



National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day March 10, 2012

The theme of this years National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day is
"Every Moment is a Deciding Moment."

United States

- ⌘ In the US, a woman tests positive for HIV every 35 minutes. Nationally, 1 in 4 persons living with HIV infection is female.
- ⌘ From 2006 to 2009, the estimated number of newly diagnosed HIV cases decreased 8% among females. In 2009, there were 9,973 new HIV diagnoses among females.
- ⌘ The most common transmission route for new HIV infections for women is high-risk heterosexual contact (85%) followed by injection drug use (15%).
- ⌘ Black women and other women of color are disproportionately affected by the HIV epidemic. Black women had the highest rate of new infection in 2009.

Estimated Rates of HIV Diagnoses, Among Females, by Race/Ethnicity United States, 2009	
Race/Ethnicity	Rate (per 100,000 females)
American Indian/Alaska Native	6.6
Asian	3.4
Black/African American	47.8
Hispanic/Latino	11.9
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	13.3
White	2.4

- ⌘ Since the beginning of the HIV epidemic, the proportion of AIDS diagnoses among women has increased from 11% in 1990 to almost 25% in 2009.
- ⌘ At the end of 2009, approximately 174,057 women in the US were living with HIV infection. This is a 7% increase since 2006.
- ⌘ HIV infection is among the top 10 leading causes of death for black females aged 10-54 and Hispanic/Latina females aged 15-54.
- ⌘ It is especially important for women of child-bearing age and pregnant women to receive HIV testing. Approximately 25% of women do not receive an HIV test during prenatal care.
- ⌘ Women face a variety of risk factors including substance use, biologic vulnerability, lack of recognition of a partner's status and most importantly, high-risk heterosexual behaviors.

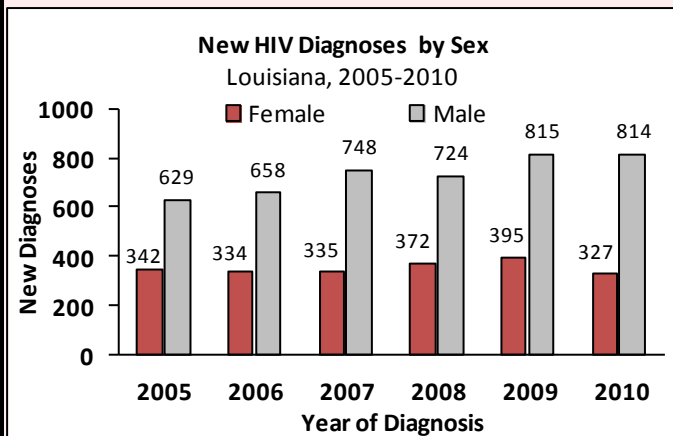
For more information, call the Louisiana Statewide STD/HIV Infoline at 1-800-99-AIDS-9 (1-800-992-4379) or visit www.HIV411.org



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Louisiana

- ⌘ In 2010, 1,141 people in Louisiana were newly diagnosed with HIV; 327 (29%) were women.
- ⌘ Black women have consistently made up the largest proportion of new HIV diagnoses among Louisiana women. Of the 327 women diagnosed with HIV in 2010, 282 (86%) were black, 33 (10%) were white, and 7 (2%) were Hispanic.



- ⌘ Between 2005 and 2010, the proportion of new HIV diagnoses that were female ranged between a high of 35% in 2005 and a low of 29% in 2010.
- ⌘ In 2010, 26% of new female diagnoses were among young women under the age of 25. Women, aged 15-44, made up a total of 73% of new HIV diagnoses among females.

Women Living with HIV Infection in Louisiana by Public Health Region, 2010	
Statewide	5,180
New Orleans	1,575
Baton Rouge	1,630
Houma	210
Lafayette	337
Lake Charles	215
Alexandria	231
Shreveport	398
Monroe	323
Hammond/Slidell	261

- ⌘ In 2010, 5,180 women were living with HIV in all Louisiana parishes, with the largest numbers in the New Orleans and Baton Rouge regions.
- ⌘ In 2010, 80% of the new HIV diagnoses for females were in women infected through high risk heterosexual contact; 19% of the diagnoses were in women infected through injection drug use.

- ⌘ In 2010, there were 327 females who were newly diagnosed with HIV. At the time of HIV diagnosis, 23% of the women had a diagnosis of AIDS. Within 6 months of the HIV diagnosis, an additional 10% of the women were diagnosed with AIDS. Prevention measures must aim to increase the number of women being tested for HIV in order to identify them at an earlier stage of their disease progression.
- ⌘ Since the beginning of the epidemic in Louisiana, a total of 309 children have been infected with HIV via mother to child transmission. In 2010, 4 infants were perinatally infected with HIV in Louisiana. Increased HIV testing that targets pregnant women should help reduce the number of future perinatal HIV infections.