HIV/AIDS Profile: Zimbabwe

Demographic Indicators

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	with AIDS	without AIDS		with AIDS	without AIDS
Population (1000s)	11,343	12,968	Growth Rate (%)	.3 %	2.2 %
Crude Birth Rate	25	27	Crude Death Rate	22	5
Infant Mortality Rate			Life Expectancy		
Both Sexes	62	30	Both Sexes	38	70
Male	65	34	Male	39	68
Female	59	26	Female	36	72
		******	*****		
Percent Urban	32		Total Fertility Rate	3.3	

Note: Above indicators are for 2000.

Estimated % of adults living with HIV/AIDS, end 1999	25.1 %
Cumulative AIDS rate (per 1,000) as of 5/31/98	6.65
Cumulative AIDS cases as of 5/31/98	74,782

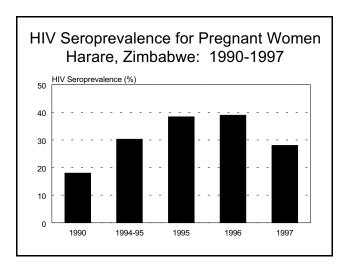
Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, UNAIDS, Population Reference Bureau, World Health Organization.

Epidemiological Data

Epidemic State: Generalized

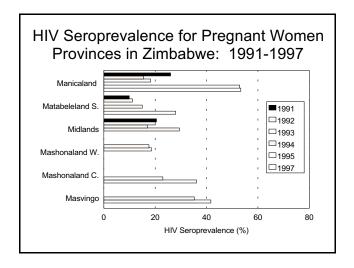
In Zimbabwe, the HIV epidemic had become severe and widespread by 1990. High levels of infection are found not only in high-risk groups, such as STD patients, but in pregnant women as well. Urban and rural infection levels among pregnant women are similar.

• Studies of pregnant women attending antenatal clinics in Harare document the rapid increase in HIV seroprevalence; 18 percent in 1990, 39 percent in 1996.

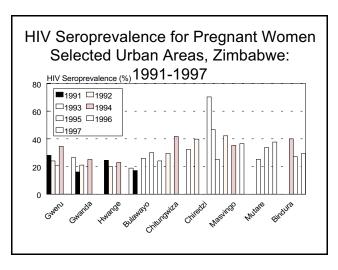


• At the provincial level, HIV prevalence in pregnant women has fluctuated in some provinces while increasing in other provinces.

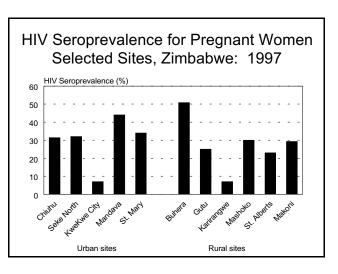
Manicaland Province had the highest HIV prevalence rate; 53 percent of pregnant women infected in 1997.



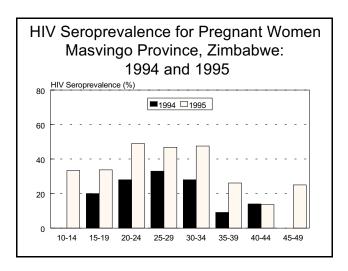
• Sentinel surveillance in selected urban areas has been carried out since 1991. Chiredzi, a town located in Masvingo Province, is the site of the main sugar growing region of the country. In 1995, 70 percent of pregnant women tested were HIV positive. In 1997, HIV prevalence ranged from 19 percent in Hwange to 38 percent in Mutare.



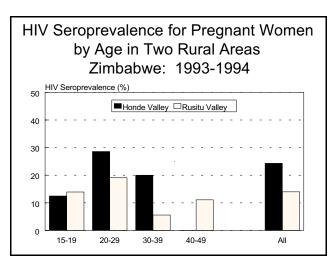
• The 1997 round of sentinel surveillance among pregnant women at a number of urban and rural sites indicate a serious epidemic in all geographic areas. In Buhera, a rural site located in Manicaland Province, 51 percent of pregnant women tested were HIV positive.



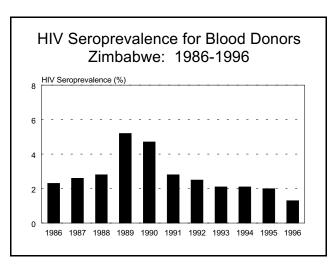
• In Masvingo Province over a one year period, startling increases in HIV prevalence among pregnant women of all ages have taken place. Among 15-19 year old pregnant women, HIV prevalence increased from 20 percent to 34 percent between 1994 and 1995. Among 20-24 year olds, HIV prevalence increased from 28 to 49 percent.



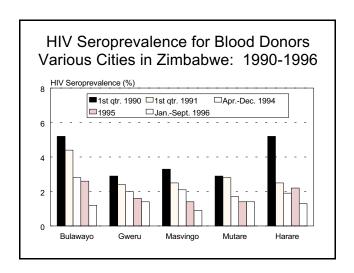
• In two rural areas in Zimbabwe located in Manicaland Province, pregnant women in their 20s are those most affected. In Honde Valley and Rusitu Valley, 29 and 19 percent are HIV positive, respectively. In general, prevalence is higher in Honde Valley, the more developed area and a large trading center.



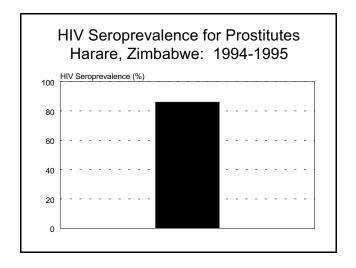
• The National Blood Transfusion Service of Zimbabwe tests all blood donations for HIV. It was the third nation in the world to implement this policy to ensure a safer blood supply. Since 1986, about 3 percent of blood donors have been HIV positive. Recently, there was a drop in prevalence; 1.3 percent of blood donors were found to be infected with HIV in 1996.



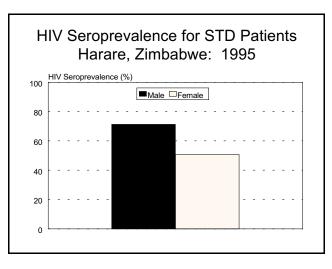
• Levels of HIV infection among blood donors have dropped over time in major cities of Zimbabwe. By September 1996, slightly less than 1 percent of donors in Masvingo were HIV positive while, in Harare, 1 percent were HIV positive.



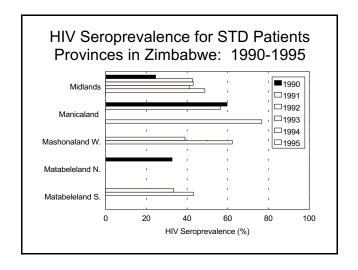
• In 1994-1995, a study of prostitutes in Harare, the capital city, reported very high levels of HIV infection, 86 percent.



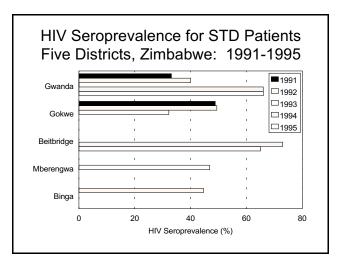
• This study conducted in 1995 in Harare, reported much higher HIV infection levels among the male STD clinic patients, 71 percent, than the female STD clinic patients, 51 percent.



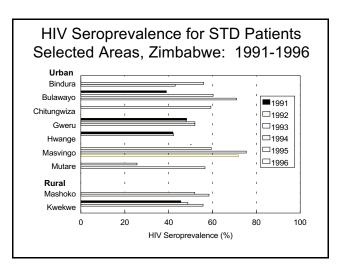
• Prevalence among STD clinic patients has been increasing since 1990 in the provinces. In Midlands Province, prevalence grew from 25 percent in 1990 to 49 percent in 1994, a 100 percent increase in four years.



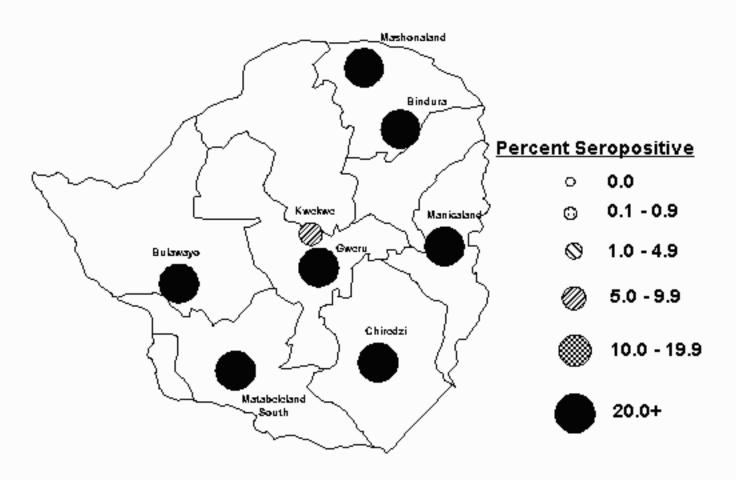
• In Gwanda District, prevalence among STD clinic patients has risen since 1991 to 66 percent in 1995. In Gokwe District, prevalence dropped between 1991 and 1993. In the rural districts of Mberengwa and Binga, prevalence had reached 45 percent by 1992-1993. More recent information is not available.



• Urban areas within Zimbabwe have high prevalence rates among STD clinic patients. By 1996, 72 percent of patients in Masvingo were HIV positive. In Mutare, a town on the Mozambican border, prevalence more than doubled between 1993 and 1995, from 26 percent to 57 percent. By 1995, Mashoko, a rural site, had prevalence levels equivalent to that found in some urban sites, 58 percent.



Seroprevalence of HIV-1 for Pregnant Women Zimbabwe: 1997



U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division, International Programs Center, Country Profile, September 2000.

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