

# IBBS ROUND II

The HIV/STI Integrated Biological and Behavioral Surveillance

HCMC  
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.



## HIV prevalence in HCMC was higher in 2009

IBBS prevalence had increased in all high-risk populations in Ho Chi Minh City (HCMC) in 2009 vs 2006. Prevalence of HIV among injecting drug users (IDUs) was the highest at 46.1% in 2009. Venue-based sex workers (VSWs) saw a significant jump in HIV prevalence—from 6.0% to 16.1%, more than triple the prevalence in 2006. Prevalence among men who have sex with men (MSM) who had not sold sex in HCMC had more than doubled (Figure 1).

HIV prevalence among those who started injecting less than 1 year in HCMC dropped from 28% to 4.5%. One possible explanation for the dramatic rise in HIV prevalence among IDUs in HCMC is that as many as 35,000 IDUs were released from treatment centers (known as 06 centers) between 2006 and 2009, more than 50% of whom were HIV positive.

## Consistent condom use drops precipitously among FSWs

Condom use was lower among female sex workers (FSWs) surveyed in 2009 than in 2006. More than half of FSWs in HCMC had unprotected sex with their clients and partners, indicating an increase since 2006 (Figure 2). Data from the IBBS Round II found that the proportion of FSWs who reported drug injection behavior was higher in 2009 than in 2006. Drug injection in street-based sex workers (SSWs) was 5.0% in 2006 and 12.8% in 2009 (Figure 2). VSWs in HCMC had the highest level of drug injection of all cities surveyed at 7.9% in 2009.

## Testing for HIV showed uneven improvement across risk groups

The proportion of IDUs, VSWs, and SSWs who had received an HIV test and knew their result was higher in 2009 than in 2006; however, for MSM, the opposite was true (Figure 3).

Figure 1:  
Prevalence among target populations in HCMC, IBBS 2006-2009

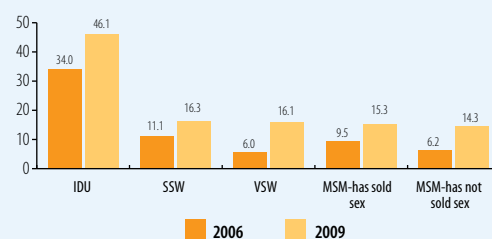


Figure 2:  
Risk behaviors among FSWs in HCMC, IBBS 2006-2009

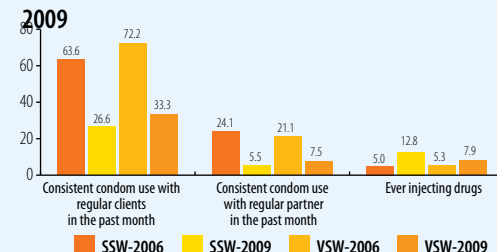
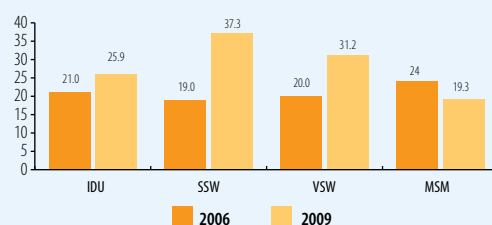


Figure 3:  
Proportion of target populations in HCMC that received an HIV test and knew their results, IBBS 2006-2009



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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## HCMC Surveillance Highlights

The HIV/STI Integrated Biological and Behavioral Survey in Ho Chi Minh City was conducted in 2006 and 2009. Participants were recruited based on respondent-driven sampling for injecting drug users and men who have sex with men and time-location cluster sampling for female sex workers.

Key Indicators	2006 (%)		2009 (%)	
Injection drug users	(n= 296 )		(n= 310)	
HIV prevalence	34.0%		46.1%	
Syphilis prevalence	2.4%		0.6%	
Shared needles/syringes in the past 6 months	36.8%		24.6%	
Access to free clean needles/syringes in the past 6 months	35.2%		10.7% (n= 308)	
Consistent condom use with FSWs in the past 12 months	45.2% (n= 92)		39.3% (n= 56)	
Consistent condom use with regular partner in the past 12 months	35.9% (n= 135)		15.2% (n= 138)	
Access to free/cheap condom in the past 6 months	29.1% (n= 202)		9.2% (n= 184)	
Had an HIV test at VCT center and received result in the past 12 months	11.5%		12.3% (n= 309)	
Female sex workers	VSWs (n= 302)	SSWs (n= 298)	VSWs (n=304)	SSWs (n= 300)
HIV prevalence	6.0%	11.1%	16.1%	16.3% (n= 299)
Syphilis prevalence	7.3%	9.1%	1.3%	4.4% (n= 299)
Gonorrhea prevalence	2.7%	0.3%	1.2%	3.3% (n= 299)
Chlamydia prevalence	14.2	6.4	10.9%	10.7%
Consistent condom use with one-time client in the past month	81.3% (n= 256)	68.9% (n= 244)	41.7% (n= 216)	31.3% (n= 272)
Consistent condom use with regular client in the past month	72.2% (n= 255)	63.6% (n= 242)	33.3% (n= 279)	26.6% (n= 247)
Consistent condom use with regular partner in the past month	21.1% (n= 114)	24.1% (n= 116)	7.5% (n= 145)	5.5% (n= 108)
Self-reported drug injection	5.3%	5.0%	7.9%	12.8%
Access to free/cheap condoms in the past 6 months	63.3%	70.8%	36.2%	55.3%
Had an HIV test at VCT center and received result in the past 12 months	2.7%	1.7%	11.5%	17.1%
Men who have sex with men	n= 393		Sold sex (n= 209)	Had not sold sex (n= 190)
HIV prevalence	5.3%		15.3%	14.3% (n= 189)
Syphilis prevalence	1.7%		1.9%	3.7% (n= 189)
Gonorrhea prevalence				
	Genital	1.7%	2.9%	2.6%
	Rectal	6.7%	7.2%	7.4%
Chlamydia prevalence				
	Genital	5.0%	8.1%	5.8%
	Rectal	3.8%	7.2%	4.2%
Consistent condom use with client in the past month	50.6% (n= 143)		24.2% (n= 149)	0%
Consistent condom use with consensual male partner in the past month	37.2% (n= 261)		21.4% (n= 56)	35.4% (n= 96)
Self –reported drug injection	3.8%		8.1%	7.9%
Access to free/cheap condoms in the past 6 months	37.0%		45.9%	47.9%
Had an HIV test at VCT center and received result in the past 12 months	2.8%		18.5% (n= 399)	

### IBBS Round II: The HIV/STI Integrated Biological and Behavioral Surveillance

This IBBS Highlight summarizes data from the full report, "Results from the HIV/STI Integrated Biological and Behavioral Surveillance (IBBS) in Vietnam, Round II —2009". The full report is available from the National Institute of Hygiene and Epidemiology (NIHE) and FHI 360 in Vietnam.