



HIV/AIDS

AND MINORITY WOMEN



For more information on HIV/AIDS and women, contact the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at 1-800-458-5231 or on the Internet at www.cdcnpin.org.

- Through December 2000, of the 774,467 AIDS cases reported to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 129,190 occurred in females. Black and Hispanic women accounted for roughly **78 percent** of those cases, and Asian American/Pacific Islander (AA/PI) and American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) women comprised nearly **1 percent** of those cases. A similar trend is seen in new HIV infections among women.¹
- The proportion of AIDS cases among women, especially among women of color, continues to rise. During 2000, women represented **25 percent** of new AIDS cases compared to only **11 percent** in 1990 and **6 percent** in 1982.¹
- During 2000, Black and Hispanic women accounted for **80 percent** of AIDS cases reported among women.¹
- Women across racial/ethnic groups most commonly report **heterosexual contact** or **injection drug use** as their primary modes of exposure to HIV, while AA/PI females more commonly report heterosexual contact.¹
- In areas with confidential HIV reporting, persons ages 13 to 24 accounted for **16 percent** of newly reported HIV cases (not AIDS) from July 1999 - June 2000. Of these persons, females accounted for **48 percent** of the cases in this age group.¹
- HIV/AIDS was the **third** leading cause of death among African American women ages 25 to 44 in 1998. In that year, the AIDS death rate for African American women ages 25 to 44 was **21 times higher** than the AIDS death rate for White women in the same age group.²



The terms "African American" and "Black" are used interchangeably to include those individuals who self-identify as either. The term "Hispanic" includes those individuals who self-identify as "Latino/a" or "Hispanic."

¹ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, *HIV/AIDS Surveillance Report*, 2000; Vol. 12 (No. 2).

² National Center for Health Statistics, *National Vital Statistics Reports*, July 2000.