



## Campaign for a Healthier New Jersey

# HIV/AIDS in New Jersey

New Jersey has the 5th highest rate of HIV among adults, the 3rd highest rate of HIV among children. New Jersey also has the highest estimated proportion of women living with AIDS in the country. More than 22,000 children in the state have lost their parents to AIDS. In addition, in New Jersey injection drug use is the main cause of infections. Nationally, injection drug use accounts for 25% of infections, but in New Jersey it accounts for 44% of infections. Minority communities have been particularly affected by the epidemic. While African Americans account for 13% of the population, they account for 56% of the adults and adolescents living with HIV/AIDS.

### HIV/AIDS and Women in New Jersey

- 47% of women infected with HIV in New Jersey were infected through the sharing of HIV contaminated needles.
- 34% of women infected with HIV in New Jersey were infected through heterosexual sex, the majority of which involved an injection drug using partner.
- New Jersey has the highest estimated proportion of women living with AIDS in the country.

### HIV/AIDS and African Americans in New Jersey

- 54% of male African American HIV infections in New Jersey are caused by the sharing of HIV contaminated needles.
- 49% of all female African American HIV infections in New Jersey are caused by the sharing of contaminated needles.
- Of the 33% female African American HIV infections caused by heterosexual sex, at least half result from having sex with an injection drug using partner.

### HIV/AIDS and Latinos in New Jersey

- 45% of male Latino HIV infections in New Jersey are caused by sharing HIV contaminated needles.
- 36% of all female Latina HIV infections in New Jersey are the result of sharing contaminated needles.
- Of the 45% of female Latina HIV infections caused by heterosexual sex, at least half are the result of having sex with an injection drug using partner.

### HIV/AIDS and Children in New Jersey

- Over 70% of all newborn HIV cases in New Jersey result from a parent or parents who shared HIV contaminated needles.
- More than 22,000 children in New Jersey have been orphaned by losing their parents to HIV/AIDS.

**New Jersey has the 5th highest rate of adult HIV, the 3rd highest rate of HIV among children and the highest rate of women infected with HIV in the nation.**

— *New Jersey HIV/AIDS Surveillance Report, June 2002*

**Nationally injection drug use accounts for 25% of HIV infections, but in New Jersey it accounts for more than 44% of infections.**

— *New Jersey HIV/AIDS Surveillance Report, June 2005*

— *Centers for Disease Control and Prevention HIV/AIDS Surveillance Report, 2001*

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