

GLOBAL REPORT

FACT SHEET

Middle East and North Africa

Increasing HIV prevalence, new HIV infections and AIDS-related deaths

- Reliable data on HIV epidemics in the Middle East and North Africa remain in short supply, making it difficult to track trends with confidence.
- According to available evidence, an estimated 460 000 [400 000–530 000] people were living with HIV in the Middle East and North Africa at the end of 2009, up from 180 000 [150 000–200 000] in 2001.
- The number of new HIV infections in the region increased from 36 000 [32 000–42 000] in 2001 to 75 000 [61 000–92 000] in 2009.
- AIDS-related deaths in the region rose from 8300 [6300–11 000] in 2001 to 23 000 [20 000–27 000] in 2009.
- In Djibouti and southern Sudan, HIV prevalence among pregnant women using antenatal services exceeds 1%. HIV prevalence in other countries across the region remains low.
- The HIV epidemic in the Islamic Republic of Iran is centred largely among people who inject drugs; an estimated 14% of this population was living with HIV in 2007.
- In Egypt, an estimated 6% of men who have sex with men are living with HIV. Surveys in Sudan have found that between 8% and 9% of this population is HIV-positive.
- In 2006, about 1% of female sex workers in Egypt were living with HIV, compared to an estimated 2%–4% in Algeria, Morocco and Yemen.

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