

3C. HUMAN IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS (HIV) INFECTION AND ACQUIRED IMMUNODEFICIENCY SYNDROME (AIDS)

In Arizona, a cumulative total of 7,689 cases of AIDS had been diagnosed between 1981 and 2000 (**Table 3C-1**). In addition, 4,991 cases of HIV infection have been diagnosed in the same period.

Geographically, the largest concentration of AIDS cases continues to be in metropolitan areas. Phoenix-Mesa Metropolitan Area (Maricopa and Pinal Counties) and Tucson Metropolitan Area (Pima County) accounted for 86.1 percent of AIDS cases diagnosed in 2000 (**Table 5F-3**) compared to 92.6 percent in 1990.

The number of cases of AIDS annually reported in Arizona declined by 49.5 percent from a high of 680 in 1995 (when it reached its most recent peak) to 332 in 2000 (**Table 3C-2**).

The number of male AIDS cases declined by 53.2 percent from 609 in 1995 to 285 in 2000 (**Figure 3C-1, Table 3C-2**). The number of female AIDS cases declined by 24.2 percent from 62 diagnosed in 1998 to 47 diagnosed in 1999. The male to female ratio of AIDS diagnoses in Arizona in 1999 was 6.1:1. However, this number has changed considerably since 1981-86 when the male to female ratio was 17.8:1.

The incidence rate of AIDS in Arizona declined by 65.9 percent from a high of 18.5 diagnosed cases per 100,000 population in 1992 to 6.3/100,000 in 2000 (**Figure 3C-2**). The rate of deaths* from HIV infection declined by 76.4 percent from a high of 12.7 in 1995 to 3.0/100,000 both in 1998 and 1999. In 2000, the death rate for HIV infection increased slightly to 3.1/100,000.

Of 332 AIDS cases diagnosed in 2000, 182 (54.8 percent) were White non-Hispanic, 86 (25.9 percent) were Hispanic, 37 (11.1 percent) Black, and 22 were American Indian (6.6 percent, **Table 3C-3**).

Among ethnic groups, Blacks had the highest annual incidence rate** in 2000 (23.3 cases per 100,000 persons). American Indians ranked second with a rate of 8.6 per 100,000 population. The incidence rate of 5.6/100,000 among White non-Hispanics was 76 percent lower than the rate among Blacks. The rate of 6.6/100,000 among Hispanics was the second lowest among the four ethnic groups.

Of the 332 AIDS cases diagnosed in 2000, 171 (51.5 percent) were among men who reported sexual contact with other men. An additional 26 (7.8 percent) were men who reported both sexual contacts with other men and injected drug use. Another 45 (13.6 percent) reported only injecting drugs and 43 (12.9 percent) reported heterosexual contact with an HIV infected partner (**Table 3C-4**).

*Crude death rate (number of deaths from HIV infection per 100,000 population unadjusted for differences in the age composition). For age-adjusted rate see Table 2B-4.

**Based on numerators in Table 3C-3 and denominators in Table 10C-3.