

HIV Prevalence: Data from the 2010 Rwanda Demographic and Health Survey

The 2010 Rwanda Demographic and Health Survey (RDHS) included HIV testing of 6,917 women age 15-49 and 6,331 men age 15-59. According to the survey, 3.0% of Rwandans age 15-49 are HIV-positive.

HIV Prevalence



Overall, 3.7% of women and 2.2% of men are HIV-positive. HIV prevalence is three times higher in urban areas than in rural areas (7.1% versus 2.3%).



There has been essentially no change in Rwanda's HIV prevalence since 2005. The small increases and decreases seen here are not statistically significant and do not signify true changes in the population.



Women become infected at younger ages than men. Prevalence for both women and men increases with age until it peaks at age 35-39 for women (7.9%) and at age 40-44 for men (7.5%).



There is no clear relationship between education and HIV infection among women or men.

90% of women and men who tested HIV-positive in the 2010 RDHS had been tested previously for HIV and received the results of that test.

Overall, about 38% of women and men had been tested for HIV and received the results in the past year.

HIV Prevalence by Household Wealth Quintile

Women 15-49 Men 15-49



HIV prevalence is highest among women and men in the richest households.



HIV prevalence is highest in the City of Kigali, where more than 7% of adults age 15-49 are HIV-positive. HIV prevalence is fairly uniform throughout the rest of Rwanda.



HIV Prevalence by Marital Status Women 15-49 Men 15-49 16.5 7.5 6.8 too 3.6 3.6 1.7 0.6 few cases Never Married/ Divorced/ Widowed married living together separated

For women, HIV prevalence is highest among those who are widowed. HIV prevalence is also high among divorced and separated men and women. Women and men who have never been married are least likely to be HIV-positive.

HIV Prevalence by Number of Lifetime Partners



HIV prevalence increases with lifetime number of sexual partners among both women and men. Almost one-third of women with 5-9 lifetime partners are HIV-positive.

Response rates and methodology: HIV prevalence data were obtained from testing dried blood spot (DBS) samples voluntarily provided by women 15-49 and men 15-59 who were interviewed in the 2010 RDHS. The DBS were collected using the finger stick method. Of the 13,446 eligible subjects, 98% provided DBS specimens. Coverage rates were almost identical in rural and urban areas (99% vs. 97%).

For more information on the results of the 2010 Rwanda Demographic and Health Survey, please contact:

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The 2010 Rwanda Demographic and Health Survey (RDHS) was implemented by the National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR) and the Ministry of Health (MOH). ICF International provided technical assistance to the project through the MEASURE Demographic and Health Surveys program (MEASURE DHS). The survey was funded by the Government of Rwanda; the United States Agency for International Development (USAID); the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF); the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention/Global AIDS Program (CDC/GAP); the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria; the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA); and World Vision.



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