

diagnosis. Females were between two and three times more likely than males to have received a diagnosis at ages 20-24. Five times more females (3%) than males (0.5%) were diagnosed while teenagers (ages 13 to 19). The age distribution for AIDS cases diagnosed in 1995 closely resembles that for 1982-1995, with the exception of an increase in the proportional share for females ages 13 to 19 (2.7% overall versus 6% in the provisional 1995 data).

Cumulated adolescent and adult AIDS cases among males for the period 1982-1995 were broken down and analyzed by age at diagnosis and race (Table 2.3.3). For blacks and whites, cases concentrated in the age range 25-44 years (81% and 78%, respectively). Although the numbers are small, there was a slight departure for cases in the other race category. These cases concentrated in the age range of 25-49 years. The patterns documented for the whole observation period persisted in 1995.

Cumulated AIDS cases among females by race deviated only marginally from the age patterns exhibited for cases among males (Table 2.3.4). For the period 1982-1995, cases among black females concentrated in the age range 20-39 years (79%) and cases among white females in the range 20-44 years (79%). Cases pertaining to other races fell entirely in the range 25-49 years. In 1995, cases among black females concentrated in ages 13-44 and cases among white females in ages 20-54. Three cases were reported for other races in 1995, two at ages 30-34 and another at ages 40-44.

Males were diagnosed at an older age than females (Table 2.3.5). Between 1982 and 1995, 24% of males were diagnosed when less than 30 years of age and 5% were diagnosed when less than 25 years of age. Provisional 1995 data show declines in age at diagnosis for males, to 18% at under 30 and 4% at under 25 years. In contrast, among females diagnosed from 1982 through 1995, 36% were diagnosed before age 30 and 14% were diagnosed before age 25. Provisionally for 1995, these proportions were 38% and 19% respectively.

Table 2.3.5 also shows that much of the increase among early-age diagnoses of AIDS occurred among blacks and females, especially black females. Among black males, 7% of cumulative cases and 6% of 1995 cases were diagnosed before age 25, compared to 4% and 2% respectively among white males. Among black females, cumulatively 16% were diagnosed before age 25, compared to 12% among white females. In 1995, 22% of black females and 16% of white females were diagnosed before age 25.

2.3.4. Pediatric AIDS Cases

A total of 43 cases of pediatric (under 13 years of age) AIDS were diagnosed in Tennessee through December 1995. Eighty-six percent of these cases were in infants and children 4 and under (Table 2.3.6). A majority of these cases (67%) were in males. In addition, all cases among children 5-12 years of age were in males. Fifty-six percent