

# Global AIDS Program (GAP)



Under the direction of the U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator's Office, the HHS/CDC Global AIDS Program (GAP) is a proud partner in the unified U.S. Government effort to implement the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief. GAP helps resource-constrained countries prevent HIV infection; improve treatment, care, and support for people living with HIV; and build capacity and infrastructure to address the global HIV/AIDS pandemic.

## About Our Work: Surveillance

**“Sur-veil-lance: to keep close watch over”**

### What HIV/AIDS trends does CDC track?

**Serologic surveillance:**  
the level of HIV infection in the population and trends in HIV infection levels.

**Behavioral surveillance:**  
the risks for HIV and analysis of how those behaviors impact HIV levels and changes in those levels.

**Morbidity surveillance:**  
the proportion of persons with HIV infection who are ill and trends in this proportion over time.

**Mortality surveillance:**  
the trends in deaths due to HIV over time.

Closely tracking trends in HIV/AIDS risk behaviors, prevalence, incidence, and deaths helps inform policymakers about the realities and priorities in relation to the HIV epidemic. Surveillance systems can be used to assess the extent, trends, and impact of the HIV epidemic, and also the success of HIV prevention and care efforts.

The data gathered by surveillance systems are useful for setting or modifying priorities for prevention, care and treatment. However, faced with competing priorities, many developing countries have not been able to sustain a reliable HIV/AIDS surveillance system, and are unable to provide the critical data and analysis needed for decision-making.

The U.S. Government (USG) through the Global AIDS Program (GAP) assists host countries in enhancing or developing HIV surveillance systems, as well as using the results of surveillance surveys. GAP negotiates specific technical assistance activities with each host country, taking into consideration capacity as well as existing partnerships and activities.

**In Angola, Guyana, Kenya, Nigeria, Botswana, Ethiopia, Zambia, Tanzania, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo and Zimbabwe with U.S. Government (USG) funding, GAP . . .** assists with training, and financial support for prenatal HIV sentinel surveillance.

**In Cambodia and Vietnam, with USG funding, GAP . . .** assists with training and financial support for HIV sentinel surveillance in high risk groups such as police, injection drug users, commercial sex workers.

**In Kenya, Uganda, Haiti, Cambodia, Vietnam, Côte d'Ivoire and Zimbabwe, with USG funding, GAP . . .** assists with protocol development, HIV testing, implementation and analysis of population-based surveys with HIV testing.

Last Updated January 2005

HHS/CDC GAP: A proud partner in the unified U.S. Government effort to implement the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief.

