



HEALTH PROFILE: EAST AFRICA

HIV/AIDS

REDSO/East and Central Africa Countries	
Burundi	
Estimated Number of Adults and Children Living with HIV/AIDS (end 2003)	250,000 [170,000-370,000]
Total Population (July 2004 est.)	6,231,221
Adult HIV Prevalence (end 2003)	6.0% [4.1%-8.8%]
HIV Seroprevalence in Urban Areas (population most vulnerable)	-
HIV Seroprevalence in Urban Areas (population least vulnerable)	16%
Congo, Democratic Republic of	
Estimated Number of Adults and Children Living with HIV/AIDS (end 2003)	90,000 [39,000-200,000]
Total Population (July 2004 est.)	58,317,930
Adult HIV Prevalence (end 2003)	4.9% [2.1%-11%]
HIV Seroprevalence in Urban Areas (population most vulnerable)	29.0%
HIV Seroprevalence in Urban Areas (population least vulnerable)	4.1%

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HIV/AIDS is the major health priority in East and Central Africa for the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). To address HIV/AIDS in the region, the Regional Economic Development Services Office (REDSO) has developed a new multisectoral approach for 12 countries in the region. The REDSO East and Central Africa (ECA) region includes five focus countries in the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief: Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, and Uganda. Four non-focus countries receive basic HIV/AIDS support from USAID that will be strengthened through regional programming: Democratic Republic of Congo, Eritrea, Madagascar, and Burundi. In Sudan, Djibouti, and Somalia, where USAID has limited or no bilateral presence, HIV/AIDS interventions are being planned.

The estimate for prevalence in Kenya at the end of 2003 was 6.7%, following refinement of the models used for calculations to include data from household surveys rather than just sentinel surveillance data. Four countries have adult prevalence between 5 and 10%—Tanzania, Burundi, Kenya, and Rwanda. Tanzania's prevalence is the highest at 8.8%. The remaining countries have prevalence estimated at 0.0 to 5%.

There are signs of significant decline in infection rates in some countries in the East and Central Africa region. Prevalence among pregnant women in urban areas was 13% in Eastern Africa in 2002, down from about 20% in the early 1990s. In Kampala, Uganda, prevalence dropped to around 8% in 2002, from 29% a decade before, while Uganda's national prevalence dropped to 4.1% in 2003 from 5.1% at the end of 2001. No other country in the region has so dramatically reversed the epidemic, but HIV prevalence among pregnant women has declined in several sites in other countries. For example, in the Ethiopian capital of Addis Ababa, prevalence fell from a peak of 24% in 1995 to 11% in 2003. Prevalence also dropped in several sites in Kenya, including Nairobi, while prevalence in many other sites appeared stable. Not all countries in the region, however, show stabilized levels. There has been an alarming rise in prevalence in Madagascar among pregnant women; from 2001 to 2003, prevalence increased almost fourfold, to reach 1.7%.

USAID RESPONSE

USAID's REDSO program for HIV/AIDS in the ECA region provides dedicated technical specialists, focusing exclusively on HIV/AIDS, who work to strengthen policies and systems, improve the quality and availability of

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REDSO/East and Central Africa Countries

Djibouti	
Estimated Number of Adults and Children Living with HIV/AIDS (end 2003)	9,100 [2,300-24,000]
Total Population (July 2004 est.)	466,900
Adult HIV Prevalence (end 2003)	2.9% [0.7%-7.5%]
HIV Seroprevalence in Urban Areas (population most vulnerable)	28.2%
HIV Seroprevalence in Urban Areas (population least vulnerable)	2.4%
Eritrea	
Estimated Number of Adults and Children Living with HIV/AIDS (end 2003)	60,000 [21,000-170,000]
Total Population (July 2004 est.)	4,447,307
Adult HIV Prevalence (end 2003)	2.7% [0.9%-7.3%]
HIV Seroprevalence in Urban Areas (population most vulnerable)	24.1%
HIV Seroprevalence in Urban Areas (population least vulnerable)	2.2%
Ethiopia	
Estimated Number of Adults and Children Living with HIV/AIDS (end 2003)	1,500,000 [950,000-2,300,000]
Total Population (July 2004 est.)	67,851,281
Adult HIV Prevalence (end 2003)	4.4% [2.8%-6.7%]
HIV Seroprevalence in Urban Areas (population most vulnerable)	73.7%
HIV Seroprevalence in Urban Areas (population least vulnerable)	15.5%
Kenya	
Estimated Number of Adults and Children Living with HIV/AIDS (end 2003)	1,200,000 [820,000-1,700,000]
Total Population (July 2004 est.)	32,021,856
Adult HIV Prevalence (end 2003)	6.7% [4.7%-9.6%]
HIV Seroprevalence in Urban Areas (population most vulnerable)	54.9%
HIV Seroprevalence in Urban Areas (population least vulnerable)	11%
Madagascar	
Estimated Number of Adults and Children Living with HIV/AIDS (end 2003)	140,000 [68,000-250,000]
Total Population (July 2004 est.)	17,501,871
Adult HIV Prevalence (end 2003)	1.7% [0.8%-2.7%]
HIV Seroprevalence in Urban Areas (population most vulnerable)	0.3%
HIV Seroprevalence in Urban Areas (population least vulnerable)	1.0%

REDSO/East and Central Africa Countries

Rwanda	
Estimated Number of Adults and Children Living with HIV/AIDS (end 2003)	250,000 [170,000-380,000]
Total Population (July 2004 est.)	7,954,013
Adult HIV Prevalence (end 2003)	5.19% [3.4%-7.6%]
HIV Seroprevalence in Urban Areas (population most vulnerable)	—
HIV Seroprevalence in Urban Areas (population least vulnerable)	16.1%
Somalia	
Estimated Number of Adults and Children Living with HIV/AIDS (end 2003)	-
Total Population (July 2004 est.)	8,304,601
Adult HIV Prevalence (end 2003)	-
Sudan	
Estimated Number of Adults and Children Living with HIV/AIDS (end 2003)	400,000 [120,000-1,300,000]
Total Population (July 2004 est.)	39,148,162
Adult HIV Prevalence (end 2003)	2.3% [0.7%-7.2%]
HIV Seroprevalence in Urban Areas (population most vulnerable)	-
HIV Seroprevalence in Urban Areas (population least vulnerable)	3.5%
Tanzania	
Estimated Number of Adults and Children Living with HIV/AIDS (end 2003)	1,600,000 [120,000-2,300,000]
Total Population (July 2004 est.)	36,588,225
Adult HIV Prevalence (end 2003)	8.8% [6.4%-11.9%]
HIV Seroprevalence in Urban Areas (population most vulnerable)	46.0%
HIV Seroprevalence in Urban Areas (population least vulnerable)	12.8%
Uganda	
Estimated Number of Adults and Children Living with HIV/AIDS (end 2001)	530,000 [350,000-880,000]
Total Population (July 2004 est.)	26,404,543
Adult HIV Prevalence (end 2003)	4.1% [2.8%-6.6%]
HIV Seroprevalence in Urban Areas (population most vulnerable)	19%
HIV Seroprevalence in Urban Areas (population least vulnerable)	8.3%

Sources: UNAIDS, U.S. Census Bureau.

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USAID’s program for HIV/AIDS in East and Central Africa provides dedicated technical specialists, focusing exclusively on HIV/AIDS, who work to strengthen policies and systems, improve the quality and availability of data in the region, and promote the use of effective interventions in focal populations.

through USAID bilateral programs. Proven, successful HIV/AIDS activities will be implemented, focusing on improved prevention and communication programs that address behavior change, such as delayed sexual debut and abstinence, especially among youth.

The program is committed to contributing to the targets of the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief for prevention, care, and treatment. Principal outcomes to be expected at the end of this program include stabilization of HIV prevalence in the region; increased coverage of good-quality programs for HIV/AIDS prevention, care, treatment, and support; increased understanding and interventions to mitigate the impacts of HIV/AIDS in various sectors in the region; and strengthened programs integrating HIV into other sectors, including conflict, food security, and trade.

USAID/REDSO’s Fiscal Year 2005 budget for the HIV/AIDS regional program is \$6.5 million.

SafeTStop Program

On March 9, 2005, REDSO and USAID partner Family Health International launched a multicountry HIV program, SafeTStop, to benefit vulnerable mobile populations and the communities with which they interact. The program will focus on the northern transport corridor that begins in Mombasa, Kenya, and extends through Uganda, Sudan, Rwanda, and beyond.

data in the region, and promote the use of effective interventions in focal populations. The program works to improve responses to HIV/AIDS by public, private, and nongovernmental organizations through expanded partnerships in the region, including technical partnerships and multidonor coordination. This multisectoral program integrates HIV/AIDS activities into health, conflict, education, and food security programs.

For its 2004–05 focus, REDSO/ECA is working with different sectors to conduct studies on the impact of HIV/AIDS, to present the data in regional forums, to identify gaps, and to support systems to collect such sectoral data on a regular basis. USAID is collecting and analyzing data on common issues and constraints affecting successful implementation of programs and is also working to identify models for clinical and community-based care.

The regional program supports the African Behavior Change Communication for HIV/AIDS Network and the African Network for the Care of Children Affected by HIV/AIDS (ANECCA). ANECCA has produced the first handbook for health providers on care of HIV-infected children in the African context and will use the accompanying curriculum in trainings throughout the continent.

The REDSO/ECA program will expand its activities to include direct population-level interventions that will integrate and coordinate responses at a regional level and directly mitigate impact among mobile and cross-border populations that may not be reached

The SafeTStop program brings government, international corporations, businesses, nongovernmental organizations, and community groups together to ensure essential services for HIV prevention and care and to address the impact of AIDS on the community. SafeTStop aims to create a healthier environment for truckers and host communities, enabling more resources to be spent on improving economic development and alternative work opportunities for low-income women, orphans, youth, and men.

SafeTStop sites will offer a range of HIV services, including counseling, testing, diagnosis, and treatment of sexually transmitted infections. The sites will also offer education and training opportunities; entertainment; faith-based services; support for orphans and vulnerable children; and other services to improve local economic, social, and health conditions.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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USAID HIV/AIDS Web site, Africa

http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/global_health/aids/Countries/africa/redso.html

or

<http://www.usaidredso.org/redso.hiv/>

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For more information, see http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/global_health/aids