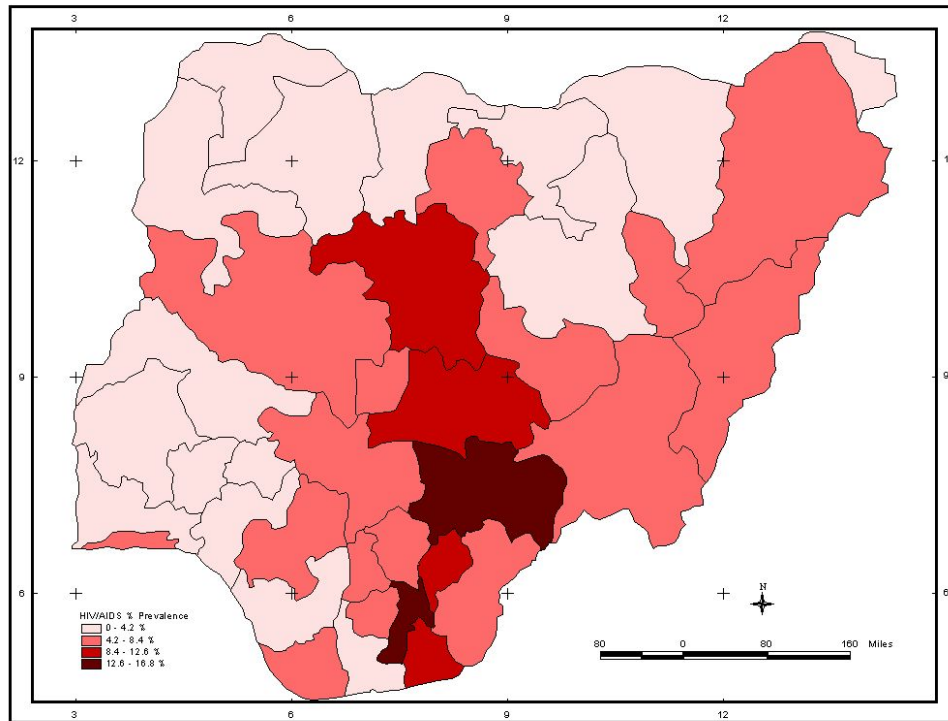


The Spatial Pattern of HIV/AIDS Infection in Nigeria

Within the last ten years, HIV/AIDS prevalence in Nigeria has reached an alarming proportion of 5.8 per cent of the adult population. It is estimated that by 2010 the number of HIV positive persons is expected to exceed 10 million. When the HIV/AIDS data is mapped using the GIS we see a geographic patterns that calls for serious actions. The prevalence rate of HIV shows hotspots within each region, but a strong clustering at the central states of the country. It is important to note that there are also regional variations in HIV/AIDS prevalence and knowledge within the six geopolitical zones (North-West, North-East, North-Central, South-West, South-East, and South-South) of the country.

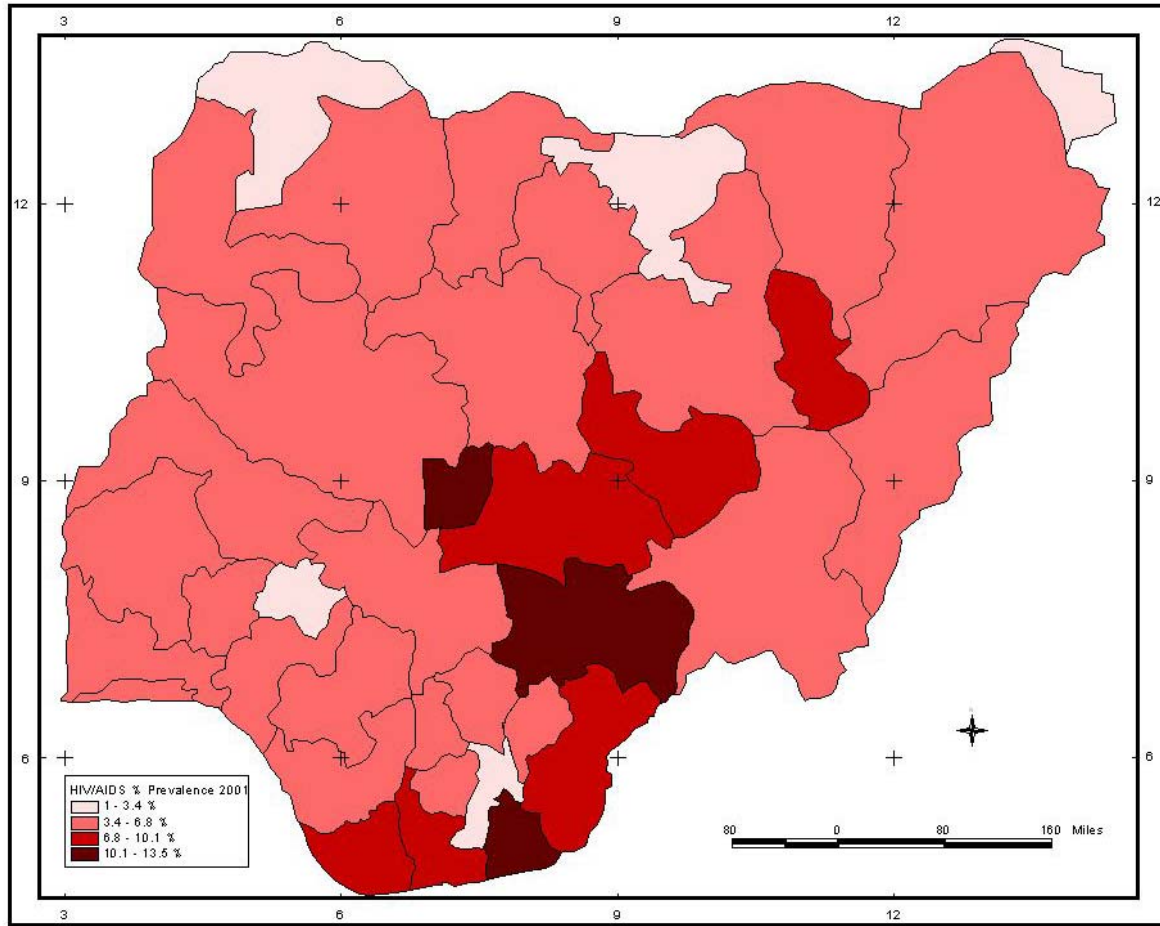
This project uses the Arcview GIS to demonstrate that, the rate of prevalence of HIV/AIDS in Nigeria varies across the regions and increased over the years. Therefore, maps and analysis like this would help policy makers to focus attention on these area where clustering occurs, to stem the diffusion rate with location specific preventive measures.

Figure 1: Map Showing HIV/AIDS Prevalence percent rate, 1999



Source: Recreated with ArcView 3.2 based on Geological Surveys of Nigeria, 1986 and prevalence rate from <http://www.nigerianredcross.org/campaign.php>

Figure 2: Map showing HIV/AIDS Prevalence percent rate in 2001



Source: Recreated with ArcView 3.2 based on Geological Surveys of Nigeria, 1986 and **
<http://www.nigerianredcross.org/campaign.php>