

The Spread of HIV/AIDS – Virginia

HIV/AIDS disproportionately affects African Americans in Virginia particularly women:

- Of the total 19,830 people reported living with HIV/AIDS in Virginia as of September 2008, 62% were African American (12,304) and 26% were women (5,333). African American women accounted for 77% of all women living with HIV/AIDS in Virginia.
- Of the total 3,235 newly diagnosed HIV/AIDS cases in Virginia between 2005 and 2007, 62% (1,992) were African American and 27% (878) were women. Of all new HIV/AIDS diagnoses among women 77% were African American.
- In 2006, African American women were 20 times more likely to be diagnosed with HIV/AIDS than White women (37.7 vs. 1.9 per 100,000 population respectively)
- Since their peak in 1992, the rates for HIV/AIDS diagnoses among African American men, White men, and White women had a significant downward trend as they dropped by more than 50% by the end of 2002. The rates for African American women dropped at a much slower pace, showing only a 45% drop by the end of 2005.