

## HIV/AIDS Profile: Burma

### Demographic Indicators

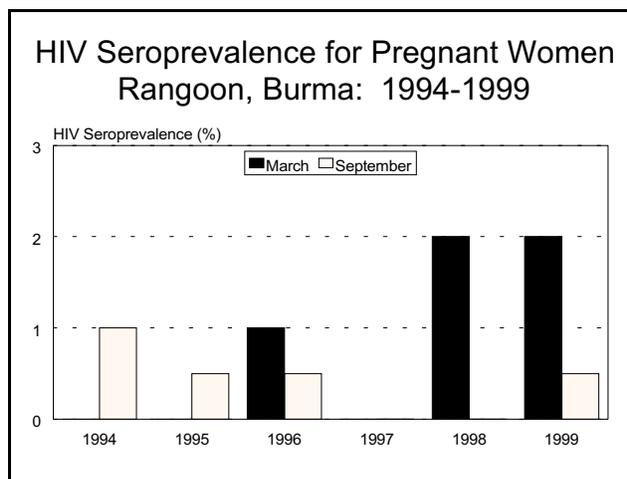
	with AIDS	without AIDS		with AIDS	without AIDS
Population (1000s)	41,735	42,143	Growth Rate (%)	0.6 %	0.8 %
Crude Birth Rate	21	21	Crude Death Rate	12	11
Infant Mortality Rate			Life Expectancy		
Both Sexes	75	73	Both Sexes	55	58
Male	82	80	Male	54	56
Female	68	66	Female	56	60
*****					
Percent Urban	26		Total Fertility Rate	2.4	
<b>Note:</b> Above indicators are for 2000.					
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Estimated % of adults living with HIV/AIDS, end 1999			2.0 %		
Cumulative AIDS rate (per 1,000) as of 3/31/98			0.06		
Cumulative AIDS cases as of 3/31/98			2568		
Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, UNAIDS, Population Reference Bureau, World Health Organization.					

### Epidemiological Data

Epidemic State: Generalized

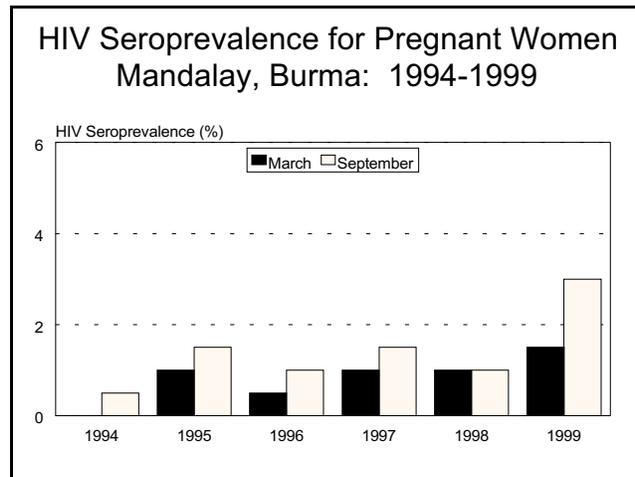
UNAIDS estimates that adult HIV prevalence is 2 percent in Burma, the third most severe epidemic in Asia after Cambodia and Thailand. Sentinel surveillance data from 1999 indicated that 8 percent of pregnant women were HIV positive in some urban areas. Extremely high rates of infection were observed in IV drug users while sex workers and STD patients were greatly affected as well, but to a lesser extent.

- Sentinel surveillance is conducted twice a year, March and September, in Burma. Among pregnant women in Rangoon, the capital, HIV prevalence fluctuated between 1994 and 1999. The average rate in 1999 was a little over 1 percent.

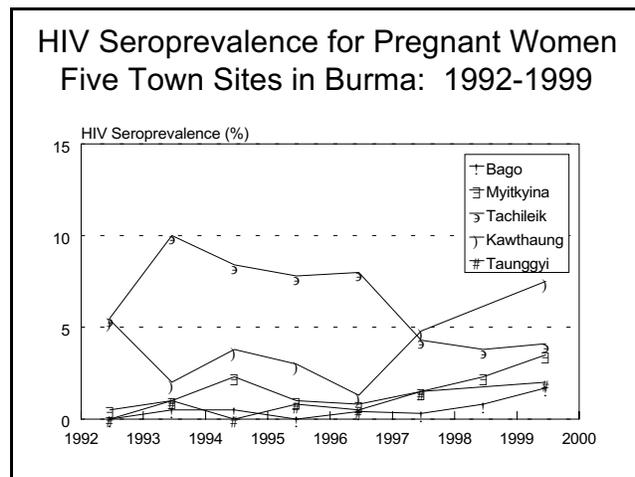


## Burma

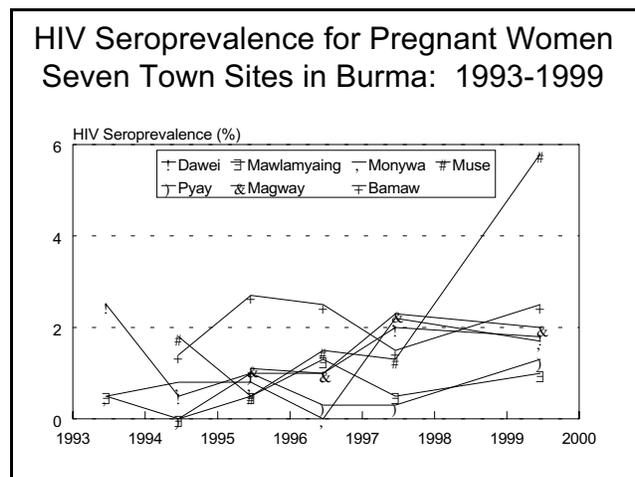
- In Mandalay, the country's second largest city, sentinel surveillance data showed that HIV prevalence among pregnant women ranged between no evidence of infection in March 1994 to 3 percent in September 1999.



- Sentinel surveillance data for the years 1992-99 indicated that HIV seroprevalence levels among pregnant women varied in five towns, Bago, Myitkyina, Tachileik, Kawthaung, and Taunggyi. By 1997, infection levels were generally on the rise. The highest level of infection in 1999 was observed in Kawthaung, located at the southern tip of Burma on the Andaman Sea. The infection rate there was almost 8 percent.

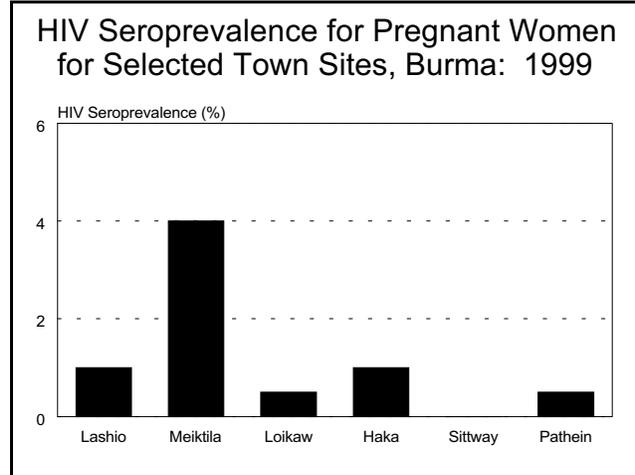


- Sentinel surveillance data from seven towns showed that HIV seroprevalence levels among pregnant women generally ranged from 0 to 3 percent between 1993-99. However, the highest level was observed in Muse, a town that borders Yunnan Province in China. A noticeable increase in infection was observed there between 1997 and 1999. The rate tripled in that time period, rising from 2 to 6 percent.

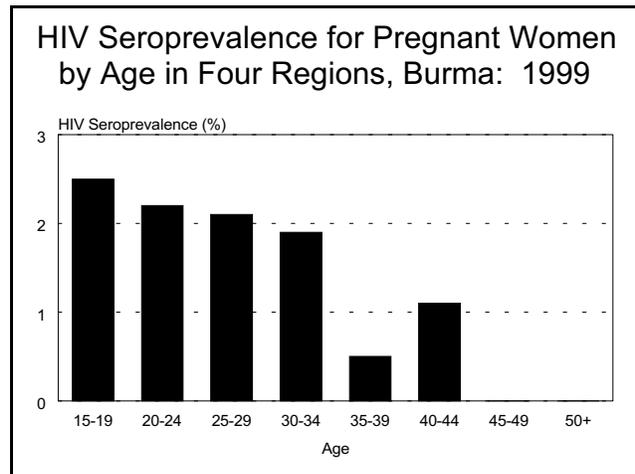


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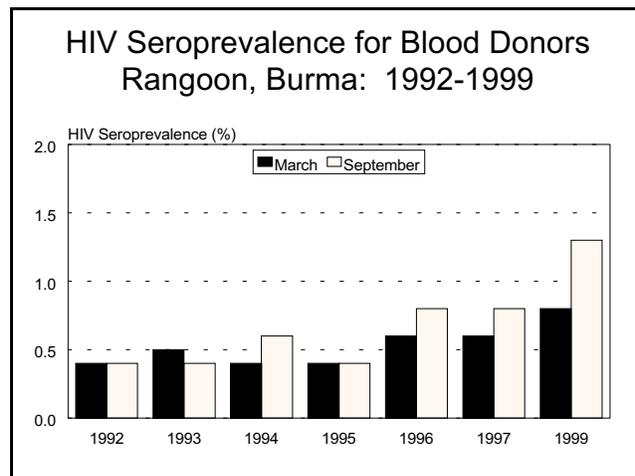
- Sentinel surveillance data from selected towns showed that HIV seroprevalence among pregnant women in 1999 ranged from no evidence of infection in Sittway to 4 percent in Meiktila.



- HIV seroprevalence in 1999 in all four regions of Burma was at or above 2 percent in pregnant women below the age of 35. The highest level was seen among those women 15-19 years of age.

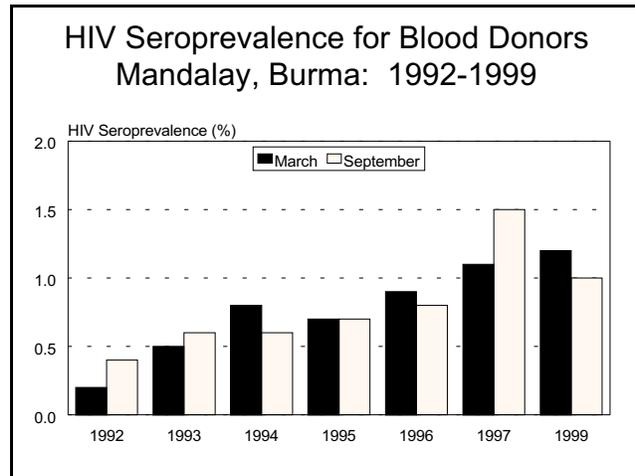


- HIV infection levels among blood donors tested in Rangoon remained below 1 percent between 1992 and March 1999, according to sentinel surveillance data.

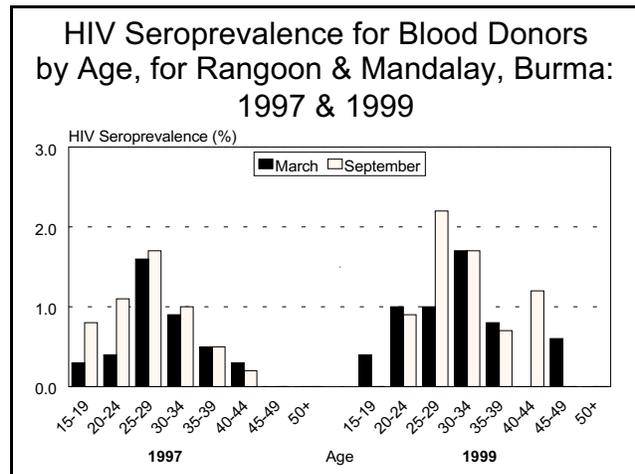


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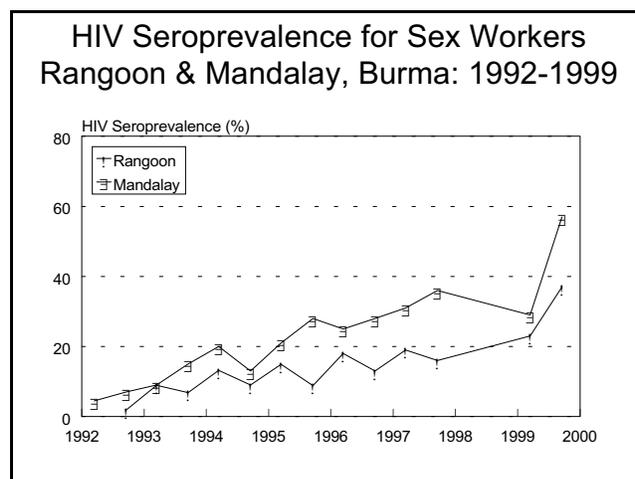
- HIV seroprevalence among blood donors in Mandalay was generally higher than that observed in Rangoon. By March 1997, HIV prevalence rose above 1 percent.



- In Rangoon and Mandalay, HIV seroprevalence among blood donors varied by age in both 1997 and 1999. The infection rate rose above 2 percent among 25-29 year old donors in September 1999, with the majority of other age groups having an infection level between 1 and 2 percent infection.

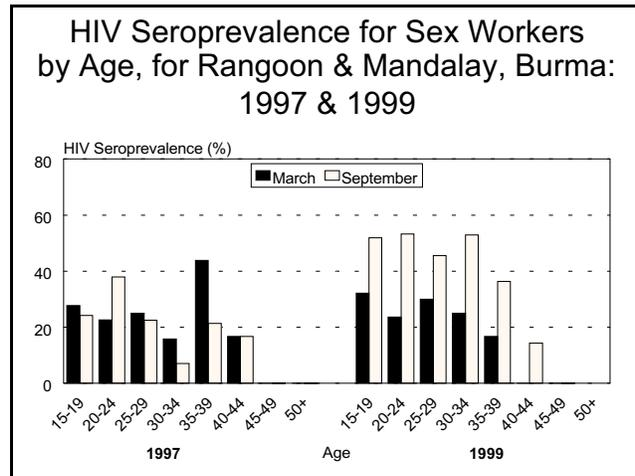


- HIV seroprevalence rose dramatically among sex workers in Rangoon and Mandalay during the 1990s, with Mandalay having consistently higher rates of infection. By September 1999, 57 and 37 percent of sex workers tested in Mandalay and Rangoon, respectively, were HIV positive.

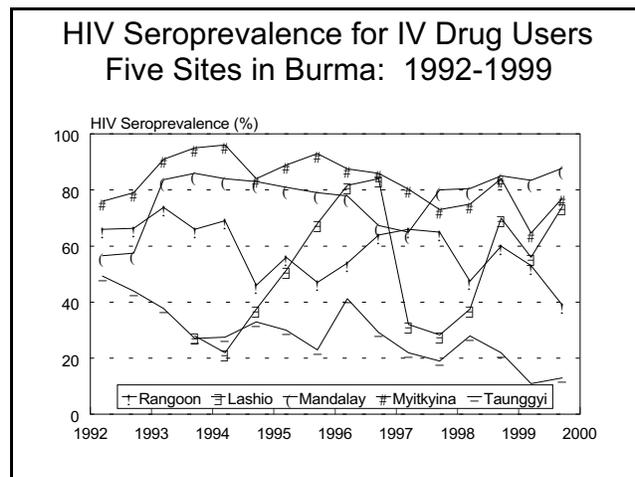


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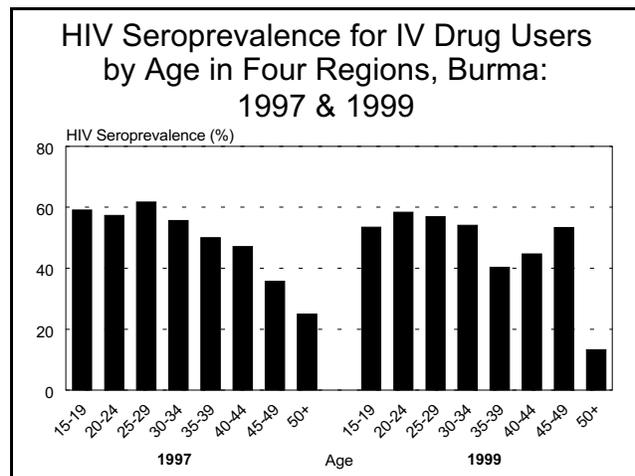
- In general, HIV prevalence among sex workers in Rangoon and Mandalay rose between 1997 and 1999. In 1997, approximately 1 in 4 sex workers 15-19 years of age was HIV positive. By September 1999, this proportion had risen to 1 in 2 sex workers that age.



- By 1992, HIV seroprevalence among IV drug users in four cities of Burma was extremely high. In the four cities, 50 percent or more of those tested as part of sentinel surveillance were already HIV positive. Between 1992 and 1997, the highest rates were seen in Myitkyina, the capital of Kachin State in northern Burma. Since then, IV drug users tested in Mandalay have had the highest rates.

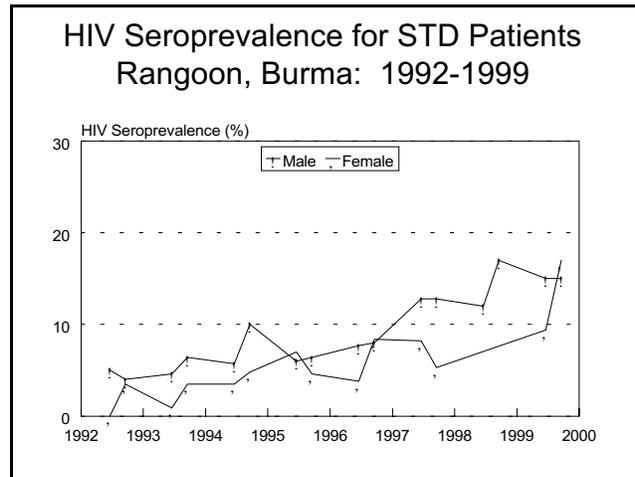


- HIV seroprevalence data for 1997 and 1999 on IV drug users were available by age for all four regions of Burma. In general, infection levels by age were similar in both years. HIV infection rates ranged from 13 to 62 percent. Rates for those under 35 were fairly similar.

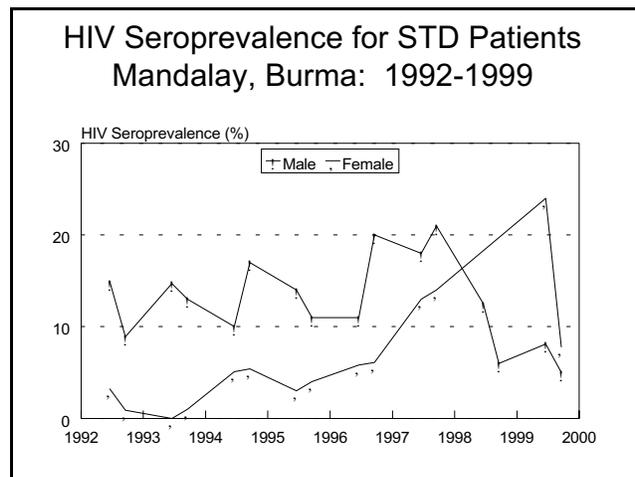


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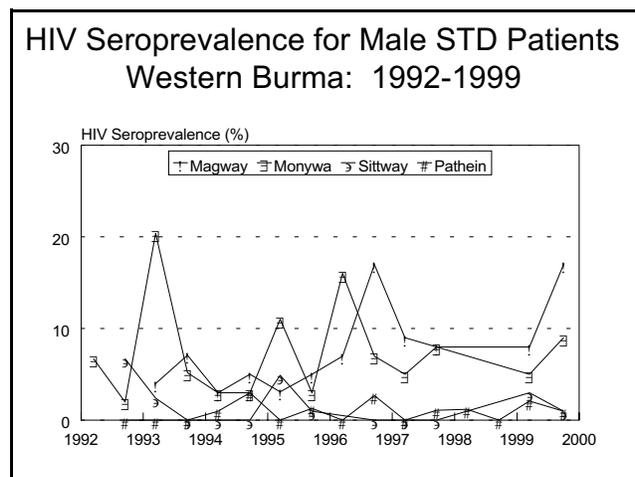
- In Rangoon, HIV infection levels between 1992-97 were higher among male STD patients than female STD patients. Among male patients, prevalence ranged from 4 to 13 percent; among female patients, prevalence ranged from no evidence of infection in March 1992 to 8 percent in September 1996/March 1997. However, by September 1999, HIV prevalence, although now higher among females, was similar, 15 percent for males and 17 percent for females.



- Similar to Rangoon, male STD patients in Mandalay had higher HIV seroprevalence rates than females between 1992 and 1997. The range in infection among males was 9 to 21 percent; among females, 0 to 14 percent. However, there was a noticeable decline in HIV prevalence among males after 1997 while rates among females continued to rise. By September 1999, rates were similar, 5 percent in males, 8 percent in females.

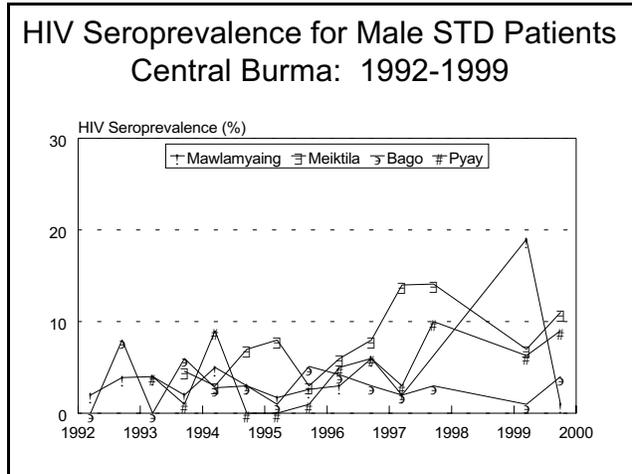


- HIV seroprevalence among male STD patients in Magway, Monywa, Sittway, and Patheingyi, located in western Burma, fluctuated between 1992 and 1999. By September 1999, 1 percent of male patients tested positive for HIV in Patheingyi and Sittway, 9 percent in Monywa, and 17 percent in Magway.

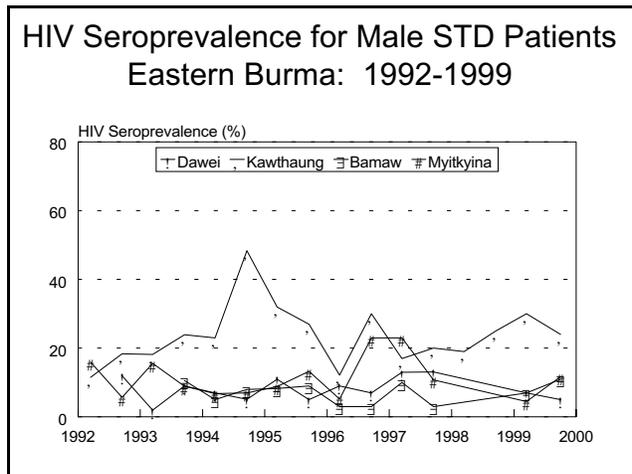


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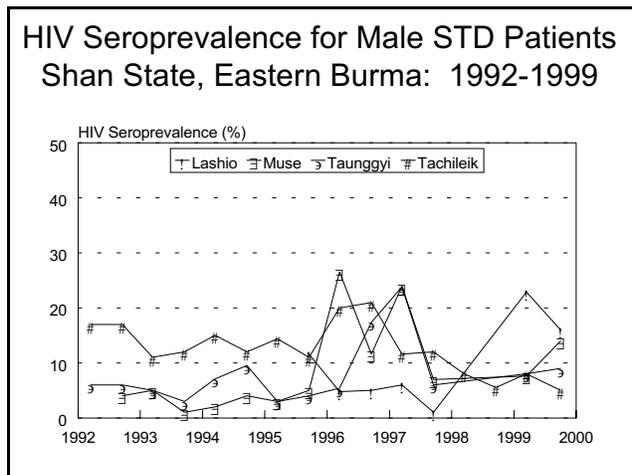
- HIV seroprevalence among male STD patients in Mawlamyaing, Meiktila, Bago, and Pyay, all in central Burma, also fluctuated over time. Between 1992 and 1997, HIV prevalence ranged from no evidence of infection in Bago and Pyay to 14 percent in Meiktila. By September 1999, 11 percent of those tested in Meiktila were HIV positive, 9 percent in Pyay, 4 percent in Bago, and 1 percent in Mawlamyaing.



- HIV seroprevalence among male STD patients in eastern Burma was higher than in the central and western portions of the country during 1992-99. In the towns of Dawei, Kawthaung, Bamaw, and Myitkyina, infection levels ranged from 2 percent in Dawei to almost 50 percent in Kawthaung. By September 1999, HIV prevalence ranged from 5 percent in Dawei to 24 percent in Kawthaung.

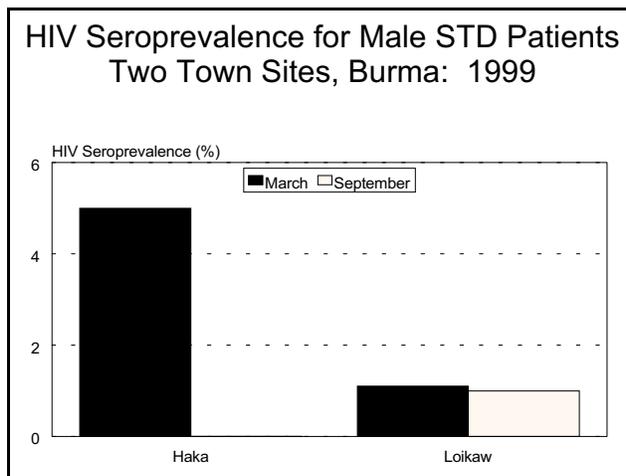


- HIV seroprevalence among male STD patients tested in Muse, Taunggyi, and Tachileik, in Shan State in eastern Burma, ranged from 1 to 27 percent during 1992-99. By September 1999, HIV prevalence was 5 percent in Tachileik, 9 percent in Taunggyi, 14 percent in Muse and 16 percent in Lashio.

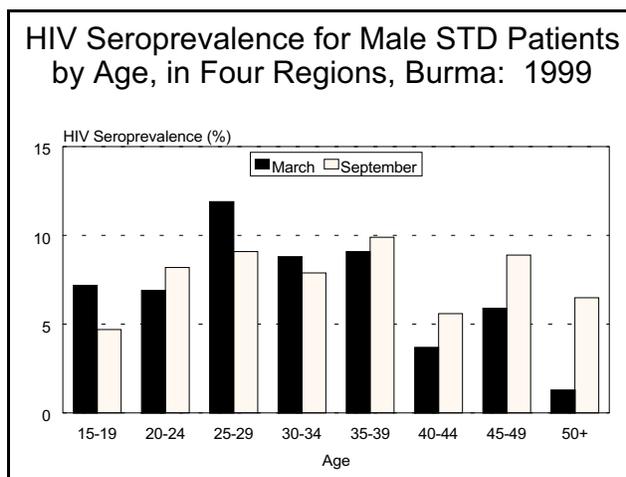


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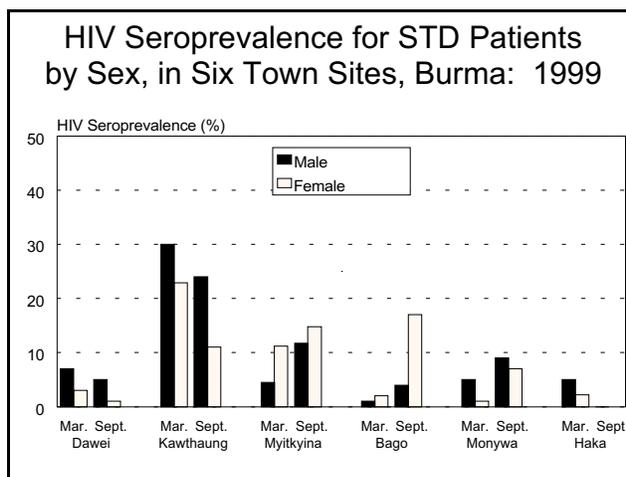
- In 1999, HIV seroprevalence among male STD patients in Haka declined from 5 percent in March to no evidence of infection in September. In Loikaw, HIV prevalence was 1 percent throughout the year.



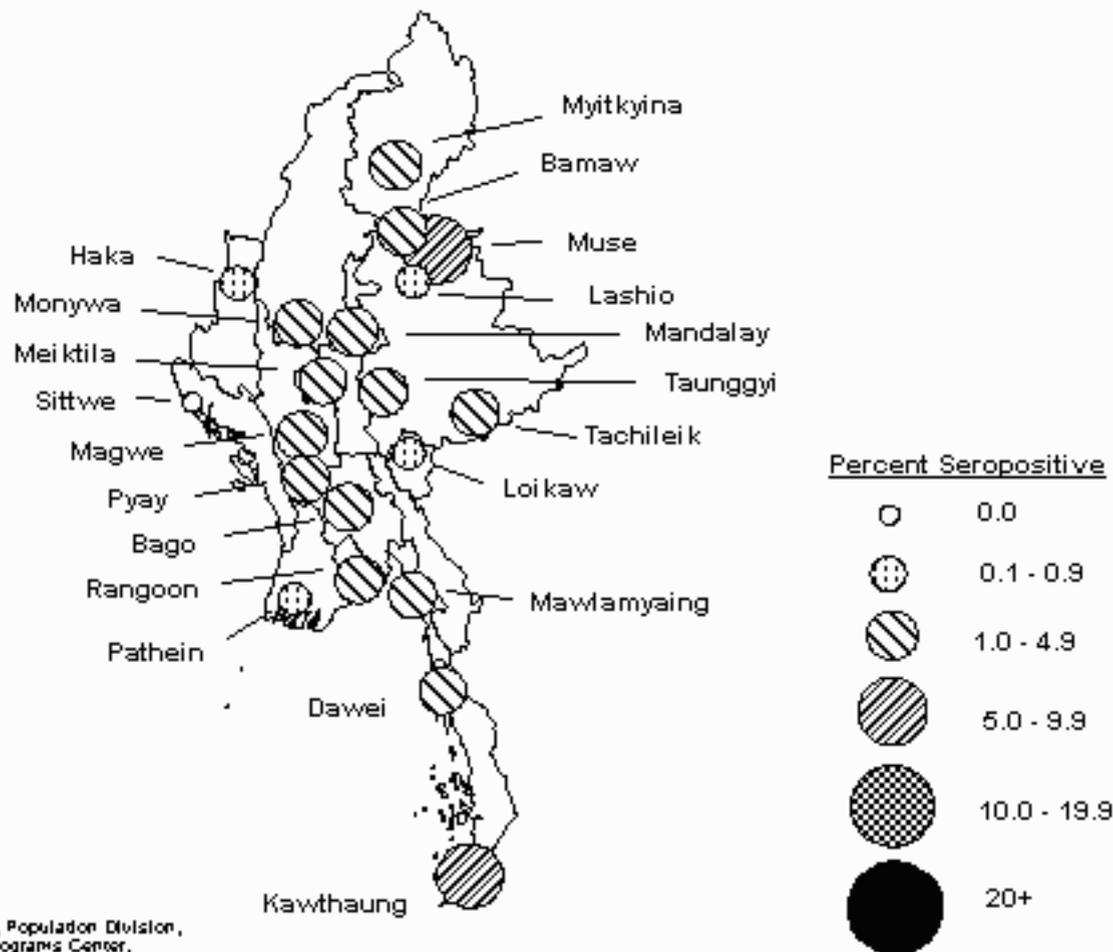
- In 1999, HIV seroprevalence among male STD patients varied by age group in all four regions of Burma. In March 1999, infection levels ranged from 1 percent in those 50 and over to 12 percent among 25-29 year olds. In September 1999, the range was 5 percent among 15-19 years olds to 10 percent among 35-39 year olds.



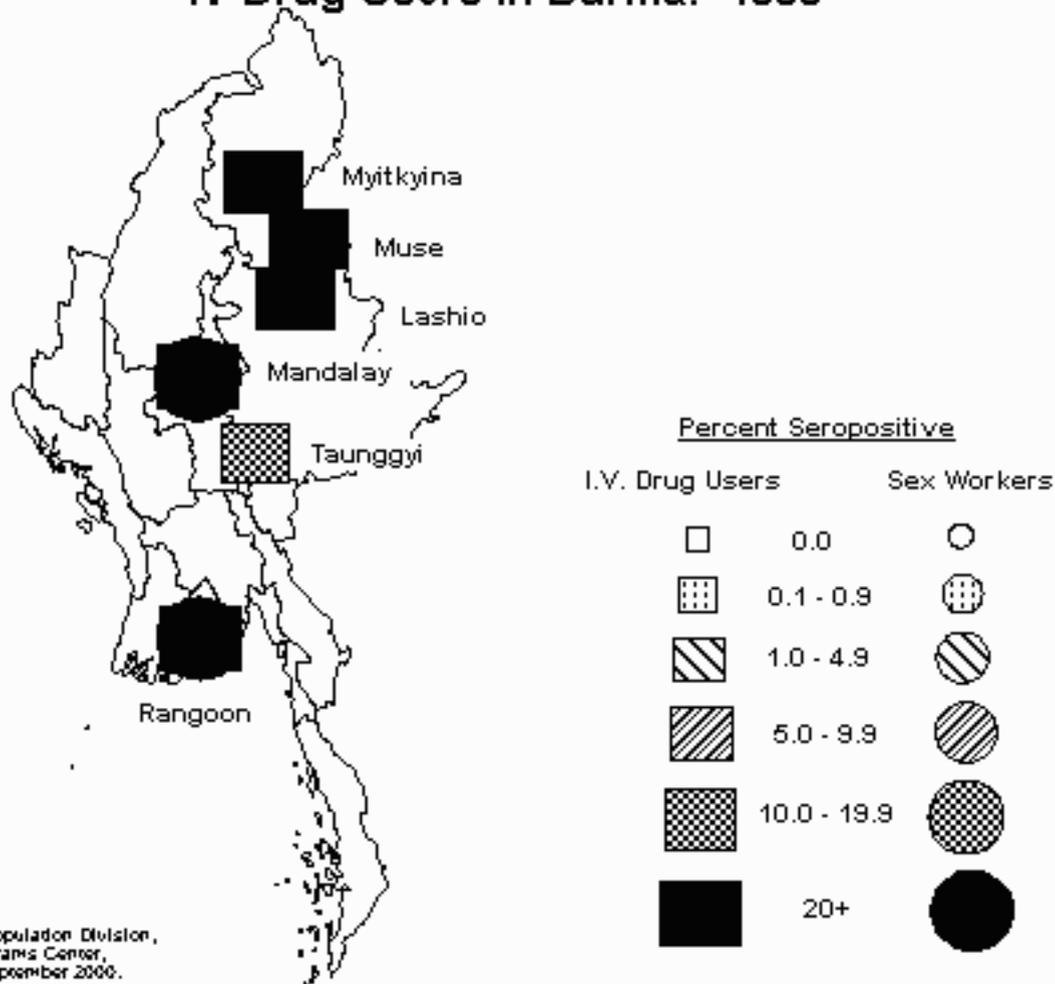
- In 1999, HIV seroprevalence among male and female STD patients in Dawei, Kawthaung, Myitkyina, Bago, Monywa, and Haka varied by town and sex. Overall, the highest HIV prevalence for 1999 was observed in Kawthaung and this applied to both sexes. There, the average rate of infection in 1999 was 27 percent for male patients, 17 percent for female patients.



# Seroprevalence of HIV-1 for Pregnant Women Burma: 1999



# Seroprevalence of HIV-1 for Sex Workers and IV Drug Users in Burma: 1999



## Sources for Burma

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- G0205 Goodwin, D. J., R. Mra, 1997, Geographic Distribution of HIV/AIDS in Myanmar: Evidence of a Major East-West Gradient, 4th International Conference on AIDS and the Pacific, Manila, Philippines, 10/25-29, Session AP109.
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- M0620 Myint, Z., H. L. Hla, T. Min, et al., 1999, Tracing the Pattern of HIV/AIDS Epidemic in Myanmar, Should the Estimates of HIV be Revised?, 5th International Congress on AIDS in Asia and the Pacific, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 10/20-27, Session TCD23-02.