AIDS in Hispanics

County of San Diego

2012

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Health and Human Services Agency

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
HHSA
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

AIDS in Hispanics San Diego County 2012

County of San Diego
Health and Human Services Agency
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AIDS Data Summary

The first AIDS case in an Hispanic resident of San Diego county was diagnosed in 1983. Cumulatively, Hispanics have made up 25% of all those diagnosed with AIDS in the county and this group has had the second highest number of cases after whites diagnosed each year. The proportion of Hispanic cases increased from 1985 to 2000, but has been essentially stable at about 40% since then (see Table 1). At the same time, there has been a decline in the number and proportion of white cases and an increase in black cases. While the percent of Hispanics in the county population has significantly increased since 2005 ($p<0.001$), the percent of AIDS cases which are Hispanic has not ($p=0.283$), and the proportion of recent (2007-2011) AIDS cases diagnosed in Hispanics has been about 25% higher than the proportion of Hispanics in the general county population. The proportion of Hispanic AIDS cases nationally (20% in 2010) is less than half that seen in the county (41% in 2010). This is in part because of differences in demographics: Hispanics constituted 32% of the county population (2008), while about 15% of the United States (US) population is Hispanic (US Census, 2006 estimate).

Whites have had the largest number of AIDS cases in the county each year, but Hispanics have had a higher rate of AIDS than whites since the mid-1990s. This rate, measured per 100,000 persons, more accurately reflects the relative disease burden in each group. The rate of AIDS in Hispanics is 50-75% higher than that of whites, but about half that seen in blacks (see Table 2 and Figure 1). Unlike the proportion of cases, the rate of AIDS diagnoses in Hispanics in 2010 in San Diego county (13 per 100,000) is similar to the US rate (14 per 100,000) estimated by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in the same year.

Asian/Pacific Islander cases are not included in the tables presented because of small numbers of cases in this racial/ethnic group.

Table 1

Proportion of Hispanics in the San Diego County Population and Among Local AIDS Cases, 2000-2011

	San Diego County		AIDS Cases	
Year	population*	% Hispanic	diagnosed	% Hispanic
2000	2,813,833	27	463	36
2005	3,038,579	29	417	34
2006	3,064,113	29	405	40
2007	3,098,269	29	371	39
2008	3,141,700	30	344	37
2009	3,185,462	30	368	42
2010	3,195,313	32	302	41
2011	3,140,069	33	258	36

*SANDAG population estimates.

GENDER

More men than women are diagnosed with AIDS each year in all racial/ethnic groups. The AIDS case rate in Hispanic males is about twenty-five percent greater than the rate in white males, but about half that seen in black males.

The proportion of female AIDS cases in Hispanics is more than twice that seen in whites, but less than half of that seen in blacks.

TABLE 2

Number and Rate of AIDS Cases in Whites, Blacks, and Hispanics, 2000 to 2010, San Diego County

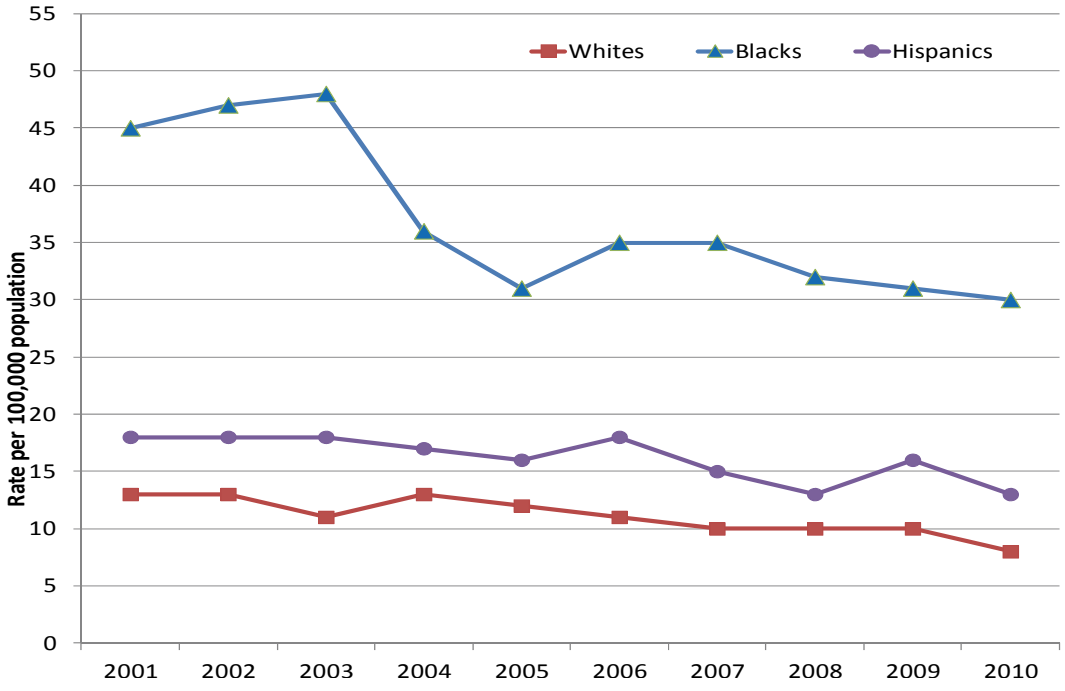
	Race/Ethnicity							
	White		Black		Hispanic		All cases#	
Year	cases	rate*	cases	rate*	cases	rate*	cases	rate*
2000	210	14	72	46	162	21	460	16
2005	207	12	45	31	142	16	408	13
2006	170	11	51	35	160	18	397	13
2007	153	10	59	35	140	15	371	12
2008	147	10	54	32	126	13	344	11
2009	155	10	45	31	154	16	368	12
2010	114	8	44	30	124	13	302	10

*Rates are per 100,000 population.

#Includes Asian, Pacific Islander, Native American, and others.

FIGURE 1

Rate of AIDS cases in Whites, Blacks, and Hispanics, in San Diego County, 2001-2010



Among Hispanic cases, in each time period the proportion of females is statistically significantly greater than the proportion seen in whites ($p<0.001$) and statistically significantly lower than the proportion seen in blacks ($p<0.001$) (see Table 3 and Figure 2). In recent years (2007-2011), the proportion of female cases in Hispanics is more similar to that seen in whites, but less than half of that seen in blacks. The proportion of female Hispanic, white, and black cases in San Diego county in recent years (2007-2011) is less than half of the CDC's national estimate, 26%, for 2009, with only Black female cases approaching national estimates.

From the 1987-1991 time period, the proportion of AIDS cases that are female has increased in whites ($p<0.001$), blacks ($p<0.001$) and Hispanics ($p=0.045$) (see Table 3).

Age at Diagnosis

Of cumulative AIDS cases in Hispanics, the mean age at diagnosis is 36.3 years which is significantly younger than in whites (39.2 years, $p<0.001$), but not blacks (37.2 years, $p=0.084$) (see Table 4). In recent years, 2007-2011, Hispanics (mean age 38.7 years) have remained statistically significantly younger at diagnosis than whites (43.5 years, $p<0.001$), but there is no significant difference in age compared to blacks (39.5 years, $p=0.986$). There are no statistical differences between male and female cases in age at diagnosis within race/ethnicity.

Over time, the mean age at diagnosis has increased in all racial/ethnic groups, but has remained in the 30-39 year age range. Cumulatively, Hispanics have a significantly higher proportion of cases (21.9%)in the 20-29 year age group than either whites (13.4%; $p<0.001$) or blacks (17.9%; $p<0.001$) (see Figure 3) reflecting their overall younger age at diagnosis.

While the number of cumulative pediatric cases (diagnosis in those under 13 years of age) is similar for blacks (17 cases) and whites (14 cases), the number seen in Hispanics (35 cases) is more than twice that seen in the other racial/ethnic groups. The proportion of pediatric cases in Hispanics (0.9%) is the same as that seen in blacks (0.9%), and this is almost five times that seen in whites (0.2%) (Data not shown). Small numbers of pediatric cases mean that the significance of these differences

Table 3
Proportion of Female AIDS Cases by Race/Ethnicity, San Diego County

	Race/Ethnicity					
	White		Black		Hispanic	
Time period	all cases	% women	all cases	% women	all cases	% women
1981-1986	384	2.3	31	3.2	53	5.7
1987-1991	2409	3.3	337	11.9	485	8.7
1992-1996	3130	5.2	588	13.8	985	9.0
1997-2001	1175	6.9	382	19.9	785	10.2
2002-2006	998	5.9	319	17.2	772	15.0
2007-2011	689	7.8	223	20.6	641	9.0
1981-2011	8785	5.1	1880	15.9	3721	10.4

Figure 2

Percentage of White, Black, and Hispanic Women Diagnosed with AIDS in Five-Year Time Periods, San Diego County

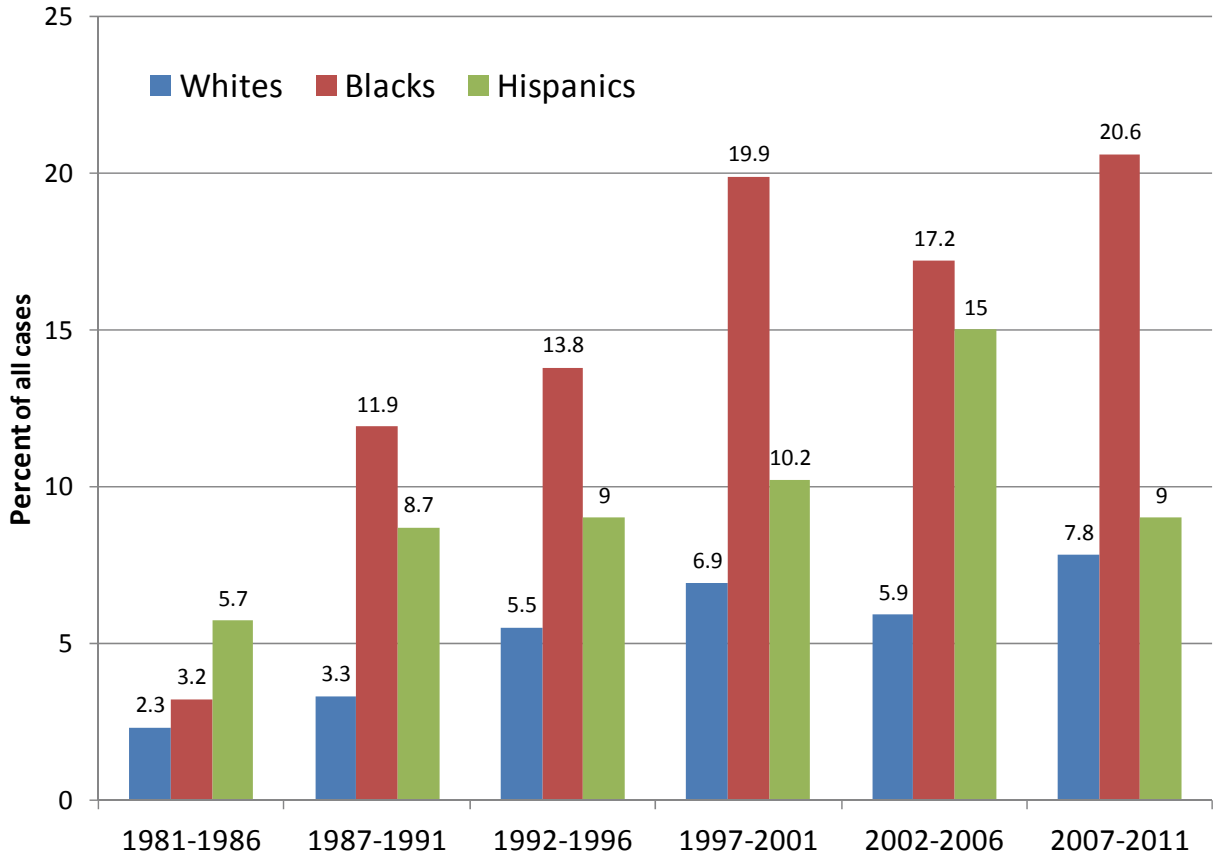


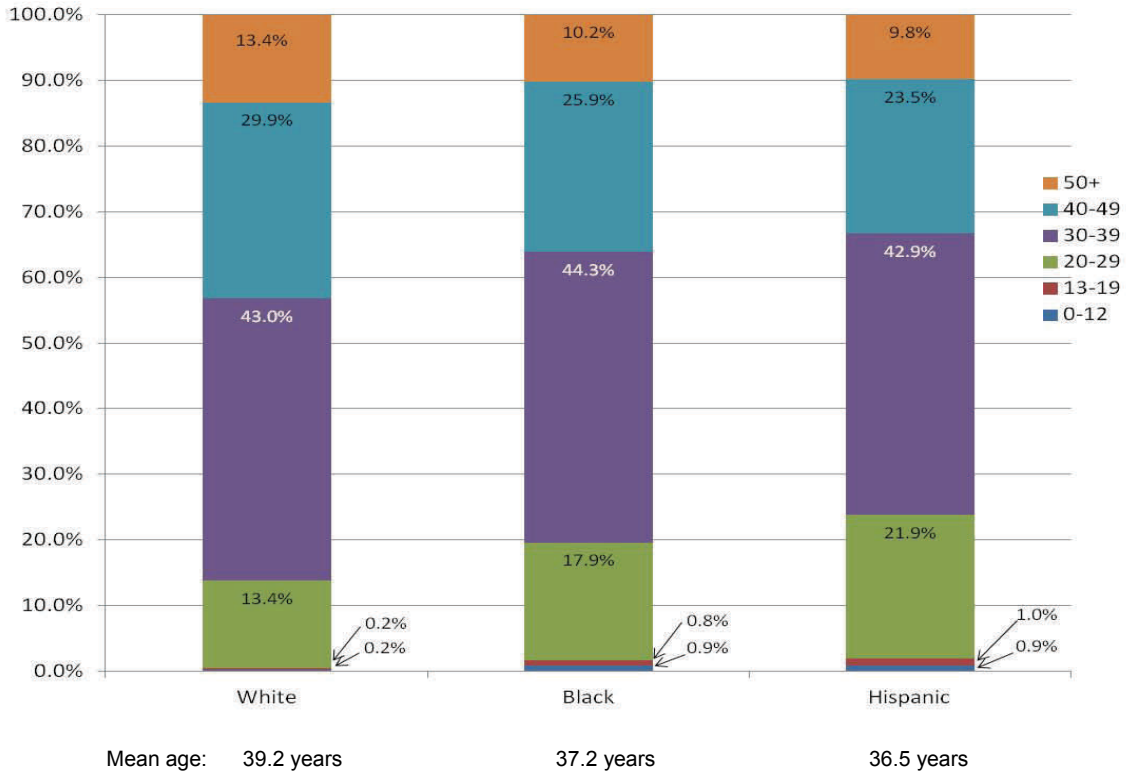
Table 4

Mean and Median Age, and Age Range at Time of AIDS Diagnosis in Whites, Blacks, and Hispanics, Recent (2007-2011) and Cumulative Cases (1981-2011), San Diego County

	Race/Ethnicity							
	White		Black		Hispanic		All Cases*	
	2007-2011	1981-2011	2007-2011	1981-2011	2007-2011	1981-2011	2007-2011	1981-2011
Mean age (years)	43.5	39.2	39.5	37.2	38.7	36.3	40.9	38.2
Median age (years)	44.0	38.0	41.0	37.0	38.0	35.0	41.0	37.0
Range (years)	16-81	<1-92	1-66	<1-71	<1-83	<1-83	<1-83	<1-92
Total cases	689	8,785	223	1,880	641	3,721	1,643	14,942

*Includes Asian, Pacific Islander, Native American, and mixed race.

Figure 3
Percent of Cumulative AIDS Cases in 10-year Age Groups in Whites, Blacks, and Hispanics, San Diego County



cannot be determined and these data should be interpreted with caution.

Current Age

Half (50%) of the individuals who were diagnosed with AIDS in the county of San Diego were deceased by December 31, 2011. Among Hispanic cases alive in 2011, the mean age was 46.3 years (see Table 5). Among those alive in 2011, Hispanics were significantly younger than whites (51.5 years, $p<0.001$) and blacks (49.3 years, $p<0.001$) reflecting their younger age at diagnosis.

Table 5
Current Age AIDS Cases by Race/Ethnicity, Alive in 2011, San Diego County

	Race/Ethnicity			All
	White	Black	Hispanic	Cases*
Mean age (years)	51.5	49.3	46.3	49.1
Median age (years)	51.0	49.0	46.0	49
Range (years)	12-88	6-81	7-91	6-91
Total cases	3,835	989	2,406	7507

*Includes Asian, Pacific Islander, and Native Americans.

Mode of HIV Transmission

Men who have Sex with Men (MSM) has been and continues to be the most commonly reported mode of HIV transmission among men with AIDS, regardless of racial/ethnic group (see Table 6 and Figure 4). Although the proportion of MSM has declined significantly in whites ($p<0.001$) and Hispanics ($p=0.015$) over 5-year time periods, it still accounts for 75% or more of cases. There has been no change in percent of black cases attributable to MSM ($p=0.269$). For data reporting purposes, the MSM mode of transmission is behaviorally defined, that is, it does not involve sexual orientation. A male case who has male sex partners will be in the MSM category whether or not he considers himself to be gay, bisexual, or straight.

Injecting drug use (IDU) as a mode of transmission has declined significantly in Hispanic cases ($p=0.047$) over 5-year time periods while increasing in white cases ($p<0.001$); there has been no significant change in black cases ($p=0.053$) in percent associated with IDU (data not shown).

The proportion of Hispanic adolescent/adult males with both MSM and IDU has significantly decreased over 5-year time periods from 9-10% to 7% (data not shown).

Heterosexual transmission has increased significantly ($p<0.001$) over 5-year time intervals in blacks, whites, and Hispanics (data not shown).

In recent adolescent/adult male AIDS cases (diagnosed in 2007-2011), the proportion of MSM in Hispanics (77%) is higher in San Diego county than the CDC 2009 national estimate (61%). The CDC estimates for IDU (21%) and heterosexual transmission (11%) in Hispanics were higher than the proportions seen in San Diego county (6% and 8%, respectively).

In adult/adolescent females, heterosexual contact is the most commonly reported mode of HIV transmission (see Table 7). The proportion of cases in Hispanic adolescent/adult

Table 6

Mode of HIV Transmission Among Recent (2007-2011) and Cumulative (1981-2011) Male Adolescent/Adult AIDS Cases, by Race/Ethnicity, San Diego County

	Race/Ethnicity							
	White		Black		Hispanic		All Cases**	
	2007-2011	1981-2011	2007-2011	1981-2011	2007-2011	1981-2011	2007-2011	1981-2011
MSM	75%	82%	67%	65%	78%	77%	75%	79%
IDU	6%	4%	11%	15%	6%	8%	6%	7%
MSM+IDU	13%	12%	10%	14%	7%	9%	10%	11%
Heterosexual	5%	1%	7%	5%	8%	4%	7%	2%
Other*	1%	1%	5%	1%	1%	2%	2%	1%
Total in group	635	8,339	177	1,581	583	3,333	1,441	13,613

*Includes transfusion, transplantation, hemophilia, maternal, and not specified.

**Includes Asian, Pacific Islander, Native American, and mixed race.

Figure 4

Recent (2007-2011) and Cumulative (1981-2011) Modes of HIV Transmission in Hispanic Males, San Diego County

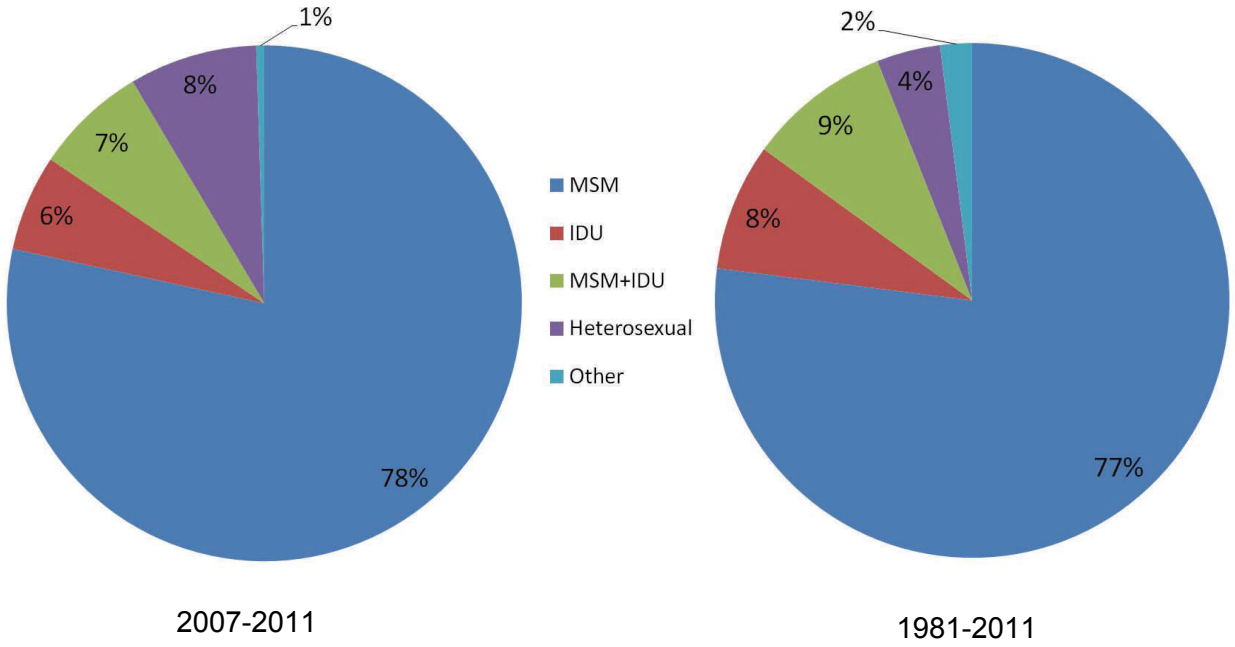


Table 7

Mode of HIV Transmission Among Current (2007-2011) and Cumulative (1981-2011) Adolescent/ Adult Female AIDS Cases by Race/Ethnicity, County of San Diego

	Race/Ethnicity							
	White		Black		Hispanic		All Cases**	
	2007-2011	1981-2011	2007-2011	1981-2011	2007-2011	1981-2011	2007-2011	1981-2011
Heterosexual	55%	47%	74%	58%	72%	65%	69%	56%
IDU	41%	42%	20%	38%	12%	23%	22%	33%
Blood/tissue#	0%	7%	0%	1%	0%	2%	0%	4%
Other*	4%	4%	6%	3%	16%	10%	9%	7%
Total in group	54	446	46	299	58	388	165	13,613

#Includes recipients of blood, blood products, tissues, and artificial insemination.

*Includes partner with known HIV, risk not specified, and maternal transmission.

**Includes Asian, Pacific Islander, Native American, and mixed race.

females listing heterosexual contact as mode of transmission has increased significantly ($p<0.001$) over 5-year time periods (data not shown). In cumulative adolescent/adult female cases, the proportion reporting heterosexual transmission is significantly greater than that seen in whites ($p<0.001$), but not in blacks ($p=0.058$). The proportion of IDU in Hispanic female cases has not changed significantly until the most recent time period, and is significantly lower than that seen in whites ($p=0.003$) in all but the earliest time periods (1981-1986, 1987-1991). Hispanic female cases have a lower percent of IDU than black female cases only in earlier time periods (1981-1986, 1987-1991) ($p=0.006$). The CDC 2007 national estimates for the proportion of AIDS cases in Hispanic women reporting heterosexual transmission (52%) is lower than that seen in the county (80%) in recent years. Correspondingly, the CDC-reported (2007) proportion of female Hispanic cases (18%) reporting IDU as risk of transmission is higher than that of the county (16%).

Country of Origin

More than half (58%) of cumulative Hispanic cases diagnosed with AIDS in San Diego county were born outside of US territory (Table 8). This is in contrast to white and black cases, of whom more than 93% were born in the US or its dependencies. Of cumulative and recent Hispanic cases born outside the US, 92% were born in Mexico. Less common countries of origin include Brazil, Colombia, Cuba, Guatemala, Honduras, and Panama, which collectively account for 4.8% of Hispanic cases born outside the US (data not shown).

There are differences between Hispanic AIDS cases born in the US and foreign-born Hispanic AIDS cases. Those born outside of the US are, on average, significantly older at diagnosis than those born in the US (37.1 years vs. 35.6 years, $p<0.001$) although this difference is not likely to be clinically significant. Foreign-born Hispanic AIDS cases also have less time from first reported HIV diagnosis to AIDS diagnosis (2.0 years vs. 2.6 years, $p<0.001$) (data not shown).

Table 8
Country of Origin of Recent and Cumulative AIDS Cases by Race, San Diego County

	Race/Ethnicity					
	White		Black		Hispanic	
Origin	2007-2011	1981-2011	2007-2011	1981-2011	2007-2011	1981-2011
USA	97.1%	97.3%	85.2%	93.4%	41.5%	39.6%
US Dependency	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	0.9%	1.9%
Mexico	0.0%	<0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	53.2%	53.6%
Other/Unknown	2.8%	2.6%	14.8%	6.5%	4.4%	4.9%
Total in group	689	8,785	223	1,880	641	3,721

It is not possible, with the current database, to determine how long a person with AIDS born outside the US or its territories has been a resident in the US. For example, a case born outside the US may have lived in the US for all but a few months of his or her life. It is therefore not possible to assess how being born outside the US, or time for acculturation, impacts risk factors for disease or transmission.

Region of Residence at Diagnosis

Less than half (45.9%) of Hispanic cases were living in the Central Region at the time of their diagnosis, compared to 58.9% of whites ($p<0.001$) and 67.7% of blacks ($p<0.001$). Almost 28% of Hispanic cases lived in the South Region at the time of diagnosis. They comprised almost 61% of cases diagnosed while residing in the South Region —the only region with a non-white majority of cases. (see Table 9). The East, North Central, North Coastal, and North Inland Regions had approximately 5-8% of Hispanic cases each. In recent years, the proportion of the Hispanic cases in the Central Region has declined significantly ($p<0.001$), while it has increased in the South Region ($p<0.001$).

Facility of Diagnosis

Individual AIDS cases are reported from hospitals, private medical offices, public clinics, prisons, and other locations. In all racial/ethnic groups, more cumulative AIDS diagnoses have been made in the hospital setting, both inpatient and outpatient, than in any other setting (see Table 10). Cumulatively, a smaller proportion of Hispanics (28.1%) than blacks (31.0%, $p=0.024$), but not whites (27.7%, $p=0.635$) were diagnosed in the hospital setting. In recent years there is no significant difference across races/ethnicities.

A significantly larger proportion of cumulative Hispanic cases (26.3%) was diagnosed in

Table 9

Region of Residence at AIDS Diagnosis by Race/Ethnicity in Recent and Cumulative Cases, San Diego County

	Race/Ethnicity							
	White		Black		Hispanic		All Cases*	
HHSA Region	2007-2011	1981-2011	2007-2011	1981-2011	2007-2011	1981-2011	2007-2011	1981-2011
Central	53.3%	58.9%	59.2%	67.7%	37.9%	45.9%	47.5%	56.4%
East	10.4%	7.7%	7.6%	7.0%	7.0%	6.1%	8.6%	7.2%
South	6.0%	4.6%	13.9%	8.6%	34.3%	27.8%	18.4%	11.2%
North Coastal	10.6%	8.1%	4.9%	5.8%	6.6%	7.3%	8.1%	7.6%
North Inland	5.1%	5.0%	2.7%	1.9%	5.3%	4.8%	5.1%	4.6%
North Central	13.5%	15.5%	9.9%	8.6%	8.0%	7.9%	11.3%	12.8%
Unknown	1.2%	0.2%	1.8%	0.3%	0.9%	0.2%	1.2%	0.2%
Total Cases	689	8829	223	1888	641	3755	1643	14942

*Includes Asians, Pacific Islanders, and Native Americans.

Note: percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.

Table 10
Type of Facility Making Diagnosis in AIDS Cases by Race/Ethnicity, San Diego County

	Race/Ethnicity							
	White		Black		Hispanic		All Cases*	
Facility Type	2007-2011	1981-2011	2007-2011	1981-2011	2007-2011	1981-2011	2007-2011	1981-2011
PMD/HMO	38.0%	24.4%	29.6%	14.5%	19.7%	17.3%	29.2%	21.3%
Hospital	25.0%	27.7%	23.3%	31.0%	22.6%	28.1%	23.9%	28.2%
HIV clinic	10.0%	9.9%	12.5%	12.1%	27.0%	26.3%	17.1%	14.4%
Other clinic**	18.9%	12.7%	22.4%	20.6%	17.0%	12.6%	18.9%	13.9%
Correctional	2.0%	0.8%	3.1%	2.4%	3.3%	1.7%	2.7%	1.2%
Unknown/other#	6.1%	24.5%	9.1%	19.4%	10.4%	14.0%	8.2%	21.0%
Total Cases	689	8785	223	1880	641	3721	1643	14854

*Includes Asians, Pacific Islanders, and Native Americans.

**Primary care and/or community clinic.

#Includes coroner, emergency room, TB clinic, research clinics.

PMD=Private Medical Doctor HMO=Health Maintenance Organization

Correctional=Any prison, jail, or legal holding facility.

Note: percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.

HIV clinics than whites (9.9%; p<0.001) or blacks (12.1%, p<00.1). These differences hold in recent years (2007-2011).

A smaller proportion of cumulative Hispanic cases (17.3%) than whites (24.4%, p<0.001) were diagnosed by private medical providers or HMOs, but a significantly lower proportion of black cases (14.5%, p=0.008) were diagnosed in this setting than Hispanic cases. In recent years, the proportion of Hispanics diagnosed in this setting (19.7%) increased, but is lower than in whites (38.0%, p<0.001) and blacks (29.6%, p<0.001).

A significantly greater proportion of cumulative Hispanic cases (1.7%) was diagnosed in a correctional facility when compared to whites (0.8%, p<0.001), but not when compared to blacks (2.4%, p=0.072). In more recent cases there is no significant difference in the proportion diagnosed in a correctional setting between Hispanic (3.3%), white (2.0%, p=0.157), and black (3.1%, p=0.921) cases. The proportion of cases diagnosed in correctional facilities in Hispanic AIDS cases increased significantly (p<0.001) from 1992-2006, but has been essentially stable since then. These differences should be interpreted with caution because of the relatively small number of cases diagnosed in correctional facilities, particularly in recent years. The category "Correctional facility" may refer to a variety of places including county jails, state and federal prisons, and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) facilities.

Time from HIV to AIDS Diagnoses

Hispanics have the highest proportions of cases with one year or less from HIV diagnosis to AIDS in all time periods (see Figure 5). There are no statistically significant differences between blacks and whites across the time periods, but Hispanics have significantly higher

proportions (p<0.001 for each time period) than blacks or whites with one year or less since the 1997-2001 time period.

The significantly greater proportion of Hispanic AIDS cases with one year or less between HIV diagnosis and AIDS diagnosis is most likely due to late testing in the course of infection leading to more advanced disease by the time an HIV diagnosis is made. In cumulative cases, about 40% have both HIV and AIDS diagnosed within one month (simultaneous diagnosis) across races/ethnicities (see Figure 6). In more recent years (2007-2011), however, the proportions of whites and blacks drop to about 25% with simultaneous diagnoses, but 34.3% of Hispanics have essentially simultaneous diagnosis. This is statistically significantly greater than whites (p<0.001) and blacks (p<0.001).

Survival

By the end of 2011, 36% of all Hispanic AIDS case diagnosed in the county, 57% of white cases, and 48% of black cases had died. This lower proportion of Hispanics being deceased is largely due to fewer Hispanics being diagnosed early in the epidemic.

The proportion of cases diagnosed in 2002-2006 in San Diego county surviving more than 12, 24, and 36 months does not differ significantly across races/ethnicities (see Table 11). The years 2002-2006 were chosen for comparison to CDC results for the same time period; the proportions of whites, blacks, and Hispanics surviving more than 12, 24, and 36 months were significantly greater than that reported by

Figure 5:
AIDS Cases with Time from HIV Diagnosis to AIDS Diagnosis of Less than 12 Months, by Race/Ethnicity and Time Period, San Diego County

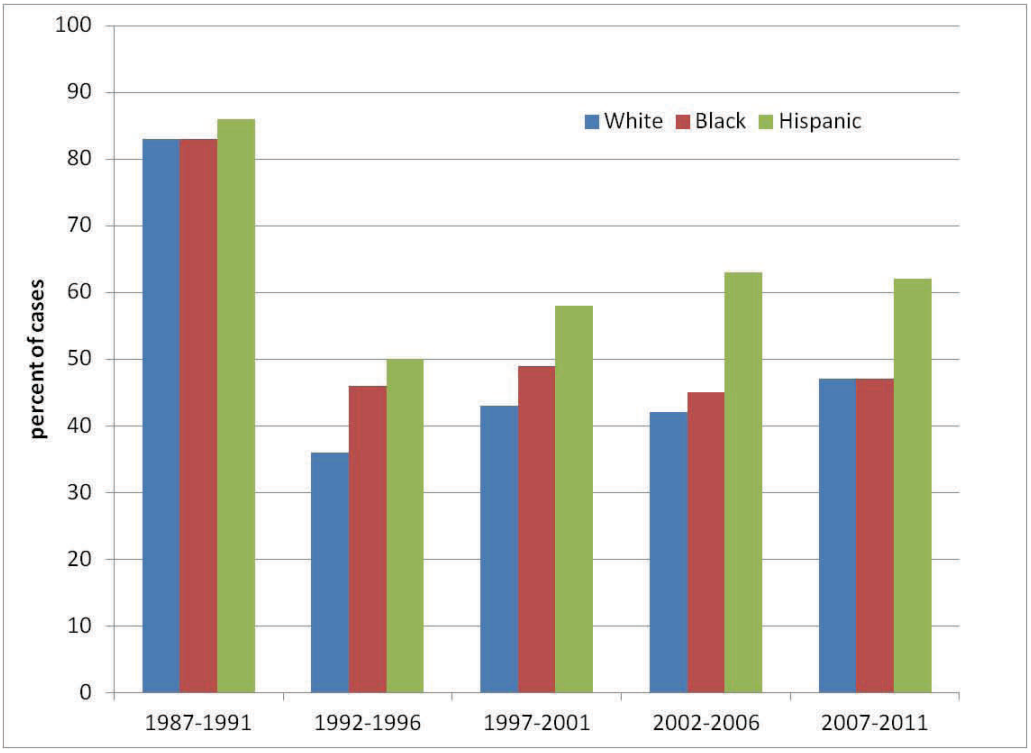


Figure 6

AIDS Cases with Time of Less than 1 Month from HIV to AIDS Diagnosis, by Race/Ethnicity and Time Period, San Diego County

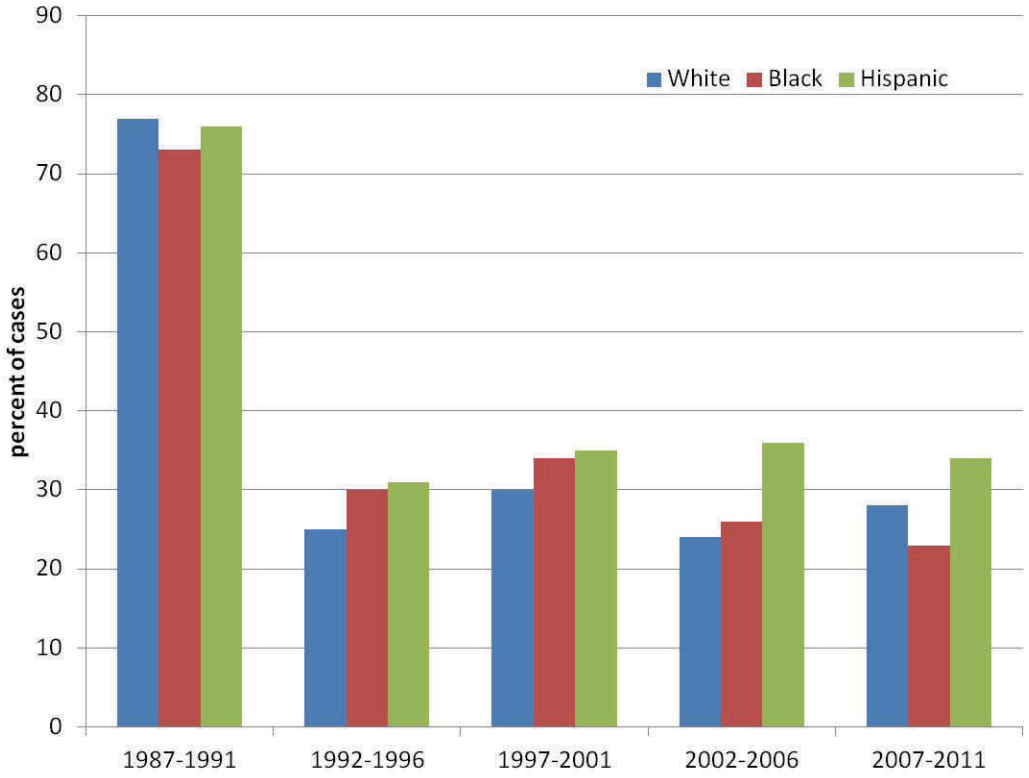


Table 11

Proportion of AIDS Cases in San Diego County and Nationally (CDC), Diagnosed in 2002-2006, Surviving More Than 12, 24 , and 36 Months, by Race/Ethnicity

	Survival in Months					
	>12		>24		>36	
Race/ Ethnicity	CDC	County of San Diego	CDC	County of San Diego	CDC	County of San Diego
White	0.89	0.91*	0.86	0.88*	0.84	0.87*
Black	0.88	0.93*	0.84	0.90**	0.81	0.88**
Hispanic	0.89	0.92*	0.87	0.90**	0.85	0.90**
All Cases#	0.89	0.92**	0.85	0.89**	0.82	0.88**

#Includes Asian, Pacific Islander, and Native American.

*Significantly different from CDC value at $p<0.05$.

**Significantly different from CDC value at $p<0.01$.

the CDC, (see Table 11).

The mean length of survival from AIDS diagnosis varies over the span of the epidemic. There has been a general increase in survival time over 5-year intervals. Part of this results from increased therapy options prolonging the lives of cases after diagnosis. Changes in case definition to include conditions that arise earlier in HIV disease, such as lowered CD4 counts, also increase survival times by providing earlier diagnoses. Use of proportion surviving categorical time periods (i.e., >12, 24, and 36 months) may provide a less biased representation of survival over all.

Pediatric Cases

There have been 68 AIDS cases in San Diego county reported in children under 13-years of age. More than half (52%) of these pediatric cases have been Hispanics and of those, more than half were diagnosed before 1993, 86% were diagnosed before 2000. All of the cumulative pediatric cases have had a mother with HIV or have received blood or blood products, but there are differences across races/ethnicities. All of the black cases were due to maternal transmission, while 83% of the Hispanic and 57% of the white cases were due to maternal transmission. About half, 46%, of the pediatric cases diagnosed in the county are still living.

Limitations

The data contained in this report are dependent on accurate reporting from healthcare providers, laboratories, and patients. Patients, for many reasons, may not wish to provide accurate information to their healthcare providers, healthcare providers may not provide complete information, or data entry errors may occur. These inaccuracies may impact analysis.

Caution should be exercised in the analysis of the most recent time period because additional cases are likely to be reported over time. Retrospective case finding will continue and it is expected that cases diagnosed in 2011 will be reported in 2012. Case reports are also updated as new information becomes available. When, for example, more information on risks is obtained, the database is updated and this may impact proportions and rates used in analysis.

Some of the variables under study do not have sufficient numbers of occurrences to make statistical inferences. It is the policy of the County of San Diego, Health and Human Service Agency not to report fewer than five individuals for any given variable. When small numbers are presented, caution should be exercised in the interpretation of data. This is particularly true for pediatric AIDS cases.

In 1993 the AIDS case definition was modified by the CDC to include those HIV positive patients in whom the CD4 absolute count dropped below 200 or in whom the percent of CD4 cells fell below 14%. This increased the number of cases substantially and allowed for the identification of cases earlier in their disease progress. It is probable that this has increased both the number of surviving cases and the length of their survival from diagnosis to death.

Whenever possible, case information is updated as to vital status of cases. However, it is possible that some deaths have yet been reported to the HIV/AIDS Epidemiology Unit. Some of these cases may have left the county

or state and died. This may result in inaccurate assumptions and survival calculations.

The county has a higher proportion of Hispanics and a lower proportion of blacks than do many states, the US, and several other counties within California. These racial/ethnic demographic differences make comparisons of San Diego County to the nation as a whole, and to other counties and states, difficult and must be taken into account when discussing the impact of the AIDS epidemic on the San Diego county.

Data sources:

- County of San Diego, HIV/AIDS Epidemiology Unit database
- SANDAG population estimates, 2009,
- *HIV/AIDS Surveillance Report, 2010* (Vol. 22), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- *Profiles of General Demographic Characteristics, 2006*, US Dept of Commerce
- *2006 American Community Survey*, US Census

Summary

Hispanics have the second highest rate of AIDS in San Diego county: 13 per 100,000 in 2007 (although additional cases are expected to be reported).

Hispanics are over represented in the local AIDS epidemic.

While women make up a relatively small percentage of individuals diagnosed with AIDS in the San Diego county, the proportion of female cases among Hispanics is twice that seen in whites.

Cases in Hispanics are, on average, younger than whites and blacks at the time of diagnosis, but, like whites and blacks, they are most frequently in the 30-39 years age group at the time of diagnosis.

Men who have Sex with Men (MSM) is the most common mode of transmission in Hispanic males cases; Hispanic female cases are most likely to report heterosexual transmission. Hispanic cases are less likely to report injecting drug use (IDU) than cases of other racial/ethnic groups.

Hispanic cases have similar survival rates to blacks and whites in the county; rates of survival at 12 and 24 months are greater than that reported by the CDC.

More than half of the pediatric cases have been Hispanic, and the majority were diagnosed before 1993.

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