

HIV PREVALENCE DECLINE

During the 2007 Zambia Demographic and Health Survey (ZDHS), women aged 15-49 and men aged 15-59 were tested to find out their HIV status. Preliminary results of the survey reveal that HIV prevalence has declined from 15.6 percent in 2001/2002 to 14.3 percent in 2007.

Analysis by residence indicates that HIV prevalence is twice as high in urban areas (19.7 percent) than in rural areas (10.3 percent)

At provincial level, Lusaka has the highest HIV prevalence with 20.8 percent followed by Central with 18 percent. The lowest level of HIV prevalence was recorded in Northern Province with 6.8 percent.

Analysis by sex reveals that HIV prevalence is high among women (16.1 percent) than men (12.3 percent).

HIV prevalence by socioeconomic characteristics
(Percentage HIV positive among interviewed women age 15-49 and men age 15-59 who were tested, by background characteristics, Zambia 2007)

Background characteristic	Women		Men		Total	
	Percentage HIV positive	Number	Percentage HIV positive	Number	Percentage HIV positive	Number
Age						
15-19	5.7	1,202	3.6	1,162	4.7	2,365
20-24	11.8	1,023	5.2	865	8.7	1,888
25-29	19.9	1,058	11.4	796	16.3	1,854
30-34	26.0	819	17.1	787	21.6	1,607
35-39	24.9	586	22.4	608	23.6	1,194
40-44	18.3	445	24.1	410	21.1	855
45-49	12.1	369	18.6	313	15.1	682
Residence						
Urban	23.1	2,317	15.9	2,148	19.7	4,464
Rural	11.0	3,185	9.4	2,795	10.3	5,980
Province						
Central	22.0	507	12.6	458	17.5	965
Copperbelt	21.6	973	12.3	949	17.0	1,922
Eastern	11.0	748	9.5	654	10.3	1,402
Luapula	11.5	408	15.3	317	13.2	726
Lusaka	22.4	902	19.0	878	20.8	1,780
Northern	7.7	744	5.7	662	6.8	1,406
Northwestern	9.1	281	4.5	251	6.9	532
Southern	15.8	560	13.2	513	14.5	1,073
Western	16.1	379	13.9	260	15.2	638
Total 15-49	16.1	5,502	12.3	4,942	14.3	10,444
50-59	na	na	12.7	432	12.7	432
Total men 15-59	na	na	12.3	5,374	12.3	5,374

na = Not applicable

The results also show that HIV prevalence was high among persons in the age group 35-39 at 23.6 percent. Among females, HIV prevalence was high in the age group 30-34 (26.0 percent), while the prevalence for males was high in the age group 40-44 (24.1 percent).

