

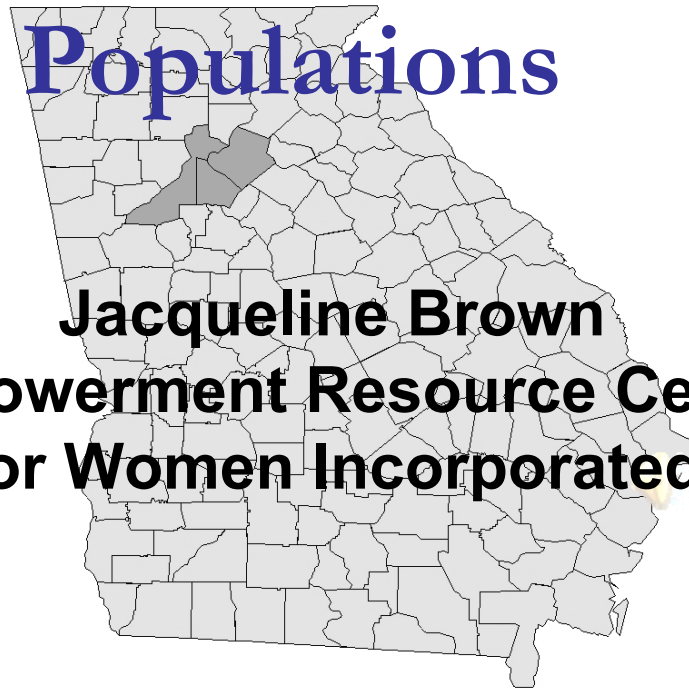


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Barriers to HIV Prevention in African-American Female Populations



Jacqueline Brown
Empowerment Resource Center
for Women Incorporated



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Topics

- Current Epidemiological Profile
- GA's Current Epidemiological Profile
- Barriers to HIV Prevention
 - Substance Abuse
 - Crime
 - Social Networks
 - Silence, Stigma, and Discrimination
 - Resource Constraints
- Effective Prevention Strategies





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Current Epidemiological Profile

- Race
- Gender
- Age
- Residence
- Lifestyle

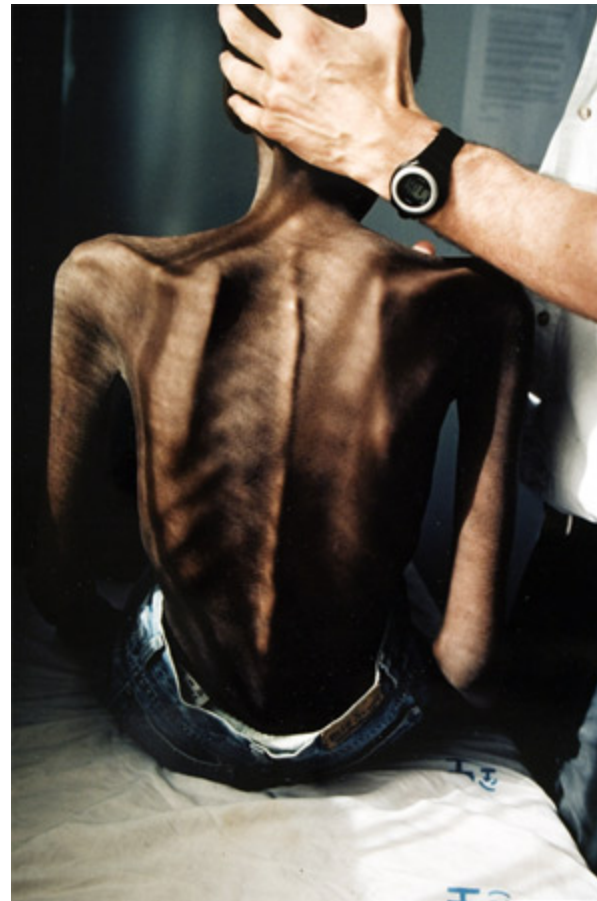


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HIV Facts and Statistics



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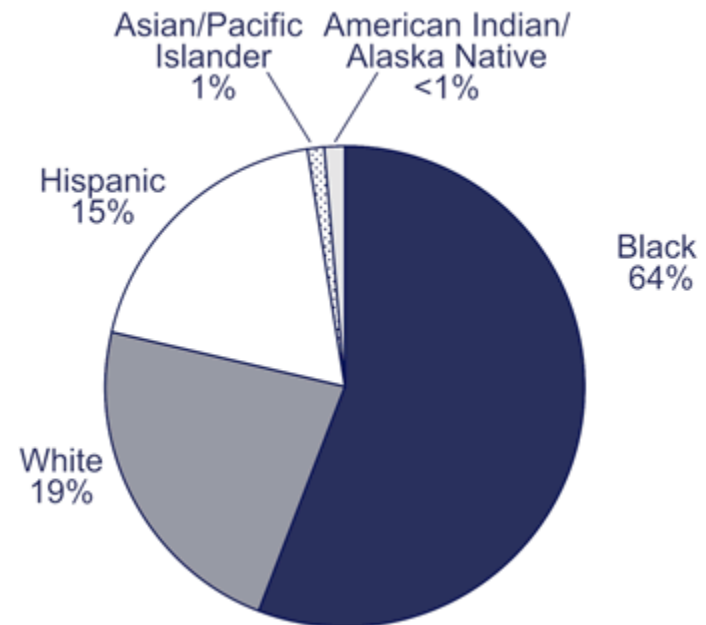
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HIV Facts and Statistics

African-American Women

The Most Common Ways of Getting HIV Are...

1. Having Unprotected Sex With a Man Who Has HIV
2. Sharing Needles/Syringes With Someone Who Has HIV





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Georgia's Current Epidemiological Profile

- 79% of New HIV Diagnoses Among Non-Hispanic African-Americans
- 50% of All New Cases Reside In Fulton and DeKalb Counties
- Percent of Newly Reported HIV and AIDS Cases Among African-American Females
 - 25% in 2005
 - 33% in 2006
- 38% of Georgians Newly Diagnosed With AIDS Between Ages 35 and 44.



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Fulton, DeKalb, and Gwinnett Counties

- Three largest counties in Georgia
- Home to the Majority of the states African-American population.
- Located within the 28-county Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Marietta Georgia MSA (with an AIDS case rate of 25.7/100,000 population).





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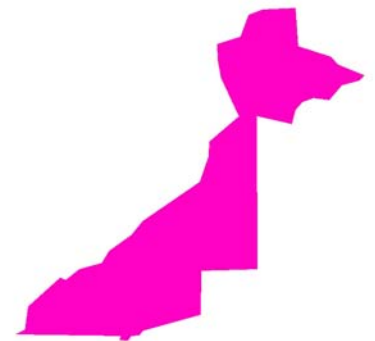
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Fulton County

- Estimated population of 992,137
- 42.5% of population African-American
- Residence of 35% of all new AIDS cases
- AIDS Case rate

<u>Year</u>	<u>Case Rate</u>
2004	61.2/100,000 population
2005	35.7/100,000 population
2006	263.0/100,000 population





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DeKalb County

- Estimated population of 737,093
- 55.1% of population African-American
- Residence to 16% of all new AIDS cases
- AIDS Case rate

<u>Year</u>	<u>Case Rate</u>
2004	27.0/100,000 population
2005	19.2/100,000 population
2006	238.0/100,000 population





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Gwinnett County

- Estimated Population of 776,380
- 20.3% of the States African-American Population.
- AIDS Case Rates Estimated At 7/100,000 Population.





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Barriers/Behaviors for HIV Transmission

- Drugs and Alcohol
- The Need for Money and Having Sex for Money to Buy Food or Drugs
- One-On-One Relationship
- Not Worried About HIV
- Being Unprepared
- Partner Refuses to Use A Condom
- No Money to Buy Condoms



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Injection Drug Users

- CDC Reports That 28% of New Cases Of AIDS Reported In 2000 Were Associated IDU.
- IDU-Associated AIDS Accounted for 26% of All AIDS Cases Among African American
- 57% of All AIDS Cases Among Women Have Been Attributed to Injection Drug Use or Sex with Partners Who Inject Drugs.
- IDU-Associated AIDS Occur In More Adolescent and Adult Women Than Men.



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Noninjection Drug Users

- The Use of "Crack" Cocaine, Marijuana, and Other Noninjection Drugs Use Attribute to HIV Transmission Due to:
 - Trades of Sex for Drugs or Money;
 - Increase Risky Sexual Behaviors and Lowered Sexual Inhibitions.
- Crack Smokers Were Three Times More Likely to Be Infected with HIV than Non-Smokers



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Sexually Transmitted Infections/Diseases

County	STD Rate*	Rank
Fulton	12.6	159 th
DeKalb	8.5	152 nd
Gwinnett	2.6	67 th

*** Rate per 100,000 population**



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Drug Availability

Illicit Substances	Fulton	DeKalb	Gwinnett
Marijuana	348.6	95.1	54.9
Cocaine	383.0	122.1	70.9
Heroin	18.6	0.9	0.9
Meth	38.8	10.7	49.8

* Rate per 100,000 population



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Crime

County	Probation Admission*	Prison Admission*
Fulton	5.1%	8.4%
DeKalb	4.5%	3.8%
Gwinnett	6.9%	3.8%

* Based on 2007 Department of Corrections' Data for Women



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Crime

- More Than $\frac{1}{3}$ of Crimes Committed By Women Are Drug-Related
 - Selling
 - Using
 - Stealing
 - Robbing
 - Killing
- 33.4% of Female Drug Crimes Were for Possession
- Imprisoned Inmates During 2007
 - 2.6% Tested Positive for HIV
 - 5.3% Tested Positive for Syphilis



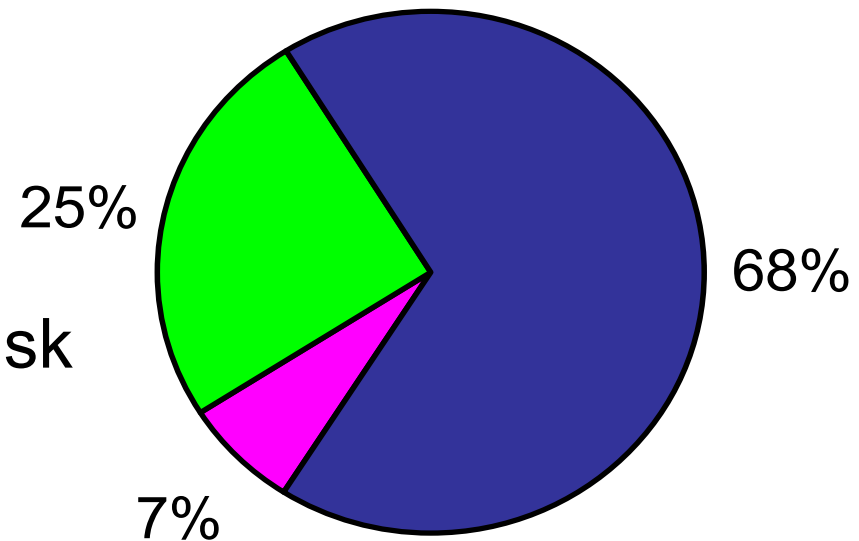
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Modes of Exposure

- 7% Injection Drug Use
- 25% High-Risk Heterosexual Contact
- 67% Did Not Report a Risk Factor



Among Newly Diagnosed Women



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At High Risk Categories

- African-American Women May Not Identify with Previously Defined Categories
 - Injection Drug Users
 - Incarcerated Women
 - Sex Workers
- Behaviors Determine Risk Level
- Women May Lack Control In Relationships



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Social Networks

- 34% of Black MSM, 26% of Hispanic MSM, and 13% of White MSM Reported Having Had Sex With Women Who Were Unaware of Their Male Partner's Bisexual Activity
- Women May Be Unaware of Other Risk Factors
 - Unprotected Sex With Multiple Partners
 - Injection Drug Use



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Resources Constraints

- 175 Organizations in the Atlanta Metro Area
- Less than 5% Serve African-American Women
- Only 32 of the 175 Organizations Provide HIV Prevention and Education Services
- 90 out of 175 Provide Advocacy, Medical Treatment, Assistance, and Support Services to PLWH and AIDS.



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Silence, Stigma, & Discrimination

- Estimated 25% or more of Americans are unknowingly infected
- Stigma Associated with the HIV/AIDS Epidemic Has Silenced the Church
- African-American Churches Still Categorizes Victims
HIV = Bad People
- A Doctrine of Pious Conservatism
- Fear Broaching Morally Uncomfortable Topics



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Effective Prevention Strategies

- Evidence-Based HIV Programs and Strategies
- Program Delivery In Culturally and Gender-Specific Environments
- Integrate Local Culture and Delivery Mechanisms
- Build Capacity



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Effective Prevention Strategies

- 46% of Protestants Attend Church at Least Weekly
- 52% of Baptists Attend Weekly Service
- Just Over $\frac{2}{3}$ of Baptists Are In the South
- 44% of Southern Women Frequent Weekly Church Service
- 68% Southern Female Congregants Ages 45 and Older Attend Weekly Service



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Effective Prevention Strategies

- Day Care: 55% Of Mothers In the Labor Force Have Infant Children (2002); With 45% In Daycare
- Higher Learning Institution: Estimated 27.3% of African-American Females Enrolled In College



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Effective Prevention Strategies

- 2.2% of American live in Transitional Housing
- 40% of this population is African-American



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