Chicago HIV/AIDS Statistics

Among U.S. cities, metropolitan Chicago has the 4th largest population of people living with HIV/AIDS. Chicago statistics at a glance:

- **28,000** residents are estimated to be living with HIV/AIDS (through 2003)
- **12,000** residents have died from HIV-related causes since 1981
- **7,000** residents are estimated to be HIV-positive, but do not know it
- **1,000** residents are estimated to be newly infected with HIV each year
- **300** residents die of HIV/AIDS each year (down from nearly 2,000 in the mid-1990s)

Reported HIV Diagnoses in Chicago by Race/Ethnicity—2004:

- **African Americans** are 36% of Chicago’s population, yet account for 55% of people diagnosed with HIV in 2004.
- In 2003, HIV was the 3rd leading cause of death among Chicago African-American men ages 35 to 44, resulting in more deaths than homicide, cancer, stroke, and diabetes.
- Nearly **twice as many African-Americans** are living with HIV/AIDS as Whites and Hispanics.
- Of the 1,303 cases of HIV diagnosed among African-Americans in 2003-04, the leading risk factors were **male-to-male sex** (31%), **injection drug use** (18%), and **heterosexual contact** (17%).
- Among Hispanics, 50% of people living with HIV and AIDS are **Mexican** and 35% are **Puerto Rican**.
- In 2003, HIV was the 2nd leading cause of death in Chicago for Puerto Rican men ages 35 to 44.
- HIV continues to disproportionately affect **White men who have sex with men (MSM)**. A total of 434 White MSM were diagnosed with HIV in 2003-04, comprising 76% of cases among Whites in this time period.
Reported HIV Diagnoses in Chicago by Gender—2004:

- Of female HIV cases reported in 2003-04, 78% were among African Americans and 11% were among Hispanics.
- Annual AIDS cases among females increased 74% between 1985 and 2004.
- In 2003, HIV was the 3rd leading cause of death among Chicago men ages 34 to 44.

Reported HIV Diagnoses in Chicago by Mode of Transmission--2004:

- Among males recently diagnosed with HIV, male-to-male sexual contact (MSM) is the leading mode of transmission for all race/ethnicity groups.
- Among males and females, injection drug use is the second leading mode of HIV transmission; however, it has declined from 20% of HIV diagnoses in 2000 to 13% in 2004.
- The proportion of diagnoses AIDS cases attributed to heterosexual contact has increased from 7% in 1994 to 15% in 2004.

Local figures are from the Chicago Department of Public Health, Illinois Department of Public Health, and the AIDS Foundation of Chicago. U.S. and global figures are from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control via kff.org.
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