

Leaving no one behind: Addressing disparities in prevention and treatment in Europe

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Fast Track Cities Conference , 27 Sept 2023



Disclosures/Conflicts of interest

None

Background:

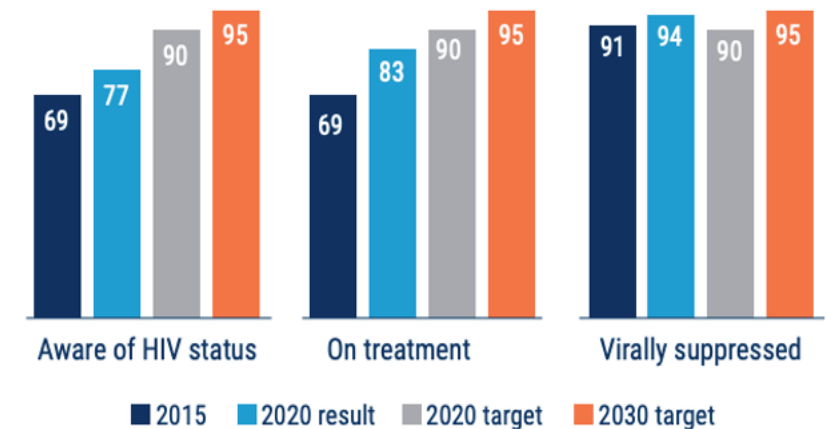
- An estimated **2.6 million** people were living with HIV in 2022 in Europe.
- 72% knew their status, 63% were receiving treatment and 60% had suppressed viral loads.
- In Europe, HIV disproportionately affects **men who have sex with men (MSM), people who inject drugs (PWID), prisoners, sex workers, and transgender people.**



2.6 million

people live with HIV

Insufficient progress



HIV 90-90-90 targets not met

¹ WHO Regional action plans 2022–2030 for ending AIDS and the epidemics of viral hepatitis and sexually transmitted infections.

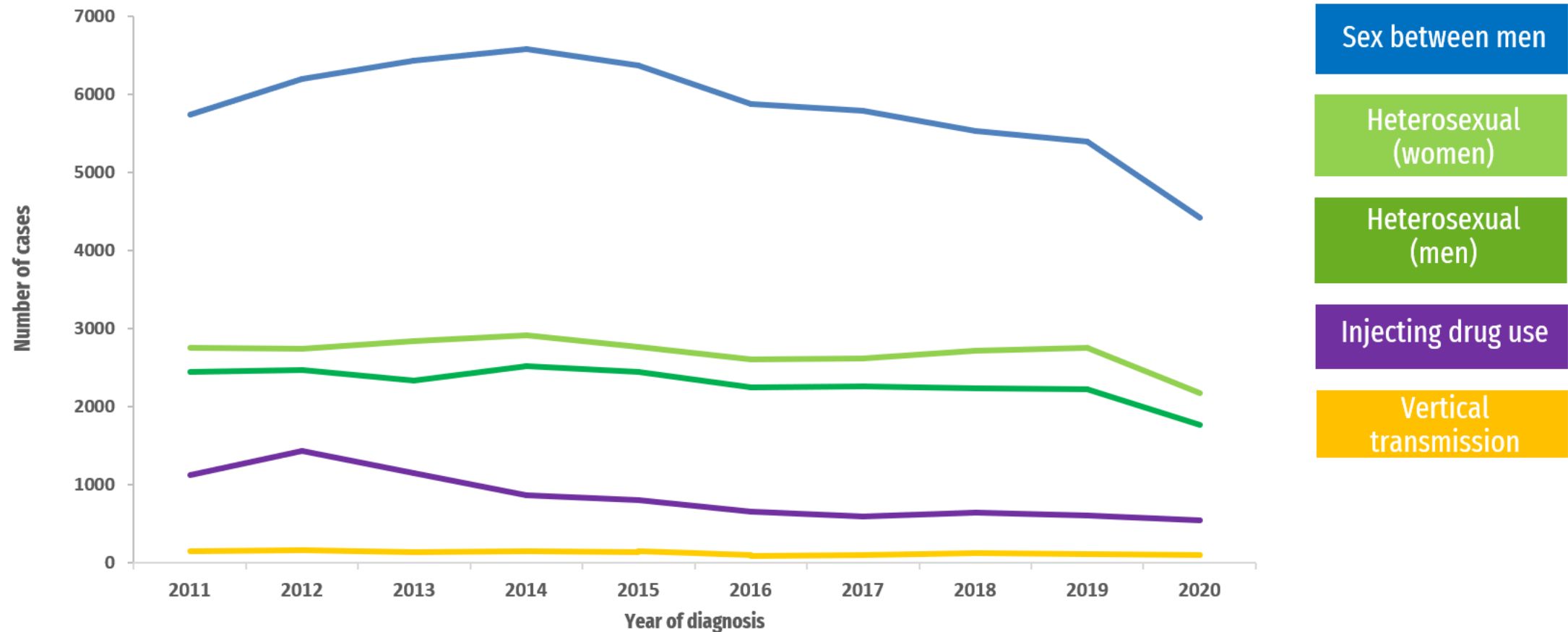
<https://www.who.int/europe/publications/m/item/regional-action-plans-2022-2030-for-ending-aids-and-the-epidemics-of-viral-hepatitis-and-sexually-transmitted-infections.-information-sheet>

Relative risk of HIV acquisition, global, 2019



Overview of progress achieved in HIV advocacy

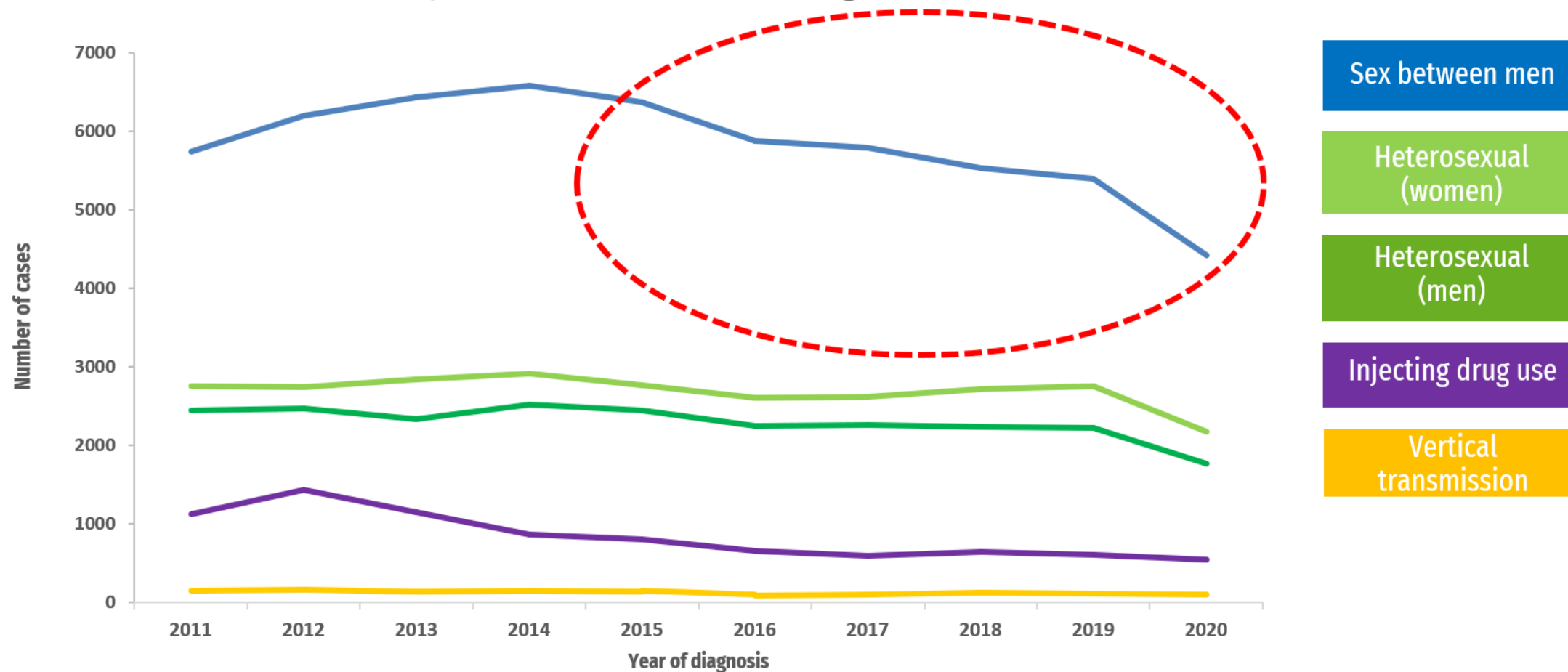
Rates of HIV in Europe have been falling ...



HIV diagnoses, by route of transmission, 2008-2017, EU/EEA

Overview of progress achieved in HIV advocacy

Rates of HIV in Europe have been falling ...



HIV diagnoses, by route of transmission, 2008-2017, EU/EEA

Challenges

HIV Burden

Disproportionately higher rates, late diagnosis, lost to care – MSM, trans, black women, PWID

Vulnerabilities

Homophobia, transphobia, stigma, violence, harassment, isolation, racism, mental health,

Policies

Legal, regulatory, practical barriers, criminalisation, guidelines

Data

Incomplete, inconsistent, not disaggregated

Interventions

Limited, not specific/appropriate, less priority

Data Availability



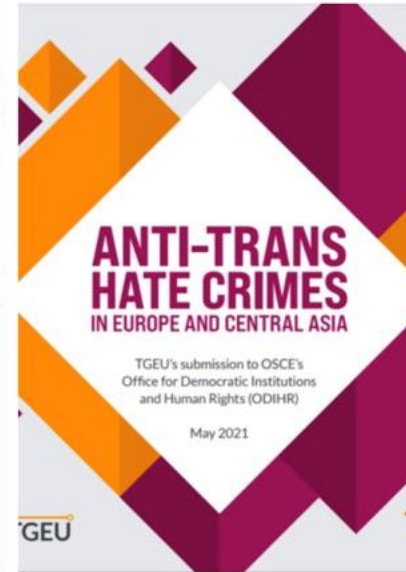
HIV Advocacy

HIV advocacy organisations play a vital role in the HIV response and the 90-90-90 targets...

- Driving **prevention, testing** and **treatment activism**.
- Fighting **persecution, criminalisation, stigma**.
- Spurring **innovation** and **advancement in HIV science**.
- **Lived experiences, expertise** and **shaping policy**.



HIV Advocacy



HIV JUSTICE ACADEMY

RED RUN LDN



18-25 NOVEMBER
EUROPEAN HIV-HEPATITIS TESTING WEEK
TEST.TREAT.PREVENT.
www.testingweek.eu



Undeserving victims? A Community Report on Migrant Sex Worker Victims of Crime in Europe



FaithWorks
Improving health across London's faith communities



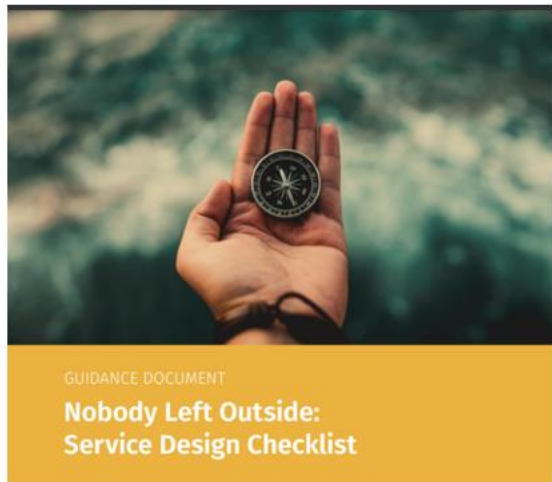
Article
Loneliness and Social Isolation among Transgender and Gender Diverse People
André Hajek^{1,10}, Hans-Helmut König^{1,10}, Marco Blessmann² and Katharina Grupp²



Bakita's Positive Champions



Influencing Policy



Version 1.1
April 2020



Open access Communication

BMJ Open Novel health systems service design checklist to improve healthcare access for marginalised, underserved communities in Europe

Jeffrey V Lazarus^{1,2}, Lee Baker³, Mario Cascio⁴, Denis Onyango⁵, Eberhard Schatz⁶, Alynna C Smith⁷, Freek Spinnewijn⁸, On behalf of the Nobody Left Outside initiative

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thebmjopinion Latest Authors Topics

Leaving nobody outside our healthcare systems—in Europe or elsewhere

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NLO briefing paper

**COVID-19 in marginalised groups:
challenges, actions and voices**

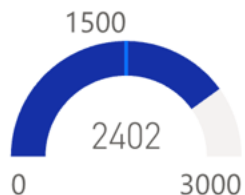


NOBODY LEFT OUTSIDE
Improving healthcare access for marginalised people

Migrants and HIV



Goal: 3,000 HIV tests



6.41%

Prevalence rate

35.80%

PrEP awareness rate

20.86%

Respondents rating condomless sex as their primary behavioural vulnerability

14.32%

Respondents rating stigma, discrimination and/or racism as their primary barrier to healthcare access

Organisation

Africa Advocacy Fo...

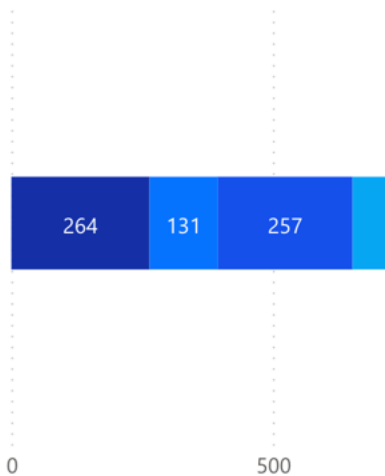
Organisation

- Africa Advocacy Foundation (England)
- Afrikaherz (Germany)
- AIDS Solidarity Movement (Cyprus)
- Association PASTT (France)
- Associazione LHIVE (Italy)
- FPCCSIDA (Portugal)
- Noaks Ark Mosaik (Sweden)
- Open Paths Athens (Greece)
- Plateforme Prevention SIDA (Belgium)
- Stichting AFAA Netherlands (Netherlands)

Outcome

- Indeterminate (invalid)
- Non-reactive (negative)
- Reactive (positive)
- Unknown (self-testing kit)

Tests Performed by Partner Organisation



35.80%

PrEP awareness rate

20.86%

Respondents rating condomless sex as their primary behavioural vulnerability

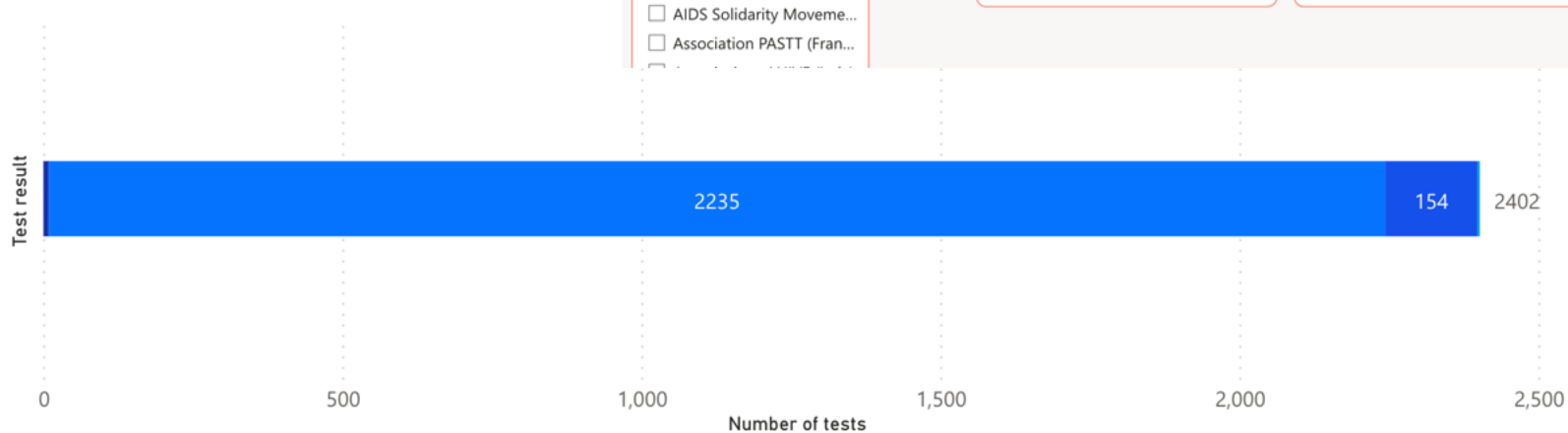
Migration status

- Asylum seeker
- Foreign national: residen...
- Foreign national: tourist
- Naturalised citizen

Organisation

- Africa Advocacy Founda...
- Afrikaherz (Germany)
- AIDS Solidarity Moveme...
- Association PASTT (Fran...

Test



Migrants identifying as MSM

17.92%

Prevalence rate

Migrants who inject drugs

25.29%

Prevalence rate

Migrant sex workers

16.85%

Prevalence rate

Transgender migrants

23.86%

Prevalence rate

Conclusion

We will '**not reach targets**' unless we address the following gaps:

Prevention
gap

- Curb the flow on new infections
- Scale up prevention programmes (incl. OST/NSP, PrEP)

Testing
gap

- 1 in 5 PLHIV in Europe are unaware of their HIV status
- 1 in 2 people are diagnosed late
- Low testing coverage

Treatment
gap

- 1 in 3 PLHIV not on ART
- Implement EACS treatment guidelines
- Provide ART to ALL

Stigma
gap

Major gaps in our understanding of stigma, both among HCW and in the community

Thank You!