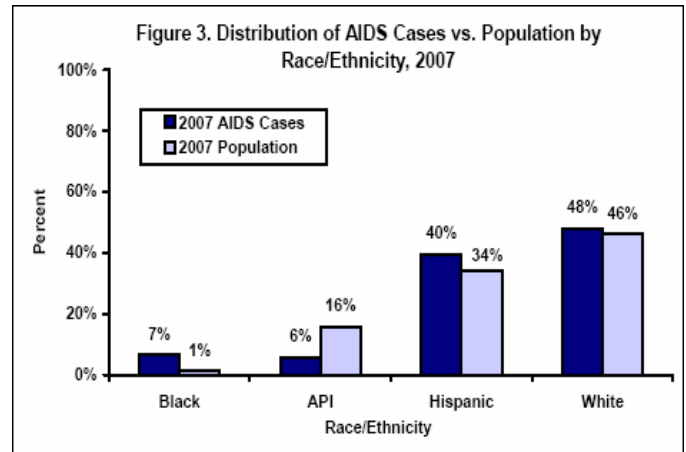


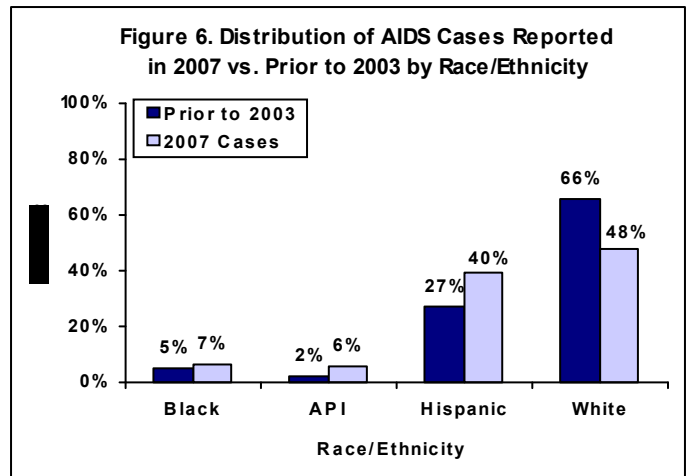
FACT SHEET

HIV/AIDS and Asians & Pacific Islanders in the United States and Orange County

- The total population in Orange County is about 3 million making it the 4th most populated county in the United States and 2nd most populated county in California.
- **Orange County ranks 5th** among California's 58 counties **in cumulative AIDS cases** reported through 2007.
- The graph to the right shows that Asian and Pacific Islanders (A&PI) make up about 16% of the total population in Orange County. Yet out of that 16%, 6% of those individuals contributed to the total number of AIDS cases in 2007.



- A&PI accounted for 6% of 2007 AIDS cases, representing a **200% increase** compared to the proportion of cases among A&PI prior to 2003.
- From 1981-2007 there have been a total of 7,128 cases in Orange County with 261 new AIDS cases in 2007 alone (a 10% increase from cases reported in 2006).



- By examining AIDS cases, A&PI were significantly more like to not know how they were exposed than all races combined (7.5% vs. 2.9%).
- HIV/AIDS continues to spread in communities of color, including Asians and Pacific Islanders.
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention stated that **during 2004, an estimated 488 new AIDS cases were reported among A&PI, an increase of 2.1% over 2003 and of 39.4% over 2000.**
- Although the numbers of individuals with HIV/AIDS is increasing, Asian cultural values of harmony and avoidance of conflict affect the disclosure experience of HIV-positive A&PI. The collectivist orientation of Asian communities means that individuals cast a reflection on the larger family making it difficult to seek testing and revealing their HIV-positive status without fear of being ostracized by their family (Schustack & Yoshioka, 2001).
- There are steps one can take to lessen the negative image HIV has in the A&PI community. By utilizing already well established individuals popular in the community HIV prevention is possible. These socially popular individuals have a highly valued reputation in their community and thus are able to influence other members in their community much easier than outsiders. (Yoshikawa et al., 2003).
- Only when appropriate steps are taken will health promotion messages and HIV intervention and prevention become successful! **The Banyan Tree Project aims to decrease these barriers to increase communication around HIV/AIDS in the A&PI community as rates of HIV/AIDS in this community continue to rise.**

To learn more or find out how you can help,
please contact (714) 636-1349
Visit us online at www.apaitonline.org



The Banyan Tree Project
www.Banyantreeproject.org