

Sampling questions

NAME:

African Americans' Views of the HIV/AIDS Epidemic at 20 Years

FINDINGS FROM A NATIONAL SURVEY

Henry J Kaiser Family Foundation

(<http://www.kff.org>)

INTRODUCTION

African Americans have been disproportionately affected by HIV/AIDS since the epidemic's beginning in 1981. Although African Americans represent approximately 12% of the U.S. population, they now account for an estimated 47% of new AIDS cases. Moreover, AIDS is now the leading cause of death for African Americans between the ages of 25 and 44.

There is growing evidence that the HIV/AIDS epidemic is increasingly concentrated in low-income communities in which people of color are often disproportionately represented. Such communities generally are faced with multiple other health and social issues and limited resources with which to respond to the epidemic.

The survey represents the third in a series of national surveys on the public's knowledge and attitudes toward HIV/AIDS conducted by the Kaiser Family Foundation between 1995 and 2000.

DETAILS OF THE STUDY

The survey was designed by staff at the Foundation and Princeton Survey Research Associates (PSRA). Analysis was conducted by staff at the Foundation and Regina Aragón.

The findings are based on a nationally representative telephone survey of 2,683 adults 18 and older conducted in both English and Spanish (depending upon the respondent's preference). The sample included 1,542 whites, 431 African Americans, and 549 Latinos. Fieldwork was conducted between August 14, 2000 and October 26, 2000. The sample was based on a list-assisted, random-digit dialing (RDD) sample of telephone numbers and was drawn using a stratified design so that the final sample of completed interviews would contain a disproportionately large number of African Americans and Latino respondents. African Americans and Latinos were intentionally oversampled in order to ensure sufficient sample sizes to allow for analyses across race and ethnicity and within these two populations.

The margin of sampling error is $\pm 2\%$ for the total sample, $\pm 7\%$ for African Americans, $\pm 3\%$ for whites, and $\pm 6\%$ for Latinos.

A survey's response rate estimates the proportion of eligible respondents in the sample that were successfully interviewed. The final response rate is 46%.

A selection of the sample results is shown on the next two pages. Browse the information and then answer the sampling questions on the fourth page.

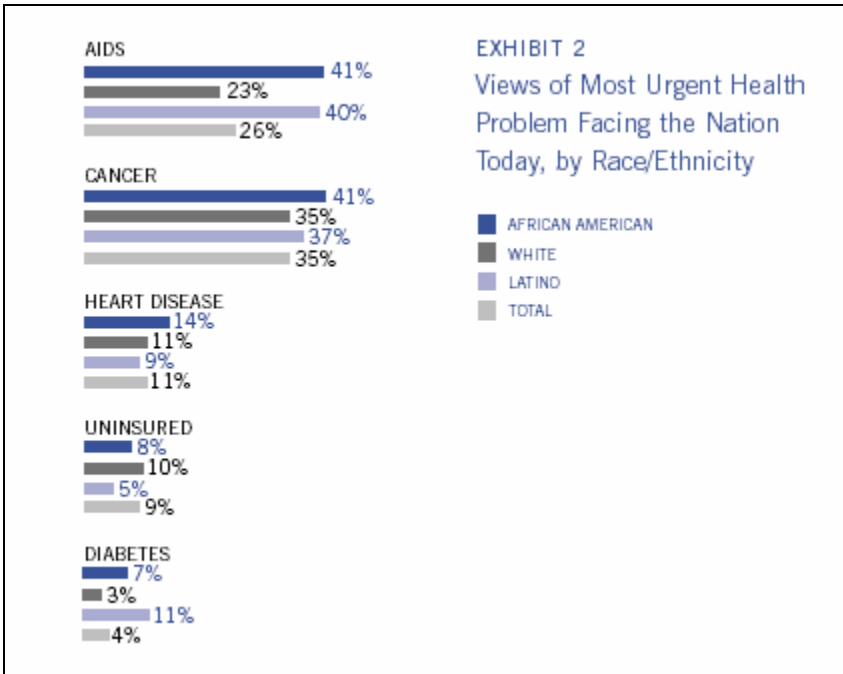


EXHIBIT 3
Percent Who View AIDS as the Most Urgent Health Problem Facing the Nation, 1995–2000, by Race/Ethnicity^{9,10,11,12}

	1995	1997	2000
PERCENT WHO VIEW AIDS AS THE MOST URGENT HEALTH PROBLEM			
African American	56%	52%	41%
White	42%	35%	23%
Latino	51%	50%	40%
Total	44%	38%	26%

CONCERN AMONG PARENTS AND YOUNG ADULTS

An estimated half of all new HIV infections in the U.S. occur among young people under the age of 25, and African American teens have been disproportionately affected.^{6,14} African American parents of children age 21 or younger express high levels of concern about their children’s risk for infection. More than eight in ten (82%) African American parents say that they are either “very” or “somewhat” concerned about their son or daughter becoming infected with HIV, with 60% saying that this concern has increased in the past few years.

Young people themselves share this concern. African Americans aged 18 to 29 are significantly more likely to say they are “very” concerned about becoming infected with HIV (51%) than those who are 30 and over (34%) (see exhibit 6).

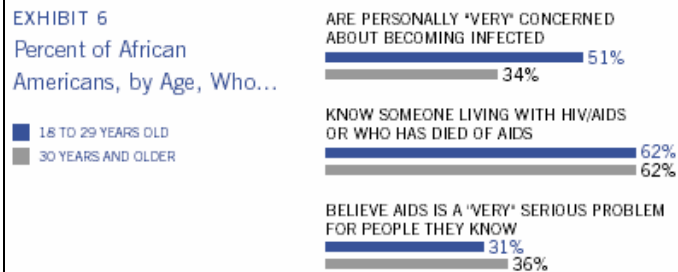


EXHIBIT 9
Perceptions of Risk
Related to Very Low
or No-Risk Activities,
by Race/Ethnicity

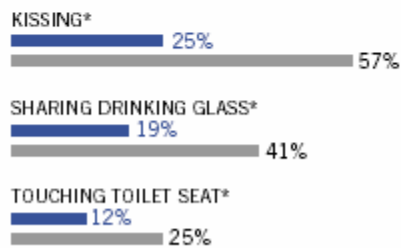
Please tell me if a person can become infected with HIV this way or not?

	YES	NO	DON'T KNOW/ REFUSED
KISSING			
African American	44	46	10
White	28	65	8
Latino	37	55	8
Total	31	62	8
SHARING DRINKING GLASS			
African American	25	63	12
White	14	79	7
Latino	19	76	5
Total	15	77	7
TOUCHING TOILET SEAT			
African American	13	76	11
White	8	86	6
Latino	20	71	9
Total	10	84	6

HIV KNOWLEDGE VARIES BY AGE

Misperceptions about the risk of infection from casual contact are significantly higher among African Americans age 30 and over, compared with younger African Americans (see exhibit 10). For example, African Americans age 30 and over are much more likely than those age 18–29 to believe that kissing poses a risk or to not know whether this activity poses a risk for infection (57% compared to 25%). Those age 30 and over are also more likely to misunderstand the risk of sharing a drinking glass (41% and 19%, respectively) and touching a toilet seat (25% and 12%, respectively).

EXHIBIT 10
African Americans'
Perceptions of Risk
Related to Very Low
or No-Risk Activities,
by Age



■ 18 TO 29 YEARS OLD
■ 30 YEARS AND OLDER

* Includes "yes" and "don't know" responses

Sample Questions

Read over the short excerpt and sample data concerning African Americans' views about HIV and AIDS. Answer the following questions. These are questions that you should ask about every survey you read. This survey was well documented and so has answered most of the questions. Often, samples are reported less meticulously.

1. Who carried out the survey?
2. What was the population?
3. How was the sample selected?
4. How large was the sample? How large was the sampling frame?
5. What was the response rate?
6. How were the subjects contacted?
7. When was the survey conducted?
8. What were the exact questions asked?
(Here you do not need to list them all. Just be aware that this study, unlike many, did reveal the exact questions. Think about how they were phrased and how that might influence results.)