

ANGOLA

Assessment of the Epidemiological Situation & Demographics

Estimated percentage of adults living with HIV/AIDS, end of 2001

These estimates include all people with HIV infection, whether or not they have developed symptoms of AIDS, alive at the end of 2001: **5.5%**

Estimated number of deaths due to AIDS

Estimated number of adults and children who died of AIDS during 2001: **24,000**

Estimated number of orphans

Estimated number of children who have lost their mother or father or both parents to AIDS and who were alive and under age 15 at the end of 2001: **100,000**

- **The HIV/AIDS situation in Angola is precarious.** Civil conflict and economic decline have severely disrupted health services infrastructure, making it very difficult to carry out surveillance activities and provide baseline data regarding the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the country.
- Nonetheless, studies conducted in Luanda in population groups that reflect different levels of risk for infection have indicated that **the virus is spreading rapidly**, particularly among pregnant women attending antenatal clinics (ANC) in Luanda. In 2001, 8.6% of these women were HIV positive, up from 3.4% in 1999.
- **At the end of 2001, the number of children who had lost one or both parents to AIDS totaled 100,000.**
- Outside the major urban area, in **Cabinda**, HIV prevalence increased from 6.8% in 1992 to 7.4% in 1994 and then 8.5% in 1996. HIV prevalence among ANC attendees tested in **Huila** in 2001 was 4.2%.
- As in other parts of sub-Saharan Africa, the main mode of HIV transmission in Angola is sexual activity, particularly multiple-partner heterosexual activity. The sex industry has been particularly affected, fueled by large-scale displacement to urban areas due to civil strife, and migration due to economic conditions. **HIV prevalence among commercial sex workers tested in Luanda increased from 20% in 1999 to 33% in 2001.**
- **Approximately 30 to 40% of Angolan infants born to HIV-positive mothers become infected with HIV.** 6% of AIDS cases occur in children under age 5, and mother-to-child transmission accounts for about 14% of all HIV infections, according to 1999 Ministry of Health estimates.
- HIV weakens the immune system and makes infected people vulnerable to diseases like **Tuberculosis (TB)**. In 1999, TB patients tested in Luanda had an HIV prevalence of 19% and in 2001, the rate was 10%.
- As borders between Angola and its neighbors become more porous, and as members of demobilized military units and refugees return to their homes, **HIV transmission is expected to increase dramatically.**

Sources: Joint United Nations Program on AIDS (UNAIDS), United States Agency for International Development (USAID), World Health Organization (WHO)

HIV/AIDS Impact on the Private Sector

- About 90% of reported AIDS cases worldwide are 20 to 49 years old. Since this age group constitutes the most economically productive segment of the population, an important economic burden is created. Productivity falls and business costs rise—even in low-wage, labor-intensive industries—as a result of absenteeism, the loss of employees to illness and death, and the need to train new employees.
- The **agricultural sector** likewise feels the effects of HIV/AIDS; a loss of agricultural labor is likely to cause farmers to switch to less-labor-intensive crops. In many cases this implies switching from export crops to food crops—thus affecting the production of cash crops. In Zambia, a 2002-2003 vulnerability assessment found that farming families with a chronically ill head of household planted 53% fewer crops than households without a chronically ill person.
- **Transport.** The transport sector is especially vulnerable to AIDS and important to AIDS prevention. Building and maintaining transport infrastructure often involves sending teams of men away from their families for extended periods of time, increasing the likelihood of multiple sexual partners. The people who operate transport services (truck drivers, train crews, sailors) spend many days and nights away from their families. Most transport managers are highly trained professionals who are hard to replace.
- **Mining.** Most mining is conducted at sites far from population centers forcing workers to live apart from their families for extended periods of time. They often resort to commercial sex. Many become infected with HIV and spread that infection to their spouses and communities when they return home. Highly trained mining engineers can be very difficult to replace. As a result, a severe AIDS epidemic can seriously threaten mine production.
- The mining, transportation, and construction sectors are traditionally the most impacted by HIV/AIDS.
- **Education.** AIDS affects the education sector in at least three ways: the supply of experienced teachers will be reduced by AIDS-related illness and death; children may be kept out of school if they are needed at home to care for sick family members or to work in the fields; and children may drop out of school if their families can not afford school fees due to reduced household income as a result of an AIDS death.

Source: Lori Bollinger, John Stover, Peter Riwa (September 1999), *The Economic Impact of AIDS in Angola*, The Futures Group International

The National and Multisectoral Response	The Private Sector Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Despite the country’s social, political, and economic problems, the government has implemented several HIV/AIDS prevention and mitigation activities, together with nongovernmental organizations, churches, foundations, and communities. • In 1987, the Programa Nacional de Luta contra o SIDA (PNLS) was created to coordinate national prevention efforts and donor-supported activities. The PNLS has a central administrative body located in the Ministry of Health. Since its inception, the PNLS has been involved in gathering data and developing a national response to HIV/AIDS. Currently, funding for all HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted infection interventions, with the exception of salaries for nationals, comes entirely from external sources. • Angola developed a National AIDS Prevention Strategy in 1999, with participation from 14 government Ministries, the National Assembly, nongovernmental organizations, churches, United Nations agencies, people living with HIV/AIDS, and donors. The strategy covers the 2000–2002 period and involves all sectors of civil society, the military, and the international community. • The World Bank has granted Angola US\$125 million in aid to help integrate an estimated 80,000 demobilized rebel soldiers into civilian life, tackle the growing AIDS problem and ease strains on the state’s finances. • UNICEF is supporting a project to improve the quality of reproductive health services for high-risk war affected and displaced adolescent girls and other vulnerable youth in Luanda, Benguela, and Huila provinces. • In 2002 the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) allocated \$2.5 million toward HIV/AIDS programs in Angola. Programs focus on condom social marketing and HIV/AIDS information, education, and communication activities targeting vulnerable populations. In 2003, USAID’s HIV/AIDS program was expanded to include condom social marketing in additional provinces, technical assistance to strengthen the National AIDS Commission and the PNLS, the start-up of a faith-based HIV activity, and the distribution of unbranded condoms. • Population Services International (PSI) supports an ongoing condom social marketing program that targets sex workers and youth in Luanda, Cabinda, Benguela, Huila, and Huambo provinces. <i>Legal</i>, a new condom brand, was introduced in June 2001. More than 3 million condoms were sold during six months in Luanda, five times the target for condom sales in one year. • Condom social marketing activities are complemented by interpersonal communication and mass media initiatives, including a weekly radio talk show, a weekly telenovella (soap opera), posters, billboards, sporting events, and rock concerts. • In April 2002, PSI/Angola began working with two international NGOs (GOAL & IPMP) on providing quality Voluntary Counseling and Testing (VCT) services in four health centers in Luanda. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • USAID collaborates with representatives of the private sector on HIV/AIDS activities. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Currently, USAID and the oil company Exxon-Mobil have combined support of voluntary HIV counseling and testing centers, in coordination with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. ○ In addition, a workplace program trains company employees as peer educators and provides discussion guides. Employees hold regular meetings with colleagues to discuss HIV/AIDS-related issues and safer sexual behavior. • PSI works with Angolan companies, such as Odebrecht, Chevron-Texaco, BP, and ESSO for condom distribution and HIV/AIDS counseling and training. • ChevronTexaco plans to start distributing antiretrovirals to its employees in its offshore drilling rigs in Angola by the end of 2003. • Barloworld is conducting an anonymous HIV survey among its employees in Mozambique, Malawi and Angola. In South Africa, the company will spend R25,000 per employee per year, on treatment of its HIV positive employees. • Exxon-Mobil in Angola has organized a group of public and private sector health representatives to identify opportunities for cooperative approaches to community health issues. For example, the company is participating in an industry-backed initiative to support the government’s national HIV/AIDS strategy through sponsorship of a pilot social marketing program to increase the availability and affordability of condoms. • In September 2002, the Coca-Cola Africa Foundation announced that it is joining with Coca-Cola’s 40 bottlers in Africa to help them expand their employee healthcare benefits for HIV/AIDS including antiretroviral drugs. Angola is one of the countries that will benefit from this program. • Odebrecht, an engineering and construction company from Brazil, with 5 large sites in Angola, is perhaps the best example of how a company can reach out effectively to its employees and surrounding communities. With guidance and assistance from IFC Against AIDS, Odebrecht has implemented an AIDS program that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Includes AIDS awareness, prevention, care, and support activities for all its employees. ○ Extends its reach to the families of employees and to surrounding communities. ○ Promotes AIDS awareness to the general public through events (World AIDS Day 2002, Carnival parade), radio programs, and the Angolan press. ○ Has also actively involved in its program employees from contractors and suppliers. ○ Trains youth as peer educators in municipalities at its own cost. ○ Has reached about 100,000 people, including the company workers, their families, and their surrounding communities.
Sources: USAID, PSI, WMRC Daily Analysis	Sources: UNDP, UNAIDS, PSI, AEGIS, Global Business Coalition on AIDS, IFC Against AIDS

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