

# Homosexuality & Male HIV/STD Risk

## CDC FACTS

*Gay and bisexual adolescent males and men –  
are referred to in CDC surveillance systems as  
Men who have Sex with Men (MSM)<sup>2</sup>.*

- MSM accounted for **71% of all HIV infections among male** adults and adolescents in 2005<sup>1</sup>.
- MSM is **the only risk group in the U.S. in which new HIV infections are increasing**. While new infections have declined among both heterosexuals and injection drug users, the annual number of new HIV infections among MSM has been steadily increasing since the early 1990s<sup>2</sup>.
- MSM account for **more than half of all new HIV infections in the U.S. each year** (53%, or an estimated 28,700 infections<sup>2</sup>).
- 7.2% of young (aged 15-22 years) MSM had HIV/AIDS<sup>3</sup>.
- 21% of White and 46% African American MSM had HIV/AIDS<sup>1</sup>.
- **The rate of new HIV diagnoses among MSM in the U.S. is more than 44 times that of other men (range: 522–989 per 100,000 MSM vs. 12 per 100,000 other men)<sup>4</sup>. The CDC estimates that MSM account for just 2 percent of the U.S. population aged 13 and older<sup>4</sup>.**

**.....“While the heavy toll of HIV and syphilis among gay and bisexual men has been long recognized, this analysis shows just how stark the health disparities are between this and other populations,”** said Kevin Fenton, M.D., director of CDC’s National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention<sup>4</sup>.

### Definitions

CDC - Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Agency of U.S. Department of Health and Human Services mission is centered on preventing and controlling disease and promoting health education in the United States

MSM - Gay and bisexual men - referred to in CDC surveillance systems as men who have sex with men (MSM)

<sup>1</sup>[http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/topics/MSM/overview\\_partner.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/topics/MSM/overview_partner.htm)

<sup>2</sup><http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/topics/msm/resources/factsheets/msm.htm>

<sup>3</sup>HIV Incidence Among Young Men Who Have Sex With Men --- Seven U.S. Cities, 1994–2000 <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5021a4.htm>

<sup>4</sup><http://www.cdc.gov/nchstp/Newsroom/msmpressrelease.html>