The 2007 Zambia Demographic and Health Survey (ZDHS) included HIV testing of over 10,000 women and men. According to the survey, 14% of Zambians age 15-49 are HIV-positive.

HIV prevalence is higher among women than men in both urban and rural areas. Overall, 16% of women and 12% of men are HIV-positive. HIV prevalence is twice as high in urban areas as in rural areas (20% versus 10%).

In Zambia, HIV prevalence has decreased slightly. The HIV prevalence of 14.3%, according to the 2007 ZDHS, represents a slight decrease from the 15.6% prevalence observed in the 2001-02 ZDHS. In the 2007 survey, 16.1% of women and 12.3% of men are HIV-positive. By comparison, in 2001-02, 17.8% of women and 12.6% of men were HIV-positive. However, none of these decreases are statistically significant.

HIV Prevalence by Province

HIV prevalence ranges from a low of 7% in Northern Province and North-Western Province to a high of 21% in Lusaka Province.

HIV Prevalence by Education

Prevalence increases with education for both women and men. HIV prevalence among women with more than secondary education is almost twice as high as among women with no education.

Prior HIV Testing among HIV-Positive Respondents

More than half of HIV-positive women and almost three-quarters of HIV-positive men do not know that they are infected.

Women get infected at younger ages than men. Prevalence for both women and men increases with age until it peaks at age 30-34 for women (26%) and at age 40-44 for men (24%).
For both women and men, HIV infection rates are considerably higher among those who are widowed or divorced/separated than those who are married/living together or those who have never been married.

**HIV Prevalence by Marital Status**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Marital Status</th>
<th>Women</th>
<th>Men</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Never married</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married/living together</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Divorced/separated</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Widowed</td>
<td>63*</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Based on 49 unweighted cases

Among couples, 12% couples are discordant, meaning that one partner is infected and the other is not. This indicates a need for interventions to prevent HIV transmission to the uninfected partner and to increase voluntary counselling and testing for partners who may not know their status.

**HIV Prevalence in Couples**

- Both partners HIV-negative: 81%
- Both partners HIV-positive: 8%
- Man positive, woman negative: 7%
- Woman positive, man negative: 5%

For more information on the results of the 2007 Zambia Demographic and Health Survey, please contact:

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The 2007 ZDHS was implemented by the Central Statistical Office (CSO) in partnership with the Ministry of Health from April to October 2007. The Tropical Diseases Research Centre (TDRC) provided technical support and implementation of the syphilis and HIV testing. Macro International Inc. provided technical assistance to the survey through the MEASURE DHS programme, a USAID-funded project. Funding for the ZDHS was provided by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Finance and National Planning, the U.S. President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Malaria Control and Evaluation Partnership in Africa (MACEPA), the European Union (EU), the World Bank through the Zambia National Response to HIV/AIDS (ZANARA) project, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), the Joint United Nations Programmes on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Swedish International Development Assistance (SIDA), United Kingdom Department for International Development (DFID), World Health Organisation (WHO), and Development Cooperation Ireland (DCI).

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 2007 ZDHS. The DBS were collected using the finger stick method. Of the 14,554 eligible subjects, 75% provided DBS specimens. Response rates were higher in rural areas than urban areas (77% vs. 72%).