

HIV/AIDS IN FLORIDA

- 1981** Cases of a deadly syndrome with symptoms that include Kaposi's Sarcoma, a skin cancer, and Pneumocystis Carinii Pneumonia are first reported. In June, the first case is reported in Florida. By the end of the year, 8 cases have been reported statewide.
- 1982** The syndrome is called AIDS — Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome.
Cumulative Florida AIDS cases: 66
- 1983** AIDS surveillance officially begins in Florida.
Cumulative Florida AIDS cases: 236
- 1984** HIV is identified as the virus that causes AIDS.
Cumulative Florida AIDS cases: 545
- 1985** The Food and Drug Administration approves the first HIV antibody test and national screening of the blood supply.
In Florida, 6,155 HIV tests are carried out, and 22 percent — 1,404 — show HIV infection.
Cumulative Florida AIDS cases: 1,090
- 1986** A study by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention with the State of Florida concludes that mosquitoes do not transmit HIV.
Cumulative Florida AIDS cases: 2,111
- 1987** Florida becomes first state to set up voluntary HIV counseling and testing in all public health centers.
Cumulative Florida AIDS cases: 3,748
- 1988** The Florida Omnibus AIDS Act prohibits discrimination against those with HIV/AIDS.
Cumulative Florida AIDS cases: 6,327
- 1989** Medicaid Waiver Program for AIDS care established.
Cumulative Florida AIDS cases: 9,766
- 1990** In Florida, 143,877 HIV tests are carried out, and 4.5 percent — 6,540 — show HIV infection.
Cumulative Florida AIDS cases: 13,487
- 1991** Cumulative Florida AIDS cases: 18,788
- 1992** Governor Lawton Chiles commissions panel to address HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment issues.
Cumulative Florida AIDS cases: 24,174
- 1993** AIDS definition, which has included people sick with opportunistic infections, is expanded to include those with immune cell counts lower than 200.
Cumulative Florida AIDS cases: 34,130
- 1994** Giving AZT to HIV-infected pregnant women reduces mother-to-child transmission by two-thirds.
Cumulative Florida AIDS cases: 42,159

- 1995** In Florida, 215,296 HIV tests are carried out, and 2.2 percent — 4,799 — show HIV infection.
- 1996** With a series of anti-AIDS medications approved for patient use, the annual number of HIV/AIDS deaths decreases in Florida for the first time, dropping 29 percent from 4,336 in 1995 to 3,093 in 1996.
- 1997** Officials estimate that 90,000 Floridians are living with HIV/AIDS.
HIV infection reporting begins in Florida with 2,136 HIV cases reported.
Cumulative Florida AIDS cases: 62,108
- 1998** Cumulative Florida HIV cases: 7,542
Cumulative Florida AIDS cases: 67,129
- 1999** A statewide Minority HIV/AIDS coordinator is appointed and eight regional minority AIDS coordinators.
Cumulative Florida HIV cases: 12,547
Cumulative Florida AIDS cases: 72,102
- 2000** The number of people dying of AIDS in Florida jumps 5.4 percent to 1,631, the first increase since 1998.
Cumulative Florida HIV cases: 16,684
Cumulative Florida AIDS cases: 76,721
- 2001** A federally funded study reveals that crucial targets, including immigrants and black residents, are being ignored in HIV prevention and care efforts.
Cumulative Florida HIV cases: 20,666
Cumulative Florida AIDS cases: 81,354
- 2002** HIV/AIDS fact sheet translated into Haitian Creole is produced.
Cumulative Florida HIV cases: 25,208
Cumulative Florida AIDS cases: 86,112
- 2003** Cumulative Florida HIV cases: 29,015
Cumulative Florida AIDS cases: 90,627
- 2004** HIV continues to be the leading cause of death among black men and women in Florida between the ages of 25 to 44. It is the fifth leading cause of death for white men, and seventh leading cause of death for white women in that age group in Florida.
Cumulative Florida HIV cases: 32,045
Cumulative Florida AIDS cases: 96,144
- 2005** Cumulative Florida HIV cases: 35,585
Cumulative Florida AIDS cases: 100,784
- 2006** Cumulative Florida HIV cases: 40,499
Cumulative Florida AIDS cases: 105,476

Sources: The Kaiser Family Foundation, Florida Department of Health, news reports