In 2004, close to 5 million people were newly infected with human immunodeficiency virus, bringing to nearly 78 million the total number of HIV infections since the first AIDS cases were identified in 1981.\(^1\) (See Figure 1.) Cumulative deaths from HIV-related illness grew by more than 3 million, to 34 million.\(^2\) (See Figure 2.) No disease in human experience debilitates and kills as AIDS does. Nearly 90 percent of fatalities occur among people of working age, making AIDS the leading cause of death worldwide for people ages 15 to 49.\(^3\) The seven most seriously AIDS-affected countries—all in sub-Saharan Africa (see Figure 3)—now lose as much as 10–18 percent of their working-age adults every five years, mainly to this disease.\(^4\) (Industrial countries, in comparison, typically lose about 1 percent of this age group to death in five years.)\(^5\)

Largely because of this rising pandemic, death rates have actually reversed their decline in more than 30 countries worldwide.\(^6\) At least 13 of the 53 countries now considered AIDS-affected have suffered measurable reversals in human development since 1990; in 7, life expectancy is less than 40 years.\(^7\) Several of these countries could even see population declines soon as AIDS deaths overtake births.\(^8\)

Where the epidemic is most advanced, the disease is widespread—affecting government, the armed forces, schools, factories, farms, and health care facilities.\(^9\) Botswana and Zimbabwe, where more than a third of reproductive-age adults are HIV-positive, are among the hardest hit.\(^10\) Botswana's largest diamond company, Debswana, suffered a tripling in AIDS deaths between 1996 and 1999.\(^11\)

In perhaps 20 developing countries—nearly all of them in sub-Saharan Africa—more than 15 percent of the total military force is thought to be HIV-positive.\(^12\) Some countries are experiencing military HIV infection rates that far exceed those among civilians: in Zimbabwe, an estimated three quarters of all soldiers now die of AIDS within a year of leaving the army.\(^13\)

The International Labour Organization predicts that in the absence of treatment, as many as 74 million workers worldwide could die from AIDS-related causes by 2015.\(^14\) Employers in South Africa, home to the largest infected population, now face what economists term an AIDS “tax”—added expenditures for frequent sick leave, providing health care benefits and burial fees, and training new employees.\(^15\)

Between 1992 and 2002, the country's economy lost an estimated $7 billion annually due to declines in its labor force.\(^16\)

Women and girls increasingly bear the HIV burden, as many become victims of their partners' high-risk behaviors. In 2004, the number of women living with AIDS worldwide reached 17.6 million, 45 percent of the world total.\(^17\) Meanwhile, the number of children orphaned by the disease—the vast majority of them in Africa—increased from 11.5 million to 15 million between 2001 and 2003.\(^18\)

A big wild card is how the disease will play out in China and India, where two fifths of the world lives and where HIV/AIDS surveillance efforts remain inadequate.\(^19\) Although only about 1 percent of India's reproductive-age population is infected, some 5.1 million Indians now live with the disease, making it the second largest infected population in the world.\(^20\) And because of China's mounting epidemic, the number of people living with HIV in East Asia jumped nearly 50 percent between 2002 and 2004, to 1.1 million.\(^21\)

In Russia, rising intravenous drug use is contributing to the disease's rapid spread.\(^22\) Without adequate prevention programs, according to the World Bank, as many as 650,000 Russians could be dying from HIV/AIDS annually by 2010—more people than have died of AIDS in the United States since 1981.\(^23\)

Global funding for HIV/AIDS increased from some $2.1 billion to an estimated $6.1 billion between 2001 and 2004, and access to AIDS education and vital prevention and care services has improved greatly.\(^24\) The number of people receiving antiretroviral therapy has jumped 56 percent since 2001, according to a survey of 73 developing countries.\(^25\) Yet in many of the most affected countries, inadequate resources and a failure of political leadership continue to hamper progress.
HIV/AIDS Crisis Worsening Worldwide

Cumulative HIV Infections and AIDS Deaths Worldwide, 1980–2004

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>HIV Infections (million)</th>
<th>AIDS Deaths (million)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>1980</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981</td>
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<td>0.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>1983</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1984</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1985</td>
<td>2.4</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1986</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>0.3</td>
</tr>
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<tr>
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<td>2004 (prel)</td>
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Notes

10. Ibid., p. 5.
11. Ibid.
13. Ibid.
14. Ibid.
16. Ibid.
17. Ibid.
19. Ibid.
20. Ibid.

**NUMBER OF REFUGEES DECLINES** (pages 66–67)

4. Ibid.
7. UNHCR, op. cit. note 6, p. 3.
8. Ibid.
9. UNHCR, op. cit. note 1, pp. 6, 13.
10. Ibid., p. 5.
12. UNHCR, op. cit. note 1, p. 6.
14. Ibid.
15. Ibid.
19. The figure of 70 million is the sum of the international refugees (including Palestinian refugee communities), asylum seekers, internally displaced people, and El-Hinnawi’s estimate for environmental refugees.

**HIV/AIDS CRISIS WORSENING WORLDWIDE** (pages 68–69)

5. Ibid.
6. Ibid.
10. UNAIDS, op. cit. note 1.
17. UNAIDS, op. cit. note 2.
18. By definition, an AIDS orphan is under 15 years of age and has lost his or her mother or both parents from an AIDS-related cause, per UNAIDS, Children and Young People in a World of AIDS (Geneva: 2001); UNICEF, UNAIDS, and USAID, Children on the Brink 2004: A Joint Report of New Orphan Estimates and a Framework for Action (New York: July 2004).
23. C. Ruhl et al., Computer-based Model: The Economic Consequences of HIV in Russia (Moscow: World Bank Group in Russia, June 2002); Cincotta, Engelman, and Anastasion, op. cit. note 4.
24. UNAIDS, op. cit. note 2, p. 5.
25. Ibid.
CIGARETTE PRODUCTION DROPS (pages 70–71)
3. USDA, op. cit. note 1; Census Bureau, op. cit. note 2.
4. USDA, op. cit. note 1.
5. Ibid.
6. Ibid.
7. Ibid.
8. Ibid. Consumption of cigarettes is a residual number based on total production plus imports minus exports. Thus, this number includes stockpiled cigarettes and cannot factor in discrepancies due to smuggling.
9. USDA, op. cit. note 1.
10. Ibid.
16. Ibid.