

# Conclusions

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- After rapidly increasing since the 1980s, the annual rate of death due to HIV disease peaked in 1994 or 1995 (depending on the demographic group), decreased rapidly through 1997, and became nearly level after 1998.
- Persons dying of HIV disease increasingly consist of:
  - women (27% in 2005)
  - non-Hispanic blacks (55% in 2005)
  - residents of the South (51% in 2005)
  - persons 45 years of age older (53% in 2005)
- HIV disease remains a leading cause of death among persons 25 to 44 years old, particularly among those who are black or Hispanic.

