

**Integrated Biological and Behavioral  
Surveillance (IBBS) Survey among  
Female Sex Workers  
in Kathmandu Valley, Nepal**

**Round IV - 2011**

**June 2011**



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## LIST OF ABBREVIATION

AIDS	-	Acquired Immuno-Deficiency Syndrome
ASHA	-	Advancing Surveillance, Policies, Prevention, Care & Support to Fight HIV/AIDS
CAC	-	Community Action Center
CWC	-	Community Welfare Center
DIC	-	Drop-in-Centre
FHI	-	Family Health International
FSWs	-	Female Sex Workers
HIV	-	Human Immuno-Deficiency Virus
IBBS	-	Integrated Biological and Behavioral Surveillance Survey
ID	-	Identification Number
IDUs	-	Injecting Drug Users
IEC	-	Information, Education and Communication
IHS	-	Integrated Health Service
MARPs	-	Most At Risk Populations
NCASC	-	National Centre for AIDS and STD Control
NGO	-	Non-Governmental Organization
NHRC	-	Nepal Health Research Council
NPHL	-	National Public Health Laboratory
OEs	-	Outreach Educators
PEs	-	Peer Educators
PHSC	-	Protection of Human Subjects Committee
RPR	-	Rapid Plasma Reagin
SLC	-	School Leaving Certificate
SPSS	-	Statistical Package for the Social Sciences
STI	-	Sexually Transmitted Infection
STEP Nepal	-	Society for Empowerment –Nepal
TPPA	-	Treponema Pallidum Particle Agglutination
VCT	-	Voluntary Counseling and Testing for HIV
WHO	-	World Health Organization
WATCH	-	Women Acting Together for Change
USAID	-	United States Agency for International Development



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This is the fourth round of the IBBS survey conducted among 593 Female Sex Workers (FSWs) - of whom 355 were establishment-based and 238 street-based. The survey covered the entire Kathmandu Valley, including the Kathmandu, Bhaktapur, and Lalitpur districts. The fieldwork for the survey was carried out from January 16 to March 6, 2011. The survey was undertaken primarily to track the trend of HIV infection and syphilis in FSWs and to understand sexual behaviors among FSWs in the Kathmandu Valley. Information on the socio-demographic, sexual behavior, pregnancy history and use of family planning devices, drug use and exposure to STI/HIV/AIDS awareness programs was collected through a structured questionnaire, while the prevalence of HIV and syphilis was tested via blood samples. Syphilis was tested using the Rapid Plasma Reagin (RPR) test card. HIV was detected by using the Determine HIV 1/2 test as a first test to detect antibodies against HIV, the Uni-Gold test as a second test, and the SD Bioline HIV 1/2 test as a tie breaker test as per the VCT guideline of National Centre for AIDS and STD Control (NCASC).

### **Key Findings**

#### **Prevalence of HIV and STIs**

Out of the 593 respondents who participated in the survey, 10 of them (1.7%) were infected with HIV. The prevalence was only seen in street-based FSWs. Syphilis history (RPR+ve with RPR titre < 1:8) was 2.5 percent (10/238 of the street-based FSWs and 5/355 of the establishment-based FSWs) and active syphilis (RPR+ve with RPR titre  $\geq$  1:8) was 0.7 percent (4/238) among street based FSWs. Active syphilis was not detected among any of the establishment based FSWs.

#### **Socio-Demographic Characteristics**

The age of the FSWs in the Kathmandu Valley ranged from 16 to 48 years with a median age of 23 years. The average age of establishment-based respondents was lower than the street-based respondents. The majority (84.3%) of the respondents were born outside the Kathmandu Valley.

Thirty-one percent of the FSWs from Kathmandu Valley were illiterate with a higher proportion of the street-based (41.2%) compared to the establishment-based FSWs (24.2%) being illiterate. Marriage at an early age was a prevalent practice, as 85.3 percent of the married respondents had first been married between the ages of 11-19. A large proportion (75.7%) of FSWs was married before the survey. Percentage of married was higher among the street-based FSWs (84.9%) compared to their establishment-based counterparts (69.6%). Overall, 52.4 percent of the respondents were currently married that means they were with their husbands.

#### **Child Birth and Use of Family Planning Devices**

Eighty-one percent of the respondents who were or had been married had given birth to a child; 14.9 percent (67/449) had experienced at least one miscarriage; and 40.1 percent (180/449) had terminated/aborted pregnancies.

Among the different family planning devices available, all of the respondents had heard of condoms. Additionally, 87 percent of the respondents had been using some form of family planning device to delay or avoid pregnancy at the time of the survey. The majority of them (86.4%) had been using condoms.

### **Sexual Behavior**

The mean age of the FSWs in Kathmandu valley at the time of their first sexual intercourse was 16 years. Around 71 percent of the respondents had had their first sexual contact at the age of 15-19. There were some (20.4%) who had had their first sexual contact at the even earlier age of 11-14.

The mean number of months for which the respondents were involved in the sex trade was 30 months, with 40.3 percent of them having entered the sex trade in the last 12 months preceding the survey interview data, indicating that new sex workers are entering the business at a fast rate. A higher proportion of establishment-based FSWs (43.4%) versus street-based FSWs (35.7%) joined the sex industry in the last 12 months.

### **Sex Workers and Their Clients**

The sex workers have clients who visit them on regular basis and also those who come to them occasionally. The number of the respondents' clients per day ranged from one to six clients, with the mean number being 1.6 clients per day. While 58.7 percent of them reportedly entertained one client per day, 15 percent of them had three or more clients on average per day. The survey findings show that the street-based sex workers were more likely to see more clients than those based in establishments.

A large proportion of FSWs (62.7%) reported that they worked as a sex worker for four to seven days a week. The clients of the respondents belonged to a wide variety of professions. Overall, 61.7 percent of sex workers reported that businessmen visited them most frequently as clients. Service Holder/officer/doctor; Policeman/army man; Transport worker/driver; Contractors; Foreign employee and Migrant/industrial worker/wage laborer are some other frequently visiting clients reported by FSWs

### **Condom Use with Different Partners**

All of the FSWs knew about male condoms, 82.6 percent of the respondents had used a condom with their last clients. Use of condom with the last client in 2011 has significantly increased since the 2004 survey especially among establishment based sex workers.

Furthermore, the condom using practice of FSWs in the sexual relations that took place in the past year reveal that 74.6 percent of FSWs had used condoms consistently with regular clients, 73.4 percent with clients, 76.9 percent with 'other' partners but only 11.6 percent with non-paying regular sex partners. Thus, the survey findings have shown that consistent condom use was lowest with non-paying regular partners. Common reasons cited by both street and establishment-based FSWs for not using condoms with all partners were the partner's objection and/or because they had used other contraceptives. Not much variation was noticed between street-based FSWs and establishment-based FSWs regarding condom using practices with different partners.

Condom use with client, regular clients and 'other' partners has increased significantly over the years. FSWs reporting consistent condom use with clients had reached to 73.4 percent in 2011, from 56.6 percent in 2004. Similarly, consistent condom use with regular clients had

increased up to 74.6 percent in 2011 from 62.5 percent in 2004; the trend shows significant improvement especially among establishment based sex workers. Consistent condom use with partners other than spouses, male friends or clients also showed an increasing trend from 58.5 percent in 2006 to 76.9 percent in 2011. However, consistent condom use with non-paying regular partner decreased significantly from 18.1 percent in 2004 to 11.6 percent in 2011

### **Knowledge of HIV/AIDS**

Knowledge of HIV and AIDS among FSWs in the Kathmandu valley was universal, only two of the total 593 respondents had not heard about HIV/AIDS. The most common sources of information for those that had heard of HIV/AIDS were television (89.7%), radio (87.5%), NGO staff (83.8%), and friends/relatives (83.6%).

The proportion of sex workers who reported that they were aware of **A** (abstinence from sex), **B** (being faithful to one partner or avoiding multiple sex partners), and **C** (consistent condom use or use of a condom during every sexual act) as HIV preventive measures were 59.6 percent, 80.5 percent, and 88.7 percent, respectively. Overall, 47.7 percent of the respondents correctly identified all three **A**, **B**, and **C** as HIV preventative measures. Furthermore, among the respondents, 88.8 percent knew that a healthy-looking person can be infected with HIV (**D**), 44.0 percent of them identified that a person cannot get HIV from a mosquito bite (**E**), and 80.5 percent knew that one cannot get HIV by sharing a meal with an HIV-infected person (**F**). Overall, however, only 30.4 percent of the respondents were aware of all the five major indicators - **BCDEF**. This percentage was so low mainly because of the low correct knowledge on “mosquito bite”.

The trend analysis of comprehensive knowledge shows that knowledge of ABC has significantly decreased since 2006 (55.2% in 2006, 58.4% in 2008 and 47.6% in 2011) which is because of drop in awareness level of ‘**A**’. Awareness of all of BCDEF has remained stable around 30 percent since 2006.

### **Exposure to STI/HIV/AIDS Awareness Programs**

The majority of the respondents (83.8%) had met or interacted with peer educators/outreach educators (PEs/OEs) from different organizations. About 34 percent of FSWs from Kathmandu Valley had visited a drop-in center (DIC), around 44 percent had visited an STI clinic, and 53.5 percent of the FSWs had visited Voluntary Counseling and Testing (VCT) centers. However, only 9.3 percent of the respondents had ever participated in any HIV/AIDS prevention/awareness programs. The practice of visiting an STI clinic and a VCT center has significantly improved over the years amongst the FSWs in Kathmandu Valley. STI clinic visit increased to 43.8% in 2011 from 28% in 2006 and VCT visit increased to 53.5% in 2011 from 8.2% in 2006.

### **Stigma/Discrimination against People Living with HIV/AIDS**

It was noted that the majority of the respondents were willing to take care of any of their HIV positive male relative (92.4%) or a female relative (93.9%) at their home if necessary. However, 66.3 percent of FSWs said that if a family member had HIV they would keep it confidential and would rather not talk about it.

**Violence Faced**

The survey findings have found that the street-based FSWs are more likely to face different forms of violence compared to those based in establishments since a higher proportion of street-based versus establishment-based FSWs were subjected to objectionable activities like forced or nonconsensual sex (27.3% street based and 18.3% establishment-based), were physically assaulted (21% street based and 15.8% establishment based), or had clients perform objectionable activities (34% street-based and 26.2% establishment-based).



## **CHAPTER 1.0: INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Background**

Nepal is defined as a country with a ‘concentrated epidemic’ of HIV. In Nepal, the risk of HIV infection is higher among injecting drug users (IDUs), Men who have Sex with Men (MSMs), female sex workers (FSWs) and labor migrants who work in Indian cities where HIV prevalence among FSWs is high. In 2009, the National Centre for AIDS and STD Control (NCASC) had estimated about 63,528 people living with HIV in Nepal of whom 3,544 were children (NCASC, 2010). The HIV epidemic in Nepal is largely driven by sex work.

The number of FSWs in Nepal is estimated at 32,137 (NCASC, 2010). Sex workers are considered one of the major groups that work as source of STIs and HIV infection to the general population, mainly as a result of unprotected sex with their clients and other sex partners who work as a ‘bridge group’ .

NCASC is conducting IBBS among the most at-risk populations (MARPs) on a regular basis since 1999. Surveys are under the National HIV/AIDS Surveillance Plan of NCASC. USAID and FHI have been providing the technical support for conducting these surveys This is the fourth round of IBBS surveys of FSWs in the Kathmandu Valley. The first round was conducted in 2004 followed by consecutive rounds in 2006 and 2008. The results from the previous rounds have shown no significant change in HIV prevalence among FSWs in the Kathmandu Valley and it was more or less stable around 2 percent (2% in 2004, 1.4% in 2006, and 2.2% in 2008). However, syphilis infection among FSWs has decreased significantly over the years, from 6 percent in 2004 to one percent in 2008 in the Kathmandu Valley.

### **1.2 Overview of Integrated Biological and Behavioral Surveillance Survey**

Behavioral surveillance is the systematic and ongoing collection of data about diseases or risk behaviors related to health conditions, with the purpose of correlating trends in behavior with changes in disease over time. In biological surveillance, biological samples are collected and tested for HIV and other related illnesses (S Navadeh, [www.hiv.ir](http://www.hiv.ir)). IBBS survey is a repeated cross-sectional surveys conducted to monitor the trend in HIV/STI prevalence and to assess behavioral information from the target groups. In Nepal, the NCASC has aimed to track trends in HIV prevalence and STI-related awareness, and risk behaviors among most at risk populations (MARPs) including injecting drug users, migrant workers, female sex workers, men who have sex with men, and wives of migrant laborers. A standardized format of the questionnaire is used for each group which is repeated in the following rounds of survey to explore behavioral changes over time.

### **1.3 Objectives of the Survey**

As in the previous rounds, the general objective of the survey was to collect and analyze data on behavioral correlates of HIV and STIs among FSWs in the Kathmandu Valley. The survey was conducted with the following objectives:

#### **Primary Objectives**

- a. To track the trend in the prevalence of syphilis and HIV infection among FSWs in the Kathmandu Valley.
- b. To assess the sexual behaviors related to HIV among FSWs in Kathmandu Valley.

#### **Secondary Objectives**

- a. To estimate the knowledge of HIV/STIs as well as assess the sexual and injecting behaviors among FSWs in Kathmandu Valley.
- b. To explore associations between risk behaviors and infections with HIV or syphilis among FSWs in Kathmandu Valley.
- c. To estimate the prevalence of STI syndromes among FSWs in Kathmandu Valley.

## CHAPTER 2.0: METHODOLOGY

### 2.1 Implementation of the Study

Under the technical support of the USAID funded ASHA Project, the survey was carried out by New ERA in collaboration with Intrepid Nepal. New ERA was responsible for the overall management of the survey and carried out the fieldwork for data collection using pre-finalized survey tools in coordination with ASHA Project and the NCASC. New ERA was also responsible for analyzing the data and writing the survey report. Intrepid Nepal, on the other hand, was responsible for setting up the laboratory in the field sites, providing training to lab technicians, supervising and collecting blood samples, and conducting HIV and syphilis testing. The survey was conducted in close collaboration with many organizations working with FSWs like STEP Nepal (Society for Empowerment- Nepal) , Community Action Center (CAC), and Nari Chetna Samaj (SWAN) in the Kathmandu Valley.

The Nepal Public Health Laboratory (NPHL) performed the external quality assurance (EQA) test on the 10 percent of samples sent to them by Intrepid Nepal.

### 2.2 Survey Population and Survey Area

The survey was conducted among FSWs, who are one of the high-risk sub-populations identified in Nepal. The definition of the FSWs used in the survey was: *Women aged 16 years and above reporting having been paid in cash or kind for sex with a male within the last 6 months*. This definition is being used since the first round of IBBS surveys in Kathmandu and other sites of Nepal.

The two types of populations sampled in the survey were (i) street-based and (ii) establishment-based FSWs. They were defined as follows in the survey:

Street-based FSWs: *FSWs aged 16 years and above who solicit their clients from the street, roads, squatter settlements, premises of garment factories, and small liquor stalls/bhatti pasals.*

Establishment-based FSWs: *FSWs aged 16 years and above who are based in establishments like hotels, lodges, restaurants, massage parlors, discotheques, and guest houses and solicit their clients from there.*

As in the previous rounds, this round's survey area also covered the Kathmandu Valley, which included most of the urban and semi-urban parts of Kathmandu, Lalitpur, and Bhaktapur districts.

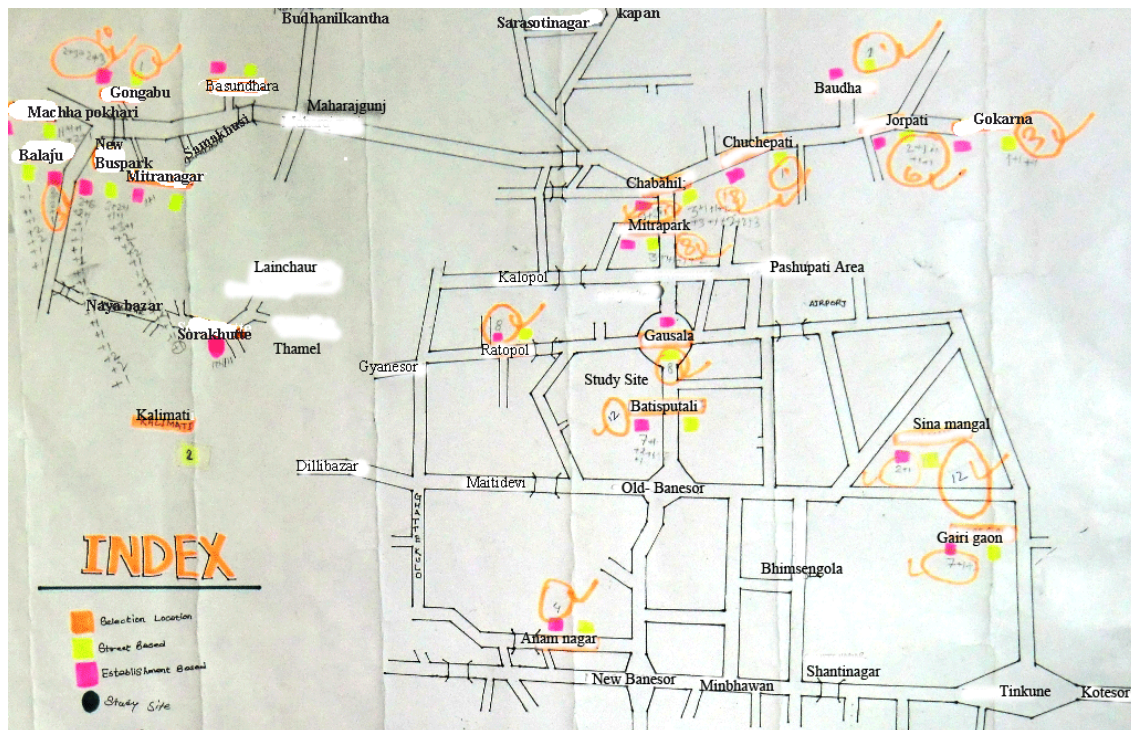
### 2.3 Sample Design

This was a cross-sectional survey. In order to compile the sampling frames, a preliminary mapping exercise was conducted in the first phase of the survey. In the preliminary visit of the survey sites, the survey team identified the locations and a preliminary estimate of the number of the survey population was made. The survey team went to the survey area to identify all possible locations and to enumerate FSWs who could be met at the time of the survey. FSWs available in a location during the time were listed and duplications in counting

were minimized by listing those FSWs who were reported to be in the cluster for most of their time. Information was solicited from local key informants such as pimps, clients of FSWs, drivers, shopkeepers, and restaurant/cabin staff members.

Likewise, local organizations working with the survey population were visited and information was collected from them too. At each location visited by the team, the number of FSWs talked to, seen but not talked to, and reported by informants were aggregated to get a total number of sex workers in that specific location. A list of locations with the enumerated number of FSWs was prepared for the whole of the Kathmandu Valley.

*Map Displayed in one of the Survey Sites Showing Sampled Locations*



Based on the findings from the preliminary mapping exercise, two separate sampling frames were prepared: one for street-based FSWs and one for establishment-based FSWs. The locations were divided into clusters or geographical area where FSWs sell sex. Areas with small numbers of FSWs were merged together with the nearest location of other FSWs with similar typologies in order to ensure that the smallest clusters comprised at least 20 FSWs. The identified locations were then divided into a total of 21 clusters for street-based FSWs and 70 clusters for establishment-based sex workers in the Kathmandu Valley.

A two-stage cluster sampling method was used to draw the samples of both street and establishment FSWs. In the first stage, probability proportional to size (pps) method was used to draw 20 clusters from the street-based FSW's sampling frame and 30 clusters from the establishment-based FSW's sampling frame. Extra clusters were also selected in advance to make replacements for refusals if necessary.

At the second stage, the survey team members listed the number of FSWs present at the time of their visit to each location within the selected cluster. Local key informants' help was also sought to develop the list of FSWs present in the cluster at the time of the field visit. From this list, the required number of 12 respondents was randomly selected from each cluster. Refusals were recorded separately for each cluster.

## **2.4 Sample Size**

The sample size was calculated to detect up to a 12 percent difference in key behaviors, such as consistency of condom use with different types of sex partners, exposure to HIV/AIDS prevention interventions, knowledge of STIs and STI care-seeking behaviors, knowledge and attitudes towards HIV/AIDS, and HIV risk and prevention behavior of FSWs over time in the trend analyses. Power of the sample is 80 percent, and a design effect of “2” was used in the sample size calculation to increase the power of the sample. The formula used in the sample size estimation is shown in Annex 6. A minimum sample size target of 560 FSWs was estimated for the Kathmandu Valley - 224 for street-based and 336 for establishment-based FSWs. For the self-weighted design, a strategy of interviewing an equal number of FSWs from each selected first stage cluster was adopted and additional clusters were selected to account for refusals. If the estimated sample sizes of 224 street-based FSWs and 336 establishment-based FSWs were successfully interviewed, no replacements were necessary for the refused cases (for details, see Annex 6). In the previous round of IBBS, the sample size was 500 (300 establishment-based and 200 street-based FSWs) in the Kathmandu Valley.

At the end of the survey, given the limited number of refusals, the sample obtained was 593 FSWs in the Kathmandu Valley. Out of them, 355 were establishment-based FSWs and 238 were street-based FSWs. These additional interviews, helped increase the prediction power.

## **2.5 Identification and Recruitment of FSWs**

Coordination with the organizations working with the survey population and other key stakeholders formed an integral part of the survey. Before the inception of the actual fieldwork, a coordination meeting was organized at New ERA with the organizations working with the survey population. In the meeting, New ERA shared the findings from the preliminary visit and sought input from the participants on the locations identified by that visit. The enumeration list was also shared with the stakeholders in the meeting. Additionally, the objectives of the survey, its methodologies, fieldwork dates, and location of the sites were also shared with all the stakeholders. The meeting was attended by representatives from the CAC, CWC (Community Welfare Center), NFWLHA (National Federation of Women Living with HIV/AIDS), STEP Nepal, and SWAN. The team members also coordinated with the following organizations while conducting the fieldwork: CAC Nepal, STEP Nepal, Richmond Fellowship, and Women Acting Together for Change (WATCH). Meetings were also conducted with Peer Educators (PEs) and Outreach Educators (OEs), Drop in Center (DIC) operators, and Voluntary Counseling and Testing (VCT) center operators representing different organizations. The meetings were focused on getting acquainted with different organizations' working areas and with the names of staff members who interacted with the target groups. It was considered necessary to collect such information since the survey also sought to measure the exposure of the survey participants to various HIV/AIDS-related programs, including peer/outreach education, and the rate of participants' visits to the DICs, VCT centers, and STI clinics located in their respective districts.

The survey team established an interview site with a mobile clinic and laboratory facilities strategically in the vicinity of each identified cluster. Randomly selected respondents were brought into these sites for interviews, biological sample collection as well as for clinical amination and treatment of STIs in order to ensure that privacy during data collection was maintained. The interview sites were selected following consultations with local GOs, NGOs, and survey community people as well as with security personnel so that the security of the FSWs at the interview locations was ensured. The mobile clinic and interview sites were operated at each location for several days, allowing FSWs working around the site to be recruited for participation. For the Kathmandu Valley, interview sites were set up at guest houses/hotels in Jamal, Koteshwor, Gaushala, and Gongabu. The Gongabu site was added after closing the Gaushala site to recruit FSWs from that part of the Kathmandu Valley (Annex 7).

After careful observation of the identified locations, the researchers started approaching the survey population using various techniques like building good rapport with their employers, visiting the sites, obtaining the help of brokers and key informants, observing the activities of women in major gathering areas for FSWs, posing as clients, chatting with other staff of the establishments, and approaching sex workers known to them. In order to confirm the identity of the survey participants, the sex workers were asked several screening questions. Such questions were related to their sexual experience and behavior; the type of sex partners they had; their involvement in the sex trade; the amount of clients they had; the amount of time they had been involved in the profession; and their knowledge of HIV/AIDS awareness/prevention activities. If the interviewers found their answers convincing enough to establish their identity as sex workers then only they were listed as prospective respondents. Once the final selection of the respondents was made randomly, the respondents were requested to take part in the survey. Respondents who satisfactorily answered all the screening questions were briefed about the purpose, objectives, and methodology of the survey. Once the selected sex worker agreed to participate in the survey, the researchers took them to the clinic and interview site for an interview and collection of a blood sample.

The respondents were enrolled after they were informed about the survey and their role in the survey. An oral informed consent form was administered by the interviewer in a private setting and witnessed by another staff member to ensure that the survey participants understood the information in the consent form and provided verbal consent. They were also informed about the services that would be provided to them. The interviewer administered the standard questionnaire in a private room.

A laminated ID card with a specific number was also issued to each respondent to ensure anonymity. The same number was used in the questionnaire, medical records, and the blood specimens of that particular respondent. The names and addresses of the respondents were not recorded anywhere. A clinician examined them and asked them if they were currently suffering from any of the STI symptoms. They were also examined physically for any evidence of STI symptoms, and, if symptoms were detected, they were treated and counseled accordingly. They were provided with free medicine for symptomatic treatment in accordance with the National STI Case Management Guidelines 2009. A lab technician drew a venous blood sample for HIV and syphilis testing. Additionally, a one-month supply of vitamins and iron, IEC materials, condoms, and Rs. 150 in cash to reimburse their transportation cost was also provided to the FSWs.

Fieldwork for the survey started on January 16, 2011, and ended on March 6, 2011.

## **2.6 Refusal**

All respondents participated voluntarily in the survey. Out of the 600 randomly selected FSWs approached for the interview a total of seven sex workers refused to take part in the survey. Four had recently gone for HIV testing and were not interested to take the test again; one was too busy and did not have enough time to take the survey; one did not find any attractive incentive in the survey; and one of the selected sex workers was too scared to give her blood sample for the testing. Refusals were recorded at two stages: (i) at the time of approaching the sex workers at different locations and (ii) after arriving at the interview sites.

## **2.7 Control of Duplication**

In order to avoid repeated interviews with the same FSW, the researchers were shared amongst different survey sites, as they were more familiar with the participants and could identify them. Further, the lab technicians and clinical person who examined and treated the respondent at the survey site, who also met all the participants, were alerted to the possibility of duplicate interviews and were instructed to be cautious in order to avoid this repetition.

Several questions were asked in case of any doubt regarding the participant's first time participation in the study. Such questions related to her experience of undergoing any blood test, the part of the body where the blood was taken from, her experience of having had an HIV test or test for other diseases, the meeting with the peer educators for the blood test, and the possession of an ID card with a survey number.

## **2.8 Research Instrument**

A quantitative research approach was adopted in this study. The structured questionnaire that was tested and used in the previous rounds of IBBS was repeated with slight modifications and some additional questions on the use of family planning methods and injection-drug use. The questionnaire included questions on socio-demographic characteristics and sexual behaviors - sexual history, use of condoms, risk perception, awareness of HIV/AIDS/STIs, incidence of STI symptoms, participation in HIV/AIDS awareness programs, and alcohol/drug using habits (Annex 3).

Apart from the structured questionnaire, questions relating to STI symptoms were posed by a staff nurse to verify the occurrence of such symptoms in the past or during the survey (Annex 4). The survey participants were provided with syndromic treatment for STI problems, and a lab technician collected blood samples for HIV and syphilis testing. Strict confidentiality was maintained throughout the entire process.

## 2.9 Survey Personnel

The survey was conducted by a team that was comprised of a team leader, a research associate, two senior research assistants, and 27-member team of field surveyors.

Three field teams were formed for the survey in the Kathmandu Valley. Each field team consisted of one research assistant, four female interviewers, one staff nurse, one lab technician, and one runner. The first team covered the two sites at Gausala and later shifted to Gongabu. The second and the third teams were responsible for covering the Jamal and Koteshwor sites, respectively.

## 2.10 Recruitment and Training of Research Team

When selecting field researchers for the study, priority was given to researchers who had been involved in similar types of surveys previously such as the IBBS survey and Sero-survey among FSWs, truckers, migrants, clients, and IDUs.

Training was provided to the field researchers at the New ERA Training Hall. A one-week intensive training program was organized from January 6-12, 2011 for all the field researchers by trainers from the ASHA Project, New ERA, and Intrepid Nepal. The training focused on the followings: introduction to the study, the sampling and recruitment process, administration of the questionnaire (including characteristics of the target groups), methods of approaching them, and rapport building techniques. In addition, the training session also involved mock interviews, role-plays, class lectures, and sharing previous experiences (problems and solutions). Role-play practices were carried out based on actual field situations. Possible problems that could come up while approaching the sex workers and the ways to overcome such problems were discussed. The training also focused on providing a clear concept of informed consent, pre-test counseling, and basic knowledge of HIV/AIDS and STIs to the research team.



*Training session for the survey team members*



## 2.11 Field Operation Procedures

### *Interview Site Set-up*

Interview sites with clinics and laboratory facilities were set up at four pocket areas of Kathmandu: i.e., Gongabu, Jamal, Gausala, and Koteshwor in order to cover those areas outlined by the sampling procedure. These centrally-located sites were purposefully selected to maximize the convenience of bringing participants to the clinic. The clinic had a lab facility for blood drawing and centrifuging the blood for separation of sera. There was a separate room for each activity, including the administration of the questionnaire, STI examination, blood collection, a general physical check-up, and counseling.



*Medical room at the survey site*

### *Clinical Procedures*

All the participants were offered a clinical examination as an incentive to participate in the study. The clinical examination included a simple health check-up, such as measuring blood pressure, body temperature, weight, pulse, and symptomatic examination of STIs with syndromic treatment. The participants were asked whether they had current STI symptoms of genital discharge, ulcers, or lower abdominal pain, and those presenting with these symptoms were treated syndromically according to national guidelines. Other medicines such as paracetamol, alkylating agents, and vitamins were distributed as necessary. Furthermore, an external genital examination was complemented with a speculum examination as needed. Altogether 243 respondents were provided with syndromic treatment for STIs as they went through the clinical procedure in the course of the study.



*Respondent being given medicine at the survey*

### *Laboratory Methodology*

Laboratory services entailed on-site rapid screening of HIV 1/2 and syphilis followed by confirmation tests. Five ml of blood were drawn, and the serum was separated; both HIV rapid tests and Syphilis RPR tests were performed using the serum. The laboratories were designed for confidential testing of HIV and Syphilis as per national guidelines. Universal precautions and stringent waste management protocols were followed. Quality assurance tests were performed on all positives, and 10 percent of random samples in the National Public Health Laboratory (NPHL) in Kathmandu for both HIV and Syphilis serum samples.



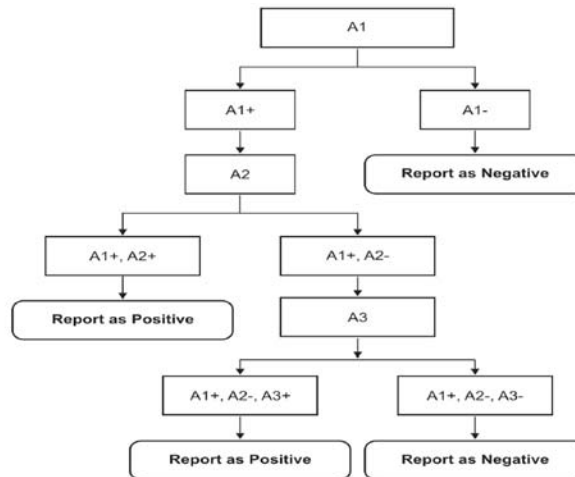
*Collected sample being tested at the lab room*

Respondents with positive RPR tests were proposed a curative penicillin injection. There was provision of an ‘on call’ medical doctor to give the injection. However, none of the 19 RPR reactive cases gave their consent for the injection inspite of counseling and continuous follow up from the team members. In most cases the respondents were too scared to receive injections. Therefore, as an alternative treatment, oral medicines were provided to them as per the STI treatment guidelines.

### ***HIV 1/2 Test***

HIV screening of serum samples was performed using rapid test kits following the HIV testing strategy II algorithm. Determine HIV 1/2 (Abbott, Japan), Uni-Gold HIV 1/2 (Trinity Biotech, Ireland), and SD Bioline HIV 1/2 (Standard Diagnostics, Inc, S Korea) were used as lateral flow (rapid immunochromatography) kits for testing for the presence of antibodies against HIV in the serum. Serum that tested positive with the initial kit was confirmed with the second kit. Samples that were found reactive on both tests were considered HIV antibody positive. Samples that were nonreactive on the first test were considered HIV antibody negative. Any sample that was reactive on the first test but non-reactive on the second was retested with the third “tie breaker” kit. The quality of the assay was assured by the in-built control of each kit. This procedure was based on the VCT guideline of NCASC.

### ***HIV Testing Strategy II Algorithm***



NOTE:	
A1 (First test) :	Determine HIV 1/2
A2 (Second test) :	Uni-Gold HIV
A3 (Third test) :	SD Bioline HIV 1/2
"+" :	Reactive
"-" :	Non-reactive

<sup>1</sup> Assay A1, A2, A3 represent 3 different assays.

<sup>2</sup> Such a result is not adequate for diagnostic purposes; use strategies II or III. Whatever the final diagnosis, donations which were initially reactive should not be used for transfusions or transplants.

<sup>3</sup> Report: result may be reported.

<sup>4</sup> For newly diagnosed individuals, a positive result should be confirmed on a second sample.

<sup>5</sup> Testing should be repeated on a second sample taken after 14 days.

<sup>6</sup> Result is considered negative in the absence of any risk of HIV infection.

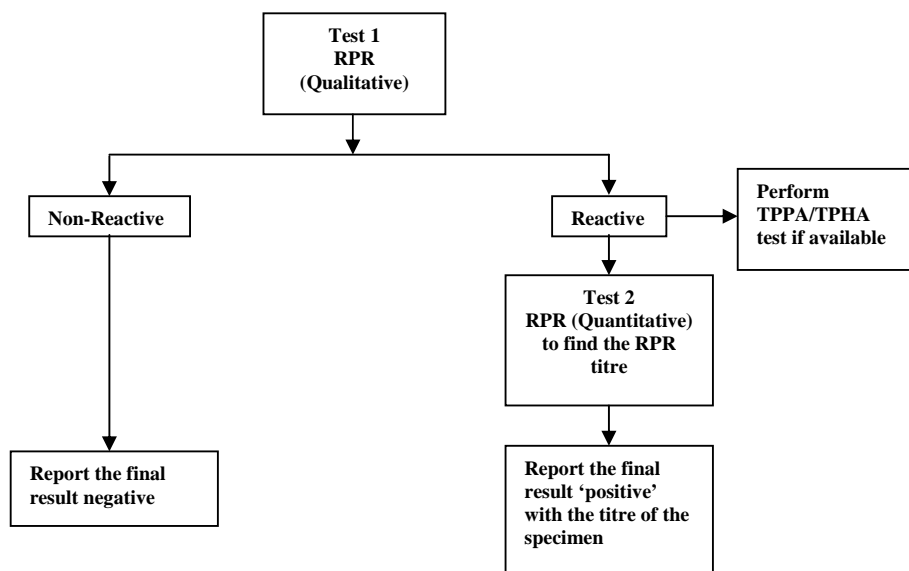
### *Sensitivity and Specificity of HIV 1/2 Kits*

Test Kits	Company	Initial	Confirm	Tie Break	Antigen Type	Speci.	Sensi.
<b>Determine HIV 1-2</b>	Abbott, Japan Co. Ltd	X			Recom HIV-1 and HIV-2	99.40%	100%
<b>Uni-Gold HIV 1-2</b>	Trinity Biotech, Dublin, Ireland		X		HIV-1 and HIV-2	100%	100%
<b>SD Bioline HIV 1-2</b>	Standard Diagnostics, Inc, Kyonggi-do South Korea			X	HIV-1 (gp41;p24)-2 (gp36)	99.30%	100%

### *Syphilis*

The syphilis test was performed following the national guideline on case management of sexually transmitted diseases (NCASC, Nepal). The serum was tested for non-specific and specific treponemal agents. A non-specific treponemal test, Rapid Plasma Reagin (RPR) [Becton, Dickson and company, USA], was used for both qualitative screening and quantitative titration. All RPR reactive serum was confirmed using the specific *Treponema pallidum* Particle Agglutination (TPPA) test (Fujirebio Inc.) at Intrepid Nepal Pvt. Ltd. laboratory. Serum samples that tested RPR positive with titer value above or equal to 1:8 were reported as active syphilis; titration less than 1:8 was reported as a case with a history of syphilis. The quality of reagents and test cards of the RPR test kit was assessed daily on-site using a set of strong and moderate positive and negative controls.

### *Syphilis Testing Algorithm*



### ***Quality Control of Laboratory Tests***

Quality control was strictly maintained throughout the collection, handling, and testing of the specimens. All the tests were performed using internal controls. These controls were recorded along with the other laboratory data. For quality control assurance, a 10 percent sample of the total serum collected was submitted to the National Public Health Laboratory (NPHL) for External Quality Assessment (EQA).

### ***External Quality Assessment***

External quality assessment (EQA) is evaluation of the performance of a testing laboratory by an external agency. An External Quality Assessment Scheme (EQAS) is very essential in such studies to determine the quality of testing. All HIV positive and 10 percent of all HIV negative samples were retested at NPHL in this study as an External Quality Assessment of HIV testing. Similarly, all RPR reactive and 10 percent of all RPR non-reactive samples were retested at NPHL as an EQA of Syphilis testing. Aliquots of selected serum specimens were prepared in the field and sent to Intrepid-Nepal's laboratory in Kathmandu within a week of specimen collection. Serum specimens were stored at Intrepid-Nepal's laboratory at a temperature below -20°C. Once testing activities in the field were completed, Intrepid-Nepal handed over the serum specimens to NPHL for retesting. The test kits as those used in the field were also provided to the NPHL. The EQA samples were sent to the NPHL with new code numbers.

### ***HIV Testing***

Altogether 68 serum specimens were retested for HIV at NPHL. Among them 10 were HIV positive in the field. The table below shows the comparison between results from field and NPHL; 100 percent agreement has been observed in rapid HIV test results between field and NPHL which means perfect agreement between field and NPHL results.

		NPHL Results		Total
		Negative	Positive	
Intrepid results	Negative	58	0	58
	Positive	0	10	10
<b>Total</b>		<b>58</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>68</b>

### ***RPR Testing***

Altogether 76 serum specimens were retested for RPR at NPHL. Among them 19 were RPR reactive in the field. The table below shows the comparison between results from field and NPHL. Ninety six percent agreement has been observed in RPR test results between field and NPHL. Three samples which were reactive in the field were found to be non-reactive at NPHL.

		NPHL Results		Total
		Negative	Positive	
Intrepid results	Negative	57	0	57
	Positive	3	16	19
<b>Total</b>		<b>60</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>76</b>

### TPPA Testing:

Sixteen serum specimens were retested for TPPA at NPHL. One of them was TPPA Negative at Intrepid Nepal's laboratory. The table below shows the comparison between results from field and NPHL. All results from Intrepid Nepal's laboratory agreed with results from NPHL.

		NPHL Results		Total
		Negative	Positive	
Intrepid results	Negative	1	0	1
	Positive	0	15	15
<b>Total</b>		1	15	16

## 2.12 Coordination and Monitoring

The overall monitoring of the survey was done by NCASC. NCASC called three monitoring meetings. Moreover SI Unit Head at NCASC and the Surveillance officer at NCASC made monitoring visits in Kathmandu and Pokhara survey sites.

New ERA carried out the overall coordination of the field implementation and report writing of the survey. Intrepid Nepal was responsible for setting up the laboratory and collecting, storing, and testing blood samples.

The key research team members monitored and supervised the field activities. The research assistant was responsible on a day-to-day basis for ensuring that the survey was implemented in the field according to the protocol. Team meetings were held every week to plan ahead and solve any field-level problems. The research assistant in the field reported to the senior research assistants or the project coordinator whenever necessary. ASHA Project staffs from the program and the strategic information (SI) and technical units also monitored the field work in alternate weeks. The observations and suggestions from ASHA Project monitors were shared with the research team in the field at the end of the monitoring visit and were also communicated with the team leader and project associate at New ERA and Intrepid Nepal. Even after the fieldwork, ASHA Project's SI unit staff closely monitored the data entry, cleaning, and analysis process. In addition, the key research team member from New ERA and Intrepid Nepal made periodic site visits as the fieldwork was being conducted.

## 2.13 Ethical Issues

Ethical approval was obtained from the Nepal Health Research Council (NHRC), the government's ethical clearance body, and the Protection of Human Subjects Committee (PHSC), the ethical committee of FHI. Both ethical committees approved the survey protocol, consent forms, and questionnaires.



The participants involved in the in-depth interviews and sample surveys were fully informed about the nature of the study. They were informed that their participation was voluntary and that they were free to refuse to answer any question or to withdraw from the interview at any time. They were also informed that

such withdrawal would not affect the services they would normally receive from the survey. A consent form describing the objectives of the study, the nature of the participant's involvement, the benefits, and confidentiality issues was clearly read aloud to them (Annex 5). A specific ID card was provided to the survey participants so that the names and addresses of the respondents were not recorded anywhere. HIV and syphilis RPR test results along with post-test counseling were provided to the individual participants in a confidential manner.

The research team maintained the confidentiality of the data collected throughout the survey. The interviewers submitted the completed questionnaires to the field supervisor on the day of each interview. The supervisor reviewed and kept those questionnaires in separate locked cabinets where no one except for the researchers had access to the collected information. The supervisor then transported the questionnaires to New ERA every week. In the New ERA office, the questionnaires were kept in a locked coding room where no one except authorized data coding and data entry staff had access to the individual questionnaires.

#### **2.14 HIV/STI Pre- and Post-Test Counseling and Follow-Up**

All the survey participants were informed that they could retrieve their test result at the same site after some time. They were also informed that they could collect their test results by showing the ID card with their survey number that was provided to them by the survey team. Pre- and post-HIV/syphilis test counseling was provided to the survey participants. They were briefed about the importance of receiving the test result. For follow-up services, the survey participants were referred to SACTS and CAC counseling centers.



*Counselling session in progress at one of the survey sites*

All RPR reactive samples were transported to Intrepid laboratory in Kathmandu for TPPA test. The reports were handed over to New ERA after the test was performed. The reports that arrived during the survey period were sent to the survey sites, where the counselor handed them to the respondents who came to retrieve them. The reports that were received after the interviews were completed were sent to SACTS, and CAC's VCT centers, and the respondents were also informed that they could collect the TPPA reports from these centers.

#### **2.15 Constraints in the Field Work**

It was a challenging task to convince the FSWs to participate in the survey. In many cases, the respondents were not interested in waiting for the test results, complaining that it took too much time. Frequent and strict police patrol also made it difficult for the researchers to find survey populations. But after the identification of the randomly selected respondents and once participants were recruited, no major constraint was faced as the fieldwork was being conducted.

## **2.16 Data Processing and Analysis**

All the completed questionnaires were peer reviewed on the day of the interview by interviewers and thoroughly checked by the field supervisors before bringing them to New ERA's Kathmandu office for further checking, coding, processing, data entry, and analysis. A double data entry system was used to detect, correct, and minimize errors in data entry. Authorized persons working with password-protected computers completed the data entry and data analysis. Simple statistical methods such as mean, median, frequency distribution, and cross tabulation were used to analyze the data. As necessary, regression analysis also was performed to analyse the effect of multiple factors on the selected dependent variable. The FoxPro database program was used for data entry, and the data was analyzed using SPSS 13.0 and EPI-INFO.

## **2.17 Dissemination of IBBS survey findings**

Dissemination of the IBBS surveys was conducted at three levels: First, the key findings were shared with the survey community in Kathmandu valley and their comments were incorporated to support the IBBS findings. Then, it was shared at the national and central regional level in Kathmandu among a wider group of government, non-government organizations, donor agencies and stakeholders working in the field of HIV and AIDS in Nepal. This was done primarily as an update on the status and the trends of the HIV epidemic among FSWs in Kathmandu valley and to draw possible policy and program implications.

## **2.18 Primary use of Survey Findings**

The survey results are primarily intended to use (in reference to the FSW population in Kathmandu) for:

- Tracking the trend in HIV and STI prevalence
- Tracking the trend in high risk behaviors
- Estimating and projecting HIV infection
- Evaluating the progress of HIV prevention interventions

## CHAPTER 3.0: SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

This chapter describes the socio-demographic characteristics of the FSWs including both street (n=238) and establishment-based (n=355) FSWs of the Kathmandu Valley. Since these two types of sex workers were sampled independently, the analysis was carried out separately.

### 3.1 Socio-Demographic Characteristics

Table 3.1 shows the birth districts of the respondents and duration of their stay in Kathmandu valley. The survey results showed that the majority (84.3%) of the respondents were born in districts outside the Kathmandu Valley. Around 14 percent of them were born in the Valley, while a few (2%) were born in India. Thirty-six percent of the respondents were relatively new to the Kathmandu Valley, as they had migrated to the Valley less than a year ago. Only four percent of the total number of respondents had been living in the Kathmandu Valley permanently since their birth.

*Table 3.1: Birthplace of Female Sex Workers and Duration of their Stay in Kathmandu Valley*

Characteristics	Street (N=238)		Establishment (N=355)		Total (N=593)	
	n	%	N	%	n	%
<b>Birth districts</b>						
Kathmandu Valley*	31	13.0	49	13.8	80	13.5
India	4	1.7	8	2.2	12	2.0
Bangladesh	0	0.0	1	0.3	1	0.2
Other Districts	203	85.3	297	83.7	500	84.3
<b>Period living in Kathmandu Valley</b>						
Since Birth	9	3.8	15	4.2	24	4.0
More than 120 months	17	7.1	16	4.5	33	5.6
61 months – 120months	42	17.6	45	12.7	87	14.7
13 months – 60 months	99	41.6	136	38.3	235	39.6
Up to 12 months	71	29.8	143	40.3	214	36.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>100.0</b>

\*Note: Kathmandu, Lalitpur, Bhaktapur

The age of the participants ranged from 16 to 48 years with the median age being 23 years. The median age of the street-based sex workers was 26 years and that of the establishment-based FSWs was 22 years. Overall, 28.3 percent of the respondents were less than 20 years of age. The establishment-based respondents are likely to be younger compared to the street-based respondents; 35.5 percent of establishment based respondents as opposed to the 17.6 percent of street-based respondents belonged to the less than 20 years group. Overall, one-fourth of the respondents (25.3%) were over 30, which consisted of 34.8 percent of street-based and 18.9 percent of establishment-based respondents (Table 3.2).

Educational status of the sex workers in the Kathmandu Valley indicates that 31 percent of the respondents are illiterate; a higher percentage of the street-based FSWs (41.2%) than those based in establishments (24.2%) were illiterate. Around 25 percent of the total respondents had an education level of Grade 1-5, while around 5 percent of them had educat to SLC level or above (Table 3.2).



**Table 3.2: Socio-Demographic Characteristics of Female Sex Workers**

Socio-demographic Characteristics	Street		Establishment		Total	
	n	%	N	%	n	%
<b>Age of respondents</b>						
Less than 20	42	17.6	126	35.5	168	28.3
20 – 24	59	24.8	114	32.1	173	29.2
25 – 29	54	22.7	48	13.5	102	17.2
30 – 34	41	17.2	44	12.4	85	14.3
35 or above	42	17.6	23	6.5	65	11.0
<b>Mean/Median age</b>	<b>26.8/26.0</b>		<b>23.3/22.0</b>		<b>24.7/23.0</b>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Education</b>						
Illiterate	98	41.2	86	24.2	184	31.0
Literate, no schooling	29	12.2	35	9.9	64	10.8
Grade 1 – 5	59	24.8	91	25.6	150	25.3
Grade 6 – 9	41	17.2	124	34.9	165	27.8
SLC and Above	11	4.6	19	5.3	30	5.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Ethnic/Caste group</b>						
Chhetri/Thakuri	76	31.9	105	29.6	181	30.5
Tamang	48	20.2	101	28.4	149	25.1
Newar	23	9.7	31	8.7	54	9.1
Brahmin	23	9.7	23	6.5	46	7.8
Magar	17	7.1	26	7.3	43	7.3
Rai/Limbu	12	5.0	26	7.3	38	6.4
Damai/Sarki/Kami/Sunar	15	6.3	11	3.1	26	4.4
Gurung	6	2.5	18	5.1	24	4.0
Tharu	10	4.2	2	0.6	12	2.0
Others	8	3.4	12	3.4	20	3.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Marital status</b>						
Married	132	55.5	179	50.4	311	52.4
Divorced/Separated	63	26.5	61	17.2	124	20.9
Widowed	7	2.9	7	2.0	14	2.4
Never Married	36	15.1	108	30.4	144	24.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Age of the respondent when she got divorced/separated/widowed</b>						
Less than 20 (14-19 )	14	20	23	33.8	37	26.8
20 – 24	22	31.4	26	38.2	48	34.8
25 – 29	16	22.9	11	16.2	27	19.6
30 – 34	12	17.1	4	5.9	16	11.6
35 or above (35-40 )	6	8.6	3	4.4	9	6.5
Not reported	0	0.0	1	1.5	1	0.7
<b>Mean/Median Age</b>	<b>25.2/24.0</b>		<b>22.5/21.0</b>		<b>23.9/22.0</b>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Age at first marriage</b>						
11 – 14	46	22.8	48	19.4	94	20.9
15 – 19	122	60.4	167	67.6	289	64.4
20 – 24	28	13.9	29	11.7	57	12.7
25 – 36	6	3.0	3	1.2	9	2.0
<b>Mean/Median age at first marriage</b>	<b>16.8/16.0</b>		<b>16.7/16.0</b>		<b>16.7/16.0</b>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>247</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>449</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Married respondent whose husband has second wife</b>						
Yes	21	15.9	29	16.2	50	16.1
No	111	84.1	150	83.8	261	83.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>311</b>	<b>100.0</b>

The ethnic composition of the respondents shows that around 38 percent of them belonged to the Brahmin and Chhetri/Thakuri community. Twenty-five percent of them came from the

Tamang community, while other Tibeto-Burman communities (Newar, Magar, Rai, Limbu, and Gurung) made up around 27 percent of the total respondents. Few (4.4%) of them were from the occupational caste groups (Damai, Sarki, Kami, Sunar, etc).

Large proportions (75.7%) of FSWs had been married before; a higher proportion of the street-based FSWs (84.9%) were married than their establishment-based counterparts (69.6%). Overall, 52.4 percent of the respondents were currently married (street - 55.5% and establishment - 50.4%); 20.9 percent were divorced or permanently separated (street - 26.5% and establishment - 17.2%); and 2.4 percent were widowed (street - 2.9% and establishment - 2%). A total of 24.3 percent (street - 15.1% and establishment - 30.4%) of the respondents were never married (Figure 1). About 62 percent of married respondents were less than 24 years old at the time they became widows or got divorced/separated from their husbands, with the median age being 22 years.

Marriage at quite an early age was a prominent trend, as 64.4 percent of the respondents who had been married at some point had first been married at the age of 15-19. Among them, 20.9 percent reported being married between 11-14 years of age. Additionally, 16.1 percent of respondents' husbands had another wife (Table 3.2).

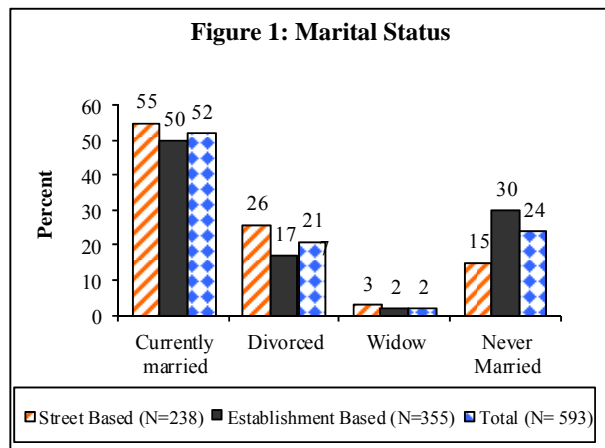


Table 3.3: Living Status of FSWs and Dependents Supported by Them

Living status of Female Sex Workers :	Street		Establishment		Total	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>Currently married respondents living with husband/male friend:</b>						
Yes	106	80.3	137	76.5	243	78.1
No	26	19.7	42	23.5	68	21.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>311</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Unmarried respondents living with male friend</b>						
Yes	1	2.8	18	16.7	19	13.2
No	35	97.2	90	83.3	125	86.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Have dependents</b>						
Yes	173	72.7	221	62.3	394	66.4
No	65	27.3	134	37.7	199	33.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Total number of dependents</b>						
One	52	30.1	91	41.2	143	36.3
2 – 3	99	57.2	105	47.5	204	51.8
4 and more	22	12.7	25	11.3	47	11.9
<b>Mean number of dependents</b>	<b>2.2</b>		<b>2.0</b>		<b>2.1</b>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>394</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Among the currently married respondents, 78.1 were living with their husband/male friend. At the same time, 13.2 percent of unmarried respondents (about 17% of establishment-based and 3% of street-based FSWs) reported living with a male partner at the time of the survey.

A total of 66.4 percent of the FSWs (street - 72.7%, establishment - 62.3%) reported that they had dependents, either children or adults. Almost half of them (51.8%) had 2-3 such

dependents, while 36.3 percent of them had one dependent. The others (11.9%) were responsible for four or more members of their family (Table 3.3).

### 3.2 Child Birth and Use of Family Planning Devices

Eighty-one percent of the respondents who had been married before the survey had ever given birth. The number of live births ranged between one to five. About 46.1 percent of them had given birth to one live child while the other 53.9 percent gave birth to more than one child. At the same time, 14.9 percent of the married respondents (67/449) have had at least one miscarriage while 40.1 percent (180/449) had terminated/aborted pregnancies. Many had experienced one miscarriage (83.6%) and abortion/termination (66.1%). Most of the abortion/termination cases (88.8%) had been assisted by medical personnel or trained health attendants.

**Table 3.4: Pregnancy History of Ever Married Female Sex Workers**

Pregnancy History	Street		Establishment		Total	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>Respondent ever gave birth</b>						
Yes	168	83.2	194	78.5	362	80.6
No	34	16.8	53	21.5	87	19.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>247</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>449</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>No of live births</b>						
One	62	36.9	105	54.1	167	46.1
Two	61	36.3	46	23.7	107	29.6
Three	23	13.7	32	16.5	55	15.2
More than three	22	13.1	11	5.7	33	9.1
<b>Average # of children born</b>	<b>2.0</b>		<b>1.7</b>		<b>1.9</b>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>362</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Ever had miscarriage</b>						
Yes	36	17.8	31	12.6	67	14.9
No	166	82.2	216	87.4	382	85.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>247</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>449</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Number of miscarriage</b>						
One	29	80.6	27	87.1	56	83.6
Two	5	13.9	2	6.5	7	10.4
Three	2	5.6	2	6.5	4	6.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Ever terminated/aborted any pregnancies</b>						
Yes	73	36.1	107	43.3	180	40.1
No	129	63.9	140	56.7	269	59.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>247</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>449</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Number of pregnancies terminated/aborted</b>						
One	45	61.6	74	69.2	119	66.1
Two	17	23.3	19	17.8	36	20.0
Three	10	13.7	11	10.3	21	11.7
More than three	1	1.4	3	2.8	4	2.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Person who assisted the last abortion</b>						
Doctor	47	64.4	60	56.1	107	59.4
Nurse	18	24.7	33	30.8	51	28.3
Nobody	4	5.5	11	10.3	15	8.3
TBA	1	1.4	1	0.9	2	1.1
Others	3	4.1	2	1.9	5	2.8

There were some respondents who desired to have children in the next two years (18.7%) or next six months (6.5%). At the same time, few respondents (5.1%) had reported being pregnant in the last 12 months. Although 17.4 percent of them (4/23) had given birth to a child, most (69.5%) had gone through a spontaneous or forced abortion (Table 3.5).

**Table 3.5: FSWs' Desire to Have Children and Outcome of Last Pregnancy**

Desire to have children	Street		Establishment		Total	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>Wish to have child in the next two years</b>						
Yes	37	18.3	47	19.0	84	18.7
No	165	81.7	200	81.0	365	81.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>247</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>449</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Wish to have child in the next six month</b>						
Yes	12	5.9	17	6.9	29	6.5
No	190	94.1	230	93.1	420	93.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>247</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>449</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Was pregnant in the last 12 months</b>						
Yes	9	4.5	14	5.7	23	5.1
No	188	93.1	229	92.7	417	92.9
Currently pregnant	5	2.5	4	1.6	9	2.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>247</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>449</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Outcome of last pregnancy</b>						
Live birth	3	33.3	1	7.1	4	17.4
Still birth	1	11.1	0	0.0	1	4.3
Spontaneous abortion	3	33.3	12	85.7	15	65.2
Forced abortion	1	11.1	0	0.0	1	4.3
Miscarriage	1	11.1	1	7.1	2	8.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Table 3.6: Knowledge and Practice of Family Planning Methods**

Family Planning Methods	Street		Establishment		Total	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>Types of family planning methods heard by respondents</b>						
Condoms	238	100.0	355	100.0	593	100.0
Injectables	234	98.3	354	99.7	588	99.2
Pills	233	97.9	344	96.9	577	97.3
Female sterilization	232	97.5	344	96.9	576	97.1
Male sterilization	233	97.9	341	96.1	574	96.8
Withdrawal	200	84.0	308	86.8	508	85.7
Implants	203	85.3	300	84.5	503	84.8
IUD	197	82.8	295	83.1	492	83.0
Rhythm method	113	47.5	160	45.1	273	46.0
Others	8	3.4	20	5.6	28	4.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>*</b>
<b>Currently using any method to delay or avoid pregnancy</b>						
Yes	203	85.3	313	88.2	516	87.0
No	35	14.7	42	11.8	77	13.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Methods of family planning used currently</b>						
Condoms	164	80.8	282	90.1	446	86.4
Injectables	42	20.7	48	15.3	90	17.4
Pills	19	9.4	37	11.8	56	10.9
Withdrawal	16	7.9	35	11.2	51	9.9
Female sterilization	11	5.4	6	1.9	17	3.3
Implants	8	3.9	7	2.2	15	2.9
IUD	6	3.0	6	1.9	12	2.3
Male sterilization	4	2.0	4	1.3	8	1.6
Rhythm method	6	3.0	1	0.3	7	1.4
Others	2	1.0	5	1.5	7	1.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>313</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>516</b>	<b>*</b>

\*Note: The percentages add up to more than 100 because of multiple responses.

Table 3.6 shows the different types of family planning methods that the respondents had heard of. All of the respondents had heard of condoms; other methods that they had heard were injectables (99.2%), pills (97.3%), female sterilization (97.1%), and male sterilization (96.8%). Most of them had also heard about the withdrawal method (85.7%), implants (84.8%), and IUDs (83%). A comparatively lower proportion of the respondents had heard of the rhythm method (46%). Twenty-five (4%) respondents mentioned that they had heard of emergency contraceptive pills, too, that come with the brand name I-pill in the market (Table 3.6).

Eighty-seven percent of the respondents had been using family planning methods to delay or avoid pregnancy at the time of the survey. The majority of them (86.4%) had been using condoms, while some others were on injectables (17.4%), pills (10.9%), and methods like withdrawal (9.9%), female sterilization (3.3%), implants (2.9%), intrauterine device/IUD (2.3%) and some other methods as listed in Table 3.6.

## CHAPTER 4.0: PREVALENCE OF HIV AND SYPHILIS

### 4.1 Prevalence of HIV and Syphilis Infection

Out of 593 respondents who participated in the survey, 10 of them (1.7%) tested positive for HIV. All the HIV positive cases were seen among the street-based FSWs (10/238) while none of the 355 establishment-based FSWs who participated in the survey were HIV positive, and the difference is statistically significant (Table 4.1). The HIV prevalence among the FSWs has remained somewhat stable since the first round of IBBS in 2004 (2% in 2004, 1.4% in 2006, and 2.2% in 2008 and 1.7% in 2011). Syphilis infection, on the other hand, has decreased significantly over the years. Active syphilis has decreased from six percent in 2004 to 0.7 percent in 2011, while prevalence of syphilis history is 2.5 percent; it was 8.8 percent in 2004. The HIV and STI prevalence trends are under section 8.1 in Chapter 8.

*Table 4.1: Prevalence of HIV and Syphilis among Female Sex Workers*

STI Infection	Street (N=238)		Establishment (N=355)		Total (N=593)	
	n	% (95% CI)	n	% (95% CI)	n	% (95% CI)
HIV +ve	10	4.2 (1.7-6.8)	0	0.0 (NA)	10	1.7 (0.7-2.7)
<b>Syphilis Infection*</b>						
Active Syphilis	4	1.7 (0.1-3.3)	0	0.0 (NA)	4	0.7 (0.1-1.2)
Syphilis History	10	4.2 (1.7-6.8)	5	1.4 (0.5-3.0)	15	2.5 (1.3-3.8)

\* HIV prevalence and syphilis infection- both active syphilis and syphilis history is significantly higher in street based FSWs ( $p < 0.01$ )

Syphilis history (RPR +ve and RPR titre  $< 1:8$ ) was 2.5 percent and active syphilis (RPR+ and RPR titre  $\geq 1:8$ ) was 0.7 percent. Both active syphilis as well as syphilis history was significantly higher among street-based FSWs than those based in establishments. Four of the 238 street-based respondents (1.7%) were currently infected with high titre syphilis at the time of the survey while no cases of active syphilis were detected among any of the 355 establishment-based respondents. At the same time, 4.2 percent (10/238) of the street based sex workers had a history of syphilis while 1.4 percent (5/355) of establishment-based respondents had a history of syphilis with  $< 1:8$  titre (Table 4.1).

### 4.2 Association of Socio-Demographic Characteristics and Syphilis Infection with HIV Infection

Table 4.2 demonstrates the relationship of HIV positive status and syphilis infection with demographic variables. It was observed that FSWs belonging to the older age group ( $\geq 20$ ) were at higher risk of HIV infection than their younger counterparts. While none of the respondents who were less than 20 years old tested HIV positive, 2.3 percent of the respondents aged 20 years or more were HIV positive. Furthermore, the FSWs who had been in the sex trade for two or more years were at a significantly higher risk of HIV infection than those who had been in the sex trade for a shorter duration. In addition, all the HIV infection was prevalent among the FSWs who were ever married. Other demographic variables such as educational level, number of clients per week, and experience of working as sex workers in India were not associated significantly with HIV infection. Additionally, the presence of syphilis (active or history) also did not show a significant association with HIV prevalence.

**Table 4.2: Association of Socio-Demographic Characteristics, sexual behavior and Syphilis with HIV Infection**

Socio-demographic characteristics	Street (N=238)		Establishment (N=355)		Total (N=593)	
	N	HIV+ve n (%)	N	HIV+ve n (%)	N	HIV+ve n (%)
<b>Age</b>						
<20 years old	42	0(0.0)	126	0(0.0)	168	0(0.0)
≥20 years old	196	10(5.1)	229	0(0.0)	425	10(2.3)
<b>Educational level</b>		(p=1.0) <sup>†</sup>				(p=0.75) <sup>†</sup>
Illiterate and literate with no schooling	127	5(3.9)	121	0(0.0)	248	5(2.0)
Schooling (Grades 1 to 10 and above SLC)	111	5(4.5)	234	0(0.0)	345	5(1.4)
<b>Marital status</b>						
Ever Married	202	10(4.9)	247	0(0.0)	449	10(2.2)
Never married	36	0(0.0)	108	0(0.0)	144	0(0.0)
<b>Years of sex work</b>						
6-11 months	55	0(0.0)	109	0(0.0)	164	0(0.0)
12-23 months	58	1(1.7)	90	0(0.0)	148	1(0.7)
≥2 years	125	9(7.2)	156	0(0.0)	281	9(3.2)
<b>Sex work in India</b>						
Yes	4	0(0.0)	3	0(0.0)	7	0(0.0)
No	234	10(4.3)	352	0(0.0)	586	10(1.7)
<b>Number of clients per week</b>		(p=1.0) <sup>†</sup>				(p=1.0) <sup>†</sup>
Less than 5 clients	141	6 (4.3)	226	0(0.0)	367	6(1.6)
≥ 5 clients	97	4 (4.1)	129	0(0.0)	226	4(1.8)
<b>Syphilis Infection</b>		(p=0.36) <sup>†</sup>				(p=0.23) <sup>†</sup>
Syphilis History	10	1(10.0)	5	0(0.0)	15	1(6.7)
No infection of Syphilis	224	9(4.0)	350	0(0.0)	574	9(1.6)

\*Significant association between the demographic variables and HIV and syphilis infection (p<0.05)

<sup>†</sup> Fisher's Exact Test: two-sided p-value

### 4.3 Association of Condom Use with HIV and Syphilis Infection

The association of HIV and syphilis infection with the frequency of condom use of the respondents with their clients, regular clients, and non-paying regular partners was examined (Table 4.3). No significant association was detected between the inconsistency of condom use with clients and non-paying regular partners and HIV and syphilis infection. A higher percentage of FSWs who reported consistent condom use with different partners were HIV positive, this could however also mean that some of these respondents knew their status and had been using condoms to avoid infecting their partners. This is also corroborated by the finding that eight of the 10 HIV positive respondents (80%) had already taken an HIV test and knew their status (See Table 9 in Annex 2).

**Table 4.3: Association of Condom Use with HIV and Syphilis Infection**

Frequency of Condom Use		HIV Positive N (%)	Active Syphilis n (%)	Syphilis History n (%)
<b>Frequency of condom use with regular clients: (n=484)</b>		(p=1.00) <sup>†</sup>		(p=0.53) <sup>†</sup>
All of the time	361	5(1.4)	3(0.8)	11(3.0)
Not all the time	123	1(0.8)	0(0.0)	2(1.6)
<b>Frequency of condom use with non-paying regular partners: (n=335)</b>		(p=0.39) <sup>†</sup>		(p=0.60) <sup>†</sup>
All of the time	39	1(2.6)	0(0.0)	0(0.0)
Not all the time	296	3(1.0)	0(0.0)	8(2.7)
<b>Frequency of condom use with clients: (n=593)</b>		(p=0.30) <sup>†</sup>	(p=0.39) <sup>†</sup>	(p=0.08) <sup>†</sup>
All of the time	435	9(2.1)	3(0.7)	14(3.2)
Not all the time	158	1(0.6)	1(0.6)	1(0.6)

<sup>†</sup> Fisher's Exact Test: two-sided p-value

#### 4.4 Prevalence of STI Syndromes and Syphilis infection

There was no association between the reported STI symptoms and the clinical diagnosis/examination of STI syndromes. During the survey, 48.2 percent of the respondents reported that they were suffering from symptoms that they believed to be evidence of STIs. However, after the laboratory test and clinical examination, it was found that 2.1 percent (6/286) of those reporting STI symptoms also had a history of syphilis (4 street-based and 2 establishment-based) and one street-based respondent had active syphilis. Moreover, among the 307 sex workers who reported not having any STI symptoms, nine (2.9%) were suffering from untreated syphilis (Table 4.4). Interestingly, it is observed that the prevalence of syphilis history and active syphilis is higher (although not significant) among those who reported not having any of the STI symptoms than those reporting any one of the STI symptoms.

*Table 4.4: Reported STI Syndromes and Measured Clinical Diagnosis for Syphilis*

Reported STI symptoms	Street (N=238)			Establishment (N=355)			Total (N=593)		
	N	Syphilis History n (%)	Active Syphilis n (%)	N	Syphilis History n (%)	Active Syphilis n (%)	N	Syphilis History n (%)	Active Syphilis n (%)
Painful sex	41	3(7.3)	1(2.4)	55	1(1.8)	0(0.0)	96	4(4.2)	1(1.0)
Abdominal pain	50	1(2.0)	1(2.0)	76	1(1.3)	0(0.0)	126	2(1.6)	1(0.8)
Vaginal itching	56	1(1.8)	1(1.8)	82	0(0.0)	0(0.0)	136	1(0.7)	1(0.7)
Vaginal odor	46	2(4.3)	0(0.0)	77	0(0.0)	0(0.0)	123	2(1.6)	0(0.0)
Vaginal discharge	67	1(1.5)	0(0.0)	92	1(1.1)	0(0.0)	159	2(1.3)	0(0.0)
Dysuria	27	0(0.0)	1(3.7)	45	2(4.4)	0(0.0)	72	2(2.8)	1(1.1)
Polyuria	26	1(3.8)	1(3.8)	29	1(3.4)	0(0.0)	55	2(3.6)	1(1.8)
Genital ulcers	14	0(0.0)	0(0.0)	19	0(0.0)	0(0.0)	33	0(0.0)	0(0.0)
Unusual vaginal bleeding (discharge)	2	0(0.0)	0(0.0)	1	0(0.0)	0(0.0)	3	0(0.0)	0(0.0)
Genital warts	9	0(0.0)	0(0.0)	5	0(0.0)	0(0.0)	14	0(0.0)	0(0.0)
Others	4	0(0.0)	0(0.0)	4	0(0.0)	0(0.0)	8	0(0.0)	0(0.0)
Any of the above Symptoms	112	4(3.6)	1(0.9)	174	2(1.1)	0(0.0)	286	6(2.1)	1(0.3)
None of the above Symptoms	126	6(4.8)	3(2.4)	181	3(1.7)	0(0.0)	307	9(2.9)	3(1.0)

\*No significant association between reported STI symptom and active syphilis

#### 4.5 Association of Condom Carrying Practice, Comprehensive Knowledge of HIV/AIDS Transmission and Exposure to HIV Programs in the Past Year with HIV and Syphilis Infection

The association of HIV and Syphilis infection with some other variables like condom carrying practice, knowledge of *ABC and BCDEF HIV transmission and misconception indicators* (**A** -abstinence from sex, **B**-being faithful to one partner or avoiding multiple sex partners, **C**-consistent condom use or use of a condom during every sex act, **D**-a healthy-looking person can be infected with HIV, **E**-a person cannot get HIV from a mosquito bite and **F**-one cannot get HIV by sharing a meal with an HIV-infected person) and exposure to VCT and OE/PE in the past year have been analyzed in Table 4.5. No significant association was noticed between HIV prevalence and these variables. However, active syphilis higher among those respondents who reportedly carried condoms all of the times and who knew all of ABC (Table 4.5). The findings also show a slightly higher number of HIV positive FSWs to have been reached by programs like OE/PE and visited VCT in the past year.



**Table 4.5: Association of Condom Carrying Practice, Comprehensive Knowledge of HIV/AIDS Transmission and Exposure to HIV Programs in Past Year with HIV and Syphilis Infection**

Variables	N (%)	HIV Positive n (%)	Active Syphilis n (%)
<b>Condom carrying practice</b>		<b>(p=0.25)</b>	
All of the time	126	5(4.0)	4(3.2)
Not all the time	467	5(1.1)	0(0.0)
<b>Knowledge of ABC</b>		<b>(p=0.63)</b>	
Know all of ABC	282	4(1.4)	4(1.4)
Do not Know	311	6(1.9)	0(0.0)
<b>Knowledge of BCDEF</b>		<b>(p=0.50)</b>	<b>(p=0.39)</b>
Know all of BCDEF	180	4(2.2)	2(1.1)
Do not Know	413	6(1.4)	2(0.0)
<b>Visited a VCT in past year</b>		<b>(p=0.30)</b>	<b>(p=0.39)</b>
Yes visited	317	7(2.2)	3(0.9)
No	276	3(1.1)	1(0.4)
<b>Visited an OE/PE in past year</b>		<b>(p=1.0)<sup>†</sup></b>	<b>(p=0.51)<sup>†</sup></b>
Yes	497	9(1.8)	3(0.6)
No	96	1(1.0)	1(1.0)

<sup>†</sup> Fisher's Exact Test: two-sided p-value

## CHAPTER 5.0: SEXUAL BEHAVIOR AND CONDOM USE AMONG FEMALE SEX WORKERS

This chapter describes the sexual behavior of the FSWs, including the duration of their involvement in the sex trade, age at first sexual intercourse, average number of the clients, types of the clients, income sources, and their condom use with different sex partners.

### 5.1 Sexual Behavior of FSWs

Table 5.1 describes the sexual behaviors of the surveyed FSWs. The majority of the respondents (70.5%) reported having had their first sexual intercourse when they were 15-19 years of age. There were some (20.4%) who had sexual intercourse for the first time at an earlier age of 11-14.

*Table 5.1: Sexual Behavior of Female Sex Workers*

Sexual Behavior	Street		Establishment		Total	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>Age at first sexual intercourse</b>						
10 – 14	55	23.1	66	18.6	121	20.4
15 – 19	155	65.1	263	74.1	418	70.5
20 – 24	23	9.7	24	6.7	47	7.9
25 – 30	5	2.1	2	0.6	7	1.2
<b>Mean/Median age at first sex</b>	<b>16.5/16.0</b>		<b>16.3/16.0</b>		<b>16.4/16.0</b>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Duration of sexual exchange for money</b>						
6 – 12 months	85	35.7	154	43.4	239	40.3
13 – 24 months	51	21.4	83	23.4	134	22.6
25 – 36 months	36	15.1	51	14.4	87	14.7
37– 48 months	18	7.6	17	4.8	35	5.9
More than 48 months (49 months-24 yrs.)	48	20.2	50	14.1	98	16.5
<b>Mean duration of sex work ( months )</b>	<b>33.7</b>		<b>27.6</b>		<b>30.0</b>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Working as sex worker from the sampled location</b>						
Up to 6 months	21	8.8	57	16.0	78	13.1
7 – 12 months	87	36.5	125	35.2	212	35.8
13 – 24 months	47	19.7	77	21.7	124	20.9
25 – 36 months	32	13.4	42	11.8	74	12.5
37 – 48 months	20	8.4	13	3.7	33	5.6
More than 48 months	31	13.0	41	11.5	72	12.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Other type of sites where the respondent work as a sex worker</b>						
Restaurant	1	0.4	7	2.9	8	3.4
Massage parlor	0	0.0	5	1.4	5	0.8
House settlement	3	1.3	6	1.7	9	1.5
Bhatti pasal	1	0.4	1	0.3	2	0.3
Hotel /lodge	10	4.2	14	3.9	24	4.0
Squatter settlement/refuse	1	0.4	0	0.0	1	0.2
Did not work anywhere else	223	93.7	325	91.5	548	92.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>*</b>
<b>Ever worked as a sex worker in other location</b>						
Yes	15	6.3	12	3.4	27	4.5
No	223	93.7	343	96.6	566	95.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Had worked in India as a sex worker</b>						
Yes	4	1.7	3	0.8	7	1.2
No	234	98.3	352	99.2	586	98.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Decision made to go to India</b>						
Coerced	1	25.0	1	33.3	2	28.6
Voluntarily	3	75.0	2	66.7	5	71.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>100.0</b>

\*Note: The percentages add up to more than 100 because of multiple responses.

The mean number of months for which the respondents were involved in the sex trade was 30 months, with about 40 percent of them having been in the sex trade for no more than a year, indicating that new sex workers are entering the business at a high rate. A higher proportion of establishment-based FSWs (43.4%) compared to street-based FSWs (35.7%) were new to the sex industry. Conversely, a higher proportion of FSWs who were involved in the sex trade for more than four years were street-based (20.2%) compared to those based in establishments (14.1%). As per the survey criteria set for the survey population, those sex workers involved in the profession for less than six months were not recruited.

Forty-nine percent of the respondents had been carrying out sex work in the Kathmandu Valley for less than a year, while the rest had spent more than a year as sex workers in the Valley. Around eight percent of the respondents worked as sex workers from some other sites as well besides those from where they were sampled for the survey. There were some street based respondents who reportedly also worked in restaurants and hotel/lodges. A few of the respondents (4.5%) had worked as sex workers elsewhere in the country. Similarly, seven of the 593 respondents (1.2%) had worked in India for some time as sex workers. Of them, while two had been forcibly taken to India, five had gone there of their own free will (Table 5.1).

## 5.2 Sex Workers and Their Clients

Table 5.2 shows the number of clients (i.e. paying sex partners) of the respondents and their average working days. The number of clients per day ranged from one to six clients, with a mean of 1.6 clients per day. While 58.7 percent of them reportedly entertained one client per day, 15 percent of them had three or more clients on average per day. Street-based sex workers were more likely to have more clients than those based in establishments (Table 5.2).

In order to have a clear picture of the number of clients that FSWs served, they were asked about the number of clients they served on the day before the interview, during the week preceding the survey, and on the day of their most recent sexual contact. The number of clients served by the FSWs on the previous day of the interview ranged from none to eight. Fifty-four percent of the respondents did not have any clients on the day preceding the survey, 24.8 percent reported that they had served one client, 14.8 percent had two clients, while the rest of them (6.4%) reportedly had more than two clients on the previous day (Table 5.2). Not much variation was noticed in the number of clients entertained by the street versus the establishment-based respondents.

*Table 5.2: Number of Clients and Average Working Days*

Number of Clients of Sex Workers	Street (N=238)		Establishment (N=355)		Total (N=593)	
	N	%	n	%	n	%
<b>Average number of clients per day</b>						
One	123	51.7	225	63.4	348	58.7
Two	71	29.8	85	23.9	156	26.3
Three– Four	37	15.5	39	11.0	76	12.8
More than Four	7	2.9	5	1.4	13	2.2
<b>Range</b>	<b>1-6</b>		<b>1-5</b>		<b>1-6</b>	
<b>Mean clients per day</b>	<b>1.8</b>		<b>1.5</b>		<b>1.6</b>	
<b>Number of clients on the previous day</b>						
None	129	54.2	191	53.8	320	54.0
One	58	24.4	89	25.1	147	24.8
Two	36	15.1	52	14.6	88	14.8
Three – Four	11	4.6	17	4.8	28	4.7
More than Four	4	1.7	6	1.7	10	1.7
<b>Range</b>	<b>0-8</b>		<b>0-7</b>		<b>0-8</b>	

<b>Mean no. of clients on the previous day</b>	<b>0.8</b>		<b>0.8</b>		<b>0.8</b>	
<b>Number of clients in the past week</b>						
0	8	3.4	24	6.8	32	5.4
One	20	8.4	39	11.0	59	9.9
Two	32	13.4	74	20.8	106	17.9
Three – Four	81	34.0	89	25.1	170	28.7
Five – Ten	77	32.3	85	23.9	162	27.3
More than Ten	20	8.4	44	12.4	64	10.8
<b>Mean number of clients in the past week</b>	<b>5.0</b>		<b>5.0</b>		<b>5.0</b>	
<b>Time of last sexual contact</b>						
On the day of interview	10	4.2	26	7.3	36	6.1
1 – 2 days before	158	66.4	207	58.3	365	61.6
3 – 5 days before	57	23.9	91	25.6	148	24.9
6 and more days before	13	5.5	31	8.7	44	7.4
<b>Number of clients on the day of last sexual contact</b>						
One	167	70.2	274	77.2	441	74.4
Two	50	21.0	63	17.7	113	19.0
Three – Nine	21	8.8	18	5.1	39	6.6
<b>Mean number of clients on that day</b>	<b>1.5</b>		<b>1.3</b>		<b>1.4</b>	
<b>Average number of days worked in a week</b>						
One	5	2.1	7	2.0	12	2.0
Two	34	14.3	50	14.1	84	14.2
Three	37	15.5	88	24.8	125	21.1
Four to seven days	162	68.1	210	59.1	372	62.7
<b>Mean number of days worked in a week</b>	<b>4.6</b>		<b>4.3</b>		<b>4.4</b>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Additionally, the mean number of clients entertained by the sex workers in the past week was five. While 5.4 percent of them did not have any clients, about 10 percent had one client in the previous week. On the other hand, 27 percent of the respondents had five to ten clients, while about 11 percent reported serving more than 10 clients in the week preceding the survey. It was further noticed that both street-based FSWs as well as the establishment-based FSWs had served five clients on average in the previous week.

The majority of sex workers (61.6%) had sexual contact a day or two before the day of the interview. While a large proportion of the respondents (74.4%) had entertained one client on the day they last had sexual contact, 19 percent of them had seen two clients. On average, street-based FSWs had entertained a slightly higher number of clients (1.5) than establishment-based FSWs (1.3) on the day of their last sexual act. Again, on average the respondents worked for 4.4 days per week with street-based FSWs working for 4.6 days and those based in the establishments working for 4.3 days (Table 5.2). A large proportion of FSWs (62.7%) reported that they worked as sex workers for four to seven days a week.

### 5.3 Types of Clients

The sex workers' clients belong to a wide variety of professions. Overall, 61.7 percent of sex workers reported businessmen as clients who visited them frequently. Other common clients, as reported by the respondents, were service holders/professionals (44.9%), policemen/soldiers (44.3%), and transport workers/drivers (41.1%). It was further observed that many street-based FSWs (61.3%) were visited most frequently by transport workers/drivers; whereas, many establishment-based FSWs (67%) were visited most frequently by businessmen. Similarly, migrant workers/wage laborers were also common clients of street-based sex workers (37%), while professionals like doctors and other service holders reportedly were the common clients of 53.5 percent of the establishment-based respondents (Table 5.3).

**Table 5.3: Occupational Background of Clients of Female Sex Workers**

Types of Clients	Street (N=238)		Establishment (N=355)		Total (N=593)	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>Occupation of most frequent clients</b>						
Businessman	128	53.8	238	67.0	366	61.7
Service Holder/officer/doctor	76	31.9	190	53.5	266	44.9
Policeman/army man	102	42.9	161	45.3	263	44.3
Transport worker/driver	146	61.3	98	27.6	244	41.1
Contractor	82	34.5	105	29.6	187	31.5
Foreign employee	55	23.1	95	26.8	150	25.3
Migrant/industrial worker/wage laborer	88	37.0	50	14.1	138	23.3
Tourist/foreigner	8	3.4	26	7.3	34	5.7
Student	8	3.4	25	7.0	33	5.6
Others	5	2.1	4	1.1	9	1.5
Don't know	1	0.4	2	0.6	3	0.5
<b>Occupation of last client</b>						
Businessman	49	20.6	96	27.0	145	24.4
Service holder/doctor	29	12.2	64	18.0	93	15.7
Contractor	29	12.2	38	10.7	67	11.3
Policeman/army man	23	9.7	42	11.8	65	11.0
Transport worker/ driver	35	14.7	26	7.3	61	10.3
Foreign employee	23	9.7	31	8.7	54	9.1
Migrant/industrial/wage Laborer	30	12.6	16	4.5	46	7.7
Student	6	2.5	10	2.8	16	2.7
Foreigner	2	0.8	13	3.7	15	2.5
Others	3	1.3	2	0.6	5	0.8
Don't Know	9	3.6	17	4.8	26	4.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>*</b>

\*Note: The percentages add up to more than 100 because of multiple responses.

Almost one-fourth of the FSWs (24.4%) had businessmen as their last client. Others had their last sexual contact with professionals (15.7%), contractors (11.3%), policemen/soldiers (11%), and foreign employees (9.1%). Comparatively, more of the street-based FSWs had their last sexual contact with transport workers/drivers (14.7%) and migrants/industrial workers/wage laborers (12.6%) than establishment-based FSWs (7.3% and 4.5%, respectively, Table 5.3).

## 5.4 Sex Workers and Their Sex Partners

This section presents additional information on the number of sex partners that the respondents had including both paying and non-paying regular sex partners. Non-paying partners included boyfriends, husbands, and regular partners of the respondents who do not pay them for sexual services; while paying partners included those partners who pay them for sexual contact.

The respondents were asked about the number of paying as well as non-paying regular sex partners they had in the week preceding the survey. The respondents had an average of five paying and 0.5 non-paying sex partners in the preceding week. The mean number of sex partners (paying as well as non-paying) entertained by street-based sex workers as well as the establishment-based sex workers in the past week was 5.5. Among the total respondents, 35.9 percent of the FSWs had 3-5 paying sex partners, 49.7 percent of them had 1-2 non-paying sex partners, and 43.8 percent had 3-5 paying and non-paying sex partners in the week preceding the survey. 11.5 percent of the total respondents (8.8 percent of the street-based and 13.2 percent of establishment-based FSWs) had served more than 10 paying and non-paying sex partners during this period (Table 5.4).

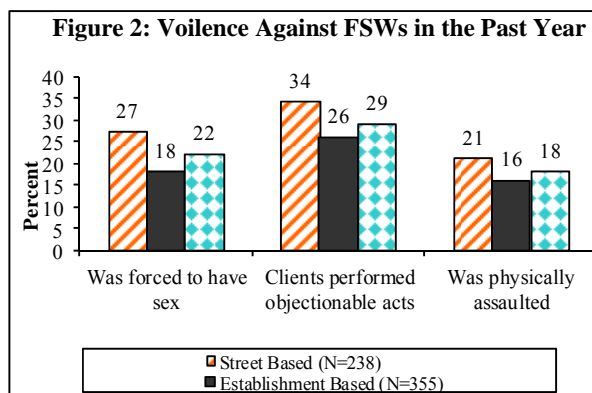
**Table 5.4: Number of Different Type of Sex Partners of Female Sex Workers**

Sex Partners of Sex Workers	Street (N=238)		Establishment (N=355)		Total (N=593)	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>No. of paying sex partners in the past week</b>						
None	8	3.4	24	6.8	32	5.4
One – two	55	23.1	116	32.7	171	28.8
Three – five	103	43.3	110	31.0	213	35.9
Six – ten	33	13.9	62	17.5	114	19.2
More than ten	20	8.4	43	12.1	63	10.6
<b>Mean (paying partners in the past week)</b>	<b>5.0</b>		<b>5.0</b>		<b>5.0</b>	
<b>No. of non-paying regular sex partners in the past week</b>						
None	122	51.3	175	49.3	297	50.1
One – two	116	48.7	179	50.4	295	49.7
Three – four	0	0.0	1	0.3	1	0.2
<b>Mean (non-paying regular partners in the past week)</b>	<b>0.5</b>		<b>0.5</b>		<b>0.5</b>	
<b>No. of paying and non-paying regular sex partners in the past week</b>						
None	3	1.3	9	2.5	12	2.0
One – two	39	16.4	83	23.4	122	20.6
Three – five	114	47.9	146	41.1	260	43.8
Six – ten	61	25.6	70	19.7	131	22.1
More than ten	21	8.8	47	13.2	68	11.5
<b>Mean (paying and non-paying sex partners in the past week)</b>	<b>5.5</b>		<b>5.5</b>		<b>5.5</b>	
<b>Last sex partner</b>						
Client	99	41.6	150	42.3	249	42.0
Regular client	84	35.3	93	26.2	177	29.8
Husband/male friend	47	19.7	96	27.0	143	24.1
Other male	8	3.4	16	4.5	24	4.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Forty-two percent of the sex workers had their last sexual contact with non-regular clients, 29.8 percent had regular clients as their last sex partner, while 24.1 percent had sex most recently with their husband/male friends.

### 5.5 Types of Sex Practiced and Acts of Violence Faced by FSWs

Sex workers are often subjected to violence including forced sex. On many occasions they are forced into unsafe sexual contact, which puts them at the risk of STI and HIV transmission. The respondents in the survey were also asked if they had ever faced situations such as forced sex or if clients had demanded types of sexual acts in which they were unwilling to participate. This survey found that the street-based FSWs were more likely to face different forms of violence compared to those based in establishments. A higher proportion of street-based than establishment-based FSWs were subjected to objectionable activities like forced or unconsensual sex (27.3% street-based and 18.3% establishment-based), were physically assaulted (21% street-based and 15.8% establishment-based), and/or had clients performing objectionable activities (34% street-based and 26.2% establishment-based).



Further analysis shows that 14.7 percent of the street based and 11.5 percent of the establishment based FSWs had been subjected to both forceful sex as well as physical assault.

A total of 174 (29.3%) respondents pointed out that they were forced to perform sexual acts against their wishes in the past year. Verbal torture (46%), forceful sex after drinking alcohol (38.5%), clients refusing to pay for sexual services (32.2%), and masturbation (27%) were some of activities that they were forced to perform despite their reluctance to do so. Some also reported that they were assaulted (25.3%) and/or were forced to have oral sex (17.2%). Generally, street-based sex workers were subjected to more of these forms of violence than establishment-based sex workers (Table 5.5).

Although the majority of the respondents (99.2%) have had vaginal sex with their most recent client, few had been engaged in masturbation (5.4%), oral sex (0.8%), and anal sex (0.8%).

**Table 5.5: Types of Sex Practiced by Female Sex Workers**

Type of Sex	Street		Establishment		Total	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>Types of sex acts in the past year</b>						
Only vaginal	189	79.4	298	83.9	487	82.1
Masturbation	25	10.5	44	12.4	69	11.6
Oral sex	20	8.4	21	5.9	41	6.9
Anal sex	22	9.2	20	5.6	42	7.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Clients refusing to pay for sexual services</b>						
Yes	89	37.4	59	16.6	148	25.0
No	149	62.6	296	83.4	445	45.0
<b>Mean no. of such incidences in past six months</b>	<b>2.9</b>		<b>2.2</b>		<b>2.6</b>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Types of activities performed by clients which female sex workers disliked</b>						
Verbal torture	34	42.0	46	49.5	80	46.0
Forced to have sex after drinking alcohol	35	43.2	32	34.4	67	38.5
Not paid	34	42.0	22	23.7	56	32.2
Masturbation	18	22.2	29	31.2	47	27.0
Assaulted	22	27.2	22	23.7	44	25.3
Oral Sex	13	16.0	17	18.3	30	17.2
Anal Sex	13	16.0	11	11.8	24	13.8
Stole Money	11	13.6	13	14.0	24	13.8
Burnt with cigarette	2	2.5	1	1.1	3	1.7
Others	2	2.5	2	2.1	4	2.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>*</b>
<b>Types of sex with last client</b>						
Vaginal Sex	237	99.6	351	98.9	588	99.2
Masturbation	14	5.9	18	5.1	32	5.4
Oral Sex	0	0.0	5	1.4	5	0.8
Anal Sex	1	0.4	4	1.1	5	0.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>*</b>

\*Note: The percentages add up to more than 100 because of multiple responses.

## 5.6 Income of FSWs from Sex Work and Other Jobs

Table 5.6 categorizes the FSWs according to their income from sex work and other jobs outside of the sex industry. Both cash and gifts received by the sex workers have been taken into account when calculating the total income. The mean income of FSWs from their last client was Rs. 1,167 (Rs. 872 street-based and Rs. 1,364 establishment-based FSWs) with a minimum of Rs. 50 to a maximum of Rs. 11,000. Such variations in income could be due to

the varying rates for sex acts charged by the different categories of sex workers in the survey population. Other reasons could be different rates for married and uneducated sex workers compared to their educated and unmarried counterparts.

**Table 5.6: Income of Female Sex Workers from Sex Work and Other Jobs**

Income from Sex Work and Other Jobs	Street		Establishment		Total	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>Income from last sex with client</b>						
No payment made	2	0.8	3	0.8	5	0.8
Up to Rs. 100	2	0.8	0	0.0	2	0.3
Rs. 101 – Rs. 500	94	39.5	96	27.0	190	32.0
Rs. 501 – Rs. 1,000	87	36.5	101	28.4	188	31.7
Rs. 1001 – Rs. 1,500	27	11.3	63	17.7	90	15.2
Rs. 1501 - Rs. 2,000	10	4.2	39	11.0	49	8.3
Rs. 2001 and above	16	6.7	53	14.9	69	11.6
<b>Range: Rs.</b>	<b>50-4,575</b>		<b>150-11,000</b>		<b>50-11,000</b>	
<b>Mean income from last sex work (Rs.)</b>	<b>872</b>		<b>1364</b>		<b>1167</b>	
<b>Average weekly income from sex work:</b>						
Up to Rs. 1,000	26	10.9	16	4.5	42	7.1
Rs 1,001 – Rs. 2,000	48	20.2	36	10.1	84	14.2
Rs 2,001 – Rs. 3,000	58	24.3	44	12.4	102	17.2
Rs 3,001 – Rs. 4,000	51	21.4	48	13.5	99	16.7
Rs 4,001 – Rs. 5,000	26	10.9	70	49.7	96	16.2
Rs 5,001 – Rs. 10,000	26	10.9	117	33.0	143	24.1
More than Rs 10,000	3	1.3	24	6.8	27	4.5
<b>Range: Rs.</b>	<b>200-15,000</b>		<b>500-24,000</b>		<b>200-24,000</b>	
<b>Mean weekly income from sex work (Rs.)</b>	<b>3,254</b>		<b>5,257</b>		<b>4,453</b>	
<b>Have other job besides sex work</b>						
Yes	147	61.8	321	90.4	468	78.9
No	91	38.2	34	9.6	125	21.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Types of job besides sex work</b>						
Waitress	3	2.0	205	63.9	208	44.4
Wage Laborer	71	48.3	20	6.2	91	19.4
Domestic Help	31	21.1	9	2.8	40	8.5
Dancer in Dance Restaurant	0	0.0	36	11.2	36	7.7
Masseuse in Massage Parlor	0	0.0	33	10.3	33	7.1
Knitting/Tailoring	13	8.8	5	1.6	18	3.8
Owner of Bhatti Pasal/Restaurant/Cabin	11	7.5	7	2.2	18	3.8
Retail Shops/Business	8	5.4	4	1.2	12	2.6
Service (Accountant, peon, etc.)	7	4.8	0	0.0	7	1.5
Peer Communicator in NGO	1	0.7	1	0.3	2	0.4
Other	3	2.0	4	1.2	7	1.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>321</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>468</b>	<b>*</b>
<b>Average weekly income from other sources besides sex work</b>						
0 (No Other Source)	91	38.2	34	9.6	125	21.1
Up to Rs. 500	39	16.4	21	5.9	60	10.1
Rs. 501- Rs. 1,000	77	32.3	178	50.1	255	43.0
Rs. 1001 – Rs. 1,500	14	5.9	53	14.9	67	11.3
Rs. 1501 – Rs. 2,000	6	2.5	37	10.4	43	7.2
Rs. 2,000 and above	11	1.6	32	9.0	43	7.2
<b>Range Rs.</b>	<b>200-15,000</b>		<b>150-10,000</b>		<b>150-15,000</b>	
<b>Mean weekly (Rs.)</b>	<b>1100</b>		<b>1280</b>		<b>1224</b>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>100.0</b>

\*Note: The percentages add up to more than 100 because of multiple responses.

The average weekly income of the establishment-based FSWs was also higher (Rs 5,257) than those based in the street (Rs. 3,254). Only 12.2 percent of street-based respondents



earned more than 5,000 in a week compared to 39.8 percent of establishment-based FSWs reporting so (Table 5.6).

A large proportion of the respondents (78.9%) said that they were engaged in other jobs as well. The majority of the establishment-based FSWs (90.4%) reported having another job, while 61.8 percent of the street-based FSWs reported so. A majority of the establishment-based sex workers who had other jobs had been working as waitresses (63.9%) in different restaurants, while street-based sex workers worked mostly as wage laborers (48.3%) (Table 5.6). Among the street-based FSWs, the average weekly income from the other jobs was Rs. 1,100, ranging from Rs. 200-15,000, and among the establishment-based FSWs, it was Rs. 1,280 ranging from Rs. 150-10,000.

## **5.7 Knowledge of Condoms**

HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention campaigns focus on promoting condom use by raising awareness and facilitating easy access to free condoms. Different types of information, education and communication (IEC) materials are distributed and awareness messages are aired through radio, television, and other media.

All of the respondents had heard about male condoms. Radio and television were the two most popular sources of information of condoms as mentioned by 89.5 percent each of the sex workers. Similarly, over 80 percent of the respondents also mentioned that they had heard about such condoms from friends/neighbors (86.3%), the pharmacy (85.5%), NGOs (83.3%), and clients (77.7%). Other popular sources of information about condoms were hospitals (61.2%), newspapers/posters (57.3%), billboards/signboards (53.5%), health posts/health centers (50.8%), and health workers (45%). Cinema halls, community events, and community workers were also mentioned by some of the respondents as other sources of their knowledge about condoms (Table 5.7).

Forty-six percent of the respondents were aware of female condoms (43.7% of street-based and 47.6% of the establishment-based respondents). Over two-thirds of the respondents (67.8%) had heard about female condoms from NGO staff, while 28.6 percent had come to know about female condoms from their friends/relatives or neighbors. Other sources of information on female condoms reported by the respondents have been listed in Table 5.7.

Although 80.9 percent of the respondents considered female condoms useful, only 4 percent (11 respondents) had ever used one. Around 64 percent of them (7/11) had used one within a year preceding the survey, 36.4 percent (4/11) had last used a female condom more than 12 months back.

**Table 5.7: Sources of Knowledge of Condom among Female Sex Workers**

Source of knowledge of Male Condoms	Street		Establishment		Total	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>Sources of knowledge on male condoms</b>						
Radio	213	89.5	318	89.6	531	89.5
Television	208	87.4	323	91.0	531	89.5
Friend/Neighbor	206	86.6	306	86.2	512	86.3
Pharmacy	198	83.2	309	87.0	507	85.5
NGOs	194	81.5	300	84.5	494	83.3
Clients	182	76.5	279	78.6	461	77.7
Hospital	144	60.5	219	61.7	363	61.2
Newspaper/Poster	135	56.7	205	57.7	340	57.3
Billboard/Signboard	121	50.8	196	55.2	317	53.5
Health Post/Health Center	127	53.4	174	49.0	301	50.8
Health Worker/Volunteer	113	47.5	154	43.4	267	45.0
Cinema Hall	69	29.0	68	19.2	137	23.1
Community Event/Training	27	11.3	40	11.3	67	11.3
Community Workers	22	9.2	39	11.0	61	10.3
Street Drama	25	10.5	34	9.6	59	9.9
Comic Book	15	6.3	38	10.7	53	8.9
Video Van	12	5.0	26	7.3	38	6.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>*</b>
<b>Heard about female condom</b>						
Yes	104	43.7	169	47.6	273	46.0
No	134	56.3	186	52.4	320	54.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Source of information about female condom</b>						
NGO staff	73	70.2	112	66.3	185	67.8
Friends/Relatives/Neighbors	29	27.9	49	29.0	78	28.6
Radio	14	13.5	12	7.1	26	9.5
TV	8	7.7	13	7.7	21	7.7
Pharmacy	4	3.8	9	5.3	13	4.8
Sex partners/clients	3	2.9	7	4.1	10	3.7
Newspapers/Posters	2	1.9	7	4.1	9	3.3
Health Workers/Volunteers	3	2.9	4	2.4	7	2.3
Hospital	3	2.9	3	1.8	6	2.2
Others	5	4.8	6	3.5	11	4.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>*</b>
<b>Ever used Female Condom</b>						
Yes	7	6.7	4	2.4	11	4.0
No	97	93.3	165	97.6	262	96.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Respondents consider female condoms as useful</b>						
Yes	208	87.4	272	76.6	480	80.9
No	30	12.6	82	23.1	112	18.9
Don't know	0	0.0	1	0.3	1	0.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>100.0</b>

\* Note: The percentages add up to more than 100 because of multiple responses.

## 5.8 Condom Use with Different Partners

The survey participants basically entertain three different types of sex partners: (i) paying partners, i.e., those who pay them in cash or buy gifts for sex (ii) non-paying regular partners, i.e. those who do not pay them for sex i.e. their husbands, boyfriends, and cohabiting male partners (iii) regular partners, i.e. those who visit them on a regular basis. In addition, some FSWs had other sex partners who were neither their clients nor regular partners, and they have been included in this survey as ‘other’ sex partners. The following sections describe their condom use patterns with these different sex partners.

### 5.8.1 Condom Use with Clients and Regular Clients

Around 83 percent of the respondents had used a condom during their last sexual contact with their clients. In most cases, the respondents themselves (90.6%) had suggested using condoms to these clients (Table 5.8). Most of those who had not used condoms during their last sexual act cited that their clients had objected to the use of a condom at that time (63.1%), while some others said they had already been using other contraceptives (38.8%), so did not use a condom. In addition, 10.7 percent of the respondents pointed out that they agreed to sexual contact without a condom since their clients offered them more money (See Table 1 in Annex-2).

Overall, 73.4 percent of the respondents had used condoms consistently with their clients in the past year with about 7 percent reporting never or rarely using condom. Not much variation was noticed between establishment-based FSWs and street-based FSWs in this regard. Those who did not use condoms consistently during their sexual contacts with clients had done so mainly because their sex partners had objected (81.6%) or because they had been using other contraceptives (34.8%) (See Table 2 in Annex-2).

**Table 5.8: Condom Use with Clients and Regular Clients**

Condom Use	Street		Establishment		Total	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>Use of condom with most recent client</b>						
Yes	199	83.6	291	82.0	490	82.6
No	39	16.4	64	18.0	103	17.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Condom use suggested by</b>						
Respondent	179	89.9	265	91.1	444	90.6
Sex partner	20	10.1	26	8.9	46	9.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>291</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>490</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Use of condom with the client in the past year</b>						
Every time	171	71.8	264	74.4	435	73.4
Most of the time	36	15.1	51	14.4	87	14.7
Sometimes	16	6.7	13	3.7	29	4.9
Rarely	5	2.1	5	1.4	10	1.7
Never	10	4.2	22	6.2	32	5.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Had regular client in the past year</b>						
Yes	192	80.7	292	82.3	484	81.6
No	46	19.3	63	17.7	109	18.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Use of condom with regular clients in the past year</b>						
Every time	143	74.5	218	74.7	361	74.6
Most of the time	21	10.9	29	9.9	50	10.3
Sometimes	10	5.2	16	5.5	26	5.4
Rarely	6	3.1	5	1.7	11	2.3
Never	12	6.3	24	8.2	36	7.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>292</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>484</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Use of condom with most recent regular client</b>						
Yes	160	83.3	238	81.5	398	81.6
No	32	16.7	54	18.5	86	17.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>292</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>484</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Condom use suggested by</b>						
Respondent	134	83.8	216	90.8	350	87.9
Sex partner	26	16.3	22	9.2	48	12.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>398</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Around 82 percent of the sex workers had clients visiting them on a regular basis. Around 75 percent of them reported that they used condoms consistently in the past year, and 81.6

percent of them further reported the use of a condom during their last sexual contact with their regular client. A majority of these respondents (87.9%) had themselves suggested using a condom to their regular clients during their most recent sexual intercourse with them (Table 5.8). Those who did not use condoms during their latest sexual contact with regular clients had done so mainly because their sex partners had objected (68.6%) or because they had been using other contraceptives (20.9%) (See Table 1 in Annex-2).

### 5.8.2 Condom Use with Non-Paying Regular Partners

Overall 56.5 percent of the respondents reported having non-paying regular sex partners (husband, boyfriend, live-in partner) in the year preceding the survey. Around 18 percent of those respondent used condoms during their most recent sexual contact with their non-paying partners. In most of the cases the respondents themselves (70.2%) had suggested using a condom (Table 5.8). Among those who had not used condoms during the most recent sexual contact with their non-paying regular partners, 40.8 percent mentioned that they had been using other contraceptives, while 37.1 percent mentioned that their partners did not want to use a condom (See Table 1 in Annex-2).

Consistent use of condoms with non-paying regular partners was found to be very low amongst both street (12.8%) and establishment-based FSWs (10.9%). Most of the respondents (88.4%) reported that they were not using condoms consistently with their non-paying regular partners (Table 5.8.1).

**Table 5.8.1: Condom Use with Non-Paying Regular Sex Partners**

Sexual contact with non-paying partners and condom use	Street		Establishment		Total	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
Have non-paying regular partner during past year						
Yes	133	55.9	202	56.9	335	56.5
No	104	43.7	152	42.8	256	43.2
Not reported	1	0.4	1	0.3	2	0.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Use of condom with non-paying regular partner in the past year						
Every time	17	12.8	22	10.9	39	11.6
Most of the time	9	6.8	11	5.4	20	6.0
Sometimes	12	9.0	23	11.4	35	10.4
Rarely	26	19.5	28	13.9	54	16.1
Never	69	51.9	118	58.4	187	55.8
Frequency of sexual contact with the last non-paying regular sex partner in the past one month						
None	6	4.7	11	5.6	17	5.2
Once	1	0.8	4	2.1	5	1.5
2-5 times	23	17.8	27	13.8	50	15.4
6-9 times	15	11.6	21	10.8	36	11.1
10-20 times	59	45.7	77	39.5	136	42.0
21 and more times	25	19.4	55	28.2	80	24.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Used condom in the last sex with non- paying regular sex partner						
Yes	24	18.6	33	16.9	57	17.6
No	105	81.4	162	83.1	267	82.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Condom use suggested by						
Respondent	16	66.7	24	72.7	40	70.2
Sex partner	8	33.3	9	27.3	17	29.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>100.0</b>

### 5.8.3 Condom Use with People Other than Clients, Husbands, and Male Friends

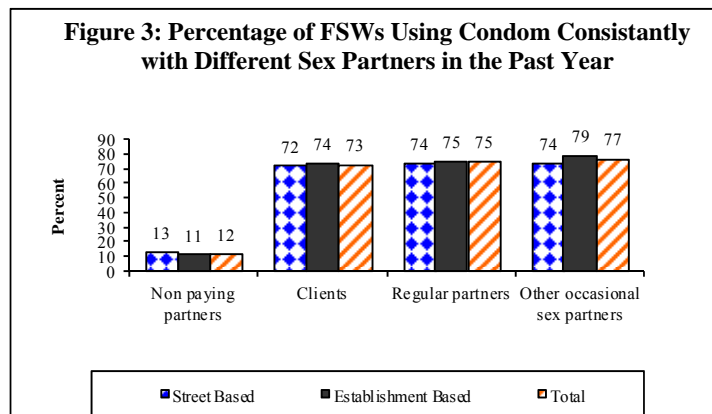
Table 5.8.2 demonstrates the use of condoms with other males who were neither the participants' clients, friends, nor their spouses but with whom they met once in a while. Over two-fifths of the respondents (41.7%) were engaged in sexual acts with such people in the past year. Although 86.6 percent of them had used a condom during their last sexual contact with such people, 13.4 percent of them had not used one. Most of those who had used a condom had themselves (88.3%) suggested using condoms during the last such sexual contact. Most of those who had not used a condom during their most recent sexual encounter had done so because their partners did not want to use one (75.8%) (See Table 1 in Annex-2)

**Table 5.8.2: Condom Use with Partners Other than Client, Husband, Male Friend**

Condom Use by Female Sex Workers	Street		Establishment		Total	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>Have sexual contact with partner other than client, husband, and male friend in the past year</b>						
Yes	104	43.7	143	40.3	247	41.7
No	134	56.3	212	59.7	346	58.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Use of condom with partner other than client, husband, male friend in the last sex</b>						
Yes	89	85.6	125	87.4	214	86.6
No	15	14.4	18	12.6	33	13.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>247</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Condom use suggested by</b>						
Respondent	71	79.8	118	94.4	189	88.3
Sex partner	18	20.2	7	5.6	25	11.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>214</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Consistent use of condom with partner other than client, husband, male friend in the past year</b>						
Every time	77	74.0	113	79.0	190	76.9
Most of the time	12	11.5	14	9.8	26	10.5
Sometimes	4	3.8	5	3.5	9	3.6
Rarely	6	5.8	3	2.1	9	3.6
Never	5	4.8	7	4.9	12	4.9
Not reported	0	0.0	1	0.7	1	0.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>247</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Consistent condom use with 'other' partners was reported by about 77 percent of the respondents who had such partners; this included 74 percent of street and 79 percent of establishment-based sex workers.

Figure 3 compares the reported consistent use of condoms by the respondents with their different sex partners in the past year. Consistent condom use was lowest with non-paying regular partners (12.8% street-based and 10.9% establishment-based).



It is further evident from the figure that about seven in ten respondents had used condoms consistently with occasional sex partners (76.9%), regular clients (74.6%) and clients (73.4%). In all these cases reasons like 'partner objected' and 'used other contraceptives' were the most common reasons cited for not using condoms

by both the street as well as establishment-based FSWs (See Table 2 in Annex-2). In cases where a condom was used during the last sexual encounter, the respondents were usually the ones to suggest the use of condom.

## **5.9 Availability of Condoms and Their Brand Names**

When asked if they usually carried condoms with them, 21.2 percent of respondents replied positively - this included 27.7 percent of the street-based and 16.9 percent of the establishment-based respondents. However, almost three-fourths (72.2%) of those who said they usually carried condoms did not have one with them when requested by the interviewers to show them the condoms (Table 5.9).

In order to assess their accessibility to condoms, the respondents were asked how long it took for them to get a condom from the nearest source. Around 36 percent of the sex workers said that they could get condoms within five minutes from their place of work, while 46.7 percent could get them within 6-10 minutes. There were some respondents (8.2%) who reported that it took more than 15 minutes for them to reach the nearest available condoms.

Additionally, the majority of the sex workers (96.5%) reported that they could get condoms from pharmacies, while 68 percent maintained that they could have condoms from NGO/health staff or other volunteers. Hospitals (44.7%), grocery shops (39.8%), private clinics (37.1%), clients (35.1%), and 'paan' shops (31.7%) were mentioned as other places where they could obtain condoms (Table 5.9).

Jodi (31.7%), Black Cobra (31.4%), Number One (28.8%), and Dhaal (21.9%) were some of the common brand names of condoms used by the respondents (Table 5.9).

**Table 5.9: Availability of Condoms and Brand Names of Widely Used Condoms**

Condom Acquisition	Street		Establishment		Total	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>Carry condom usually</b>						
Yes	66	27.7	60	16.9	126	21.2
No	172	72.3	295	83.1	467	78.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>No. of condoms carried</b>						
One	2	3.0	1	1.7	3	2.4
Two	4	6.1	2	3.3	6	4.8
Three – Five	8	12.1	5	8.3	13	10.3
Six – Ten	6	9.1	1	1.7	7	5.5
More than Ten	2	3.0	4	6.7	6	4.8
Not carrying right now	44	66.7	47	78.3	91	72.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Time needed to obtain condoms from nearest place</b>						
Up to 5 minutes	71	29.8	142	40.0	213	35.9
6 – 10 minutes	120	50.4	157	44.2	277	46.7
11 – 15 minutes	26	10.9	27	7.6	53	8.9
16 – 20 minutes	12	5.0	22	6.2	34	5.7
21 and more minutes	8	3.4	7	2.0	15	2.5
Don't Know	1	0.4	0	0.0	1	0.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Places where condoms are available</b>						
Pharmacy	231	97.1	341	96.1	572	96.5
NGO/Health Workers/ Volunteers	163	68.5	240	67.6	403	68.0
Hospital	97	40.8	168	47.3	265	44.7
General grocery store (Kirana Pasal)	86	36.1	150	42.3	236	39.8
Private Clinic	93	39.1	127	35.8	220	37.1
Clients	94	39.5	114	32.1	208	35.1
Paan Shop	78	32.8	110	31.0	188	31.7
Peer/Friends	50	21.0	64	18.0	114	19.2
Bar/Guest House/Hotel	41	17.2	50	14.1	91	15.3
Health Post/Health Center	45	18.9	44	12.4	89	15.0
Massage Center	0	0.0	23	6.5	23	3.9
Bhatti Pasal	17	7.1	1	0.3	18	3.0
FPAN Clinic	8	3.4	6	1.7	14	2.4
Don't know	1	0.4	0	0.0	1	0.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>*</b>
<b>Brand names of condom most used</b>						
Jodi	64	26.9	124	34.9	188	31.7
Black Cobra	60	25.2	126	35.5	186	31.4
Number 1	90	37.8	81	22.8	171	28.8
Dhaal	67	28.2	63	17.7	130	21.9
Panther	42	17.6	60	16.9	102	17.2
Skinless	21	8.8	43	12.1	64	10.8
Kamasutra	16	6.7	32	9.0	48	8.1
Natural latex rubber	4	1.7	8	2.3	12	2.0
Trishna	4	1.7	8	2.3	12	2.0
Lily	1	0.4	9	2.5	10	1.7
Others	9	3.8	15	4.2	24	4.0
Not Used in the Past Year	2	0.8	4	1.1	6	1.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>*</b>

\*Note: The percentages add up to more than 100 because of multiple responses

## 5.10 Modes of Obtaining Condoms

Table 5.11 classifies the modes of obtaining condoms by the respondents. A total of 27 FSWs (4.6%) reported that they had never used a condom. At the same time, 48.7 percent reported that they obtained free condoms all the time, 12.6 percent always purchased them, and 34.1

percent obtained them both ways. A slightly higher proportion of establishment-based FSWs (51.8%) than street-based FSWs (44.1%) reported that they had access to free condoms. On being asked if they had received condoms in the past year, 68.2 percent of the respondents (65.9% of the street-based and 69.7% of the establishment-based) mentioned that they had received free condoms from one or more sources.

Table 5.11 shows the places from where FSWs usually obtained free condoms or purchased them. Among those respondents who reported obtaining free condoms, 76.4 percent said that they got them from NGO/health workers or other volunteers, 63.7 percent said that their clients brought condoms with them, and 24.6 percent reported that their peers/friends usually gave condoms to them. Other reported sources of free condoms have been listed in Table 5.10.

**Table 5.10: Modes and Places for Obtaining Condoms by Female Sex Workers**

Condom Acquisition	Street		Establishment		Total	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>Mode of obtaining condoms</b>						
Always free of cost	105	44.1	184	51.8	289	48.7
Purchase	36	15.1	39	11.0	75	12.6
Obtain both ways	88	37.0	114	32.1	202	34.1
Condom never used	9	3.8	18	5.1	27	4.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Free condoms usually obtained from</b>						
NGO/Health workers/Volunteers	148	76.7	227	76.2	375	76.4
Client	132	68.4	181	60.7	313	63.7
Peers/friends	46	23.8	75	25.2	121	24.6
Hotel/Lodge/Restaurant	10	5.2	27	9.1	37	7.5
Bhatti Shop	14	7.3	1	0.3	15	3.1
Massage Parlor	0	0.0	14	4.7	14	2.9
Health Post / Health Center	7	3.6	4	1.3	11	2.2
Hospital	5	2.6	5	1.7	10	2.0
FPAN clinics	3	1.6	0	0.0	3	0.6
Community events	1	0.5	2	0.7	3	0.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>298</b>		<b>491</b>	<b>*</b>
<b>Most convenient place to obtain free condom</b>						
NGO/Health workers/Volunteers	145	75.1	221	74.2	366	74.5
Client/ others sex partners	119	61.7	158	53.0	277	56.4
Peers/friends	31	16.1	58	19.5	89	18.1
Hotel/Lodge/Restaurant	6	3.1	22	7.4	28	5.7
Bhatti Shop	13	6.7	1	0.3	14	2.9
Massage Parlor	0	0.0	12	4.0	12	2.4
Health Post/Health Center	3	1.6	4	1.3	7	1.4
Hospital	4	2.1	1	0.3	5	1.0
Others	2	1.0	1	0.3	3	0.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>298</b>		<b>491</b>	<b>*</b>
<b>Respondent was given condom in the past one year</b>						
Yes	151	65.9	235	69.7	386	68.2
No	78	34.1	102	30.3	180	31.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>337</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>566</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Places of purchasing condom</b>						
Pharmacy	116	93.5	147	96.1	263	94.9
Private Clinic	49	39.5	40	26.1	89	32.1
General grocery store (Kirana Pasal)	21	16.9	29	19.0	50	18.1
Pan Shop	28	22.6	18	11.8	46	16.6
Hotel/Lodge/Restaurant	24	19.4	15	9.8	39	14.1
Others	1	0.8	0	0.0	1	0.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>*</b>
<b>Most convenient place to purchase condom</b>						
Pharmacy	105	84.7	139	90.8	244	88.1



Condom Acquisition	Street		Establishment		Total	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
Private Clinic	27	21.8	20	13.1	47	17.0
Pan Shop	19	15.3	11	7.2	30	10.8
General grocery store (Kirana Pasal)	13	10.5	17	11.1	30	10.8
Hotel/lodge/Restaurant	19	15.3	7	4.6	26	9.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>*</b>

\*Note: The percentages add up to more than 100 because of multiple responses.

Almost 75 percent of the respondents felt it was convenient to have free condoms from NGOs/health workers/volunteers, while 56.4 percent preferred that their clients brought condoms with them. Peers/friends and hotels/lodges/restaurants were the next preferred suppliers of free condoms (Table 5.10).

Among those sex workers who purchased condoms all the time or occasionally, 94.9 percent usually bought them from pharmacies, while 32.1 percent from private clinics. Some also bought them from grocery stores (18.1%), 'paan' shops (16.6%), and hotels/lodges/restaurants (14.1%). When asked about their opinion on the most convenient places for them to purchase condoms, the majority of the respondents (88.1%) said they preferred to buy condoms from a pharmacy (Table 5.10).

### 5.11 Use of Alcohol and Drugs by FSWs and Clients

The majority of respondents (76.6%) consumed alcohol in the past month (73.1% street-based FSWs and 78.9% establishment-based FSWs). While 29.2 percent of the respondents (23.9% street-based and 32.7% establishment) consumed alcohol everyday, 30.4 percent (33.2% street-based and 28.5% establishment-based) drank alcohol 2-3 times a week in the month preceding the survey (Table 5.11).

**Table 5.11: Use of Alcohol / Drugs by Female Sex Workers and Knowledge of IDUs among them**

Consumption of Alcohol and Drugs	Street		Establishment		Total	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>Consumption of alcohol in the past month</b>						
On a daily basis	57	23.9	116	32.7	173	29.2
2-3 times a week	79	33.2	101	28.5	180	30.4
Once a Week	15	6.3	30	8.5	45	7.6
Less than once a week	23	9.7	33	9.3	56	9.4
Never	64	26.9	75	21.1	139	23.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Tried any types of drugs in the past month</b>						
Yes	12	5.0	41	11.5	53	8.9
No	226	95.0	314	88.5	540	91.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Know Injecting Drug Users (IDUs)</b>						
Yes	36	15.1	81	22.8	117	19.7
No	202	84.9	274	77.2	476	80.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Relationship with known IDUs</b>						
Friend	16	44.4	48	59.3	64	54.7
Local boys	18	50.0	37	45.7	55	47.0
Relative	3	8.3	14	17.3	17	14.5
Client	4	11.1	7	8.6	11	9.4
Family	0	0.0	3	3.7	3	2.6
Husband	1	2.8	0	0.0	1	0.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>*</b>

Consumption of Alcohol and Drugs	Street		Establishment		Total	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>Knowledge of sex partners being IDUs</b>						
Yes	4	1.7	8	2.3	12	2.0
No	234	98.3	347	97.7	581	98.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Drug using history</b>						
Ever exchanged sex for drugs	3	1.3	4	1.1	7	1.2
Ever exchanged sex for money to buy drugs	3	1.3	3	0.8	6	1.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>*</b>

\*Note: The percentages add up to more than 100 because of multiple responses

Around nine percent of the sex workers had also used drugs at least once in the past month. Additionally, among the 593 sex workers, two percent of the respondents (12/593) knew that their sex partners (including clients and spouse) injected drugs. Among them, three were married respondents; one of whom said that her husband injected drugs. Eleven respondents said that their clients injected drugs while there were five respondents whose regular clients injected drugs (See Table 3 in Annex-2).

Additionally, 19.7 percent (117/593) said that they knew someone who injected drugs. When asked about their relationship with known IDUs, 54.7 percent said they were their friends, while 47 percent mentioned that they were the local boys in the neighborhood. At the same time, 14.5 percent said they were their relatives and/or family members, while, 9.4 percent of respondents also mentioned that the IDUs that they knew were their clients. Seven of the sex workers also admitted having sex in exchange for drugs, while six had at least once been engaged in sexual contact for money to buy drugs (Table 5.12).

Ten of the 593 (1.7%) respondents who took part in the survey had ever injected drugs while nine of them had injected in the past 12 months. All of them had injected drugs for the first time when they were between 15 and 19 years of age. Twenty percent of the respondents (2/10) had started injecting drugs for less than a year and 40 percent (4/10) had been injecting for the past 1-2 years. Others (4/10) had been injecting drugs for 3 or more years before the survey. The mean duration when the respondents had started injecting drugs was 32.1 weeks (Table 5.12). The trend in injecting history for the past four rounds of IBBS among FSWs in Kathmandu is illustrated in Table 12 (Annex-2).

**Table 5.12: Injecting History and Practices among Female Sex Workers**

Drug Using History	Street		Establishment		Total	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>Ever Injected Drugs</b>						
Yes	4	1.7	6	1.7	10	1.7
No	234	98.3	349	98.3	583	98.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Injected in Past 12 Months</b>						
Yes	3	1.3	6	1.7	9	1.5
No	1	0.4	0	0.0	1	0.2
Never injected	234	98.3	349	98.3	583	98.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Respondent age when she first injected drugs</b>						
15-19 yrs	4	100.0	6	100.0	10	100.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Time when respondents started injecting drugs</b>						
Less than 1 yr	0	0.0	2	33.3	2	20.0
1-2 yrs	1	25.0	3	50.0	4	40.0
3-4 yrs	1	25.0	1	16.7	2	20.0
5 yrs and more	2	50.0	0	0.0	2	20.0

Drug Using History	Street		Establishment		Total	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
Mean (weeks)	55.5		16.5		32.1	
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>100.0</b>

This round of IBBS survey had additional behavioral questions for those FSWs who had injected drugs at least once in the past month. Nine of the ten respondents who had ever injected drugs had injected in the past year, while eight of them had injected drugs in past one month and six had injected drugs within one week preceding the survey. Regarding the syringe, one of the six respondents had last injected with a previously used syringe, two had done so in the past month, and one of the respondents had shared a used needle in the past week (See Table 4 in Annex-2).

Over one-third of the injecting respondents (3/8) had injected 2-3 times in the past week. Additionally 62.5 percent (5/8) had injected once on the last day they injected. Three of the eight respondents (37.5%) had switched from injecting to oral drugs within last month, four of the eight respondents (50%) had switched from sharing to non-sharing practice in the past year, and two of the eight (25%) respondents had also received some treatment or help to quit drugs. Additionally six of the eight respondents (75%) could obtain a new or unused syringe/needle when necessary. One of the respondents who had injected in the past week had practiced unsafe injecting practice in the past week. The number of respondents being small (n=6), the responses are analysed in the Tables in the Annex-2.

## CHAPTER 6.o: KNOWLEDGE OF HIV/AIDS AND STIS

HIV/AIDS awareness along with knowledge about STIs is crucial to reduce the risk of HIV transmission. This chapter deals with the level of knowledge among FSWs regarding HIV/AIDS and STIs.

### 6.1 Source of Knowledge of HIV/AIDS

Two of the total 593 respondents had not heard about HIV/AIDS. The most common sources of information on HIV/AIDS were television (89.7%), radio (87.5%), NGO staff (83.8%), and friends/relatives (83.6%). A considerable proportion of the respondents had also heard about HIV/AIDS from their work place (69.7%), pamphlets/posters (61.4%), and newspapers and magazines (50.3%) (Table 6.1).

### 6.2 FSWs' Knowledge on Major Ways to Avoid HIV

Table 6.1 further analyzes the comprehensive awareness of HIV/AIDs among the respondents. The proportion of sex workers reporting to be aware of **A** (abstinence from sex), **B** (being faithful to one partner or avoiding multiple sex partners), and **C** (consistent condom use or use of a condom during every sex act) as HIV preventive measures were 59.6 percent, 80.5 percent, and 88.7 percent, respectively.

**Table 6.1: Female Sex Workers' Knowledge on Major Ways to Avoid HIV and HIV/AIDS Information Sources**

Statements Related to HIV/AIDS	Street		Establishment		Total	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>Had ever heard about HIV/AIDS</b>						
Yes	236	99.2	355	100.0	591	99.7
No	2	0.8	0	0.0	2	0.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>HIV/AIDS information sources</b>						
Television	207	87.7	323	91.0	530	89.7
Radio	213	90.3	304	85.6	517	87.5
People from NGOs	194	82.2	301	84.8	495	83.8
Friends/relatives	200	84.7	294	82.2	494	83.6
Workplace	148	62.7	264	74.4	412	69.7
Client	152	64.4	237	66.8	389	65.8
Pamphlet/poster	144	60.5	219	61.7	363	61.4
Newspaper/magazine	102	43.2	195	54.9	297	50.3
Billboard/signboard	112	47.5	172	48.5	284	48.1
Health workers	100	42.4	133	37.5	233	39.4
Cinema hall	64	27.1	60	16.9	124	21.0
School/teacher	38	16.1	57	16.1	95	16.1
Community event/training	32	13.6	39	11.0	71	12.0
Community workers	21	8.9	40	11.3	61	10.3
Street drama	23	9.7	30	8.5	53	9.0
Comic book	12	5.1	33	9.3	45	7.6
Video van	14	5.9	25	7.0	39	6.6
<b>Comprehensive knowledge indicators</b>						
<b>A. Can protect themselves through abstinence from sexual contact</b>	136	57.6	216	60.8	352	59.6
<b>B. Can protect themselves through monogamous sexual</b>	194	82.2	282	79.4	476	80.5
<b>C. Can protect themselves through condom use every time during sex</b>	217	91.9	307	86.5	524	88.7
<b>D. A healthy-looking person can be infected with HIV</b>	214	90.7	311	87.6	525	88.8
<b>E. A person can not get the HIV virus from mosquito bite</b>	112	47.5	148	41.7	260	44.0
<b>F. A person can not get HIV by sharing meal with an HIV infected person</b>	185	78.4	291	82.0	476	80.5
<b>Knowledge of all the three: ABC</b>	110	46.6	172	48.5	282	47.7

Statements Related to HIV/AIDS	Street		Establishment		Total	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
Knowledge of all five indicators: <b>BCDEF</b>	82	34.7	98	27.6	180	30.4
Total	<b>236</b>	*	<b>355</b>	*	<b>591</b>	*

\*Note: The percentages add up to more than 100 because of multiple responses.

The proportion of sex workers reporting to be aware of **A** (abstinence from sex), **B** (being faithful to one partner or avoiding multiple sex partners), and **C** (consistent condom use or use of a condom during every sex act) as HIV preventive measures were 59.6 percent, 80.5 percent, and 88.7 percent, respectively.

Overall, 47.7 percent of the respondents correctly identified all three **A**, **B**, and **C** as HIV-preventive measures. As mentioned above, a comparatively smaller proportion of FSWs had knowledge about **A**. Additionally, among the respondents, 88.8 percent knew that a healthy-looking person can be infected with HIV (**D**), 44 percent of them identified that a person cannot get HIV from a mosquito bite (**E**), and 80.5 percent knew that one cannot get HIV by sharing a meal with an HIV-infected person (**F**). Overall, only 30.4 percent of the respondents were aware of all the five major indicators i.e. **BCDEF**. Lack of awareness of 'E' i.e. mosquitoes do not carry HIV virus, has mostly contributed to this low awareness level of **BCDEF**. Furthermore, a higher proportion of street-based FSWs (34.7%) had a comprehensive knowledge about HIV and i.e. **BCDEF** than their establishment-based counterparts (27.6%).

### 6.3 Knowledge on Major Ways of Transmitting HIV

Further, the respondents were asked if they knew any person infected with HIV or who had died of AIDS. 42 percent of the respondents answered affirmatively, which included 43.3 percent of the street-based and 41.1 percent of the establishment-based respondents. Among them, 10.4 percent of the total respondents had a close friend and 14.9 percent had a close relative that was HIV positive or had died due to AIDS. Comparatively, more of the street-based than establishment-based respondents had friends (12.6% vs 8.9%) and relatives (20.4% vs. 11%) living with or who had died from HIV/AIDS (Table 6.2).

The respondents' understanding of HIV and AIDS and its different modes of HIV transmission were further tested with the help of certain questions relating to the topic (Table 6.2). As indicated by Table 6.2, a larger proportion (99%) of respondents perceived that HIV could be transmitted through the transfusion of blood from an infected person to another, and through the use of pre-used needles/syringes (97.1%). Almost 94 percent of them also mentioned that holding an HIV-infected person's hand did not pose a risk of HIV transmission, while 87.3 percent of them said that an infected pregnant woman could transmit the virus to her unborn child. Similarly, 66.7 percent of them reported that an HIV/AIDS-infected mother could transmit the virus to her child during breastfeeding. Among those sex workers who said that an infected mother could transmit the virus to her unborn child, 44.2 percent of them mentioned that they were unaware of any such measures that could minimize such risk while almost same proportion of them (42.6%) said that taking medicine would be helpful.

**Table 6.2: Female Sex Workers' Knowledge on Ways of Transmitting HIV/AIDS**

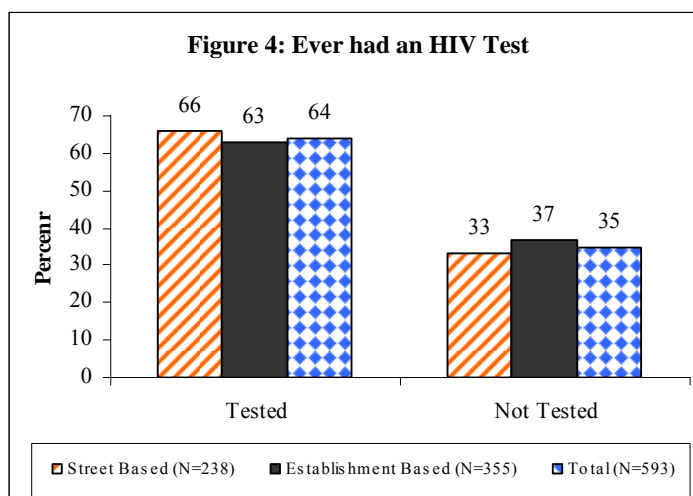
	Street		Establishment		Total	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>Know anyone who is infected with HIV or who has died of AIDS</b>						
Yes	103	43.3	146	41.1	249	42.0
No	133	55.2	209	58.9	342	57.7
Never heard about HIV/AIDS	2	0.8	0	0.0	2	0.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Relation with the person who is infected with HIV or has died of AIDS</b>						
Close friend	13	12.6	13	8.9	26	10.4
Close relative	21	20.4	16	11.0	37	14.9
No relation	69	67.0	117	80.1	186	74.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>249</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Awareness on HIV/AIDS</b>						
Blood transfusion from an infected person to the other transmit HIV	231	97.9	354	99.7	585	99.0
A person can get HIV, by using previously used needle/syringe	224	94.9	350	98.6	574	97.1
Can not get HIV by holding an HIV infected person's hand	219	92.8	337	94.9	556	94.1
An HIV positive pregnant woman can transmit the virus to her unborn child	207	87.7	309	87.0	516	87.3
An HIV positive woman can transmit the virus to her newborn child through breastfeeding	159	67.4	235	66.2	394	66.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>591</b>	<b>*</b>
<b>Ways by which a pregnant woman can reduce the risk of transmission of HIV to her unborn child</b>						
Take medicine	91	44.0	129	41.7	220	42.6
Don't Know	89	43.0	139	45.0	228	44.2
Abort the child	13	6.3	23	7.4	36	7.0
Can't do anything	12	5.8	13	4.2	25	4.8
Seek treatment from hospital/take advice from health staff	1	0.5	3	1.0	4	0.8
Others	1	0.5	2	0.6	3	0.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>309</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>516</b>	<b>100.0</b>

\*Note: The percentages add up to more than 100 because of multiple responses.

### 6.4 Perception of HIV Test

Table 6.3 divides the respondents according to their perceptions about the HIV test. Two respondents (0.3%) had never heard about HIV/AIDS. While 83.5 percent of the respondents knew at least one such place where HIV testing could be done, 71.8 percent of the respondents also pointed out that they were aware of the existence of at least one such confidential HIV testing facility in their community too.

Additionally, 64.4 percent of the respondents (66.4% street-based and 63.1% establishment-based) had ever tested themselves for HIV (Figure 4). Among them, 86.1 percent of the respondents (84.8% street-based and 87.1% establishment-based) had taken up the test during the last 12 months preceding the survey, while others had done so more than a year before. Most of them (91.4%) had taken up the test voluntarily while others had been asked to test



themselves. While most of them (97.9%) got their test results, 2.1 percent (8/382) did not collect them because they were required to wait too long for the report (3/8); they were afraid of the result (2/8); or they did not consider it necessary (2/8).

**Table 6.3: Perception on HIV Test**

Perception of HIV test	Street		Establishment		Total	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>Confidential HIV test facility available in the community</b>						
Yes	170	71.4	256	72.1	426	71.8
No	34	14.3	56	15.8	90	15.2
Don't Know	32	13.4	43	12.1	75	12.6
Never heard about HIV/AIDs	2	0.8	0	0.0	2	0.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Known place for HIV testing</b>						
Yes	197	82.8	298	83.9	495	83.5
No	39	16.4	57	16.1	96	16.2
Never heard about HIV/AIDs	2	0.8	0	0.0	2	0.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Ever had an HIV test</b>						
Yes	158	66.4	224	63.1	382	64.4
No	78	32.8	131	36.9	209	35.2
Never heard about HIV/AIDs	2	0.8	0	0.0	2	0.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Voluntarily underwent the HIV test or because it was required</b>						
Voluntarily	147	93.0	202	90.2	349	91.4
Required	11	7.0	22	9.8	33	8.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>382</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Received HIV test result</b>						
Yes	155	98.1	219	97.8	374	97.9
No	3	1.9	5	2.2	8	2.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>382</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Reason for not receiving the test result</b>						
Afraid of result	0	0.0	2	40.0	2	25.0
Felt unnecessary	1	33.3	1	20.0	2	25.0
Report took too long to reach/was asked to come after 1 month	1	33.3	2	40.0	3	37.5
Others	1	33.3	0	0.0	1	12.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Most recent HIV test</b>						
Within Last 12 months	134	84.8	195	87.1	329	86.1
Between 1-2 years	16	10.1	14	6.3	30	7.9
Between 2-4 years	7	4.4	14	6.3	21	5.5
More than 4 years ago	1	0.6	1	0.4	2	0.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>382</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Had HIV test in the past one year</b>						
Yes	134	84.8	195	87.1	329	86.1
No	24	15.2	29	12.9	53	13.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>382</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Had received result of HIV test</b>						
Yes	132	98.5	192	98.5	324	98.5
No	2	1.5	3	1.5	5	1.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>329</b>	<b>100.0</b>

## 6.5 Access to HIV/AIDS Awareness Messages

From the time FHI started intervention programs in Nepal to bring awareness about HIV/AIDS among high-risk groups of people, various messages regarding the use of condoms for the prevention of AIDS were aired on the radio and on television. Elevated hoarding boards and posters were also put up with pictorial and written messages at different places, including health posts and along the roadside in the Kathmandu Valley. In an effort to review the coverage of such interventions, the sex workers were asked about their awareness of such information. Table 6.4 illustrates the messages and the responses provided by the sex workers regarding their awareness of the messages. Most of the respondents were aware of messages like "HIV/AIDS Bare Aajai Dekhi Kura Garau" (73.9%), "Condom Bata Suraksha, Youn Swasthya Ko Raksha" (62.9%), and "Maya Garau Sadbhav Badaun" (53.5%). Messages like "Ek Aapas Ka Kura," "Ramro sangha prayog gare jokhim huna dinna, bharpardo chhu santosh dinchhu jhanjat manna hunna," and "Youn rog ra AIDS bata bachnalai rakhnu parchha sarbatra paine condom lai" had also reached a considerable proportion of the respondents (37.1% and 30.4%) respectively. (Table 6.4).

As high as 96.8 percent of the respondents reported that these messages had made them understand that the use of condoms prevents the transmission of HIV/AIDS, around 61.6 percent of them also said that these the message had made them aware that the use of condoms prevents STIs, and 55 percent mentioned that the messages made them aware that condoms are family planning devices (Table 6.4).

**Table 6.4: HIV/AIDS Awareness Character/Messages Seen/Heard By Female Sex Workers**

Messages about HIV/AIDS	Street		Establishment		Total	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>Heard/Seen/Read the following messages/characters in past one year</b>						
HIV/AIDS Bare Aajai Dekhi Kura Garau	170	71.4	268	75.5	438	73.9
Condom Bata Suraksha, Youn Swasthya Ko Raksha	142	59.7	231	65.1	373	62.9
Maya Garaun Sadbhav Badaun	126	52.9	191	53.8	317	53.5
Ek Apas Ka Kura	98	41.2	140	39.4	238	40.1
Ramro Sangha Prayog Gare Jokhim Huna Dinna Bharpardo Chhu Santosh Dinchhu Jhanjat Manna Hunna	82	34.5	138	38.9	220	37.1
Youn Rog Ra AIDS Bata Bachnalai Rakhnu Parchha Sarbatra Paine Condom Lai	68	28.6	112	31.5	180	30.4
Des Pardes	67	28.2	99	27.9	166	28.0
Condom Kina Ma Bhaya Hunna Ra	62	26.1	82	23.1	144	24.3
Jhilke Dai Chha Chhaina Condom	57	23.9	85	23.9	142	23.9
Others	69	29.0	116	32.7	185	31.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>*</b>
<b>Information derived from the messages</b>						
Use Condom Against AIDS	229	96.2	345	97.2	574	96.8
Use Condom Against STI	143	60.1	222	62.5	365	61.6
Use Condom for Family Planning	123	51.7	203	57.2	326	55.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>*</b>

\*Note: The percentages add up to more than 100 because of multiple responses.

## 6.6 Knowledge of STIs, Experienced Symptoms, and Treatment in the Past Year



Due to the nature of their work, sex workers are at risk of getting STIs. Any program targeting this particular group should focus on STI awareness and treatment options. In order to assess the extent of the problem among the respondents, they were asked about their understanding of STIs and whether they had experienced any STI symptoms during the past year. For 78.1 percent of the respondents, STI meant genital discharge, while almost the same number of them (77.1%) considered an itching sensation in the vagina a symptom of a STI. At the same time, 49.1 percent of the respondents perceived blisters and ulcers around the vagina to be STI symptoms, while 42.5 percent mentioned lower abdominal pain was also a STI symptom. They also mentioned other symptoms such as syphilis/gonorrhea, HIV/AIDS, unusual bleeding from vagina, and vaginal pain to be the symptoms of STIs. However, 6.7 percent of street-based and 2.5 percent of establishment-based FSWs did not have knowledge about any of the symptoms of STIs (Table 6.5).

**Table 6.5: Knowledge of STI, Symptoms Experienced in the Past Year and Treatment Sought**

Perception on STI, Reported STI Symptoms and Treatment	Street		Establishment		Total	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>Understanding of STI</b>						
White/Pus/Dhatu flow Discharge	187	78.6	276	77.7	463	78.1
Itching in Vagina	172	72.3	285	80.3	457	77.1
Blisters and Ulcers Around Vagina	115	48.3	176	49.6	291	49.1
Lower Abdominal Pain	97	40.8	155	43.7	252	42.5
AIDS/HIV	42	17.6	64	18.0	106	17.9
Syphilis ( <i>Bhiringi</i> )/Gonorrhea	31	13.0	51	14.4	82	13.8
Swelling of Vagina	30	12.6	49	13.8	79	13.3
Pain in Vagina	16	6.7	37	10.4	53	8.9
Weight loss/get thinner	16	6.7	30	8.5	46	7.8
Bleeding	14	5.9	17	4.8	31	5.2
Don't know	16	6.7	9	2.5	25	4.2
Others (Fever, Weakness, etc.)	0	0.0	2	0.6	2	0.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>*</b>
<b>Types of STI symptoms experienced in the past year</b>						
Vaginal Itching	77	32.4	78	22.0	155	26.1
Vaginal Discharge	66	27.7	83	23.4	149	25.1
Vaginal Odor	56	23.5	76	21.4	132	22.3
Lower Abdominal Pain	53	22.3	71	20.0	124	20.9
Painful Sex	32	13.4	59	16.6	91	15.3
Dysuria	33	13.9	48	13.5	81	13.7
Genital Ulcer or Sore	22	9.2	33	9.3	55	9.3
Polyuria	20	8.4	26	7.3	46	7.8
Genital Warts	5	2.1	7	2.0	12	2.0
Unusual Vaginal Bleeding	5	2.1	3	0.8	8	1.3
Other	1	0.4	2	0.6	3	0.5
Any of the Above Symptoms	113	47.5	145	40.8	258	43.5
None of the Above Symptoms	125	52.5	210	59.2	335	56.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>*</b>
<b>Places visited for treatment of STI symptoms in the past year</b>						
SACTS	54	62.1	45	39.8	99	49.5
Community Action Center	16	18.4	30	26.5	46	23.0
Private Clinic	8	9.2	18	15.9	26	13.0
Hospital	5	5.7	8	7.1	13	6.5
Pharmacy	5	5.7	4	3.5	9	4.5
Women Acting Together for Change	0	0.0	2	1.8	2	1.0
PALUWA	0	0.0	1	0.9	1	0.5
Amda	1	1.1	0	0.0	1	0.5
Health post/Health Center	1	1.1	0	0.0	1	0.5
Satellite Clinic (SACTS/Step Nepal)	7	8.0	16	14.1	23	11.5
Others	2	2.3	1	0.9	3	1.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>*</b>

Perception on STI, Reported STI Symptoms and Treatment	Street		Establishment		Total	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>Received counseling to avoid the problem from the place of Treatment</b>						
Yes	85	97.7	107	94.7	192	96.0
No	2	2.3	6	5.3	8	4.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Types of counseling received</b>						
Take Medicine Regularly	65	76.5	97	90.7	162	84.4
Use Condom	54	63.5	67	62.6	121	63.0
Regular Check-up	50	58.8	50	46.7	100	52.1
Reduce Number of Sexual Partners	20	23.5	27	25.2	47	24.5
Not to Make Sexual Contact while Using Medicine	17	20.0	24	22.4	41	21.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>*</b>

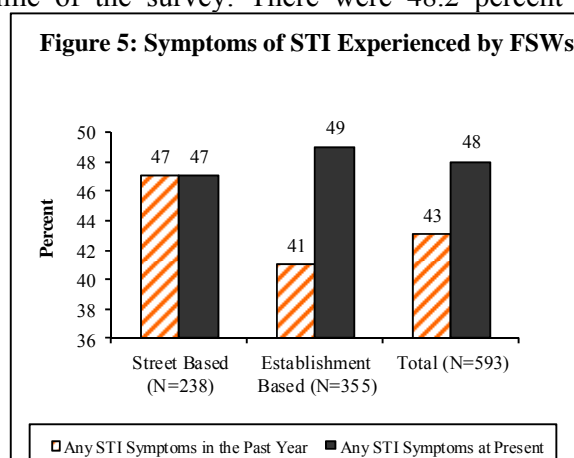
\*Note: The percentages add up to more than 100 because of multiple responses.

In response to the question on whether they had experienced any STI symptoms in the past year, 43.5 percent of the FSWs (47.5% street-based and 40.8% establishment-based) reported having had experienced at least one STI symptom; 26.1 percent of them (32.4% street-based and 22% establishment-based) reported vaginal itching and 25.1 percent of the respondents had experienced vaginal discharge (27.7% street-based and 23.4% establishment-based) in the past year. Other symptoms experienced by the respondent in the year preceding the survey were vaginal odor (22.3%), lower abdominal pain (20.9%), painful sex (15.3%), and dysuria (13.7%) among others. Around 22 percent of the respondents (58/258) who experienced the symptoms in the past year did not seek treatment, while those who underwent treatment had mostly visited SACTS (49.5%), CAC (23%), and private clinics (13%) (Table 6.5).

Ninety-six percent of the respondents who sought medical attention for the STI symptoms had also received counseling to avoid the problem in the future (Table 6.5). They were mostly counseled to take medicines regularly (84.4%), to consistently use condoms during sex (63%), and to go for regular check ups (52.1%). Some were also advised to reduce the number of their sex partners (24.5%) and not to have sexual partners while under treatment (21.4%) (See Table 8 in Annex 2 for the list of symptom for which the respondents sought treatment).

## 6.7 Existing STI Symptom/s and Treatment

Apart from their past year's experiences, the sex workers were also asked if they had been experiencing any STI symptoms at the time of the survey. There were 48.2 percent of respondents who reported that they were experiencing at least one of the STI symptoms during the survey period (Table 6.6). Some of the symptoms reported by them were vaginal discharge (26.8%), vaginal itching (23.3%), lower abdominal pain (21.2%), vaginal odor (20.7%), painful sex (16.2%), and dysuria (12.1%). Other symptoms such as polyuria, genital ulcers, genital warts, and unusual vaginal bleeding were also mentioned. Out of 286 respondents who had been experiencing at least one STI symptom during the survey



period, only 8.7 percent had sought treatment. 60 percent of these respondents had waited 2-5 weeks to seek treatment, eight percent had waited six or more weeks, while 32 percent of them had sought treatment within one week or earlier after experiencing symptoms of STIs. 44 percent of these respondents had sought treatment from satellite clinics run by SACTS/STEP Nepal, 32 percent of them from SACTS or VCT centers, and 16 percent had received treatment from CAC and hospital each.

Sixty-four percent of the respondents who had sought treatment for the STI symptoms experienced (16/25) at the time of survey had received a prescription for medicine to be used, and 87.5 percent of them (14/16) had been able to obtain all the medicines prescribed to them. Most of them (13/14) had used all medicines that they were advised to take. While 42.9 percent of the respondents (3/4 street-based and 3/10 establishment-based) had obtained the medicines free of cost, others had paid for their medicines.

Figure 5 shows respondents with STI symptoms in the past year and at the time of the survey. A slightly higher proportion of street-based respondents (47.5%) versus those based in establishments (40.8%) had at least one STI symptom in the past year. On the contrary, a little higher proportion of establishment-based respondents compared to street-based (49% vs 47.1%) had at least one STI symptom at the time of survey. 51.8 percent of respondents did not have any such symptoms at the time of the survey.

**Table 6.6: Reported Existing STI Symptom/s and Treatment**

Existing STI Symptoms and Treatment	Street		Establishment		Total	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>Types of STI symptoms experienced currently</b>						
Vaginal Discharge	67	28.2	92	25.9	159	26.8
Vaginal Itching	56	23.5	82	23.1	138	23.3
Lower Abdominal Pain	50	21.0	76	21.4	126	21.2
Vaginal Odor	46	19.3	77	21.7	123	20.7
Painful Sex	41	17.2	55	15.5	96	16.2
Dysuria	27	11.3	45	12.7	72	12.1
Polyuria	26	10.9	29	8.2	55	9.3
Genital Ulcer or Sore	14	5.9	19	5.4	33	5.6
Genital Warts	9	3.8	5	1.4	14	2.4
Unusual Vaginal Bleeding (Discharge)	2	0.8	1	0.3	3	0.5
Others	0	0.0	4	1.1	4	0.7
Any of the Above Symptoms	112	47.1	174	49.0	286	48.2
None of the Above Symptoms	126	52.9	181	51.0	307	51.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>*</b>
<b>Went for treatment for any of above symptoms</b>						
Yes	10	8.9	15	8.6	25	8.7
No	102	91.1	159	91.4	261	91.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>286</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Duration, respondent waited to received treatment after experiencing STI symptom</b>						
Less than 1 week	2	20.0	1	6.7	3	12.0
After 1 week	2	20.0	3	20.0	5	20.0
2-5 week	6	60.0	9	60.0	15	60.0
6 and more weeks	-	-	2	13.3	2	8.0
<b>Mean week</b>	<b>1.7</b>		<b>2.8</b>		<b>2.4</b>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Respondent received treatment from</b>						

Existing STI Symptoms and Treatment	Street		Establishment		Total	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
Satellite clinic (SACTS/STEP Nepal)	3	30.0	8	53.3	11	44.0
SACTS	3	30.0	5	33.3	8	32.0
CAC	3	30.0	1	6.7	4	16.0
Hospital	1	10.0	3	20.0	4	16.0
Private Clinic	0	0.0	2	13.3	2	8.0
Pharmacy	1	10.0	0	0.0	1	4.0
Others	1	10.0	0	0.0	1	4.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Received medicine prescription</b>						
Yes	5	50.0	11	73.3	16	64.0
No	5	50.0	4	26.7	9	36.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>100.0</b>

*\*Note: The percentages add up to more than 100 because of multiple responses*

## CHAPTER 7.0: EXPOSURE TO STI/HIV/AIDS AWARENESS PROGRAMS

This chapter discusses and explores the exposure of FSWs to the ongoing HIV/AIDS awareness programs and their participation in those activities. The respondents in the survey were asked several questions relating to some of the most important components of current HIV/AIDS related programs run by several organizations. Information provided by them has been analyzed in the following sections.

### 7.1 Peer/Outreach Education

One of the major components of the ongoing STI/HIV/AIDS intervention is the mobilization of outreach and peer educators (OEs and PEs) to educate the target population on STI/HIV/AIDS and preventive measures. The majority of the respondents (83.8%) - 82.4 percent of the street-based and 84.8 percent of the establishment-based FSWs - had met or interacted with PEs/OEs representing different organizations. It was further stated that their meetings/discussions were mostly focused on HIV/AIDS transmission (94.8%), condom use (76.5%), and STI transmission (72.8%). Some (47.7%) even had a condom-use demonstration. The respondents had mostly met OE/PEs from STEP Nepal and CAC (54.1% and 44.9%, respectively). Further it has been noticed that street-based FSWs mostly interacted with OE/PEs from CAC Nepal (81.1%), while the establishment-based FSWs mostly met with STEP Nepal OE/PEs (76.7%) and SWAN Nepal (7.6%). It was further noticed that the sex workers met OEs/PEs quite often, as around 48 percent had seen them four or more times (Table 7.1).

*Table 7.1: Meeting/Interaction of FSWs with Peer/Outreach Educators*

Peer Educator/Outreach Education	Street		Establishment		Total	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>Met or discussed or interacted with Peer Educators (PE) or Outreach Educators (OE) in the last 12 months</b>						
Yes	196	82.4	301	84.8	497	83.8
No	42	17.6	54	15.2	96	16.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Activities involved in with OEs/PEs</b>						
Discussion on how HIV/AIDS is/isn't transmitted	182	92.9	289	96.0	471	94.8
Regular/non-regular use of condom	152	77.6	228	75.7	380	76.5
Discussion on how STI is/isn't transmitted	142	72.4	220	73.1	362	72.8
Demonstration on using condom correctly	88	44.9	149	49.5	237	47.7
Counseling on reducing number of sex partner	12	6.1	22	7.3	34	6.8
STI treatment/cure after treatment	8	4.1	21	7.0	29	5.8
Training on HIV and STI, Condom day, AIDS day, participation in discussions and interaction programs	11	5.6	17	5.6	28	5.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>497</b>	<b>*</b>
<b>Organizations represented by OEs/PEs</b>						
STEP Nepal	38	19.4	231	76.7	269	54.1
CAC	159	81.1	64	21.3	223	44.9
SWAN Nepal	15	7.7	23	7.6	38	7.6
Chhahari Nepal	14	7.1	1	0.3	15	3.0
SACTS	7	3.6	4	1.3	11	2.2
WATCH	1	0.5	2	0.7	3	0.6
Richmond Fellowship	1	0.5	1	0.3	2	0.4
Change Nepal	1	0.5	0	0.0	1	0.2
GWP	0	0.0	1	0.3	1	0.2
Others	0	0.0	2	0.7	2	0.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>497</b>	<b>*</b>
<b>Number of meeting with OEs/PEs in the past year</b>						
Once	12	6.1	23	7.6	35	7.0

Peer Educator/Outreach Education	Street		Establishment		Total	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
2-3 times	94	48.0	130	43.2	224	45.1
4-6 times	48	24.5	88	24.8	136	27.4
7-12 times	27	13.8	34	11.3	61	12.3
More than 12 times	15	7.7	26	8.6	41	8.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>497</b>	<b>100.0</b>

*\*Note: The percentages add up to more than 100 because of multiple responses.*

## 7.2 Drop-in-Centers Visiting Practice

Drop-in-Centers (DICs) are another important component of HIV prevention programs. The DICs not only provide a safe space for the target communities to socialize but are also the site for educational and counseling activities. About 34 percent of the respondents had visited a DIC in the year preceding the survey. Street-based FSWs were more likely than their counterparts based in establishments to visit and socialize at DICs; 43.7 percent of the street-based and 27 percent of establishment-based FSWs had visited a DIC in the past year. They had mostly visited DICs to watch films on HIV/AIDS (74.5%), to learn the correct way of using a condom (56.5%), to collect free condoms (35.5%), and to participate in discussions on HIV transmission (35%). Most of the respondents had visited DICs run by SACTS (45%), CAC (35.5%), and STEP Nepal (22.5%). Among those who visited DICs, almost 73 percent had visited more than once (Table 7.2).

**Table 7.2: DIC Visiting Practice of Female Sex Workers**

DIC Visiting Practices of Female Sex Workers	Street		Establishment		Total	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>DIC visit in the last 12 months</b>						
Yes	104	43.7	96	27.0	200	33.7
No	134	56.3	259	73.0	393	66.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Activities involved in at DIC</b>						
Went to watch film on HIV/AIDS	78	75.0	71	74.0	149	74.5
Went to learn the correct way of using condom	55	52.9	58	60.4	113	56.5
Went to collect condoms	45	43.3	26	27.1	71	35.5
Participated in discussion on HIV transmission	31	29.8	39	40.6	70	35.0
Participated in discussion on STI transmission	17	16.3	24	25.0	41	20.5
Participated in training, interaction and discussion programs on HIV/AIDS and STI	6	5.8	17	17.7	23	11.5
Went for STI treatment	8	7.7	15	15.6	23	11.5
Took friend with me	9	8.7	13	13.5	22	11.0
Went to collect IEC materials	4	3.8	5	5.2	9	4.5
Others	0	0.0	1	1.0	1	0.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>*</b>
<b>Name of organizations that run DIC visited by them</b>						
SACTS	49	47.1	41	42.7	90	45.0
CAC	40	38.5	31	32.3	71	35.5
STEP Nepal	19	18.3	26	27.1	45	22.5
Swan Nepal	7	6.7	11	11.5	18	9.0
Chhahari Nepal	5	4.8	0	0.0	5	2.5
Change Nepal	1	1.0	0	0.0	1	0.5
WATCH	0	0.0	1	1.0	1	0.5
INF/PALUWA	0	0.0	1	1.0	1	0.5
AMDA	1	1.0	0.0	0.0	1	0.5
Others	1	1.0	3	3.1	4	2.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>*</b>
<b>Number of visits to the DICs in the past year</b>						
Once	30	28.8	24	25.0	54	27.0
2-3 times	56	53.8	51	53.1	107	53.5
4-6 times	15	14.4	18	18.8	33	16.5
7-12 times	3	2.9	1	1.0	4	2.0
More than 12 times	0	0.0	2	2.1	2	1.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>100.0</b>

\*Note: The percentages add up to more than 100 because of multiple responses.

### 7.3 STI Clinic Visiting Practices

Prompt detection and treatment of STIs can prevent many health hazards. Several STI clinics are being run by different organizations to facilitate timely detection and urgent treatment of STIs. The survey respondents were also asked if they had visited any STI clinics in the past year. Around 44 percent of them had visited a STI clinic in the past year. Mostly, the respondents had physical examinations for identifying STIs (78.8%) and had their blood tested for STIs (65%) in the clinics that they visited in the past year. Additionally, some (44.2%) were advised to use a condom during each act of sexual intercourse, while some of them (42.7%) were advised to take medicine on a regular basis. The most frequently visited STI clinic was SACTS (55.4%) and CAC (21.5%). Among those who visited an STI clinic, 55.4 percent had visited the clinic more than once (Table 7.3).

**Table 7.3: STI Clinic Visiting Practice of Female Sex Workers**

STI Clinic Visiting Practices of Female Sex Workers	Street		Establishment		Total	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>Visited any STI clinic in the last 12 months</b>						
Yes	109	45.8	151	42.5	260	43.8
No	129	54.2	204	57.5	333	56.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Activities involved in at STI clinic</b>						
Physical examination conducted for STI identification	86	78.9	119	78.8	205	78.8
Blood tested for STI	68	62.4	101	66.9	169	65.0
Was advised to take complete and regular medicine	43	39.4	68	45.0	111	42.7
Was advised to use condom in each sexual intercourse	56	51.4	59	39.1	115	44.2
Took friend with me	6	5.5	9	6.0	15	5.8
Was suggested to reduce number of sexual partners	7	6.4	4	2.6	11	4.2
Others	1	0.9	1	0.7	2	0.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>*</b>
<b>Name of organizations that run STI clinic visited by them</b>						
SACTS	75	68.8	69	45.7	144	55.4
CAC	21	19.3	35	23.2	56	21.5
Satellite Clinic (STEP/SACTS)	13	11.9	38	25.2	51	19.6
Private Clinic	3	2.8	17	11.3	20	7.7
Hospital	4	3.7	8	5.3	12	4.6
SWAN Nepal	2	1.8	3	2.0	5	1.9
Pharmacy	3	2.8	2	1.3	5	1.9
WATCH	0	0.0	2	1.3	2	0.8
GWP	0	0.0	1	0.7	1	0.4
INF/PALUWA	0	0.0	1	0.7	1	0.4
Others	1	0.9	1	0.7	2	0.8
Don't know	1	0.9	0	0.0	1	0.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>*</b>
<b>Number of visits to STI clinics in the past year</b>						
Once	48	44.0	68	45.0	116	44.6
2-3 times	56	51.4	75	49.7	131	50.4
4-6 times	4	3.7	7	4.6	11	4.2
More than 7 times	1	0.9	1	0.7	2	0.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>100.0</b>

\*Note: The percentages add up to more than 100 because of multiple responses.

## 7.4 VCT Centers Visiting Practice

It was reported that about 53.5 percent of the FSWs had visited Voluntary Counseling and Testing (VCT) centers during the past 12 months. Among them, 90.9 percent had taken advantage of the HIV testing facilities and 68.5 percent had gone back to receive their HIV test results. Similarly, some respondents had also received pre- and post-test counseling (66.9% and 46.7%, respectively). Other activities that the respondents participated in at the VCT centres are summarized in Table 7.4. The most frequently visited VCT centers were, again, run by SACTS (61.8%) and CAC (22.1%). While 36.3 percent of the respondents had paid one visit to a VCT center, 54.9 percent of them had been there 2-3 times. Others went there quite often (Table 7.4).

Those respondents who had not visited a VCT center even once in the past year were further asked reasons for not making such visits. Forty-nine percent of the respondents mentioned that they did not feel the need to be tested (30.1% street-based and 59.5% establishment-based) while 33 percent of them said they did not know about any VCT centers (40.8% street-based and 28.3% establishment-based). Some of the other reasons reported by the respondents for not paying a visit to the VCT center in the past year were fear of exposure (20.6%), because they did not feel that they had any symptoms of HIV (18.5%), and there were no VCTs nearby (12.7%) because they already knew their HIV status (6.2%).



**Table 7.4: VCT Visiting Practice of FSWs**

VCT visiting practices of Female Sex Workers	Street		Establishment		Total	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>Visited VCT center in the last 12 months</b>						
Yes	135	56.7	182	51.3	317	53.5
No	103	43.3	173	48.7	276	46.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Activities involved in at VCT</b>						
Blood sample taken for HIV test	125	92.6	163	89.6	288	90.9
Received HIV test result	91	67.4	126	69.2	217	68.5
Received pre-HIV test counseling	85	63.0	127	69.8	212	66.9
Received post HIV test counseling	63	46.7	85	46.7	148	46.7
Got information on HIV/AIDS window period	35	25.9	59	32.4	94	29.7
Received counseling on using condom correctly in each sexual Intercourse	40	29.6	46	25.3	86	27.1
Took a friend with me	7	5.2	19	10.4	26	8.2
Others	1	0.7	0	0.0	1	0.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>317</b>	<b>*</b>
<b>Name of the organization that run the VCTs visited by them</b>						
SACTS	96	71.1	100	54.9	196	61.8
Satellite Clinic (STEP/SACTS)	28	20.7	75	41.2	103	32.5
CAC	28	20.7	42	23.1	70	22.1
SWAN Nepal	2	1.5	3	1.6	5	1.6
WATCH	0	0.0	2	1.1	2	0.6
AMDA	1	0.7	0	0.0	1	0.3
GWP	0	0.0	1	0.5	1	0.3
INF/PALUWA	0	0.0	1	0.5	1	0.3
Others	2	1.5	2	1.1	4	1.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>317</b>	<b>*</b>
<b>Number of visits to VCTs in the past year</b>						
Once	44	32.6	71	39.0	115	36.3
2-3 times	80	59.3	94	51.6	174	54.9
4-6 times	10	7.4	15	8.2	25	7.9
7-12 times	1	0.7	1	0.5	2	0.6
More than 12 times	0	0.0	1	0.5	1	0.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>317</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Reason for not visiting VCT center in the last 12 months</b>						
Do not feel the need to be tested	31	30.1	103	59.5	134	48.6
Do not know about VCT center	42	40.8	49	28.3	91	33.0
Fear of exposure	31	30.1	26	15.0	57	20.6
Do not have any symptoms of HIV	14	13.6	37	21.4	51	18.5
No VCT near by	13	12.6	22	12.7	35	12.7
Have already tested and know status	6	5.8	11	6.4	17	6.2
Lack of time/busy	3	2.9	5	2.9	8	2.9
Others	4	3.9	8	4.6	12	4.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>276</b>	<b>*</b>
<b>Respondents had been ever approached and explained about need of VCT by health workers/ outreach workers</b>						
Yes	183	76.9	281	79.2	464	78.2
No	55	23.1	74	20.8	129	21.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Topics discussed by the health/outreach workers</b>						
Visit VCT incase of any problems	161	88.0	255	90.7	416	89.7
Visit VCT once in a month in any case	101	55.2	161	57.3	262	56.5
Topics relating to sex partners	52	28.4	85	30.2	137	29.5
Others	3	1.6	2	0.7	5	1.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>281</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>464</b>	<b>*</b>

\*Note: The percentages add up to more than 100 because of multiple responses.

The respondents in this round of survey were questioned further to see if they had ever been approached and explained to about the need of a VCT by any health workers/outreach workers. It was found that 78.2 percent of the respondents had been approached by health workers/outreach workers to explain to them about the need of VCTs. These health/outreach workers had told them to visit a VCT center in case of any problems (89.7%), and to visit a VCT center at least once a month (56.5%). Some had also talked to them about their sex partners (29.5%). However, 21.8 percent of the respondents (23.1% street-based and 20.8% establishment-based) had never been approached and engaged in a discussion by any health or outreach workers (Table 7.4).

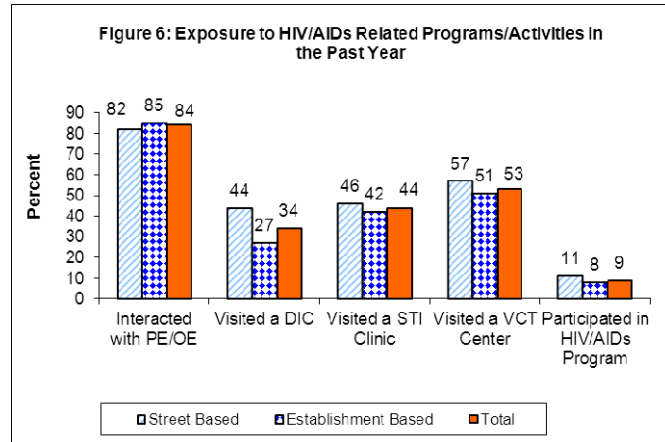
## 7.5 Participation in STI/HIV/AIDS Awareness Programs

The respondents were further asked if they had participated in any HIV/AIDS awareness raising programs or community events in the past year. The reported participation of the respondents in such activities was minimal with only 9.3 percent having done so (11.3% street-based and 7.9% establishment-based FSWs). Some of the activities that the FSWs had participated in were group discussions (49.1%), condom use demonstrations (41.8%), Condom Day celebrations (34.5%), AIDS Day celebrations (32.7%), HIV/AIDS-related training (27.3%), and video show (21.8%). While 49.1 percent of the respondents had participated in such activities just once, 45.5 percent of them had been part of various programs 2-3 times in the past year. Others (5.4%) had participated even more often (Table 7.5).

*Table 7.5: Participation of FSWs in STI/HIV/AIDS Awareness Program*

Participations in HIV/AIDS Awareness Programs	Street		Establishment		Total	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>Participated in HIV/AIDS awareness raising program or community events</b>						
Yes	27	11.3	28	7.9	55	9.3
No	211	88.7	327	92.1	538	90.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Activities participated in</b>						
	N=27		N=28		N=55	
Group discussions	9	33.3	18	64.3	27	49.1
Condom use demonstrations	8	29.6	15	53.6	23	41.8
Condom Day	15	55.6	4	14.3	19	34.5
AIDS Day	12	44.4	6	21.4	18	32.7
HIV/AIDS related training	7	25.9	8	28.6	15	27.3
Video shows	4	14.8	8	28.6	12	21.8
Street drama	1	3.7	1	3.6	2	3.6
HIV/AIDS related Workshops	2	7.4	0	0.0	2	3.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>*</b>
<b>Name of the organizations that organized such activities</b>						
CAC	13	48.1	13	46.4	26	47.3
SACTS	11	40.7	11	39.3	22	40.0
Others	3	11.1	3	10.7	6	10.9
Steps Nepal	1	3.7	3	10.7	4	7.3
SWAN Nepal	1	3.7	3	10.7	4	7.3
AMDA	1	3.7	0	0.0	1	1.8
NRCS	1	3.7	0	0.0	1	1.8
Don't Know	1	3.7	0	0.0	1	1.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>*</b>
<b>Frequency of such participation in the past year</b>						
Once	10	37.0	17	60.7	27	49.1
2-3 times	16	59.3	9	32.1	25	45.5
4-6 times	1	3.7	1	3.6	2	3.6
7-12 times	0	0.0	1	3.6	1	1.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>100.0</b>

As seen in Figure 6, not much variation is noticed between street-based FSWs and establishment-based FSWs with regards to HIV/AIDS program exposure in the past year. However a higher proportion of street-based than establishment-based FSWs (43.7% vs. 27%) had visited a DIC in the past year. Respondents had mostly interacted with PEs/OEs followed by paying visits to a VCT. Participation in any of the HIV/AIDS programs was the lowest amongst both street and establishment-based FSWs.



It is likely that those FSWs who come into contact with OE/PE also come to know about other services from them. Further analysis was done to understand what proportion of FSWs who had met/interacted with OE/PE and also had visited the service centers in the past year. Among the FSWs who had met OE/PE in past year, 63.2 percent had been to a VCT center, 50.5 percent of them had visited a STI clinic and 39.8 percent had been to a DIC while only 10.1 percent had participated in HIV/AIDS awareness program (See Table 11 in Annex 2).

## 7.6 Stigma and Discrimination

People living with HIV/AIDS are often ostracized in society. The respondents' perceptions of HIV-positive persons and the stigma associated with the disease was examined with the help of a series of questions, as shown in Table 7.6.

It was noted that the majority of the respondents were willing to take care of any of their male relative (92.4%) or a HIV-positive female relative (93.9%) at their home if necessary. However, 66.3 percent of FSWs said that if a family member had HIV they would keep it confidential and would rather not talk about it.

Table 7.6: Stigma and Discrimination

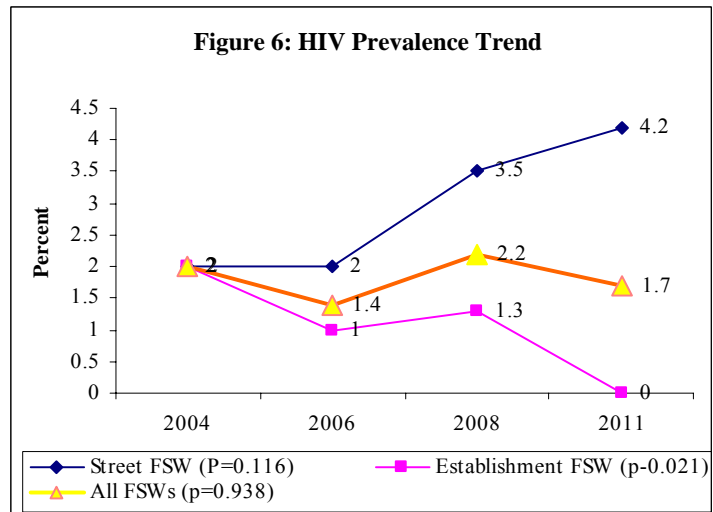
Stigma and Discrimination	Street (N=238)		Establishment (N=355)		Total (N=593)	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>Willing to take care of HIV positive male relative in the household</b>						
Yes	222	93.3	326	91.8	548	92.4
No	15	6.3	28	7.9	43	7.3
Don't Know	1	0.4	1	0.3	2	0.3
<b>Willing to take care of HIV positive female relative in the household</b>						
Yes	224	94.1	333	93.8	557	93.9
No	13	5.5	21	5.9	34	5.7
Don't Know	1	0.4	1	0.3	2	0.3
<b>Willing to maintain confidentiality of a HIV positive family member</b>						
Yes	165	69.3	228	64.2	393	66.3
No	72	30.3	125	35.2	197	33.2
Don't Know	1	0.4	2	0.6	3	0.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>100.0</b>

## CHAPTER 8.o: COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS

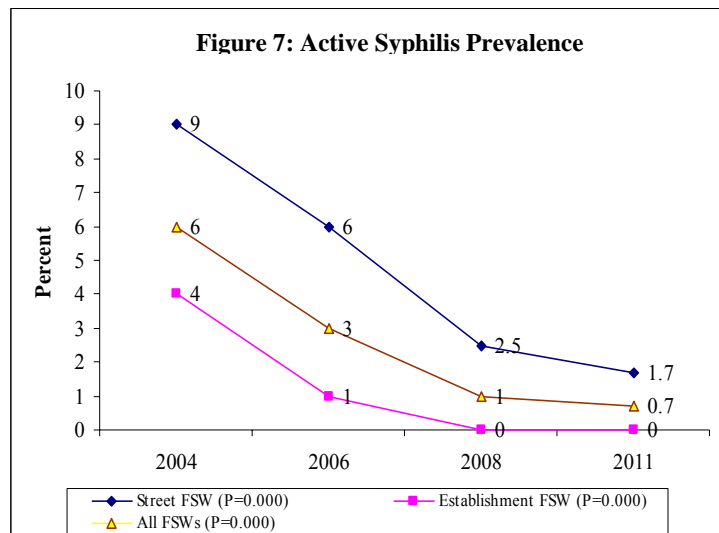
This chapter analyzes the trends between the four rounds of IBBS surveys by comparing the data on selected indicators from all four rounds. It specifically compares the prevalence of HIV and STIs, condom-use practices, knowledge of HIV/AIDS, and exposure to HIV/AIDS prevention/awareness programs among FSWs. This comparison is possible only because the same sampling design, same sample size, and same sampling procedures were used in all four rounds of the IBBS survey.

### 8.1 Prevalence of HIV and Syphilis Infection

The HIV prevalence rate was 1.7 percent in this round of IBBS. Previous rounds had detected 2 percent in 2004, 1.4 percent in 2006, and 2.2 percent in 2008. Unlike the previous rounds, none of the establishment-based FSWs had HIV in this round of the survey (2.0% in 2004, 1% in 2006, 1.3% in 2008, none in 2011) (Figure 7). However, the HIV prevalence has increased among street-based FSWs since the first round (2% each in 2004 to 4.2% in 2011). However, this difference in prevalence is not statistically significant at a 95 percent confidence level (Table 10 in Annex 2).



Syphilis infection, on the other hand, has decreased significantly over the years. Active syphilis has decreased from six percent in 2004, to 0.7 percent in 2011. Prevalence of syphilis history is 2.5 percent (8.8 % in 2004). In both cases, the decrease in prevalence rate is significant ( $p < 0.05$ ). Prevalence of both active syphilis and syphilis history have significantly decreased since the first round among street as well as establishment-based FSWs ( $p < 0.05$ ) (Figure 8).



## 8.2 Socio Demographic Characteristics of FSWs

Table 8.1 analyzes the trend in the socio-demographic characteristics of FSWs since the first round of the survey. The age composition of the respondents does not show significant change, as in all the four rounds. Percentage of FSWs whose age was less than 20 years has remained stable around 30 percent.

Over 70 percent of the respondents in all the four rounds were ever married. However, there has been a significant increase in the proportion of street-based FSWs who had attended some years of schooling since the first round.

*Table 8.1: Trend Analysis of Socio Demographic Characteristics of FSWs*

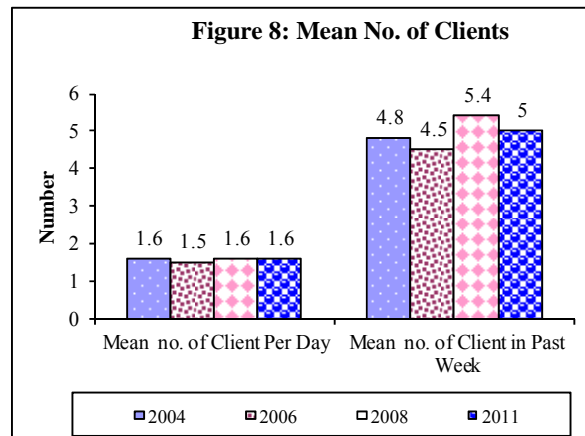
Socio Demographic Characteristics of FSWs					
	2004	2006	2008	2011	P Value
<b>Age of respondents</b>	<b>Less than 20</b>				
Street	16.0	21.5	14.0	17.6	<b>0.849</b>
Establishment	40.4	36.0	37.3	35.5	<b>0.275</b>
Total	30.6	30.2	28.0	28.3	<b>0.314</b>
<b>Marital status</b>	<b>Ever married</b>				
Street	89.0	82.0	83.0	84.9	<b>0.340</b>
Establishment	60.0	71.7	62.7	69.6	<b>0.088</b>
Total	71.6	75.8	70.8	75.7	<b>0.351</b>
<b>Education</b>	<b>Attended some years of schooling</b>				
Street	33.5	40.5	40.5	46.6	<b>0.015</b>
Establishment	65.0	67.0	63.0	65.9	<b>0.944</b>
Total	52.4	56.4	54.0	58.2	<b>0.110</b>
<b>Age at first sex</b>	<b>Less than 20</b>				
Street	92.5	92.0	83.0	88.2	<b>0.031</b>
Establishment	90.3	92.3	90.7	92.7	<b>0.422</b>
Total	91.2	92.2	87.6	90.9	<b>0.385</b>
<b>Duration of sexwork</b>	<b>&lt;1 year</b>				
Street	25.0	27.0	26.5	23.1	<b>0.603</b>
Establishment	39.3	45.0	38.7	30.7	<b>0.005</b>
Total	33.6	37.8	33.8	27.6	<b>0.011</b>

*2004,2006,2008 Surveys N=500(Street=200, Establishment=300), 2011 Survey N=393 (Street=238, Establishment= 355)*

It was also observed that a considerable proportion of the FSWs had their first sexual encounter at the age of less than 20 years. Although no significant change was noticed in this regard among establishment-based sex workers, the street-based sex workers reporting to have been engaged in first sexual contact at less than 20 years has significantly decreased since the first round of the survey (92.5% in 2004 to 88.2% in 2011). At the same time, the proportion of respondents who had entered the sex trade recently i.e. less than a year before has decreased in the fourth round; although the decreasing trend is not so prominent among street based sex workers, the change is statistically significant among establishment based respondents (39.3% in 2004 to 30.7% in 2011).

### 8.3 Average Number of Clients Served by FSWs

Figure 9 shows average number of clients served by FSWs in one day and in the past week. As seen in figure, there has not been much change in the number of clients served by the FSWs. The respondents on average served around five clients in the week preceding the survey in all the four rounds, while the mean number of clients that the respondents had in one day was around 2 across all of the four rounds.



### 8.4 Condom Carrying Practice and HIV Testing

Although condom carrying behaviour among street based FSWs has not changed over the four rounds of IBBS, it has significantly improved among establishment based FSWs since the first round (4.7% in 2004 to 16.9% in 2011). The proportion of respondents reporting to have taken HIV testing at least once has also significantly increased since the second round of the survey indicating that more and more FSWs are growing aware of the need to know their HIV status with every passing year. The trend has improved with the street as well as establishment FSWs. Overall, around two-fifths of FSWs had taken HIV testing in 2006 (40.6%) and 2008(40.2%), while over two-thirds of them (64.4%) reported doing so in 2011.

Table 8.2: Trend Analysis of Condom Carrying Practice and HIV Test Taken among FSWs

	2004	2006	2008	2011	P Value
<b>Respondents carry condom usually</b>					
Street	30.0	43.0	46.5	27.7	<b>0.602</b>
Establishment	4.7	25.7	14.7	16.9	<b>0.006</b>
Total	14.8	32.6	27.4	21.2	<b>0.152</b>
<b>Ever had an HIV test</b>					
Street	*	47.5	42.5	66.4	<b>0.000</b>
Establishment	*	36.0	38.7	63.1	<b>0.000</b>
<b>Total</b>	*	40.6	40.2	64.4	<b>0.000</b>

2004, 2006, 2008 Surveys N=500(Street=200, Establishment=300), 2011 Survey N=393 (Street=238, Establishment= 355)

\*data not collected in 2004

### 8.5 Condom Use with Different Sex Partners

Data from the survey showed that consistent condom using behavior has significantly improved among the FSWs. A significant increase in the use of condoms with last client was observed among the respondents in the current survey since the previous rounds (74% in 2004 to 82.6% in 2011). Condom use with last client had specifically improved among establishment based sex workers. A considerable improvement is found amongst street as well as establishment-based FSWs. Likewise, a significantly higher proportion of the respondents in 2011 reported consistent condom use with their clients in the year preceding the survey than reported in the previous rounds (56.6% in 2004 to 73.4% in 2011). The

practice of using condoms consistently with clients in the year preceding the survey showed significant signs of improvement amongst both street and establishment-based FSWs ( $p < 0.05$ ). Similarly, the practice of using condoms in each sexual act with partners other than clients, husbands, and male friends has increased significantly among both street and establishment-based respondents over the years. Consistent use of condoms with regular clients has improved since the first round of the survey; this was true especially in case of establishment based sex workers (60.5% in 2004 to 74.7% in 2011). However, the practice of using condom consistently with non-paying regular partners has overall decreased among the respondents with significant decrease among establishment based sex workers (Table 8.3).

**Table 8.3: Trend Analysis of Consistent Condom Use with Different Sex Partners in the Past Year**

	2004	2006	2008	2011	P Value
<b>Use of condom with most recent client</b>					
Street	80.5	72.5	72.5	83.6	0.351
Establishment	69.7	80.3	76.7	82.0	0.001
Total	74.0	77.2	75.0	82.6	0.002
<b>Consistent use of condom with the client in the past year</b>					
Street	57.5	52.5	51.5	71.8	0.002
Establishment	56.0	58.7	55.3	74.4	0.000
Total	56.6	56.2	53.8	73.4	0.000
<b>Consistent use of condom with regular clients in the past year</b>					
Street	65.7	67.8	59.9	74.5	0.176
Establishment	60.5	63.4	55.3	74.7	0.003
Total	62.5	65.1	57.2	74.6	0.001
<b>Consistent use of condom with non-paying regular partner in the past year</b>					
Street	17.4	6.1	7.4	12.8	0.279
Establishment	18.7	7.9	3.9	10.9	0.011
Total	18.1	7.2	5.4	11.6	0.008
<b>Consistent use of condom with partner other than client, husband, male friend in the past year</b>					
Street	*	56.3	61.4	74.0	0.010
Establishment	*	59.7	38.1	79.0	0.000
<b>Total</b>	*	<b>58.5</b>	<b>49.2</b>	<b>76.9</b>	<b>0.000</b>

\*data from 2004 survey not comparable

Note= N include those FSWs who had sexual contact with the specified partners in the past year

## 8.6 Comprehensive Knowledge of HIV/AIDS

Table 8.4 compares the comprehensive knowledge on ways of HIV/AIDS transmission among the respondents since the second round of IBBS. Data from the first round is incomparable, as these questions were not read out to the respondents in the first round as in the following three rounds. No significant change was noticed in the awareness level of the respondents across the three rounds with regards to “BCDEF”. However, the proportion of respondents who understood that they could prevent themselves from HIV by abstaining from sexual contact has significantly dropped since the second round. It is because of this indicator that the proportion of respondents with knowledge of all of ABC has decreased significantly since 2006 (55.2% in 2006 to 47.7% in 2011). Knowledge of BCDEF is also still quite low.

**Table 8.4: Trend Analysis of Knowledge of Modes of HIV/AIDS Transmission**

	2006	2008	2011	P Value
<b>A. Can protect themselves through abstinence from sexual contact</b>				
Street	70.0	71.0	57.1	0.003
Establishment	65.3	68.0	60.8	0.000
<b>Total</b>	<b>67.2</b>	<b>69.2</b>	<b>59.6</b>	<b>0.004</b>
<b>B. Can protect themselves through monogamous sexual</b>				
Street	82.0	79.0	81.5	0.000
Establishment	76.7	84.7	79.4	0.438
<b>Total</b>	<b>79.2</b>	<b>82.4</b>	<b>80.5</b>	<b>0.699</b>
<b>C Can protect themselves through condom use every time during sex</b>				
Street	86.5	86.0	91.2	0.119
Establishment	86.3	95.7	86.5	0.886
<b>Total</b>	<b>86.4</b>	<b>91.8</b>	<b>88.7</b>	<b>0.817</b>
<b>D. A healthy-looking person can be infected with HIV</b>				
Street	89.5	91.0	89.9	0.903
Establishment	93.3	93.0	87.6	0.019
<b>Total</b>	<b>91.8</b>	<b>92.2</b>	<b>88.8</b>	<b>0.055</b>
<b>E. A person can not get the HIV virus from mosquito bite</b>				
Street	45.5	39.0	47.1	0.770
Establishment	47.3	51.3	41.7	0.124
<b>Total</b>	<b>46.6</b>	<b>46.4</b>	<b>44.0</b>	<b>0.350</b>
<b>F. A person can not get HIV by sharing meal with an HIV infected person</b>				
Street	79.0	76.0	77.7	0.775
Establishment	85.0	86.0	82.0	0.268
<b>Total</b>	<b>82.6</b>	<b>82.0</b>	<b>80.5</b>	<b>0.315</b>
<b>Knowledge of ABC</b>				
Street	60.0	57.0	46.2	0.003
Establishment	52.0	59.3	48.5	0.30
<b>Total</b>	<b>55.2</b>	<b>58.4</b>	<b>47.6</b>	<b>0.008</b>
<b>Knowledge of BCDEF</b>				
Street	29.0	27.5	34.5	0.198
Establishment	31.0	42.3	27.6	0.268
<b>Total</b>	<b>30.2</b>	<b>36.4</b>	<b>30.4</b>	<b>0.950</b>

\*Data from 2004 survey not comparable.

2006, 2008 Rounds N=500(Street=200, Establishment=300), 2011 Round N=393 (Street=238, Establishment= 355)

## 8.7 Exposure to HIV/AIDS Program

Table 8.5 compares the exposure of the respondents to different components of HIV/AIDS prevention and awareness programs. In all the three rounds, a considerable proportion of the respondents had met or interacted with PE/OEs (83.2% in 2006, 59.6% in 2008, and 83.3% in 2011). Not much change is noticed in DIC visiting practices among the respondents since the second round. However, the practice of visiting an STI clinic and a VCT center has significantly improved over the years amongst street-based as well as establishment-based FSWs. On the contrary, participation in HIV/AIDS awareness raising program has significantly decreased since the second round of the survey (28% in 2006 to 9.3% in 2011).



**Table 8.5: Trend Analysis on Exposure to HIV/AIDS/STI related programs/activities**

	2006	2008	2011	P Value
<b>Met or discussed with OEs/PEs</b>				
Street	79.5	61.5	82.4	0.346
Establishment	85.7	58.3	84.4	0.868
<b>Total</b>	<b>83.2</b>	<b>59.6</b>	<b>83.3</b>	<b>0.464</b>
<b>Visited DIC</b>				
Street	35.0	26.5	43.7	0.040
Establishment	28.7	18.3	27.0	0.740
<b>Total</b>	<b>31.2</b>	<b>21.6</b>	<b>33.7</b>	<b>0.259</b>
<b>Visited STI clinic</b>				
Street	31.0	32.5	45.8	0.001
Establishment	26.0	24.7	42.5	0.000
<b>Total</b>	<b>28.0</b>	<b>27.8</b>	<b>43.8</b>	<b>0.000</b>
<b>Visited VCT center</b>				
Street	38.5	39.5	56.7	0.000
Establishment	21.3	28.3	51.3	0.000
<b>Total</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>32.8</b>	<b>53.5</b>	<b>0.000</b>
<b>Participated in HIV/AIDS awareness raising program</b>				
Street	32.0	5.5	11.3	0.000
Establishment	25.3	7.7	7.9	0.000
<b>Total</b>	<b>28.0</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>9.3</b>	<b>0.000</b>

\* no information relating to program exposure was collected in 2004 survey.

2006, 2008 Rounds N=500(Street=200, Establishment=300), 2011 Round N=393 (Street=238, Establishment= 355)

## CHAPTER 9.0: SUMMARY OF MAJOR FINDINGS

### **Prevalence of HIV and STIs**

Of the 593 respondents who participated in the survey, 10 (1.7%) were infected with HIV. This prevalence was only seen in street-based FSWs, where 4.2 percent of the (10/238) were HIV-positive. Of the 355 establishment-based FSWs who participated in the survey none were HIV-positive. Previous IBBS rounds found 2.2 percent in 2008, 1.4 percent in 2006, and 2 percent in 2004.

Syphilis history (RPR +ve and RPR titre < 1:8) was found in 2.5 percent and current syphilis (RPR+ and RPR titre  $\geq$  1:8) was 0.7 percent for both street and establishment-based FSWs. Four of the 238 street-based respondents (1.7%) were currently infected with high titre syphilis at the time of the survey, while no cases of active syphilis were detected among the 355 establishment-based respondents. The prevalence of both active syphilis and a history of syphilis has significantly decreased since the first round was conducted among street and establishment-based FSWs ( $p < 0.05$ )

### **Socio-Demographic Characteristics**

The age of the FSWs in the Kathmandu valley ranged from 16 to 48 years with a median age of 23 years. The average age of establishment-based respondents was younger than the street-based respondents.

Thirty-one percent of the respondents were illiterate with a higher proportion among street-based FSWs (41.2%) than among those based in establishments (24.2%).

Marriage at an early age is a prevalent trend and 64.4 percent of the married respondents were married between 15-19 years of age. A large proportion (75.7%) of FSWs had been married at least once and a higher proportion of the street-based FSWs (85%) were married compared to their establishment-based counterparts (70%). Overall, 52.4 percent of the respondents were currently married.

### **Child Birth and Use of Family Planning**

Eighty-one percent of the respondents who were or had been married had given birth to a child, 14.9 percent (67/449) had had at least one miscarriage, while 40.1 percent (180/449) had terminated/aborted pregnancies.

On family planning, all the respondents had heard of condoms and more than nine in ten respondents had heard about injectables (99.2%), pills (97.3%), female sterilization (97.1%), and male sterilization (96.8%). Additionally, 87 percent of the respondents had been using some form of family planning to delay or avoid pregnancy at the time of the survey. The majority of (86.4%) had been using condoms. Among other methods, some were using injectables (17.4%) or taking pills (10.9%),

### **Sexual Behavior and Condom Use**

Around 71 percent of the respondents had their first sexual contact from 15-19 years of age. There were some (20.4%) who had their first sexual contact between 11-14 years. The mean number of months for which the respondents were involved in the sex trade was 30 months, with 40.3 percent of them having entered the sex trade in the past year. A higher proportion of establishment-based FSWs had joined the sex industry in the past year (establishment 43.4%; street-based 35.7%). Both the street as well as establishment-based respondents had had an average of 5.5 sex partners during the prior to the survey. Around 83 percent of the respondents had used a condom during their last sexual contact with a client. The practice of consistent condom use was lowest with non-paying regular partners. Common reasons cited by both street and establishment-based FSWs for not using condoms with all partners were because the 'partner objected' and/or because they had 'used other contraceptives.' Additionally, it is evident that a slightly higher proportion of establishment-based FSWs used condoms consistently with clients (establishment 74.4%; street-based 71.8%), occasional sex partners (establishment 79%; street-based 74%), and regular clients (establishment 74.7%; street-based 74.5%) in the past year.

### **Condom Use and Accessibility**

Around five percent of the respondents had never used a condom. Additionally, 48.7 percent reported that they obtained free condoms all the time; 12.6 percent always purchased them; and 34.1 percent obtained them both by getting them for free and buying them. A slightly higher proportion of establishment-based FSWs (51.8%) than street-based FSWs (44.1%) reported that they had access to free condoms. Among those respondents who reported obtaining free condoms, 76.4 percent said that they received them from NGO/health workers or volunteers, 63.7 percent said that their clients brought condoms with them, and 24.6 percent reported that their peers/friends usually gave condoms to them.

### **Use of Alcohol and Drugs by FSWs and Clients**

The majority of respondents (76.6%) consumed alcohol in the past month (78.9% establishment-based FSWs and 73.1% street-based FSWs) and 29.2 percent of them (32.7% establishment and 23.9% street-based) consumed alcohol everyday. Around nine percent of the sex workers had also used drugs at least once in the past month. Additionally among the 593 sex workers, 19.7 percent said that they knew someone who injected drugs. Overall, two percent of the respondents (12/593) knew that their sex partners (including clients and spouse) injected drugs. Ten of the 593 respondents (1.7%) had injected drugs at least once. All of them had injected drugs for the first time when they were 15-19 years of age.

### **Source of Knowledge of HIV/AIDS**

Two of the total 593 respondents had not heard about HIV/AIDS. The most common sources of information on HIV/AIDS were television (89.7%), radio (87.5%), NGO staff (83.8%), and friends/relatives (83.6%).

The proportion of sex workers who reported that they were aware of A (abstinence from sex), B (being faithful to one partner or avoiding multiple sex partners), and C (consistent condom use or use of a condom during every sex act) as HIV preventive measures were 59.6 percent, 80.5 percent, and 88.7 percent, respectively. Overall, 47.7 percent of the respondents correctly identified all three A, B, and C as HIV-preventive measures. Further, among the respondents, 88.8 percent knew that a healthy-looking person can be infected with HIV (D), 44 percent of them identified that a person cannot get HIV from a mosquito bite (E), and 80.5

percent knew that one cannot get HIV by sharing a meal with an HIV-infected person (F). Overall, however, only 30.4 percent of the respondents were aware of all the five major indicators- BCDEF, low awareness of “E” i.e. mosquitoes do not carry the HIV virus has primarily contributed to this.

Additionally, 64.4 percent of the respondents (66.4% street-based and 63.1% establishment-based) had ever tested themselves for HIV.

### **Knowledge of STIs, Experienced Symptoms, and Treatment in the Past Year**

Genital discharge, itching vagina, genital blisters/ulcers, abdominal pain were some of the symptoms that the respondents perceived as symptoms of STIs. However, 6.7 percent of street-based and 2.5 percent of establishment-based FSWs could not identify any symptoms of STIs. Additionally, 43.5 percent of the FSWs (47.5% street-based and 40.8% establishment-based) had experienced at least one STI symptom in the past year; among them 77.5 percent had sought treatment from Voluntary Counseling and Testing (VCT) centers, clinics, or pharmacies.

Around 48 percent reported that they were experiencing at least one of the symptoms which they perceived to be a symptom of STIs at the time of survey. Out of 286 respondents who had experienced at least one STI symptom during the survey period, only 8.7 percent sought treatment.

### **Exposure to STI/HIV/AIDS awareness programs**

The majority of the respondents (83.8%) had met or interacted with peer educators/outreach educators (PEs/OEs) representing different organizations - about 34 percent of them had visited a drop-in center (DIC), around 44 percent had visited a STI clinic, and 53.5 percent of the FSWs had visited a Voluntary Counseling and Testing center (VCT). However, only 9.3 percent of the respondents had participated in any HIV/AIDS prevention/awareness programs. Additionally, 78.2 percent of respondents had been approached by and/or had received an explanation about the need for VCT centers by health workers/outreach workers before the survey.

In all the three rounds, a considerable proportion of the respondents had met or interacted with PE/OEs (83.2% in 2006, 59.6% in 2008, and 83.3% in 2011). There's been very little change in the DIC visiting practices among the respondents since the second round. However, the practice of visiting an STI clinic and a VCT center have significantly improved over the years. On the contrary, participation in HIV/AIDS awareness has significantly decreased since the second round of the survey (28% in 2006, 6.8% in 2008, and 9.3% in 2011).

Over 50 percent of those FSWs reached by OE/PEs have sought services run by HIV and AIDS programs such as VCT services (63.2%) and STI clinics (50.5%) in the past year. Additionally 39.8 percent of those who had met/interacted with PE/OE had been to a DIC while only 10.1 percent had participated in a HIV/AIDS awareness program.

## CHAPTER 10.0: CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

A series of IBBS surveys among most at risk populations such as sex workers, injecting drug users, migrant workers, and men who have sex with men have been conducted under the leadership of NCASC and the technical support of ASHA Project funded by USAID. This survey provides an insight into the estimated prevalence of HIV/STIs among these vulnerable groups and is also an assessment of general sexual and other risk behaviours prevalent in the survey populations. With concerted efforts and programs launched for HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention, there has been an immense effort to reach out to the MARPs. The survey reveals that the level of awareness of HIV/AIDS and risk behaviours among the survey population is quite high. However, an in-depth assessment of comprehensive knowledge about HIV/AIDS has revealed some knowledge gaps among street as well as establishment-based FSWs. This section briefly discusses conclusions derived from some of the study's most important discoveries.

**Socio demographic characteristics:** The age of the FSWs in the Kathmandu Valley ranged from 16 to 48 years with a median age of 23 years. The establishment-based respondents are likely to be younger than the street-based respondents. Illiterate respondents were 31 percent and a higher proportion of the street-based FSWs (41.2%) than those based in establishments (24.2%) were illiterate. Marriage at quite an early age was a trend, as 64.4 percent of the respondents who had ever been married, were married between 15-19 years. A total of 66.4 percent of the FSWs (72.7% street, 62.3% establishment) reported that they had dependents, either children or adults, on their income.

**HIV/Syphilis prevalence:** Of 593 respondents who participated in the survey, 10 (1.7%) were infected with HIV. The prevalence was seen among 4.2 percent of the street-based FSWs (10/238) while none of the 355 establishment-based FSWs who participated in the survey were HIV positive.

Both active syphilis as well as syphilis history was higher amongst street-based FSWs. Four of the 238 street-based respondents (1.7%) were currently infected with high titre syphilis at the time of the survey while no case of active syphilis was detected among any of the 355 establishment-based respondents. At the same time, 4.2 percent (10/238) of the street-based sex workers had a history of syphilis, while 1.4 percent (5/355) of establishment-based respondents had syphilis history with <1:8 titre.

**Association of Socio-Demographic Characteristics with HIV Infection:** It was observed that FSWs belonging to the older age group ( $\geq 20$ ) were at a significantly higher risk of HIV infection than their younger counterparts ( $p < 0.05$ ). Furthermore, the FSWs who had been in the sex trade for two or more years were at a significantly higher risk of HIV infection ( $p < 0.05$ ).

**Knowledge on HIV/AIDS:** The level of knowledge on HIV/AIDS was found to be relatively satisfactory. However, there were two respondents who had never heard about HIV/AIDS. At the same time only 47.7 percent of the respondents had knowledge of the entire ABC to prevent contracting HIV/AIDS (abstinence from sex - A, being faithful to one sexual partner - B and consistent condom use - C protect from HIV). A smaller proportion of the respondents (30.4%) knew the entire BCDEF (A healthy looking person can be HIV positive - D, and a person can not get the HIV virus from mosquito bite - E, and sharing meal with HIV positive person - F).

No significant change is noticed in the awareness level of the respondents across the three rounds with regard to “BCDEF”. However, the proportion of respondents who understood that they could prevent HIV by abstaining from sexual contact has significantly dropped since the first round. Due to this, the indicator on the proportion of respondents with knowledge of all of ABC has decreased significantly since 2006 (55.2% in 2006, 58.4% in 2008 and 47.7% in 2011).

**HIV test:** Although 71.8 percent of the respondents knew about a facility in their community where they could have a confidential HIV test, only 64.4 percent had ever taken a HIV test.

**Knowledge of Condoms:** While all of the respondents knew about male condoms, only 46 percent of them had heard about female condoms. Radio and television were the most popular sources of information on condoms for street as well as establishment-based respondents. Only four percent of those respondents who had heard about female condoms had ever used one.

**Condom accessibility and use:** Consistent condom use was reported lowest (11.6%) with non-paying regular partners compared to clients (73.4%), regular clients (74.6%), and other occasional partners (76.9%) in the year preceding the survey. The respondents mostly had easy access to condoms - 82.6 percent of them could get one in 10 minutes or less.. Additionally 48.7 percent obtained free condoms all of the time. A slightly higher proportion of establishment-based FSWs (51.8%) versus street-based FSWs (44.1%) reported that they use free condoms all the time.

**STI symptoms experienced:** Knowledge of STI symptoms was quite high among the sex workers in the Kathmandu Valley. Around 44 percent of the respondents (47.5% street-based and 40.8% establishment-based) had experienced at least one STI symptom in the year preceding the survey; 77.5 percent of them had visited different clinics/pharmacy and health centers to seek treatment.

**Violence against FSWs:** Violence against FSWs is not an uncommon phenomenon. These survey findings have shown that street-based FSWs are more likely to face different forms of violence compared to those based in different establishments. A higher proportion of street-based FSWs were subjected to objectionable activities such as forceful sex (27.3% street-based and 18.3% establishment-based); were physically assaulted (21% street-based and 15.8%); had clients performing objectionable activities (34% street-based and 26.2% establishment-based).

**Exposure to HIV/AIDS related program/activity:** The respondents are most likely to meet and interact with PE/OEs as 83.8 percent of them had done so in the past year. A considerable proportion had also paid a visit to VCT center (53.5%) followed by visit to a STI clinic (43.8%). Participation in any of the HIV/AIDS programs was the lowest (9.3%). Although, not much variation is noticed between street-based FSWs and establishment-based FSWs with regards to HIV/AIDS program exposure in the past year, the street-based FSWs are more likely to visit a DIC than their establishment counterparts (43.7% street-based and 27% establishment-based had visited a DIC in the past year). Further, over 50 percent of those FSWs reached by OE/PEs have sought services run by HIV programs like VCT services (63.2%) and STI clinic (50.5%) in the past year. Additionally 39.8 percent of those who had met/interacted with PE/OE had been to a DIC while only 10.1 percent had participated in a HIV/AIDS awareness program.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The survey shows that street-based FSWs are at greater risk of HIV and syphilis than those who work in establishments. It is important that interpersonal behavior change communication and availability and utilization to HIV and STI services continue for all FSWs, with a greater focus on reaching those who are street-based.
2. There are a high of new FSWs joining the profession annually, with a greater number among establishment-based FSWs. Therefore, many of the girls and young women entering sex work for the first time may not be informed about the risks of HIV and STI, locations of HIV related service sites and the importance of consistent condom use with all partners. Continuous education and information sharing must be available for all FSWs. Additional community and peer-based efforts are required to identify and reach new FSWs early on and a special prevention package and extra support is needed for new comers. Further investigation is required to understand the factors behind these findings.
3. A high proportion of FSWs are under 20 years and in Kathmandu they are more likely to be establishment-based (30%). Internal migration is high, as most are from outside the surveyed districts (87%), which puts them at high risk of HIV and STI and vulnerable to other health and socio-economic problems. Youth-and migrant-friendly services for FSWs, that give them access to information on HIV and STI, sexual and reproductive health services and psycho-social support, should be made available. Linkages should be established for alternative livelihood opportunities. Establishment managers and peers need to be mobilized to provide HIV prevention information and support to new comers.
4. Almost half of the FSWs in Kathmandu are currently married, and HIV prevalence was seen among those ever married, which means their husbands are also at risk of HIV infection if safer sex is not always practiced. About 40% of FSWs in had ever terminated pregnancies, an indication of unwanted pregnancies and the need for family planning counseling. There is a need to provide education on HIV and STI to these FSWs, along with the importance of consistent and correct condom use for dual protection with all partners, family planning counseling and access to services and education on prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT) of HIV. Those who are using other forms of contraception need to know about and use condoms for HIV and STI protection.
5. Knowledge of female condoms is moderate at around 50%, although use is very low (about 4%) and female condoms are not widely available free of cost. Education should be provided on female condoms, along with increased availability and linkages with social marketing.
6. Consistent condom use is reasonably high among FSWs with their paying and occasional partners, more than 70% in Kathmandu, and is significantly lower among their non-paying regular partners i.e. husbands and boyfriends is 12%. This puts both them and their partners at risk of HIV and STI. The emphasis on current consistent condom use practices and focus on improved communication and negotiation among couples, especially non-paying regular partners, needs to be strengthened through continuous education outreach. Also condom distribution should be adequate for the need.

7. Condom carrying behavior is still low among FSWs, around 30% among street-based FSWs in Kathmandu and establishment-based is even lower at 17%. However, the trend is increasing significantly among establishment-based FSWs. This implies that greater emphasis is required on the importance of condom-carrying behavior through improved outreach education and communication and negotiation skills for FSWs. Strengthened efforts are required to create an enabling environment for condom-carrying behavior.
8. Although knowledge on HIV and STI is high, the health seeking behavior of FSWs is comparatively low especially for the uptake of STI services. Outreach education and referral to services should be strengthened and a comprehensive package on SRH needs of FSWs should be developed.
9. Street-based FSWs are more vulnerable to various forms of violence compared to establishment-based FSWs. They are more likely to be subjected to forceful sex (27.3% street-based and 18.3% establishment-based), to be physically assaulted (21% street-based and 15.8% establishment-based) and to have clients performing objectionable acts (34% street-based and 26.2% establishment-based). Prevention, treatment and care programs designed for FSWs must be made available, along with access to legal services.
10. Exposure to multiple risks is observed such as injecting drugs, frequent alcohol consumption and/or sex partners being IDUs. Hence, FSWs with multiple risks need to be identified by programs and a national comprehensive package should be designed to include components on all the ways to reduce the risk of HIV e.g. prevention of sexual transmission, harm reduction etc.



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## **ANNEXES**

## ANNEX – 1: INDICATORS FOR MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF HIV PREVENTION INTERVENTION

<b>Prevention 1: HIV related risk and transmission among Female Sex Workers</b>	<b>Street (N=238) % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Establishment (N=355) % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Total (N=593) % (95% CI)</b>
<b>Impact/Outcome Indicators</b>			
Percentage of FSWs who are HIV infected	4.2 (1.7-6.8)	0.0 (0)	1.7 (0.7-2.7)
Percentage of FSWs reporting the use of a condom with their most recent client	83.6 (78.9-88.3)	82.0 (78.0-86.0)	82.6 (79.6-85.7)
Percentage of FSWs reporting consistent condom use with their clients over the past 12 months	71.8 (66.1-77.6)	74.4 (69.8-78.9)	73.4 (69.8-76.9)
Percentage of FSWs who both correctly identify ways of preventing the sexual transmission of HIV and who reject major misconceptions about HIV transmission	34.4 (28.4-40.5)	27.6 (23.0-32.3)	30.4 (26.7-34.1)
<b>Output/Coverage Indicators</b>			
Percentage of FSWs reached with HIV prevention service programs (BCC with OE/PE or DIC or STI Clinics or VCT or community events / trainings or drug treatment or rehabilitation)	83.6 (78.1-88.2)	86.8 (83.2-90.3)	85.5 (82.7-88.3)
Percentage of FSWs reached with HIV prevention programs (Knows where to receive HIV test and received condoms)	60.5 (54.3-66.7)	59.7 (54.6-64.8)	60.0 (56.1-64.0)
Percentage of FSWs who received an HIV test in the last 12 months and who know their results	55.5 (49.1-61.8)	54.1 (48.9-59.3)	54.6 (50.6-58.6)

## ANNEX – 2: RESULTS OF SELECTED ISSUES IN TABLES

**Table 1: Reason for not Using Condom uring Last Sex with Different Types of Partners**

	Regular Client						Client						Husband or Living in Male Partner						Other Partner											
	Street		Estd.		Total		Street		Estd.		Total		Street		Estd.		Total		Street		Estd.		Total							
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%						
<i>Reason for not using condom during last sexual contacts with</i>																														
1. Partner objected	23	71.9	36	66.7	59	68.6	23	59.0	42	65.6	65	63.1	32	30.5	67	41.4	99	37.1	13	86.7	12	66.7	25	75.8						
2. Used other contraceptive	6	18.8	12	22.2	18	20.9	14	35.9	26	40.6	40	38.8	47	44.8	62	38.3	109	40.8	0	0.0	6	33.3	6	18.2						
3. Didn't think of it	1	3.1	2	3.7	3	3.5	5	12.8	10	15.6	15	14.6	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0						
4. Not available	0	0.0	3	5.6	3	3.5	5	12.8	6	9.4	11	10.7	2	1.9	0	0.0	2	0.7	1	6.7	0	0.0	1	3.0						
5. Trust partner	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	13	12.4	20	12.3	33	12.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0						
6. Wish to have a child	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	15	14.3	19	11.7	34	12.7	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0						
7. Client offered more money	3	9.4	0	0.0	3	3.5	4	10.3	7	10.9	11	10.7	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0						
8. Others	2	6.3	1	1.9	3	3.5	3	7.7	6	9.4	9	8.7	5	4.8	4	2.5	9	3.4	1	6.7	1	5.6	2	6.1						
<b>Total</b>	<b>32</b>	*	<b>54</b>	*	<b>86</b>	*	<b>39</b>	*	<b>64</b>	*	<b>103</b>	*	<b>105</b>	*	<b>162</b>	*	<b>267</b>	*	<b>15</b>	*	<b>18</b>	*	<b>33</b>	*						

**Table 2: Reason for not Using Condom Consistently during all Sexual Contact with Different Types of Partners**

	Regular Client						Client						Husband or Living in Male Partner						Other Partner											
	Street		Estd		Total		Street		Estd		Total		Street		Estd		Total		Street		Estd		Total							
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%						
<i>Reason for not using condom during all sexual contacts with</i>																														
1. Partner objected	38	77.6	62	83.8	100	81.3	58	86.6	71	78.0	129	81.6	58	49.6	104	57.5	162	54.4	25	92.6	25	83.3	50	87.7						
2. Used other contraceptive	17	34.7	26	35.1	43	35.0	23	34.3	32	35.2	55	34.8	53	45.3	87	48.1	140	47.0	7	25.9	12	40.0	19	33.3						
3. Didn't think of it	2	4.1	7	9.5	9	7.3	6	9.0	11	12.1	17	10.8	3	2.6	4	2.2	7	2.3	2	7.4	4	13.3	6	10.5						
4. Not available	1	2.0	3	4.1	4	3.3	7	10.4	5	5.5	12	7.6	4	3.4	5	2.8	9	3.0	4	14.8	3	10.0	7	12.3						
5. Trust partner	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	36	30.8	52	28.7	88	29.5	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0						
6. Wish to have a child	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	19	16.2	23	12.7	42	14.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0						
7. Client offered more money	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	10	14.9	15	16.5	25	15.8	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0						
8. Others	12	24.5	9	12.2	21	17.1	9	13.4	11	12.1	20	12.7	5	4.3	18	9.9	23	7.7	1	3.7	7	23.3	8	14.0						
<b>Total</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>298</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>*</b>						

**Table 3: Knowledge of Partners being IDUs**

Knowledge of sex partner being IDU		Street		Establishment		Total	
Respondents' husband inject drugs*		n	%	n	%	n	%
Yes		1	33.3	0	0.0	1	33.3
No		2	66.7	0	0.0	2	66.7
<b>Total</b>		<b>3</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Respondents have regular clients who injects drugs**		Street		Establishment		Total	
Yes		3	100.0	2	28.6	5	50.0
No		0	0.0	5	71.4	5	50.0
<b>Total</b>		<b>3</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Ever known that clients injects drugs***		Street		Establishment		Total	
Yes		4	100.0	7	87.5	11	91.7
No		0	0.0	1	12.5	1	8.3
<b>Total</b>		<b>4</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>100.0</b>

\* n= married respondent with knowledge on any of sex partner being IDUs.

\*\* n= respondents having regular client with knowledge on any of sex partners being IDUs.

\*\*\*n=respondents with knowledge on any of sex partners being IDUs.

**Table 4: Injecting History and Practice**

Injecting Practice		Street		Establishment		Total	
Respondents had injected drugs in the past one month		n	%	n	%	n	%
Yes		2	66.7	6	100.0	8	88.9
No		1	33.3	0	0.0	1	11.1
<b>Total</b>		<b>3</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Respondents had injected drugs in the past one week		Street		Establishment		Total	
Yes		1	50.0	5	83.3	6	75.0
No		1	50.0	1	16.7	2	25.0
<b>Total</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Respondents had last used a needle or syringe that had previously been used by someone else		Street		Establishment		Total	
Yes		0	0.0	1	20.0	1	16.7
No		1	100.0	4	80.0	5	83.3
<b>Total</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Frequency of use of needle or syringe that had previously been used by someone else in the past one month		Street		Establishment		Total	
Every Time		0	0.0	1	20.0	1	16.7
Sometimes		0	0.0	1	20.0	1	16.7
Never		1	100.0	3	60.0	4	66.7
<b>Total</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Frequency of sharing used needle in the past one-week		Street		Establishment		Total	
Almost every-times		0	0.0	1	20.0	1	16.7
Never used		1	100.0	4	80.0	5	83.3
<b>Total</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Table 5: Frequency of Drug Injection**

	Street		Establishment		Total	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>Frequency of drug injections within the past one-week</b>						
2-3 times a week	1	50.0	2	33.3	3	37.5
4-6 times a week	0	0.0	1	16.7	1	12.5
Once a day	0	0.0	1	16.7	1	12.5
2-3 times a day	0	0.0	1	16.7	1	12.5
Not injected in the last week	1	50.0	1	16.7	2	25.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Frequency of drug injection on the last injected day</b>						
Once	2	100.0	3	50.0	5	62.5
2 times	0	0.0	2	33.3	2	25.0
Missing	0	0.0	1	16.7	1	12.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Frequency of drug injecting on the previous day</b>						
Not injected	2	100.0	2	33.3	4	50.0
Once	0	0.0	2	33.3	2	25.0
2 times	0	0.0	2	33.3	2	25.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Table 6: Injecting behaviors of Female Sex Workers**

	Street (N=2)		Establishment(N=6)		Total(N=8)	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>Ever switched from injecting to oral drugs within the last month</b>						
Yes	1	50.0	2	33.3	3	37.5
No	1	50.0	6	66.7	5	62.5
<b>Switching from sharing to non sharing practice in the past one year</b>						
Yes	1	50.0	3	50.0	4	50.0
No	1	50.0	3	50.0	4	50.0
<b>Access to new or unused syringe /needle at the time of need</b>						
Yes	2	100.0	4	66.7	6	75.0
No	0	0.0	2	33.3	2	25.0
<b>Respondent ever received/ receiving treatment because of being drug user</b>						
Received treatment but not now	1	50.0	1	16.7	2	25.0
Had never received treatment	1	50.0	5	83.3	6	75.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>100.0</b>



**Table 7: Injecting behaviors of Female Sex Workers in the Past Week**

	Street( N=1)		Establishment(N=5)		Total(N=6)	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>Frequency of sharing syringe/needle picked from public place in the past one-week:</b>						
Sometimes	0	0.0	1	20.0	1	16.7
Never	1	100.0	4	80.0	5	83.3
<b>Sharing of syringe/needle with different persons in the past one -week:</b>						
With a friend	0	0.0	1	20.0	1	16.7
Never Shared	1	100.0	4	80.0	5	83.3
<b>Frequency of different partners with whom syringe/needle was shared in the past one-week:</b>						
Alone injected	1	100.0	4	80.0	5	83.3
3 persons	0	0.0	1	20.0	1	16.7
<b>Frequency of giving self used syringe/needle to someone else in the past one-week:</b>						
Almost every-times	0	0.0	1	20.0	1	16.7
Never	1	100.0	4	80.0	5	83.3
<b>Ever injected with a pre-filled syringe un the past one-week:</b>						
No	1	100.0	5	100.0	6	100.0
<b>Taking drugs by syringe squirted by someone else from their used syringe in the past one-week:</b>						
Sometimes	0	0.0	1	20.0	1	16.7
Never	1	100.0	4	80.0	5	83.3
<b>Sharing of Cooker/Vail/Container, Cotton/Filter or Rinse Water in the past one -week:</b>						
Almost every-times	0	0.0	1	20.0	1	16.7
Never	1	100.0	4	80.0	5	83.3
<b>Drawing up the drug solution from a Common Container in the past one -week:</b>						
Sometimes	0	0.0	1	20.0	1	16.7
Never	1	100.0	4	80.0	5	83.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Table 8: Problems/Symptoms for Which Respondents Received Treatment during Past-year**

Problem/Symptoms	Treatment sought					
	Street		Establishment		Total	
Problems/Symptoms for which respondents received treatment during past-year:	n	%	n	%	n	%
Pain in the lower abdomen	40	75.5	53	74.6	93	75.0
Pain during urination	23	69.7	38	79.2	61	75.3
Frequent urination	16	80.0	20	76.9	36	78.3
Pain during sex	27	84.4	48	81.4	75	82.4
Ulcer or sore in the genital area	18	81.8	29	87.9	47	85.5
Itching in or around the vagina	62	80.5	64	82.1	126	81.3
Vaginal odor or smell	47	83.9	62	81.6	109	82.6
Vaginal bleeding (unusual)	3	60.0	3	100.0	6	75.0
Unusual heavy vaginal discharge and foul vaginal discharge	53	80.3	64	77.1	117	78.5
Genital Warts	3	60.0	6	85.7	9	75.0
Others	0	0.0	2	100.0	2	66.7

**Table 9: HIV Positive Respondents who Had Taken Up HIV Test Before and Knew their Status**

HIV Positive respondents who knew their status	Street (N=10)		Establishment (N=0)		Total (N=10)	
	n (%)		n (%)		n (%)	
<b>Know Status</b>						
Yes	8	80.0	0	0.0	8	80.0
No (test not done)	2	20.0	0	0.0	2	20.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Table 10: HIV and Syphilis Prevalence among Female Sex Workers**

STI Infection	First Round (2004)			Second Round (2006)			Third Round (2008)			Fourth Round (2011)			Test of Significance of the three years trend *
	Street (N=200)	Establishment (N=300)	Total (N=500)	Street (N=200)	Establishment (N=300)	Total (N=500)	Street (N=200)	Establishment (N=300)	Total (N=500)	Street (N=238)	Establishment (N=355)	Total (N=593)	
	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	
HIV+ve	4 (2.0)	6 (2.0)	10 (2.0)	4 (2.0)	3 (1.0)	7 (1.4)	7 (3.5)	4 (1.3)	11 (2.2)	10(4.2)	0(0.0)	10(1.7)	0.938
Active Syphilis	18 (9.0)	12 (4.0)	30 (6.0)	12 (6.0)	3 (1.0)	15 (3.0)	5 (2.5)	0 (0.0)	5 (1.0)	4(1.7)	0(0.0)	4(0.7)	0.000
Syphilis History	36 (18.0)	8 (2.7)	44 (8.8)	33 (16.5)	16 (5.3)	49 (9.8)	9 (4.5)	2 (0.7)	11 (2.2)	10(4.2)	5(1.4)	15(2.5)	0.000

p value calculated for total percent over the years

**Table 11: Distribution of Respondents reached by OE/PE by Use of Other Services**

Respondents reached by services in past year	Street		Establishment		Total	
	n=196		n=301		n=497	
<b>DIC visit</b>	n	%	n	%	n	%
Yes	104	53.1	94	31.2	198	39.8
No	92	46.9	207	68.8	299	60.2
<b>STI clinic visit</b>						
Yes	107	54.6	144	47.8	251	50.5
No	89	45.4	157	52.2	246	49.5
<b>VCT visit</b>						
Yes	134	68.4	180	59.8	314	63.2
No	62	31.6	121	40.2	183	36.8
<b>Participated in HIV/AIDS awareness program activities</b>						
Yes	27	13.8	27	9.0	54	10.9
No	169	86.2	274	91.0	443	89.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>497</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Table 12: Injectingdrug history trend among Female Sex Workers**

Injecting drug	First Round (2004)			Second Round (2006)			Third Round (2008)			Fourth Round (2011)		
	Street (N=200)	Establishment (N=300)	Total (N=500)	Street (N=200)	Establishment (N=300)	Total (N=500)	Street (N=200)	Establishment (N=300)	Total (N=500)	Street (N=238)	Establishment (N=355)	Total (N=593)
	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)
Ever injected	-	-	-	2 (1)	2 (0.7)	4 (0.8)	1 (0.5)	1 (0.3)	2 (0.4)	4 (1.7)	6 (1.7)	10 (1.7)
Injected in last 12 months	2 (1.0)	4(1.3)	6(1.2)	2 (1)	1 (0.3)	3 (0.6)	0	1 (0.3)	1 (0.2)	3 (1.3)	6 (1.7)	9 (1.5)

## ANNEX – 3 FSW QUESTIONNAIRE

### Integrated Biological and Behavioral Surveillance Survey Among Female Sex Workers in Kathmandu and Pokhara

**CONFIDENTIAL**

Namaste! My name is ....., I am here from New ERA to collect data for a research study. This study is being conducted by National Centre for AIDS and STD Control (NCASC), Ministry of Health and Population with support from New ERA and Intrepid/Nepal. FHI's ASHA Project and USAID are providing technical assistance for the study. As explained in the consent taking process during this interview, I will ask you some questions that will be about sexual behavior, use and promotion of condoms, STI/HIV/AIDS and drug use. I believe that you will provide correct information. We will also draw about 5-7 ml blood for HIV and syphilis testing. If you have any STI symptoms, we will provide treatment for free of charge. We also will treat for syphilis on the basis of RPR test on the same day of interview. The information given by you will be strictly treated as confidential. Nobody will know whatever we talk because your name will not be mentioned in this form and blood sample. It will take about 60 minutes to complete the interview and blood sample collection and another 60 minutes if you want to be treated for syphilis and get the HIV test result on the same day. It depends on your wish to participate in this survey or not. You are free to quit the survey any time you want to. You do not have to answer questions that you do not want to answer. But I hope, you will participate in this survey and make it success by providing correct answers of all the questions.

Would you be willing to participate?

1. Yes                      2. No

Signature of Interviewer: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: /\_\_ / \_\_/2067  
DD/ MM

Establishment based:  1

Street based:  2

#### **Definition of Respondent**

*"Women aged 16 years and above reporting having been paid in cash or kind for sex with a male within the last 6 months."*

Has someone interviewed you from New ERA with a questionnaire in last few weeks?

1. Yes                      2. No (Continue Interview)



When?

\_\_\_\_\_ Days ago (**STOP INTERVIEW**)

Name of interviewer: \_\_\_\_\_ Code No. of Interviewer:

Checked by the supervisor: Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: /\_\_ / \_\_/2067  
DD/ MM

Data Entry # 1: Clerk's name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: /\_\_ / \_\_/2067  
DD/ MM

Data Entry # 2: Clerk's name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: /\_\_ / \_\_/2067  
DD/ MM

#### **1.0 GENERAL INFORMATION**



Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories	Skip to
101	Respondent ID No.	<div style="border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 100px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div>	
101.1	Write down how you contacted the respondent?	<i>Met personally</i> ..... 1 <i>Through known FSW</i> .....2 <i>Through PE</i> .....3 <i>Through ORE from Red Cross</i> .....4 <i>Other (Specify)</i> ..... 96	
102	Where is the respondent (sex worker) based?	<i>Disco</i> ..... 1 <i>Dance Restaurant</i> .....2 <i>Cabin Restaurant</i> .....3 <i>Call Girl</i> .....4 <i>Massage Parlor</i> .....5 <i>House Settlement</i> .....6 <i>Bhatti Pasal</i> .....7 <i>Street</i> .....8 <i>Garment/Carpet Factory</i> .....9 <i>Squatter/Refugee</i> ..... 10 <i>Restaurant/Tea shop</i> ..... 11 <i>Dohori Restaurant</i> ..... 12 <i>Hotel/Lodge</i> ..... 13 <i>Other (Specify)</i> ..... 96	
103	Interview Starting Time Interview Completion Time (fill at the end of interview)	<hr/> <hr/>	

Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories	Skip to
104	Where were you born?	<p><i>District</i> _____ <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/></p> <p><i>VDC/Municipality</i> _____</p> <p><i>Ward No.</i> ..... <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/></p> <p><i>Village/Tole</i> _____</p>	

Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories	Skip to
105	Where do you live now?  <b>(Name of Current Place of Residence)</b>	<i>District</i> ..... <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>  <i>VDC/Municipality</i> .....  <i>Ward No.</i> ..... <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>  <i>Village/Tole</i> .....	
106	How long have you been living continuously at this location?	<i>Month</i> ..... <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <i>Always (since birth)</i> ..... 0 → <i>Since less than a month</i> ..... 995	201
107	Before you moved here, where did you live?	<i>District</i> ..... <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>  <i>VDC/Municipality</i> .....  <i>Ward No.</i> ..... <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>  <i>Village/Tole</i> .....	

**2.0 PERSONAL INFORMATION**

Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories	Skip to
201	How old are you?	Age ..... <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> (Write the completed years)	
202	What is your caste? (Specify Ethnic Group/Caste)	Ethnicity/Caste _____ (Specify) Code No..... <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	
203	What is your educational status? <u>Code:</u> Passed class 1-9 = 01-09 Test Passed = 9 S.L.C. passed = 10 Passed certificate/12 class = 11 Passed B.A and above =12	Illiterate ..... 0 Literate ..... 19 Grade..... <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> (Write the completed grade)	
204	What is your present marital status?	Married..... 1 Divorced/Permanently Separated..... 2 Widow..... 3 Never married ..... 4	→ 204.2 204.3 →
204.1	How old were you when you got divorced/separated/widowed?	Age ..... <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> (Write the completed years)	→ 204.3 →
204.2	Are you presently living with your husband?	Yes..... 1 No..... 2	→ 205

Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories	Skip to
204.3	Who are you living with now?  <b>(Multiple answers. DO NOT READ the possible answers)</b>	<i>Male friend</i> ..... 1  <i>Relatives</i> ..... 2  <i>Other females</i> ..... 3  <i>Children</i> ..... 4  <i>Alone</i> ..... 5  <i>Others (Specify)</i> ..... 96	
<i>[Note: If answer in Q. 204 is 'never married' Go to Q. 205.13]</i>			
205	At what age were you married for the first time?	<i>Years old</i> ..... <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>  <i>(Write Complete Years)</i>	
205.1	Have you ever given birth to children? (Include all live births even those who died after sometime, and also still births)	<i>Yes</i> ..... 1  <i>No</i> ..... 2	205.3 
205.2	If yes, how many were live births? (Include all live births even those who died after sometime but don't include still births)	<i>Sons</i> ..... <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>  <i>Daughters</i> ..... <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	
205.3	Have you had miscarriage during your any pregnancies?	<i>Yes</i> ..... 1  <i>No</i> ..... 2	205.5 
205.4	If yes, total number of miscarriage	<i># Terminations</i> ..... <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	



Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories	Skip to
205.5	Have you done termination/abortion of your any pregnancies?	Yes..... 1 No..... 2 →	205.8
205.6	If yes, total number of pregnancy terminated/aborted	# Terminations..... <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	
205.7	Who assisted you at last abortion	Doctor..... 1 Nurse ..... 2 Midwife ..... 3 TBA..... 4 Traditional healer ..... 5 Friend..... 6 Nobody ..... 7 Others (Specify)..... 96 Don't know ..... 98	
205.8	Do you want to have a child in the next two years?	Yes..... 1 No..... 2	
205.8.1	Do you want to have a child in the next 6 months?	Yes..... 1 No..... 2	
205.9	Were you pregnant in the last 12 months? (Include currently pregnant women too)	Yes..... 1 No..... 2 →	205.13
205.10	(Don't ask 205.10, 205.11 and 205.12 to those who are currently pregnant and skip to 205.13 ) If Yes, What was the outcome of the last pregnancy? If the response is 3 or 4 check Q.N. 205.6 or 205.7)	Live Birth..... 1 Still Birth ..... 2 Spontaneous abortion ..... 3 → Forced Abortion..... 4 →	205.13 205.13

Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories	Skip to
205.11	Who assisted your last delivery?	<i>Doctor</i> ..... 1 <i>Nurse</i> ..... 2 <i>Midwife</i> ..... 3 <i>TBA</i> ..... 4 <i>Traditional healer</i> ..... 5 <i>Friend</i> ..... 6 <i>Nobody</i> ..... 7 <i>Others (Specify)</i> ..... 96 <i>Don't know</i> ..... 98	
205.12	Where did you deliver your last child?	Home ..... 1 Health Post (HP) ..... 2 Sub Health Post (SHP)..... 3 Primary Health Center (PHC)..... 4 District Hospital ..... 5 Other (Specify) ..... 96	
205.13	<p>Now I would like to talk about family planning – the various ways or methods that a couple can use to delay or avoid a pregnancy</p> <p>Which ways or methods have you heard about?</p> <p><i>(Lead the each Questions, Multiple answers Possible)</i></p>		
01	FEMALE STERILIZATION- women can have an operation to avoid having any more children	<i>Yes</i> ..... 1 <i>No</i> ..... 2	
02	MALE STERILIZATION- men can have an operation to avoid having any more children	<i>Yes</i> ..... 1 <i>No</i> ..... 2	
03	PILL- women can take a pill every day to avoid becoming pregnant	<i>Yes</i> ..... 1 <i>No</i> ..... 2	
04	IUD – women can have a loop or coil placed inside tem by a doctor or a nurse	<i>Yes</i> ..... 1 <i>No</i> ..... 2	

Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories	Skip to
05	INJECTABLES – women can have an injection by a health provider that stops them from becoming pregnant for one or more months	Yes..... 1 No..... 2	
06	IMPLANTS- women can have several small rods placed in their upper arm by a doctor or a nurse which can prevent pregnancy for one or more years Implants:	Yes..... 1 No..... 2	
07	CONDOM – men can put a rubber sheath on their penis before sexual intercourse	Yes..... 1 No..... 2	
08	RHYTHM METHOD – Every month that a woman is sexually active she can avoid pregnancy by not having sexual intercourse on the days of the month she is not likely to get pregnant Rhythm Method:	Yes..... 1 No..... 2	
09	WITHDRAWAL – Men can be careful and pull out before climax	Yes..... 1 No..... 2	
10	Have you heard any other ways or method that women or men can use to avoid pregnancy?	Yes..... 1 _____ (Specify) _____ (Specify) No..... 2	
205.14	Are you currently doing something or using any method to delay or avoid getting pregnant?	Yes..... 1 No..... 2	206 →
205.15	If yes, which method are you using currently? <b>(Multiple answers possible, Do NOT READ the Possible answers)</b>		
01	FEMALE STERILIZATION- women can have an operation to avoid having any more children	Yes..... 1 No..... 2	
02	MALE STERILIZATION- men can have an operation to avoid having any more children	Yes..... 1 No..... 2	
03	PILL- women can take a pill every day to avoid becoming pregnant	Yes..... 1 No..... 2	

Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories	Skip to
04	IUD – women can have a loop or coil placed inside tem by a doctor or a nurse	Yes..... 1 No..... 2	
05	INJECTABLES – women can have an injection by a health provider that stops them from becoming pregnant for one or more months	Yes..... 1 No..... 2	
06	IMPLANTS- women can have several small rods placed in their upper arm by a doctor or a nurse which can prevent pregnancy for one or more years	Yes..... 1 No..... 2	
07	CONDOM – men can put a rubber sheath on their penis before sexual intercourse	Yes..... 1 No..... 2	
08	RHYTHM METHOD – Every month that a woman is sexually active she can avoid pregnancy by not having sexual intercourse on the days of the month she is not likely to get pregnant	Yes..... 1 No..... 2	
09	WITHDRAWAL – Men can be careful and pull out before climax	Yes..... 1 No..... 2	
10	Are you currently using any method that women or men can use to avoid pregnancy?	Yes..... 1 _____ (Specify) _____ (Specify) No..... 2	
	<b>Check Q. N. 204, if it is divorced/permanently/separated (2), widow (3) or never married (4), skip to Q.N. 207</b>		
206	Does your husband have co-wife now?	Yes..... 1 No..... 2	
207	Are there people who are dependent on your income?	Yes..... 1 No..... 2	208 →

Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories	Skip to
207.1	How many are dependent on your income? <b>(Adults are those who have completed 18 years)</b>	<p>Adults ..... <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/></p> <p>Children ..... <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/></p>	
208	How long have you been exchanging sexual intercourse for money or other things? <b>(If answer is less than 6 months stop interview)</b>	<p>Months ..... <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/></p> <p>Don't know.....98</p>	
208.1	Did you have any sexual intercourse during past 12 months?	<p>Yes..... 1</p> <p>No..... 2</p>	<p><b>Stop Interview</b></p> <p>→</p>
209	How many months have you been working here as a sex worker at this place?	<p>Months ..... <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/></p>	
210	Where else have you worked as a sex worker? <b>(For example: Bhatti shop, Cabin Restaurant, Discotheques etc.)</b> <b>Mention location in the space provided</b> <b>(Multiple answers. DO NOT READ the possible answers)</b>	<p>Discothèque ..... 1</p> <p>Dance restaurant..... 2</p> <p>Cabin restaurant ..... 3</p> <p>Call girl ..... 4</p> <p>Massage parlor ..... 5</p> <p>House ..... 6</p> <p>Bhatti Pasa..... 7</p> <p>Road..... 8</p> <p>Garment/carpet factory..... 9</p> <p>Squatter settlement/refugee..... 10</p> <p>Restaurant ..... 11</p> <p>Dohori restaurant..... 12</p> <p>Hotel/lodge ..... 13</p> <p>Did not work anywhere else..... 0</p> <p>Others (Specify)..... 96</p>	

Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories	Skip to
211	Have you ever been engaged in this profession in other locations too?	Yes..... 1 No..... 2	213 →
211.1	Where did you work? <b>(List all the places mentioned by the respondent)</b>	<i>District VDC/Municipality Village/Tole</i> 1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____	
212	In the past one-year have you followed this profession in other locations also?	Yes..... 1 No..... 2	213 →
212.1	Where did you follow such profession? <b>(List all the places)</b>	<i>District VDC/Municipality Village/Tole</i> 1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____	
213	Have you ever followed this profession even in India?	Yes..... 1 No..... 2	216 →
213.1	Where did you work in India? <b>(List all the locations worked in India)</b>	<i>Name of Places Name of Nearby City</i> 1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____	
214	In total, for how many months did you work as a sex worker in India?	Months ..... <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	
215	Were you coerced to go there or you went there on your free will?	Coerced ..... 1 On my own..... 2	
216	What is your average weekly income from commercial sex? <b>[Note: If there is '0' in both cash and gift equivalent, probe for the reasons]</b>	Cash _____ Rs. Gift equivalent to _____ Rs.	

Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories	Skip to
		<i>Others (Specify).....96</i> Total _____ Rs.	
217	Do you have any other work besides sex work?	<i>Yes..... 1</i> <i>No..... 2</i> →	218
217.1	What do you do?	<i>Waiter ..... 1</i> <i>Housemaid/restaurant employee</i> <i>(dish cleaner, cook, washerwoman,</i> <i>etc.)..... 2</i> <i>Wage laborer..... 3</i> <i>Own restaurant/Bhatti Pasal..... 4</i> <i>Masseuse ..... 5</i> <i>Dancer ..... 6</i> <i>Business (retail store, fruit shop etc.)..... 7</i> <i>Knitting /tailoring..... 8</i> <i>Peer educator ..... 9</i> <i>Job (teacher, peon etc.)..... 10</i> <i>Others (Specify)..... 96</i>	
217.2	What is your average weekly income from the above-mentioned sources?	_____ Rupees	
218	Have you ever encountered any client who refused to give money after having sex?	<i>Yes..... 1</i> <i>No..... 2</i> →	301
218.1	How many such incidents have occurred in the past six months?	<i>Times ..... <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/></i>	

**3.0 INFORMATION ON SEXUAL INTERCOURSE**

Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories	Skip to
301	How old were you at your first sexual intercourse?	Year's old ..... <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> Don't know/Can't recall ..... 98	
302	Among all of your partners, how many of them had sex with you in exchange for money in the past week?	Number ..... <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> Don't know..... 98	
303	Among all of your partners, how many of them had sex with you without paying any money in the past week? ( <b>Include sexual contacts with spouse and live-in sexual partners</b> )	Number ..... <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> Don't know..... 98	
304	With how many different sexual partners in total have you had sex during the past week? ( <b>Note: Check total number of partners in Q. 302 + Q. 303 to match with Q 304</b> )	Number ..... <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> Don't know..... 98	
305	Usually, how many clients visit you in a day?	Number ..... <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	
305.1	With how many clients did you have sexual intercourse yesterday?	Number ..... <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	
305.2	With how many clients did you have sexual intercourse in the past week?	Number ..... <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	
306	In the past month, with which profession's client did you mostly have sex?  ( <b>Encircle three most reported types of client. DO NOT READ the possible</b> )	Bus, truck or tanker worker..... 1 Taxi, jeep, microbus or minibus worker ..... 2	



Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories	Skip to
	answers)	<i>Industrial/wage worker</i> ..... 3 <i>Police</i> ..... 4 <i>Soldier/Army</i> ..... 5 <i>Student</i> ..... 6 <i>Rickshawala</i> ..... 7 <i>Service holder</i> ..... 8 <i>Businessmen</i> ..... 9 <i>Mobile Businessmen</i> ..... 10 <i>Migrant worker/lahurey</i> ..... 11 <i>Contractor</i> ..... 12 <i>Foreigner (Indian and other  Nationals)</i> ..... 14 <i>Farmer</i> ..... 15 <i>Others (Specify)</i> ..... 96 <i>Don't know</i> ..... 98	
306.1	What was the professional background of your last client?	<i>Bus, truck or tanker worker</i> ..... 1 Taxi, jeep, microbus or minibus worker ..... 2 <i>Industrial/wage worker</i> ..... 3 <i>Police</i> ..... 4 <i>Soldier/Army</i> ..... 5 <i>Student</i> ..... 6 <i>Rickshawala</i> ..... 7 <i>Service holder</i> ..... 8 <i>Businessmen</i> ..... 9 <i>Mobile Businessmen</i> ..... 10 <i>Migrant worker/lahurey</i> ..... 11 <i>Contractor</i> ..... 12 Foreigner (Indian and other	

Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories	Skip to
		<i>Nationals</i> ..... 14 <i>Farmer</i> ..... 15 <i>Others (Specify)</i> ..... 96 <i>Don't know</i> ..... 98	
307	How many days in a week (on an average) do you work as a sex worker?	Days ..... <input type="text"/>	
308	When did you have the last sexual intercourse with a client? (Write '00' if Today)	Days before ..... <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	
309	How many partners did you have sexual intercourse with on that day?	Number ..... <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	
310	How much rupees or other items did the last client pay you?  (Note: If there is '00' in both cash and gift equivalent, mention the reasons)	Cash ..... Rs. Gift equivalent to ..... Rs. <i>Others (Specify)</i> ..... 96 Total ..... Rs.	

#### 4.0 USE OF CONDOM AND INFORMATION ON SEX PARTNERS

##### Condom use with Clients

Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories	Skip to
401	The last time you had sex with your client, did he use a condom?	<i>Yes</i> ..... 1 <i>No</i> ..... 2 →	401.2
401.1	Who suggested condom use at that time?	<i>Myself</i> ..... 1 <i>My Partner</i> ..... 2 <i>Don't know</i> ..... 98	} 402
401.2	Why didn't your client use a condom at that time?  (Multiple answers. DO NOT READ the possible answers)	<i>Not available</i> ..... 1 <i>Too expensive</i> ..... 2 <i>Partner objected</i> ..... 3 <i>I didn't like to use it</i> ..... 4 <i>Used other contraceptive</i> ..... 5 <i>Didn't think it was necessary</i> ..... 6	

Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories	Skip to
		<i>Didn't think of it.....7</i> <i>Client offered more money .....8</i> <i>Didn't know / not aware about  condom.....9</i> <i>Others (Specify) _____ 96</i> <i>Don't know ..... 98</i>	
402	How often did your clients use condom over the past 12 months?	<i>All of the time .....1</i> <i>Most of the time.....2</i> <i>Some of the time .....3</i> <i>Rarely.....4</i> <i>Never.....5</i>	→ 403
402.1	Why didn't your client use condom always?  <b>(Multiple answers. DO NOT READ the possible answers)</b>	<i>Not available .....1</i> <i>Too expensive.....2</i> <i>Partner objected .....3</i> <i>I didn't like to use it .....4</i> <i>Used other contraceptive.....5</i> <i>Didn't think it was necessary .....6</i> <i>Didn't think of it.....7</i> <i>Client offered more money .....8</i> <i>Didn't know / not aware about  Condom.....9</i> <i>Others (Specify) _____ 96</i> <i>Don't know ..... 98</i>	

*Condom use with Regular Client*

Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories	Skip to
403	Do you have any client who visits you on regular basis?	Yes.....1 No.....2	→ 406
404	Did your regular client use condom in the last sexual contact with you?	Yes.....1 No.....2	→ 404.2
404.1	Who suggested condom use at that time?	Myself .....1 My Partner .....2 Don't know ..... 98	} 405
404.2	Why didn't your regular client use a condom at that time?	Not available .....1 Too expensive.....2 Partner objected .....3 I didn't like to use it .....4 Used other contraceptive.....5 Didn't think it was necessary .....6 Didn't think of it.....7 Client offered more money .....8 Didn't know / not aware about condom .....9 Others (Specify) _____ 96 Don't know ..... 98	
405	How often did your regular clients use condom with you over the past 12 months?	All of the time .....1 Most of the time .....2 Some of the time .....3 Rarely.....4 Never.....5	→ 406
405.1	Why didn't they use condom always?  <b>(Multiple answers. DO NOT READ the possible answers)</b>	Not available .....1 Too expensive.....2 Partner objected .....3	

Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories	Skip to
		<i>I didn't like to use it</i> .....4	
		<i>Used other contraceptive</i> .....5	
		<i>Didn't think it was necessary</i> .....6	
		<i>Didn't think of it</i> .....7	
		<i>Client offered more money</i> .....8	
		<i>Others (Specify)</i> _____ ..... 96	
		<i>Don't know</i> ..... 98	

**Condom use with Non-Paying Cohabiting Partner (Husband or Male Friend)**

Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories	Skip to
406	Did you have sexual intercourse with your husband or a male friend in past six months?	<i>Yes</i> .....1 <i>No</i> .....2	→ 409
407	Think about your most recent sexual intercourse with your husband or male partner. How many times did you have sexual intercourse with this person over the last 30 days? <b>(Write '00' for none intercourse in past one month)</b>	<i>Number of times</i> ..... <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <i>Don't know</i> ..... 98	
408	The last time you had sex with your husband or male friend staying to gather, did your sex partner use a condom?	<i>Yes</i> .....1 <i>No</i> .....2	→ 408.2
408.1	Who suggested condom use that time?	<i>Myself</i> .....1 <i>My Partner</i> .....2 <i>Don't know</i> ..... 98	} 409

Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories	Skip to
408.2	Why didn't your partner use a condom that time?	<i>Not available</i> .....1 <i>Too expensive</i> .....2 <i>Partner objected</i> .....3 <i>I didn't like to use it</i> .....4 <i>Used other contraceptive</i> .....5 <i>Didn't think it was necessary</i> .....6 <i>Didn't think of it</i> .....7 <i>Trust partner</i> .....8 <i>Wish to have child</i> .....9 <i>Others (Specify)</i> _____ 96 <i>Don't know</i> ..... 98	
409	How often did all of your non-paying partners use condoms over the last 12 months?	<i>All of the time</i> .....1 <i>Most of the time</i> .....2 <i>Some of the time</i> .....3 <i>Rarely</i> .....4 <i>Never</i> .....5 <i>Did not have sexual intercourse in the last 12 months</i> .....6	→ 410  → 410
409.1	Why didn't they use condom always? <b>(Multiple answers. DO NOT READ the possible answers)</b>	<i>Not available</i> .....1 <i>Too expensive</i> .....2 <i>Partner objected</i> .....3 <i>I didn't like to use it</i> .....4 <i>Used other contraceptive</i> .....5 <i>Didn't think it was necessary</i> .....6 <i>Didn't think of it</i> .....7 <i>Trust partner</i> .....8 <i>Wish to have child</i> .....9	

Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories	Skip to
		<i>Others (Specify) _____</i> ..... 96 <i>Don't know</i> ..... 98	

***Condom use with sex partners other than clients, husbands and male friends living together***

Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories	Skip to
410	During the past one year, did you have sexual intercourse with a person other than your client, husband/ male friend?	<i>Yes</i> ..... 1 <i>No</i> ..... 2	→ 412.2
411	Did he use condom when he had last sexual contact with you?	<i>Yes</i> ..... 1 <i>No</i> ..... 2	→ 411.2
411.1	Who suggested condom use at that time?	<i>Myself</i> ..... 1 <i>My Partner</i> ..... 2 <i>Don't know</i> ..... 98	} 412
411.2	Why didn't he use condom at that time?	<i>Not available</i> ..... 1 <i>Too expensive</i> ..... 2 <i>Partner objected</i> ..... 3 <i>I didn't like to use</i> ..... 4 <i>Used other contraceptive</i> ..... 5 <i>Didn't think it was necessary</i> ..... 6 <i>Didn't think of it</i> ..... 7 <i>Others (Specify) _____</i> ..... 96 <i>Don't know</i> ..... 98	
412	How often did your other partners use condom with you over the past 12 months?	<i>All of the time</i> ..... 1 <i>Most of the time</i> ..... 2 <i>Some of the time</i> ..... 3 <i>Rarely</i> ..... 4 <i>Never</i> ..... 5	→ 412.2

Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories	Skip to
412.1	Why did your other partners not use condom regularly?  <b>(Multiple answers. DO NOT READ the possible answers)</b>	<i>Not available</i> ..... 1 <i>Too expensive</i> ..... 2 <i>Partner objected</i> ..... 3 <i>I didn't like to use</i> ..... 4 <i>Used other contraceptive</i> ..... 5 <i>Didn't think it was necessary</i> ..... 6 <i>Didn't think of it</i> ..... 7 <i>Others (Specify)</i> ..... 96 <i>Don't know</i> ..... 98	

**Knowledge and Use of Female Condom**

Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories	Skip to
412.2	Have you heard about condoms that can be used by women? <b>(If the respondent has not heard about female condom, explain what they are before asking questions)</b>	<i>Yes</i> ..... 1 <i>No</i> ..... 2	→ 412.7
412.3	If yes, from where did you know about this?  <b>(Multiple answers. DO NOT READ the possible answers)</b>	<i>Radio</i> ..... 1 <i>TV</i> ..... 2 <i>Pharmacy</i> ..... 3 <i>Health Post/Health Center</i> ..... 4 <i>Hospital</i> ..... 5 <i>Health Workers/Volunteers</i> ..... 6 <i>Friends/Relatives/Neighbors</i> ..... 7 <i>NGO staff</i> ..... 8 <i>Newspapers/Posters</i> ..... 9 <i>Video Van</i> ..... 10 <i>Street Drama</i> ..... 11 <i>Cinema Hall</i> ..... 12 <i>Community interaction/training</i> ..... 13 <i>Bill Board/Sign Board</i> ..... 14	



Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories	Skip to
		<i>Comic Book</i> ..... 15 <i>Community Workers</i> ..... 16 <i>Others (Specify)</i> _____ ..... 96	
412.4	Have you ever used female condoms?	<i>Yes</i> .....1 <i>No</i> .....2	412.7 →
412.5	When was the last time you used female condom?	<i>Within a month</i> .....1 <i>1-5 months before</i> .....2 <i>6-11 months before</i> .....3 <i>More than 12 months before</i> .....4 <i>Don't remember/know</i> ..... 98	
412.6	Who was your sex partner when you used female condom last time?	<i>Regular partner</i> .....1 <i>Client</i> .....2 <i>Regular client</i> .....3 <i>Others (Specify)</i> .....4 <i>Don't know</i> ..... 98	
412.7	In your opinion are female condoms useful for women like you?	<i>Yes</i> .....1 <i>No</i> .....2	
413	With whom did you have your last sexual intercourse in the past one year?	<i>Client</i> ..... 1 Husband/male friend .....2 Other male .....3 Regular client .....4 Others (Specify) ..... 96	
413.1	Did you use condom at that time?	<i>Yes</i> .....1 <i>No</i> .....2	

**Condom Accessibility**

Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories	Skip to
414	Do you usually carry condoms with you?	<i>Yes</i> .....1 <i>No</i> .....2	415
414.1	At this moment, how many condoms do you have at-hand with you? <b>(Observe and write)</b>	Number ..... <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	
415	Which places or persons do you know from where/whom you can obtain condoms?  <b>(Multiple answers. DO NOT READ the possible answers)</b>	<i>Health Post/ health center</i> .....1 <i>Pharmacy</i> .....2 <i>General retail store (Kirana Pasa)</i> .....3 <i>Private clinic</i> .....4 <i>Paan shop</i> .....5 <i>Hospital</i> .....6 <i>FPAN clinic</i> .....7 <i>Peer/friends</i> .....8 <i>NGO/health workers/volunteers</i> .....9 <i>Hotel/lodge</i> ..... 10 <i>Client/other sex partner</i> ..... 11 <i>Massage parlor</i> ..... 12 <i>Bhatti Pasa</i> ..... 13 <i>Other (Specify)</i> ..... 96 <i>Don't know</i> ..... 98	
415.1	How long does it take for you to obtain a condom from the nearest spot from your house or your working place?	<i>Minutes</i> ..... <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <i>No knowledge/not aware of condom</i> ..... 95	
416	How do you usually obtain condoms? <b>(Buy, obtain free of cost or both ways)</b>	<i>Always free of cost</i> .....1 <i>Purchase</i> .....2 <i>Obtain both ways</i> .....3 <i>Condom never used</i> .....4	416.3  418

Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories	Skip to
416.1	<p>From where do you often obtain free condoms?</p> <p><b>(Multiple answers. DO NOT READ the possible answers)</b></p>	<p><i>Health Post/Health Center..... 1</i></p> <p>Hospital ..... 2</p> <p>FPAN clinics ..... 3</p> <p>Peers/friends..... 4</p> <p>Community events ..... 5</p> <p>NGO/Health Workers/Volunteers..... 6</p> <p><i>Client/other sex partner..... 7</i></p> <p><i>Massage parlor ..... 8</i></p> <p><i>Hotel/lodge/restaurant ..... 9</i></p> <p><i>Bhatti Pasa..... 10</i></p> <p>Others (Specify) ..... 96</p>	
416.2	<p>Which would be the most convenient place/s for you to obtain free condoms?</p> <p><b>(Multiple answers. DO NOT READ the possible answers)</b></p>	<p><i>Health Post/Health Center..... 1</i></p> <p>Hospital ..... 2</p> <p>FPAN clinics ..... 3</p> <p>Peers/friends..... 4</p> <p>Community events ..... 5</p> <p>NGO/Health Workers/Volunteers..... 6</p> <p><i>Client/other sex partner..... 7</i></p> <p><i>Massage parlor ..... 8</i></p> <p><i>Hotel/lodge/restaurant ..... 9</i></p> <p><i>Bhatti Pasa..... 10</i></p> <p>Others (Specify)..... 96</p>	
416.3	<p>In the last 12 months, have you been given condoms by any organizations?</p>	<p><i>Yes - free ..... 1</i></p> <p><i>Yes – on cash..... 2</i></p> <p><i>No..... 3</i></p>	

Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories	Skip to
	<b>Note: If response is '1' in Q416 Go to Q418 after 416.3</b>		
417	From where do you often purchase condoms?  (Multiple answers. DO NOT READ the possible answers)	Pharmacy..... 1 General retail store (Kirana Pasal) ..... 2 Private clinic..... 3 Pan Shop..... 4 Hotel/lodge/restaurant..... 5 Others (Specify) ..... 96	
417.1	Which would be the most convenient place/s for you to purchase condoms?  (Multiple answers. DO NOT READ the possible answers)	Pharmacy..... 1 General retail store (Kirana Pasal) ..... 2 Private clinic..... 3 Pan Shop..... 4 Hotel/lodge/restaurant..... 5 Others (Specify) ..... 96	

**Type of Sex Practices**

Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories	Skip to
418	During the past one-year, did any of your sexual partners force you to have sex with them against your wish?	Yes..... 1 No..... 2	
419	Did any person physically assault you (for any reason) in the past year?	Yes..... 1 No..... 2	
420	In the past year, did any of your clients perform such act/s that you did not like?	Yes..... 1 No..... 2	422 →
421	If yes, what were they?	Oral sex..... 1 Masturbation..... 2 Anal sex..... 3 Beaten up..... 4 Snatched /stole money ..... 5 Used abusive language (Bhalu etc.)..... 6 Ran away without paying..... 7 Burnt with cigarette..... 8 Forced to have sex after drinking alcohol..... 9 Others (Specify) ..... 96	
422	In the past year, did you have other type of sexual intercourse other than vaginal? <b>(INSTRUCTION TO INTERVIEWER: Explain the other types of sexual intercourse besides vaginal (such as oral, anal))</b>	Yes..... 1 No..... 2	501 →
422.1	If yes, what type of sexual act/s were they? (Multiple answers. DO NOT READ the possible answers)	Oral..... 1 Anal..... 2	

Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories	Skip to
		<i>Masturbation</i> .....3 <i>Others (Specify)</i> ..... 96	
422.2	What type of sexual contact did you have with your last client?  <b>(Multiple answers. DO NOT READ the possible answers)</b>	<i>Oral</i> .....1 <i>Anal</i> .....2 <i>Masturbation</i> .....3 <i>Vaginal</i> .....4 <i>Others (Specify)</i> ..... 96	

5.0 AWARENESS OF HIV/AIDS

Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories	Skip to
501	Have you ever heard of HIV/AIDS?	Yes.....1 No.....2	601 →
502	Of the following sources of information, from which sources have you collected information on HIV/AIDS within the past one-year?		
	<b>Source of Information</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
	1. Radio	1	2
	2. Television	1	2
	3. Newspapers/Magazines	1	2
	4. Pamphlets/Posters	1	2
	5. Health Workers	1	2
	6. School/Teachers	1	2
	7. Friends/Relatives	1	2
	8. Work Place	1	2
	9. People from NGO	1	2
	10. Video Van	1	2
	11. Street Drama	1	2
	12. Cinema Hall	1	2
	13. Community Event/Training	1	2
	14. Bill Board/Sign Board	1	2
	15. Comic Book	1	2
	16. Community Workers	1	2
	96. Others (Specify) _____	1	2

**Knowledge, Opinion and Misconception about HIV/AIDS**

Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories	Skip to
503	Do you know anyone who is infected with HIV or who has died of AIDS?	Yes.....1 No.....2	→ 505
504	Do you have a close relative or close friend who is infected with HIV or has died of AIDS?	Yes, a close relative.....1 Yes, a close friend .....2 No.....3	
505	Can people protect themselves from HIV by keeping sexual contact with only one uninfected faithful sex partner?	Yes.....1 No.....2 Don't know..... 98	
506	Can people protect themselves from HIV, virus-causing AIDS, by using condom correctly in each sexual contact?	Yes.....1 No.....2	

Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories	Skip to
		<i>Don't know</i> ..... 98	
507	Do you think a healthy-looking person can be infected with HIV?	<i>Yes</i> .....1 <i>No</i> .....2 <i>Don't know</i> ..... 98	
508	Can a person get the HIV virus from mosquito bite?	<i>Yes</i> .....1 <i>No</i> .....2 <i>Don't know</i> ..... 98	
509	Can a person get HIV by sharing a meal with an HIV infected person?	<i>Yes</i> .....1 <i>No</i> .....2 <i>Don't know</i> ..... 98	
510	Can a pregnant woman infected with HIV/AIDS transmit the virus to her unborn child?	<i>Yes</i> .....1 <i>No</i> .....2 <i>Don't know</i> ..... 98	} 512
511	What can a pregnant woman do to protect her child from HIV transmission?	<i>Cannot do anything/cannot protect the child</i> .....0 <i>Take Medication</i> .....1 <i>Abort the child</i> .....2 <i>Other (Specify)</i> .....96 <i>Don't know</i> ..... 98	
512	Can a woman with HIV/AIDS transmit the virus to her new-born child through breastfeeding?	<i>Yes</i> .....1 <i>No</i> .....2 <i>Don't know</i> ..... 98	
513	Can people protect themselves from HIV virus by abstaining from sexual intercourse?	<i>Yes</i> .....1 <i>No</i> .....2 <i>Don't know</i> ..... 98	
514	Can a person get HIV by holding an HIV infected person's hand?	<i>Yes</i> .....1	

Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories	Skip to
		No.....2 Don't know..... 98	
515	Can a person get HIV, by using previously used needle/syringe?	Yes.....1 No.....2 Don't know..... 98	
516	Can blood transfusion from an infected person to the other transmit HIV?	Yes.....1 No.....2 Don't know..... 98	
517	Is it possible in your community for someone to have a confidential HIV test?	Yes.....1 No.....2 Don't know..... 98	
517.1	Do you know where can you go for HIV testing?	Yes.....1 No.....2	
518	<b>I don't want to know the result</b> , but have you ever had an HIV test?	Yes.....1 No.....2 →	601
519	Did you voluntarily undergo the HIV test or because it was required?	Voluntarily.....1 Required .....2	
520	<b>Please do not tell me the result</b> , but did you find out the result of your test?	Yes.....1 No.....2	→ 522
521	Why did you not receive the test result?	Sure of not being infected .....1 Afraid of result .....2 Felt unnecessary.....3 Forgot it .....4 Other (Specify) _____ 96	
522	When did you have your most recent HIV test?	Within last 12 months .....1	



Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories	Skip to
		<i>Between 1-2 years</i> .....2 <i>Between 2-4 years</i> .....3 <i>More than 4 years ago</i> .....4	
523	Have you taken up HIV testing in the past 12 months?	<i>Yes</i> .....1 <i>No</i> .....2 →	601
524	<b>I don't want to know the results</b> , but did you receive the results of that test?	<i>Yes</i> .....1 <i>No</i> .....2	

## 6.0 PROMOTION OF CONDOM

Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories		Skip to
601	In the past one-year have you seen, read or heard any advertisements about condoms from the following sources? <b>(READ THE FOLLOWING LIST)</b>			
	<b>Sources of Information</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	
	1. Radio	1	2	
	2. TV	1	2	
	3. Pharmacy	1	2	
	4. Health Post/ Health Center	1	2	
	5. Hospital	1	2	
	6. Health Workers/Volunteers	1	2	
	7. Friends/Neighbors	1	2	
	8. NGOs	1	2	
	9. Newspapers/Posters	1	2	
	10. Video Van	1	2	
	11. Street Drama	1	2	
	12. Cinema Hall	1	2	
	13. Community Event/Training	1	2	
	14. Bill Board/Sign Board	1	2	
	15. Comic Book	1	2	
16. Community Workers	1	2		
96. Others (Specify) _____	1	2		
602	What message did you get from the advertisement?  <b>(Multiple answers. DO NOT READ the possible answers)</b>	<i>Condoms should be used to avoid HIV/AIDS .....1</i>  <i>Condoms should be used to avoid STI .....2</i>  <i>Condoms should be used for family planning, other family planning messages.....3</i>  <i>Other (Specify) ..... 96</i>		
03	<b>In the past one-year, have you ever seen, heard or read following messages?</b>			
	<b>Messages/Characters</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	
	1. Jhilke Dai Chha Chhaina Condom	1	2	
	2. Condom Kina Ma Bhaya Hunna Ra	1	2	
	3. Youn Rog Ra AIDS Bata Bachnalai Rakhnu Parchha Sarbatra Paine Condom Lai	1	2	
	4. Ramro Sanga Prayog Gare Jokhim Huna Dinna Bharpardo Chhu Santosh Dinchhu Jhanjhat Manna Hunna	1	2	
	5. Condom Bata Surakchhya, Youn Swasthya Ko Rakchhya AIDS Ra Younrog Bata Bachna Sadhai Condom Ko Prayog Garau	1	2	
	6. HIV/AIDS Bare Aajai Dekhee Kura Garau	1	2	
	7. Ek Apas Ka Kura	1	2	
	8. Maya Garaun Sadbhav Badaun	1	2	
9. Des Pardes	1	2		

Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories	Skip to
603.1	Besides above messages have you seen, heard or read any other messages relating to STI/HIV/AIDS Prevention or Condom Uses?	Yes.....1 No.....2	604 →
603.2	What are they?	Advertisement on No.1condom.. .....1 Condom lagaun, AIDS bhagaun.....2 Others (Specify).....96	
604	During the past one-year what brand of condoms did you use most of the time?  (Record first three)	Never used condom .....0 Number One .....1 Dhaal .....2 Panther .....3 Kamasutra .....4 Jodi .....5 Black cobra .....6 Condom with no brand name (MOH white, red).....7 Lilly.....8 Vega.....9 Skin less ..... 10 Play Vet ..... 11 Did not use in the past 12 months..... 95 Others(Specify).....96	

**Knowledge of and Participation in STI and HIV/AIDS Programs**

Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories	Skip to
605	Have you met or discussed or interacted with peer educators (PE) or outreach educators (OE) in the last 12 months?	Yes.....1 No.....2 No response..... 99	609 →
606	When you met/discussed/interacted with PE or OE, what activities did they involve you in?	Discussion on how HIV/AIDS is/isn't	

Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories	Skip to
	<p><b>(Multiple answers. DO NOT READ the possible answers)</b></p>	<p><i>transmitted</i>.....1</p> <p>Discussion on how STI is/isn't transmitted .....2</p> <p>Regular/non-regular use of condom .....3</p> <p>Demonstration on using condom correctly4</p> <p>STI treatment/cure after treatment .....5</p> <p>Counseling on reducing number of sex partner .....6</p> <p>Training on HIV and STI, Condom day, AIDS day, participation in discussions and interaction programs .....7</p> <p>Others (Specify)_____ 96</p>	

Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories	Skip to
607	Do you know from which organization were they?  <b>(Multiple answers. DO NOT READ the possible answers)</b>	<i>AMDA</i> ..... 1 <i>GWP</i> ..... 2 <i>Trinetra</i> ..... 3 <i>WATCH</i> ..... 4 <i>ICH</i> ..... 5 <i>NSARC</i> ..... 6 <i>NRCS</i> ..... 7 <i>INF/Paluwa</i> ..... 8 <i>Siddhartha Club</i> ..... 9 <i>CAC</i> ..... 10 <i>SACTS</i> ..... 11 <i>NFCC</i> ..... 12 <i>NAPN</i> ..... 13 <i>SPARSHA</i> ..... 14 <i>Change Nepal</i> ..... 15 <i>PSI</i> ..... 16 <i>Sathi Sanstha</i> ..... 17 <i>Indreni Sewa Samaj</i> ..... 18 <i>Step Nepal</i> ..... 19 <i>Swan Nepal</i> ..... 20 <i>Others (Specify)</i> ..... 96 <i>Don't know</i> ..... 98	
608	How many times have you been visited by PE and/or OE in the last 12 months?	<i>Once</i> ..... 1 <i>2-3 times</i> ..... 2 <i>4-6 times</i> ..... 3 <i>7-12 times</i> ..... 4 <i>More than 12 times</i> ..... 5	

Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories	Skip to
609	Have you visited or been to any drop in center (DIC) in the last 12 months?	Yes.....1 No.....2	613 →
610	What did you do at DIC?  <b>(Multiple answers. do not read the possible answers)</b>	Went to collect condoms .....1 Went to learn the correct way of using condom.....2 Went to watch film on HIV/AIDS.....3 Participated in discussion on HIV transmission... ..4 Participated in discussion on STI transmission... ..5 Participated in training, interaction and discussion programs on HIV/AIDS and STI.....6 Went to collect IEC materials.....7 Went for STI treatment .....8 Took friend with me.....9 Other (Specify) ..... 96	
611	Do you know which organizations run those DICs ?  <b>(Multiple answers. DO NOT READ the possible answers)</b>	AMDA .....1 GWP .....2 Trinetra .....3 WATCH .....4 ICH .....5 NSARC .....6 NRCS .....7 INF/Paluwa .....8 Siddhartha Club .....9 CAC ..... 10 SACTS ..... 11 NFCC ..... 12 NAPN..... 13 SPARSHA ..... 14 Change Nepal ..... 15 Indreni Sewa Samaj..... 16 PSI ..... 17 Sathi Sanstha..... 18	

Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories	Skip to
		<i>Step Nepal</i> ..... 19 <i>Swan Nepal</i> ..... 20 <i>Others (Specify)</i> ..... 96 <i>Don't know</i> ..... 98	
612	How many times have you visited such DICs in the last 12 months?	<i>Once</i> .....1 <i>2-3 times</i> .....2 <i>4-6 times</i> .....3 <i>7-12 times</i> .....4 <i>More than 12 times</i> .....5	
613	Have you visited any STI clinic in the last 12 months?	<i>Yes</i> .....1 <i>No</i> .....2 →	617
614	What did you do at such STI clinics?  <b>(Multiple answers. do not read the possible answers given below)</b>	<i>Blood tested for STI</i> .....1 <i>Physical examination conducted for STI identification</i> .....2 <i>Was advised to use condom in each sexual intercourse</i> .....3 <i>Was advised to take complete and regular medicine</i> .....4 <i>Was suggested to reduce number of sexual partners</i> .....5 <i>Took friend with me</i> .....6 <i>Other (Specify)</i> ..... 96	
615	Do you know which organizations run those STI clinics?  <b>(Multiple answers. do not read the possible answers)</b>	<i>AMDA</i> .....1 <i>NSARC</i> .....2 <i>NRCS</i> .....3 <i>INF Paluwa</i> .....4 <i>Siddhartha Club</i> .....5 <i>SACTS</i> .....6 <i>NFCC</i> .....7	

Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories	Skip to
		<i>WATCH</i> ..... 8 <i>GWP</i> ..... 9 <i>Private clinic</i> ..... 10 <i>Hospital</i> ..... 11 <i>Pharmacy</i> ..... 12 <i>CAC</i> ..... 13 <i>Indreni Sewa Samaj</i> ..... 14 <i>Trinetra</i> ..... 15 Others (Specify)_____ 96 <i>Don't know</i> ..... 98	
616	How many times have you visited such STI clinic in the last 12 months?	<i>Once</i> ..... 1 <i>2-3 times</i> ..... 2 <i>4-6 times</i> ..... 3 <i>7-12 times</i> ..... 4 <i>More than 12 times</i> ..... 5	
617	Have you visited any voluntary counseling and testing (VCT) centers in the last 12 months?	<i>Yes</i> ..... 1 <i>No</i> ..... 2	620.1 →
618	What did you do at such VCT centers?  <b>(Multiple answers. DO NOT READ the possible answers)</b>	<i>Received pre-HIV/AIDS test counseling</i> ..... 1 <i>Blood sample taken for HIV/AIDS test</i> ..... 2 <i>Received post HIV/AIDS test counseling</i> ..... 3 <i>Got information on HIV/AIDS window period</i> ..... 4 <i>Received HIV/AIDS test result</i> ..... 5 <i>Received counseling on using Condom correctly in each</i>	



Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories	Skip to
		<i>sexual intercourse</i> .....6 <i>Took a friend with me</i> .....7 <i>Other (Specify)</i> ..... 96	
619	Do you know which organizations run those VCT centers?  <b>(Multiple answers. DO NOT READ the possible answers)</b>	<i>AMDA</i> .....1 <i>NSARC</i> .....2 <i>NRCS</i> .....3 <i>INF/Paluwa</i> .....4 <i>Siddhartha Club</i> .....5 <i>SACTS</i> .....6 <i>NFCC</i> .....7 <i>WATCH</i> .....8 <i>CAC</i> .....9 <i>NNSWA</i> ..... 10 <i>GWP</i> ..... 11 <i>Indreni Sewa Samaj</i> ..... 12 <i>Trinetra</i> ..... 13 <i>Others (Specify)</i> ..... 96 <i>Don't know</i> ..... 98	
620	For how many times have you visited VCT center in the last 12 months?	<i>Once</i> .....1 <i>2-3 times</i> .....2 <i>4-6 times</i> .....3 <i>7-12 times</i> .....4 <i>More than 12 times</i> .....5	} 620.2
620.1	If not visited VCT in the last 12 months, what is the reason for this?  <b>(Multiple answers. DO NOT READ the possible answers)</b>	<i>Do not know about VCT center</i> .....1 <i>I do not think I need to be tested</i> .....2 <i>I have no symptoms of HIV</i> .....3 <i>No VCT near by</i> .....4	

Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories	Skip to
		<i>I have already tested and know my status</i> .....5 <i>No money to go to VCT center</i> .....6 <i>Fear that people will see me visiting VCT</i> .....7 <i>Fear that family members/friend/clients will know it</i> .....8 <i>Others (Specify)</i> _____ 96	
620.2	Have you ever been approached by HIV/AIDS related health workers/ outreach workers to explain you about the need of VCT?	<i>Yes</i> .....1 <i>No</i> .....2 →	621
620.3	If you were approached by health workers/outreach workers, what did they advise you?  <b>(Multiple answers. DO NOT READ the possible answers)</b>	<i>Talked about my sex partners</i> .....1 <i>Advised to visit VCT if I have some problems</i> .....2 <i>Advised me to visit VCT once in a month in any case</i> .....3 <i>Did not talk about HIV testing</i> .....4 <i>Others (Specify)</i> _____ 96	
621	Have you ever participated in HIV/AIDS awareness raising program or community events in the last 12 months?	<i>Yes</i> .....1 <i>No</i> .....2 →	701
622	WHAT WERE THE ACTIVITIES THAT YOU PARTICIPATED IN?  <b>(Multiple answers. DO NOT READ the possible answers)</b>	<i>Street drama</i> .....1 <i>AIDS Day</i> .....2 <i>Condom Day</i> .....3 <i>Video Shows</i> .....4 <i>Group discussions</i> .....5 <i>Talk programs</i> .....6 <i>HIV/AIDS related training</i> .....7 <i>HIV/AIDS related Workshops</i> .....8 <i>Condom use demonstrations</i> .....9 <i>Others (Specify)</i> _____ 96	

Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories	Skip to
623	<p>DO YOU KNOW WHICH ORGANIZATIONS ORGANIZED THOSE ACTIVITIES?</p> <p><b>(Multiple answers. DO NOT READ the possible answers given below)</b></p>	<p><i>AMDA</i> ..... 1</p> <p><i>GWP</i> ..... 2</p> <p><i>TRINETRA</i> ..... 3</p> <p><i>WATCH</i> ..... 4</p> <p><i>ICH</i> ..... 5</p> <p><i>NSARC</i> ..... 6</p> <p><i>NRCS</i> ..... 7</p> <p><i>INF/Paluwa</i> ..... 8</p> <p><i>Siddhartha Club</i> ..... 9</p> <p><i>CAC</i> ..... 10</p> <p><i>SACTS</i> ..... 11</p> <p><i>NFCC</i> ..... 12</p> <p><i>NAPN</i> ..... 13</p> <p><i>Sparsa</i> ..... 14</p> <p><i>Naulo Ghumti</i> ..... 15</p> <p><i>Mahila Uddhar Samuha</i> ..... 16</p> <p><i>Maiti Nepal</i> ..... 17</p> <p><i>Indreni Sewa Samaj</i> ..... 18</p> <p><i>Others (Specify) _____</i> ..... 96</p> <p><i>Don't know</i> ..... 98</p>	
624	<p>How many times have you participated in such activities in the last 12 months?</p>	<p><i>Not participated</i> ..... 0</p> <p><i>Once</i> ..... 1</p> <p><i>2-3 times</i> ..... 2</p> <p><i>4-6 times</i> ..... 3</p> <p><i>7-12 times</i> ..... 4</p> <p><i>More than 12 times</i> ..... 5</p>	

**7.0 STI (SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTION)**

Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories	Skip to
701	Which diseases do you understand by STI?  <b>(Multiple answers. DO NOT READ the possible answers)</b>	<i>White discharge/discharge of</i> <i>Pus/dhatu flow.....1</i> <i>Itching around vagina.....2</i> <i>Lower abdominal pain.....3</i> <i>Syphilis (Bhiringi)/gonorrhoea.....4</i> <i>HIV/AIDS.....5</i> <i>Painful urination.....6</i> <i>Swelling of vagina.....7</i> <i>Pain in vagina.....8</i> <i>Unusual bleeding from vagina.....9</i> <i>Ulcer or sore around vagina..... 10</i> <i>Fever..... 11</i> <i>Burning during urination..... 12</i> <i>Weight loss/ get thinner..... 13</i> <i>Don't know..... 98</i> <i>Other (Specify)..... 96</i>	
702	Do you currently have any of the following symptoms?		
<b>Symptoms</b>		<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
1. Pain in the lower abdomen		1	2
2. Pain during urination		1	2
3. Frequent urination		1	2
4. Pain during sex		1	2
5. Ulcer or sore in the genital area		1	2
6. Itching in or around the vagina		1	2
7. Vaginal odor or smell		1	2
8. Vaginal bleeding (unusual)		1	2
9. Unusual heavy, foul smelling vaginal discharge		1	2
10. Genital Warts		1	2
96. Others (Specify) _____		1	2
<b>(If answer is 'No' to all in the Q. No. 702 Go to Q. 710)</b>			
703	Have you gone through medical treatment for any of these symptoms?	<i>Yes.....1</i> <i>No.....2</i>	710 →
703.1	If yes, for how long did you wait to go for the treatment? <b>(Write '00' if less than a week)</b>		

Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories	Skip to
		Week ..... <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	
704	Where did you go for the treatment? <b>(Multiple answers. DO NOT READ the possible answers)</b>	<i>Private Clinic</i> .....1 <i>AMDA Clinic</i> .....2 <i>NFCC</i> .....3 <i>SACTS</i> .....4 <i>FPAN Clinic</i> .....5 <i>Health Post/ Health Center</i> .....6 <i>Hospital</i> .....7 <i>Pharmacy</i> .....8 <i>Self Treatment (Specify)</i> ..... 9 <i>Others (Specify)</i> ..... 96	

Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories	Skip to																								
705	<p><i>For which symptoms did you get treatment? Specify the treatment.</i></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Symptoms</th> <th>Treatment</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>1. Pain in the lower abdomen</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>2. Pain during urination</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>3. Frequent urination</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>4. Pain during sex</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>5. Ulcer or sore in the genital area</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>6. Itching in or around the vagina</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>7. Vaginal odor or smell</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>8. Vaginal bleeding (unusual)</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>9. Unusual heavy, foul smelling vaginal discharge</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>10. Genital Warts</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>96. Others (Specify) _____</td><td></td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Symptoms	Treatment	1. Pain in the lower abdomen		2. Pain during urination		3. Frequent urination		4. Pain during sex		5. Ulcer or sore in the genital area		6. Itching in or around the vagina		7. Vaginal odor or smell		8. Vaginal bleeding (unusual)		9. Unusual heavy, foul smelling vaginal discharge		10. Genital Warts		96. Others (Specify) _____			
Symptoms	Treatment																										
1. Pain in the lower abdomen																											
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9. Unusual heavy, foul smelling vaginal discharge																											
10. Genital Warts																											
96. Others (Specify) _____																											
706	Did you receive a prescription for medicine?	<i>Yes</i> .....1 <i>No</i> .....2	710 →																								
707	Did you obtain all the medicine prescribed?	<i>Yes I obtained all of it</i> .....1 <i>I obtained some but not all</i> .....2 <i>I obtained none</i> .....3	710 }																								
708	Did you take all of the medicine prescribed?	<i>Yes</i> .....1 <i>No</i> .....2	→ 709																								

Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories	Skip to
708.1	If not, why did you not take all of the medicine prescribed?	<i>Forgot to take</i> .....1 <i>Felt cured</i> .....2 <i>Medicine did not help</i> .....3 <i>Others (Specify)</i> ..... 96	
709	How much did you pay for the medicine that you took? <b>[If not paid mention the reasons]</b>	Rs. _____  Reason _____	
710	<i>Did you have any of the following symptoms in the past year?</i>		
	<b>Symptoms</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
	1. Pain in the lower abdomen	1	2
	2. Pain during urination	1	2
	3. Frequent urination	1	2
	4. Pain during sex	1	2
	5. Ulcer or sore in the genital area	1	2
	6. Itching in or around the vagina	1	2
	7. Vaginal odor or smell	1	2
	8. Vaginal bleeding (unusual)	1	2
	9. Unusual heavy, foul smelling vaginal discharge	1	2
	10. Genital Warts	1	2
	96. Others (Specify)_____	1	2
	<b>(If answer is 'No' to all in Q. No. 710, Go to Q. No. 801)</b>		

Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories		Skip to
711	<i>Have you gone through medical treatment for any of these symptoms in the past year?</i>			
	<b>Symptoms</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	
	1. Pain in the lower abdomen	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	
	2. Pain during urination	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	
	3. Frequent urination	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	
	4. Pain during sex	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	
	5. Ulcer or sore in the genital area	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	
	6. Itching in or around the vagina	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	
	7. Vaginal odor or smell	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	
	8. Vaginal bleeding (unusual)	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	
	9. Unusual heavy vaginal discharge and foul vaginal discharge	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	
	10. Genital Warts	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	
	96. Others (Specify) _____	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	
	<b>(If answer is 'No' to all in Q. No. 711, Go to Q. No. 801)</b>			



712	<p>Where did you go for the treatment?</p> <p><b>(Multiple answers. Do not read the possible answers).</b></p>	<p><i>Private clinic</i> .....1</p> <p><i>AMDA clinic</i>.....2</p> <p><i>NFCC</i> .....3</p> <p><i>SACTS</i>.....4</p> <p><i>FPAN clinic</i>.....5</p> <p><i>Health post/ health center</i> .....6</p> <p><i>Hospital</i>.....7</p> <p><i>Pharmacy</i>.....8</p> <p><i>Self treatment (Specify)</i>.....9 →</p> <p><i>GWP</i> ..... 10</p> <p><i>Siddhartha club clinic</i> ..... 11</p> <p><i>WATCH clinic</i>..... 12</p> <p><i>CAC</i> ..... 13</p> <p><i>NSARC</i>..... 14</p> <p><i>Trinetra</i>..... 15</p> <p><i>Indreni Sewa Samaj</i>..... 16</p> <p><i>Others (Specify)</i> ..... 96</p>	801
713	<p>Did anyone from the place where you went for treatment counsel you about how to avoid the problem?</p>	<p><i>Yes</i>.....1</p> <p><i>No</i>.....2 →</p>	801
713.1	<p>What did he/she tell you?</p> <p><b>(Multiple answers, DONOT READ the possible answers)</b></p>	<p><i>Told me to use condom</i>.....1</p> <p><i>Told me to reduce number of sexual partners</i> .....2</p> <p><i>Told me to take medicine regularly</i> .....3</p> <p><i>Told me not to have sexual contact during medicine taking period</i> .....4</p> <p><i>Advised me to come for regular check up</i>.....5</p> <p><i>Others (Specify)</i> ..... 96</p>	

**USE OF DRUGS AND INJECTION**

Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories	Skip to
801	During the last 30 days how often did you have drinks containing alcohol?	<i>Everyday</i> ..... 1 <i>2-3 times a week</i> ..... 2 <i>At least once a week</i> ..... 3 <i>Less than once in a week</i> ..... 4 <i>Never</i> ..... 5 <i>Don't know</i> ..... 98	
802	Some people take different types of drugs. Have you also tried any of those drugs in the past 30 days? <b>(Ganja, Bhang, Nitroson, Nitrovet E.)</b>	<i>Yes</i> ..... 1 <i>No</i> ..... 2 <i>Don't know</i> ..... 98	
803	Some people inject drugs using a syringe. Have you ever-injected drugs? <b>(Do not count drugs injected for medical purpose or treatment of an illness)</b>	<i>Yes</i> ..... 1 <i>No</i> ..... 2 <i>Don't know</i> ..... 98	809
803.1	How old were you when you first injected drugs?	Age ..... <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <i>Don't know</i> ..... 98	
803.2	How long have you been injecting drugs? <b>(Include self-injection or injection by others)</b>	Years ..... <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> Months ..... <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> No response ..... 99	
804	Have you injected drugs in last 12 months? <b>(Do not count drugs injected for medical purposes or treatment of an illness)</b>	<i>Yes</i> ..... 1 <i>No</i> ..... 2 <i>Don't know</i> ..... 98	809
804.1	Have you injected drugs in the past one month?	<i>Yes</i> ..... 1 <i>No</i> ..... 2 →	809
804.2	Have you injected drugs in the past one week?	<i>Yes</i> ..... 1 <i>No</i> ..... 2 →	809
805	Are you currently injecting drugs?	<i>Yes</i> ..... 1 <i>No</i> ..... 2 →	809

Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories	Skip to
806	Think about the last time you injected drugs. Did you use a needle or syringe that had previously been used by someone else?	<i>Yes</i> ..... 1 <i>No</i> .....2 <i>Don't know</i> ..... 98	
807	Think about the time you injected drugs during the past one month. How often was it with a needle or syringe that had previously been used by someone else?	<i>Every Time</i> ..... 1 <i>Almost Every Time</i> .....2 <i>Sometimes</i> .....3 <i>Never</i> .....4 <i>Don't Know</i> ..... 98	
808	Usually how do you obtain a syringe/needle?	<i>My friend/relative give it to me after use</i> ..... 1 <i>Unknown person give it to me</i> .....2 <i>I pick it up from a public place used and left by others</i> .....3 <i>I pick it up from a public place where I leave my syringes</i> .....4 <i>I use a new needle/syringe given by NGO/volunteer</i> .....5 <i>I purchase a new needle/syringe</i> .....6 <i>Sex partner give it to me</i> .....7 <i>Others (Specify)</i> _____ ..... 96	

Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories	Skip to
809	Have you ever exchanged sex for drugs?	Yes.....1 No.....2	
810	Have you ever exchanged sex for money so that you can buy drug?	Yes.....1 No.....2	
811	To your knowledge, have any of your sex partners injected drugs?	Yes.....1 No.....2	812 →
811.1	<b>(For Married SW only)</b> Does your husband inject drug? <b>(Check with Q. 204)</b>	Yes.....1 No.....2 Don't know ..... 98	
811.2	<b>(For female having regular client)</b> Did your regular client inject drug? <b>(Check with Q. 403)</b>	Yes.....1 No.....2 Don't know ..... 98	
811.3	<b>(For all)</b> Do you know any of your client ever injecting drugs?	Yes.....1 No.....2 Don't know ..... 98	
812	Do you know anyone who injects drugs?	Yes.....1 No.....2	901 →
812.1	If yes, how are you related to her/him? (Multiple answers, Do NOT READ the Possible answers)	Client .....1 Friend .....2 Family.....3 Relative .....4 Neighbor/male from village/ someone not related to .....5 Other (Specify)..... 96	

**9.0 STIGMA AND DISCRIMINATION**

Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories	Skip to
901	If a male relative of yours gets HIV, would you be willing to take care of him in your household?	Yes ..... 1 No..... 2 Don't know..... 98	
902	If a female relative of yours gets HIV, would you be willing to take care of her in your household?	Yes..... 1 No..... 2 Don't know..... 98	
903	If a member of your family gets HIV, would you want it to remain a secret?	Yes..... 1 No..... 2 Don't know..... 98	

**10.0 DRUG USE**

Q.N.	Questions	Coding Categories	Skip to
	<b>Ask this section to those respondent who have injected drugs at least once in the past 1 month, Check question no 804.1 = 1</b>		
1001	Have you used non-sterile injecting equipment at any time in the last month?	Yes..... 1 No..... 2	
1002	In the last month, did you switch from injecting to oral drugs?	Yes..... 1 No..... 2	
1003	How many times would you say you injected drugs yesterday?	Times..... <input type="checkbox"/> → 1007 Not injected..... 0	
1004	Would you like to tell me why you did not inject yesterday?	1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____	
1005	How many days ago did you get injected?	Days ago..... <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	
1006	How many times would you say you injected drugs on the last day?	Times..... <input type="checkbox"/>	
1007	During the past one-week how often would you say you injected drugs?	Once a week ..... 1 2-3 times a week ..... 2 4-6 times a week ..... 3 Once a day..... 4 2-3 times a day..... 5 4 or more times a day..... 6 Not injected in the last week ..... 7 Don't know ..... 98 No response..... 99	

11.0 NEEDLE SHARING BEHAVIORS

Q.N.	Questions	Coding Categories	Skip to
1101	Think about the times, you have injected drugs yesterday/last day. How many times did you inject drugs on that day? <b>(Fill the number from answer to Q. 1003 or 1006 and verify by asking the respondent)</b>	Times..... <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	
1102	The last time you injected, how did you get that syringe/needle?  <b>(Public place means places other than the IDU's home that are used to hide syringe/needle)</b>	My friend/relative gave it to me after his use ..... 1 Unknown person gave it to me after he use..... 2 I picked it up from a public place which was left there by others+ ..... 3 I picked it up from a public place which was left there by myself+ ..... 4 I used a new needle/syringe given by NGO staff/volunteer ..... 5 (write the name of Organization) I used a needle/syringe which I purchased ..... 6 I reused my own needle/syringe ..... 7 My friend gave new needle/syringe ..... 8 Others (Specify) ..... 96 Don't know ..... 98 No response..... 99	
1102.1	If you were in a group the last time that you injected, how many different people in the group do you think used the same needle?	Nos. .... <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> Injected alone ..... 95	
1103	Think about the times, you have injected drugs during the past one-week. How often was it with a needle or syringe that had previously been used by someone else?	Every times ..... 1 Almost every-times..... 2 Sometimes ..... 3 Never used..... 4 Not injected in the last week ..... 5 Don't know ..... 98 No response..... 99	→1111
1103.1	When you injected drug during the past week, how often did you use a syringe/needle that had been left in public place? <b>(Public place means places other than the IDU's home that are used to hide syringe/needle)</b>	Every times ..... 1 Almost every-times..... 2 Sometimes ..... 3 Never ..... 4 Don't know ..... 98 No response..... 99	

Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories				Skip to
1104	In the past one-week, did you ever share needles and syringes with any of the following?					
	<b>Read out list. Multiple answers possible</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>DK</b>	<b>NR</b>	
	Your usual sexual partner	1	2	98	99	
	A sexual partner who you did not know	1	2	98	99	
	A friend	1	2	98	99	
	A drugs seller	1	2	98	99	
	Unknown Person	1	2	98	99	
96. Other (Specify) _____	1	2				
1105	With how many different injecting partners did you share needles or syringes in the past one-week? <b>(Count everyone who injected from the same syringe)</b>	Number of partners ..... <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> Don't know ..... 98 No response ..... 99				
1106	In the past one-week, how often did you give a needle or syringe to someone else, after you had already used it?	Every times ..... 1 Almost every-times ..... 2 Sometimes ..... 3 Never ..... 4 Don't know ..... 98 No response ..... 99				
1107	In the past-week, did you ever inject with a pre-filled syringe? <b>(By that I mean a syringe that was filled without you witnessing it)</b>	Yes ..... 1 No ..... 2 Don't know ..... 98 No response ..... 99				
1108	In the past one-week, how often did you inject drugs using a syringe after someone else had squirted drugs into it from his/her used syringe? <b>(Front-loading/back-loading/splitting)</b>	Every times ..... 1 Almost every-times ..... 2 Sometimes ..... 3 Never ..... 4 Don't know ..... 98 No response ..... 99				
1109	In the past one-week, when you injected drugs, how often did you share a cooker/ vial/container, cotton/filter, or rinse water?	Every times ..... 1 Almost every-times ..... 2 Sometimes ..... 3 Never ..... 4 Don't know ..... 98 No response ..... 99				
1110	In the past one-week, how often you drew up your drug solution from a common container used by others?	Every times ..... 1 Almost every-times ..... 2 Sometimes ..... 3 Never ..... 4 Don't know ..... 98 No response ..... 99				
1111	In the past one year have you switched from sharing to non-sharing practice?	Yes ..... 1 No ..... 2				
1112	Can you obtain new, unused needles and syringes when you need them?	Yes ..... 1 No ..... 2 Don't know ..... 98 No response ..... 99				} 1114

Q. N.	Questions and Filters	Coding Categories	Skip to
1113	Where can you obtain new unused needles and syringes?  <b>(Do not read out list. Multiple answers possible. Probe only with "Anywhere Else?"</b> )	Drugstore..... 1 Other shop..... 2 Health worker..... 3 Hospital..... 4 Drug wholesaler/drug agency..... 5 Family/relatives..... 6 Sexual partner..... 7 Friends..... 8 Other drugs users..... 9 Drugs seller..... 10 Needle exchange program of _____ 11 Steal from legitimate source (hospital/pharmacy)..... 12 Buy on streets..... 13 Other (Specify)..... 96	
1114	In the past one-year, did you ever inject drug in another city/district (or another country)?	Yes..... 1 No..... 2 Don't remember..... 98 No response..... 99	
1114.1	In the last 12 months, have any of outreach workers, a peer educator or a staff from a needle exchange program given you a new needle/syringe?	Yes..... 1 No..... 2 Don't remember..... 98 No response..... 99	
1115	Are you currently under treatment (or receiving help) or have you ever received treatment (or help) because of your drug use?	Currently under treatment..... 1 Was in treatment but not now..... 2 Have never received treatment..... 3 No response..... 99	} <i>End the interview</i>
1116	How many months ago did you last receive treatment or help for your drug use?	Months..... <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> Don't know..... 98 No response..... 99	
1117	What kind of treatment or help you received? (Do not read out the responses, probe asking, "Are there any other kinds of treatment that you've received?") <b>(Multiple Answers Possible)</b>		
	<b>Types of Treatments</b>	<b>Name of Institutions</b>	
	1. Outpatient counseling		
	2. Self-help groups		
	3. Detoxification w/methadone		
	4. Maintenance w/methadone		
	5. Detoxification w/other drugs		
	6. Detoxification with no drug		
	7. Residential rehabilitation		
	8. Helped for <i>cold turkey</i> without medicine		
	9. Forced for <i>cold turkey</i> by others without treatment		
	96. Others (Specify)		
	99. No response		



**ANNEX - 4**

**FEMALE CLINICAL/LAB CHECKLIST**

Respondent ID Number: 

--	--	--	--	--	--

Name of Clinician: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 2065/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Name of Lab Technician: \_\_\_\_\_

**(A) Clinical Information**

**(B) Specimen collection**

		<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Weight: _____ Kg	Pre-test counseled	1	2
B.P. : _____ mm of Hg	Blood collected for HIV & Syphilis	1	2
Pulse : _____	Date & place for post-test results given	1	2
Temperature : _____ ° F	Condom given	1	2
	Vitamins given	1	2
	Gift given	1	2
	IEC materials given	1	2

**1.0 Syndromic Treatment Information**

101. Has any of your sexual partner had urethral discharge in the past 3 months?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No
- 98. Don't Know

102. Do you now have or have you had any of the following symptoms in the past month?

<i>Symptoms</i>	<i>Now</i>		<b>In the Past Month</b>	
	<i>Yes</i>	<b>No</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
1. Pain in the lower abdomen	1	2	1	2
2. Pain during urination	1	2	1	2
3. Frequent urination	1	2	1	2
4. Pain during sex	1	2	1	2
5. Ulcer or sore in the genital area	1	2	1	2
6. Itching in or around the vagina	1	2	1	2
7. Vaginal odor or smell	1	2	1	2
8. Vaginal bleeding (unusual)	1	2	1	2
9. Unusual heavy, foul smelling vaginal discharge	1	2	1	2
10. Genital Warts	1	2	1	2
11. Others (Specify) _____	1	2	1	2

**(If yes to any of above, give vaginal discharge syndrome treatment)**

103. Do you now have or have you had in the past month any sores or ulcer on or near your genitals?

1. Yes **(If yes, Refer)**
2. No

104. Has any of your sexual partner had sore around genital areas in the past 3 months?

1. Yes **(If yes, Refer)**
2. No
98. Don't know

## ANNEX – 5 ORAL INFORMED CONSENT FORM FOR FEMALE SEX WORKERS

### Family Health International (FHI), Nepal

#### Oral Informed Consent Form for Female Sex Workers

**Title:** Integrated Biologic and Behavioral Surveillance Survey among Female Sex Workers in Kathmandu Valley

**Sponsor:** ASHA Project- FHI/Nepal and USAID/Nepal

**Principal Investigator/s:** Dale Davis, MPH, FHI/Nepal  
Laxmi Bilas Acharya, PhD, FHI/Nepal

**Address:** GPO Box 8803, Gopal Bhawan, Anamika Galli,  
Ward No. 4, Baluwatar, Kathmandu, Nepal  
Phone: +977 1 443 7173; Fax: +977 1 441 7475  
Email: [DDavis@fhi.org](mailto:DDavis@fhi.org); [lacharya@fhi.org](mailto:lacharya@fhi.org)

#### **Introduction**

We are asking you to take part in a research study to collect information on knowledge of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)/sexually transmitted infections (STIs), HIV/STI related risk behaviors, STI treatment practices and to track the trend in the prevalence of HIV and Syphilis among the populations like you. We want to be sure that you understand the purpose of the research and your responsibilities before you decide if you want to participate in the study. This discussion is important. You can listen and learn about the study, ask questions, and then decide if you want to participate. If you choose to participate, one person will explain the study to you and another person will witness and make sure you understand the study. Both people will sign the form. You will not be asked to sign the form. You can ask us to explain any words or information that you may not understand.

#### ***Information about the Research and Your Role***

This study selects its study participants from the Kathmandu valley who are female sex workers using a random process from Kathmandu Valley. You are in the pool of possible candidates, but the final selection would be based on your choice. In total 560 women like you will be selected for this study from Kathmandu Valley. If you agree to participate in the study we will interview you using a structured questionnaire and then ask you to provide about 5-7 ml blood sample for HIV and Syphilis test. We will draw blood from the vein. If you have any STI symptom, we will provide free treatment. You will be provided your confirmatory HIV test results and RPR titer test result on the same day if you want to receive it. Test results will be provided with counseling by a qualified counselor. If you are RPR reactive, a confirmatory test result for syphilis will be provided at the nearest VCT clinic in Kathmandu and you will be informed about the time and clinic where you need to obtain those results.

You will have to spend about 60 minutes with us if you decide to participate in this research. You will have to wait another 60 minutes if you want to collect the HIV test result on the same day. Further, if you decide to participate in the “on the spot treatment plan” for syphilis based on the RPR test you may then need to spend about 60 minutes more after you are given the Penicillin injection for observation by medical doctor for any adverse reactions. We would like to inform that this is a research study and not health care provision service.

### **Possible Risks**

The risk of participating in this study is the minor discomfort during blood drawing. Providing blood sample does not put you at any other risk. Some of the questions we ask might make you feel awkward or uncomfortable to answer them. You are free not to answer such questions and also to stop participating in the research at any time you want to do so. You might feel some mental stress after getting your test results. But you will get counseling before and after the test for HIV through a qualified counselor. He/she will provide information and address for seeking assistance for any mental stress you may have.

There is a small risk of being socially discriminated if people know that you have participated in a HIV related study. But we will keep all the information confidential so that such risk would be minimal.

### **Possible Benefits**

You will be provided with free treatment, if currently you have any STI symptoms. Further, if you are tested positive for Syphilis and provide consent for treatment, we will provide you Penicillin injection in the presence of a medical doctor. You will be given lab test results and made aware of how STI/HIV is transmitted and how it can be prevented and controlled. We would refer you for treatment for HIV in case you would be found to have HIV, but study team will not provide this treatment for you. Follow up treatment costs will not be paid by the research team. You will be provided with information on safe sex. The information we obtain from this research will help to plan strategies to control and prevent further spread of HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted infections.

After the blood sample collection it will be tested for HIV and Syphilis infection. You can collect your test results of HIV on the same day. For syphilis test results confirmed by TPPA test you will be given time and venue to come back for collecting test results. A qualified counselor with pre and post test counseling will give test result. Study ID card will be issued to you before the interview. Test results can only be obtained by presenting the study ID card with your code number on it. If you do not have the ID card, we cannot give you the results because we will not have your name written anywhere.

### **If You Decide Not to Be in the Research**

You are free to decide whether or not to take part in this research. Your decision will not affect the health services you are seeking now and you would normally receive from the study centre.

### **Confidentiality**

We will protect information collected about you and your taking part in this study to the best of our ability. We will not use your name in any reports. A court of law could order medical records shown to other people, but that is unlikely. We will not ask you to put your name or sign on this form, but only ask you to agree verbally (with spoken words). We will be

responsible and serious about confidentiality during interview, STI examination and treatment. We assure you that all the activities will be confidential.

**Payment**

We will not pay you for your participation but you will be given condom and reading materials about STI/HIV/AIDS as compensation for your participation in the research. We will provide NRs 100.00 as a local transportation for coming to study centre for interview and test result collection.

**Leaving the Research**

You may leave the research at any time. If you do, it will not change the healthcare you normally receive from the study clinic.

**If you have a questions about the study**

If you have any questions about the research, call:

**Dale Davis**, ASHA project- FHI/Nepal, Baluwatar, Kathmandu, Phone: 01-4437173; **OR**

**Laxmi Bilas Acharya**, ASHA project- FHI/Nepal, Baluwatar, Kathmandu, Phone: 01-4437173

We will not be able to pay for/care for injuries that occur as a result of the study.

**Your Rights as a Participant**

This research has been reviewed and approved by the Institutional Review Board of Family Health International and Nepal Health Research Council (NHRC). If you have any questions about how you are being treated by the study or your rights as a participant you may contact:

**Ethical Review Board, Nepal Health Research Council, Ram Shah Path, P.O. Box 7626**

Phone: **977-1-4254220/4227460** Email: [nhrc@healthnet.org.np](mailto:nhrc@healthnet.org.np)

Or you may contact **Mahesh Shrestha**, FHI CO Nepal: GPO Box: 8803, Gopal Bhawan, Anamika Galli Ward No: 4, Baluwatar, Kathmandu Tel: 977-1-4437173. Email: [mshrestha@fhi.org](mailto:mshrestha@fhi.org)

**VOLUNTEER AGREEMENT**

I was present while the benefits, risks and procedures were read to the volunteer. All questions were answered and the volunteer has agreed to take part in the research.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of witness

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

I certify that the nature and purpose, the potential benefits, and possible risks associated with participating in this research have been explained to the above individual.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Person Who Obtained Consent

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## ANNEX – 6 BASIC EQUATION USED IN SAMPLE DESIGN

$$n = D \frac{[Z_{1-\alpha} \sqrt{2\bar{p}(1-\bar{P})} + Z_{1-\beta} \sqrt{P_1(1-P_1) + P_2(1-P_2)}]^2}{(P_2 - P_1)^2}$$

- n= required minimum sample size per survey round or comparison groups  
D = design effect (assumed in the following equations to be the default value of 2)  
P<sub>1</sub> = the estimated number of an indicator measured as a proportion at the time of the first survey or for the control area  
P<sub>2</sub> = the expected level of the indicator either at some future date or for the project area such that the quantity (P<sub>2</sub>-P<sub>1</sub>) is the size of the magnitude of change it is desired to be able to detect  
Z<sub>α</sub> = the Z-score corresponding to the degree of confidence with which it is desired to be able to conclude that an observed change of size (P<sub>2</sub>-P<sub>1</sub>) would not have occurred by chance (α – the level of statistical significance), and  
Z<sub>β</sub> = the Z-score corresponding to the degree of confidence with which it is desired to be certain of detecting a change of size (P<sub>1</sub>-P<sub>2</sub>) if one actually occurred (β – statistical power).

## ANNEX – 7 STUDY CENTERS

Districts	Lab Centers	No. of Centers	Sample Covered	Total
Kathmandu Valley	Gaushala	4	125	593
	Jamal		246	
	Koteshwor		144	
	Gongabu		78	

## ANNEX – 8 POST TEST COUNSELING PROVIDED

Post Test Counseling Date	Counseling Center	Expected Client	Client Counseled	
			N	%
16 January 2011- 06 March 2011	Study Site	593	525	88.5