

FACT SHEET 2021

Global HIV statistics

37.7 million [30.2 million–45.1 million] people globally were living with HIV in 2020.

1.5 million [1.0 million–2.0 million] people became newly infected with HIV in 2020.

680 000 [480 000–1.0 million] people died from AIDS-related illnesses in 2020.

27.5 million [26.5 million–27.7 million] people were accessing antiretroviral therapy in 2020.

79.3 million [55.9 million–110 million] people have become infected with HIV since the start of the epidemic.

36.3 million [27.2 million–47.8 million] people have died from AIDS-related illnesses since the start of the epidemic.

People living with HIV

- In 2020, there were 37.7 million [30.2 million–45.1 million] people living with HIV.
 - 36.0 million [28.9 million–43.2 million] adults.
 - 1.7 million [1.2 million–2.2 million] children (0–14 years).
 - 53% of all people living with HIV were women and girls.
- 84% [67– >98%] of all people living with HIV knew their HIV status in 2020.
- About 6.1 million [4.9 million–7.3 million] people did not know that they were living with HIV in 2020.

People living with HIV accessing antiretroviral therapy

- At the end of December 2020, 27.5 million [26.5 million–27.7 million] people were accessing antiretroviral therapy, up from 7.8 million [6.9 million–7.9 million] in 2010.
- In 2020, 73% [56–88%] of all people living with HIV were accessing treatment.
 - 74% [57–90%] of adults aged 15 years and older living with HIV had access to treatment, as did 54% [37–69%] of children aged 0–14 years.
 - 79% [61–95%] of female adults aged 15 years and older had access to treatment; however, just 68% [52–83%] of male adults aged 15 years and older had access.
- 85% [63– >98%] of pregnant women living with HIV had access to antiretroviral medicines to prevent transmission of HIV to their child in 2020.

New HIV infections

- New HIV infections have been reduced by 52% since the peak in 1997.
 - In 2020, around 1.5 million [1.0 million–2.0 million] people were newly infected with HIV, compared to 3.0 million [2.1 million–4.2 million] people in 1997.
 - Women and girls accounted for 50% of all new infections in 2020.
- Since 2010, new HIV infections have declined by 31%, from 2.1 million [1.5 million–2.9 million] to 1.5 million [1.0 million–2.0 million] in 2020.
 - Since 2010, new HIV infections among children have declined by 53%, from 320 000 [210 000–510 000] in 2010 to 150 000 [100 000–240 000] in 2020.

AIDS-related deaths

- AIDS-related deaths have been reduced by 64% since the peak in 2004 and by 47% since 2010.
 - In 2020, around 680 000 [480 000–1 million] people died from AIDS-related illnesses worldwide, compared to 1.9 million [1.3 million–2.7 million] people in 2004 and 1.3 million [910 000–1.9 million] people in 2010.
- AIDS-related mortality has declined by 53% among women and girls and by 41% among men and boys since 2010.

COVID-19 and HIV

- People living with HIV experience more severe outcomes and have higher comorbidities from COVID-19 than people not living with HIV. In mid-2021, most people living with HIV did not have access to COVID-19 vaccines.
 - Studies from England and South Africa have found that the risk of dying from COVID-19 among people with HIV was double that of the general population.
 - Sub-Saharan Africa is home to two thirds (67%) of people living with HIV. But the COVID-19 vaccines that can protect them are not arriving fast enough. In July 2021, less than 3% of people in Africa had received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine.
- COVID-19 lockdowns and other restrictions disrupted HIV testing and in many countries led to steep drops in diagnoses and referrals to HIV treatment.
 - The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria reported that, according to data collected at 502 health facilities in 32 African and Asian countries, HIV testing declined by 41% and referrals for diagnosis and treatment declined by 37% during the first COVID-19 lockdowns in 2020, compared with the same period in 2019.

Key populations

- In 2020, key populations (sex workers and their clients, gay men and other men who have sex with men, people who inject drugs, transgender people) and their sexual partners accounted for 65% of HIV infections globally:

- 93% of new HIV infections outside of sub-Saharan Africa.
- 39% of new HIV infections in sub-Saharan Africa.
- The risk of acquiring HIV is:
 - 35 times higher among people who inject drugs.
 - 34 times higher for transgender women.
 - 26 times higher for sex workers.
 - 25 times higher among gay men and other men who have sex with men.

Women

- Every week, around 5000 young women aged 15–24 years become infected with HIV.
 - In sub-Saharan Africa, six in seven new HIV infections among adolescents aged 15–19 years are among girls. Young women aged 15–24 years are twice as likely to be living with HIV than men. Around 4200 adolescent girls and young women aged 15–24 years became infected with HIV every week in 2020.
- More than one third (35%) of women around the world have experienced physical and/or sexual violence by an intimate partner or sexual violence by a non-partner at some time in their lives.
 - In some regions, women who have experienced physical or sexual intimate partner violence are 1.5 times more likely to acquire HIV than women who have not experienced such violence.
- In sub-Saharan Africa, women and girls accounted for 63% of all new HIV infections in 2020.

90–90–90

- In 2020, 84% [67– >98%] of people living with HIV knew their HIV status.
- Among people who knew their status, 87% [67– >98%] were accessing treatment.
- And among people accessing treatment, 90% [70– >98%] were virally suppressed.
- Of all people living with HIV, 84% [67– >98%] knew their status, 73% [56–88%] were accessing treatment and 66% [53–79%] were virally suppressed in 2020.

Investments

- At the end of 2020, US\$ 21.5 billion (in constant 2019 United States dollars) was available for the AIDS response in low- and middle-income countries—around 61% was from domestic sources.
- UNAIDS estimates that US\$ 29 billion (in constant 2019 United States dollars) will be required for the AIDS response in low- and middle-income countries, including countries formerly considered to be upper-income countries, in 2025 to get on track to end AIDS as a global public health threat.

Global HIV data

	2000	2005	2010	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
People living with HIV	25.5 million [20.5 million–30.7 million]	28.6 million [23.0 million–34.3 million]	31.1 million [25.0 million–37.3 million]	34.6 million [27.7 million–41.4 million]	35.3 million [28.3 million–42.2 million]	35.9 million [28.8 million–43.0 million]	36.6 million [29.3 million–43.8 million]	37.2 million [29.8 million–44.5 million]	37.7 million [30.2 million–45.1 million]
New HIV infections (total)	2.9 million [2.0 million–3.9 million]	2.4 million [1.7million–3.4 million]	2.1 million [1.5 million–2.9 million]	1.8 million [1.3 million–2.4 million]	1.7 million [1.2 million–2.4 million]	1.7 million [1.2 million–2.3 million]	1.6 million [1.1 million–2.2 million]	1.5 million [1.1 million–2.1 million]	1.5 million [1.0 million–2.0 million]
New HIV infections (aged 15+ years)	2.3 million [1.6 million–3.2 million]	2.0 million [1.4 million–2.7 million]	1.8 million [1.3 million–2.5 million]	1.6 million [1.1 million–2.2 million]	1.5 million [1.1 million–2.1 million]	1.5 million [1.0 million–2.1 million]	1.4 million [1.0 million–2.0 million]	1.4 million [960 000–1.9 million]	1.3 million [910 000–1.8 million]
New HIV infections (aged 0–14 years)	520 000 [340 000–820 000]	480 000 [310 000–750 000]	320 000 [210 000–510 000]	190 000 [130 000–300 000]	190 000 [120 000–290 000]	180 000 [120 000–280 000]	170 000 [110 000–260 000]	160 000 [100 000–250 000]	150 000 [100 000–240 000]
AIDS-related deaths	1.5 million [1.1 million–2.2 million]	1.9 million [1.3 million–2.7 million]	1.3 million [910 000–1.9 million]	900 000 [640 000–1.3 million]	850 000 [600 000–1.2 million]	800 000 [570 000–1.2 million]	750 000 [530 000–1.1 million]	720 000 [510 000–1.1 million]	680 000 [480 000–1.0 million]
People accessing antiretroviral therapy	560 000 [560 000–560 000]	2.0 million [2.0 million–2.0 million]	7.8 million [6.9 million–7.9 million]	17.1 million [14.6 million–17.3 million]	19.3 million [16.6 million–19.5 million]	21.5 million [19.6 million–21.7 million]	23.1 million [21.9 million–23.4 million]	25.5 million [24.5 million–25.7 million]	27.5 million [26.5 million–27.7 million]
HIV resources available*	US\$ 5.1 billion	US\$ 9.3 billion	US\$ 16.6 billion	US\$ 20.3 billion	US\$ 20.7 billion	US\$ 22.3 billion	US\$ 22.0 billion	US\$ 21.6 billion	US\$ 21.5 billion

* In constant 2019 United States dollars.

Source: UNAIDS 2021 epidemiological estimates.

Regional data—2020

Region	People living with HIV 2020	New HIV infections 2020			AIDS-related deaths 2020	People accessing treatment 2020
		Total	Aged 15+ years	Aged 0–14 years		
Eastern and southern Africa	20.6 million [16.8 million–24.4 million]	670 000 [470 000–930 000]	600 000 [410 000–830 000]	75 000 [49 000–130 000]	310 000 [220 000–470 000]	16.0 million [15.4 million–16.1 million]
Asia and the Pacific	5.8 million [4.3 million–7.0 million]	240 000 [170 000–310 000]	230 000 [170 000–300 000]	13 000 [8100–18 000]	130 000 [87 000–200 000]	3.7 million [3.5 million–3.6 million]
Western and central Africa	4.7 million [3.9 million–5.8 million]	200 000 [130 000–330 000]	150 000 [87 000–250 000]	55 000 [35 000–82 000]	150 000 [100 000–210 000]	3.5 million [3.3 million–3.5 million]
Latin America	2.1 million [1.4 million–2.7 million]	100 000 [66 000–150 000]	100 000 [65 000–140 000]	2300 [1400–4200]	31 000 [20 000–46 000]	1.4 million [1.3 million–1.4 million]
The Caribbean	330 000 [280 000–390 000]	13 000 [8700–18 000]	12 000 [7800–17 000]	1200 [750–1800]	6000 [4300–8500]	220 000 [210 000–220 000]
Middle East and North Africa	230 000 [190 000–310 000]	16 000 [12 000–28 000]	15 000 [11 000–26 000]	1400 [1100–2100]	7900 [6000–13 000]	96 000 [89 000–94 000]
Eastern Europe and central Asia	1.6 million [1.5 million–1.8 million]	140 000 [120 000–160 000]	130 000 [110 000–150 000]	[... – ...]*	35 000 [28 000–43 000]	870 000 [830 000–870 000]
Western and central Europe and North America	2.2 million [1.9 million–2.6 million]	67 000 [53 000–81 000]	66 000 [53 000–80 000]	[... – ...]*	13 000 [9200–17 000]	1.9 million [1.8 million–1.9 million]
Global totals	37.7 million [30.2 million–45.1 million]	1.5 million [1.0 million–2.0 million]	1.3 million [910 000–1.8 million]	150 000 [100 000–240 000]	680 000 [480 000–1.0 million]	27.5 million [26.5 million–27.7 million]

* Estimates not published because of the small numbers.

Source: UNAIDS 2021 epidemiological estimates.

Regional treatment coverage—2020

	Percentage of pregnant women accessing antiretroviral medicines to prevent mother-to-child transmission of HIV	Percentage of adults (aged 15+ years) living with HIV accessing antiretroviral therapy	Percentage of children (aged 0–14 years) living with HIV accessing antiretroviral therapy	Percentage of all people living with HIV accessing antiretroviral therapy (total)
Eastern and southern Africa	95% [71–>98%]	78% [62–94%]	57% [39–71%]	77% [60–92%]
Asia and the Pacific	57% [47–77%]	64% [46–78%]	81% [52–>98%]	64% [46–78%]
Western and central Africa	56% [42–72%]	77% [61–95%]	35% [25–47%]	73% [58–90%]
Latin America	90% [59–>98%]	65% [43–86%]	54% [34–79%]	65% [43–86%]
The Caribbean	72% [58–87%]	67% [56–80%]	43% [32–54%]	67% [55–79%]
Middle East and North Africa	25% [20–33%]	43% [35–60%]	47% [36–60%]	43% [35–60%]
Eastern Europe and central Asia	...% [...–...%]*	52% [45–59%]	...% [...–...%]*	53% [46–60%]
Western and central Europe and North America	...% [...–...%]*	83% [68–97%]	...% [...–...%]*	83% [68–97%]
Global	85% [63–>98%]	74% [57–90%]	54% [37–69%]	73% [56–88%]

* Estimates not published because of the small numbers.

Source: UNAIDS 2021 epidemiological estimates.

Contact

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UNAIDS 2021 estimates and additional data are available at aidsinfo.unaids.org.