

**VENTURA COUNTY
PUBLIC HEALTH**

**AIDS SURVEILLANCE
FINAL REPORT**

JANUARY 1998 - DECEMBER 1998

PREPARED BY
VENTURA COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH
THE HIV/AIDS CENTER
OFFICE OF HIV/AIDS SURVEILLANCE

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CURRENT AIDS STATISTICS			
	VENTURA	CALIFORNIA	UNITED STATES
ADULT CASES	729	109,548	633,000
ADULT DEATHS	456	68,105	385,968
PEDIATRIC CASES	3	572	8,086
PEDIATRIC DEATHS	2	360	4,724
TOTALS	732	110,120	641,086
DEATHS	458	68,465	390,692

- Cumulative data, numbers may change due to delays in reporting.
- Based on reported AIDS cases to Ventura County Public Health, there are approximately 355 persons *known* to be living with AIDS in Ventura County.

This final HIV/AIDS Surveillance Report will discuss the reported cases of AIDS to the Ventura County Public Health Department from January 1998 to December 1998. A comparison will be made with the 1997 to identify any trends. Ventura County Public Health has been conducting active AIDS surveillance since 1987.

SUMMARY POINTS FOR JANUARY 1998 THROUGH DECEMBER 1998 :

- The total number of cases reported in 1998 was 48.
- Fourteen deaths were recorded in 1998, which is a significant decrease from 1997 where twenty three deaths were reported.
- Eighty nine percent of the AIDS cases were male, eleven percent were female.
- There was one pediatric case.
- The race was primarily white, with a significant decrease in the number of Hispanics diagnosed with AIDS as compared to 1997.
- The greatest number of cases came from the 30-39 and 40-49 year old categories.
- The main route of exposure was men having sex with men followed by cases in which there was no identifiable risk.
- The diagnosis of AIDS was determined primarily by a low CD4 count, however, there was a slight increase in the diagnosis of AIDS by other opportunistic infections/ PCP.
- There were eleven new non-resident cases.

VENTURA COUNTY AIDS CASES		
	1997	1998
#CASES REPORTED	44	48
#DEATHS	23	14
MALES	37 (84%)	43 (89%)
FEMALES	7 (16%)	4 (11%)

The total number of deaths reflect a 40% decrease from 1997, which may be indicative of the triple drug therapy regimens which began 2-3 years ago. However, the total number of AIDS cases being reported has not changed. There are only slight variations in the number of males and females being reported in 1997 and 1998, approximately 5%.

- Sixty percent of the patients diagnosed in Ventura County were diagnosed with HIV and AIDS at the same time, as compared to being diagnosed HIV positive and years later AIDS.

RACE		
	1997	1998
WHITE	21 (48%)	25 (53%)
HISPANIC	21 (48%)	13 (28%)
BLACK	2 (5%)	7 (15%)

In recent years we have seen a greater number of cases in the Hispanic community, specifically in 1997 where it equaled the number of whites reported. In 1998, there was a 29% decrease in Hispanics being reported. Interestingly, there was a three fold increase in the black population. A closer look at the black cases reveal, six males and one female, age range 35-59, and all but one was diagnosed by CD4 count. The means of HIV transmission were varied.

AGE		
	1997	1998
<19 YEARS	0	1 (2%)
20-29	9 (20%)	9 (19%)
30-39	20 (45%)	20 (42%)
40-49	10 (23%)	15 (31%)
>49	5 (11%)	3 (6%)

The age categories are similar in 1997 and 1998. Ventura County has consistently had the majority of reported cases in the 30-39 and 40-49 year age groups.

EXPOSURE CATEGORY		
	1997	1998
MEN SEX WITH MEN	26 (70%)	25 (53%)
IDU	2 (5%)	2 (4%)
HETEROSEXUAL	5 (11%)	5 (11%)
NO RISK ID	3 (7%)	8 (17%)

The exposure categories have basically remained the same. The only significant increase is in the “No identifiable risk” category. The Center for Disease Control (CDC) does not recognize “heterosexual transmission” without an identified HIV positive partner. Therefore these cases are considered “No identifiable risk” until an investigation is completed.

DISEASE CATEGORY		
	1997	1998
PCP	6 (14%)	9 (19%)
KS	1 (2%)	3 (6%)
CD4	28 (64%)	22 (47%)
OTHER OI'S (NO PCP)	9 (20%)	13 (28%)

As has been the case in previous years, the majority of AIDS cases have been diagnosed by CD4 count. There has been a slight increase in the number of cases diagnosed by “other opportunistic infections”, PCP and KS.

NON-RESIDENT AIDS CASES (cumulative)	
ADULT CASES	199
ADULT DEATHS	120
PEDIATRIC CASES	1
PEDIATRIC DEATHS	0
TOTAL CASES	200
TOTAL DEATHS	120

Non-residents are diagnosed cases of AIDS credited to another county or state but reside in Ventura County. These cases are counted at the time they are reported to the Health Department, not when they were diagnosed.

- There were 11 new Non-Resident cases in 1998 compared to 22 non-resident cases reported in 1997.
- One case of pediatric AIDS was reported in Ventura County this year. We are aware of approximately 9-10 children living in Ventura County with HIV.

FACILITY OF DIAGNOSIS		
	1997	1998
VCMC	55%	50%
PRIMARY MD	16%	18%
LOS ANGELES FACILITY	14%	14%
PRIVATE HOSPITAL IN VENTURA COUNTY	11%	10%
OTHER	2%	4%