

NHBS-MSM2, San Diego, California 2008

National HIV Behavioral Surveillance (NHBS) is an ongoing behavioral surveillance system sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) being conducted in cities having the highest AIDS prevalence. The main objectives of NHBS are to assess trends in HIV risk behaviors, testing behavior, serostatus, and use of HIV prevention services. NHBS involves a repeated, cross-sectional survey and voluntary HIV testing of populations at high risk for HIV infection: men who have sex with men (MSM), injection drug users (IDU), and heterosexual adults at higher risk for HIV infection (HET). NHBS activities are implemented in yearly cycles so that data are collected from each risk group every three years. The California Department of Public Health, Center for Infectious Diseases, Office of AIDS is collaborating with the Chicano Federation of San Diego County, Inc. and CDC to conduct NHBS in the San Diego Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA). The project is known locally as the BeeHIVE Project (Be Healthy, Intelligent, Vigorous, Educated).



From July 8, 2008 through December 5, 2008, the second NHBS cycle among MSM was conducted using venue-based, time-space sampling methods (VBS). The main steps involved with VBS include: 1) identifying venues frequented by MSM; 2) determining the best time for sampling at each venue; 3) determining the sampling events through random selection for a given month; and 4) selecting and recruiting men at a sampling event.

Recruitment Statistics				
# events	# screened	# eligible	# enrolled	# tested
58	664	630	629	584

Over 10,000 men were counted, and of those 2,260 men were approached. Among those, 630 men were found eligible and 629 completed the interview. Of the 630 eligible men, 549 MSM who reported a male partner in the past 12 months were included in the analysis.

The following tables display sample characteristics and key findings from the MSM2 cycle. Cells with fewer than five cases were suppressed to ensure confidentiality. Unless otherwise specified, the "Other" race/ethnicity category includes American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, and multi-race.

Demographics & Prevalence of HIV		
	n (%)	Prevalence n (%)
Age group (years)		
18-24	91 (17)	7 (8)
25-34	200 (36)	31 (16)
35-44	151 (28)	28 (19)
45+	107 (19)	21 (20)
Race/ethnicity		
Non-Hispanic White	273 (50)	45 (16)
Hispanic/Latino	176 (32)	25 (14)
Non-Hispanic Black	32 (6)	8 (25)
Asian/Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	30 (5)	-
American Indian/Alaskan Native	8 (1)	-
Multi-race	30 (5)	5 (17)
Employment		
Full time	372 (68)	53 (14)
Part time	68 (12)	11 (16)
Unemployed	53 (10)	9 (17)
Other*	56 (10)	14 (25)
Household Income		
<\$20,000	121 (22)	27 (22)
\$20,000 - \$29,999	64 (12)	12 (19)
\$30,000 - \$39,999	63 (11)	10 (16)
\$40,000 - \$49,999	73 (13)	5 (7)
\$50,000+	228 (42)	33 (14)
Level of Education		
≤ High school diploma	91 (17)	18 (20)
Some college or tech degree	248 (45)	43 (17)
College or post-grad degree	210 (38)	26 (12)
Total	549	87 (16)

*Other Employment includes Retired, Homemaker, Disabled, Full-time Student, other.

All respondents were offered anonymous HIV testing (93 percent accepted), regardless of self-reported HIV infection status. MSM who tested newly positive for HIV infection were defined as those who tested HIV positive at the time of the interview but reported that the result of their most recent HIV test was negative, indeterminate, or unknown, or that they had never been tested. National data are available at the following:

<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/pdf/ss/ss6014.pdf>.

HIV Serostatus					
	White n (%)	Black n (%)	Hispanic n (%)	Other n (%)	Total n (%)
Negative	201 (80)	19 (70)	134 (83)	55 (86)	409 (81)
Previous Positive	31 (12)	-	13 (8)	5 (8)	52 (10)
New Positive	14 (6)	5 (19)	12 (7)	-	35 (7)

Column %'s are among 496 total MSM who consented to HIV testing with a determinant result.

Sexual and Substance Use Risk Behaviors	
	n (%)
Unprotected anal intercourse (UAI), any partner last 12 months	341 (62)
Serodiscordant with most recent partner*	23 (4)
Most recent partner's serostatus unknown or discordant	162 (30)
UAI at last sex with a partner of unknown or discordant status	49 (9)
Concurrent partners**	107 (19)
Alcohol/drugs used during last sex	200 (37)

*If known, self-reported HIV status of most recent partner.

**Respondent had other sexual partners or believed his most recent partner had other partners.

HIV Serostatus among MSM Respondents Reporting UAI				
	White n (%)	Black n (%)	Hispanic n (%)	Other n (%)
Serostatus				
HIV negative	122 (76)	11 (85)	87 (81)	30 (81)
HIV positive	34 (21)	-	19 (18)	7 (19)

%'s are representative of column totals.

HIV+ MSM reporting UAI in Last 12 Months	
	n (%)
Partner Type	
Main	27 (31)
Casual	41 (47)
Number of Partners	
1	31 (36)
2 to 5	20 (23)
6 or more	7 (8)

%'s represent row totals.

HIV Serostatus among MSM Reporting UAI and Most Recent Partner Status		
	HIV Negative n (%)	HIV Positive n (%)
Partner Status		
HIV negative	122 (92)	9 (36)
HIV positive	10 (8)	16 (64)
Unknown	25 (16)	12 (32)

%'s are representative of total MSM respondents reporting UAI with most recent partner (column total).

Non-injection Drug Use & HIV Prevalence	
	Prevalence n (%)
Crystal	18 (31)
Crack	5 (20)
Cocaine	12 (18)
Ecstasy	7 (14)
Special K	-
GHB	-
Marijuana	30 (16)
Poppers	11 (25)
"Party" drugs*	27 (23)

*Party drugs include crystal, cocaine, ecstasy, Special K, GHB, etc..

HIV+ Serostatus & Substance Use	
	n (%)
Any alcohol use in last 12 months	66 (76)
Binge drinking in past 30 days	34 (39)
Ever injected drugs	16 (18)

Column %'s are represented.

HIV Serostatus & Diagnosed with STD in Past 12 Months				
	White n (%)	Black n (%)	Hispanic n (%)	Other n (%)
HIV Positive	15 (33)	-	9 (36)	-
HIV Negative	42 (21)	-	22 (16)	12 (22)

Column %'s are represented.

NHBS San Diego at the California Department of Public Health, Center for Infectious Diseases, Office of AIDS:
<http://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/AIDS/Pages/Default.aspx>;
www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/aids/Pages/NHBS.

Questions about NHBS?

For more information about NHBS in San Diego, please contact:

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