

HIV/AIDS in Blacks

San Diego County
2015

County of San Diego
Health and Human Services Agency



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
HHSA
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY



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SAN DIEGO

HIV/AIDS in Blacks San Diego County 2015

County of San Diego
Health and Human Services Agency
Public Health Services



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Introduction

The first black San Diego county resident was diagnosed with AIDS in 1984. Since then, the number of cases in blacks has grown to account for 12.7% of all county residents diagnosed with HIV disease. With blacks comprising approximately 5% of the county population, they are significantly overrepresented in the local HIV/AIDS case population (see Table 1).

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates (2012) that 46% of individuals diagnosed with HIV (regardless of vital status) and 43% of People Living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA regardless of HIV or AIDS diagnosis) in the US are black (See Table 2). In San Diego county (2013), blacks comprise 13% of HIV diagnoses and PLWHA, or approximately one-third of the national percentages (see Table 2).

Whites have had the largest number of HIV disease cases in San Diego county each year, but blacks have had the highest rate of

cases since the mid-1980s. This rate, measured per 100,000 persons, more accurately reflects the relative disease burden in each racial or ethnicity group. The rate of HIV diagnoses in blacks is two to three times higher than the rate in Hispanics and two to four times higher than the rate for whites (see Table 3 and Figure 1).

For purposes of this report, HIV diagnosis refers to the first known diagnosis for a given case, regardless of current HIV or AIDS status. Asian/Pacific Islander cases are not presented separately in the tables because of small numbers. They are included, along with Native Americans and multiple-race cases in “all case” data.

Gender

More men than women are diagnosed with HIV each year in all racial/ethnic groups. The percentage of females in black cases is higher than in whites or Hispanics (see Table 4). While the proportion of female cases over

Table 1

Proportion of the Black Population in San Diego County and Among County HIV Diagnoses, San Diego County, Select Years 2005-2015

| Year | San Diego County | | HIV Diagnoses† | |
|------|------------------|---------|-----------------|---------|
| | Population* | % Black | Total diagnosed | % Black |
| 2005 | 2,966,783 | 5 | 556 | 10 |
| 2010 | 3,095,313 | 5 | 559 | 15 |
| 2011 | 3,115,810 | 5 | 498 | 15 |
| 2012 | 3,128,734 | 4 | 473 | 11 |
| 2013 | 3,154,574 | 4 | 461 | 13 |
| 2014 | 3,194,362 | 4 | 446** | 11 |

*SANDAG population estimate.

**Additional 2014 cases are expected to be reported in 2015.

†Regardless of HIV or AIDS status.

Table 2:
HIV and AIDS Cases in the US, California, and San Diego County, 2013

| | United States 2013* | | California 2013 | | San Diego County 2013 | |
|------------------------|------------------------|----------------|--------------------|----------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| | HIV dx‡ | PLWHA | HIV dx | PLWHA | HIV dx‡ | PLWHA** |
| Black | 46% | 43% | † | 18% | 13% | 13% |
| White | 27% | 32% | † | 50% | 38% | 50% |
| Hispanic | 21% | 20% | † | 27% | 42% | 32% |
| Asian/Pacific Islander | 2% | 1% | † | 3% | 4% | 3% |
| Other‡ | 2% | 4% | † | 2% | 3% | 2% |
| Total | 47,352 | 914,826 | | 118,867 | 461 | 12,839 |

*Estimate. Most recent year available. ‡Regardless of stage of disease.

**PLWHA at the end of 2013. †Not available.

‡Includes Native American, Native Alaskan, multiple race, and unknown.

§Includes blood/tissue exposure, maternal transmission, and no identifiable risk.

all has remained stable over time ($p=0.133$), it has increased in whites ($p=0.025$) and it has decreased in Hispanics ($p=0.008$). The percentage of female cases in blacks has remained stable ($p=0.483$).

The HIV diagnosis case rate in 2013 for black males (64.1/100,000) is more than three times the rate seen in white males (20.8/100,000) and almost twice the rate of Hispanic males (34.2/100,000). The rate in

Table 3
Number and Rate of HIV Diagnoses by Race/Ethnicity, San Diego County, 2005-2014

| Year of HIV Diagnosis | Race/Ethnicity | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------|--------|-------|--------|----------|--------|------------|--------|
| | Black | | White | | Hispanic | | All Cases# | |
| | Cases | Rate** | Cases | Rate** | Cases | Rate** | Cases | Rate** |
| 2005 | 55 | 34 | 269 | 17 | 201 | 23 | 556 | 18 |
| 2006 | 84 | 52 | 274 | 17 | 248 | 28 | 633 | 21 |
| 2007 | 80 | 49 | 296 | 17 | 225 | 25 | 610 | 20 |
| 2008 | 78 | 47 | 223 | 14 | 232 | 25 | 566 | 18 |
| 2009 | 91 | 55 | 246 | 16 | 220 | 23 | 597 | 19 |
| 2010 | 82 | 56 | 215 | 14 | 226 | 23 | 559 | 18 |
| 2011 | 72 | 50 | 190 | 13 | 205 | 20 | 498 | 16 |
| 2012 | 54 | 40 | 185 | 12 | 199 | 19 | 473 | 15 |
| 2013 | 60 | 45 | 174 | 12 | 194 | 18 | 461 | 15 |
| 2014* | 47 | 33 | 177 | 12 | 192 | 18 | 446 | 14 |

*Additional 2014 cases are expected to be reported throughout 2015.

**Per 100,000 population.

#Includes Asian, Pacific Islander, Native American, multi-race, and unknown.

Figure 1

Rate of HIV Diagnoses by Race/Ethnicity, San Diego County, 2005-2014

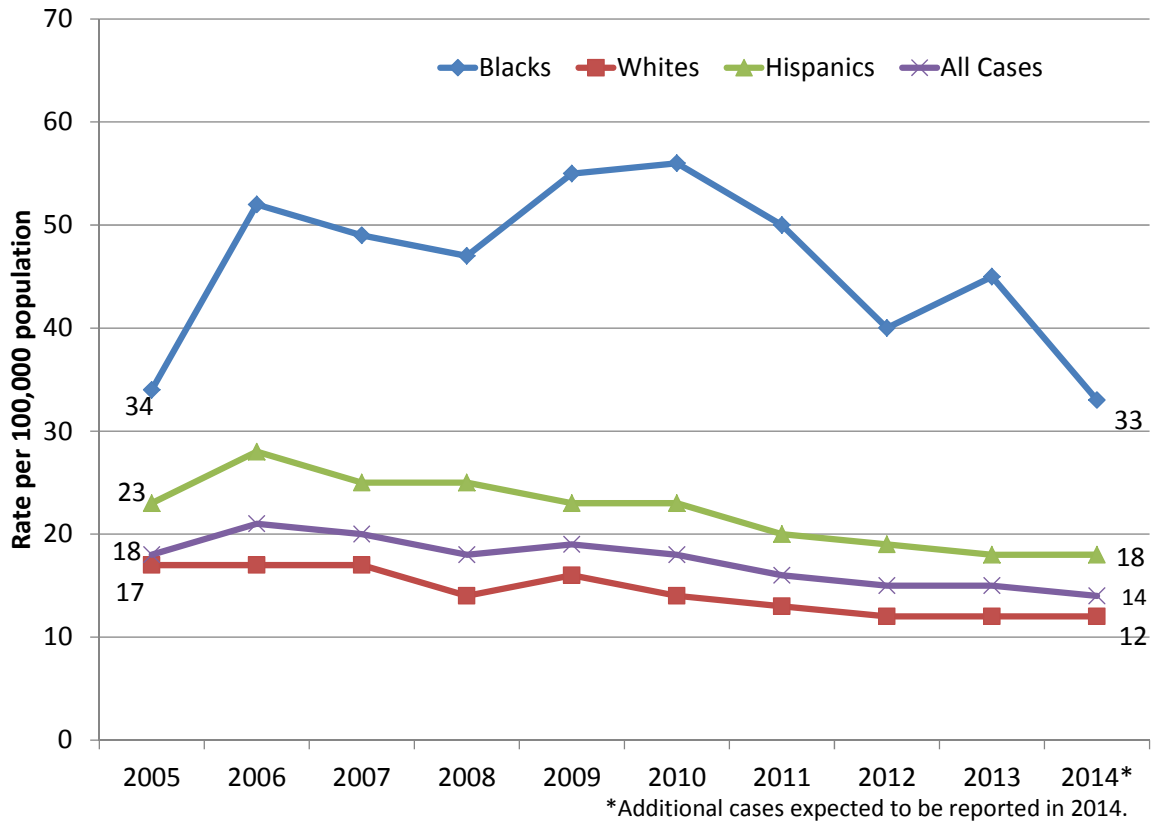


Table 4

Proportion of Female HIV Diagnoses by Race/Ethnicity and 5-year Timer Periods, San Diego County

| Time period | Race/Ethnicity | | | | | | | |
|-------------|----------------|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|------------|
| | Black | | White | | Hispanic | | All Cases# | |
| | Total cases | %** female | Total cases | %** female | Total cases | %** female | Total cases | %** female |
| 1981-1989 | 505 | 11.5 | 3,772 | 3.3 | 665 | 6.2 | 5,041 | 4.7 |
| 1990-1994 | 663 | 15.7 | 3,178 | 5.8 | 1,061 | 11.3 | 5,058 | 8.5 |
| 1995-1999 | 440 | 18.9 | 1,494 | 7.3 | 921 | 12.9 | 2,975 | 11.5 |
| 2000-2004 | 403 | 22.3 | 1,381 | 6.1 | 1,016 | 13.5 | 2,916 | 11.0 |
| 2005-2009 | 388 | 19.5 | 1,281 | 7.0 | 1,126 | 10.7 | 2,962 | 10.2 |
| 2010-2014 | 315 | 15.2 | 942 | 8.0 | 1,016 | 8.2 | 2,438 | 9.4 |
| cumulative | 2,714 | 16.9 | 12,048 | 5.5 | 5,805 | 10.7 | 21,390 | 8.7 |

*HIV diagnosis year is used when known.

**Percent of all cases diagnosed in the time period and race.

#Includes Asian, Pacific Islander, and Native American.

black males in San Diego county is nearly 40% lower than the national rate estimated by CDC for 2013 (105.7/100,000). Differences in rates for female cases are even more pronounced. The rate in 2013 for black female cases in the county (15.1/100,000) is almost eight times higher than the rate for white female cases (1.9/100,000) and about four times the rate for Hispanic female cases (3.6/100,000). The rate of black female cases in San Diego county is less than half of the national estimate reported by the CDC (34.8/100,000) in 2013.

Age at Diagnosis

The mean age at HIV diagnosis in blacks, 32.7 years, is significantly younger than in whites (35.3 years, $p < 0.001$), but not significantly different than in Hispanics (32.7 years, $p > 0.999$) (see Table 5). Similar results are seen when comparing ages in PLWHA by race/ethnicity (see Table 5).

The most common age group for HIV cases at diagnosis is 20-29 years of age; blacks and Hispanics have a similar proportion in this

range, while whites have a greater percentage in the 30-39 year age range (see Figure 2). Over time, the mean age at diagnosis has increased in all racial/ethnic groups, increasing the percent diagnosed in the 40-49 year range for all races/ethnicity. However, only whites have an average mean in the 40-49 age range in recent (2010-2014) years.

The number of total pediatric (under thirteen years of age) cases is similar for blacks (29 cases) and whites (30 cases), but the percent of pediatric cases in blacks is 1.1%, which is five times higher than the percent in whites (0.2%). The proportion of pediatric cases in blacks is the same as that seen in Hispanics (1.2%) (data not shown). Small numbers of pediatric cases mean that the significance of these differences cannot be determined and these data should be interpreted with caution.

Although there are statistical differences in mean age at diagnosis across race/ethnicity, it is unlikely that these represent clinically significant differences.

Table 5
Mean and Median Age, and Age Range at HIV Diagnosis, in Recent (2010-2014) Diagnoses and PLWHA, by Race/Ethnicity, San Diego County

| Age at First Diagnosis† | Race/Ethnicity | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------|---------|---------|---------|----------|---------|------------|---------|
| | Black | | White | | Hispanic | | All Cases# | |
| | Recent* | PLWHA** | Recent* | PLWHA** | Recent* | PLWHA** | Recent* | PLWHA** |
| Mean age (years) | 39.6 | 32.7 | 43.5 | 35.3 | 38.7 | 32.7 | 40.9 | 34.1 |
| Median age (years) | 41.0 | 32.0 | 44.0 | 34.0 | 38.0 | 32.0 | 41.0 | 33.0 |
| Range (years) | 1-66 | 0-71 | 16-77 | 0-76 | 0-83 | 0-88 | 0-84 | 0-88 |
| Number of cases | 315 | 1,688 | 942 | 6,605 | 1,016 | 4,314 | 2,438 | 13,200 |

*2010-2014.

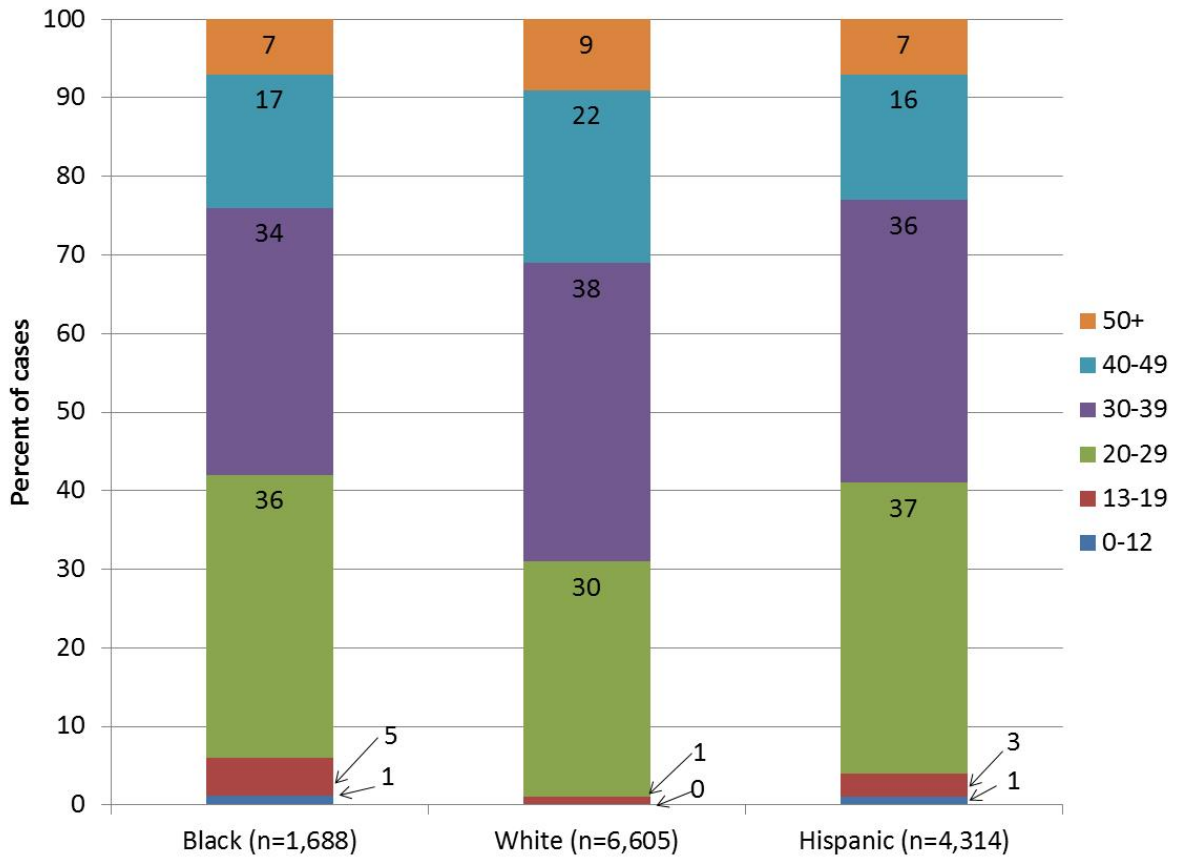
**Living as of 31 December 2014.

#Includes Asian, Pacific Islander, Native American, multi-race, unknown.

†HIV diagnosis if known.

Figure 2

Percent of PLWHA by Age Group at HIV Diagnosis by Race/Ethnicity, San Diego County, 2014



Current Age

Of the individuals diagnosed with HIV disease in San Diego county, 38% had died by December 31, 2014. The mean age of black

PLWHA is 46.3 years (see Table 6). Black PLWHA are significantly younger than whites ($p < 0.001$) and significantly older than Hispanics ($p < 0.001$), although it is unlikely that these rep-

Table 6

Current (2014) Age of PLWHA by Race/Ethnicity, San Diego County

| Age Measure | Race/Ethnicity | | | All Cases# |
|--------------------|----------------|-------|----------|------------|
| | Black | White | Hispanic | |
| Mean age (years) | 46.3 | 50.8 | 44.9 | 48.0 |
| Median age (years) | 48.0 | 51.0 | 45.0 | 49.0 |
| Range (years) | 5-84 | 4-89 | 0-93 | 0-93 |
| Total cases | 1,688 | 6,605 | 4,314 | 13,200 |

#Includes Asian, Pacific Islander, Native American, mulit-race, and unknown.

resent clinically significant differences.

Mode of HIV Transmission

The most commonly reported mode of HIV transmission across racial/ethnic groups continues to be men who have sex with men (MSM) (see Table 7). The proportion of MSM cases has remained relatively stable in all groups, but is significantly lower in blacks (71%) than whites (83%; p<0.001) and Hispanics (82%; p<0.001). Black male cases have the lowest proportion of MSM, but injecting drug use (IDU) has been reported significantly more often as the mode of transmission in black male PLWHA compared to white (p<0.001) or Hispanic (p<0.001) male PLWHA. In recent years these differences are not seen. Heterosexual transmission among males has increased significantly over 5-year intervals in all races/ethnicities.

The proportions of MSM, IDU, and het-

erosexual black males in San Diego county recently (2010-2014) diagnosed with HIV disease (72%, 5%, and 15% respectively) are similar to the national estimates from the CDC for 2013 (76%, 6%, and 16% respectively).

In adult and adolescent women, heterosexual contact is the most commonly reported mode of HIV transmission (see Table 8). The proportion of black females reporting heterosexual contact as mode of transmission has increased significantly (p<0.001) over time while the proportion with IDU has decreased significantly (p<0.001). Black females are also more likely than whites or Hispanics to be reported with a heterosexual partner who is known to have HIV disease. In recent years, the proportion of black female cases with IDU transmission is lower than in whites (p=0.001), but is similar to that seen in Hispanics (p=0.207).

Unlike cases in black males, the CDC

Table 7

Mode HIV Transmission in Recent (2010-2014) HIV Diagnoses and PLWHA by Race/Ethnicity, San Diego County

| | Race/Ethnicity | | | | | | | |
|----------------|----------------|---------|---------|---------|----------|---------|------------|---------|
| | Black | | White | | Hispanic | | All Cases# | |
| | Recent* | PLWHA** | Recent* | PLWHA** | Recent* | PLWHA** | Recent* | PLWHA** |
| MSM | 72% | 71% | 80% | 83% | 82% | 82% | 81% | 82% |
| IDU | 5% | 8% | 5% | 4% | 4% | 5% | 5% | 5% |
| MSM+IDU | 3% | 10% | 6% | 10% | 3% | 6% | 4% | 9% |
| Heterosexual | 15% | 9% | 6% | 2% | 7% | 5% | 8% | 3% |
| Other† | 5% | 2% | 3% | 1% | 4% | 2% | 2% | 1% |
| Total in group | 267 | 1,378 | 867 | 6,200 | 933 | 3,833 | 2,209 | 11,920 |

*2010-2014

**Living as of 31 December 2014.

†Includes transfusion, transplantation, hemophilia, maternal transmission, and not specified.

#Includes Asian, Pacific Islanders, Native Americans, multi-race, and unknown.

Table 8

Mode of HIV Transmission Among Female Recent (2010-2014) Diagnoses and PLWHA, by Race/Ethnicity, San Diego County

| | Race/Ethnicity | | | | | | | |
|----------------|----------------|---------|---------|---------|----------|---------|------------|---------|
| | Black | | White | | Hispanic | | All Cases# | |
| | Recent* | PLWHA** | Recent* | PLWHA** | Recent* | PLWHA** | Recent* | PLWHA** |
| Heterosexual | 83% | 72% | 71% | 65% | 86% | 76% | 78% | 71% |
| w/IDU | 4% | 11% | 8% | 16% | 11% | 16% | 7% | 14% |
| w/MSM | 0% | 9% | 6% | 11% | 4% | 22% | 4% | 15% |
| w/recipient† | 0% | 1% | 1% | 2% | 1% | 1% | 1% | 1% |
| w/HIV+‡ | 79% | 51% | 56% | 36% | 70% | 37% | 66% | 41% |
| IDU | 2% | 20% | 24% | 29% | 7% | 15% | 12% | 21% |
| Blood/tissue† | 0% | 1% | 0% | 1% | 0% | 1% | 0% | 1% |
| Other‡ | 15% | 7% | 5% | 5% | 7% | 8% | 10% | 7% |
| Total in group | 48 | 310 | 75 | 405 | 83 | 481 | 229 | 1,280 |

*2010-2014.

**Living as of 31 December 2014.

‡Heterosexual contact with person known to be HIV+, but whose risk group is unknown.

†Includes blood, blood products, tissues in transfusions/transplantations, and artificial insemination.

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

#Includes Asians, Pacific Islanders, Native Americans, multi-race, and unknown.

2013 estimate for black HIV-infected female cases with heterosexual transmission (90%) is greater than that reported in the county (83%) in recent years, and the CDC estimate for IDU (9%) is also higher than the county level (2%). This may be due to actual differences in the

population or differences in data gathering.

Country of Origin

The vast majority of cases in blacks with recent diagnoses (85.4%) and PLWHA (89.2%) were born in the United States (see

Table 9

Country of Origin of Recent (2010-2014) HIV Diagnoses and PLWHA by Race/Ethnicity, San Diego County

| | Race/Ethnicity | | | | | | | |
|--------------------|----------------|---------|---------|---------|----------|---------|------------|---------|
| | Black | | White | | Hispanic | | All Cases# | |
| | Recent* | PLWHA** | Recent* | PLWHA** | Recent* | PLWHA** | Recent* | PLWHA** |
| USA | 85.4% | 89.2% | 96.4% | 97.2% | 56.5% | 43.5% | 76.1% | 76.9% |
| Africa (continent) | 7.3% | 7.9% | 0.1% | 0.1% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 1.0% | 1.1% |
| Mexico | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | <0.1% | 38.6% | 50.9% | 16.1% | 16.7% |
| Other/Unknown | 7.3% | 2.9% | 3.5% | 2.8% | 4.9% | 5.6% | 7.0% | 5.4% |
| Total in group | 315 | 1,688 | 941 | 6,605 | 1016 | 4,314 | 2,438 | 13,200 |

*2010-2014.

**Living as of 31 December 2014.

#Includes Asians, Pacific Islanders, Native Americans, multi-race, and unknown.

Table 9). Of recent black HIV diagnoses and black PLWHA, 7.3% and 7.9% respectively were born in Africa. Countries of origin for these cases include Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo, Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Liberia, Lesotho, Somalia, Togo, Uganda, South Africa, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. Most of the remaining black cases born outside the United States are of Caribbean origin. There has been little change over time in the percentage of black cases born outside the US.

Some cases may have contracted HIV before coming to the US. The current data do

not contain information about how long individuals with HIV disease who were born outside the United States or its territories have been residing in the United States. Therefore, an assessment of how acculturation or country of origin impacts risk factors is beyond the scope of this report.

Residence at Diagnosis

The County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency divides the county into six geographical regions for planning and programmatic purposes. Recent (2010-2014) diagnoses in blacks and black PLWHA make up 10-15% of the population of cases in each re-

Table 10
 HHS Region of Residence at HIV Diagnosis in Recent (2010-2014) HIV Diagnoses and PLWHA, by Race/Ethnicity, San Diego County

| HHS Region | | Race/Ethnicity | | | | Total in Region |
|---------------|------------|----------------|-------|----------|---------|-----------------|
| | | White | Black | Hispanic | Other** | |
| Central | 2010-2014* | 43% | 15% | 36% | 7% | 1,120 |
| | PLWHA | 55% | 14% | 27% | 4% | 7,158 |
| East | 2010-2014* | 53% | 15% | 27% | 4% | 208 |
| | PLWHA | 55% | 15% | 27% | 4% | 905 |
| South | 2010-2014* | 14% | 11% | 71% | 4% | 481 |
| | PLWHA | 19% | 10% | 68% | 3% | 1,944 |
| North Coastal | 2010-2014* | 43% | 11% | 40% | 6% | 209 |
| | PLWHA | 51% | 13% | 31% | 6% | 1000 |
| North Inland | 2010-2014* | 41% | 5% | 46% | 8% | 104 |
| | PLWHA | 52% | 6% | 36% | 6% | 546 |
| North Central | 2010-2014* | 48% | 11% | 27% | 13% | 1590 |
| | PLWHA | 62% | 11% | 20% | 7% | 1,863 |
| All County | 2010-2014* | 39% | 13% | 42% | 7% | 2438# |
| | PLWHA | 54% | 13% | 33% | 5% | 13200† |

*Time period of HIV diagnosis when known (first AIDS diagnosis if HIV diagnosis year is not known)

**Includes Asian/Pacific Islander and Native American and other races/ethnicities.

#Region is not known for 9 cases.

†Region is not known for 57 cases.

Note: Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.

gion except the North Inland Region (see Table 10). Although 60% of black PLWHA resided in the Central Region at the time of diagnosis, this has declined in recent years to approximately 52%, with a shift to more cases in the South Region.

Time from HIV to AIDS

Of the 2,438 recent (2010-2014) cases diagnosed with HIV, 792 have progressed to be classified as AIDS cases. Of the 13,200 PLWHA, 7,533 have an AIDS diagnosis. The time between an HIV-only diagnosis and an AIDS diagnosis can provide information on how late in the infection a case was tested and/or if they have remained in care after the initial diagnosis. The currently available data do not allow for the determination of the reason for the time between diagnoses.

Because the data on time from HIV diagnosis to AIDS diagnosis are skewed towards less than one year, the proportion of cases with fewer than 12 months between HIV and AIDS diagnosis was examined. When this pro-

portion is looked at in all cases with an AIDS diagnosis, blacks are significantly less likely to be diagnosed with AIDS within a year of HIV diagnosis (53.2%) than Hispanics (60.8%; $p<0.001$), but are similar to whites (53.0%; $p=0.885$) (see Table 11).

When the proportion of AIDS cases with less than 12 months from HIV to AIDS diagnosis is examined over five-year time periods from 1995 to 2014, only blacks have remained stable ($p=0.319$) while significant increases are seen in whites ($p<0.001$), Hispanics ($p<0.001$), and in all cases combined ($p<0.001$) (see Figure 3). There is little difference between blacks and whites, but Hispanics have a consistently greater proportion of cases with less than 12 months between diagnoses. Half of all AIDS cases in the county have had less than one year between HIV and AIDS diagnosis, indicating a large proportion of cases tested later in the disease progression.

Some AIDS cases have a simultaneous diagnosis with HIV, with less than 30 days between HIV and AIDS diagnoses. This is an indi-

Table 11

AIDS Diagnoses within 1 Year of HIV Diagnosis and Simultaneous Diagnoses, by Race/Ethnicity, San Diego County

| | Race/Ethnicity | | | All Cases# |
|----------------|----------------|-------|----------|------------|
| | Black | White | Hispanic | |
| <1 year | 53.2% | 53.0% | 60.8% | 55.2% |
| Simultaneous† | 37.7% | 41.8% | 39.9% | 40.8% |
| Total in group | 8,865 | 1,939 | 3,985 | 15312* |

#Includes Asians, Pacific Islanders, Native Americans, multi-race, and unknown.

†Less than 30 days between HIV and AIDS diagnoses.

*1981-2014.

cation that the case has an advanced infection before being diagnosed and has been tested late in the course of the infection. Among all AIDS cases, blacks are significantly less likely to have a simultaneous diagnosis than whites (37.7% vs. 41.8%; $p < 0.001$), but not Hispanics (37.7% vs. 39.9%; $p = 0.100$) (data not shown).

There has been a significant increase for all AIDS cases in the percent of cases with simultaneous diagnosis over 5-year time periods from 1995 to 2014 (see Figure 4). When looked at by race/ethnicity, the percent of simultaneous diagnosis has not increased in

black cases ($p = 0.166$) or Hispanics ($p = 0.267$), although significant increases are seen in white cases ($p = 0.013$).

Cases with late testing or simultaneous diagnosis play a role in continuing the spread of HIV. A person who is HIV-positive but does not know his or her status may be a sustained source of infection to others. Thus, early testing and linkage into care will help prevent transmission by identifying cases and lowering viral loads of infected persons through treatment.

Figure 3

Percent of AIDS Cases with Less than 12 Months Between HIV and AIDS Diagnoses, by Race/Ethnicity, Over 5-Year Time Periods, San Diego County

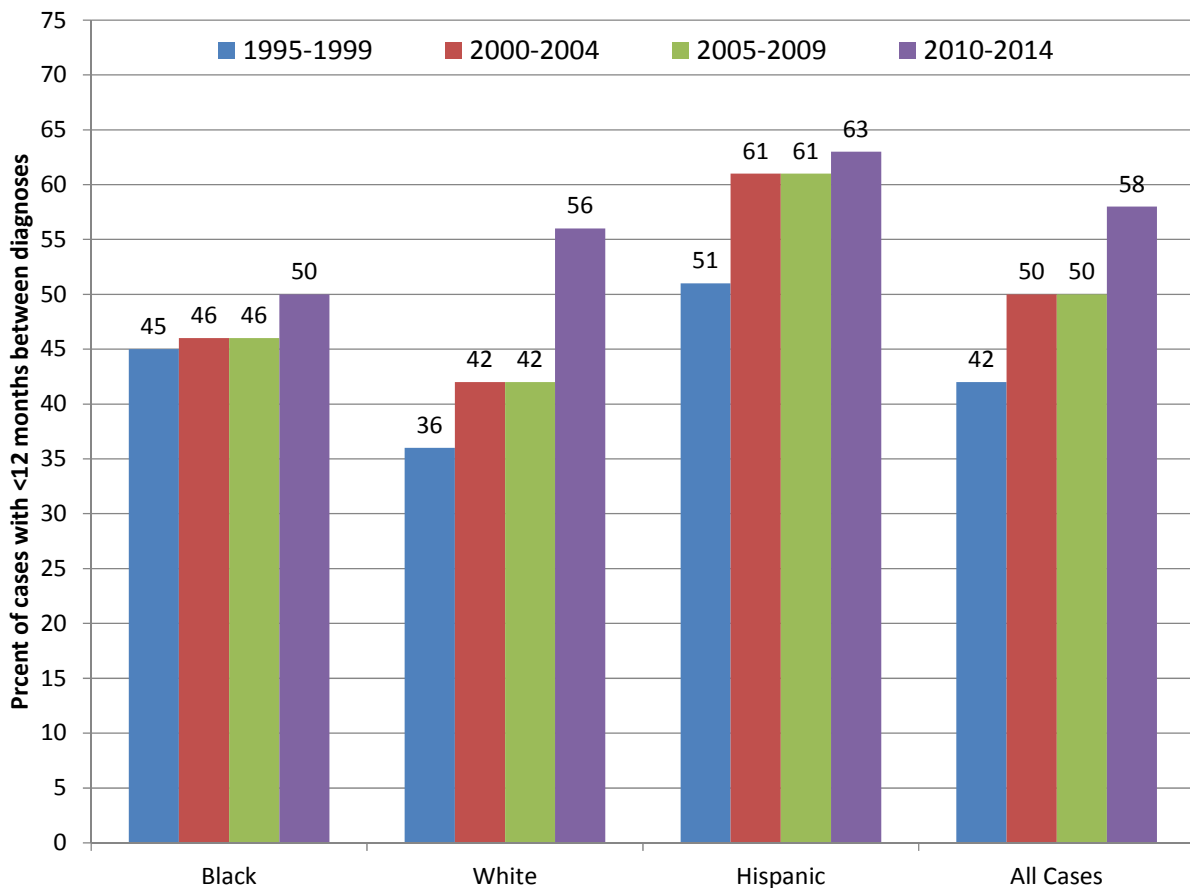
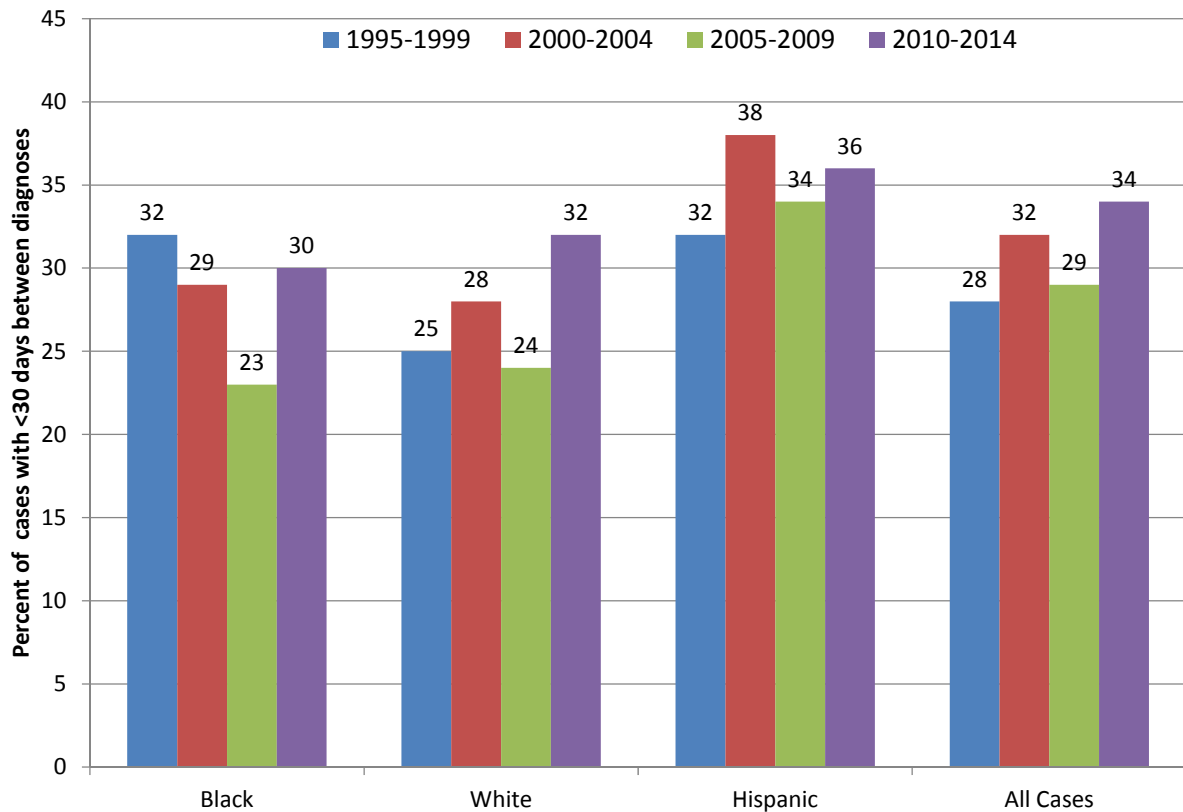


Figure 4

Percent of AIDS Cases with Less Than 30 Days between HIV and AIDS Diagnoses by Race/Ethnicity and 5-Year Time Periods, San Diego County



Survival

By the end of 2014, 50% of all black AIDS case diagnosed in the county, 59% of white cases, and 36% of Hispanic cases had died.

The proportion of black AIDS cases diagnosed in 2004-2009 in San Diego county surviving more than 12, 24, and 36 months does not differ from whites or Hispanics (see Table 12). Because the current published CDC statistics use 2004-2009 for this analysis, the same years of San Diego county data were used for comparison. The proportions of blacks, whites, and Hispanics in the county

surviving more than 12, 24, and 36 months were significantly greater than that reported by the CDC (see Table 12).

There has been a general increase in survival over 5-year intervals (data not shown). Part of this results from increases in therapeutic options that can prolong the lives of cases after AIDS diagnosis. Changes in the AIDS case definition to include conditions that arise earlier in HIV disease such as lowered CD4 counts, also increase survival times by providing earlier diagnoses. Because survival times are not normally distributed, use of proportions of cases surviving categorical time

periods (i.e., >12, >24, and >36 months) may provide a less biased representation of survival over all (see Table 12).

Limitations

The data contained in this report depend on accurate reporting from healthcare providers, laboratories and patients. Patients, for many reasons, may not provide accurate information to healthcare providers for reporting. Healthcare providers in turn may not report complete or accurate information. These inaccuracies may impact analysis.

Caution should be exercised in the analysis of the most recent time period because additional cases are likely to continue to be reported. Retrospective case finding is an ongoing process. It is expected that cases diagnosed in 2014 will be reported through 2016. Case reports are also updated as new information becomes available. When, for example, more information on risks is ob-

tained, the database is updated. 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 Services Agency not to provide information when there are fewer than five individuals for any given variable; when small numbers are presented, caution should be exercised in data interpretation. This is particularly true for pediatric HIV/AIDS cases.

Whenever possible, case information is updated for vital status. However, it is possible that some cases may have died, but were not reported to the County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency. Other cases may have left the area, or state, and died. This may result in inaccurate assumptions and survival calculations.

Differences in local population size, compared to the rest of the United States,

Table 12

Proportion of AIDS Cases Diagnosed in 2004-2009 Surviving More Than 12, 24, and 36 Months, by Race/Ethnicity, United States (CDC) and San Diego County

| Race/ Ethnicity | Survival in Months (Proportion) | | | | | |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|------|---------------------|------|---------------------|
| | >12 | | >24 | | >36 | |
| | CDC | San Diego County | CDC | San Diego County | CDC | San Diego County |
| Black | 0.88 | 0.94‡ | 0.84 | 0.92† | 0.81 | 0.90† |
| White | 0.89 | 0.92‡ | 0.87 | 0.90** | 0.84 | 0.88‡ |
| Hispanic | 0.91 | 0.94‡ | 0.88 | 0.93† | 0.87 | 0.93† |
| All Cases* | 0.89 | 0.93† | 0.86 | 0.91† | 0.84 | 0.90† |

*Includes Asian, Pacific Islander, Native American, and Native Alaskan.

†Significantly different from CDC; p<0.001.

‡Significantly different from CDC; p<0.10.

**Significantly different from CDC; p<0.05.

may make comparisons to national data difficult. In this county, blacks comprise approximately 5% of the population; nationally, blacks comprise 14% of the population. This

greater proportion of blacks in the country as a whole is likely to provide some of the greater proportion of blacks in national HIV statistics.

Data sources:

HIV/AIDS Epidemiology Unit eHARS database, 2014 4th quarter download

SANDAG population estimates.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *HIV/AIDS Surveillance Report, 2013* (Vol. 25)

<http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/library/reports/surveillance> . Published February 2015.

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