

Abstract

The main aim of this thesis is to analyse the impact of HIV/AIDS on the reproductive behaviour of population of South Africa, its four racial groups and its nine provinces since the half of 1980's. Before the analysis of the impact of HIV/AIDS on reproductive behaviour was made, it was shown how big the problem of HIV/AIDS is in South Africa. The HIV incidence and prevalence were used for this purpose. The impact of HIV/AIDS was noticeable from the comparison of levels of fertility between HIV positive and negative women. The impact of HIV/AIDS on reproductive behaviour was further assessed using the decomposition methods and the statistical and epidemiological indicator called population attributable change. The results of analyses revealed the exceptional position of South Africa between other African countries that suffer from HIV/AIDS as well. A regression analysis showed that the growing prevalence of HIV increases the overall level of fertility. At the end of the thesis the projection of fertility till 2030 was made to illustrate the theoretical development of fertility provided that nobody become infected with HIV since the beginning of 2010.