

NetMark



NetMark 2004 Survey Insecticide Treated Nets in Nigeria, Senegal, Zambia, Ghana and Ethiopia

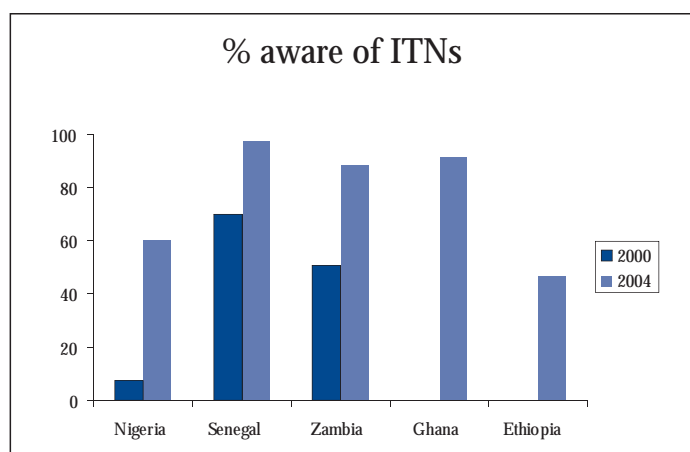
BACKGROUND

The USAID-sponsored NetMark Project at the Academy for Educational Development (AED) conducted baseline surveys on mosquito nets in 2000 in Nigeria, Senegal and Zambia. In 2004, NetMark again administered the survey in those countries, as well as in Ghana and Ethiopia. Sample sizes ranged from 1000 to 2000 households per country, with a 40:60 urban-rural ratio in each country. Respondents were women of reproductive age responsible for at least one child under the age of five. In each country, the sample was drawn from five different sites in malarious areas.

FINDINGS

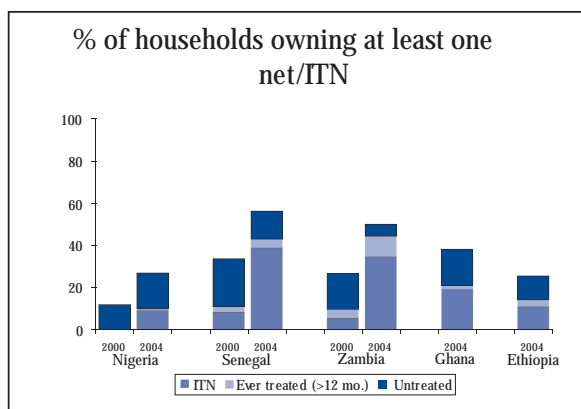
In Nigeria, Senegal, and Zambia, the data show tremendous progress on key indicators of ITN awareness, net and ITN ownership, and the proportion of vulnerable groups sleeping under nets and ITNs from 2000 to 2004. Although comparable 2000 data are not available for Ghana and Ethiopia, it is known from other studies that there were low levels of net—and especially of ITN—ownership and use in those countries at that time, and 2004 data suggest considerable progress in those countries as well. Nonetheless, none of the five countries has reached the Abuja target.

Awareness of ITNs. Awareness of ITNs is a pre-requisite to ITN ownership and use. Awareness is now close to universal in Senegal (97%) and Ghana (91%) and very high in Zambia (88%), but much lower in Nigeria (60%) and Ethiopia (47%). Although awareness in Nigeria is low in comparison to other countries, it started in 2000 at only 7% and has made the greatest gain among countries surveyed.



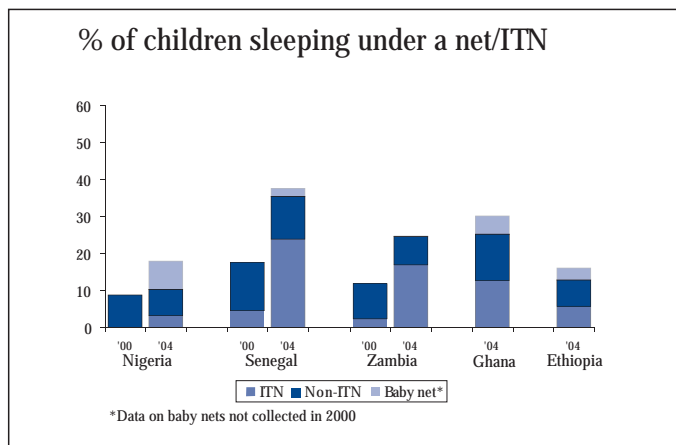
Net and ITN ownership. The percent of households owning a net or ITN increased dramatically between 2000 and 2004 in all countries. The percent owning any hanging mosquito net (whether treated or not) rose from 12% to 27% in Nigeria; from 34% to 56% in Senegal, and from 27% to 50% in Zambia. The 2004 figures were 38% in Ghana and 25% in Ethiopia. Gains were even more impressive for ITN ownership, which rose from 0% to 9% in Nigeria, 8% to 39% in Senegal, and 6% to 35% in Zambia. Nineteen percent (19%) of households in Ghana and 11% in Ethiopia owned an ITN.

Equity across socio-economic groups. Net ownership was extremely equitable in Ghana, Senegal and Nigeria, with little difference in ownership rates between the highest and lowest socio-economic categories, or between urban and rural areas. In Ethiopia and Zambia, ownership of ITNs increased sharply with SES, and was much higher in urban than rural areas, although improvements in Zambia since 2000 were similar across the SES groups.



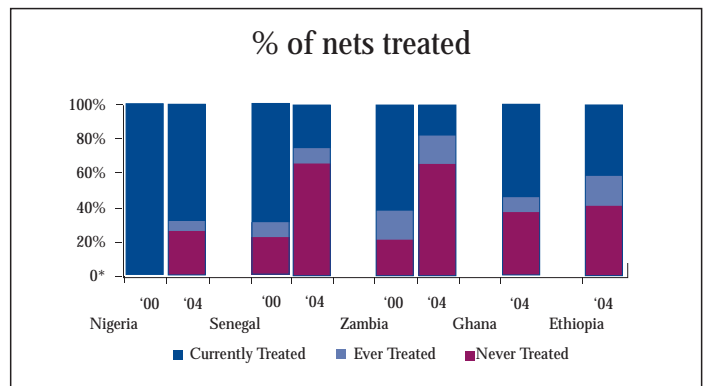
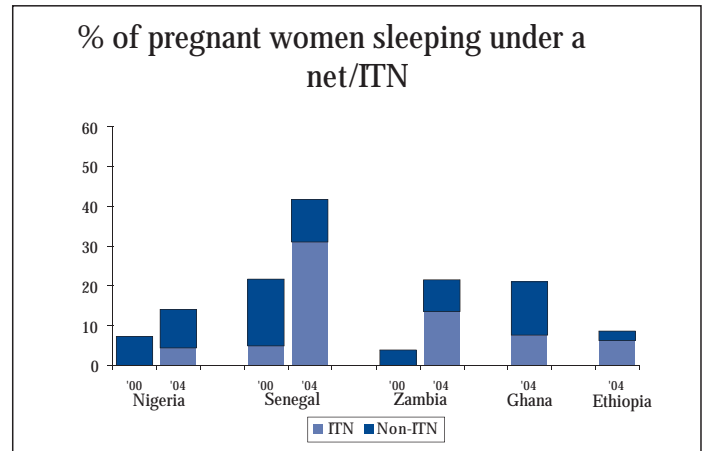
Net/ITN use by vulnerable groups. In all countries, the youngest children were given preference for sleeping under a net in net-owning households, followed by pregnant women and other women of reproductive age.

- **Children under 5.** The percent of children under five sleeping under a net (whether treated or untreated) the prior night approximately doubled in Senegal (from 18% to 35%) and Zambia (from 12% to 25%), while in Nigeria it rose from 8.8 to 10.3 (or to 17.9% when those sleeping under baby nets are included). Increases in the percent of under-fives sleeping under an ITN use are much greater: from 5% to 24% in Senegal, and from 2% to 17% in Zambia; with a lesser increase—from 0% to 3%—in Nigeria. In Ghana, 13% and in Ethiopia, 6% of children slept under an ITN the prior night.



- **Net/ITN use by pregnant women.** Between 2000 and 2004, the percent of pregnant women sleeping under a net (treated or untreated) the prior night rose from 7% to 14% in Nigeria; from 22% to 42% in Senegal, and from 4% to 22% in Zambia. The figures were 21% for Ghana and 9% for Ethiopia. The proportion of pregnant women sleeping under an ITN, showed even greater gains than for those sleeping under any net, rising from 0% to 4% in Nigeria, 5% to 31% in Senegal, and 0% to 14% in Zambia; with Ghana at 8% and Ethiopia at 6% in 2004.

Proportion of nets treated. The most impressive gains were in the proportion of nets owned that were ITNs. The proportion increased from 0% to 27% in Nigeria, from 23% to 65% in Senegal, and from 22% to 66% in Zambia, with Ghana at 40% and Ethiopia at 41%. This indicator did not differ much by urban-rural or socio-economic status, except in Nigeria where nets in better-off households were more likely to be ITNs. In all countries but Nigeria, nets were much more likely to have been bought pretreated than they were to have been treated since they were acquired; in Nigeria there was virtually no difference.



CONCLUSIONS

RBM strategies have generated tremendous progress in net/ITN ownership and use, although there must be a more intensive and coordinated effort between them to achieve Abuja targets by 2010.

The cross-national report of the NetMark 2004 surveys, “Awareness, Ownership, and Use of Mosquito Nets in Nigeria, Senegal, Zambia, Ghana, and Ethiopia” is available at www.netmarkafrica.org/research. Along with individual country reports containing more detailed findings on the above and related ITN topics such as net treatment practices and characteristics of nets owned; knowledge and beliefs about mosquitoes and malaria; exposure to information about ITNs; perceptions of nets/ITNs; consumer preferences regarding mosquito nets; and use of other mosquito control products.



All NetMark research reports are available at www.netmarkafrica.org/research

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