Zimbabwe continues to experience one of the worst HIV infection rates in sub-Saharan Africa. Because of the increased burden of disease due to AIDS, Zimbabwe has not only continued to scale up prevention, care, and treatment programmes to combat the disease, but also to strengthen monitoring and evaluation systems for these prevention programmes. Measuring changes in HIV/AIDS risk behaviours is important for successful tracking of the drivers of the epidemic in generalized epidemic states like that in Zimbabwe.

The principal mode of HIV transmission in Zimbabwe is heterosexual contact, which accounts for an estimated 80-90 percent of all HIV infections in the country (Zimbabwe National AIDS Council, 2005). The second most important mode of HIV transmission in Zimbabwe is perinatal transmission in which the mother passes HIV to the child during pregnancy, childbirth and breastfeeding. The prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV (PMTCT) programme is a priority in the fight against HIV/AIDS in children in Zimbabwe. The programme seeks to prevent paediatric HIV infection through primary prevention of HIV infection in the childbearing population; prevention of unintended pregnancies; PMTCT through a single-dose nevirapine regimen; and provision of care and follow-up psychosocial support.

The future course of Zimbabwe’s AIDS epidemic depends on a number of variables including levels of HIV/AIDS-related knowledge among the general population; social stigmatisation; risk behaviour modification; access to high-quality services for sexually transmitted infections (STI); provision and uptake of HIV counselling and testing; and access to care and antiretroviral therapy (ART), including prevention and treatment of opportunistic infections. The principal objective of this chapter is to establish the prevalence of relevant knowledge, perceptions, and behaviours at the national level and also within geographic and socioeconomic subpopulations. In this way, the AIDS control programme in Zimbabwe can target those groups of individuals most in need of information and most at risk of HIV infection.

In this chapter, HIV/AIDS-related knowledge and behaviour indicators are presented first for the entire population of women and men interviewed in the survey. To facilitate comparisons between sexes, differentials in these results are limited to the age group 15-49. The chapter concludes with a discussion of the findings for youth age 15-24.

13.1 HIV/AIDS KNOWLEDGE, TRANSMISSION, AND PREVENTION METHODS

ZDHS respondents were asked whether they had heard of HIV or AIDS. Those who reported having heard of HIV or AIDS were asked a number of questions about whether and how HIV/AIDS could be avoided.

Table 13.1 provides information on overall HIV/AIDS knowledge in Zimbabwe. In the population age 15-49, the knowledge rate was 98 percent among women and 99 percent among men. Knowledge levels are high among both men and women in all subgroups for which information is presented in Table 13.1. The lowest knowledge level was recorded among women in Matabeleland South (89 percent).
### Table 13.1: Knowledge of HIV or AIDS

Percentage of women and men age 15-49 who have heard of HIV or AIDS, by background characteristics, Zimbabwe 2005-2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Background characteristic</th>
<th>Women Has heard of HIV or AIDS</th>
<th>Number of women</th>
<th>Men Has heard of HIV or AIDS</th>
<th>Number of men</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Age</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-24</td>
<td>97.2</td>
<td>1,287</td>
<td>98.5</td>
<td>878</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-19</td>
<td>97.9</td>
<td>1,952</td>
<td>99.6</td>
<td>1,459</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-24</td>
<td>98.6</td>
<td>1,466</td>
<td>99.7</td>
<td>1,082</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-29</td>
<td>98.5</td>
<td>2,050</td>
<td>99.8</td>
<td>1,545</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-39</td>
<td>98.5</td>
<td>1,287</td>
<td>99.9</td>
<td>878</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Marital status</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never married</td>
<td>97.2</td>
<td>2,404</td>
<td>98.6</td>
<td>3,404</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ever had sex</td>
<td>97.8</td>
<td>559</td>
<td>99.6</td>
<td>1,611</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never had sex</td>
<td>97.0</td>
<td>1,845</td>
<td>97.7</td>
<td>1,793</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married/living together</td>
<td>98.0</td>
<td>5,143</td>
<td>99.8</td>
<td>3,132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Divorced/separated/widowed</td>
<td>98.5</td>
<td>1,360</td>
<td>99.6</td>
<td>327</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Residence</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>99.2</td>
<td>3,502</td>
<td>99.8</td>
<td>2,767</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>97.0</td>
<td>5,405</td>
<td>98.8</td>
<td>4,096</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Province</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manicaland</td>
<td>98.7</td>
<td>1,043</td>
<td>98.8</td>
<td>793</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mashonaland Central</td>
<td>94.6</td>
<td>825</td>
<td>98.3</td>
<td>681</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mashonaland East</td>
<td>98.7</td>
<td>714</td>
<td>98.5</td>
<td>570</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mashonaland West</td>
<td>96.5</td>
<td>829</td>
<td>99.7</td>
<td>691</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matabeleland North</td>
<td>99.8</td>
<td>536</td>
<td>99.7</td>
<td>416</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matabeleland South</td>
<td>89.1</td>
<td>439</td>
<td>99.0</td>
<td>306</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midlands</td>
<td>98.8</td>
<td>1,193</td>
<td>99.2</td>
<td>956</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mavingo</td>
<td>99.6</td>
<td>1,137</td>
<td>99.4</td>
<td>771</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harare</td>
<td>98.4</td>
<td>1,492</td>
<td>99.7</td>
<td>1,219</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulawayo</td>
<td>99.9</td>
<td>697</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>460</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Education</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No education</td>
<td>95.5</td>
<td>380</td>
<td>96.6</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary</td>
<td>96.2</td>
<td>2,902</td>
<td>97.9</td>
<td>1,782</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary</td>
<td>98.9</td>
<td>5,355</td>
<td>99.7</td>
<td>4,588</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More than secondary</td>
<td>99.5</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>405</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wealth quintile</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lowest</td>
<td>96.6</td>
<td>1,552</td>
<td>98.9</td>
<td>1,042</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second</td>
<td>96.2</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>98.1</td>
<td>1,137</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle</td>
<td>97.6</td>
<td>1,546</td>
<td>99.1</td>
<td>1,194</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth</td>
<td>98.5</td>
<td>2,006</td>
<td>99.6</td>
<td>1,892</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highest</td>
<td>99.5</td>
<td>2,304</td>
<td>99.8</td>
<td>1,599</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total 15-49</td>
<td>97.9</td>
<td>8,907</td>
<td>99.2</td>
<td>6,863</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total 15-54</td>
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<td>na</td>
<td>99.2</td>
<td>7,175</td>
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</table>

**na = Not applicable**

HIV/AIDS prevention programmes focus their messages and efforts on three important aspects of behaviour: use of condoms, limiting the number of sexual partners or staying faithful to one partner, and delaying sexual debut for young persons (i.e., abstinence). Table 13.2 shows that eight in ten or more women and men age 15-49 recognise that the risk of getting HIV can be reduced by limiting sexual intercourse to one uninfected partner or by abstaining from sexual intercourse. Eighty-one percent of men also know that using condoms is a way to prevent HIV transmission and 71 percent agree that using condoms and limiting sexual intercourse to one uninfected partner is a way to reduce the risk of getting HIV. Women are less likely than men to perceive using condoms, whether alone (76 percent) or in combination with limiting intercourse to one uninfected partner (65 percent), as a mode of prevention.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Background characteristic</th>
<th>Using condoms</th>
<th>Limiting sexual intercourse to one uninfected partner</th>
<th>Using condoms and limiting sexual intercourse to one uninfected partner</th>
<th>Abstaining from sexual intercourse</th>
<th>Number of women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-24</td>
<td>72.4</td>
<td>78.5</td>
<td>61.5</td>
<td>78.7</td>
<td>4,104</td>
</tr>
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<td>15-19</td>
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<td>76.7</td>
<td>57.7</td>
<td>77.7</td>
<td>2,152</td>
</tr>
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<td>20-24</td>
<td>77.5</td>
<td>80.5</td>
<td>65.7</td>
<td>79.9</td>
<td>1,952</td>
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<td>80.6</td>
<td>84.3</td>
<td>70.6</td>
<td>83.0</td>
<td>1,466</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-39</td>
<td>80.2</td>
<td>82.9</td>
<td>69.4</td>
<td>83.5</td>
<td>2,050</td>
</tr>
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<td>73.6</td>
<td>80.4</td>
<td>64.2</td>
<td>79.6</td>
<td>1,287</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marital status</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never married</td>
<td>71.9</td>
<td>79.6</td>
<td>61.9</td>
<td>80.8</td>
<td>2,404</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ever had sex</td>
<td>80.4</td>
<td>79.8</td>
<td>68.2</td>
<td>82.2</td>
<td>559</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married/living together</td>
<td>76.4</td>
<td>80.8</td>
<td>65.6</td>
<td>79.9</td>
<td>5,143</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Divorced/separated/widowed</td>
<td>80.0</td>
<td>82.6</td>
<td>69.6</td>
<td>83.6</td>
<td>1,360</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residence</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>79.6</td>
<td>85.6</td>
<td>70.1</td>
<td>85.7</td>
<td>3,502</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>73.2</td>
<td>77.7</td>
<td>62.1</td>
<td>77.4</td>
<td>5,405</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Province</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manicaland</td>
<td>76.4</td>
<td>84.8</td>
<td>68.6</td>
<td>78.1</td>
<td>1,043</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mashonaland Central</td>
<td>72.8</td>
<td>81.4</td>
<td>65.8</td>
<td>73.2</td>
<td>825</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mashonaland East</td>
<td>84.8</td>
<td>76.6</td>
<td>69.0</td>
<td>90.4</td>
<td>714</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mashonaland West</td>
<td>69.4</td>
<td>76.8</td>
<td>57.7</td>
<td>77.7</td>
<td>829</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matabeleland North</td>
<td>68.2</td>
<td>79.8</td>
<td>58.6</td>
<td>77.3</td>
<td>536</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matabeleland South</td>
<td>64.6</td>
<td>72.8</td>
<td>57.0</td>
<td>72.8</td>
<td>439</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midlands</td>
<td>82.8</td>
<td>77.7</td>
<td>67.7</td>
<td>83.2</td>
<td>1,193</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masvingo</td>
<td>71.7</td>
<td>77.3</td>
<td>59.2</td>
<td>73.1</td>
<td>1,137</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harare</td>
<td>74.6</td>
<td>85.1</td>
<td>64.6</td>
<td>85.7</td>
<td>1,492</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulawayo</td>
<td>86.0</td>
<td>90.4</td>
<td>81.7</td>
<td>91.8</td>
<td>697</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No education</td>
<td>62.8</td>
<td>68.9</td>
<td>51.4</td>
<td>70.2</td>
<td>380</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary</td>
<td>69.9</td>
<td>74.7</td>
<td>58.1</td>
<td>74.2</td>
<td>2,902</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary</td>
<td>79.5</td>
<td>84.6</td>
<td>69.8</td>
<td>84.5</td>
<td>5,355</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More than secondary</td>
<td>80.9</td>
<td>85.4</td>
<td>70.7</td>
<td>90.0</td>
<td>270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wealth quintile</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lowest</td>
<td>66.9</td>
<td>73.1</td>
<td>54.7</td>
<td>73.5</td>
<td>1,552</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second</td>
<td>73.5</td>
<td>77.2</td>
<td>61.9</td>
<td>76.6</td>
<td>1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle</td>
<td>77.0</td>
<td>80.2</td>
<td>67.0</td>
<td>79.4</td>
<td>1,546</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth</td>
<td>77.5</td>
<td>82.6</td>
<td>67.1</td>
<td>83.2</td>
<td>2,006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highest</td>
<td>80.7</td>
<td>87.0</td>
<td>71.7</td>
<td>86.8</td>
<td>2,304</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total 15-49</td>
<td>75.7</td>
<td>80.8</td>
<td>65.2</td>
<td>80.7</td>
<td>8,907</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total 15-54</td>
<td>na</td>
<td>na</td>
<td>na</td>
<td>na</td>
<td>na</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

na = Not applicable

1 Every time they have sexual intercourse
2 Who has no other partners
Table 13.2 also presents differences in the levels of knowledge of these prevention methods by background characteristics. Youth age 15-24 generally have lower levels of knowledge than those in older age groups, and never-married respondents who have not yet had sex also are less likely to know about the prevention modes than those who have married or initiated sexual intercourse. As expected, urban residents are generally more knowledgeable about prevention modes than rural residents. There is considerable variation in knowledge levels by province; for example, 86 percent of women in Bulawayo recognise using condoms as a way to avoid getting HIV, compared with 65 percent of women in Matabeleland South. Women and men with higher levels of schooling are more likely than those with less schooling to be aware of the various prevention methods. Similarly, women and men in higher wealth quintiles are more likely than those in lower quintiles to know about actions that can be taken to reduce the risk of getting HIV.

As part of the effort to assess HIV/AIDS knowledge, the 2005-06 ZDHS obtained information on several common misconceptions about HIV transmission. Respondents were asked whether they think it is possible for a healthy-looking person to have the HIV and the chances of getting HIV from mosquito bites, from supernatural means, or from sharing food with a person who has HIV.

Tables 13.3.1 and 13.3.2 show the proportions of women and men who know that a healthy person can have HIV and who reject common misconceptions about HIV transmission. Eighty-six percent of women and 91 percent of men agreed that a healthy-looking person can have HIV. This represents an increase in the levels of women and men who recognise that people infected with HIV do not necessarily show signs of illness from the rates observed in the 1999 ZDHS (76 percent of women and 85 percent of men, respectively). With respect to the misconceptions about avenues of infection, 75 percent of women and men said HIV cannot be transmitted by mosquitoes. Eighty-seven percent of women and 90 percent of men know HIV cannot be transmitted by supernatural means. Eighty-two percent of women and 85 percent of men said a person cannot become infected by sharing food with a person who has HIV.

Two composite measures of HIV/AIDS knowledge are included in Tables 13.3.1 and 13.3.2. The first measure indicates that a majority (62 percent of women and 64 percent of men) know that the two most common misconceptions about HIV/AIDS (i.e., HIV can be transmitted by supernatural means or by sharing food) are incorrect and also are aware that a healthy-looking person can have HIV. The second measure shows that less than half of Zimbabwean women (44 percent) and men (47 percent) have what can be considered comprehensive knowledge about the modes of HIV transmission and prevention, i.e., they 1) know that both condom use and limiting sex partners to one uninfected partner are HIV prevention methods; 2) are aware that a healthy-looking person can have HIV, and 3) reject the two most common local misconceptions—that HIV/AIDS can be transmitted through supernatural means or sharing food with a person who has HIV. The youngest (age 15-19) and oldest (age 40-49) respondents are least likely to have comprehensive knowledge of HIV/AIDS transmission and prevention methods. Those in urban areas are more likely than rural residents to have comprehensive knowledge. Among both women and men, the level of comprehensive knowledge is highest in Bulawayo. The proportion with comprehensive HIV/AIDS knowledge rises with education level and the wealth quintile among both women and men.
### Table 13.3.1 Comprehensive knowledge about HIV/AIDS: women

Percentage of women age 15-49 who say that a healthy-looking person can have HIV and who, in response to prompted questions, correctly reject local misconceptions about HIV transmission or prevention, and the percentage with a comprehensive knowledge about HIV/AIDS by background characteristics, Zimbabwe 2005-2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Background characteristic</th>
<th>Percentage of women who say that:</th>
<th>Percentage who say that a healthy-looking person can have HIV and who reject the two most common local misconceptions(^1)</th>
<th>Percentage with a comprehensive knowledge about HIV/AIDS(^2)</th>
<th>Number of women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A healthy-looking person can have HIV</td>
<td>HIV cannot be transmitted by mosquito bites</td>
<td>HIV cannot be transmitted by supernatural means</td>
<td>A person cannot become infected by sharing food with a person who has HIV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-24</td>
<td>83.7</td>
<td>78.5</td>
<td>88.3</td>
<td>84.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-19</td>
<td>81.0</td>
<td>78.7</td>
<td>88.7</td>
<td>83.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-24</td>
<td>86.6</td>
<td>78.3</td>
<td>87.8</td>
<td>86.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-29</td>
<td>89.1</td>
<td>77.3</td>
<td>88.3</td>
<td>82.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-39</td>
<td>88.4</td>
<td>71.7</td>
<td>86.9</td>
<td>81.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40-49</td>
<td>84.6</td>
<td>65.7</td>
<td>82.3</td>
<td>75.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marital status</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never married</td>
<td>84.8</td>
<td>81.7</td>
<td>89.9</td>
<td>86.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ever had sex</td>
<td>88.6</td>
<td>79.1</td>
<td>90.2</td>
<td>87.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never had sex</td>
<td>83.7</td>
<td>82.4</td>
<td>89.9</td>
<td>85.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married/living together</td>
<td>85.8</td>
<td>72.2</td>
<td>86.3</td>
<td>80.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Divorced/separated/widowed</td>
<td>87.5</td>
<td>72.9</td>
<td>85.3</td>
<td>82.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residence</td>
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1. Two most common local misconceptions: (1) HIV can be transmitted by mosquito bites and (2) a person can become infected by sharing food with a person who has HIV.

2. Comprehensive knowledge means knowing that use of condoms and having just one uninfected, faithful partner can reduce the chance of getting HIV, knowing that a healthy-looking person can have HIV, and rejecting the two most common local misconceptions about HIV transmission or prevention.
Table 13.3.2 Comprehensive knowledge about HIV/AIDS: men

Percentage of men age 15-49 who say that a healthy-looking person can have HIV and who, in response to prompted questions, correctly reject local misconceptions about HIV transmission or prevention, and the percentage with a comprehensive knowledge about HIV/AIDS, by background characteristics, Zimbabwe 2005-2006

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<th>Percentage of men who say that:</th>
<th>Percentage who say that a healthy-looking person can have HIV and who reject the two most common local misconceptions 1</th>
<th>Percentage with a comprehensive knowledge about HIV/AIDS 2</th>
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<td>HIV cannot be transmitted by supernatural means</td>
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</table>

1 Two most common local misconceptions: 1) HIV can be transmitted by mosquito bites, and 2) a person can become infected by sharing food with a person who has AIDS.

2 Comprehensive knowledge means knowing that use of condoms and having just one uninfected, faithful partner can reduce the chance of getting HIV, knowing that a healthy-looking person can have HIV, and rejecting the two most common local misconceptions about HIV transmission or prevention.
13.2 **Knowledge about Mother-to-Child Transmission**

Increasing the level of general knowledge of transmission of HIV from mother to child and reducing the risk of transmission using antiretroviral drugs is critical to reducing mother-to-child transmission of HIV (MTCT). To assess MTCT knowledge, respondents were asked if the virus that causes AIDS can be transmitted from a mother to a child through breastfeeding and whether a mother with HIV can reduce the risk of transmission to the baby by taking certain drugs during pregnancy.

Table 13.4 shows that eight in ten women and men recognised that HIV can be transmitted through breastfeeding. This represents a substantial change from the situation at the time of the 1999 ZDHS when only 33 percent of women and 36 percent of men were aware that HIV could be transmitted from mother to child through breastfeeding. Although women and men are more aware than previously about mother-to-child transmission, knowledge about how this risk can be reduced remains comparatively low; only 57 percent of women and 46 percent of men knew that the risk of MTCT can be reduced by taking special drugs. Fifty-two percent of women and 39 percent of men were both aware that HIV can be transmitted through breastfeeding and that this risk can be reduced by taking special drugs.

MTCT knowledge levels increased with educational level and the wealth quintile, were higher among urban than rural residents, and were lowest in Midlands and highest in Bulawayo.
Table 13.4  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, Zimbabwe 2005-2006

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<td>80.3</td>
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<td>34.1</td>
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<td>62.5</td>
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<td>5,355</td>
<td>79.7</td>
<td>48.0</td>
<td>40.0</td>
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<td>80.5</td>
<td>270</td>
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<td>56.1</td>
<td>49.5</td>
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<td>1,552</td>
<td>80.9</td>
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<td>46.3</td>
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<td>1,500</td>
<td>78.2</td>
<td>37.8</td>
<td>32.1</td>
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<td>46.3</td>
<td>1,546</td>
<td>79.4</td>
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<td>33.1</td>
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<td>64.5</td>
<td>57.9</td>
<td>2,006</td>
<td>79.7</td>
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<td>81.2</td>
<td>55.4</td>
<td>46.9</td>
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<td>Total 15-49</td>
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<td>79.9</td>
<td>45.7</td>
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<td>na</td>
<td>na</td>
<td>80.2</td>
<td>45.7</td>
<td>39.1</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

na = Not applicable
13.3 Attitudes Towards People Living with HIV/AIDS

Widespread stigma and discrimination in a population can adversely affect both people's willingness to be tested and adherence to antiretroviral therapy in young ART programmes such as the one currently being rolled out in Zimbabwe. Reduction of stigma and discrimination in a population is, thus, an important indicator of the success of programmes targeting HIV and AIDS prevention and control.

In the 2005-06 ZDHS, women and men who had heard of HIV or AIDS were asked a number of questions to assess the level of stigma associated with HIV/AIDS. Tables 13.5.1 and 13.5.2 present these results for women and men.

Although there was a considerable gender gap, attitudes were most positive with respect to caring for a relative with HIV in the respondent’s home; 91 percent of women and 71 percent of men would be willing to care at home for a relative with HIV. The latter proportion represents a substantial reversal in attitude since the 1999 ZDHS when 88 percent of men said they would care for a relative with HIV in their home. In contrast, women were slightly more positive about caring for a sick relative at the time of the 2005-06 than at the time of the 1999 ZDHS (88 percent).

A majority expressed accepting attitudes towards a female teacher with HIV; 71 percent of women and 75 percent of men agreed that she should be allowed to continue teaching. Attitudes were somewhat less positive towards a shopkeeper with HIV, particularly among women; 57 percent of women would buy fresh vegetables from a shopkeeper with HIV, compared with 67 percent of men. Less than half of both women (49 percent) and men (46 percent) indicated that they would not keep secret that a family member was infected with HIV. Overall, only 17 percent of women and 11 percent of men expressed accepting attitudes with regard to all four situations, i.e., they would care for an HIV-positive family member in their own home, buy fresh food from a shopkeeper with HIV, allow an HIV-positive teacher to continue teaching, and would not keep the HIV-positive status of a family member a secret.

Stigma levels in the population are related to most of the defining characteristics shown in Tables 13.5.1 and 13.5.2. With the exception of the attitude towards keeping a family member’s HIV status secret, accepting attitudes were generally more common among urban than rural residents. There were marked differences by province in the proportions of women and men expressing accepting attitudes, with men from Matabeleland South and men and women from Bulawayo being most likely to express accepting attitudes with respect to all four situations. The likelihood that accepting attitudes were expressed generally increased with the educational level and the wealth quintile.
### Table 13.5.1 Accepting attitudes towards those living with HIV/AIDS: women

Among women who have heard of HIV or AIDS, percentage expressing specific accepting attitudes towards people with HIV/AIDS, by background characteristics, Zimbabwe 2005-2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Background characteristic</th>
<th>Are willing to care for a family member with HIV in the respondent's home (%)</th>
<th>Would buy fresh vegetables from shop-keeper who has HIV (%)</th>
<th>Say that a female teacher with HIV and is not sick should be allowed to continue teaching (%)</th>
<th>Would not want to keep secret that a family member got infected with HIV (%)</th>
<th>Percentage expressing acceptance attitudes on all four indicators (%)</th>
<th>Number of women who have heard of HIV or AIDS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Age</strong></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>15-24</td>
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<td>72.0</td>
<td>51.1</td>
<td>17.5</td>
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<td>69.6</td>
<td>55.1</td>
<td>18.5</td>
<td>2,076</td>
</tr>
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<td>58.1</td>
<td>74.6</td>
<td>46.9</td>
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<td>46.6</td>
<td>18.3</td>
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<td>56.3</td>
<td>71.5</td>
<td>45.5</td>
<td>16.2</td>
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</tr>
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<td>65.6</td>
<td>52.2</td>
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</tr>
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<td>76.2</td>
<td>49.9</td>
<td>19.5</td>
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<td>79.8</td>
<td>51.3</td>
<td>21.1</td>
<td>547</td>
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<tr>
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<td>75.0</td>
<td>49.5</td>
<td>19.0</td>
<td>1,790</td>
</tr>
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<td>69.3</td>
<td>49.2</td>
<td>16.0</td>
<td>5,043</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Divorced/separated/ widowed</td>
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<td>58.5</td>
<td>71.1</td>
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<td>83.6</td>
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<td>5,243</td>
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</tr>
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<td>56.2</td>
<td>76.3</td>
<td>50.0</td>
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</tr>
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</tr>
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<td>705</td>
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<td>9.9</td>
<td>800</td>
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<td>70.5</td>
<td>64.8</td>
<td>26.4</td>
<td>535</td>
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<td>66.6</td>
<td>26.2</td>
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<td>69.2</td>
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<td>61.8</td>
<td>86.6</td>
<td>35.5</td>
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<tr>
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<td>83.8</td>
<td>53.8</td>
<td>30.2</td>
<td>697</td>
</tr>
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<td>57.4</td>
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<td>62.4</td>
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<td>52.4</td>
<td>17.2</td>
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<tr>
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<td>78.5</td>
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<td>17.1</td>
<td>8,719</td>
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</table>
Table 13.5.2  Accepting attitudes towards those living with HIV/AIDS: men

Among men who have heard of HIV/AIDS, percentage expressing specific accepting attitudes towards people with HIV/AIDS, by background characteristics, Zimbabwe 2005-2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Background characteristic</th>
<th>Adaptation of men who: Are willing to care for a family member with HIV in the respondent’s home</th>
<th>Would buy fresh vegetables from shop-keeper who has HIV</th>
<th>Say that a female teacher with HIV and is not sick should be allowed to continue teaching</th>
<th>Would not want to keep secret that a family member got infected with HIV</th>
<th>Percentage expressing acceptance attitudes on all four indicators</th>
<th>Number of men who have heard of HIV/AIDS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>Age</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-24</td>
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<td>66.8</td>
<td>73.3</td>
<td>53.6</td>
<td>11.7</td>
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</tr>
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<td>64.5</td>
<td>70.0</td>
<td>59.6</td>
<td>12.6</td>
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</tr>
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<td>77.0</td>
<td>37.7</td>
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</tr>
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<td>76.9</td>
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<td>72.6</td>
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</tr>
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<td>50.4</td>
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<tr>
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</tr>
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<td>24.6</td>
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<td>37.9</td>
<td>460</td>
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<td>56.0</td>
<td>52.3</td>
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<td>85</td>
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<td>405</td>
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<td>59.5</td>
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<tr>
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<td>64.7</td>
<td>64.2</td>
<td>67.8</td>
<td>47.8</td>
<td>7.4</td>
<td>1,183</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth</td>
<td>74.5</td>
<td>71.4</td>
<td>81.2</td>
<td>41.6</td>
<td>10.7</td>
<td>1,884</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highest</td>
<td>76.4</td>
<td>77.7</td>
<td>89.6</td>
<td>37.3</td>
<td>13.5</td>
<td>1,596</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total 15-49</td>
<td>70.9</td>
<td>67.3</td>
<td>74.6</td>
<td>45.7</td>
<td>10.7</td>
<td>6,808</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total 15-54</td>
<td>71.0</td>
<td>67.1</td>
<td>74.4</td>
<td>45.8</td>
<td>10.8</td>
<td>7,119</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

13.4 Attitudes Towards Negotiating for Safer Sexual Relations with Husbands

The high levels of sexual transmission of HIV make negotiating for safer sex indispensable, especially in marital unions where women’s status is compromised by societal expectations, thereby increasing their vulnerability to HIV transmission. Table 13.6 shows that a substantial majority of both women and men in Zimbabwe acknowledge that, if a husband has a sexually transmitted infection, a wife can refuse to have sex with him (79 percent and 77 percent, respectively). A somewhat larger percentage...
of women and men consider it appropriate for the wife to ask the husband to use a condom in this situation (83 percent and 86 percent, respectively). Overall, more than nine in ten women and men believe that a wife is justified in taking action to protect herself from infection. The lowest proportions agreeing that a wife can take action are observed among women and men who have no education (81 percent and 85 percent, respectively).

Table 13.6  Attitudes towards negotiating safer sexual relations with husband

Percentage of women and men age 15-49 who believe that, if a husband has a sexually transmitted infection, his wife is justified in refusing to have sexual relations with him or asking that he use a condom, by background characteristics, Zimbabwe 2005-2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Background characteristic</th>
<th>Women</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th>Men</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Refusing to have sexual relations</td>
<td>Asking that they use a condom</td>
<td>Refusing sexual relations or asking that he use a condom</td>
<td>Number of women</td>
<td>Refusing to have sexual relations</td>
<td>Asking that he use a condom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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<td>80.8</td>
<td>90.7</td>
<td>4,104</td>
<td>74.0</td>
<td>81.4</td>
</tr>
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<td>76.9</td>
<td>88.1</td>
<td>2,152</td>
<td>72.9</td>
<td>78.2</td>
</tr>
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<td>93.5</td>
<td>1,952</td>
<td>75.4</td>
<td>85.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-29</td>
<td>82.1</td>
<td>84.7</td>
<td>93.7</td>
<td>1,466</td>
<td>74.8</td>
<td>86.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-39</td>
<td>82.1</td>
<td>87.2</td>
<td>94.6</td>
<td>2,050</td>
<td>82.9</td>
<td>91.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40-49</td>
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<td>79.8</td>
<td>89.6</td>
<td>1,287</td>
<td>84.0</td>
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<td>80.4</td>
<td>90.5</td>
<td>2,404</td>
<td>75.3</td>
<td>82.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>89.5</td>
<td>95.6</td>
<td>559</td>
<td>76.1</td>
<td>84.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never had sex</td>
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<td>77.7</td>
<td>88.9</td>
<td>1,845</td>
<td>74.7</td>
<td>80.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>83.7</td>
<td>92.4</td>
<td>5,143</td>
<td>79.8</td>
<td>88.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>83.2</td>
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<td>1,360</td>
<td>75.8</td>
<td>88.6</td>
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<td>Residence</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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<td>Urban</td>
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<td>88.4</td>
<td>94.9</td>
<td>3,502</td>
<td>83.0</td>
<td>92.9</td>
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<td>79.1</td>
<td>90.0</td>
<td>5,405</td>
<td>73.6</td>
<td>80.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Province</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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<td>Matricaland</td>
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<td>73.1</td>
<td>90.1</td>
<td>1,043</td>
<td>68.5</td>
<td>79.2</td>
</tr>
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<td>825</td>
<td>65.8</td>
<td>77.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mashonaland East</td>
<td>76.6</td>
<td>83.8</td>
<td>92.1</td>
<td>714</td>
<td>74.2</td>
<td>88.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mashonaland West</td>
<td>76.4</td>
<td>81.5</td>
<td>90.4</td>
<td>829</td>
<td>73.1</td>
<td>87.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matabeleland North</td>
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<td>89.5</td>
<td>96.1</td>
<td>536</td>
<td>90.7</td>
<td>88.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matabeleland South</td>
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<td>83.6</td>
<td>92.7</td>
<td>439</td>
<td>90.2</td>
<td>88.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midlands</td>
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<td>88.6</td>
<td>94.8</td>
<td>1,193</td>
<td>73.9</td>
<td>80.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masvingo</td>
<td>67.1</td>
<td>75.5</td>
<td>85.0</td>
<td>1,137</td>
<td>77.2</td>
<td>82.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harare</td>
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<td>93.3</td>
<td>1,492</td>
<td>84.0</td>
<td>92.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulawayo</td>
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<td>98.0</td>
<td>697</td>
<td>89.9</td>
<td>92.9</td>
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<td>67.7</td>
<td>80.6</td>
<td>380</td>
<td>72.1</td>
<td>74.0</td>
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<td>2,902</td>
<td>73.1</td>
<td>75.7</td>
</tr>
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<td>94.2</td>
<td>5,355</td>
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<td>88.7</td>
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<td>96.5</td>
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<td>95.4</td>
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<td>Wealth quintile</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
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<td>Lowest</td>
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<td>75.4</td>
<td>86.5</td>
<td>1,552</td>
<td>74.1</td>
<td>76.5</td>
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<td>89.9</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>74.5</td>
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<td>80.6</td>
<td>91.7</td>
<td>1,546</td>
<td>69.0</td>
<td>79.5</td>
</tr>
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<td>86.3</td>
<td>93.8</td>
<td>2,006</td>
<td>79.7</td>
<td>90.7</td>
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<td>88.8</td>
<td>95.4</td>
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<td>93.7</td>
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<td>91.9</td>
<td>8,907</td>
<td>77.4</td>
<td>85.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total 15-54</td>
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<td>na</td>
<td>na</td>
<td>na</td>
<td>77.5</td>
<td>85.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

na = Not applicable
13.5 Attitudes Towards Condom Education for Youth

Condom use is one of the main strategies for combating the spread of HIV. However, educating youth about condoms is sometimes controversial, with some saying it promotes early sexual experimentation. To gauge attitudes towards condom education, ZDHS respondents were asked if they thought that children age 12-14 should be taught about using a condom to avoid HIV. Because the table focuses on adult opinion, results are tabulated for respondents age 18-49 in the table.

Less than half of adults support teaching children age 12-14 about condoms (Table 13.7). Men are slightly more likely than women to support education about condom use (48 percent and 41 percent, respectively). Support is highest among those living in Bulawayo, where six in ten women and men approve of condom education for children age 12-14. Women in Mashonaland East (28 percent) and men in Midlands (35 percent) are least likely to accept that children age 12-14 should be educated about condoms.

13.6 Higher-Risk Sex

Given that most HIV infections in Zimbabwe are contracted through heterosexual contact, information on sexual behaviour is important in designing and monitoring intervention programmes to control the spread of the epidemic. The 2005-06 ZDHS included questions on respondents’ sexual partners during their lifetimes and over the 12 months preceding the survey. For male respondents, an additional question was asked on whether they paid for sex during the 12 months preceding the interview. Information on the use of condoms at the last sexual encounter with each type of partner was collected for women and men. These questions are sensitive, and it is recognised that some respondents may have been reluctant to provide information on recent sexual behaviour.

Tables 13.8.1 and 13.8.2 show, for those who had sexual intercourse, the percentages who had two or more partners in the 12 months preceding the survey and who had higher-risk intercourse during
that period, i.e., intercourse in the past 12 months with a partner who was neither a spouse nor lived with the respondent. Among those who had higher-risk intercourse, the tables also show the percentage of respondents who used a condom during the last higher-risk intercourse. Finally, Tables 13.8.1 and 13.8.2 provide information on the mean number of lifetime sexual partners among those who ever had intercourse.

### Table 13.8.1 Multiple sexual partners and higher-risk sexual intercourse in the past 12 months: women

Among women age 15-49 who had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months, the percentage who had intercourse with more than one partner and the percentage who had higher-risk sexual intercourse in the past 12 months, and among those having higher-risk intercourse in the past 12 months, the percentage reporting that a condom was used at last higher-risk intercourse, and the mean number of sexual partners during her lifetime for women who ever had sexual intercourse, by background characteristics, Zimbabwe 2005-2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Background characterist</th>
<th>Among women who had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months:</th>
<th>Among women who had higher-risk intercourse in the past 12 months:</th>
<th>Among women who ever had sexual intercourse:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Percentage who had 2+ partners in the past 12 months</td>
<td>Percentage who had higher-risk intercourse in the past 12 months</td>
<td>Percentage who reported using a condom at last higher-risk intercourse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number of women</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-24</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>16.4</td>
<td>42.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-19</td>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>24.3</td>
<td>40.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-24</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>13.0</td>
<td>43.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-29</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>8.2</td>
<td>54.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-39</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>9.3</td>
<td>53.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40-49</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>7.3</td>
<td>42.3</td>
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</tr>
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<td>91.5</td>
<td>46.2</td>
</tr>
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<td>0.6</td>
<td>(24.9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Divorced/separated/ widowed</td>
<td>6.4</td>
<td>57.8</td>
<td>49.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residence</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>16.7</td>
<td>55.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>8.2</td>
<td>36.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Province</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manicaland</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>8.4</td>
<td>(48.5)</td>
</tr>
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<td>Mashonaland Central</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>5.6</td>
<td>(72.7)</td>
</tr>
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<td>Mashonaland East</td>
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<td>7.4</td>
<td>(37.0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mashonaland West</td>
<td>1.4</td>
<td>9.6</td>
<td>(66.2)</td>
</tr>
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<td>Matabeleland North</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>17.5</td>
<td>26.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matabeleland South</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>26.5</td>
<td>30.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midlands</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>7.4</td>
<td>35.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masvingo</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>6.1</td>
<td>(44.2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harare</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>14.0</td>
<td>51.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulawayo</td>
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<td>26.2</td>
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</tr>
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<td>8.6</td>
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<td>13.2</td>
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<td>Wealth quintile</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lowest</td>
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<td>8.2</td>
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<tr>
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<td>6.1</td>
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<td>9.4</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>11.2</td>
<td>5,846</td>
</tr>
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</table>

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

1 Sexual intercourse with a partner who neither was a spouse nor who lived with the respondent.
Table 13.8.2  Multiple sexual partners and higher-risk sexual intercourse in the past 12 months: men

Among men age 15-49 who had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months, the percentage who had intercourse with more than one partner and the percentage who had higher-risk sexual intercourse in the past 12 months, and among those having higher-risk intercourse in the past 12 months, the percentage reporting that a condom was used at last higher-risk intercourse, and the mean number of sexual partners during his lifetime for men who ever had sexual intercourse, by background characteristics, Zimbabwe 2005-2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Background characteristic</th>
<th>Among men who had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months:</th>
<th>Among men who had higher-risk intercourse in the past 12 months:</th>
<th>Among men who ever had sexual intercourse:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Percentage who had 2+ partners in the past 12 months</td>
<td>Percentage who had higher-risk intercourse in the past 12 months</td>
<td>Percentage who reported using a condom at last higher-risk intercourse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number of men</td>
<td>Number of men</td>
<td>Number of men</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-24</td>
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<td>77.5</td>
<td>1,195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-19</td>
<td>19.8</td>
<td>77.5</td>
<td>1,195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-24</td>
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<td>854</td>
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<tr>
<td>30-39</td>
<td>15.9</td>
<td>34.4</td>
<td>913</td>
</tr>
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<td>40-49</td>
<td>10.6</td>
<td>16.4</td>
<td>1,456</td>
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<td>98.9</td>
<td>1,056</td>
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<td>10.8</td>
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<td>2,584</td>
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<tr>
<td>Manicaland</td>
<td>16.8</td>
<td>32.3</td>
<td>459</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mashonaland Central</td>
<td>16.8</td>
<td>33.5</td>
<td>462</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mashonaland East</td>
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<td>26.4</td>
<td>332</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>466</td>
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<tr>
<td>Matabeleland North</td>
<td>13.2</td>
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<td>164</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midlands</td>
<td>13.4</td>
<td>31.1</td>
<td>599</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>497</td>
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<td>Harare</td>
<td>15.3</td>
<td>35.5</td>
<td>777</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>321</td>
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<tr>
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<td>13.9</td>
<td>32.6</td>
<td>715</td>
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<td>14.9</td>
<td>31.5</td>
<td>720</td>
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<td>992</td>
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<td>4,382</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total 15-54</td>
<td>13.6</td>
<td>33.8</td>
<td>4,671</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

1 Sexual intercourse with a partner who neither was a spouse nor who lived with the respondent.
A much larger proportion of men than women reported both having had more than one sexual partner (14 percent and 1 percent, respectively) and engaging in higher-risk sex (36 percent and 11 percent, respectively) at some time in the past 12 months. Men were more likely to report using a condom at last high-risk intercourse than women (71 percent and 47 percent, respectively). On average, men have had 5.5 sexual partners over their lifetimes and women have had 1.6 partners.

Considering age patterns, the percentage with two or more sexual partners in the 12 months preceding the interview and the percentage engaging in risky sexual behaviour was highest among both women and men in the 15-24 year age group. The percentages involved in risky sexual behaviours declined with age and were lowest in the 40-49 year age group among women and men. Condom use at last high-risk sex was lowest among those in the youngest and oldest age categories. The mean number of lifetime sexual partners increased with age, with men age 40-49 reporting an average of 8 lifetime partners and women in the same age group an average of 1.8 partners.

Higher-risk sexual behaviour was reported more often among those who were not married at the time of the interview than among currently married respondents. Married men who engaged in higher-risk sex were somewhat more likely to report condom use at last higher-risk sex than those who were not married. Divorced, separated, or widowed respondents had the highest average number of lifetime sexual partners (9.4 partners for men and 2.2 partners among women).

Urban residents were both more likely to report engaging in risky sexual behaviour and using a condom at last higher-risk sex than rural residents. Urban men reported an average of 6.2 lifetime sexual partners compared with 5 sexual partners among rural men.

Considering provincial patterns, higher-risk sexual behaviour was most prevalent among women in Matabeleland South (27 percent) and Bulawayo (26 percent) and among men in Bulawayo (48 percent). Men in Harare were twice as likely to report condom use at last high-risk sex as men in Matabeleland North (86 percent and 43 percent, respectively). Among men, the mean reported number of lifetime sex partners varied from 4.5 in Manicaland and Masvingo to 6.7 in Mashonaland West. Among women, the mean lifetime sex partners varied from 1.3 in Masvingo to 2.2 in Matabeleland South.

Among women, both the likelihood of having engaged in high-risk sexual behaviour and of using a condom at last high-risk sex generally increased with the education level and the wealth quintile. Among men, the percentages engaging in high-risk sexual behaviour did not vary in a consistent fashion with education or wealth; however, condom use at last high-risk sex rose sharply with educational level and wealth.

13.7 Paid Sex

The act of paying for sex introduces an uneven negotiating ground for safer sexual intercourse. Condom use is an important indicator in trying to ascertain the level of risk involved in sexual encounters involving payments. Table 13.9 presents information on the extent to which men engaged in paid sex in the 12-month period before the survey and on the level of condom use during the last paid sexual encounter in the period.

Four percent of men reported paying for sexual intercourse at least once during the 12 months preceding the ZDHS. Nearly three-quarters of men who engaged in paid sex used a condom the last time they paid for sex. Divorced, widowed, and separated men (13 percent) had the highest rate of paid sex during the 12 months prior to the survey. Eight in ten divorced, separated, or widowed men who engaged in paid sex used a condom.
Table 13.9 Payment for sexual intercourse and condom use at last paid sexual intercourse: men

Percentage of men age 15-49 reporting payment for sexual intercourse in the past 12 months, and among them, the percentage reporting that a condom was used the last time they paid for sexual intercourse, by background characteristics, Zimbabwe 2005-2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Background characteristic</th>
<th>Percentage who paid for sexual intercourse in the past 12 months</th>
<th>Number of men</th>
<th>Percentage reporting condom use at last paid sexual intercourse</th>
<th>Number of men who paid for sexual intercourse in the past 12 months</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Age</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-24</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>3,358</td>
<td>76.7</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-19</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>1,899</td>
<td>(76.6)</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-24</td>
<td>6.2</td>
<td>1,459</td>
<td>76.7</td>
<td>91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-29</td>
<td>5.6</td>
<td>1,082</td>
<td>78.1</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-39</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>1,545</td>
<td>76.5</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40-49</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>878</td>
<td>(50.3)</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Marital status</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never married</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>3,404</td>
<td>76.4</td>
<td>128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married or living together</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>3,132</td>
<td>66.7</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Divorced/separated/widowed</td>
<td>13.2</td>
<td>327</td>
<td>(80.5)</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Residence</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>4.1</td>
<td>2,767</td>
<td>85.8</td>
<td>114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>4,096</td>
<td>64.5</td>
<td>153</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Province</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manicaland</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>793</td>
<td>(78.9)</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mashonaland Central</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>681</td>
<td>(64.1)</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mashonaland East</td>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>570</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mashonaland West</td>
<td>5.3</td>
<td>691</td>
<td>(95.8)</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matabeleland North</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>416</td>
<td>(24.6)</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matabeleland South</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>306</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midlands</td>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>956</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masvingo</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>771</td>
<td>(62.2)</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harare</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>1,219</td>
<td>(83.2)</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulawayo</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>460</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Education</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No education</td>
<td>8.8</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>(64.2)</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>1,782</td>
<td>57.2</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary</td>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>4,588</td>
<td>81.3</td>
<td>167</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More than secondary</td>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>405</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wealth quintile</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lowest</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>1,042</td>
<td>(46.5)</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>1,137</td>
<td>(74.0)</td>
<td>37</td>
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<tr>
<td>Middle</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>1,194</td>
<td>(69.1)</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth</td>
<td>4.9</td>
<td>1,892</td>
<td>79.4</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highest</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>1,599</td>
<td>(89.3)</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total 15-49</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>6,863</td>
<td>73.6</td>
<td>267</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total 15-54</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>7,175</td>
<td>73.1</td>
<td>274</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.
A comparison of the 2005-06 and 1999 ZDHS results suggests that, while Zimbabwean men may increasingly be avoiding the risks involved in paid sex, when they do engage in paid sex, they are less likely than previously to use a condom. In 1999, 7 percent paid for sex and 82 percent reported condom use during last paid intercourse while, in the 2005-06 ZDHS, 4 percent paid for sex and 74 percent used a condom the last time they paid for sex.

**13.8 COVERAGE OF HIV TESTING SERVICES**

Knowledge of HIV status helps HIV-negative individuals make specific decisions to reduce risk and increase safer sex practices so they can remain disease free. For those who are HIV infected, knowledge of their status allows them to take action to protect their sexual partners, to access treatment, and to plan for the future.

To assess the awareness and coverage of HIV testing services, ZDHS respondents were asked whether they had ever been tested for HIV. If they said that they had, respondents were asked whether they had received the results of their last test and where they had been tested. If they had never been tested, they were asked if they knew a place where they could go to be tested. Tables 13.10.1 and 13.10.2 present the results of these questions.

Around three-quarters of women and men were aware of a place where they can get an HIV test. Younger and older respondents were somewhat less likely than those age 20-39 to know a place where they could go to be tested for HIV. Never-married women and men who had not yet initiated sexual activity were less likely than their sexually active counterparts or ever-married respondents to know a place to obtain an HIV test. Awareness of a place to obtain an HIV test increased with both education and the wealth quintile and was notably more common among urban than rural residents. Looking at provincial patterns, women from Matabeleland South and Masvingo were least likely to know a place to get tested for HIV while women from Harare were most likely to know about a place where testing was available. Among men, Matabeleland South also had the lowest level of knowledge of a source for testing and Harare the highest level.

Tables 13.10.1 and 13.10.2 also show the coverage of HIV testing services. A larger proportion of men (81 percent) than women (74 percent) have never been tested. Most of those who have been tested said that they had received the result of the last test they took. Overall, the percentage of those who were ever tested and received the result of the last test was 22 percent among women and 16 percent among men. Seven percent of women and men had been tested in the 12-month period prior to the survey and were told the result of the last test they took.

Among women, the likelihood of having had an HIV test and receiving the results was highest in the 20-24 year age group while, among men, testing rates peaked in the 25-29 year age group. Urban residents were more likely than rural residents to have been tested and received the result. Among women, the percentage who were ever tested for HIV and received the result of the last test varied from 14 percent in Midlands to 30 percent in Harare, while, among men, this percentage ranged from 8 percent in Matabeleland South to 25 percent in Bulawayo and Harare. Among both women and men, testing coverage rises markedly with education and wealth.
Table 13.10.1  Coverage of HIV testing services: women

Percent distribution of women by whether tested for HIV and by whether received the results of the last test, and the percentage of women who received their test results the last time they were tested for HIV in the past 12 months, according to background characteristics, Zimbabwe 2005-2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Background characteristic</th>
<th>Percentage who know where to get an HIV test</th>
<th>Received results</th>
<th>Did not receive results</th>
<th>Never tested</th>
<th>Don’t know/missing</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Percentage tested and received results in past 12 months</th>
<th>Number of women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Age</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-24</td>
<td>72.6</td>
<td>20.3</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>75.1</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>24.3</td>
<td>6.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-19</td>
<td>65.4</td>
<td>12.0</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>85.0</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>14.7</td>
<td>4.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-24</td>
<td>80.6</td>
<td>29.8</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>64.3</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>34.8</td>
<td>9.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-29</td>
<td>79.3</td>
<td>27.4</td>
<td>4.1</td>
<td>71.0</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>28.6</td>
<td>6.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-39</td>
<td>79.0</td>
<td>24.5</td>
<td>4.1</td>
<td>71.0</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>28.6</td>
<td>6.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40-49</td>
<td>69.1</td>
<td>14.9</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>82.1</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>17.4</td>
<td>4.6</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never married</td>
<td>71.6</td>
<td>13.7</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>84.5</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>15.2</td>
<td>6.8</td>
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<tr>
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<td>26.5</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>69.8</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>29.2</td>
<td>11.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never had sex</td>
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<td>9.8</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>88.9</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>10.9</td>
<td>5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married/living together</td>
<td>75.8</td>
<td>25.2</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>68.4</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>30.7</td>
<td>6.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Divorced/separated/widowed</td>
<td>76.0</td>
<td>22.9</td>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>72.9</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>26.5</td>
<td>7.1</td>
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<td><strong>Residence</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>88.3</td>
<td>28.5</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>67.1</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>32.0</td>
<td>9.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
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<td>17.4</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>77.5</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>21.9</td>
<td>4.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Province</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manicaland</td>
<td>76.4</td>
<td>26.6</td>
<td>5.4</td>
<td>67.7</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>31.9</td>
<td>8.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mashonaland Central</td>
<td>69.5</td>
<td>19.6</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>76.8</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>23.1</td>
<td>4.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mashonaland East</td>
<td>72.0</td>
<td>20.2</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>75.4</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>23.9</td>
<td>7.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mashonaland West</td>
<td>76.1</td>
<td>23.1</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>71.1</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>27.9</td>
<td>4.4</td>
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<td>18.3</td>
<td>4.6</td>
<td>76.8</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>22.9</td>
<td>4.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matabeleland South</td>
<td>61.5</td>
<td>16.9</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>78.4</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>21.4</td>
<td>4.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midlands</td>
<td>74.4</td>
<td>14.0</td>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>81.3</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>18.2</td>
<td>2.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masvingo</td>
<td>61.8</td>
<td>17.9</td>
<td>4.9</td>
<td>76.0</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>22.8</td>
<td>4.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harare</td>
<td>89.6</td>
<td>29.5</td>
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Table 13.10.2 Coverage of HIV testing services: men

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<th>Percentage ever tested</th>
<th>Percentage tested and received results in past 12 months</th>
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Screening for HIV in pregnant women is a key tool in reducing transmission of HIV from a mother to her child. Table 13.11 shows that 46 percent of women who gave birth during the two years prior to the ZDHS received HIV counselling and 28 percent were offered, accepted, and received the result of an HIV test during antenatal care. Just over one-fifth of the women reported they had been both counselled about HIV and offered, accepted, and received the results of an HIV test during antenatal care. Women giving birth during the two years before the survey were most likely to have been counselled and tested for HIV if they had more than a secondary education (48 percent) or lived in Harare (42 percent) or Bulawayo (41 percent). Women were least likely to report receiving the full range of voluntary counselling and testing services during antenatal care if they were in the lowest wealth quintile (8 percent) or had no education (9 percent).
### Table 13.11  Pregnant women counselled and tested for HIV

Among all women who gave birth in the two years preceding the survey, the percentage who received HIV counselling during antenatal care for their most recent birth, and percentage who accepted an offer of HIV testing by whether they received their test results, according to background characteristics, Zimbabwe 2005-2006

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<th>Background characteristic</th>
<th>Percentage who received HIV counselling during antenatal care&lt;sup&gt;1&lt;/sup&gt;</th>
<th>Percentage who were offered and accepted an HIV test during antenatal care and who:&lt;sup&gt;2&lt;/sup&gt;</th>
<th>Percentage who were counselled, were offered and accepted an HIV test, and who received results</th>
<th>Number of women who gave birth in the past 2 years&lt;sup&gt;3&lt;/sup&gt;</th>
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<td>54.2</td>
<td>33.3</td>
<td>7.1</td>
<td>27.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More than secondary</td>
<td>(74.0)</td>
<td>(51.8)</td>
<td>(7.5)</td>
<td>(48.2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wealth quintile</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lowest</td>
<td>25.4</td>
<td>12.4</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>8.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second</td>
<td>42.0</td>
<td>20.1</td>
<td>7.7</td>
<td>15.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle</td>
<td>48.2</td>
<td>30.9</td>
<td>9.0</td>
<td>25.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth</td>
<td>55.2</td>
<td>37.9</td>
<td>7.2</td>
<td>31.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highest</td>
<td>70.0</td>
<td>44.7</td>
<td>8.2</td>
<td>39.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>45.8</td>
<td>27.5</td>
<td>7.2</td>
<td>22.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

1 In this context, “counselled” means that someone talked with the respondent about all three of the following topics: 1) babies getting HIV from their mother, 2) preventing the virus, and 3) getting tested for the virus.

2 Only women who were offered the test are included here; women who were either required or asked for the test are excluded from the numerator of this measure.

3 Denominator for percentages includes women who did not receive antenatal care for their last birth in the past two years

### 13.9 Self-reporting of Sexually Transmitted Infections

In the 2005-06 ZDHS, respondents who had ever had sex were asked if they had had a disease they had gotten through sexual contact in the previous 12 months or if they had had either of two symptoms associated with STIs (a bad-smelling, abnormal discharge from the vagina/penis or a genital sore or ulcer). Table 13.12 shows the self-reported prevalence of STIs and STI symptoms in the
population for both men and women. Women were somewhat more likely than men to report having had an STI or having experienced STI symptoms. Among women, in the 12 months prior to the survey, 4 percent had an STI, 7 percent had a bad-smelling, abnormal discharge; and 5 percent had a genital sore or ulcer. Among men, in the 12 months prior to the survey, 3 percent reported that they had an STI, 4 percent had a bad-smelling, abnormal discharge; and 5 percent had a genital sore or ulcer. Taken together, 11 percent of women and 8 percent of men age 15-49 had either had an STI or symptoms of an STI during the 12-months prior to the survey.

Table 13.12  Self-reported prevalence of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and STI symptoms

Among women and men age 15-49 who ever had sexual intercourse, the percentage reporting having an STI and/or symptoms of an STI in the past 12 months, by background characteristics, Zimbabwe 2005-2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Background characteristic</th>
<th>STI</th>
<th>Genital discharge, sore or ulcer</th>
<th>STI</th>
<th>Genital discharge, sore or ulcer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-24</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>7.1</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>10.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-19</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>6.9</td>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>9.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-24</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>7.2</td>
<td>5.6</td>
<td>11.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-29</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>7.3</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>11.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-39</td>
<td>5.3</td>
<td>6.3</td>
<td>5.6</td>
<td>10.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40-49</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>5.8</td>
<td>6.2</td>
<td>10.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marital status</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never married</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>4.6</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>8.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married or living together</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>6.7</td>
<td>4.7</td>
<td>10.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Divorced/separated/widowed</td>
<td>6.3</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>8.2</td>
<td>13.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male circumcision</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Circumcised</td>
<td>na</td>
<td>na</td>
<td>na</td>
<td>na</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not circumcised</td>
<td>na</td>
<td>na</td>
<td>na</td>
<td>na</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residence</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>5.6</td>
<td>4.1</td>
<td>8.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>7.3</td>
<td>6.1</td>
<td>11.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Province</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manicaland</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>7.2</td>
<td>11.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mashonaland Central</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>8.6</td>
<td>6.6</td>
<td>12.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mashonaland East</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>9.4</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>12.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mashonaland West</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>10.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matabeleland North</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>6.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matabeleland South</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>7.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midlands</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>6.1</td>
<td>6.2</td>
<td>10.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masvingo</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>7.3</td>
<td>6.9</td>
<td>14.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harare</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>7.8</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>10.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulawayo</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>4.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No education</td>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>4.9</td>
<td>4.1</td>
<td>8.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary</td>
<td>5.3</td>
<td>8.0</td>
<td>6.9</td>
<td>13.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>6.3</td>
<td>4.7</td>
<td>9.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More than secondary</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wealth quintile</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lowest</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>7.2</td>
<td>6.9</td>
<td>12.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second</td>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>8.8</td>
<td>5.1</td>
<td>12.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>6.9</td>
<td>6.9</td>
<td>11.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth</td>
<td>5.8</td>
<td>7.7</td>
<td>5.7</td>
<td>11.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highest</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>5.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total 15-49</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>6.7</td>
<td>5.4</td>
<td>10.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total 15-54</td>
<td>na</td>
<td>na</td>
<td>na</td>
<td>na</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Total includes 13 cases for which information on circumcision status was missing.  
na = Not applicable
Among both women and men, the prevalence of STIs and STI symptoms was higher among the divorced, separated, or widowed than among those who were married or never-married but sexually active. Rural residents were more likely than urban residents to have had an STI or STI symptoms. Among women, the prevalence of STIs or STI symptoms was highest in Masvingo (14 percent) while, among men, self-reported STI prevalence peaked among Manicaland residents (15 percent).

Six in ten women and men who had an STI or STI symptoms sought advice or treatment from a clinic/hospital/private doctor or other health professional (Figure 13.1). Men were around three times as likely as women to seek treatment from a traditional healer (9 percent and 3 percent, respectively). Around one-third of women and one-quarter of men did not seek any treatment when they had an STI or STI symptoms.

**Figure 13.1 Source for Treatment or Advice for STI or STI Symptoms**

![Figure 13.1 Source for Treatment or Advice for STI or STI Symptoms](image)

Note: Percentages do not total to 100 because more than one response allowed. ZDHS 2005-2006

### 13.10 INJECTIONS

Injection overuse in a health care setting can contribute to the transmission of blood-borne pathogens because it amplifies the effect of unsafe practices, such as reuse of injection equipment. As a consequence, the proportion of injections given with reused injection equipment is an important prevention indicator in an initiative to prevent and control HIV/AIDS. To obtain data for this indicator, ZDHS respondents were asked if they had had any injections given by a health worker in the six months preceding the survey, and if so, whether their last injection was given with a syringe from a new, unopened package. It should be noted that medical injections can be self-administered (e.g., insulin for diabetes). These injections were not included in the calculation.

Table 13.13 shows the reported prevalence of injections and of safe injection practices. Women were more than twice as likely as men to report receiving an injection from a health worker during the six months prior to the survey (14 percent and 6 percent, respectively). Looking at differentials, injection prevalence was highest among women from Matabeleland South (19 percent) and women with more than a secondary education (20 percent). The highest rates among men were observed in the 30-39 year age group (19 percent) and in Manicaland and Mashonaland West (9 percent each).
Table 13.13 Prevalence of injections

Percentage of women and men age 15-49 who received at least one medical injection in the last 6 months, the average number of medical injections per person, and, among those who received an injection, the percentage of last medical injections for which the syringe and needle were taken from a new and unopened package for the last injection, by background characteristics, Zimbabwe 2005-2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Background characteritic</th>
<th>Women</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th>Men</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Percentage who received a medical injection in the past 6 months</td>
<td>Mean number of medical injections per year</td>
<td>Number of women</td>
<td>For last injection, syringe and needle taken from newly opened package</td>
<td>Number of women receiving injections from a health worker in the past 6 months</td>
<td>Percentage who received a medical injection in the past 6 months</td>
<td>Mean number of medical injections per year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-24</td>
<td>13.0</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>4,104</td>
<td>96.5</td>
<td>531</td>
<td>5.1</td>
<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-19</td>
<td>10.8</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>2,152</td>
<td>96.3</td>
<td>232</td>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-24</td>
<td>15.3</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>1,952</td>
<td>96.7</td>
<td>299</td>
<td>6.3</td>
<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-29</td>
<td>16.2</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>1,466</td>
<td>97.3</td>
<td>238</td>
<td>5.7</td>
<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-39</td>
<td>16.2</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>2,050</td>
<td>95.6</td>
<td>332</td>
<td>9.0</td>
<td>0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>95.4</td>
<td>156</td>
<td>7.4</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residence</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
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<td>0.4</td>
<td>3,502</td>
<td>95.5</td>
<td>490</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>0.3</td>
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<tr>
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<td>0.3</td>
<td>5,405</td>
<td>96.8</td>
<td>767</td>
<td>5.6</td>
<td>0.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Province</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manicaland</td>
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<td>143</td>
<td>9.3</td>
<td>0.4</td>
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<td>95.0</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>7.1</td>
<td>0.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mashonaland East</td>
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<td>97.4</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>2.9</td>
<td>0.1</td>
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<td>0.2</td>
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<td>93.1</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>8.5</td>
<td>0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matabeleland North</td>
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<td>0.3</td>
<td>536</td>
<td>99.2</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matabeleland South</td>
<td>19.3</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>439</td>
<td>92.8</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midlands</td>
<td>12.1</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>1,193</td>
<td>99.3</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>0.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masvingo</td>
<td>16.6</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>1,137</td>
<td>95.0</td>
<td>189</td>
<td>8.4</td>
<td>0.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Harare</td>
<td>13.3</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>1,492</td>
<td>97.6</td>
<td>198</td>
<td>6.8</td>
<td>0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulawayo</td>
<td>8.4</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>697</td>
<td>98.8</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>5.6</td>
<td>0.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No education</td>
<td>8.2</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>380</td>
<td>(89.7)</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary</td>
<td>14.0</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>2,902</td>
<td>96.2</td>
<td>405</td>
<td>7.4</td>
<td>0.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary</td>
<td>14.3</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>5,355</td>
<td>96.5</td>
<td>768</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>0.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More than secondary</td>
<td>19.6</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>(97.9)</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>7.6</td>
<td>0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wealth quintile</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lowest</td>
<td>12.4</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>1,552</td>
<td>98.8</td>
<td>193</td>
<td>5.4</td>
<td>0.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second</td>
<td>14.8</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>96.6</td>
<td>222</td>
<td>6.3</td>
<td>0.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle</td>
<td>14.4</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>1,546</td>
<td>95.3</td>
<td>222</td>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth</td>
<td>15.6</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>2,006</td>
<td>94.7</td>
<td>313</td>
<td>7.4</td>
<td>0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highest</td>
<td>13.4</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>2,304</td>
<td>96.9</td>
<td>308</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total 15-49</td>
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<td>0.3</td>
<td>8,907</td>
<td>96.3</td>
<td>1,257</td>
<td>6.4</td>
<td>0.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total 15-54</td>
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<td>na</td>
<td>na</td>
<td>na</td>
<td>na</td>
<td>6.4</td>
<td>0.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Medical injections are those given by a doctor, nurse, pharmacist, dentist, or other health worker. Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed. Na = Not applicable

Ninety-six percent of recent injections among women were given with a syringe taken from a newly opened package while, among men, 89 percent reported the syringe used for the last injection they received was taken from a newly opened package. With respect to differentials, nine in ten or more women in all subgroups who had had a medical injection reported that the syringe used for the last injection came from an unopened package. Among men, there was greater variation across subgroups in the indicator. For example, only 76 percent of men in the lowest wealth quintile reported that the syringe used in the last injection came from a newly opened package, which was substantially less than for the population of men as a whole.
13.11 HIV/AIDS-related Knowledge and Behaviour among Youth

This section addresses HIV/AIDS-related knowledge among Zimbabwean youth age 15-24 and also assesses the extent to which Zimbabwean youth are engaged in behaviours that may place them at risk of contracting HIV/AIDS.

13.11.1 Knowledge about HIV/AIDS and Source for Condoms

Knowledge of how HIV is transmitted is crucial to enabling people to avoid HIV, especially for young people, who are often at greater risk because they may have shorter relationships with more partners or engage in other risky behaviours. Table 13.14 shows the level of comprehensive knowledge about HIV/AIDS among youth and the percentage of youth who know about a source for condoms. As discussed earlier in the chapter, comprehensive knowledge of HIV/AIDS is defined as knowing that use of condoms and having just one uninfected faithful partner can reduce the chance of getting HIV, knowing that a healthy-looking person can have HIV, and rejecting the two most common local misconceptions about HIV transmission.

Table 13.14 shows that less than half of youths have comprehensive knowledge about HIV/AIDS. Among both sexes, the proportion with comprehensive knowledge tends to increase with increasing levels of education and increased wealth and to be higher among urban youth than rural youth. Among both young women and young men, the level of comprehensive knowledge about HIV/AIDS is greatest in Bulawayo.

Although many youth lack comprehensive knowledge about HIV/AIDS, knowledge of a source for condoms is relatively common. Seventy percent of young women and 73 percent of young men know a place where they can obtain a condom. Knowledge of a source for condoms is higher among urban than rural residents, especially among young women. Looking at provincial differentials, around nine in ten young women in Bulawayo know a source for condoms, compared with just half of young women in Manicaland. Among young men, those living in Harare (81 percent) are the most likely to know a condom source, while those living in Manicaland (61 percent) are the least likely to know where to go for a condom.
Table 13.14  Comprehensive knowledge about HIV/AIDS and of a source of condoms among youth

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Background characteristic</th>
<th>Women 15-24</th>
<th></th>
<th>Men 15-24</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Percentage with comprehensive knowledge of HIV/AIDS</td>
<td>Percentage who know a condom source</td>
<td>Number of women</td>
<td>Percentage with comprehensive knowledge of HIV/AIDS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Age</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-19</td>
<td>41.4</td>
<td>62.5</td>
<td>2,152</td>
<td>43.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-17</td>
<td>39.2</td>
<td>56.1</td>
<td>1,233</td>
<td>41.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-19</td>
<td>44.3</td>
<td>71.0</td>
<td>919</td>
<td>47.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-24</td>
<td>46.3</td>
<td>78.2</td>
<td>1,952</td>
<td>48.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-22</td>
<td>46.4</td>
<td>76.7</td>
<td>1,212</td>
<td>46.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23-24</td>
<td>46.2</td>
<td>80.6</td>
<td>740</td>
<td>51.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Marital status</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never married</td>
<td>45.5</td>
<td>63.9</td>
<td>2,195</td>
<td>45.7</td>
</tr>
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<td>79.9</td>
<td>414</td>
<td>47.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>1,781</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ever married</td>
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<td>1,909</td>
<td>44.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Residence</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
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<td>75.6</td>
<td>1,711</td>
<td>51.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
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<td>65.9</td>
<td>2,392</td>
<td>42.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Province</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manicaland</td>
<td>47.9</td>
<td>50.0</td>
<td>457</td>
<td>42.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mashonaland Central</td>
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<td>71.5</td>
<td>363</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mashonaland East</td>
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<td>299</td>
<td>47.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mashonaland West</td>
<td>31.2</td>
<td>68.2</td>
<td>351</td>
<td>47.1</td>
</tr>
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<td>43.3</td>
</tr>
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<td>Masvingo</td>
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<td>534</td>
<td>43.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harare</td>
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<td>67.3</td>
<td>758</td>
<td>36.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulawayo</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No education</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary</td>
<td>30.1</td>
<td>60.3</td>
<td>1,077</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary</td>
<td>48.5</td>
<td>73.2</td>
<td>2,947</td>
<td>49.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More than secondary</td>
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<td>91.9</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>65.1</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wealth quintile</strong></td>
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<td>Lowest</td>
<td>31.0</td>
<td>66.5</td>
<td>660</td>
<td>37.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second</td>
<td>38.6</td>
<td>66.2</td>
<td>679</td>
<td>40.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle</td>
<td>44.0</td>
<td>63.7</td>
<td>715</td>
<td>42.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fourth</td>
<td>46.0</td>
<td>71.9</td>
<td>905</td>
<td>51.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highest</td>
<td>52.1</td>
<td>76.6</td>
<td>1,146</td>
<td>51.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total 15-24</td>
<td>43.7</td>
<td>70.0</td>
<td>4,104</td>
<td>45.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

1 Comprehensive knowledge means knowing that use of condoms and having just one uninfected faithful partner can reduce the chance of getting HIV, knowing that a healthy-looking person can have HIV, and rejecting the two most common local misconceptions about HIV transmission or prevention. The components of comprehensive knowledge are presented in Tables 13.2, 13.3.1, and 13.3.2

2 Friends, family members, and home are not considered sources for condoms.

### 13.11.2 First Sex

Age at first sex for both men and women is an important indicator of exposure to risk of pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections. Young people who initiate sex at an early age are typically at higher risk of becoming pregnant or contracting an STI than youth who initiate sex later and, thus, have a shorter duration of exposure to these risks. Consistent condom use can reduce these risks.
In Zimbabwe, comparatively few youth initiate sexual activity before age 15, with only 5 percent of women and men in the 15-24 year age group reporting having sex before the age of 15 years (Table 13.15). More than one-third of young women age 18-24 and more than one-quarter of young men age 18-24 indicate that they first had intercourse before their 18th birthday.

### Table 13.15 Age at first sexual intercourse among youth

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Background characteristic</th>
<th>Percentage who had sexual intercourse before age 15</th>
<th>Number of women</th>
<th>Percentage who had sexual intercourse before age 18</th>
<th>Number of women</th>
<th>Percentage who had sexual intercourse before age 15</th>
<th>Number of men</th>
<th>Percentage who had sexual intercourse before age 18</th>
<th>Number of men</th>
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<td><strong>Age</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-19</td>
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<td>2,152</td>
<td>36.1</td>
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<td>5.2</td>
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<td>919</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>734</td>
<td>31.7</td>
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<td>1,212</td>
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<td>928</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>343</td>
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<td>265</td>
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<tr>
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<td>50.2</td>
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<td>2.6</td>
<td>174</td>
<td>22.3</td>
<td>104</td>
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<td>Midlands</td>
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<td>38.8</td>
<td>367</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>479</td>
<td>29.4</td>
<td>309</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masvingo</td>
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<td>534</td>
<td>39.0</td>
<td>382</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>392</td>
<td>20.8</td>
<td>219</td>
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<tr>
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<td>582</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>547</td>
<td>25.2</td>
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<td>Bulawayo</td>
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<td>5.4</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
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<td>*</td>
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<td>*</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>*</td>
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<td>6.2</td>
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<td>2.6</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>22.1</td>
<td>94</td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lowest</td>
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<td>660</td>
<td>58.5</td>
<td>461</td>
<td>6.8</td>
<td>498</td>
<td>30.8</td>
<td>283</td>
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<tr>
<td>Second</td>
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<td>679</td>
<td>50.9</td>
<td>456</td>
<td>5.6</td>
<td>550</td>
<td>30.3</td>
<td>339</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle</td>
<td>7.0</td>
<td>715</td>
<td>37.4</td>
<td>460</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>710</td>
<td>27.0</td>
<td>398</td>
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<td>905</td>
<td>35.4</td>
<td>654</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>828</td>
<td>28.2</td>
<td>614</td>
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<tr>
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<td>17.7</td>
<td>840</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>773</td>
<td>25.8</td>
<td>560</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total 15(18)-24</td>
<td>5.3</td>
<td>4,104</td>
<td>36.7</td>
<td>2,871</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>3,358</td>
<td>28.0</td>
<td>2,193</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: An asterisk indicates a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.  
na = Not available  
1 Friends, family members, and home are not considered sources for condoms.
As expected, the proportion of youth initiating sex early is higher among ever-married youth than among those who were not yet married at the time of the survey. Rural youth are much more likely than urban youth to have initiated sex before age 15 or age 18, a pattern that is partly owed to the greater prevalence of earlier marriage among rural than urban residents. Among women, Mashonaland Central had the highest proportions who began to have sex before age 15 and age 18 (15 percent and 57 percent, respectively) and Bulawayo had the lowest proportions (1 percent and 19 percent, respectively). Among men, the proportion initiating sexual intercourse before age 15 was also highest in Mashonaland Central (9 percent) and lowest in Mashonaland East (1 percent), while Matabeleland North had the highest proportion of young men initiating sexual intercourse before age 18 (40 percent) and Mashonaland East the lowest (19 percent). The likelihood of an early sexual debut declines with both education and wealth, especially among young women.

To assess the extent of condom use from the beginning of sexual exposure, sexually active youth were asked whether they had used condoms the first time they had sex. Table 13.16 shows that young men were nearly three times as likely as young women to have used a condom during the first sexual encounter (16 percent and 44 percent, respectively). Never-married young women were almost four times as likely as ever-married young women to have used a condom when they first had sex, while the difference in condom use between ever-married and never-married young men was considerably smaller (47 percent among never-married and 33 percent among ever-married). Urban youth were much more likely than rural youth to have used a condom the first time they had sex. Looking at provincial patterns, young women in Bulawayo and young men in Harare had the highest levels of condom use at first sex (40 percent and 60 percent, respectively). The likelihood that a condom was used the first time a respondent had sex increased with both educational level and wealth.

| Table 13.16  Condom use at first sexual intercourse among youth  
| Percentage of young women and young men age 15-24 who used a condom the first time they had sexual intercourse, by background characteristics, Zimbabwe 2005-2006 |
| Background  |
| characteristic  | Women 15-24 | Men 15-24 |
| Age  | Percentage who used a condom at first sexual intercourse | Number of women who had sexual intercourse | Percentage who used a condom at first sexual intercourse | Number of men who had sexual intercourse |
| 15-19  | 22.8 | 691 | 38.4 | 522 |
| 15-17  | 28.0 | 228 | 27.0 | 199 |
| 18-19  | 20.2 | 463 | 45.5 | 323 |
| 20-24  | 13.7 | 1,630 | 46.2 | 1,114 |
| 20-22  | 15.2 | 963 | 46.7 | 655 |
| 23-24  | 11.6 | 666 | 45.5 | 459 |
| Marital status  |  |  |  |  |
| Never married  | 42.2 | 414 | 46.8 | 1,266 |
| Ever married  | 10.8 | 1,906 | 33.3 | 370 |
| Knows condom source  |  |  |  |  |
| Yes  | 18.2 | 1,800 | 38.0 | 1,145 |
| No  | 10.5 | 520 | 57.2 | 491 |
| Residence  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban  | 23.7 | 829 | 57.9 | 657 |
| Rural  | 12.4 | 1,491 | 34.2 | 979 |
| Province  |  |  |  |  |
| Manicaland  | 14.0 | 265 | 46.5 | 150 |
| Mashonaland Central  | 10.2 | 247 | 44.0 | 203 |
| Mashonaland East  | 13.9 | 184 | 46.0 | 99 |
| Mashonaland West  | 14.7 | 220 | 44.1 | 164 |
| Matabeleland North  | 26.2 | 159 | 24.9 | 122 |
| Matabeleland South  | 36.2 | 113 | 43.9 | 70 |
| Midlands  | 9.6 | 302 | 38.5 | 222 |
| Masvingo  | 9.5 | 310 | 29.4 | 180 |
| Harare  | 16.6 | 376 | 60.4 | 287 |
| Bulawayo  | 40.1 | 145 | 47.4 | 139 |
| Education  |  |  |  |  |
| No education  | *  | 16 | *  | 4 |
| Primary  | 10.6 | 738 | 29.0 | 437 |
| Secondary  | 19.1 | 1,533 | 48.1 | 1,133 |
| More than secondary  | 30.3 | 34 | 67.8 | 63 |
| Wealth quintile  |  |  |  |  |
| Lowest  | 9.6 | 455 | 24.0 | 263 |
| Second  | 10.5 | 445 | 26.7 | 259 |
| Middle  | 13.4 | 416 | 44.0 | 305 |
| Fourth  | 19.1 | 550 | 49.2 | 446 |
| Highest  | 28.8 | 454 | 63.3 | 363 |
| Total 15-24  | 16.4 | 2,320 | 43.7 | 1,636 |

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

1 Friends, family members, and home are not considered sources for condoms.
### 13.11.3 Premarital Sex

The period between age at first sex and age at marriage is often a time of sexual experimentation. Table 13.17 presents information on the patterns of sexual activity among never-married youth age 15-24 in Zimbabwe including the percentage of never-married youth who have never had sexual intercourse, the percentage who engaged in sexual intercourse in the 12 months before the survey, and, among the recently sexually active, the percentage who used condoms during last sex.

#### Table 13.17 Premarital sexual intercourse and condom use during premarital sexual intercourse among youth

Among never-married women and men age 15-24, the percentage who have never had sexual intercourse, the percentage who have had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months, and, among those who have had premarital sexual intercourse in the past 12 months, the percentage who used a condom at the last sexual intercourse, by background characteristics, Zimbabwe 2005-2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Background characteristic</th>
<th>Percentage who have never had sexual intercourse</th>
<th>Percentage who have had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months</th>
<th>Among women who had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months</th>
<th>Percentage who used condom at last sexual intercourse</th>
<th>Number of never-married women</th>
<th>Number of women</th>
<th>Percentage who have never had sexual intercourse</th>
<th>Percentage who have had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months</th>
<th>Among men who had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months</th>
<th>Percentage who used condom at last sexual intercourse</th>
<th>Number of never-married men</th>
<th>Number of men</th>
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<tr>
<td>15-19</td>
<td>88.9</td>
<td>8.2</td>
<td>1,640</td>
<td>40.9</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>73.0</td>
<td>17.5</td>
<td>1,886</td>
<td>53.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>15-17</td>
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<td>5.1</td>
<td>1,077</td>
<td>43.4</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>83.0</td>
<td>11.0</td>
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<tr>
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<td>26.9</td>
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<td>49.4</td>
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<td>39.1</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>(84.4)</td>
<td>36</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>264</td>
<td>(22.6)</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>53.6</td>
<td>34.4</td>
<td>438</td>
<td>35.8</td>
<td>151</td>
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<tr>
<td>Second</td>
<td>82.6</td>
<td>11.5</td>
<td>283</td>
<td>(27.3)</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>62.2</td>
<td>24.6</td>
<td>467</td>
<td>51.4</td>
<td>115</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle</td>
<td>83.9</td>
<td>10.3</td>
<td>354</td>
<td>(28.0)</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>62.3</td>
<td>25.7</td>
<td>650</td>
<td>71.3</td>
<td>167</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fourth</td>
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<td>14.5</td>
<td>448</td>
<td>47.1</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>54.2</td>
<td>29.2</td>
<td>705</td>
<td>76.3</td>
<td>206</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highest</td>
<td>81.7</td>
<td>12.6</td>
<td>846</td>
<td>51.6</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>56.3</td>
<td>27.6</td>
<td>728</td>
<td>87.2</td>
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<td>Total 15-24</td>
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<td>12.9</td>
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<td>40.4</td>
<td>283</td>
<td>57.6</td>
<td>28.1</td>
<td>2,988</td>
<td>67.3</td>
<td>839</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

1 Friends, family members, and home are not considered sources for condoms.
Never-married female youth are much more likely than never-married male youth to report that they have never engaged in sexual intercourse (81 percent and 58 percent, respectively). Among both women and men who have never married, abstinence is very common in the 15-19 year age group. Though the percentage of never-married youth who have never had sex declines rapidly with age, among 23-24 year olds, 50 percent of never-married women and 22 percent of never-married men reported that they had not yet had sexual intercourse.

Considering the pattern of recent sexual activity, 28 percent of never-married male youth reported that they had intercourse during the 12 months prior to the survey, compared with 13 percent of never-married female youth. Among never-married sexually active youth, condom use at last sex was more common among males than females (67 percent and 40 percent, respectively).

The largest differentials in Table 13.17 are observed in the percentages of sexually active never-married youth using condoms at last sex. Condom use is much more prevalent among urban than rural youth, and it increases with both the youth’s educational level and the wealth quintile. For example, 87 percent of sexually active never-married male youth in the highest wealth quintile used a condom the last time they had sex in the 12 months before the survey, compared with 36 percent in the lowest quintile.

13.11.4 Higher-risk Sex

The most common means of transmission of HIV in Zimbabwe is through unprotected sex with an infected person. To prevent HIV transmission, it is important that young people practice safe sex. Tables 13.18.1 and 13.18.2 present data on the percentage of young people who had engaged in sexual intercourse during the 12-month period before the survey with at least one higher-risk partner, i.e., a nonmarital, noncohabiting partner, and the rate of condom use in these higher-risk sexual encounters.

Young men were much more likely than young women to report a recent higher-risk sexual activity (78 percent and 16 percent, respectively). This is at least in part due to the fact that young women are more likely than young men to be married or living together with a partner. Among youth who were ever-married, only 4 percent of women reported having a higher-risk sexual encounter, compared with 27 percent of men. The increasing proportion married with age also is a factor in the lower prevalence of higher-risk sex among both young women and men in their early twenties compared with those under age 20. Looking at the other differentials in Tables 13.8.1 and 13.8.2, higher-risk sex is most prevalent among young women in Matabeleland South (49 percent) and among young men in Matabeleland South and Bulawayo (87 percent each).

Condom use during high-risk sex varied markedly between young women and men; 42 percent of women used a condom the last time they had sex with a high-risk partner, compared with 68 percent of young men. Among both young women and young men, the likelihood of a condom being used during higher-risk intercourse generally increased with education and the wealth quintile and was more common among urban than rural residents.
### Table 13.18.1  Higher-risk sexual intercourse among youth and condom use at last higher-risk intercourse in the past 12 months: women

Among young women age 15-24 who had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months, the percentage who had higher-risk sexual intercourse in the past 12 months, and, among those having higher-risk intercourse in the past 12 months, the percentage reporting that a condom was used at last higher-risk intercourse, by background characteristics, Zimbabwe 2005-2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Background characteristic</th>
<th>Women 15-24 who had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months</th>
<th>Women 15-24 who had higher-risk intercourse in the past 12 months</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Percentage who had higher-risk intercourse in the past 12 months</td>
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<td>15-17</td>
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<td>205</td>
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<tr>
<td>18-19</td>
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<td>20-24</td>
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<td>23-24</td>
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<td>Ever married</td>
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<td>1,589</td>
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<tr>
<td>No</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Mashonaland East</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mashonaland West</td>
<td>8.8</td>
<td>197</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matabeleland North</td>
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<tr>
<td>Matabeleland South</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midlands</td>
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<tr>
<td>Masvingo</td>
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<td>261</td>
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<tr>
<td>Harare</td>
<td>19.6</td>
<td>319</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bulawayo</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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

¹ Sexual intercourse with a partner who neither was a spouse nor who lived with the respondent
² Friends, family members, and home are not considered sources for condoms.
### Table 13.18.2  Higher-risk sexual intercourse among youth and condom use at last higher-risk intercourse in the past 12 months: men

Among young men age 15-24 who had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months, the percentage who had higher-risk sexual intercourse in the past 12 months, and, among those having higher-risk intercourse in the past 12 months, the percentage reporting that a condom was used at last higher-risk intercourse, by background characteristics, Zimbabwe 2005-2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Background characteristic</th>
<th>Men 15-24 who had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months</th>
<th>Men 15-24 who had higher-risk intercourse in the past 12 months</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Percentage who had higher-risk intercourse in the past 12 months</td>
<td>Number of men</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Age</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-19</td>
<td>96.5</td>
<td>342</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-17</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-19</td>
<td>94.4</td>
<td>213</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-24</td>
<td>69.9</td>
<td>854</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-22</td>
<td>76.5</td>
<td>484</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23-24</td>
<td>61.2</td>
<td>369</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Marital status</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never married</td>
<td>98.9</td>
<td>839</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ever married</td>
<td>27.2</td>
<td>356</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Knows condom source?</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>69.5</td>
<td>770</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>92.0</td>
<td>426</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Residence</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>81.1</td>
<td>448</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>75.3</td>
<td>748</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Province</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manicaland</td>
<td>76.4</td>
<td>117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mashonaland Central</td>
<td>68.3</td>
<td>153</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mashonaland East</td>
<td>71.5</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mashonaland West</td>
<td>70.9</td>
<td>108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matabeleland North</td>
<td>79.7</td>
<td>107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matabeleland South</td>
<td>86.9</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midlands</td>
<td>79.0</td>
<td>158</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masvingo</td>
<td>83.4</td>
<td>139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harare</td>
<td>76.6</td>
<td>183</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulawayo</td>
<td>86.7</td>
<td>112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Education</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No education</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary</td>
<td>74.5</td>
<td>330</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary</td>
<td>78.2</td>
<td>823</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More than secondary</td>
<td>87.4</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wealth quintile</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lowest</td>
<td>75.2</td>
<td>209</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second</td>
<td>68.4</td>
<td>195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle</td>
<td>79.9</td>
<td>226</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth</td>
<td>75.4</td>
<td>321</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highest</td>
<td>87.2</td>
<td>246</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total 15-24</strong></td>
<td>77.5</td>
<td>1,195</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

1 Sexual intercourse with a partner who neither was a spouse nor who lived with the respondent

2 Friends, family members, and home are not considered sources for condoms.
13.11.5 Age-mixing in Sexual Relationships

In many societies, young women have sexual relationships with men who are considerably older than they are. This practice can contribute to the wider spread of HIV and other STIs, because if a younger, uninfected partner has sex with an older, infected partner, this can introduce the virus into a younger, uninfected cohort. To investigate this practice, in the 2005-06 ZDHS women age 15-19 who had sex with a nonmarital, noncohabiting partner in the 12 months preceding the survey were asked whether the man was younger, about the same age, or older than they were. If older, they were asked if they thought he was less than 10 years older or 10 or more years older. The results show that in the year prior to the survey, 5 percent of women age 15-19 who had higher-risk sex had intercourse with a man 10 or more years older than themselves (not shown in table).

13.11.6 Drunkenness during Sexual Intercourse

Sexual intercourse when one or both partners are under the influence of alcohol is more likely than otherwise to be unplanned, and couples are therefore less likely to use condoms. Respondents who had sex during the preceding 12 months were asked if they or their partners drank alcohol the last time they had sex, and if so, whether they or their partners were drunk. Table 13.19 shows the prevalence of sexual intercourse while drunk. Less than 1 percent of female youth and 4 percent of male youth reported that they themselves were drunk at least once when they had intercourse during the 12 months prior to the survey. Five percent of youth reported that they and/or their partner had been drunk when they had intercourse during the year before the survey.
Table 13.19  Drunkenness during sexual intercourse among youth

Among all young women and young men age 15-24, the percentages who had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months while being drunk, by background characteristics, Zimbabwe 2005-2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Background characteristic</th>
<th>Women 15-24</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th>Men 15-24</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Percentage who had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months when drunk</td>
<td>Number of women</td>
<td>Percentage who had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months when drunk or with a partner who was drunk</td>
<td>Number of men</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-19</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>2,152</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>1,899</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-17</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>1,233</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>1,165</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-19</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>919</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>734</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-24</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>1,952</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>1,459</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-22</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>1,212</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>928</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23-24</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>740</td>
<td>10.9</td>
<td>531</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marital status</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never married</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>2,195</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>2,988</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ever married</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>1,909</td>
<td>10.9</td>
<td>370</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knows condom source ¹</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>2,871</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>2,465</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>1,232</td>
<td>7.0</td>
<td>893</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residence</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>1,711</td>
<td>5.1</td>
<td>1,279</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>2,392</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>2,079</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Province</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manicaland</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>457</td>
<td>4.6</td>
<td>407</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mashonaland Central</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>363</td>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>343</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mashonaland East</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>299</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>265</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mashonaland West</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>351</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>310</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matabeleland North</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>243</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>207</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matabeleland South</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>205</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>174</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midlands</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>546</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>479</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masvingo</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>534</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>392</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harare</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>758</td>
<td>5.7</td>
<td>547</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulawayo</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>348</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>234</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No education</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>1,077</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>852</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>2,947</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>2,400</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More than secondary</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>7.0</td>
<td>97</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wealth quintile</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lowest</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>660</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>498</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>679</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>550</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>715</td>
<td>5.2</td>
<td>710</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>905</td>
<td>6.1</td>
<td>828</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highest</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>1,146</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>773</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total 15-24</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>4,104</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>3,358</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: An asterisk indicates a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.
¹ Friends, family members, and home are not considered sources for condoms.
13.11.7 Coverage of HIV Testing Services

Seeking an HIV test may be more difficult for youth than adults, because many youth lack experience in accessing health services for themselves and because there are often barriers to youth obtaining services. Table 13.20 presents data on the percentage of sexually active youth being tested and receiving the results within the past year.

Overall, there was very low uptake of HIV testing among men and women in the 15-24 year age range. Female youth are slightly more likely than male youth to have been tested for HIV and received the results of the test (7 percent and 5 percent, respectively). Urban youth, particularly those living in Bulawayo and Harare, youth with more than secondary education, and youth in the highest wealth quintile were more likely than other youth to have had a test and received the results. There is an increase in the percentage of young women and men who got tested for HIV and received the results in the past 12 months with age, education, and wealth.

Table 13.20 Coverage of HIV testing services among youth

| Table 13.20 Coverage of HIV testing services among youth among young women and young men age 15-24 who have had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months, the percentage who have had an HIV test in the past 12 months and received the results of the test, by background characteristics, Zimbabwe 2005-2006 |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Background characteristic | Women 15-24 | Men 15-24 |
| | Percentage who have been tested for HIV and received results in the past 12 months | Number of women | Percentage who have been tested for HIV and received results in the past 12 months | Number of men |
| Age | | | | |
| 15-19 | 4.7 | 2,206 | 2.8 | 1,935 |
| 15-17 | 3.3 | 1,251 | 2.0 | 1,186 |
| 18-19 | 6.8 | 954 | 4.2 | 750 |
| 20-24 | 8.5 | 2,084 | 8.0 | 1,574 |
| 20-22 | 8.4 | 1,286 | 8.1 | 984 |
| 23-24 | 8.6 | 798 | 7.7 | 590 |
| Marital status | | | | |
| Never married | 6.4 | 2,223 | 5.2 | 3,097 |
| Ever married | 6.6 | 2,067 | 5.0 | 412 |
| Knows condom source | | | | |
| Yes | 7.7 | 3,023 | 5.1 | 2,551 |
| No | 3.6 | 1,267 | 5.2 | 959 |
| Residence | | | | |
| Urban | 10.6 | 1,788 | 8.4 | 1,349 |
| Rural | 3.6 | 2,502 | 3.1 | 2,161 |
| Province | | | | |
| Manicaland | 8.7 | 471 | 4.4 | 426 |
| Mashonaland Central | 6.0 | 380 | 2.6 | 367 |
| Mashonaland East | 4.8 | 315 | 2.8 | 272 |
| Mashonaland West | 3.2 | 362 | 4.0 | 316 |
| Matabeleland North | 5.6 | 247 | 2.3 | 211 |
| Matabeleland South | 4.2 | 211 | 2.2 | 175 |
| Midlands | 2.5 | 577 | 4.4 | 498 |
| Masvingo | 4.8 | 572 | 5.4 | 413 |
| Harare | 10.8 | 789 | 8.4 | 583 |
| Bulawayo | 11.0 | 364 | 12.2 | 248 |
| Education | | | | |
| No education | * | 21 | * | 10 |
| Primary | 1.7 | 1,142 | 1.6 | 882 |
| Secondary | 7.9 | 3,062 | 5.8 | 2,514 |
| More than secondary | 26.5 | 65 | 20.0 | 104 |
| Wealth quintile | | | | |
| Lowest | 3.1 | 702 | 1.7 | 518 |
| Second | 4.1 | 708 | 3.0 | 561 |
| Middle | 3.2 | 737 | 3.3 | 749 |
| Fourth | 6.7 | 956 | 5.3 | 880 |
| Highest | 11.9 | 1,186 | 10.4 | 802 |
| Total 15-24 | 6.5 | 4,290 | 5.1 | 3,510 |

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

1 Friends, family members, and home are not considered sources for condoms.