

# Global facts and figures

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[Source: *Report on the global AIDS epidemic 2008*, August 2008]

## The AIDS epidemic today

- An estimated 33 million people [30.3 – 36.1 million] were living with HIV in 2007. There were 2.7 million [2.2 – 3.2 million] new HIV infections and 2 million [1.8 – 2.3 million] AIDS-related deaths last year.
- The rate of new HIV infections has fallen in several countries, but globally these favourable trends are at least partially offset by increases in new infections in other countries.
- Globally, women account for half of all HIV infections—this percentage has remained stable for the past several years.
- The global percentage of adults living with HIV has levelled off since 2000. In virtually all regions outside sub-Saharan Africa, HIV disproportionately affects people who inject drugs, men who have sex with men and sex workers.

## Regional Statistics

	People living with HIV	New infections 2007	AIDS deaths 2007	Adult prevalence %
<b>Sub-Saharan Africa</b>	22 million [20.5 – 23.6 million]	1.9 million [1.6– 2.1 million]	1.5 million [1.3 – 1.7 million]	5% [4.6% – 5.4%]
<b>South and South-East Asia</b>	4.2 million [3.5 – 5.3 million]	330 000 [150 000 – 590 000]	340 000 [230 000 – 450 000]	0.3% [0.2% – 0.4%]
<b>East Asia</b>	740 000 [480 000 – 1.1 million]	52 000 [29 000 – 84 000]	40 000 [24 000 – 63 000]	0.1% [<0.1% – 0.2%]
<b>Latin America</b>	1.7 million [1.5 – 2.1 million]	140 000 [88 000 – 190 000]	63 000 [49 000 – 98 000]	0.5% [0.4% – 0.6%]
<b>North America</b>	1.2 million [760 000 – 2 million]	54 000 [9600 – 130 000]	23 000 [9100 – 55 000]	0.6% [0.4% – 1.0%]
<b>Western and Central Europe</b>	730 000 [580 000 – 1 million]	27 000 [14 000 – 49 000]	8000 [4800 – 17 000]	0.3% [0.2% – 0.4%]
<b>Eastern Europe, Central Asia</b>	1.5 million [1.1 – 1.9 million]	110 000 [67 000 – 180 000]	58 000 [41 000 – 88 000]	0.8% [0.6% – 1.1%]
<b>Caribbean</b>	230 000 [210 000 – 270 000]	20 000 [16 000 – 25 000]	14 000 [11 000 – 16 000]	1.1% [1.0% – 1.2%]
<b>Middle East and North Africa</b>	380 000 [280 000 – 510 000]	40 000 [20 000 – 66 000]	27 000 [20 000 – 35 000]	0.3% [0.2% – 0.4%]
<b>Oceania</b>	74 000 [66 000 – 93 000]	13 000 [12 000 – 15 000]	1000 [<1000 – 1400]	0.4% [0.3% – 0.5%]
<b>Total</b>	<b>33 million</b> <b>[30.3 – 36.1 million]</b>	<b>2.7 million</b> <b>[2.2 – 3.2 million]</b>	<b>2 million</b> <b>[1.8 – 2.3 million]</b>	<b>0.8%</b> <b>[0.7% – 0.9%]</b>

Note: Some numbers do not add up due to rounding.

## Prevention

- In the last two years, good progress has been made in the prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV.
  - The percentage of pregnant women living with HIV who received antiretroviral treatment to prevent mother-to-child transmission increased from 9% in 2004 to 33% in 2007.
  - Countries such as Botswana, Namibia, Swaziland and South Africa have experienced increases in coverage of prevention of mother-to-child transmission services.
- The scaling up of HIV prevention programmes globally is paramount.
  - The latest data collected from 64 countries indicate that fewer than 40% of young people have basic information about HIV.
  - There are positive signs of improvement in all 18 of the most heavily affected countries where there is data on changes in key behaviours – sex before 15, multiple partnerships and condom use – but in only 2 countries (Cameroon and Zambia) have improving trends in all three behaviours been found.
- For people most at risk, since 2005 we have seen a tripling of HIV prevention efforts focused on sex workers, men who have sex with men and people who inject drugs.
  - Discrimination remains a barrier to prevention access for most at risk populations; while conversely, countries which protect these populations from discrimination tend to reach more of them with HIV prevention programmes.
- The number of new HIV infections continues to outstrip the advances made in treatment numbers—for every two people put on antiretroviral drugs, another five become newly infected.

## Treatment

- Nearly 3 million people were receiving antiretroviral treatment in low- and middle-income countries at the end of 2007. This represents 31% of estimated global need and a 45% improvement over 2006.
- Globally, treatment coverage is higher for women than men.
- But children are not benefiting equally as adults. In sub-Saharan Africa, children living with HIV are about one third as likely to receive antiretroviral therapy as adults.
- Increases in treatment have been extraordinary in many countries.
  - Namibia scaled up treatment from 1% in 2003 to 88% in 2007, and similarly for Rwanda, from 3% to 71% in the same period.
  - Botswana has achieved one of the world's highest coverage rates of HIV treatment, delivering drugs in 2007 to more than 90% of those who need them.
- After decades of increasing mortality, the annual number of AIDS deaths globally has declined in the past two years, in part as a result of greater access to treatment.
- The cost of providing HIV treatment will continue to increase – as some of those on treatment currently need to access second and third line treatment regimens, and as delayed access makes disease management more complex for the estimated 30 million HIV-positive people worldwide who have never been on treatment.
  - In Brazil, the cost of providing drugs in 2008 is estimated at US\$ 525 million—more than double the amount in 2004.
- Most countries have policies providing free antiretroviral drugs—however many patients have to pay 'out-of-pocket' costs such as diagnostic tests, treatments for opportunistic infections and transportation, items which can be quite considerable depending on local contexts.
  - Realizing these costs, the Government of Cameroon began making HIV treatment free in 2007, while in 2008 Indian Railways – India's national rail service – introduced discounted fares for HIV-positive people travelling to receive treatment.

## Antiretroviral (ARV) treatment coverage

Geographical region	Estimated no. of people receiving ARV therapy, December 2007	Estimated no. of people needing ARV therapy, December 2007	ARV therapy coverage, December 2007
Sub-Saharan Africa	2.1 million	7 million	30%
Latin America and Caribbean	390 000	630 000	62%
East, South and South-East Asia	420 000	1.7 million	25%
Europe, Central Asia	54 000	320 000	17%
Middle East, North Africa	7000	100 000	7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2.9 million</b>	<b>9.7 million</b>	<b>31%</b>

Note: Some numbers do not add up due to rounding.

Source: *Towards universal access: scaling up priority HIV/AIDS interventions in the health sector: progress report 2008*, WHO/UNAIDS/UNICEF, June 2008.

## Tuberculosis and HIV

- Tuberculosis remains a leading cause of death for people living with HIV in low- and middle-income countries.
- While tuberculosis incidence has declined globally in recent years, the number of cases continues to increase in areas heavily affected by HIV or drug-resistant TB.
  - An estimated 22% of tuberculosis cases in Africa occur in people living with HIV—in some countries on the continent, this figure is as high as 70%.
  - TB patients with HIV have been shown to be twice as likely to have multidrug resistant tuberculosis (MDR-TB) as people who are not HIV-positive.
- Despite the availability of affordable treatments for tuberculosis, only 32% of TB cases in people living with HIV received both antiretroviral and anti-tuberculosis drugs—the greatest need for dual treatment is in sub-Saharan Africa.
- Efforts to prevent, diagnose and treat tuberculosis must be scaled up in HIV care settings.

## Contact

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