



AIDS Knowledge and Attitudes for October and November 1988

Provisional Data From the National Health Interview Survey

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Introduction

The National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) has included a special set of supplemental questions on the adult population's knowledge and attitudes about acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) in the National Health Interview Survey (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 for Vital and Health Statistics* (Nos. 146, 148, 150, 151, and 153). A public use data tape containing the information collected in 1987 is currently available from NCHS. 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 May and June, the first 2 months of data collection with the new questionnaire, and for July, August, and September were published in *Advance Data for Vital and Health Statistics*, Nos. 160, 161, 163, and 164, respectively. This report presents provisional results for October and November 1988.

The *Advance Data* reports describing the NHIS AIDS data have been restricted to simple descriptive statistics to facilitate their timely release. Thus, these reports do not attempt to explain or interpret differences among population subgroups in AIDS knowledge or to examine relationships among various measures of knowledge, attitudes, and perceived risk. The 1987 and 1988 NHIS AIDS data bases permit more complex analyses than those presented in this series of *Advance Data* reports, and such analyses are being undertaken by various groups in the Public Health Service.

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 October and November 1988 for most items included in the AIDS questionnaire. Tables 1 and 2, for October and November,

respectively, display percent distributions of persons 18 years of age and over by response categories according to age, sex, race, and education. 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.

Selected findings

The following highlights describe various aspects of AIDS knowledge and attitudes as observed in the October and November 1988 data from the NHIS AIDS survey. For a given response, when the estimated proportion from the October data differed from that obtained in November, both proportions are listed with the one from October always listed first. When a single percentage is presented, it applies to both October and November. Based on the measures included in this survey, AIDS knowledge in October and November was maintained at about the same level as in the previous month. Any differences cited in the text are statistically significant at the 0.05 level (see table II for approximate standard errors of estimates).

Sources of AIDS information

In the month preceding interview, 84 and 83 percent of adults in October and November, respectively, reported having seen AIDS public service announcements on television; 44 and 43 percent reported hearing announcements on the radio. For both television and radio, the proportion of adults who had seen or heard announcements was higher for those with 12 or more years of school than for those with less than 12 years; this difference was larger for radio than for television. Black adults were more likely than white adults and men were more likely than women to have heard announcements on the radio. One-fifth of those who saw or heard announcements recalled that they were part of the "America Responds to AIDS" campaign; about half could not remember if the announcements were part of this series.

About one-third of adults (31 and 30 percent) had read brochures or pamphlets about AIDS in the month before interview; two-thirds (67 percent) reported ever having read these. For both time periods, the proportion having read brochures or pamphlets increased with education.

Self-assessed knowledge

In October and November 1988, 22 and 23 percent of adults reported that they knew a lot about AIDS, 44 and 43 percent reported some knowledge, 26 and 25 percent

claimed to know a little, and 9 percent stated that they knew nothing.

General knowledge

Most adults thought it definitely false that teenagers cannot get AIDS (93 and 92 percent) and thought it definitely true that AIDS leads to death (85 and 86 percent), that there is presently no cure for AIDS (86 and 85 percent), that an HIV-infected person can pass the virus during sexual intercourse (83 and 82 percent), and that a pregnant woman with the AIDS virus can pass it to her baby (78 and 79 percent). The two statements that had the lowest proportions giving the correct definitive response were those that dealt with the pathophysiology of AIDS: 15 and 17 percent definitely knew that AIDS does not lead to heart disease, and 26 and 25 percent definitely knew that the AIDS virus can damage the brain.

For most of the questions on general AIDS knowledge, the proportion responding correctly increased with education. The proportion correct also varied by age and race, with those 30–49 years of age responding more accurately than younger or older individuals and with white adults answering correctly more often than black adults.

Transmission of the AIDS virus

In general, there was no change from September 1988 in the proportion responding correctly to questions about possible ways in which AIDS and HIV can be transmitted. Ninety-four percent of adults thought it very likely that AIDS could be transmitted by sharing needles for intravenous drug use. More than two-thirds responded that it was very unlikely or definitely not possible to acquire AIDS by living near a hospital for AIDS patients; by working with someone with AIDS; by attending school with a child with AIDS; or by shaking hands, touching, or kissing an AIDS patient on the cheek. More than one-fifth of adults (23 and 22 percent) responded "don't know" to the question about possible transmission by mosquitoes or other insects, at least 9 percentage points higher than the proportion responding "don't know" to any other transmission question. For all questions about transmission, the proportion responding correctly increased with education.

Blood donation and testing

Forty percent of adults stated that they had ever donated blood, 13 percent had donated since March 1985 when routine screening of donated blood for antibodies to HIV began, and 7 and 6 percent had donated in the year preceding interview. For all time periods, the percent donating increased with education; men were more likely to have donated than women.

Approximately three-quarters of all adults had heard of the AIDS blood test. Slightly fewer (67 and 65 percent) knew that blood donations are now routinely screened for

AIDS virus infection, and less than half (48 and 47 percent) thought that the present blood supply was safe for transfusion.

Four and 3 percent of adults reported receiving counseling about the AIDS blood test. A larger proportion of those 18-29 years received counseling than of those over 30 years (7 versus 2 percent).

Seventeen percent of adults have had their blood tested for antibodies to the AIDS virus. This proportion decreased with age and increased with education. Of those tested, most (69 and 71 percent) had their testing done as part of a blood donation, 18 and 19 percent were tested voluntarily, and 16 percent took the test as part of another activity requiring routine testing (such as a physical examination for military induction). Six percent of adults reported plans to be tested in the 12 months following the NHIS interview; about half of these plan to be tested voluntarily.

Preventive measures

Eighty-four percent of adults stated that condoms were very or somewhat effective in preventing transmission of the AIDS virus. The proportion who believed condoms were at least somewhat effective increased with education. Overall, 83 and 84 percent of adults thought that having a monogamous relationship with an individual who is not

infected with the AIDS virus is a very effective way to prevent getting the virus. This proportion also increased with education and was higher for whites than for blacks.

Two-thirds of adults stated that they believe the information on AIDS provided by Federal public health officials, and 80 and 79 percent believe the advice provided on how to keep from getting AIDS. The proportion trusting the information and advice was higher in those younger than 50 years and increased by education.

Risk of getting the AIDS virus

Less than 1 percent of adults felt that they had a high chance of having or getting the AIDS virus; 2 and 1 percent felt that their chance of getting the AIDS virus was medium, 19 and 20 percent felt that they had a low chance, 75 percent felt that they had no chance of getting AIDS, and 3 percent could not assess their chances of getting AIDS. Adults 50 years and older were more likely to perceive themselves at no risk of getting AIDS, and women felt their chances were lower than men. Two percent of all adults stated that they belonged to one or more of the groups with behaviors associated with increased risk for acquiring AIDS (such as intravenous drug users and homosexually active men).

Table 1. Provisional estimates of the percent of persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1988 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, 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		Race		Education			
	Total	18-29 years	30-49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	White	Black	Less than 12 years	12 years	More than 12 years
Total	100	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	83	84	84	85	82	83	86	79	86	85
No	14	15	14	13	13	14	14	12	18	12	13
Don't know	2	2	2	3	2	3	2	2	3	2	2
1b. Heard any public service announcements about AIDS on the radio?											
Yes	44	51	47	34	49	39	43	50	36	44	49
No	52	45	48	61	47	56	53	47	59	53	46
Don't know	4	4	4	5	4	5	5	3	5	4	5
2. Were any of those public service announcements called "America Responds to AIDS"?											
Yes	22	30	23	15	22	22	20	30	21	24	21
No	13	15	12	12	14	13	13	14	14	13	12
Don't know	51	41	52	58	52	50	53	44	46	52	54
Neither heard nor saw any public service announcements	13	14	13	14	12	15	14	12	19	11	13
3. In the past month, have you read any brochures or pamphlets about AIDS?											
Yes	31	34	35	25	29	33	29	39	22	33	35
No	68	66	64	73	70	66	70	60	77	66	64
Don't know	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
4. Have you ever read any brochures or pamphlets about AIDS?											
Yes	67	70	73	57	64	69	66	69	47	70	74
No	32	30	26	42	35	30	32	31	52	28	25
Don't know	1	0	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
5. Where did you get the pamphlets or brochures? ^{1,2}											
Clinic, other than work clinic	2	4	2	1	2	2	2	4	2	2	2
Doctor's office (HMO)	12	14	13	9	8	15	12	14	12	13	10
Drug store	2	3	1	2	2	2	1	5	3	2	1
Public health department	2	3	3	1	2	2	2	3	4	1	3
Received in mail without asking	37	29	36	47	38	37	38	38	42	38	35
Red Cross/Red Cross blood donation	2	2	3	2	2	2	3	0	2	2	3
Other blood donation	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	1
School	8	17	8	1	9	8	8	8	4	6	13
Sent/phoned for/requested it	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
Federal/State/local government	29	20	30	35	29	29	30	19	26	28	30
Work, other than clinic or nurse	13	11	18	6	16	10	12	15	5	11	17
Work, nurse or clinic	3	3	5	2	2	4	3	4	1	3	4
Other	13	14	14	10	14	12	12	12	14	14	11
Don't know	2	1	1	3	2	2	2	1	3	1	2
15. Have you ever discussed AIDS with any of your children aged 10-17? ³											
Yes	62	41	62	62	43	78	61	71	47	64	67
No	38	59	38	38	57	21	39	29	53	36	33
Don't know	0	-	0	-	-	0	0	-	-	0	-
16. Have any or all of your children aged 10-17 had instruction at school about AIDS? ³											
Yes	56	36	58	47	49	62	55	53	46	55	61
No	13	12	13	15	12	15	14	13	13	14	13
Don't know	31	51	29	38	39	23	31	34	41	31	26
21. How much would you say you know about AIDS?											
A lot	22	22	28	15	22	22	22	20	11	19	31
Some	44	50	47	36	42	46	45	38	31	47	48
A little	26	25	21	31	27	24	25	29	34	28	18
None	9	4	4	18	9	9	8	13	24	6	2
Don't know	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	64	63	70	57	64	64	66	53	39	63	79
No	17	25	18	11	18	17	16	23	19	20	13
Other	0	-	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	-
Don't know	19	12	12	31	18	19	18	24	41	16	8
23a. AIDS can reduce the body's natural protection against disease.											
Definitely true	75	79	81	65	77	73	77	62	52	77	86
Probably true	12	13	11	13	12	12	11	16	16	12	10
Probably false	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	2	1
Definitely false	2	2	2	4	2	2	2	5	4	3	1
Don't know	9	4	5	17	7	11	8	14	24	7	2

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Provisional estimates of the percent of persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1988 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, 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		Race		Education			
	Total	18-29 years	30-49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	White	Black	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	0	1	1	0	1
Probably true	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	4	3	1	1
Probably false	18	20	17	17	18	18	18	15	18	19	17
Definitely false	72	70	76	70	73	72	73	72	62	74	77
Don't know	7	8	4	11	6	8	7	9	15	6	4
23c. AIDS can damage the brain.											
Definitely true	26	20	27	29	29	24	25	31	27	26	25
Probably true	32	35	30	33	31	33	32	34	32	31	34
Probably false	10	12	11	6	9	10	10	6	5	10	12
Definitely false	7	9	8	5	8	6	7	6	5	7	8
Don't know	25	24	24	28	23	27	26	22	31	26	21
23d. AIDS usually leads to heart disease.											
Definitely true	8	6	7	10	8	8	7	14	12	8	6
Probably true	23	25	22	22	22	23	21	29	20	22	24
Probably false	18	17	22	14	20	16	19	12	11	19	22
Definitely false	15	18	18	10	18	13	15	12	9	14	20
Don't know	36	34	31	44	32	40	38	33	48	37	29
23e. AIDS is an infectious disease caused by a virus.											
Definitely true	63	66	69	55	67	60	63	63	50	63	71
Probably true	19	19	18	19	18	20	19	19	19	19	18
Probably false	3	4	2	3	3	2	3	2	3	3	2
Definitely false	3	3	4	3	3	3	3	4	4	4	2
Don't know	12	9	8	19	10	14	12	13	23	10	7
23f. Teenagers cannot get AIDS.											
Definitely true	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0
Probably true	0	0	-	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Probably false	3	3	2	4	3	3	3	3	6	3	2
Definitely false	93	96	96	88	94	92	94	91	84	95	96
Don't know	3	1	1	6	2	3	2	4	8	2	1
23g. AIDS leads to death.											
Definitely true	85	85	87	84	85	86	85	91	87	87	82
Probably true	11	12	10	10	11	10	12	4	7	10	14
Probably false	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Definitely false	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1
Don't know	2	1	2	4	2	3	2	3	5	1	2
23h. A person can be infected with the AIDS virus and not have the disease AIDS.											
Definitely true	56	55	62	49	57	54	57	46	39	55	66
Probably true	21	20	19	24	20	22	21	20	21	22	19
Probably false	3	5	3	2	3	3	3	4	3	4	3
Definitely false	5	8	5	3	5	5	4	9	5	6	4
Don't know	15	12	11	22	14	16	14	20	32	13	7
23i. Looking at a person is enough to tell if he or she has the AIDS virus.											
Definitely true	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	3	4	1	2
Probably true	4	6	4	4	5	4	4	7	7	5	3
Probably false	16	16	14	19	15	17	16	18	18	17	14
Definitely false	67	72	75	56	68	67	68	62	49	69	76
Don't know	10	5	6	19	10	11	10	10	23	8	5
23j. Any person with the AIDS virus can pass it on to someone else during sexual intercourse.											
Definitely true	83	83	85	80	82	83	82	85	79	85	82
Probably true	12	12	11	13	13	11	12	10	12	11	13
Probably false	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Definitely false	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	-	0	1	1
Don't know	4	3	2	6	3	4	4	4	8	3	3
23k. A person who has the AIDS virus can look and feel healthy and well.											
Definitely true	47	50	55	35	49	45	48	40	31	47	56
Probably true	30	32	27	31	29	30	30	31	26	31	30
Probably false	6	6	6	7	5	7	6	8	9	7	5
Definitely false	5	3	4	6	5	4	3	8	7	5	3
Don't know	13	9	8	21	12	13	13	14	27	11	7
23l. A pregnant woman who has the AIDS virus can give the AIDS virus to her baby.											
Definitely true	78	78	82	74	77	79	78	79	74	79	79
Probably true	15	16	13	17	17	14	15	13	15	15	16
Probably false	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
Definitely false	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0
Don't know	6	4	4	9	5	6	6	6	10	5	4

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Table 1. Provisional estimates of the percent of persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1988 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, October 1988—Con.

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AIDS knowledge or attitude	Age			Sex		Race		Education			
	Total	18-29 years	30-49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	White	Black	Less than 12 years	12 years	More than 12 years
Percent distribution ¹											
23m. There is a vaccine available to the public that protects a person from getting the AIDS virus.											
Definitely true	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	1
Probably true	2	2	1	3	2	2	2	3	4	2	2
Probably false	10	12	8	10	11	9	10	11	11	11	9
Definitely false	74	74	81	66	75	73	76	65	59	75	82
Don't know	13	11	9	19	11	14	11	19	24	12	7
23n. There is no cure for AIDS at present.											
Definitely true	86	87	88	85	86	86	87	83	81	86	91
Probably true	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	7	6	7	5
Probably false	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0
Definitely false	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	2
Don't know	5	4	4	7	5	5	4	7	10	4	3
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	1	2	2	2	1	1	3	3	1	1
Somewhat likely	3	4	3	4	3	3	3	6	5	4	2
Somewhat unlikely	8	10	7	7	9	7	7	11	8	9	6
Very unlikely	39	39	41	38	40	39	40	40	34	40	41
Definitely not possible	41	40	43	39	40	42	43	28	32	41	46
Don't know	7	6	5	11	6	8	7	12	18	5	3
24b. Working near someone with the AIDS virus?											
Very likely	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	2	1
Somewhat likely	10	10	10	10	10	10	9	13	12	11	8
Somewhat unlikely	14	17	14	13	16	13	14	16	12	16	14
Very unlikely	39	38	41	37	40	38	40	36	33	38	44
Definitely not possible	27	28	28	26	26	28	29	21	22	28	29
Don't know	7	6	4	12	7	8	7	10	18	5	4
24c. Eating in a restaurant where the cook has the AIDS virus?											
Very likely	7	6	6	8	7	7	7	7	11	6	4
Somewhat likely	19	21	19	18	20	18	18	25	19	20	18
Somewhat unlikely	16	18	17	14	16	16	16	16	11	16	19
Very unlikely	28	30	30	25	28	29	30	23	23	27	33
Definitely not possible	17	17	18	14	17	16	17	12	12	17	18
Don't know	13	9	10	20	13	13	13	16	23	12	8
24d. Kissing—with exchange of saliva—a person who has the AIDS virus?											
Very likely	26	22	25	29	26	25	25	26	29	26	23
Somewhat likely	29	28	29	29	28	29	29	31	25	28	32
Somewhat unlikely	12	15	13	9	14	11	12	11	7	14	14
Very unlikely	14	17	16	9	14	14	14	13	9	15	17
Definitely not possible	7	9	7	6	7	7	7	4	8	6	8
Don't know	12	8	10	17	10	14	12	16	22	11	7
24e. Shaking hands, touching, or kissing on the cheek someone who has the AIDS virus?											
Very likely	2	1	1	3	2	2	1	3	5	1	0
Somewhat likely	6	4	7	5	6	5	5	8	6	6	5
Somewhat unlikely	15	16	15	15	17	14	15	15	12	18	15
Very unlikely	38	40	36	37	38	37	38	40	34	37	41
Definitely not possible	33	36	37	26	30	35	34	24	26	33	36
Don't know	7	4	5	13	7	8	7	9	18	5	4
24f. Sharing plates, forks, or glasses with someone who has the AIDS virus?											
Very likely	8	5	9	9	7	8	7	9	11	8	6
Somewhat likely	22	22	21	22	23	21	21	24	22	22	21
Somewhat unlikely	13	15	14	11	15	12	14	12	10	14	15
Very unlikely	28	30	28	27	28	28	29	26	22	29	32
Definitely not possible	17	21	19	13	17	18	17	14	14	18	19
Don't know	11	7	9	17	9	13	11	15	21	10	7
24g. Using public toilets?											
Very likely	5	4	4	6	4	6	4	8	9	5	3
Somewhat likely	12	11	10	15	13	11	11	17	17	13	8
Somewhat unlikely	14	16	14	13	14	14	14	14	12	15	15
Very unlikely	33	35	35	29	33	32	34	31	23	32	40
Definitely not possible	24	24	29	19	26	23	25	15	18	24	28
Don't know	12	10	8	18	11	13	12	15	21	12	7

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AIDS knowledge or attitude	Age			Sex		Race		Education			
	Total	18-29	30-49	Male	Female	White	Black	Less than	12 years	More than	
		years	years					and over		12 years	12 years
Percent distribution ¹											
24h. Sharing needles for drug use with someone who has the AIDS virus?											
Very likely	94	95	96	92	94	95	94	94	89	96	96
Somewhat likely	2	3	1	3	3	2	3	2	4	2	2
Somewhat unlikely	0	—	0	0	0	—	0	—	0	0	—
Very unlikely	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Definitely not possible	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Don't know	2	1	2	4	2	3	2	3	6	1	1
24i. Being coughed or sneezed on by someone who has the AIDS virus?											
Very likely	6	4	6	8	5	7	6	7	9	6	4
Somewhat likely	20	18	19	24	21	20	19	24	21	20	20
Somewhat unlikely	19	21	20	15	20	18	19	18	15	19	21
Very unlikely	28	32	30	24	29	27	29	25	20	29	32
Definitely not possible	14	15	16	10	14	13	13	11	11	14	15
Don't know	13	9	10	19	11	14	13	15	24	12	7
24j. Attending school with a child who has the AIDS virus?											
Very likely	1	0	1	2	1	1	1	2	3	1	0
Somewhat likely	6	5	6	7	7	6	5	11	8	7	4
Somewhat unlikely	12	13	14	9	11	12	11	15	11	13	11
Very unlikely	40	42	40	38	41	39	41	35	33	38	45
Definitely not possible	32	36	34	28	32	32	33	26	26	33	35
Don't know	9	4	5	16	7	10	8	11	19	7	4
24k. Mosquitoes or other insects?											
Very likely	7	9	7	7	9	6	7	11	12	8	4
Somewhat likely	18	22	18	15	20	16	17	20	19	19	16
Somewhat unlikely	10	10	10	9	9	10	10	9	8	9	11
Very unlikely	23	22	23	23	22	23	23	22	16	22	27
Definitely not possible	19	17	22	17	19	20	21	13	13	20	23
Don't know	23	20	20	29	21	25	23	24	32	22	19
25. Have you ever donated blood?											
Yes	40	34	43	41	52	29	40	35	32	34	51
No	60	66	57	58	48	71	59	65	67	65	49
Don't know	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
26a. Have you donated blood since March 1985?											
Yes	13	20	16	6	17	10	14	6	5	13	18
No	86	80	83	94	83	89	86	94	94	86	81
Don't know	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
26b. Have you donated blood in the past 12 months?											
Yes	7	11	8	2	9	5	7	5	3	7	9
No	93	89	91	97	91	94	92	95	97	93	90
Don't know	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
27. Have you ever heard of a blood test that can detect the AIDS virus infection?											
Yes	75	83	83	61	76	75	77	63	55	76	87
No	20	15	14	31	20	20	18	30	39	19	10
Don't know	5	2	3	8	4	5	4	7	6	5	3
28. To the best of your knowledge, are blood donations routinely tested now for the AIDS virus infection?											
Yes	67	74	76	53	68	66	69	54	47	67	80
No	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	3	4
Don't know	5	5	4	6	4	5	5	7	7	5	4
Never heard of test ⁴	25	17	17	39	24	25	23	37	45	24	13
29a. Have you ever received counseling or had a talk with a health professional about taking the AIDS virus test?											
Yes	4	7	4	1	4	3	4	4	3	3	5
No	71	75	79	60	71	71	73	59	52	73	82
Don't know	0	0	—	0	0	0	0	—	—	0	—
Never heard of test ⁴	25	17	17	39	24	25	23	37	45	24	13
29b. Was the discussion— ^{1,5}											
With a private doctor?	45	39	51	43	43	47	43	63	45	47	43
At a family-planning clinic?	6	10	1	—	7	4	4	18	25	4	1
On an AIDS hotline?	2	2	—	10	1	3	2	5	6	—	2
At a prenatal clinic?	9	15	3	—	10	7	8	18	8	10	8
At an STD or sexually transmitted disease clinic?	5	5	6	—	5	5	4	14	2	4	6
At an AIDS/HIV counseling and testing site?	10	6	17	5	7	14	10	11	5	14	10
With some other health professional?	42	38	42	57	36	49	41	44	42	30	49
With some other counselor?	9	10	9	—	11	7	10	—	22	5	8
30. During that discussion, did you receive information about how to avoid getting or passing on the AIDS virus? ⁵											
Yes	61	73	54	30	61	61	57	87	62	64	60
No	38	25	46	70	37	39	41	13	38	33	40
Don't know	1	2	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	3	—

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Provisional estimates of the percent of persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1988 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, 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		Race		Education			
	Total	18-29 years	30-49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	White	Black	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	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	1
No	75	82	82	61	75	74	77	63	54	76	86
Don't know	0	0	-	-	-	0	0	-	-	-	0
Never heard of test ⁴	25	17	17	39	24	25	23	37	45	24	13
32. Have you ever been advised by friends or relatives not to have the blood test for the AIDS virus infection?											
Yes	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
No	75	81	82	61	75	74	77	63	55	75	86
Don't know	0	0	-	-	-	0	0	-	-	-	0
Never heard of test ⁴	25	17	17	39	24	25	23	37	45	24	13
33. Have you had your blood tested for the AIDS virus infection?											
Yes ⁵	17	26	21	7	22	14	18	11	8	17	24
No	57	56	61	54	54	60	59	51	46	59	63
Don't know	2	2	2	1	2	1	2	2	2	2	2
Never heard of test ⁴	24	16	16	38	23	25	22	36	45	23	12
35a. How many times have you had your blood tested for the AIDS virus infection? ⁷											
Once	5	8	7	2	6	5	5	5	3	5	7
Twice	2	4	2	0	3	1	2	1	1	2	3
3-5 times	1	2	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1
6-12 times	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	0
More than 12 times	0	-	-	0	0	-	0	-	-	0	-
Don't know ⁸	9	11	11	5	11	7	9	5	4	9	12
Never heard of or never took test ⁸	83	74	79	93	78	86	82	89	92	83	76
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	4	2	1	3	1	2	0	1	2	3
Once	5	7	7	2	6	4	5	5	2	5	7
More than once	2	3	2	1	3	1	2	1	1	2	2
Don't know ⁸	9	11	10	4	10	7	9	5	4	8	12
Never heard of or never took test ⁸	83	74	79	93	78	86	82	89	92	83	76
36. Was the test/were any of the tests, including those you had before the past 12 months— ¹											
Part of a blood donation? ^{6,7}	69	66	71	71	68	70	72	52	60	74	67
Part of a blood transfusion? ⁹	1	1	1	3	2	0	1	-	2	1	1
Voluntarily sought? ⁹	18	22	17	12	17	20	16	32	23	18	18
Part of some other activity that requires a blood sample? ⁹	16	22	14	7	18	12	16	18	21	11	19
38. Did you get the results of your test/any of your tests? ⁹											
Yes	56	55	60	43	56	55	53	72	59	50	59
No	44	45	40	57	44	45	47	27	41	50	41
Don't know	0	-	0	-	-	0	-	1	-	-	0
41. Do you expect to have a blood test for the AIDS virus infection in the next 12 months?											
Yes	6	12	7	2	8	5	6	8	4	7	7
No	65	66	70	57	63	66	68	49	45	65	76
Don't know	4	4	5	2	4	4	3	6	5	4	3
Never heard of test ⁴	25	17	17	39	24	25	23	37	45	24	13
42. Will the test be— ^{1,10}											
Part of a blood donation?	44	48	43	32	48	39	46	29	19	56	41
Voluntarily sought? ⁹	53	56	48	55	51	55	49	82	69	50	50
Part of some other activity that requires a blood sample?	19	15	21	35	22	15	20	16	21	12	25
44a. Did you have a blood transfusion at any time between 1977 and 1985?											
Yes	6	3	6	9	6	6	6	7	6	7	5
No	93	96	93	89	93	93	92	92	92	92	93
Don't know	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
44b. Do you think the present supply of blood is safe for transfusions?											
Yes	48	48	52	44	53	44	50	31	33	47	58
No	26	29	25	25	22	29	25	34	31	27	21
Other	0	-	0	-	-	0	0	-	-	0	-
Don't know	26	23	23	32	25	27	25	35	35	26	21
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	2	1	2	4	3	2	2	5	3	3	1
Somewhat effective	13	15	11	13	13	13	12	10	10	14	14
Not at all effective	56	59	65	45	54	59	59	48	41	56	66
Don't know how effective	22	18	17	30	23	21	22	23	34	21	15
Don't know method	6	6	5	8	7	6	5	13	12	6	3

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Provisional estimates of the percent of persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1988 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, 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		Race		Education			
	Total	18-29 years	30-49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	White	Black	Less than 12 years	12 years	More than 12 years
Percent distribution ¹											
45b. Using a condom?											
Very effective	32	40	35	23	36	29	32	31	23	31	39
Somewhat effective	52	48	55	52	51	53	53	45	43	56	54
Not at all effective	5	4	5	5	4	5	4	8	8	5	2
Don't know how effective	9	6	4	17	8	10	9	12	20	7	4
Don't know method	2	1	1	4	2	2	2	3	6	1	1
45c. Using a spermicidal jelly, foam, or cream?											
Very effective	1	2	2	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	1
Somewhat effective	14	15	14	13	15	13	14	8	9	14	17
Not at all effective	53	58	62	40	49	57	54	52	40	55	59
Don't know how effective	25	21	17	37	27	23	24	29	38	24	19
Don't know method	6	4	6	9	7	6	6	9	11	6	4
45d. Having a vasectomy?											
Very effective	2	3	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Somewhat effective	2	3	2	3	2	2	2	4	3	3	1
Not at all effective	70	69	79	62	70	71	73	59	51	69	83
Don't know how effective	19	20	13	26	20	19	19	22	32	19	12
Don't know method	6	5	5	8	6	6	4	13	11	6	3
45e. Two people who do not have the AIDS virus having sex only with each other?											
Very effective	83	85	87	78	86	81	85	73	70	85	89
Somewhat effective	9	9	8	9	7	10	8	14	11	8	7
Not at all effective	2	2	1	2	2	2	1	3	3	2	0
Don't know how effective	5	3	2	9	4	6	5	7	12	4	2
Don't know method	2	1	2	2	1	2	1	2	4	1	1
46. What are your chances of having the AIDS virus?											
High	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Medium	2	2	2	1	2	1	1	3	1	2	2
Low	14	21	16	6	16	13	14	11	8	13	18
None	82	75	79	90	79	84	82	81	85	82	79
Don't know	3	2	2	3	3	2	2	3	6	2	1
47. What are your chances of getting the AIDS virus?											
High	0	0	1	—	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Medium	2	3	2	1	2	1	2	2	1	2	2
Low	19	28	21	10	22	17	19	16	11	17	26
None	75	66	73	85	72	79	76	76	81	78	69
Don't know	3	2	3	3	3	3	2	3	6	2	2
High chance of already having AIDS virus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
49. Do you say your chance of getting AIDS is high or medium because you— ¹¹											
Have had a blood transfusion?	6	8	3	11	6	6	5	8	—	5	9
Have had sexual contact with someone who might have /nthe virus?	12	12	13	11	13	12	12	15	13	12	13
Some other reason?	55	38	64	66	43	72	54	63	50	52	61
52. Have you ever discussed AIDS with a friend or relative?											
Yes	63	72	70	48	60	66	64	60	45	64	72
No	37	28	29	52	40	34	36	40	55	35	28
Don't know	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	—	0	0	0
53. When was the last time you discussed AIDS with a friend or relative?											
0-3 days ago	7	7	8	5	6	7	7	8	6	6	8
4-7 days ago	8	9	10	6	7	9	8	11	5	8	11
8-14 days ago	7	6	7	6	7	7	6	7	4	7	7
15-31 days ago	14	17	15	11	13	15	15	10	9	14	16
More than 31 days ago	23	29	27	15	22	24	23	20	17	24	25
Don't know	5	4	4	6	5	4	5	4	4	4	5
Never discussed ¹²	37	28	30	52	40	34	36	40	55	36	28
54. Have you ever personally known anyone with AIDS or the AIDS virus?											
Yes	10	11	13	6	10	11	9	15	4	10	14
No	88	87	85	93	89	88	89	83	95	88	84
Don't know	2	2	2	1	2	1	2	2	1	2	2
55. How long has it been since you saw this person?											
Within past 2 weeks	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1
2 weeks-less than 1 month	0	0	0	0	—	0	0	1	0	0	0
1 month-less than 3 months	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	1
3 months-less than 6 months	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	—	1	1
6 months or more	7	8	9	4	7	7	7	11	3	7	10
Don't know	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	—	—	0	0
Never knew anyone with AIDS ¹³	90	89	87	94	90	89	91	85	96	90	86

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Provisional estimates of the percent of persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1988 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, 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		Race		Education		
	Total	18-29 years	30-49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	White	Black	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	1	1	1	2	1	3	1	1	2
Fairly well	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	3	1	1	3
Not very well	4	4	6	2	3	5	4	7	1	4	5
Don't really know personally	2	2	3	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	3
Other	1	2	1	0	2	1	1	1	0	1	1
Don't know how well	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Never knew anyone with AIDS ¹³	90	89	87	94	90	89	91	85	96	90	86
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	3	2	0	2	2	2	3	2	2	2
No to all statements	98	97	98	100	98	98	98	97	98	98	98
Refused	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Don't know	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	73	76	78	65	75	71	73	74	67	75	74
No	20	18	16	27	19	21	20	19	25	19	19
Other	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1
Don't know	6	6	6	6	5	7	6	7	7	5	6
59. Why wouldn't you take part in the test? ¹⁴											
Don't want to know if I have AIDS	6	10	5	4	7	5	5	12	5	5	7
Don't want any counseling about AIDS	1	1	1	1	2	0	1	1	2	1	1
Fear I'll get AIDS	5	4	6	6	6	5	5	7	7	6	4
Don't like to give blood	16	25	15	13	15	17	15	25	13	22	13
Don't trust Government programs	6	5	9	5	8	5	6	5	3	5	9
It is a waste of money	5	2	4	6	6	3	5	0	6	5	3
Don't believe AIDS can really be cured anyway	2	2	2	1	3	1	1	3	2	2	1
Other	49	37	49	56	46	52	51	39	51	42	54
Don't know	5	8	5	4	4	6	5	4	5	5	5
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	66	70	69	61	66	66	67	68	58	65	73
Doubtful	27	24	28	30	27	28	27	25	29	30	24
Don't know	6	6	4	9	7	6	6	7	13	6	3
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	80	84	83	73	80	79	80	81	70	79	86
Doubtful	16	13	14	19	15	17	16	15	19	17	12
Don't know	4	3	3	8	5	4	5	4	11	4	2

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.
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 persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1988 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, November 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		Race		Education			
	Total	18-29 years	30-49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	White	Black	Less than 12 years	12 years	More than 12 years
Total	100	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	83	84	85	80	83	83	83	81	79	83	85
No	15	15	14	18	15	15	15	15	19	15	13
Don't know	2	1	1	3	2	2	2	4	2	2	2
1b. Heard any public service announcements about AIDS on the radio?											
Yes	43	53	47	32	49	38	42	50	36	41	50
No	52	43	48	64	47	57	53	46	59	55	45
Don't know	5	4	5	5	4	5	5	4	5	4	5
2. Were any of those public service announcements called "America Responds to AIDS"?											
Yes	22	28	23	16	21	22	20	32	22	21	22
No	13	16	12	13	15	12	14	11	13	13	14
Don't know	51	46	52	54	51	51	53	43	49	52	52
Neither heard nor saw any public service announcements.	14	11	13	17	13	14	14	13	16	14	12
3. In the past month, have you read any brochures or pamphlets about AIDS?											
Yes	30	33	34	23	29	31	29	34	21	28	37
No	69	66	66	76	70	68	70	65	78	71	63
Don't know	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1
4. Have you ever read any brochures or pamphlets about AIDS?											
Yes	67	71	73	56	63	70	67	63	46	68	77
No	32	28	25	42	35	29	32	34	52	31	22
Don't know	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	2	1	1	1
5. Where did you get the pamphlets or brochures? ^{1,2}											
Clinic, other than work clinic	3	5	2	2	2	4	2	7	3	3	3
Doctor's office (HMO)	13	16	12	9	11	14	13	13	12	13	12
Drug store	1	2	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Public health department	2	2	2	1	1	3	2	6	2	2	2
Received in mail without asking	39	32	36	49	38	39	39	35	43	41	35
Red Cross/Red Cross blood donation	3	2	3	2	4	2	3	2	1	3	3
Other blood donation	0	—	1	—	0	0	0	0	—	0	0
School	10	17	9	3	8	11	9	10	7	9	11
Sent/phoned for/requested it	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	—	1	0
Federal/State/local government	22	16	25	25	23	22	24	14	20	19	26
Work, other than clinic or nurse	13	10	17	9	14	12	13	13	7	12	15
Work, nurse or clinic	5	5	7	2	3	6	5	4	3	3	7
Other	14	17	13	11	16	12	13	20	15	13	14
Don't know	3	3	2	4	3	2	3	4	3	4	2
15. Have you ever discussed AIDS with any of your children aged 10-17? ³											
Yes	62	45	64	59	49	73	63	58	49	59	70
No	38	55	36	41	51	27	37	42	51	41	30
Don't know	0	—	0	—	—	0	0	—	—	0	—
16. Have any or all of your children aged 10-17 had instruction at school about AIDS? ³											
Yes	56	40	57	59	55	57	54	68	55	57	56
No	13	21	13	13	15	12	14	10	10	11	17
Don't know	31	39	30	28	31	31	32	22	36	32	27
21. How much would you say you know about AIDS?											
A lot	23	22	29	16	22	23	23	20	9	18	34
Some	43	52	47	33	44	43	44	35	30	47	47
A little	25	23	20	33	25	25	25	28	37	28	17
None	9	3	4	18	8	9	8	17	24	7	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	64	65	73	53	65	63	66	54	41	62	78
No	15	21	15	12	15	16	15	19	14	19	12
Other	0	—	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Don't know	21	14	12	35	20	22	19	27	45	18	10
23a. AIDS can reduce the body's natural protection against disease.											
Definitely true	75	79	82	64	76	74	77	60	52	76	86
Probably true	12	14	9	14	12	12	12	12	18	12	8
Probably false	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	2	1	1
Definitely false	2	3	2	2	1	3	2	6	3	3	1
Don't know	10	4	6	18	10	9	8	19	24	8	4

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Provisional estimates of the percent of persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1988 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, November 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		Race		Education			
	Total	18-29 years	30-49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	White	Black	Less than 12 years	12 years	More than 12 years
Percent distribution ¹											
23b. AIDS is especially common in older people.											
Definitely true	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	1	0	0
Probably true	1	2	1	2	2	1	1	2	2	2	1
Probably false	17	18	15	17	16	17	17	15	15	18	16
Definitely false	74	75	79	69	74	75	75	68	63	76	79
Don't know	7	5	4	12	8	7	6	13	19	4	3
23c. AIDS can damage the brain.											
Definitely true	25	18	27	28	25	25	25	30	20	26	28
Probably true	32	35	30	32	32	31	32	30	36	31	31
Probably false	10	13	10	7	10	10	10	8	7	11	11
Definitely false	8	10	11	4	9	7	8	6	5	9	9
Don't know	25	24	22	28	23	26	24	27	33	23	21
23d. AIDS usually leads to heart disease.											
Definitely true	7	6	7	8	7	7	6	14	7	9	6
Probably true	23	21	22	24	22	23	23	25	25	23	21
Probably false	18	22	20	14	19	17	19	13	11	18	22
Definitely false	17	21	21	10	18	16	18	13	10	15	22
Don't know	35	31	30	44	33	37	35	35	47	35	29
23e. AIDS is an infectious disease caused by a virus.											
Definitely true	63	69	69	50	64	62	63	59	48	62	71
Probably true	18	20	17	19	20	17	19	17	20	20	17
Probably false	2	2	2	3	2	3	2	4	4	2	2
Definitely false	5	3	5	5	3	6	4	6	4	5	4
Don't know	12	6	8	22	11	13	12	14	25	11	6
23f. Teenagers cannot get AIDS.											
Definitely true	1	0	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	0
Probably true	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	2	0	0
Probably false	3	2	2	5	3	2	3	4	5	3	2
Definitely false	92	96	96	86	92	93	93	90	83	94	96
Don't know	3	1	1	6	3	3	3	4	8	2	1
23g. AIDS leads to death.											
Definitely true	86	83	87	86	84	87	86	88	83	89	84
Probably true	11	13	11	9	12	10	11	7	10	9	13
Probably false	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	1
Definitely false	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1
Don't know	2	1	1	4	2	2	2	3	6	1	0
23h. A person can be infected with the AIDS virus and not have the disease AIDS.											
Definitely true	55	57	61	46	55	54	56	43	37	53	65
Probably true	22	24	21	22	22	22	23	21	21	25	21
Probably false	3	5	2	3	3	3	3	7	4	4	3
Definitely false	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	6	4	4	3
Don't know	16	11	11	25	15	17	14	24	34	13	8
23i. Looking at a person is enough to tell if he or she has the AIDS virus.											
Definitely true	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	6	3	2	2
Probably true	4	6	3	4	4	4	4	6	6	5	3
Probably false	14	14	12	17	13	15	14	16	14	16	13
Definitely false	69	72	77	58	71	67	71	58	51	70	78
Don't know	10	6	6	18	10	10	10	15	26	8	5
23j. Any person with the AIDS virus can pass it on to someone else during sexual intercourse.											
Definitely true	82	84	84	80	80	85	82	83	79	84	83
Probably true	12	13	12	12	15	10	12	11	11	12	13
Probably false	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Definitely false	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	0	1	1	1
Don't know	4	1	2	7	3	4	3	5	9	2	2
23k. A person who has the AIDS virus can look and feel healthy and well.											
Definitely true	47	50	53	36	47	46	48	37	28	46	57
Probably true	28	29	27	29	28	28	28	29	27	30	27
Probably false	8	7	7	9	8	7	8	8	11	8	6
Definitely false	5	5	4	7	5	5	4	10	10	5	3
Don't know	12	9	9	20	12	13	12	16	24	12	7
23l. A pregnant woman who has the AIDS virus can give the AIDS virus to her baby.											
Definitely true	79	81	83	74	77	81	79	81	71	80	83
Probably true	15	15	13	17	16	14	15	13	18	15	14
Probably false	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
Definitely false	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	0
Don't know	5	3	3	9	6	4	5	5	10	4	3

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Provisional estimates of the percent of persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1988 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, November 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		Race		Education			
	Total	18-29 years	30-49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	White	Black	Less than 12 years	12 years	More than 12 years
Percent distribution ¹											
23m. There is a vaccine available to the public that protects a person from getting the AIDS virus.											
Definitely true	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	3	2	1	1
Probably true	2	4	1	3	3	2	2	4	4	3	1
Probably false	10	10	7	12	10	10	10	11	13	11	6
Definitely false	75	76	83	65	76	75	77	64	55	75	86
Don't know	12	7	7	20	10	12	11	18	26	10	5
23n. There is no cure for AIDS at present.											
Definitely true	85	85	90	80	85	86	86	78	77	84	91
Probably true	7	7	6	8	7	6	6	9	6	8	6
Probably false	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1
Definitely false	3	3	2	3	3	3	2	5	4	3	1
Don't know	4	2	2	8	4	4	4	7	11	3	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	2	2	1	2	2	2	1	4	3	2	1
Somewhat likely	3	4	3	3	4	3	3	5	5	3	2
Somewhat unlikely	7	8	6	7	7	6	6	9	7	8	5
Very unlikely	36	36	36	35	37	34	36	36	33	37	36
Definitely not possible	45	45	51	39	43	47	47	31	34	44	53
Don't know	7	5	4	13	7	8	6	16	19	6	3
24b. Working near someone with the AIDS virus?											
Very likely	2	3	2	3	3	2	2	4	3	3	2
Somewhat likely	10	10	8	11	10	9	9	10	13	10	7
Somewhat unlikely	12	12	12	12	13	11	12	13	12	13	10
Very unlikely	38	36	40	36	37	38	39	34	31	38	41
Definitely not possible	31	34	33	25	29	32	31	24	23	29	36
Don't know	8	5	5	14	8	8	7	15	19	7	3
24c. Eating in a restaurant where the cook has the AIDS virus?											
Very likely	7	7	5	8	8	6	6	11	8	8	4
Somewhat likely	18	19	18	18	18	18	18	18	20	20	15
Somewhat unlikely	15	15	16	15	15	15	16	13	13	16	16
Very unlikely	28	27	33	23	28	28	29	25	21	26	34
Definitely not possible	19	22	20	16	19	20	20	15	14	18	23
Don't know	13	10	8	20	12	14	12	18	24	12	7
24d. Kissing—with exchange of saliva—a person who has the AIDS virus?											
Very likely	24	21	23	29	24	25	24	27	29	27	20
Somewhat likely	28	28	29	29	27	30	29	29	26	29	29
Somewhat unlikely	12	15	13	9	14	11	13	8	8	11	16
Very unlikely	16	16	17	13	17	15	16	13	11	15	19
Definitely not possible	8	10	10	3	8	8	8	6	5	8	9
Don't know	11	9	8	17	10	12	11	17	21	10	8
24e. Shaking hands, touching, or kissing on the cheek someone who has the AIDS virus?											
Very likely	2	1	1	2	2	1	1	3	3	1	1
Somewhat likely	6	6	5	8	6	6	6	9	7	8	4
Somewhat unlikely	14	15	14	14	16	13	14	14	15	15	13
Very unlikely	37	35	39	37	38	37	38	34	36	35	40
Definitely not possible	34	38	37	26	32	35	34	26	22	35	39
Don't know	7	5	3	13	7	7	6	14	17	6	3
24f. Sharing plates, forks, or glasses with someone who has the AIDS virus?											
Very likely	9	8	7	11	10	8	8	13	12	11	5
Somewhat likely	21	21	20	22	21	21	21	23	22	22	18
Somewhat unlikely	13	13	16	11	14	13	14	10	9	13	16
Very unlikely	28	26	30	26	29	27	28	24	22	26	32
Definitely not possible	18	23	20	13	17	19	19	15	12	18	22
Don't know	11	9	7	18	10	13	11	15	23	10	7
24g. Using public toilets?											
Very likely	6	5	5	7	6	5	5	8	9	7	2
Somewhat likely	12	11	9	15	11	13	11	17	17	13	8
Somewhat unlikely	12	14	12	11	13	11	13	11	11	13	12
Very unlikely	33	30	37	31	33	33	34	31	27	33	37
Definitely not possible	26	30	31	17	27	25	27	17	14	24	34
Don't know	11	10	7	18	10	12	11	16	22	11	6

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Provisional estimates of the percent of persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1988 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, November 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		Race		Education				
	Total	18-29 years	30-49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	White	Black	Less than 12 years	12 years	More than 12 years	
	Percent distribution ¹											
24h. Sharing needles for drug use with someone who has the AIDS virus?												
Very likely	94	96	96	91	93	95	95	92	89	96	96	
Somewhat likely	2	2	2	3	3	1	2	2	2	1	3	
Somewhat unlikely	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Very unlikely	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Definitely not possible	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	
Don't know	3	1	1	6	3	2	2	5	8	2	0	
24i. Being coughed or sneezed on by someone who has the AIDS virus?												
Very likely	8	7	6	10	8	7	7	10	13	8	4	
Somewhat likely	20	17	19	22	18	21	19	22	19	22	18	
Somewhat unlikely	17	19	18	16	18	16	18	13	16	17	19	
Very unlikely	27	29	30	22	29	26	28	23	20	26	33	
Definitely not possible	16	18	20	9	16	16	16	13	9	16	19	
Don't know	12	10	8	20	11	13	12	18	23	12	7	
24j. Attending school with a child who has the AIDS virus?												
Very likely	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	4	3	1	1	
Somewhat likely	6	6	5	7	7	6	6	9	9	8	4	
Somewhat unlikely	10	12	9	10	11	9	10	11	10	11	9	
Very unlikely	39	37	42	37	40	38	40	37	34	38	42	
Definitely not possible	35	40	38	27	33	36	35	26	24	35	40	
Don't know	9	5	5	15	8	9	8	14	20	7	4	
24k. Mosquitoes or other insects?												
Very likely	9	8	9	8	10	8	8	13	13	9	6	
Somewhat likely	16	18	15	14	16	15	15	17	19	17	13	
Somewhat unlikely	9	11	9	8	10	9	9	9	8	9	10	
Very unlikely	24	23	25	23	24	23	24	23	17	24	27	
Definitely not possible	20	21	22	17	20	20	21	12	12	20	25	
Don't know	22	19	19	29	20	25	22	26	31	21	19	
25. Have you ever donated blood?												
Yes	40	33	45	40	52	30	42	30	29	35	50	
No	59	66	55	60	48	70	58	70	70	64	49	
Don't know	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
26a. Have you donated blood since March 1985?												
Yes	13	19	17	5	16	10	14	9	4	12	19	
No	86	80	83	95	83	89	86	90	96	88	81	
Don't know	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	
26b. Have you donated blood in the past 12 months?												
Yes	6	8	8	3	8	4	7	4	2	5	9	
No	93	91	91	97	91	95	93	96	98	94	91	
Don't know	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	
27. Have you ever heard of a blood test that can detect the AIDS virus infection?												
Yes	74	80	82	60	76	72	76	65	57	73	84	
No	21	18	15	31	20	22	19	31	35	22	13	
Don't know	5	2	3	8	4	5	5	5	8	5	3	
28. To the best of your knowledge, are blood donations routinely tested now for the AIDS virus infection?												
Yes	65	71	75	51	67	64	67	53	47	63	78	
No	3	5	3	3	4	3	3	4	3	4	3	
Don't know	5	5	4	7	6	5	5	8	8	5	4	
Never heard of test ⁴	26	20	18	40	24	28	24	35	43	27	16	
29a. Have you ever received counseling or had a talk with a health professional about taking the AIDS virus test?												
Yes	3	7	3	1	4	3	3	2	2	3	4	
No	71	73	79	60	72	69	72	62	55	70	80	
Don't know	0	0	0	—	—	0	—	0	0	0	—	
Never heard of test ⁴	26	20	18	40	24	28	24	35	43	27	16	
29b. Was the discussion— ^{1,5}												
With a private doctor?	52	48	52	74	49	55	53	60	76	44	52	
At a family-planning clinic?	6	5	9	—	5	7	5	13	21	1	6	
On an AIDS hotline?	2	—	4	—	—	4	2	—	—	—	3	
At a prenatal clinic?	4	5	2	—	1	6	3	9	16	6	—	
At an STD or sexually transmitted disease clinic?	3	6	—	—	6	—	3	9	7	3	2	
At an AIDS/HIV counseling and testing site?	5	4	8	5	6	5	4	8	2	6	5	
With some other health professional?	39	39	41	30	43	35	39	40	10	42	43	
With some other counselor?	9	11	7	—	9	9	9	9	7	14	6	
30. During that discussion, did you receive information about how to avoid getting or passing on the AIDS virus? ⁵												
Yes	64	65	65	51	69	58	63	58	52	67	64	
No	36	35	35	49	31	42	37	42	48	33	36	
Don't know	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Provisional estimates of the percent of persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1988 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, November 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		Race		Education			
		18-29 years	30-49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	White	Black	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	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	-	0	0	1	
No	73	79	81	60	75	71	75	65	57	72	83	
Don't know	0	-	0	-	0	0	0	-	-	-	0	
Never heard of test ⁴	26	20	18	40	24	28	24	35	43	27	16	
32. Have you ever been advised by friends or relatives not to have the blood test for the AIDS virus infection?												
Yes	0	1	0	-	0	0	0	1	-	0	0	
No	74	79	81	60	76	72	75	64	57	72	84	
Don't know	0	-	0	-	-	0	0	-	0	-	0	
Never heard of test ⁴	26	20	18	40	24	28	24	35	43	27	16	
33. Have you had your blood tested for the AIDS virus infection?												
Yes ⁵	17	26	21	6	21	14	18	15	6	16	24	
No	57	54	61	53	55	58	58	48	50	58	60	
Don't know	2	1	2	2	2	1	1	4	1	1	2	
Never heard of test ⁴	25	19	16	39	22	27	23	33	42	25	14	
35a. How many times have you had your blood tested for the AIDS virus infection? ⁷												
Once	5	9	5	2	5	5	5	5	2	5	6	
Twice	1	3	2	0	2	1	1	2	1	1	2	
3-5 times	1	2	1	0	2	0	1	0	-	1	1	
6-12 times	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	
More than 12 times	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	0	0	
Don't know ⁸	9	12	12	4	11	7	10	7	3	8	14	
Never heard of or never took test ⁸	83	74	79	94	79	86	82	85	94	84	76	
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	2	2	1	1	2	3	
Once	4	8	5	1	5	4	4	5	2	5	5	
More than once	2	3	3	1	3	1	2	2	1	1	3	
Don't know ⁸	9	12	12	4	11	7	10	6	3	8	13	
Never heard of or never took test ⁸	83	74	79	94	79	86	82	85	94	84	76	
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	71	65	76	72	72	70	72	62	57	69	74	
Part of a blood transfusion?	3	3	2	7	3	3	3	2	7	3	2	
Voluntarily sought? ⁹	19	21	17	19	16	22	18	32	36	19	17	
Part of some other activity that requires a blood sample?	16	23	12	9	18	13	15	16	19	18	14	
38. Did you get the results of your test/any of your tests? ⁹												
Yes	54	62	50	41	51	57	54	50	61	56	50	
No	45	37	48	56	47	42	45	50	39	43	48	
Don't know	1	1	1	3	2	1	2	1	-	1	2	
41. Do you expect to have a blood test for the AIDS virus infection in the next 12 months?												
Yes	6	9	7	2	7	5	5	12	3	6	6	
No	64	66	71	56	64	64	67	45	50	62	74	
Don't know	4	5	5	3	5	3	3	8	4	5	3	
Never heard of test ⁴	26	20	18	40	24	28	24	35	43	27	16	
42. Will the test be— ^{1,10}												
Part of a blood donation?	44	39	48	48	45	43	50	26	44	38	50	
Voluntarily sought? ⁹	51	55	46	60	47	56	48	64	65	61	39	
Part of some other activity that requires a blood sample?	17	20	16	11	16	18	16	21	19	18	15	
44a. Did you have a blood transfusion at any time between 1977 and 1985?												
Yes	5	3	4	8	6	5	5	6	8	5	5	
No	94	96	95	90	94	93	93	94	91	95	94	
Don't know	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
44b. Do you think the present supply of blood is safe for transfusions?												
Yes	47	49	52	40	52	43	49	35	31	47	55	
No	27	31	25	27	23	31	26	37	34	29	22	
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	-	0	
Don't know	26	20	23	34	25	26	25	28	35	24	22	
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	2	3	1	2	2	2	2	4	2	2	2	
Somewhat effective	12	14	10	11	12	12	11	13	10	12	12	
Not at all effective	59	62	68	45	59	59	62	42	42	59	68	
Don't know how effective	20	14	16	30	19	21	20	27	29	21	15	
Don't know method	7	7	4	11	8	7	6	13	17	6	4	

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Provisional estimates of the percent of persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1988 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, November 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		Race		Education		
		18-29 years	30-49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	White	Black	Less than 12 years	12 years	More than 12 years
Percent distribution ¹											
45b. Using a condom?											
Very effective.	30	37	32	21	33	27	29	34	20	28	37
Somewhat effective.	54	52	57	53	55	54	56	42	48	59	54
Not at all effective.	5	5	4	6	4	6	5	8	8	6	3
Don't know how effective.	9	5	6	15	7	10	8	14	18	7	5
Don't know method.	2	1	1	5	2	2	2	2	7	1	1
45c. Using a spermicidal jelly, foam, or cream?											
Very effective.	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	5	2	2	1
Somewhat effective.	15	15	17	13	15	15	15	13	10	15	17
Not at all effective.	55	62	61	43	56	55	57	45	41	57	61
Don't know how effective.	22	16	17	32	21	22	21	26	33	21	17
Don't know method.	7	5	4	11	7	6	6	11	14	6	4
45d. Having a vasectomy?											
Very effective.	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	3	1	2	1
Somewhat effective.	2	3	1	3	3	2	2	3	4	2	2
Not at all effective.	71	72	80	60	73	69	74	55	50	73	81
Don't know how effective.	19	16	13	27	18	20	18	25	30	18	13
Don't know method.	6	6	4	9	5	8	5	13	15	5	4
45e. Two people who do not have the AIDS virus having sex only with each other?											
Very effective.	84	85	88	80	85	84	86	71	74	84	90
Somewhat effective.	7	9	7	6	7	8	7	13	7	9	6
Not at all effective.	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	5	3	2	1
Don't know how effective.	5	2	3	10	5	5	5	8	13	4	2
Don't know method.	1	1	0	2	1	1	1	3	4	1	0
46. What are your chances of having the AIDS virus?											
High.	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0
Medium.	2	3	2	0	2	1	2	2	2	2	2
Low.	15	22	17	8	16	15	15	18	11	13	20
None.	81	73	79	88	79	82	81	75	81	84	77
Don't know.	2	2	1	3	2	2	2	4	5	1	1
47. What are your chances of getting the AIDS virus?											
High.	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Medium.	1	1	2	0	1	1	1	3	1	1	2
Low.	20	27	24	10	22	18	20	20	13	17	27
None.	75	68	72	84	72	78	76	70	78	79	70
Don't know.	3	2	1	5	3	2	2	5	6	2	2
High chance of already having AIDS virus.	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0
49. Do you say your chance of getting AIDS is high or medium because you— ¹¹											
Have had a blood transfusion?.	2	3	2	-	-	4	3	-	-	5	-
Have had sexual contact with someone who might have the virus?	17	19	17	9	24	11	13	26	25	12	18
Some other reason?	66	61	65	87	63	69	67	63	59	74	62
52. Have you ever discussed AIDS with a friend or relative?											
Yes.	63	66	74	47	60	65	63	59	43	63	74
No.	37	33	26	52	40	34	36	41	56	37	26
Don't know.	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
53. When was the last time you discussed AIDS with a friend or relative?											
0-3 days ago.	7	6	8	7	6	8	7	8	6	7	8
4-7 days ago.	8	9	9	6	8	9	8	7	6	7	10
8-14 days ago.	6	7	7	5	6	7	6	6	5	6	8
15-31 days ago.	13	15	15	9	12	14	13	12	7	13	16
More than 31 days ago.	23	25	28	16	22	24	24	21	15	25	26
Don't know.	5	4	6	5	6	4	5	4	5	5	5
Never discussed ¹²	37	34	26	53	40	35	37	41	57	37	26
54. Have you ever personally known anyone with AIDS or the AIDS virus?											
Yes.	12	12	15	8	11	12	12	12	6	9	17
No.	86	86	83	90	87	86	86	85	92	89	80
Don't know.	2	2	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	1	1	0	0	2
2 weeks-less than 1 month.	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1
1 month-less than 3 months.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	2
3 months-less than 6 months.	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	1
6 months or more.	8	7	10	7	8	8	8	8	4	7	11
Don't know.	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
Never knew anyone with AIDS ¹³	88	88	85	92	89	88	88	88	94	91	83

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Provisional estimates of the percent of persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1988 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, November 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		Race		Education			
	Total	18-29 years	30-49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	White	Black	Less than 12 years	12 years	More than 12 years
	Percent distribution ¹										
56. How well do you know this person?											
Very well	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	2
Fairly well	3	3	3	2	2	3	2	4	1	2	5
Not very well	5	5	7	3	5	5	5	4	2	4	8
Don't really know personally	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	2
Other	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1
Don't know how well	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Never knew anyone with AIDS ¹³	88	88	85	92	89	88	88	88	94	91	83
57. Is any of these statements true for you?											
a. You have hemophillia 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	3	2	1	2	1	2	3	2	2	2
No to all statements	98	97	97	99	97	98	98	97	98	98	98
Refused	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	—	0
Don't know	0	1	0	—	1	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	78	74	62	72	69	72	67	62	71	75
No	21	16	19	29	20	23	21	22	27	21	18
Other	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	2	1	1
Don't know	7	5	7	7	7	7	6	11	8	7	5
59. Why wouldn't you take part in the test? ¹⁴											
Don't want to know if I have AIDS	5	9	5	3	3	6	4	10	3	7	5
Don't want any counseling about AIDS	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	2	1
Fear I'll get AIDS	6	8	5	5	5	6	5	7	5	6	7
Don't like to give blood	16	23	13	15	12	19	16	18	18	15	16
Don't trust Government programs	7	6	8	6	9	5	7	7	6	7	8
It is a waste of money	3	1	3	4	2	3	3	0	3	3	2
Don't believe AIDS can really be cured anyway	2	5	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	3
Other	50	44	49	53	49	50	52	32	46	50	53
Don't know	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	—	1	1
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	65	76	65	57	67	64	65	64	54	64	73
Doubtful	28	21	30	30	27	28	28	26	31	29	24
Don't know	7	2	5	13	6	8	7	10	14	7	3
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	79	87	80	72	80	77	79	77	67	78	86
Doubtful	16	12	16	18	15	16	16	14	20	17	12
Don't know	6	2	4	10	4	6	5	10	13	5	2

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.

Symbols

- Quantity zero
 - 0 Quantity more than zero but less than
-

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 6,760 persons, or 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 men who have had their blood tested for the AIDS virus. The population figures in table I are based on 1987 data from the NHIS; they are not official population estimates. Tables II and III show approximate standard errors of 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 later in 1989.

Table I. Sample sizes for the 1988 National Health Interview Survey of AIDS Knowledge and Attitudes and estimated adult population 18 years of age and over, by selected characteristics: United States, October and November 1988

Characteristics	Sample size		Estimated population in thousands
	October	November	
All adults	3,387	3,373	175,260
Age			
18-29 years	834	809	47,500
30-49 years	1,278	1,302	66,900
50 years and over	1,275	1,262	60,860
Sex			
Male	1,379	1,424	83,073
Female	2,008	1,949	92,187
Race			
White	2,731	2,760	148,154
Black	520	506	19,168
Education			
Less than 12 years	802	738	40,061
12 years	1,324	1,256	68,055
More than 12 years	1,234	1,354	65,333

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

Estimated percent	Total	Age			Sex		Race		Education		
		18-29 years	30-49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	White	Black	Less than 12 years	12 years	More than 12 years
5 or 95	0.5	1.0	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.5	1.2	1.0	0.8	0.8
10 or 90	0.7	1.3	1.1	1.1	1.0	0.9	0.7	1.7	1.4	1.1	1.1
15 or 85	0.8	1.6	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.0	0.9	2.0	1.6	1.3	1.3
20 or 80	0.9	1.8	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.1	1.0	2.3	1.8	1.4	1.5
25 or 75	1.0	1.9	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.2	1.1	2.4	2.0	1.5	1.6
30 or 70	1.0	2.0	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.3	1.1	2.6	2.1	1.6	1.7
35 or 65	1.1	2.1	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.4	1.2	2.7	2.2	1.7	1.7
40 or 60	1.1	2.2	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.4	1.2	2.8	2.2	1.7	1.8
45 or 55	1.1	2.2	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.4	1.2	2.8	2.3	1.8	1.8
50	1.1	2.2	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.4	1.2	2.8	2.3	1.8	1.8

Table III. Standard errors, expressed in percentage points, of estimated percents from the National Health Interview Survey of AIDS Knowledge and Attitudes, by selected characteristics: United States, November 1988

Estimated percent	Total	Age			Sex		Race		Education		
		18-29 years	30-49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	White	Black	Less than 12 years	12 years	More than 12 years
5 or 95	0.5	1.0	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.5	1.2	1.0	0.8	0.8
10 or 90	0.7	1.4	1.1	1.1	1.0	0.9	0.7	1.7	1.4	1.1	1.0
15 or 85	0.8	1.6	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.0	0.9	2.0	1.7	1.3	1.2
20 or 80	0.9	1.8	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.2	1.0	2.3	1.9	1.5	1.4
25 or 75	1.0	2.0	1.5	1.6	1.5	1.3	1.1	2.5	2.1	1.6	1.5
30 or 70	1.0	2.1	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.3	1.1	2.6	2.2	1.7	1.6
35 or 65	1.1	2.2	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.4	1.2	2.7	2.3	1.7	1.7
40 or 60	1.1	2.2	1.7	1.8	1.7	1.4	1.2	2.8	2.3	1.8	1.7
45 or 55	1.1	2.3	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.5	1.2	2.8	2.4	1.8	1.7
50	1.1	2.3	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.5	1.2	2.9	2.4	1.8	1.7

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Suggested citation

National Center for Health Statistics, A. M. Hardy and D. A. Dawson. AIDS knowledge and attitudes for October and November 1988: Provisional data from the National Health Interview Survey. *Advance Data From Vital and Health Statistics*, No. 167. DHHS Pub. No. (PHS) 89-1250. Public Health Service, Hyattsville, Md.

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