



## HIV Among Foreign-Born Residents of King County

**Summary:** Twelve percent of HIV-infected residents of King County were born outside the United States and territories, and this proportion is increasing over time. Most of the increases are among foreign-born Blacks and Hispanics. Foreign-born Blacks are more likely than U.S.-born Blacks to be female, and/or to be infected heterosexually. Both foreign-born and U.S.-born Hispanics are likely to be males who have sex with men. Because of the differences between foreign-born and U.S.-born Blacks (i.e., African Americans), these two groups are also described separately in the People of Color Fact Sheet.

### STATUS OF HIV CASES:

- The proportion of HIV-infected King County residents who are foreign-born is higher among People of Color. One-half of Asian & Pacific Islanders (API) (55%) and Hispanics (50%), and nearly one-third of Blacks (29%) who are HIV-infected were born outside the U.S. Only 2% of Whites with HIV are foreign-born. Native Americans and Alaska Natives are not described here because virtually all are U.S.-born.

**Table 1: Place of Birth, Sex, and Race among King County Residents Living with HIV/AIDS 9/30/2005**

	White	Black	Hispanic	API	Total*
Total Number HIV+	4,028	899	507	138	5,699
Foreign-Born	2%	29%	50%	55%	12%
U.S.-Born	94%	68%	41%	34%	84%
Of Foreign-born, % Female	12%	44%	11%	12%	24%
Of U.S.-born, % Female	5%	21%	7%	9%	8%

\* Total includes 44 people of multiple or unknown race, and 259 persons with unknown birthplace

\*\* Fewer than five cases in this category

- The proportion of HIV-infected persons who are female is higher among Blacks, and among foreign-born persons.
  - 44% of HIV-infected foreign-born Blacks are female
  - 21% of HIV-infected U.S.-born Blacks are female
  - 11% - 12% of HIV-infected foreign-born Whites, Hispanics, or API are female
  - 5% - 9% of HIV-infected U.S.-born Whites, Hispanics, or API are female
- The mode of HIV exposure differs substantially between the U.S. and foreign-born infected people (Table 2). Most foreign-born Blacks are infected heterosexually, and many have undetermined mode of exposure. Most U.S.-born Blacks are men who have sex with men, or injection drug users.
- The mode of HIV exposure is similar between U.S. and foreign-born Whites, Hispanics, and API (Table 2). Men having sex with men (MSM) is the most common exposure among these groups, followed by Injection drug users (IDU).
- Blacks born outside the U.S. make up just 5% of the total HIV-infected population in King County, but 28% of all heterosexually-acquired infections.

**Table 2: Mode of HIV exposure by Place of Birth and Race of People Living with HIV in King County as of 9/30/2005\*\***

	Total	MSM or IDU	Hetero-sexual	Other *
US-born Whites	3777	93%	4%	3%
US-born Blacks	613	73%	13%	14%
US-born Hispanics	207	89%	5%	6%
US-born API	47	87%	6%	6%
Foreign-born Whites	78	79%	13%	8%
Foreign-born Blacks	264	7%	48%	45%
Foreign-born Hispanics	256	71%	13%	16%
Foreign-born API	76	64%	11%	25%
Unknown birthplace	259	89%	3%	8%

\* Other exposure includes blood exposure, perinatal exposure, or undetermined mode of transmission.

\*\* Not shown in this table are 37 US-born persons of multiple race or with missing race, 2 foreign-born and 79 U.S.-born Native Americans, and 4 foreign-born people of multiple race or with missing race.

**TRENDS IN HIV/AIDS CASES:**

The proportion of HIV cases among people who are foreign-born has increased from 7% of people diagnosed 1993-1995 to 19% of people diagnosed 2002-2004. Most of this increase was among Blacks and Hispanics. Over these same time periods, the proportion of HIV cases among Blacks who are foreign-born increased from 1% to 9%, while remaining relatively unchanged at 10-13% for U.S.-born Blacks (see Figure 1). Foreign-born Hispanics increased slightly, from 3% to 6%, while U.S.-born Hispanics were unchanged at 4%.

**Figure 1: Percentage of HIV Diagnoses Among Blacks, by Place of Birth**

