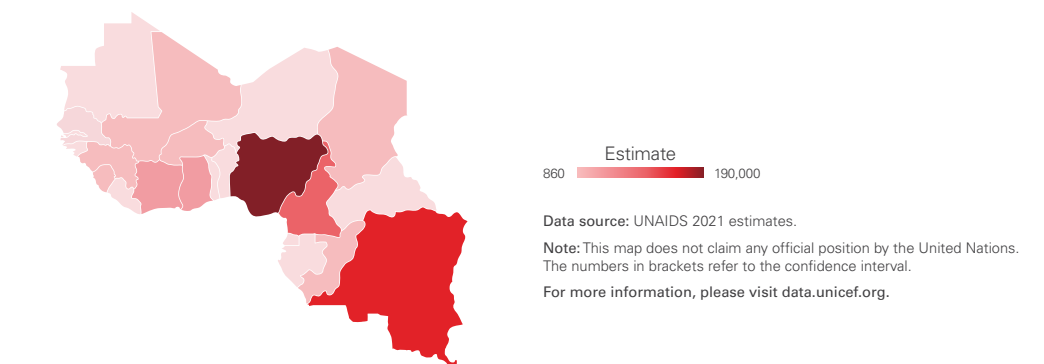


2021 HIV and AIDS West and Central Africa Snapshot

Pregnant Women, Children and Adolescents November 2021

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



Country	Estimate	Lower	Upper
Nigeria	190,000	120,000	290,000
Democratic Republic of the Congo	98,000	79,000	120,000
Cameroon	53,000	41,000	64,000
Ghana	43,000	32,000	55,000
Côte d'Ivoire	38,000	30,000	45,000
Burkina Faso	24,000	18,000	29,000
Mali	21,000	17,000	25,000
Sierra Leone	17,000	13,000	21,000
Republic of the Congo	16,000	10,000	27,000
Chad	16,000	12,000	22,000
Guinea	15,000	11,000	17,000
Togo	15,000	12,000	16,000
Benin	12,000	9,700	16,000
Central African Republic	9,400	7,100	13,000
Senegal	5,500	4,700	6,400
Equatorial Guinea	4,900	3,000	7,600
Guinea-Bissau	4,800	3,800	5,700
Liberia	4,600	3,400	5,900
Niger	4,500	3,900	5,300
Gabon	4,000	3,000	5,200
Gambia	2,800	2,100	3,700
Mauritania	860	730	1,000
West and Central Africa	600,000	440,000	800,000

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

Overview	Estimate	Lower	Upper
Number of children and adolescents living with HIV	600,000	440,000	800,000
Children aged 0–9 years	270,000	200,000	350,000
Adolescents aged 10–19 years	330,000	240,000	450,000
Number of new HIV infections, children and adolescents	76,000	39,300	131,000
Children aged 0–9* years	54,000	34,000	81,000
Adolescents aged 10–19 years	22,000	5,300	50,000
Adolescent girls	18,000	2,700	40,000
Adolescent boys	4,000	<500	12,000
HIV incidence per 1,000 population, adolescents aged 15–19 years	0.37	0.09	0.83
Adolescent girls	0.61	0.09	1.36
Adolescent boys	0.13	0.01	0.39
Number of AIDS-related deaths, children and adolescents	43,000	28,500	61,000
Children aged 0–9 years	33,000	21,000	47,000
Adolescents aged 10–19 years	10,000	7,500	14,000
Number of children aged 0–17 years who lost one or both parents due to AIDS	3,200,000	2,480,000	4,120,000
Number of pregnant women living with HIV	250,000	190,000	320,000
Mother-to-child transmission rate of HIV, final	21.6	17.9	25.2
Perinatal transmission	13.1	10.6	15.8
Post-natal transmission	8.5	7.3	9.4
HIV response	Estimate	Lower	Upper
Prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT) coverage (%)	56	44	76
Early infant diagnosis (%)	27	21	36
Antiretroviral treatment (ART) coverage, children aged 0–14 years (%)	36	26	48

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

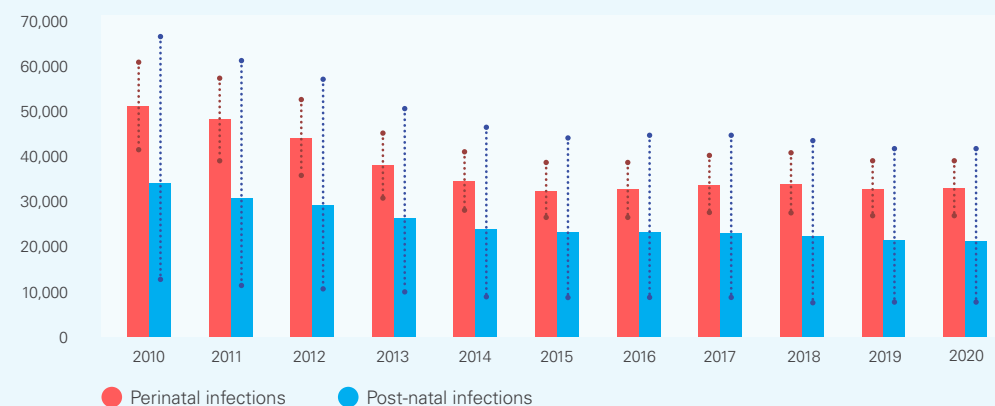
HIV incidence per 1,000 adolescents: Number of new HIV infections among adolescents aged 15–19 years per 1,000 adolescents at risk of HIV infection

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

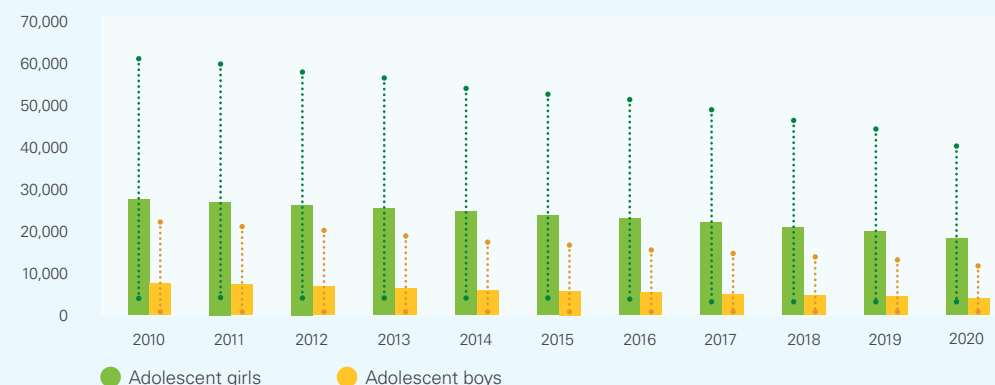


Data source: UNAIDS 2021 estimates.

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 West and Central Africa, new HIV infections among younger children have dropped by 36 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 4,500 children.

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

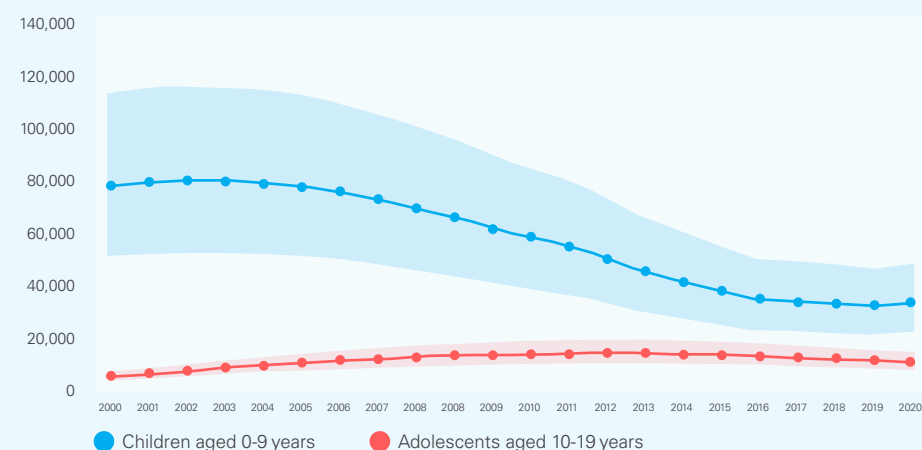


Data source: UNAIDS 2021 estimates.

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 (33 per cent). About 80 per cent of new HIV infections among adolescents occur in girls, and new HIV infections have declined by 47 per cent for girls and 30 per cent for boys in the last ten years. A reduction of more than 60 per cent is need to meet the global target.

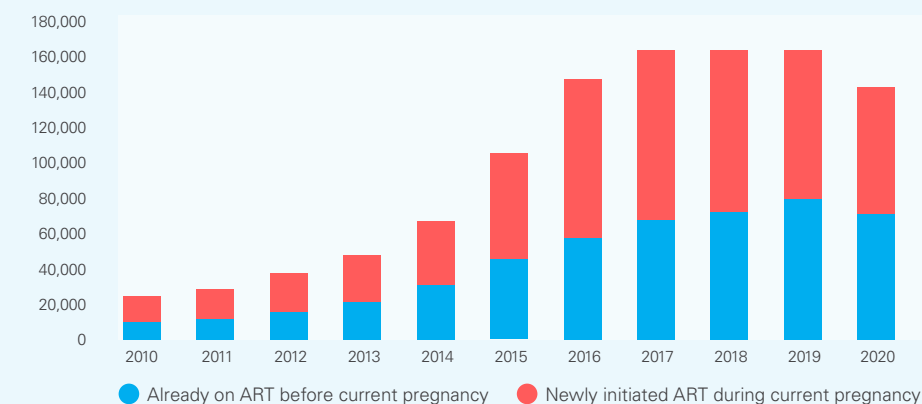
Figure 5: Number of AIDS-related deaths among children aged 0-9 years and adolescents aged 10-19 years, 2000-2020



Data source: UNAIDS 2021 estimates.

The number of annual AIDS-related deaths among children has declined by 59 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 27 per cent since 2003. Deaths among children have dropped by 45 per cent since 2010 to 2020 while those among adolescents have dropped by 22 per cent in the same time period.

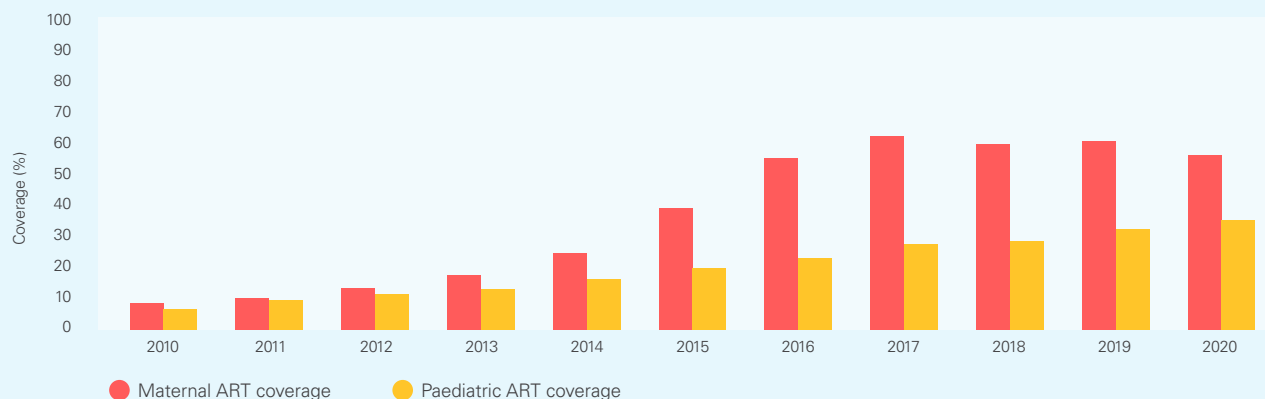
Figure 6: Pregnant women already on ART for prevention of mother-to-child-transmission (PMTCT) before current pregnancy compared to those that started ART for PMTCT during current pregnancy, 2010–2020



Data source: UNAIDS 2021 estimates.

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

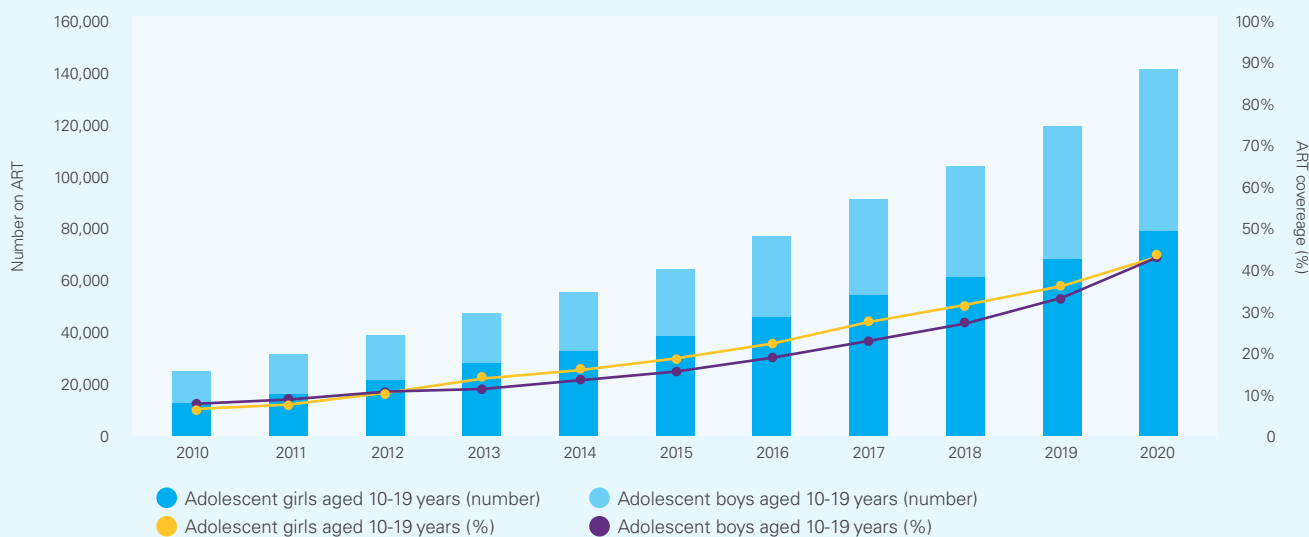
Figure 7: Percentage of children aged 0–14 living with HIV and pregnant women living with HIV receiving ART, 2010–2020



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 9 per cent to 56 per cent, the per cent of children receiving ART has increased from 7 per cent to only 36 per cent over the same 2010-2020 period.

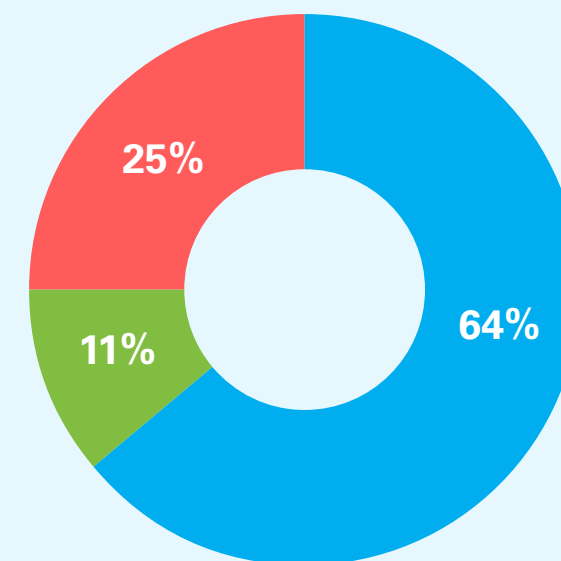
Figure 8: Number and coverage of ART among adolescents aged 10-19 years by gender, 2010-2020



Source: UNAIDS 2021 estimates.

Antiretroviral treatment coverage is low in West and Central Africa (43 per cent). ART coverage among girls has increased from 7 per cent to 43 per cent from 2010 to 2020 and among boys it has increased from 8 per cent to 43 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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