The Caribbean has the second highest regional HIV prevalence rate in the world.\footnote{UNAIDS, 2004 Report on the Global AIDS Epidemic (Geneva: UNAIDS, 2004).}

Among males and females ages 15 to 44, AIDS has become the leading cause of death.\footnote{Barbados Ministry of Social Transformation and UNICEF Office for Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean, Report on the Caribbean Summit for Children on HIV/AIDS (2005).}

If the current trend continues, AIDS will have killed close to one million people in the Caribbean by the end of 2009, including a quarter of a million (250,000) people in the next five years (2005–9).\footnote{Camara and Zaidi (2005). The Future of HIV/AIDS in the Caribbean, CAREC Surveillance Report Supplement 1. Port of Spain: CAREC.}

By 2009 there will be 243,000 new HIV infections and 334,600 new cases of AIDS in the Caribbean; among these, 3 percent (9,400) will be children.\footnote{Ibid.}

A series of surveys conducted by the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) in 2000 indicated that in a cross section of Caribbean adolescents, of those who reported being sexually active, more than 50 percent reported that they did not use any form of contraception during their last sexual encounter.\footnote{The WHO Collaborating Center on Adolescent Health, A Portrait of Adolescent Health in the Caribbean (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota, 2000).}

Although the rate of HIV and AIDS in the Caribbean may be at a “tipping point,” with a strong potential to spread widely and quickly,\footnote{Camara and Zaidi, 2005} there is still an opportunity to prevent the HIV and AIDS rate from escalating to the alarming levels found in many sub-Saharan African countries.\footnote{Boston Globe, “The Caribbean’s HIV Problem,” July 2, 2005.}

\begin{figure}[h]
\centering
\includegraphics[width=\textwidth]{chart.png}
\caption{FACTS AND FIGURES}
\end{figure}

\begin{figure}[h]
\centering
\includegraphics[width=\textwidth]{chart.png}
\end{figure}