

Chapter 6

HIV/AIDS

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The 2002 Malawi CWIQ Survey also collected information on Knowledge and Attitude towards HIV/AIDS.

The 2000 Malawi Demographic and Health Survey showed that general awareness of HIV/AIDS is nearly universal in Malawi (MDHS, 2001). Despite this widespread knowledge and awareness, the numbers of deaths related to AIDS appear to be substantial and unabated. This has resulted in huge numbers of children whose parents are dead.

This chapter establishes the number of deaths that occurred in households as a result of AIDS related illnesses, as well as the number of children who have lost their one or both parents. The chapter further investigates the knowledge of individual persons about cultural practices or traditional norms that are now believed to be catalysts for the spread of the HIV virus, symptoms of AIDS, and if individuals in sexually active age groups have ever had a voluntary HIV test, or voluntary counselling and testing (VCT).

6.1 Deaths in Households

The survey results indicate that of the 2.8 million households in Malawi, about 7 percent experienced at least one death during the 12-month period prior to the survey (Table 6.1). Of the households that experienced at least one death, 94 percent were in rural areas. The table further shows that the rural ultra poor contributed 12 percent to the total deaths in rural households, and the urban ultra poor contributed 38 percent to all the deaths in the urban households.

The survey results furthermore reveal that about 52 percent of all the deaths in households in Malawi took place in Southern Region 39 percent in Central Region and 9 percent in Northern Region.

In order to establish if the observed death in a household was due to AIDS related illnesses, the survey further asked if the deceased person had been chronically ill for 3 months or more before death. If the deceased had been chronically ill before death, it is assumed that the death was probably AIDS related. It is important to note that a direct question on AIDS as cause of death would have lead to a serious undercount of deaths since respondents are likely not to report that the observed death was AIDS related.

The results show that of all the households that had experienced deaths during the 12-month period prior to the survey, about 46 percent of them had deceased persons who were chronically ill for 3 months or more before death. In rural areas, also 46 percent of the households experienced deaths that were likely to be AIDS related compared with 41 percent in urban areas, and 53 percent among the rural ultra poor and 43 percent of the deaths among urban ultra poor population (Table 6.1).

Table 6.1: Percentage distribution of households that experienced a death during the 12-month period prior to survey and duration of sickness before death of deceased persons at district level.

	All Households	All Households with death	Duration of Sickness	
			Less Than 3 months	3 months or More
Malawi	100.0	7.4	54.2	45.8
Rural	100.0	7.6	53.9	46.1
Rural Ultra poor	100.0	8.1	47.0	53.0
Urban	100.0	5.2	59.0	41.0
Urban Ultra poor	100.0	3.8	57.0	43.0
Northern Region	100.0	6.3	66.8	33.2
Chitipa	100.0	6.0	27.0	73.0
Karonga	100.0	7.5	54.8	45.2
Rumphi	100.0	4.4	87.2	12.8
Nkhata Bay	100.0	6.6	54.0	46.0
*Likoma	100.0	17.3	50.0	50.0
Mzimba	100.0	6.1	79.4	20.6
*Mzuzu city	100.0	6.1	48.1	51.9
Central Region	100.0	7.1	60.9	39.1
Kasungu	100.0	7.7	68.6	31.4
Ntchisi	100.0	6.4	53.7	46.3
Dowa	100.0	9.9	63.1	36.9
Nkhotakota	100.0	3.5	47.5	52.5
Mchinji	100.0	7.2	43.0	57.0
Lilongwe rural	100.0	5.8	60.7	39.3
Salima	100.0	8.3	50.7	49.3
Dedza	100.0	9.8	65.7	34.3
Ntcheu	100.0	8.4	65.7	34.3
Lilongwe city	100.0	5.2	66.9	33.1
Southern Region	100.0	7.8	47.1	52.9
Balaka	100.0	10.7	45.2	54.8
Machinga	100.0	7.7	69.7	30.3
Mangochi	100.0	8.4	39.2	60.8
Zomba rural	100.0	6.9	54.8	45.2
Chiradzulu	100.0	6.8	48.6	51.4
Blantyre rural	100.0	11.3	34.9	65.1
Mulanje	100.0	7.0	41.8	58.2
Thyolo	100.0	8.5	50.9	49.1
Phalombe	100.0	5.9	21.0	79.0
Mwanza	100.0	12.1	57.4	42.6
Chikwawa	100.0	6.5	65.1	34.9
Nsanje	100.0	6.0	54.2	45.8
Blantyre city	100.0	5.5	54.6	45.4
*Zomba municipality	100.0	1.7	33.3	66.7

* based on insufficient number of cases

The table also shows that at regional level the largest proportion of deaths that occurred after the deceased had been chronically ill for 3 months or more was in

Southern Region (53 percent), followed by Central Region (39 percent) and the least proportion of the households were in Northern Region (33 percent).

Of all the deaths that occurred following chronic illness for at least 3 months, the majority of such households were in Southern Region (60 percent) compared with 33 and 7 percent in Central and Northern Regions respectively.

6.2 Source of Help for Chronically Ill Persons

Table 6.2 shows that the majority of the households that housed chronically ill persons reported that they received help to care for the sick persons from family members or neighbours (39 percent), and

Table 6.2: Percentage distribution of households that received help in caring for chronically ill persons aged 15-49 during the 12-month period prior to survey by sources of help at district

	Source of help received for care of the sick								
	No need	Family Members/ neighbours	Religious Organisations	Community-based Organisations	Private services/ Prog.	Government services/ Prog.	NGOs Services/ Prog.	Traditional healers	Ot
Malawi	11.5	39.0	5.0	2.1	5.5	22.0	1.0	12.2	1.0
Rural	10.5	39.5	5.0	2.2	5.6	21.2	1.0	12.9	1.0
Rural Ultra poor	12.3	37.0	5.7	1.7	2.5	23.3	-	13.7	3.0
Urban	28.1	30.4	4.5	-	2.2	34.7	-	-	-
Urban Ultra poor	18.2	39.8	1.8	-	-	40.1	-	-	-
Northern Region	19.0	37.3	4.9	1.8	2.2	21.7	-	13.1	-
Chitipa	6.6	29.9	13.4	5.1	-	11.7	-	33.4	-
Karonga	24.7	34.6	-	-	4.3	22.0	-	14.3	-
Rumphi	9.3	19.4	-	7.9	7.9	41.5	-	14.0	-
Nkhata Bay	11.9	51.1	16.5	-	-	11.9	-	8.7	-
Likoma	17.8	82.2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mzimba	28.6	45.3	-	-	-	19.2	-	6.8	-
Mzuzu city	-	36.5	36.0	-	-	27.5	-	-	-
Central Region	15.4	44.0	3.7	3.1	6.9	14.2	1.2	10.3	1.0
Kasungu	8.8	71.0	12.6	-	7.7	-	-	-	-
Ntchisi	-	76.4	-	5.2	5.2	5.2	-	5.2	2.0
Dowa	15.6	51.8	4.5	8.5	-	-	-	-	16.0
Nkhotakota	-	48.0	12.3	-	-	26.0	13.7	-	-
Mchinji	30.3	22.5	2.9	-	11.2	12.8	-	20.4	-
Lilongwe rural	14.9	52.4	-	2.4	-	17.1	-	13.1	-
Salima	26.3	22.3	-	-	-	51.4	-	-	-
Dedza	8.7	40.4	4.9	5.4	15.8	18.3	-	6.5	-
Ntcheu	15.8	34.8	6.8	4.2	10.4	11.3	5.4	11.3	-
Lilongwe city	17.9	51.7	-	-	-	15.4	-	15.1	-
Southern Region	8.0	36.0	5.9	1.4	5.0	27.2	1.0	13.3	2.0
Balaka	4.9	42.0	4.8	-	24.1	12.5	6.9	2.2	2.0
Machinga	3.9	44.6	4.7	-	-	15.8	-	26.7	4.0
Mangochi	15.8	34.0	1.6	2.6	0.9	34.9	-	10.2	-
Zomba rural	14.9	25.7	8.0	-	3.3	19.6	-	25.9	2.0
Chiradzulu	18.4	41.8	10.9	-	3.9	16.6	-	8.4	-
Blantyre rural	-	23.1	9.4	1.5	6.9	41.8	3.4	14.0	-
Mulanje	-	41.5	3.6	-	6.7	28.3	-	11.9	7.0
Thyolo	2.8	51.3	11.5	3.1	3.1	14.4	-	3.0	9.0

Phalombe	-	47.3	-	-	8.3	33.5	-	10.9
Mwanza	6.5	33.4	-	-	6.1	30.7	4.2	19.1
Chikwawa	-	36.9	4.3	-	6.0	33.8	-	19.0
Nsanje	-	50.0	9.4	6.0	-	15.6	-	18.9
Blantyre city	32.7	9.1	3.8	-	3.8	43.5	-	7.0
Zomba municipality	47.2	19.0	-	-	-	33.8	-	-

22 percent received help from government services or programmes. Only 11 percent received help from either religious organisations, non-governmental organisations or private services or programmes.

It is also observed that the majority of households in both rural and urban areas received help to care for the sick also from family members/neighbours and government services or programmes. Religious organizations also provided substantial help to households to care for the sick.

It is noteworthy that whilst government services/programmes supported a larger proportion of urban households than rural households, religious or private services or programmes supported somewhat equal proportions of households in both urban and rural areas.

At regional level, 63 percent of the affected households received help from family members, neighbours or government services or programmes compared with 58 and 59 percent in Central and Northern Regions respectively.

6.3 Survivorship of Parents of Under-15 Children

Respondents were asked to report the survival status of all the children aged 15 years or less who were members of the households.

Defining an orphan as a child aged 15 years or less whose one or both parents are dead, the survey results reveal that 12 percent of the under-15 children in Malawi were orphans. The proportions of orphans in rural and urban areas were 12 and 9 percent respectively. The proportions of orphans in each of Northern and Central regions were 9 percent and was 15 percent in Southern Region.

The results show that of all the children aged 15 years or less, about 12 percent had one or both parents dead. Of these, about 68 percent of them had one dead parent and 32 percent had both their mother and father dead.

In rural areas, 68 percent of all the under 15 children had lost only one of their parents whereas in urban areas the proportion was 65 percent of the children.

At regional level, the proportion of children who lost both parents was highest in Northern Region (38 percent) and was about 32 percent in Central Region and 31 percent in Southern Region.

The survey results also demonstrate that about 13 percent of all households in rural areas and 16 percent of all rural ultra poor households housed orphans compared with around 10 percent of their urban or urban ultra poor counterparts.

The survey findings further indicate that the largest proportion of households that house orphans was in Southern Region (14 percent) followed by Central and Northern Regions (each 11 percent) (Table 6.4).

Table 6.3: Percentage distribution of children aged under 15 years who had one or both parents dead at district level

	Total Orphans	Children with Number of Parents Dead		Orphans
		Both	Either	
Malawi	100.0	32.3	67.7	11.8
Rural	100.0	32.0	68.0	12.1
Urban	100.0	35.4	64.6	8.6
Northern Region	100.0	38.1	61.9	9.1
Chitipa	100.0	50.5	49.5	9.3
Karonga	100.0	43.2	56.8	12.5
Rumphi	100.0	25.2	74.8	12.5
Nkhata Bay	100.0	43.9	56.1	13.3
*Likoma	100.0	46.5	53.5	18.9
Mzimba	100.0	36.4	63.6	6.1
*Mzuzu city	100.0	22.6	77.4	15.3
Central Region	100.0	32.2	67.8	9.0
Kasungu	100.0	35.8	64.2	14.1
Ntchisi	100.0	16.1	83.9	10.2
Dowa	100.0	10.2	89.8	11.0
Nkhotakota	100.0	42.4	57.6	5.2
Mchinji	100.0	62.0	38.0	9.8
Lilongwe rural	100.0	31.6	68.4	8.1
Salima	100.0	28.6	71.4	7.3
Dedza	100.0	16.0	84.0	6.7
Ntcheu	100.0	36.7	63.3	10.5
Lilongwe city	100.0	34.0	66.0	8.9

Southern Region	100.0	31.4	68.6	15.2
Balaka	100.0	32.5	67.5	11.7
Machinga	100.0	23.1	76.9	10.8
Mangochi	100.0	28.8	71.2	10.7
Zomba rural	100.0	39.6	60.4	17.4
Chiradzulu	100.0	23.4	76.6	15.7
Blantyre rural	100.0	27.3	72.7	28.0
Mulanje	100.0	35.4	64.6	16.9
Thyolo	100.0	32.7	67.3	17.1
Phalombe	100.0	41.3	58.7	12.9
Mwanza	100.0	24.8	75.2	16.6
Chikwawa	100.0	18.0	82.0	8.0
Nsanje	100.0	35.8	64.2	18.1
Blantyre city	100.0	41.7	58.3	7.8
*Zomba municipality	100.0	6.6	93.4	5.0

* based on insufficient number of cases

Table 6.4: Percentage distribution of households keeping orphans who had one or both parents dead at district level.

	All Households	Total Households with orphans	Households with Orphans	
			One parent Dead	Both parents Dead
Malawi	100.0	13.2	8.7	4.5
Rural	100.0	12.8	9.0	4.6
Rural Ultra poor	100.0	16.3	11.2	5.6
Urban	100.0	9.7	6.0	4.1
Urban Ultra poor	100.0	10.0	6.1	4.3
Northern Region	100.0	10.9	7.5	4.3
Chitipa	100.0	12.5	7.1	6.4
Karonga	100.0	13.1	8.6	5.3
Rumphi	100.0	14.6	11.1	4.1
Nkhata Bay	100.0	13.6	8.9	7.9
*Likoma	100.0	30.4	20.7	11.9
Mzimba	100.0	8.3	5.9	2.7
*Mzuzu city	100.0	18.0	12.7	7.2
Central Region	100.0	11.0	7.6	3.7
Kasungu	100.0	13.3	8.8	4.8
Ntchisi	100.0	11.4	9.6	2.5
Dowa	100.0	12.5	11.1	1.7
Nkhotakota	100.0	6.6	4.1	2.5
Mchinji	100.0	13.0	5.8	7.9
Lilongwe rural	100.0	10.3	7.3	3.4
Salima	100.0	9.4	6.7	2.7
Dedza	100.0	9.8	7.9	2.3
Ntcheu	100.0	12.3	7.6	4.8
Lilongwe city	100.0	10.9	7.1	4.5
Southern Region	100.0	14.2	9.8	5.2
Balaka	100.0	11.1	7.7	3.9
Machinga	100.0	10.9	8.7	3.2
Mangochi	100.0	13.1	9.4	4.0
Zomba rural	100.0	16.1	10.6	7.1
Chiradzulu	100.0	16.6	11.8	4.8
Blantyre rural	100.0	23.0	16.3	8.4
Mulanje	100.0	12.3	8.7	4.8
Thyolo	100.0	15.1	10.1	5.9
Phalombe	100.0	11.1	7.0	5.0
Mwanza	100.0	14.1	11.5	3.7
Chikwawa	100.0	10.6	8.3	2.7
Nsanje	100.0	14.7	10.0	5.3
Blantyre city	100.0	8.4	4.7	3.7
*Zomba municipality	100.0	4.0	3.4	0.6

* based on insufficient number of cases

6.4 Mode of Transmission of AIDS Virus

The survey further sought to find out if sexually active individuals (persons aged 15 to 49 years) knew the modes of transmission of the AIDS virus. Thus all eligible persons aged 15 to 49 years were asked to state the modes of transmission of the AIDS virus from one person to another. Eligible individuals were also asked to

mention any local cultural practice or traditional norm they knew that might be considered as catalyst for the transmission and spread of the AIDS virus.

Table 6.5: Percentage distribution of persons aged 15-49 years with knowledge of mode of transmission of AIDS virus at district level.

	Mode of Transmission					
	Blood Transfusion	Infected woman to unborn child	Infected woman to breast feeding child	Unprotected sex	Injection with an infected needle	Incorrect Methods
Malawi	14.7	5.0	6.4	94.1	51.2	13.9
Rural	13.7	4.4	5.9	93.8	49.5	13.6
Urban	22.8	9.8	11.3	96.1	65.4	16.6
Northern Region	23.8	5.4	5.4	95.9	59.4	20.8
Chitipa	20.9	2.6	1.5	94.7	54.7	9.7
Karonga	13.3	0.5	1.7	91.5	51.8	13.0
Rumphi	25.9	2.0	2.8	95.5	65.6	19.8
Nkhata Bay	25.5	1.6	2.1	98.3	64.8	21.5
Likoma	39.2	28.8	25.5	92.9	54.4	31.7
Mzimba	24.4	5.9	6.4	97.5	59.7	25.2
Mzuzu city	47.3	32.9	24.9	91.3	65.0	20.4
Central Region	12.3	4.1	5.3	96.0	53.7	10.4
Kasungu	29.2	18.6	17.3	95.2	57.1	35.7
Ntchisi	15.3	4.6	7.5	90.7	54.2	25.1
Dowa	15.5	3.7	7.1	95.0	54.8	23.1
Nkhotakota	8.9	10.5	14.1	91.8	57.1	4.9
Mchinji	10.1	2.6	2.4	94.1	47.5	6.9
Lilongwe rural	8.5	2.3	3.9	97.0	55.7	8.0
Salima	12.0	4.0	6.3	96.4	58.2	4.9
Dedza	5.3	1.0	0.9	97.1	44.1	7.0
Ntcheu	15.6	1.3	0.4	97.4	46.2	5.0
Lilongwe city	17.1	4.1	6.7	96.5	63.4	5.6
Southern Region	14.3	5.7	7.8	91.7	46.4	15.3
Balaka	14.1	0.7	1.5	97.0	53.9	2.4
Machinga	5.5	2.3	2.9	88.1	38.3	14.1
Mangochi	6.8	1.7	2.6	85.6	32.2	10.2
Zomba rural	6.0	1.0	0.6	90.9	41.6	12.6
Chiradzulu	25.3	3.4	5.8	86.0	38.7	9.2
Blantyre rural	18.3	15.3	17.7	95.4	51.7	23.6
Mulanje	17.3	3.0	11.3	95.9	57.7	11.2
Thyolo	20.1	4.2	7.1	87.9	38.1	12.7
Phalombe	9.2	1.5	7.4	94.2	50.3	17.9
Mwanza	22.3	13.9	18.9	95.9	55.4	20.8
Chikwawa	9.0	6.5	7.1	93.5	43.5	14.4
Nsanje	9.2	5.2	5.3	90.0	40.3	15.9
Blantyre city	25.5	12.7	14.6	96.7	69.0	27.1
Zomba municipality	18.6	4.3	3.0	91.5	42.3	11.7

The survey findings show that in Malawi about 94 percent of the persons aged 15 to 49 years knew that '*unprotected sexual intercourse*' is one mode of the transmission of the AIDS virus. Other commonly known modes of transmission of the AIDS virus were '*injection with an infected needle*' (51 percent) and '*blood transfusion*' (15 percent). Only about 6 percent mentioned that the AIDS virus can be transmitted from infected mother to her child through breastfeeding and about 5 percent mentioned that the AIDS virus can be transmitted from infected mother to unborn child. However, about 14 percent mentioned incorrect methods. These methods include '*mosquito bites*' or '*sharing of cooking utensils*' (Table 6.5).

It is also noted that the levels of knowledge of transmission of the AIDS virus were higher among urban persons than rural persons. For instance, about 23 percent of the eligible persons in urban areas reported that the AIDS virus might be transmitted through '*blood transfusion*' compared with only 14 percent among their rural counterparts.

At regional level, about 96 percent of the eligible persons in each of the Northern and Central Regions, and 92 percent in Southern Region cited '*unprotected sexual intercourse*' as the most common mode of transmission of the AIDS virus. About 24 percent of the eligible respondents in Northern Region mentioned '*blood transfusion*' as a mode of transmission of HIV. The corresponding proportions for Central and Southern Regions were 12 and 14 percent respectively.

In Malawi, there are several cultural or traditional practices that are believed to have some influence on the transmission of the AIDS virus.

Table 6.6 shows that in Malawi a substantial proportion of eligible persons reported knowledge of the existence of cultural or traditional practices that influence the transmission of the AIDS virus. The table shows that the most commonly known cultural/traditional practices in Malawi are: '*Mitala*' (56 percent), '*Fisi*' (34 percent), '*Chokolo*' (28 percent), '*Kuchotsa Fumbi*' (20 percent) and '*Chinamwali/Jando*' (18 percent).

'*Chokolo*' refers to a practice where a woman is remarried to the brother of the deceased husband and '*Mitala*' refers to the case where a man is in polygamous unions. '*Kuchotsa Fumbi*' refers to a practice where a woman whose husband is dead has sexual intercourse with the brother of the deceased husband. '*Fisi*' refers to a practice where older men have sexual intercourse with young girls who have just been initiated. '*Chinamwali*' refers to female circumcision and is typically performed on young girls. '*Jando*' is a circumcision on young boys and is performed using a razor blade.

Rural-urban variations existed in knowledge of cultural practices. The proportions of urban persons who knew of various cultural practices that may influence the transmission of the AIDS virus were higher for urban than rural areas. For example, 72 percent of urban persons aged 15 to 49 years stated that '*chokolo*' is one such practices compared with 54 percent in rural areas. It should be pointed out here that in this enquiry emphasis should be put on knowledge and not necessarily practice.

The regional variations that exist in knowledge of cultural practices that influence the transmission of AIDS virus suggest that these cultural practices are region-specific. Table 6.6 reveals that '*Chinamwali/Jando*' is common in Southern Region (28 percent) and to an extent in Central Region (11 percent) but rather rare in Northern Region (7 percent). The practice of '*Fisi*' was common in Southern Region (36

percent) and Central Region (40 percent) but not as common in Northern Region (8 percent). 'Kuchotsa Fumbi or Misinda' was also common in Southern (30 percent) and Central Region (15 percent) but hardly known in Northern Region (5 percent). On the other hand, 'Mitala' (67 percent) and 'Chokolo' (41 percent) were commonly known in Northern Region compared to 'Mitala' (61 percent) and 'Chokolo' (30 percent) in Central Region, and 'Mitala' (48 percent) and 'Chokolo' (22 percent) in Southern Region..

It is also noteworthy that although cultural practices were region-specific, substantial proportions of the populations in the cities and municipality were likely to have knowledge of the various cultural practices that were prevalent in the other regions. For example, although 'Chinamwali/Jando' or 'Kuchotsa Fumbi' are practices that were common in Southern Region, about one third of the eligible residents in Mzuzu City stated that 'Chinamwali/Jando' (34 percent) and 'Kuchotsa Fumbi' (29 percent) have influences on the transmission of the AIDS virus.

Table 6.6: Percentage distribution of persons aged 15-49 years with knowledge of cultural / traditional practices that influence transmission of AIDS virus at district level.

	Cultural / Traditional Practice						
	Chinamwali / Jando	Kuchotsa Fumbi / Misinda	Fisi	Chokolo	Mitala	Other	Don't know
Malawi	18.0	20.3	34.0	28.1	55.8	3.8	1.1
Rural	17.4	19.1	33.0	27.8	54.0	3.9	1.1
Urban	23.7	30.7	42.5	30.7	71.5	2.9	1.4
Northern Region	7.2	4.6	8.4	40.6	66.5	20.3	0.4
Chitipa	7.4	3.1	6.5	44.1	59.6	27.0	0.4
Karonga	2.7	0.9	4.2	33.8	52.5	15.3	-
Rumphi	3.1	2.0	6.7	35.6	68.2	22.8	-
Nkhata Bay	6.3	4.3	6.1	38.3	63.3	8.9	-
Likoma	11.8	12.1	16.2	59.3	64.0	7.5	-
Mzimba	6.9	4.2	8.4	42.3	71.5	21.4	0.5
Mzuzu city	33.9	28.9	33.6	50.2	77.2	34.3	2.1
Central Region	10.8	15.3	39.7	30.3	60.6	1.9	0.7
Kasungu	13.3	12.1	33.4	45.3	70.9	14.9	1.1
Ntchisi	10.3	9.3	35.9	42.0	64.5	2.7	1.0
Dowa	10.0	10.8	41.4	37.3	71.3	1.1	1.3
Nkhotakota	8.4	18.5	43.7	41.4	69.3	0.8	0.7
Mchinji	13.6	10.1	23.8	29.9	46.9	0.9	0.8
Lilongwe rural	8.9	17.4	45.5	33.0	58.5	0.8	0.3
Salima	22.8	21.7	50.1	38.3	54.6	1.1	0.4
Dedza	6.2	9.2	34.9	12.7	53.7	0.1	0.2

Ntcheu	8.2	17.0	36.7	9.4	61.4	0.8	0.9
Lilongwe city	16.0	20.5	40.8	33.9	68.5	1.4	1.6
Southern Region	28.1	29.6	36.1	22.3	48.2	0.7	1.7
Balaka	23.0	18.4	34.9	3.4	65.0	0.6	2.3
Machinga	33.4	28.5	38.4	27.6	32.4	1.0	-
Mangochi	28.6	17.8	30.6	22.4	33.3	0.5	0.1
Zomba rural	38.0	28.3	33.7	20.3	37.5	1.4	0.6
Chiradzulu	30.9	23.8	30.7	20.0	43.1	0.2	0.4
Blantyre rural	23.2	33.6	37.5	25.1	60.9	0.3	1.4
Mulanje	41.6	45.6	35.1	12.9	35.4	-	0.0
Thyolo	29.6	31.3	33.1	14.5	40.6	1.3	0.4
Phalombe	33.1	34.8	45.7	14.1	41.4	-	-
Mwanza	12.0	23.7	41.3	37.3	62.5	1.3	1.1
Chikwawa	5.5	20.2	36.7	40.9	62.8	1.0	10.9
Nsanje	10.0	22.8	29.9	29.5	54.0	1.5	9.9
Blantyre city	29.0	41.0	45.8	26.1	74.9	0.4	1.2
Zomba municipality	35.7	28.9	35.3	15.5	51.2	1.4	-

6.5 Symptoms of AIDS

Eligible individuals from sample households were further asked to mention all the symptoms they knew of a person who was suffering from AIDS.

The results show that about 78 percent of all the eligible persons in Malawi mentioned '*wasting*', 71 percent mentioned '*curly/fur hair*' and 46 percent stated that an AIDS patient experiences perpetual '*diarrhoea*'. Only 7 percent reported that '*loss of appetite*' is a symptom of AIDS and about 9 percent mentioned other symptoms such as '*shingles*' (Table 6.7).

Table 6.7: Percentage distribution of persons aged 15-49 years with knowledge of symptoms/signs of AIDS at district level.

	Loss of Appetite	Wasting	Perpetual Diarrhoea	Fur hair	Other	Don't Know
Malawi	7.4	78.3	45.5	71.2	8.8	2.6
Rural	7.5	77.9	45.1	70.4	8.3	2.6
Urban	7.0	81.8	48.9	77.3	13.5	2.6
Northern Region	8.8	89.4	37.9	85.2	4.2	1.3
Chitipa	8.9	81.3	29.3	79.5	7.0	2.3
Karonga	4.1	79.6	29.7	87.1	2.4	2.1
Rumphi	7.5	90.1	47.6	84.6	4.8	0.7
Nkhata Bay	7.1	94.1	41.3	90.5	1.6	0.8
Likoma	2.1	86.6	43.3	75.8	9.9	2.7
Mzimba	9.7	92.7	39.5	84.7	4.8	1.0
Mzuzu city	11.8	78.1	44.6	79.9	7.5	2.9
Central Region	5.6	78.6	49.2	72.3	9.3	1.3
Kasungu	5.8	87.4	37.2	81.9	10.9	1.7
Ntchisi	3.6	88.1	40.7	80.1	12.5	1.9
Dowa	2.4	88.6	43.8	75.9	8.2	0.4
Nkhotakota	7.2	78.4	65.7	74.6	5.1	0.5
Mchinji	9.0	75.1	41.7	63.0	18.0	3.0
Lilongwe rural	4.9	77.5	52.8	70.8	9.3	0.7
Salima	8.4	84.6	62.8	72.9	6.9	1.0
Dedza	5.1	69.7	46.9	70.4	4.3	0.9
Ntcheu	4.7	76.8	42.0	73.7	6.6	0.9
Lilongwe city	6.4	79.5	53.8	73.2	12.0	2.9
Southern Region	8.9	74.9	44.0	66.0	9.6	4.2
Balaka	9.6	79.8	47.0	79.1	3.1	0.2
Machinga	13.7	66.3	45.5	55.3	9.1	11.5
Mangochi	8.8	60.2	41.5	53.8	8.3	10.9
Zomba rural	11.4	67.9	48.3	58.6	9.3	3.9
Chiradzulu	17.5	66.8	40.9	64.9	4.9	1.8
Blantyre rural	6.7	79.7	51.1	73.1	19.7	2.8
Mulanje	10.2	84.9	54.2	63.3	1.7	1.1
Thyolo	8.4	73.2	37.7	62.0	4.8	1.1
Phalombe	6.7	78.3	53.8	64.2	3.0	2.0
Mwanza	2.5	89.5	48.9	73.0	21.1	2.0
Chikwawa	4.7	80.7	26.8	74.5	10.9	4.2
Nsanje	6.2	82.8	26.3	69.6	9.0	6.2
Blantyre city	6.8	86.2	44.7	82.9	16.3	2.2
Zomba municipality	9.7	57.1	48.6	49.3	4.6	4.0

It is also observed that 78 percent and 82 percent of eligible persons living in rural and urban areas respectively cited 'wasting' as one of the symptoms of AIDS. Further, 70 and 77 percent of rural and urban persons respectively said that 'curly/fur hair' is one of the symptoms.

The trend in knowledge in each of the regions is similar to that of Malawi as a whole. However, in Northern Region about 89 percent cited 'wasting' as a symptom of AIDS, while 85 percent mentioned 'curly/fur hair'. In Central Region, 79 percent and 72 percent stated that 'wasting' and 'curly/fur hair' respectively are common symptoms of AIDS. In Southern Region, three quarters of the eligible persons stated

that wasting is a symptom of AIDS and only about two thirds cited '*curly/fur hair*' (Table 6.7).

6.6 Voluntary Counseling and Testing for AIDS Virus

The survey also sought to investigate if eligible individuals had a confidential HIV test during the 12-month period prior to the survey, or anytime in the past. Knowledge of one self's sero-status may be important for the control of the transmission of the AIDS virus. In Malawi, several centres that provide services for both the voluntary test for HIV and counseling of its clients are set up hugely to curb down the spread of the AIDS virus. Such centres include the Malawi AIDS Counseling and Resource Organization (MACRO), Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF) centres in Thyolo, Chiradzulu, Dowa, etc.

Table 6.8: Percentage distribution of males aged 15 - 49 years who had had an HIV test during the 12-month period prior to the survey by age (years) at district level.

	All Males	Age						
		15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49
Malawi	5.7	6.8	25.0	28.4	15.8	11.6	6.8	4.6
Rural	4.6	7.0	23.6	27.8	15.2	13.2	6.4	5.5
Urban	14.6	6.1	28.9	30.1	17.5	7.3	7.7	2.3
Northern Region	7.0	11.4	19.1	18.4	20.2	10.5	8.2	10.7
Chitipa	6.4	8.3	31.3	10.9	0.0	17.0	26.1	6.4
Karonga	6.6	6.4	30.5	6.6	25.4	13.0	14.7	3.4
Rumphi	6.3	0.0	21.4	16.7	37.5	-	9.9	7.8
Nkhata Bay	3.7	9.1	16.8	16.8	22.7	-	11.3	9.2
Likoma	5.6	-	-	15.9	84.1	-	-	-
Mzimba	7.9	14.6	13.3	22.8	19.0	13.0	3.0	14.3
Mzuzu city	8.7	17.0	28.3	20.4	16.4	-	11.6	6.4
Central Region	3.8	3.6	30.1	26.4	16.0	14.9	3.7	4.5
Kasungu	3.2	0.0	25.8	12.7	20.9	9.5	-	19.5
Ntchisi	7.6	9.8	37.3	20.3	5.2	22.4	-	5.0
Dowa	3.4	-	30.4	25.7	16.3	10.7	16.9	-
Nkhotakota	2.4	-	15.6	39.1	34.2	-	11.1	-
Mchinji	3.1	-	35.8	38.6	6.5	-	10.9	8.2
Lilongwe rural	2.6	-	16.4	39.9	8.2	35.6	-	-
Salima	2.8	-	53.7	15.4	15.4	-	-	15.4
Dedza	3.5	-	16.9	9.7	44.9	20.0	-	8.5
Ntcheu	2.6	14.5	24.1	18.1	0.0	20.5	11.2	11.5
Lilongwe city	10.1	7.4	43.6	24.8	17.1	4.5	2.6	-
Southern Region	7.2	7.0	24.2	32.6	14.3	10.2	7.9	2.8
Balaka	3.9	-	69.6	30.4	-	-	-	-
Machinga	2.5	-	20.3	31.0	-	17.2	-	31.4
Mangochi	1.6	20.2	-	38.3	13.4	19.0	-	-
Zomba rural	3.4	10.5	11.6	50.2	-	7.7	20.0	-
Chiradzulu	8.9	5.6	21.7	28.2	4.7	23.0	16.8	-
Blantyre rural	10.9	18.0	34.2	39.1	4.6	-	4.2	-
Mulanje	4.6	0.0	27.9	32.7	15.9	18.4	-	5.2
Thyolo	5.7	8.8	25.9	22.9	27.7	14.7	-	-
Phalombe	5.1	-	30.8	32.5	13.8	9.4	-	13.4
Mwanza	1.6	-	-	50.9	-	-	49.1	-
Chikwawa	8.2	-	13.7	24.5	28.4	19.2	4.5	4.0
Nsanje	7.2	-	29.0	21.1	19.0	4.6	26.3	-
Blantyre city	19.9	5.1	22.3	33.5	18.4	7.6	9.9	3.2
Zomba municipality	11.5	-	20.3	24.9	-	45.8	9.0	-

The survey results reveal that in Malawi, of all the 2.6 million males aged 15 to 49 years about 6 percent of them had reportedly taken an HIV test during the 12-month period prior to the survey, compared to about 5 percent of their 2.7 million female counterparts. The survey findings also show that 5 and 15 percent of the males and 4 and 14 percent of the females in rural and urban areas respectively took an HIV test during the 12-month period preceding the survey.

It is also observed that 7 percent of the males in each of Southern and Northern Regions and 4 percent of the males in Central Region reported that they had taken an HIV test during the 12-month period prior to the survey.

Table 6.9: Percentage distribution of females aged 15 - 49 years who had had an HIV test during the 12-month period prior to the survey by age (years) at district level.

	All Females	Age						
		15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49
Malawi	4.9	11.6	37.9	21.0	13.5	7.2	4.4	4.5
Rural	3.8	10.8	37.2	21.1	13.3	9.1	5.3	3.3
Urban	14.3	13.3	39.6	20.7	14.1	2.8	2.3	7.2

Northern Region	6.1	9.9	36.1	25.4	10.9	6.9	6.0	4.8
Chitipa	6.4	24.6	44.5	24.6	6.3	-	-	-
Karonga	5.9	4.0	40.2	36.1	-	12.1	0.0	7.6
Rumphi	4.8	17.2	20.7	19.3	10.7	-	32.2	-
Nkhata Bay	5.3	5.8	24.9	46.2	6.3	8.5	8.4	-
Likoma	5.5	-	43.5	56.5	-	-	-	-
Mzimba	6.1	9.4	36.1	21.2	15.3	7.9	5.8	4.3
Mzuzu city	10.5	5.5	44.0	13.4	14.4	4.0	0.0	18.8
Central Region	3.2	13.9	40.2	14.0	13.9	9.7	7.7	0.6
Kasungu	5.8	8.7	47.5	16.4	14.7	6.4	6.4	-
Ntchisi	5.1	-	49.1	29.9	7.3	13.7	-	-
Dowa	0.8	-	56.5	43.5	-	-	-	-
Nkhotakota	1.6	-	74.5	25.5	-	-	-	-
Mchinji	3.4	18.2	27.1	22.1	18.3	14.3	-	-
Lilongwe rural	1.6	13.8	32.9	-	28.4	11.7	13.2	-
Salima	2.0	25.6	19.8	18.3	-	18.1	-	18.2
Dedza	2.0	-	25.4	26.2	-	18.5	29.9	-
Ntcheu	3.5	19.2	25.3	8.9	33.7	12.9	-	-
Lilongwe city	9.0	18.5	50.9	12.0	5.2	5.4	8.0	-
Southern Region	6.2	10.9	37.4	23.0	14.0	6.1	2.4	6.2
Balaka	4.6	10.6	33.4	26.9	29.1	-	-	-
Machinga	3.3	27.7	21.3	20.8	-	24.4	-	5.8
Mangochi	3.2	11.9	24.4	19.9	29.7	14.1	-	-
Zomba rural	3.3	16.5	73.8	-	-	-	-	9.6
Chiradzulu	9.1	9.1	47.6	23.8	3.1	3.5	12.9	-
Blantyre rural	6.7	14.8	50.4	22.1	-	-	6.7	6.0
Mulanje	4.8	4.7	18.4	28.8	15.4	24.6	-	8.1
Thyolo	3.6	7.2	27.5	25.8	25.8	6.3	7.5	-
Phalombe	3.4	12.3	59.1	17.6	-	10.9	-	-
Mwanza	3.1	-	41.4	42.0	-	16.6	-	-
Chikwawa	5.6	-	26.5	17.5	33.3	14.9	-	7.8
Nsanje	3.8	-	26.0	51.3	12.0	0.0	-	10.6
Blantyre city	20.5	11.8	34.8	24.7	17.8	1.3	-	9.7
Zomba municipality	6.0	-	26.4	29.7	22.0	22.0	-	-

The corresponding percentages for females were 6 percent in each of Southern and Northern Regions and 3 percent in Central Region. Irrespective of sex, the majority of clients who took an HIV test in the 12-month period preceding the survey were aged 20-29 years (Tables 6.9 and 6.10).

Table 6.10: Percentage distribution of males aged 15-49 years who had an HIV test anytime during their lifetime by age at district level

	All Males	Age						
		15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49
Malawi	6.7	6.8	21.3	26.3	19.7	12.2	8.3	5.4
Rural	5.6	7.1	20.9	25.6	20.6	12.9	7.6	5.4
Urban	14.8	6.0	22.3	28.4	17.5	10.0	10.3	5.4
Northern Region	9.7	9.2	20.4	21.2	19.6	11.6	9.3	8.7
Chitipa	9.7	4.9	34.3	14.6	10.7	15.1	15.5	4.9
Karonga	8.6	4.8	36.2	10.9	22.9	13.1	5.4	6.7
Rumphi	7.9	5.5	17.5	27.1	33.9	0.0	9.6	6.3
Nkhata Bay	10.3	14.0	17.1	19.8	19.2	7.4	11.8	10.7
Likoma	7.8	-	-	31.6	59.0	-	9.4	-
Mzimba	9.2	10.9	14.5	23.0	18.6	13.6	8.6	10.7
Mzuzu city	19.8	8.0	22.5	28.5	17.2	10.1	8.9	4.7
Central Region	5.1	4.3	22.5	21.2	22.5	14.1	10.2	5.2
Kasungu	4.9	6.6	14.6	21.5	11.8	15.2	13.8	16.6
Ntchisi	8.1	10.2	25.7	12.2	13.3	31.6	3.6	3.4
Dowa	3.8	-	21.3	26.8	23.6	7.5	20.8	-
Nkhotakota	2.9	-	22.4	8.0	37.7	12.6	19.3	-
Mchinji	6.9	4.3	19.4	25.8	10.9	9.0	10.1	20.4
Lilongwe rural	3.0	-	12.3	28.7	33.4	13.1	12.6	-
Salima	4.9	8.3	22.6	7.2	31.6	15.9	7.2	7.2
Dedza	3.3	-	16.0	17.3	39.7	19.0	0.0	8.1
Ntcheu	3.8	8.1	30.1	10.1	20.3	18.6	6.3	6.4
Lilongwe city	12.7	5.8	31.2	21.8	18.9	12.7	9.7	-
Southern Region	7.4	7.5	20.7	31.4	18.1	11.1	6.8	4.4
Balaka	3.9	9.4	45.1	37.1	-	-	-	8.3
Machinga	3.1	-	11.8	43.9	22.7	11.2	-	10.4
Mangochi	4.1	17.1	22.1	17.7	19.8	15.6	-	7.7
Zomba rural	2.8	11.4	10.0	52.3	9.8	6.6	-	-
Chiradzulu	12.2	9.7	19.9	33.3	3.4	20.9	12.8	-
Blantyre rural	7.7	12.4	31.1	32.1	22.6	1.7	-	-
Mulanje	3.9	-	23.7	35.3	13.5	20.0	7.5	-
Thyolo	7.2	9.9	20.7	29.6	26.7	13.1	-	-
Phalombe	4.4	-	33.7	27.0	31.5	7.8	-	-
Mwanza	5.4	7.7	26.0	10.2	9.8	18.7	17.5	10.2
Chikwawa	10.8	6.1	13.7	27.4	26.7	17.6	5.9	2.6
Nsanje	10.5	-	23.6	25.2	10.0	19.2	17.3	4.6
Blantyre city	16.6	5.8	16.3	33.1	17.3	7.2	11.0	9.4
Zomba municipality	8.2	10.8	24.0	20.4	-	37.5	7.3	-

Malawi	6.4	10.4	35.7	21.2	12.7	8.8	6.9	4.4
Rural	5.1	9.3	35.7	20.2	11.7	11.0	8.2	3.8
Urban	17.0	13.0	35.5	23.6	15.0	3.4	3.4	6.2
Northern Region	8.0	7.8	32.9	22.1	10.5	13.1	8.4	5.3
Chitipa	8.3	25.7	35.7	23.2	4.3	-	11.1	-
Karonga	7.3	2.9	46.5	27.9	4.4	7.4	5.2	5.6
Rumphi	5.4	14.0	17.0	7.5	8.7	26.4	26.4	-
Nkhata Bay	8.8	7.6	27.3	43.6	7.9	9.1	4.5	-
Likoma	6.6	-	33.3	33.3	-	9.9	23.4	-
Mzimba	7.4	3.5	29.7	18.8	14.5	18.7	8.5	6.3
Mzuzu city	17.4	13.1	42.2	12.5	10.2	4.2	2.9	14.8
Central Region	4.5	12.3	35.8	17.9	12.4	9.1	11.7	0.7
Kasungu	6.3	16.6	37.7	16.8	10.9	9.0	9.0	-
Ntchisi	4.2	-	53.9	6.8	6.8	12.8	6.8	12.8
Dowa	2.3	-	29.4	26.2	17.6	12.5	14.3	-
Nkhotakota	2.7	-	39.8	24.7	11.9	23.6	-	-
Mchinji	4.7	7.2	36.3	14.5	27.2	9.4	5.4	-
Lilongwe rural	2.8	7.0	42.3	19.7	10.5	-	20.5	-
Salima	4.0	29.2	9.4	25.9	-	8.5	18.3	8.6
Dedza	1.8	-	-	26.2	12.5	31.5	29.8	-
Ntcheu	4.6	21.3	25.9	6.1	28.2	14.1	4.4	-
Lilongwe city	12.7	15.6	41.7	19.2	6.5	7.8	9.1	-
Southern Region	7.6	10.0	36.3	22.6	13.4	7.5	4.0	6.1
Balaka	4.0	8.2	25.7	36.5	22.4	-	7.2	-
Machinga	4.4	16.8	14.0	26.6	-	30.8	7.9	3.9
Mangochi	5.8	8.8	29.4	23.4	19.8	14.3	-	4.2
Zomba rural	4.0	10.4	57.0	10.0	5.2	-	11.3	6.1
Chiradzulu	9.6	13.4	46.3	17.8	3.1	3.4	16.0	-
Blantyre rural	10.0	13.0	45.1	15.9	3.3	6.8	5.0	11.0
Mulanje	4.9	4.0	21.7	28.6	13.1	25.6	-	6.9
Thyolo	5.2	7.6	37.8	19.8	14.6	11.7	8.5	-
Phalombe	3.5	10.1	58.2	22.9	-	8.9	-	-
Mwanza	5.9	-	27.4	25.3	18.7	14.3	14.3	-
Chikwawa	6.1	4.3	34.1	19.4	23.6	12.3	-	6.3
Nsanje	6.6	-	46.3	30.9	17.2	5.7	-	-
Blantyre city	21.7	11.9	31.8	26.5	19.8	1.0	-	8.9
Zomba municipality	9.1	-	25.0	39.0	22.9	-	13.1	-

6.7 Problems Encountered at HIV Testing Centre

The survey findings further show that of all the males in Malawi who reported that they had had an HIV test during the 12-month period preceding the survey; about 5 percent were not counseled. When asked if clients had any problem at the time of visits at the HIV testing centre, about 89 percent of them reported that they did not experience any problem at the time of the test, but a further 4 percent said that the waiting time before they got the services was too long. A relatively bigger proportion (1 percent) of those who had an HIV test reported that the counsellors were rude.

The survey findings show that the proportion of male clients who were not counselled after an HIV test was 5 percent nationally, but was slightly higher in urban areas (7 percent) than rural areas (5 percent). The corresponding proportions of females who were not counselled after an HIV test was 5 percent disaggregating into 6 and 4 percent among rural and urban females respectively.

The percentage of male clients who reported to have no problems at the time of test was somewhat the same among rural (88 percent) and urban (91 percent) persons. However, the proportion of females with no problems was slightly higher in urban areas (91 percent) than in urban areas (85 percent).

A significant proportion of clients, however, reported of too long waiting time before getting services: 4 percent (rural) and 2 percent (urban) for males, and 7 percent (rural) and 3 percent (urban) for females (Tables 6.12 and 6.13).

At regional level, 6 percent of the male or female clients in Central Region compared to 5 percent (Southern Region) and 3 percent (Northern Region) were not counselled.

The largest proportion of clients who did not experience any problems at the time of test or counselling was in Northern Region (91 percent) followed by Southern region (88 percent) and Central Region (81 percent) for females and was 92 percent (Northern Region), 90 percent (Southern Region), and 85 percent (Central Region) for males. Around 7 percent of the male clients and 9 percent of their female counterparts in Southern Region, compared to 2 percent (males) and 5 percent (females) in Southern Region, or 2 percent (males) and 5 percent (females) in Northern Region cited '*long waiting time*' as the problems clients commonly encountered at the time of test or counseling (Tables 6.13 and 6.14).

The survey also asked of those eligible persons for HIV testing but did not have a test reasons why they did not take the test.

The results show that of all 46 percent of the females and 48 percent of the males who had not taken an HIV test claimed that they were not at risk of contracting the AIDS virus and saw no need to take the test. A further 26 and 24 percent of the females and males respectively reported that they were not interested while 21 percent of the females and also 21 percent of the males reported that the testing centre was too far. About 11 and 10 percent of the females and males respectively reported that they did not take the HIV test because they were scared the results might be positive.

In the rural areas, about 9 percent of the eligible females reported that they did not have a test because of unavailability of test compared to 1 percent of their urban counterparts. Furthermore, about 23 percent of the rural female residents and 4 percent of their urban counterparts stated that they did not take the test because the testing centre was too far away (Tables 6.14 and 6.15).

The proportions of males in rural and urban areas who did not take an HIV test and cited the reasons why they did not are similar to those for females.

Table 6.12: Percentage distribution of males aged 15-49 years who had had an HIV test and returned to testing centre for results by problems encountered at time of test at district level.

	Not Counselling	Problems					
		No Problem	Rude counsellors	No privacy / Embarrassment	Long waiting time	Too Expensive	Other
Malawi	5.1	88.6	1.0	0.3	3.5	1.1	0.3
Rural	4.7	88.0	1.4	0.4	3.9	1.3	0.4
Urban	6.5	90.6	-	-	2.3	0.5	-
Northern Region	2.7	92.1	1.5	1.5	1.8	-	0.4
Chitipa	-	91.1	-	-	5.6	-	3.3
Karonga	4.4	91.2	-	-	4.4	-	-
Rumphi	-	92.5	-	-	7.5	-	-
Nkhata Bay	2.6	97.4	-	-	-	-	-
Likoma	-	75.5	-	-	-	-	24.5
Mzimba	3.3	90.5	3.1	3.1	-	-	-
Mzuzu city	2.1	95.8	-	-	2.1	-	-
Central Region	6.2	85.0	1.7	-	6.6	0.4	-
Kasungu	3.3	91.5	5.1	-	0.0	-	-
Ntchisi	13.0	75.5	-	-	11.5	-	-
Dowa	5.6	94.4	-	-	0.0	-	-
Nkhotakota	15.5	76.1	-	-	8.4	-	-
Mchinji	-	85.3	2.9	-	11.8	-	-
Lilongwe rural	10.0	80.1	-	-	9.8	-	-
Salima	-	92.7	-	-	7.3	-	-
Dedza	-	80.8	6.4	-	6.4	6.4	-
Ntcheu	-	86.2	7.2	-	6.6	-	-
Lilongwe city	8.7	86.8	-	-	4.5	-	-
Southern Region	5.3	89.7	0.4	-	2.1	2.0	0.4
Balaka	31.0	59.7	-	-	-	-	9.3
Machinga	12.0	88.0	-	-	-	-	-
Mangochi	10.9	82.6	-	-	6.5	-	-
Zomba rural	7.2	92.8	-	-	-	-	-
Chiradzulu	-	95.9	-	-	4.1	-	-
Blantyre rural	-	90.5	2.7	-	-	6.8	-
Mulanje	-	92.8	-	-	7.2	-	-
Thyolo	6.6	90.1	-	-	3.3	-	-
Phalombe	10.0	90.0	-	-	-	-	-
Mwanza	-	91.7	-	-	8.3	-	-
Chikwawa	5.0	86.2	-	-	2.3	6.5	-
Nsanje	3.5	89.7	-	-	3.4	0.0	3.5
Blantyre city	6.1	91.8	-	-	1.1	1.0	-
Zomba municipality	-	100.0	-	-	-	-	-

Table 6.13: Percentage distribution of females aged 15-49 years who had had an HIV test and returned to testing centre for results by problems encountered at time of test at district level.

	Not Counselled	Problems					
		No Problem	Rude counsellors	No privacy / Embarrassment	Long waiting time	Too Expensive	Other
Malawi	5.2	86.4	1.6	0.2	6.0	-	0.5
Rural	5.8	84.9	1.4	0.3	7.2	-	0.4
Urban	3.6	90.5	2.2	-	2.6	-	1.0
Northern Region	3.4	91.3	0.5	-	4.7	-	0.1
Chitipa	-	84.0	-	-	16.0	-	-
Karonga	4.9	78.1	-	-	17.0	-	-
Rumphi	-	85.8	7.1	-	7.1	-	-
Nkhata Bay	-	100.0	-	-	-	-	-
Likoma	19.5	60.9	-	-	-	-	19.5
Mzimba	4.6	95.4	-	-	-	-	-
Mzuzu city	4.5	95.5	-	-	-	-	-
Central Region	6.4	80.9	2.9	-	9.4	-	0.4
Kasungu	15.0	73.3	7.7	-	4.0	-	-
Ntchisi	6.8	81.5	5.0	-	6.8	-	-
Dowa	-	100.0	-	-	-	-	-
Nkhotakota	-	100.0	-	-	-	-	-
Mchinji	-	72.2	4.6	-	19.1	-	4.1
Lilongwe rural	6.3	71.9	6.0	-	15.7	-	-
Salima	15.4	77.3	-	-	7.3	-	-
Dedza	-	87.7	-	-	12.3	-	-
Ntcheu	4.6	82.8	-	-	12.6	-	-
Lilongwe city	5.7	88.1	-	-	6.2	-	-
Southern Region	5.0	88.1	1.2	0.4	4.6	-	0.7
Balaka	7.4	86.7	-	-	5.9	-	-
Machinga	11.8	75.2	-	-	7.3	-	5.7
Mangochi	1.7	93.0	-	-	5.3	-	-
Zomba rural	19.5	80.5	-	-	-	-	-
Chiradzulu	3.5	89.8	-	3.2	3.5	-	-
Blantyre rural	6.6	81.0	-	-	12.4	-	-
Mulanje	7.9	92.1	-	-	-	-	-
Thyolo	-	96.1	-	-	3.9	-	-
Phalombe	-	100.0	-	-	-	-	-
Mwanza	-	80.9	-	-	19.1	-	-
Chikwawa	5.1	91.2	-	-	3.7	-	-
Nsanje	4.6	81.7	4.4	4.6	4.7	-	-
Blantyre city	2.6	91.0	3.7	-	1.1	-	1.7
Zomba municipality	-	100.0	-	-	-	-	-

Table 6.14: Percentage distribution of males aged 15-49 years who never had an HIV test by reasons for not taking test at district level.

	All Reasons	Reason for not taking test							
		Test not available	No interest	No Need/ Not at risk	Scared of outcome	Results Delayed	Testing centre too far	Lack of privacy	Other
Malawi	100.0	8.5	24.0	48.1	9.6	0.8	21.5	0.5	1.3
Rural	100.0	9.4	24.1	48.1	9.0	0.8	23.9	0.6	1.1
Urban	100.0	0.9	23.0	48.2	14.5	0.7	0.8	0.1	3.3
Northern Region	100.0	11.4	24.0	40.6	10.9	1.2	31.6	0.2	1.0
Chitipa	100.0	19.3	22.5	39.7	6.9	1.8	20.7	0.4	1.1
Karonga	100.0	7.6	27.2	39.6	13.5	1.5	26.2	-	0.5
Rumphi	100.0	5.2	15.1	47.2	20.1	2.0	48.5	-	-
Nkhata Bay	100.0	6.4	16.4	43.0	16.4	2.0	48.4	-	-
Likoma	100.0	50.9	36.7	15.4	9.4	-	5.2	-	-
Mzimba	100.0	13.6	24.5	41.1	7.9	0.7	31.7	0.4	1.4
Mzuzu city	100.0	7.1	44.3	25.6	10.8	-	0.4	-	1.9
Central Region	100.0	8.4	25.3	49.5	9.3	0.5	20.8	0.4	0.9
Kasungu	100.0	19.5	40.5	22.0	4.1	-	15.2	0.3	2.2
Ntchisi	100.0	19.9	40.5	30.8	2.8	-	7.1	-	0.5
Dowa	100.0	16.5	42.4	29.5	3.1	0.9	18.7	0.4	1.2
Nkhotakota	100.0	0.7	24.4	56.1	12.2	2.0	18.0	-	1.4
Mchinji	100.0	13.5	17.8	43.6	13.3	0.7	22.8	0.6	0.8
Lilongwe rural	100.0	6.5	23.1	50.2	9.8	0.5	25.1	0.9	0.4
Salima	100.0	2.6	19.4	65.8	16.2	1.0	12.9	0.4	0.9
Dedza	100.0	7.5	20.6	64.6	3.7	0.3	31.2	-	0.6
Ntcheu	100.0	8.4	21.3	62.6	2.8	0.5	30.5	-	-
Lilongwe city	100.0	1.0	24.5	52.6	20.7	0.3	0.3	-	1.7
Southern Region	100.0	7.5	22.6	49.3	9.3	0.9	18.9	0.7	1.9
Balaka	100.0	6.7	23.5	69.6	6.3	-	26.1	-	-
Machinga	100.0	11.8	25.0	38.6	3.7	-	38.5	0.4	-
Mangochi	100.0	13.5	17.8	39.2	4.9	-	33.8	0.9	1.5
Zomba rural	100.0	11.2	19.1	49.7	4.7	-	29.0	2.1	1.7
Chiradzulu	100.0	0.9	32.9	42.8	9.8	1.7	7.1	-	-
Blantyre rural	100.0	12.9	16.4	49.1	3.4	-	20.4	1.0	2.3
Mulanje	100.0	0.4	19.3	66.8	25.6	0.8	18.1	0.3	1.9
Thyolo	100.0	2.7	29.4	49.7	15.4	2.8	12.2	0.3	0.9
Phalombe	100.0	4.5	26.5	49.2	21.7	3.0	23.0	1.8	-
Mwanza	100.0	12.1	23.7	48.6	8.0	1.5	16.4	-	4.8
Chikwawa	100.0	8.4	32.1	53.9	9.2	0.7	7.5	0.2	1.2
Nsanje	100.0	14.0	23.4	50.8	5.1	1.0	6.8	0.5	4.5
Blantyre city	100.0	-	19.0	46.7	9.5	1.3	1.2	0.2	5.3
Zomba municipality	100.0	-	17.8	54.0	9.8	-	1.6	0.8	-

Percentages may not add up to 100 because an individual might have reported more than 1 response.

Table 6.15: Percentage distribution of females aged 15-49 years who never had an HIV test by reasons for not taking test at district level.

	All Reasons	Reason for not taking test							
		Test not available	No interest	No Need/ Not at risk	Scared of outcome	Results Delayed	Testing centre too far	Lack of privacy	Other
Malawi	100.0	8.0	25.9	46.3	10.5	0.7	21.4	0.3	1.9
Rural	100.0	8.8	26.0	46.6	10.1	0.8	23.4	0.3	1.7
Urban	100.0	0.9	25.1	43.4	14.0	0.3	4.1	0.2	3.4
northern Region	100.0	14.3	21.5	41.7	11.1	0.8	30.9	0.3	0.8
Litipa	100.0	19.1	19.5	42.9	7.4	0.3	18.2	0.4	0.5
Mwanga	100.0	8.5	20.8	46.0	8.9	-	21.1	-	0.4
Mzimba	100.0	6.2	21.0	44.7	18.5	0.9	42.4	-	0.8
Mzimba Bay	100.0	7.9	15.2	44.5	16.9	0.3	41.3	-	-
Mzimba	100.0	54.8	42.4	16.3	1.7	-	4.2	1.7	0.7
Mzimba	100.0	18.2	21.1	40.4	10.5	1.1	35.0	0.4	1.0
Mzimba city	100.0	5.6	43.9	30.5	5.7	1.0	1.1	-	2.7
Central Region	100.0	6.0	26.7	50.0	10.5	0.6	20.4	0.1	1.7
Mzimba	100.0	16.3	42.4	28.2	3.6	-	12.6	-	1.8
Mzimba	100.0	20.2	40.1	28.0	3.1	-	9.6	-	2.4
Mzimba	100.0	18.7	45.2	27.2	2.7	0.8	19.4	-	3.8
Mzimba	100.0	2.6	27.3	51.2	13.7	1.0	15.0	0.3	0.4
Mzimba	100.0	6.8	25.5	40.4	13.0	-	22.8	-	2.6
Mzimba rural	100.0	2.9	24.0	51.8	12.0	1.0	22.4	-	2.0
Mzimba	100.0	2.4	20.9	59.4	15.3	0.8	16.1	0.8	1.6
Mzimba	100.0	6.5	22.5	69.2	4.1	0.4	31.2	0.5	-
Mzimba	100.0	5.7	15.4	60.6	7.3	-	31.8	-	-
Mzimba city	100.0	0.6	29.2	48.4	21.0	0.5	2.9	0.3	3.0
southern Region	100.0	8.2	26.4	44.2	10.3	0.8	19.9	0.5	2.4
Mzimba	100.0	12.0	25.0	62.1	7.2	-	21.8	-	-
Mzimba	100.0	11.5	33.4	30.6	3.9	-	37.3	0.3	1.6
Mzimba	100.0	12.9	25.1	34.2	4.7	0.3	28.3	0.3	2.7
Mzimba rural	100.0	12.6	31.6	34.8	6.1	-	29.3	0.7	0.8
Mzimba	100.0	2.3	34.2	40.7	12.7	0.8	7.1	0.5	1.2
Mzimba rural	100.0	13.8	19.8	42.9	5.7	1.2	21.5	1.0	3.0
Mzimba	100.0	0.3	20.2	56.7	25.2	0.7	21.8	1.1	1.7
Mzimba	100.0	1.4	28.9	51.7	16.7	2.2	14.8	-	2.3
Mzimba	100.0	2.4	27.4	53.0	22.9	5.0	24.7	0.7	1.7
Mzimba	100.0	18.9	35.9	46.1	7.3	0.6	21.2	1.2	4.9
Mzimba	100.0	10.6	32.3	53.9	9.5	0.5	7.6	-	2.0
Mzimba	100.0	15.1	26.0	55.4	7.7	1.1	7.2	0.4	6.2
Mzimba city	100.0	0.6	18.9	39.5	8.8	-	5.4	0.3	4.0
Mzimba municipality	100.0	1.6	22.6	52.1	6.6	-	6.6	-	-

Percentages may not add up to 100 because an individual might have reported more than 1 response.

Table 6.16 illustrates that of the 343,000 persons aged 15 to 49 years who had taken an HIV test during the 12-month period prior to the survey, about 11 percent did not return to the testing centre to obtain results of the tests. The proportion of male and female clients that did not return to the centre for results were 10 and 11 percent respectively.

The survey results show that about 13 percent of rural persons who ever had an HIV test did not return to the centre for their results, compared to only 3 percent in urban areas. The results further reveal that only 1 percent of the males compared to 5 percent of the females in urban areas did not obtain the results of their HIV test. In rural areas, the proportions of males and females who did not obtain the results of their HIV tests were somewhat the same (about 13 percent).

Table 6.16 further demonstrates that the proportions of male and female clients who did not turn up for the results of their HIV tests were more or less equal.

In the Northern Region, however, 8 percent of the clients did not turn up for the results of their HIV tests, compared with about 11 percent in each of the Central and Southern Regions.

Table 6.16 - Percentage distribution of Persons aged 15-49 years who ever had a HIV test by whether they returned to testing centre for results at district level.

	Both Sexes		Males		Females	
	Obtained test results	Did not obtain results	Obtained test results	Did not obtain results	Obtained test results	Did not obtain results
Malawi	89.3	10.7	89.7	10.3	88.9	11.1
Rural	86.7	13.3	86.8	13.2	86.5	13.5
Urban	97.0	3.0	98.7	1.3	95.5	4.5
Northern Region	91.8	8.2	92.1	7.9	91.4	8.6
Chitipa	82.2	17.8	82.0	18.0	82.4	17.6
Karonga	80.5	19.5	83.4	16.6	77.3	22.7
Rumphi	92.5	7.5	92.5	7.5	92.4	7.6
Nkhata Bay	100.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	100.0	0.0
Likoma	91.2	8.8	100.0	0.0	83.5	16.5
Mzimba	94.9	5.1	94.2	5.8	95.8	4.2
Mzuzu city	95.5	4.5	96.2	3.8	94.6	5.4
Central Region	89.0	11.0	89.1	10.9	88.9	11.1
Kasungu	77.8	22.2	77.4	22.6	78.1	21.9
Ntchisi	66.4	33.6	70.9	29.1	59.3	40.7
Dowa	75.3	24.7	78.3	21.7	70.9	29.1
Nkhotakota	86.1	13.9	76.1	23.9	100.0	0.0
Mchinji	90.2	9.8	90.4	9.6	89.9	10.1
Lilongwe rural	86.4	13.6	82.9	17.1	90.4	9.6
Salima	89.5	10.5	100.0	0.0	79.6	20.4
Dedza	86.0	14.0	90.7	9.3	79.8	20.2
Ntcheu	97.8	2.2	100.0	0.0	96.1	3.9
Lilongwe city	99.2	0.8	100.0	0.0	98.3	1.7
Southern Region	88.8	11.2	89.3	10.7	88.3	11.7
Balaka	95.4	4.6	90.7	9.3	100.0	0.0
Machinga	80.6	19.4	83.2	16.8	79.0	21.0
Mangochi	79.5	20.5	84.9	15.1	76.5	23.5
Zomba rural	88.1	11.9	84.5	15.5	90.5	9.5
Chiradzulu	90.6	9.4	96.6	3.4	85.3	14.7
Blantyre rural	86.9	13.1	81.8	18.2	91.2	8.8
Mulanje	90.9	9.1	80.4	19.6	100.0	0.0
Thyolo	80.4	19.6	79.6	20.4	81.3	18.7
Phalombe	85.0	15.0	90.0	10.0	80.0	20.0
Mwanza	92.0	8.0	91.1	8.9	92.7	7.3
Chikwawa	90.0	10.0	93.6	6.4	83.6	16.4
Nsanje	83.2	16.8	87.6	12.4	77.0	23.0
Blantyre city	96.3	3.7	98.5	1.5	94.4	5.6
Zomba municipality	86.7	13.3	88.5	11.5	85.1	14.9