



**Understanding  
Epidemics**

## Understanding Epidemics Section 2: HIV/AIDS

### Worksheet

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Fill out this worksheet as you work through the material on the website.

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**1. Give 4 reasons for the lack of accurate data on HIV/AIDS.**

- 1 ...AIDS is not normally recorded as the main cause of death.....  
.....  
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.....
- 2 ...Many people who die from AIDS (especially in Africa) won't have been formally diagnosed.....  
.....  
.....
- 3 ...It is impossible to test everyone – data comes from estimates.....  
.....  
.....
- 4 ...Prejudice and stigma prevent people from coming to be tested.....  
.....  
.....

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**2. According to the WHO, how many new cases, and deaths from HIV/AIDS were there in 2003?**

**Deaths** .....2.1 million.....

**Cases** .....4.8 million.....

**3. Name 3 theories which have been advanced to explain the emergence of HIV, and indicate which is the most commonly accepted.**

- 1 .....African Spontaneous – passed from simians to humans in the area just west of Lake Victoria .....
- 2 .....USA lab origin – medical research in the USA. Linked to the early outbreaks amongst homosexual men in California.....
- 3 .....Drug trials in Africa – drug trials for poliomyelitis in the Congo in the 1950s based on Simian materials .....

**Most commonly accepted is number ...1...**

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**4. Name 5 ways in which HIV can be transmitted between humans.**

- 1 ...Heterosexual sex .....
- 2 .....Homosexual (anal) sex.....
- 3 .....Sharing intravenous needles. ....
- 4 .....Contaminated blood transfusions.....
- 5 .....Vertical transmission from mother to baby: in the .....womb, or through breast feeding. ....

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**5. Which of these is most common in the following regions?**

**Africa** .....

**Eastern Europe** .....

**6. HIV attacks CD4 cells. What affect does this have on the body?**

Weakens immune system, leaving body more susceptible to .....  
infection.....  
.....

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**7. What is the slogan of the joint commission on TB and HIV?**

...Two diseases, one patient. ....  
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**8. What age group is most at risk from HIV?**

.....15-30.....

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**9. What year were HIV cases first reported in all world regions?**

.....1985.....

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**10. What did the WHO declare to be a global health emergency in 2003?**

.....ARV treatment gap: gap between ARV provision in MEDCs  
and LEDCs .....  
.....

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**11. What was the main form of HIV transmission in the UK in each of these years? Give the number of diagnoses for each form of transmission in that year:**

Year	Main form of transmission	Number of diagnoses
1996	.....Homosexual.....	...aprox. 1500.....
2002	.....Heterosexual.....	...aprox. 3100.....

**12. Name 2 African countries where >30% of adults are HIV+.**

1. ....There are 4 possibilities: .....
  2. Botswana, Zimbabwe, Lesotho, Swaziland ....
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**13. What role does circular migration play in the spread of HIV/AIDS?**

...Spread of HIV from urban areas to rural areas – people go to urban areas to find work, become infected and then return to rural areas and infect partners there. ....

.....  
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**14. In Africa, are HIV prevalence rates higher in urban or rural areas?**

.....Urban.....

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**15. In Zimbabwe in 2000, what percentage of women attending ante natal clinics were HIV + in each of the following locations?:**

Location	% of women HIV+
Commercial	.....approx. 55.....
Borderpost	.....approx. 48.....
Growth point	.....approx. 42.....
Urban	.....approx. 32.....
Rural	.....approx. 26.....

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**16. Why does HIV/AIDS make the problems of food shortages worse in rural areas of Africa?**

.....HIV/AIDS affects young people who would usually have the responsibility for food production ./ agricultural work. Illness and death means there are fewer able people to do this work and so less food available.....

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**17. What does ARV stand for?**

.....Anti Retro Viral.....

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**18. What impact does HIV/AIDS have on population structures?**

.....Fewer people of working age. As age 15-30 are most susceptible. Therefore more elderly people and children.....

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**19. What impact does HIV/AIDS have on household structures in rural Africa?**

.....They become more complex . More orphans due to parental death so households expand and become more complex as children are cared for by siblings, cousins, grandparents, friends etc .....

People aged 15-30 who are most vulnerable become ill or die. As a result, children and elderly people take on role as providers.

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**20. What long-term impacts of HIV/AIDS might there be on public services such as education and health services in Africa?**

...Increased pressure on public services. – more demand for health services due to ill people. Fewer skilled people able to become teachers and health care professionals as children in households affected by HIV/AIDS may be needed to take on domestic work rather than going to school.....

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**21. Why should HIV/AIDS be considered a development issue?**

.....The disease has a great impact on economic development, food availability, households, communities etc.....

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**22. HIV prevalence in Thailand fell between 1998 and 2002. What were the rates in these years?**

Year	Rate
1998	.....3.3%.....
2002	.....2.6%.....

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**23. What was the main cause of this fall in HIV rates?**

.....Public health campaigns. Behavioural change. Condom use.....  
 .....

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**24. ARVs prolong the life of those who are HIV+. In the USA, what was the difference between the number of cases per year and number of deaths per year (per thousand) in the following two years?**

Year	Difference between cases and deaths
1986	.....approx. 10.....
2002	.....approx. 25.....

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**25. The number of new HIV cases and the number of deaths from HIV/AIDS per year have fallen in the USA. In what year did each of these begin to fall?**

	Year?
Cases	.....1993.....
Deaths	.....1995.....

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**26. What are the three main behavioural change messages in public health campaigns aimed at reducing HIV transmission?**

1. ...Abstinence.....
  2. ...Be faithful (monogamous or polygamous).....
  3. ...Use condoms.....
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