



The Bureau of HIV/AIDS, Prevention Section conducts HIV research and collects HIV testing and other prevention program data. Each quarter we share data from these initiatives in an effort to inform HIV prevention activities throughout the state.



April 2012

2011 National HIV Testing Day: Florida Profile

June 27th, 2011, marked the sixteenth annual National HIV Testing Day (NHTD), an initiative of the National Association of People with AIDS (NAPWA). This national campaign is designed to encourage more people to assess their risk for HIV infection and know their HIV status. The goal is for people to “take the test” to determine their status and to “take control” of their health and lives.

NHTD has evolved into a week-long activity with sites all across the state holding special events between June 24th and June 30th. In 2011, 10,695 HIV tests were conducted during that week, with 2,573 HIV tests conducted on NHTD. This was a marked increase from last year, especially on NHTD. As with previous years, the number of tests conducted during the week of NHTD increased from the week before NHTD. Table 1 shows the number of HIV tests and positive tests from the week before NHTD and the week of NHTD for the last ten years. In 2011, the number of positives for the week of NHTD was lower than the number of positives for the week before NHTD.

Table 1. HIV testing the week before and the week of NHTD, 2002 - 2011										
Year	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
June 27, Day of Week	Thurs	Fri	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
June 17-23										
# of Tests	5,657	5,690	6,285	5,846	5,732	6,372	6,881	7,689	8,142	8,510
# of Positives	129	126	113	112	86	95	95	93	75	115
% Positive	2.3%	2.2%	1.8%	1.9%	1.5%	1.5%	1.4%	1.2%	0.9%	1.4%
June 24-30										
# of Tests	6,353	7,300	7,131	8,390	7,845	9,273	9,099	9,728	9,786	10,695
# of Positives	139	142	121	114	124	126	144	115	88	95
% Positive	2.2%	1.9%	1.7%	1.4%	1.6%	1.4%	1.6%	1.2%	0.9%	0.9%
Comparison between the week of NHTD and the previous week										
# of Tests	696	1,610	846	2,544	2,113	2,901	2,218	2,039	1,644	2,185
# of HIV+ Tests	10	16	8	2	38	31	49	22	13	-20

During the week of NHTD, persons who had never been tested for HIV accounted for 23.9% (2,553) of the tests conducted. Of the 95 persons who received a positive HIV test result, 65.3% (62) had never tested positive before. There were twelve persons who took their first HIV test during the week of NHTD and were found to be positive. These twelve persons account for 19.4% of the new positives and 12.6% of all positives during that week. [Data not shown]

Of the 10,695 HIV tests administered during the week of NHTD, 47.4% (5,071) were among blacks, 22.2% (2,377) were among Hispanics, and whites accounted for 26.7% (2,850). The remaining 397 tests (3.7%) were among American Indians, Asians, Pacific Islanders, persons of multiple races, and persons who chose not to disclose their race/ethnicity. Among the HIV-positive tests, the breakdown was similar with blacks having the largest proportion of positive tests with 55.8% (53), followed by whites with 23.2% (22), Hispanics with 16.8% (16), and the missing/other race/ethnicity group with the remaining 4.2% (4). [Data not shown] While females comprised 54.5% (5,825) of the tests, they only accounted for 23.2% (22) of the positives. Conversely, males accounted for 44.9% (4,800) of the tests and 75.8% (72) of the positives. [Data not shown]

Persons with heterosexual sex as their highest risk factor accounted for the most tests (57.9% or 6,193) but had one of the lowest positivity rates of 0.4% (23 positive tests). Persons who had sex with an HIV-infected partner had the highest positivity rate at 8.3%, but they only accounted for 156 tests (1.5%). [Data not shown]

Overall, it seems that Florida conducted a very successful National HIV Testing Day campaign in 2011. A significant number of people were tested as a result of local community and health department efforts, meeting one of the major goals of the campaign and the Bureau of HIV/AIDS, which is to increase the number of persons in Florida who know their HIV status. Participants in this year's campaign should be commended for their contributions to this success.