**HIV TESTING**

People aware of and receiving appropriate care for positive HIV serostatus may be able to live longer and healthier lives because of newly available, effective treatments. It is recommended that people who meet any of the following criteria be tested at least annually for HIV: those who have injected drugs or steroids, or shared drug use equipment (such as needles); have had unprotected sex with men who have sex with men, anonymous partners, or multiple partners; have exchanged sex for drugs or money; have been diagnosed with hepatitis, tuberculosis, or a sexually transmitted infection; received a blood transfusion between 1978 and 1985; or have had unprotected sex with anyone who meets any of these criteria. In addition, the CDC recommends that all health care providers include HIV testing as part of their patients’ routine health care and that all pregnant women be tested during their pregnancy.

In 2008–2010, 40.3 percent of adults in the United States had ever been tested for HIV (data not shown). Overall, women were more likely than men to have been tested (44.1 versus 36.6 percent, respectively). Within younger age groups (18–44 years), women were more likely to have been tested than men, however, men were more likely to have been tested at older ages (45 years and older).

With respect to race and ethnicity, non-Hispanic Black women and men were most likely to have ever been tested (59.6 and 55.9 percent, respectively), while non-Hispanic Asian women and men were least likely to have ever been tested (34.7 and 30.7 percent, respectively). Women were generally more likely than men to have ever been tested for HIV within every race and ethnic group.

Among women who had not been tested, 78.6 percent reported that they had not been tested because they thought it was unlikely they had been exposed and 19.1 percent reported that there was no particular reason they had not done so (data not shown).