

## Center for the Study of Brooklyn

### HIV/AIDS Initiative

## Critical Indicators<sup>1</sup>

December, 2007

### National<sup>2</sup>

#### ***One-quarter of people living with HIV/AIDS are unaware of their infection***

- At the end of 2003, an estimated 1,039,000 to 1,185,000 persons in the United States were living with HIV/AIDS, with 24-27% undiagnosed and unaware of their HIV infection
- The CDC estimates that approximately 40,000 persons in the U.S. become infected with HIV each year
- In 2005, the rate of AIDS diagnoses for black women was nearly 23 times the rate for white women

### New York State

#### ***New York State has the highest percentage of people living with AIDS of any state in the US***

- NYS has 17 % of all persons living with AIDS in the US, but only 7 % of the nation's population- the highest AIDS population of any state<sup>3</sup>
- In NYS, 77% of persons living with AIDS are persons of color vs. 58% of cumulative AIDS cases nationally among persons of color
- Only 50% of New York State adults have ever received an HIV Test as of 2001<sup>4</sup>
- The distribution of reported AIDS cases cumulative **through** 2005 compared with **new** AIDS cases shows an increase among Black and Hispanic populations, and a decrease among Whites<sup>5</sup>
- Black and Hispanic women make up 29% of the NYS female population, but are 86% of women living with HIV/AIDS<sup>6</sup>
- According to the U.S. Dept of Justice, the New York State prison system has the highest number of prisoners infected with HIV, including the largest number of HIV positive female inmates, of all the prison systems in the country

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<sup>1</sup> The production of the epidemiology report and accompanying *Critical Indicators* are part of a broader HIV/AIDS Brooklyn College institutional response proposal. The purpose of the report is to provide information on the impact of the HIV/AIDS epidemic on the borough of Brooklyn and its residents as a context for (1) the BC institutional initiative, and (2) the Center for the Study of Brooklyn proposed research.

<sup>2</sup> U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

<sup>3</sup> Unless otherwise noted, indicators in this document come from the NYS DOH AIDS Institute Statewide Coordinated Statement of Need and Comprehensive Plan

<sup>4</sup> NYStateHealthFacts.org

<sup>5</sup> Cumulative through 2005: Black 44%, (75,682), Hispanic 29% (50,582), White 26% (44,342), and new reported in 2005- Black 50%, Hispanic 30%, White 18%; NYStateHealthFacts.org

<sup>6</sup> NYS DOH AIDS Institute Statewide Coordinated Statement of Need and Comprehensive Plan

## New York City

### ***Persons of color and low-income populations are impacted the most by HIV/AIDS***

- NYC has 3% of the U.S. population, 16% of people living with AIDS, and 24% of perinatally infected children; NYC's case rate is 4 times the US average<sup>7</sup>
- AIDS is the leading cause of death for Black men and women ages 25 to 44 in NYC; the HIV case rate for Blacks was 11 times that of Whites, and 2 times that of Hispanics; the overall HIV case rate among Hispanics was 7 times that of Whites
- Over the last two decades, New York City's epidemic has increasingly affected blacks (44% of AIDS Cases in 2003 vs. 31% in 1987), Latinos (32% of AIDS cases in 2003 vs. 25% in 1987), and women (31% of AIDS cases in 2003 vs. 12% in 1987)<sup>8</sup>
- Today more than 80% of new AIDS diagnoses and deaths are among Blacks and Hispanics, who comprise half of NYC's population
- Black men are 3 times more likely to be living with HIV/AIDS than other New Yorkers, and black men age 40 to 54 are 7 times more likely
- More than 90% of NYC women newly diagnosed with HIV or AIDS are black or Latina
- HIV/AIDS is the leading cause of excess death in lower income neighborhoods

## Brooklyn

### ***Brooklyn has been identified by the Centers for Disease Control as having the highest total number of adolescents diagnosed with HIV/AIDS nationally***

- Brooklyn has the highest population of any borough in NYC- 2.47 million
- Brooklyn has one of the highest HIV infection rates among Black and Latina women in the country
- From 1999 through 2004, 81.3% of all AIDS cases in Brooklyn were among persons of color
- In 2004, 89% new diagnoses were persons of color (70% black, 19% Hispanic)
- Approx 25% of People Living With HIV/AIDS in Brooklyn are 50 years and older
- Only 23% of adult Brooklynites have had an HIV test in the past year, and only 40% with multiple sex partners report using a condom during their last sexual encounter<sup>9</sup>
- Brooklyn reports and data included in the NYS DOH AIDS Institute Statewide Coordinated Statement of Need and Comprehensive Plan exclude prisoner data

## Brooklyn Neighborhoods<sup>10</sup>

- The top five Brooklyn neighborhoods with the highest number of persons living with HIV/AIDS are<sup>11</sup>: **1<sup>st</sup>** Bedford Stuyvesant-Crown Heights, **2<sup>nd</sup>** East Flatbush-Flatbush, **3<sup>rd</sup>** Williamsburg-Bushwick, **4<sup>th</sup>** Downtown-Heights-Slope, **5<sup>th</sup>** East New York
- The top countries of birth for new HIV Diagnoses 2004 in Brooklyn are: **1<sup>st</sup>** Haiti, **2<sup>nd</sup>** Jamaica, **3<sup>rd</sup>** Trinidad & Tobago, **4<sup>th</sup>** Guyana, **5<sup>th</sup>** Barbados
- Borough Park and Southwest Brooklyn (Bay Ridge, Bensonhurst & Dyker Heights) had the least percentage (%15) of adults getting an HIV test in last year; Central Brooklyn (Bed-Stuy, Crown Heights, Prospect Heights, and Brownsville) had the highest (32%)
- Bushwick & Williamsburg had the lowest percentage of adults with multiple sex partners that reported using a condom during their last sexual encounter (24%), and Borough Park had the highest (57%)

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<sup>7</sup> NYCDOHMH Community Health Profiles- 2006

<sup>8</sup> NYC Commission on HIV/AIDS, October 2005

<sup>9</sup> NYCDOHMH Community Health Profiles- 2006

<sup>10</sup> NYCDOHMH Community Health Profiles- 2006

<sup>11</sup> See attached spreadsheet "Persons Living with HIV and AIDS and Cumulative AIDS Cases in Brooklyn, New York City"