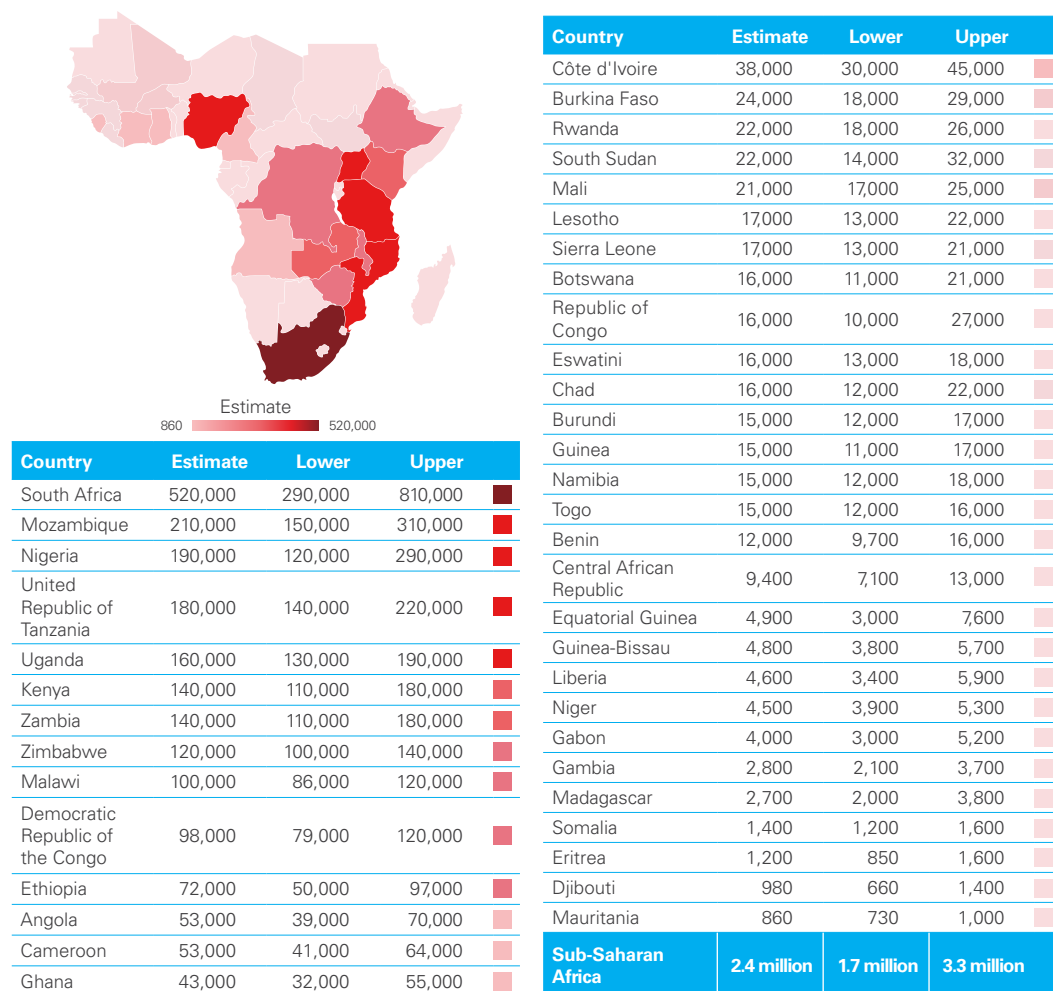


2021 HIV and AIDS Sub-Saharan Africa Snapshot

Pregnant Women, Children and Adolescents November 2021

Figure 1: Number of children and adolescents aged 0-19 years living with HIV, by country, 2020



Data source: UNAIDS 2021 estimates.

Note: This map does not claim any official position by the United Nations. The numbers in brackets refer to the confidence interval.

For more information, please visit data.unicef.org.

Figure 2: Situation of children and adolescents with HIV and AIDS, 2020

Overview	Estimate	Lower	Upper
Number of children and adolescents living with HIV	2.5 million	1.7 million	3.1 million
Children aged 0–9 years	900,000	650,000	1.1 million
Adolescents aged 10–19 years	1.55 million	1.03 million	2 million
Number of new HIV infections, children and adolescents	260,000	113,000	470,000
Children aged 0–9* years	130,000	84,000	210,000
Adolescents aged 10–19 years	130,000	29,000	260,000
Adolescent girls	110,000	14,000	210,000
Adolescent boys	19,000	1,300	52,000
HIV incidence per 1,000 population, adolescents aged 15–19 years	1.05	0.24	2.14
Adolescent girls	1.79	0.24	3.56
Adolescent boys	0.32	0.02	0.86
Number of AIDS-related deaths, children and adolescents	104,000	72,000	164,000
Children aged 0–9 years	73,000	50,000	120,000
Adolescents aged 10–19 years	31,000	22,000	44,000
Number of children aged 0–17 years who lost one or both parents due to AIDS	11.5 million	8.13 million	15.4 million
Number of pregnant women living with HIV	1.2 million	860,000	1.4 million
Mother-to-child transmission rate of HIV, final	11.2	9.1	14.4
Perinatal transmission	6.2	4.8	8.8
Post-natal transmission	5.0	4.3	5.6
HIV response	Estimate	Lower	Upper
PMTCT coverage (%)	87	70	>95
Early infant diagnosis (%)	64	51	87
ART coverage, children aged 0–14 (%)	51	35	65

Data source: Global AIDS Monitoring 2021 and UNAIDS 2021 estimates

*Almost all new HIV infections among younger children occur among those aged 0-4 years, either through pregnancy, birth or breastfeeding.

Indicator definitions

Mother-to-child transmission (MTCT) rate: Number of children aged 0–4 years newly infected with HIV per 100 pregnant women living with HIV

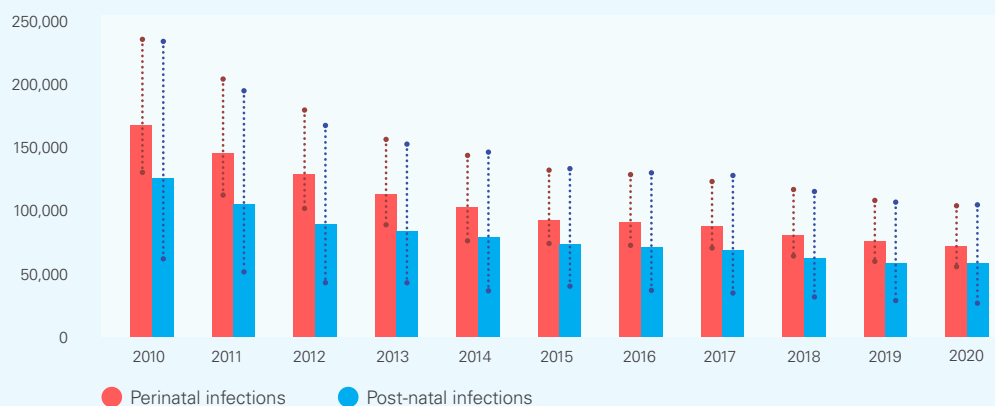
HIV incidence per 1,000 adolescents: Number of new HIV infections among adolescents aged 15–19 years per 1,000 adolescents at risk of HIV infection

PMTCT coverage: Percentage of pregnant women living with HIV who received antiretrovirals to prevent mother-to-child transmission of HIV

Early infant diagnosis: Percentage of infants born to HIV-positive mothers who were tested for HIV within two months of birth

ART coverage among children aged 0–14 years: Percentage of children aged 0–14 living with HIV who are receiving antiretroviral treatment.

Figure 3: Annual number of new HIV infections among children aged 0-14 years, by period of transmission, 2010–2020

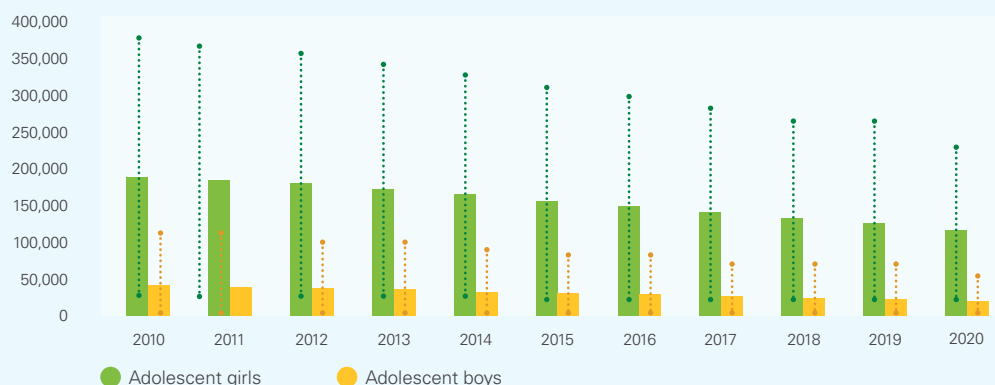


Data source: UNAIDS 2021 estimates.

Note: Almost all new HIV infections among younger children occur among those aged 0-4, either through pregnancy, birth or breastfeeding. The 95 per cent reduction by 2020 refers to Super-Fast-Track targets. The dotted lines above and below the numbers in the chart refer to the confidence interval.

In sub-Saharan Africa, new HIV infections among younger children have dropped by 56 per cent since 2010. A similar reduction in child infections is observed during pregnancy or birth and breastfeeding period. No matter the period of infection, the HIV response did not reach the global target of reducing new HIV infections from mother-to-child transmission to under 15,000 children.

Figure 4: Annual number of new HIV infections among adolescents aged 10-19 years, by sex, 2010–2020

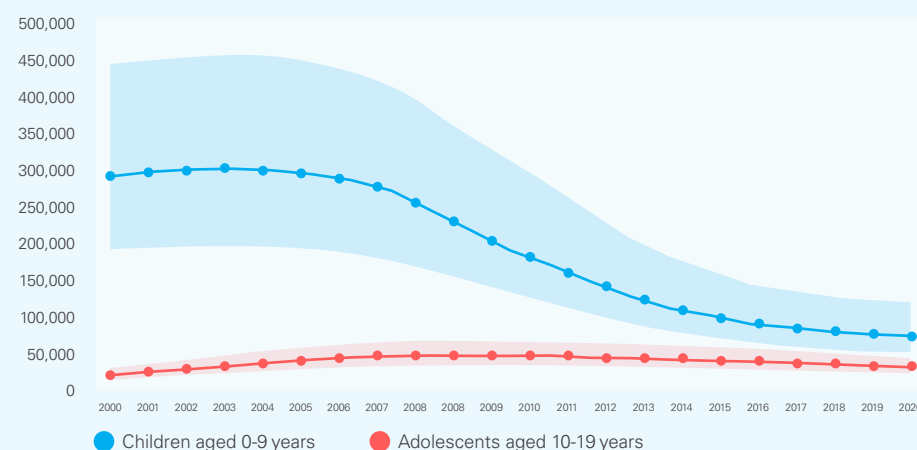


Data source: UNAIDS 2021 estimates.

Note: Almost all sexually transmitted HIV infections are assumed to occur after age 14, since negligible numbers of sexually transmitted infections occur before age 15. The 75 per cent reduction by 2020 refers to Super-Fast-Track targets. The dotted lines above and below the numbers in the chart refer to the confidence interval.

Overall, new HIV infections among adolescents have dropped by one-third (35 per cent). While 85 per cent of new HIV infections among adolescents occur in girls, new HIV infections have declined more for boys than girls in the last ten years. A reduction of more than 60 per cent is needed to meet the global target.

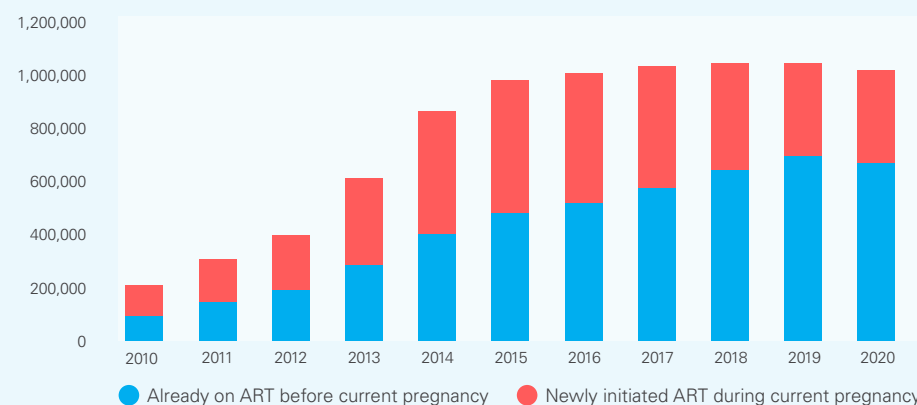
Figure 5: Number of AIDS-related deaths among children aged 0-9 years and adolescents aged 10-19 years, 2000-2020



Data source: UNAIDS 2021 estimates.

The number of annual AIDS-related deaths among children has declined by 75 per cent since its peak in 2003, while the number of annual AIDS-related deaths among those aged 10-19 years has only decreased by 7 per cent since 2003. Deaths among children have dropped by 61 per cent since 2010 to 2020 while those among adolescents have dropped by 33 per cent in the same time period.

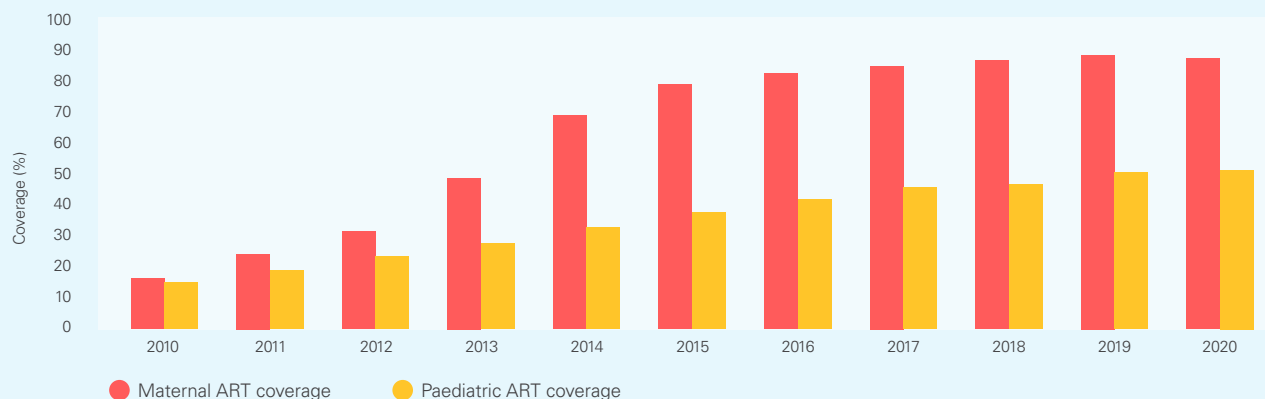
Figure 6: Pregnant women already on ART for prevention of mother-to-child-transmission (PMTCT) before current pregnancy compared to those that started ART for PMTCT during current pregnancy, 2010–2020



Data source: UNAIDS 2021 estimates.

About two-thirds of pregnant women were already on antiretroviral treatment prior to their current pregnancy in 2020. Significant gains have been made since 2010 to ensure that pregnant women are on lifetime antiretroviral medicines to prevent mother-to-child-transmission.

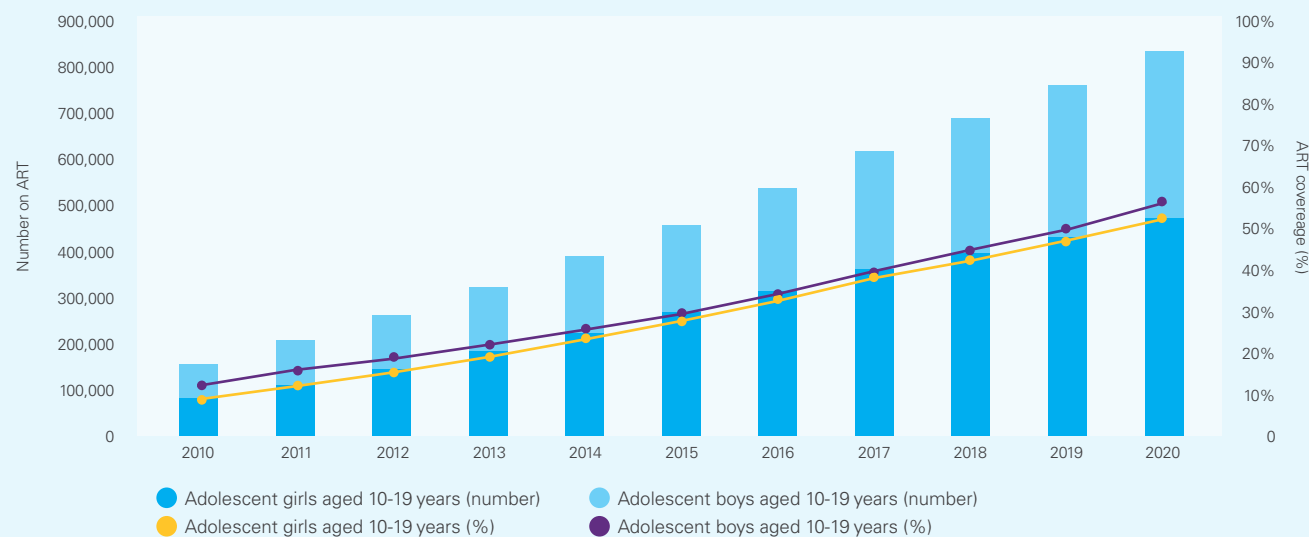
Figure 7: Percentage of children aged 0–14 living with HIV and pregnant women living with HIV receiving ART, 2010–2020



Data source: Global AIDS Monitoring and UNAIDS 2021 estimates
 Note: Maternal antiretroviral treatment (ART) includes only Option B+ regimens

While the per cent of pregnant women living with HIV receiving lifelong ART has increased from 17 per cent to 87 per cent, the per cent of children receiving ART has only increased from 15 per cent to 51 per cent over the same 2010-2020 period.

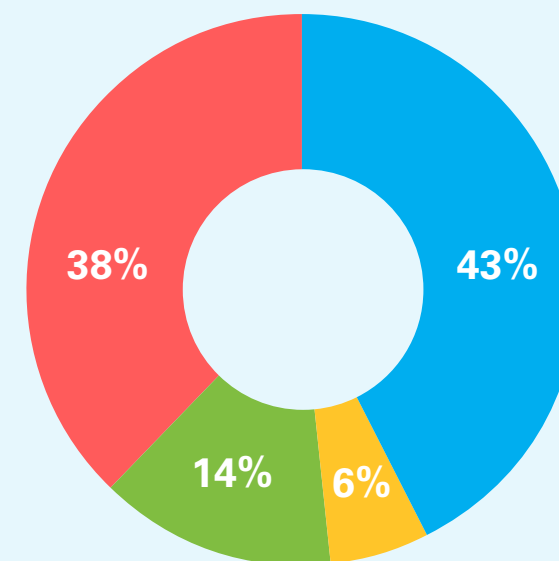
Figure 8: Number and coverage of ART among adolescents aged 10-19 years by gender, 2010-2020



Source: UNAIDS 2021 estimates.

Antiretroviral treatment coverage is low in sub-Saharan Africa (54 per cent). ART coverage among girls has increased from 9 per cent to 52 per cent from 2010 to 2020 and among boys it has increased from 13 per cent to 56 per cent in the same time period.

Figure 9: Knowledge of status, coverage of antiretroviral therapy, and viral load suppression among all children aged 0-14 years living with HIV, 2020



- Children living with HIV with unknown HIV status
- Children living with HIV with known HIV status and who are not on ART
- Children living with HIV who are on ART and not virally suppressed
- Children living with HIV who are on ART and virally suppressed

Source: UNAIDS 2021 estimates

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