The 2010 Rwanda Demographic and Health Survey (RDHS) included HIV testing of 6,917 women age 15-49 and 6,331 men age 15-59. According to the survey, 3.0% of Rwandans age 15-49 are HIV-positive.

HIV prevalence is highest in the City of Kigali, where more than 7% of adults age 15-49 are HIV-positive. HIV prevalence is fairly uniform throughout the rest of Rwanda.

Women become infected at younger ages than men. Prevalence for both women and men increases with age until it peaks at age 35-39 for women (7.9%) and at age 40-44 for men (7.5%). There is no clear relationship between education and HIV infection among women or men.

Overall, 3.7% of women and 2.2% of men are HIV-positive. HIV prevalence is three times higher in urban areas than in rural areas (7.1% versus 2.3%).

There has been essentially no change in Rwanda’s HIV prevalence since 2005. The small increases and decreases seen here are not statistically significant and do not signify true changes in the population.

Overall, about 38% of women and men had been tested for HIV and received the results in the past year.

HIV prevalence is highest among women and men in the richest households.

90% of women and men who tested HIV-positive in the 2010 RDHS had been tested previously for HIV and received the results of that test.

HIV prevalence is highest in the City of Kigali, where more than 7% of adults age 15-49 are HIV-positive. HIV prevalence is fairly uniform throughout the rest of Rwanda.
HIV prevalence increases with lifetime number of sexual partners among both women and men. Almost one-third of women with 5-9 lifetime partners are HIV-positive.

Response rates and methodology: 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 2010 RDHS. The DBS were collected using the finger stick method. Of the 13,446 eligible subjects, 98% provided DBS specimens. Coverage rates were almost identical in rural and urban areas (99% vs. 97%).

For women, HIV prevalence is highest among those who are widowed. HIV prevalence is also high among divorced and separated men and women. Women and men who have never been married are least likely to be HIV-positive.