

Acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) is one of the world's most serious public health concerns, and it poses an enormous challenge to most countries, especially developing countries such as Nigeria. The first case of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection in Nigeria was recorded in 1986, and since then, rates of infection have been increasing.

Estimates of HIV prevalence have increased from 1.8 percent in 1991 to 4.5 percent in 1996, and the 2001 National HIV/Syphilis Sentinel Survey estimated a national HIV seroprevalence rate of 5.8 percent (FMOH, 2001). Regional prevalence rates varied significantly, from a high of 7.7 percent in the South South to a low of 3.3 percent in the North West.

The greatest concern is the projected mortality due to AIDS over the next few years and its socio-economic consequences. Projections of annual deaths caused by AIDS have increased in Nigeria from less than 50,000 in 1999 to about 350,000 by 2003-2004. The number of Nigerian children orphaned as a result of parental AIDS deaths is projected to be near 2 million in 2003-2004. AIDS deaths have economic, health, and social consequences for everyone in the country. The magnitude of the problem has renewed the vigour of the Federal Government of Nigeria to review the national HIV/AIDS policy.

The future course of the Nigerian AIDS epidemic will depend on the efforts of individuals, development partners, local and international nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), religious groups, and traditional institutions to curb the pandemic. A three-year HIV/AIDS Emergency Action Plan (HEAP) was initiated by the Federal Government of Nigeria (FGN) in 2001. The FGN has created the National Action Committee on AIDS (NACA) to do extensive work in collaboration with international development partners and local and international NGOs to mitigate the effects of HIV/AIDS. Strategies employ a multisectoral approach, working at national, state, and local government levels.

Data obtained from the 2003 Nigeria Demographic and Health Survey (NDHS) provide an invaluable resource for witnessing levels and trends of important factors related to HIV/AIDS. These data are intended to inform policy makers and programme planners in their strategies for programme planning and evaluation. This chapter presents information about knowledge, attitudes, and practices related to prevention and control of HIV/AIDS and care of people living with the virus.

## 12.1 KNOWLEDGE OF WAYS TO AVOID HIV/AIDS

Table 12.1 shows that awareness of AIDS in Nigeria is higher among men than women, with 97 percent of men and 86 percent of women reporting that they have "heard of AIDS." There is little variation in knowledge among men by background characteristics; however, there are significant differences among women. The lowest level of AIDS awareness is among women living in households ranked lowest on the wealth index (70 percent). Knowledge of AIDS among women ranges from a low of 76 percent in the North East to a high of 96 percent in the South East. Awareness of AIDS is universal for men and women with higher education (100 percent).

Two aspects of AIDS-related behaviour that AIDS prevention programmes focus their messages on are the use of condoms and limiting the number of sexual partners or staying faithful to one partner. These are considered programmatically important ways to prevent HIV transmission. To ascertain whether programmes have effectively communicated these messages, interviewers asked respondents

Table 12.1 Knowledge of AIDS

Percentage of women and men who have heard of AIDS, by background characteristics, Nigeria 2003

Background characteristic	Women		Men	
	Has heard of AIDS	Number of respondents	Has heard of AIDS	Number of respondents
<b>Age</b>				
15-19	82.8	1,716	92.9	453
20-24	87.4	1,494	97.8	426
25-29	89.7	1,382	98.2	328
30-39	87.9	1,757	99.0	519
40-49	84.0	1,271	97.4	367
15-24	84.9	3,210	95.3	880
<b>Marital status</b>				
Never married	88.4	1,926	95.7	1,048
Ever had sex	94.5	838	98.9	489
Never had sex	83.6	1,087	93.0	559
Married/living together	85.4	5,336	98.4	1,006
Divorced/separated/widowed	88.1	358	(96.4)	40
<b>Residence</b>				
Urban	94.7	2,629	99.0	792
Rural	81.9	4,991	95.9	1,301
<b>Region</b>				
North Central	84.5	1,121	97.1	313
North East	75.7	1,368	97.3	377
North West	86.6	2,095	99.3	529
South East	95.5	737	99.3	192
South South	90.3	1,342	92.1	385
South West	90.3	958	97.7	296
<b>Education</b>				
No education	77.9	3,171	95.9	385
Primary	86.6	1,628	92.8	519
Secondary	94.8	2,370	99.0	932
Higher	100.0	451	100.0	257
<b>Wealth quintile</b>				
Lowest	69.6	1,414	92.3	362
Second	79.9	1,439	95.8	360
Middle	88.5	1,513	99.1	392
Fourth	92.8	1,526	97.2	452
Highest	97.7	1,728	99.5	527
Total	86.3	7,620	97.0	2,093

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases.

about these behaviours as ways of avoiding AIDS. If respondents reported that AIDS could be avoided, they were asked how “a person could avoid getting the HIV virus.” Two types of questions were asked about ways to avoid getting infected. First, an open-ended question was asked, and respondents were allowed to give all of the ways to avoid HIV/AIDS that they know of without prompting. Next, women and men were asked specific questions on whether condom use and (in a separate question) whether limiting their sexual activity to just one partner can reduce their chances of getting AIDS. Results are presented in Table 12.2.

Table 12.2 Knowledge of HIV prevention methods

Percentage of women and men who, in response to a prompted question, say that people can reduce the risk of getting the AIDS virus by using condoms and by having sex with just one partner who is not infected and who has no other partners, by background characteristics, Nigeria 2003

Background characteristic	Women				Men			
	Knowledge of HIV prevention by:			Number of women	Knowledge of HIV prevention by:			Number of men
	Using condoms	Limiting sex to one uninfected partner	Using condoms and limiting sex to one uninfected partner <sup>1</sup>		Using condoms	Limiting sex to one uninfected partner	Using condoms and limiting sex to one uninfected partner <sup>1</sup>	
<b>Age</b>								
15-19	38.6	53.3	36.5	1,716	58.2	64.8	52.0	453
20-24	47.8	63.0	44.9	1,494	67.8	80.6	65.1	426
25-29	51.3	64.4	49.3	1,382	69.2	86.7	65.4	328
30-39	46.6	61.4	44.1	1,757	67.2	87.3	64.0	519
40-49	39.1	58.0	37.1	1,271	54.1	82.8	52.1	367
15-24	42.9	57.8	40.4	3,210	62.8	72.4	58.4	880
<b>Marital status</b>								
Never married	47.9	63.0	45.6	1,926	65.9	75.6	61.3	1,048
Ever had sex	59.7	72.9	57.2	838	77.7	84.7	74.1	489
Never had sex	38.7	55.4	36.7	1,087	55.5	67.7	50.1	559
Married/living together	43.3	58.7	41.1	5,336	60.3	84.6	57.7	1,006
Divorced/separated/ widowed	46.8	60.4	43.7	358	(74.8)	(87.5)	(72.5)	40
<b>Residence</b>								
Urban	57.5	73.0	54.5	2,629	70.6	83.1	65.3	792
Rural	37.8	53.0	35.9	4,991	59.0	78.4	56.4	1,301
<b>Region</b>								
North Central	34.7	55.6	33.8	1,121	68.1	83.8	66.6	313
North East	34.7	50.6	34.0	1,368	47.5	80.2	45.7	377
North West	48.8	59.8	44.7	2,095	69.8	83.1	62.0	529
South East	43.6	77.3	42.2	737	79.4	85.1	75.5	192
South South	48.8	58.0	47.1	1,342	50.4	68.2	49.8	385
South West	56.3	67.4	52.4	958	73.5	83.4	69.0	296
<b>Education</b>								
No education	33.0	48.0	30.8	3,171	44.9	73.0	41.9	385
Primary	43.3	56.1	40.8	1,628	54.2	74.8	52.2	519
Secondary	55.6	72.5	53.4	2,370	71.4	82.4	66.7	932
Higher	73.7	91.1	70.5	451	80.5	93.8	76.4	257
<b>Wealth quintile</b>								
Lowest	25.0	37.1	23.6	1,414	42.1	66.5	40.4	362
Second	31.1	46.5	29.1	1,439	57.5	79.0	54.7	360
Middle	47.5	61.9	45.2	1,513	68.4	86.5	65.3	392
Fourth	53.4	67.9	50.3	1,526	64.4	82.2	61.8	452
Highest	61.8	80.7	59.2	1,728	77.4	84.0	70.6	527
<b>Total</b>	44.6	59.9	42.3	7,620	63.4	80.2	59.8	2,093

Note: Figures in parentheses based on 25-49 unweighted cases.

<sup>1</sup> Corresponds to UNAIDS Knowledge Indicator 1 "Knowledge of HIV prevention methods"

Knowledge of prevention of AIDS is not quite as widespread as knowledge of the disease itself. Limiting the number of sexual partners is acknowledged by more Nigerians of all backgrounds as a means to avoid AIDS, compared with use of condoms. Forty-five percent of women and 63 percent of men report knowledge of condom use for HIV/AIDS protection. On the other hand, six in ten women and eight in ten men report knowing that limiting the number of sexual partners is a way to avoid HIV/AIDS.

More men than women know about condom use and limiting partners as ways to avoid AIDS, although patterns of knowledge by background characteristics are similar for both women and men. The youngest women and men (age 15-19) are somewhat less likely than older women and men to know these specific ways to avoid transmission of HIV. This is important because sexual debut often occurs before age 20. Variation by education is particularly striking among both women and men. Knowledge of condom use to avoid AIDS ranges from a low of 33 percent among women with no education to a high of 74 percent among those with higher education. Knowledge among men increases steadily with education as well, from a low of 45 percent among men with no education to a high of 81 percent among men with higher education.

## **12.2 BELIEFS ABOUT AIDS**

The 2003 NDHS also inquired about common misconceptions regarding AIDS and HIV transmission. Respondents were asked whether they think it is possible for a healthy-looking person to have the AIDS virus; results are presented in Tables 12.3.1 and 12.3.2 by background characteristics. The tables also present the percentage of the population who know that the common misconceptions regarding transmission of AIDS are not true, in particular, that a person cannot get AIDS from mosquito bites, from witchcraft or other supernatural means, or from sharing food with a person who has AIDS. The tables also show the percentage of the population who know both that it is possible for a healthy-looking person to have AIDS and that the two most common misconceptions regarding transmission (AIDS can be transmitted via mosquito bites or by supernatural means) are not true.

Once again, levels of knowledge are higher among men than among women, and the greatest variability in knowledge is seen by level of education. Overall, about half of women (53 percent) and nearly three-quarters of men (73 percent) know that a healthy-looking person can have AIDS. There are greater gaps in knowledge regarding modes of transmission than knowledge of whether or not a healthy-looking person can have the AIDS virus. For each of the misconceptions regarding transmission of AIDS, approximately four in ten women know that it is not really a mode of transmission; the percentages for men are slightly higher. Respondents who know that a healthy-looking person can have the AIDS virus and who also reject the two most common misconceptions regarding transmission of the AIDS virus are in the minority: 21 percent of women and 28 percent of men. There is room for growth in educating the population about the modes of transmission of the AIDS virus. The lowest levels of knowledge are among persons with no education or primary education.

Table 12.3.1 Beliefs about AIDS: women

Percentage of women who, in response to a prompted question, correctly reject local misconceptions about AIDS transmission or prevention, and who know that a healthy-looking person can have the AIDS virus, by background characteristics, Nigeria 2003

Background characteristic	Percentage of women who know that:				Percentage who reject two most common misconceptions and say that a healthy-looking person can have the AIDS virus <sup>1</sup>	Number of women
	A healthy-looking person can have the AIDS virus	AIDS cannot be transmitted by mosquito bites	AIDS cannot be transmitted by witchcraft or other supernatural means	A person cannot become infected by sharing food with someone with AIDS		
<b>Age</b>						
15-19	46.3	32.1	36.0	40.5	17.0	1,716
20-24	59.4	41.9	42.3	50.6	24.8	1,494
25-29	59.0	40.3	43.8	49.6	22.7	1,382
30-39	53.0	36.8	41.2	43.8	20.7	1,757
40-49	50.6	33.6	36.7	40.8	19.1	1,271
15-24	52.4	36.7	38.9	45.2	20.6	3,210
<b>Marital status</b>						
Never married	58.8	41.2	43.4	51.8	23.7	1,926
Ever had sex	69.2	45.8	46.9	59.5	28.0	838
Never had sex	50.7	37.7	40.7	45.9	20.4	1,087
Married/living together	51.4	35.5	39.3	42.3	19.9	5,336
Divorced/separated/widowed	54.3	33.1	32.2	46.6	17.6	358
<b>Residence</b>						
Urban	68.6	49.8	51.1	59.0	29.9	2,629
Rural	45.4	30.0	34.1	37.5	15.9	4,991
<b>Region</b>						
North Central	43.3	26.3	29.8	35.6	11.9	1,121
North East	45.4	25.5	35.2	35.0	16.6	1,368
North West	52.3	43.2	42.5	48.0	23.7	2,095
South East	67.1	52.7	57.4	64.8	33.5	737
South South	53.6	31.3	30.3	42.2	14.3	1,342
South West	68.4	47.3	53.3	52.0	29.9	958
<b>Education</b>						
No education	40.4	28.1	31.8	32.7	14.9	3,171
Primary	48.4	30.5	35.0	36.0	15.8	1,628
Secondary	66.9	45.7	48.7	59.4	25.7	2,370
Higher	92.2	75.1	69.5	87.2	54.3	451
<b>Wealth quintile</b>						
Lowest	33.0	19.1	21.0	23.3	9.7	1,414
Second	41.4	25.3	30.4	31.2	14.2	1,439
Middle	51.8	34.5	41.3	42.2	18.0	1,513
Fourth	57.6	43.3	44.1	52.8	22.5	1,526
Highest	77.8	57.4	58.6	69.5	36.2	1,728
Total	53.4	36.9	40.0	44.9	20.8	7,620

Note: The two most common local misconceptions involve transmission by mosquito bites and by witchcraft or other supernatural means.  
<sup>1</sup> Corresponds to UNAIDS Knowledge Indicator 2 "No incorrect beliefs about AIDS"

Table 12.3.2 Beliefs about AIDS: men

Percentage of men who, in response to a prompted question, correctly reject local misconceptions about AIDS transmission or prevention, and who know that a healthy-looking person can have the AIDS virus, by background characteristics, Nigeria 2003

Background characteristic	Percentage of men who know that:				Percentage who reject two most common misconceptions and say that a healthy-looking person can have the AIDS virus <sup>1</sup>	Number of men
	A healthy-looking person can have the AIDS virus	AIDS cannot be transmitted by mosquito bites	AIDS cannot be transmitted by witchcraft or other supernatural means	A person cannot become infected by sharing food with someone with AIDS		
<b>Age</b>						
15-19	55.8	32.9	47.9	45.2	17.3	453
20-24	74.2	44.4	55.7	64.1	29.1	426
25-29	82.6	49.4	58.6	67.7	33.2	328
30-39	81.9	53.5	54.8	65.0	35.1	519
40-49	72.6	42.7	53.9	53.6	25.3	367
15-24	64.7	38.5	51.7	54.4	23.0	880
<b>Marital status</b>						
Never married	69.7	43.7	54.9	61.0	27.6	1,048
Ever had sex	79.8	52.0	59.5	70.5	34.0	489
Never had sex	60.9	36.5	50.8	52.7	21.9	559
Married/living together	76.5	45.1	53.3	56.4	28.5	1,006
Divorced/separated/widowed	(80.5)	(55.5)	(45.4)	(68.3)	(27.2)	40
<b>Residence</b>						
Urban	82.1	55.0	59.0	68.4	37.5	792
Rural	67.8	38.3	50.8	53.2	22.2	1,301
<b>Region</b>						
North Central	67.9	35.7	47.0	53.1	18.2	313
North East	69.5	47.5	44.5	51.4	20.0	377
North West	77.5	38.9	59.3	56.5	25.2	529
South East	82.3	42.6	47.4	73.9	28.5	192
South South	64.4	46.5	52.8	60.3	33.1	385
South West	81.3	59.6	69.3	67.8	46.6	296
<b>Education</b>						
No education	59.2	30.4	45.7	44.5	14.8	385
Primary	67.1	38.0	43.5	46.2	19.6	519
Secondary	77.7	46.9	56.9	64.9	29.9	932
Higher	89.8	71.1	76.5	84.8	58.0	257
<b>Wealth quintile</b>						
Lowest	55.9	26.5	40.0	36.8	11.7	362
Second	67.2	34.7	45.5	47.8	18.8	360
Middle	72.3	39.9	58.0	61.1	23.2	392
Fourth	80.0	54.8	56.7	64.7	34.1	452
Highest	83.9	58.7	63.8	75.3	43.9	527
Total	73.2	44.6	53.9	59.0	28.0	2,093

Note: The two most common local misconceptions involve transmission by mosquito bites and by witchcraft or other supernatural means. Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases.

<sup>1</sup> Corresponds to UNAIDS Knowledge Indicator 2 "No incorrect beliefs about AIDS"

### 12.3 STIGMA AND DISCRIMINATION

Knowledge and beliefs about AIDS affect how people treat others whom they know to be living with HIV. To ascertain the level to which people are accepting of others who are living with HIV, the 2003 NDHS asked several questions regarding behavioural treatment of persons with AIDS. Results are presented in Tables 12.4.1 and 12.4.2, which excludes the 14 percent of women and 3 percent of men who reported that they have never heard of an illness called AIDS. Respondents were asked whether or not they would be willing to take on the care of a relative with HIV in their own household. Overall, four in ten respondents reported that they would be willing to care for a sick relative in their own household. Only one-quarter of respondents in the South West reported that they would do so.

Table 12.4.1 Accepting attitudes towards those living with HIV: women

Percentage of women expressing accepting attitudes toward people with HIV, by background characteristics, Nigeria 2003

Background characteristic	Percentage of women who:					Number of women who have heard of HIV/AIDS
	Are willing to care for a family member with HIV at home	Would buy fresh vegetables from shopkeeper with AIDS	Believe HIV-positive female teacher should be allowed to keep teaching	Believe HIV-positive status of a family member does not need to remain a secret	Percentage expressing accepting attitudes on all four measures <sup>1</sup>	
<b>Age</b>						
15-19	41.8	19.3	23.6	54.2	2.1	1,420
20-24	45.8	21.8	24.7	56.7	3.0	1,305
25-29	41.4	21.2	25.3	63.0	4.4	1,240
30-39	45.5	19.1	22.0	64.5	3.6	1,545
40-49	44.6	15.8	18.5	67.1	3.4	1,067
15-24	43.7	20.5	24.2	55.4	2.5	2,725
<b>Marital status</b>						
Never married	47.3	26.3	27.4	55.3	4.5	1,702
Ever had sex	51.0	31.6	32.3	56.1	6.1	793
Never had sex	44.0	21.8	23.2	54.6	3.2	909
Married/living together	42.3	17.3	21.6	62.7	2.7	4,559
Divorced/separated/widowed	47.1	15.5	19.3	64.1	4.5	316
<b>Residence</b>						
Urban	46.1	26.1	27.7	59.0	4.1	2,490
Rural	42.5	15.6	20.1	62.0	2.8	4,087
<b>Region</b>						
North Central	47.5	18.5	16.9	58.5	2.9	947
North East	51.0	12.7	20.3	68.3	3.6	1,036
North West	47.5	18.7	25.9	55.5	2.6	1,813
South East	59.8	26.7	29.2	49.8	2.7	704
South South	32.5	22.2	23.7	68.1	5.2	1,212
South West	26.4	21.2	20.6	64.6	2.5	865
<b>Education</b>						
No education	43.7	12.1	18.7	61.9	2.1	2,470
Primary	38.8	16.1	18.2	64.4	2.2	1,410
Secondary	44.5	25.8	27.3	58.2	4.3	2,246
Higher	57.3	40.4	39.9	57.1	8.4	451
<b>Wealth quintile</b>						
Lowest	37.1	10.6	14.2	62.7	1.1	984
Second	44.0	12.2	19.4	63.9	3.2	1,150
Middle	42.6	15.3	22.6	66.9	2.5	1,339
Fourth	45.3	22.2	23.2	61.1	3.6	1,415
Highest	47.3	30.9	30.6	52.7	4.9	1,689
Total	43.8	19.6	23.0	60.9	3.3	6,577

<sup>1</sup> Corresponds to UNAIDS Stigma and Discrimination Indicator 1 "Accepting attitudes towards those living with HIV"

To assess personal attitudes towards others known to be living with AIDS, the 2003 NDHS asked respondents whether they would be willing to purchase fresh vegetables from a seller who has the AIDS virus, whether they believe a female teacher who has the AIDS virus should be permitted to continue teaching, and whether or not they would want the status of a family member with the AIDS virus to remain a secret. These results are also presented in Tables 12.4.1 and 12.4.2. Only 20 percent of women and 28 percent of men say that they would purchase fresh vegetables from a person with the AIDS virus. Only 23 percent of women and 27 percent of men believe that a female teacher with the AIDS virus should be allowed to continue teaching in school. A majority of respondents (61 percent of women and 70 percent of men), however, say that they believe that the HIV-positive status of a family member does not need to remain a secret.

Table 12.4.2 Accepting attitudes towards those living with HIV: men

Percentage of men expressing accepting attitudes toward people with HIV, by background characteristics, Nigeria 2003

Background characteristic	Percentage of men who:					Number of men who have heard of HIV/AIDS
	Are willing to care for a family member with HIV at home	Would buy fresh vegetables from shopkeeper with AIDS	Believe HIV-positive female teacher should be allowed to keep teaching	Believe HIV-positive status of a family member does not need to remain a secret	Percentage expressing accepting attitudes on all four measures <sup>1</sup>	
<b>Age</b>						
15-19	34.8	19.3	15.5	59.4	3.1	421
20-24	39.8	30.4	27.5	73.3	5.9	417
25-29	43.4	36.3	32.0	72.0	7.8	322
30-39	44.4	29.6	33.2	74.2	9.1	514
40-49	36.7	26.6	25.4	71.8	6.6	357
15-24	37.3	24.8	21.5	66.3	4.5	838
<b>Marital status</b>						
Never married	39.6	29.1	24.7	66.6	6.2	1,003
Ever had sex	45.1	35.4	28.8	74.5	9.3	484
Never had sex	34.6	23.2	20.9	59.3	3.3	519
Married/living together	40.2	27.0	29.0	73.4	7.0	990
Divorced/separated/ widowed	(42.3)	(32.2)	(24.0)	(81.6)	(4.9)	38
<b>Residence</b>						
Urban	35.1	34.2	32.3	68.0	7.1	784
Rural	43.0	24.3	23.4	71.6	6.2	1,247
<b>Region</b>						
North Central	56.6	21.3	20.0	73.0	5.7	304
North East	31.4	31.7	25.0	72.3	6.3	367
North West	42.1	27.9	31.5	63.6	5.0	525
South East	36.0	24.3	33.7	58.8	4.6	191
South South	46.9	33.0	29.2	69.6	13.9	355
South West	23.3	28.0	20.3	84.6	2.8	289
<b>Education</b>						
No education	35.1	18.6	22.0	67.2	2.8	369
Primary	36.3	22.0	20.5	71.7	4.4	482
Secondary	40.6	26.9	26.9	71.2	6.3	923
Higher	51.4	58.1	45.0	68.1	16.8	257
<b>Wealth quintile</b>						
Lowest	36.4	13.3	16.4	67.9	1.2	334
Second	40.6	25.5	22.8	74.8	5.9	345
Middle	48.6	28.8	26.8	73.4	7.3	388
Fourth	32.6	30.5	24.4	70.2	6.6	439
Highest	41.4	36.9	38.1	66.2	9.8	524
Total	39.9	28.2	26.8	70.2	6.6	2,031

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases.

<sup>1</sup> Corresponds to UNAIDS Stigma and Discrimination Indicator 1 "Accepting attitudes towards those living with HIV"

The percentage of the population expressing the most accepting attitudes towards persons living with the AIDS virus is presented in the last percentage column of the table. This is the percentage of respondents who reported in the affirmative for all four behaviours presented in the table: they would care for an HIV-positive family member in their own home, they would buy fresh vegetables from a shopkeeper with AIDS, they would allow an HIV-positive teacher to continue teaching, and they would not keep the HIV-positive status of a family member a secret. Only 3 percent of women and 7 percent of men report acceptance on all four indicators.

## 12.4 KNOWLEDGE OF MOTHER-TO-CHILD TRANSMISSION

AIDS education programmes include not only informing the population on how to avoid becoming infected with HIV, but also informing them what people living with the illness can do to prevent its transmission to other people. Table 12.5 shows the percentage of respondents who know that HIV can be transmitted from a mother to her child via breastfeeding. Overall, about half of the population know that mother-to-child transmission of HIV is possible through breastfeeding. This knowledge increases with increasing education. Few people (less than one in ten) know that a woman living with HIV can take drugs during pregnancy to reduce the risk of transmission.

Table 12.5 Knowledge of prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV

Percentage of women and men who know that HIV can be transmitted from mother to child by breastfeeding and that the risk of mother to child transmission (MTCT) of HIV can be reduced by the mother taking special drugs during pregnancy, by background characteristics, Nigeria 2003

Background characteristic	Women				Men			
	HIV can be transmitted by breastfeeding	Risk of MTCT can be reduced by mother taking drugs during pregnancy	HIV can be transmitted by breastfeeding and risk of MTCT can be reduced by mother taking drugs during pregnancy <sup>1</sup>	Number of women	HIV can be transmitted by breastfeeding	Risk of MTCT can be reduced by mother taking drugs during pregnancy	HIV can be transmitted by breastfeeding and risk of MTCT can be reduced by mother taking drugs during pregnancy <sup>1</sup>	Number of men
<b>Age</b>								
15-19	40.8	5.2	4.5	1,716	44.6	3.7	3.2	453
20-24	48.9	7.0	5.9	1,494	62.3	6.2	5.5	426
25-29	50.8	7.7	6.6	1,382	65.0	6.1	3.9	328
30-39	45.5	5.6	4.4	1,757	60.3	10.4	8.3	519
40-49	44.7	5.4	4.7	1,271	50.9	10.7	9.6	367
15-24	44.6	6.1	5.1	3,210	53.2	4.9	4.3	880
<b>Marital status</b>								
Never married	53.1	6.3	5.1	1,926	55.0	5.9	4.7	1,048
Ever had sex	62.8	7.4	5.6	838	64.9	6.3	5.1	489
Never had sex	45.7	5.4	4.7	1,087	46.4	5.7	4.3	559
Married/living together	43.4	6.0	5.2	5,336	57.7	9.2	7.8	1,006
Divorced/separated/widowed	45.1	7.1	5.1	358	(57.5)	(4.3)	(4.3)	40
<b>Residence</b>								
Urban	57.1	8.2	6.7	2,629	57.4	8.4	7.4	792
Rural	40.1	5.0	4.4	4,991	55.8	6.9	5.4	1,301
<b>Region</b>								
North Central	48.3	7.7	7.4	1,121	70.2	8.5	7.9	313
North East	34.6	5.3	4.5	1,368	50.5	10.5	8.4	377
North West	33.0	7.3	6.0	2,095	56.5	7.9	6.5	529
South East	64.2	6.9	4.8	737	58.8	8.8	5.4	192
South South	58.8	5.5	4.5	1,342	60.9	2.9	2.9	385
South West	55.8	3.3	2.8	958	41.7	6.9	5.6	296
<b>Education</b>								
No education	28.9	4.1	3.6	3,171	42.4	4.7	4.3	385
Primary	45.2	4.7	4.2	1,628	45.7	5.1	3.4	519
Secondary	63.5	7.6	6.3	2,370	64.4	5.7	5.0	932
Higher	76.3	18.0	13.4	451	69.6	23.0	18.8	257
<b>Wealth quintile</b>								
Lowest	26.6	2.2	1.7	1,414	41.5	4.7	4.6	362
Second	34.0	3.4	3.1	1,439	51.8	6.4	6.4	360
Middle	45.4	6.1	5.2	1,513	62.3	8.8	5.5	392
Fourth	52.0	7.0	6.0	1,526	58.9	5.9	4.9	452
Highest	66.9	10.9	8.9	1,728	63.2	10.4	8.5	527
Total	45.9	6.1	5.2	7,620	56.4	7.5	6.2	2,093

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases.

<sup>1</sup> Corresponds to UNAIDS Knowledge Indicator 5 "Knowledge of prevention of mother to child transmission of HIV"

## 12.5 HIV TESTING AND COUNSELLING

The 2003 NDHS asked all respondents who have heard of AIDS whether or not they have ever been tested for the illness, how long ago they were tested, and whether they received the test results the most recent time they were tested. Table 12.6 shows that 6 percent of women and 14 percent of men have ever been tested and received the results of their HIV test. Only 3 percent of women and 6 percent of men have been tested and received results during the 12 months preceding the survey. The likelihood of having been tested and receiving the results has a strong positive correlation with education and the wealth index. The vast majority of the population (approximately eight in ten) have never been tested for HIV.

Table 12.6 Population who had an HIV test and received test results

Percent distribution of women and men by HIV testing status, and percentage of women and men who were tested for HIV and received test results in the past 12 months, according to background characteristics, Nigeria 2003

Background characteristic	Women						Men							
	Ever tested		Never tested	Don't know/missing	Total	Percentage who were tested and received results in past 12 months	Number of women	Ever tested		Never tested	Don't know/missing	Total	Percentage who were tested and received results in past 12 months	Number of men
	Received results	No results						Received results	No results					
<b>Age</b>														
15-19	2.5	0.4	80.0	17.2	100.0	1.7	1,716	3.2	1.1	88.6	7.1	100.0	1.3	453
20-24	6.9	0.5	79.9	12.7	100.0	3.3	1,494	10.5	0.8	86.5	2.2	100.0	7.5	426
25-29	11.4	1.1	77.0	10.5	100.0	5.3	1,382	12.5	0.5	85.2	1.8	100.0	7.1	328
30-39	6.9	0.9	79.9	12.3	100.0	3.2	1,757	22.0	0.6	76.3	1.2	100.0	8.1	519
40-49	5.0	0.4	78.6	16.0	100.0	1.8	1,271	19.1	1.5	76.9	2.6	100.0	5.6	367
15-24	4.5	0.4	79.9	15.1	100.0	2.5	3,210	6.7	0.9	87.6	4.7	100.0	4.3	880
<b>Marital status</b>														
Never married	6.7	0.5	81.1	11.6	100.0	3.8	1,926	9.2	0.9	85.6	4.4	100.0	5.2	1,048
Ever had sex	12.8	0.9	80.9	5.5	100.0	7.3	838	17.0	1.0	80.8	1.3	100.0	10.0	489
Never had sex	2.1	0.3	81.3	16.4	100.0	1.0	1,087	2.3	0.8	89.9	7.0	100.0	1.0	559
Married/living together	6.1	0.7	78.5	14.7	100.0	2.6	5,336	18.1	0.9	79.4	1.6	100.0	6.4	1,006
Divorced/separated/widowed	8.6	0.6	79.0	11.9	100.0	4.9	358	(16.3)	(0.0)	(80.1)	(3.6)	(100.0)	(9.2)	40
<b>Residence</b>														
Urban	11.8	0.7	82.1	5.4	100.0	5.3	2,629	16.3	0.8	81.7	1.2	100.0	7.5	792
Rural	3.6	0.6	77.6	18.2	100.0	1.8	4,991	11.9	0.9	83.0	4.1	100.0	4.9	1,301
<b>Region</b>														
North Central	5.3	0.5	78.7	15.5	100.0	3.2	1,121	18.9	1.0	77.1	2.9	100.0	9.6	313
North East	1.3	0.1	74.3	24.3	100.0	0.7	1,368	12.6	1.8	82.8	2.7	100.0	6.0	377
North West	1.1	0.1	85.0	13.8	100.0	0.4	2,095	4.2	0.8	94.2	0.7	100.0	1.2	529
South East	22.9	0.2	72.4	4.5	100.0	9.3	737	25.4	0.4	73.5	0.7	100.0	11.5	192
South South	9.3	1.6	79.4	9.7	100.0	5.3	1,342	13.8	0.2	78.0	7.9	100.0	5.7	385
South West	9.8	1.7	78.7	9.7	100.0	4.0	958	17.8	0.7	78.8	2.7	100.0	6.6	296
<b>Education</b>														
No education	0.8	0.2	76.7	22.2	100.0	0.3	3,171	2.0	1.0	93.0	4.1	100.0	1.1	385
Primary	3.7	1.0	81.7	13.6	100.0	2.0	1,628	11.2	1.1	80.5	7.2	100.0	4.6	519
Secondary	12.2	0.7	81.8	5.2	100.0	5.5	2,370	14.6	0.8	83.7	1.0	100.0	6.1	932
Higher	25.0	2.2	72.8	0.0	100.0	12.7	451	32.3	0.8	66.5	0.4	100.0	15.0	257
<b>Wealth quintile</b>														
Lowest	1.2	0.1	68.2	30.6	100.0	0.4	1,414	6.1	1.5	84.7	7.7	100.0	2.9	362
Second	1.6	0.7	77.6	20.1	100.0	1.0	1,439	5.9	0.6	89.3	4.2	100.0	2.3	360
Middle	2.3	0.6	85.5	11.5	100.0	1.3	1,513	9.2	1.7	88.1	0.9	100.0	3.7	392
Fourth	6.5	0.7	85.6	7.2	100.0	2.5	1,526	15.7	0.0	81.4	2.8	100.0	6.7	452
Highest	18.2	1.1	78.2	2.5	100.0	8.9	1,728	25.3	0.8	73.2	0.7	100.0	11.4	527
Total	6.4	0.7	79.2	13.8	100.0	3.0	7,620	13.6	0.9	82.5	3.0	100.0	5.9	2,093

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 15-49 unweighted cases.

An appropriate opportunity for educating women about HIV/AIDS arises when they go for an antenatal visit during pregnancy. Table 12.7 shows the percentage of women who received any information or counselling regarding AIDS during an antenatal visit, among women who gave birth during the two years preceding the survey. Overall, almost one-quarter of women received counselling about HIV/AIDS during an antenatal care visit. A majority of women in the South East and South West (about six in ten) received AIDS counselling. Among women in other regions, those who received any information were in the minority, especially in the North East and North West, where less than two in ten women received counselling about HIV/AIDS regarding AIDS. The percentage of women who received information or counseling during an antenatal care visit rises steadily with increasing education and increasing wealth quintile.

## 12.6 SEXUAL NEGOTIATION, ATTITUDES, AND COMMUNICATION

In an effort to assess the ability of women to negotiate safer sex with a spouse who has a sexually transmitted infection (STI), all respondents were asked two attitudinal questions. They were asked whether a wife is justified in refusing to have sex with her husband if she knows her husband has an STI and whether such a wife is justified in asking that her husband use a condom. Overall, about nine in ten Nigerians report that a woman may either refuse to have sex with her husband or ask him to wear a condom if she knows he has an STI (Table 12.8). More men than women report that a woman is justified in either behaviour, although both men and women are more likely to report that a woman may refuse to have sex than to propose using a condom. While there is no particular pattern in attitudes by education, the percentage of people who believe that a woman can propose condom use increases with increasing the education. Regions in which people are the least likely to believe a woman can propose condom use are in South South among men and in the North Central among women.

Table 12.7 Pregnant women counselled about HIV

Among women who gave birth in the two years preceding the survey, percentage who were counselled about HIV during antenatal care visit for the most recent birth, by background characteristics, Nigeria 2003

Background characteristic	Counselled about HIV during antenatal visit	Number of women who gave birth in the past 2 years
<b>Age</b>		
15-19	11.9	271
20-24	19.7	589
25-29	29.4	709
30-39	28.2	721
40-49	22.0	157
15-24	17.2	860
<b>Marital status</b>		
Never married	23.3	71
Married/living together	24.4	2,321
Divorced/separated/ widowed	22.6	55
<b>Residence</b>		
Urban	44.4	701
Rural	16.2	1,746
<b>Region</b>		
North Central	22.8	361
North East	14.9	554
North West	11.4	863
South East	58.8	137
South South	38.1	308
South West	59.9	223
<b>Education</b>		
No education	8.4	1,239
Primary	28.4	588
Secondary	49.5	542
Higher	71.3	78
<b>Wealth quintile</b>		
Lowest	8.7	530
Second	11.1	538
Middle	18.9	487
Fourth	32.0	477
Highest	58.9	414
Total	24.3	2,447

Table 12.8 Attitudes toward negotiating safer sex with husband

Percentage of women and men who believe that, if a husband has an STI, his wife can either refuse to have sex with him or propose condom use, by background characteristics, Nigeria 2003

Background characteristic	Women				Men			
	Woman is justified to:				Woman is justified to:			
	Refuse sex	Propose condom use	Refuse sex or propose condom use <sup>1</sup>	Number of women	Refuse sex	Propose condom use	Refuse sex or propose condom use <sup>1</sup>	Number of men
<b>Age</b>								
15-19	73.5	64.3	81.1	1,716	80.9	70.3	87.0	453
20-24	84.1	76.5	90.9	1,494	90.8	84.8	96.0	426
25-29	88.3	79.7	93.2	1,382	93.5	85.0	97.1	328
30-39	87.0	74.4	90.8	1,757	96.9	84.9	98.4	519
40-49	85.9	70.4	91.0	1,271	94.2	78.3	95.9	367
15-24	78.5	70.0	85.6	3,210	85.7	77.3	91.4	880
<b>Marital status</b>								
Never married	75.3	69.7	84.1	1,926	86.9	78.7	91.9	1,048
Ever had sex	87.2	82.2	95.3	838	90.4	87.2	96.6	489
Never had sex	66.2	60.1	75.5	1,087	83.9	71.2	87.8	559
Married/living together	86.0	73.9	90.8	5,336	95.5	82.3	97.7	1,006
Divorced/separated/ widowed	89.1	74.4	90.7	358	(95.4)	(87.3)	(97.8)	40
<b>Residence</b>								
Urban	86.3	80.4	92.4	2,629	93.5	86.1	97.1	792
Rural	82.0	68.9	87.3	4,991	89.8	77.2	93.4	1,301
<b>Region</b>								
North Central	77.1	55.2	80.6	1,121	93.5	84.7	98.2	313
North East	90.1	74.0	92.2	1,368	96.7	79.2	98.6	377
North West	83.6	76.6	89.5	2,095	93.6	85.4	96.8	529
South East	71.5	70.8	85.8	737	94.1	91.7	99.3	192
South South	86.2	79.0	92.2	1,342	77.1	64.1	81.0	385
South West	86.3	76.6	91.8	958	94.0	83.6	97.8	296
<b>Education</b>								
No education	83.1	66.6	87.2	3,171	92.4	69.8	94.7	385
Primary	81.5	71.3	86.9	1,628	88.4	78.3	91.7	519
Secondary	83.3	79.4	91.4	2,370	91.5	83.2	95.5	932
Higher	93.9	88.3	97.7	451	93.8	91.7	98.6	257
<b>Wealth quintile</b>								
Lowest	81.2	62.1	85.6	1,414	88.7	69.8	90.8	362
Second	82.0	66.9	87.1	1,439	91.5	72.3	94.2	360
Middle	81.4	71.8	86.6	1,513	93.4	85.4	97.3	392
Fourth	86.4	78.7	91.5	1,526	88.2	81.4	92.2	452
Highest	85.7	82.4	93.7	1,728	93.6	89.4	98.3	527
Total	83.5	72.8	89.1	7,620	91.2	80.6	94.8	2,093

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases.

<sup>1</sup> Corresponds to UNAIDS Sexual Negotiation Indicator 1 "Women's ability to negotiate safer sex with husband"

Men's attitudes towards condoms directly affect their inclination to use them. Men were asked whether they agree with a series of statements regarding condoms; results are presented in Table 12.9. Thirty percent of men agreed with the statement that condoms are inconvenient to use, and thirty-seven percent agreed with the statement that condoms reduce sexual pleasure. Most men know that condoms cannot be reused, although one-quarter agreed with the statement that condoms break easily. Thirty percent of men agreed with the statement that a woman has no right to tell a man to use a condom. Sixty-three percent of men agree with the statement that a condom protects against disease. These questions were asked regardless of whether or not the respondent had ever used a condom.

Table 12.9 Men's attitude toward condoms

Percentage of men who agree with specific statements about condoms, by background characteristics, Nigeria 2003

Background characteristic	Percentage of men who agree with the following statements:							Number of men
	Condoms diminish a man's sexual pleasure	A condom is very inconvenient to use	A condom can be reused	A condom protects against disease	A woman has no right to tell a man to use a condom	Condoms break easily	Condoms are expensive	
<b>Age</b>								
15-19	23.5	16.4	5.8	46.4	23.9	16.1	6.9	453
20-24	38.1	30.0	9.8	68.1	37.1	23.3	10.9	426
25-29	47.6	38.5	9.4	74.4	33.4	31.8	16.9	328
30-39	42.8	36.1	8.6	69.9	28.5	30.2	10.1	519
40-49	37.2	27.7	7.9	58.5	26.2	20.4	6.7	367
<b>Residence</b>								
Urban	36.0	26.3	7.1	67.8	26.3	24.3	7.7	792
Rural	38.3	31.4	9.0	60.4	31.6	24.3	11.4	1,301
<b>Region</b>								
North Central	32.9	24.2	6.6	68.7	15.0	20.2	7.7	313
North East	42.5	32.3	3.1	59.4	25.5	19.6	5.0	377
North West	52.1	53.3	23.1	76.0	72.8	39.0	18.9	529
South East	34.2	19.9	1.4	51.5	10.0	27.4	19.1	192
South South	27.8	15.6	3.2	50.7	11.7	17.9	4.2	385
South West	24.2	13.2	1.1	63.1	9.2	14.6	4.9	296
<b>Education</b>								
No education	36.6	36.0	14.7	52.5	44.2	22.1	12.8	385
Primary	36.2	30.6	8.1	59.8	33.2	24.0	9.8	519
Secondary	35.9	25.6	6.3	64.8	24.1	23.9	8.5	932
Higher	46.8	31.6	6.0	79.9	20.6	29.6	11.7	257
<b>Condom use</b>								
Used at last sex	47.5	27.3	5.4	96.5	20.2	26.2	13.6	253
Ever used (not at last sex)	65.8	41.3	6.5	93.0	19.6	39.0	11.5	310
Never used	30.0	27.5	9.1	51.6	33.2	21.0	9.1	1,530
<b>Marital status</b>								
Never married	32.5	24.2	6.4	59.4	26.3	20.4	9.0	1,048
Ever had sex	46.9	31.0	7.2	76.6	21.2	25.4	12.0	489
Never had sex	19.9	18.2	5.7	44.3	30.7	16.0	6.4	559
Married or living together	42.3	35.1	10.1	66.4	33.4	28.3	11.2	1,006
Divorced/separated/ widowed	(44.3)	(27.2)	(11.3)	(81.4)	(20.1)	(25.3)	(6.5)	40
<b>Wealth quintile</b>								
Lowest	33.5	29.1	13.7	49.7	33.5	24.4	14.0	362
Second	39.8	33.0	11.1	59.7	38.7	26.2	11.4	360
Middle	43.9	38.6	8.1	70.9	41.1	26.4	11.8	392
Fourth	33.6	27.6	5.6	63.3	25.9	19.9	5.2	452
Highest	37.0	22.2	5.0	68.8	15.3	25.2	9.2	527
<b>Total</b>	37.4	29.5	8.3	63.2	29.6	24.3	10.0	2,093

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on fewer than 25-49 unweighted cases.

In addition to asking about attitudes, the 2003 NDHS also directly asked respondents whether or not they have ever discussed ways to prevent getting the virus that causes AIDS with their partners. Table 12.10 presents these data for women and men who are currently married or living with a partner. Nationally, 36 percent of married women and 58 percent of married men say that they have discussed prevention of AIDS with their partners. In all regions, percentages reporting AIDS prevention discussion with their partners are higher among men than among women.

Although discussion of AIDS with partners is far from universal, Nigerians are accepting of communication regarding AIDS. Nine in ten Nigerians report that discussion of AIDS in the media and other venues is acceptable (data not shown). This is true for women and men and across educational and regional characteristics. People overwhelmingly approve (over 90 percent) discussion of AIDS in the newspaper, on the radio, on television, in churches, in mosques, at home, and in schools.

Table 12.10 Discussion of HIV/AIDS with partner

Percent distribution of women and men who are currently married or living with a partner by whether they ever discussed HIV/AIDS prevention with their husband/partner, according to background characteristics, Nigeria 2003

Background characteristic	Women					Men						
	Ever discussed HIV/AIDS prevention	Never discussed HIV/AIDS prevention	Don't know/missing	Has not heard of AIDS	Total	Number of women	Ever discussed HIV/AIDS prevention	Never discussed HIV/AIDS prevention	Don't know/missing	Has not heard of AIDS	Total	Number of men
<b>Age</b>												
15-19	23.6	55.9	0.4	20.1	100.0	545	*	*	*	*	*	5
20-24	36.6	47.2	0.3	15.8	100.0	911	52.3	44.3	0.0	3.4	100.0	60
25-29	43.1	44.9	0.5	11.5	100.0	1,146	50.7	48.5	0.0	0.8	100.0	142
30-39	36.9	50.4	0.3	12.4	100.0	1,611	61.4	37.4	0.2	1.1	100.0	447
40-49	34.2	48.5	0.6	16.7	100.0	1,123	57.0	40.7	0.2	2.2	100.0	352
<b>Residence</b>												
Urban	50.2	44.9	0.8	4.1	100.0	1,633	68.1	31.6	0.2	0.0	100.0	327
Rural	30.1	50.6	0.3	19.1	100.0	3,703	52.5	45.1	0.1	2.4	100.0	679
<b>Region</b>												
North Central	38.6	43.2	0.0	18.2	100.0	754	60.2	35.2	0.0	4.6	100.0	139
North East	23.7	52.2	0.1	24.1	100.0	1,122	45.0	53.2	0.1	1.7	100.0	241
North West	26.0	59.4	0.9	13.7	100.0	1,880	52.8	46.8	0.2	0.2	100.0	305
South East	61.9	34.6	0.6	2.8	100.0	368	72.9	26.5	0.6	0.0	100.0	85
South South	51.7	39.0	0.1	9.2	100.0	664	63.2	32.5	0.0	4.2	100.0	115
South West	58.1	34.9	0.5	6.5	100.0	548	75.4	24.6	0.0	0.0	100.0	121
<b>Education</b>												
No education	21.1	56.7	0.5	21.8	100.0	2,877	41.5	55.5	0.0	3.1	100.0	284
Primary	42.4	47.1	0.6	9.9	100.0	1,175	55.3	41.9	0.2	2.5	100.0	286
Secondary	61.5	35.4	0.2	2.9	100.0	1,046	69.9	29.8	0.3	0.0	100.0	300
Higher	78.6	21.4	0.0	0.0	100.0	238	68.7	31.3	0.0	0.0	100.0	136
<b>Total</b>	<b>36.2</b>	<b>48.8</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>14.5</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>5,336</b>	<b>57.6</b>	<b>40.7</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,006</b>

Note: An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

## 12.7 HIGH-RISK SEX AND CONDOM USE

Engaging in sexual intercourse with someone other than a spouse or a partner with whom one is living is considered high-risk sexual activity in terms of transmitting an STI. If a person does have sex with a nonmarital, noncohabiting partner, the risk of contracting HIV can be reduced by using condoms. Table 12.11 shows the percentage of women and men who had sex with a partner other than with whom they are married or living, among all women and men who reported having sex at some time in the 12 months preceding the survey. Those who had engaged in sex with a nonmarital, noncohabiting partner were then asked whether they used a condom the last time they engaged in sex with such a partner.

Table 12.11 High-risk sex and condom use at last high-risk sex: women and men age 15-49

Among women and men reporting sexual activity in the past 12 months, percentage who had sex with a nonmarital, noncohabiting partner (high-risk sex) in the past 12 months, and among these women and men, percentage who say they used a condom the last time they had sex with a nonmarital, noncohabiting partner, by background characteristics, Nigeria 2003

Background characteristic	Women				Men			
	Percentage engaging in high-risk sex in the past 12 months <sup>1</sup>	Number of women sexually active in the past 12 months	Percentage who used condom at last high-risk sex <sup>2</sup>	Number of women who had high-risk sex in past 12 months	Percentage engaging in high-risk sex in the past 12 months <sup>1</sup>	Number of men sexually active in the past 12 months	Percentage who used condom at last high-risk sex <sup>2</sup>	Number of men who had high-risk sex in past 12 months
<b>Age</b>								
15-19	34.6	819	22.0	283	94.1	83	32.8	78
20-24	25.8	1,167	26.0	301	72.4	218	53.0	158
25-29	10.6	1,243	29.3	131	55.7	254	43.8	141
30-39	4.8	1,579	14.9	76	23.3	477	48.0	111
40-49	4.0	1,045	(8.3)	42	14.4	341	56.9	49
15-24	29.4	1,987	24.0	585	78.4	301	46.3	236
<b>Marital status</b>								
Never married	99.5	672	25.8	669	99.5	374	45.9	372
Married/living together	1.3	4,989	6.2	64	14.6	970	50.7	141
Divorced/separated/ widowed	52.1	193	17.5	101	(81.9)	29	(40.4)	23
<b>Residence</b>								
Urban	19.1	1,939	30.4	371	46.3	479	59.4	222
Rural	11.8	3,915	17.5	463	35.3	894	38.2	316
<b>Region</b>								
North Central	15.3	755	23.8	115	52.9	216	43.0	114
North East	4.3	1,122	5.7	48	31.3	286	35.2	90
North West	1.7	1,898	(24.3)	31	6.5	317	(29.6)	21
South East	30.3	486	21.9	147	44.5	105	75.6	47
South South	36.9	988	19.6	364	60.4	247	37.8	149
South West	21.1	605	40.9	128	58.0	201	63.0	116
<b>Education</b>								
No education	2.4	2,795	4.2	67	10.6	293	(23.0)	31
Primary	11.6	1,209	10.9	140	32.0	354	33.3	113
Secondary	34.1	1,504	25.5	513	56.6	527	48.6	299
Higher	32.9	346	39.4	114	47.5	198	66.0	94
<b>Wealth quintile</b>								
Lowest	8.0	1,151	11.9	92	33.6	247	18.7	83
Second	8.4	1,176	11.6	99	23.0	244	34.7	56
Middle	11.4	1,145	14.3	130	32.6	269	47.4	88
Fourth	19.4	1,120	24.2	218	55.4	256	48.3	142
Highest	23.4	1,262	34.0	296	47.2	357	63.6	168
Total	14.2	5,855	23.2	834	39.1	1,373	46.9	537

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases.

<sup>1</sup> Corresponds to UNAIDS Sexual Behaviour Indicator 1 "High-risk sex in the last year"

<sup>2</sup> Corresponds to UNAIDS Sexual Behaviour Indicator 2 "Condom use at last high-risk sex"

A larger proportion of men than women reported having had high-risk sex at some time in the past 12 months (39 percent of men versus 14 percent of women). Less than half of all men (47 percent) and less than one-quarter (23 percent) of women reported using a condom the last time they had sex with a nonmarital, noncohabiting partner. Fifteen percent of men who are currently married or cohabiting report having had sex with a nonmarital, noncohabiting partner in the past 12 months. The percentage of respondents who have had sex with a nonmarital, noncohabiting partner increases with increasing education for both women and men, as does the percentage who used a condom the last time they had sex with such a partner.

The prevalence of high-risk sex among sexually active young people is presented in Table 12.12, along with condom use at last high-risk sex. Overall, 29 percent of women and 78 percent of men age 15-24 engaged in high-risk sex in the 12 months preceding the survey. Among young people who had high-risk sex, approximately one-quarter of women and slightly less than half of men used a condom at last high-risk sex. The percentage of young women engaging in high-risk sex increases steadily with increasing education, as does reported use of condoms. There is an insufficient number of cases of men to allow for analysis by education.

Table 12.12 High-risk sex and condom use at last high-risk sex among young women and men by background characteristics

Among women and men age 15-24 reporting sexual activity in the past 12 months, percentage who had sexual relations with a nonmarital, noncohabiting partner (high-risk sex) in the past 12 months, and among these young women and men, percentage who say they used a condom the last time they had sex with a nonmarital, noncohabiting partner, by background characteristics, Nigeria 2003

Background characteristic	Women				Men			
	Percentage engaging in high-risk sex in the past 12 months	Number of women sexually active in the past 12 months	Percentage used condom at last high-risk sex <sup>1</sup>	Number of women 15-24 who had high-risk sex in the past 12 months	Percentage engaging in high-risk sex in the past 12 months	Number of men sexually active in the past 12 months	Percentage used condom at last high-risk sex <sup>1</sup>	Number of men 15-24 who had high-risk sex in the past 12 months
<b>Age</b>								
15-19	34.6	819	22.0	283	94.1	83	32.8	78
20-24	25.8	1,167	26.0	301	72.4	218	53.0	158
<b>Marital status</b>								
Never married	99.7	533	25.3	532	99.2	232	46.5	231
Ever married	3.7	1,454	(11.4)	53	7.4	68	*	5
<b>Residence</b>								
Urban	40.7	588	33.5	239	85.9	115	61.7	99
Rural	24.7	1,399	17.4	345	73.7	186	35.2	137
<b>Region</b>								
North Central	35.1	252	20.5	88	91.7	59	41.0	54
North East	8.1	389	(5.8)	31	(70.9)	46	(25.6)	32
North West	2.0	674	*	13	(19.5)	49	*	9
South East	70.0	153	24.6	107	(98.8)	22	(71.6)	22
South South	70.6	364	19.3	257	94.5	70	39.3	66
South West	56.7	154	47.6	88	93.7	55	66.3	52
<b>Education</b>								
No education	3.4	874	*	30	(16.4)	24	*	4
Primary	25.4	353	11.9	90	59.4	62	(28.5)	37
Secondary	59.8	687	25.1	411	89.8	192	45.8	173
Higher	75.4	73	44.1	55	*	23	*	22
<b>Wealth quintile</b>								
Lowest	16.9	384	14.0	65	64.9	68	(22.8)	44
Second	20.4	376	12.6	77	68.7	46	(29.2)	32
Middle	21.8	439	12.6	96	60.3	45	(47.9)	27
Fourth	36.1	422	24.0	152	93.9	69	47.5	65
Highest	53.3	366	37.5	195	93.7	72	67.7	68
Total	29.4	1,987	24.0	585	78.4	301	46.3	236

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

<sup>1</sup> Corresponds to UNAIDS Young People's Sexual Behaviour Indicator 5 "Young people using a condom at last high-risk sex"

Substantial regional variation exists among young women who are sexually active. Most young women in the South East and the South South (seven in ten) who are sexually active have sex with non-cohabiting partners. Only 19 to 25 percent of these women used a condom the last time they had sex. Women in the North East and the North West who have been sexually active with a noncohabiting partner are in a small minority. Figure 12.1 shows the distribution of young people age 15-24 with regard to sexual activity with cohabiting and noncohabiting partners. Nationally, most young women who are sexually active have a partner with whom they are living, while most young men who are sexually active are not living with their partners. On the other hand, young men who are sexually active are a smaller population than young women who are sexually active.

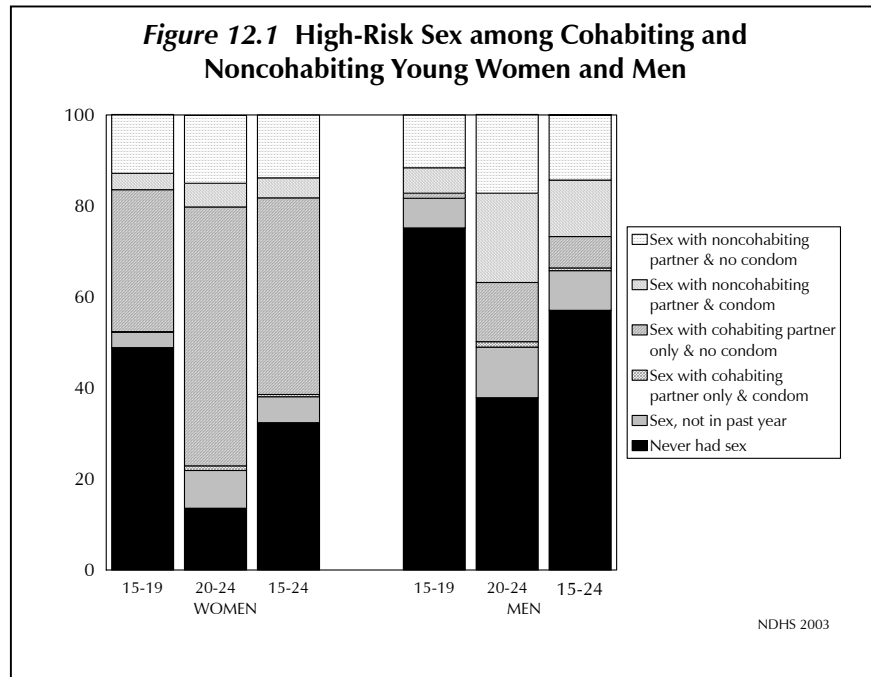


Table 12.13 shows that 3 percent of men report having had sex with a prostitute in the 12 months preceding the survey. Approximately half (48 percent) of the men who had sex with a prostitute used a condom (data not shown).

**Table 12.13 Paid sex in past year**  
Percentage of men reporting sex with a prostitute in the past 12 months, by background characteristics, Nigeria 2003

Background characteristic	Percentage reporting sex with prostitute in past 12 months <sup>1</sup>	Number of men
<b>Age</b>		
15-19	1.8	453
20-24	3.9	426
25-29	3.3	328
30-39	3.0	519
40-49	2.5	367
15-24	2.8	880
<b>Marital status</b>		
Never married	2.7	1,048
Married/living together	2.4	1,006
Divorced/separated/ widowed	(17.9)	40
<b>Residence</b>		
Urban	1.8	792
Rural	3.5	1,301
<b>Region</b>		
North Central	0.7	313
North East	6.3	377
North West	1.8	529
South East	2.5	192
South South	3.8	385
South West	1.7	296
<b>Education</b>		
No education	2.9	385
Primary	3.2	519
Secondary	3.0	932
Higher	1.6	257
<b>Wealth quintile</b>		
Lowest	6.5	362
Second	2.5	360
Middle	1.9	392
Fourth	2.2	452
Highest	2.0	527
Total	2.9	2,093

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 un-weighted cases.  
<sup>1</sup> Corresponds to UNAIDS Sexual Behaviour Indicator 3 "Commercial sex in the last year"

## 12.8 SEXUAL BEHAVIOUR AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE

Promoting change in sexual behaviour is a key feature of many HIV/AIDS prevention programmes. Those who are not yet sexually active or those who have recently made their sexual debut are thought to be accepting of programmes focusing on behaviour change. Thus, the next several tables focus on young women and men age 15-24 and the sexual behaviours that affect their risk of exposure to HIV.

One of the strategies for reducing the risk of contracting an STI is for young persons to delay the age at which they become sexually active. Table 12.14 shows the percentage of young people who have had sex by exact ages 15 and 18, by background characteristics. One-fifth of women age 15-19 had sex before the age of 15, and half of women age 20-24 had sex by the time they were age 18. Proportions of

**Table 12.14 Age at first sex among young women and men**

Percentage of women and men age 15-24 who have had sex by exact age 15 and 18, by background characteristics, Nigeria 2003

Background characteristic	Women			Men		
	Percent who had sex by exact age		Number of women age 15-24	Percent who had sex by exact age		Number of men age 15-24
	15	18		15	18	
<b>Age</b>						
15-17	21.5	na	988	5.3	na	237
18-19	18.6	52.2	728	10.8	28.8	216
15-19	20.3	na	1,716	7.9	na	453
20-22	20.3	53.5	1,061	5.9	23.8	298
23-24	23.3	55.6	433	3.0	18.8	128
20-24	21.2	54.1	1,494	5.1	22.3	426
<b>Marital status</b>						
Never married	6.4	na	1,685	6.4	na	809
Ever married	36.5	na	1,525	8.3	na	70
<b>Residence</b>						
Urban	10.7	na	1,093	5.3	na	351
Rural	25.8	na	2,117	7.3	na	529
<b>Region</b>						
North Central	16.8	na	486	12.2	na	143
North East	31.0	na	543	3.6	na	118
North West	36.1	na	815	3.1	na	224
South East	4.3	na	332	7.5	na	82
South South	14.0	na	630	9.2	na	186
South West	4.3	na	405	4.1	na	127
<b>Education</b>						
No education	41.5	na	1,008	4.0	na	100
Primary	21.3	na	626	5.4	na	198
Secondary	7.7	na	1,442	7.8	na	536
Higher	0.3	na	134	1.6	na	46
<b>Wealth quintile</b>						
Lowest	35.2	na	537	9.4	na	166
Second	29.3	na	542	2.8	na	148
Middle	21.9	na	695	6.9	na	150
Fourth	17.1	na	707	7.8	na	224
Highest	6.0	na	729	5.1	na	192
Total	20.7	na	3,210	6.5	na	880

Note: Percentage who had sex by exact age 18 are not analyzed by background characteristics because respondents age 15-17 have not yet lived to age 18 and thus cannot contribute to the denominator.  
na = Not applicable

men who initiated sexual activity by these ages are significantly lower. Over one-third (37 percent) of ever-married women age 15-24 first had sex before the age of 15. Initiation into sex at such young ages is not nearly as common among the never-married. Among the never-married, just 6 percent of both men and women had sex by age 15. The percentage of women who had sex before age 15 declines with increasing education, from 42 percent among women with no education, to less than 1 percent among women with higher education.

The 2003 NDHS asked respondents whether or not they know of a place to obtain condoms. Table 12.15 presents statistics on whether or not young women and men age 15-24 know of at least one source, other than their family or friends. Overall, young women are less than half as likely as young men to know of a source for condoms, although there is a great deal of variation by background characteristics.

Table 12.15 Knowledge of a source for condoms among young women and men

Percentage of women and men age 15-24 who know at least one source for male condoms, Nigeria 2003

Background characteristic	Women		Men	
	Know a source for male condoms	Number of women age 15-24	Know a source for male condoms	Number of men age 15-24
<b>Age</b>				
15-19	19.0	1,716	49.9	453
20-24	29.8	1,494	66.9	426
15-24	24.0	3,210	58.1	880
<b>Marital status</b>				
Never married	33.4	1,685	59.6	809
Ever had sex	52.8	646	80.0	307
Never had sex	21.3	1,039	47.1	502
Ever married	13.7	1,525	41.6	70
<b>Residence</b>				
Urban	35.2	1,093	67.0	351
Rural	18.3	2,117	52.2	529
<b>Region</b>				
North Central	21.2	486	56.2	143
North East	10.5	543	52.9	118
North West	6.2	815	42.0	224
South East	33.9	332	77.9	82
South South	38.1	630	55.7	186
South West	51.3	405	84.4	127
<b>Education</b>				
No education	3.5	1,008	17.5	100
Primary	14.8	626	37.9	198
Secondary	38.7	1,442	71.1	536
Higher	64.0	134	81.7	46
<b>Wealth quintile</b>				
Lowest	6.7	537	35.1	166
Second	11.8	542	45.5	148
Middle	16.1	695	59.6	150
Fourth	30.0	707	61.8	224
Highest	47.5	729	82.5	192
Total	24.0	3,210	58.1	880

Knowledge of a source for condoms increases greatly with increasing education among both women and men. Very few young women with no education report knowing a source (4 percent), but this figure climbs to nearly two-thirds of young women with higher education knowing of a source (64 percent). Regional variation is also significant. Twice as many young men in the South West as in the North West know of a source (84 and 42 percent, respectively). Regional variation is even more dramatic among young women, ranging from 6 percent in the North West to 51 percent in the South West.

The percentage of young people who used a condom the first time they had sex is presented in Table 12.16, among those who have ever had sexual intercourse. Only 6 percent of women and 17 percent of men age 15-24 reported using a condom the first time they had sex. Among young, never-married men, one-fifth reported using a condom the first time they had sex, even though almost half reported doing so the last time they had sex (see Table 12.17). Young women and men with higher education are the most likely to have used a condom the first time they had sex, as are women and men in the South West.

Table 12.16 Condom use at first sex among young women and men

Among women and men age 15-24 who have ever had sex, percentage who used a condom the first time they ever had sex, by background characteristics Nigeria 2003

Background characteristic	Women		Men	
	Used a condom at first sex <sup>1</sup>	Number of women age 15-24 who have ever had sex	Used a condom at first sex <sup>1</sup>	Number of men age 15-24 who have ever had sex
<b>Age</b>				
15-19	6.5	877	10.6	112
20-24	6.4	1,291	19.6	265
<b>Marital status</b>				
Never married	17.6	646	20.2	307
Ever married	1.7	1,523	2.8	70
<b>Residence</b>				
Urban	12.1	654	27.3	139
Rural	4.0	1,514	10.9	239
<b>Region</b>				
North Central	7.1	301	12.4	74
North East	0.5	411	8.2	56
North West	0.6	690	6.4	56
South East	16.9	169	27.5	36
South South	8.0	407	11.5	89
South West	26.5	191	39.9	66
<b>Education</b>				
No education	0.3	909	(0.0)	32
Primary	3.0	400	8.7	78
Secondary	11.8	775	17.0	242
Higher	39.3	85	(62.1)	26
<b>Wealth quintile</b>				
Lowest	2.0	417	7.7	84
Second	1.5	405	8.3	52
Middle	2.4	474	10.5	61
Fourth	6.8	451	18.3	87
Highest	19.8	421	33.0	94
Total	6.4	2,169	16.9	378

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases.  
<sup>1</sup> Corresponds to UNAIDS Young People's Sexual Behaviour Indicator 6 "Condom use at first sex"

Table 12.17 presents the percentage of never-married young women and men who had sex in the 12 months preceding the survey, as well as the percentage who used a condom the last time they had sex. Three out of ten never-married respondents age 15-24 had sex in the past 12 months (32 percent of women and 29 percent of men). About half of the men reported using a condom during last sexual intercourse, and one-quarter of the women reported doing so. There are no urban-rural differences among young persons as to whether or not they have had premarital sex, but urban women and men are about twice as likely to have used a condom the last time they had sex.

Table 12.17 Prevalence of premarital sex in the past year and use of a condom during premarital sex among young women and men

Among never-married women and men age 15-24, percentage who had sex in the past 12 months, and, among those who had premarital sex in the past 12 months, percentage who used a condom at last sex, by background characteristics, Nigeria 2003

Background characteristic	Never-married women				Never-married men			
	Had sex in past 12 months <sup>1</sup>	Number of never-married women 15-24	Used condom at last sex <sup>2</sup>	Number of women 15-24 sexually active in the past 12 months	Had sex in past 12 months <sup>1</sup>	Number of never-married men 15-24	Used condom at last sex <sup>2</sup>	Number of men 15-24 sexually active in the past 12 months
<b>Age</b>								
15-19	23.3	1,145	23.0	267	17.4	448	32.8	78
20-24	49.4	540	27.0	267	42.8	361	53.7	154
<b>Residence</b>								
Urban	31.1	708	35.9	220	29.4	332	63.6	98
Rural	32.0	977	17.4	313	28.2	477	34.3	135
<b>Region</b>								
North Central	29.0	282	21.2	82	38.7	138	41.5	53
North East	15.0	162	(6.6)	24	29.6	103	(27.2)	30
North West	5.4	136	*	7	4.9	184	*	9
South East	37.1	282	24.1	104	26.8	82	(71.6)	22
South South	46.8	497	19.2	233	36.6	182	39.0	67
South West	25.3	326	50.5	83	42.3	121	65.8	51
<b>Education</b>								
No education	16.9	119	*	20	2.9	78	*	2
Primary	24.3	329	11.1	80	20.8	171	(24.2)	35
Secondary	33.9	1,124	25.7	381	33.5	515	46.6	172
Higher	46.0	113	46.4	52	48.9	46	*	22
<b>Wealth quintile</b>								
Lowest	28.9	188	14.1	54	30.6	142	(23.0)	43
Second	31.7	221	13.8	70	23.9	134	(29.2)	32
Middle	26.5	325	10.8	86	20.1	132	(46.5)	26
Fourth	33.8	405	24.5	137	28.8	217	47.4	62
Highest	34.1	545	39.4	186	36.8	186	69.2	68
Total	31.6	1,685	25.0	533	28.7	809	46.7	232

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

<sup>1</sup> Corresponds to UNAIDS Young People's Sexual Behaviour Indicator 2 "Young people having premarital sex"

<sup>2</sup> Corresponds to UNAIDS Young People's Sexual Behaviour Indicator 3 "Young people using a condom during premarital sex"

Age-mixing in sexual relationships is a major factor in the spread of HIV/AIDS. If a younger, uninfected partner has sex with an older, infected partner, this can introduce the virus into a younger, uninfected cohort. Table 12.18 shows the percentage of teenage women who had a partner ten or more years their senior. One in five women age 15-17 who have had high-risk sexual intercourse did so with someone ten or more years their senior.

**Table 12.18 Age mixing in sexual relationships**

Among women age 15-19 who had nonmarital sex in the past 12 months, percentage who had nonmarital sex with a man 10 or more years older than themselves, by background characteristics, Nigeria 2003

Background characteristic	Percentage who had nonmarital sex with a man 10+ years older <sup>1</sup>	Number of women age 15-19 who had nonmarital sex in the past 12 months
<b>Age</b>		
15-17	21.3	122
18-19	4.2	161
<b>Marital status</b>		
Never married	10.3	265
Ever married	*	18
<b>Residence</b>		
Urban	14.7	110
Rural	9.6	173
<b>Region</b>		
North Central	(25.5)	45
North East	*	13
North West	*	5
South East	12.8	55
South South	8.7	133
South West	(4.2)	33
<b>Education</b>		
No education	*	14
Primary	(12.2)	48
Secondary	12.2	211
Higher	*	11
<b>Wealth quintile</b>		
Lowest	(10.1)	29
Second	(3.3)	42
Middle	(10.8)	46
Fourth	19.0	79
Highest	9.8	86
Total	11.6	283

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

<sup>1</sup> Corresponds to UNAIDS Young People's Sexual Behaviour Indicator 7 "Age-mixing in sexual relationships" (among the last three partners in the past 12 months)

Those who are sexually active can reduce their risk of exposure to HIV by limiting the number of partners with whom they engage in sexual contact. Table 12.19 shows the percentage of women and men age 15-24 who have had sex with more than one partner in the past 12 months. The percentage of young people with multiple partners is fairly low. Overall, 2 percent of women and 8 percent of men age 15-24 have had sex with more than one person in the past 12 months. Differentials by region are more marked: 7 percent of women in the South South and 16 percent of men in the North East have had more than one partner.

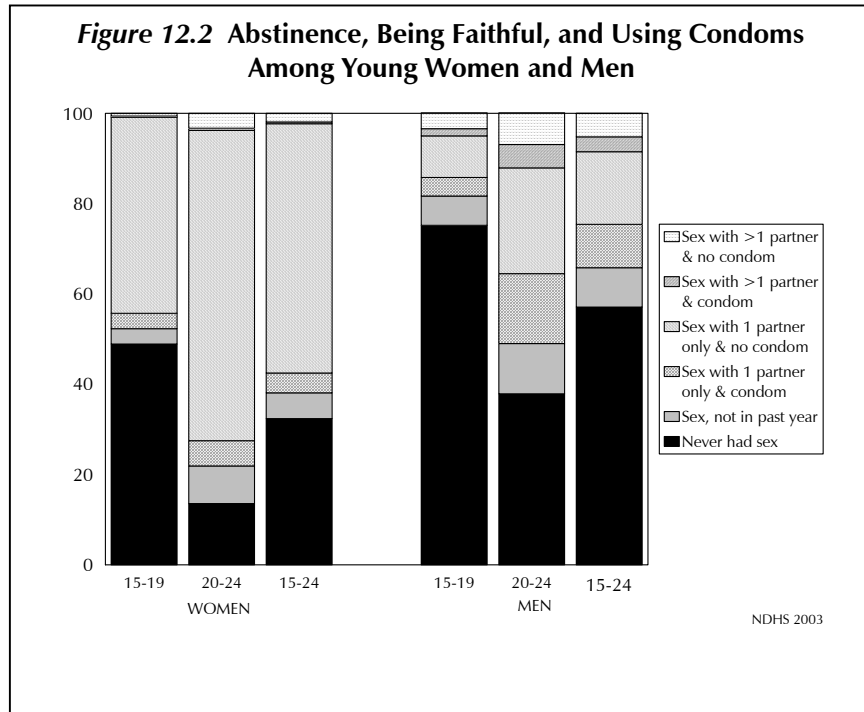
Table 12.19 Multiple sex partnerships among young women and men

Among women and men age 15-24, percentage who have had sex with more than one partner in the past 12 months, by background characteristics, Nigeria 2003

Background characteristic	Women		Men	
	Percentage who had 2+ partners in the past 12 months <sup>1</sup>	Number of women age 15-24	Percentage who had 2+ partners in the past 12 months <sup>1</sup>	Number of men age 15-24
<b>Age</b>				
15-19	0.9	1,716	4.9	453
20-24	3.8	1,494	12.2	426
<b>Marital status</b>				
Never married	2.9	1,685	8.8	809
Ever married	1.5	1,525	4.4	70
<b>Residence</b>				
Urban	2.5	1,093	7.2	351
Rural	2.1	2,117	9.3	529
<b>Region</b>				
North Central	1.1	486	9.0	143
North East	1.2	543	15.8	118
North West	0.6	815	1.8	224
South East	1.5	332	6.7	82
South South	7.2	630	9.9	186
South West	1.1	405	11.6	127
<b>Education</b>				
No education	0.9	1,008	1.3	100
Primary	1.7	626	5.3	198
Secondary	3.0	1,442	10.7	536
Higher	6.7	134	11.1	46
<b>Wealth quintile</b>				
Lowest	1.9	537	9.5	166
Second	1.5	542	10.3	148
Middle	2.0	695	6.4	150
Fourth	2.9	707	6.5	224
Highest	2.6	729	9.8	192
Total	2.2	3,210	8.4	880

<sup>1</sup> Corresponds to UNAIDS Young People's Sexual Behaviour Indicator 4 "Young people having multiple partners in last year"

Figure 12.2 shows the distribution of young people age 15-24 by the number of partners they had in the past 12 months and by whether or not they used a condom. Seven percent of men age 20-24 had sex with more than one partner and did not use a condom the last time they had sex; this is true for only 3 percent of women age 20-24. Two-thirds of women age 20-24 did not use a condom the last time they had sex, but they had sex with only one partner in the past 12 months. Nearly 40 percent of men age 20-24 reported that they had never had sex, and an additional 11 percent had had sex, but not in the past 12 months.



## 12.9 SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTIONS

It is important for people experiencing symptoms of STIs to be able to recognize them and seek appropriate treatment. People who do not know the symptoms may fail to recognize that they need treatment and, consequently, may not seek help. All 2003 NDHS respondents were asked whether they had ever heard about infections other than HIV that can be transmitted through sexual contact. Those who had heard of an STI were then asked to state what symptoms a man or a woman with an STI (other than HIV) might have.

Table 12.20.1 shows that 55 percent of women have never heard of STIs. One-fifth of all women could identify a symptom a man might have, and one-fifth could identify a symptom a woman might have. Knowledge of STIs among men is higher. Most men have heard of an STI (71 percent), although not all who have heard of STIs could identify a symptom a man or woman with an STI might experience. Thirty-five percent of all men could identify a symptom a man might experience, and 18 percent could identify a symptom a woman might experience (Table 12.20.2). Knowledge of symptoms rises with increasing education and increasing household economic status (higher wealth quintiles) among both women and men.

All 2003 NDHS respondents who had ever had sex were asked whether they had an STI in the past 12 months. They were also asked whether they had experienced any abnormal genital discharge or a genital sore or ulcer in the past 12 months. These data are likely to underestimate the true prevalence of STIs for a number of reasons. For example, if symptoms are not obvious or prolonged, they may not be recognized as an STI. Furthermore, even if a respondent knows that she or he has an STI, the respondent may be reluctant to report it, because of embarrassment or presumed stigma associated with such infections.

Table 12.20.1 Knowledge of symptoms of STIs: women

Percentage of women with knowledge of symptoms associated with sexually transmitted infections (STIs) in a man and in a woman, by background characteristics, Nigeria 2003

Background characteristic	Knowledge of symptoms of STIs in a man					Knowledge of symptoms of STIs in a woman				Number of women
	No knowledge of STIs	No symptoms mentioned	One symptom mentioned	Two or more symptoms mentioned	Missing	No symptoms mentioned	One symptom mentioned	Two or more symptoms mentioned	Missing	
<b>Age</b>										
15-19	70.8	13.1	7.3	8.7	0.0	14.9	5.8	8.5	0.0	1,716
20-24	53.4	18.0	11.1	17.5	0.1	19.6	8.9	18.1	0.1	1,494
25-29	46.1	16.3	12.4	25.1	0.1	15.9	11.7	26.2	0.1	1,382
30-39	51.6	14.0	12.5	21.9	0.0	13.8	12.0	22.6	0.0	1,757
40-49	51.5	13.0	11.6	23.9	0.0	14.4	9.0	25.2	0.0	1,271
<b>Marital status</b>										
Never married	52.1	19.5	12.5	15.9	0.0	22.2	9.5	16.1	0.0	1,926
Ever had sex	32.2	27.9	17.3	22.6	0.0	31.5	12.5	23.7	0.0	838
Never had sex	67.4	13.0	8.8	10.8	0.0	15.0	7.3	10.3	0.0	1,087
Married or living together	57.2	13.1	10.1	19.7	0.0	13.3	9.2	20.3	0.0	5,336
Divorced/separated/widowed	44.1	16.3	14.6	25.0	0.0	14.9	12.2	28.8	0.0	358
<b>Residence</b>										
Urban	45.8	17.4	13.6	23.1	0.0	18.8	12.1	23.3	0.0	2,629
Rural	60.3	13.5	9.5	16.8	0.0	14.0	8.0	17.7	0.0	4,991
<b>Region</b>										
North Central	55.4	16.6	9.3	18.6	0.0	17.8	8.3	18.4	0.0	1,121
North East	71.1	6.9	3.9	18.1	0.0	5.9	3.7	19.2	0.0	1,368
North West	71.4	6.5	6.6	15.4	0.1	6.1	5.7	16.8	0.1	2,095
South East	38.0	28.7	13.4	19.8	0.0	25.8	12.0	24.2	0.0	737
South South	35.0	22.8	19.2	23.0	0.0	27.7	12.9	24.5	0.0	1,342
South West	39.0	20.5	18.5	22.1	0.0	23.4	20.1	17.5	0.0	958
<b>Education</b>										
No education	74.3	7.1	5.5	13.0	0.1	6.7	5.1	13.8	0.1	3,171
Primary	53.4	16.6	11.1	18.9	0.0	16.6	10.3	19.7	0.0	1,628
Secondary	39.9	22.2	16.1	21.8	0.0	25.2	13.0	21.9	0.0	2,370
Higher	8.4	23.7	21.2	46.7	0.0	25.1	18.0	48.4	0.0	451
<b>Wealth quintile</b>										
Lowest	69.4	9.7	8.2	12.7	0.0	8.9	7.6	14.1	0.0	1,414
Second	66.2	12.1	6.3	15.3	0.1	12.2	6.1	15.4	0.1	1,439
Middle	62.6	12.4	8.5	16.4	0.0	13.8	6.9	16.7	0.0	1,513
Fourth	51.6	14.7	12.7	21.1	0.0	15.3	11.0	22.1	0.0	1,526
Highest	31.5	23.6	17.3	27.6	0.0	26.0	14.4	28.1	0.0	1,728
Total	55.3	14.8	10.9	19.0	0.0	15.7	9.4	19.6	0.0	7,620

Table 12.20.2 Knowledge of symptoms of STIs: men

Percentage of men with knowledge of symptoms associated with sexually transmitted infections (STIs) in a man and in a woman, by background characteristics, Nigeria 2003

Background characteristic	Knowledge of symptoms of STIs in a man				Knowledge of symptoms of STIs in a woman			Number of men
	No knowledge of STIs	No symptoms mentioned	One symptom mentioned	Two or more symptoms mentioned	No symptoms mentioned	One symptom mentioned	Two or more symptoms mentioned	
<b>Age</b>								
15-19	54.2	16.2	16.4	13.2	29.8	9.2	6.8	453
20-24	32.5	19.5	17.2	30.8	42.9	7.5	17.1	426
25-29	19.4	17.9	23.7	39.0	52.5	10.5	17.6	328
30-39	17.1	14.3	18.9	49.6	43.3	13.9	25.8	519
40-49	17.9	18.2	18.9	44.9	47.2	11.3	23.5	367
<b>Marital status</b>								
Never married	35.8	18.0	17.9	28.2	41.0	9.1	14.1	1,048
Ever had sex	15.8	18.9	22.1	43.3	51.3	12.5	20.4	489
Never had sex	53.3	17.3	14.3	15.0	31.9	6.1	8.6	559
Married or living together	22.2	16.3	19.6	42.0	43.6	11.9	22.4	1,006
Divorced/separated/widowed	(10.0)	(10.0)	(20.7)	(59.4)	(50.9)	(17.0)	(22.1)	40
<b>Residence</b>								
Urban	26.5	18.0	21.0	34.4	46.7	11.1	15.6	792
Rural	30.1	16.4	17.4	36.0	39.8	10.3	19.8	1,301
<b>Region</b>								
North Central	21.9	12.3	20.0	45.7	41.5	12.1	24.5	313
North East	41.6	6.2	16.1	36.0	24.9	10.3	23.2	377
North West	38.2	16.9	19.1	25.8	37.7	9.3	14.8	529
South East	14.2	21.5	17.2	47.1	45.7	3.9	36.2	192
South South	24.0	25.6	13.7	36.7	56.2	9.9	9.9	385
South West	18.3	21.9	28.0	31.8	54.1	17.0	10.5	296
<b>Education</b>								
No education	45.6	15.0	15.5	23.9	34.4	8.9	11.0	385
Primary	32.9	14.7	18.7	33.7	37.4	11.6	18.1	519
Secondary	24.8	18.2	19.9	37.1	45.9	9.8	19.4	932
Higher	9.4	20.6	19.9	50.2	51.7	13.9	25.0	257
<b>Wealth quintile</b>								
Lowest	40.3	16.5	16.8	26.3	38.0	9.3	12.4	362
Second	37.5	14.6	16.8	31.1	33.7	13.4	15.3	360
Middle	30.6	13.2	22.1	34.1	41.8	9.2	18.4	392
Fourth	27.5	15.1	16.3	41.1	40.9	9.5	22.1	452
Highest	14.6	23.6	21.1	40.8	53.2	11.5	20.8	527
Total	28.8	17.0	18.8	35.4	42.4	10.6	18.2	2,093

Note: Figures in parentheses based on 25-49 unweighted cases.

Overall, 1 percent of women and 3 percent of men reported having had an STI in the 12 months preceding the survey (Table 12.21). The percentage who reported having either an STI or one of the two STI symptoms is slightly higher: 5 percent of both women and men. Never-married women and men reported higher levels than the national average. Eight percent of never-married women and 7 percent of never-married men report having had an STI or symptom.

Table 12.21 Self-reporting of sexually transmitted infection (STI) and STI symptoms

Among women and men who ever had sex, percentage self-reporting an STI and/or symptoms of an STI in the past 12 months, by background characteristics, Nigeria 2003

Background characteristic	Women					Men				
	Percentage with an STI	Percentage with abnormal genital discharge	Percentage with genital sore/ulcer	Percentage with STI/discharge/genital sore/ulcer	Number of women who ever had sex	Percentage with an STI	Percentage with abnormal genital discharge	Percentage with genital sore/ulcer	Percentage with STI/discharge/genital sore/ulcer	Number of men who ever had sex
<b>Age</b>										
15-19	0.1	2.4	2.1	3.9	877	4.8	5.1	0.0	5.6	112
20-24	1.5	4.3	4.2	7.0	1,291	2.8	3.2	1.1	3.5	265
25-29	1.7	3.1	3.3	5.5	1,344	6.6	7.4	3.9	9.5	281
30-39	0.9	2.2	2.6	3.6	1,748	3.0	2.2	0.6	4.2	510
40-49	0.8	1.4	1.9	2.7	1,269	0.8	0.9	0.0	1.5	366
<b>Marital status</b>										
Never married	2.8	4.6	4.0	8.3	838	5.8	5.8	2.4	7.1	489
Married/living together	0.8	2.3	2.7	4.0	5,335	2.0	1.9	0.5	3.2	1,006
Divorced/separated/widowed	1.0	3.1	3.1	4.5	357	(3.4)	(4.7)	(1.3)	(4.7)	40
<b>Residence</b>										
Urban	0.6	2.1	1.9	3.5	2,172	4.2	2.5	0.7	5.0	548
Rural	1.3	2.9	3.3	5.1	4,358	2.7	3.6	1.4	4.2	987
<b>Region</b>										
North Central	1.3	4.8	4.5	6.5	921	2.2	1.8	1.0	3.8	241
North East	0.2	1.9	1.9	2.8	1,234	4.7	4.5	1.0	4.8	306
North West	0.3	1.6	2.5	3.5	1,969	1.3	4.7	0.7	4.9	334
South East	4.3	2.4	3.8	6.7	562	7.7	1.2	1.3	8.5	145
South South	1.9	4.0	3.7	6.7	1,111	4.3	4.5	2.4	4.9	278
South West	0.4	2.1	1.6	3.0	733	0.9	0.4	0.3	1.2	230
<b>Education</b>										
No education	0.5	2.1	2.4	3.4	3,070	2.6	4.1	1.3	4.3	310
Primary	0.8	1.9	3.4	4.2	1,390	2.4	3.3	2.1	4.4	392
Secondary	2.1	4.1	3.6	6.8	1,682	4.4	3.4	0.8	5.5	614
Higher	1.8	3.8	2.0	4.9	388	2.2	1.1	0.0	2.2	219
<b>Wealth quintile</b>										
Lowest	0.4	2.5	3.0	4.1	1,292	3.7	4.6	1.7	4.8	279
Second	0.7	2.4	2.8	4.0	1,297	1.9	3.4	0.8	3.7	257
Middle	0.8	3.0	3.1	4.5	1,278	2.5	4.2	1.4	4.6	291
Fourth	1.3	1.7	2.3	4.2	1,259	3.8	2.7	1.7	5.0	293
Highest	2.0	3.5	3.1	5.9	1,404	3.8	1.8	0.3	4.4	415
Total	1.0	2.7	2.9	4.5	6,530	3.2	3.2	1.1	4.5	1,535

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases.

Treatment and prevention behaviours of those who have experienced STIs are important factors in controlling the spread of STIs. Respondents who reported having an STI or abnormal genital discharge, genital sores, or ulcers in the past 12 months were asked whether they sought treatment. The results are presented in Table 12.22. Two out of three women did seek treatment, as did four out of five men; however, not everyone approached a health professional. Only 40 percent of women and 30 percent of men with an STI or symptom sought assistance from a clinic, hospital, or health professional.

**Table 12.22 Women and men seeking treatment for STIs**

Percentage of women and men reporting an STI or symptoms of an STI in the past 12 months who sought care, by source of advice or treatment, Nigeria 2003

Source of advice or treatment	Women	Men
Clinic/hospital/health professional <sup>1</sup>	40.4	30.6
Traditional healer	15.3	43.2
Advice or medicine from shop/pharmacy	31.3	54.7
Advice from friends/relatives	22.3	42.0
Advice or treatment from any source	67.6	82.7
No advice or treatment	32.4	17.3
Number with STI and/or symptoms of STI	297	69

Note: Symptoms of an STI are an abnormal genital discharge, a genital sore, or a genital ulcer.

<sup>1</sup> Corresponds to UNAIDS STI Service Indicator 4 "Men and women seeking treatment for STIs"

## 12.10 ORPHANHOOD

Repercussions of HIV infection are not limited to the persons directly infected with the virus. Children of infected parents will eventually become orphans in need of new caretakers. When a household takes in a child who has been orphaned, there are more people over whom the resources of the household have to be spread. Table 12.23 presents data on the prevalence of orphanhood in Nigeria. Overall, fewer than 1 percent of children have lost both parents; however, 6 percent of children under age 15 have lost at least one parent. Eleven percent of children in the South East have lost one or both parents—the highest prevalence in the country. Nationwide, 11 percent of children under age 15 are living with neither their mother nor their father; prevalence climbs to 18 percent among children age 10-14.

Table 12.23 Orphanhood and children's living arrangements

Percent distribution of de jure children under age 15 by survival status of parents and children's living arrangements, according to background characteristics, Nigeria 2003

Background characteristic	Both parents dead	Mother dead	Father dead	Both parents alive	Missing information on father/mother	Total	Mother, father or both dead <sup>1</sup>	Not living with either parent	Living with mother	Living with father	Living with both parents	Total	Number of children
<b>Age</b>													
0-1	0.0	0.1	0.5	99.1	0.4	100.0	0.6	1.1	12.2	1.0	85.6	100.0	2,479
2-4	0.2	0.7	1.5	96.9	0.7	100.0	2.5	6.8	10.5	3.0	79.7	100.0	3,421
5-9	0.6	2.3	3.7	92.5	1.0	100.0	6.6	12.0	9.0	6.8	72.2	100.0	5,262
10-14	1.2	3.9	6.7	85.8	2.4	100.0	11.8	18.3	11.2	9.7	60.8	100.0	4,415
0-14	0.6	2.0	3.6	92.6	1.2	100.0	6.2	10.9	10.5	5.9	72.7	100.0	15,577
<b>Sex</b>													
Male	0.7	2.3	3.6	92.3	1.2	100.0	6.6	10.4	10.4	6.8	72.4	100.0	7,928
Female	0.5	1.8	3.6	92.9	1.2	100.0	5.8	11.4	10.5	4.9	73.1	100.0	7,649
<b>Residence</b>													
Urban	0.6	2.2	4.3	92.3	0.7	100.0	7.1	13.3	12.5	6.0	68.2	100.0	4,981
Rural	0.6	2.0	3.3	92.7	1.5	100.0	5.8	9.8	9.5	5.8	74.9	100.0	10,596
<b>Region</b>													
North Central	0.5	1.8	4.8	91.9	1.1	100.0	7.1	11.1	12.8	5.6	70.4	100.0	2,432
North East	0.6	1.7	2.5	94.4	0.7	100.0	4.8	9.8	5.9	7.4	77.0	100.0	3,330
North West	0.6	1.5	2.1	94.7	1.1	100.0	4.2	7.5	5.8	4.7	82.0	100.0	4,803
South East	1.2	2.4	7.1	88.2	1.1	100.0	10.7	15.0	14.5	2.6	67.9	100.0	1,100
South South	0.7	3.8	5.1	88.1	2.3	100.0	9.6	16.1	18.1	7.9	57.9	100.0	2,375
South West	0.3	1.5	3.9	93.3	1.0	100.0	5.7	12.8	16.4	5.9	64.9	100.0	1,537
<b>Wealth quintile</b>													
Lowest	0.6	2.1	2.8	93.1	1.4	100.0	5.5	8.8	8.0	4.8	78.4	100.0	3,338
Second	0.7	1.6	2.6	93.9	1.2	100.0	5.0	11.5	8.6	5.7	74.2	100.0	3,301
Middle	0.5	2.0	5.2	91.0	1.3	100.0	7.7	10.7	13.1	6.9	69.4	100.0	3,146
Fourth	0.8	1.6	4.7	91.8	1.1	100.0	7.1	11.8	13.1	5.4	69.7	100.0	3,066
Highest	0.3	2.9	2.6	93.2	1.0	100.0	5.8	12.3	9.8	6.7	71.3	100.0	2,727
Total	0.6	2.0	3.6	92.6	1.2	100.0	6.2	10.9	10.5	5.9	72.7	100.0	15,577

<sup>1</sup> Corresponds to UNAIDS Indicator 14.4 "Prevalence of orphanhood—mother, father, or both dead"

Table 12.24 presents data on school attendance among children age 10-14. Nearly three-quarters of children age 10-14 whose parents are both alive and who are living with at least one of their parents are currently attending school (73 percent). This varies regionally, from just over half of the children in the North East and North West attending school, to over 90 percent in the three south regions. Children with one parent who has died, be it a mother or father, are no worse off with regard to school attendance. There are too few children who have lost both parents to provide a reliable estimate of children age 10-14 attending school. The estimate presented in the table is based on very few cases and should be used with caution.

Table 12.24 Schooling of children 10-14 by orphanhood and living arrangements

Percentage of de jure children age 10-14 who are currently attending school, by orphanhood, living arrangements, and background characteristics, Nigeria 2003

Background characteristic	Both parents alive											
	Living with at least one parent		Not living with either parent		Mother dead		Father dead		Both parents dead		Mother, father, or both dead	
	Percent attending school	Number	Percent attending school	Number	Percent attending school	Number	Percent attending school	Number	Percent attending school	Number	Percent attending school	Number
<b>Age</b>												
Male	78.6	1,647	80.9	254	80.3	98	81.1	135	(52.8)	31	76.5	265
Female	68.0	1,584	74.3	305	80.8	72	81.9	162	*	23	76.9	257
<b>Residence</b>												
Urban	84.1	1,096	80.4	236	88.6	66	88.5	109	*	15	85.1	190
Rural	67.9	2,135	75.0	322	75.4	104	77.5	189	(44.2)	39	72.0	332
<b>Region</b>												
North Central	88.5	531	81.0	80	*	16	88.1	63	*	8	87.1	88
North East	51.3	630	44.7	102	(43.3)	37	47.4	35	*	9	38.4	81
North West	54.3	942	59.7	93	(70.1)	37	65.7	41	*	15	59.0	93
South East	92.5	234	87.8	80	*	13	97.0	49	*	5	96.0	67
South South	94.9	544	95.5	127	(99.0)	55	84.6	72	*	13	88.8	140
South West	95.5	351	97.1	78	*	12	93.3	39	*	4	92.4	54
<b>Wealth quintile</b>												
Lowest	50.8	672	66.8	76	(55.7)	32	65.8	50	*	11	56.9	93
Second	63.4	677	57.6	109	*	26	70.3	43	*	13	65.0	82
Middle	71.1	654	68.2	91	(68.4)	29	82.5	80	*	11	75.0	120
Fourth	90.4	645	87.5	121	(90.4)	33	88.2	86	*	15	87.9	134
Highest	94.8	585	93.0	162	(98.9)	50	97.9	39	*	3	93.3	92
Total	73.4	3,231	77.3	558	80.5	170	81.5	298	(49.5)	54	76.7	522

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed. There are too few cases of "double orphans" to calculate the UNAIDS Indicator for ratio of orphans to non-orphans who are in school.