

IBBS ROUND II

The HIV/STI Integrated Biological and Behavioral Surveillance

DIEN BIEN Surveillance Highlights

The HIV/STI integrated Biological and Behavioral surveillance (IBBS) in Viet Nam was designed to estimate and monitor changes in HIV and STI prevalence, risk behaviors, and HIV intervention exposure among risk population groups. This document is one in a series of reports on IBBS. Round I was conducted in 2006 and Round II in 2009.

Dien Bien is a newly surveyed province, therefore only 2009 data is reported here.



HIV prevalence higher among ethnic minorities who injected drugs

The HIV epidemic among injecting drug users (IDUs) in Dien Bien is a recent development and continues to accelerate. The HIV prevalence among IDUs was 56%, which was the highest of all cities/provinces surveyed. HIV prevalence was 48% among the Kinh population and 59% among ethnic minorities (Figure 1).

Eighty-six percent of IDUs in Dien Bien had been to a treatment center for drug addiction. IDUs in Dien Bien typically had used drugs for many years, but approximately 3% were new to injection drugs.

Needle sharing and risky sexual behaviors were common among HIV-positive injecting drug users

The proportion of IDUs who had shared a needle/syringe in the past 6 months was 23.7%. In addition, the proportion of HIV-positive IDUs who had ever shared a needle and syringe was very high at 67.9% (Figure 2).

In Dien Bien, 10% of IDUs who were already infected with HIV had engaged in sex with a female sex worker (FSWs) at least once in the 12 months prior to the survey. HIV-positive IDUs in Dien Bien reported the second-highest rate of unsafe sex of all cities/provinces surveyed. Over half of HIV-positive IDUs reported that they did not use condoms with their regular partner(s), and 73.3% did not use condoms with FSWs (Figure 2).

Access to HIV testing was low in Dien Bien

Access to interventions need to be rapidly scaled up in Dien Bien. The proportion of IDUs who tested and received their results was only 28%. And, less than one third of IDUs surveyed had obtained free needles/syringes in the last 6 months.

Figure 1: HIV prevalence among IDUs in Dien Bien, IBBS 2009

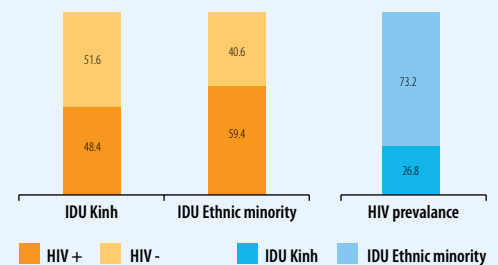
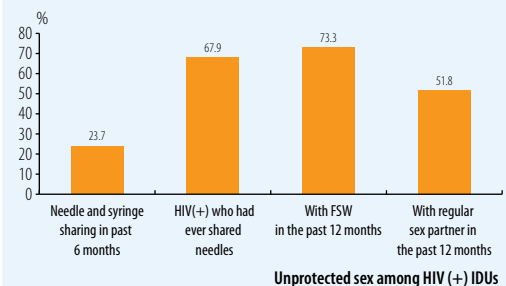


Figure 2: Risk behaviors among IDUs in Dien Bien, IBBS 2009



IBBS is a collaborative initiative of the following agencies:

National Institute of Hygiene and Epidemiology (NIHE) | Vietnam Authority of HIV/AIDS Control (VAAC) | FHI 360 | The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) | United States Agency for International Development (USAID) | Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

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Surveillance Highlights

The HIV/STI Integrated Biological and Behavioral Survey in Dien Bien was conducted in 2009. Participants were recruited based on time-location cluster sampling for injecting drug users.

Key Indicators	2009 (%)
Injection drug users	n= 300
HIV prevalence	56.0%
Syphilis prevalence	0.7%
Shared needles/syringes in the past 6 months	23.7%
Obtained free clean needles/syringes in the past 6 months	24.7%
Consistent condom use with FSWs in the past 12 months	48.2% (n= 27)
Consistent condom use with regular partner in the past 12 months	39.2% (n= 171)
Access to free/cheap condom in the past 6 months	26.3% (n= 190)
HIV (+) who had sex with FSWs in the past 12 months	9.5% (n= 168)
HIV (+) who had sex with regular partner in the past 12 months	49.4% (n= 168)
Had an HIV test at VCT center and received result in the past 12 months	6.3%

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