

STIs



sexually transmitted infections

Once called venereal diseases, STIs affect men and women of all backgrounds and economic status. They are most prevalent among teenagers and young adults. Almost half of all STIs occur in young people 15 to 24 years old. As a group, Latinos are younger than the general population, with a median age of 27.6 years, compared with 36.6 years for the general population, increasing the risk.

HIV/AIDS

HIV/AIDS is the fourth-leading cause of death for Latinos across the United States.

Latinos account for 15 % of the U.S. population, but account for 18 % of new HIV/AIDS diagnoses.

Latinos are newly infected with HIV at a rate that is 2.6% higher than that of whites.

More than half of the Latinos newly infected with HIV are men who have sex with men. For Latina women, the most common methods of transmission are high-risk heterosexual behavior and injection drug use.

In Connecticut...

New AIDS cases were diagnosed at a rate of:

58.1 per 100,000 Latinos

53.0 per 100,000 blacks

6.3 per 100,000 whites

Of 212 AIDS cases reported in 2008:

40.1% were in blacks

32.5% were in Latinos

25.0% were in whites

Latino teens report the lowest rate of condom use compared with their peers:

48.0 % of Latino teens report using condoms

56.0% of white teens report using condoms

64.0% of black teens report using condoms

STIs

The 2006 Chlamydia rate was three times higher among Latinos than among whites nationwide.

Gonorrhea rates for Latinos in the U.S. were two times greater than rates observed for whites.

Syphilis rates in the Latino population were two times higher than those reported among whites.

Source: National Institutes of Health; CDC; Connecticut Department of Public Health; Latino Policy Institute

An initiative of the Hispanic Health Council