



HIV/AIDS FACT SHEET

HIV/AIDS is a pandemic that kills about 3.1 million people annually. Currently, about 42 million individuals around the world now live with HIV/AIDS.

- 40.3 million people have HIV/AIDS, including 2.3 million children
- 20 million people have died from HIV/AIDS related causes
- 4.9 million new HIV infections every year
- 3.1 million AIDS-related deaths annually
- About 95 percent of people living with HIV and AIDS are in low and middle income countries
- About 7 percent of the people in low and middle income countries who need anti-retroviral drugs actually received them in 2003.

In Africa:

The pandemic has killed 25 million Africans so far and orphaned more than 12 million others. Each year, 3.2 million Africans – 8,700 Africans every minute — are infected with the HIV virus. Approximately 2.3 million Africans –most of them in the prime of their lives as parents and workers- are killed by it each year.

- About 95 percent of the world's AIDS orphans live in Africa
- Every day, 6,500 people die from HIV/AIDS related causes
- 10% of the population lives in Africa, but 65% of all HIV/AIDS related deaths occur here
- It is “generalized” within the population. This means that everyone is infected, including teachers, government ministers, and children. It is not confined to prostitutes, drug addicts or truck drivers.
- There are 13 million AIDS orphans worldwide and 90% of them live in Africa.
- There is one new infection every 7 minutes in Africa
- Women account for 52% of infections and are often infected by their husbands.
- Over 20% of pregnant women are HIV+

Figures released in 2003 estimated that the number of people living with HIV/AIDS in each region was as follows:

Australia and New Zealand	15,000
Caribbean	470,000
East Asia and Pacific	1,000,000
Europe and Central Asia	1,500,000
Latin America	1,600,000

Middle East and North Africa	600,000
North America	995,000
South and South-East Asia	6,400,000
Sub-Saharan Africa	26,600,000
Western Europe	600,000

The Economic Cost of HIV/AIDS

- HIV/AIDS can have a devastating economic impact on countries with severe infection rates. Estimates suggest when the prevalence of HIV/AIDS reaches 8 percent - about where it is today for 13 African countries - the cost in terms of economic growth is estimated at about 1 percent a years.

The Human Cost

- In 2001, at least 15 percent of children in 10 sub-Saharan African countries had lost one or both parents to AIDS or associated causes. Because of the 10-year time lag between infection and death, the number of orphans will continue to rise for at least the next decade. By 2010, it is estimated that 20 million children will have lost a parent to AIDS in sub-Saharan Africa alone.
- Every day 2000 babies are infected with HIV during pregnancy, at birth or through breastfeeding. Without effective medical interventions, at last one third of the infants born to HIV-positive mothers contract the virus. Most of the infants that contract the virus will die before their fifth birthday.
- Every day there are about 14,000 new HIV infections worldwide. Of these more than 95 percent occur in low and middle income countries and about 2000 are among children under 15.
- In some sub-Saharan African countries - such as Botswana and Swaziland, more than one-third of adults are estimated to be infected with HIV. South Africa, also in the region, has the largest number of people living with HIV - more than 5 million.

(Adapted from wordbank.org and *UNAIDS 2005 Update*)