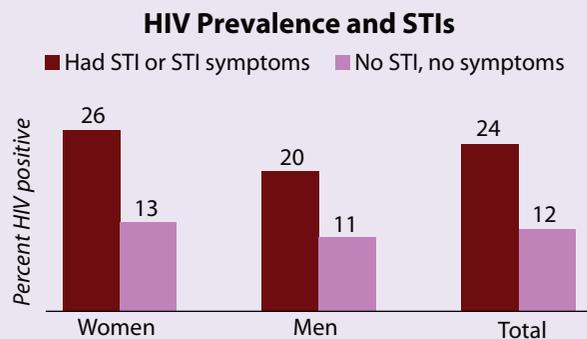


The HIV status of 10 percent of couples is discordant, meaning that one partner is infected and the other is not. This indicates a need for couple-oriented voluntary counseling and testing, as most of these couples do not know their status.



Men and women with a history of sexually transmitted infection (STI) or STI symptoms have higher rates of HIV infection than those with none.

Response Rates and Methods

HIV prevalence data were obtained from fingerstick dried blood spots voluntarily provided by women age 15-49 and men age 15-54 who were interviewed in the 2004 MDHS. Of the 7,868 eligible subjects, 67% provided blood spots. Response rates were higher in rural than urban areas (68% vs. 60%). Prevalence in this fact sheet refers to the overall observed prevalence of HIV 1 among women and men age 15-49.

For additional information on the results of the 2004 Malawi Demographic and Health Survey, please contact:

In Malawi:
 National Statistical Office
 Demography and Social Statistics Division
 Chimbiya Road
 P.O. Box 333
 Zomba, Malawi
 Telephone: 265-1-524-377/111;
 Fax: 265-1-525-130;
 E-mail: demography@statistics.gov.mw
 web: www.nso.malawi.net

In USA:
 MEASURE DHS
 ORC Macro
 11785 Beltsville Drive, Suite 300
 Calverton, MD 20705 USA
 Telephone: 301-572-0200
 Fax: 301-572-0999
 E-mail: reports@orcmacro.com
 web: www.measuredhs.com

The 2004 MDHS was conducted by the National Statistical Office. Most of the funds for the local costs of the survey were provided by multiple donors through the National AIDS Commission. The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) provided additional funds for the technical assistance through ORC Macro. The Department for International Development (DfID) of the British Government, UNICEF, and UNFPA also provided funds for the survey. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention provided technical assistance in HIV testing.

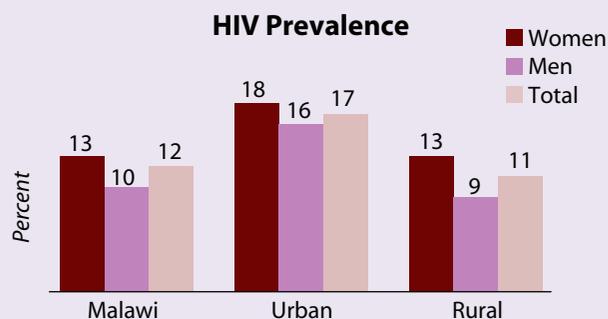


2004 Malawi Demographic and Health Survey

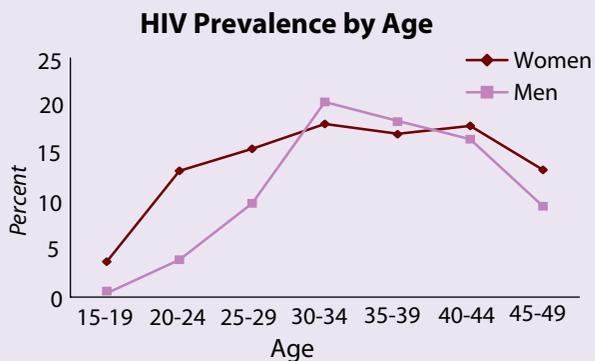
HIV/AIDS Prevalence

Key Findings from the 2004 Malawi Demographic and Health Survey (MDHS)

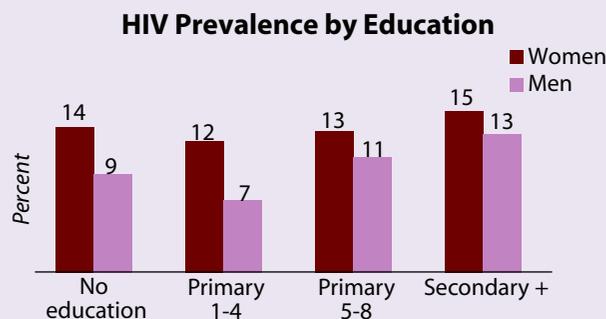
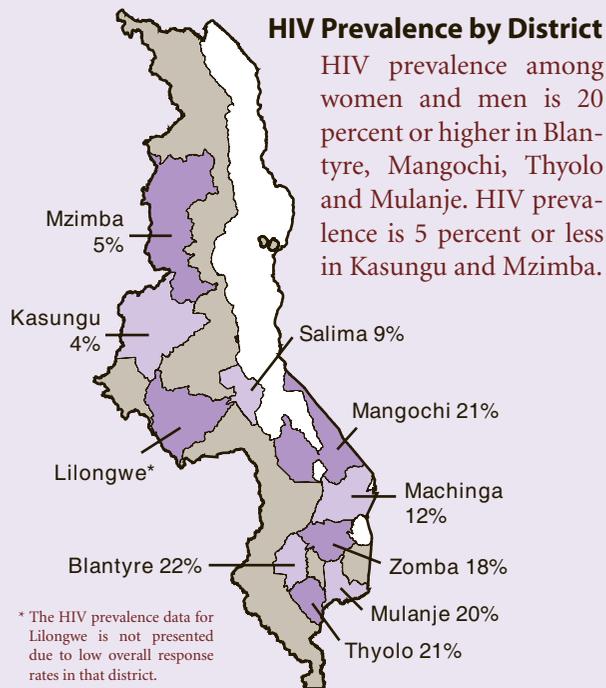
The 2004 Malawi Demographic and Health Survey included HIV testing of close to 8,000 men and women. Results show that 12 percent of Malawian adults age 15-49 are HIV positive.



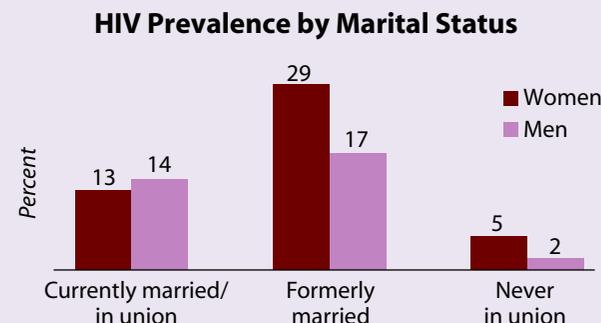
HIV prevalence is higher among women than men in both urban and rural areas. Urban residents have considerably higher infection levels than rural residents (17% vs. 11%).



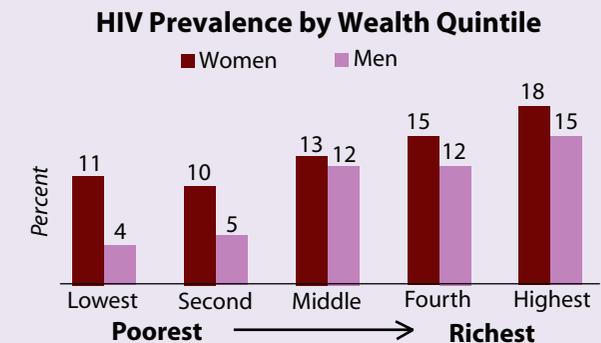
Women get infected earlier than men. Prevalence for both women and men increases with age until it reaches a peak at age 30-34 (18% for women and 20% for men).



HIV prevalence does not have a direct relationship with the woman's education. For men, the risk of infection increases with education.



Women who are separated, divorced or widowed have a significantly higher rate of HIV infection than men in the same marital status. Currently married women and married men have a similar prevalence (13% and 14% , respectively).



HIV prevalence increases with the household's economic status. Infection rates among men in the wealthiest households are more than three times higher than those living in households in the lowest wealth quintile.