

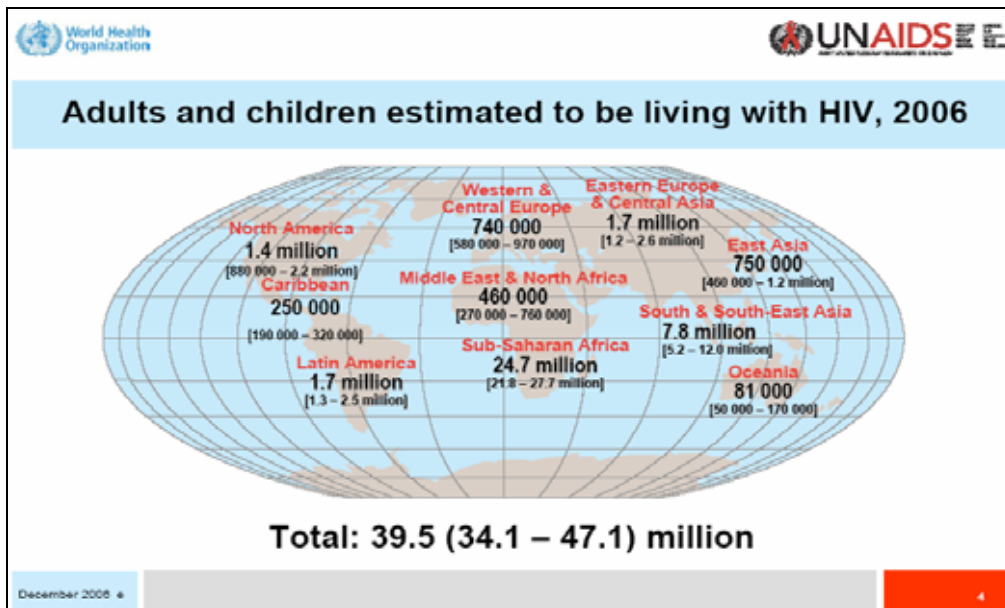
## Facts & Figures

Each year the Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) and the World Health Organization (WHO) launch a joint report, the 'UNAIDS/WHO AIDS Epidemic Update', ahead of World AIDS Day on 1 December. The report features updated global and regional estimates on HIV and AIDS and the latest developments in the global epidemic.

Some key findings:

- AIDS is a global pandemic that shows no sign of weakening its grip on human society.
- In the past two years, the number of people living with HIV increased in every region in the world.
- Since the beginning of the pandemic 25 years ago, more than 25 million people have died of AIDS.
- In 2006, the total number of people living with HIV globally was 39.5 million, approximately 95% of them in developing countries – 2.6 million more than in 2004.
- Last year alone, AIDS claimed 2.9 million lives; of these 530,000 were children.
- An estimated 4.3 million adults and children were newly infected with HIV in 2006, approximately 400,000 more than in 2004. An estimated 11,800 people are infected each day with HIV.
- The impact of AIDS transcends gender differences, age, sexual orientation, socio-economic status and nationality. Yet the vast majority of new infections still occur in developing countries.
- Sub-Saharan Africa continues to bear the brunt of the global epidemic with almost 25 million HIV-infected individuals; 34% of all AIDS-related deaths in 2006 occurred in this region. The steepest increases in HIV infections occurred in East Asia, Eastern Europe and Central Asia, where the number of people living with HIV in 2006 was 21% higher than in 2004.
- India has the largest number of people living with HIV in the world – an estimated 5.7 million at the end of 2006. South Africa is the country with the second largest number of people living with HIV, namely 5.5 million.<sup>1</sup>

Adults and children estimated to be living with HIV, 2006 [with data per region]



Source: UNAIDS / WHO, Core slides - AIDS epidemic update, December 2006.

Regional HIV and AIDS statistics and features, 2006

	Adults & children living with HIV	Adults & children newly infected with HIV	Adult prevalence (15-49) [%]	Adult & child deaths due to AIDS
Sub-Saharan Africa	24.7 million [21.8 - 27.7 million]	2.8 million [2.4 - 3.2 million]	5.9% [5.2% - 6.7%]	2.1 million [1.8 - 2.4 million]
Middle East & North Africa	460 000 [270 000 - 760 000]	68 000 [41 000 - 220 000]	0.2% [0.1% - 0.3%]	36 000 [20 000 - 60 000]
South and South-East Asia	7.8 million [5.2 - 12.0 million]	860 000 [550 000 - 2.3 million]	0.6% [0.4% - 1.0%]	590 000 [390 000 - 850 000]
East Asia	750 000 [400 000 - 1.2 million]	100 000 [50 000 - 300 000]	0.1% [-0.2%]	43 000 [20 000 - 64 000]
Latin America	1.7 million [1.3 - 2.5 million]	140 000 [100 000 - 410 000]	0.5% [0.4% - 1.2%]	65 000 [51 000 - 84 000]
Caribbean	250 000 [190 000 - 320 000]	27 000 [20 000 - 41 000]	1.2% [0.9% - 1.7%]	19 000 [14 000 - 25 000]
Eastern Europe & Central Asia	1.7 million [1.2 - 2.6 million]	270 000 [170 000 - 420 000]	0.9% [0.6% - 1.4%]	84 000 [58 000 - 120 000]
Western & Central Europe	740 000 [580 000 - 970 000]	22 000 [18 000 - 33 000]	0.3% [0.2% - 0.4%]	12 000 [ - 15 000]
North America	1.4 million [880 000 - 2.2 million]	43 000 [34 000 - 65 000]	0.6% [0.6% - 1.1%]	18 000 [11 000 - 26 000]
Oceania	81 000 [50 000 - 170 000]	7 100 [3 400 - 54 000]	0.4% [0.2% - 0.9%]	4 000 [2 000 - 9 000]
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>39.5 million [34.1 - 47.1 million]</b>	<b>4.3 million [3.5 - 6.6 million]</b>	<b>1.0% [0.9% - 1.2%]</b>	<b>2.9 million [2.5 - 3.5 million]</b>

The ranges around the estimates in this table define the boundaries within which the actual numbers lie, based on the best available information.

Source: UNAIDS / WHO, Core slides - AIDS epidemic update, December 2006.

### **Woman and HIV and AIDS**

- Globally, and in every region, more adult women than ever before are now living with HIV. Between 1985 and 2006, the percentage of women living with HIV/AIDS has risen from 35% to 48%.<sup>ii</sup> 59% of people living with HIV in sub-Saharan Africa in 2006 were women. This is three quarters (76%) of all HIV-positive women.<sup>iii</sup>
- Among young people ages 15 to 24 in sub-Saharan Africa, the difference in rates of infection is even more striking: HIV-infected young women outnumber their male counterparts four to one
- AIDS now ranks as one of the leading causes of death for women between 20 and 40 years of age in parts of Europe, sub-Saharan Africa and North America.
- Women's physiological susceptibility to HIV is about two to four times greater than men's.<sup>iv</sup> It is compounded by social, cultural, economic and legal forms of discrimination. Among them are: poverty, low status and unequal economic rights; limited ability to negotiate safer sex; gender-based violence; older men who often seek younger sexual partners; and cultural practices, such as early and forced marriage.<sup>v</sup>

### **Young people and HIV and AIDS**

- Among adults 15 years and older, young people (ages 15-24) accounted for 40% of new HIV infections in 2006. Every day, an estimated 4,000-5,000 young people aged 15-24 become infected with HIV.<sup>vi</sup> 80% of HIV-infected individuals in the Russian Federation are younger than 30 years of age.
- There is a dramatic increase in HIV infection among young women, who now make up over 60% of 15- to 24-year-olds living with HIV/AIDS.<sup>vii</sup>
- Of the 15-24-year-old age group living with HIV, 63% live in sub-Saharan Africa and 21% live in Asia-Pacific.<sup>viii</sup>

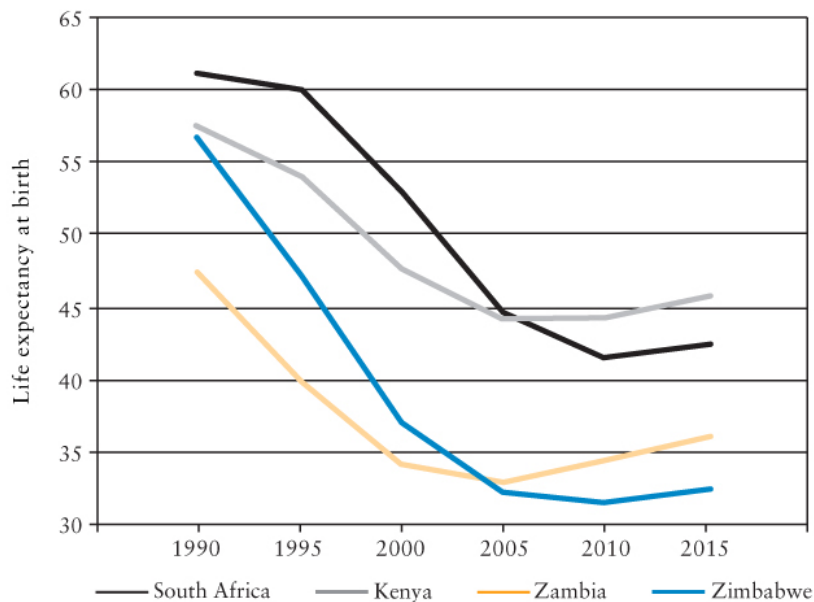
### **Economic and social impact of HIV/AIDS<sup>ix</sup>**

Halting the spread of HIV/AIDS is one of the eight Millennium Development Goals, but it is an important prerequisite for achieving most of the other seven goals:

- AIDS deepens poverty, reduces economic growth and undermines food security. An HIV prevalence rate of 20% will lower the country's GDP (Gross Domestic Product = the market value of all final goods and services produced within a country in a given period of time) by 67%.
- AIDS undermines education systems, reduces school attendance and diminishes educational opportunities, especially for girls. Unless antiretroviral therapy is expanded dramatically, AIDS is likely to claim the lives of 10% of all teachers in sub-Saharan Africa by 2012.
- AIDS is holding back the goal to reduce mortality in children under five by two-thirds before 2015. Worldwide, more than half a million children died of AIDS in 2006, and more than half a million children become infected with HIV every year.

- AIDS undermines the goal to achieve a 75% reduction in the rate of maternal mortality by 2015. HIV infection increases a woman’s risk of mortality before and after pregnancy; the mortality rate for HIV-positive mothers can be up to three times higher than the rate in mothers who are not infected with HIV.
- AIDS also affects efforts to control other infectious diseases, in particular tuberculosis (TB). It is estimated that nearly one-third of people living with HIV are also infected with the TB bacillus. The risk of TB infection doubles soon after infection with HIV, and TB rates are increasing significantly in areas with high HIV prevalence.

**Life expectancy by birth (Kenya, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe)**



Source: UNFPA, *Impact of HIV/AIDS on Population and Development*

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<sup>i</sup> [http://www.thebody.com/kaiser/2006/may31\\_06/un aids\\_report.html](http://www.thebody.com/kaiser/2006/may31_06/un aids_report.html)

<sup>ii</sup> UNAIDS, UNFPA, UNIFEM, Women and AIDS: Confronting the Crisis, p. 1  
[http://genderandaids.org/downloads/conference/308\\_filename\\_women\\_aids1.pdf](http://genderandaids.org/downloads/conference/308_filename_women_aids1.pdf)

<sup>iii</sup> The Global Coalition on Women and AIDS, Keeping the Promise: An Agenda for Action on Women and AIDS, p. 8  
[http://data.unaids.org/pub/Report/2006/20060530\\_RE\\_Keeping%20the%20Promise\\_en.pdf](http://data.unaids.org/pub/Report/2006/20060530_RE_Keeping%20the%20Promise_en.pdf)

<sup>iv</sup> Women: meeting the challenges of HIV/AIDS, p. 2  
[http://www.unfpa.org/upload/lib\\_pub\\_file/342\\_filename\\_women-aids.pdf](http://www.unfpa.org/upload/lib_pub_file/342_filename_women-aids.pdf)

<sup>v</sup> Ibid.

<sup>vi</sup> UNFPA, At the Crossroads: Accelerating Youth Access to HIV/AIDS Interventions, p. 1  
[http://www.unfpa.org/upload/lib\\_pub\\_file/316\\_filename\\_UNFPA\\_Crossroads.pdf](http://www.unfpa.org/upload/lib_pub_file/316_filename_UNFPA_Crossroads.pdf)

<sup>vii</sup> UNAIDS, UNFPA, UNIFEM, Women and AIDS: Confronting the Crisis, p. 1  
[http://genderandaids.org/downloads/conference/308\\_filename\\_women\\_aids1.pdf](http://genderandaids.org/downloads/conference/308_filename_women_aids1.pdf)

<sup>viii</sup> UNFPA, Youth and HIV/AIDS Factsheet, [http://www.unfpa.org/swp/2005/presskit/factsheets/facts\\_youth.htm](http://www.unfpa.org/swp/2005/presskit/factsheets/facts_youth.htm)

<sup>ix</sup> Putting it together. AIDS and the Millennium Development Goals. <http://www.iavi.org/viewfile.cfm?fid=33080>