

## KEY FACTS ON HIV EPIDEMIC IN ISRAEL AND PROGRESS IN 2011

(pop. 7 418 400)

By the end of 2011, Israeli authorities had reported a cumulative total of 7 040 HIV cases, 1 376 AIDS cases and 832 deaths among AIDS cases to the WHO Regional Office for Europe and the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC). An Israeli HIV/AIDS case registry has been in operation since the beginning of the epidemic (1983). For the year 2011, 460 new HIV cases, 51 new AIDS cases and 25 deaths among AIDS cases were reported. The rate of newly diagnosed HIV infections in 2011 was 6.2 per 100 000 population. Among the newly diagnosed HIV infections with a known mode of transmission in 2011 (89%), 50.6% were infected heterosexually, followed by sex between men (36.7%), injecting drug use (10.2%) and mother-to-child transmission (2.2%). The majority (67%) of new infections were among men. By the end of 2011, a total of 216 cases of mother-to-child transmission had been reported, including 9 in 2011.

Taking undiagnosed infections into account, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) and WHO estimate that 8 500 (6 600 – 11 000) people were living with HIV in Israel in 2011 and that less than 100 people died from AIDS-related causes during 2011.

In 2010, 286 995 people were tested for HIV in Israel. HIV testing is systematically carried out among blood donors, prisoners at entry, sexually transmitted infection patients, certain groups of immigrants from high-prevalence countries and among people who inject drugs before initiating detoxification programmes. Testing, which is confidential and free to anyone requesting it, is carried out at seven designated AIDS centres throughout the country, together with four Health Maintenance Organization clinics. Blood samples for testing can be drawn by any physician. HIV testing for minors, which was legalized in 1996, does not require parental consent.

In 2010, 3 875 people living with HIV were seen for care while 2 745 people received ART at 7 facilities in the country.

### Sources:

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