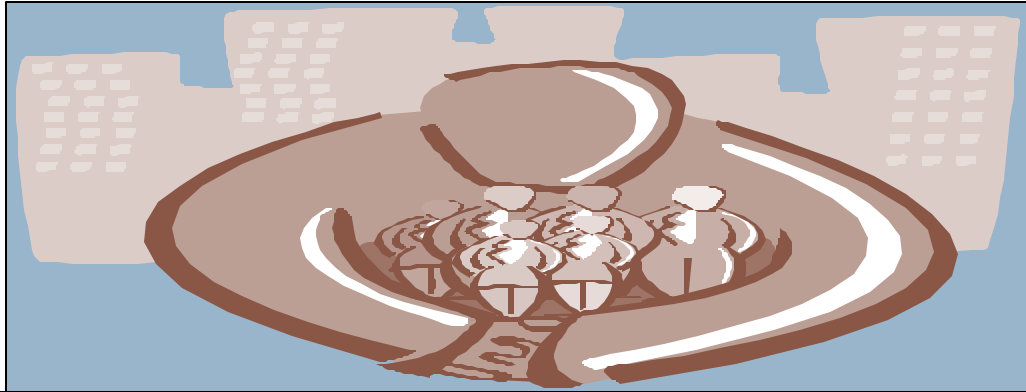


Happy New Year!!



Serving Spelman College, The Atlanta University Center & Communities Beyond!

Community Counts

JANUARY 2006

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 6

Quick Community Facts:

- **\$92.7 billion**
Receipts for black-owned businesses in 2002, up 30 percent from 1997. The rate at which black-owned businesses increased their receipts was higher than the national average (22 percent).
- **6.5 million**
The number of women-owned businesses in 2002, up 20 percent from 1997. (The increase among all businesses was 10 percent.) An estimated 917,946 such firms had paid employees, with receipts of \$813 billion, or an average of \$885,878 per firm
- Thirty-eight percent of black-owned firms were in health care and other service industries; health care and retail trade accounted for a fourth of their receipts.

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- **Daily Women's Health Policy**
- **Resources of the Month**



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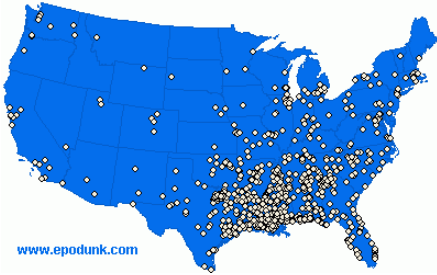
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Fleeing Katrina

With more than 1 million people forced to evacuate, Hurricane Katrina caused the biggest mass migration in U.S. history. In terms of numbers permanently displaced, the only event that might have been bigger than Katrina is the Civil War.

Twenty-six days after Katrina, Hurricane Rita struck. In the days before Rita made landfall,



millions evacuated the Gulf Coast of east Texas and western Louisiana. An untold number were refugees of Katrina, displaced again.

Congress has approved billions in aid, including funds to buy travel trailers and other forms of temporary housing, so many evacuees will be able to return to places near their former homes. But thousands will not be able to return for years, both because the damage is so catastrophic and because so many were already living in poverty. Many experts are telling churches and other groups to focus on helping people relocate permanently.

The impact of great wars, floods, and fires reverberates for decades. New Orleans was already seeing a long-term population decline before Katrina, and the rebuilt city is likely to be even smaller. Biloxi's casinos will probably be rebuilt, but it is unlikely that the new ones will float in the bay as the old ones did. There are calls to restore the bayous of southern Louisiana as flood barriers, and steep increases in insurance rates could cause the owners of beachfront property to scale back on their rebuilding plans.

For information on other significant U.S. disasters, the mass migrations they caused, and their lasting effects, see the links at right.

Please see next page for a more detailed map. Also you can visit this website. <http://www.epodunk.com/top10/diaspora/destination-map.html>

Women-Owned Businesses Grew at Twice the National Average, Census Bureau Reports

The number of women-owned businesses grew 20 percent between 1997 and 2002, twice the national average for all businesses, according to a new U.S. Census Bureau report. The nearly 6.5 million businesses generated more than \$940 billion in revenue, up 15 percent from 1997.

Women owned nearly 30 percent of nonfarm businesses in the United States in 2002. While 14 percent of women-owned firms employed more than 7.1 million people, the vast majority of businesses owned by women (nearly 5.6 million) had no employees.

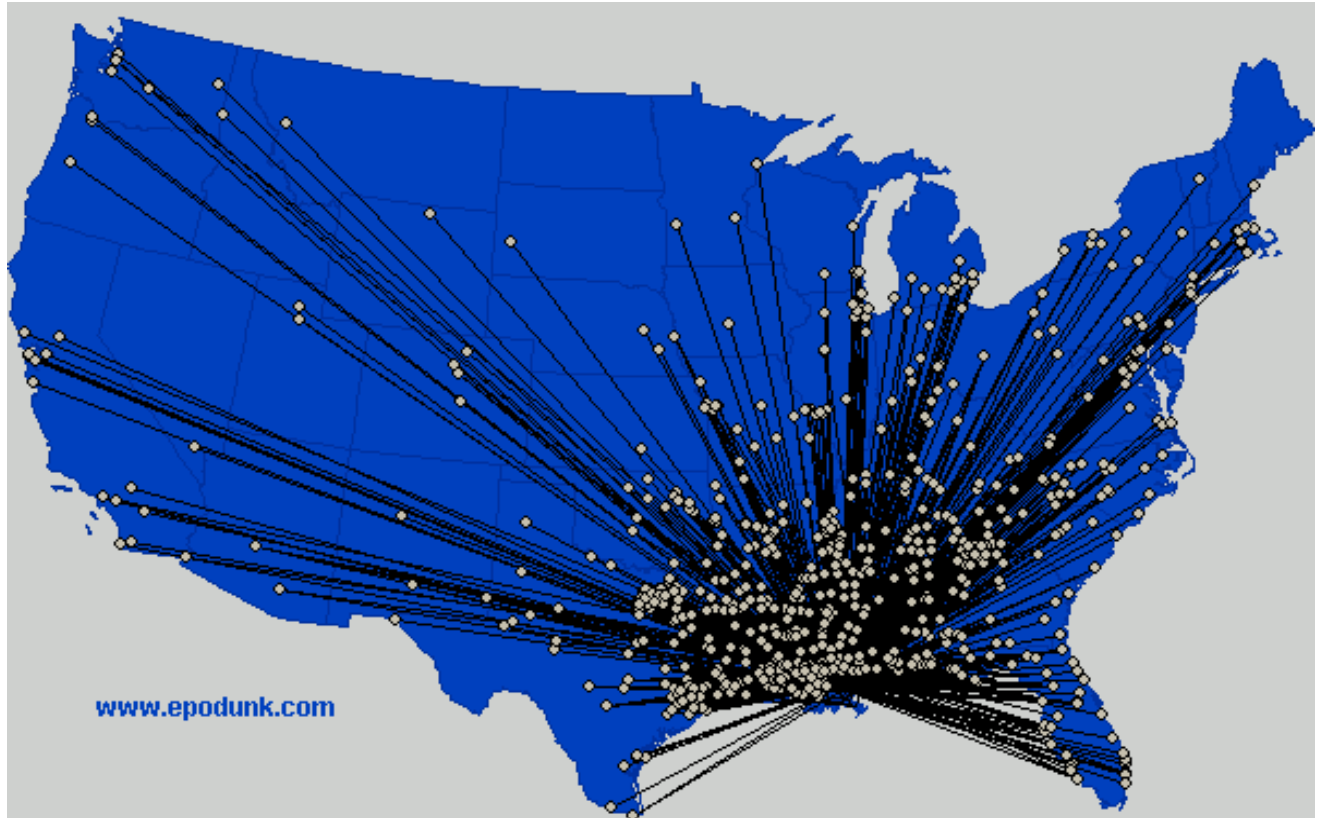
Other highlights:

- **In 2002, nearly 1-in-3 women-owned firms operated in health care and social assistance, and other services, such as personal services, and repair and maintenance. They owned 72 percent of social assistance businesses and just over half of nursing and residential care facilities.**
- **Wholesale and retail trade accounted for 38.3 percent of women-owned business revenue.**
- **There were 117,069 women-owned firms with receipts of \$1 million or more.**
- **There were 7,240 women-owned firms with 100 employees or more, generating \$275 billion in gross receipts.**
- **States with the fastest rates of growth for women-owned firms between 1997 and 2002 were Nevada (43 percent), Georgia (35 percent), Florida (29 percent) and New York (28 percent).**
- **Counties with the highest number of women-owned firms were Los Angeles County, Calif. (265,919); Cook County, Ill. (130,418); Miami-Dade County, Fla. (88,173); New York County, N.Y. (86,364); and Harris County, Texas (86,042).**

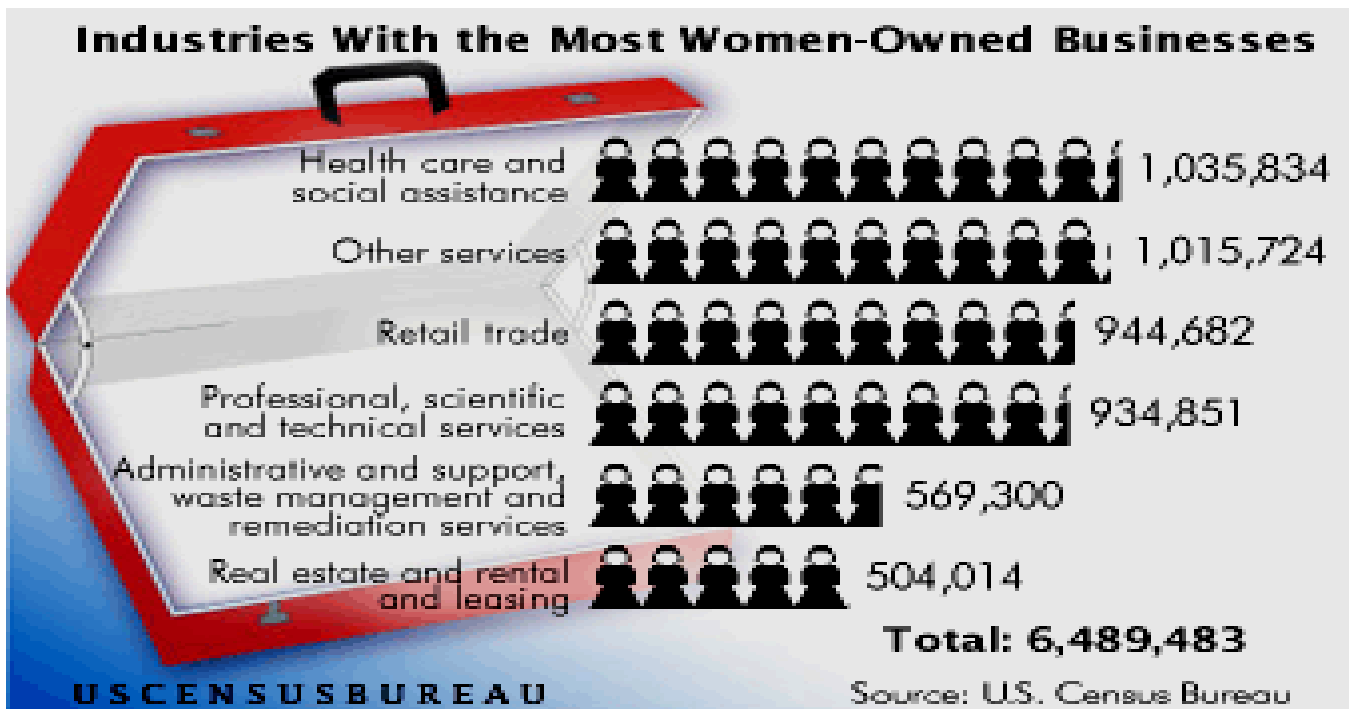
The 2002 Survey of Business Owners (SBO) defines women-owned businesses as privately held firms in which women own 51 percent or more of the interest or stock of the business. The 2002 data show that in addition to the nearly 6.5 million majority women-owned firms, there were almost 2.7 million equally male/female-owned firms with \$731.4 billion in receipts. Separate reports on minority-owned businesses will be issued over the coming months.

Please see page 3 for graphic chart. Also visit <http://www.census.gov/prod/ec02/sb0200cswmn.pdf>

AMERICAN DIASPORA KATRINA



The above map was based on more than 40,000 postings on Internet "safe lists" by Katrina survivors. ePodunk analyzed messages containing both the person's hometown and the location after fleeing the storm. Pass your cursor over points on the map to see city names and to click to information about the community.





World Aids Day- Dec 1, 2005

Statement By: Dr. Julie Gerberding, CDC Director

Nearly 25 years into the AIDS epidemic, our nation continues to face complex challenges in the fight against HIV. The number of people living with HIV in the United States has reached an all-time high at more than one million and worldwide about 40 million people are living with HIV. One-quarter of those Americans do not even realize they are infected, and an estimated 40,000 new infections continue to occur every year in the U.S. In addition, HIV continues to disproportionately affect African Americans and men who have sex with men.

But on this World AIDS Day there are also reasons for optimism. The latest CDC research demonstrate the dramatic success of efforts to prevent mother-to-infant HIV transmission in the U.S., as pediatric AIDS cases reached an all time low in 2004, with only 48 cases reported. Additionally, research on new HIV diagnoses from 33 states suggest that comprehensive HIV prevention efforts for injection drug users are working. In addition, more people worldwide are being tested and receiving lifesaving treatments thanks to the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief.

Many state and local communities across the U.S. are reporting encouraging signs of growing acceptance of HIV testing, expanded use of proven HIV prevention interventions, and innovative new approaches to reaching populations now at greatest risk. Building upon this progress will be critical.

On World AIDS Day, let us recommit ourselves to protecting the health of everyone from this terrible disease. Our efforts to support a comprehensive approach to combating HIV are guided by two essential goals: decreasing the number of new HIV infections, and increasing the number of HIV infected individuals who learn their status and are linked to care and ongoing prevention services. To this end, CDC is partnering with national, state, and local organizations throughout the U.S. to achieve these goals.

But, clearly, more remains to be done, and all of us – government, communities, academia, and advocates – have a critical role to play. Today, and every day, we must all commit to making a future without AIDS something we will all live to see.

Key Findings from the 2001–2004, 33 state, HIV Diagnoses Data

- **Despite 5 percent annual drop in rate of HIV diagnosis among blacks, racial disparities remain severe.**The rate of HIV diagnosis in the United States remained relatively stable overall during 2001-2004 (i.e., 22.8 per 100,000 people in 2001 compared to 20.7 per 100,000 people in 2004). The rate of diagnosis among blacks, however, declined by about 5 percent per year (i.e., from 88.7 per 100,000 in 2001 to 76.3 per 100,000 in 2004). Despite the decline, the rate of HIV diagnosis among blacks remained 8.4 times higher than the rate among whites in 2004 (i.e., 76.3 per 100,000 compared to 9.0 per 100,000). By race, more than half of all HIV diagnoses were among blacks.
- **Impact of HIV remains greatest among gay and bisexual men.**By transmission category, men who have sex with men continued to account for the largest number of diagnoses overall. Among males, the majority of diagnoses occurred among men who have sex with men (MSM). However, the proportion of HIV diagnoses attributed to heterosexual exposure varied considerably by race, from a low of 6 percent among whites to a high of 25 percent among blacks. It is therefore essential that HIV/AIDS prevention programs for minority men address multiple routes of exposure. Among females, the majority of HIV diagnoses, regardless of race, occurred through heterosexual exposure.
- **There is a need for increased HIV/AIDS prevention efforts that focus on blacks and men who have sex with men.**HIV/AIDS diagnoses continue to disproportionately impact blacks, with black men who have sex with men, and black women most severely affected. In recent years, efforts have been mobilized across the United States to address this threat, but clearly more must be done. CDC is committed to working in partnership with black communities and other government agencies to ensure that all individuals at risk have access to culturally appropriate, effective prevention programs, and early HIV testing and treatment. CDC is collaborating with community leaders from across the country to prioritize prevention needs and to develop and implement interventions that will reduce HIV transmission among black men who have sex with men and women, in particular, and other at-risk populations.

Please visit <http://www.cdc.gov/od/oc/media/pressrel/fs051117.htm> to learn more. Also see *page 5* for detailed statistics.

Top 10 AIDS Cases by State/Territory

The 10 states or territories **reporting** the highest number of AIDS cases are as follows:

# of AIDS Cases in 2003	State/Territory
6,684	New York
5,903	California
4,666	Florida
3,379	Texas
1,907	Georgia
1,895	Pennsylvania
1,730	Illinois
1,570	Maryland
1,516	New Jersey
1,083	North Carolina

# of Cumulative AIDS Cases Through 2003	State/Territory
162,446	New York
133,292	California
94,725	Florida
62,983	Texas
46,703	New Jersey
30,139	Illinois
29,988	Pennsylvania
28,301	Puerto Rico
27,915	Georgia
26,918	Maryland

www.cdc.com

AIDS Cases by Race/Ethnicity

Estimated numbers of diagnoses of AIDS, by race or ethnicity:

Race or Ethnicity	Estimated # of AIDS Cases in 2003	Cumulative Estimated # of AIDS Cases, Through 2003
White, not Hispanic	12,222	376,834
Black, not Hispanic	21,304	368,169
Hispanic	8,757	172,993
Asian/Pacific Islander	497	7,166
American Indian/Alaska Native	196	3,026

www.cdc.com

Daily Women's Health Policy

About Half of Young Adults Support Abstinence Programs To Prevent Unplanned Pregnancy

January 24, 2006

By: Harris Poll

A majority of young adults ages 18 to 29 supports abstinence education as a method to prevent HIV/AIDS, and about half support the method to prevent unplanned pregnancy, according to a recent Harris Poll at the Washington Times reports. According to the poll, which surveyed 1,961 adults in December 2005, 56% of participants ages 18 to 24 and 60% of those surveyed ages 25 to 29 believe abstinence education is effective in preventing or reducing the occurrence of HIV/AIDS. Forty-nine percent of participants ages 18 to 24 and 52% of participants ages 25 to 29 believe the method is effective in preventing or reducing unplanned pregnancy. According to the survey, younger participants responded more favorably toward abstinence education than those in older age groups. Forty-three percent of participants ages 30-39 felt abstinence programs were effective against HIV/AIDS compared with 41% of participants 40-49, 37% of participants 50-64, and 31% of participants older than age 65. Among the participants surveyed who were older than 40, 30% to 33% felt abstinence programs are effective against preventing unplanned pregnancy (Harper, *Washington Times*, 1/22). Overall, a majority of the people surveyed do not believe that abstinence programs are effective in preventing the spread of HIV/AIDS or unplanned pregnancy (Harris Poll, 1/11). The poll says the finding is "striking," adding, "Adults under the age of 30 are more likely to believe that abstinence programs are effective, and it is of course these adults who are the main targets for the programs" (*Washington Times*, 1/22). * **This article can be found at the Kaisernetwork.org**

RESOURCES OF THE MONTH

RESOURCES OF THE MONTH



HIV/AIDS: Manual for Faith Communities

The HIV/AIDS: Manual for Faith Communities is a unique tool to empower people of faith in their efforts to help fight HIV/AIDS among African Americans and other communities of color. Developed by NCPS, (a coalition of over 2400 pastor's spouses), in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the manual's goal is to educate people of all walks of life, including the faith community, on a range of HIV/AIDS topics, while inspiring it to join the fight against this devastating disease.

Please visit: www.pastorspouses.com

Cancer in Women of Color Monograph

This monograph, a collaboration of the National Institutes of Health's National Cancer Institute and the Office of Research on Women's Health, is a comprehensive online source of data on cancer in nine populations of minority women. Each chapter, with contributions from experts representing the respective racial or ethnic population, includes the social and historical context, current demographics and health indicators, and comprehensive statistics on the cancer experience in each population. The chapters highlight risk factors for cancer, as well as prevention and control interventions that have proven successful, and make recommendations for future data needs and cancer control efforts.



Please Visit: <http://cancercontrol.cancer.gov/womenofcolor/>