

HIV/AIDS AMONG MINORITIES* IN GEORGIA

Division of Health Protection
Epidemiology Section
HIV/AIDS Surveillance Unit

Minority Demographics in Georgia

The proportion of HIV/AIDS cases in Georgia has shifted from largely white “men who have sex with men” to mainly African-Americans, with increasing numbers of women, people infected by heterosexual contact and persons residing in rural areas becoming infected.*

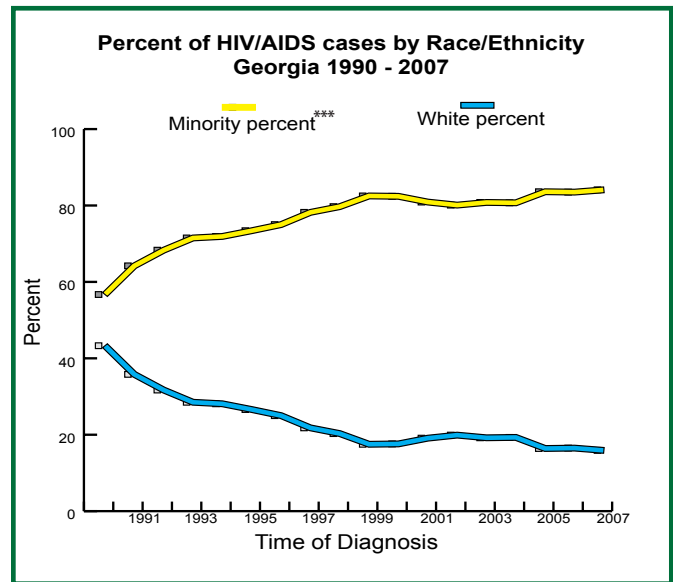
HIV/AIDS Data

- Although Georgia is ninth in population, it had the sixth highest rate of reported AIDS cases in 2005, eighth highest total number of AIDS cases reported as of 2003 and eighth highest number of people living with AIDS as of 2005
- In 2005, the number of newly diagnosed HIV/AIDS cases among whites in Georgia was 394, compared to 1,703 among African-Americans, 109 among Hispanics/Latinos, 12 among Asians and 28 among Native Hawaiians/Pacific Islanders, American Indian/ Alaska Native and Multiracial persons
- The proportion of HIV/AIDS cases among minorities in Georgia has increased dramatically from 55 percent in 1990 to 82 percent in 2005. (See Percent of HIV/AIDS cases by Race/Ethnicity)
- Of the 29,107 persons living with HIV/AIDS in Georgia, African-Americans represented 70 percent of reported cases (20,465)
- The HIV/AIDS rate for African-American females was 38 cases per 100,000 persons in 2005 which is 12 times that of white females (three per 100,000) in Georgia**

Modes of Transmission and Behavioral Risk Factors

- The Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) causes AIDS. The most common mode of transmitting HIV is through unprotected sexual contact with a person with HIV. HIV is transmitted among injection drug users by sharing needles, syringes or drug paraphernalia contaminated with HIV-infected blood. It is now extremely rare for HIV to be transmitted through blood transfusions or blood products

For more information on HIV/AIDS, contact the Office of Health Improvement's Georgia HIV/AIDS TAKE Project at (404) 657-6707 or visit www.hiv-aidstakesproject.org



***Minorities include Blacks/African Americans, Hispanics/Latinos, Asians/ Native Hawaiians/Pacific Islanders and American Indians/Alaska Natives.

Reduce Your Chances of HIV Infection:

- Abstain from sexual intercourse
- Get involved in a monogamous relationship with someone who is HIV negative
- Discuss HIV with your partners before sex
- Use male or female latex condoms correctly and consistently
- Don't share needles and syringes
- If you have had unprotected sex or used injectable drugs, get tested for HIV, especially if you are pregnant to reduce the chances of passing HIV to your baby

*Source: HIV/AIDS Surveillance Report, Vol. 15, and HIV/AIDS Reporting System (HARS), Georgia Division of Public Health, (2005).

**Sources: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's HIV/AIDS Surveillance Report, Vol. 15, and HIV/AIDS Reporting System (HARS), Georgia Division of Public Health (March-July 2007).