



Data Points

RESULTS FROM THE CALIFORNIA WOMEN'S HEALTH SURVEY

The proportion of all AIDS cases that are women increased from 5.9 percent in 1992 to 11.8 percent in 2004. About 85.0 percent of California women with HIV or AIDS are of childbearing age, but 12.1 percent of newly-diagnosed female HIV/AIDS cases in California in 2004 were women aged 50 and above.¹ Knowledge of HIV serostatus is important to enable initiation of antiretroviral therapy and counseling to prevent further sexual, injection drug use, and perinatal transmission.

In 2003, the Office of Women's Health (OWH) asked questions relating to doctor or other healthcare provider screening for HIV. All respondents were asked whether in the previous 12 months providers had asked them about their personal risk for HIV.²

About 14.0 percent of 4,034 respondents reported that a healthcare provider had talked with them about their personal risk for HIV during the previous 12 months. Respondents

reporting HIV discussions varied significantly by age (see graph) and race/ethnicity.³ Younger respondents, Hispanic (22.3 percent) and Black/African American (18.8 percent) reported higher rates of provider discussion about HIV risk.

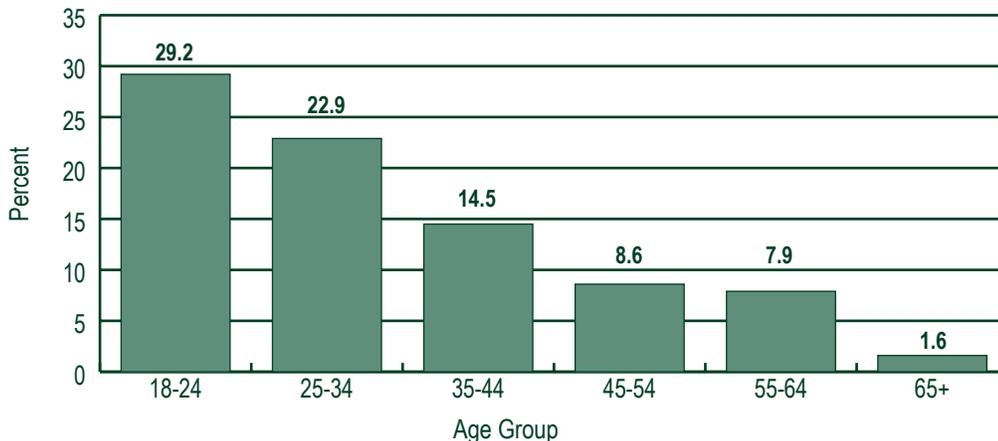
- Married women were less likely to report that a healthcare provider had discussed HIV risk with them (10.7 percent) than non-married women (18.2 percent).
- Women with health insurance were less likely to report that a healthcare provider had discussed HIV risk with them (13.4 percent), compared with women who had no health insurance (19.3 percent).
- Women whose income was at or below federal poverty level were most likely to report that a healthcare provider had discussed HIV risk (19.9 percent), compared with women above the poverty level (11.0 percent).

Healthcare Provider Discussion About HIV Risk, California, 2003

California Department of Health Services
Office of Women's Health

Public Health Message: Healthcare providers were more likely to discuss HIV in the previous 12 months with women who were at risk for HIV: younger, Hispanic, Black/African American, and uninsured. Providers should consider discussing HIV testing with women older than 50, since they are also at risk for HIV/AIDS.

Proportion of Women Reporting that a Health Care Provider Discussed HIV Risks With Them During the Past 12 Months, By Age Group, California, 2003



Source: California Women's Health Survey

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**Healthcare Provider
Discussion About HIV
Risk, California, 2003**

California Department of
Health Services
Office of Women's Health

- 1 Office of AIDS, California Department of Health Services. Personal communication. Data presented are as of December 31, 2004.
- 2 Missing responses and refusals were excluded from the analyses. The questions were asked of all the respondents under an assumption that all the respondents had seen a healthcare provider in the previous 12 months.
- 3 Chi-square test $p < 0.001$.

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