



Prevalence of HIV/AIDS

	<u>Santa Barbara County</u> ¹	<u>California</u> ²	<u>US</u> ³
People Living with HIV/AIDS	412	87,049	1,200,000
Number of AIDS Deaths	498	84,532	550,934
Number of New AIDS Cases/Year	20	4,100	40,000

Among HIV/AIDS cases in Santa Barbara County:

- ➔ 88% are male
- ➔ 75% reside in the south county (Santa Barbara, Carpinteria, Goleta)
- ➔ 54% are White, 36% are Latino, and 7% are African-American
- ➔ The majority of new cases over the last seven years are among Latinos
- ➔ Heterosexual transmission has increased from 14% to 28% in the last five years
- ➔ Injection drug transmission has declined from 28% to 11% during the last five years

Risk Factors

- ➔ Unprotected sex among men continues to be the leading cause of HIV transmission (58%).
- ➔ Female partners of men who have sex with men are at very high risk.
- ➔ Injection drug needle sharing is the second leading cause of HIV/AIDS transmission.
- ➔ Drug and alcohol use, especially methamphetamine, lowers inhibitions and increases risk of unprotected sex, needle sharing, and other health problems.
- ➔ HIV positive methamphetamine users often progress from HIV to AIDS very rapidly.
- ➔ People with mental illness, addictions, and/or homelessness are at elevated risk, and have a difficult time accessing services and treatment.
- ➔ Migrant populations (Latinos) removed from their families and community may experiment with drugs and sexual activities. Language, culture, and literacy may be barriers to prevention methods among monolingual, Spanish-speaking, and sub-cultural (e.g. Mixteco) Latinos.

Impacts of AIDS & HIV

- ➔ Better medicines have reduced the number of AIDS deaths, but many people still die from AIDS.
- ➔ AIDS has become a chronic disease, requiring more resources for a longer period of time.
- ➔ Each HIV case costs approximately \$750,000 in lifetime treatment and loss of life quality.
- ➔ Twenty (20) new HIV infections per year in Santa Barbara County have a lifetime cost \$15M⁴.
- ➔ Funding for HIV/AIDS treatment in Santa Barbara County has decreased by 3-5% per year since 2003, while the number of people being treated has grown by about 5% each year.

Prevention Steps

- ➔ Get tested for HIV if you have had unprotected sex, shared needles, or are pregnant.
- ➔ Use a condom or dental dam for sexual activity.
- ➔ Use only clean needles for piercing, tattooing, or injecting drugs. Never use needles used by someone else without thorough cleaning in bleach and water.

For More Information

Contact Dan Reid at 805-681-5421 or dan.reid@sbcphd.org

See these websites – www.sbcphd.org/dcp/hiv_aids, www.cdc.org, www.dhs.ca.gov/aids/Statistics

¹ Santa Barbara County HIV AIDS Registry System, 2007

² CA Department of Finance and the Department of Public Health Office of AIDS, 2006

³ Centers for Disease Control, 2005

⁴ CA Department of Finance and the Department of Public Health Office of AIDS, 2006