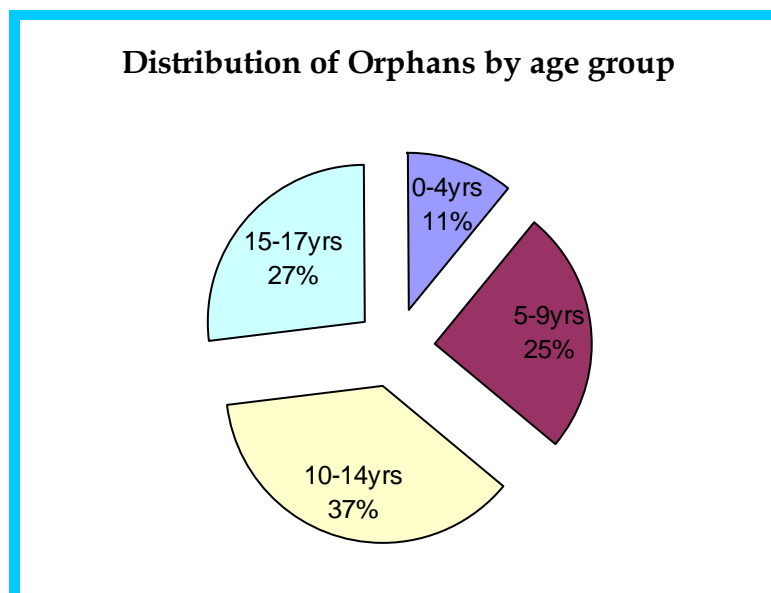


### **Botswana by Numbers: Facts and Figures About the Situation of Children and Women**

- In real terms, Gross Domestic Product in 2003/2004 grew by 5.7 percent representing a drop of 2 percent from the prior year (*Source: Government of Botswana 2005 Budget Speech*).
- Botswana's leading industry, diamond production, showed an 11 percent profit in 2004, and a record breaking 31.1 million carats were produced (*Source: Press Release, Anglo American 25 February 2005, Daily News, April 20, 2005*).
- The poverty rate has declined in Botswana. Figures for 2002/2003, show 30 percent of the population living below the poverty datum line compared to 47 percent in 1993/1994. (*Source: Central Statistics Office {CSO}, Household Income and Expenditure Survey {HIES}, 2002/2003*). There are still no estimates for the total number of children living in poverty.
- There are a total of 737,241 children under the age of 17 in Botswana, representing 43.9 percent of the total population. 48 percent of children live in urban areas and 52 percent reside in rural areas (*Source: The 2001 Botswana Population and Housing Census, CSO*).
- Child mortality rates in Botswana increased significantly between 1991-2001: infant mortality increased from 48 to 56 deaths per 1,000 live births (17 percent increase) and under-five mortality increased from 63 to 74 deaths per 1,000 live births (21percent increase). (*Source: The 2001 Botswana Population and Housing Census, CSO*).
- The Department of Social Services reports that 50,235 orphans were registered as of June 2005 and an estimated 90 percent receive assistance from the Government of Botswana (*Source: Department of Social Services, MLG 2005*).
- The national unemployment rate is estimated at 23.8 percent, whereas the rate for 20-24 year olds is estimated at 49.4 percent. (*Source: Central Statistics Office, HIES 2002/2003*).
- Preliminary results of the Botswana AIDS Impact Survey (BAISII) show:
  - A national prevalence rate of 17.1 percent for persons between 18 months and 64 years of age.
  - The prevalence rate for children 18 months to 4 years is 6.3 percent; for 5-9 year olds the rate is 6.0 percent; for 10-14 year olds the rate is 3.9 percent; and for 15-19 year olds the rate is 6.6 percent.
  - The highest prevalence rate is among people 30 to 34 years of age, at 40.2 percent.
  - Women aged 30-34 have the overall highest prevalence rate at 43.7 percent compared to 37.7 percent for men of the same age. The largest gap in prevalence rates between the sexes is in the 25-29 age group where women show a prevalence rate of 41 percent compared to 22.9 percent for men the same age.
  - For every HIV-positive boy between the ages of 15-19 years, there are three HIV-positive girls in the same age group.
- Participation in ARV therapy has increased. As of April 2005, approximately 44,000 Botswana living with HIV/AIDS had started treatment in public and private health facilities. The WHO 3X5 target for Botswana is 55,000 patients on ARVs. It is estimated that approximately 3,700 children are on ARV. (*Source: Masa Project Team 2005, ACHAP*)
- Life expectancy at birth in Botswana has decreased. In 2001 it was 56 years compared to 65 years in 1991 (*Source: The 2001 Botswana Population and Housing Census, CSO*).

### **Statistic of the Month: Orphans in Botswana**

According to the 2001 Population and Housing Census (Central Statistics Office), there are approximately 111,812 orphans in Botswana, representing approximately 15.2 percent of the children below the age of 18 years. Over one half of the orphans are adolescents.



- Almost 54 percent of all orphans live in rural areas.
- 27 percent of households with children have taken in at least one orphan. North West (33 percent), North East (33 percent) and Central (30 percent) have the highest proportion of households with children that have taken in at least one orphan. Towns have the lowest proportions.
- Over 68 percent of the orphans are taken in by female-headed households. Even though 87 percent of the orphans have one parent alive, 34 percent live with grandparents, and a further 11 percent live with other relatives.
- Close to 56 percent of orphans live with heads of households who are not economically active. Although by implication, 44 percent of orphans live with households whose heads are economically active, the majority of these heads are employed in low-paying jobs.
- Orphans are not disadvantaged in terms of primary school attendance: 92 percent of 10 –14 year-old orphans are in primary schools, compared to 93 percent of non orphans. This yields an orphan/non-orphan school attendance ratio of 99 to 100. Attendance rates of female children, among either orphans or non-orphans, are higher than those of males.