

HIV/AIDS Profile: Jamaica

Demographic Indicators

Population (1,000s)	2,653	Growth Rate (%)	0.5
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000)		Life Expectancy	
Both Sexes	15	Both Sexes	75
Male	16	Male	73
Female	13	Female	77
Crude Birth Rate (per 1,000)	19	Crude Death Rate (per 1,000)	6
Percent Urban	50	Total Fertility Rate	2.1
Note: Above indicators are for 2000.			

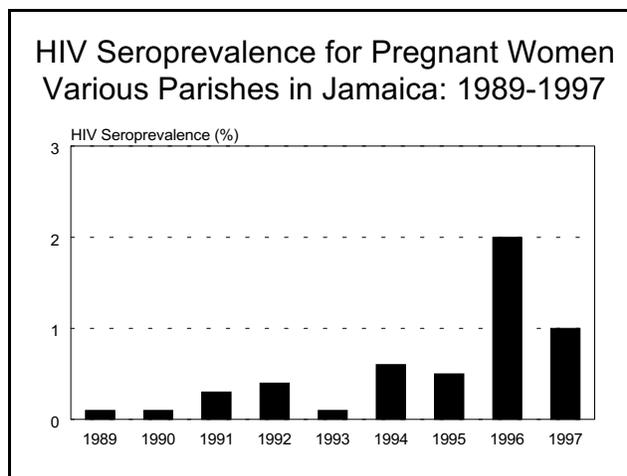
Estimated % of adults living with HIV/AIDS, end 1999	0.7 %		
Cumulative AIDS rate (per 1,000) as of 9/30/97	0.93		
Cumulative AIDS cases as of 9/30/97	2430		
Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Reference Bureau, UNAIDS, World Health Organization.			

Epidemiological Data

Epidemic State: Generalized

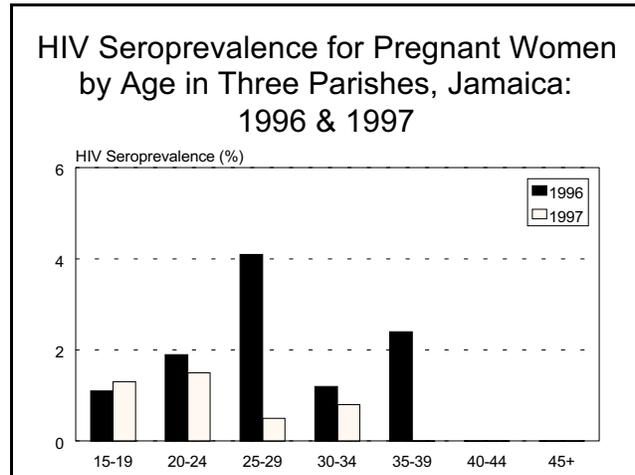
HIV prevalence among pregnant women in Jamaica increased slightly over the past several years. Levels of infection have been stable among blood donors for several years. Prostitutes have high levels of infection in Kingston and Montego Bay but are less affected in the parishes. Lower levels of infection were seen in STD patients compared to the prostitute population.

- HIV seroprevalence among pregnant women increased over the past several years and ranged between 1 and 2 percent in 1996 and 1997, in various parishes of Jamaica, Kingston/St. Andrew, St. Catherine, St. James, Clarendon, and St. Ann. These data were from Jamaica's HIV sentinel surveillance system. Two percent tested positive in 1996, 1 percent in 1997.

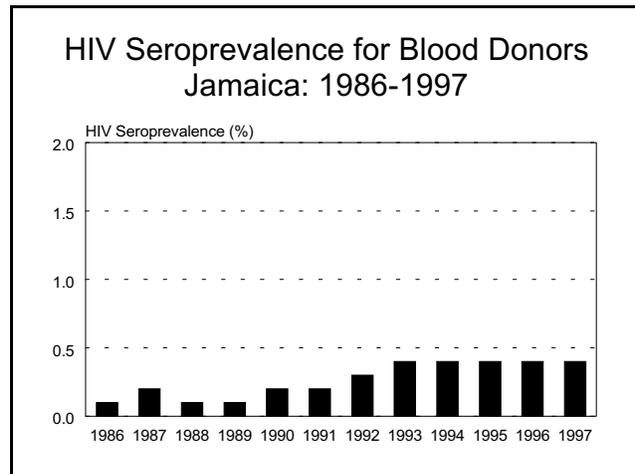


Jamaica

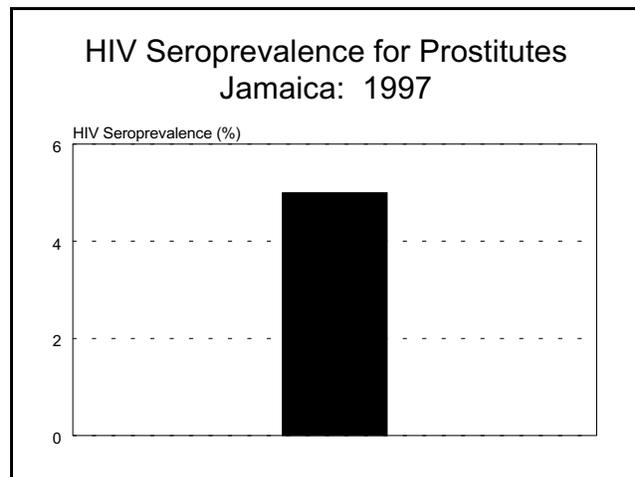
- HIV prevalence between 1996 and 1997 in those 15-19 years of age remained stable at 1 percent. A large drop was observed in those 25-29, declining from 4 percent in 1996 to one-half of 1 percent in 1997. There was no evidence of infection in pregnant women 40 and over in either year.



- Results from an island wide study show that HIV seroprevalence remained stable among blood donors in Jamaica from 1986 to 1997. The average HIV prevalence rate during this time period was 0.3 percent.

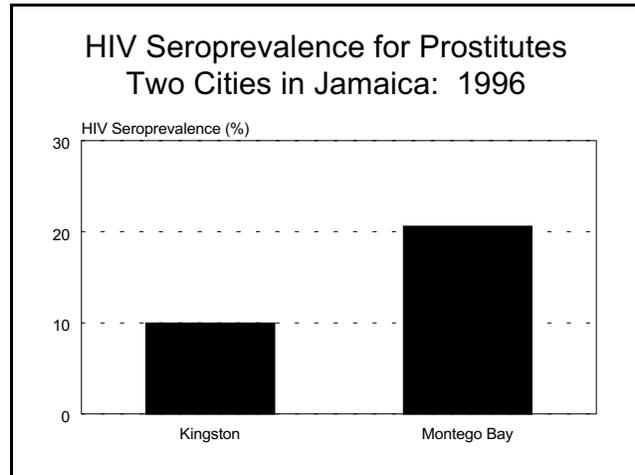


- Prostitutes, a sentinel surveillance population, were tested island wide during 1997. Five percent of these prostitutes were HIV infected.

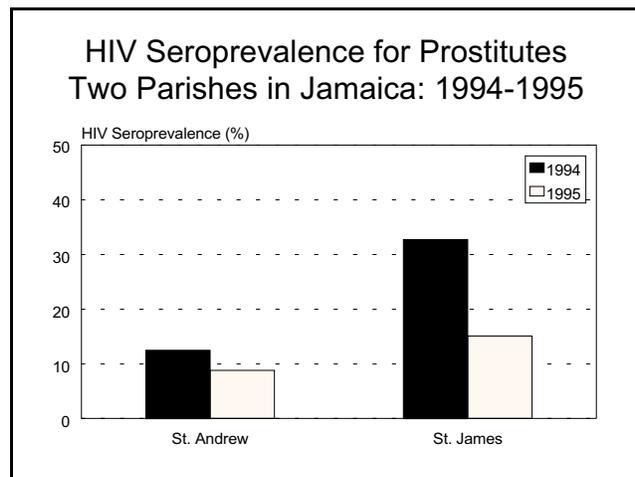


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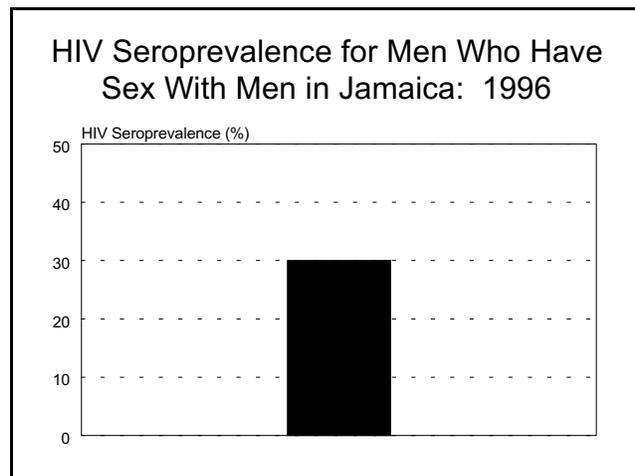
- HIV prevalence among prostitutes in 1996 in Montego Bay was more than twice that of Kingston's. Twenty-one percent of prostitutes in Montego Bay were infected versus 10 percent in Kingston, the capital.



- In St. Andrews parish, around 10 percent of prostitutes tested in 1994 and 1995 were HIV positive. In St. James parish, HIV prevalence among prostitutes tested ranged from 15 to 33 percent.

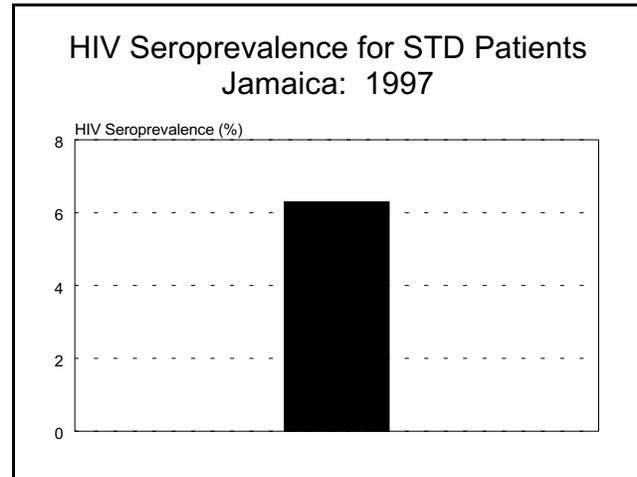


- Thirty percent of men who have sex with men were HIV positive in Jamaica in 1996.

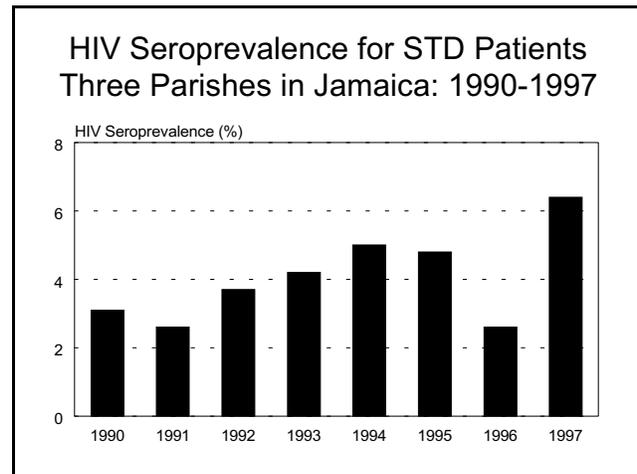


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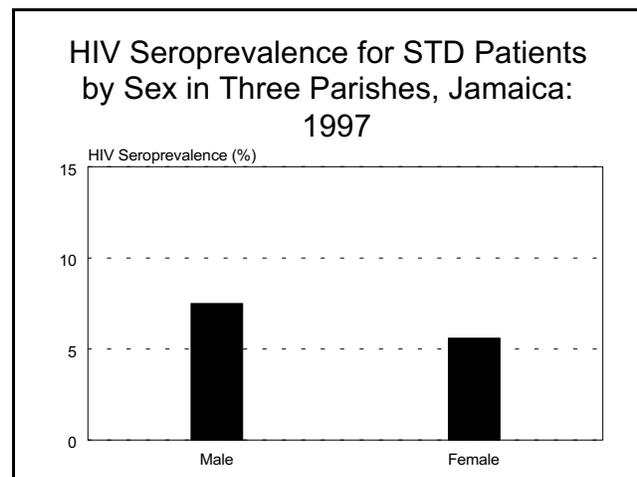
- Six percent of STD patients were HIV positive in Jamaica in 1997.



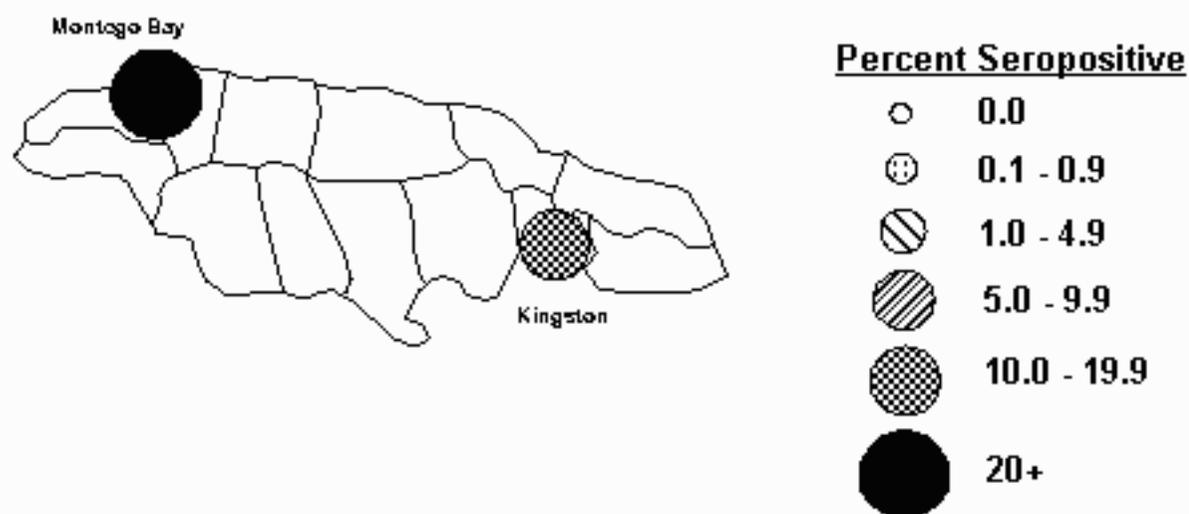
- In St. Catherine, St. James and Kingston/St. Andrew parishes, patients attending STD clinics have been tested as part of the sentinel surveillance system during 1990-97. HIV prevalence has fluctuated with average prevalence at 4 percent in these parishes.



- In 1997, HIV prevalence was higher among male patients attending STD clinics in the three parishes of Jamaica, St. Catherine, St. James and Kingston/St. Andrew, where sentinel surveillance was carried out. Eight percent of male patients were HIV positive and 6 percent of female patients tested positive.



Seroprevalence of HIV-1 for Prostitutes Jamaica: 1994 - 1996



U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division,
International Programs Center,
Country Profile, September 2000.

Sources for Jamaica

- F0083 Figueroa, J. P., A. Brathwaite, E. Ward, et al., 1995, The HIV/AIDS Epidemic in Jamaica, *AIDS*, vol. 9, no. 7, pp. 761-768.
- F0112 Figueroa, J. P., A. R. Brathwaite, M. Wedderburn, et al., 1998, Is HIV/STD Control in Jamaica Making a Difference?, *AIDS*, vol. 12. (suppl. 2), S89-S98.
- J0059 Jamaica National AIDS Program, 1999, Update UNAIDS Epidemiological Fact Sheet, UNAIDS.