# Kaiser Family Foundation 1997 National Survey of Americans on AIDS/HIV 

Questionnaire and National Toplines
December 4, 1997

The Kaiser Family Foundation, based in Menlo Park, California, is a non-profit, independent national health care philanthropy and is not associated with Kaiser Permanente or Kaiser Industries. The Foundation's work is focused on four main areas: health policy, reproductive health, HIV in the United States, and health and development in South Africa.

# PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE AND ATTITUDES ABOUT AIDS/HIV SURVEY II 

# PRINCETON SURVEY RESEARCH ASSOCIATES FOR <br> THE KAISER FAMILY FOUNDATION 

National Topline

## Methodology

The 1997 National Survey of Americans on AIDS/HIV was designed by staff of the Kaiser Family Foundation and conducted for the Family Foundation by Princeton Survey Research Associates. The survey was conducted by telephone with 1,205 adults (age 18 or older) nationwide between September 17-October 19, 1997. The margin of sampling error is plus or minus 3 percentage points.

The Foundation last surveyed Americans on AIDS/HIV in December 1995. Where available trend data or information are noted. Some select questions also provide further trend information from other sources, each source is noted by an appropriate footnote reference.

Select questions were asked of a random half of the respondents. These questions are identified by "Form 1" or "Form 2," indicating which half answered that particular question. There were 598 respondents in the "Form 1" group and 607 respondents in the "Form 2" group. The margin of error for this split sample is plus or minus 4 percentage points.

1. My first question is... What do you think is the MOST urgent health problem facing this nation TODAY? (OPEN-END. DO NOT READ ANSWER CATEGORIES. WAIT FOR REPLY BEFORE PROBE) Is there another health problem you think is almost as urgent?

| Current |  | 12/95 | $1 / 90^{1}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 38 | AIDS | 44 | 49 |
| 38 | Cancer | 27 | 31 |
| 21 | Health insurance/access/cost | 25 | 13 |
| 16 | Heart | 11 | na ${ }^{2}$ |
| 5 | Drugs | 4 | 17 |
| 3 | Smoking/Cigarettes | na | na |
| 2 | Elderly | 4 | 12 |
| 2 | Excess weight/Obesity | na | na |
| 2 | Diabetes | *3 | na |
| 14 | Other | 15 | na |
| 8 | Don't know/Refused | 8 | 9 |

Total exceeds $100 \%$ due to multiple responses.

[^0]2. Now I'd like you to think about the way the problem of AIDS is affecting THIS COUNTRY today. Do you think the problem of AIDS is ABOUT THE SAME as it has been, that the country is MAKING PROGRESS in this area, or that the country is LOSING GROUND?

## Based on form 1 respondents.

| Current |  | $\underline{12 / 95}$ | $\underline{3 / 94^{4}}$ |
| :---: | :--- | ---: | ---: |
| 14 | About the same | 15 | 22 |
| 52 | Country making progress | 32 | 23 |
| 27 | Country losing ground | 48 | 49 |
| $\frac{7}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused | $\underline{5}$ | $\underline{6}$ |
|  |  | 100 | 100 |

3. Thinking about the way AIDS is affecting YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY today, is the problem of AIDS ABOUT THE SAME as it has been, is your community MAKING PROGRESS, is your community LOSING GROUND, or has AIDS never been a problem in your community?

## Based on form 1 respondents.

Current
19 About the same 12/9514 Community making progress2311
11 Community losing ground ..... 1841 Never been a problem15 Don't know/Refused38
100 ..... $\underline{10}$ ..... 100
4. Now I'd like you to think about the way the problem of AIDS is affecting THIS COUNTRY today. Do you think AIDS is a more urgent problem for the country than it was a few years ago, is it a less urgent problem, or is it about as urgent as it was?

## Based on form 2 respondents.

| 48 | More urgent |
| ---: | :--- |
| 12 | Less urgent |
| 38 | About as urgent |
| $\frac{2}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused |

5. Thinking about the way the problem of AIDS is affecting YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY today, do you think AIDS is a more urgent problem for your community than it was a few years ago, is it a less urgent problem, is it about as urgent as it was, or has AIDS never been a problem in your community?
[^1]
## Based on form 2 respondents.

| 25 | More urgent |
| ---: | :--- |
| 9 | Less urgent |
| 28 | About as urgent |
| 25 | Never been a problem |
| $\underline{13}$ | Don't know/Refused |
| 100 |  |

6. How serious a problem do you think AIDS is for people you know? For people you know, do you think AIDS is...(READ)

| $\frac{\text { Current }}{34}$ |  | $\frac{12 / 95}{43}$ |
| :---: | :--- | :---: |
| 19 | A very serious problem | 17 |
| 17 | Not too serious a problem, OR | 15 |
| 25 | Not a serious problem at all? | 22 |
| $\frac{5}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused | $\underline{3}$ |
|  |  | 100 |

7. Bearing in mind the different ways people can be infected with H-I-V, the virus that causes AIDS--how concerned are you, personally, about becoming infected with HIV? Are you...(READ)

| $\frac{\text { Current }}{}$ |  | $\underline{12 / 95}$ | $\frac{5 / 91^{5}}{}$ |
| :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: |
|  | Very concerned | 22 | 27 |
| 17 | Somewhat concerned | 18 | 21 |
| 21 | Not too concerned, OR | 22 | 22 |
| 38 | Not at all concerned? | 38 | 30 |
| $\frac{*}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused | $\boxed{*}$ | $*$ |
|  |  | 100 | 100 |

8. Are you MORE concerned about becoming infected with HIV than you were a few years ago, LESS concerned, or about as concerned?

27 More concerned
24 Less concerned
47 About as concerned
2 Don't know/Refused

[^2]9. Do you, yourself, have any sons or daughters aged 21 years or younger?

| 43 | Yes |
| ---: | :--- |
| 57 | No |
| $\frac{*}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused |

10. How concerned are you about a son or daughter becoming infected with HIV? Are you...(READ)

## Based on parents of children aged 21 or younger.

| $\frac{\text { Current }}{}$ |  | $\underline{12 / 95}$ |
| :---: | :--- | :---: |
|  | Very concerned | 53 |
| 21 | Somewhat concerned | 24 |
| 16 | Not too concerned, OR | 10 |
| 11 | Not at all concerned | 11 |
| $\frac{*}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused | $\underline{2}$ |
| $(\mathrm{n}=541)$ | 100 |  |

11. Are you MORE concerned about a son or daughter becoming infected with HIV than you were a few years ago, LESS concerned, or about as concerned?

## Based on parents of children aged 21 or younger.

46 More concerned
9 Less concerned
44 About as concerned
1 Don't know/Refused
100
( $\mathrm{n}=541$ )
12. Do you think AIDS is a major threat to public health in this country TODAY, or is NOT a major threat to public health?

83 Major threat
14 Not a major threat
3 Don't know/Refused
100
13. I'm going to read a list of groups in your LOCAL COMMUNITY. For each one, please tell me how much you think they are doing to help fight against AIDS. As far as you know, how much are (INSERT FIRST ITEM--ROTATE) doing to help fight against AIDS? Is this
group doing a lot, some, only a little or nothing at all? How much do you think (INSERT NEXT ITEM--ROTATE) are doing?

## Based on form 1 respondents.

|  | A lot | Some | Only <br> a little | Nothing at all | $\begin{aligned} & \text { DK/ } \\ & \text { Ref. } \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| a. Local church or religious leaders | 18 | 29 | 24 | 12 | $17=100$ |
| b. Local government and political leaders | 11 | 34 | 30 | 13 | $12=100$ |
| c. Local public schools | 23 | 34 | 20 | 6 | $17=100$ |
| d. Local health care providers, such as doctors, health clinics and hospitals | 38 | 32 | 12 | 4 | $14=100$ |

14. And how about those outside of your local community . . . As far as you know, how much is (INSERT ITEMS IN ORDER) doing to help fight against AIDS-- a lot, some, only a little or nothing at all?

## Based on Form 1 respondents.

|  | A lot | Some | Only a little | Nothing at all | DK/ Ref. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| a. Your state government | 15 | 43 | 24 | 6 | $12=100$ |
| b. President Clinton | 21 | 39 | 21 | 8 | $11=100$ |
| c. The federal government | 20 | 42 | 23 | 6 | $9=100$ |

15. I'm going to read a list of groups in your LOCAL COMMUNITY. For each one, please tell me your IMPRESSION of how much this group cares about the fight against AIDS and makes it a priority. First, what about... (INSERT FIRST ITEM-- ROTATE)--is it your impression that they care a lot about the fight against AIDS, some, only a little or not at all? How much do you think (INSERT NEXT ITEM--ROTATE) care?

## Based on form 2 respondents.

|  | A lot | Some | Only <br> a little | Nothing at all | $\begin{aligned} & \text { DK/ } \\ & \text { Ref. } \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| a. Local church or religious leaders | 39 | 34 | 15 | 5 | $7=100$ |
| b. Local government and political leaders | 17 | 42 | 27 | 8 | $6=100$ |
| c. Local public schools | 44 | 31 | 12 | 4 | $9=100$ |
| d. Local health care providers, such as doctors, health clinics and hospitals | 59 | 25 | 7 | 3 | $6=100$ |

16. And what is your impression of how much those outside of your local community care about the fight against AIDS and make it a priority . . . (First/Next) (INSERT ITEMS IN
ORDER)--do you think (it/he) cares a lot about the fight against AIDS, some, only a little, or not at all?

Based on form 2 respondents.

17. As far as you know, over the past year, has the number Americans dying from AIDS-related causes increased, decreased, or stayed about the same?

44 Increased
24 Decreased
23 Stayed about the same
$\underline{6}$ Don't know/Refused
18. Please tell me whether you think each of the following statements about AIDS is true or false -- OR if you don't know whether it's true or false. The first one is...(READ AND ROTATE)
a. Any person with the AIDS virus can pass it along to someone else during sexual intercourse

True False DK/Ref.

|  | 96 | 2 | 2 | $=100$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 12/95: | 97 | 2 | 1 | $=100$ |
| ${ }^{6} 1992:$ | 96 | 1 | 3 | $=100$ |

b. There are drugs available to treat AIDS or the AIDS virus which can lengthen the life of a person infected with AIDS

12/95:
1992: 71
6
$8=100$
$11=100$
$22=100$
c. There is a vaccine available to the public that protects a person from getting AIDS

|  | 5 | 82 | 13 | $=100$ |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 12/95: | 5 | 88 | 7 | $=100$ |
| 1992: | 3 | 83 | 14 | $=100$ |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 12/95: | 86 | 11 | 3 | $=100$ |
| na |  |  |  |  |
| $1992:$ | 93 | 2 | 5 | $=100$ |

e. A pregnant woman who has the AIDS virus can give it to her baby

|  | 91 | 4 | 5 | $=100$ |
| :---: | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 12/95: | 94 | 3 | 3 | $=100$ |
| 1992: | 94 | 1 | 5 | $=100$ |

f. A pregnant woman who has the AIDS virus can take certain steps to reduce the risk of her baby being born infected
$31=100$
$34=100$
g. AIDS is one of the leading causes of death for Americans aged 25 to 44

12/95: | 60 |
| ---: | :--- |
| na |

$19=100$

[^3]19. Next I have a question about the tests now widely used to determine whether someone has been infected with HIV, the virus that causes AIDS. As far as you know, how soon after possible exposure can today's tests determine, with confidence, that someone has NOT been infected with HIV? Is it... (READ)

7 Within one week
11 Between one week and one month
15 Between one month and five months, OR
46 Between six months and one year?
21 Don't know/Refused
100
20. We'd like your impression of how much progress has been made in AIDS TREATMENT in this country since the disease was first identified. (First,) how much progress do you think has been made in...(INSERT ITEMS, IN ORDER) a lot, some, only a little, or no progress?
a. Keeping people who have AIDS alive longer

| A lot | $\underline{\text { Some }}$ | Only <br> a little | No <br> progress | DK/ <br> Ref. |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :--- |
| 44 | 39 |  | 13 | 2 |  |
| 24 | 46 | 24 | 4 | $2=100$ |  |
| 24 |  |  | 2100 |  |  |
| 28 | 44 | 21 | 5 | 2 | $=100$ |
| 11 | 36 |  | 37 | 15 | $1=100$ |

21. Now I have a few questions about the new combination drug treatments for people with HIV and AIDS. As far as you know, do these new drug treatments... (READ)

2 Offer people a permanent cure? OR
90 Allow people to feel better for a longer period of time?
1 Never heard of (VOL.)
7 Don't know/Refused
100
22. As far as you know, are the new drug treatments effective in helping nearly all people who take them, most people, about half, less than half, or very few people?

3 Nearly all
22 Most
34 About half
13 Less than half
11 Very few
17 Don't know/Refused
100
23. How many of those with HIV and AIDS who want the new drug treatments do you think are now actually getting these drugs? Would you say... (READ)

4 Nearly all
8 Most
22 About half
27 Less than half, OR
30 Very few?
9 Don't know/Refused
100
24. About how much do you think it costs PER MONTH to give someone with HIV or AIDS the new combination drug treatments? Is the average cost of the drugs about... (READ)

IF RESPONDENT NAMES A RANGE OR DIFFERENT AMOUNT, ASK: Which of these categories comes CLOSEST to the actual cost?

2 \$50 per month
$9 \quad \$ 100$ per month
$30 \quad \$ 500$ per month, OR
42 \$1,000 per month?
17 Don't know/Refused
100
25. Now I'd like you to think about ALL the money the federal government now spends on AIDS. In general, do you think the federal government spends too much money on AIDS, too little money or about the right amount?

## Based on Form 1 respondents.

8 Too much money
51 Too little money
32 About right
$\underline{9}$ Don't know
26. Compared with the amount of money the federal government spends on other health problems, such as heart disease and cancer, do you think federal spending on AIDS is too high, too low or about right?

## Based on form 2 respondents.

| $\underline{\text { Current }}$ |  | $\underline{12 / 95}$ |
| :---: | :--- | ---: |
| 11 | Too high | 12 |
| 40 | Too low | 50 |
| 35 | About right | 31 |
| $\underline{14}$ | Don't know | $\underline{7}$ |
| 100 |  | 100 |

27. Please tell me whether you think the federal government should or should NOT be spending money in each of the following areas. (First,) should the government be spending money for...(INSERT ITEM--READ AND ROTATE)

|  | Should spend money | Should not spend money | $\begin{aligned} & \text { DK/ } \\ & \text { Ref. } \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| a. HIV and AIDS education and other prevention activities | 95 | 4 | $1=100$ |
| b. Making the new combination drug treatmen available to more people infected with HIV | nts 88 | 9 | $3=100$ |
| c. Research to find more effective treatments for people infected with HIV | 93 | 6 | $1=100$ |
| d. Research to find an AIDS vaccine to preven people from becoming infected with HIV | nt 91 | 8 | $1=100$ |

28. You said the government should be spending money in the following areas... (READ

SHORT VERSIONS OF RELEVANT ITEMS)? Which ONE do you think should be the TOP priority for federal AIDS spending?

32 HIV and AIDS education and other prevention
7 Making the new AIDS drug treatments more available
10 Research to find better AIDS treatments
47 Research to find an AIDS vaccine
1 Other (VOL.)
1 None of these
2 Don't know/Refused
29. As you may know, the new combination drug treatments for HIV are very expensive. In general, do you think the government should be spending money to help HIV-infected people with lower incomes pay for the new treatments, OR that the government can't afford such a costly new spending program at this time?

## Based on form 1 respondents.

64 Government should be spending money
29 Can't afford costly new spending program
7 Don't know/Refused
100
30. As you may know, the new combination drug treatments for HIV are very expensive. In general, do you think the government should be spending money to help HIV-infected people with lower incomes pay for the new treatments, OR that this financial responsibility should be left to HIV-infected individuals and their families, regardless of their income level?

## Based on form 2 respondents.

73 Government should be spending money
20 Responsibility should be left to individuals and their families
7 Don't know/Refused
31. We're interested in what information people like you need about HIV and AIDS prevention. Please tell me which, if any, of the following you need more information about. (First,) do you need more information about..? (INSERT ITEM. ROTATE START)

|  |  | $\underline{\text { Yes }}$ | No | DK/Ref. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | The proper way to use condoms | 13 | 86 | $1=100$ |
| b. | What to discuss with partners about sex | 22 | 77 | $1=100$ |
| c. | What to discuss with children about AIDS preven | 46 | 53 | $1=100$ |
|  | Parents of children 21 and younger: | 57 | 43 | * =100 |
|  | Testing for HIV | 32 | 67 | $1=100$ |
|  | Where to go for help if exposed to HIV | 38 | 61 | $1=100$ |

32. In which ONE of these areas is it most important for you to get more information? (READ SHORT VERSIONS OF RELEVANT ITEMS)
Current $\quad \underline{12 / 95}$

2 Proper way to use condoms 1
3 What to discuss with partners about sex 6
33 What to discuss with children about AIDS prevention 36
6 Testing for HIV 10
16 Where to go for help if exposed to HIV 15

* Other (VOL.) *

40 None of these 31

* Don't know/Refused 1
$100 \quad 100$

33. Do you think the major television networks should or should NOT accept advertising from condom manufacturers for broadcast?

|  |  | Parnet with <br> Children 21 |  |  |
| :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Current <br> 62 | Should | $\underline{\text { Or younger }}$ | $\underline{12 / 95}$ | $\underline{72}$ |
| 33 | Should not | 66 | 70 |  |
| $\underline{5}$ | Don't know/Refused | $\underline{38}$ | 25 | 25 |
| 100 |  | 100 | $\underline{3}$ | $\underline{5}$ |
|  |  |  | 100 | 100 |

[^4]34. When movies and television shows deal with sexual relationships, do you think there ought to be more references to condom use, or do you think enough references are already included?

| Current |  | Parents <br> Of children <br> 21 or younger | 12/95 ${ }^{9}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 55 | Ought to be more references to condoms | 64 | 63 |
| 32 | Enough references to condoms now | 26 | 29 |
| 7 | Movies/TV shows shouldn't deal with sex/condoms (VOL.) | .) 5 | 4 |
| 6 | Don't know/Refused | 5 | 4 |
| 100 |  | 100 | 100 |

35. Next, I'm going to read you some statements about HIV and AIDS and ask how much you agree or disagree with each one. (First,) do you completely agree, mostly agree, mostly DISagree or completely disagree with this statement... (READ AND ROTATE)

| Completely | Mostly | Mostly | Completely | DK/ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| agree |  |  |  |  |

a. By now, all adults in this country should know how to protect themselves from $\begin{array}{lllllll}\text { HIV infection } & 51 & 38 & 7 & 3 & 1 & =100\end{array}$
b. Adults who become infected with HIV today should be held more personally responsible for their circumstances than those who were infected years ago

36
35
14
12
$3=100$
c. Adults who become infected with HIV today should have to pay more of their medical bills themselves than those who were infected years ago

17
$25 \quad 28$
26
$4=100$

[^5]36. Do you favor or oppose needle exchange programs, which offer clean needles to IV drug users in exchange for used needles, to help stop the spread of HIV?

## Based on form 1 respondents.

| $\underline{\text { Current }}$ |  | $\frac{11 / 97^{*}}{}$ | $\underline{12 / 95}^{10}$ |
| :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: |
|  | Favor needle exchange | 64 | 66 |
| 38 | Oppose | 30 | 30 |
| $\underline{4}$ | Don't know/Refused | $\underline{6}$ | $\underline{4}$ |
| 100 |  | 100 | 100 |

37. Some people favor offering clean needles to I-V drug users in exchange for used needles because it helps reduce the spread of HIV. Others oppose needle exchange programs because they feel these programs send the message that it's okay to use illegal drugs. Which comes closer to your own view?

## Based on form 2 respondents.

|  |  | $11 / 97^{*}$ |
| ---: | :--- | :---: |
| 43 | Favor needle exchange | 48 |
| 53 | Oppose | 46 |
| $\underline{4}$ | Don't know/Refused | $\underline{6}$ |
| 100 |  | 100 |

38. As you may know, an in-home test to accurately test for HIV infection is currently available. To use this method, you take a blood sample from your finger and send it to a laboratory for testing. You receive the results by calling a confidential telephone number. Have you, personally, ever used this type of in-home test for HIV?

$$
2 \mathrm{Yes}
$$

98 No

* Don't know/Refused

100

[^6]*Kaiser Family Foundation Omnibus Survey, November 1997.
39. How likely would you be to use this type of in-home HIV test (again)? (READ)

| Current |  | $12 / 95^{11}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 13 | Very likely | 26 |
| 13 | Somewhat likely | 17 |
| 10 | Somewhat Unlikely, OR | 9 |
| 64 | Very unlikely? | 47 |
| * | Don't know/Refused | 1 |
| 100 |  | 100 |

40. Now I'm going to read you some different sources of news and information about AIDS. As I read each one, please tell me whether you, yourself, got any news or information about HIV or AIDS from this source, IN THE PAST MONTH. (First,) did you get any information about HIV or AIDS from...?/What about...? (INSERT ITEM--ROTATE)
a. Television news programs
$\frac{\text { Yes, got information }}{56}$
b. Television entertainment programs 25

Current net response "television": 59
General item "television" asked in 12/95: 67
c. Radio talk or call-in shows 26

12/95: 37
d. Other radio programming 17

12/95: 23
e. Newspapers 49

12/95: 54
f. Magazines 40

12/95: 50
g. Street signs or billboards 21

12/95: 27
h. Family members, friends or acquaintances 20

12/95: 27
(40. continued)

[^7]i. Materials distributed at work ..... 12
12/95: ..... 13
j. Materials distributed at church or by a religious organization ..... 10
12/95: ..... 10
k. Your doctor or another health care provider ..... 18
12/95: ..... 19

1. Materials available from the local health department or another local government agency ..... 13
12/95: ..... 17
m. Materials distributed by AIDS organizations or advocacy groups ..... 11
12/95: ..... 14
n. The Internet, or a computer online service ..... 6
12/95: ..... na
2. From which ONE of these sources did you get the MOST information about HIV and AIDS in the past month? (RE-READ RELEVANT ITEMS IF NECESSARY)

24 Television news programs
3 Television entertainment programs
5 Radio talk or call-in shows
2 Radio programming
15 Newspapers
10 Magazines
1 Street signs or billboards
4 Family members, friends or acquaintances
4 Materials distributed at work
1 Materials distributed at church or by a religious organization
5 Your doctor or another health care provider
3 Materials available from the local health department or another local government agency
2 Materials distributed by AIDS organizations or advocacy groups
1 The Internet, or a computer online service

* Other (VOL.)

20 Didn't get information about HIV/AIDS from any of these sources in the past month

* Don't know/Refused

100
42. All in all, how much news coverage of HIV and AIDS have you personally seen or heard on television, radio, in newspapers and other media during the LAST YEAR OR SO... (READ)

21 A lot of news

Some news
28 Only a little, OR
2 None at all?

* Don't know/Refused

100
43. And in the LAST YEAR OR SO, have you seen or heard a lot of news, some news, only a little, or none at all specifically about new combination drug treatments for HIV?

11 A lot of news
36 Some news
37 Only a little
15 None at all/Didn't see or hear any news about HIV/AIDS in the past year
1 Don't know/Refused
100
44. Do you think recent news coverage gives people the impression that AIDS is a more urgent problem than it was a few years ago, a less urgent problem, or is about as urgent as it was?

28 More urgent
26 Less urgent
44 About as urgent
2 Don't know/Refused
100
45. We'd like to know a little more about where you get information about HIV and AIDS. Have you ever talked with a doctor or health care provider about HIV or AIDS?

31 Yes
69 No

* Don't know/Refused

46. Have you ever talked with a doctor or health care provider about THE RISKS OF BEING INFECTED WITH HIV?

24 Yes
7 No
69 Never talked with doctor or health care provider about HIV/AIDS
[ Don't know/Refused
100
47. The last time you talked about this topic, did you bring it up, or did the doctor or health care provider bring it up?

## Based on those who have talked with a doctor or health care provider about risks of infection.

55 Respondent
40 Doctor or health care provider
5 Don't know/Refused
100
( $\mathrm{n}=308$ )
48. Have you ever talked with a doctor or health care provider about GETTING TESTED FOR HIV?

20 Yes
11 No
69 Never talked with doctor or health care provider about HIV/AIDS
— Don't know/Refused
100
49. The last time you talked about this topic, did you bring it up, or did the doctor or health care provider bring it up?

Based on those who have talked with a doctor or health care provider about getting tested for HIV.

66 Respondent
31 Doctor or health care provider
3 Don't know/Refused
100
( $\mathrm{n}=252$ )
50. Do you personally know anyone who now has AIDS, has died from AIDS, or has tested positive for HIV?

| $\frac{\text { Current }}{}$ |  | $\frac{12 / 95}{39}$ |
| :---: | :--- | :---: |
| 35 | Yes | 61 |
| 65 | No | 100 |
| $\frac{*}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused | $\frac{*}{00}$ |

Now I have just a few background questions so we'll know something about the people taking part in the survey...
51. I'm going to read you a list of things some people do about government or politics. Many people haven't done any of these things. As I read each one, please tell me if this is something you have done IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS. (First,) in the past 12 months have you...(READ AND ROTATE)
Yes
a. Contacted a member of Congress or a U.S. Senator ..... 17
b. Attended a public meeting on town or school affairs ..... 35
c. Worked in the campaign of a political candidate or party ..... 6
d. Wrote a letter to a newspaper that was published ..... 6
e. Been interviewed or quoted by the media about an important issue ..... 7
f. Served as an officer of some club or organization ..... 22
g. Served on a local committee, such as school board or community council ..... 12
h. Made a public speech ..... 12
i. Helped organize a group or event in support of a particular cause ..... 19

D1. What is your religious preference? Are you Protestant, Roman Catholic, Jewish, or some other religion?

D2. Do you consider yourself a Christian?

D3. Would you describe yourself as a born-again or evangelical Christian, or not?

## 63 Total Protestant/Christian

33 Evangelicals
27 Non-evangelicals
24 Roman Catholic
2 Jewish
5 Other religion
5 No religion/Atheist/Agnostic (VOL.)
1 Don't know/Refused
100
D4. In politics TODAY, do you consider yourself a Republican, Democrat or Independent?
27 Republican
33 Democrat
30 Independent
1 Other Party (VOL.)
5 No party (VOL.)
2 Don't know
2 Refused
100

D5. Would you say your views in most political matters are very liberal, somewhat liberal, moderate, somewhat conservative, or very conservative?

6 Very liberal
21 Somewhat liberal
29 Moderate
26 Somewhat conservative
12 Very conservative
4 Don't know
2 Refused
100

D6. What is the last grade or class that you COMPLETED in school? (DO NOT READ)
3 None, or grade 1 to 8
12 High school incomplete (grade 9-11)
34 High school graduate
4 Business, technical or vocational school after high school
24 Some college, but no four-year degree
15 College graduate, four-year degree
8 Post-graduate or professional schooling after college

* Don't know/Refused

100

D7. How old are you?
24 18-29
43 30-49
18 50-64
1565 or older
100
D8a. Are you of Hispanic or Latino background, such as Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, or some other Spanish background?

D8b. Is your background mainly Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, or some other Hispanic or Latino nationality?

8 Total Hispanic/Latino background
4 Mexican
1 Puerto Rican

* Cuban

3 Other/Mixed (VOL.)
91 Not Hispanic/Latino
1 Don't know/Refused

D9. What is your race? Are you white, black, Asian, or some other race?

## 83 White

11 Black or African-American
1 Asian
3 Other/mixed race (VOL.)

* Don't know

2 Refused
100

D10. Last year, that is in 1996, what was your total family income from all sources, BEFORE taxes? Just stop me when I get to the right category.

9 Less than \$10,000
$12 \$ 10,000$ to under $\$ 20,000$
10 \$20,000 to under \$25,000
$10 \$ 25,000$ to under \$30,000
$15 \$ 30,000$ to under $\$ 40,000$
$9 \$ 40,000$ to under $\$ 50,000$
14 \$50,000 to under \$75,000
11 \$75,000 or more
4 Don't know
6 Refused
100

I have just a few more questions. Let me remind you that this a completely confidential interview and that there are no right answers...

D11. In general, how comfortable would you be, personally, working with someone who has HIV -- very comfortable, somewhat comfortable, somewhat uncomfortable, or very uncomfortable?

32 Very comfortable
33 Somewhat comfortable
21 Somewhat uncomfortable
12 Very uncomfortable
2 Don't know/Refused

D12. In general, how comfortable are you, personally, being around homosexuals -- very comfortable, somewhat comfortable, somewhat uncomfortable, or very uncomfortable?

| $\frac{\text { Current }}{}$ |  | $\frac{12 / 95}{31}$ |
| ---: | :--- | ---: |
| 30 | Very comfortable | 32 |
| 15 | Somewhat comfortable | 29 |
| 20 | Very uncomfortable | 15 |
| 2 | Never around homosexuals (VOL.) | 17 |
| $\underline{2}$ | Don't know/Refused | $\underline{2}$ |
| 100 |  | 100 |

D13. Have you, yourself, ever been tested for HIV, that is, the virus that causes AIDS? (IF YES, ASK: Was that in the last 12 months or not?

Current 12/95
16 Yes, tested within past 12 months 16
22 Yes, tested but prior to this year 21
60 No, never tested 61
$\underline{2}$ Don't know 2
100100
D14. The last time you were tested, did you discuss your test results with a doctor, other medical professional, or counselor?

## Based on those who have been tested for HIV.

50 Yes
50 No

* Don't know/Refused

100
( $\mathrm{n}=484$ )

D15. What is the main reason you haven't been tested for HIV? Is it that... (READ IN ORDER)

## Based on those who have never been tested for HIV.

2 You don't like needles or giving blood,
21 You're not sexually active,
61 You're married or in a monogamous relationship,
1 You're afraid you'll test positive for HIV, OR
6 Some other reason?
6 No need/No reason to suspect a problem (VOL.)
3 Don't know/Refused
100
( $\mathrm{n}=701$ )

D16. As you may know, HIV tests are now being developed that would not require using a needle or taking blood. For example, one new test for HIV would place a sponge inside your mouth for just a few minutes. How likely would you be to use an HIV test that does not require using a needle or taking blood? (READ)

35 Very likely
20 Somewhat likely
8 Somewhat UNlikely, OR
32 Very UNlikely?
3 Don't know
2 Refused
100

D17. GENDER
48 Male
52 Female

That completes the interview. Thank you very much for your time and cooperation. Have a nice day/evening.

## REGION

20 Northeast
24 Midwest
35 South
21 West
100

## COMMUNITY TYPE

28 Urban
49 Suburban
23 Rural
100

# PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE AND ATTITUDES ABOUT HIV/AIDS OMNIBUS QUESTIONS 

# PRINCETON SURVEY RESEARCH ASSOCIATES for KAISER FAMILY FOUNDATION 

OMNIBUS TOPLINES

November 24, 1997


#### Abstract

Methodology

The 1997 Kaiser Family Foundation Omnibus Survey was designed by staff of the Kaiser Family Foundation and conducted for the Foundation by Princeton Survey Research Associates. The survey was conducted by telephone with 1,009 adults (age 18 or older) nationwide between November 20-23,1997. The margin of sampling error is plus or minus 3 percentage points.

Select questions were asked of a random half of the respondents. These questions are identified by "Form 1" or "Form 2," indicating which half answered that particular question. There were 488 respondents in the "Form 1" group and 521 respondents in the "Form 2" group. The margin of error for this split sample is plus or minus 5 percentage points.


Now I have some questions about AIDS and HIV, the virus that causes AIDS...

1. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement -- the AIDS epidemic is over? (Is that completely or somewhat agree/disagree?)

1 Completely agree
1 Somewhat agree
10 Somewhat disagree
88 Completely disagree

* Don't know

100
2. Do you favor or oppose needle exchange programs, which offer clean needles to IV drug users in exchange for used needles, to help stop the spread of HIV?

## Based on form 1 respondents

|  |  | $\underline{\text { Sept/Oct } 97}$ |  |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| $\underline{12 / 95}^{1}$ |  |  |  |
| 34 | Favor needle exchange programs | 58 | 66 |
| $\underline{60}$ | Oppose needle exchange programs | 38 |  |
| $\underline{100}$ | Don't know | $\underline{4}$ |  |
|  |  | 100 | $\underline{4}$ |
|  |  | 100 |  |

3. Some people favor offering clean needles to IV drug users in exchange for used needles because it helps to reduce the spread of HIV. Others oppose needle exchange programs because they feel these programs send the message that it's okay to use illegal drugs. Which one comes closer to your view?

## Based on form 2 respondents

## Sept/Oct 97'

48 Favor needle exchange programs because it helps reduce spread of HIV
46 Oppose because programs send the wrong message 53
6 Don't know 4
100 100
4. Several different government agencies and independent scientific organizations, including the National Academy of Sciences, have concluded that needle exchange programs are effective at reducing HIV infections among IV drug users without increasing their drug use. Knowing this, would you now favor or oppose needle exchange programs? (Asked only of those who oppose needle exchange programs in Q.2/3; results shown below are based on total.)

| Form 1 (Asked Q.2) | $\begin{gathered} \text { Form 2 } \\ \text { (Asked Q.3) } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 73 | 60 | Total favor needle exchange programs |
| 64 | 48 | Favor initially in Q.2/3 |
| 9 | 12 | Switched to favor in Q. 4 |
| 20 | 32 | Still oppose after hearing Q. 4 |
| 7 | 8 | Don't know |
| 100 | 100 |  |

[^8]5. Currently, the federal government provides states and local governments with funding for a number of HIV prevention activities. However, these funds may not be used to support needle exchange programs. Which comes closer to your view (READ AND ROTATE OPTIONS):

34 A- The law should stay as it is, and federal funds SHOULD NOT be used for needle exchange programs

OR
61 B- The law should be changed, and state and local governments should decide for themselves whether to use their federal funds for needle exchange programs

5 Don't know
100
6. Do you think high schools should just provide teenagers with information about AIDS and how it is spread, OR do you think high schools should go further and make condoms available to those teenagers who want them?

|  |  | Parents with <br> children 18 or <br> younger | $\underline{12 / 95}$ |
| ---: | :--- | :---: | :--- |
| 52 | Just provide information about AIDS | 50 | 49 |
| 44 | Make condoms available | 47 | 46 |
| 2 | It depends (VOL.) | 2 | 0 |
| 1 | Don't want AIDS education in schools (VOL.) | 7 | 1 |
| $\frac{1}{100}$ | Don't know | $\underline{1}$ | $\underline{4}$ |


[^0]:    ${ }^{1} 1990$ trend for Q. 1 from the Los Angeles Times Poll.
    2 "na" indicates that a code for this specific category was not created on the earlier survey.
    ${ }^{3}$ An asterisk indicates a value of less than $1 \%$.

[^1]:    4 Times Mirror Poll, 1994

[^2]:    51991 trend for Q. 7 from the Roper Organization.

[^3]:    ${ }^{6} 1992$ trends for items in Q. 18 from the National Center for Health Statistics.
    ${ }^{7}$ Trend item used variant wording: "A pregnant woman who has the AIDS virus can reduce the risk of her baby being born infected by taking certain drugs"

[^4]:    81991 trend for Q. 34 from the Gallup Poll.

[^5]:    ${ }^{9}$ Trend question used variantwording: "When story lines in movies and television deal with sevual relationships, do you think there ought to be more references to condom use as a way to prevent AIDS, or are there enough references already included?"

[^6]:    10 Trend question used variant wording: "Do you favor or oppose having clinics make clean needles available to IV drug users to help stop the spread of AIDS?"

[^7]:    ${ }^{11}$ In 1995, respondents were asked about a test (as described in the preceding question number 43) that was not yet available. Thus, their answers were about a hypothetical situation.

[^8]:    ${ }^{1}$ Trend question used variant wording: "Do you favor or oppose having clinics make clean needle available to IV drug users to help stop the spread of AIDS?"

