
Survey Report



Kaiser Family Foundation

***2009 Survey of Americans on HIV/AIDS:
Summary of Findings on the Domestic Epidemic***

April 2009

INTRODUCTION

The Kaiser Family Foundation has been tracking U.S. public opinion about HIV/AIDS for more than a decade. The 2009 *Survey of Americans on HIV/AIDS* is the seventh major survey of the American public's attitudes, opinions, knowledge, and experiences related to HIV/AIDS conducted by the Foundation since 1995. This vast set of data allows us to track public concern, knowledge, and attitudes about HIV over the course of a changing epidemic in the United States. By ensuring that we include enough African Americans, Latinos, and young adults in each of these surveys to capture their experiences and knowledge as distinct groups, we are also able to report on changes in attitudes among some of the groups that have been more heavily impacted by the epidemic.

Overall, the 2009 survey illuminates areas where public opinion has changed significantly over time, and areas where people's attitudes towards HIV have remained remarkably stable. For instance, since we began tracking in 1997, a majority of the public has said that the federal government spends too little on HIV/AIDS domestically. While the share expressing this view in 2009 is down somewhat from 2006, the level of support for increased spending is still notable considering the current economic crisis. One change that has been more dramatic is the share of the public who report seeing and hearing a lot about the domestic HIV epidemic today, which is now less than half of what it was just five years ago. Survey trends also show that while modest progress has been made in reducing HIV-related stigma, important challenges still remain.

In August 2008, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released new estimates of the HIV epidemic in the U.S., noting that new HIV infections were much higher than previously thought and that the rate of new infections among African Americans was 7 times that of whites; the rate for Latinos was 3 times higher. CDC also found that more new infections occurred among people under the age of 30 than any other age group.¹ The survey data reported here can help to shed light on how attitudes towards and experiences with HIV/AIDS differ for these populations. For example, African Americans and Latinos express higher levels of urgency and concern about HIV/AIDS than whites along a variety of measures, and support greater levels of government investment. At the same time, there are some trends of diminishing concern among these groups as well. For instance, the share of young adults (including young African Americans) saying they are personally concerned about becoming infected with HIV has declined steadily since the late 1990s. At a time when CDC reports new infections have not declined in at least a decade, and in fact the situation is worse than previously thought, it is notable that personal concern is decreasing.

The following summary details the key findings from the 2009 survey, and trends over time. Findings for African Americans, Latinos, and young adults are mentioned throughout the summary, and a synopsis of the differences by race and ethnicity is provided at the end.

¹ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *Fact Sheet: Estimates of New HIV Infections in the United States*; August 2008.

KEY FINDINGS

In current economic climate, half seek more spending on HIV/AIDS in the U.S., down somewhat from 2006.

Fully half of Americans in 2009 say the federal government spends too little on HIV/AIDS in the United States, while nearly three in ten (28 percent) say spending is about right, and just 5 percent say the government spends too much. Perhaps as a reflection of the current economic climate, the share of the public that wants the federal government to spend more on HIV/AIDS domestically has decreased somewhat since 2006, returning to levels seen in 2004 and earlier. However, it is notable that since we began tracking this question in 1997, the share saying the government spends too little on HIV/AIDS has never dipped below half. (Chart 1) When asked instead about federal government spending on HIV/AIDS compared with other diseases, roughly equal shares say spending on HIV/AIDS is too low (35 percent) as say about right (36 percent), while just 7 percent say it is too high. (Chart 2) African Americans are more likely than whites and Latinos to say the government should spend more on HIV/AIDS. (Charts 3-4)

The public is optimistic that spending on prevention will make a difference – six in ten say that more spending on HIV/AIDS prevention in the U.S. will lead to meaningful progress in slowing the epidemic, compared with three in ten (31 percent) who say it won't make much difference (shares that have been fairly consistent since 2004 – data not shown). Fewer, but still about half (48 percent), believe spending more on HIV/AIDS *treatment* in the U.S. will lead to meaningful progress in slowing the epidemic, while nearly four in ten (38 percent) think it won't make much difference. (Chart 5) African Americans and Latinos are more likely than whites to think spending on treatment will make a difference, and young adults are more likely than their older counterparts to think spending on prevention will lead to progress. (Charts 6-7)

In addition to support for government spending, more than a third (36 percent) of Americans say they have personally donated money to an HIV or AIDS-related charity, including nearly half (45 percent) of African Americans. (Chart 8)

Reported visibility and sense of urgency about HIV/AIDS has fallen considerably from recent years, and personal concern about becoming infected has declined steadily, including among young adults.

Americans are less likely to report seeing and hearing about the domestic HIV epidemic today than they did five years ago. The share of people saying they have heard, seen, or read "a lot" or "some" about the problem of HIV/AIDS in the U.S. in the past year declined from 70 percent in 2004 to 45 percent in 2009, and the share saying they saw "a lot" was cut about in half (from 34 percent to 14 percent). (Chart 9) While African Americans and Latinos are more likely than whites to report hearing about HIV in the U.S., the shares of these groups saying they heard or read a lot also declined by about half since 2004. (Chart 10)

The share of Americans naming HIV/AIDS as the most urgent health problem facing the nation also dropped precipitously between 2006 and 2009, from 17 percent to just 6 percent. It had been as high as 44 percent in 1995, declined until 2002, and remained fairly steady between 2002 and 2006 before this latest drop. (Chart 11) While African Americans and Latinos are more likely than whites to name HIV/AIDS as the country's most urgent health problem, dramatic declines between 2006 and 2009 were observed for all groups. (Chart 12) HIV/AIDS now ranks behind other diseases such as cancer (28 percent), heart disease (14 percent), obesity/nutrition disorders (14 percent), and diabetes (8 percent), as well as other health care-related concerns such as the uninsured (18 percent), health care costs (17 percent), and health care access (9 percent) as the most urgent health problem facing the nation. (Chart 13)

As mentioned above, CDC now estimates that HIV infection rates among African Americans are 7 times higher than among whites, and rates for Latinos are 3 times higher. Perhaps reflecting this disproportionate impact, African Americans (40 percent) and Latinos (35 percent) are more likely than whites (10 percent) to say that HIV/AIDS is a more urgent problem for their community than it was a few years ago. (Chart 14) However, despite the fact that CDC also estimates that the number of people newly infected each year is higher than previously thought, the share of all adults, including African Americans and Latinos, who see HIV/AIDS as a more urgent problem for their community declined somewhat between 2006 and 2009. (Chart 15)

Also perhaps indicating an attenuated sense of urgency, the share of the public saying the U.S. is losing ground on the problem of HIV/AIDS has decreased in recent years, from 36 percent in 2004 to 22 percent in 2009. At the same time, a plurality (45 percent) continue to believe the U.S. is making progress when it comes to the disease, a share that has been fairly steady since 1997. (Chart 16) Still, African Americans and Latinos are more likely than whites to say the U.S. is losing ground on HIV/AIDS, perhaps again reflecting the disproportionate impact of the disease among those groups. (Chart 17)

The share saying they are personally very concerned about becoming infected with HIV has also declined steadily over time, from 24 percent in 1997 to 13 percent in 2009. (Chart 18) This decline is largely concentrated among Latinos and whites, while personal concern among African Americans is higher than other groups and has remained relatively steady since 2000. (Charts 19-21) Personal concern has also trended downward over time for young adults ages 18-29, from a high of 30 percent saying they were very concerned in 1997 and 2000, to 17 percent today. (Chart 22) Concern also appears to be down among younger African Americans, with four in ten of those between the ages of 18 and 29 saying they are very concerned about becoming infected in 2009, compared with 54 percent in 1997. (Chart 22)

Some hopeful signs, but misconceptions and stigma persist.

There are some hopeful signs that HIV/AIDS in the U.S. may carry less stigma than it once did. A large majority of adults (69 percent) say that people they know would not think differently about them if they found out they had been tested for HIV, and this share has increased slightly since 2006 (62 percent). There has also been a slight decline in the share saying people would think less of them if they found out they had an HIV test (from 21 percent to 16 percent). (Chart 23)

Furthermore, since the late 1990s, there has been a slow but steady increase in the share of people saying they would be very comfortable working with someone who has HIV or AIDS, rising from 32 percent in 1997 to 44 percent today. (Chart 24)

Many Americans also report a personal connection with the disease; four in ten say they know someone who now has AIDS, has tested positive for HIV, or has died of AIDS, a figure that has remained relatively steady since the mid-1990s. (Chart 25) About one in five Americans (and nearly four in ten African Americans) say that a close friend or family member has died from AIDS or now has HIV. (Chart 26) Survey data also indicate that those who know someone with HIV are less likely to harbor stigmatizing attitudes; 83 percent of those who report knowing someone say they would be comfortable working with someone with HIV, compared with 65 percent of those who do not know anyone with the disease.

However, despite these hopeful signs, challenges remain in this area. Notable shares say they would be uncomfortable with an HIV-positive co-worker (23 percent), child's teacher (35 percent of parents), or roommate (42 percent), and fully half (51 percent) of adults say they would be uncomfortable having their food prepared by someone who is HIV positive. (Chart 27)

These attitudes may be linked to misconceptions about how HIV is transmitted, which continue to persist more than 25 years into the epidemic. One third of Americans (34 percent) harbor at least one misconception about HIV transmission, not knowing that HIV *cannot* be transmitted through sharing a drinking glass (27 percent), touching a toilet seat (17 percent), or swimming in a pool with someone who is HIV positive (14 percent). (Chart 28) Moreover, levels of knowledge about HIV transmission have not

improved since 1987. In fact, the share who say that HIV can be transmitted by sharing a drinking glass or say they don't know increased slightly (from 22 percent to 27 percent) between 2006 and 2009. (Chart 29) Misconceptions about HIV transmission are more common among the elderly, but still nearly a third of young people ages 18-29 mistakenly think HIV might be transmitted in one of these three ways. (Chart 30)

Lingering misconceptions about how HIV is transmitted may be a contributing factor to discomfort around HIV-positive individuals. People who harbor misconceptions about HIV transmission are more likely to say they would be uncomfortable working with someone with HIV (43 percent, compared with 13 percent of those who know that HIV cannot be transmitted in these ways), and more likely to be uncomfortable having their food prepared by someone who is HIV-positive (71 percent compared with 40 percent). (Chart 31)

Important shares of the public also continue to be uninformed or misinformed about the current state of HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment. More than half (55 percent) do not know that a pregnant woman with HIV can take drugs to reduce the risk of her baby being born infected, nearly one in five (18 percent) are unaware that there is no cure for AIDS, and 12 percent do not know that there are drugs available that can lengthen the lives of people with HIV. About a quarter mistakenly believe (or are unsure) that Magic Johnson has been cured of AIDS (27 percent) and that there is a vaccine available to prevent people from becoming infected (24 percent). (Chart 32) Misconceptions vary by race and ethnicity in different and nuanced ways. While African Americans are more likely than whites or Latinos to know that a pregnant woman with HIV can take drugs to reduce the risk of her baby being born infected, some misconceptions are more common among African Americans, including that Magic Johnson has been cured of AIDS, that there is a vaccine available to prevent people from becoming infected, and that there are drugs available that can cure HIV and AIDS. (Charts 33-34)

Understanding where people get their information about HIV and AIDS helps illuminate potential opportunities for combating the misconceptions mentioned above. The public names the media as its main source of information, with six in ten (62 percent) saying most of what they know about the disease comes mainly from things they've seen and heard from the media, such as television, radio, newspapers and the Internet. (Chart 35) African Americans and young adults are more likely than their counterparts to get information from non-media sources such as school, their doctors, and friends and family, but media is chosen by the largest share in each of these groups. (Charts 36-37)

Increasing shares of African Americans report talking to their doctor about HIV/AIDS, but reported rates of HIV testing are stagnant for all groups.

African Americans and, to a lesser extent, Latinos are more likely than whites to report talking to their doctors and/or partners about HIV/AIDS, as are those under age 50 compared with those ages 50 and older. (Charts 38-40) While the share of all adults who report talking with their doctor about HIV has remained fairly steady over time, the share of African Americans who say they have talked with a doctor or other health care provider about HIV increased significantly, from about half in 2004 and 2006, to two-thirds in 2009. (Chart 41) African Americans and Latinos are also more likely than whites to say a doctor has ever suggested they be tested for HIV. (Charts 42-43)

Nearly half (47 percent) of adults in the U.S. say they have ever been tested for HIV, including 16 percent who say they were tested in the past 12 months. (Chart 44) Among the non-elderly, reported rates of ever getting tested for HIV and testing in the past 12 months have remained fairly steady since about 2000. (Chart 45) African Americans and Latinos are more likely than whites to report being tested for HIV, but the shares reporting having been tested in the last 12 months for these groups have also remained about the same for the last several years. (Chart 46) Reported HIV testing is most common among young adults, with 30 percent of those ages 18-29 saying they were tested in the past 12 months, including nearly half (47 percent) of young African Americans and 42 percent of young Latinos. (Chart 47) However, reported rates of testing have also been fairly constant among 18-29 year-olds. (Chart 48)

Among the 47 percent of all adults who have ever been tested for HIV, nearly half (45 percent) say they asked to be tested, about a quarter (26 percent) say the doctor or nurse told them the test was being done, and another quarter were under the impression it was a routine part of their exam. Just over a quarter (26 percent) of those who say they have been tested for HIV at some point say they went to a doctor or clinic *specifically* to get an HIV test, while nearly seven in ten (69 percent) say they got tested as part of another health visit such as a routine check-up. (Chart 49)

The most commonly reported reason for getting an HIV test among those who have been tested is “it just seemed like a good idea” (65 percent). Among young adults who have never been tested, the most commonly reported reason is not feeling at risk (70 percent). (Charts 50-51)

Summary of differences by race/ethnicity: African Americans and Latinos express more interest and urgency on HIV than whites.

The HIV/AIDS epidemic has hit certain communities in the U.S. harder than others, including African Americans and Latinos. Perhaps as a reflection of this increased burden on their communities, members of these racial and ethnic groups express different attitudes and experiences related to HIV compared with their white counterparts.

In 2009, many in America are aware of this deeper impact. More than half of the public (56 percent) is aware that the HIV epidemic has had a greater impact on African Americans than it has on whites in the United States; African Americans (68 percent) are even more likely to know this. (Chart 52)

As noted above, African Americans and, to a lesser extent, Latinos express more interest in and urgency about the HIV epidemic than whites: they are more likely to name it as an urgent problem for the nation and their local community, to express personal concern about becoming infected, and to say they have heard a lot about AIDS in the U.S. in the past year. They are also more likely to say the U.S. is losing ground on the problem of HIV/AIDS and to think that spending more on HIV treatment will lead to meaningful progress in slowing the epidemic. African Americans in particular are more likely to report knowing someone with HIV, to support government spending on the disease, to say they have donated their own money to HIV and AIDS-related causes. Finally, African Americans and, again to a lesser extent, Latinos are more likely than whites to report being tested for HIV and talking about the disease with their doctors and/or partners. As one hopeful sign, the share of African Americans who report ever talking with a doctor or health care provider about HIV or AIDS is up 23 percentage points since 2000. (Chart 41)

However, despite these signs of higher awareness of the disease among these groups, there are some troubling signs as well. While higher than for whites, the share of African Americans and Latinos naming HIV/AIDS as the most urgent health problem facing the nation has also declined dramatically in recent years. And the share who say they have heard a lot about the problem of AIDS in the U.S. in the past year has been cut roughly in half for both African Americans and Latinos since 2004. While personal concern about becoming infected has been fairly steady in recent years for African Americans, it has declined steadily for Latinos, from 46 percent saying they were “very concerned” about becoming infected in 1997, to 25 percent in 2009. (Chart 21)

Finally, while African Americans are more likely than their counterparts to be knowledgeable about the impact of the epidemic on the African American community and about drugs to prevent mother-to-child transmission of HIV, misconceptions about the existence of a cure or vaccine for the disease are *more* common among African Americans.

METHODOLOGY

The Kaiser Family Foundation *Survey of Americans on HIV/AIDS* was designed and analyzed by researchers at the Kaiser Family Foundation led by Mollyann Brodie, Ph.D., including Elizabeth Hamel, Jennifer Kates and Sasha Buscho. The survey was conducted by telephone between January 26 and March 8, 2009, among a nationally representative random sample of 2,554 adults ages 18 and older. Telephone interviews conducted by landline (N=1,951) and cell phone (N=603, including 214 who had no landline telephone) were carried out in English and Spanish by Princeton Survey Research Associates. The survey includes oversamples of African American and Latino respondents as well as respondents ages 18-29. Results for all groups have been weighted to reflect their actual distribution in the nation.

The margin of sampling error for the overall survey is plus or minus 3 percentage points. Numbers of interviews and margins of sampling error for key subgroups are shown in the table below. For results based on other subgroups, the margin of sampling error may be higher. Some questions reported in this document were asked of random half-samples of respondents. Please refer to the Survey Topline for details. Note that sampling error is only one of many potential sources of error in this or any other public opinion poll.

Group	N	MOSE
Whites	1288	±4 percentage points
African Americans	590	±5 percentage points
Latinos	517	±6 percentage points
Total ages 18-29	700	±7 percentage points
Whites ages 18-29	217	±10 percentage points
African Americans ages 18-29	203	±8 percentage points
Latinos ages 18-29	224	±9 percentage points

Please note:

- Percentages may not always add up to 100% due to rounding.
- "Vol." indicates that a response was volunteered by the respondent, not offered as an explicit choice.

Trends in this document come from the following surveys:

Apr-06: Kaiser Family Foundation 2006 *Survey of Americans on HIV/AIDS* (3/24-4/18/2006)

May-04: Kaiser Family Foundation 2004 *Survey of Americans on HIV/AIDS* (3/15-5/11/2004)

Oct-03: Kaiser Family Foundation *September/October 2003 Health Poll Report Survey* (10/3-10/5/2003)

Jun-02: Kaiser Family Foundation 2002 *Survey of Americans on HIV/AIDS* (6/13-23/2002)

Oct-00: Kaiser Family Foundation 2000 *Survey of Americans on HIV/AIDS* (8/14-10/26/2000)

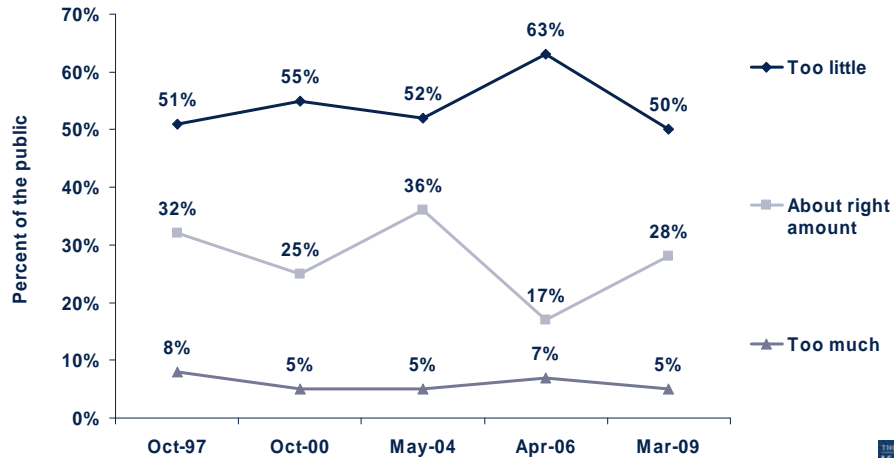
Oct-97: Kaiser Family Foundation *Public Knowledge and Attitudes about HIV/AIDS Survey* (9/17-10/19/1997)

Dec-95: Kaiser Family Foundation *Survey of Americans on AIDS/HIV* (11/27-12/17/1995)

CHART 1

Trend in Views of U.S. Spending on Domestic HIV/AIDS

Thinking about the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the United States specifically, in general, do you think the federal government spends too much money on HIV/AIDS, too little money on HIV/AIDS, or about the right amount?



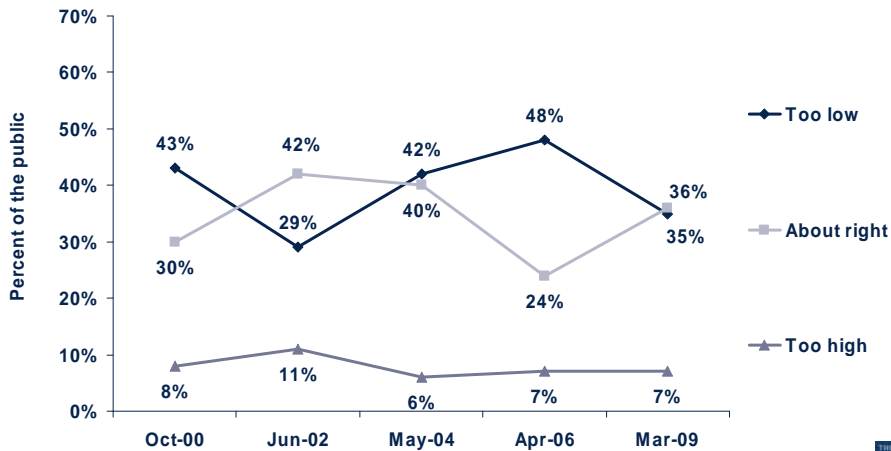
Note: Don't know responses not shown.
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation surveys



CHART 2

Trend in Views of U.S. Spending on Domestic HIV/AIDS Compared with Spending on Other Health Problems

Compared with the amount of money the federal government spends on other health problems, such as heart disease and cancer, do you think federal spending on HIV/AIDS is too high, too low, or about right?



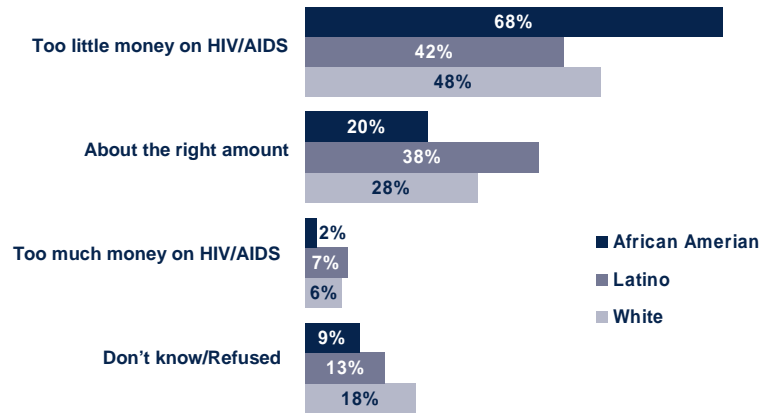
Note: Don't know responses not shown.
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation surveys



CHART 3

Views of U.S. Spending on Domestic HIV/AIDS by Race/Ethnicity

Thinking about the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the United States specifically, in general, do you think the federal government spends too much money on HIV/AIDS, too little money on HIV/AIDS, or about the right amount?



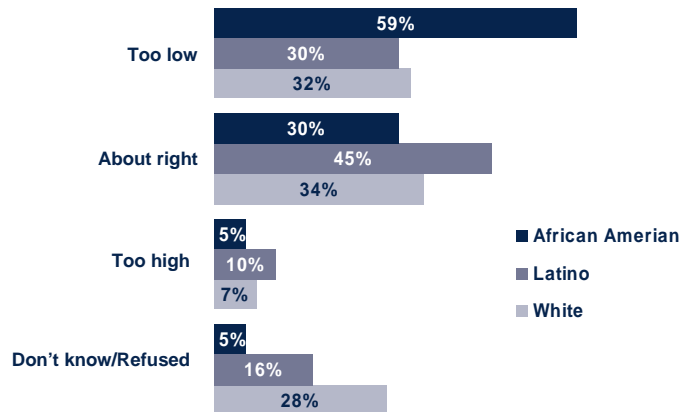
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Survey of Americans on HIV/AIDS (conducted Jan. 26-March 8, 2009)



CHART 4

Views of U.S. Spending on Domestic HIV/AIDS Compared with Spending on Other Health Problems by Race/Ethnicity

Compared with the amount of money the federal government spends on other health problems, such as heart disease and cancer, do you think federal spending on HIV/AIDS is too high, too low, or about right?



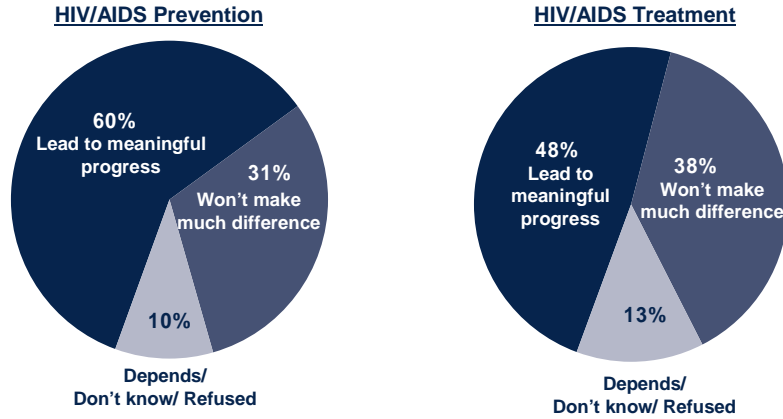
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Survey of Americans on HIV/AIDS (conducted Jan. 26-March 8, 2009)



CHART 5

Will Spending on Prevention/Treatment Lead to Progress?

In general, do you think that spending more money on (INSERT) in the U.S. will lead to meaningful progress in slowing the epidemic, OR that spending more money won't make much difference?



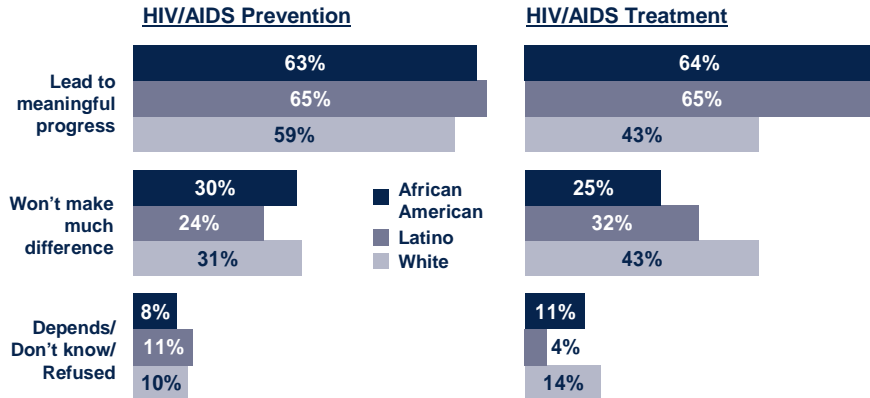
Asked of separate half-samples
 Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Survey of Americans on HIV/AIDS (conducted Jan. 26-March 8, 2009)



CHART 6

Views on Spending and Progress By Race/Ethnicity

In general, do you think that spending more money on (EACH) in the U.S. will lead to meaningful progress in slowing the epidemic, OR that spending more money won't make much difference?



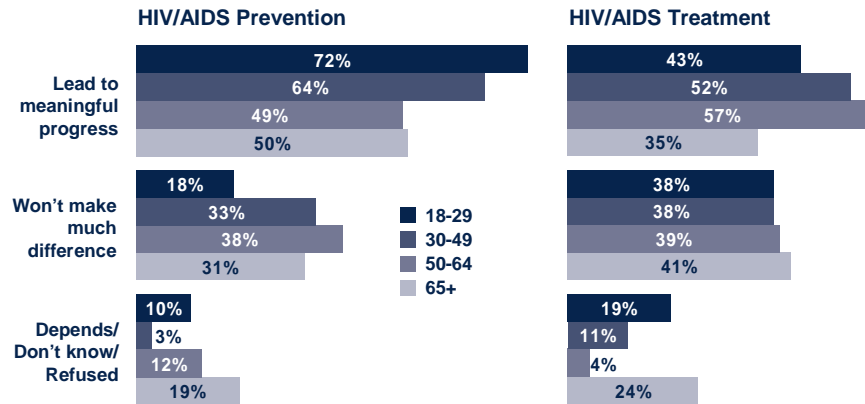
Asked of separate half-samples
 Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Survey of Americans on HIV/AIDS (conducted Jan. 26-March 8, 2009)



CHART 7

Views on Spending and Progress By Age

In general, do you think that spending more money on (EACH) in the U.S. will lead to meaningful progress in slowing the epidemic, OR that spending more money won't make much difference?



Asked of separate half-samples

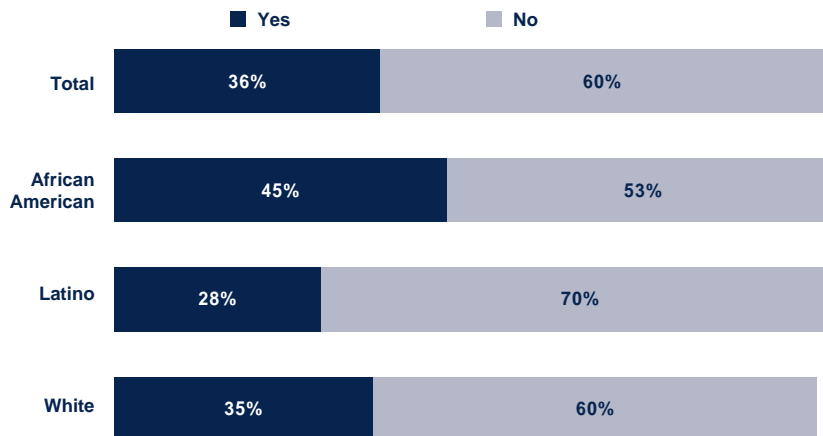
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Survey of Americans on HIV/AIDS (conducted Jan. 26-March 8, 2009)



CHART 8

Reported Personal Donations by Race/Ethnicity

Have you, personally, ever donated money to an HIV or AIDS-related charity, or not?



Note: Don't know responses not shown.

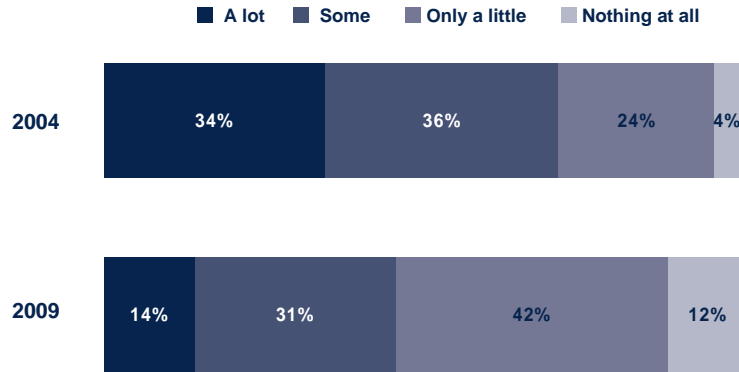
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Survey of Americans on HIV/AIDS (conducted Jan. 26-March 8, 2009)



CHART 9

Percent Saying They Have Heard A Lot About AIDS in the U.S. Has Fallen Since 2004

During the last year, how much, if anything, have you personally seen, heard, or read about the problems of AIDS in the United States...



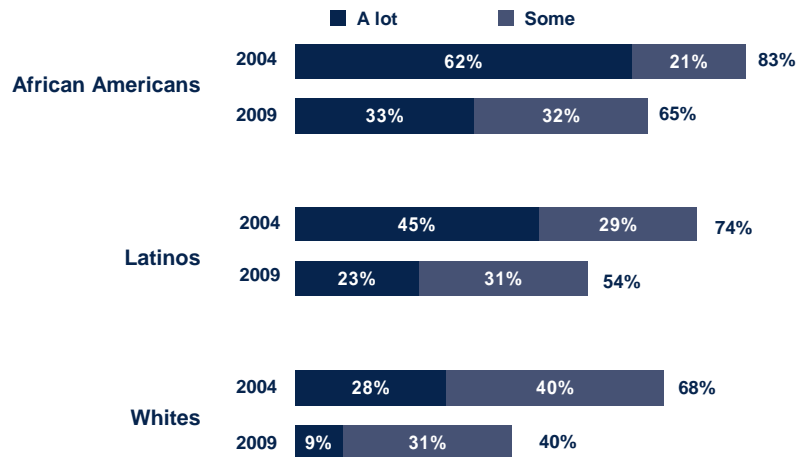
Note: Don't know responses not shown
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation surveys



CHART 10

Percent of All Groups Who Say They Have Heard A Lot About AIDS in the U.S. Has Fallen Since 2004

Percent saying they have seen, heard, or read a lot/some about the problem of AIDS in the United States during the last year...



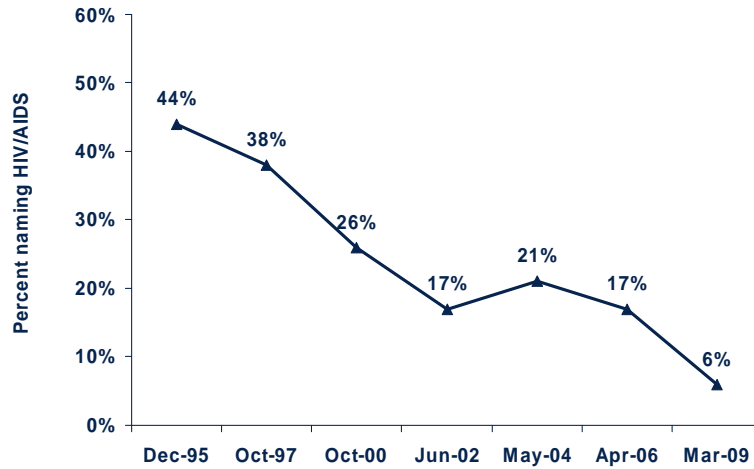
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation surveys



CHART 11

Trend in Share Naming HIV/AIDS as Most Urgent Health Problem

Percent of the public naming HIV/AIDS as the most urgent health problem facing the nation in an open-ended question



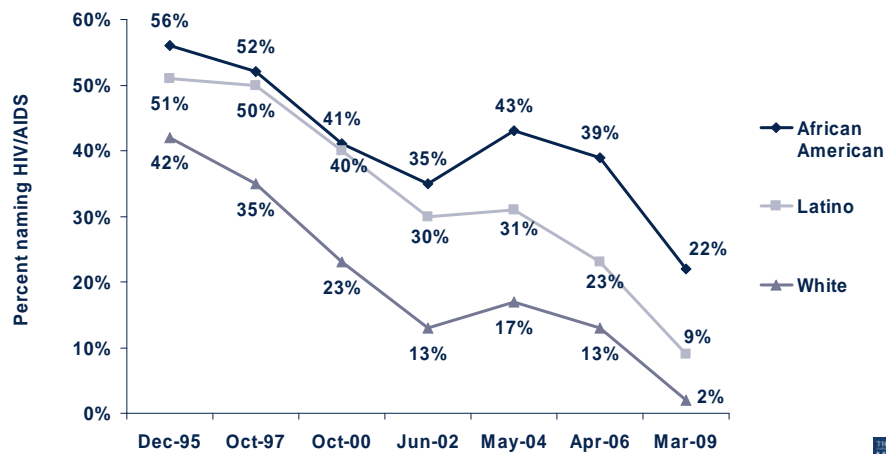
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation surveys



CHART 12

Trend in Share Naming HIV/AIDS as Most Urgent Health Problem By Race/Ethnicity

Percent naming HIV/AIDS as the most urgent health problem facing the nation



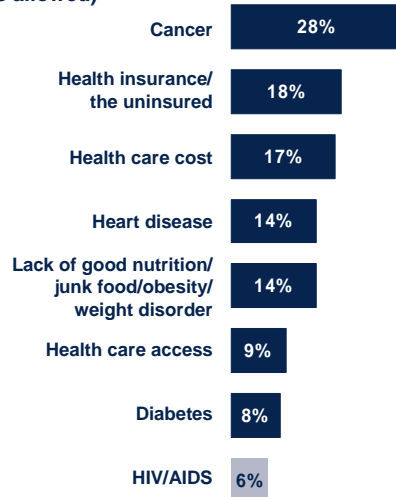
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation surveys



CHART 13

Perception of Most Urgent Health Problem Facing the Nation

What do you think is the most urgent health problem facing the nation today? (Open-ended, multiple responses allowed)



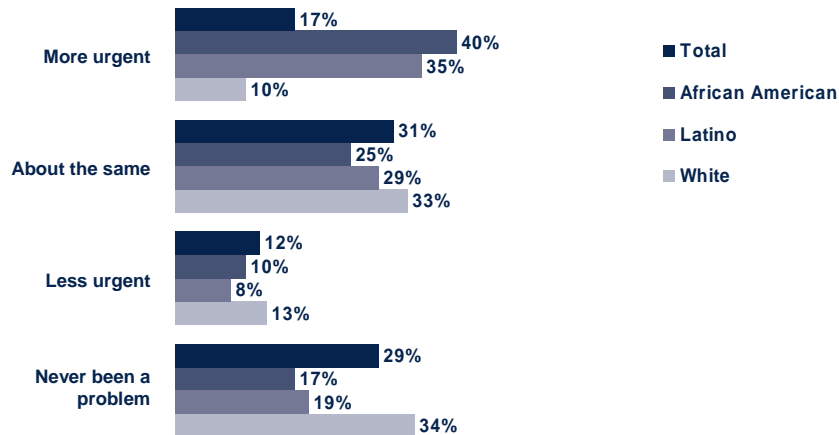
Note: Responses less than 6 percent not shown. Total exceeds 100% due to multiple responses.
 Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Survey of Americans on HIV/AIDS (conducted Jan. 26-March 8, 2009)



CHART 14

African Americans More Likely to See HIV/AIDS As An Urgent Problem for Their Community

Thinking about the way the problem of AIDS is affecting YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY today, do you think AIDS is a more urgent problem for your community than it was a few years ago, a less urgent problem, is it about the same, or has AIDS never been a problem in your community?

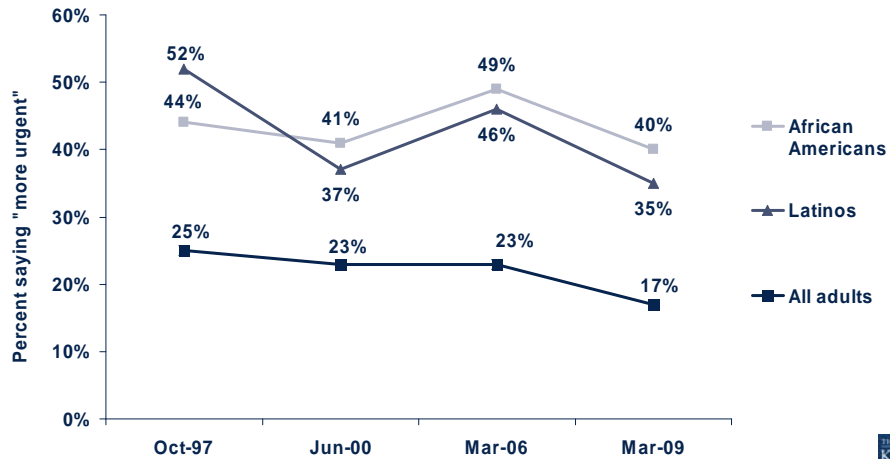


Note: Don't know responses not shown
 Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Survey of Americans on HIV/AIDS (conducted Jan. 26-March 8, 2009)



CHART 15
Trend in Perceptions of AIDS as an Urgent Health Problem Facing Community

Percent saying AIDS is a MORE URGENT problem for their community now than it was a few years ago

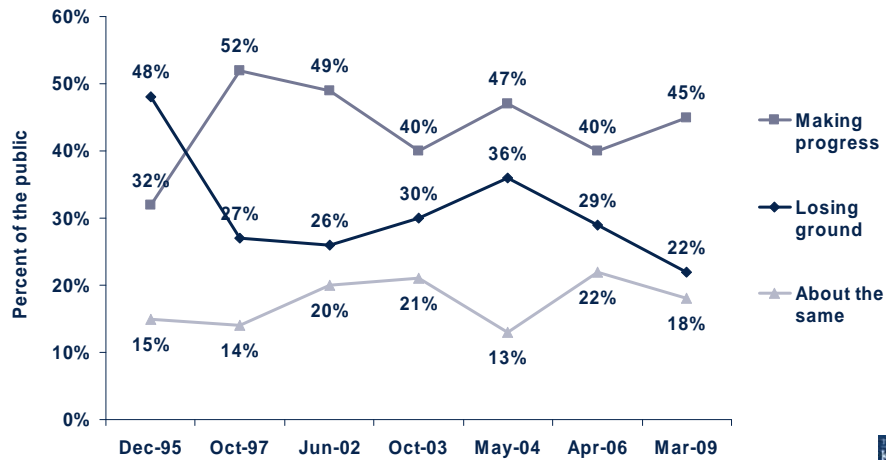


Source: Kaiser Family Foundation surveys



CHART 16
Trend in Perceptions of U.S. Progress on HIV/AIDS

Thinking about the way the problem of HIV/AIDS affects the United States today, do you think the problem is about the same as it has been, that the U.S. today is making progress in this area, or that the U.S. today is losing ground?



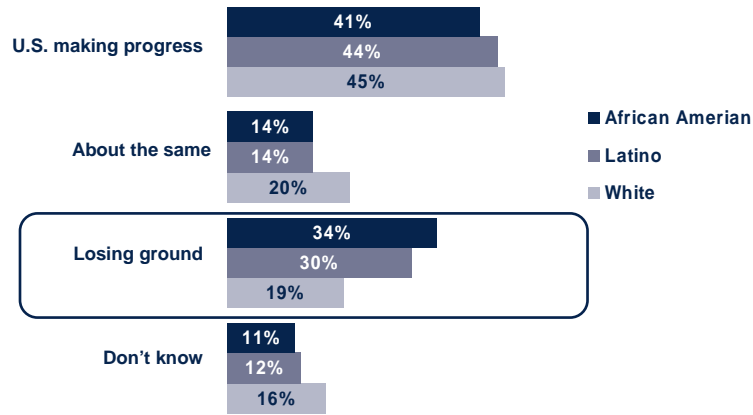
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation surveys



CHART 17

Perceptions of U.S. Progress on HIV/AIDS by Race/Ethnicity

Thinking about the way the problem of HIV/AIDS affects the United States today, do you think the problem is about the same as it has been, that the U.S. today is making progress in this area, or that the U.S. today is losing ground?



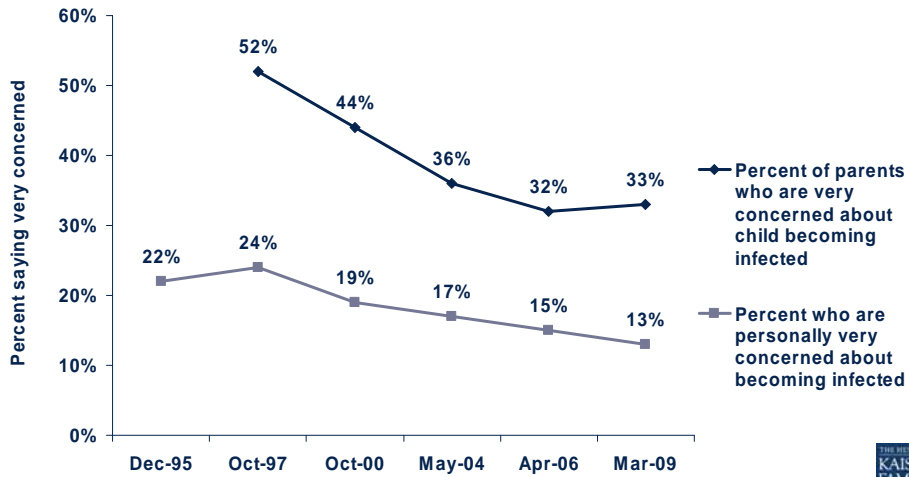
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Survey of Americans on HIV/AIDS (conducted Jan. 26-March 8, 2009)



CHART 18

Trend in Personal Concern About Becoming Infected

Percent who say they are personally “very concerned” about becoming infected with HIV, and percent of parents who say they are “very concerned” about a son or daughter becoming infected with HIV



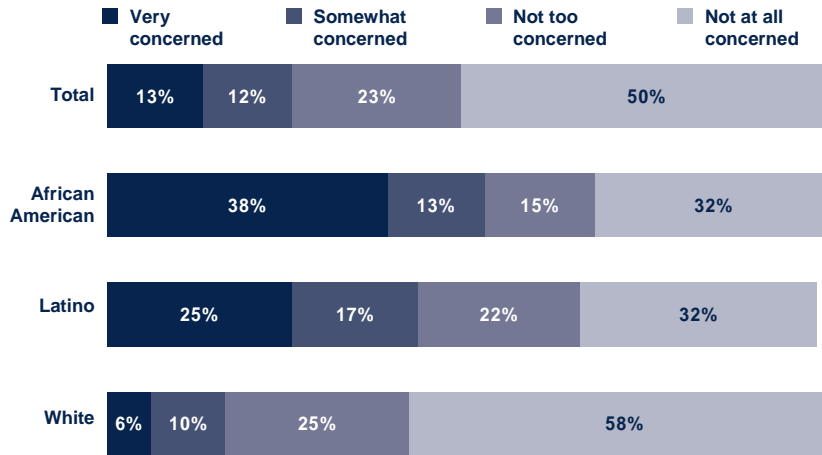
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation surveys



CHART 19

Personal Concern About Becoming Infected With HIV

Bearing in mind the different ways people can be infected with HIV, how concerned are you personally about becoming infected with HIV?



Note: Don't know responses not shown

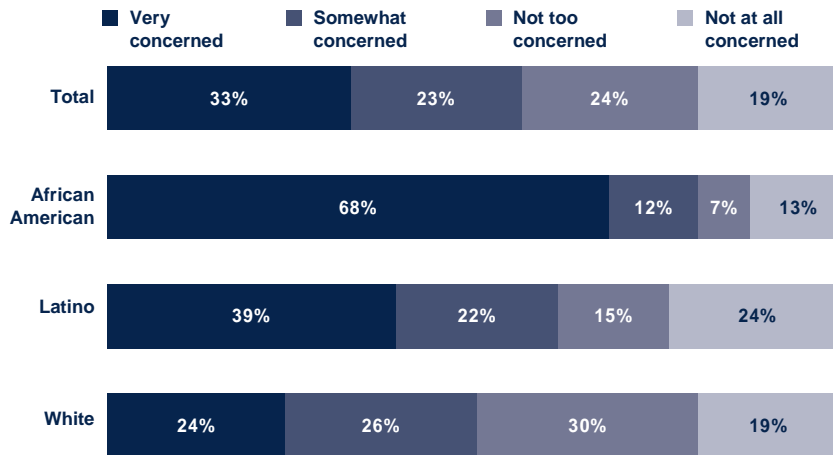
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Survey of Americans on HIV/AIDS (conducted Jan. 26-March 8, 2009)



CHART 20

Personal Concern About A Child Becoming Infected

How concerned are you about a son or daughter becoming infected with HIV?
(Based on parents of children age 21 or younger)



Note: Don't know responses not shown

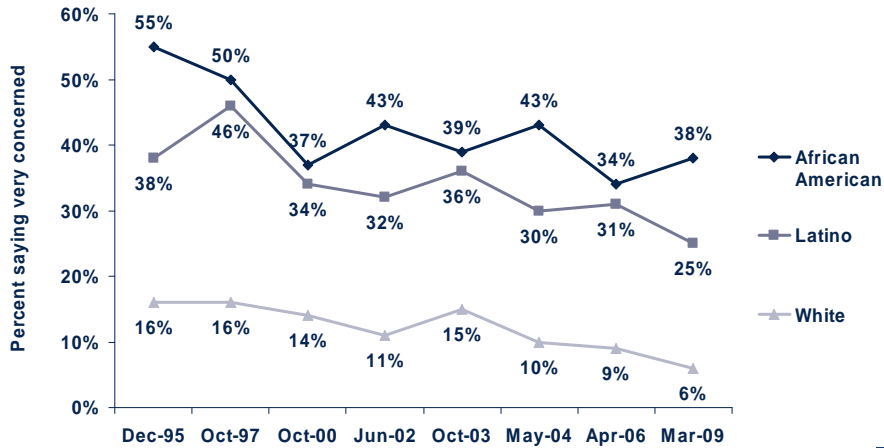
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Survey of Americans on HIV/AIDS (conducted Jan. 26-March 8, 2009)



CHART 21

Trend in Personal Concern by Race/Ethnicity

Percent who say they are personally “very concerned” about becoming infected with HIV



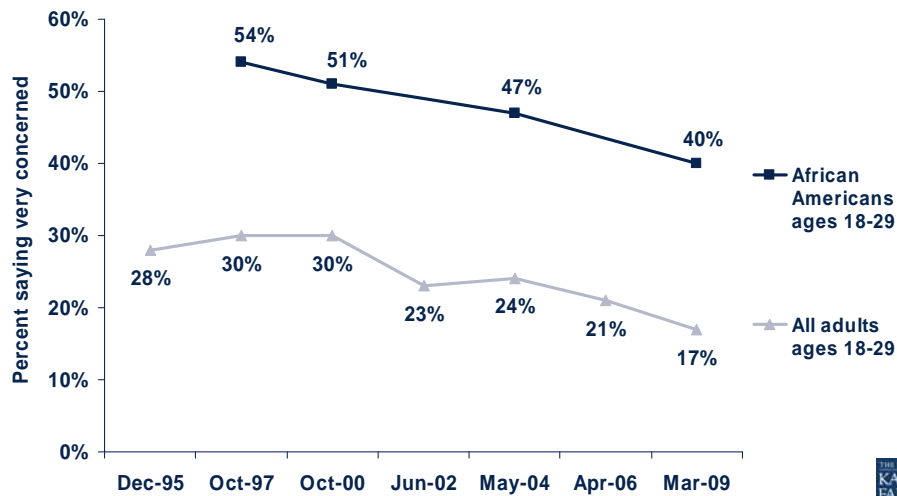
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation surveys



CHART 22

Trend in Personal Concern Among Young Adults

Percent of 18-29 year olds who say they are personally “very concerned” about becoming infected with HIV



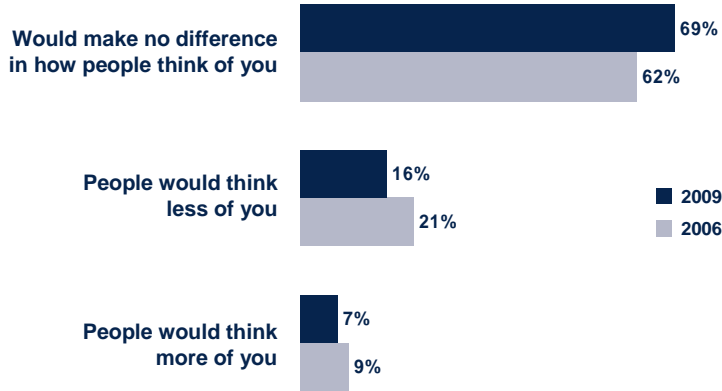
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation surveys



CHART 23

Perception of Whether Testing Leads to Stigma

If you were to be tested for HIV, do you think it would make people you know think less of you, think more of you, or would it make no difference in how people you know think of you?



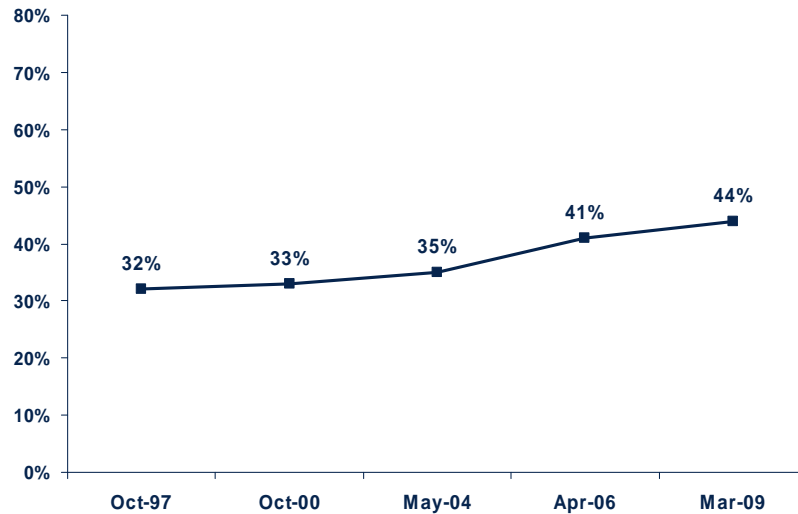
Note: Don't know responses not shown
 Source: Kaiser Family Foundation surveys



CHART 24

Comfort Working With Someone With HIV/AIDS Has Risen Slightly

Percent who say they would be "very" comfortable working with someone who has HIV or AIDS:



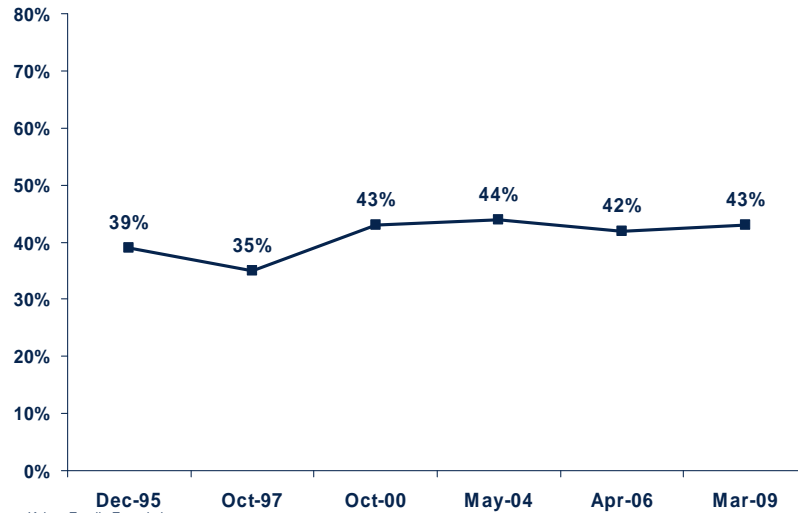
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation surveys



CHART 25

Four in Ten Know Someone With HIV/AIDS

Percent who say they personally know anyone who now has AIDS, has died from AIDS, or has tested positive for HIV:



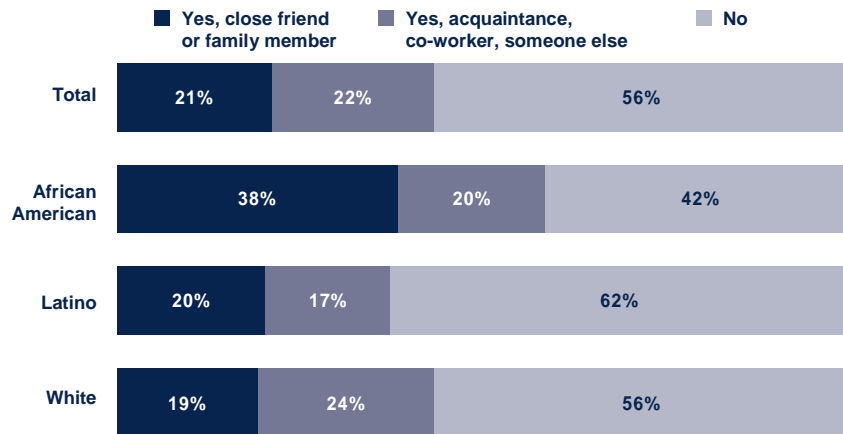
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation surveys



CHART 26

Percent Who Report Knowing Someone With HIV/AIDS

Do you personally know anyone who now has AIDS, has died from AIDS, or has tested positive for HIV? Is that a family member, a close friend, an acquaintance or co-worker, or someone else?



Note: Don't know responses not shown

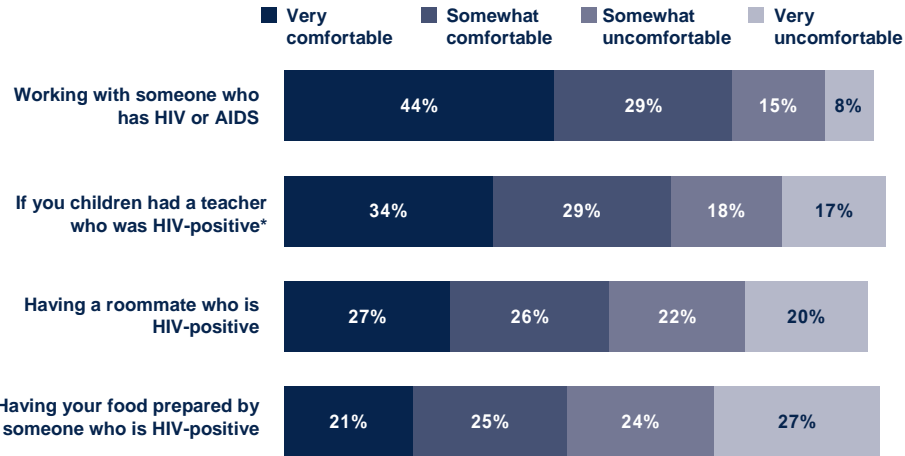
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Survey of Americans on HIV/AIDS (conducted Jan. 26-March 8, 2009)



CHART 27

Comfort With People Who Have HIV/AIDS

In general, how comfortable would you personally be...



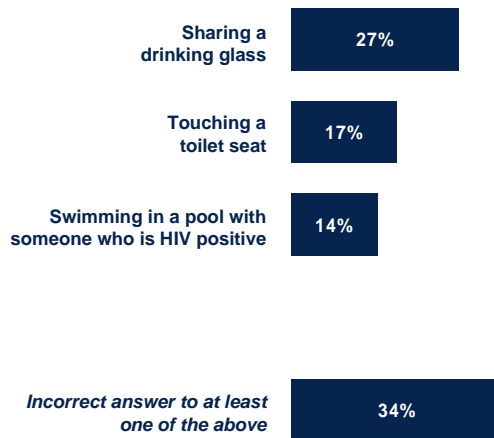
* Asked of those who have children ages 21 or younger. Note: Don't know responses not shown.
 Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Survey of Americans on HIV/AIDS (conducted Jan. 26-March 8, 2009)



CHART 28

Misconceptions About HIV Transmission

Percent who do not know that HIV CANNOT be transmitted by... (incorrect answers)*



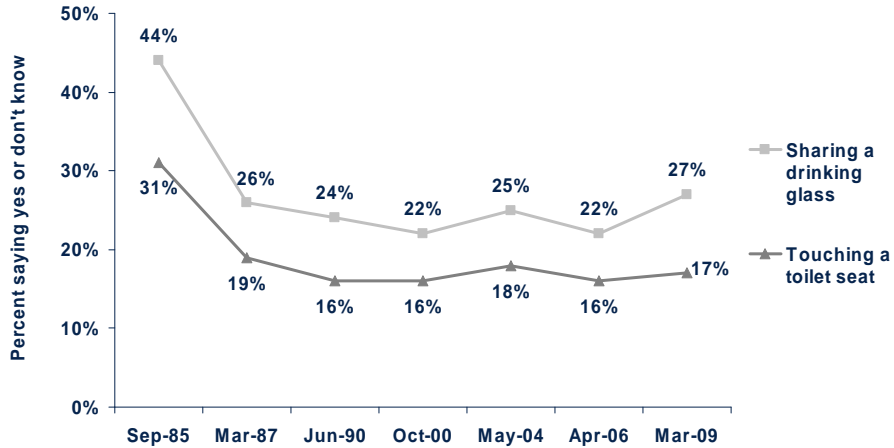
*Includes "True" and "Don't know" responses.
 Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Survey of Americans on HIV/AIDS (conducted Jan. 26-March 8, 2009)



CHART 29

Trend in Misconceptions About HIV Transmission

Percent who do not know that HIV can NOT be transmitted in the following ways... (Incorrect answers)



Source: Kaiser Family Foundation surveys (2000-2009); ABC News Polls (1985-1990) [Note: question wording for ABC News Polls was "Can you catch AIDS from using the same drinking glass/sitting on a toilet seat?"]

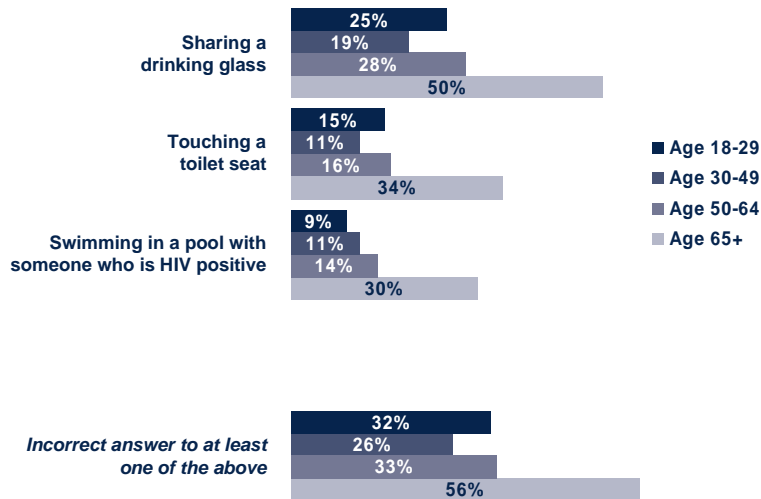
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Survey of Americans on HIV/AIDS (conducted Jan. 26-March 8, 2009)



CHART 30

Misconceptions About HIV Transmission by Age

Percent who do not know that HIV CANNOT be transmitted by... (incorrect answers)*



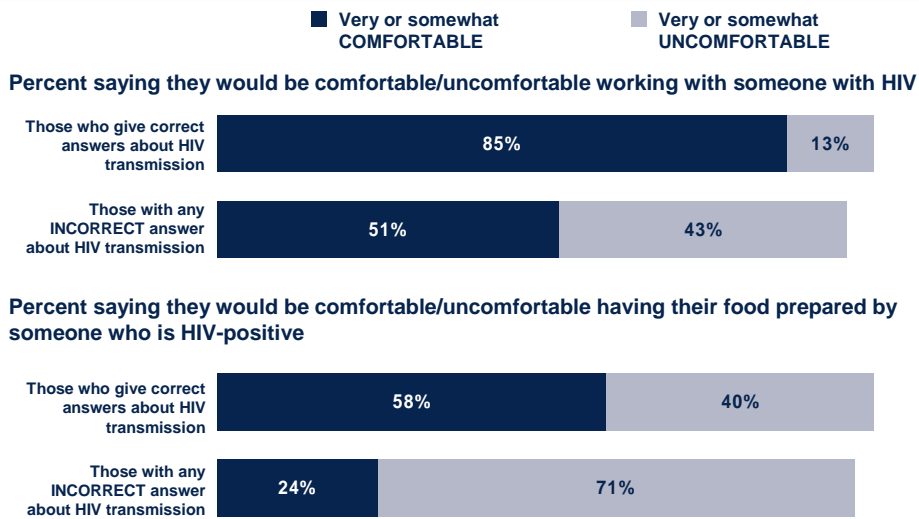
*Includes "True" and "Don't know" responses.

Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Survey of Americans on HIV/AIDS (conducted Jan. 26-March 8, 2009)



CHART 31

Relationship Between Stigma and Knowledge



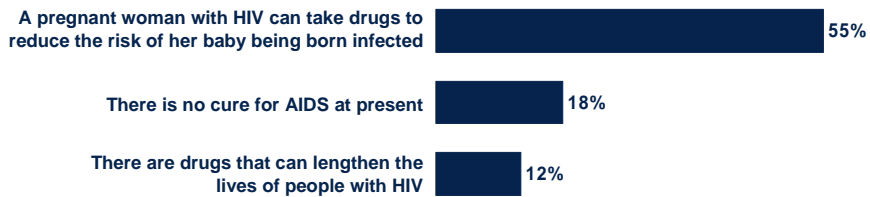
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Survey of Americans on HIV/AIDS (conducted Jan. 26-March 8, 2009)



CHART 32

Misconceptions About HIV Prevention and Treatment

Percent who do not know the following statements are true... (Incorrect answers)*



Percent who do not know the following statements are false... (Incorrect answers)**



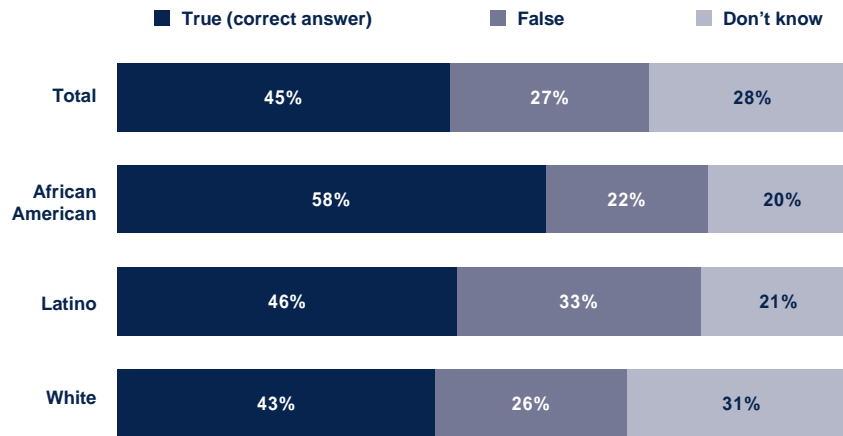
*Includes "False" and "Don't know" responses. **Includes "True" and "Don't know" responses.
 Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Survey of Americans on HIV/AIDS (conducted Jan. 26-March 8, 2009)



CHART 33

African Americans More Likely to Know About Treatment for Pregnant Women

Please tell me whether you think this statement is true or false: A pregnant woman with HIV can take drugs to reduce the risk of her baby being born infected



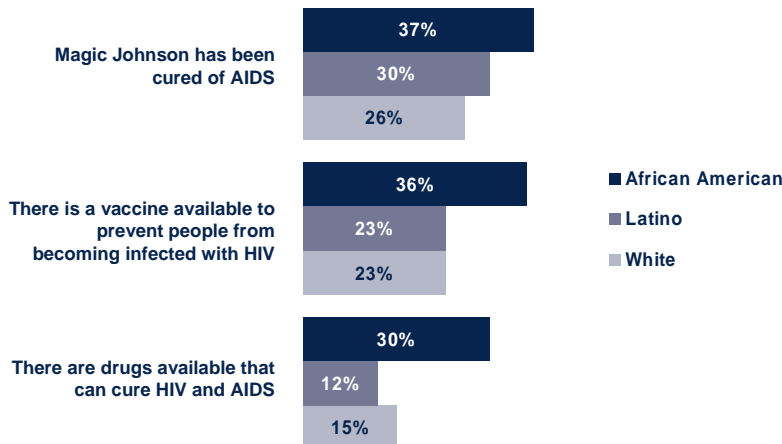
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Survey of Americans on HIV/AIDS (conducted Jan. 26-March 8, 2009)



CHART 34

Some Misconceptions More Common Among African Americans

Percent who do not know the following statements are false... (Incorrect answers)*



*Includes "True" and "Don't know" responses.

Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Survey of Americans on HIV/AIDS (conducted Jan. 26-March 8, 2009)

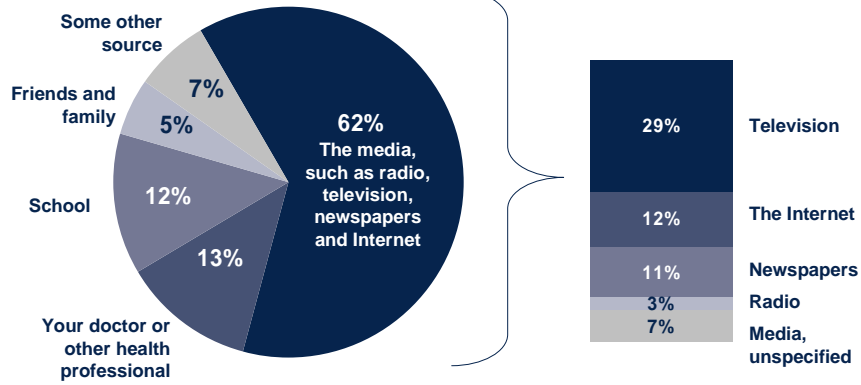


CHART 35

Sources of Information About HIV/AIDS

Thinking about everything you know about HIV/AIDS, does this information mainly come from things you've seen and heard from...

Asked of those who say "media": Would you say most of the information you have about HIV/AIDS comes from... (percents shown based on total)



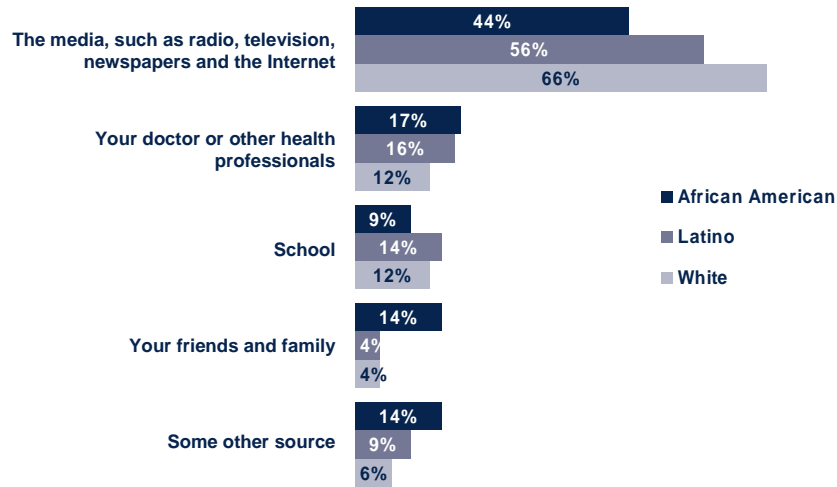
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Survey of Americans on HIV/AIDS (conducted Jan. 26-March 8, 2009)



CHART 36

Sources of Information About HIV/AIDS by Race/Ethnicity

Percent saying most of the information they have about HIV/AIDS comes from...



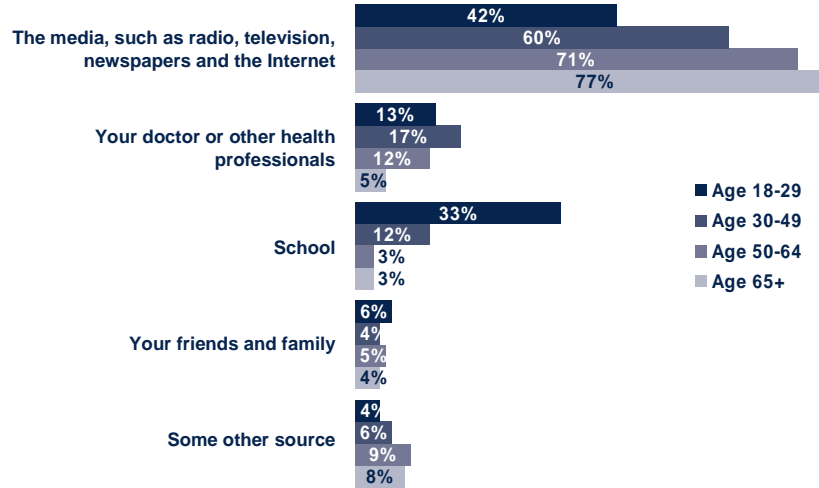
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Survey of Americans on HIV/AIDS (conducted Jan. 26-March 8, 2009)



CHART 37

Sources of Information About HIV/AIDS by Age

Percent saying most of the information they have about HIV/AIDS comes from...

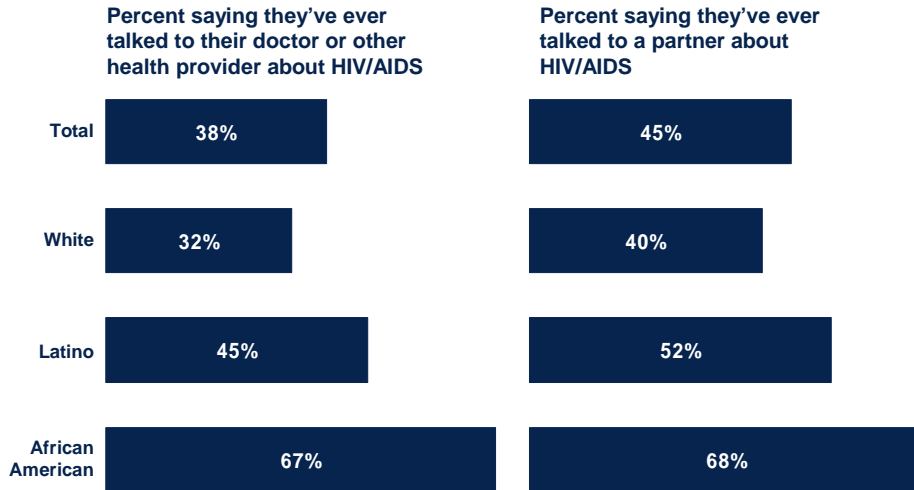


Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Survey of Americans on HIV/AIDS (conducted Jan. 26-March 8, 2009)



CHART 38

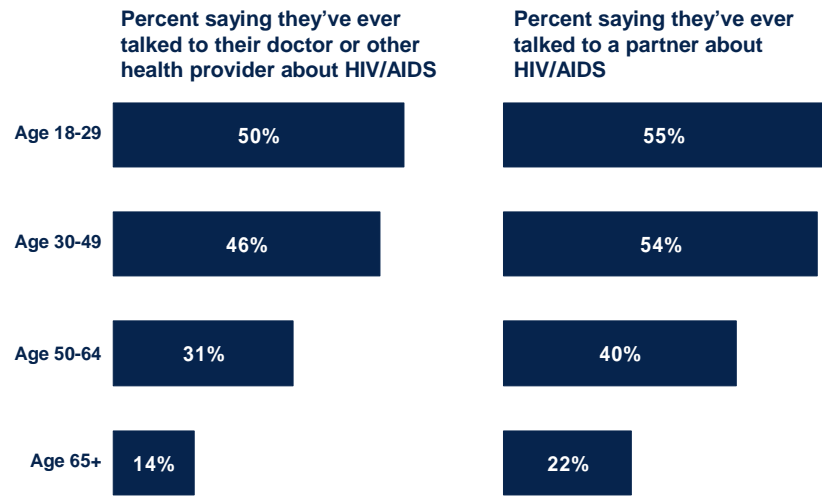
Percent Who Have Talked to Their Doctor or Partner About HIV/AIDS by Race/Ethnicity



Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Survey of Americans on HIV/AIDS (conducted Jan. 26-March 8, 2009)



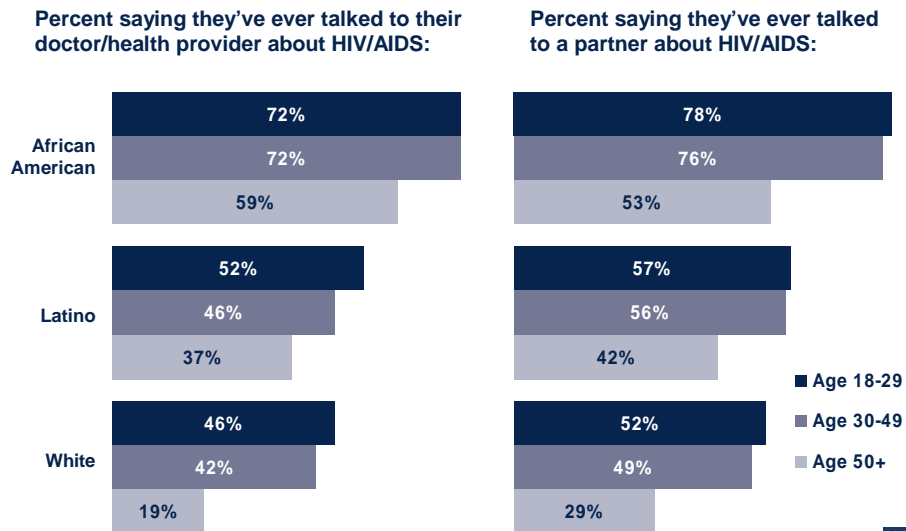
CHART 39
Percent Who Have Talked to Their Doctor or Partner About HIV/AIDS by Age



Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Survey of Americans on HIV/AIDS (conducted Jan. 26-March 8, 2009)



CHART 40
Percent Who Have Talked to Their Doctor or Partner About HIV/AIDS, by Race And Age



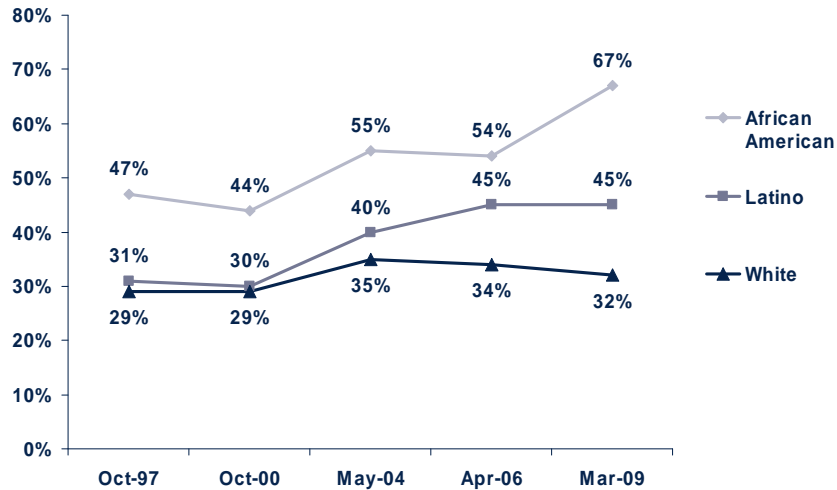
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Survey of Americans on HIV/AIDS (conducted Jan. 26-March 8, 2009)



CHART 41

Talking to Doctors Up Among African Americans

Percent who have ever talked with a doctor or health care provider about HIV or AIDS:



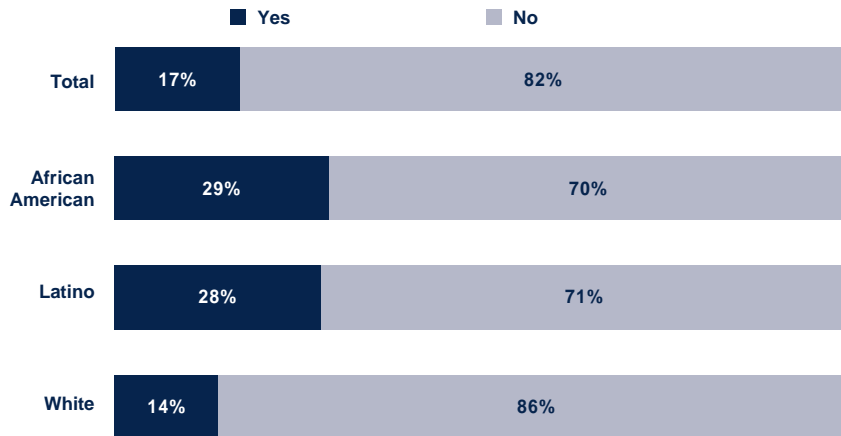
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Survey of Americans on HIV/AIDS (conducted Jan. 26-March 8, 2009)



CHART 42

Percent Saying Their Doctor Suggested HIV Testing

Has a doctor or other health care provider ever suggested that you be tested for HIV, or not?



Note: Don't know responses not shown

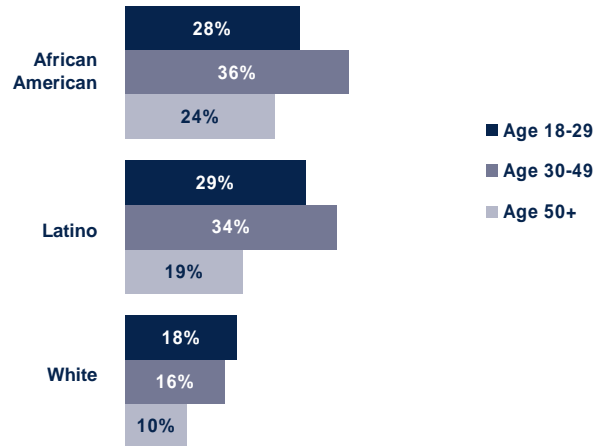
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Survey of Americans on HIV/AIDS (conducted Jan. 26-March 8, 2009)



CHART 43

Percent Saying Their Doctor Suggested HIV Testing, by Race and Age

Percent saying a doctor or other health care provider has ever suggested they be tested for HIV:



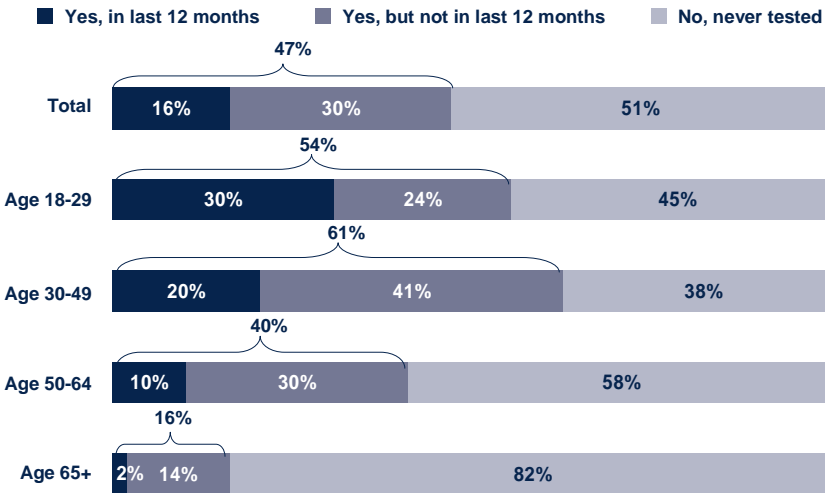
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Survey of Americans on HIV/AIDS (conducted Jan. 26-March 8, 2009)



CHART 44

Percent Who Report Being Tested for HIV by Age

Percent saying they have ever been tested for HIV...



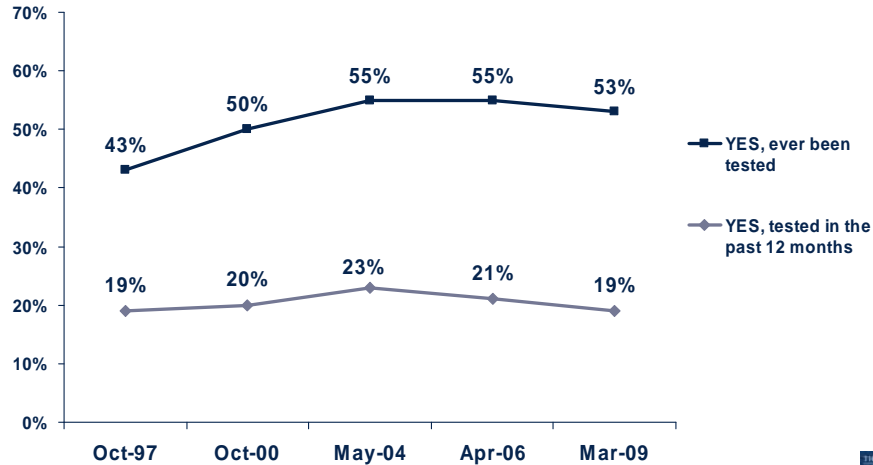
Note: Don't know responses not shown; Numbers may not add up exactly due to rounding.

Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Survey of Americans on HIV/AIDS (conducted Jan. 26-March 8, 2009)



CHART 45
Trend in NON-ELDERLY Who Report Being Tested for HIV

Among those under age 65, percent saying they have been tested for HIV ever and in the last 12 months...

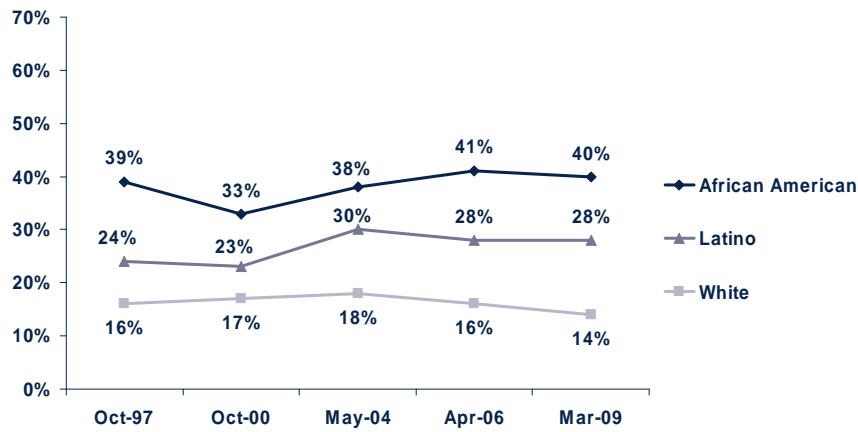


Source: Kaiser Family Foundation surveys



CHART 46
Trend in Non-Elderly Who Report Being Tested for HIV in the Last Twelve Months by Race/Ethnicity

Among those under age 65, percent saying they have been tested for HIV IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS...



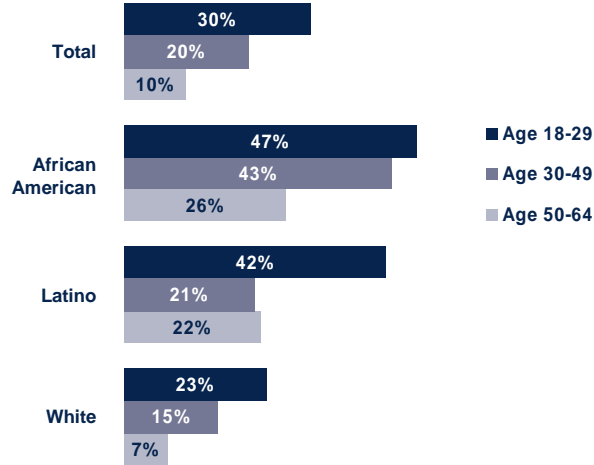
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation surveys



CHART 47

Reported HIV Testing in the Last 12 Months By Race and Age

Percent saying they have been tested for HIV IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS:



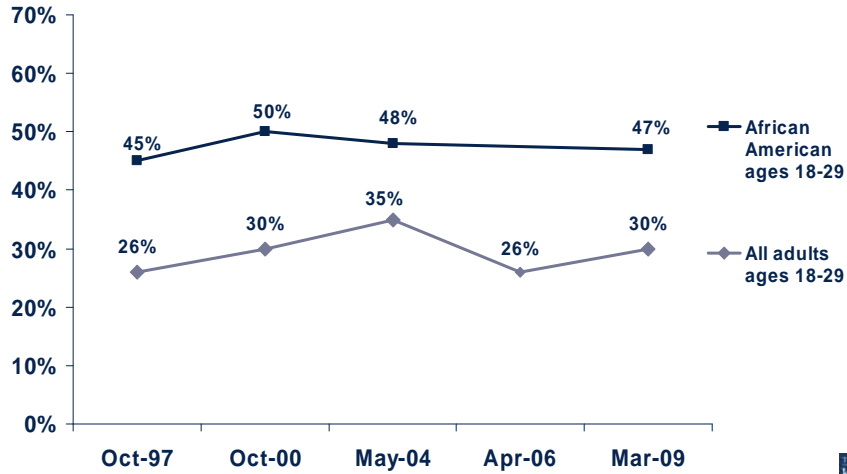
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Survey of Americans on HIV/AIDS (conducted Jan. 26-March 8, 2009)



CHART 48

Trend in 18-29 Year-Olds Who Report Being Tested for HIV in the Last Twelve Months

Among those ages 18-29, percent saying they have been tested for HIV IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS...



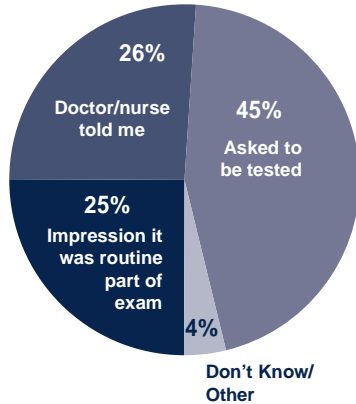
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation surveys



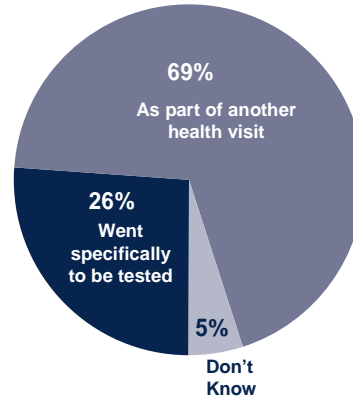
CHART 49

Reports of HIV Testing Experiences

The last time you were tested for HIV, how did you know the test was being done? Did you ask to be tested for HIV, did the doctor or nurse tell you this test was being done, or was it your impression that the test was a routine part of the exam? *(Among the 47% who have been tested)*



The last time you were tested for HIV, did you go to a doctor or clinic specifically to get an HIV test, or did you decide to get an HIV test as part of another health visit, such as a routine check-up? *(Among the 47% who have been tested)*



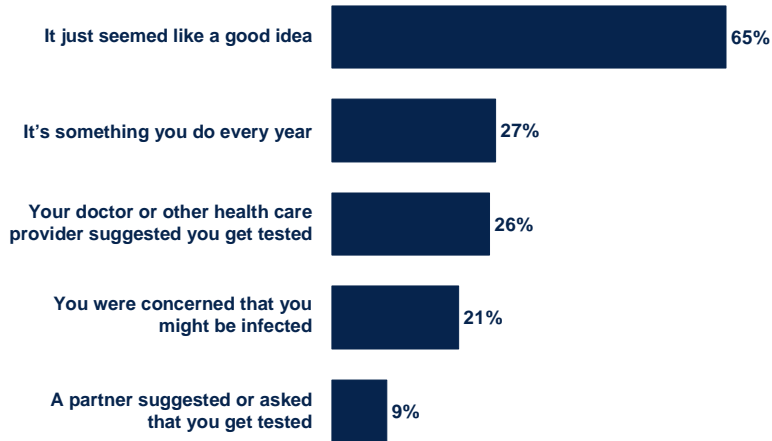
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Survey of Americans on HIV/AIDS (conducted Jan. 26-March 8, 2009)



CHART 50

Reported Reasons for Being Tested

Percent saying each of the following is a reason they got tested for HIV *(Among the 47% who have been tested for HIV)*



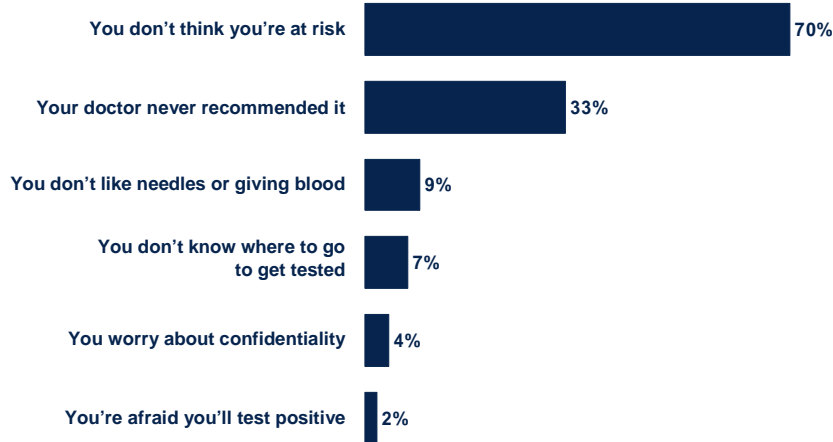
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Survey of Americans on HIV/AIDS (conducted Jan. 26-March 8, 2009)



CHART 51

Reported Reasons for Not Being Tested Among Young Adults

Percent saying each of the following is a reason they haven't been tested for HIV
 (Among the 45% of those ages 18-29 who have never been tested for HIV)



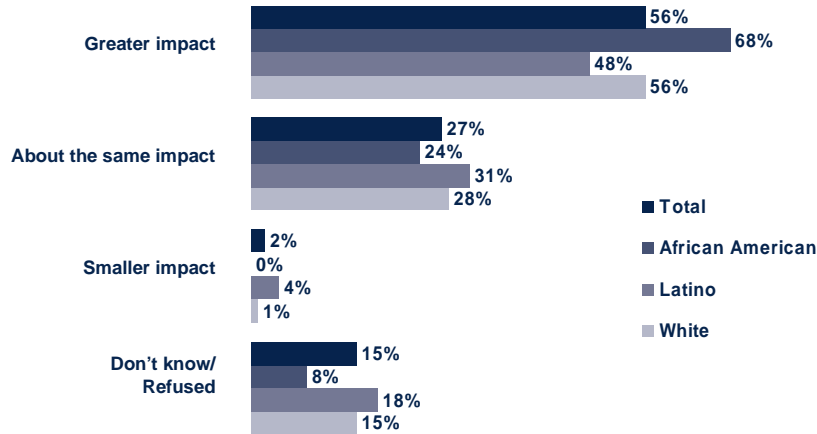
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Survey of Americans on HIV/AIDS (conducted Jan. 26-March 8, 2009)



CHART 52

Knowledge About Impact on African Americans

As far as you know, has the HIV epidemic had a greater impact, a smaller impact, or about the same impact on African Americans as it has on whites in the United States?



Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Survey of Americans on HIV/AIDS (conducted Jan. 26-March 8, 2009)





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This publication (#7889) is available on the
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The Kaiser Family Foundation is a non-profit private operating foundation, based in Menlo Park, California, dedicated to producing and communicating the best possible information, research and analysis on health issues.