

GLOBAL REPORT

FACT SHEET

Eastern Europe and Central Asia

A steep regional increase in new HIV infections and AIDS-related deaths

- In Eastern Europe and Central Asia, the number of people living with HIV almost tripled between 2000 and 2009. An estimated 1.4 million [1.3 million–1.6 million] people were living with HIV in 2009 compared to 530 000 [470 000–620 000] in 2000.
- AIDS-related deaths continue to rise in the region: an estimated 76 000 [60 000–95 000] people died from AIDS-related causes in 2009 compared to 18 000 [14 000–23 000] in 2001, a four-fold increase.
- The Russian Federation and Ukraine together account for nearly 90% of newly reported HIV infections.
- Ukraine has the highest adult HIV prevalence in all of Europe and Central Asia, at 1.1% [1.0%–1.3%]. Annual HIV diagnoses in Ukraine have more than doubled since 2001.
- Between 2000 and 2009, the HIV incidence rate increased by more than 25% in five countries in the region: Armenia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan.

Injecting drug use, sex work and sex between men are key modes of HIV transmission

- The HIV epidemics in Eastern Europe and Central Asia are concentrated primarily among people who inject drugs, sex workers and, to a lesser extent, men who have sex with men.
- In the Russian Federation, more than one third (37%) of the country's 1.8 million injecting drug users are living with HIV.
- As the HIV epidemic spreads from people who inject drugs (predominantly male) to their sexual partners, the proportion of women living with HIV in the region is growing: by 2009, women represented 45% of people living with HIV in the Ukraine, compared to 37% in 1999.

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