The 2003-04 Tanzania HIV/AIDS Indicator Survey included HIV testing of over 10,000 men and women. Results show that 7 percent of Tanzanian adults are HIV positive.

HIV prevalence is slightly higher among women than men in all areas of the country. Urban residents have considerably higher infection levels than rural residents (10.9 percent vs. 5.3 percent).

The HIV rates in Mbeya and Iringa are almost twice the national average. The rate in Dar Es Salaam is also much higher than the country average. Rates are lowest in Kigoma and Manyara. Overall, 7 regions have rates below 5 percent.

Women and men who are separated, divorced or widowed have a significantly higher rate of HIV infection than currently married or never married respondents.

Women who used alcohol at last sex have significantly higher rates of HIV infection than those who did not use alcohol.

HIV prevalence increases with wealth. Infection rates are three times higher among those in the highest wealth quintile than those in the lowest wealth quintile.

For both men and women, HIV prevalence increases with education. Adults with secondary or higher education are 50 percent more likely to be infected with HIV than those with no education.
The HIV status of almost 8 percent of couples is discordant, meaning that one partner is infected and the other is not. This points to an urgent need for HIV prevention education, counseling and testing, as most of these couples do not know their status.

In Tanzania, circumcised and uncircumcised men have approximately the same rates of HIV infection.

HIV Prevalence by Number of Higher Risk Partners

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Higher Risk Partners</th>
<th>Women</th>
<th>Men</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>7.9%</td>
<td>7.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>10.5%</td>
<td>6.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 or more</td>
<td>17.4%</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Women with 2 or more higher risk sexual partners (non marital, non cohabiting) have much higher rates of HIV infection.

Response Rates and Methods

HIV prevalence data were obtained from fingerstick dried blood spots voluntarily provided by women and men age 15-49 who were interviewed in the 2003-04 THIS. Of the 13,350 eligible subjects, 81% provided blood spots. Response rates were considerably higher in rural than urban areas (84% vs. 72% overall).

For additional information on the results of the 2003-04 Tanzania HIV/AIDS Indicator Survey, please contact:

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