Women and HIV/AIDS (2009)

National

- **Estimated number living with HIV/AIDS:** Women were estimated to account for 25% of people living with HIV/AIDS in the United States in 2006, or approximately 278,000 women, including undiagnosed cases.¹
- **Estimated new infections:** Women represented an estimated 27% of new HIV infections in the U.S. in 2006, or approximately 15,000 new infections.²
- **Living with AIDS:** In 2007 there were 105,260 women reported to be living with AIDS in the U.S., representing 23% of all living, reported cases.³
- **New reported cases:** Nationally, 10,332 women were newly reported as diagnosed with HIV in the 37 states for which the U.S. Centers and Disease Control (CDC) reports HIV cases, representing 25% of cases reported in 2008.
- **Infection rate:** In the 37 states for which CDC reports HIV cases, the estimated rate of new HIV cases is 11.9 per 100,000, about one-third the rate of men.⁴
- **Leading cause of death:** HIV peaked as the 5th leading cause of death among women age 35-44 in 2007. HIV does not rank among the top ten leading causes of death for all women of all ages.⁵ Through the end of 2007, over 93,984 women were reported as having died of AIDS since the beginning of the epidemic in 1981.⁶
- **Mother-to-child transmission:** Perinatal HIV transmission has declined dramatically from a high of over 800 cases nationally in 1992 to an estimated 141 in 2008.⁷ However, the rising number of women living with HIV calls for expanded programs to identify pregnant women with HIV and assist them in accessing needed care to prevent services.

Illinois

**Reported HIV cases by gender in Illinois, 2009**

- **Living with HIV/AIDS:** At the end of 2009, 6,690 women in Illinois were reported as living with HIV/AIDS.
- **New reported cases:** 271 women were reported as diagnosed with HIV in 2009, or 21% of all reported HIV cases in the state. By comparison, 966 men were reported as diagnosed with HIV in the state in the same year.

N=1,237

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African-American women are disproportionately affected by HIV in Illinois. Three out of four (74%) women diagnosed with HIV in 2009 were African American. Caucasian women represented 9% of HIV diagnoses, and Latinas represented 13%. Asian and Pacific Islanders represented 4% of cases.

In 2009, three out of four (71%) HIV diagnoses among women were attributed to sex with men as the likely mode of transmission; 29% were attributed to injection drug use.
Reported HIV cases among women by age and race/ethnicity in Illinois, 2009

Reported HIV diagnoses among Illinois women differ dramatically by race.

- HIV cases skyrocket among young African-American women. Seven times more African-American 13-19 year-old females were diagnosed with HIV in 2009 than white women (60 versus 8); nearly six times more African-American 30-39 year-old women were diagnosed than white women (58 versus 12).

- Reported HIV diagnoses among white women were steady.

Reported HIV diagnoses among Illinois women by race/ethnicity and geography, 2009

**Geography:** Throughout Illinois, African American women are disproportionately diagnosed with HIV, and are the largest group of women reported as diagnosed with HIV in every region of the state. Latinos are the second largest group of women diagnosed with HIV in Chicago and Suburban Cook/Collar Counties. However, more Caucasian women were diagnosed downstate than Latinos.
Chicago (2009)

- **Women living with HIV/AIDS**: At the end of 2009, 2,238 women were reported as living with HIV in Chicago, representing 21% of Chicagoans living with HIV/AIDS, while there were 2,108 women living with AIDS.

- **New AIDS cases**: 84 women in Chicago were diagnosed with AIDS in 2009.

- **New HIV cases**: 174 women were reported as diagnosed with HIV in Chicago in 2009. This represents 21% of the HIV cases reported as diagnosed in Chicago in 2009.

- **Transmission groups**: Two out of three (61%) women diagnosed with HIV in 2009 attributed infection to sex with men. Injection drug use accounted for an additional 39% of cases among women.

- **Race**: African-American women were the largest racial/ethnic group diagnosed with HIV in Chicago in 2009, representing three out of four cases (78%, 136 women). Latina women were 11% of cases, and Caucasian women were 5% of cases.

NOTE: Charts do not reflect cases with unknown, perinatal, or blood transfusion risk. Cases among Asians and Pacific Islanders and other or unknown races/ethnicities may not be shown because of extremely small numbers. Data for 2009 are provisional and subject to change. Data with small cell sizes (<5) have been suppressed. Illinois data source (unless otherwise noted): Illinois Department of Public Health, HIV/AIDS Surveillance Unit, October 2010.