

HIV/AIDS In Santa Cruz County

A report summarizing HIV/AIDS local data and trends through 2001



Prepared by the Health Services Agency Public Health Division

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Santa Cruz County has had 531 residents, 3 of whom were children, that have been diagnosed with AIDS from November, 1983 to the end of December, 2001. Of the 531 persons with AIDS, 311, including 3 children, had died by the end of December 2001. The number of persons living with AIDS on December 31, 2001 was 220, the highest number of any end-of year-report.

AIDS, an advanced stage of HIV infection, is a reportable disease in California. HIV infection is not reportable at this time, but is reportable by a non-names-based methodology as of July 1, 2002.

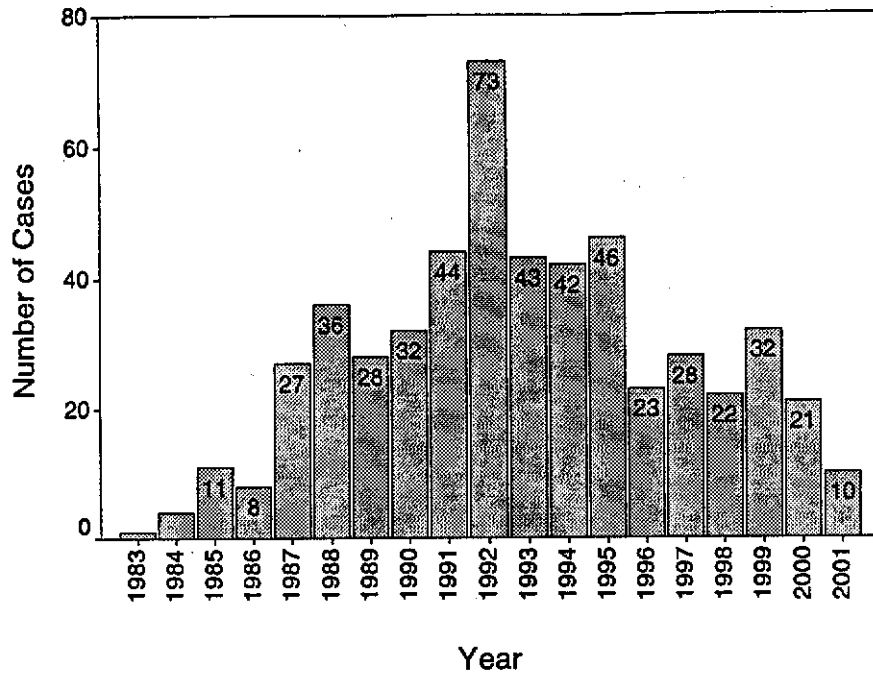
This report contains several tables, charts, and graphs meant to display information in the database kept by the Health Services Agency (HSA). The HSA distributes this report to HIV/AIDS service providers, stakeholders in policy and planning, other county health departments, the State Office of AIDS, the media and other interested parties.

The data in this report revises that in prior reports. Examples of data that are revised include statistics on those who were reported since the prior publication of this data, or excising data on those who were found, ultimately, to be accounted for in another jurisdiction's report. The AIDS reporting system is complex, and reports that are filed late or in a jurisdiction other than the county of official residence are eventually discovered and corrected.

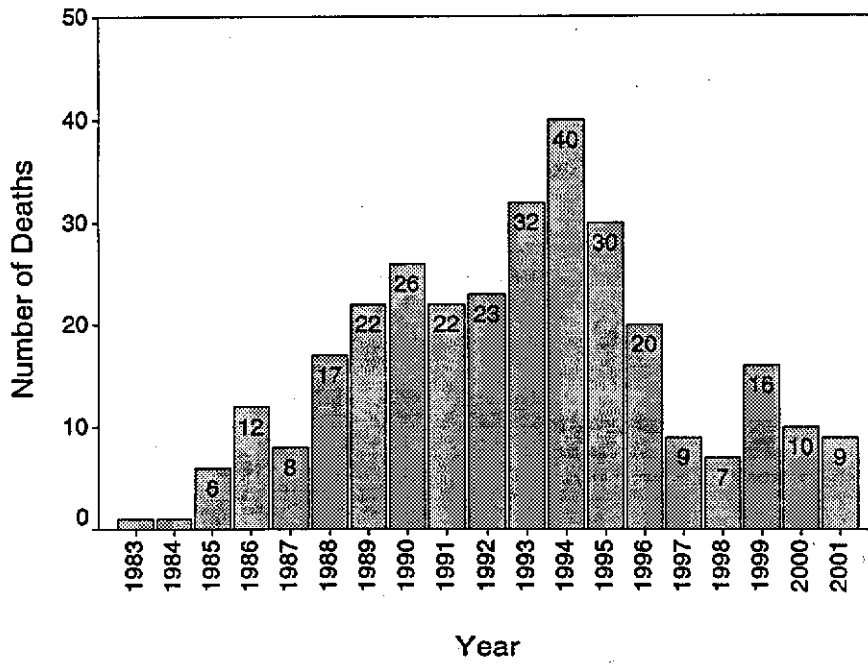
Key findings in this report are:

1. In the year 2001, AIDS was most commonly diagnosed among men, and most commonly transmitted sexually, with injection drug use being the second most common mode of transmission. Whites accounted for most new cases, with Latinos accounting for most of the remaining cases.
2. The findings for the year 2001 are consistent with those in most other years. To the extent that there are differences, they are mostly incremental rather than statistically significant.
3. Since 1992, when the number of cases peaked, the only statistically significant trends have been **downward** in males having sex with males (MSM), MSM/Injection drug users (MSM/IDU), coagulation blood product recipients, whites and males. Since 1997, of the 113 cases reported, males have accounted for about 88% of new cases, MSM have accounted for about 59% of the new cases and whites have accounted for about 65% of new cases.
4. Correlation studies show that there is a statistically significant positive relationship between the number of cases in males and females; i.e. as the number of cases in males increases, the number of cases in females increases.
5. Finally, it is possible to draw comparisons between the incidence rate (new cases per 100,000 persons) in Santa Cruz County vs. the State in the latest State data. The graph and table on P.3 charts these differences. In summary, the incidence in Santa Cruz County is well below that of the State.

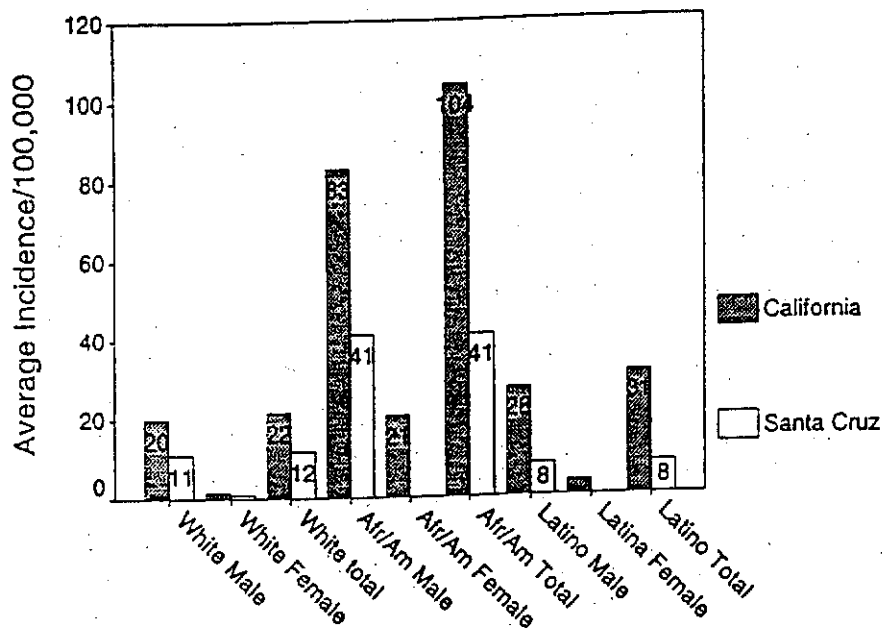
New Cases by Year



Deaths by Year



Average Incidence Rate/100,000--1998



Race/Ethnicity by Gender-Rate/100,000

Age Adjusted Incidence Rates/100,000—1998

		California Rate/100,000	Santa Cruz Rate/100,000
Race/Ethnicity by	White Male	20.09	10.97
Gender-Rate/100,000	White Female	1.65	.91
	White Total	21.74	11.88
	Afr/Am Male	83.38	41.20
	Afr/Am Female	20.83	.00
	Afr/Am Total	104.21	41.20
	Latino Male	27.53	8.12
	Latina Female	3.63	.00
	Latino Total	31.16	8.12

*It is possible to draw comparisons between the incidence rate (new cases per 100,000 persons) in Santa Cruz County vs. the State in the latest State data. The incidence rate in Santa Cruz County is well below that of the State.

The line and bar graph (p. 5), in the bar portion, displays the number of persons diagnosed with AIDS, year by year since 1983 when AIDS was first documented in Santa Cruz County. AIDS cases have been documented in every year, with the most cases counted in 1992, the year when the definition of AIDS was changed to define AIDS in persons with lower "T-cell" or CD-4 blood cell counts.

In the years since 1992, annual new cases have been slowly but not consistently declining. In 2001, the number of new cases was the lowest it has been in any year since 1986.

The line portion of the graph depicts the cumulative number of persons who were living with AIDS as of December 31st of each year since 1983. The slope of this curve has been typically upward, with the steepest portion seen in the early 1990s, and consistent gains each year for the past 15 years.

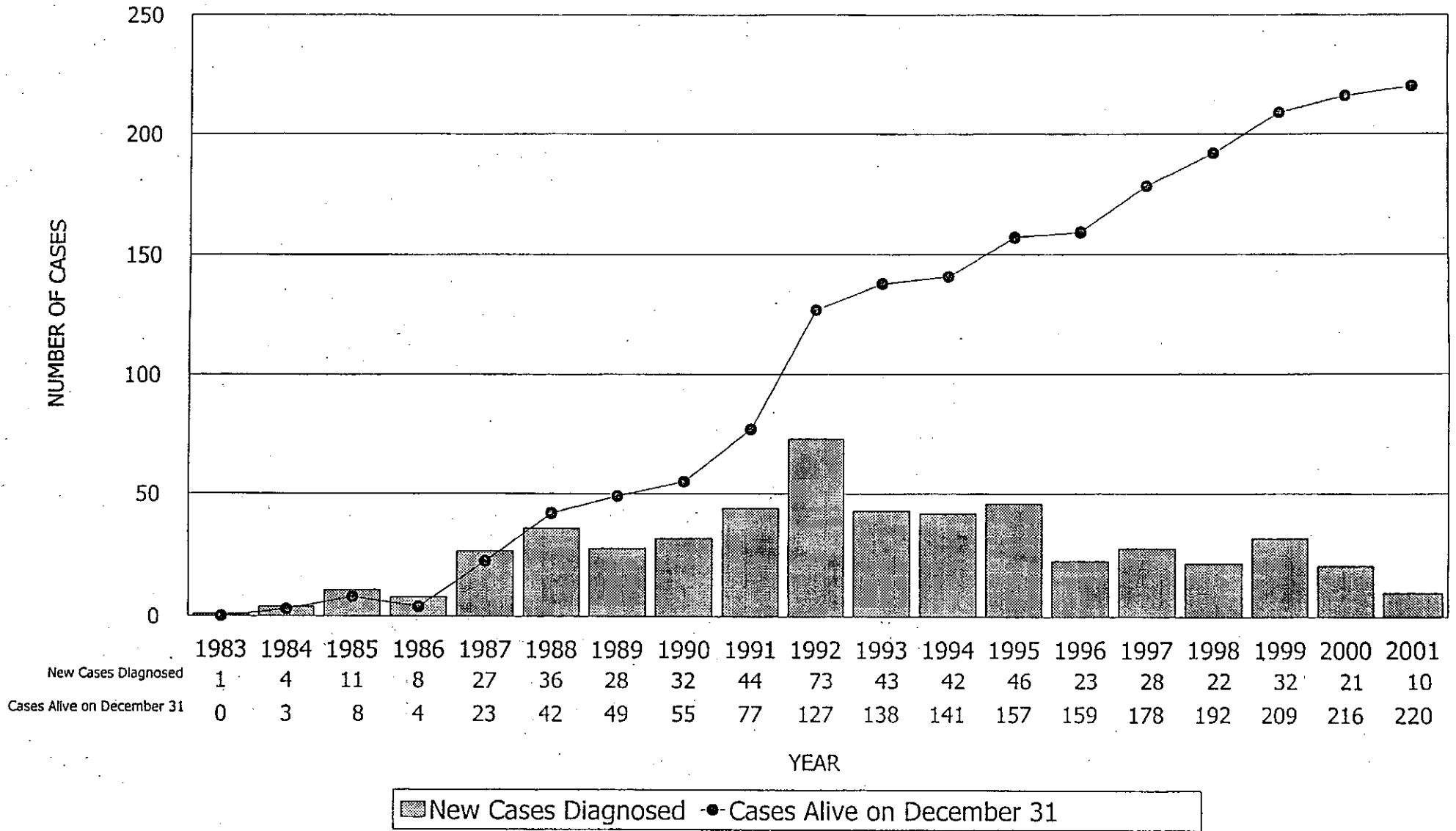
The 220 persons living with AIDS as of December 31, 2001 represent a historic high in this annual count. The number of persons living with AIDS is calculated by determining when new AIDS cases outnumber the number of persons who died of AIDS in the previous twelve months. This upward trend in cumulative cases is statistically significant.

When the numbers are totaled, it is seen that 531 persons have been diagnosed with AIDS. Of these, three were children whose mothers had AIDS. All three children died. One of these was diagnosed as a teenager and died while still a teenager. The remaining 528 persons were twenty years of age or older when they were diagnosed with AIDS, and of these, 220 were living on December 31, 2001.

Persons with HIV infection that has not progressed to AIDS are not included in this data. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates that up to one-third of persons with HIV infection are unaware of their infection (serostatus). The CDC also estimates that as many as 40,000 new HIV infections are occurring each year in the US. As many as 25 or more new infections may occur in Santa Cruz County each year.

By assuming that the Santa Cruz County rate of AIDS diagnoses and new HIV infections in the local AIDS data are proportionate to national data, it is possible to calculate the estimated number of persons in Santa Cruz County who are HIV infected (this includes the 220 persons living with AIDS) within a "plausible" range. That range is between 492 and 584 persons, with 540 as the statistical median of the range.

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY NEW AIDS CASES BY YEAR DIAGNOSED AND CASES ALIVE AT THE END OF YEAR 1983 - December 31, 2001



The following tables (p. 7) provide in-depth raw data about the patients who were diagnosed with AIDS in each year since 1983. The lower table shows the number who died in each of those years.

The raw data on gender demonstrate that men in each year have accounted for most of the new cases. In most years, men account for at least 85% of new cases and in no year have men accounted for less than 80%.

The raw data on mode of transmission demonstrate that in each year the infection is most linked to men who have sex with men (MSM). In all but two years, MSM accounted for at least half of all newly reported cases for a total of 363 cases. Injection drug users (IDU) who were not MSM amount to the next largest group, with 65 total cases. Persons who were both MSM and IDU accounted for 46 total cases. Transmission through heterosexual sex where both partners were not IDU amounted to 35 total cases. Of these, more than one third were reported since 1997. Persons exposed to HIV/AIDS through blood products or as a result of a clotting disorder accounted for 9 total cases with none since 1997. There were 13 persons whose means of exposure was unknown.

The data with regard to race/ethnicity indicates that 407 of those with AIDS were non-Latino Caucasians, or White. Non-Latino Caucasians are the largest race/ethnic group in Santa Cruz County, with about 67% of the general population and have accounted for 407 cases or about 77% of the total AIDS cases. Latinos comprise about 25% of the general population and have accounted for 83 or about 16% of the cases. African Americans comprise less than 2% of the general population and have accounted for 24 AIDS cases or about 4% of the total. Asian/Pacific Islanders account for about 4% of the population and had 7 AIDS cases or about 1% of the total. American Indian/Alaskan Natives make up about 2% of the population and had 8 cases or about 2% of the total. Two cases were uncategorized.

AIDS is often diagnosed years after infection with HIV. Eighty-seven persons, or 16% of AIDS cases were diagnosed in their twenties. Assuming an average ten-year latency or incubation period from the time of infection to diagnosis of AIDS, it would appear that 16% of the population was infected as teenagers. Two hundred fifty-one persons, nearly one half of all persons diagnosed with AIDS, were diagnosed in their thirties. Those in their forties, when diagnosed, numbered 135 or more than 25% of all cases reported. Persons diagnosed at 49 or older numbered 57 or about 11% of all cases. One case was diagnosed in the 13 - 19 age group.

Adult/Adolescent New AIDS Cases by Year, Gender, Mode of Transmission Category,
Race/Ethnicity and Age Category, Santa Cruz County, 1983-December 31st, 2001

Gender	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	TOTAL
Male	1	4	11	8	26	35	27	29	40	66	39	40	43	22	24	20	27	19	10	491
Female	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	3	4	7	4	2	3	1	4	2	5	2	0	40
TOTAL	1	4	11	8	27	36	28	32	44	73	43	42	46	23	28	22	32	21	10	531
Mode of Transmission																				
Men Who Have Sex With Men (MSM)	1	4	7	4	24	30	22	25	29	45	29	29	34	15	19	15	15	12	4	363
Injection Drug Users (IDU)	0	0	0	0	1	3	2	4	5	13	4	4	6	3	4	2	8	4	2	65
MSM/IDU	0	0	3	3	1	2	2	2	5	7	6	6	2	2	0	0	0	2	3	46
Heterosexual Exposure	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	3	6	3	2	1	3	2	4	5	3	0	35
Transfusion Recipient	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	5
Coagulation Disorder	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	4
Risk Not Reportable/Other	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	3	0	1	1	4	0	1	13
TOTAL	1	4	11	8	27	36	28	32	44	73	43	42	46	23	28	22	32	21	10	531
Race/Ethnicity																				
White	1	3	9	8	21	31	19	25	35	63	35	34	33	15	23	15	18	12	7	407
Latina/o	0	1	1	0	5	3	7	6	3	5	4	6	9	6	3	5	10	6	3	83
African American	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	3	5	2	0	1	1	0	2	3	2	0	24
Asian/Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	7
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	8
Other/Unknown						1												1	0	2
TOTAL	1	4	11	8	27	36	28	32	44	73	43	42	46	23	28	22	32	21	10	531
Age Category																				
13-19												1								1
20-29		2	1	2	6	8	4	3	1	16	8	4	9	5	8	4	3	2	1	87
30-39		2	6	2	8	24	12	17	25	33	18	25	19	11	8	9	13	14	5	251
40-49			4	3	11	4	7	9	15	14	15	8	11	6	7	6	10	3	2	135
Over 49	1			1	2		5	3	3	10	2	4	7	1	5	3	6	2	2	57
TOTAL	1	4	11	8	27	36	28	32	44	73	43	42	46	23	28	22	32	21	10	531
Number of Deaths																				
Number of Deaths	1	1	6	12	8	17	22	26	22	23	32	40	30	20	9	7	16	10	9	311

Deaths Occuring During the Calendar Year in
Santa Cruz County, 1983-December 31st, 2001

The table on the next page (p. 9) is a year-by-year review of where (by zip code) persons with AIDS resided within Santa Cruz County in the year in which they were diagnosed.

Persons with AIDS have lived in every part of the county, but the distribution has never been homogeneous. The largest concentration of persons with AIDS has been in and around the City of Santa Cruz (including Live Oak), comprising about 54 (48%) patients with AIDS diagnosis since 1983, and 66 (58%) persons diagnosed in the most recent five years (1997 – 2001).

The mid-county area of Capitola, Soquel and Aptos have accounted for about 20% of ever-diagnosed adolescent/adults, and 16 (14%) of those diagnosed since 1997.

The southern area of the county, defined as Freedom, Watsonville and Aromas, have about 15% of ever diagnosed adolescent/adults and 21 (19%) of those diagnosed since 1997.

The San Lorenzo Valley communities of Scotts Valley, Felton, Ben Lomond, Brookdale and the Summit area account for about 16% of ever diagnosed adolescent/adults and 8 (7%) of those diagnosed since 1997.

Three (1%) of persons in the period 1983 – 2001 had unknown zip codes and 2 (2%) had unknown zip codes in the past 5 years.

New AIDS Cases by Year and Zip Code at
Time of Diagnosis, Santa Cruz County, 1983-December 31, 2001

	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
95001					1	1		1											
95003				3	5	2		4	6	6	4	7	3	2	2	2	1	4	
95004									1										
95005				1		3	1		5	3	3	2	1						
95006		1			2	1		1	6	5	4	5	2	1					
95007						1		1			1						1		
95010			2			2	2	1	2	11	1			1	2			1	
95013			2		1	3		1	2	2	1	1	1		2	1	2	1	
95019		1							1	1	2		1						
95030						1		1	1										
95060		2	2	1	6	9	9	10	9	18	13	6	16	8	13	9	17	7	4
95061					2					1		2		1	1				
95062	1		1	1	4	6	4	6	7	11	9	5	10	3	4	3	3	3	1
95064							1												
95065				2	1					2		1							
95066			1			2	1			2	2	2	2			1			
95073					2	3	2	2	2	3	1	5	1	3	1		2		1
95076			3		3	2	8	4	4	8	2	5	9	4	3	5	4	5	4
UNKNOWN												1				1	1		
TOTALS	1	4	11	8	27	36	28	32	44	73	43	42	46	23	28	22	32	21	10

City of Santa Cruz		Mid-County		South County		San Lorenzo Valley	
Santa Cruz	95060, 95061, 95062, 95064, 95065	Capitola	95010	Freedom	95019	Scotts Valley	95066
		Soquel	95073	Watsonville	95076	Felton	95018
		Aptos	95003, 95001	Aromas	95004	Ben Lomond	95005
						Boulder Creek	95006
						Brookdale	95007
						Los Gatos/Summit	95030
48.2% of total cases		20.1% of total cases		15.1% of total cases		16.0% of total cases	

The two tables on the next page (p. 11) show the gender differences between persons with AIDS based on mode of transmission and race/ethnicity and based on mode of transmission and age categories. In each case the total is 531 persons ever diagnosed with AIDS, of whom 491 are males and 40 are females.

Of the 15 female IDU cases, 14 are White and 1 is Latina. Of the 23 heterosexually transmitted cases, 19 are White, 3 are Latino and 1 is of unknown race/ethnicity. IDU and heterosexually transmitted cases together account for 38 of the 40 female cases.

In the age bracket data, of the 15 female IDU cases, 6 are women in their twenties, 8 are women in their thirties and one woman is in her forties. Of those with heterosexually acquired AIDS, of the 23 diagnosed women, 9 are in their twenties, 6 are in their thirties and 4 each are in their forties or at least 50 years old.

Of the 407 Whites, 287 (71%) are MSM. Of the 83 Latinos, 58 (70%) are MSM.

Adult AIDS Cases by Ethnicity/Race, Mode of Transmission and Gender, Santa Cruz County, 1983-December 31, 2001

Ethnicity/Race	MSM		IDU		MSM/IDU		Het		Coag. Dis.		Transf.Recip.		*NIR		TOTAL
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
White	287	0	37	14	34	0	4	19	3	1	3	0	5	0	407
African American	11	0	7	0	3	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	24
Latina/o	58	0	6	1	3	0	3	3	0	0	1	1	7	0	83
Asian/Pacific Islander	5	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	7
American Indian/Alaska Native	2	0	1	0	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
Other Unknown	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
TOTAL	363	0	51	15	46	0	11	23	3	1	4	1	13	0	531

Adult AIDS Cases by Age Groups, Mode of Transmission and Gender, Santa Cruz County, 1983-December 31, 2001

Age Category	MSM		IDU		MSM/IDU		Het		Coag. Dis.		Transf.Recip.		*NIR		TOTAL
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
13-19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
20-29	50	0	5	6	9	0	3	9	1	0	1	0	3	0	87
30-39	174	0	25	8	29	0	3	6	1	0	0	0	5	0	251
40-49	102	0	13	1	8	0	2	4	0	1	1	0	3	0	135
Over 49	37	0	8	0	0	0	3	4	0	0	2	1	2	0	57
TOTAL	363	0	51	15	46	0	11	23	3	1	4	1	13	0	531

*NIR=No Identified Risk

The next table (p. 13) includes data on the adult cases reported for the inclusive period 1997 through 2001. This provides an opportunity to review the cases of persons living with AIDS. Fifty-four percent of those diagnosed between 1997 and 2001 were alive, compared with 41% of cases between 1983 - 2001.

There were 113 cases in this period, representing 113/531, or 21% of all adolescent/ adult AIDS cases ever reported. Of the 113 cases, 74 (65%) were among Whites; 30 (27%) were among Latinos; 5 (4%) were among African/Americans; and the other groups comprised 4 (4%).

There were 100 (88%) males and 13 (12%) females. Of the 100 males, 67 (67%) were MSM. Of the females, 9 (8%) were heterosexually acquired cases and 3 (3%) were IDU. Of the 21 (19%) IDU cases, 17 (15%) were persons in their 30s or 40s.

Those who were reported as "NIR" have no identified risk. This may mean that they are not "fitting" into any of the categories at this time.

**The 113 Most Recently Reported Adult AIDS Cases by Ethnicity/Race, Mode of Transmission and Gender
Within Age Groups, Santa Cruz County, January 1, 1997-December 31, 2001**

Age 20-29	MSM		IDU		MSM/IDU		Het		Coag. Dis.		Transf.Recip.		NIR		TOTAL
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
White	8				1		1	3							13
African American															0
Latina/o	4			1							1		1		7
Asian/Pacific Islander															0
American Indian/Alaska Native	1														1
Other Unknown															0
TOTAL	13	0	0	1	1	0	1	3	0	0	1	0	1	0	21

Age 30-39	MSM		IDU		MSM/IDU		Het		Coag. Dis.		Transf.Recip.		NIR		TOTAL
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
White	18		5	1	2			1					2		29
African American			1				1								2
Latina/o	9		2					2					2		15
Asian/Pacific Islander															0
American Indian/Alaska Native			1												1
Other Unknown															0
TOTAL	27	0	9	1	2	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	4	0	47

Age 40-49	MSM		IDU		MSM/IDU		Het		Coag. Dis.		Transf.Recip.		NIR		TOTAL
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
White	13		4	1	1					1					20
African American			2												2
Latina/o	2												2		4
Asian/Pacific Islander	1														1
American Indian/Alaska Native															0
Other Unknown															0
TOTAL	16	0	6	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	27

Age =>49	MSM		IDU		MSM/IDU		Het		Coag. Dis.		Transf.Recip.		NIR		TOTAL
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
White	9		1					2							12
African American			1												1
Latina/o	2		1				1								4
Asian/Pacific Islander															0
American Indian/Alaska Native															0
Other Unknown								1							1
TOTAL	11	0	3	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	18

GRAND TOTAL	67		21		4		12		1		1		7		113
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Each year the Health Services Agency offers anonymous testing for HIV infection to persons who provide demographic information, but who are not identifiable by name. The number of tests has varied, but has exceeded 2000 annually in most years. In 2001, there were 1463 such tests. It is possible for a person to be tested more than once; therefore the data on page 16 represents tests rather than individuals.

Anonymous test data provides an opportunity to identify persons who may not have AIDS but who do have HIV infection. Persons who test positive may not automatically be ruled out for an AIDS diagnosis. Thus, the 92 individuals who tested positive from 1992 onward may have already been counted as an AIDS case in the preceding pages of this report (i.e. through duplication) (table, p. 17).

The positive HIV testing data parallels the AIDS data in that MSM comprise the most infections followed by IDU. If the categories of "partner at risk/HIV+", "partner has multiple sex partners", "multiple sex partners", and "heterosexual partner" are added together, and we assume that all of these may be different ways to have heterosexual transmission, then heterosexual transmission is the third most common form of transmission in anonymously tested persons.

Males account for 85 of 92 positive tests. Whites account for 62% of positive tests and Latinos account for over 20% of positive tests.

Anonymous HIV Testing, Santa Cruz County 1992 - 2001

		Number Tested	Number Positive	Percent Positive
Year	1992	2537	11	.43
	1993	1804	12	.67
	1994	3485	23	.66
	1995	2109	6	.28
	1996	2359	4	.17
	1997	2227	7	.31
	1998	2001	9	.45
	1999	1498	8	.53
	2000	1299	8	.62
	2001	1463	4	.27
	Total	20782	92	.44

The next table (p. 17) shows two datasets. These are summaries of datasets in preceding pages: 92 persons who tested positive for HIV at anonymous testing clinics between 1992 and 2001; and 113 persons who became AIDS cases between 1997 and 2001.

Looking at gender, race/ethnicity and mode of transmission data from these groups affords an opportunity to compare and contrast AIDS case data for persons with HIV infection but not an AIDS-defining condition.

The AIDS case data (the dataset with 113 persons) shows a marked statistical similarity to the other datasets on the issue of gender with males predominating.

For race/ethnic data, there is similarity as well. The majority of cases were in Whites followed by Latinos and African Americans.

For mode of transmission, the AIDS case data again has some, albeit small, departures from other datasets. AIDS and HIV transmitted through MSM sex is the predominant mode of transmission. HIV infection through injection drug use follows, with heterosexually transmitted infection close behind.

Differences are small, and with the small size of the datasets, there are relatively small numbers in some cells making definitive analysis impossible.

*Gender percentages total less than 100% because they do not include transgendered identified persons.

A Comparison of Data Sets: Persons Testing Seropositive at Anonymous Testing Sites and Persons Recently Diagnosed with AIDS, Santa Cruz County, 1992 - December 31, 2001

Anonymous Testing by Race

		Anonymous Testing-Percent Positive. 1992-2001 N=92	AIDS Diagnosed-Percent Positive. 1997-2001 N=113
Race/Ethnicity	White	71%	65%
	Latino/a	19%	24%
	African American	5%	6%
	Asian/Pac.Is.	1%	1%
	Native American	2%	2%
	Other	2%	2%

Anonymous Testing by Gender

		Anonymous Testing-Percent Positive. 1992-2001 N=92	AIDS Diagnosed-Percent Positive. 1997-2001 N=113
Gender	Female	6%	11%
	Male	92%	89%

Anonymous Testing by Type of Risk

		Anonymous Testing-Percent Positive. 1992-2001 N=92	AIDS Diagnosed-Percent Positive. 1997-2001 N=113
Mode of Transmission	MSM	53%	58%
	IDU	15%	18%
	MSM/IDU	13%	4%
	Hetero	14%	13%
	Other	5%	7%

The top line graph (p. 19) on the next page is a depiction of the trend over time for the four most commonly reported modes of HIV transmission. The time line begins in 1983 when 1 case was reported and continues through 2001, when 531 cases had been reported.

The line for MSM demonstrates that sex between men has, since the inception, been the primary mode of transmission, but that its peak cumulatively counted, occurred in the late 80s to early 90s, when MSM transmissions accounted for 80% of all modes combined. By 2000, the share of cumulative MSM cases was below 70%.

Cases among IDU and heterosexuals have accounted for increasing shares of the cumulative cases in a slow but steady gain over time.

Cases among MSM/IDU were at a peak in 1986. By the year 2000, these cases had dropped to their lowest level, at about 10% of cumulative cases.

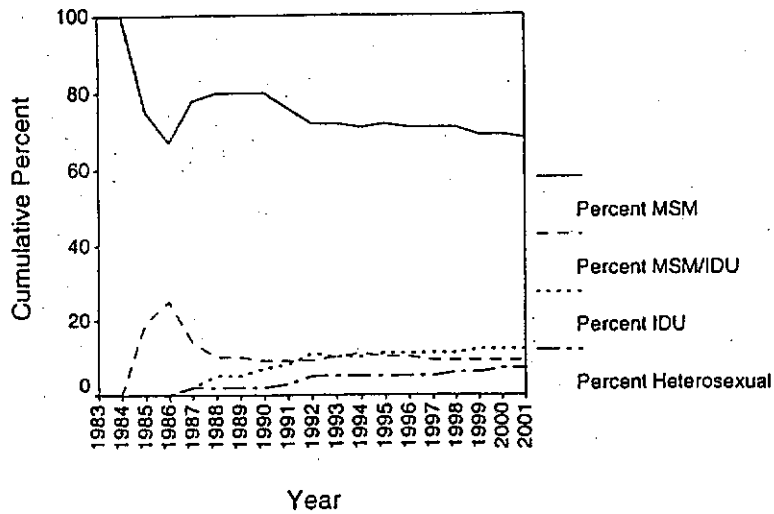
On the middle and lower charts are line graphs of cumulative race/ethnic trends and cumulative age trends respectively.

The cumulative line graph of race/ethnic trends shows that Whites in the period 1983 – 1986 were accounting for between 88 and 100% of all race/ethnicities combined. By 2001, their share was about 80%. Cumulative cases among Latinos went from about 8% to 16 % in 2001. Cumulative cases among African/Americans have remained at about 4% steadily since 1986.

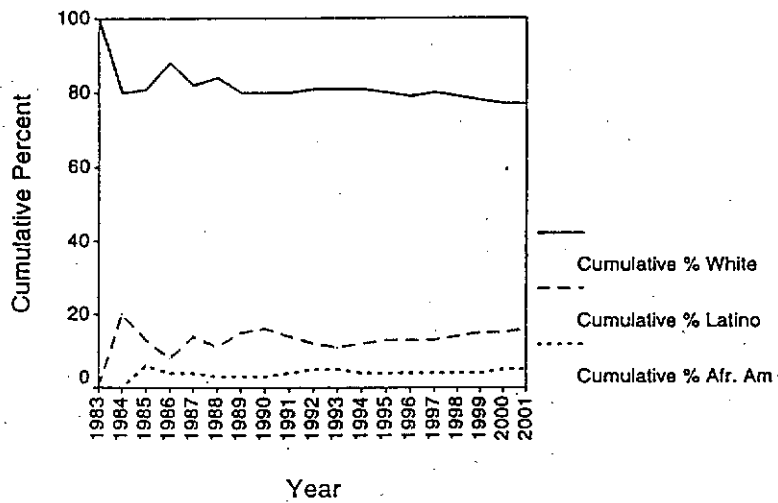
The Cumulative line graph for age groups demonstrates that persons in their thirties have held a rather steady 50% share of all cases since 1988. There has not been a statistically significant trend, over time, in any of the age groups.

Cumulative Percentages of the 4 Most

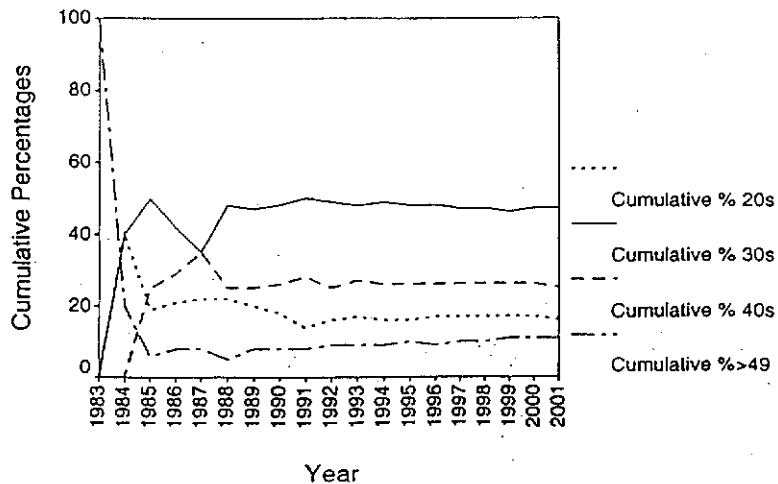
Reported HIV Exposure Categories



Cumulative Percentages of the 3 Most Reported Race/Ethnicities with HIV/AIDS



Cumulative Percent of the 4 Most Common Age Groups



Estimate of Local HIV Morbidity

HIV infection is not currently reportable, and various methods have been developed to estimate the number of seropositives. Seropositives include not only those who have HIV and know it (this includes persons with AIDS who know it), but also persons who are infected and do not know.

There are, by estimate of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, approximately 40,000 new HIV infections per year in the US. Given that Santa Cruz County has approximately 0.08% of the national population, then, perhaps 32 ($40,000 \times 0.0008$) new infections occur annually in Santa Cruz County. Santa Cruz County has a slightly lower rate for AIDS than the national rate, so this methodology may result in an overestimate and the actual number may be closer to 25. It is possible only to make estimates, not give hard figures.

It is clear that there are fewer persons dying of AIDS in Santa Cruz County than becoming newly infected with HIV as the deaths have been fewer than 20 since 1997.

As to the total number of persons with HIV in Santa Cruz County, including those who do not know their serostatus, the number is the sum of (a) persons living with AIDS, who number 220, and (b) those with HIV but not AIDS, a number which can only be estimated.

The Health Services Agency estimates that there are between 300 and 350 persons who have HIV but not AIDS, making the estimated total number of seropositives between 516 and 566 persons.