



The Kaiser Survey on Americans and AIDS/HIV

March 1996

Questionnaire and National Toplines



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Methodology

The Kaiser Survey on Americans and AIDS/HIV was a national random-sample telephone survey of 1,511 adults, 18 years and older, including over samples of 250 African Americans and 250 Hispanics. The survey designed by the Kaiser Family Foundation and conducted by the Foundation and Princeton Survey Research Associates (PSRA) between November 27-December 17, 1995, prior to Magic Johnson's announcement that he would resume playing professional basketball. The margin of sampling error for the national sample is plus or minus 3 percent. The margin of sampling error may be higher for some of the sub-sets looked at in this analysis, which have smaller populations.

1. What do you think is the MOST urgent health problem facing this nation TODAY? Is there another health problem you think is almost as urgent? (Multiple answers accepted)

Total %	
44	AIDS
27	Cancer
27	Health care costs & health insurance - access
11	Heart
4	Drugs
4	Elderly
15	Other
8	Don't know/Refused

2. Now, I'd like to ask you about the way the problem of AIDS affects THIS COUNTRY today. Do you think the problem is ABOUT THE SAME as it has been, that the country is MAKING PROGRESS in this area, or that the country is LOSING GROUND?

Total %	
15	About the same
32	Country making progress
48	Country loosing ground
<u>5</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

3. How serious a problem do you think AIDS is for people you know? For people you know, do you think AIDS is...(READ)

Total %	
43	A very serious problem
17	A somewhat serious problem
15	Not too serious a problem, OR
22	Not a serious problem at all
<u>3</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

4. Bearing in mind the different ways people can get AIDS, how concerned are you, personally, about getting AIDS? Are you...(READ)

Total %		African Americans %	Hispanics %	Income less than 10,000 %	Income more than 50,000 %	No high school degree %	College graduate %
22	Very concerned	55	38	35	14	34	14
18	Somewhat concerned	16	13	12	20	14	19
22	Not too concerned, OR	15	22	17	29	21	24
38	Not at all concerned	14	27	36	37	31	43
*1	Don't know/Refused	*	0	*	*	*	*
100		100	100	100	100	100	100

BASED ON PARENTS OF CHILDREN AGED 21 YEARS OR YOUNGER - 666 RESPONDENTS

5. How concerned are you about a son or daughter getting AIDS? Are you . . . (READ)

Total %	
53	Very concerned
24	Somewhat concerned
10	Not too concerned, OR
11	Not at all concerned
0	Don't know/Refused
100	

¹ An asterisk indicates a value of less than one percent.

6. Please tell me whether you think each of the following statements about AIDS is true or false — OR if you don't know whether it is true or false. The first one is...**(READ AND ROTATE)**

	<u>True</u> %	<u>False</u> %	<u>DK</u> %	
Any person with the AIDS virus can pass it along to someone else during sexual intercourse	97	2	1	=100
A pregnant woman who has the AIDS virus can give it to her baby	94	3	3	=100
A pregnant woman who has the AIDS virus can reduce the risk of her baby being born infected by taking certain drugs	30	36	34	=100
There are drugs available to treat AIDS or the AIDS virus which can lengthen the life of a person infected with AIDS	75	14	11	=100
There is a vaccine available to the public that protects a person from getting AIDS	5	88	7	=100
A person can get AIDS or the AIDS virus infection while giving or donating blood for use by other	51	46	3	=100

7. After someone is infected with the HIV virus that causes AIDS, about how long on average does it take before AIDS symptoms develop . . . **(READ)**

Total %	
12	Six months or less
16	One to two years
24	Three to five years
29	Five to 10 years
5	More than 10 years?
<u>14</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

8. Now I'd like you to think about ALL the people around the world who have ever been infected with the AIDS virus, including those who have died. Of every 100 AIDS cases worldwide, about how many do you think have been in the United States? Just give me your best guess by naming any number between one and 100.

Total %	
22	Under 25%
6	25%
16	26-49%
15	50%
10	51%-74%
6	75%
9	76%-99%
11	100%
4	Don't know/Refused
100	
50%	MEAN

9. Now I'd like your impressions about the number of people in this country who have died from AIDS. We don't expect you to know the actual number, but would like you to make your best guess. Do you think the number of people who have died is less than 10,000, up to 100,000, up to 500,000, up to one million, or more than a million?

Total %	
14	Less than 10,000
40	Up to 100,000
24	Up to 500,000
12	Up to 1,000,000
7	More than one million
4	Don't know/Refused
100	

10. Now I'd like you to think about federal spending to fight AIDS. Compared with the money the federal government spends on research and treatment to combat other health and medical problems such as heart disease and cancer, do you think federal spending on AIDS research and treatment is too high, too low or about right?

Total %	
12	Too high
50	Too low
31	About right
7	Don't know
100	

11. Up to this point, do you think federal government spending on AIDS research has generally been worth the cost, or hasn't it produced enough results to be worth the cost?

Total %	
58	Worth the cost
35	Results not worth the cost
7	Don't know/Refused
100	

12. What about federal spending on treatment for people with AIDS? Do you think federal government spending to help pay for AIDS treatment has generally been worth the cost, or hasn't it produced enough results to be worth the cost?

Total %	
58	Worth the cost
36	Results not worth the cost
6	Don't know/Refused
100	

13. Now I'd like your impression of how much progress there has been in AIDS TREATMENT in this country since the disease was first identified. (First,) how much progress do you think has been made in . . . : a lot, some, only a little, or no progress?

	<u>A lot</u> %	<u>Some</u> %	<u>Only a little</u> %	<u>No progress</u> %	<u>DK</u> %	
Keeping people who have AIDS alive longer	24	46	24	4	2	=100
Finding a cure for AIDS	11	36	37	15	1	=100

14. Now I'd like to ask how much progress you think there has been in AIDS PREVENTION in this country since the disease was first identified. (First,) how much progress do you think has been made in . . . : a lot, some, only a little, or no progress?

	<u>A lot</u> %	<u>Some</u> %	<u>Only a little</u> %	<u>No progress</u> %	<u>DK</u> %	
Reducing the spread of AIDS generally	29	43	22	6	*	=100
Reducing the spread of AIDS among gay men	26	39	20	11	4	=100
Reducing the spread of AIDS to sexually active heterosexuals	21	43	24	8	4	=100
Reducing the spread of AIDS among teenagers	21	38	30	9	2	=100
Reducing the spread of AIDS among IV drug users	15	33	33	16	3	=100
Protecting people who get blood transfusions from AIDS-tainted blood	66	21	9	2	2	=100
Reducing the spread of AIDS from pregnant women to their children	22	40	25	10	3	=100

15. What about...? If this happened, would it be very effective, somewhat effective, not too effective, or not at all effective in fighting the spread of AIDS?

	<u>Very effective</u> %	<u>Somewhat effective</u> %	<u>Not too effective</u> %	<u>Not at all effective</u> %	<u>DK</u> %	
The government putting more money into AIDS research	39	42	11	6	2	=100

16. We're interested in what information people like you need about AIDS prevention. Please tell me which, if any, of the following you need more information about. (First,) do you need more information about...? (Multiple answers accepted.)

Total % (answering yes)	
18	Proper way to use condoms
29	What to discuss with partners about sex
54	What to discuss with children about AIDS prevention
47	The blood test for the virus which causes AIDS
48	Where to go for help if exposed to the AIDS virus

17. ASKED IF MENTIONED MORE THAN ONE ITEM IN Q16: In which ONE of these areas is it most important for you to get more information?

Total %	% for Parents of children under 21	
1	1	Proper ways to use condoms
6	4	What to discuss with partners about sex
36	49	What to discuss with children about AIDS prevention
10	7	The blood test for the virus which causes AIDS
15	12	Where to go for help if exposed to the AIDS virus
31	26	None of these
<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	100	

18. In general, at what age — if at all — do you think it is appropriate for children to start receiving information about AIDS in school?

Total %	
7	6 or younger
13	7-9 years old
49	10-12 years old
25	13-15 years old
3	16-17 years old
1	No age appropriate/Don't give out information
<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

19. Do you think high schools should just provide teenagers with information about AIDS and how it is spread, OR do you think high schools should go further and make condoms available to those teenagers who want them?

Total %	
49	Just provide information about AIDS
46	Make condoms available
1	Don't want AIDS education in schools
<u>4</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

20. Do you think the major television networks should or should not accept advertising from condom manufacturers for broadcast?

Total %	
72	Should
25	Should not
<u>3</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

21. When story-lines in movies and television deal with sexual relationships, do you think there ought to be more references to condom use as a way to prevent AIDS, or are there enough references already included?

Total %	
63	Ought to be more references to condoms
29	Enough references to condoms now
4	Shouldn't have sex on TV movies (volunteered)
<u>4</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

22. Do you favor or oppose having clinics make clean needles available to IV drug users to help stop the spread of AIDS?

Total %	
66	Favor
30	Oppose
4	Don't know/Refused
100	

23. Please tell me how much you agree or disagree with each of the following statements about AIDS. First, do you completely agree, mostly agree, mostly disagree, or completely disagree that...

	Completely <u>agree</u> %	Mostly <u>agree</u> %	Mostly <u>disagree</u> %	Completely <u>disagree</u> %	<u>DK</u> %	
a. The government is telling the truth about AIDS	14	48	23	11	4	=100
b. The media is telling the truth about AIDS	14	58	20	5	3	=100
c. People who get AIDS are no different from people like me in their values and goals	43	31	13	11	2	=100
d. There is some truth in the reports that the AIDS virus was produced in a germ-warfare laboratory	4	14	27	44	11	=100
e. AIDS came from God to punish homosexual behavior	6	6	16	69	3	=100

24. Do you personally know anyone who now has AIDS, has died from AIDS, or has tested positive for the HIV virus?

Total %	
39	Yes
61	No
*	Don't know/Refused
100	

As part of the Kaiser Family Foundation's AIDS Public Information Project, announced at a press conference March 26, 1996 in Washington, D.C., the Kaiser Family Foundation has produced a guide for parents on how to talk with their children about AIDS/HIV. *Talking With Your Kids About AIDS* is available free-of-charge to parents and others through the Kaiser Family Foundation's publication request line at 1 (800) 656-4KFF by asking for the AIDS Public Information Kit. Also included in this kit are fact sheets on the HIV epidemic and specific topics related to AIDS prevention and treatment. Currently the fact sheets are available online at www.kff.org.

