



# COUNTRY PROFILE

HIV/AIDS

Office of the  
United States  
Global AIDS  
Coordinator

## KENYA

The HIV/AIDS response program aims to reduce the devastating impact of the HIV/AIDS epidemic in Kenya. The country has a population of 32 million, with 68 percent residing in rural areas. Trends in adult HIV prevalence indicate a mature epidemic that has probably peaked. The overall prevalence of 6.7 percent documented through the 2003 Kenya Demographic and Health Survey is significantly lower than the 2003 antenatal sentinel surveillance rate of 9 percent for pregnant women. Prevalence in urban areas is significantly higher than in rural areas (10 percent vs. 5.6 percent per results of the Kenya Demographic and Health Survey) and there are significant regional and provincial differences. Virtually all health indicators show deterioration in overall health of the population since the 1998 Kenya Demographic and Health Survey, which complicates efforts to achieve maximum benefit from antiretroviral therapy among the population that is HIV-infected. Tuberculosis cases have risen sixfold in the last decade, with over 96,000 registered cases in 2003. HIV rates in tuberculosis cases are estimated between 50 and 60 percent.

HIV/AIDS Epidemic in Kenya	
HIV Prevalence in Pregnant Women	9.4%
Estimated Number of HIV-Infected People	Adults: 1,100,000; Children: 100,000
Estimated Number of Individuals on Anti-Retroviral Therapy	11,000
Estimated Number of AIDS Orphans	890,000

## U.S. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

In 2003, President George W. Bush announced the Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, a five-year, \$15 billion U.S. Government initiative that aims to provide treatment to at least two million HIV-infected individuals, prevent seven million new HIV infections, and provide care and support to 10 million people living with and affected by HIV/AIDS, including orphans and vulnerable children. To help attain these goals, the U.S. Government is rapidly expanding its programs and engaging new partners in 15 focus countries, including Kenya. Under the Emergency Plan, Kenya will receive \$71.4 million in 2004 to support a comprehensive treatment, prevention, and care program.

### Treatment

The U.S. Government will provide support to place 38,000 HIV-positive Kenyans on antiretroviral therapy and will invest in the transformation of the public sector infrastructure for laboratory services and support, procuring and distributing antiretrovirals, and building human capacity.

### Prevention

The U.S. Government program will continue successful prevention interventions, while redoubling efforts to reach



Map of Kenya: PCL Map Collection, University of Texas

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young people with media messages and programs that promote abstinence and faithfulness. Direct activities through networks of faith-based organizations and with other partners will reach young people in academic, religious, and community settings. The program's support for mother-to-child prevention efforts, blood safety, and safe injections will help prevent new HIV infections. Other prevention efforts supported with U.S. resources will include expanding voluntary counseling and testing, targeting condom marketing to those at heightened risk, and controlling sexually transmitted infections.

### **Care**

U.S. Government support will strengthen clinical and palliative care and support programs, including improvements in clinical care for HIV-positive Kenyans who do not yet need antiretroviral therapy; home-based care; referrals to clinical providers; and support for orphans and vulnerable children. The program will also support steps to integrate tuberculosis and HIV clinical care because of the more than 50 percent rate of tuberculosis and HIV coinfection in Kenya.

### **Other**

The U.S. Government's program will also strengthen surveillance and national monitoring capacity at all levels of the health system. U.S. funds will support extensive program monitoring, reporting, targeted research, and evaluation. All partners will collect, analyze, and disseminate key strategic information to support and enhance policy development and to guide future HIV/AIDS care, prevention, and treatment programs. Crosscutting activities will focus on policy, advocacy, capacity building, and improving information management and sharing and communications within U.S. Government sites and between those and the Government of Kenya partners. The U.S. Government will support crosscutting efforts in training and capacity building of faith-based and community-based organizations, the National AIDS Control Council, policy makers, and other public- and private-sector partners.

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