



## FACTS AND STATISTICS ABOUT HIV/AIDS

- There are 33.4 million people living with HIV worldwide.<sup>i</sup> Two thirds (22.4 million) live in sub-Saharan Africa.<sup>ii</sup>
- An estimated 2.7 million new HIV infections occurred in 2007.<sup>iii</sup> 71% (1.9 million) of these infections were in sub-Saharan Africa.<sup>iv</sup>
- An estimated 430,000 new HIV infections occurred among children under the age of 15 in 2008.<sup>v</sup> 91% (390,000) live in sub-Saharan Africa.<sup>vi</sup>
- An estimated 2 million deaths due to AIDS-related illnesses occurred worldwide in 2008.<sup>vii</sup> 72% (1.4 million) occurred in sub-Saharan Africa.<sup>viii</sup>
- Approximately 4 million people in low and middle income countries are receiving antiretroviral therapy.<sup>ix</sup> Antiretroviral therapy coverage rose from 7% in 2003 to 42% in 2008.<sup>x</sup>

### **HIV/AIDS IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA**

- The number of new infections in 2008 is approximately 25% lower in 2008 than at the epidemic's peak in the region in 1995.<sup>xi</sup>
- 1 in 20 adults in sub-Saharan Africa is estimated to be living with HIV.<sup>xii</sup>
- In 2008, more than 14.1 million children were estimated to have lost one or both parents to AIDS.<sup>xiii</sup>

### **Women**

- Women account for approximately 60% of HIV infections.<sup>xiv</sup>

<sup>i</sup> UNAIDS. *2009 AIDS Epidemic Update*. Geneva: UNAIDS, November 2009, p. 6.

<sup>ii</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 11.

<sup>iii</sup> UNAIDS, UNICEF, WHO. *Towards Universal Access: Scaling up priority HIV/AIDS interventions in the health sector. Progress Report*. Geneva: WHO, 2009, p. 4.

<sup>iv</sup> UNAIDS. *2009 AIDS Epidemic Update*. Geneva: UNAIDS, November 2009, p. 11.

<sup>v</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 6.

<sup>vi</sup> *Ibid.*, p.35.

<sup>vii</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 6.

<sup>viii</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 84.

<sup>ix</sup> UNAIDS, UNICEF, WHO. *Towards Universal Access: Scaling up priority HIV/AIDS interventions in the health sector. Progress Report*. Geneva: WHO, 2009, p. 5.

<sup>x</sup> UNAIDS. *2009 AIDS Epidemic Update*. Geneva: UNAIDS, November 2009, p. 9.

<sup>xi</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 25.

<sup>xii</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 27.

<sup>xiii</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 21.

<sup>xiv</sup> UNAIDS, UNICEF, WHO. *Towards Universal Access: Scaling up priority HIV/AIDS interventions in the health sector. Progress Report*. Geneva: WHO, 2009, p. 5.



- A recent study in Lesotho found that sexual and physical violence is a key determinant of the country's HIV epidemic.<sup>xv</sup>
- In the 9 countries in southern Africa most affected by HIV, prevalence among young women aged 15 to 24 was on average about 3 times higher than men in the same age group.<sup>xvi</sup>
- Divorced, separated or widowed women tend to have significantly higher HIV prevalence than those who are single, married or cohabitating.<sup>xvii</sup>
- The high prevalence of intergenerational sexual partnerships may also contribute to women's disproportionate risk of HIV infection.<sup>xviii</sup>

## ARVs

- As of December 2008, 44% of people (nearly 3 million) needing antiretroviral therapy were receiving it.<sup>xix</sup>
- Some positive outcomes:
  - In Kenya, AIDS-related deaths have fallen 29% since 2002.<sup>xx</sup>
  - In Botswana, estimated annual AIDS-related deaths have declined by more than one half.<sup>xxi</sup>

## Southern Africa

- The 9 countries with the highest HIV prevalence worldwide are all located in Southern Africa.<sup>xxii</sup>
- South Africa has the world's largest population of people living with HIV (5.7 million).<sup>xxiii</sup> There is still no evidence of decline in infections among pregnant women in South Africa. More than 29% of South African women accessing public health services tested HIV positive in 2008.<sup>xxiv</sup>
- With 26% of adults infected (2007), Swaziland has the most severe HIV level in the world.<sup>xxv</sup> Botswana has an adult prevalence of 24% and Lesotho is close behind at 23.2%.<sup>xxvi</sup>

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<sup>xv</sup> UNAIDS. *2009 AIDS Epidemic Update*. Geneva: UNAIDS, November 2009, p. 22.

<sup>xvi</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 22.

<sup>xvii</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 22.

<sup>xviii</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 31.

<sup>xix</sup> UNAIDS, UNICEF, WHO. *Towards Universal Access: Scaling up priority HIV/AIDS interventions in the health sector. Progress Report*. Geneva: WHO, 2009, p. 5.

<sup>xx</sup> UNAIDS. *2009 AIDS Epidemic Update*. Geneva: UNAIDS, November 2009, p. 25.

<sup>xxi</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 25.

<sup>xxii</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 27.

<sup>xxiii</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 27.

<sup>xxiv</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 28.

<sup>xxv</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 27.

<sup>xxvi</sup> *Ibid.*, p.27.



## **Sexual Transmission**

- Heterosexual intercourse remains the primary mode of HIV transmission in sub-Saharan Africa, with extensive ongoing transmission to newborns and breastfed babies.<sup>xxvii</sup>
- In South Africa, the proportion of adults reporting condom use during their most recent episode of sexual intercourse rose from 31.3% in 2002 to 64.8% in 2008. But condom use remains low in many parts of sub-Saharan Africa; for example, in Burundi, about 1 in 5 people report using a condom during commercial sex episodes.<sup>xxviii</sup> In Kenya, fewer than 25% of young people use a condom during their first sexual encounter.<sup>xxix</sup>
- Clinical trials have confirmed that male circumcision reduces transmission of HIV among men.<sup>xxx</sup>
- A recent survey in Kenya found that HIV prevalence was more than 3 times higher in uncircumcised men.<sup>xxxi</sup>
- Several countries, including Botswana, Kenya, and Namibia have taken steps to scale up medical male circumcision for HIV prevention.<sup>xxxii</sup>
- Seven African countries report more than 30% of all sex workers are living with HIV.<sup>xxxiii</sup>
- In 2008, 45% of HIV-infected pregnant women received antiretrovirals to prevent transmission to their newborns compared with 9% in 2006.<sup>xxxiv</sup>
- In most African countries, researchers have identified a higher prevalence of HIV among men who have sex with men than among the general male population.<sup>xxxv</sup> In Mombasa, Kenya, 43% of men who have sex only with other men tested HIV positive compared with 12.3% of men who reported having sex with both men and women.<sup>xxxvi</sup> One third of men who have sex with men surveyed in Cape Town, Durban and Pretoria tested HIV-positive.<sup>xxxvii</sup>

## **Report on Children and AIDS<sup>xxxviii</sup>**

- In 14 of 17 African countries, the percentage of pregnant women 15-24 years old living with HIV has declined since 2000.<sup>xxxix</sup>

<sup>xxvii</sup> Ibid., p. 29.

<sup>xxviii</sup> Ibid., p. 30.

<sup>xxix</sup> Ibid., p. 31.

<sup>xxx</sup> UNAIDS, UNICEF, WHO. *Towards Universal Access: Scaling up priority HIV/AIDS interventions in the health sector. Progress Report*. Geneva: WHO, 2009, p. 44.

<sup>xxxi</sup> UNAIDS. *2009 AIDS Epidemic Update*. Geneva: UNAIDS, November 2009, p. 31-32.

<sup>xxxii</sup> Ibid., p. 32.

<sup>xxxiii</sup> Ibid., p. 33.

<sup>xxxiv</sup> Ibid., p. 35.

<sup>xxxv</sup> Ibid., p. 33.

<sup>xxxvi</sup> Ibid., p. 33.

<sup>xxxvii</sup> Ibid., p. 33.

<sup>xxxviii</sup> UNICEF. *Children and AIDS: Fourth Stocktaking Report*. Geneva: UNICEF, UNAIDS, WHO, UNFPA, 2009.



- In seven countries, the drop in rates of HIV infection has equalled or exceeded the 25% targeted reduction for 2010 set out in the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS adopted at the 2001 UN General Assembly Special Session on HIV and AIDS.<sup>xi</sup>
- There are 2 million children under 15 living with HIV worldwide.<sup>xii</sup>
- HIV treatment for children has risen dramatically, most significantly in sub-Saharan Africa.<sup>xiii</sup>
- Adolescent girls in southern Africa are 2 to 4.5 times more likely to be living with HIV than their male counterparts.<sup>xiiii</sup>

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<sup>xxxix</sup> UNICEF. *Children and AIDS: Fourth Stocktaking Report*. Geneva: UNICEF, UNAIDS, WHO, UNFPA, 2009, p. 16.

<sup>xi</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 16.

<sup>xii</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 10.

<sup>xiii</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 10.

<sup>xiiii</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 16.