

San Diego County Health Statistics: HIV/AIDS

HIV reporting and to answer your questions. To schedule an onsite orientation, please call 619/515.6675.

It will take a minimum of two years for accurate numbers of those infected with HIV to be counted in the system. Therefore, the public health department needs the help of the community healthcare providers treating individuals at high-risk for HIV/AIDS and those who are already diagnosed with HIV/AIDS to get accurate numbers in order to receive appropriate funding. Only tests performed after April 17, 2006, can be counted under this new regulation. It is important for providers to advise high-risk individuals to obtain an HIV test. This can be done at either a facility recommended by the provider

or at a county HIV testing center. Also, it is important for providers who administer primary medical care to those with HIV/AIDS to order a viral load test. Clients will not be counted unless testing positive after April 17, 2006, or having a viral load test done after that date. National HIV Testing Day (June 27) would be a good time for all healthcare providers to remind their patients at high risk to have an HIV test.

County HIV counseling and testing is available at the Health Services Complex at 3851 Rosecrans Street, Central Region Public Health Center, San Diego Lesbian Gay Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) Community Center Health Services 619/260.6380, and Mobile Testing Unit at various locations throughout San Diego County (please call 619/296.2120 for locations and times).

Another County of San Diego service for which providers should be aware to mention to patients is the Partner Notification Program. San Diego is a part of the collaborative with the State of California Disclosure Assistance and Partner Services (CDAPS). If a patient would like to have counseling on how to tell a partner that she/he has tested positive for HIV, the County can help. Please call 619/296.2120 and ask for a CDAPS referral. SDP

References:

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. HIV/AIDS Surveillance Report, 2004 Vol. 16. Atlanta: U. S. Dept. of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; 2005; pages 6-8.
- California State Senate Bill 699, April 17, 2006.

■ In San Diego County, the mode of transmission for AIDS cases differs from the Nation: 47% of cumulative adult and adolescent AIDS cases in the United States are due to male-to-male sexual contact, while 74% of AIDS cases in San Diego are in that category (cumulative through 2004 for the United States; cumulative through 2005 for San Diego) (1).

■ The rate of HIV infection among men testing only at the County of San Diego Anonymous HIV Counseling and Testing Services sites increased from 1.6% in 2000 to 3.0% in 2005 (2).

June 27, 2006, is National HIV Testing Day. For more information about National HIV Testing Day, please visit NAPWA.org.

To request additional health statistics describing health behaviors, diseases and injuries for specific populations, health trends and comparisons to national targets, please call the County's Community Health Statistics Unit at 619/285.6479. To access the latest data and data links, including the 2004 Core Public Health Indicator document and Community Regional Profiles, go to SDHealthStatistics.com.

References:

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, HIV/AIDS Surveillance Report, 2004. Vol. 16. Atlanta: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; 2005: p 12. County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency, Community Epidemiology.
- County of San Diego HIV Counseling and Testing Data. State of California, Department of Health Services, Office of AIDS.

② ① ① San Diego

With all the ways people can connect these days — home phones, cell phones, online — now there's a single phone number to help people connect with community resources quickly and easily: 2-1-1. This comprehensive service offers free, around-the-clock access to health, community and disaster services in San Diego County.

When dialing 2-1-1, callers are linked to a highly trained phone specialist who can answer questions about a variety of services and agencies: where to find child care, employment assistance, food and shelter, protective services and legal aid, counseling, parenting classes, substance abuse, and employment or volunteer opportunities, for example. Information is confidential and offered in more than 150 languages with the help of a language service. Callers can also receive assistance accessing

healthcare, non-urgent medical support for seniors and the disabled.

In times of disaster, San Diego's 2-1-1 will be mobilized within the County's emergency operations system as a central communications link, providing information about evacuation routes, shelters, road closures, and the status of the disaster.

San Diego County residents with T-Mobile USA, Cingular, and Sprint Nextel wireless services can now dial 2-1-1 from their cell phones. In the meantime, cell phone users who need to access information but do not have these wireless services can dial (858) 300-1211. Additionally, 2-1-1 dialing may not yet be available from workplaces that have central switchboards. For questions about reprogramming your office phone system to accept 2-1-1 calls, please visit the 2-1-1 website at www.211sandiego.org. SDP

3 Ways to Connect

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① Phone:

Dial 2-1-1. Bilingual information and referral specialists provide personalized information about community resources.

② Print:

2-1-1 San Diego's publications include specialized directories, resource brochures, and the comprehensive guide to health and human services, Directions.

③ Online:

2-1-1 San Diego's online database of nearly 3,000 services enables anyone with internet access to find community resources and search by program or location at www.211sandiego.org or www.informsandiego.org.