

## FACTS AND FIGURES

- ▶ Trinidad and Tobago has an estimated adult HIV prevalence of 3.2 percent.<sup>1</sup> An estimated 28,000 persons were living with HIV at the end of 2004.
- ▶ Seventy-three percent of infections occur among people between 15 and 49 years of age.
- ▶ Although the rate of AIDS deaths in Trinidad and Tobago is decreasing,<sup>3</sup> AIDS is now the leading cause of death among young adults.<sup>4</sup>
- ▶ HIV/AIDS is being spread primarily through multiple sex partners (mostly heterosexual).
- ▶ HIV is becoming an increasingly feminised epidemic in Trinidad and Tobago; 74 percent of new infections in the 15-to-24 age group occur in females.<sup>5</sup>
- ▶ In 2005 the Ministry of Health, National Surveillance Unit, Trinidad and Tobago, reported the following figures:<sup>2</sup>

CATEGORIES	NUMBER OF PEOPLE
New adults (ages 15-49) HIV infections in 2004	1,011
Total new infections in 2004	1,445
Total infections reported since 1983	14,504
Total HIV non-AIDS infections since 1983	9,648
Total AIDS cases	5,278
Total AIDS-related deaths since 1983	3,244

## RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

- ▶ In 2004 the Office of the Prime Minister launched the National AIDS Coordinating Committee (NACC) to manage an expanded national response to the epidemic.  
<http://opm.gov.tt/initiatives/index.php?pid=3002>
- ▶ The NACC is collaborating with a wide range of implementing agencies in rolling out the National HIV and AIDS Strategic Plan (NSP).
- ▶ The Ministry of Education's AIDS Committee has drafted an education sector plan for HIV and AIDS that envisions a comprehensive response to the epidemic based on the NSP.

<sup>1</sup> UNAIDS, *2004 Report on the Global AIDS Epidemic* (Geneva: UNAIDS, 2004).

<sup>2</sup> Ministry of Health, National HIV Surveillance Unit, Trinidad and Tobago, 2004.

<sup>3</sup> International Labour Organization Subregional Office for the Caribbean, "HIV/AIDS and the Education Sector: Initiating a Workplace Response" (PowerPoint presentation at Joint ILO/UNESCO Workshop on improving responses to HIV/AIDS in the education sector workplace, September 2005).

<sup>4</sup> UNAIDS, *2004 Report*.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*

