely no possibility of transmission. The decision to accept "very unlikely" as correct was based on the large

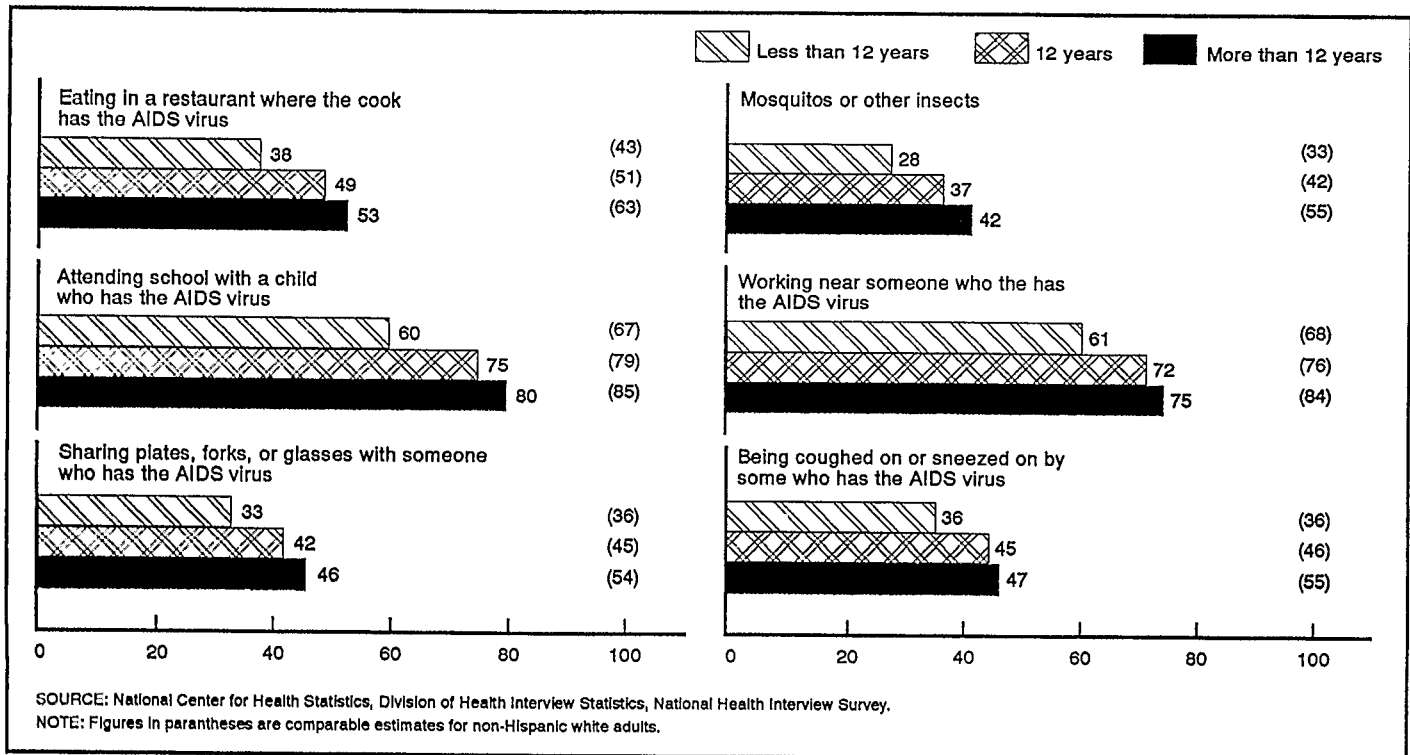


Figure 3. Provisional estimates of percent of non-Hispanic black adults who thought it very unlikely or definitely not possible to become infected with the AIDS virus in selected ways, by years of education: United States, 1990.

numbers of respondents who chose that option, seemingly unwilling to commit themselves to the concept of a zero probability.

Despite the generally high levels of understanding about the three major modes of transmission of AIDS, misperceptions about the likelihood of transmission through casual contact persisted, with particularly striking racial differences consistent across most questions in this section. Figure 3 shows the proportions of non-Hispanic black adults, by education level and race, who correctly identified the low or nonexistent risks associated with various forms of casual contact with HIV-infected persons. As the level of education rises, the proportion of adults with misperceptions about HIV transmission declines. However, racial differences remain even among the most educated. For example, 75 percent of non-Hispanic black adults with more than 12 years of education thought it very unlikely or definitely not possible to become infected with the AIDS virus from "working near someone with the AIDS virus" compared with 84

percent of non-Hispanic white adults with more than 12 years of education.

The forms of contact perceived as most threatening by both non-Hispanic black and white individuals were those that involved potential exchange of saliva or blood. Only 46 percent of non-Hispanic black adults with more than 12 years of education thought it very unlikely or definitely not possible to get AIDS or the AIDS virus from sharing plates, forks, or glasses with an infected individual; for non-Hispanic white adults, the comparable proportion was 54 percent. Less than half of either non-Hispanic black (36 percent) or non-Hispanic white (46 percent) adults correctly identified the very low to nonexistent risk of becoming infected with the AIDS virus from mosquitoes or other insects.

From 1988–90, there were several noticeable increases in the proportion of black individuals (all black adults in 1988 and non-Hispanic black adults in 1990) who correctly identified the low risk of casual transmission of the AIDS virus. Fifty-nine percent of black adults in 1988 considered it very unlikely or definitely not possible

to contract the AIDS virus by working near an AIDS-infected individual compared with 69 percent of non-Hispanic black adults in 1990. The next largest increase over time occurred for those correctly assessing the low risk of AIDS transmission associated with eating in a restaurant where the cook has the AIDS virus: rising from 38 percent of black adults in 1988 to 47 percent of non-Hispanic black adults in 1990. Relatively smaller increases occurred for whites (all whites in 1988 and non-Hispanic whites in 1990) over time in misperceptions of AIDS transmission.

*Blood donation and HIV testing*—Approximately one-third of non-Hispanic black adults indicated that they had ever donated blood. Non-Hispanic black males were twice as likely as non-Hispanic black females to have been previous blood donors (46 percent compared with 23 percent); the proportion who reported ever donating also increased by years of education. Non-Hispanic white adults were more likely than non-Hispanic black adults to have reported ever donating blood (43 percent). The demographic patterns of blood donation noted

among the non-Hispanic black population were also seen in the non-Hispanic white population.

Twelve percent of non-Hispanic black adults reported donating blood since March 1985 when routine screening of donated blood for HIV antibodies began. Of the 12 percent, one-third donated only once and the remainder donated on two or more occasions. Again, blood donations increased with education and were more common among males than females. Seventeen percent of non-Hispanic white adults donated blood since March 1985. The proportion of these who were one-time donors was about the same as in the non-Hispanic black donor population. Four percent of non-Hispanic black adults and 7 percent of non-Hispanic white adults donated blood in the past year. For each group, most had donated only once and the same pattern of increased donations by education was noted.

About two-thirds (68 percent) of non-Hispanic black adults had heard of the blood test to detect HIV antibodies. This is similar to the 66 percent of all black adults who had heard of the test in 1988. The percent who were aware of the test varied greatly by age and education. Only 52 percent of non-Hispanic black persons 50 years and over had heard of the test compared with 72 to 75 percent of younger non-Hispanic black adults. The proportion who had heard of the test ranged from 51 percent of those with less than 12 years of education to 84 percent of those with more than 12 years. Awareness of the antibody test was higher among non-Hispanic white adults (81 percent). This figure was only slightly higher than that reported in 1988 for all white adults (78 percent). The same patterns of awareness by age and education were also noted among non-Hispanic white persons, but within all socio-demographic categories, awareness was higher among non-Hispanic white adults than among non-Hispanic black adults.

Only about half (53 percent) of non-Hispanic black adults believe that

blood donations are routinely tested for HIV-infection. This figure is about the same as that reported in 1988 for all black adults (55 percent). Again, this figure varied widely by years of education from 35 percent of those with less than 12 years to 70 percent of those with more than 12 years of education. A higher proportion of non-Hispanic white adults (71 percent) knew that blood donations are screened. Some of this difference is attributable to the lower percentage of non-Hispanic black adults who knew of the HIV antibody test compared with non-Hispanic white adults. However, even among those aware of the HIV test, non-Hispanic black persons were still less likely than non-Hispanic white persons to believe that donations are tested.

In 1990, a question was added to the survey to assess what percentage of those who had donated blood since HIV screening began in 1985 did so, at least in part, to be tested for AIDS. For non-Hispanic black adults who had donated during that time, the figure was 8 percent. For non-Hispanic black male donors, the figure was 12 percent, much higher than that reported by their female counterparts (2 percent). Two percent of non-Hispanic white donors indicated that testing was one of the reasons for their donation. In this group, males were not any more likely to indicate they had donated to be tested than females.

Excluding testing performed as part of blood donation, 14 percent of non-Hispanic black adults reported that they had been tested for antibodies to HIV. For non-Hispanic white adults the figure was lower, 9 percent. The difference between these two racial and ethnic groups is even more striking when one considers that fewer non-Hispanic black adults were aware of HIV testing. About one-fifth (21 percent) of non-Hispanic black persons who were aware of the antibody test have been tested compared with 11 percent of knowledgeable non-Hispanic white adults. In both groups, testing increased with years of education and was highest among those 18 to 29

years of age compared with older adults. If testing through blood donation is also included, then overall 24 percent of non-Hispanic black and 24 percent of non-Hispanic white adults have been tested for antibodies to HIV. These figures are higher than those seen in 1988: 14 percent of all black adults tested and 17 percent of all white adults tested.

The remainder of this section deals only with HIV antibody testing exclusive of testing that occurs as part of blood donation. For both non-Hispanic black and white adults, the majority (71 percent and 67 percent, respectively) who had been tested, had been tested only once. This was particularly true for those tested in the past year.

When the circumstances for testing were examined, differences between non-Hispanic black and white adults were notable. For non-Hispanic black adults tested, 51 percent had done so voluntarily, while 44 percent indicated that their testing was required. For non-Hispanic white adults who had been tested, these figures were nearly reversed: 43 percent were tested voluntarily and 52 percent had required testing. For non-Hispanic black individuals, the most commonly cited reason for required testing was military induction or service (11 percent of all those tested and 20 percent of non-Hispanic black men tested). This was followed by hospitalization or surgery (10 percent) and employment (9 percent). Life insurance was mentioned by only 3 percent of non-Hispanic black persons tested. For non-Hispanic white adults, the reasons were somewhat different. Hospitalization or surgery was cited most often (12 percent), military induction was next (11 percent), followed by life insurance (10 percent), and employment (7 percent). Similar figures were noted for the proportion of tests required and the reasons mentioned for required testing when only the last HIV antibody test was focused on.

The two most frequently reported places for the last antibody test for

both non-Hispanic black and white adults were doctor's office or HMO (listed by 28 percent of non-Hispanic black adults and 31 percent of non-Hispanic white adults), and hospital, emergency room or outpatient clinic (mentioned by 23 percent and 26 percent, respectively). The third most common site among non-Hispanic black persons tested was a public health department (mentioned by 12 percent) followed by military induction site (11 percent). In non-Hispanic white adults, the order of these two places was reversed with military induction site reported as the place of testing by 11 percent and public health departments by 6 percent.

Of non-Hispanic black adults who were tested, 52 percent reported receiving counseling about AIDS and the meaning of the test before testing. This figure was lower for non-Hispanic white adults tested (38 percent). The majority of both non-Hispanic black and white persons who were tested got their results (80 percent and 75 percent, respectively). Those who did not get their results may include some individuals whose results were not yet available at the time of interview. For both racial and ethnic groups, about one-third of those who had not gotten their results indicated that they did want them. Less than half of non-Hispanic black adults who got their results (43 percent) indicated that they also received post-test counseling about risk reduction and/or prevention of HIV transmission. For non-Hispanic white persons who were tested and got their results, the percentage who also received post-test counseling was much lower at 24 percent. Non-Hispanic black adults were more likely to have received their results in person (68 percent) when compared with white persons (58 percent), while non-Hispanic white persons were more likely than non-Hispanic black persons to have received their results in the mail (19 percent compared with 12 percent). Sixteen percent of both groups got their results over the telephone. This larger proportion of

non-Hispanic black adults who got their results in person may help explain the larger proportion who also received post-test counseling. Over 90 percent of both non-Hispanic black and white adults who were tested felt their results were handled properly in terms of confidentiality.

Fourteen percent of non-Hispanic black adults reported that they plan to be tested for HIV-infection in the next year. By age, this figure ranged from 22 percent of those age 18 to 29 years to 5 percent of those over 49 years. Non-Hispanic black men were more likely than women to plan future testing (17 percent compared with 12 percent). Persons with 12 or more years of education were slightly more likely to indicate future plans than those with less than 12 years (16 percent compared with 11 percent). In comparison, only 5 percent of non-Hispanic white adults reported that they planned to be tested.

Among non-Hispanic black persons with plans to be tested, 82 percent said they would do so voluntarily because they personally wanted to know if they were infected. Eighteen percent said they would be tested as a requirement for a non-military job, and 14 percent as a requirement for health insurance (note: percentages sum to more than 100 percent because respondents may choose more than one reason for being tested). Among non-Hispanic white individuals with plans to be tested, only 58 percent indicated it would be voluntary because they wanted to know their infection status, 28 percent listed blood donation as the reason for their future test, and 13 percent stated it would be a requirement for a nonmilitary job. As with HIV testing that has already been done, a private doctor or HMO was mentioned most often as the site for future HIV testing by both non-Hispanic black and white adults. Public health departments were mentioned by more than twice as many non-Hispanic black adults as white adults (14 percent compared with 6 percent), while non-Hispanic white persons mentioned the American Red Cross or other blood

banks as a site more often than non-Hispanic black persons (12 percent and 3 percent, respectively). This may be a reflection of the larger number of white individuals who plan future testing as part of blood donation.

*Prevention and perceived risk of HIV-infection*—The 1990 NHIS again asked respondents about their perception of the efficacy of condoms as a means of preventing the sexual transmission of the AIDS virus. A similar proportion of non-Hispanic black adults and non-Hispanic white adults rated condoms as "very effective" (28 percent compared with 27 percent). A large shift in response occurred for those rating condoms as "somewhat effective" with non-Hispanic black adults less likely to state this than non-Hispanic white adults (44 percent compared with 54 percent). There was little change between non-Hispanic black respondents in 1990 and all black respondents (Hispanic and non-Hispanic) in 1988 in response to the question of perceived effectiveness of condoms.

Slight changes were evident among sociodemographic groups in the non-Hispanic black population in 1990. The proportion who rated condoms as "very effective" or "somewhat effective" increased by education level and decreased by age. A substantial gender difference also emerged: 35 percent of non-Hispanic black men rated condoms as "very effective" in preventing the transmission of the AIDS virus compared with only 22 percent of non-Hispanic black women.

Five percent of non-Hispanic black individuals reported that they had received a blood transfusion between 1977 and 1985, the period before the blood supply was screened for HIV. Very few differences were evident among sociodemographic or racial groups with respect to this risk.

Overall, 71 percent of non-Hispanic black adults felt there was no chance of their becoming infected with HIV, and 19 percent assessed their chance of infection as low. Four percent felt their risk was medium, and only 1 percent reported

a high risk. Another 1 percent of non-Hispanic black adults felt that there was a high chance that they were already infected with HIV.

Non-Hispanic white persons reported similar levels of perceived risk of AIDS infection: 73 percent felt they had no chance of becoming infected with AIDS, 22 percent felt their chances were low, 3 percent reported a medium chance, and less than 1 percent reported a high chance of becoming infected with AIDS.

A significant gender difference emerged in respondents' perceived risk of AIDS infection: women were more likely than men to report that there was no chance of their having or getting HIV. In addition, perceived risk of infection increased with education but decreased with age for both racial and ethnic groups.

Only 3 percent of non-Hispanic black persons reported being in any of the behavior categories highly associated with an increased risk of HIV-infection and AIDS, a figure similar to previous estimates in 1988 for all black adults (Hispanic and non-Hispanic). Two percent of all non-Hispanic white persons identified themselves as belonging to at least one of the behavior categories. This small proportion was similar across various sociodemographic categories for both non-Hispanic black and white adults.



**Table 1. Provisional estimates of the percent of black persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1990 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, 1990**

[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								
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	
1. How much would you say you know about AIDS?										
A lot	16	19	20	8	17	16	9	16	25	
Some	39	48	45	21	36	41	22	44	50	
A little	27	27	27	28	28	27	28	31	21	
Nothing	17	6	8	42	18	16	41	8	4	
Don't know	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
2. In the past month, have you received information about AIDS from any of these sources? <sup>1</sup>										
Television	77	77	79	75	77	77	73	78	79	
Radio	30	34	33	21	34	27	24	30	37	
Magazines	40	45	44	29	39	41	26	42	52	
Newspapers	45	47	49	38	46	45	33	48	56	
Street signs/billboards	17	24	17	10	19	15	12	17	24	
Store displays/store distributed brochures	11	17	11	6	12	11	8	12	13	
Bus/streetcar/subway displays	10	15	10	5	12	9	7	12	12	
Health department brochures	23	33	24	11	21	25	15	25	29	
Workplace distributed brochures	16	15	21	9	15	16	6	17	24	
School distributed brochures	11	19	10	3	9	12	7	10	15	
Church distributed brochures	8	10	7	6	7	8	6	8	9	
Community organization	8	9	8	5	7	8	5	8	10	
Friend/acquaintance	16	21	18	9	17	16	11	17	20	
Other	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	4	
Don't know	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	
Received no AIDS information in past month	12	9	11	17	13	12	19	10	8	
3. Have you heard the AIDS virus called HIV?										
Yes	70	74	78	54	69	70	52	73	85	
No	27	24	20	40	28	26	43	25	12	
Don't know	3	2	2	7	3	4	5	3	3	
4a. AIDS can reduce the body's natural protection against disease.										
Definitely true	64	68	73	47	66	63	43	68	83	
Probably true	12	12	10	14	11	12	16	12	7	
Probably false	3	3	2	4	2	3	4	3	2	
Definitely false	6	8	5	6	6	7	8	7	3	
Don't know	15	9	9	29	15	15	30	11	5	
4b. AIDS can damage the brain.										
Definitely true	50	48	56	44	51	50	44	52	55	
Probably true	24	23	22	25	23	24	26	23	22	
Probably false	4	6	4	3	4	5	3	4	6	
Definitely false	3	6	3	1	4	3	2	4	4	
Don't know	19	16	15	27	19	19	26	17	13	
4c. AIDS is an infectious disease caused by a virus.										
Definitely true	71	79	77	54	71	71	57	75	80	
Probably true	14	12	12	18	14	13	16	13	12	
Probably false	2	1	2	1	1	2	1	2	1	
Definitely false	2	2	3	2	2	3	2	3	3	
Don't know	12	6	7	25	11	12	23	8	4	
4d. A person can be infected with the AIDS virus and not have the disease AIDS.										
Definitely true	60	65	68	44	57	62	44	63	73	
Probably true	16	15	15	18	16	15	16	17	14	
Probably false	2	3	2	3	3	2	4	2	2	
Definitely false	5	8	5	3	6	4	5	6	4	
Don't know	17	10	11	32	18	16	31	12	7	
4e. ANY person with the AIDS virus can pass it on to someone else through sexual intercourse.										
Definitely true	87	91	91	77	86	88	80	89	92	
Probably true	8	6	6	13	8	7	11	7	6	
Probably false	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	
Definitely false	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	
Don't know	4	2	2	10	4	4	9	2	1	
4f. A pregnant women who has the AIDS virus can give it to her baby.										
Definitely true	85	88	90	75	83	86	77	87	91	
Probably true	10	8	7	14	12	8	13	8	7	
Probably false	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	
Definitely false	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Don't know	5	3	2	11	5	5	10	3	1	

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 1. Provisional estimates of the percent of black persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1990 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, 1990—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	30-49	50 years and over		Male	Female	Less than	More than
		years	years					12 years	12 years
4g. There are drugs available to treat AIDS or the AIDS virus which can lengthen the life of an infected person.	Percent distribution								
Definitely true . . . . .	41	39	48	33	41	41	31	41	52
Probably true . . . . .	23	26	21	21	22	24	20	23	25
Probably false . . . . .	5	7	5	4	5	6	5	7	4
Definitely false . . . . .	10	11	10	9	11	9	10	11	8
Don't know . . . . .	21	18	15	33	21	21	33	18	12
4h. There is a vaccine available to the public that protects a person from getting the AIDS virus.									
Definitely true . . . . .	5	5	6	5	6	5	8	5	4
Probably true . . . . .	6	6	5	6	5	6	7	7	3
Probably false . . . . .	9	11	8	8	8	10	7	10	10
Definitely false . . . . .	57	61	65	44	59	56	43	60	70
Don't know . . . . .	22	17	16	37	21	23	35	19	13
4i. There is no cure for AIDS at present.									
Definitely true . . . . .	81	82	86	73	80	81	74	81	87
Probably true . . . . .	7	8	6	8	7	7	8	8	5
Probably false . . . . .	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	1
Definitely false . . . . .	3	3	2	3	3	2	3	2	3
Don't know . . . . .	8	5	5	14	8	8	13	6	4
5. How likely do you think it is that a person will get AIDS or the AIDS virus infection from—									
5a. Working near someone with the AIDS virus?									
Very likely . . . . .	5	4	5	6	5	5	6	5	3
Somewhat likely . . . . .	7	6	7	8	7	8	9	6	8
Somewhat unlikely . . . . .	9	11	9	8	9	9	7	11	9
Very unlikely . . . . .	36	36	37	34	37	36	33	37	38
Definitely not possible . . . . .	33	38	36	26	34	33	28	35	37
Don't know . . . . .	9	5	6	18	8	10	17	6	4
Very likely . . . . .	10	10	9	10	10	9	13	11	5
Somewhat likely . . . . .	18	17	19	19	20	17	19	17	20
Somewhat unlikely . . . . .	12	15	12	10	12	13	10	13	14
Very unlikely . . . . .	27	25	29	25	26	27	21	28	31
Definitely not possible . . . . .	20	24	21	13	20	20	17	21	22
Don't know . . . . .	13	9	9	23	12	14	21	10	8
5c. Sharing plates, forks, or glasses with someone who has the AIDS virus?									
Very likely . . . . .	14	14	12	16	15	13	17	13	11
Somewhat likely . . . . .	23	22	23	23	23	22	22	22	24
Somewhat unlikely . . . . .	11	12	12	9	11	12	8	13	13
Very unlikely . . . . .	23	22	26	20	23	23	19	23	27
Definitely not possible . . . . .	18	21	19	11	17	18	14	19	19
Don't know . . . . .	12	9	7	20	11	12	20	9	6
5d. Using public toilets?									
Very likely . . . . .	10	10	8	11	9	10	13	11	5
Somewhat likely . . . . .	15	12	15	18	15	15	17	14	15
Somewhat unlikely . . . . .	12	11	13	10	11	12	9	12	13
Very unlikely . . . . .	29	31	31	25	30	29	25	29	34
Definitely not possible . . . . .	23	27	26	16	24	22	17	25	26
Don't know . . . . .	11	8	7	20	10	12	18	9	6
5e. Sharing needles for drug use with someone who has the AIDS virus?									
Very likely . . . . .	93	96	96	88	94	93	89	95	97
Somewhat likely . . . . .	3	2	2	4	2	3	4	3	1
Somewhat unlikely . . . . .	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	—
Very unlikely . . . . .	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1
Definitely not possible . . . . .	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Don't know . . . . .	3	1	1	7	3	3	6	1	1
5f. Being coughed or sneezed on by someone who has the AIDS virus?									
Very likely . . . . .	11	9	11	14	11	11	14	11	9
Somewhat likely . . . . .	20	18	20	22	19	20	21	20	19
Somewhat unlikely . . . . .	13	16	13	10	13	13	9	14	16
Very unlikely . . . . .	26	27	29	21	27	25	22	27	28
Definitely not possible . . . . .	17	22	17	12	17	17	14	18	19
Don't know . . . . .	13	8	10	22	12	14	20	11	8
5g. Attending school with a child who has the AIDS virus?									
Very likely . . . . .	3	3	3	5	3	4	6	3	1
Somewhat likely . . . . .	6	4	6	9	7	6	9	6	5
Somewhat unlikely . . . . .	9	10	9	8	9	9	8	10	9
Very unlikely . . . . .	37	37	39	33	37	36	33	37	42
Definitely not possible . . . . .	35	41	36	26	35	35	27	38	38
Don't know . . . . .	10	5	6	19	9	11	18	7	5

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 1. Provisional estimates of the percent of black persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1990 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, 1990—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									
5h. Mosquitoes or other insects?									
Very likely . . . . .	16	17	15	14	17	14	19	15	13
Somewhat likely . . . . .	22	23	22	20	23	21	21	22	22
Somewhat unlikely . . . . .	7	7	7	6	6	7	5	8	8
Very unlikely . . . . .	20	21	20	18	20	19	18	19	23
Definitely not possible . . . . .	16	17	18	12	15	16	10	18	19
Don't know . . . . .	20	14	18	29	18	22	27	19	15
8. Have you ever discussed AIDS with any of your children aged 10-17? <sup>2</sup>									
Yes . . . . .	69	64	72	56	56	79	60	71	77
No . . . . .	31	36	28	44	44	20	40	29	23
Don't know . . . . .	0	-	0	-	-	0	-	0	-
9. Have any or all of your children aged 10-17 had instruction at school about AIDS? <sup>2</sup>									
Yes . . . . .	75	67	77	72	71	79	73	75	79
No . . . . .	8	18	8	5	6	10	7	9	9
Don't know . . . . .	17	15	16	23	24	11	20	17	12
10. Have you ever donated blood?									
Yes . . . . .	33	28	36	33	46	23	27	30	43
No . . . . .	67	72	63	66	54	77	72	70	57
Don't know . . . . .	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
11a. Have you donated blood since March 1985?									
Yes . . . . .	12	19	14	3	16	9	6	13	19
No . . . . .	87	81	85	96	83	90	93	86	80
Don't know . . . . .	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
11b. Have you donated blood in the past 12 months?									
Yes . . . . .	4	6	5	1	5	3	1	4	7
No . . . . .	95	94	95	98	94	97	98	95	93
Don't know . . . . .	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
12. How many times have you donated blood since March 1985?									
Once . . . . .	4	7	5	1	5	4	2	5	6
Twice . . . . .	3	5	3	1	5	2	2	3	5
Three times or more . . . . .	5	6	6	1	7	3	2	4	8
Don't know . . . . .	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Did not donate blood since March 1985 <sup>3</sup> . . . . .	88	81	86	97	84	91	94	87	81
13. How many times have you donated blood in the past 12 months?									
Once . . . . .	3	5	3	0	3	2	1	3	4
Twice . . . . .	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	1
Three times or more . . . . .	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
Don't know . . . . .	0	-	0	-	-	0	-	0	-
Did not donate blood in the past 12 months <sup>4</sup> . . . . .	96	94	95	99	95	97	99	96	93
14. Have you ever heard of a blood test that can detect the AIDS virus infection?									
Yes . . . . .	68	72	75	52	68	67	51	70	84
No . . . . .	30	26	23	43	30	30	45	28	15
Don't know . . . . .	3	2	2	5	3	2	4	2	1
15. To the best of your knowledge, are blood donations routinely tested for the AIDS virus infection?									
Yes . . . . .	53	57	61	36	53	53	35	54	70
No . . . . .	6	7	7	5	7	6	6	7	7
Don't know . . . . .	8	8	7	10	8	9	10	9	7
Never heard of test <sup>5</sup> . . . . .	32	28	25	48	32	33	49	30	16
16. Was one of your reasons for donating blood because you wanted to be tested for the AIDS virus infection? <sup>6</sup>									
Yes . . . . .	8	10	6	2	12	2	6	10	7
No . . . . .	64	60	69	65	59	72	50	54	78
Don't know . . . . .	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Never heard of test <sup>5</sup> . . . . .	17	16	17	23	15	19	33	20	8
17. Except for blood donations since 1985, have you had your blood tested for the AIDS virus infection?									
Yes . . . . .	14	20	16	5	16	13	9	14	20
No . . . . .	51	50	57	45	50	52	40	53	61
Don't know . . . . .	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Never heard of test <sup>5</sup> . . . . .	32	28	25	48	32	33	49	30	16
18. How many times have you had your blood tested for the AIDS virus infection, not including blood donations?									
Once . . . . .	10	13	11	4	10	9	6	10	12
Twice . . . . .	2	4	2	1	3	2	1	2	4
Three times or more . . . . .	2	4	3	0	3	2	2	2	3
Don't know . . . . .	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	0	0
Never heard of/had test <sup>7</sup> . . . . .	86	80	84	95	84	87	91	86	80

See footnotes at end to table.

**Table 1. Provisional estimates of the percent of black persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1990 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, 1990—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								
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 . . . . .	6	6	8	2	7	5	3	6	9
Once . . . . .	7	11	7	3	7	7	5	7	9
Twice . . . . .	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	2
Three times or more . . . . .	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	1
Don't know . . . . .	0	—	0	—	—	0	0	0	—
Never heard of/had test <sup>7</sup> . . . . .	86	80	84	95	84	87	91	86	80
20a. Were the blood tests, including those you had before the past 12 months, required or did you go for them voluntarily, or were there some of each? <sup>8</sup>									
All required . . . . .	44	49	40	43	46	42	43	46	43
All volunteered . . . . .	51	47	53	57	49	53	55	50	50
Some of each . . . . .	3	4	4	—	5	2	2	2	6
Don't know . . . . .	1	1	2	—	0	2	1	2	0
20b. Were any of the blood tests required for: <sup>8</sup>									
Hospitalization or a surgical procedure? . . . . .	10	11	8	13	5	15	15	8	10
Health insurance? . . . . .	1	2	1	2	2	1	1	2	1
Life insurance? . . . . .	3	2	5	—	4	2	—	2	5
Employment? . . . . .	9	7	12	6	12	7	6	11	9
Military induction or military service? . . . . .	11	15	9	0	20	2	6	15	10
Immigration? . . . . .	2	1	3	3	1	3	3	2	2
Other . . . . .	14	17	9	22	10	17	14	13	14
Don't know . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
21. When was your last blood test for the AIDS virus infection? <sup>8</sup>									
1990 . . . . .	33	35	29	40	32	34	41	32	30
1989 . . . . .	38	41	36	34	36	39	40	39	35
1988 . . . . .	14	14	15	8	12	15	10	12	18
1987 . . . . .	8	4	12	10	10	7	3	8	10
1986 . . . . .	3	4	3	3	5	1	3	4	3
1985 . . . . .	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1
Don't know . . . . .	2	0	3	5	2	2	1	3	2
22a. Was your last test required or did you go for it voluntarily? <sup>8</sup>									
Required . . . . .	46	51	42	42	49	42	44	46	46
Voluntary . . . . .	52	48	55	58	50	54	55	50	53
Don't know . . . . .	1	1	2	—	0	2	1	2	0
22b. Was the test required for: <sup>8</sup>									
Hospitalization or a surgical procedure? . . . . .	8	9	7	13	5	11	14	7	8
Health insurance? . . . . .	1	1	0	1	1	1	—	1	1
Life insurance? . . . . .	2	1	4	—	3	2	—	1	4
Employment? . . . . .	9	7	12	6	12	6	6	11	8
Military induction or military service? . . . . .	11	14	9	0	19	2	5	14	9
Immigration? . . . . .	2	1	3	3	1	3	3	2	2
Other . . . . .	14	18	8	22	9	18	17	12	13
Don't know . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
23. Not including a blood donation, where was your last blood test for the AIDS virus done? <sup>8</sup>									
AIDS clinic/counseling/testing site . . . . .	4	2	5	3	5	2	3	4	4
Clinic run by employer . . . . .	5	7	4	6	6	4	5	6	6
Doctor/HMO . . . . .	28	24	32	34	24	32	23	26	33
Public health department . . . . .	12	14	13	3	12	13	23	12	8
Hospital/emergency room/outpatient clinic . . . . .	23	21	22	39	17	29	27	23	22
STD clinic . . . . .	0	0	1	1	0	0	—	1	1
Family planning clinic . . . . .	1	1	0	—	1	1	1	1	0
Prenatal clinic . . . . .	1	2	—	—	0	2	2	2	0
Tuberculosis clinic . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other clinic . . . . .	6	7	5	6	6	6	7	4	7
Drug treatment facility . . . . .	0	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Military induction/service site . . . . .	11	14	9	0	19	2	4	14	10
Immigration site . . . . .	1	—	2	—	1	1	1	0	1
Other . . . . .	6	5	5	7	6	5	6	5	6
Don't know . . . . .	0	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
24. Before your last blood test for the AIDS virus infection, were you counseled about the AIDS virus and the meaning of the test? <sup>8</sup>									
Yes . . . . .	52	54	49	54	56	48	54	50	53
No . . . . .	47	45	49	46	43	50	46	48	46
Don't know . . . . .	0	0	1	—	0	1	0	1	—
25. Did you get the results of your last test? <sup>8</sup>									
Yes . . . . .	80	79	79	85	82	78	80	79	81
No . . . . .	19	20	19	13	18	20	18	19	19
Don't know . . . . .	0	—	0	2	—	1	1	0	—

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 1. Provisional estimates of the percent of black persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1990 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, 1990—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	30-49	50 years	Male	Female	Less than	12 years	More than
		years	years	and over			12 years		12 years
Percent distribution									
26. Did you want the results of your last test? <sup>9</sup>									
Yes . . . . .	35	40	33	23	38	33	36	35	35
No . . . . .	51	42	56	71	50	51	46	51	52
Don't know . . . . .	14	18	12	6	13	15	18	14	13
27. When you received the results of your last test, did you receive counseling or talk with a health professional about how to lower your chances of becoming infected with the AIDS virus or how to avoid passing it on to another person? <sup>10</sup>									
Yes . . . . .	43	44	43	39	46	40	46	44	41
No . . . . .	56	55	57	59	53	60	54	55	59
Don't know . . . . .	0	0	—	2	1	0	—	1	—
28. Were the results given in person, by telephone, by mail, or in some other way? <sup>10</sup>									
In person . . . . .	68	72	65	63	65	71	78	71	61
By telephone . . . . .	12	10	14	12	10	15	9	9	16
By mail . . . . .	16	14	19	11	20	12	4	17	19
Other . . . . .	4	3	2	11	5	2	8	2	4
Don't know . . . . .	0	—	—	2	0	—	—	1	—
29. Do you feel your last test for the AIDS virus infection was handled properly in terms of the confidentiality of your test results? <sup>8</sup>									
Yes . . . . .	92	92	93	92	93	92	93	93	92
No . . . . .	3	3	3	5	5	1	4	3	3
Don't know . . . . .	3	4	3	3	2	5	3	2	5
30. Do you expect to have a blood test for the AIDS virus infection in the next 12 months?									
Yes . . . . .	14	22	15	5	17	12	11	16	16
No . . . . .	47	43	54	41	44	49	34	48	60
Don't know . . . . .	6	7	7	5	6	6	5	6	8
Never heard of test <sup>5</sup> . . . . .	32	28	25	48	32	33	49	30	16
31. Tell me which of these statements explain why you will have the blood test: <sup>11</sup>									
Voluntarily, because you personally want to know if you are infected . . . . .	82	80	82	87	80	84	90	83	74
As part of a blood donation . . . . .	16	17	17	12	18	15	13	16	20
As part of a hospitalization or surgical procedure . . . . .	12	13	9	17	11	13	13	11	11
As a requirement for health insurance . . . . .	14	16	12	15	16	12	14	13	16
As a requirement for life insurance . . . . .	12	15	9	12	14	10	13	11	14
As a requirement for a job, other than military . . . . .	18	18	19	15	22	14	16	18	20
As a requirement for the military . . . . .	11	15	7	4	15	6	7	12	11
As a requirement for immigration . . . . .	3	3	3	4	4	3	4	3	3
As a required part of some other activity that includes a blood sample and automatic AIDS testing . . . . .	14	15	15	9	13	15	13	13	16
32. Where will you go to have a blood test for the AIDS virus infection? <sup>11</sup>									
AIDS clinic/counseling/testing site . . . . .	3	3	2	—	3	2	1	4	2
Clinic run by employer . . . . .	5	5	5	7	6	4	1	6	7
Doctor/HMO . . . . .	37	30	41	54	31	44	36	35	40
Hospital/emergency room/outpatient clinic . . . . .	21	21	21	21	20	22	26	23	13
Other clinic . . . . .	9	10	7	8	10	7	7	8	11
Public health department . . . . .	14	17	12	7	13	14	20	12	11
Red Cross/blood bank . . . . .	3	3	4	2	5	2	2	3	5
Other . . . . .	6	8	5	—	10	2	1	7	9
Don't know . . . . .	3	3	3	1	3	3	7	2	1
33. Did you have a blood transfusion at any time between 1977 and 1985?									
Yes . . . . .	5	2	7	7	4	6	6	4	6
No . . . . .	94	98	93	92	95	93	93	95	94
Don't know . . . . .	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
34. Do you think the present supply of blood is safe for transfusions?									
Yes . . . . .	36	37	40	29	41	32	30	35	44
No . . . . .	38	42	37	35	33	42	39	41	34
Don't know . . . . .	26	21	23	36	26	27	31	25	23
35. How effective do you think the use of a condom is to prevent getting the AIDS virus through sexual activity?									
Very effective . . . . .	28	33	29	20	35	22	23	30	31
Somewhat effective . . . . .	44	44	49	36	41	46	32	48	51
Not at all effective . . . . .	6	7	6	5	5	7	8	6	5
Don't know how effective . . . . .	19	14	14	30	16	21	31	14	11
Don't know method . . . . .	4	2	2	8	3	4	7	3	2
36. What are your chances of having the AIDS virus?									
High . . . . .	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1
Medium . . . . .	4	5	4	2	5	3	3	4	4
Low . . . . .	15	19	18	9	17	14	8	17	21
None . . . . .	76	73	74	83	72	79	80	76	72
Don't know . . . . .	4	2	4	6	4	3	7	3	2

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 1. Provisional estimates of the percent of black persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1990 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, 1990—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								
37. What are your chances of getting the AIDS virus?									
High . . . . .	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1
Medium . . . . .	4	6	4	2	5	4	3	4	5
Low . . . . .	19	23	21	11	21	16	11	19	26
None . . . . .	71	65	68	81	67	74	76	72	65
Don't know . . . . .	4	3	4	5	4	4	7	3	3
N/A—High chance of already having the AIDS virus. . . . .	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1
38. Have you ever personally known anyone with AIDS or the AIDS virus?									
Yes . . . . .	18	16	23	13	16	19	11	16	27
No . . . . .	80	82	75	84	81	79	86	81	70
Don't know . . . . .	2	2	2	3	3	2	3	2	2
39. Are 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 (39 a-d).									
f. You have had sex for money or drugs at any time since 1977.									
Yes to at least 1 statement . . . . .	3	4	5	1	4	3	2	4	4
No to all statements . . . . .	96	95	95	99	95	97	97	96	96
Don't know . . . . .	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	—

<sup>1</sup>Multiple responses may sum to more than 100.

<sup>2</sup>Based on persons answering yes to question 6, "Do you have any children aged 10 through 17?" Question 7 was "How many do you have?"

<sup>3</sup>Persons answering no or don't know to question 10 or 11a.

<sup>4</sup>Persons answering no or don't know to question 10, 11a, or 11b.

<sup>5</sup>Persons answering no or don't know to question 14.

<sup>6</sup>Based on persons answering yes to question 11a.

<sup>7</sup>Persons answering no or don't know to questions 14 or 17.

<sup>8</sup>Based on persons answering yes to question 17.

<sup>9</sup>Persons answering no or don't know to question 25.

<sup>10</sup>Based on persons answering yes to question 25.

<sup>11</sup>Based on persons answering yes to question 30.

**Table 2. Provisional estimates of the percent of white non-Hispanic persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1990 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, 1990**

[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									
Total . . . . .	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1. How much would you say you know about AIDS?									
A lot . . . . .	19	23	23	13	18	19	9	14	28
Some . . . . .	49	57	56	36	48	50	31	51	55
A little . . . . .	23	18	19	31	24	22	32	28	15
Nothing . . . . .	9	2	2	20	9	9	28	7	2
Don't know . . . . .	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2. In the past month, have you received information about AIDS from any of these sources? <sup>1</sup>									
Television . . . . .	78	79	78	77	79	77	74	78	79
Radio . . . . .	31	37	34	23	35	27	21	29	37
Magazines . . . . .	44	48	48	37	42	46	27	41	54
Newspapers . . . . .	56	51	59	55	57	54	39	54	65
Street signs/billboards . . . . .	11	16	12	6	12	9	6	9	14
Store displays/store distributed brochures . . . . .	6	10	6	4	7	6	4	6	7
Bus/streetcar/subway displays . . . . .	3	5	4	2	4	3	2	2	5
Health department brochures . . . . .	17	24	17	11	16	18	11	16	20
Workplace distributed brochures . . . . .	11	12	16	6	11	11	4	10	16
School distributed brochures . . . . .	8	14	9	3	7	9	5	6	11
Church distributed brochures . . . . .	4	3	4	3	4	3	2	3	4
Community organization . . . . .	4	5	5	3	4	4	2	4	6
Friend/acquaintance . . . . .	12	19	13	7	12	12	9	11	14
Other . . . . .	3	4	4	2	3	3	1	2	5
Don't know . . . . .	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	0
Received no AIDS information in past month . . . . .	11	9	10	14	11	12	17	11	8
3. Have you heard the AIDS virus called HIV?									
Yes . . . . .	76	82	83	63	75	76	52	73	88
No . . . . .	22	17	15	33	23	21	44	25	11
Don't know . . . . .	2	1	1	4	2	2	5	2	1
4a. AIDS can reduce the body's natural protection against disease.									
Definitely true . . . . .	82	87	89	70	82	81	58	81	92
Probably true . . . . .	9	8	7	13	9	9	16	11	5
Probably false . . . . .	1	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	0
Definitely false . . . . .	1	1	1	2	1	2	3	2	0
Don't know . . . . .	7	3	2	13	6	7	20	6	2
4b. AIDS can damage the brain.									
Definitely true . . . . .	42	40	44	42	43	42	39	42	44
Probably true . . . . .	26	27	25	26	26	26	28	28	23
Probably false . . . . .	8	11	9	5	8	8	4	7	10
Definitely false . . . . .	4	6	5	2	5	4	3	3	6
Don't know . . . . .	19	16	16	25	18	21	27	20	16
4c. AIDS is an infectious disease caused by a virus.									
Definitely true . . . . .	70	80	78	56	72	68	54	68	79
Probably true . . . . .	15	12	12	19	14	15	19	16	12
Probably false . . . . .	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	3	2
Definitely false . . . . .	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Don't know . . . . .	10	4	5	19	9	11	21	10	5
4d. A person can be infected with the AIDS virus and not have the disease AIDS.									
Definitely true . . . . .	68	74	76	55	67	68	48	65	79
Probably true . . . . .	16	14	14	20	17	16	20	18	13
Probably false . . . . .	3	3	2	3	3	2	4	3	2
Definitely false . . . . .	3	4	2	2	3	2	3	3	2
Don't know . . . . .	11	6	6	20	11	11	26	11	5
4e. ANY person with the AIDS virus can pass it on to someone else through sexual intercourse.									
Definitely true . . . . .	88	93	91	82	87	89	82	88	90
Probably true . . . . .	9	6	7	12	10	8	10	9	8
Probably false . . . . .	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
Definitely false . . . . .	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Don't know . . . . .	3	1	1	5	3	3	7	2	1
4f. A pregnant women who has the AIDS virus can give it to her baby.									
Definitely true . . . . .	86	90	89	80	84	88	77	86	90
Probably true . . . . .	10	8	8	13	12	8	14	10	8
Probably false . . . . .	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Definitely false . . . . .	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Don't know . . . . .	4	2	2	6	4	3	8	3	2

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 2. Provisional estimates of the percent of white non-Hispanic persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1990 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, 1990—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	30-49	50 years and over		Less than 12 years		More than 12 years	
		years	years	and over	Male	Female	12 years	12 years	12 years
4g. There are drugs available to treat AIDS or the AIDS virus which can lengthen the life of an infected person.	Percent distribution								
Definitely true . . . . .	48	51	53	40	48	47	34	44	57
Probably true . . . . .	27	26	27	29	27	27	25	30	26
Probably false . . . . .	6	7	5	5	6	5	6	6	5
Definitely false . . . . .	5	7	5	4	6	4	6	5	4
Don't know . . . . .	14	10	9	22	13	15	30	15	7
4h. There is a vaccine available to the public that protects a person from getting the AIDS virus.									
Definitely true . . . . .	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	2
Probably true . . . . .	3	3	2	3	3	3	5	3	2
Probably false . . . . .	10	10	9	11	10	10	11	11	9
Definitely false . . . . .	72	76	79	61	74	70	54	70	81
Don't know . . . . .	14	9	8	23	12	16	28	15	7
4i. There is no cure for AIDS at present.									
Definitely true . . . . .	87	90	91	82	87	87	78	87	92
Probably true . . . . .	6	5	5	8	6	6	8	7	5
Probably false . . . . .	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Definitely false . . . . .	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	1
Don't know . . . . .	4	2	2	7	4	4	10	4	2
5. How likely do you think it is that a person will get AIDS or the AIDS virus infection from—									
5a. Working near someone with the AIDS virus?									
Very likely . . . . .	2	1	2	3	2	2	3	2	1
Somewhat likely . . . . .	6	5	5	6	6	5	7	6	4
Somewhat unlikely . . . . .	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	10	8
Very unlikely . . . . .	42	42	43	41	43	41	38	41	44
Definitely not possible . . . . .	36	41	39	31	35	38	30	35	40
Don't know . . . . .	5	2	3	10	5	5	13	5	2
5b. Eating in a restaurant where the cook has the AIDS virus?									
Very likely . . . . .	5	4	5	6	5	5	8	6	3
Somewhat likely . . . . .	18	18	17	18	18	17	20	20	15
Somewhat unlikely . . . . .	13	15	14	12	14	13	11	13	14
Very unlikely . . . . .	34	36	37	30	34	34	26	32	39
Definitely not possible . . . . .	21	23	22	18	20	21	17	19	24
Don't know . . . . .	9	4	6	16	8	10	19	10	5
5c. Sharing plates, forks, or glasses with someone who has the AIDS virus?									
Very likely . . . . .	10	8	10	11	10	10	13	11	7
Somewhat likely . . . . .	21	19	21	22	22	20	23	22	19
Somewhat unlikely . . . . .	14	16	14	13	14	13	11	14	15
Very unlikely . . . . .	29	32	31	25	30	29	22	28	34
Definitely not possible . . . . .	18	22	19	14	17	19	14	17	20
Don't know . . . . .	8	4	5	14	8	9	17	8	5
5d. Using public toilets?									
Very likely . . . . .	5	4	4	6	4	5	8	5	3
Somewhat likely . . . . .	12	11	11	15	12	13	17	14	9
Somewhat unlikely . . . . .	12	13	12	11	12	12	10	13	12
Very unlikely . . . . .	37	37	40	34	39	36	28	36	42
Definitely not possible . . . . .	26	30	29	20	26	26	19	24	31
Don't know . . . . .	7	4	4	13	7	8	16	7	4
5e. Sharing needles for drug use with someone who has the AIDS virus?									
Very likely . . . . .	96	98	98	93	96	96	91	97	98
Somewhat likely . . . . .	2	1	1	3	2	2	3	2	1
Somewhat unlikely . . . . .	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Very unlikely . . . . .	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Definitely not possible . . . . .	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Don't know . . . . .	2	0	0	4	1	2	5	1	1
5f. Being coughed or sneezed on by someone who has the AIDS virus?									
Very likely . . . . .	8	6	7	10	7	8	11	8	6
Somewhat likely . . . . .	20	17	19	23	20	20	21	21	18
Somewhat unlikely . . . . .	15	16	16	13	15	14	12	14	16
Very unlikely . . . . .	31	35	34	26	32	30	23	30	36
Definitely not possible . . . . .	17	21	18	12	16	17	13	16	19
Don't know . . . . .	10	5	6	17	9	11	19	10	5
5g. Attending school with a child who has the AIDS virus?									
Very likely . . . . .	1	1	1	2	1	1	3	1	1
Somewhat likely . . . . .	5	4	4	6	5	4	7	5	4
Somewhat unlikely . . . . .	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	8
Very unlikely . . . . .	43	43	45	42	44	42	37	43	46
Definitely not possible . . . . .	36	43	38	30	35	37	30	36	39
Don't know . . . . .	6	1	3	12	5	6	15	5	2

See footnotes at end of table.



**Table 2. Provisional estimates of the percent of white non-Hispanic persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1990 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, 1990—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	30-49	50 years	Male	Female	Less than	More than	
		years	years	and over			12 years	12 years	12 years
Percent distribution									
5h. Mosquitoes or other insects?									
Very likely . . . . .	9	10	8	8	10	8	12	10	6
Somewhat likely . . . . .	18	21	17	16	19	17	20	20	15
Somewhat unlikely . . . . .	8	10	9	7	9	8	6	8	10
Very unlikely . . . . .	26	26	28	24	27	25	20	24	31
Definitely not possible . . . . .	20	20	22	18	19	21	13	18	24
Don't know . . . . .	19	13	15	26	17	21	28	20	14
8. Have you ever discussed AIDS with any of your children aged 10-17? <sup>2</sup>									
Yes . . . . .	69	58	71	62	58	80	58	66	76
No . . . . .	31	41	29	37	42	20	42	34	24
Don't know . . . . .	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
9. Have any or all of your children aged 10-17 had instruction at school about AIDS? <sup>2</sup>									
Yes . . . . .	74	60	74	74	70	77	66	73	76
No . . . . .	9	19	9	7	8	10	13	10	8
Don't know . . . . .	17	21	17	18	22	13	21	17	16
10. Have you ever donated blood?									
Yes . . . . .	43	36	46	43	54	32	31	38	52
No . . . . .	57	64	54	56	45	68	69	62	48
Don't know . . . . .	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11a. Have you donated blood since March 1985?									
Yes . . . . .	17	26	21	8	21	13	7	15	24
No . . . . .	82	74	79	92	78	86	92	85	76
Don't know . . . . .	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1
11b. Have you donated blood in the past 12 months?									
Yes . . . . .	7	11	9	3	9	5	3	6	10
No . . . . .	92	89	90	96	90	94	97	93	89
Don't know . . . . .	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	1
12. How many times have you donated blood since March 1985?									
Once . . . . .	5	10	5	2	5	5	3	5	6
Twice . . . . .	3	5	4	1	4	2	1	3	4
Three times or more . . . . .	9	11	12	4	11	6	3	7	13
Don't know . . . . .	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Did not donate blood since March 1985 <sup>3</sup> . . . . .	83	74	79	92	79	87	93	85	76
13. How many times have you donated blood in the past 12 months?									
Once . . . . .	4	7	5	2	5	3	2	4	5
Twice . . . . .	2	2	2	1	2	1	0	1	3
Three times or more . . . . .	1	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	2
Don't know . . . . .	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Did not donate blood in the past 12 months <sup>4</sup> . . . . .	93	89	91	97	91	94	97	94	90
14. Have you ever heard of a blood test that can detect the AIDS virus infection?									
Yes . . . . .	81	87	89	69	82	80	64	80	90
No . . . . .	16	12	9	26	16	17	32	17	9
Don't know . . . . .	2	1	1	5	2	3	4	3	1
15. To the best of your knowledge, are blood donations routinely tested for the AIDS virus infection?									
Yes . . . . .	71	80	79	57	72	71	52	69	81
No . . . . .	4	3	5	4	4	4	4	4	4
Don't know . . . . .	6	5	5	8	6	6	8	7	5
Never heard of test <sup>5</sup> . . . . .	19	13	11	31	18	20	36	20	10
16. Was one of your reasons for donating blood because you wanted to be tested for the AIDS virus infection? <sup>6</sup>									
Yes . . . . .	2	3	2	1	2	1	3	2	2
No . . . . .	84	84	86	78	83	86	73	80	87
Don't know . . . . .	0	—	0	—	0	0	—	0	0
Never heard of test <sup>5</sup> . . . . .	8	8	6	14	8	8	18	11	5
17. Except for blood donations since 1985, have you had your blood tested for the AIDS virus infection?									
Yes . . . . .	9	15	12	3	11	8	7	8	12
No . . . . .	70	70	75	63	69	70	55	70	76
Don't know . . . . .	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	3
Never heard of test <sup>5</sup> . . . . .	19	13	11	31	18	20	36	20	10
18. How many times have you had your blood tested for the AIDS virus infection, not including blood donations?									
Once . . . . .	6	10	8	2	7	6	4	5	8
Twice . . . . .	2	3	2	1	2	1	1	1	2
Three times or more . . . . .	1	2	2	0	2	1	1	1	2
Don't know . . . . .	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Never heard of/had test <sup>7</sup> . . . . .	91	85	89	97	89	92	93	92	88

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 2. Provisional estimates of the percent of white non-Hispanic persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1990 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, 1990—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
19. How many times in the past 12 months have you had your blood tested for the AIDS virus infection, not including blood donations?	Percent distribution								
None . . . . .	5	7	6	2	5	4	3	4	6
Once . . . . .	4	7	5	1	5	3	3	4	5
Twice . . . . .	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
Three times or more . . . . .	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Don't know . . . . .	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Never heard of/had test . . . . .	91	85	88	97	89	92	93	92	88
20a. Were the blood tests, including those you had before the past 12 months, required or did you go for them voluntarily, or were there some of each? <sup>8</sup>									
All required . . . . .	52	55	51	47	55	48	51	50	54
All volunteered . . . . .	43	41	44	48	40	47	46	45	41
Some of each . . . . .	4	3	4	2	4	3	2	4	4
Don't know . . . . .	1	0	1	3	1	1	1	1	1
20b. Were any of the blood tests required for: <sup>8</sup>									
Hospitalization or a surgical procedure? . . . . .	12	11	10	22	9	16	22	13	10
Health insurance? . . . . .	4	2	6	2	5	2	3	3	5
Life insurance? . . . . .	10	6	14	8	13	6	4	6	14
Employment? . . . . .	7	8	7	5	7	6	4	6	8
Military induction or military service? . . . . .	11	19	7	5	18	3	3	13	12
Immigration? . . . . .	1	1	2	1	1	2	2	1	2
Other . . . . .	13	16	13	8	9	18	18	14	11
Don't know . . . . .	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
21. When was your last blood test for the AIDS virus infection? <sup>8</sup>									
1990 . . . . .	28	28	29	27	29	28	32	30	27
1989 . . . . .	35	38	33	31	35	34	30	34	36
1988 . . . . .	17	18	16	16	16	18	18	16	17
1987 . . . . .	10	8	11	11	10	10	8	11	10
1986 . . . . .	4	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
1985 . . . . .	2	1	2	2	2	2	1	2	2
Don't know . . . . .	3	2	2	6	3	3	4	2	3
22a. Was your last test required or did you go for it voluntarily? <sup>8</sup>									
Required . . . . .	54	57	53	48	57	50	52	52	56
Voluntary . . . . .	44	42	46	48	41	48	46	47	43
Don't know . . . . .	1	0	1	3	1	1	1	1	1
22b. Was the test required for: <sup>8</sup>									
Hospitalization or a surgical procedure? . . . . .	12	11	10	21	8	16	21	13	9
Health insurance? . . . . .	4	2	6	2	5	3	2	3	5
Life insurance? . . . . .	10	5	13	7	13	6	4	6	13
Employment? . . . . .	6	7	6	5	7	6	4	6	7
Military induction or military service? . . . . .	11	18	7	5	17	3	3	13	11
Immigration? . . . . .	1	1	2	1	1	2	2	1	2
Other . . . . .	12	14	11	8	8	16	17	13	10
Don't know . . . . .	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
23. Not including a blood donation, where was your last blood test for the AIDS virus done? <sup>8</sup>									
AIDS clinic/counseling/testing site . . . . .	3	3	3	4	3	3	3	2	4
Clinic run by employer . . . . .	3	2	4	2	4	3	2	3	4
Doctor/HMO . . . . .	31	29	32	34	27	35	30	29	33
Public health department . . . . .	6	7	5	3	5	7	9	6	5
Hospital/emergency room/outpatient clinic . . . . .	26	23	25	36	21	31	37	29	21
STD clinic . . . . .	0	0	0	--	0	0	0	0	0
Family planning clinic . . . . .	1	1	1	--	1	1	1	1	1
Prenatal clinic . . . . .	0	1	0	--	0	1	2	0	--
Tuberculosis clinic . . . . .	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Other clinic . . . . .	5	5	5	4	5	5	3	4	6
Drug treatment facility . . . . .	0	0	0	--	0	0	0	0	0
Military induction/service site . . . . .	11	18	7	6	18	3	3	14	11
Immigration site . . . . .	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Other . . . . .	13	9	16	10	16	9	10	11	15
Don't know . . . . .	0	0	--	--	0	--	--	--	0
24. Before your last blood test for the AIDS virus infection, were you counseled about the AIDS virus and the meaning of the test? <sup>8</sup>									
Yes . . . . .	38	40	41	24	40	36	34	39	39
No . . . . .	60	59	58	75	59	63	64	61	59
Don't know . . . . .	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
25. Did you get the results of your last test? <sup>8</sup>									
Yes . . . . .	75	76	75	73	74	77	73	76	75
No . . . . .	24	23	24	26	25	22	26	24	24
Don't know . . . . .	1	1	0	0	1	0	--	0	1

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 2. Provisional estimates of the percent of white non-Hispanic persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1990 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, 1990—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
26. Did you want the results of your last test? <sup>9</sup>	Percent distribution								
Yes . . . . .	33	36	34	19	34	30	42	27	34
No . . . . .	64	60	63	74	62	66	53	71	52
Don't know . . . . .	4	4	3	7	4	4	5	3	4
27. When you received the results of your last test, did you receive counseling or talk with a health professional about how to lower your chances of becoming infected with the AIDS virus or how to avoid passing it on to another person? <sup>10</sup>									
Yes . . . . .	24	30	23	13	23	25	27	26	22
No . . . . .	75	70	77	86	76	74	72	74	77
Don't know . . . . .	1	1	1	0	1	1	2	0	1
28. Were the results given in person, by telephone, by mail, or in some other way? <sup>10</sup>									
In person . . . . .	58	60	53	66	57	58	71	62	52
By telephone . . . . .	19	17	21	16	17	21	13	17	21
By mail . . . . .	16	15	18	13	18	14	10	15	18
Other . . . . .	7	9	7	4	8	6	4	6	9
Don't know . . . . .	1	0	1	2	1	0	1	0	1
29. Do you feel your last test for the AIDS virus infection was handled properly in terms of the confidentiality of your test results? <sup>8</sup>									
Yes . . . . .	91	93	90	91	90	93	90	92	91
No . . . . .	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3
Don't know . . . . .	5	4	6	6	6	4	6	5	5
30. Do you expect to have a blood test for the AIDS virus infection in the next 12 months?									
Yes . . . . .	5	10	5	2	6	4	5	5	6
No . . . . .	73	73	81	65	73	74	56	72	82
Don't know . . . . .	3	4	3	2	3	3	3	3	3
Never heard of test <sup>5</sup> . . . . .	19	13	11	31	18	20	36	20	10
31. Tell me which of these statements explain why you will have the blood test: <sup>11</sup>									
Voluntarily, because you personally want to know if you are infected . . . . .	58	64	55	43	54	63	67	63	51
As part of a blood donation . . . . .	28	27	28	30	30	25	24	27	30
As part of a hospitalization or surgical procedure . . . . .	10	9	10	18	9	13	13	12	9
As a requirement for health insurance . . . . .	8	9	8	8	9	8	11	10	6
As a requirement for life insurance . . . . .	7	7	7	9	8	6	9	7	7
As a requirement for a job, other than military . . . . .	13	12	14	9	12	13	11	13	12
As a requirement for the military . . . . .	11	14	10	5	15	5	10	11	12
As a requirement for immigration . . . . .	2	2	1	1	2	1	2	2	1
As a required part of some other activity that includes a blood sample and automatic AIDS testing . . . . .	15	17	13	11	14	15	15	14	15
32. Where will you go to have a blood test for the AIDS virus infection? <sup>11</sup>									
AIDS clinic/counseling/testing site . . . . .	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1
Clinic run by employer . . . . .	3	2	4	3	4	1	1	3	3
Doctor/HMO . . . . .	38	40	35	41	37	39	35	44	34
Hospital/emergency room/outpatient clinic . . . . .	19	18	20	18	16	23	27	18	18
Other clinic . . . . .	5	7	4	3	4	7	6	4	6
Public health department . . . . .	6	8	5	4	5	8	12	7	4
Red Cross/blood bank . . . . .	12	7	15	18	14	9	6	10	15
Other . . . . .	11	11	12	9	14	7	6	9	14
Don't know . . . . .	4	5	3	3	4	4	5	4	4
33. Did you have a blood transfusion at any time between 1977 and 1985?									
Yes . . . . .	6	3	5	8	6	6	7	5	5
No . . . . .	93	97	94	90	93	93	91	94	94
Don't know . . . . .	1	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	1
34. Do you think the present supply of blood is safe for transfusions?									
Yes . . . . .	50	58	53	41	54	46	36	47	58
No . . . . .	28	26	28	30	25	31	33	31	25
Don't know . . . . .	22	16	19	28	20	23	31	22	18
35. How effective do you think the use of a condom is to prevent getting the AIDS virus through sexual activity?									
Very effective . . . . .	27	33	30	20	30	24	17	25	33
Somewhat effective . . . . .	54	57	57	50	54	55	46	55	57
Not at all effective . . . . .	4	4	4	4	3	5	6	4	3
Don't know how effective . . . . .	13	6	8	22	11	15	25	13	7
Don't know method . . . . .	2	1	1	4	2	2	5	2	1
36. What are your chances of having the AIDS virus?									
High . . . . .	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Medium . . . . .	2	3	2	1	2	2	2	2	2
Low . . . . .	16	24	18	9	18	14	10	14	21
None . . . . .	81	72	79	88	78	82	85	83	77
Don't know . . . . .	1	1	1	2	1	1	3	1	0

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 2. Provisional estimates of the percent of white non-Hispanic persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1990 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, 1990—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			
	18-29	30-49	50 years	Male	Female	Less than	12 years	More than	
	Total	years	years			and over		12 years	12 years
	Percent distribution								
37. What are your chances of getting the AIDS virus?									
High . . . . .	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Medium . . . . .	3	4	3	2	3	2	3	3	3
Low . . . . .	22	31	26	13	25	20	12	19	30
None . . . . .	73	63	69	82	70	75	81	76	66
Don't know . . . . .	2	1	1	2	2	1	4	1	1
N/A—High chance of already having the AIDS virus. . . . .	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
38. Have you ever personally known anyone with AIDS or the AIDS virus?									
Yes . . . . .	15	14	19	11	14	16	7	11	21
No . . . . .	84	84	80	88	84	83	91	87	77
Don't know . . . . .	2	1	2	2	2	1	2	1	2
39. Are 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 (39 a-d).									
f. You have had sex for money or drugs at any time since 1977.									
Yes to at least 1 statement . . . . .	2	4	2	1	3	2	2	2	2
No to all statements . . . . .	98	96	97	99	97	98	98	98	98
Don't know . . . . .	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

<sup>1</sup>Multiple responses may sum to more than 100.  
<sup>2</sup>Based on persons answering yes to question 6, "Do you have any children aged 10 through 17?" Question 7 was "How many do you have?"  
<sup>3</sup>Persons answering no or don't know to question 10 or 11a.  
<sup>4</sup>Persons answering no or don't know to question 10, 11a, or 11b.  
<sup>5</sup>Persons answering no or don't know to question 14.  
<sup>6</sup>Based on persons answering yes to question 11a.  
<sup>7</sup>Persons answering no or don't know to questions 14 or 17.  
<sup>8</sup>Based on persons answering yes to question 17.  
<sup>9</sup>Persons answering no or don't know to question 25.  
<sup>10</sup>Based on persons answering yes to question 25.  
<sup>11</sup>Based on persons answering yes to question 30.

## 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 1990 National Health Interview Survey of AIDS Knowledge and Attitudes is asked of one randomly chosen adult 18 years of age or over in each family. The estimates in this report are based on completed interviews with 5,293 non-Hispanic black and 30,996 non-Hispanic white individuals, about 87 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 non-Hispanic black women who have had their blood tested for HIV. The population figures in table I are based on 1989 data from the NHIS; they are not official population estimates. Tables II and III show approximate standard errors for most of the estimates presented in tables 1 and 2. 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). 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 1990 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 1990 data collection period will be available at the end of 1991.

**Table I. Non-Hispanic black and non-Hispanic white sample sizes for the 1990 National Health Interview Survey of AIDS Knowledge and Attitudes and estimated non-Hispanic black and non-Hispanic white adult populations 18 years of age and over, by selected characteristics: United States, 1990.**

Characteristic	Sample size		Estimated population in thousands	
	Non-Hispanic black	Non-Hispanic white	Non-Hispanic Black	Non-Hispanic White
All adults . . . . .	5,293	30,996	19,656	140,451
Age				
18-29 years . . . . .	1,318	6,666	6,075	32,918
30-49 years . . . . .	2,158	12,159	7,849	55,521
50 years and over . . . . .	1,817	12,171	5,732	52,012
Sex				
Male . . . . .	1,844	13,292	8,749	67,116
Female . . . . .	3,449	17,704	10,906	73,336
Education				
Less than 12 years . . . . .	1,736	5,545	6,071	24,319
12 years . . . . .	2,069	12,055	7,913	56,256
More than 12 years . . . . .	1,461	13,318	5,570	59,498

**Table II. Standard errors, expressed in percentage points, of estimated percents for non-Hispanic black adults from the 1990 National Health Interview Survey of AIDS Knowledge and Attitudes, by selected characteristics: United States, 1990.**

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 . . . . .	0.4	0.8	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.5	0.7	0.6	0.7
10 or 90 . . . . .	0.5	1.1	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.7	0.9	0.8	1.0
15 or 85 . . . . .	0.6	1.3	1.0	1.1	1.1	0.8	1.1	1.0	1.2
20 or 80 . . . . .	0.7	1.4	1.1	1.2	1.2	0.9	1.2	1.1	1.3
25 or 75 . . . . .	0.8	1.5	1.2	1.3	1.3	0.9	1.3	1.2	1.5
30 or 70 . . . . .	0.8	1.6	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.0	1.4	1.3	1.5
35 or 65 . . . . .	0.8	1.7	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.0	1.5	1.3	1.6
40 or 60 . . . . .	0.9	1.7	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.1	1.5	1.4	1.6
45 or 55 . . . . .	0.9	1.8	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.1	1.5	1.4	1.7
50 . . . . .	0.9	1.8	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.1	1.5	1.4	1.7

Table III. Standard errors, expressed in percentage points, of estimated percents for non-Hispanic white adults from the 1990 National Health Interview Survey of AIDS Knowledge and Attitudes, by selected characteristics: United States, 1990.

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	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.2
10 or 90 . . . . .	0.2	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.3
15 or 85 . . . . .	0.3	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.6	0.4	0.4
20 or 80 . . . . .	0.3	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.7	0.5	0.4
25 or 75 . . . . .	0.3	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.7	0.5	0.5
30 or 70 . . . . .	0.3	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.8	0.5	0.5
35 or 65 . . . . .	0.3	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.8	0.6	0.5
40 or 60 . . . . .	0.4	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.8	0.6	0.5
45 or 55 . . . . .	0.4	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.9	0.6	0.6
50 . . . . .	0.4	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.9	0.6	0.6

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**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 (estimate has relative standard error of more than 30 percent)
  - # Figure suppressed to comply with confidentiality requirements
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Centers for Disease Control  
National Center for Health Statistics  
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