

AIDS Knowledge and Attitudes for May and June 1988

Provisional Data From the National Health Interview Survey

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Introduction

The National Center for Health Statistics has included a special set of supplemental questions on the adult population's knowledge and attitudes about acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) in the National Health Interview Survey (NHIS). The first AIDS Knowledge and Attitudes Survey was in the field from August through December 1987. Provisional results of that survey were published on a monthly basis in *Advance Data for Vital and Health Statistics* (Nos. 146, 148, 150, 151, and 153). During the first four months of 1988, the NHIS AIDS questionnaire was revised to meet current program needs for information about AIDS awareness. The revised AIDS Knowledge and Awareness Survey entered the field in May 1988. This report presents provisional findings for May and June, the first two months of data collection with the new questionnaire.

The *Advance Data* reports describing the NHIS AIDS data have been restricted to simple descriptive statistics to facilitate their timely release. Thus, these reports do not attempt to explain or interpret differences among population subgroups in AIDS knowledge or to examine relationships among various measures of knowledge, attitudes, and perceived risk. The 1987 and 1988 NHIS AIDS data bases will permit more complex analyses than those presented in this series of *Advance Data* reports, and such analyses are being undertaken by various groups in the Public Health Service.

The AIDS questionnaires were designed to provide estimates of public knowledge and attitudes about AIDS transmission and prevention of AIDS virus infection. The data were needed as input for the planning and development of AIDS educational campaigns and for monitoring

major educational efforts, e.g., the series of radio and television public service announcements entitled "America Responds to AIDS" and the brochure "Understanding AIDS," both developed by the Centers for Disease Control.

The 1987 and 1988 AIDS questionnaires were developed by the National Center for Health Statistics and interagency working groups established by the Information, Education and Risk Factor Reduction Subcommittee of the Public Health Service Executive Task Force on AIDS. The working groups included representatives from the Centers for Disease Control; the National Institutes of Health; the Alcohol, Drug Abuse and Mental Health Administration; and the Health Resources and Services Administration.

The current AIDS questionnaire includes items on sources of AIDS information; self-assessed level of AIDS knowledge; basic facts about the AIDS virus and how it is transmitted; blood donation experience; awareness of and experience with the blood test for the AIDS virus; perceived effectiveness of selected preventive measures; self-assessed chances of getting the AIDS virus; personal acquaintance with persons with AIDS or the AIDS virus; and willingness to take part in a proposed national seroprevalence survey. A general risk behavior question, similar to that asked by the Red Cross of potential blood donors, is included in the 1988 AIDS questionnaire.

This report presents provisional data for May and June 1988 for most items included in the AIDS questionnaire, including questions designed to monitor the household mailing of the AIDS information brochure, coordinated by the Centers for Disease Control. Tables 1 and 2, for May and June respectively, display percent distributions of persons 18 years of age and over by response categories according to age, sex, race, and education. In most cases, the actual question asked of the respondent is reproduced

verbatim in tables 1 and 2, along with the coded response categories. In a few cases, questions or response categories have been rephrased or combined for clearer or more concise presentation of results. Refusals and other nonresponse categories are excluded from the denominator in the calculation of estimates, but responses of "don't know" are included.

This report contains few comparisons with data from the 1987 NHIS AIDS survey, and those comparisons that are included must be interpreted with caution. The wording of some questions was changed slightly, and the context in which the questions are asked was modified by the addition of a number of new questions. In addition, the order in which response categories to certain questions were read to respondents was changed between 1987 and 1988 (see technical notes). Thus, differences observed between 1987 and 1988 results may reflect these questionnaire changes as well as actual changes in AIDS knowledge and attitudes.

Selected findings

The following highlights describe various aspects of AIDS knowledge and attitudes as observed in the May and June 1988 data from the NHIS AIDS survey. Unless otherwise noted, all differences cited in the text are statistically significant (see tables II and III for approximate standard errors of estimates).

Sources of AIDS information—In June 1988, 86 percent of all adults in the United States reported having seen public service announcements about AIDS on television, up from 84 percent in May. In both May and June, 49 percent stated that they had heard AIDS public service announcements on the radio. The proportion of persons who reported having seen or heard such announcements decreased with age and was higher for persons with 12 or more years of school than for those with less than 12 years of school. In June, 24 percent of all adults stated that the announcements they had heard on television and the radio were part of the "America Responds to AIDS" series.

One-fourth (25 percent) of U.S. adults reportedly read brochures or pamphlets about AIDS in the month preceding the May NHIS interview. In June, this proportion increased to more than one-half (52 percent). During the month of June 1988, the Centers for Disease Control mailed a brochure entitled "Understanding AIDS" to all households in the United States. The sharp increase in the percent of adults who had read AIDS brochures in the preceding month probably reflects the results of this mailing.

In June, the proportion of adults who had read AIDS brochures in the month preceding the NHIS interview was higher for persons with more than 12 years of school (62 percent) than for those with less than 12 years (39 percent) and was higher for white than black adults (53 compared to 48 percent). Adults age 50 years or over were less likely than younger adults to have read AIDS brochures or pamphlets in the preceding month. In June, 64 percent

of adults reported ever having read pamphlets or brochures about AIDS, compared to 43 percent in May.

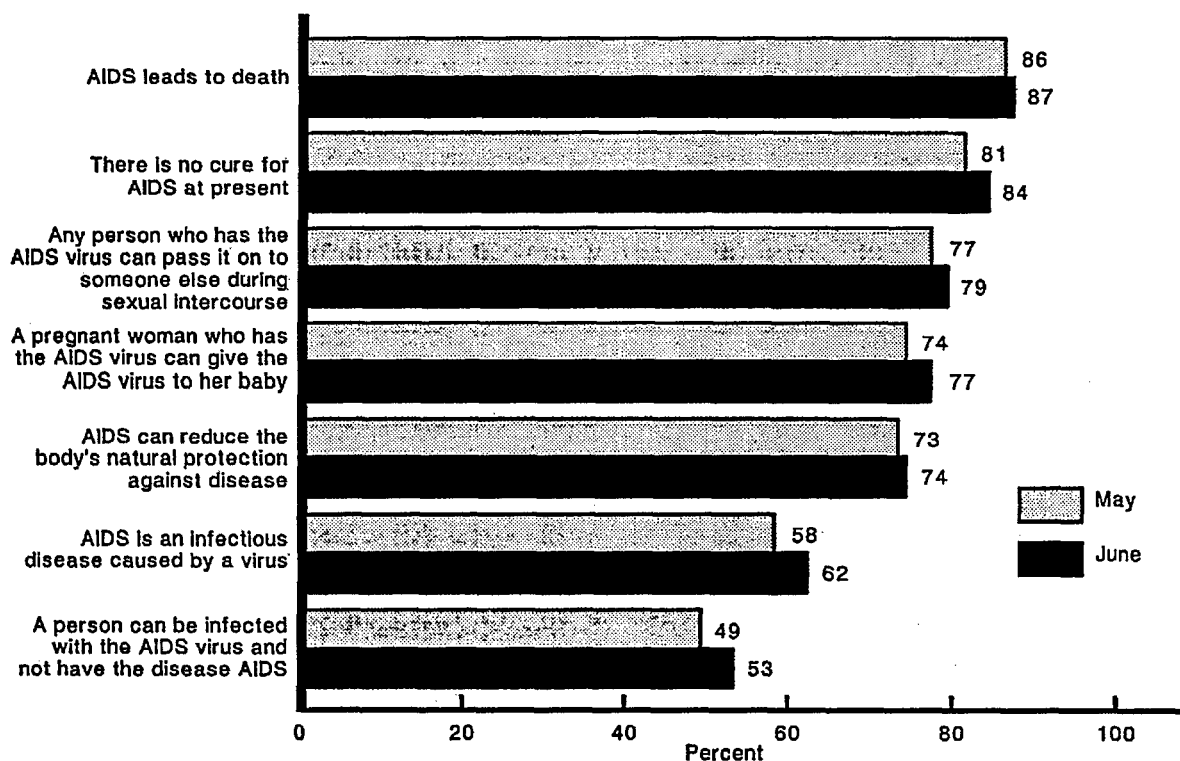
By the time they were interviewed in June, 63 percent of all adults reported that they had received the brochure "Understanding AIDS." Of those who had received it, approximately one-half had read all or almost all of the brochure, one-fourth had read half or less, and one-fourth had not read any of the brochure. Approximately one-half of the adults who stated that they had read at least some of the brochure claimed to have read it carefully, with the remainder having just skimmed through it. About one-third felt that the brochure had given them new information or answered questions that they had about AIDS.

Self-assessed knowledge—As of June 1988, 24 percent of adults stated that they knew a lot about AIDS, 43 percent said they knew some, 25 percent felt they knew a little, and 8 percent claimed to know nothing about AIDS.

General knowledge—General knowledge about AIDS and the AIDS virus increased slightly between May and June 1988, possibly reflecting the effect of the CDC household mailing. As shown in figure 1, the proportion of adults who thought it definitely true that there is no cure for AIDS at present increased from 81 percent in May to 84 percent in June. There were increases of similar magnitude in the proportions of adults stating that it is definitely true that any person who has the AIDS virus can pass it on to someone else during sexual intercourse (from 77 to 79 percent), that a pregnant woman can transmit the AIDS virus to her baby (from 74 to 77 percent), that AIDS is an infectious disease caused by a virus (from 58 to 62 percent), and that a person can be infected with the AIDS virus and not have the disease AIDS (from 49 to 53 percent). In response to two new questions in the 1988 AIDS questionnaire, 47 percent of adults stated that it is definitely true that a person who has AIDS can look and feel well and healthy (up from 43 percent in May), and 91 percent realized that it is definitely false that teenagers cannot get AIDS.

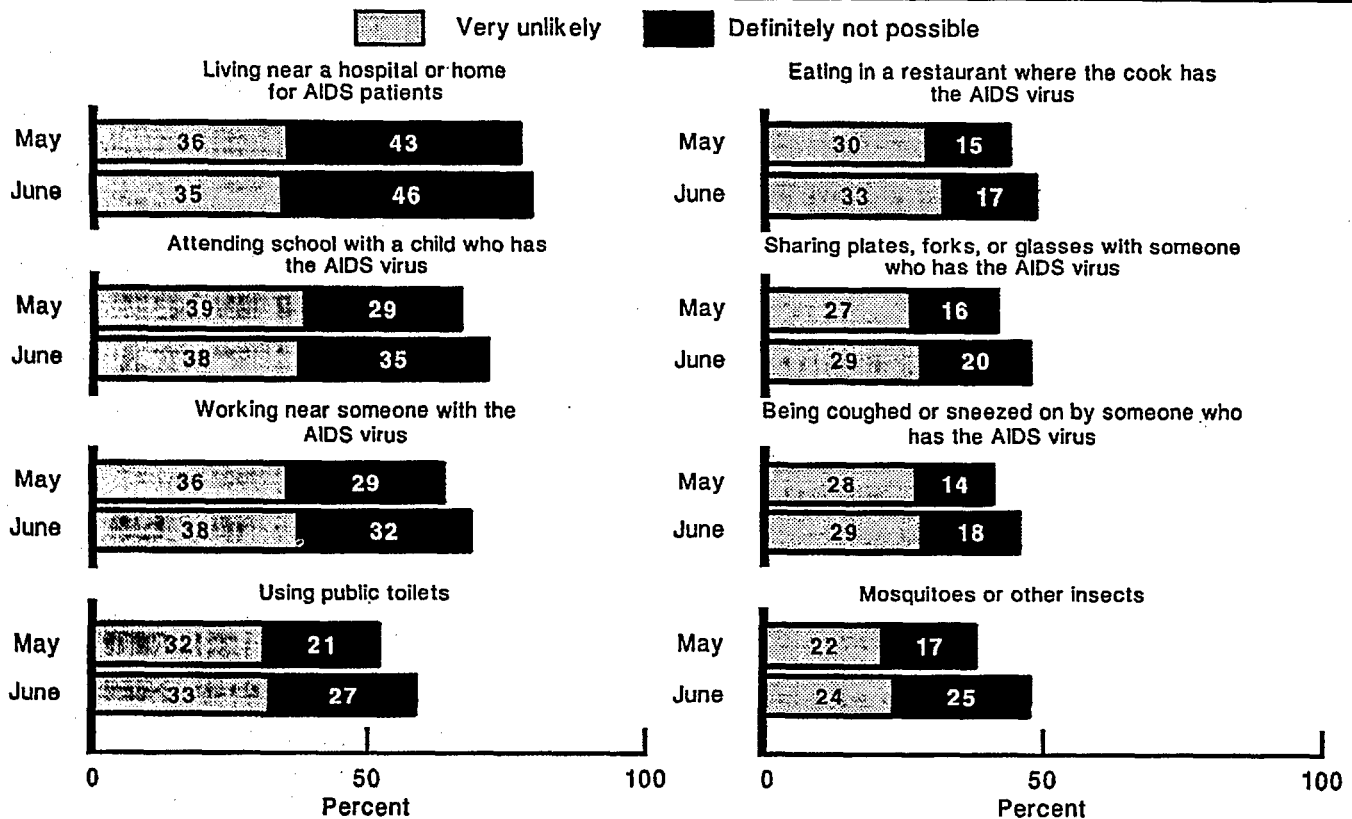
As shown in tables 1 and 2, there were large differences by education in the proportions of adults responding correctly to these general information questions. Adults 30–49 years of age responded more accurately, on average, than individuals who were either younger or older, and white adults more often answered correctly than did black adults. There was no consistent difference by gender in general AIDS information level.

Transmission of the AIDS virus—Although the 1987 AIDS survey revealed widespread misinformation about the risk of AIDS virus transmission through casual contact, accurate knowledge in this area increased continuously between August and December. As indicated in figure 2, this aspect of AIDS knowledge also improved between May and June 1988. The proportion of adults who thought it very unlikely or definitely not possible to transmit the AIDS virus by using public toilets increased from 53 to 60 percent, and the proportion who thought it very unlikely or impossible for mosquitoes or other insects to spread the



SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, Division of Health Interview Statistics, National Health Interview Survey.

Figure 1. Provisional estimates of percent of adults who think selected statements about AIDS are definitely true: United States, May-June 1988



SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, Division of Health Interview Statistics, National Health Interview Survey

Figure 2: Provisional estimates of percent of adults considering it very unlikely or definitely not possible to transmit the AIDS virus in selected ways: United States, May-June 1988

virus rose from 39 to 49 percent. Increases were noted for other conjectured modes of transmission as well (figure 2).

Blood donation and testing—Based on June data, 40 percent of all adults in the United States have donated blood at some time in their lives, and 12 percent have donated blood since 1985, when automatic testing of blood donations for the AIDS virus began. Six percent of adults reported having donated blood in the 12 months before interview. Younger adults were the most likely to have donated blood recently. The proportion of adults who had donated blood since 1985 increased with education from 5 percent of persons with less than 12 years of school to 18 percent of those with more than 12 years.

Seventy-six percent of adults had heard of the blood test for the AIDS virus infection as of June 1988, up from 72 percent in December 1987. Eighty-three percent of individuals 18–49 years of age had heard of the test, compared to 62 percent of those 50 years and over. Awareness of the AIDS blood test was greater in June among white than black adults (78 compared to 66 percent) and increased with education from 57 percent of those with less than 12 years of school to 75 and 87 percent, respectively, of those with 12 years and more than 12 years of school. Two-thirds (67 percent) of adults correctly believed that blood donations are now routinely tested for the AIDS virus.

Only 3 percent of all U.S. adults reported having received counseling about taking the AIDS virus test—4 percent of those under age 50 years and 1 percent of those age 50 years and over. Altogether, 16 percent of adults have had their blood tested for the AIDS virus. This figure includes 8 percent who reported having had the test, about the same as August–December 1987, and another 8 percent who denied or were unaware of having had the test but reported having donated blood since 1985, which had been subjected to routine testing for the AIDS virus. Persons age 18–29 years were more than 3 times as likely as those age 50 years and over to have had the AIDS blood test (23 compared to 7 percent), and men were more likely than women to have done so (19 versus 14 percent). The proportion of adults whose blood had been tested increased with education from 8 percent of those with less than 12 years of school to 23 percent of those with more than 12 years.

Of those persons who reported the number of AIDS blood tests they had had, approximately two-thirds had taken only one test. More than three-fourths of all tests reported occurred in the 12 months preceding the NHIS interview. Seventy-four percent of all persons who reported having had their blood tested for the AIDS virus one or more times stated that at least one of the tests was done as a routine part of blood donation, 14 percent (2 percent of the total adult population) reported having taken a test voluntarily, and 13 percent took a test as part of some other activity that included routine blood testing (e.g., military induction, immigration).

Just over half (54 percent) of the individuals who had had their blood tested for the AIDS virus reported having received the results of the test. This proportion was much

higher for black than for white adults (74 compared to 50 percent) and was greater among adults age 18–49 years (55 percent) than among those age 50 years and over (47 percent).

Six percent of all adults reported plans to have their blood tested for the AIDS virus in the next 12 months, and this proportion decreased with age from 11 percent of persons age 18–29 years to 2 percent of those age 50 years and over. Black adults were more than twice as likely as white adults to plan to take the AIDS blood test (13 compared to 5 percent), and among persons with plans to be tested, black individuals reported that the test would be done on a voluntary basis more frequently than did white individuals.

Five percent of all adults in the United States received blood transfusions between 1977 when the AIDS virus is believed to have entered the United States and 1985 when routine testing of blood donations for the AIDS virus was initiated. As of June 1988, 44 percent of adults stated that the blood supply is now safe for transfusions; 27 percent did not believe the blood supply is safe; and 28 percent were uncertain. The proportion of adults trusting the safety of the blood supply increased with education, was higher for men than women, was higher for white than for black individuals, and was higher for persons 18–49 years of age than for those 50 years and over.

Preventive measures—Twenty-nine percent of adults thought that condoms are very effective in preventing transmission of the AIDS virus, and 54 percent thought this method is somewhat effective. Eighty-one percent realized that having a monogamous relationship with a person who does not have the AIDS virus is a very effective way to prevent getting the virus. Over half of all adults realized that the diaphragm, spermicidal jellies and creams, and vasectomy are not effective in preventing AIDS virus transmission with most of the remainder uncertain about the effectiveness of these methods.

Risk of getting the AIDS virus—Overall, 2 percent of all adults stated that they belonged to one or more of the behavior groups associated with increased risk of AIDS virus transmission, i.e., hemophiliacs, intravenous drug users, homosexuals, etc. This proportion decreased with age from 4 percent of adults age 18–29 to less than 1 percent of adults age 50 or over.

As of June 1988, 80 percent of U.S. adults believed there is no chance that they have the AIDS virus. Fifteen percent reported a low chance, 1 percent a medium chance, and less than 1 percent a high chance. Americans assessed their chances of getting the AIDS virus as minimal as well. Seventy-four percent reported no chance of their getting the virus, a proportion that has increased steadily since August 1987. Twenty-one percent perceived themselves as being at low risk, 2 percent at medium risk, and less than 1 percent at high risk. Adults age 50 years and over were the least likely to perceive some risk of getting the AIDS virus, and women were slightly less likely than men to feel at risk.

Two-thirds (68 percent) of adults have talked to friends or relatives about AIDS, a proportion that varied with

education from 48 percent of those persons with less than 12 years of school to 79 percent of those with 12 or more years. Women were more likely than men to have discussed AIDS with friends or relatives, 72 compared to 63 percent. Black and white individuals were equally likely to have had such discussions. Of those persons who had discussed AIDS with friends or relatives, more than one-third (38 percent) had done so within the preceding week.

One-tenth of the adults in the United States reported knowing or having known someone with AIDS or the AIDS

virus. This proportion was higher for adults age 18–44 years than for those age 50 years and over, was slightly higher for women than for men, and was more than twice as high for persons with 12 or more years of school as for those with less education. Most of the individuals who had known someone with AIDS or the AIDS virus stated that more than 6 months had passed since they had seen that person.

Symbols

-	Quantity zero
0	Quantity more than zero but less than 0.5

Table 1. Provisional estimates of the percent of persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1988 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, May 1988

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in technical notes]

AIDS knowledge or attitude	Age				Sex		Race		Education		
	Total	18-29 years	30-49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	White	Black	Less than 12 years	12 years	More than 12 years
Percent distribution ¹											
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1. In the past month, have you—											
1a. Seen any public service announcements about AIDS on television?											
Yes	84	88	85	81	83	85	84	86	79	87	85
No	14	12	13	16	15	13	13	13	18	12	13
Don't know	2	0	2	3	2	2	2	1	3	1	2
1b. Heard any public service announcements about AIDS on the radio?											
Yes	49	59	51	40	55	44	48	59	41	49	54
No	47	39	44	57	41	53	49	38	55	47	42
Don't know	3	1	5	4	3	4	4	2	3	3	4
2. Were any of those public service announcements called "America Responds to AIDS"?											
Yes	20	28	20	14	19	21	19	28	21	23	17
No	14	15	13	14	15	13	14	12	13	14	14
Don't know	53	48	54	56	53	53	54	46	48	51	57
Neither heard nor saw any public service announcements	13	9	13	16	13	13	13	13	17	12	12
3. In the past month, have you read any brochures or pamphlets about AIDS?											
Yes	25	29	29	18	23	27	24	37	17	24	32
No	74	71	70	81	76	72	76	62	83	75	68
Don't know	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
4. Have you ever read any brochures or pamphlets about AIDS?											
Yes	43	49	52	28	41	44	42	53	26	41	55
No	56	50	47	70	58	54	57	46	74	58	44
Don't know	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
5. Where did you get the pamphlets or brochures? ^{1,2}											
Clinic, other than work clinic	4	6	4	3	4	4	3	7	7	4	3
Doctor's office (HMO)	19	19	17	22	12	24	20	15	24	20	17
Drug store	2	2	3	2	2	3	2	4	4	4	1
Public health department	3	4	3	3	3	3	3	5	3	3	3
Received in mail without asking	12	10	10	17	13	11	12	6	8	14	11
Red Cross/Red Cross blood donation	4	5	3	3	3	4	4	1	4	4	3
Other blood donation	1	1	2	0	1	1	1	—	—	1	1
School	12	18	11	6	12	13	11	17	15	9	14
Sent/phoned for/requested it	1	—	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Federal/State/local government	7	4	9	8	8	6	8	4	6	5	8
Work, other than clinic or nurse	18	12	24	14	20	17	17	25	9	18	21
Work, nurse or clinic	4	3	5	5	3	6	5	3	1	4	6
Other	23	25	22	24	26	21	22	26	25	22	24
Don't know	0	0	0	—	0	0	0	—	—	0	0
6. The Government is mailing a brochure with basic information about AIDS to each household in the country. Was this brochure received at this household?											
Yes	8	7	9	7	9	7	8	6	6	8	9
No	83	82	83	85	81	85	83	86	84	83	83
Don't know	9	11	8	8	10	8	9	8	10	9	8
7. How much of the brochure did you read? ³											
All or almost all	43	42	39	50	37	50	45	35	44	42	44
About half	8	5	12	5	11	5	6	26	4	6	12
Less than half	14	10	13	18	18	9	13	13	8	21	11
None	35	43	36	27	34	35	37	26	44	31	34
Don't know	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8. When you read it, did you read it carefully, or did you just skim through it? ⁴											
Read carefully	36	30	30	48	33	39	33	56	30	34	39
Skimmed through	29	27	34	25	33	26	30	17	26	35	26
Other	0	—	1	—	—	1	0	—	—	—	1
Don't know	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Did not read	35	43	36	27	34	35	37	26	44	31	34
9. Did the brochure give you any new information or answer any questions you had about AIDS? ⁴											
Yes	20	30	15	18	17	22	16	44	24	21	17
No	45	27	49	55	48	42	47	30	32	48	49
Don't know	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Did not read	35	43	36	27	34	35	37	26	44	31	34
10. Did you discuss the brochure with anyone else in the family? ³											
Yes	27	14	34	27	27	27	25	35	31	16	35
No	73	86	66	73	73	73	75	65	69	84	65
Don't know	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Table 1. Provisional estimates of the percent of persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1988 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, May 1988—Con.

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in technical notes]

AIDS knowledge or attitude	Total	Age			Sex		Race		Education		
		18-29 years	30-49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	White	Black	Less than 12 years	12 years	More than 12 years
13. Did any of your children aged 10-17 read the brochure? ^{3,5}					Percent distribution ¹						
Yes	17	—	16	29	20	14	15	46	—	32	15
No	71	100	71	71	69	75	74	36	87	57	73
Don't know	12	—	13	—	12	11	10	18	13	10	12
14. Was the brochure discussed with any of your children aged 10-17? ^{3,5}											
Yes	18	—	17	29	15	21	16	54	7	31	15
No	78	100	79	71	78	79	80	46	93	69	79
Don't know	4	—	4	—	6	—	4	—	—	—	6
15. Have you ever discussed AIDS with any of your children aged 10-17? ⁵											
Yes	59	40	61	48	46	70	59	55	39	59	67
No	41	60	39	52	54	30	41	45	61	41	33
Don't know	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
16. Have any or all of your children aged 10-17 had instruction at school about AIDS? ⁵											
Yes	58	29	60	52	57	60	57	68	56	58	60
No	12	26	13	6	11	13	14	4	14	9	14
Don't know	29	45	27	42	32	26	30	27	29	33	26
21. How much would you say you know about AIDS?											
A lot	22	20	27	17	21	22	23	16	10	18	33
Some	43	50	46	34	42	44	44	37	29	46	48
A little	26	26	22	30	27	24	25	32	33	30	17
None	9	4	5	19	10	9	8	15	28	6	2
Don't know	0	—	—	0	—	0	0	—	0	0	0
22. To the best of your knowledge, is there a difference between having the AIDS virus and having the disease AIDS?											
Yes	64	64	71	55	62	65	66	55	35	63	81
No	15	21	14	11	16	13	14	15	18	17	10
Other	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0
Don't know	21	15	15	34	22	21	20	30	47	19	9
23a. AIDS can reduce the body's natural protection against disease.											
Definitely true	73	75	80	63	73	73	75	60	47	74	87
Probably true	12	12	10	15	13	12	12	14	19	13	8
Probably false	2	3	1	2	2	2	2	4	4	2	1
Definitely false	3	3	2	4	3	3	3	7	6	3	2
Don't know	10	7	6	16	9	10	8	16	24	9	3
23b. AIDS is especially common in older people.											
Definitely true	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	3	3	1	1
Probably true	2	2	1	2	2	2	1	4	3	2	1
Probably false	22	26	20	22	23	21	23	22	23	22	21
Definitely false	67	65	73	63	65	69	68	61	54	69	74
Don't know	8	6	5	13	8	8	7	11	17	7	4
23c. AIDS can damage the brain.											
Definitely true	27	24	27	29	27	27	27	30	23	27	29
Probably true	32	33	31	32	33	31	32	31	30	33	32
Probably false	9	12	11	5	9	9	10	8	6	8	12
Definitely false	5	8	6	3	6	4	5	4	5	4	7
Don't know	27	23	25	31	25	28	26	28	37	28	19
23d. AIDS usually leads to heart disease.											
Definitely true	9	7	7	11	9	9	8	11	11	8	8
Probably true	23	25	21	24	23	23	23	30	23	25	22
Probably false	19	22	23	13	20	18	20	11	11	18	24
Definitely false	12	15	14	8	15	9	12	10	7	10	16
Don't know	37	31	35	44	33	40	36	38	48	39	29
23e. AIDS is an infectious disease caused by a virus.											
Definitely true	58	61	65	49	60	57	60	52	40	57	71
Probably true	22	24	20	22	23	21	22	22	28	23	17
Probably false	2	3	2	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	2
Definitely false	4	5	3	4	4	4	4	3	4	5	3
Don't know	14	7	11	22	12	16	12	22	26	14	6
23f. Teenagers cannot get AIDS.											
Definitely true	2	1	1	3	2	1	1	2	3	1	1
Probably true	0	—	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	0
Probably false	4	3	3	5	3	4	3	7	7	3	2
Definitely false	91	95	93	84	91	90	92	84	80	92	95
Don't know	4	1	2	7	3	4	3	6	9	3	1
23g. AIDS leads to death.											
Definitely true	86	87	88	83	85	87	87	86	82	89	86
Probably true	9	10	8	9	10	8	9	7	8	8	9
Probably false	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	—	0	0	1
Definitely false	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	3	1	2
Don't know	3	1	2	5	2	3	2	5	7	2	1

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Provisional estimates of the percent of persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1988 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, May 1988—Con.

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in technical notes]

AIDS knowledge or attitude	Age				Sex		Race		Education		
	Total	18-29 years	30-49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	White	Black	Less than 12 years	12 years	More than 12 years
Percent distribution ¹											
23h. A person can be infected with the AIDS virus and not have the disease AIDS.											
Definitely true	49	50	57	39	48	50	51	40	27	48	63
Probably true	25	27	23	28	24	26	25	26	25	27	23
Probably false	4	5	4	4	5	3	4	4	4	5	4
Definitely false	5	7	5	4	6	4	5	9	6	5	4
Don't know	17	12	11	27	17	17	16	20	37	15	7
23i. Looking at a person is enough to tell if he or she has the AIDS virus.											
Definitely true	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	2	3	1	1
Probably true	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	6	4	2
Probably false	17	16	15	22	18	17	18	17	21	18	15
Definitely false	67	74	75	52	66	67	68	64	48	66	78
Don't know	11	5	6	20	10	11	10	13	23	11	4
23j. Any person with the AIDS virus can pass it on to someone else during sexual intercourse.											
Definitely true	77	84	78	71	77	77	77	78	76	78	77
Probably true	15	13	15	17	15	15	16	13	13	15	16
Probably false	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Definitely false	2	2	2	1	2	1	2	2	1	1	2
Don't know	4	1	3	8	4	5	4	6	9	4	2
23k. A person who has the AIDS virus can look and feel healthy and well.											
Definitely true	42	46	50	31	45	40	44	37	24	40	55
Probably true	31	33	28	33	28	33	31	30	30	33	29
Probably false	9	11	7	9	9	9	9	8	13	9	7
Definitely false	4	3	4	6	4	4	4	8	7	4	2
Don't know	14	8	11	21	13	14	13	18	27	13	6
23l. A pregnant woman who has the AIDS virus can give the AIDS virus to her baby.											
Definitely true	74	79	78	67	73	76	75	77	65	75	79
Probably true	18	17	17	21	19	17	19	15	21	19	16
Probably false	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Definitely false	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1
Don't know	6	3	4	10	6	5	5	7	11	5	3
23m. There is a vaccine available to the public that protects a person from getting the AIDS virus.											
Definitely true	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	2	2	1	1
Probably true	2	2	2	3	2	3	2	6	5	2	2
Probably false	11	12	10	13	12	11	12	12	13	13	9
Definitely false	70	74	77	60	72	68	73	57	50	70	82
Don't know	14	10	10	22	12	16	13	23	29	14	6
23n. There is no cure for AIDS at present.											
Definitely true	81	83	85	75	82	80	83	71	71	81	86
Probably true	8	7	7	11	8	9	8	10	10	9	7
Probably false	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1
Definitely false	4	6	4	4	4	4	4	8	6	4	4
Don't know	6	3	4	9	5	6	4	10	12	5	2
24. How likely do you think it is that a person will get AIDS or the AIDS virus infection from—											
24a. Living near a hospital or home for AIDS patients?											
Very likely	2	2	1	2	2	1	1	4	3	2	1
Somewhat likely	3	4	2	3	3	3	3	3	5	3	2
Somewhat unlikely	9	9	9	9	10	8	8	14	9	10	7
Very unlikely	36	40	34	35	39	33	36	35	33	36	38
Definitely not possible	43	42	48	36	38	47	44	34	31	42	49
Don't know	8	4	5	14	8	8	8	10	19	7	3
24b. Working near someone with the AIDS virus?											
Very likely	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	5	3	4	1
Somewhat likely	10	9	9	11	9	10	10	9	12	10	8
Somewhat unlikely	14	15	14	13	15	13	13	18	14	15	13
Very unlikely	36	38	37	33	38	35	38	30	31	36	40
Definitely not possible	29	30	32	24	27	30	29	28	22	27	34
Don't know	8	4	6	15	8	9	8	11	18	8	3
24c. Eating in a restaurant where the cook has the AIDS virus?											
Very likely	6	6	5	8	6	6	5	9	11	6	3
Somewhat likely	20	23	18	21	21	19	19	23	22	22	17
Somewhat unlikely	15	17	17	12	15	15	15	16	9	16	18
Very unlikely	30	32	34	25	31	29	31	23	21	27	38
Definitely not possible	15	14	18	13	16	15	15	14	12	16	17
Don't know	13	8	9	21	11	15	13	14	25	14	6

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Provisional estimates of the percent of persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1988 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, May 1988—Con.

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in technical notes]

AIDS knowledge or attitude	Age				Sex		Race		Education		
	Total	18-29 years	30-49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	White	Black	Less than 12 years	12 years	More than 12 years
24d. Kissing—with exchange of saliva—a person who has the AIDS virus?	Percent distribution ¹										
Very likely	24	21	25	26	23	25	23	31	29	27	20
Somewhat likely	29	28	29	29	28	29	29	25	27	30	29
Somewhat unlikely	15	18	15	11	15	14	15	12	10	12	19
Very unlikely	15	18	16	12	16	14	15	14	10	13	19
Definitely not possible	6	7	6	4	6	5	6	5	4	5	6
Don't know	12	8	10	18	12	13	12	13	20	12	7
24e. Shaking hands, touching, or kissing on the cheek someone who has the AIDS virus?											
Very likely	2	2	2	3	3	2	2	4	5	2	1
Somewhat likely	8	7	6	10	8	7	7	10	14	6	6
Somewhat unlikely	14	14	13	14	15	12	13	16	12	17	11
Very unlikely	36	39	39	31	36	36	38	29	27	37	41
Definitely not possible	32	34	33	28	30	34	32	27	24	30	38
Don't know	8	3	7	14	8	9	8	14	17	8	3
24f. Sharing plates, forks, or glasses with someone who has the AIDS virus?											
Very likely	10	11	9	10	9	10	9	15	15	10	7
Somewhat likely	21	19	19	24	21	20	21	22	24	23	17
Somewhat unlikely	14	17	14	12	14	15	15	15	11	16	15
Very unlikely	27	28	30	22	28	26	28	18	16	24	36
Definitely not possible	16	17	18	13	17	16	16	16	14	15	18
Don't know	12	7	10	18	11	13	11	14	21	11	7
24g. Using public toilets?											
Very likely	7	6	5	9	6	7	6	11	12	7	3
Somewhat likely	14	14	13	16	14	14	14	17	18	16	9
Somewhat unlikely	14	17	13	13	15	13	14	19	12	15	14
Very unlikely	32	33	35	28	32	31	33	20	19	32	38
Definitely not possible	21	23	25	16	22	20	22	19	15	17	29
Don't know	13	8	10	19	11	14	12	14	24	12	6
24h. Sharing needles for drug use with someone who has the AIDS virus?											
Very likely	92	94	94	88	92	92	93	87	86	92	95
Somewhat likely	3	3	3	5	4	3	3	5	5	3	3
Somewhat unlikely	0	—	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Very unlikely	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1
Definitely not possible	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1
Don't know	3	0	2	6	2	3	2	4	7	2	1
24i. Being coughed or sneezed on by someone who has the AIDS virus?											
Very likely	8	5	8	10	7	8	7	11	11	9	5
Somewhat likely	22	22	19	24	22	21	21	25	26	23	18
Somewhat unlikely	16	19	17	14	17	16	17	15	11	17	19
Very unlikely	28	30	30	24	29	27	30	19	19	27	34
Definitely not possible	14	16	16	10	14	14	14	14	11	13	16
Don't know	13	8	10	18	11	14	12	16	23	12	7
24j. Attending school with a child who has the AIDS virus?											
Very likely	2	2	2	3	2	3	2	4	5	2	1
Somewhat likely	7	5	6	9	7	7	6	7	9	6	6
Somewhat unlikely	13	14	14	12	15	12	13	17	12	14	13
Very unlikely	39	43	39	37	41	38	41	31	30	42	42
Definitely not possible	29	32	32	24	28	30	29	29	22	28	35
Don't know	9	4	7	16	8	11	9	12	21	8	4
24k. Mosquitoes or other insects?											
Very likely	9	10	8	10	11	8	9	13	13	10	7
Somewhat likely	17	21	15	17	19	16	17	18	19	17	16
Somewhat unlikely	10	12	10	8	11	9	10	11	9	10	10
Very unlikely	22	22	24	19	22	22	22	18	13	23	26
Definitely not possible	17	15	20	16	16	18	18	14	12	16	21
Don't know	24	21	23	29	22	27	24	25	33	24	20
25. Have you ever donated blood?											
Yes	42	34	44	44	53	31	43	36	32	39	50
No	58	66	55	55	46	69	57	64	68	60	50
Don't know	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
26a. Have you donated blood since March 1985?											
Yes	12	18	15	5	15	10	13	7	6	11	17
No	87	81	84	94	84	89	86	92	94	88	82
Don't know	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1
26b. Have you donated blood in the past 12 months?											
Yes	6	8	9	3	8	5	7	3	2	6	9
No	93	91	90	97	91	94	92	96	97	93	89
Don't know	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Provisional estimates of the percent of persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1988 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, May 1988—Con.

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in technical notes]

AIDS knowledge or attitude	Total	Age			Sex		Race		Education		
		18-29 years	30-49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	White	Black	Less than 12 years	12 years	More than 12 years
27. Have you ever heard of a blood test that can detect the AIDS virus infection?											
Yes	77	83	85	62	76	77	78	67	57	78	87
No	19	15	12	29	20	18	17	28	36	18	10
Don't know	5	2	3	9	4	5	4	6	7	5	3
28. To the best of your knowledge, are blood donations routinely tested now for the AIDS virus infection?											
Yes	68	75	76	54	68	68	70	56	49	69	78
No	3	3	4	3	3	3	3	4	2	3	4
Don't know	5	5	5	6	5	6	5	7	6	6	5
Never heard of test ⁶	23	17	15	38	24	23	22	34	43	22	13
29a. Have you ever received counseling or had a talk with a health professional about taking the AIDS virus test?											
Yes	3	5	5	1	4	3	3	5	2	3	4
No	73	78	80	61	72	74	75	62	55	74	82
Don't know	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Never heard of test ⁶	23	17	15	38	24	23	22	33	43	22	13
29b. Was the discussion— ^{1,7}											
With a private doctor?	41	42	42	32	29	55	43	34	52	31	45
At a family-planning clinic?	6	10	3	—	1	11	4	9	10	10	1
On an AIDS hotline?	2	—	4	—	3	1	3	—	—	—	4
At a prenatal clinic?	2	5	1	—	—	5	2	3	—	4	2
At an STD or sexually transmitted disease clinic?	4	5	5	—	6	2	5	—	—	8	3
At an AIDS/HIV counseling and testing site?	6	8	5	—	10	1	6	8	—	8	6
With some other health professional?	48	34	56	56	53	41	47	56	55	44	48
With some other counselor?	15	13	15	23	20	10	14	22	—	16	18
30. During that discussion, did you receive information about how to avoid getting or passing on the AIDS virus? ⁷											
Yes	68	73	66	59	73	61	66	88	76	84	54
No	32	27	34	41	27	39	34	12	24	16	46
Don't know	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
31. Have you ever been advised by a health professional not to have the blood test for the AIDS virus infection?											
Yes	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
No	76	82	84	62	76	77	78	66	57	77	86
Don't know	0	0	—	—	—	0	—	—	0	—	—
Never heard of test ⁶	23	17	15	38	24	23	22	33	43	22	13
32. Have you ever been advised by friends or relatives not to have the blood test for the AIDS virus infection?											
Yes	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0
No	76	82	84	62	75	76	78	66	57	77	86
Don't know	0	0	0	—	—	0	0	—	0	0	—
Never heard of test ⁶	24	17	15	38	24	23	22	33	43	22	13
33. Have you had your blood tested for the AIDS virus infection?											
Yes	16	23	20	7	20	13	16	13	8	15	21
No	61	61	66	54	57	64	62	54	50	62	65
Don't know	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	2	1
Never heard of test ⁶	22	15	13	37	22	22	20	32	41	21	12
35a. How many times have you had your blood tested for the AIDS virus infection?											
Once	4	7	6	1	5	4	4	5	2	5	5
Twice	1	2	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	1
3-5 times	1	2	1	0	2	0	1	1	1	1	—
6-12 times	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	—	—
More than 12 times	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	—	0	0
Don't know	9	12	11	4	10	7	9	5	5	8	12
Never heard of or never took test ⁶	84	78	81	94	81	88	84	87	92	85	79
35b. How many times in the past 12 months have you had your blood tested for the AIDS virus infection?											
None in the past 12 months	1	2	1	0	2	1	1	0	0	1	2
Once	4	7	5	1	6	3	4	6	2	4	5
More than once	2	2	3	1	2	1	2	2	1	1	3
Don't know	8	11	10	4	10	7	9	5	5	7	12
Never heard of or never took test ⁶	84	78	81	93	81	88	84	88	92	86	79
36. Was the test/were any of the tests, including those you had before the past 12 months— ^{1,9}											
Part of a blood donation?	72	68	73	79	69	76	75	48	68	67	76
Part of a blood transfusion?	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	—	—	3	1
Voluntarily sought?	14	15	15	8	14	14	13	22	15	13	14
Part of some other activity that requires a blood sample?	15	20	13	10	19	9	13	33	16	20	12

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Provisional estimates of the percent of persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1988 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, May 1988—Con.

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in technical notes]

AIDS knowledge or attitude	Age				Sex		Race		Education		
	Total	18-29 years	30-49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	White	Black	Less than 12 years	12 years	More than 12 years
Percent distribution ¹											
38. Did you get the results of your test/any of your tests? ^a											
Yes	55	57	55	42	56	51	50	81	68	52	54
No	45	43	45	58	43	49	50	19	30	48	46
Don't know	0	—	0	—	0	—	0	—	2	—	—
41. Do you expect to have a blood test for the AIDS virus infection in the next 12 months?											
Yes	6	11	7	2	8	5	5	14	6	6	7
No	64	62	72	57	61	67	68	42	47	65	74
Don't know	6	9	6	3	7	5	5	11	4	6	6
Never heard of test ^b	23	17	15	38	24	23	22	33	43	22	13
42. Will the test be— ^{1,10}											
Part of a blood donation?	43	39	46	51	43	44	52	22	23	47	50
Voluntarily sought?	57	67	53	31	59	54	49	76	64	56	54
Part of some other activity that requires a blood sample? . .	15	16	13	20	16	12	12	23	25	12	12
44a. Did you have a blood transfusion at any time between 1977 and 1985?											
Yes	6	5	5	8	6	6	6	6	7	6	6
No	92	94	94	89	93	92	92	92	91	93	92
Don't know	2	1	1	3	2	2	2	2	2	1	2
44b. Do you think the present supply of blood is safe for transfusions?											
Yes	43	44	48	37	48	38	45	31	30	43	50
No	28	30	27	27	25	30	26	34	33	27	25
Other	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Don't know	29	26	26	36	27	32	29	35	37	30	25
45. Here are some methods people use to prevent getting the AIDS virus through sexual activity. How effective is—											
45a. Using a diaphragm?											
Very effective	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	8	5	5	3
Somewhat effective	11	14	8	13	10	13	12	11	9	12	12
Not at all effective	55	57	64	43	54	56	57	46	34	55	67
Don't know how effective	21	17	18	28	22	21	21	22	34	21	14
Don't know method	8	7	6	12	10	7	7	13	18	7	4
45b. Using a condom?											
Very effective	31	34	35	25	33	30	31	31	28	31	34
Somewhat effective	51	54	52	48	52	51	52	47	38	53	57
Not at all effective	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	6	7	5	4
Don't know how effective	9	6	5	17	8	10	8	14	21	8	4
Don't know method	3	2	2	6	2	4	3	3	7	3	1
45c. Using a spermicidal jelly, foam, or cream?											
Very effective	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	5	4	1	2
Somewhat effective	15	17	16	13	15	16	16	13	12	15	18
Not at all effective	51	58	56	41	49	53	52	47	35	53	59
Don't know how effective	24	17	21	32	25	22	23	27	34	24	17
Don't know method	8	5	6	12	8	7	7	8	15	7	4
45d. Having a vasectomy?											
Very effective	2	3	1	2	2	2	2	4	2	2	2
Somewhat effective	3	4	2	3	3	3	3	4	4	3	2
Not at all effective	70	70	79	60	69	71	73	53	50	70	82
Don't know how effective	18	18	12	25	18	18	16	27	30	18	11
Don't know method	7	6	6	11	8	7	6	11	15	8	3
45e. Two people who do not have the AIDS virus having sex only with each other?											
Very effective	82	80	87	76	84	80	83	73	69	82	88
Somewhat effective	8	12	6	8	7	9	7	11	10	8	7
Not at all effective	3	4	3	3	3	3	3	7	6	3	2
Don't know how effective	5	3	3	9	4	5	4	8	11	3	2
Don't know method	2	1	1	4	2	3	2	1	4	3	1
46. What are your chances of having the AIDS virus?											
High	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0
Medium	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Low	16	21	19	10	18	15	16	19	12	15	20
None	79	76	76	85	78	80	80	73	80	80	78
Don't know	3	2	2	4	2	3	2	6	5	3	1
47. What are your chances of getting the AIDS virus?											
High	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Medium	2	3	2	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	2
Low	23	28	27	14	25	20	23	22	15	22	28
None	71	65	67	81	68	74	71	68	76	72	68
Don't know	4	3	3	5	4	4	3	7	7	4	2
High chance of already having AIDS virus	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Provisional estimates of the percent of persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1988 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, May 1988—Con.

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in technical notes]

AIDS knowledge or attitude	Age				Sex		Race		Education		
	Total	18-29 years	30-49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	White	Black	Less than 12 years	12 years	More than 12 years
49. Do you say your chance of getting AIDS is high or medium because you— ¹¹					Percent distribution ¹						
Have had a blood transfusion?	8	5	7	20	—	15	9	—	—	9	10
Have had sexual contact with someone who might have the virus?	9	16	6	—	11	8	8	25	16	3	10
Some other reason?	69	66	71	70	58	78	72	64	37	83	72
52. Have you ever discussed AIDS with a friend or relative?											
Yes	66	73	76	51	63	70	67	67	44	68	77
No	33	27	24	48	37	30	33	32	56	31	22
Don't know	0	—	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
53. When was the last time you discussed AIDS with a friend or relative?											
0-3 days ago	9	10	11	7	9	9	9	10	8	8	11
4-7 days ago	13	11	17	9	12	13	13	16	9	12	16
8-14 days ago	8	7	9	6	7	8	7	8	5	8	9
15-31 days ago	15	18	16	11	14	15	15	13	9	15	18
More than 31 days ago	17	22	20	11	16	18	18	14	10	19	19
Don't know	5	4	4	6	4	5	5	5	3	5	5
Never discussed ¹²	34	27	25	49	37	31	33	34	57	32	23
54. Have you ever personally known anyone with AIDS or the AIDS virus?											
Yes	10	10	12	7	8	11	9	13	6	7	14
No	88	88	86	90	90	86	88	82	92	91	83
Don't know	3	3	2	3	3	3	2	5	2	3	3
55. How long has it been since you saw this person?											
Within past 2 weeks	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	1
2 weeks—less than 1 month	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
1 month—less than 3 months	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	1
3 months—less than 6 months	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	2
6 months or more	6	6	8	5	5	7	6	8	4	4	9
Don't know	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Never knew anyone with AIDS ¹³	91	90	88	94	92	89	91	88	94	94	86
56. How well do you know this person?											
Very well	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	5	2	1	1
Fairly well	2	2	3	1	2	3	2	3	1	2	4
Not very well	3	3	4	2	3	4	3	3	1	2	6
Don't really know personally	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	1	1	1	3
Other	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1
Don't know how well	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Never knew anyone with AIDS ¹³	91	90	88	94	92	89	91	88	94	93	86
57. Is any of these statements true for you?											
a. You have hemophilia and have received clotting factor concentrates since 1977.											
b. You are a native of Haiti or Central or East Africa who has entered the United States since 1977.											
c. You are a man who has had sex with another man at some time since 1977, even 1 time.											
d. You have taken illegal drugs by needle at any time since 1977.											
e. Since 1977, you are or have been the sex partner of any person who would answer yes to any of the items above (57 a-d).											
f. You have had sex for money or drugs at any time since 1977.											
Yes to at least 1 statement	3	5	3	0	3	2	3	3	3	3	2
No to all statements	97	95	97	100	97	97	97	97	97	97	98
Refused	0	0	—	—	0	—	0	—	—	0	—
Don't know	0	0	0	—	0	0	0	0	0	0	—
58. The U.S. Public Health Service has said that AIDS is one of the major health problems in the country but exactly how many people it affects is not known. The Surgeon General has proposed that a study be conducted and blood samples be taken to help find out how widespread the problem is. If you were selected in this national sample of people to have their blood tested with assurances of privacy of test results, would you have the test?											
Yes	69	75	72	62	71	68	70	68	63	72	71
No	22	18	19	29	22	23	22	23	27	20	22
Other	2	1	3	3	2	3	2	2	2	3	2
Don't know	6	5	6	7	5	7	6	7	8	6	5

Table 1. Provisional estimates of the percent of persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1988 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, May 1988—Con.

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in technical notes]

AIDS knowledge or attitude	Age				Sex		Race		Education		
	Total	18-29 years	30-49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	White	Black	Less than 12 years	12 years	More than 12 years
59. Why wouldn't you take part in the test? ¹⁴					Percent distribution ¹						
Don't want to know if I have AIDS	5	9	6	2	4	5	4	9	6	4	4
Don't want any counseling about AIDS.	2	3	1	1	2	1	1	4	3	1	1
Fear I'll get AIDS	7	12	6	5	6	7	5	15	11	7	5
Don't like to give blood	12	18	12	10	12	12	12	15	12	12	12
Don't trust Government programs	8	9	9	7	11	6	8	11	6	8	9
It is a waste of money	4	5	2	5	4	4	4	8	5	5	3
Don't believe AIDS can really be cured anyway	3	4	2	3	4	2	2	6	5	3	2
Other.	52	39	52	57	50	52	55	39	48	46	58
Don't know	16	20	14	16	16	16	15	20	21	17	12
61. When Federal public health officials give information about AIDS, do you believe what they say or are you doubtful about the information they give?											
Believe.	63	71	64	57	64	63	63	64	57	62	68
Doubtful.	29	24	31	31	29	29	30	23	28	32	27
Don't know	8	5	5	13	7	8	7	12	15	6	5
62. When they [public health officials] give advice about how to help keep from getting AIDS, do you believe their advice or are you doubtful about what they say?											
Believe.	78	82	80	72	79	76	78	74	68	77	83
Doubtful.	16	14	16	18	15	17	16	17	19	17	13
Don't know	6	4	5	10	6	6	6	9	13	5	3

¹Multiple responses may sum to more than 100.

²Based on persons answering yes to question 4 (includes yes to question 3).

³Based on persons answering yes to question 6.

⁴Based on persons answering all or almost all, about half, or less than half to question 7.

⁵Based on persons answering yes to question 11, "Do you have any children aged 10 through 17?" Question 12 was "How many do you have?"

⁶Based on persons answering no or don't know to question 27.

⁷Based on persons answering yes to question 29a.

⁸Based on persons answering no or don't know to questions 27 and 33.

⁹Based on persons answering yes to question 33.

¹⁰Based on persons answering yes to question 41.

¹¹Based on persons answering high or medium to question 46.

¹²Based on persons answering no or don't know to question 52.

¹³Based on persons answering no or don't know to question 54.

¹⁴Based on persons not answering yes to question 58.

Table 2. Provisional estimates of the percent of persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1988 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, June 1988

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in technical notes]

AIDS knowledge or attitude	Age				Sex		Race		Education		
	Total	18-29 years	30-49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	White	Black	Less than 12 years	12 years	More than 12 years
Total	100	100	100	100	Percent distribution ¹						
1. In the past month, have you—											
1a. Seen any public service announcements about AIDS on television?											
Yes	86	87	88	83	86	86	86	88	79	89	87
No	12	11	10	13	12	12	11	10	18	9	11
Don't know	2	2	2	4	2	2	2	2	4	2	2
1b. Heard any public service announcements about AIDS on the radio?											
Yes	49	58	51	40	52	47	48	55	41	50	53
No	46	37	44	55	43	49	47	41	55	45	42
Don't know	5	5	5	6	5	5	5	4	5	5	5
2. Were any of those public service announcements called "America Responds to AIDS"?											
Yes	24	34	25	15	22	25	22	35	23	25	23
No	10	10	10	10	11	9	10	10	11	9	10
Don't know	54	45	55	60	55	54	56	44	48	56	58
Neither heard nor saw any public service announcements	12	10	10	15	12	12	12	11	18	10	11
3. In the past month, have you read any brochures or pamphlets about AIDS?											
Yes	52	53	58	46	49	55	53	48	39	51	62
No	47	47	41	53	50	44	46	51	60	48	37
Don't know	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1
4. Have you ever read any brochures or pamphlets about AIDS?											
Yes	64	69	69	56	61	67	65	60	47	63	76
No	35	31	30	43	38	32	34	39	51	36	24
Don't know	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0
5. Where did you get the pamphlets or brochures? ^{1,2}											
Clinic, other than work clinic	2	3	2	1	2	2	1	5	3	2	1
Doctor's office (HMO)	7	9	8	6	5	9	7	9	7	8	7
Drug store	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	3	2	1	1
Public health department	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	2	1	1	2
Received in mail without asking	39	32	40	45	39	40	40	35	45	40	37
Red Cross/Red Cross blood donation	2	2	2	1	1	2	2	1	1	2	1
Other blood donation	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	—	0	0	1
School	6	12	5	2	7	6	6	8	6	5	8
Sent/phoned for/requested it	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Federal/State/local government	31	26	31	35	31	31	33	19	34	32	29
Work, other than clinic or nurse	10	9	12	6	11	8	8	18	4	9	12
Work, nurse or clinic	4	4	4	2	2	5	4	4	2	2	5
Other	13	14	11	13	13	12	12	13	11	13	13
Don't know	0	—	0	—	0	—	0	—	—	—	0
6. The Government is mailing a brochure with basic information about AIDS to each household in the country. Was this brochure received at this household?											
Yes	63	58	67	61	61	64	65	53	53	62	69
No	29	30	27	30	29	29	27	41	39	29	24
Don't know	8	12	6	8	10	7	8	6	9	9	7
7. How much of the brochure did you read? ³											
All or almost all	50	44	55	49	46	53	51	46	43	49	54
About half	12	16	11	11	12	12	12	16	13	12	12
Less than half	12	12	12	11	14	10	11	15	14	11	11
None	26	28	23	29	28	25	26	23	30	27	23
Don't know	0	—	0	0	0	0	0	—	0	0	0
8. When you read it, did you read it carefully, or did you just skim through it? ⁴											
Read carefully	40	38	42	39	36	43	40	39	36	40	41
Skimmed through	33	33	35	31	35	31	33	36	33	32	35
Other	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Don't know	0	0	0	0	0	—	0	—	0	0	0
Did not read	26	28	23	29	28	25	26	23	30	27	23
9. Did the brochure give you any new information or answer any questions you had about AIDS? ⁴											
Yes	24	28	25	20	22	26	22	37	25	26	22
No	50	44	52	51	50	49	51	39	44	46	55
Don't know	0	—	0	0	0	0	0	—	0	0	0
Did not read	26	28	23	29	28	25	27	23	30	28	23
10. Did you discuss the brochure with anyone else in the family? ³											
Yes	35	28	38	36	32	37	35	32	33	33	38
No	65	72	62	64	68	63	65	68	67	67	62
Don't know	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Provisional estimates of the percent of persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1988 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, June 1988—Con.

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in technical notes]

AIDS knowledge or attitude	Age				Sex		Race		Education		
	Total	18-29 years	30-49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	White	Black	Less than 12 years	12 years	More than 12 years
13. Did any of your children aged 10-17 read the brochure? ^{3,5}					Percent distribution ¹						
Yes	27	26	28	19	22	31	26	31	29	29	24
No	52	65	52	47	51	53	53	50	48	52	55
Don't know	21	9	20	35	27	16	21	19	23	19	20
14. Was the brochure discussed with any of your children aged 10-17? ^{3,5}											
Yes	26	30	26	22	19	31	25	33	24	28	25
No	70	63	70	74	75	67	71	65	72	69	71
Don't know	4	7	3	4	6	2	4	2	5	3	4
15. Have you ever discussed AIDS with any of your children aged 10-17? ^{3,5}											
Yes	64	59	65	53	49	76	64	68	50	63	72
No	36	41	35	47	50	24	36	32	50	37	27
Don't know	0	—	0	—	0	—	0	—	—	—	0
16. Have any or all of your children aged 10-17 had instruction at school about AIDS? ^{3,5}											
Yes	60	58	60	67	55	65	60	68	59	57	65
No	14	23	15	11	13	15	15	12	8	16	16
Don't know	25	20	26	22	32	20	26	20	33	27	19
21. How much would you say you know about AIDS?											
A lot	24	23	29	19	23	25	24	20	12	18	37
Some	43	49	46	36	42	44	45	35	31	47	46
A little	25	25	21	29	26	24	24	30	33	30	15
None	8	3	4	16	9	7	6	15	23	5	2
Don't know	0	—	—	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
22. To the best of your knowledge, is there a difference between having the AIDS virus and having the disease AIDS?											
Yes	65	65	69	59	64	65	67	54	39	64	80
No	15	20	17	10	16	14	14	19	18	17	11
Other	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
Don't know	20	15	14	31	19	20	18	26	42	19	8
23a. AIDS can reduce the body's natural protection against disease.											
Definitely true	74	76	80	66	75	73	77	55	51	75	87
Probably true	11	10	9	13	11	11	11	13	16	11	7
Probably false	2	2	1	2	1	3	1	3	3	2	1
Definitely false	3	4	2	3	3	3	2	7	4	4	1
Don't know	10	8	7	15	10	11	8	23	25	8	4
23b. AIDS is especially common in older people.											
Definitely true	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	2	2	1	0
Probably true	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	0
Probably false	19	21	16	20	19	19	19	16	17	20	19
Definitely false	71	71	76	65	70	72	72	65	60	72	76
Don't know	8	6	6	13	10	8	7	16	19	7	4
23c. AIDS can damage the brain.											
Definitely true	27	22	28	30	27	27	27	27	24	28	28
Probably true	30	30	29	31	30	30	30	31	28	29	32
Probably false	9	10	11	6	8	9	9	5	6	9	10
Definitely false	7	8	8	4	8	6	7	6	5	7	8
Don't know	27	29	24	29	26	27	26	31	36	27	22
23d. AIDS usually leads to heart disease.											
Definitely true	9	7	8	11	8	9	8	9	12	9	7
Probably true	22	21	22	22	21	22	22	23	20	22	22
Probably false	17	17	19	14	18	16	18	11	9	15	23
Definitely false	16	17	19	10	18	14	16	13	10	15	19
Don't know	37	38	32	43	35	40	36	44	50	39	29
23e. AIDS is an infectious disease caused by a virus.											
Definitely true	62	64	70	53	63	62	63	58	47	62	72
Probably true	19	20	16	21	19	19	19	18	20	19	17
Probably false	2	2	2	3	2	3	2	1	3	2	2
Definitely false	4	4	3	4	4	3	4	3	4	4	3
Don't know	13	11	9	20	12	14	12	20	26	12	6
23f. Teenagers cannot get AIDS.											
Definitely true	1	1	1	2	1	2	1	2	2	1	1
Probably true	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0
Probably false	4	3	2	6	4	4	3	7	7	4	2
Definitely false	91	94	93	85	91	90	92	83	81	91	96
Don't know	4	1	3	7	3	4	3	7	9	3	1
23g. AIDS leads to death.											
Definitely true	87	88	89	84	85	89	87	86	85	88	86
Probably true	8	9	8	9	10	7	9	8	7	8	10
Probably false	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	—	0	0	1
Definitely false	1	2	1	2	2	1	1	2	1	1	1
Don't know	3	1	2	5	3	3	2	5	6	3	1

Table 2. Provisional estimates of the percent of persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1988 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, June 1988—Con.

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in technical notes]

AIDS knowledge or attitude	Age				Sex		Race		Education		
	Total	18-29 years	30-49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	White	Black	Less than 12 years	12 years	More than 12 years
Percent distribution ¹											
23h. A person can be infected with the AIDS virus and not have the disease AIDS.											
Definitely true	53	56	57	45	53	52	55	43	33	51	66
Probably true	24	23	23	25	23	24	24	25	25	26	21
Probably false	4	4	4	4	4	3	4	5	4	5	3
Definitely false	6	8	6	4	6	5	5	6	7	6	5
Don't know	14	9	10	22	13	15	13	20	31	13	6
23i. Looking at a person is enough to tell if he or she has the AIDS virus.											
Definitely true	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	3	2	2
Probably true	4	4	2	5	4	4	3	8	7	4	2
Probably false	16	16	14	18	17	15	16	15	21	17	12
Definitely false	69	74	77	58	69	70	71	60	48	70	82
Don't know	9	4	5	16	9	9	8	14	22	7	3
23j. Any person with the AIDS virus can pass it on to someone else during sexual intercourse.											
Definitely true	79	81	81	75	78	80	80	76	77	81	78
Probably true	13	12	12	15	14	13	13	15	11	12	15
Probably false	2	2	2	1	2	1	2	1	1	1	2
Definitely false	2	2	1	1	2	1	2	2	1	2	1
Don't know	5	3	3	7	5	4	4	7	10	4	3
23k. A person who has the AIDS virus can look and feel healthy and well.											
Definitely true	47	52	53	35	50	44	49	36	28	45	59
Probably true	31	31	29	34	31	32	31	32	29	34	30
Probably false	6	5	5	7	5	7	6	9	10	6	3
Definitely false	5	5	4	6	4	5	4	7	8	5	3
Don't know	11	7	8	18	11	12	10	17	24	10	5
23l. A pregnant woman who has the AIDS virus can give the AIDS virus to her baby.											
Definitely true	77	79	79	73	74	80	78	72	71	78	80
Probably true	16	16	15	17	18	14	16	18	16	16	16
Probably false	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
Definitely false	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Don't know	6	4	5	9	7	5	5	8	12	4	3
23m. There is a vaccine available to the public that protects a person from getting the AIDS virus.											
Definitely true	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	2	3	1	1
Probably true	3	4	2	3	3	3	2	5	5	3	1
Probably false	10	10	9	11	10	9	10	10	11	11	8
Definitely false	73	74	79	64	73	72	75	62	53	72	84
Don't know	13	10	9	21	12	14	12	22	28	12	6
23n. There is no cure for AIDS at present.											
Definitely true	84	86	87	80	84	85	86	79	74	84	90
Probably true	7	6	6	8	7	7	7	7	10	7	5
Probably false	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	1
Definitely false	3	4	2	3	3	3	3	3	4	3	2
Don't know	5	3	3	8	5	5	4	9	11	4	2
24. How likely do you think it is that a person will get AIDS or the AIDS virus infection from—											
24a. Living near a hospital or home for AIDS patients?											
Very likely	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	4	1	1
Somewhat likely	3	4	2	3	3	3	2	5	4	3	3
Somewhat unlikely	7	8	7	6	7	7	7	7	8	9	4
Very unlikely	35	35	36	35	39	32	36	34	33	38	33
Definitely not possible	46	47	49	41	42	49	47	38	33	44	56
Don't know	7	5	4	12	6	7	6	12	18	5	2
24b. Working near someone with the AIDS virus?											
Very likely	3	2	3	4	3	3	3	6	7	3	1
Somewhat likely	8	8	7	9	8	8	8	7	9	9	6
Somewhat unlikely	12	13	12	11	12	12	12	12	10	14	11
Very unlikely	38	38	39	36	41	35	38	36	33	37	41
Definitely not possible	32	35	33	27	30	33	32	28	23	31	37
Don't know	8	4	5	13	6	9	7	11	18	7	3
24c. Eating in a restaurant where the cook has the AIDS virus?											
Very likely	6	5	5	8	6	6	5	11	10	6	4
Somewhat likely	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	17	16	18	13
Somewhat unlikely	16	18	18	12	15	16	16	14	11	17	17
Very unlikely	33	33	36	30	36	31	35	23	26	32	39
Definitely not possible	17	20	17	16	17	18	17	16	13	16	21
Don't know	12	8	9	19	11	14	11	20	25	11	7

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Provisional estimates of the percent of persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1988 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, June 1988—Con.

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in technical notes]

AIDS knowledge or attitude	Total	Age			Sex		Race		Education		
		18-29 years	30-49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	White	Black	Less than 12 years	12 years	More than 12 years
24d. Kissing—with exchange of saliva—a person who has the AIDS virus?					Percent distribution ¹						
Very likely	22	18	20	27	20	23	21	29	25	24	18
Somewhat likely	27	24	29	27	26	28	28	24	26	27	29
Somewhat unlikely	13	17	13	10	14	12	14	12	9	12	16
Very unlikely	19	21	22	15	22	17	20	14	14	18	24
Definitely not possible	7	11	7	5	7	8	7	6	7	8	8
Don't know	11	9	8	16	11	11	10	15	20	11	5
24e. Shaking hands, touching, or kissing on the cheek someone who has the AIDS virus?											
Very likely	2	2	2	3	2	3	2	4	4	2	1
Somewhat likely	5	4	5	6	5	5	5	6	7	5	4
Somewhat unlikely	12	13	12	11	12	12	12	14	9	13	11
Very unlikely	38	40	39	35	41	34	38	36	35	37	40
Definitely not possible	36	38	37	33	33	39	36	29	26	36	42
Don't know	7	2	6	13	7	8	7	11	18	6	2
24f. Sharing plates, forks, or glasses with someone who has the AIDS virus?											
Very likely	8	7	7	10	7	9	7	14	12	8	6
Somewhat likely	17	16	17	16	18	15	17	15	18	18	15
Somewhat unlikely	15	18	14	12	14	15	15	14	12	15	16
Very unlikely	29	30	31	26	31	28	30	24	22	29	33
Definitely not possible	20	23	21	17	20	21	21	18	15	19	25
Don't know	11	6	9	18	10	12	10	15	22	10	6
24g. Using public toilets?											
Very likely	5	4	4	7	4	6	4	9	9	5	3
Somewhat likely	11	10	10	13	11	11	11	13	15	13	7
Somewhat unlikely	12	15	13	10	12	13	13	13	8	14	13
Very unlikely	33	33	37	30	36	31	35	26	27	31	39
Definitely not possible	27	31	28	24	28	27	28	24	18	27	33
Don't know	11	7	8	17	10	12	10	14	22	10	5
24h. Sharing needles for drug use with someone who has the AIDS virus?											
Very likely	93	94	95	90	93	93	94	89	87	94	95
Somewhat likely	3	3	2	4	4	3	3	5	4	3	3
Somewhat unlikely	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Very unlikely	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Definitely not possible	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Don't know	3	1	1	5	2	3	2	5	7	2	1
24i. Being coughed or sneezed on by someone who has the AIDS virus?											
Very likely	7	5	5	10	7	7	6	9	11	7	4
Somewhat likely	17	14	16	20	17	17	17	16	18	19	15
Somewhat unlikely	16	18	16	13	17	15	16	14	13	15	18
Very unlikely	29	32	32	24	31	28	30	26	22	29	34
Definitely not possible	18	22	20	14	17	20	19	17	11	18	23
Don't know	13	9	10	19	12	14	12	18	25	12	7
24j. Attending school with a child who has the AIDS virus?											
Very likely	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	4	2	1
Somewhat likely	6	6	5	8	7	6	6	6	8	7	5
Somewhat unlikely	10	11	12	8	11	10	10	11	9	13	9
Very unlikely	38	37	41	35	42	34	39	33	32	38	42
Definitely not possible	35	39	35	31	31	38	35	32	27	33	40
Don't know	8	5	6	14	8	9	8	15	20	7	4
24k. Mosquitoes or other insects?											
Very likely	7	8	7	8	8	7	7	10	12	7	5
Somewhat likely	15	19	13	14	16	14	14	16	17	16	13
Somewhat unlikely	8	8	9	7	8	8	8	9	6	9	8
Very unlikely	24	24	27	21	26	22	25	19	18	25	27
Definitely not possible	25	26	27	23	23	27	26	21	19	23	31
Don't know	20	15	18	28	18	23	20	25	29	20	16
25. Have you ever donated blood?											
Yes	40	29	43	44	51	30	42	32	30	37	49
No	60	70	56	55	49	69	58	68	70	62	51
Don't know	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
26a. Have you donated blood since March 1985?											
Yes	12	17	15	6	14	11	13	11	5	11	18
No	87	83	84	94	85	89	86	88	94	88	82
Don't know	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1
26b. Have you donated blood in the past 12 months?											
Yes	6	7	7	3	6	5	6	2	2	6	8
No	94	93	92	96	93	95	93	97	98	94	91
Don't know	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1

Table 2. Provisional estimates of the percent of persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1988 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, June 1988—Con.

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in technical notes]

AIDS knowledge or attitude	Age				Sex		Race		Education		
	Total	18-29 years	30-49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	White	Black	Less than 12 years	12 years	More than 12 years
27. Have you ever heard of a blood test that can detect the AIDS virus infection?											
Yes	76	83	83	62	76	76	78	66	57	75	87
No	20	14	14	31	20	19	18	28	36	20	10
Don't know	4	4	3	7	4	5	4	6	7	5	3
28. To the best of your knowledge, are blood donations routinely tested now for the AIDS virus infection?											
Yes	67	73	75	53	66	67	69	54	46	67	79
No	3	4	3	3	3	3	3	4	3	3	3
Don't know	6	6	5	6	6	6	6	8	8	5	6
Never heard of test ⁶	24	17	17	38	24	24	22	34	43	25	13
29a. Have you ever received counseling or had a talk with a health professional about taking the AIDS virus test?											
Yes	3	4	4	1	4	3	3	5	1	3	5
No	72	78	79	61	71	73	75	61	55	72	82
Don't know	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Never heard of test ⁶	24	17	17	38	24	24	22	34	43	25	13
29b. Was the discussion— ^{1,7}											
With a private doctor?	49	42	51	63	47	51	48	49	25	36	59
At a family-planning clinic?	6	14	1	—	3	8	4	11	14	6	4
On an AIDS hotline?	1	2	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	2
At a prenatal clinic?	5	13	1	—	1	11	4	9	7	6	5
At an STD or sexually transmitted disease clinic?	1	—	2	—	1	1	1	2	—	2	1
At an AIDS/HIV counseling and testing site?	11	13	9	9	10	11	12	7	12	8	12
With some other health professional?	38	30	45	28	38	39	42	31	17	39	40
With some other counselor?	13	20	10	6	18	8	13	13	33	8	14
30. During that discussion, did you receive information about how to avoid getting or passing on the AIDS virus? ⁷											
Yes	68	82	60	48	68	67	66	80	80	77	61
No	31	15	40	52	32	30	33	20	20	21	38
Don't know	1	3	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	2	1
31. Have you ever been advised by a health professional not to have the blood test for the AIDS virus infection?											
Yes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	—	0	0
No	75	82	83	62	75	76	77	66	56	75	87
Don't know	0	0	—	—	0	—	0	—	—	—	0
Never heard of test ⁶	24	17	17	38	25	24	22	34	44	25	13
32. Have you ever been advised by friends or relatives not to have the blood test for the AIDS virus infection?											
Yes	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	—	1	0	1
No	75	82	82	62	75	75	77	66	56	75	87
Don't know	0	0	—	—	0	—	0	—	—	—	0
Never heard of test ⁶	24	17	17	38	25	24	22	34	44	25	13
33. Have you had your blood tested for the AIDS virus infection?											
Yes	16	23	20	7	19	14	16	15	8	15	23
No	59	60	64	53	57	61	61	51	48	61	64
Don't know	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Never heard of test ⁶	23	15	15	37	22	23	21	32	42	23	11
35a. How many times have you had your blood tested for the AIDS virus infection?											
Once	4	6	5	1	5	3	4	4	3	3	6
Twice	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	1
3-5 times	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	2	0	1	1
6-12 times	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
More than 12 times	0	0	0	—	0	0	0	0	—	0	0
Don't know	10	14	11	5	11	9	10	8	5	9	14
Never heard of or never took test ⁸	84	78	81	93	82	87	84	85	92	86	78
35b. How many times in the past 12 months have you had your blood tested for the AIDS virus infection?											
None in the past 12 months	1	2	2	1	2	1	2	1	1	1	2
Once	4	5	5	2	4	3	3	5	2	3	5
More than once	1	2	2	1	2	1	1	2	0	1	2
Don't know	10	14	11	4	11	9	10	8	5	9	13
Never heard of or never took test ⁸	84	77	81	93	81	86	84	85	92	85	78
36. Was the test/were any of the tests, including those you had before the past 12 months— ^{1,9}											
Part of a blood donation?	74	73	74	76	71	77	76	60	68	74	75
Part of a blood transfusion?	1	2	1	1	1	2	2	—	2	0	2
Voluntarily sought?	14	10	18	15	17	11	13	21	13	15	14
Part of some other activity that requires a blood sample?	13	16	10	13	15	11	12	21	17	13	12

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Provisional estimates of the percent of persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1988 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, June 1988—Con.

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in technical notes]

AIDS knowledge or attitude	Age				Sex		Race		Education		
	Total	18-29 years	30-49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	White	Black	Less than 12 years	12 years	More than 12 years
Percent distribution ¹											
38. Did you get the results of your test/any of your tests? ^a											
Yes	54	56	54	47	55	52	50	74	51	49	58
No	45	42	45	49	44	46	48	26	44	48	42
Don't know	2	2	1	4	1	2	2	—	4	3	—
41. Do you expect to have a blood test for the AIDS virus infection in the next 12 months?											
Yes	6	11	7	2	7	6	5	13	4	6	8
No	64	66	71	56	63	66	68	45	47	64	75
Don't know	5	6	5	4	5	5	4	8	5	5	4
Never heard of test ^b	24	17	17	38	24	24	22	34	43	25	13
42. Will the test be— ^{1,10}											
Part of a blood donation?	32	25	40	21	33	30	37	17	23	31	35
Voluntarily sought?	59	65	53	55	59	59	55	65	57	55	62
Part of some other activity that requires a blood sample?	19	18	19	23	21	17	19	22	27	21	15
44a. Did you have a blood transfusion at any time between 1977 and 1985?											
Yes	5	3	5	7	5	6	5	9	6	6	5
No	93	96	94	91	93	93	94	91	93	93	94
Don't know	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	0	1	1	1
44b. Do you think the present supply of blood is safe for transfusions?											
Yes	44	48	47	39	49	40	46	37	33	43	52
No	27	28	29	24	24	30	26	33	30	29	24
Other	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Don't know	28	24	24	36	27	29	28	30	38	28	23
45. Here are some methods people use to prevent getting the AIDS virus through sexual activity. How effective is—											
45a. Using a diaphragm?											
Very effective	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	5	4	3	3
Somewhat effective	15	15	13	16	14	15	15	13	14	15	16
Not at all effective	54	58	62	42	54	54	56	44	35	56	63
Don't know how effective	21	18	16	30	21	21	21	25	33	22	15
Don't know method	7	5	6	9	7	6	6	12	15	5	4
45b. Using a condom?											
Very effective	29	34	32	23	31	28	30	27	20	29	35
Somewhat effective	54	53	58	51	55	54	56	45	47	57	57
Not at all effective	5	6	4	7	4	6	5	8	9	5	3
Don't know how effective	9	5	5	15	7	10	8	14	19	7	4
Don't know method	2	1	1	4	2	2	2	6	6	1	1
45c. Using a spermicidal jelly, foam, or cream?											
Very effective	2	3	2	2	3	2	2	4	3	2	3
Somewhat effective	17	18	18	15	17	17	18	13	10	18	20
Not at all effective	50	55	56	39	49	51	51	44	37	52	55
Don't know how effective	23	18	18	32	23	23	23	25	34	23	18
Don't know method	8	6	5	12	8	7	7	14	16	6	5
45d. Having a vasectomy?											
Very effective	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	1
Somewhat effective	3	5	2	2	4	2	3	5	4	3	3
Not at all effective	70	69	79	62	71	70	74	54	50	70	82
Don't know how effective	18	17	12	24	17	18	16	24	28	18	11
Don't know method	7	6	5	10	7	8	6	14	16	7	3
45e. Two people who do not have the AIDS virus having sex only with each other?											
Very effective	81	81	85	76	83	79	83	65	67	81	89
Somewhat effective	9	11	8	8	8	10	8	15	12	10	7
Not at all effective	3	5	2	2	3	3	3	5	4	3	2
Don't know how effective	6	3	3	11	5	7	5	10	14	5	3
Don't know method	2	1	1	3	2	2	1	4	4	1	1
46. What are your chances of having the AIDS virus?											
High	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Medium	1	1	2	1	2	1	1	3	1	1	2
Low	15	21	17	8	17	13	15	16	8	14	20
None	80	75	79	87	77	83	81	76	85	81	77
Don't know	3	2	2	4	3	2	2	5	5	3	1
47. What are your chances of getting the AIDS virus?											
High	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
Medium	2	2	2	1	2	1	2	2	2	2	2
Low	21	29	24	11	24	17	21	21	9	18	30
None	74	65	70	84	68	78	74	71	83	76	67
Don't know	3	3	2	4	4	2	3	5	6	3	1
High chance of already having AIDS virus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0

Table 2. Provisional estimates of the percent of persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1988 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, June 1988—Con.

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in technical notes]

AIDS knowledge or attitude	Total	Age			Sex		Race		Education		
		18-29 years	30-49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	White	Black	Less than 12 years	12 years	More than 12 years
49. Do you say your chance of getting AIDS is high or medium because you— ¹¹											
Have had a blood transfusion?	9	3	12	16	9	11	10	8	14	11	4
Have had sexual contact with someone who might have the virus?	18	19	18	14	20	14	19	18	20	15	22
Some other reason?	63	73	62	46	64	61	64	47	34	72	65
52. Have you ever discussed AIDS with a friend or relative?											
Yes	68	71	76	56	63	72	69	63	48	67	79
No	32	29	24	44	37	28	31	37	52	33	20
Don't know	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	—	0	1	0
53. When was the last time you discussed AIDS with a friend or relative?											
0-3 days ago	11	11	12	10	11	11	11	13	8	11	13
4-7 days ago	14	14	18	12	13	16	14	16	11	15	16
8-14 days ago	10	12	11	7	10	10	10	9	8	10	11
15-31 days ago	14	13	17	12	13	15	15	10	8	14	17
More than 31 days ago	13	17	14	9	11	15	14	8	8	12	18
Don't know ¹²	4	4	4	6	4	5	4	6	5	4	5
Never discussed ¹²	33	30	24	44	38	28	32	37	52	33	21
54. Have you ever personally known anyone with AIDS or the AIDS virus?											
Yes	9	9	13	6	9	10	9	13	4	6	16
No	88	89	85	91	89	88	89	85	93	92	82
Don't know	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	3
55. How long has it been since you saw this person?											
Within past 2 weeks	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2
2 weeks—less than 1 month	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
1 month—less than 3 months	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	0	2
3 months—less than 6 months	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	2	0	0	2
6 months or more	6	5	8	4	5	6	6	7	2	4	9
Don't know	0	0	—	0	0	—	0	—	0	—	0
Never knew anyone with AIDS ¹³	91	91	87	94	91	90	91	87	96	94	84
56. How well do you know this person?											
Very well	1	1	2	1	2	1	1	3	1	1	2
Fairly well	2	3	3	1	2	3	2	5	1	2	4
Not very well	3	3	5	2	3	3	4	2	1	2	6
Don't really know personally	2	1	2	2	1	2	1	2	2	1	2
Other	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	2
Don't know how well	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Never knew anyone with AIDS ¹³	91	92	87	94	91	90	91	87	96	94	85
57. Is any of these statements true for you?											
a. You have hemophilia and have received clotting factor concentrates since 1977.											
b. You are a native of Haiti or Central or East Africa who has entered the United States since 1977.											
c. You are a man who has had sex with another man at some time since 1977, even 1 time.											
d. You have taken illegal drugs by needle at any time since 1977.											
e. Since 1977, you are or have been the sex partner of any person who would answer yes to any of the items above (57 a-d).											
f. You have had sex for money or drugs at any time since 1977.											
Yes to at least 1 statement	2	4	3	0	3	1	2	4	2	2	3
No to all statements	98	96	97	100	96	99	98	96	98	98	97
Refused	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	—	0	0	0
Don't know	0	—	—	0	0	—	0	—	—	—	—
58. The U.S. Public Health Service has said that AIDS is one of the major health problems in the country but exactly how many people it affects is not known. The Surgeon General has proposed that a study be conducted and blood samples be taken to help find out how widespread the problem is. If you were selected in this national sample of people to have their blood tested with assurances of privacy of test results, would you have the test?											
Yes	70	74	72	64	70	69	70	70	65	71	71
No	22	19	20	28	23	22	22	19	25	21	22
Other	3	2	3	3	3	2	3	4	3	2	3
Don't know	5	4	6	5	4	6	5	7	7	5	4

Table 2. Provisional estimates of the percent of persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1988 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, June 1988—Con.

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in technical notes]

AIDS knowledge or attitude	Age				Sex		Race		Education		
	Total	18-29 years	30-49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	White	Black	Less than 12 years	12 years	More than 12 years
59. Why wouldn't you take part in the test? ¹⁴					Percent distribution ¹						
Don't want to know if I have AIDS	4	6	6	2	4	5	4	11	3	6	3
Don't want any counseling about AIDS.	1	—	2	1	1	1	1	3	1	1	1
Fear I'll get AIDS	6	4	5	7	4	7	5	7	6	6	4
Don't like to give blood	10	14	11	8	8	13	10	11	10	11	10
Don't trust Government programs	7	6	9	5	9	4	6	12	2	6	10
It is a waste of money	3	1	2	4	4	2	3	1	3	3	2
Don't believe AIDS can really be cured anyway	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	0
Other.	57	54	52	63	61	53	59	41	59	54	59
Don't know	15	18	15	15	12	18	15	14	17	17	11
61. When Federal public health officials give information about AIDS, do you believe what they say or are you doubtful about the information they give?											
Believe.	65	73	65	60	64	66	66	65	60	66	68
Doubtful.	28	21	30	31	29	26	28	27	29	28	27
Don't know	7	6	5	10	6	7	6	8	11	6	5
62. When they [public health officials] give advice about how to help keep from getting AIDS, do you believe their advice or are you doubtful about what they say?											
Believe.	79	81	80	75	78	80	79	76	72	79	82
Doubtful.	16	13	16	17	17	14	16	16	18	16	14
Don't know	6	6	4	8	5	6	5	8	10	5	4

¹Multiple responses may sum to more than 100.

²Based on persons answering yes to question 4 (includes yes to question 3).

³Based on persons answering yes to question 6.

⁴Based on persons answering all or almost all, about half, or less than half to question 7.

⁵Based on persons answering yes to question 11, "Do you have any children aged 10 through 17?" Question 12 was "How many do you have?"

⁶Based on persons answering no or don't know to question 27.

⁷Based on persons answering yes to question 29a.

⁸Based on persons answering no or don't know to questions 27 and 33.

⁹Based on persons answering yes to question 33.

¹⁰Based on persons answering yes to question 41.

¹¹Based on persons answering high or medium to question 48.

¹²Based on persons answering no or don't know to question 52.

¹³Based on persons answering no or don't know to question 54.

¹⁴Based on persons not answering yes to question 58.

Technical notes

The National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) is a continuous, cross-sectional household interview survey. Each week, a probability sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population is interviewed by personnel of the U.S. Bureau of the Census to obtain information on the health and other characteristics of each member of the household. Supplemental information is collected for all or a sample of household members. The 1988 National Health Interview Survey of AIDS Knowledge and Attitudes was asked of a single randomly chosen adult 18 years of age or

over in each family. The estimates in this report are based on completed interviews with 3,205 persons in May and 4,048 persons in June, or about 88 percent of eligible respondents.

Table I contains the estimated population size of each of the demographic subgroups included in table 1 to allow readers to derive provisional estimates of the number of people in the United States with a given characteristic, for example, the number of men who have had their blood tested for the AIDS virus. The population figures in table I are based on first-quarter 1987 data from the NHIS; they are not official population estimates. Tables II and III show approximate standard errors of estimates presented in tables 1 and 2. Both the estimates in tables 1 and 2 and the standard errors in tables II and III are provisional. They may differ slightly from estimates made using the final data file because they were calculated using a simplified weighting procedure that does not adjust for all the factors used in weighting the final data file. A final data file covering the entire data collection period for 1988 will be available in 1989.

A number of measures of AIDS knowledge declined slightly between December 1987 and May 1988. These small decreases may reflect the effects of a methodological experiment that was included in the 1988 National Health Interview Survey of AIDS Knowledge and Attitudes during May, June, and July. This experiment was designed to investigate two aspects of questionnaire design effect: the effect of varying the order in which response categories were read to respondents and the effect of varying the order

Table I. Sample sizes for the 1988 National Health Interview Survey of AIDS Knowledge and Attitudes and estimated adult population 18 years of age and over, by selected characteristics: United States, May-June 1988

Characteristic	Sample size		Estimated population in thousands
	May	June	
All adults	3,205	4,048	174,528
Age			
18-29 years	730	915	47,725
30-49 years	1,279	1,511	66,109
50 years and over	1,196	1,622	60,695
Sex			
Male	1,381	1,766	82,703
Female	1,824	2,282	91,825
Race			
White	2,638	3,331	151,003
Black	455	579	19,107
Education			
Less than 12 years	753	951	41,503
12 years	1,148	1,553	66,475
More than 12 years	1,292	1,494	62,363

Table II. Standard errors, expressed in percentage points, of estimated percents from the National Health Interview Survey of AIDS Knowledge and Attitudes, by selected characteristics: United States, May 1988

Estimated percent	Total	Age			Sex		Race		Education		
		18-29 years	30-49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	White	Black	Less than 12 years	12 years	More than 12 years
5 or 95	0.5	1.1	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.6	1.3	1.0	0.8	0.8
10 or 90	0.7	1.5	1.1	1.1	1.1	0.9	0.8	1.8	1.4	1.2	1.1
15 or 85	0.8	1.7	1.3	1.4	1.3	1.1	0.9	2.2	1.7	1.4	1.3
20 or 80	0.9	1.9	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.2	1.0	2.5	1.9	1.6	1.5
25 or 75	1.0	2.1	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.3	1.1	2.7	2.1	1.7	1.6
30 or 70	1.1	2.2	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.4	1.2	2.8	2.2	1.8	1.7
35 or 65	1.1	2.3	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.5	1.2	2.9	2.3	1.8	1.7
40 or 60	1.1	2.4	1.8	1.9	1.7	1.5	1.3	3.0	2.3	1.9	1.8
45 or 55	1.2	2.4	1.8	1.9	1.8	1.5	1.3	3.1	2.4	1.9	1.8
50	1.2	2.4	1.8	1.9	1.8	1.5	1.3	3.1	2.4	1.9	1.8

Table III. Standard errors, expressed in percentage points, of estimated percents from the National Health Interview Survey of AIDS Knowledge and Attitudes, by selected characteristics: United States, June 1988

Estimated percent	Total	Age			Sex		Race		Education		
		18-29 years	30-49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	White	Black	Less than 12 years	12 years	More than 12 years
5 or 95	0.4	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.5	1.2	0.9	0.7	0.7
10 or 90	0.6	1.3	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.7	1.6	1.3	1.0	1.0
15 or 85	0.7	1.5	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.0	0.8	1.9	1.5	1.2	1.2
20 or 80	0.8	1.7	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.1	0.9	2.2	1.7	1.3	1.4
25 or 75	0.9	1.9	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.2	1.0	2.4	1.8	1.4	1.5
30 or 70	0.9	2.0	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.0	2.5	2.0	1.5	1.6
35 or 65	1.0	2.1	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.3	1.1	2.6	2.0	1.6	1.6
40 or 60	1.0	2.1	1.7	1.6	1.5	1.3	1.1	2.7	2.1	1.6	1.7
45 or 55	1.0	2.2	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.4	1.1	2.7	2.1	1.7	1.7
50	1.0	2.2	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.4	1.1	2.7	2.1	1.7	1.7

in which questions or subparts of questions were asked. The experiment involved comparison of four different versions of the questionnaire, which were randomly assigned to respondents. In the first version, the response category order and question order were identical to those used for comparable questions in the 1987 AIDS survey.

In the second version, the response category order was modified; in the third version, the question order was modified; and in the fourth version, both the response category order was reversed and the question order was modified. The questions involved were numbers 21, 23, 24, 45-47, 61, and 62.

No. 159. 1987 Summary: National Hospital Discharge Survey (In preparation)

No. 158. Office Visits to Neurologists: 1985 (Issued July 12, 1988)

No. 157. Health of the Foreign Born Population: United States. 1985-86 (Issued June 13, 1988)

No. 156. Utilization of Short-Stay Hospitals by Patients With AIDS: United States, 1984-86 (Issued May 24, 1988)

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