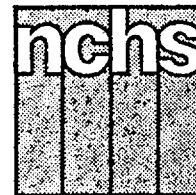


# Advance Data

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From Vital and Health Statistics of the National Center for Health Statistics

## AIDS Knowledge and Attitudes for December 1988

### Provisional Data From the National Health Interview Survey

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#### Introduction

The National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) has included a special set of supplemental questions on the adult population's knowledge and attitudes about acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) in the National Health Interview Survey (NHIS). The first AIDS Knowledge and Attitudes Survey was in the field from August through December 1987. Provisional results of that survey were published on a monthly basis in *Advance Data From Vital and Health Statistics* (Nos. 146, 148, 150, 151, and 153). A public use data tape containing the information collected in 1987 is available from NCHS. During the first 4 months of 1988, the NHIS AIDS questionnaire was revised to meet current program needs for information about AIDS awareness. The revised AIDS Knowledge and Attitudes Survey entered the field in May 1988. Provisional findings for May through November were published in *Advance Data From Vital and Health Statistics*, Nos. 160, 161, 163, 164, and 167. This report presents provisional results for December 1988.

The *Advance Data* reports describing the NHIS AIDS data have been restricted to simple descriptive statistics to facilitate their timely

release. Thus, these reports do not attempt to explain or interpret differences among population subgroups in AIDS knowledge or to examine relationships among various measures of knowledge, attitudes, and perceived risk. The 1987 and 1988 NHIS AIDS data bases permit more complex analyses than those presented in this series of *Advance Data* reports, and such analyses are being undertaken by various groups in the Public Health Service.

The AIDS questionnaires were designed to estimate public knowledge and attitudes about AIDS transmission and prevention of AIDS virus infection. The data were needed as input for the planning and development of AIDS educational campaigns and for monitoring major educational efforts, for example, the series of radio and television public service announcements entitled "America Responds to AIDS" and the brochure "Understanding AIDS," both developed by the Centers for Disease Control.

The 1987 and 1988 AIDS questionnaires were developed by the National Center for Health Statistics and interagency working groups established by the Information, Education and Risk Factor Reduction Subcommittee of the Public Health

Service Executive Task Force on AIDS. The working groups included representatives from the Centers for Disease Control; the National Institutes of Health; the Alcohol, Drug Abuse and Mental Health Administration; and the Health Resources and Services Administration.

The current AIDS questionnaire includes items on sources of AIDS information; self-assessed levels of AIDS knowledge; basic facts about the AIDS virus and how it is transmitted; blood donation experience; awareness of and experience with the blood test for the AIDS virus; perceived effectiveness of selected preventive measures; self-assessed chances of getting the AIDS virus; personal acquaintance with persons with AIDS or the AIDS virus; and willingness to take part in a proposed national seroprevalence survey. A general risk behavior question, similar to that asked by the Red Cross of potential blood donors, is included in the 1988 AIDS questionnaire.

This report presents provisional data for December 1988 for most items included in the AIDS questionnaire. Table 1 displays percent distributions of persons 18 years of age and over by response categories according to age, sex, race, and

education. In most cases, the actual questions asked of the respondents are reproduced verbatim in table 1 along with the coded response categories. In a few cases, questions or response categories have been rephrased or combined for clearer or more concise presentation of results. Refusals and other nonresponse categories are excluded from the denominator in the calculation of estimates, but responses of "don't know" are included.

**Selected findings**

The following highlights describe various aspects of changes in AIDS knowledge and attitudes as observed in the May–December 1988 data from the NHIS AIDS survey. Any differences cited in the text are statistically significant at the 0.05 level (see table II for approximate standard errors of estimates).

*Sources of AIDS information—* Eighty percent of adults interviewed in

December 1988 reported having seen AIDS public service announcements on television in the past month, and 42 percent reported hearing announcements on the radio. These proportions were slightly lower than the proportions who reported seeing or hearing such announcements between May and July 1988 (84–86 percent saw announcements on television and 48–49 percent heard announcements on the radio). In December, as in previous months in 1988, the proportion of adults who had seen or heard announcements was higher for those with 12 or more years of school than for those with less than 12 years.

In May, 25 percent of adults reported having read brochures in the month before interview; this proportion increased to 52 percent in June and July, coincident with the national mailout of the brochure "Understanding AIDS." From August through December, this figure declined so that by December only 28

percent had recently read brochures. From May to July, the percent of adults who reported ever reading brochures or pamphlets about AIDS increased from 43 to 68 percent. This figure remained between 65 and 67 percent through December.

*Self-assessed knowledge—*In December 1988, 21 percent of adults reported that they knew a lot about AIDS, 44 percent reported some knowledge, 27 percent claimed to know a little, and 8 percent stated that they knew nothing. The proportion of adults in these various response categories did not change from May through December.

*General knowledge—*For many of the general AIDS knowledge questions, increases in the percent of adults giving the correct definitive responses were noted after May 1988. As shown in Figure 1, the proportion who thought it definitely true that there is no cure for AIDS at present increased from 81 percent in May to

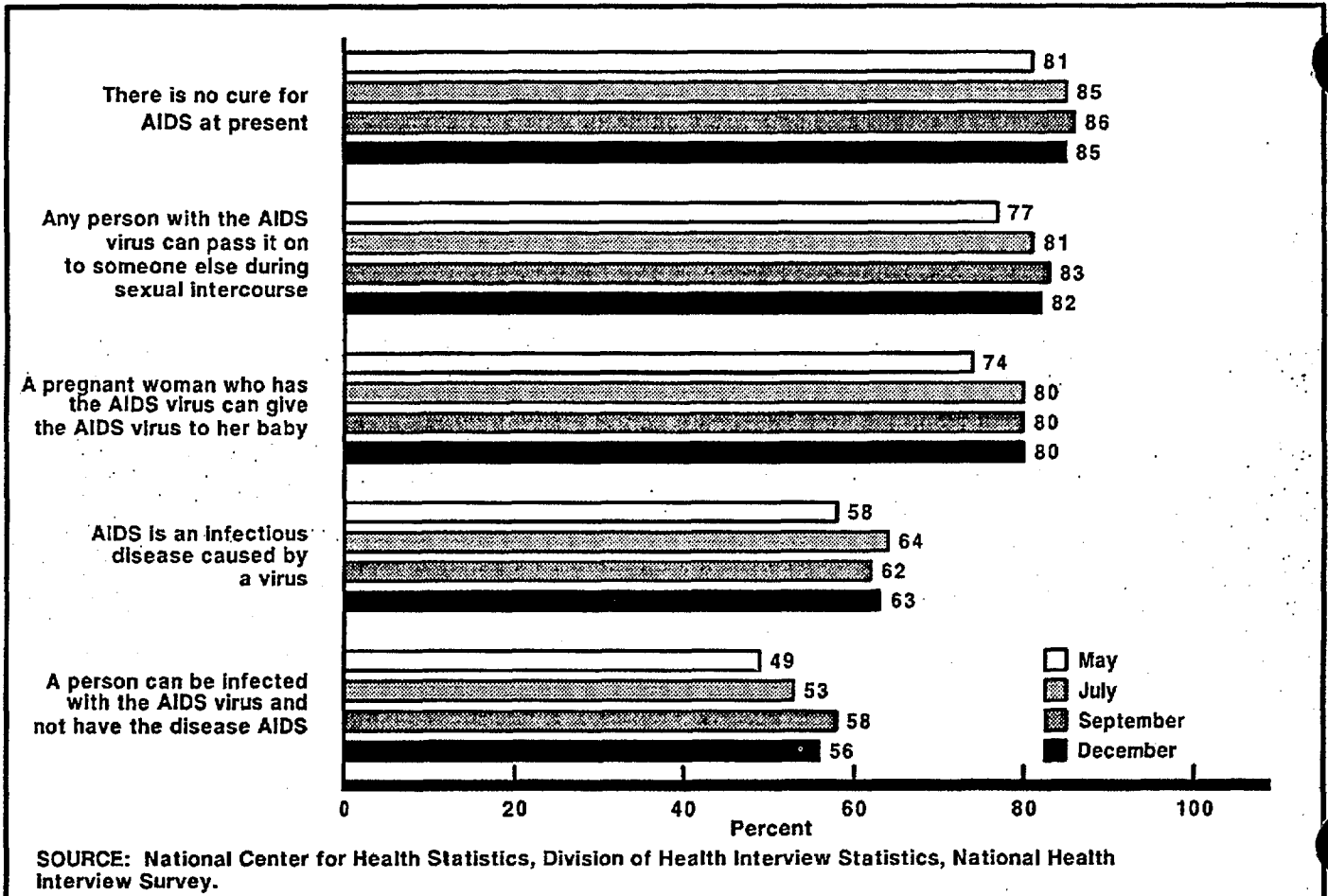


Figure 1. Provisional estimates of percent of adults who think selected statements about AIDS are definitely true: United States, May, July, September, and December 1988

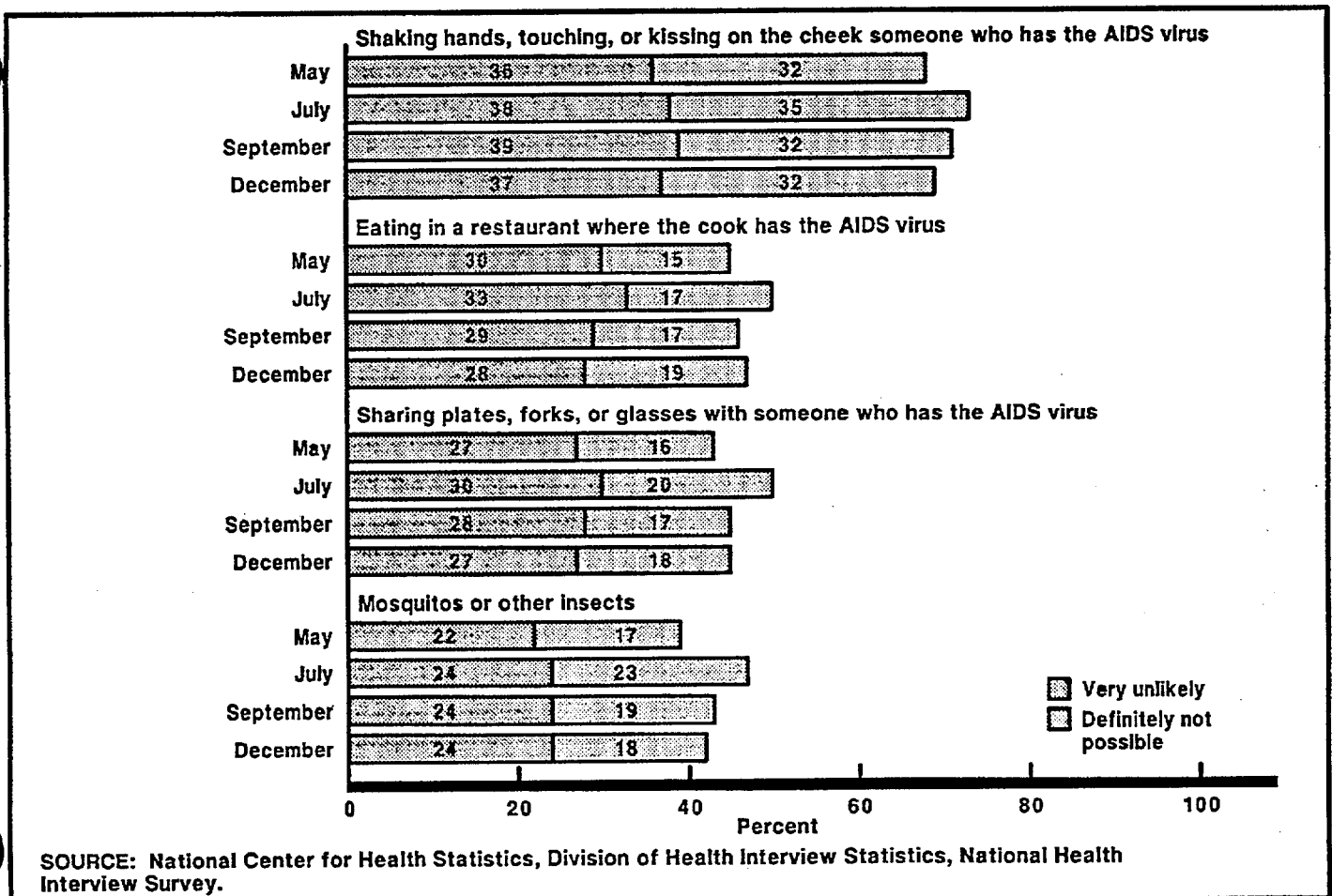
85 percent in December. Similar increases were noted in the proportion who thought it definitely true that any person with the AIDS virus can pass it on to someone else during sexual intercourse (from 77 to 82 percent), that a pregnant women who has the AIDS virus can give the AIDS virus to her baby (from 74 to 80 percent), that AIDS is an infectious disease caused by a virus (from 58 to 63 percent), and that a person can be infected with the AIDS virus and not have the disease AIDS (from 49 to 56 percent). As in the previous months in 1988, the proportion responding correctly to the various AIDS knowledge questions in December increased with education and was higher for those under 50 years of age than for older adults. When the proportions with the correct definitive response were examined by race, the increase in knowledge after May was more pronounced for black adults than for white adults. For some questions, the magnitude of the

difference between the proportion of black and white adults responding correctly decreased. For other questions, racial differentials were completely eliminated. By December, similar proportions of white adults and black adults responded correctly to more than half of the general knowledge questions including those about the major modes of transmission of the AIDS virus (sexual, parenteral, and perinatal).

*Misperceptions about transmission of the AIDS virus*—A series of questions in the NHIS AIDS survey addressed misperceptions about transmission of the AIDS virus through casual contact. It had been previously noted that accurate knowledge in this area had increased from 1987 to May 1988. From May to June and July 1988, additional increases in knowledge were noted. After July 1988, however, the proportion with the correct responses began to decrease somewhat, so that by

December 1988, the proportion responding correctly to questions about casual transmission was often no different from that observed in May 1988. As shown in figure 2, the percent of adults who thought it was very unlikely or definitely not possible to transmit AIDS by shaking hands increased from 68 percent in May to 73 percent in July and dropped to 71 percent in September and to 69 percent in December. A similar pattern was noted for most of the other conjectured modes of transmission. In December, as in previous months in 1988, the proportion of adults responding correctly to questions about transmission increased with education. However, the pattern described above of an increase in the proportion responding correctly from May to June and July with a decline in subsequent months was noted at all levels of education.

*Blood donation and testing*—In December 1988, 41 percent of adults



SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, Division of Health Interview Statistics, National Health Interview Survey.

Figure 2. Provisional estimates of percent of adults considering it very unlikely or definitely not possible to transmit the AIDS virus in selected ways: United States, May, July, September, and December 1988

stated that they had ever donated blood, 15 percent had donated since March 1985 when routine screening of donated blood for antibodies to HIV began, and 7 percent had donated in the year preceding interview. For all blood donation questions, the percent donating increased with education, and men were more likely to have donated than women.

Three-quarters of all adults had heard of the AIDS blood test as of December 1988. Slightly fewer (67 percent) knew that blood donations are now routinely screened for AIDS virus infection, and less than half (46 percent) thought that the present blood supply was safe for transfusion. These proportions were similar throughout 1988.

Including all blood donors since March 1985, a total of 19 percent of adults in December had had their blood tested for antibodies to the AIDS virus, slightly higher than the 16 percent interviewed in May. This increase in testing between May and December was noted in four specific population subgroups: the 18–29 years age group (from 23 to 29 percent), white adults (from 16 to 20 percent),

those with more than 12 years of school (from 21 to 26 percent), and men (from 20 to 24 percent). Of those who were tested as of December, most (72 percent) had their testing done as part of a blood donation, 16 percent were tested voluntarily, and 12 percent took the test as part of another activity requiring routine testing (such as a physical examination for military induction). These figures were similar to those in earlier months in 1988.

In December, 6 percent of adults reported plans to be tested in the 12 months following the NHIS interview; this figure also remained stable throughout 1988.

*Preventive measures*—As of December 1988, 84 percent of adults thought that condoms were very or somewhat effective in preventing transmission of the AIDS virus; 82 percent of adults thought that having a monogamous relationship with an individual who is not infected with the AIDS virus was a very effective means of prevention. These proportions did not change from May through December. As in previous months in 1988, over half of all adults in December recognized that the

diaphragm, spermicides, and vasectomy are not effective in preventing AIDS virus transmission. Most of the remainder were uncertain about the effectiveness of these particular methods.

*Risk of getting the AIDS virus*—Overall, 3 percent of adults in December 1988 stated that they belonged to one or more of the groups with behaviors associated with increased risk for acquiring AIDS (such as intravenous drug users and homosexually active men). This proportion remained stable throughout 1988.

In December, only 1 percent of adults felt that they had a high chance of having or getting the AIDS virus; 2 percent felt that their chance of getting the AIDS virus was medium, 18 percent felt that they had a low chance, 76 percent felt that they had no chance of getting AIDS, and 3 percent could not assess their chances of getting AIDS. The proportion in December believing that they have no chance of acquiring AIDS was slightly higher than that reported in May (71 percent).

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#### Suggested citation

Hardy AM, Dawson DA. AIDS knowledge and attitudes for December 1988: Provisional data from the National Health Interview Survey. *Advance data from vital and health statistics*; no. 175. Hyattsville, Maryland: National Center for Health Statistics. 1989.

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#### Symbols

- Quantity zero
  - 0 Quantity more than zero but less than 0.05
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**Table 1. Provisional estimates of the percent of persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1988 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, December 1988**

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in technical notes]

| AIDS knowledge or attitude                                                                                          | Total | Age                               |             |                   | Sex  |        | Race  |       | Education          |          |                    |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-----------------------------------|-------------|-------------------|------|--------|-------|-------|--------------------|----------|--------------------|
|                                                                                                                     |       | 18-29 years                       | 30-49 years | 50 years and over | Male | Female | White | Black | Less than 12 years | 12 years | More than 12 years |
| Total . . . . .                                                                                                     | 100   | 100                               | 100         | 100               | 100  | 100    | 100   | 100   | 100                | 100      | 100                |
|                                                                                                                     |       | Percent distribution <sup>1</sup> |             |                   |      |        |       |       |                    |          |                    |
| 1. In the past month, have you—                                                                                     |       |                                   |             |                   |      |        |       |       |                    |          |                    |
| 1a. Seen any public service announcements about AIDS on television?                                                 |       |                                   |             |                   |      |        |       |       |                    |          |                    |
| Yes . . . . .                                                                                                       | 80    | 83                                | 83          | 76                | 81   | 80     | 81    | 79    | 71                 | 82       | 84                 |
| No . . . . .                                                                                                        | 17    | 16                                | 15          | 21                | 17   | 18     | 16    | 19    | 25                 | 16       | 14                 |
| Don't know . . . . .                                                                                                | 2     | 1                                 | 2           | 3                 | 2    | 2      | 2     | 2     | 4                  | 2        | 2                  |
| 1b. Heard any public service announcements about AIDS on the radio?                                                 |       |                                   |             |                   |      |        |       |       |                    |          |                    |
| Yes . . . . .                                                                                                       | 42    | 50                                | 46          | 31                | 46   | 38     | 41    | 49    | 35                 | 43       | 45                 |
| No . . . . .                                                                                                        | 54    | 48                                | 49          | 64                | 50   | 57     | 54    | 48    | 60                 | 54       | 50                 |
| Don't know . . . . .                                                                                                | 4     | 3                                 | 5           | 5                 | 4    | 5      | 4     | 3     | 5                  | 4        | 5                  |
| 2. Were any of those public service announcements called "America Responds to AIDS"?                                |       |                                   |             |                   |      |        |       |       |                    |          |                    |
| Yes . . . . .                                                                                                       | 22    | 32                                | 22          | 14                | 22   | 23     | 21    | 27    | 22                 | 25       | 20                 |
| No . . . . .                                                                                                        | 13    | 13                                | 13          | 12                | 14   | 12     | 13    | 12    | 12                 | 13       | 13                 |
| Don't know . . . . .                                                                                                | 48    | 41                                | 51          | 52                | 48   | 48     | 50    | 44    | 41                 | 48       | 54                 |
| Neither heard nor saw any public service announcements. . . . .                                                     | 17    | 13                                | 14          | 22                | 16   | 17     | 16    | 17    | 25                 | 15       | 13                 |
| 3. In the past month, have you read any brochures or pamphlets about AIDS?                                          |       |                                   |             |                   |      |        |       |       |                    |          |                    |
| Yes . . . . .                                                                                                       | 28    | 34                                | 31          | 20                | 25   | 30     | 27    | 33    | 20                 | 27       | 34                 |
| No . . . . .                                                                                                        | 71    | 66                                | 68          | 78                | 74   | 68     | 72    | 66    | 78                 | 72       | 65                 |
| Don't know . . . . .                                                                                                | 1     | 0                                 | 1           | 2                 | 1    | 1      | 1     | 1     | 2                  | 1        | 1                  |
| 4. Have you ever read any brochures or pamphlets about AIDS?                                                        |       |                                   |             |                   |      |        |       |       |                    |          |                    |
| Yes . . . . .                                                                                                       | 65    | 71                                | 72          | 54                | 61   | 69     | 65    | 68    | 46                 | 66       | 77                 |
| No . . . . .                                                                                                        | 34    | 28                                | 27          | 45                | 37   | 30     | 33    | 32    | 52                 | 33       | 23                 |
| Don't know . . . . .                                                                                                | 1     | 1                                 | 1           | 2                 | 1    | 1      | 1     | 0     | 2                  | 1        | 1                  |
| 5. Where did you get the pamphlets or brochures? <sup>1,2</sup>                                                     |       |                                   |             |                   |      |        |       |       |                    |          |                    |
| Clinic, other than work clinic . . . . .                                                                            | 3     | 4                                 | 3           | 2                 | 3    | 3      | 3     | 6     | 5                  | 3        | 3                  |
| Doctor's office (HMO) . . . . .                                                                                     | 14    | 15                                | 14          | 13                | 11   | 17     | 14    | 17    | 14                 | 16       | 12                 |
| Drug store . . . . .                                                                                                | 1     | 1                                 | 2           | 1                 | 1    | 1      | 1     | 2     | 1                  | 1        | 1                  |
| Public health department . . . . .                                                                                  | 3     | 4                                 | 3           | 1                 | 2    | 3      | 2     | 3     | 2                  | 2        | 3                  |
| Received in mail without asking . . . . .                                                                           | 36    | 29                                | 35          | 44                | 35   | 37     | 37    | 33    | 38                 | 36       | 35                 |
| Red Cross/Red Cross blood donation . . . . .                                                                        | 3     | 4                                 | 2           | 3                 | 3    | 2      | 3     | 1     | 1                  | 3        | 4                  |
| Other blood donation . . . . .                                                                                      | 1     | 1                                 | 1           | 0                 | 1    | 1      | 1     | —     | 0                  | 1        | 1                  |
| School . . . . .                                                                                                    | 11    | 19                                | 9           | 4                 | 8    | 12     | 10    | 8     | 8                  | 8        | 14                 |
| Sent/phoned for/requested it . . . . .                                                                              | 1     | 1                                 | 1           | 1                 | 1    | 1      | 1     | 0     | 1                  | 1        | 1                  |
| Federal/State/local government . . . . .                                                                            | 21    | 14                                | 22          | 27                | 22   | 20     | 21    | 21    | 21                 | 20       | 22                 |
| Work, other than clinic or nurse . . . . .                                                                          | 14    | 13                                | 17          | 10                | 16   | 12     | 14    | 16    | 7                  | 12       | 17                 |
| Work, nurse or clinic . . . . .                                                                                     | 4     | 3                                 | 6           | 3                 | 3    | 5      | 4     | 5     | 2                  | 3        | 6                  |
| Other . . . . .                                                                                                     | 14    | 16                                | 15          | 11                | 17   | 12     | 13    | 19    | 18                 | 14       | 13                 |
| Don't know . . . . .                                                                                                | 4     | 3                                 | 3           | 4                 | 5    | 3      | 4     | 4     | 3                  | 4        | 4                  |
| 15. Have you ever discussed AIDS with any of your children aged 10-17? <sup>3</sup>                                 |       |                                   |             |                   |      |        |       |       |                    |          |                    |
| Yes . . . . .                                                                                                       | 62    | 54                                | 63          | 60                | 41   | 78     | 63    | 62    | 53                 | 57       | 72                 |
| No . . . . .                                                                                                        | 38    | 46                                | 37          | 40                | 59   | 22     | 37    | 38    | 47                 | 43       | 28                 |
| Don't know . . . . .                                                                                                | 0     | —                                 | 0           | —                 | —    | 0      | 0     | —     | —                  | —        | 0                  |
| 16. Have any or all of your children aged 10-17 had instruction at school about AIDS? <sup>3</sup>                  |       |                                   |             |                   |      |        |       |       |                    |          |                    |
| Yes . . . . .                                                                                                       | 61    | 51                                | 60          | 68                | 54   | 65     | 61    | 56    | 60                 | 60       | 62                 |
| No . . . . .                                                                                                        | 11    | 13                                | 11          | 6                 | 13   | 9      | 11    | 9     | 9                  | 11       | 12                 |
| Don't know . . . . .                                                                                                | 28    | 36                                | 28          | 26                | 33   | 25     | 27    | 35    | 32                 | 29       | 26                 |
| 21. How much would you say you know about AIDS?                                                                     |       |                                   |             |                   |      |        |       |       |                    |          |                    |
| A lot . . . . .                                                                                                     | 21    | 22                                | 27          | 14                | 21   | 21     | 22    | 17    | 10                 | 18       | 31                 |
| Some . . . . .                                                                                                      | 44    | 49                                | 49          | 35                | 43   | 46     | 45    | 41    | 32                 | 47       | 49                 |
| A little . . . . .                                                                                                  | 27    | 26                                | 21          | 34                | 28   | 26     | 26    | 28    | 34                 | 31       | 18                 |
| None . . . . .                                                                                                      | 8     | 3                                 | 3           | 17                | 8    | 8      | 7     | 13    | 23                 | 4        | 2                  |
| Don't know . . . . .                                                                                                | 0     | —                                 | 0           | 0                 | 0    | 0      | 0     | 0     | 0                  | 0        | 0                  |
| 22. To the best of your knowledge, is there a difference between having the AIDS virus and having the disease AIDS? |       |                                   |             |                   |      |        |       |       |                    |          |                    |
| Yes . . . . .                                                                                                       | 64    | 65                                | 72          | 56                | 64   | 65     | 67    | 53    | 43                 | 62       | 79                 |
| No . . . . .                                                                                                        | 15    | 22                                | 15          | 11                | 16   | 15     | 14    | 20    | 17                 | 18       | 12                 |
| Other . . . . .                                                                                                     | 0     | —                                 | 0           | 0                 | 0    | 0      | 0     | —     | 0                  | 0        | 0                  |
| Don't know . . . . .                                                                                                | 20    | 13                                | 13          | 33                | 20   | 20     | 18    | 27    | 39                 | 19       | 9                  |
| 23a. AIDS can reduce the body's natural protection against disease.                                                 |       |                                   |             |                   |      |        |       |       |                    |          |                    |
| Definitely true . . . . .                                                                                           | 75    | 77                                | 82          | 64                | 76   | 73     | 77    | 62    | 50                 | 75       | 88                 |
| Probably true . . . . .                                                                                             | 12    | 13                                | 10          | 15                | 13   | 12     | 12    | 14    | 20                 | 13       | 7                  |
| Probably false . . . . .                                                                                            | 1     | 2                                 | 1           | 2                 | 1    | 2      | 1     | 4     | 2                  | 2        | 1                  |
| Definitely false . . . . .                                                                                          | 3     | 4                                 | 2           | 3                 | 2    | 4      | 2     | 7     | 5                  | 3        | 1                  |
| Don't know . . . . .                                                                                                | 9     | 4                                 | 5           | 16                | 8    | 9      | 8     | 14    | 22                 | 7        | 3                  |

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Provisional estimates of the percent of persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1988 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, December 1988—Con.

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in technical notes]

| AIDS knowledge or attitude                                                                    | Total | Age         |             |                   | Sex  |        | Race  |       | Education          |          |                    |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|------|--------|-------|-------|--------------------|----------|--------------------|
|                                                                                               |       | 18-29 years | 30-49 years | 50 years and over | Male | Female | White | Black | Less than 12 years | 12 years | More than 12 years |
| Percent distribution <sup>1</sup>                                                             |       |             |             |                   |      |        |       |       |                    |          |                    |
| 23b. AIDS is especially common in older people.                                               |       |             |             |                   |      |        |       |       |                    |          |                    |
| Definitely true                                                                               | 1     | 1           | 1           | 1                 | 1    | 1      | 1     | 1     | 2                  | 1        | 0                  |
| Probably true                                                                                 | 2     | 2           | 1           | 2                 | 1    | 2      | 1     | 3     | 3                  | 2        | 1                  |
| Probably false                                                                                | 18    | 23          | 15          | 17                | 19   | 17     | 18    | 17    | 16                 | 20       | 17                 |
| Definitely false                                                                              | 72    | 69          | 78          | 68                | 72   | 73     | 74    | 68    | 62                 | 73       | 78                 |
| Don't know                                                                                    | 7     | 6           | 4           | 12                | 7    | 7      | 6     | 12    | 17                 | 5        | 4                  |
| 23c. AIDS can damage the brain.                                                               |       |             |             |                   |      |        |       |       |                    |          |                    |
| Definitely true                                                                               | 25    | 22          | 25          | 26                | 26   | 23     | 23    | 36    | 24                 | 25       | 24                 |
| Probably true                                                                                 | 30    | 32          | 29          | 30                | 29   | 31     | 30    | 27    | 29                 | 31       | 29                 |
| Probably false                                                                                | 10    | 14          | 11          | 6                 | 10   | 10     | 11    | 5     | 5                  | 10       | 14                 |
| Definitely false                                                                              | 9     | 9           | 12          | 5                 | 9    | 8      | 9     | 5     | 5                  | 8        | 12                 |
| Don't know                                                                                    | 26    | 23          | 23          | 33                | 25   | 28     | 27    | 26    | 36                 | 26       | 21                 |
| 23d. AIDS usually leads to heart disease.                                                     |       |             |             |                   |      |        |       |       |                    |          |                    |
| Definitely true                                                                               | 8     | 8           | 8           | 9                 | 8    | 8      | 7     | 15    | 11                 | 9        | 6                  |
| Probably true                                                                                 | 20    | 20          | 20          | 20                | 19   | 21     | 19    | 24    | 21                 | 20       | 20                 |
| Probably false                                                                                | 20    | 24          | 22          | 16                | 22   | 19     | 21    | 14    | 13                 | 19       | 25                 |
| Definitely false                                                                              | 15    | 17          | 18          | 10                | 17   | 13     | 16    | 13    | 7                  | 15       | 20                 |
| Don't know                                                                                    | 36    | 30          | 32          | 45                | 33   | 39     | 36    | 35    | 48                 | 36       | 29                 |
| 23e. AIDS is an infectious disease caused by a virus.                                         |       |             |             |                   |      |        |       |       |                    |          |                    |
| Definitely true                                                                               | 63    | 69          | 69          | 52                | 64   | 61     | 63    | 62    | 49                 | 61       | 73                 |
| Probably true                                                                                 | 19    | 19          | 18          | 21                | 21   | 18     | 19    | 19    | 22                 | 20       | 17                 |
| Probably false                                                                                | 2     | 3           | 2           | 3                 | 2    | 3      | 3     | 1     | 2                  | 3        | 2                  |
| Definitely false                                                                              | 5     | 4           | 4           | 5                 | 3    | 6      | 5     | 4     | 5                  | 5        | 4                  |
| Don't know                                                                                    | 11    | 5           | 7           | 19                | 10   | 12     | 10    | 14    | 22                 | 10       | 5                  |
| 23f. Teenagers cannot get AIDS.                                                               |       |             |             |                   |      |        |       |       |                    |          |                    |
| Definitely true                                                                               | 1     | 1           | 0           | 2                 | 1    | 1      | 1     | 1     | 2                  | 1        | 0                  |
| Probably true                                                                                 | 0     | 0           | 1           | 1                 | 0    | 1      | 0     | 1     | 1                  | 0        | 0                  |
| Probably false                                                                                | 3     | 3           | 2           | 5                 | 3    | 3      | 3     | 5     | 5                  | 3        | 2                  |
| Definitely false                                                                              | 93    | 96          | 96          | 87                | 94   | 93     | 94    | 89    | 84                 | 95       | 97                 |
| Don't know                                                                                    | 2     | 1           | 1           | 6                 | 2    | 2      | 2     | 4     | 7                  | 1        | 0                  |
| 23g. AIDS leads to death.                                                                     |       |             |             |                   |      |        |       |       |                    |          |                    |
| Definitely true                                                                               | 86    | 86          | 87          | 83                | 85   | 86     | 85    | 91    | 85                 | 88       | 83                 |
| Probably true                                                                                 | 11    | 11          | 10          | 11                | 12   | 10     | 12    | 5     | 8                  | 10       | 13                 |
| Probably false                                                                                | 1     | 1           | 1           | 1                 | 1    | 1      | 1     | —     | 0                  | 0        | 1                  |
| Definitely false                                                                              | 1     | 1           | 1           | 1                 | 1    | 1      | 1     | 2     | 1                  | 1        | 1                  |
| Don't know                                                                                    | 2     | 1           | 1           | 4                 | 2    | 2      | 2     | 2     | 5                  | 1        | 1                  |
| 23h. A person can be infected with the AIDS virus and not have the disease AIDS.              |       |             |             |                   |      |        |       |       |                    |          |                    |
| Definitely true                                                                               | 56    | 60          | 63          | 46                | 57   | 56     | 59    | 47    | 39                 | 57       | 66                 |
| Probably true                                                                                 | 20    | 19          | 20          | 22                | 20   | 21     | 20    | 20    | 20                 | 21       | 20                 |
| Probably false                                                                                | 4     | 6           | 3           | 4                 | 4    | 4      | 4     | 6     | 5                  | 4        | 4                  |
| Definitely false                                                                              | 4     | 5           | 4           | 4                 | 4    | 4      | 4     | 4     | 5                  | 4        | 3                  |
| Don't know                                                                                    | 15    | 10          | 10          | 25                | 15   | 15     | 13    | 22    | 31                 | 13       | 7                  |
| 23i. Looking at a person is enough to tell if he or she has the AIDS virus.                   |       |             |             |                   |      |        |       |       |                    |          |                    |
| Definitely true                                                                               | 2     | 2           | 2           | 2                 | 2    | 2      | 2     | 4     | 3                  | 2        | 1                  |
| Probably true                                                                                 | 4     | 4           | 5           | 5                 | 5    | 4      | 4     | 9     | 6                  | 5        | 3                  |
| Probably false                                                                                | 17    | 18          | 14          | 20                | 17   | 17     | 17    | 19    | 20                 | 18       | 14                 |
| Definitely false                                                                              | 66    | 71          | 74          | 55                | 66   | 67     | 69    | 55    | 47                 | 67       | 78                 |
| Don't know                                                                                    | 10    | 5           | 6           | 18                | 10   | 10     | 9     | 13    | 25                 | 8        | 3                  |
| 23j. Any person with the AIDS virus can pass it on to someone else during sexual intercourse. |       |             |             |                   |      |        |       |       |                    |          |                    |
| Definitely true                                                                               | 82    | 86          | 83          | 79                | 81   | 84     | 82    | 85    | 81                 | 84       | 82                 |
| Probably true                                                                                 | 13    | 11          | 14          | 13                | 14   | 12     | 14    | 9     | 11                 | 12       | 15                 |
| Probably false                                                                                | 1     | 0           | 1           | 1                 | 1    | 1      | 1     | —     | 0                  | 1        | 1                  |
| Definitely false                                                                              | 1     | 1           | 0           | 0                 | 0    | 1      | 0     | 1     | 0                  | 1        | 1                  |
| Don't know                                                                                    | 4     | 2           | 2           | 7                 | 4    | 3      | 3     | 4     | 7                  | 3        | 2                  |
| 23k. A person who has the AIDS virus can look and feel healthy and well.                      |       |             |             |                   |      |        |       |       |                    |          |                    |
| Definitely true                                                                               | 46    | 50          | 53          | 34                | 48   | 43     | 47    | 42    | 28                 | 44       | 58                 |
| Probably true                                                                                 | 29    | 30          | 28          | 31                | 29   | 29     | 29    | 25    | 28                 | 31       | 28                 |
| Probably false                                                                                | 8     | 8           | 7           | 10                | 7    | 9      | 8     | 10    | 11                 | 9        | 6                  |
| Definitely false                                                                              | 5     | 5           | 4           | 7                 | 4    | 6      | 5     | 8     | 9                  | 6        | 3                  |
| Don't know                                                                                    | 12    | 8           | 8           | 19                | 12   | 12     | 11    | 16    | 24                 | 11       | 6                  |
| 23l. A pregnant woman who has the AIDS virus can give the AIDS virus to her baby.             |       |             |             |                   |      |        |       |       |                    |          |                    |
| Definitely true                                                                               | 80    | 82          | 83          | 75                | 77   | 82     | 79    | 83    | 72                 | 81       | 83                 |
| Probably true                                                                                 | 15    | 15          | 14          | 16                | 17   | 13     | 15    | 13    | 16                 | 16       | 14                 |
| Probably false                                                                                | 0     | 0           | 0           | 0                 | 0    | 0      | 0     | —     | 0                  | 0        | 0                  |
| Definitely false                                                                              | 0     | 1           | 0           | 0                 | 0    | 0      | 0     | 0     | 1                  | 0        | 0                  |
| Don't know                                                                                    | 5     | 3           | 2           | 9                 | 6    | 4      | 4     | 4     | 11                 | 3        | 2                  |

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 1. Provisional estimates of the percent of persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1988 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, December 1988—Con.**

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in technical notes]

| AIDS knowledge or attitude                                                                          | Age   |       |       | Sex      |      | Race   |       | Education |           |          |           |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|----------|------|--------|-------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|
|                                                                                                     | Total | 18-29 | 30-49 | 50 years | Male | Female | White | Black     | Less than | 12 years | More than |
|                                                                                                     |       | years | years | and over |      |        |       |           | 12 years  |          | 12 years  |
| Percent distribution <sup>1</sup>                                                                   |       |       |       |          |      |        |       |           |           |          |           |
| 23m. There is a vaccine available to the public that protects a person from getting the AIDS virus. |       |       |       |          |      |        |       |           |           |          |           |
| Definitely true                                                                                     | 1     | 2     | 1     | 1        | 1    | 1      | 1     | 2         | 3         | 1        | 1         |
| Probably true                                                                                       | 3     | 3     | 2     | 4        | 2    | 3      | 2     | 6         | 4         | 2        | 2         |
| Probably false                                                                                      | 10    | 11    | 8     | 11       | 10   | 10     | 10    | 9         | 10        | 12       | 8         |
| Definitely false                                                                                    | 74    | 75    | 82    | 63       | 75   | 72     | 75    | 67        | 56        | 73       | 84        |
| Don't know                                                                                          | 12    | 9     | 7     | 20       | 11   | 13     | 11    | 16        | 27        | 11       | 5         |
| 23n. There is no cure for AIDS at present.                                                          |       |       |       |          |      |        |       |           |           |          |           |
| Definitely true                                                                                     | 85    | 87    | 88    | 81       | 86   | 85     | 86    | 83        | 77        | 87       | 89        |
| Probably true                                                                                       | 7     | 6     | 7     | 8        | 8    | 7      | 7     | 6         | 9         | 7        | 6         |
| Probably false                                                                                      | 1     | 1     | 1     | 1        | 1    | 1      | 1     | 2         | 1         | 1        | 1         |
| Definitely false                                                                                    | 2     | 3     | 2     | 2        | 2    | 2      | 2     | 3         | 2         | 2        | 2         |
| Don't know                                                                                          | 4     | 3     | 2     | 7        | 4    | 4      | 4     | 6         | 10        | 3        | 1         |
| 24. How likely do you think it is that a person will get AIDS or the AIDS virus infection from—     |       |       |       |          |      |        |       |           |           |          |           |
| 24a. Living near a hospital or home for AIDS patients?                                              |       |       |       |          |      |        |       |           |           |          |           |
| Very likely                                                                                         | 1     | 2     | 1     | 2        | 1    | 1      | 1     | 3         | 3         | 1        | 1         |
| Somewhat likely                                                                                     | 4     | 4     | 4     | 4        | 4    | 4      | 3     | 5         | 6         | 4        | 3         |
| Somewhat unlikely                                                                                   | 7     | 8     | 6     | 7        | 8    | 7      | 7     | 9         | 9         | 8        | 6         |
| Very unlikely                                                                                       | 39    | 41    | 39    | 37       | 39   | 39     | 39    | 39        | 37        | 40       | 39        |
| Definitely not possible                                                                             | 41    | 41    | 45    | 37       | 40   | 42     | 43    | 30        | 26        | 42       | 49        |
| Don't know                                                                                          | 7     | 4     | 5     | 13       | 7    | 8      | 6     | 14        | 20        | 5        | 2         |
| 24b. Working near someone with the AIDS virus?                                                      |       |       |       |          |      |        |       |           |           |          |           |
| Very likely                                                                                         | 3     | 3     | 2     | 3        | 2    | 3      | 2     | 4         | 5         | 2        | 1         |
| Somewhat likely                                                                                     | 11    | 12    | 10    | 10       | 10   | 11     | 11    | 9         | 12        | 12       | 9         |
| Somewhat unlikely                                                                                   | 13    | 14    | 13    | 12       | 13   | 12     | 12    | 13        | 13        | 14       | 12        |
| Very unlikely                                                                                       | 38    | 38    | 40    | 36       | 39   | 37     | 38    | 39        | 33        | 36       | 43        |
| Definitely not possible                                                                             | 29    | 31    | 30    | 25       | 28   | 29     | 30    | 21        | 20        | 30       | 33        |
| Don't know                                                                                          | 8     | 3     | 5     | 14       | 8    | 7      | 7     | 13        | 18        | 6        | 3         |
| 24c. Eating in a restaurant where the cook has the AIDS virus?                                      |       |       |       |          |      |        |       |           |           |          |           |
| Very likely                                                                                         | 7     | 7     | 5     | 8        | 6    | 7      | 6     | 9         | 10        | 7        | 4         |
| Somewhat likely                                                                                     | 19    | 20    | 18    | 20       | 20   | 18     | 19    | 21        | 19        | 21       | 16        |
| Somewhat unlikely                                                                                   | 15    | 17    | 15    | 13       | 16   | 14     | 15    | 16        | 13        | 14       | 17        |
| Very unlikely                                                                                       | 28    | 28    | 31    | 24       | 28   | 28     | 29    | 27        | 19        | 27       | 34        |
| Definitely not possible                                                                             | 19    | 21    | 20    | 14       | 17   | 20     | 19    | 14        | 13        | 19       | 21        |
| Don't know                                                                                          | 13    | 7     | 10    | 21       | 13   | 13     | 13    | 13        | 25        | 12       | 7         |
| 24d. Kissing—with exchange of saliva—a person who has the AIDS virus?                               |       |       |       |          |      |        |       |           |           |          |           |
| Very likely                                                                                         | 25    | 22    | 23    | 29       | 23   | 26     | 24    | 29        | 29        | 27       | 21        |
| Somewhat likely                                                                                     | 28    | 28    | 28    | 28       | 28   | 28     | 29    | 26        | 25        | 28       | 30        |
| Somewhat unlikely                                                                                   | 13    | 16    | 15    | 9        | 15   | 11     | 14    | 10        | 9         | 13       | 16        |
| Very unlikely                                                                                       | 15    | 17    | 19    | 10       | 16   | 15     | 16    | 16        | 10        | 14       | 20        |
| Definitely not possible                                                                             | 7     | 9     | 7     | 5        | 6    | 8      | 7     | 5         | 5         | 7        | 8         |
| Don't know                                                                                          | 12    | 7     | 9     | 18       | 12   | 11     | 11    | 15        | 21        | 11       | 6         |
| 24e. Shaking hands, touching, or kissing on the cheek someone who has the AIDS virus?               |       |       |       |          |      |        |       |           |           |          |           |
| Very likely                                                                                         | 2     | 1     | 2     | 3        | 2    | 2      | 2     | 3         | 4         | 2        | 1         |
| Somewhat likely                                                                                     | 7     | 7     | 6     | 8        | 8    | 6      | 7     | 10        | 10        | 7        | 6         |
| Somewhat unlikely                                                                                   | 13    | 14    | 13    | 13       | 14   | 13     | 13    | 15        | 15        | 14       | 12        |
| Very unlikely                                                                                       | 37    | 35    | 41    | 35       | 38   | 37     | 38    | 37        | 30        | 39       | 40        |
| Definitely not possible                                                                             | 32    | 39    | 32    | 27       | 30   | 34     | 33    | 25        | 23        | 32       | 38        |
| Don't know                                                                                          | 8     | 3     | 5     | 14       | 8    | 7      | 7     | 9         | 18        | 6        | 3         |
| 24f. Sharing plates, forks, or glasses with someone who has the AIDS virus?                         |       |       |       |          |      |        |       |           |           |          |           |
| Very likely                                                                                         | 8     | 6     | 8     | 11       | 7    | 9      | 8     | 12        | 12        | 9        | 5         |
| Somewhat likely                                                                                     | 20    | 19    | 20    | 22       | 20   | 20     | 20    | 20        | 20        | 22       | 19        |
| Somewhat unlikely                                                                                   | 15    | 17    | 16    | 12       | 16   | 14     | 15    | 12        | 13        | 15       | 17        |
| Very unlikely                                                                                       | 27    | 28    | 30    | 23       | 29   | 25     | 27    | 27        | 18        | 26       | 33        |
| Definitely not possible                                                                             | 18    | 23    | 18    | 13       | 16   | 20     | 18    | 14        | 12        | 18       | 21        |
| Don't know                                                                                          | 12    | 7     | 10    | 19       | 12   | 12     | 12    | 16        | 25        | 11       | 6         |
| 24g. Using public toilets?                                                                          |       |       |       |          |      |        |       |           |           |          |           |
| Very likely                                                                                         | 6     | 5     | 4     | 8        | 5    | 7      | 5     | 12        | 11        | 7        | 2         |
| Somewhat likely                                                                                     | 13    | 13    | 11    | 14       | 13   | 12     | 12    | 14        | 16        | 14       | 9         |
| Somewhat unlikely                                                                                   | 13    | 12    | 13    | 13       | 13   | 12     | 13    | 10        | 12        | 14       | 12        |
| Very unlikely                                                                                       | 33    | 34    | 35    | 29       | 33   | 32     | 33    | 31        | 25        | 31       | 39        |
| Definitely not possible                                                                             | 25    | 28    | 29    | 19       | 25   | 26     | 26    | 22        | 15        | 24       | 33        |
| Don't know                                                                                          | 11    | 8     | 8     | 17       | 11   | 11     | 11    | 11        | 21        | 11       | 6         |

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 1. Provisional estimates of the percent of persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1988 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, December 1988—Con.**

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in technical notes]

| AIDS knowledge or attitude                                                                                                    | Age   |       |       | Sex  |        | Race  |       | Education |          |           |          |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|------|--------|-------|-------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|
|                                                                                                                               | Total | 18-29 | 30-49 | Male | Female | White | Black | Less than | 12 years | More than |          |
|                                                                                                                               |       | years | years |      |        |       |       | and over  |          | 12 years  | 12 years |
| Percent distribution <sup>1</sup>                                                                                             |       |       |       |      |        |       |       |           |          |           |          |
| 24h. Sharing needles for drug use with someone who has the AIDS virus?                                                        |       |       |       |      |        |       |       |           |          |           |          |
| Very likely . . . . .                                                                                                         | 94    | 96    | 96    | 91   | 94     | 94    | 95    | 92        | 88       | 95        | 97       |
| Somewhat likely . . . . .                                                                                                     | 3     | 3     | 2     | 3    | 3      | 2     | 3     | 3         | 4        | 3         | 2        |
| Somewhat unlikely . . . . .                                                                                                   | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0    | 1      | 0     | 0     | 1         | 0        | 0         | 0        |
| Very unlikely . . . . .                                                                                                       | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0    | 0      | 0     | 0     | 1         | 0        | 0         | 0        |
| Definitely not possible . . . . .                                                                                             | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0    | 0      | 0     | 0     | 0         | 0        | 0         | 0        |
| Don't know . . . . .                                                                                                          | 2     | 1     | 1     | 5    | 2      | 2     | 2     | 3         | 7        | 1         | 1        |
| 24i. Being coughed or sneezed on by someone who has the AIDS virus?                                                           |       |       |       |      |        |       |       |           |          |           |          |
| Very likely . . . . .                                                                                                         | 7     | 6     | 6     | 10   | 6      | 8     | 6     | 10        | 10       | 8         | 4        |
| Somewhat likely . . . . .                                                                                                     | 21    | 20    | 20    | 24   | 23     | 20    | 21    | 19        | 23       | 22        | 20       |
| Somewhat unlikely . . . . .                                                                                                   | 17    | 20    | 18    | 14   | 17     | 17    | 17    | 15        | 14       | 18        | 18       |
| Very unlikely . . . . .                                                                                                       | 28    | 29    | 32    | 22   | 29     | 27    | 28    | 29        | 19       | 25        | 35       |
| Definitely not possible . . . . .                                                                                             | 15    | 19    | 15    | 10   | 13     | 16    | 15    | 13        | 9        | 16        | 16       |
| Don't know . . . . .                                                                                                          | 12    | 7     | 9     | 20   | 12     | 12    | 12    | 14        | 25       | 11        | 6        |
| 24j. Attending school with a child who has the AIDS virus?                                                                    |       |       |       |      |        |       |       |           |          |           |          |
| Very likely . . . . .                                                                                                         | 2     | 2     | 2     | 3    | 2      | 2     | 1     | 4         | 4        | 2         | 1        |
| Somewhat likely . . . . .                                                                                                     | 6     | 5     | 6     | 7    | 6      | 6     | 6     | 7         | 8        | 6         | 5        |
| Somewhat unlikely . . . . .                                                                                                   | 11    | 11    | 12    | 11   | 11     | 11    | 11    | 10        | 11       | 13        | 9        |
| Very unlikely . . . . .                                                                                                       | 39    | 39    | 42    | 37   | 41     | 38    | 40    | 40        | 33       | 39        | 44       |
| Definitely not possible . . . . .                                                                                             | 33    | 40    | 34    | 26   | 31     | 35    | 34    | 27        | 24       | 34        | 38       |
| Don't know . . . . .                                                                                                          | 8     | 4     | 5     | 16   | 9      | 8     | 7     | 12        | 20       | 6         | 4        |
| 24k. Mosquitoes or other insects?                                                                                             |       |       |       |      |        |       |       |           |          |           |          |
| Very likely . . . . .                                                                                                         | 10    | 11    | 9     | 10   | 11     | 9     | 9     | 15        | 17       | 10        | 6        |
| Somewhat likely . . . . .                                                                                                     | 17    | 19    | 17    | 14   | 19     | 15    | 16    | 19        | 18       | 18        | 16       |
| Somewhat unlikely . . . . .                                                                                                   | 8     | 10    | 8     | 7    | 9      | 8     | 9     | 6         | 6        | 9         | 10       |
| Very unlikely . . . . .                                                                                                       | 24    | 24    | 26    | 21   | 23     | 25    | 25    | 23        | 15       | 25        | 27       |
| Definitely not possible . . . . .                                                                                             | 18    | 18    | 20    | 16   | 17     | 19    | 19    | 11        | 11       | 16        | 24       |
| Don't know . . . . .                                                                                                          | 23    | 18    | 19    | 31   | 22     | 24    | 22    | 26        | 34       | 23        | 17       |
| 25. Have you ever donated blood?                                                                                              |       |       |       |      |        |       |       |           |          |           |          |
| Yes . . . . .                                                                                                                 | 41    | 35    | 42    | 43   | 52     | 30    | 43    | 29        | 27       | 38        | 51       |
| No . . . . .                                                                                                                  | 59    | 65    | 58    | 56   | 48     | 69    | 56    | 71        | 73       | 62        | 49       |
| Don't know . . . . .                                                                                                          | 0     | —     | 0     | 0    | 0      | 0     | 0     | —         | 0        | —         | 0        |
| 26a. Have you donated blood since March 1985?                                                                                 |       |       |       |      |        |       |       |           |          |           |          |
| Yes . . . . .                                                                                                                 | 15    | 21    | 16    | 8    | 19     | 11    | 16    | 6         | 6        | 13        | 21       |
| No . . . . .                                                                                                                  | 85    | 78    | 84    | 92   | 81     | 88    | 83    | 94        | 93       | 87        | 78       |
| Don't know . . . . .                                                                                                          | 0     | 0     | 0     | 1    | 0      | 1     | 0     | 0         | 0        | 0         | 1        |
| 26b. Have you donated blood in the past 12 months?                                                                            |       |       |       |      |        |       |       |           |          |           |          |
| Yes . . . . .                                                                                                                 | 7     | 10    | 8     | 5    | 10     | 5     | 8     | 1         | 3        | 6         | 11       |
| No . . . . .                                                                                                                  | 92    | 90    | 92    | 94   | 90     | 94    | 91    | 98        | 97       | 93        | 88       |
| Don't know . . . . .                                                                                                          | 1     | 0     | 0     | 1    | 0      | 1     | 1     | 0         | 0        | 1         | 1        |
| 27. Have you ever heard of a blood test that can detect the AIDS virus infection?                                             |       |       |       |      |        |       |       |           |          |           |          |
| Yes . . . . .                                                                                                                 | 75    | 81    | 83    | 63   | 75     | 76    | 77    | 67        | 53       | 77        | 87       |
| No . . . . .                                                                                                                  | 20    | 16    | 14    | 31   | 21     | 20    | 19    | 29        | 39       | 18        | 11       |
| Don't know . . . . .                                                                                                          | 4     | 3     | 3     | 6    | 4      | 5     | 4     | 4         | 8        | 4         | 2        |
| 28. To the best of your knowledge, are blood donations routinely tested now for the AIDS virus infection?                     |       |       |       |      |        |       |       |           |          |           |          |
| Yes . . . . .                                                                                                                 | 67    | 71    | 74    | 55   | 66     | 68    | 69    | 58        | 44       | 68        | 78       |
| No . . . . .                                                                                                                  | 3     | 3     | 4     | 3    | 3      | 4     | 3     | 3         | 2        | 4         | 4        |
| Don't know . . . . .                                                                                                          | 5     | 7     | 5     | 5    | 6      | 5     | 5     | 6         | 7        | 5         | 5        |
| Never heard of test <sup>4</sup> . . . . .                                                                                    | 25    | 19    | 17    | 37   | 25     | 24    | 23    | 33        | 47       | 23        | 13       |
| 29a. Have you ever received counseling or had a talk with a health professional about taking the AIDS virus test?             |       |       |       |      |        |       |       |           |          |           |          |
| Yes . . . . .                                                                                                                 | 3     | 5     | 4     | 1    | 4      | 3     | 3     | 4         | 2        | 3         | 4        |
| No . . . . .                                                                                                                  | 72    | 77    | 79    | 61   | 71     | 73    | 74    | 63        | 51       | 74        | 83       |
| Don't know . . . . .                                                                                                          | 0     | —     | 0     | 0    | 0      | 0     | 0     | —         | 0        | 0         | 0        |
| Never heard of test <sup>4</sup> . . . . .                                                                                    | 25    | 19    | 17    | 37   | 25     | 24    | 23    | 33        | 47       | 23        | 13       |
| 29b. Was the discussion— <sup>1,5</sup>                                                                                       |       |       |       |      |        |       |       |           |          |           |          |
| With a private doctor? . . . . .                                                                                              | 40    | 25    | 47    | 56   | 35     | 46    | 41    | 39        | 32       | 35        | 48       |
| At a family-planning clinic? . . . . .                                                                                        | 6     | 5     | 8     | —    | 3      | 9     | 4     | 20        | 22       | 3         | 2        |
| On an AIDS hotline? . . . . .                                                                                                 | 1     | —     | 3     | —    | 2      | 1     | 2     | —         | 6        | 1         | —        |
| At a prenatal clinic? . . . . .                                                                                               | 5     | 12    | 1     | —    | —      | 12    | 4     | 7         | 7        | 6         | 4        |
| At an STD or sexually transmitted disease clinic? . . . . .                                                                   | 4     | 5     | 4     | —    | 5      | 2     | 4     | 3         | 3        | 8         | 1        |
| At an AIDS/HIV counseling and testing site? . . . . .                                                                         | 10    | 11    | 12    | —    | 12     | 6     | 11    | 6         | 4        | 10        | 11       |
| With some other health professional? . . . . .                                                                                | 44    | 56    | 39    | 31   | 41     | 49    | 39    | 65        | 43       | 46        | 43       |
| With some other counselor? . . . . .                                                                                          | 18    | 28    | 7     | 29   | 18     | 19    | 19    | 10        | 39       | 31        | 1        |
| 30. During that discussion, did you receive information about how to avoid getting or passing on the AIDS virus? <sup>5</sup> |       |       |       |      |        |       |       |           |          |           |          |
| Yes . . . . .                                                                                                                 | 52    | 53    | 57    | 34   | 56     | 47    | 47    | 75        | 43       | 69        | 42       |
| No . . . . .                                                                                                                  | 48    | 47    | 43    | 66   | 44     | 53    | 53    | 25        | 57       | 31        | 58       |
| Don't know . . . . .                                                                                                          | —     | —     | —     | —    | —      | —     | —     | —         | —        | —         | —        |

See footnotes at end of table.



**Table 1. Provisional estimates of the percent of persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1988 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, December 1988—Con.**

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| AIDS knowledge or attitude                                                                                          | Age                               |             |             | Sex               |      | Race   |       | Education |                    |          |                    |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|------|--------|-------|-----------|--------------------|----------|--------------------|
|                                                                                                                     | Total                             | 18-29 years | 30-49 years | 50 years and over | Male | Female | White | Black     | Less than 12 years | 12 years | More than 12 years |
| 31. Have you ever been advised by a health professional not to have the blood test for the AIDS virus infection?    | Percent distribution <sup>1</sup> |             |             |                   |      |        |       |           |                    |          |                    |
| Yes . . . . .                                                                                                       | 1                                 | 1           | 1           | 0                 | 0    | 1      | 1     | 0         | 0                  | 0        | 1                  |
| No . . . . .                                                                                                        | 75                                | 80          | 82          | 62                | 75   | 75     | 76    | 66        | 53                 | 77       | 86                 |
| Don't know . . . . .                                                                                                | 0                                 | —           | 0           | 0                 | 0    | 0      | 0     | 1         | —                  | —        | 0                  |
| Never heard of test <sup>4</sup> . . . . .                                                                          | 25                                | 19          | 17          | 37                | 25   | 24     | 23    | 33        | 47                 | 23       | 13                 |
| 32. Have you ever been advised by friends or relatives not to have the blood test for the AIDS virus infection?     |                                   |             |             |                   |      |        |       |           |                    |          |                    |
| Yes . . . . .                                                                                                       | 1                                 | 1           | 1           | 0                 | 1    | 0      | 0     | 0         | 0                  | 0        | 1                  |
| No . . . . .                                                                                                        | 75                                | 81          | 82          | 62                | 74   | 75     | 77    | 66        | 53                 | 77       | 86                 |
| Don't know . . . . .                                                                                                | 0                                 | —           | 0           | 0                 | 0    | 0      | 0     | 1         | —                  | —        | 0                  |
| Never heard of test <sup>4</sup> . . . . .                                                                          | 25                                | 19          | 17          | 37                | 25   | 24     | 23    | 33        | 47                 | 23       | 13                 |
| 33. Have you had your blood tested for the AIDS virus infection?                                                    |                                   |             |             |                   |      |        |       |           |                    |          |                    |
| Yes <sup>5</sup> . . . . .                                                                                          | 19                                | 29          | 21          | 10                | 24   | 15     | 20    | 14        | 10                 | 17       | 26                 |
| No . . . . .                                                                                                        | 57                                | 54          | 62          | 53                | 52   | 61     | 57    | 52        | 44                 | 61       | 60                 |
| Don't know . . . . .                                                                                                | 1                                 | 1           | 1           | 2                 | 1    | 2      | 1     | 2         | 1                  | 1        | 2                  |
| Never heard of test <sup>4</sup> . . . . .                                                                          | 23                                | 16          | 16          | 36                | 22   | 23     | 21    | 32        | 45                 | 21       | 12                 |
| 35a. How many times have you had your blood tested for the AIDS virus infection? <sup>7</sup>                       |                                   |             |             |                   |      |        |       |           |                    |          |                    |
| Once . . . . .                                                                                                      | 6                                 | 9           | 6           | 3                 | 7    | 5      | 6     | 7         | 4                  | 6        | 7                  |
| Twice . . . . .                                                                                                     | 1                                 | 2           | 1           | 0                 | 2    | 1      | 1     | 2         | 1                  | 1        | 2                  |
| 3-5 times . . . . .                                                                                                 | 1                                 | 2           | 1           | 0                 | 2    | 1      | 1     | 1         | 1                  | 1        | 2                  |
| 6-12 times . . . . .                                                                                                | 1                                 | 1           | 1           | 1                 | 1    | 0      | 1     | 0         | 0                  | 0        | 1                  |
| More than 12 times . . . . .                                                                                        | 0                                 | —           | 0           | 0                 | 0    | 0      | 0     | —         | —                  | 0        | 0                  |
| Don't know <sup>8</sup> . . . . .                                                                                   | 10                                | 14          | 12          | 5                 | 13   | 8      | 12    | 4         | 5                  | 10       | 14                 |
| Never heard of or never took test <sup>6</sup> . . . . .                                                            | 81                                | 71          | 79          | 90                | 76   | 86     | 80    | 86        | 90                 | 83       | 74                 |
| 35b. How many times in the past 12 months have you had your blood tested for the AIDS virus infection? <sup>7</sup> |                                   |             |             |                   |      |        |       |           |                    |          |                    |
| None in the past 12 months . . . . .                                                                                | 2                                 | 4           | 3           | 1                 | 3    | 2      | 2     | 3         | 2                  | 3        | 2                  |
| Once . . . . .                                                                                                      | 5                                 | 8           | 5           | 2                 | 7    | 3      | 5     | 5         | 2                  | 4        | 7                  |
| More than once . . . . .                                                                                            | 2                                 | 3           | 2           | 1                 | 3    | 1      | 2     | 2         | 1                  | 1        | 3                  |
| Don't know <sup>8</sup> . . . . .                                                                                   | 10                                | 14          | 11          | 5                 | 12   | 8      | 11    | 3         | 5                  | 9        | 14                 |
| Never heard of or never took test <sup>9</sup> . . . . .                                                            | 81                                | 71          | 79          | 90                | 76   | 85     | 80    | 86        | 90                 | 83       | 74                 |
| 36. Was the test/were any of the tests, including those you had before the past 12 months— <sup>1</sup>             |                                   |             |             |                   |      |        |       |           |                    |          |                    |
| Part of a blood donation? <sup>6,7</sup> . . . . .                                                                  | 72                                | 69          | 72          | 75                | 70   | 74     | 76    | 35        | 61                 | 68       | 76                 |
| Part of a blood transfusion? <sup>9</sup> . . . . .                                                                 | 2                                 | 2           | 1           | 2                 | 1    | 3      | 2     | 1         | 6                  | 2        | 1                  |
| Voluntarily sought? <sup>9</sup> . . . . .                                                                          | 16                                | 15          | 17          | 17                | 15   | 18     | 14    | 40        | 26                 | 18       | 13                 |
| Part of some other activity that requires a blood sample? <sup>9</sup> . . . . .                                    | 12                                | 15          | 11          | 9                 | 15   | 7      | 10    | 28        | 16                 | 15       | 10                 |
| 38. Did you get the results of your test/any of your tests? <sup>9</sup>                                            |                                   |             |             |                   |      |        |       |           |                    |          |                    |
| Yes . . . . .                                                                                                       | 52                                | 56          | 48          | 51                | 50   | 54     | 49    | 71        | 46                 | 58       | 50                 |
| No . . . . .                                                                                                        | 47                                | 44          | 51          | 46                | 50   | 43     | 50    | 26        | 54                 | 41       | 50                 |
| Don't know . . . . .                                                                                                | 1                                 | 0           | 1           | 3                 | —    | 3      | 1     | 2         | —                  | 2        | 1                  |
| 41. Do you expect to have a blood test for the AIDS virus infection in the next 12 months?                          |                                   |             |             |                   |      |        |       |           |                    |          |                    |
| Yes . . . . .                                                                                                       | 6                                 | 11          | 7           | 3                 | 8    | 5      | 6     | 11        | 5                  | 6        | 8                  |
| No . . . . .                                                                                                        | 65                                | 65          | 71          | 57                | 63   | 66     | 68    | 44        | 43                 | 66       | 75                 |
| Don't know . . . . .                                                                                                | 5                                 | 6           | 5           | 3                 | 5    | 4      | 4     | 11        | 5                  | 5        | 4                  |
| Never heard of test <sup>4</sup> . . . . .                                                                          | 25                                | 19          | 17          | 37                | 25   | 24     | 23    | 33        | 47                 | 23       | 13                 |
| 42. Will the test be— <sup>1,10</sup>                                                                               |                                   |             |             |                   |      |        |       |           |                    |          |                    |
| Part of a blood donation? . . . . .                                                                                 | 48                                | 44          | 50          | 52                | 52   | 42     | 59    | 14        | 20                 | 40       | 62                 |
| Voluntarily sought? . . . . .                                                                                       | 43                                | 43          | 46          | 36                | 38   | 52     | 34    | 75        | 60                 | 52       | 32                 |
| Part of some other activity that requires a blood sample? . . . . .                                                 | 16                                | 20          | 12          | 15                | 19   | 12     | 16    | 18        | 26                 | 15       | 14                 |
| 44a. Did you have a blood transfusion at any time between 1977 and 1985?                                            |                                   |             |             |                   |      |        |       |           |                    |          |                    |
| Yes . . . . .                                                                                                       | 6                                 | 4           | 5           | 7                 | 5    | 7      | 6     | 4         | 8                  | 6        | 5                  |
| No . . . . .                                                                                                        | 93                                | 95          | 93          | 91                | 94   | 92     | 92    | 96        | 90                 | 93       | 94                 |
| Don't know . . . . .                                                                                                | 1                                 | 1           | 1           | 2                 | 1    | 1      | 1     | 0         | 2                  | 1        | 1                  |
| 44b. Do you think the present supply of blood is safe for transfusions?                                             |                                   |             |             |                   |      |        |       |           |                    |          |                    |
| Yes . . . . .                                                                                                       | 46                                | 51          | 48          | 40                | 49   | 43     | 49    | 32        | 33                 | 47       | 53                 |
| No . . . . .                                                                                                        | 27                                | 27          | 27          | 27                | 24   | 30     | 25    | 35        | 31                 | 28       | 24                 |
| Other . . . . .                                                                                                     | 0                                 | 1           | 0           | 0                 | 0    | 0      | 0     | 1         | 0                  | 0        | 0                  |
| Don't know . . . . .                                                                                                | 27                                | 21          | 25          | 33                | 27   | 26     | 25    | 33        | 36                 | 25       | 22                 |
| 45. Here are some methods people use to prevent getting the AIDS virus through sexual activity. How effective is—   |                                   |             |             |                   |      |        |       |           |                    |          |                    |
| 45a. Using a diaphragm?                                                                                             |                                   |             |             |                   |      |        |       |           |                    |          |                    |
| Very effective . . . . .                                                                                            | 2                                 | 2           | 1           | 2                 | 2    | 1      | 1     | 2         | 2                  | 2        | 1                  |
| Somewhat effective . . . . .                                                                                        | 11                                | 14          | 9           | 11                | 12   | 11     | 11    | 13        | 11                 | 12       | 10                 |
| Not at all effective . . . . .                                                                                      | 58                                | 61          | 69          | 44                | 58   | 59     | 61    | 51        | 40                 | 58       | 70                 |
| Don't know how effective . . . . .                                                                                  | 21                                | 15          | 15          | 31                | 20   | 21     | 20    | 23        | 29                 | 22       | 14                 |
| Don't know method . . . . .                                                                                         | 8                                 | 8           | 5           | 11                | 8    | 8      | 7     | 11        | 18                 | 6        | 4                  |

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 1. Provisional estimates of the percent of persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1988 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, December 1988—Con.**

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in technical notes]

| AIDS knowledge or attitude                                                              | Age   |             |             | Sex               |      | Race   |       | Education |                    |          |                    |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|------|--------|-------|-----------|--------------------|----------|--------------------|
|                                                                                         | Total | 18-29 years | 30-49 years | 50 years and over | Male | Female | White | Black     | Less than 12 years | 12 years | More than 12 years |
| Percent distribution <sup>1</sup>                                                       |       |             |             |                   |      |        |       |           |                    |          |                    |
| 45b. Using a condom?                                                                    |       |             |             |                   |      |        |       |           |                    |          |                    |
| Very effective . . . . .                                                                | 31    | 38          | 33          | 24                | 34   | 29     | 31    | 32        | 22                 | 33       | 35                 |
| Somewhat effective . . . . .                                                            | 53    | 53          | 55          | 51                | 52   | 54     | 54    | 47        | 46                 | 53       | 57                 |
| Not at all effective . . . . .                                                          | 5     | 4           | 5           | 6                 | 5    | 6      | 5     | 6         | 8                  | 6        | 3                  |
| Don't know how effective . . . . .                                                      | 8     | 3           | 5           | 15                | 7    | 9      | 7     | 11        | 16                 | 7        | 4                  |
| Don't know method . . . . .                                                             | 3     | 1           | 1           | 5                 | 2    | 3      | 2     | 4         | 8                  | 1        | 1                  |
| 45c. Using a spermicidal jelly, foam, or cream?                                         |       |             |             |                   |      |        |       |           |                    |          |                    |
| Very effective . . . . .                                                                | 1     | 2           | 1           | 0                 | 1    | 1      | 1     | 2         | 1                  | 1        | 1                  |
| Somewhat effective . . . . .                                                            | 14    | 15          | 15          | 11                | 14   | 13     | 14    | 12        | 8                  | 14       | 16                 |
| Not at all effective . . . . .                                                          | 56    | 60          | 63          | 44                | 55   | 56     | 58    | 48        | 43                 | 57       | 61                 |
| Don't know how effective . . . . .                                                      | 22    | 16          | 16          | 32                | 21   | 22     | 21    | 27        | 30                 | 22       | 17                 |
| Don't know method . . . . .                                                             | 8     | 7           | 5           | 12                | 8    | 8      | 7     | 11        | 18                 | 5        | 4                  |
| 45d. Having a vasectomy?                                                                |       |             |             |                   |      |        |       |           |                    |          |                    |
| Very effective . . . . .                                                                | 2     | 3           | 2           | 1                 | 2    | 2      | 2     | 3         | 2                  | 2        | 1                  |
| Somewhat effective . . . . .                                                            | 2     | 3           | 2           | 2                 | 3    | 2      | 2     | 4         | 2                  | 3        | 2                  |
| Not at all effective . . . . .                                                          | 70    | 69          | 80          | 60                | 71   | 68     | 73    | 58        | 50                 | 70       | 81                 |
| Don't know how effective . . . . .                                                      | 19    | 18          | 12          | 26                | 18   | 19     | 17    | 24        | 28                 | 19       | 12                 |
| Don't know method . . . . .                                                             | 7     | 7           | 4           | 11                | 6    | 9      | 6     | 11        | 18                 | 5        | 3                  |
| 45e. Two people who do not have the AIDS virus having sex only with each other?         |       |             |             |                   |      |        |       |           |                    |          |                    |
| Very effective . . . . .                                                                | 82    | 84          | 86          | 77                | 83   | 82     | 84    | 75        | 69                 | 83       | 89                 |
| Somewhat effective . . . . .                                                            | 8     | 10          | 8           | 8                 | 8    | 9      | 8     | 11        | 11                 | 9        | 6                  |
| Not at all effective . . . . .                                                          | 2     | 4           | 2           | 2                 | 2    | 2      | 2     | 3         | 3                  | 2        | 2                  |
| Don't know how effective . . . . .                                                      | 5     | 2           | 3           | 11                | 6    | 5      | 5     | 7         | 12                 | 4        | 3                  |
| Don't know method . . . . .                                                             | 2     | 0           | 1           | 3                 | 1    | 2      | 1     | 3         | 4                  | 1        | 1                  |
| 46. What are your chances of having the AIDS virus?                                     |       |             |             |                   |      |        |       |           |                    |          |                    |
| High . . . . .                                                                          | 1     | 1           | 1           | 0                 | 1    | 1      | 1     | 2         | 1                  | 1        | 0                  |
| Medium . . . . .                                                                        | 2     | 3           | 2           | 1                 | 2    | 2      | 2     | 3         | 2                  | 2        | 2                  |
| Low . . . . .                                                                           | 13    | 19          | 15          | 6                 | 15   | 11     | 13    | 14        | 9                  | 10       | 18                 |
| None . . . . .                                                                          | 82    | 76          | 81          | 89                | 80   | 85     | 83    | 77        | 84                 | 85       | 79                 |
| Don't know . . . . .                                                                    | 2     | 1           | 2           | 3                 | 2    | 2      | 2     | 4         | 5                  | 2        | 1                  |
| 47. What are your chances of getting the AIDS virus?                                    |       |             |             |                   |      |        |       |           |                    |          |                    |
| High . . . . .                                                                          | 0     | 0           | 0           | 0                 | 0    | 0      | 0     | 0         | 0                  | 0        | 0                  |
| Medium . . . . .                                                                        | 2     | 3           | 2           | 1                 | 2    | 2      | 2     | 3         | 2                  | 2        | 2                  |
| Low . . . . .                                                                           | 18    | 27          | 22          | 7                 | 21   | 15     | 18    | 18        | 13                 | 14       | 26                 |
| None . . . . .                                                                          | 76    | 67          | 73          | 87                | 72   | 80     | 77    | 71        | 79                 | 80       | 71                 |
| Don't know . . . . .                                                                    | 3     | 2           | 2           | 4                 | 4    | 2      | 2     | 6         | 6                  | 3        | 1                  |
| High chance of already having AIDS virus . . . . .                                      | 1     | 1           | 1           | 0                 | 1    | 1      | 1     | 2         | 1                  | 1        | 0                  |
| 49. Do you say your chance of getting AIDS is high or medium because you— <sup>11</sup> |       |             |             |                   |      |        |       |           |                    |          |                    |
| Have had a blood transfusion? . . . . .                                                 | 4     | 2           | 7           | 4                 | 1    | 8      | 4     | 4         | 3                  | 8        | —                  |
| Have had sexual contact with someone who might have the virus? . . . . .                | 23    | 27          | 24          | 11                | 21   | 25     | 22    | 29        | 18                 | 27       | 21                 |
| Some other reason? . . . . .                                                            | 53    | 56          | 52          | 45                | 57   | 46     | 53    | 51        | 39                 | 57       | 56                 |
| 52. Have you ever discussed AIDS with a friend or relative?                             |       |             |             |                   |      |        |       |           |                    |          |                    |
| Yes . . . . .                                                                           | 62    | 70          | 71          | 47                | 57   | 67     | 63    | 60        | 43                 | 60       | 76                 |
| No . . . . .                                                                            | 37    | 30          | 29          | 52                | 43   | 33     | 36    | 40        | 56                 | 39       | 24                 |
| Don't know . . . . .                                                                    | 0     | 0           | 0           | 1                 | 0    | 0      | 0     | 0         | 1                  | 0        | 0                  |
| 53. When was the last time you discussed AIDS with a friend or relative?                |       |             |             |                   |      |        |       |           |                    |          |                    |
| 0-3 days ago . . . . .                                                                  | 6     | 6           | 8           | 5                 | 6    | 7      | 6     | 10        | 5                  | 6        | 8                  |
| 4-7 days ago . . . . .                                                                  | 8     | 10          | 10          | 5                 | 7    | 9      | 8     | 9         | 7                  | 7        | 10                 |
| 8-14 days ago . . . . .                                                                 | 7     | 7           | 8           | 5                 | 6    | 8      | 7     | 8         | 4                  | 7        | 7                  |
| 15-31 days ago . . . . .                                                                | 14    | 16          | 16          | 11                | 14   | 15     | 15    | 12        | 8                  | 14       | 17                 |
| More than 31 days ago . . . . .                                                         | 22    | 28          | 25          | 15                | 20   | 24     | 23    | 17        | 15                 | 21       | 28                 |
| Don't know . . . . . <sup>12</sup>                                                      | 4     | 2           | 4           | 6                 | 4    | 4      | 5     | 4         | 4                  | 5        | 4                  |
| Never discussed . . . . .                                                               | 38    | 31          | 29          | 53                | 43   | 33     | 37    | 40        | 57                 | 40       | 25                 |
| 54. Have you ever personally known anyone with AIDS or the AIDS virus?                  |       |             |             |                   |      |        |       |           |                    |          |                    |
| Yes . . . . .                                                                           | 11    | 9           | 15          | 7                 | 10   | 11     | 11    | 12        | 4                  | 8        | 17                 |
| No . . . . .                                                                            | 88    | 89          | 83          | 92                | 89   | 87     | 88    | 85        | 93                 | 90       | 82                 |
| Don't know . . . . .                                                                    | 2     | 2           | 2           | 1                 | 1    | 2      | 1     | 2         | 3                  | 2        | 1                  |
| 55. How long has it been since you saw this person?                                     |       |             |             |                   |      |        |       |           |                    |          |                    |
| Within past 2 weeks . . . . .                                                           | 1     | 1           | 2           | 1                 | 1    | 1      | 1     | 2         | 1                  | 1        | 2                  |
| 2 weeks—less than 1 month . . . . .                                                     | 0     | 0           | 1           | 0                 | 1    | 0      | 0     | 1         | 0                  | 0        | 1                  |
| 1 month—less than 3 months . . . . .                                                    | 1     | 1           | 2           | 0                 | 1    | 1      | 1     | 2         | 1                  | 1        | 1                  |
| 3 months—less than 6 months . . . . .                                                   | 1     | 1           | 1           | 1                 | 1    | 1      | 1     | 2         | 1                  | 1        | 2                  |
| 6 months or more . . . . .                                                              | 7     | 6           | 9           | 5                 | 6    | 7      | 7     | 6         | 2                  | 5        | 11                 |
| Don't know . . . . .                                                                    | 0     | 0           | 0           | 0                 | 0    | 0      | 0     | 0         | 0                  | 0        | 0                  |
| Never knew anyone with AIDS <sup>13</sup> . . . . .                                     | 89    | 91          | 85          | 93                | 90   | 89     | 89    | 88        | 96                 | 92       | 83                 |

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 1. Provisional estimates of the percent of persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1988 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, December 1988—Con.**

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in technical notes]

| AIDS knowledge or attitude                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Age   |       |       | Sex      |      | Race   |       | Education |           |          |           |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|----------|------|--------|-------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Total | 18-29 | 30-49 | 50 years | Male | Female | White | Black     | Less than | 12 years | More than |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |       | years | years | and over |      |        |       |           | 12 years  |          | 12 years  |
| Percent distribution <sup>1</sup>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |       |       |       |          |      |        |       |           |           |          |           |
| 56. How well do you know this person?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |       |       |       |          |      |        |       |           |           |          |           |
| Very well . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 1     | 1     | 2     | 1        | 1    | 1      | 1     | 2         | 1         | 1        | 2         |
| Fairly well . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 3     | 3     | 4     | 1        | 3    | 3      | 3     | 5         | 1         | 3        | 4         |
| Not very well . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 4     | 3     | 6     | 3        | 4    | 4      | 4     | 3         | 2         | 2        | 7         |
| Don't really know personally . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 2     | 2     | 2     | 1        | 1    | 2      | 1     | 3         | 1         | 2        | 2         |
| Other . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 1     | 0     | 2     | 0        | 1    | 1      | 1     | 0         | —         | 0        | 2         |
| Don't know how well . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | —     | —     | —     | —        | —    | —      | —     | —         | —         | —        | —         |
| Never knew anyone with AIDS <sup>13</sup> . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 89    | 91    | 85    | 93       | 90   | 89     | 89    | 88        | 96        | 92       | 83        |
| 57. Is any of these statements true for you?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |       |       |       |          |      |        |       |           |           |          |           |
| a. You have hemophilia and have received clotting factor concentrates since 1977.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |       |       |       |          |      |        |       |           |           |          |           |
| b. You are a native of Haiti or Central or East Africa who has entered the United States since 1977.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |       |       |       |          |      |        |       |           |           |          |           |
| c. You are a man who has had sex with another man at some time since 1977, even 1 time.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |       |       |       |          |      |        |       |           |           |          |           |
| d. You have taken illegal drugs by needle at any time since 1977.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |       |       |       |          |      |        |       |           |           |          |           |
| e. Since 1977, you are or have been the sex partner of any person who would answer yes to any of the items above (57 a-d).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |       |       |       |          |      |        |       |           |           |          |           |
| f. You have had sex for money or drugs at any time since 1977.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |       |       |       |          |      |        |       |           |           |          |           |
| Yes to at least 1 statement . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 3     | 5     | 3     | 1        | 3    | 2      | 2     | 7         | 3         | 3        | 3         |
| No to all statements . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 97    | 95    | 96    | 99       | 96   | 97     | 97    | 93        | 97        | 97       | 97        |
| Refused . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0        | 0    | 0      | 0     | —         | 0         | 0        | 0         |
| Don't know . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0        | 0    | 0      | 0     | 0         | 0         | 0        | 0         |
| 58. The U.S. Public Health Service has said that AIDS is one of the major health problems in the country but exactly how many people it affects is not known. The Surgeon General has proposed that a study be conducted and blood samples be taken to help find out how widespread the problem is. If you were selected in this national sample of people to have their blood tested with assurances of privacy of test results, would you have the test? |       |       |       |          |      |        |       |           |           |          |           |
| Yes . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 70    | 76    | 73    | 63       | 71   | 70     | 71    | 72        | 62        | 72       | 74        |
| No . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 21    | 17    | 19    | 28       | 21   | 21     | 21    | 19        | 27        | 20       | 19        |
| Other . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 1     | 1     | 1     | 1        | 1    | 1      | 1     | 1         | 1         | 1        | 1         |
| Don't know . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 7     | 6     | 7     | 8        | 7    | 7      | 6     | 8         | 9         | 6        | 6         |
| 59. Why wouldn't you take part in the test? <sup>14</sup>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |       |       |       |          |      |        |       |           |           |          |           |
| Don't want to know if I have AIDS . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 4     | 8     | 4     | 3        | 4    | 5      | 4     | 7         | 3         | 6        | 4         |
| Don't want any counseling about AIDS . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 2     | 1     | 2     | 2        | 2    | 2      | 2     | 3         | 3         | 2        | 1         |
| Fear I'll get AIDS . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 6     | 9     | 6     | 5        | 6    | 6      | 5     | 9         | 8         | 6        | 5         |
| Don't like to give blood . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 12    | 18    | 12    | 9        | 11   | 12     | 12    | 14        | 9         | 15       | 11        |
| Don't trust Government programs . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 8     | 5     | 11    | 7        | 10   | 6      | 8     | 15        | 6         | 9        | 8         |
| It is a waste of money . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 4     | 2     | 3     | 5        | 4    | 3      | 4     | 1         | 3         | 3        | 4         |
| Don't believe AIDS can really be cured anyway . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 2     | —     | 3     | 2        | 2    | 2      | 2     | 1         | 2         | 2        | 2         |
| Other . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 51    | 44    | 49    | 55       | 50   | 52     | 54    | 41        | 45        | 46       | 60        |
| Don't know . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 0     | 1     | 0     | —        | 0    | 0      | 0     | —         | —         | 1        | 0         |
| 61. When Federal public health officials give information about AIDS, do you believe what they say or are you doubtful about the information they give?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |       |       |       |          |      |        |       |           |           |          |           |
| Believe . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 66    | 75    | 67    | 59       | 66   | 66     | 66    | 63        | 55        | 67       | 72        |
| Doubtful . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 28    | 22    | 30    | 30       | 28   | 27     | 28    | 28        | 32        | 28       | 25        |
| Don't know . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 6     | 3     | 4     | 11       | 6    | 6      | 6     | 8         | 12        | 5        | 3         |
| 62. When they [public health officials] give advice about how to help keep from getting AIDS, do you believe their advice or are you doubtful about what they say?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |       |       |       |          |      |        |       |           |           |          |           |
| Believe . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 80    | 86    | 82    | 73       | 81   | 78     | 80    | 76        | 69        | 83       | 83        |
| Doubtful . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 16    | 13    | 16    | 19       | 15   | 17     | 16    | 20        | 22        | 15       | 14        |
| Don't know . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 4     | 2     | 2     | 8        | 4    | 5      | 4     | 5         | 9         | 3        | 3         |

<sup>1</sup>Multiple responses may sum to more than 100.  
<sup>2</sup>Based on persons answering yes to question 4 (includes yes to question 3).  
<sup>3</sup>Based on persons answering yes to question 11, "Do you have any children aged 10 through 17?" Question 12 was "How many do you have?"  
<sup>4</sup>Persons answering no or don't know to question 27.  
<sup>5</sup>Based on persons answering yes to question 29a.  
<sup>6</sup>Includes persons answering yes to question 26a and no or don't know to questions 27 and 33.  
<sup>7</sup>Based on yes answers to question 33. See footnote 6.  
<sup>8</sup>Persons answering no or don't know to questions 26a, 27, and 33.  
<sup>9</sup>Based on persons answering yes to question 33; excludes persons answering yes to question 26a.  
<sup>10</sup>Based on persons answering yes to question 41.  
<sup>11</sup>Based on persons answering high or medium to question 46.  
<sup>12</sup>Based on persons answering no or don't know to question 52.  
<sup>13</sup>Based on persons answering no or don't know to question 54.  
<sup>14</sup>Based on persons not answering yes to question 58.

### Technical notes

The National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) is a continuous, cross-sectional household interview survey. Each week, a probability sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population is interviewed by personnel of the U.S. Bureau of the Census to obtain information on the health and other characteristics of each member of the household. Supplemental information is collected for all or a sample of household members. The 1988 National Health Interview Survey of AIDS Knowledge and Attitudes was asked of a single randomly chosen adult 18 years of age or over in each family. The estimates in this report are based on completed interviews with 4,118 persons, or about 89 percent of eligible respondents.

Table I contains the estimated population size of each of the demo-

graphic subgroups included in table 1 to allow readers to derive provisional estimates of the number of people in the United States with a given characteristic, for example, the number of men who have had their blood tested for the AIDS virus. The population figures in table I are based on 1987 data from the NHIS; they are not official population estimates. Table II shows approximate standard errors of estimates presented in table 1. Both the estimates in table 1 and the standard errors in table II are provisional. They may differ slightly from estimates made using the final data file because they were calculated using a simplified weighting procedure that does not adjust for all the factors used in weighting the final data file. A final data file covering the entire data collection period for 1988 will be available later in 1989.

**Table I. Sample sizes for the 1988 National Health Interview Survey of AIDS Knowledge and Attitudes and estimated adult population 18 years of age and over, by selected characteristics: United States, December 1988**

| Characteristic               | Sample size | Estimated population in thousands |
|------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------------|
| All adults . . . . .         | 4,118       | 175,260                           |
| <b>Age</b>                   |             |                                   |
| 18-29 years . . . . .        | 1,023       | 47,500                            |
| 30-49 years . . . . .        | 1,564       | 66,900                            |
| 50 years and over . . . . .  | 1,531       | 60,860                            |
| <b>Sex</b>                   |             |                                   |
| Male . . . . .               | 1,706       | 83,073                            |
| Female . . . . .             | 2,412       | 92,187                            |
| <b>Race</b>                  |             |                                   |
| White . . . . .              | 3,381       | 148,154                           |
| Black . . . . .              | 526         | 19,168                            |
| <b>Education</b>             |             |                                   |
| Less than 12 years . . . . . | 965         | 40,061                            |
| 12 years . . . . .           | 1,506       | 68,055                            |
| More than 12 years . . . . . | 1,627       | 65,333                            |

**Table II. Standard errors, expressed in percentage points, of estimated percents from the National Health Interview Survey of AIDS Knowledge and Attitudes, by selected characteristics: United States, December 1988**

| Estimated percent  | Total | Age         |             |                   | Sex  |        | Race  |       | Education          |          |                    |
|--------------------|-------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|------|--------|-------|-------|--------------------|----------|--------------------|
|                    |       | 18-29 years | 30-49 years | 50 years and over | Male | Female | White | Black | Less than 12 years | 12 years | More than 12 years |
| 5 or 95 . . . . .  | 0.4   | 0.9         | 0.7         | 0.7               | 0.7  | 0.6    | 0.5   | 1.2   | 0.9                | 0.7      | 0.7                |
| 10 or 90 . . . . . | 0.6   | 1.2         | 1.0         | 1.0               | 0.9  | 0.8    | 0.7   | 1.7   | 1.2                | 1.0      | 1.0                |
| 15 or 85 . . . . . | 0.7   | 1.4         | 1.2         | 1.2               | 1.1  | 0.9    | 0.8   | 2.0   | 1.5                | 1.2      | 1.1                |
| 20 or 80 . . . . . | 0.8   | 1.6         | 1.3         | 1.3               | 1.2  | 1.0    | 0.9   | 2.2   | 1.7                | 1.3      | 1.3                |
| 25 or 75 . . . . . | 0.9   | 1.7         | 1.4         | 1.4               | 1.3  | 1.1    | 1.0   | 2.4   | 1.8                | 1.4      | 1.4                |
| 30 or 70 . . . . . | 0.9   | 1.8         | 1.5         | 1.5               | 1.4  | 1.2    | 1.0   | 2.6   | 1.9                | 1.5      | 1.5                |
| 35 or 65 . . . . . | 1.0   | 1.9         | 1.6         | 1.6               | 1.5  | 1.2    | 1.1   | 2.7   | 2.0                | 1.6      | 1.5                |
| 40 or 60 . . . . . | 1.0   | 2.0         | 1.6         | 1.6               | 1.5  | 1.3    | 1.1   | 2.7   | 2.0                | 1.6      | 1.6                |
| 45 or 55 . . . . . | 1.0   | 2.0         | 1.6         | 1.6               | 1.6  | 1.3    | 1.1   | 2.8   | 2.1                | 1.6      | 1.6                |
| 50 . . . . .       | 1.0   | 2.0         | 1.6         | 1.6               | 1.6  | 1.3    | 1.1   | 2.8   | 2.1                | 1.7      | 1.6                |

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