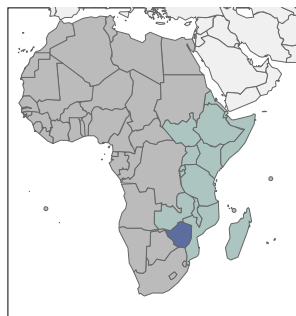


Zimbabwe

Human Papillomavirus and Related Cancers, Fact Sheet 2021 (2021-10-22)



I. Key data on HPV and HPV-related cancers



Zimbabwe has a population of 4.59 million women ages 15 years and older who are at risk of developing cervical cancer. Current estimates indicate that every year 3043 women are diagnosed with cervical cancer and 1976 die from the disease. Cervical cancer ranks as the 1st most frequent cancer among women in Zimbabwe and the 1st most frequent cancer among women between 15

and 44 years of age. Data is not yet available on the HPV burden in the general population of Zimbabwe. However, in Eastern Africa, the region Zimbabwe belongs to, about 4.7% of women in the general population are estimated to harbour cervical HPV-16/18 infection at a given time, and 67.9% of invasive cervical cancers are attributed to HPVs 16 or 18.

Table 1. Crude incidence rates of HPV-related cancers

	Male	Female
Cervical cancer	-	39.2
Anal cancer	0.58	0.51
Vulva cancer	-	1.65
Vaginal cancer	-	0.48
Penile cancer	1.42	-
Oropharyngeal cancer	0.14	0.13
Oral cavity cancer	0.75	0.73
Laryngeal cancer	1.30	0.13

Table 2. Burden of cervical cancer

	Incidence	Mortality
Annual number of new cases/deaths	3043	1976
Crude rate	39.2	25.4
Age-standardized rate	61.7	43.0
Cumulative risk 0-74 years (%)	6.66	4.88
Ranking of cervical cancer (all years)	1st	1st
Ranking of cervical cancer (15-44 years)	1st	1st

Table 3. Burden of cervical HPV infection Zimbabwe

	No. Tested	% (95% CI)
HPV 16/18 prevalence:		
Normal cytology	-	-
Low-grade cervical lesions	97	22.7 (15.5-32.0)
High-grade cervical lesions	11	18.2 (5.1-47.7)
Cervical cancer	95	80.0 (70.9-86.8)

Figure 1. Comparison of the ten most frequent HPV oncogenic types in Zimbabwe among women with and without cervical lesions



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II. Complementary data on cervical cancer prevention

Table 4. Factors contributing to cervical cancer (co-factors)

Smoking prevalence (%) [95% UI], women	1.3 [0.7-2.1]
Total fertility rate (live births per women)	3.6
Hormonal contraception use (%)	40.9
HIV prevalence (%) [95% UI] (15-49 years)	15.4 [13-17.5]

Table 5. Sexual behaviour

MEN	
Percentage of 15-year-old who have had sexual intercourse	5.0
Range of median age at first sexual intercourse	20.5 - 20.9
WOMEN	
Percentage of 15-year-old who have had sexual intercourse	5.0
Range of median age at first sexual intercourse	18.1 - 20.0

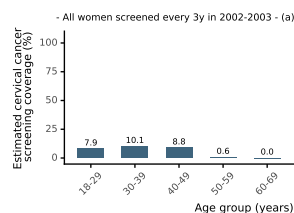
Table 6. HPV vaccine introduction in females

HPV vaccination programme	Introduced
Year of introduction	2018
HPV coverage – first dose (%) (estimation year 2019)	91
HPV coverage – last dose (%) (estimation year 2019)	67
HPV coverage – first dose (%) (estimation year 2020)	-
HPV coverage – last dose (%) (estimation year 2020)	-

Table 7. Cervical screening practices and recommendations

Cervical cancer screening coverage, % (age and screening interval, reference)	9.4% (All women aged 25-64 screened every 3y, WHS 2003 Zimbabwe)
Screening ages (years)	25-59
Screening interval (years) or frequency of screens	3 years

Figure 2. Estimated coverage of cervical cancer screening in Zimbabwe, by age and study



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