

Country progress report - Saint Lucia

Global AIDS Monitoring 2020





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Overall

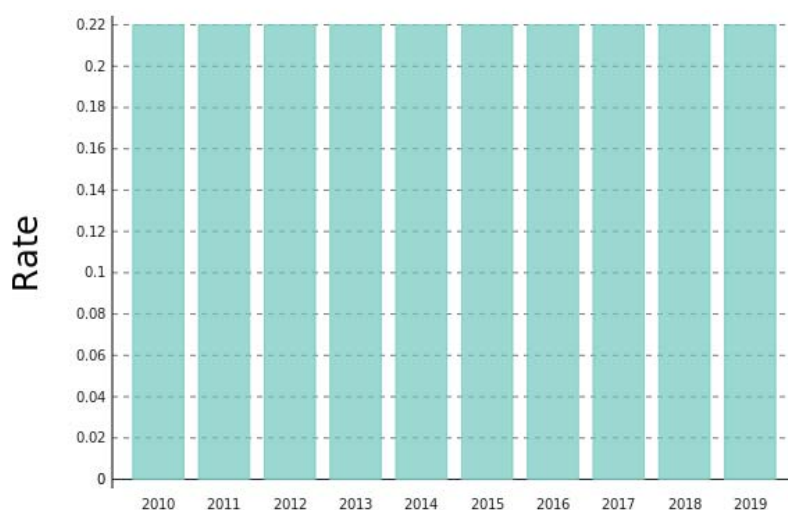
Fast-track targets

Progress summary

As of December 31, 2019, there are 845 persons known to be living with HIV. 346 persons are on ART, 183 males and 163 females. Of the clients not on ART, 308 are males and 191 are females. 137 of the clients on ART are virally suppressed. The 90-90-90 cascade estimated at 94-41-40.

3.1 HIV incidence rate per 1000, Saint Lucia (2010-2019)

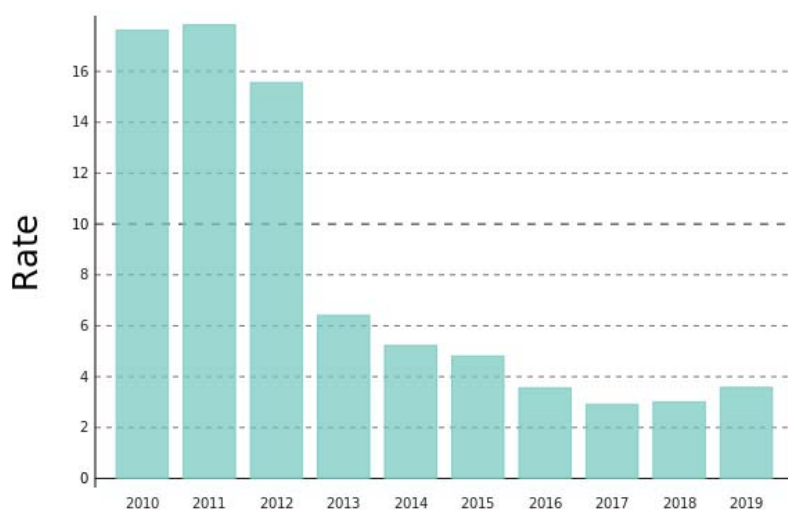
Number of people newly infected with HIV in the reporting period per 1000 uninfected population



Source: Spectrum file

1.7 AIDS mortality per 100 000, Saint Lucia (2010-2019)

Total number of people who have died from AIDS-related causes per 100 000 population



Source: Spectrum file

HIV testing and treatment cascade

Ensure that 30 million people living with HIV have access to treatment through meeting the 90-90-90 targets by 2020

Progress summary

All persons living with HIV are offered ART regardless of CD4 counts.

Policy questions (2019)

Is there a law, regulation or policy specifying that HIV testing:

a) Is mandatory before marriage

No

b) Is mandatory to obtain a work or residence permit

No

c) Is mandatory for certain groups

No

What is the recommended CD4 threshold for initiating antiretroviral therapy in adults and adolescents who are asymptomatic, as per MoH guidelines or directive, and what is the implementation status?

No threshold; treat all regardless of CD4 count; Implemented countrywide (>95% of treatment sites)

Does your country have a current national policy on routine viral load testing for monitoring antiretroviral therapy and to what extent is it implemented?

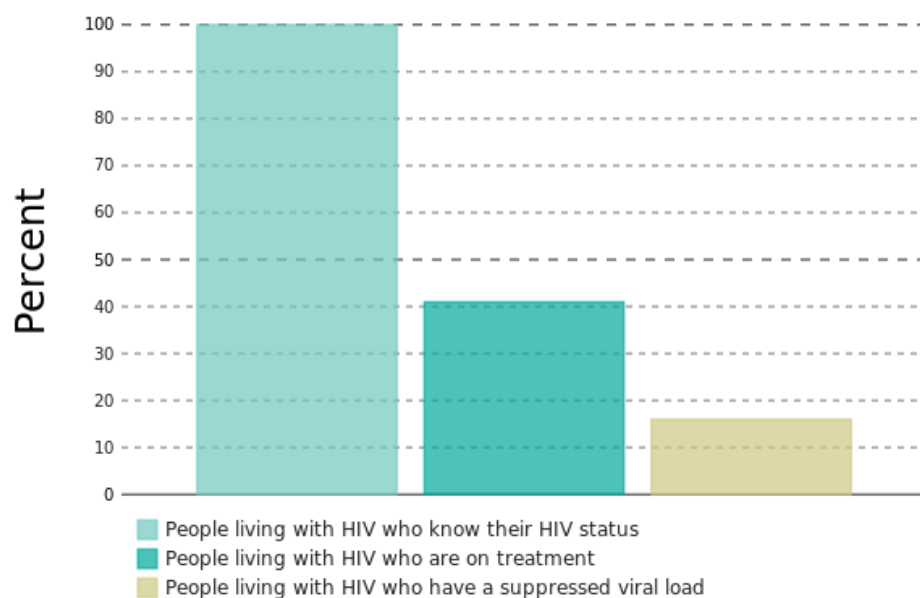
a) For adults and adolescents

Yes; Implemented countrywide (>95% of treatment sites)

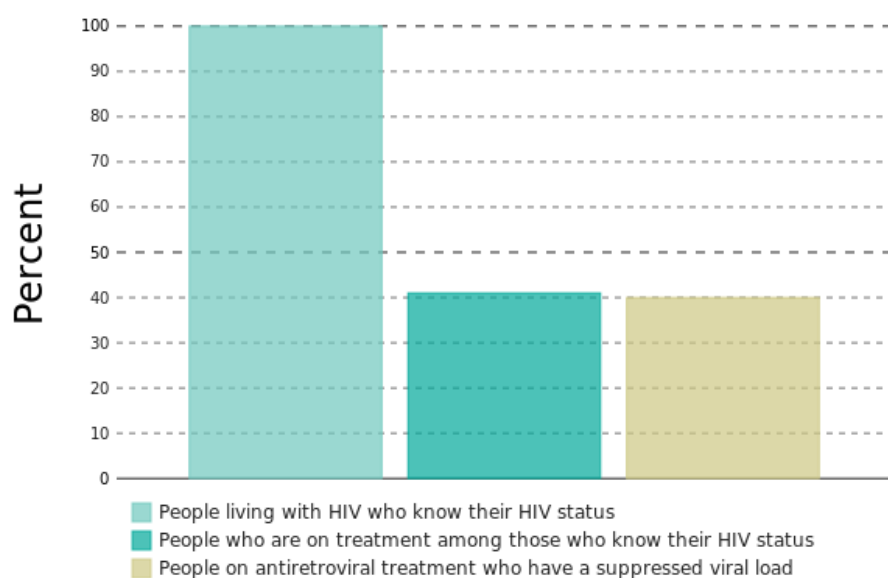
b) For children

Yes; Implemented countrywide (>95% of treatment sites)

HIV testing and treatment cascade, Saint Lucia (2019)



Progress towards 90-90-90 target, Saint Lucia (2019)



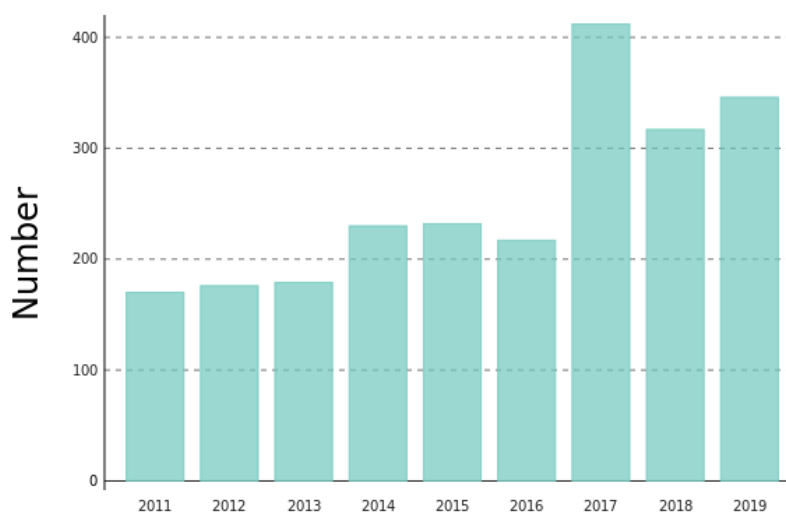
1.1 People living with HIV who know their HIV status, Saint Lucia (2017-2019)

Number of people living with HIV who know their HIV status



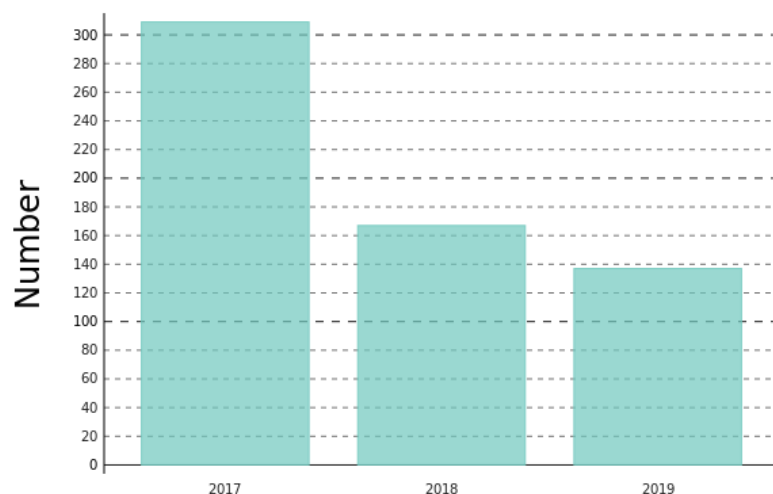
1.2 People living with HIV on antiretroviral therapy, Saint Lucia (2011-2019)

Number of people on antiretroviral therapy



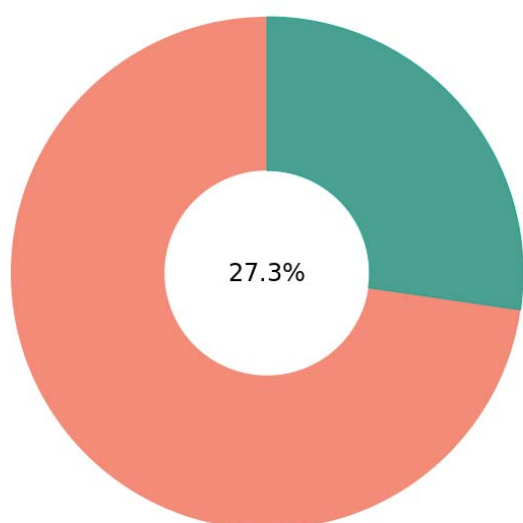
1.3 People living with HIV on antiretroviral treatment who have suppressed viral load, Saint Lucia (2017-2019)

Number of people living with HIV with suppressed viral loads



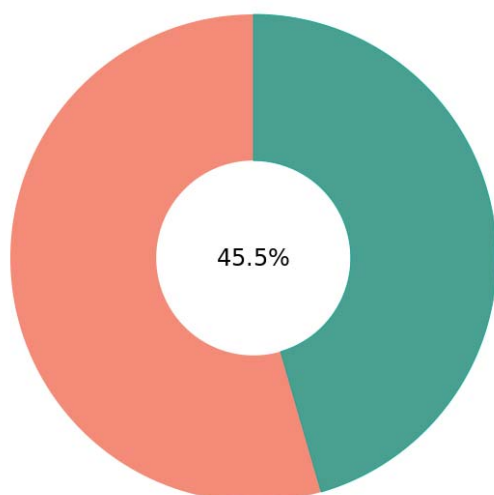
1.4 Late HIV diagnosis, Saint Lucia (2019)

Percentage of people living with HIV with the initial CD4 cell count <200 cells/mm3 during the reporting period



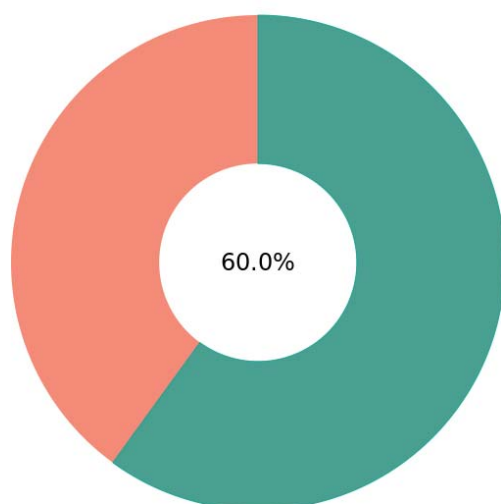
1.4 Late HIV diagnosis, Saint Lucia (2019)

Percentage of people living with HIV with the initial CD4 cell count <350 cells/mm3 during the reporting period



1.5 Antiretroviral medicine stock-outs, Saint Lucia (2019)

Percentage of treatment sites that had a stock-out of one or more required antiretroviral medicines during a defined period



1.6 AIDS mortality rate per 100 000, Saint Lucia (2010-2019)

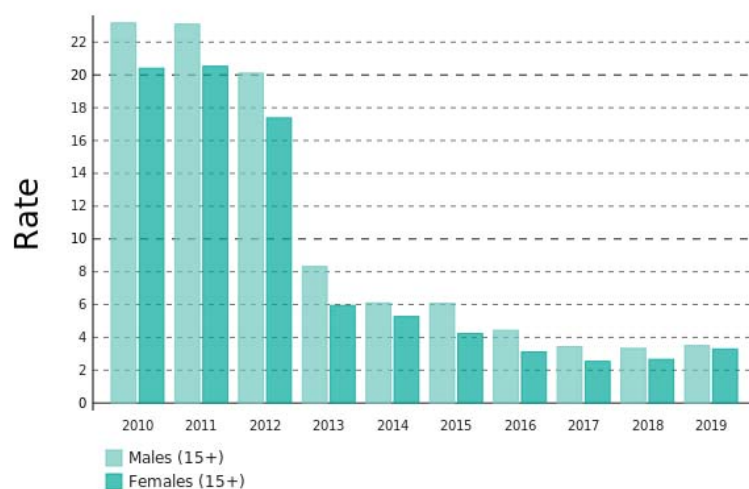
Total number of people who have died from AIDS-related causes per 100 000 population



Source: Spectrum file

1.6 AIDS mortality rate per 100 000 among adults, Saint Lucia (2010-2019)

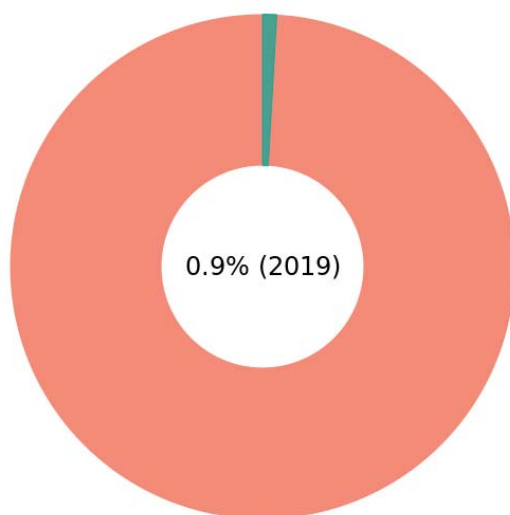
Total number of adults who have died from AIDS-related causes per 100 000 population



Source: Spectrum file

1.7 HIV testing volume and positivity, Saint Lucia

Percentage of HIV -positive results returned to people (positivity) in the calendar year



Number of HIV tests conducted = 5 216

Prevention of mother-to-child transmission

Eliminate new HIV infections among children by 2020 while ensuring that 1.6 million children have access to HIV treatment by 2018

Progress summary

The Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission Programme aims for zero infections through vertical transmission. All persons living with HIV have access to ART that is free of cost to them.

Policy questions (2019)

Does your country have a national plan for the elimination of mother-to-child transmission of HIV?

Yes

Target(s) for the mother-to-child transmission rate and year: 0 %; 2020

Elimination target(s) (such as the number of cases/population) and year: 0/100000; 2020

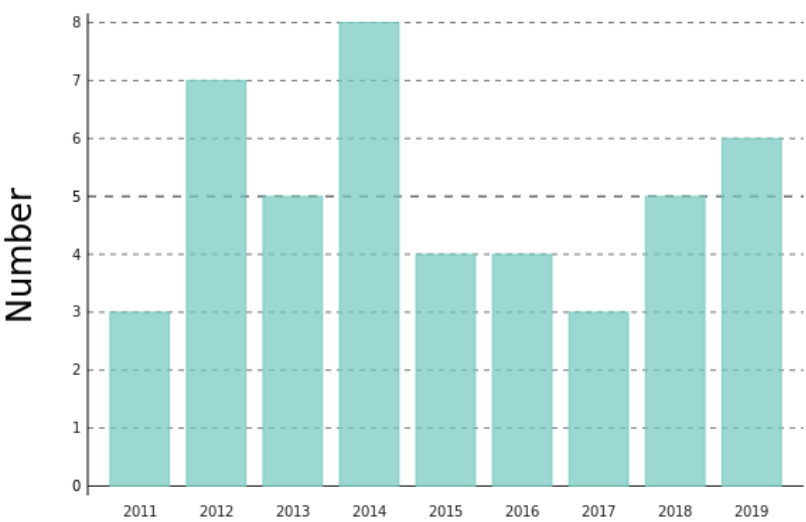
Do the national guidelines recommend treating all infants and children living with HIV irrespective of symptoms and if so, what is the implementation status of the cut-off?

Treat all, regardless of age

Implemented countrywide (>95% of treatment sites)

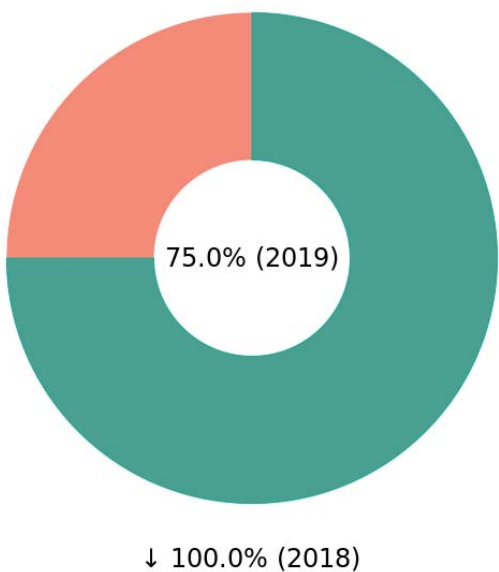
2.1 Early infant diagnosis, Saint Lucia (2011-2019)

Number of infants who received an HIV test within two months of birth



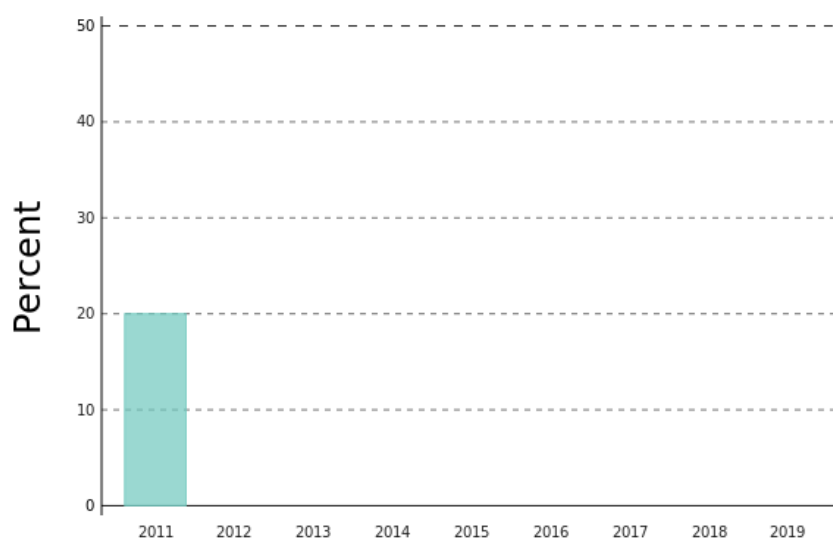
2.1 Early infant diagnosis, Saint Lucia (2018-2019)

Percentage of infants born to women living with HIV receiving a virological test for HIV within two months of birth

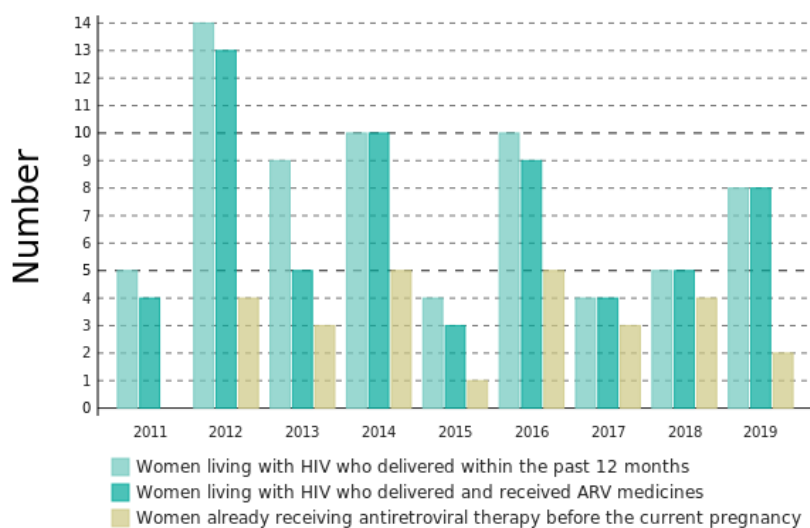


2.2 Mother-to-child transmission of HIV, Saint Lucia (2011-2019)

Estimated percentage of children newly infected with HIV from mother-to-child transmission among women living with HIV delivering in the past 12 months

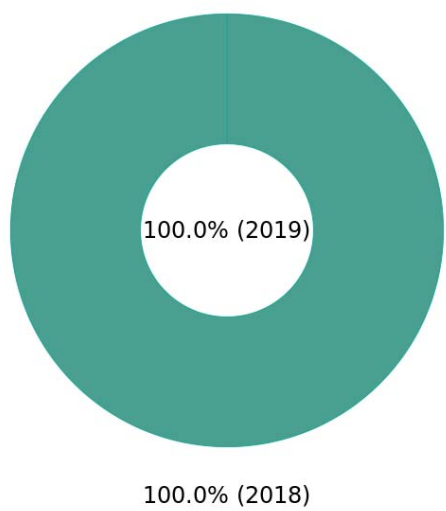


2.3 Preventing mother-to-child transmission of HIV, Saint Lucia (2011-2019)



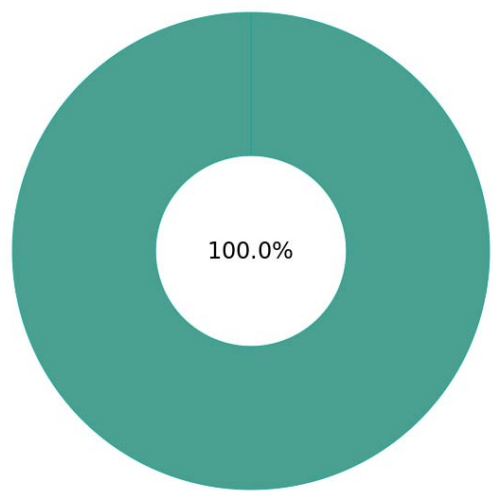
2.3 Preventing mother-to-child transmission of HIV, Saint Lucia (2018-2019)

Percentage of pregnant women living with HIV who received antiretroviral medicine to reduce the risk of mother-to-child transmission of HIV



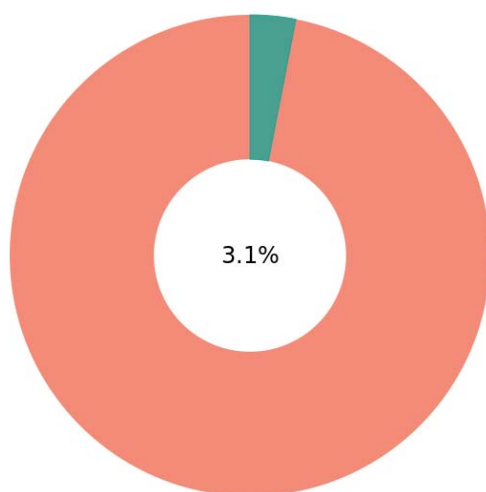
2.4 Syphilis among pregnant women, Saint Lucia (2019)

Percentage of pregnant women tested for syphilis



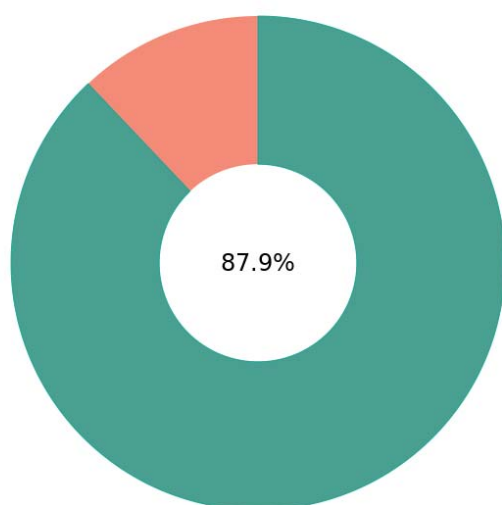
2.4 Syphilis among pregnant women, Saint Lucia (2019)

Percentage of pregnant women tested positive for syphilis



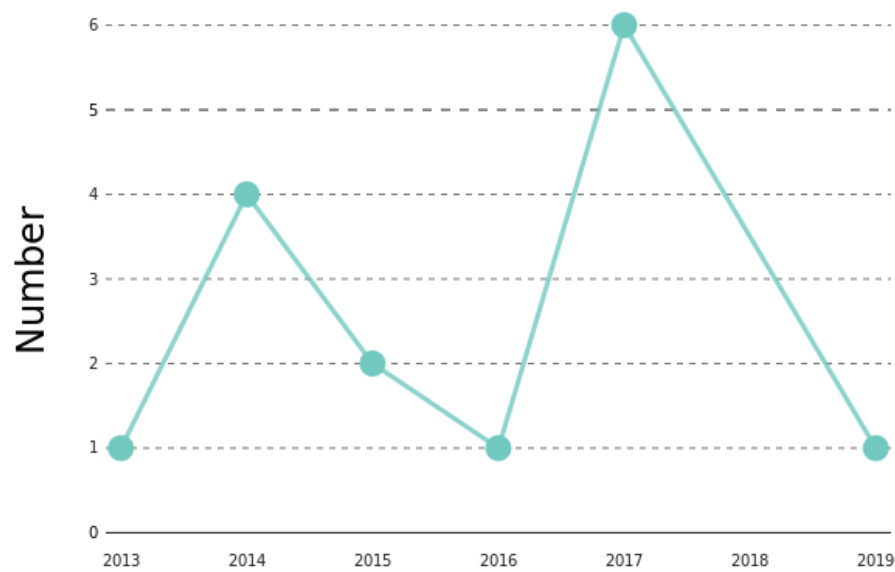
2.4 Syphilis among pregnant women, Saint Lucia (2019)

Percentage of pregnant women on treatment among those who tested positive



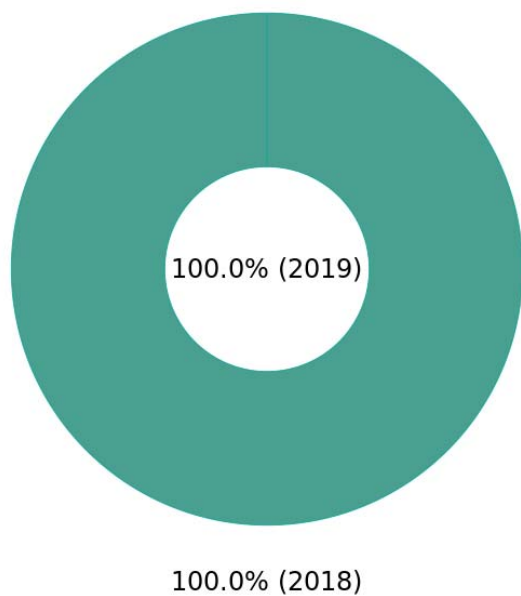
2.5 Congenital syphilis rate (live births and stillbirth), Saint Lucia (2013-2019)

Number of reported congenital syphilis cases (live births and stillbirths)



2.6 HIV testing in pregnant women, Saint Lucia (2018-2019)

Percentage of pregnant women with known HIV status



HIV prevention; Key populations

Ensure access to combination prevention options, including pre-exposure prophylaxis, voluntary medical male circumcision, harm reduction and condoms, to at least 90% of people by 2020, especially young women and adolescent girls in high-prevalence countries and key populations—gay men and other men who have sex with men, transgender people, sex workers and their clients, people who inject drugs and prisoners

Progress summary

Currently in the process of PrEP sensitization and adoption of PrEP guidelines.

Policy questions: Key populations (2019)

Criminalization and/or prosecution of key populations

Transgender people

- Neither criminalized nor prosecuted

Sex workers

- Selling sexual services is criminalized
- Buying sexual services is criminalized
- Profiting from organizing and/or managing sexual services is criminalized
- Other punitive and/or administrative regulation of sex work

Men who have sex with men

- Yes, penalty not specified

Is drug use or possession for personal use an offence in your country?

- Drug use or consumption is specified as a criminal offence
- Possession of drugs for personal use is specified as a criminal offence

Legal protections for key populations

Transgender people

- Neither criminalized nor prosecuted

Sex workers

- No

Men who have sex with men

- No

People who inject drugs

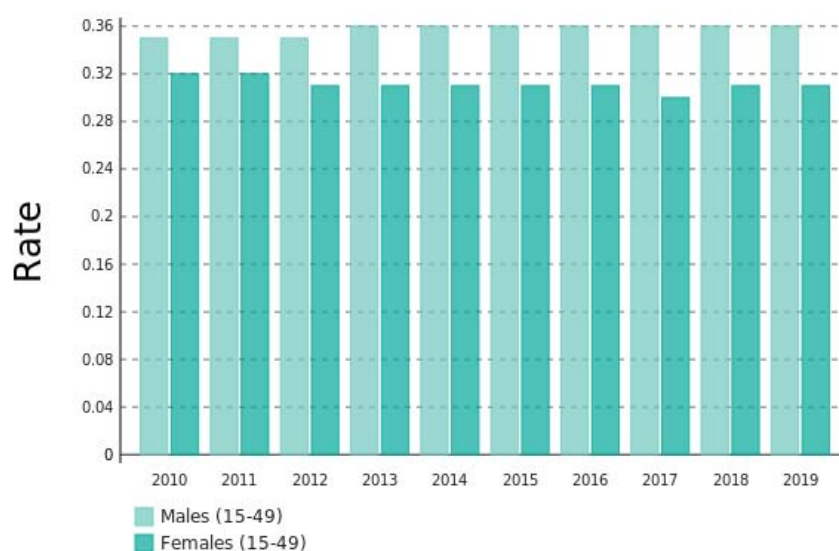
- No

Has the WHO recommendation on oral PrEP been adopted in your country's national guidelines?

Yes, PrEP guidelines have been developed but are not yet being implemented

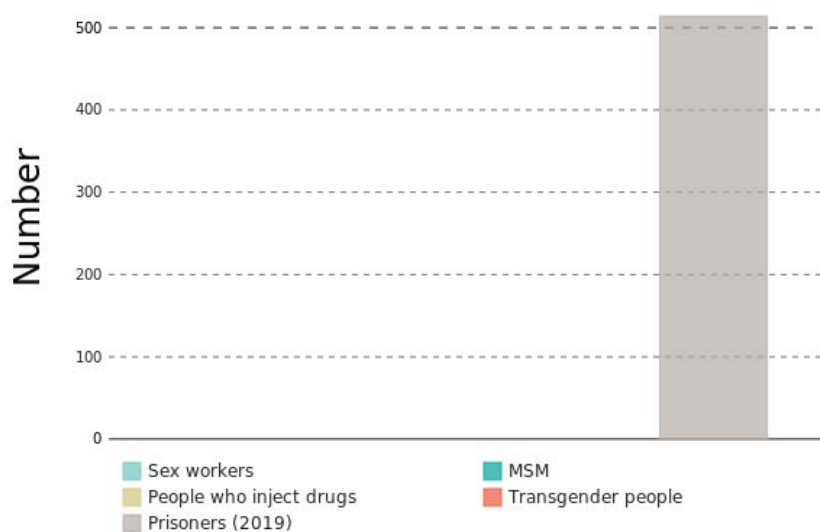
3.1 HIV incidence rate per 1000, Saint Lucia (2010-2019)

New HIV-infections in the reporting period per 1000 uninfected population (Adults, ages 15-49)



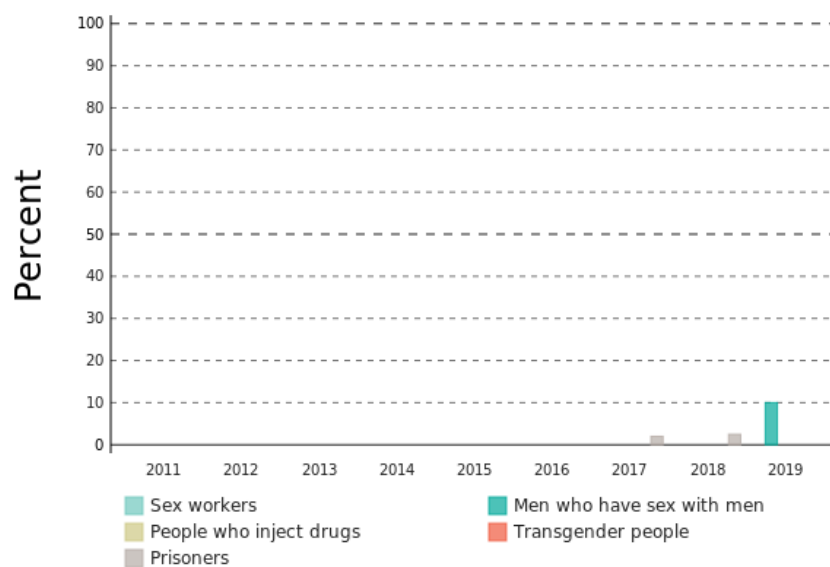
Source: Spectrum file

3.2 Estimates of the size of key populations, Saint Lucia



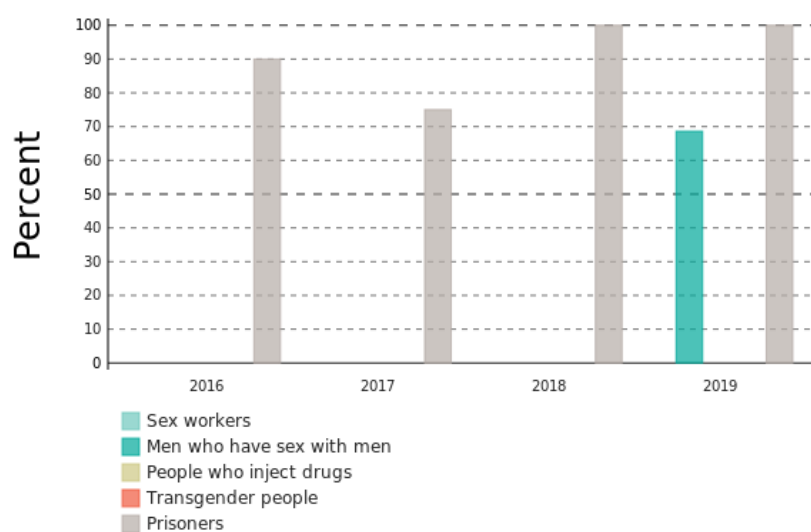
3.3 HIV prevalence among key populations, Saint Lucia (2011-2019)

Percentage of specific key populations living with HIV



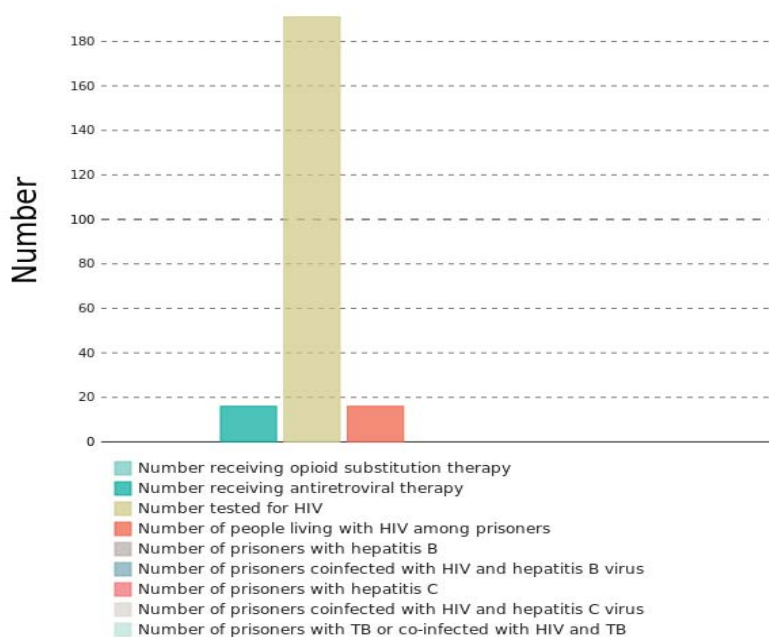
3.5 Antiretroviral therapy coverage among people living with HIV in key populations, Saint Lucia (2016-2019)

Percentage of the people living with HIV in a key population receiving antiretroviral therapy in the past 12 months



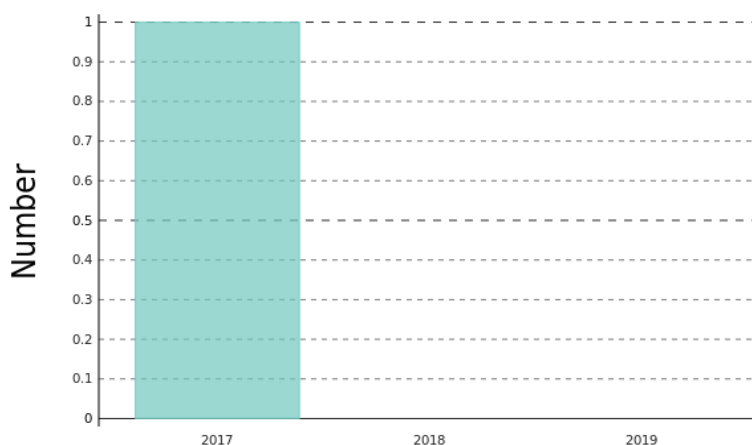
3.13 HIV prevention programmes in prisons, Saint Lucia (2019)

HIV prevention and treatment programmes offered to prisoners while detained



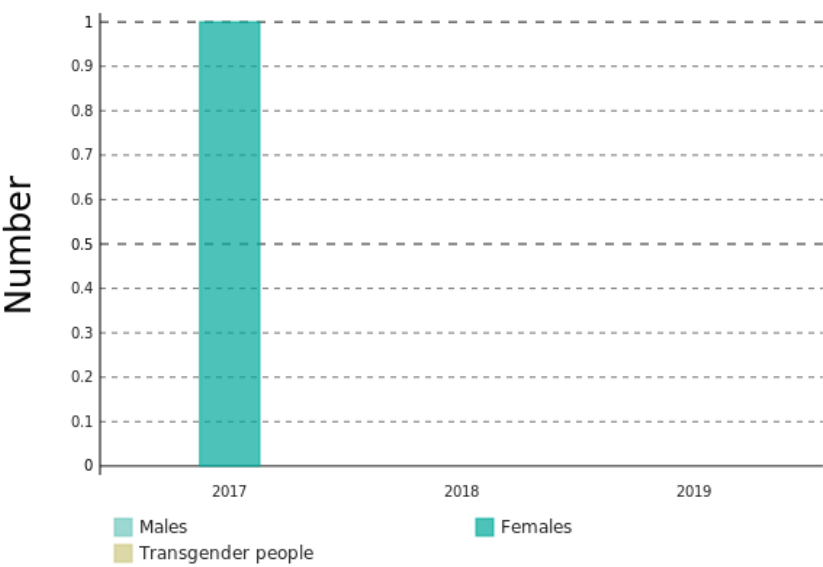
3.15 People who received pre-exposure prophylaxis, Saint Lucia (2017-2019)

Total number of people who received oral PrEP at least once during the reporting period



3.15 People who received pre-exposure prophylaxis, Saint Lucia (2017-2019)

Number of people who received oral PrEP at least once during the reporting period



Gender; Stigma and discrimination

Eliminate gender inequalities and end all forms of violence and discrimination against women and girls, people living with HIV and key populations by 2020

Progress summary

This requires continuous and further engagement with the associated CSOs and the Ministry of Education and Gender Relations.

Policy questions (2018)

Does your country have a national plan or strategy to address gender-based violence and violence against women that includes HIV

Yes

Does your country have legislation on domestic violence*?

Yes

- Physical violence
- Sexual violence

What protections, if any, does your country have for key populations and people living with HIV from violence?

- General criminal laws prohibiting violence
- Specific legal provisions prohibiting violence against people based on their HIV status or belonging to a key population
- Interventions to address police abuse
- Interventions to address torture and ill-treatment in prisons

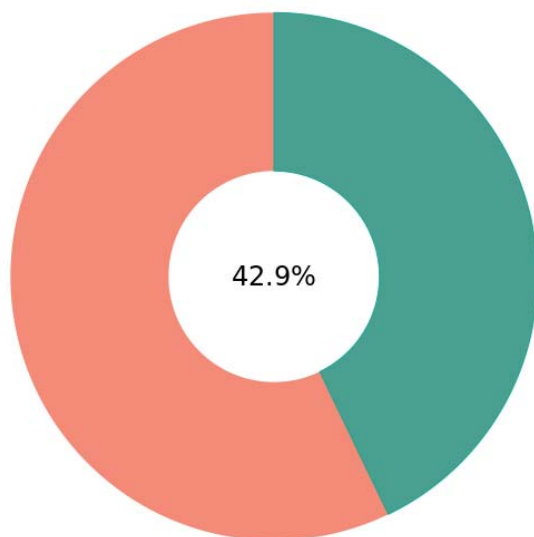
Does your country have policies in place requiring healthcare settings to provide timely and quality health care regardless of gender, nationality, age, disability, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, religion, language, socio-economic status, HIV or other health status, or because of selling sex, using drugs, living in prison or any other grounds?

Yes, policies exist but are not consistently implemented

Does your country have laws criminalizing the transmission of, non-disclosure of or exposure to HIV transmission?

Yes

Percentage of Global AIDS Monitoring indicators with data disaggregated by gender



Knowledge of HIV and access to sexual reproductive health services

Ensure that 90% of young people have the skills, knowledge and capacity to protect themselves from HIV and have access to sexual and reproductive health services by 2020, in order to reduce the number of new HIV infections among adolescent girls and young women to below 100 000 per year

Progress summary

This requires continuous and further engagement with young women and adolescent girls to empower and educate them. The approach is to be peer to peer.

Policy questions (2018)

Does your country have education policies that guide the delivery of life skills-based HIV and sexuality education, according to international standards, in:

a) Primary school

No

b) Secondary school

Yes

c) Teacher training

Yes

Social protection

Ensure that 75% of people living with, at risk of and affected by HIV benefit from HIV-sensitive social protection by 2020

Progress summary

There is some form of social assistance currently. There is much more work to be done in this area.

Policy questions (2019)

Does the country have an approved social protection strategy, policy or framework?

Yes, and it is being implemented

a) Does it refer to HIV?

Yes

b) Does it recognize people living with HIV as key beneficiaries?

Yes

c) Does it recognize key populations (sex workers, gay men and other men who have sex with men, people who inject drugs, transgender people, prisoners) as key beneficiaries?

No

• -

d) Does it recognize adolescent girls and young women as key beneficiaries?

No

e) Does it recognize children affected by HIV as key beneficiaries?

No

f) Does it recognize families affected by HIV as key beneficiaries?

No

g) Does it address the issue of unpaid care work in the context of HIV?

No

What barriers, if any, limit access to social protection programmes in your country?

- Fear of stigma and discrimination
- Laws or policies that present obstacles to access

Community-led service delivery

Ensure that at least 30% of all service delivery is community-led by 2020

Progress summary

This is a work in progress.

Policy questions (2019)

Does your country have a national policy promoting community delivery of antiretroviral therapy?

No

Are there any of the following safeguards in laws, regulations and policies that provide for the operation of CSOs/CBOs in your country?

- Registration of HIV CSOs is possible
- Registration of CSOs/CBOs working with key populations is possible
- HIV services can be provided by CSOs/CBOs
- Services to key populations can be provided by CSOs/CBOs
- Reporting requirements for CSOs/CBOs delivering HIV services are streamlined

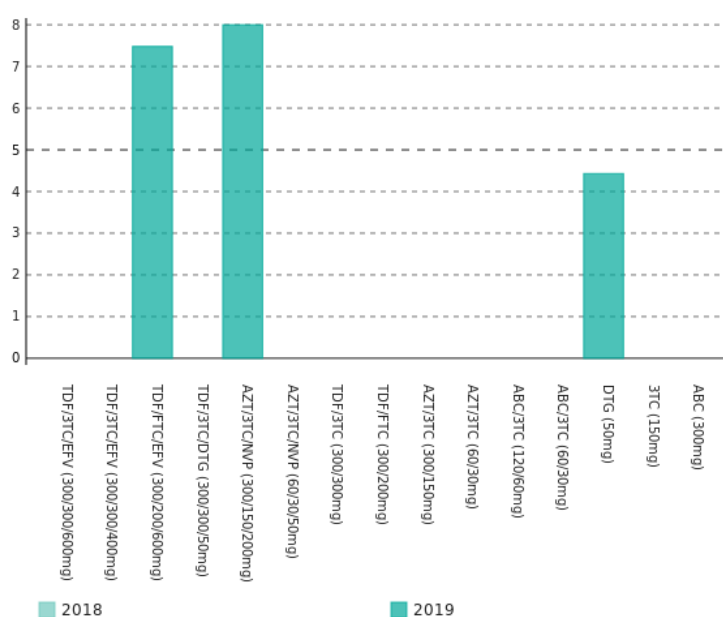
HIV expenditure

Ensure that HIV investments increase to US\$ 26 billion by 2020, including a quarter for HIV prevention and 6% for social enablers

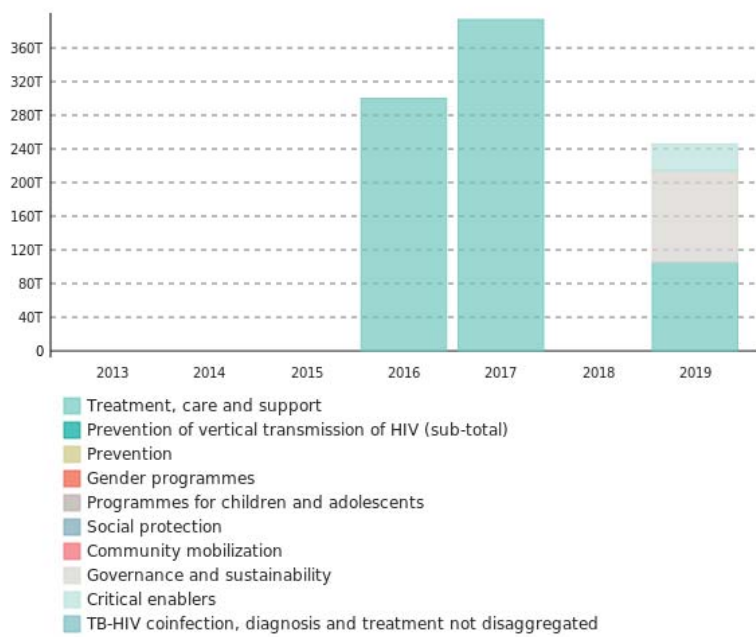
Progress summary

We are a small country with a limited budget and competing priorities. Sustainability continues to be a work in progress.

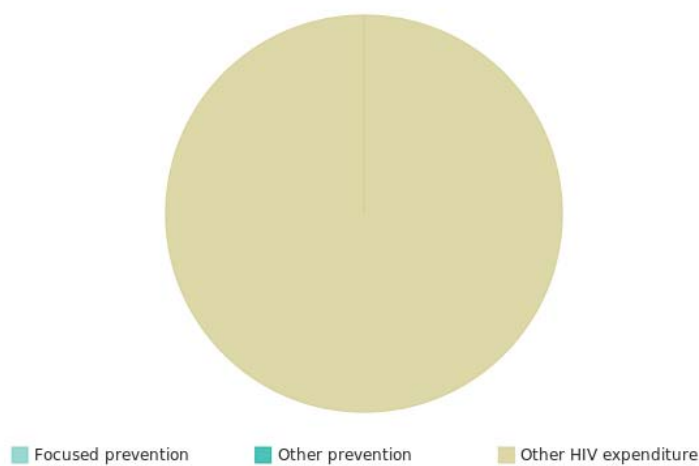
8.2 The average unit prices of antiretroviral regimens (in US\$), Saint Lucia (2018-2019)



8.3 HIV expenditure by programme category, Saint Lucia (2013-2019)



Share of effective prevention out of total, Saint Lucia (2019)



Empowerment and access to justice

Empower people living with, at risk of and affected by HIV to know their rights and to access justice and legal services to prevent and challenge violations of human rights

Progress summary

This requires continuous education of persons living with HIV and those at risk, so they are aware of what resources and redress are available.

Policy questions (2018)

In the past two years have there been training and/or capacity building programmes for people living with HIV and key populations to educate them and raise their awareness concerning their rights (in the context of HIV) in your country?

Yes, at scale at the national level

Are there mechanisms in place to record and address cases of HIV-related discrimination (based on perceived HIV status and/or belonging to any key population)?

Yes

What accountability mechanisms in relation to discrimination and violations of human rights in healthcare settings does your country have, if any?

- Complaints procedure

What barriers in accessing accountability mechanisms does your country have, if any?

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AIDS out of isolation

Commit to taking AIDS out of isolation through people-centred systems to improve universal health coverage, including treatment for tuberculosis, cervical cancer and hepatitis B and C

Progress summary

Integration of the Sexual and Reproductive services into a general clinic services is slow. Compared to 4 years ago, progress has been made and 2020 is ripe for further progress.

Policy questions (2019)

Is cervical cancer screening and treatment for women living with HIV recommended in:

a) The national strategy, policy, plan or guidelines for cancer, cervical cancer or the broader response to non-communicable diseases (NCDs)

Yes

b) The national strategic plan governing the AIDS response

Yes

c) National HIV-treatment guidelines

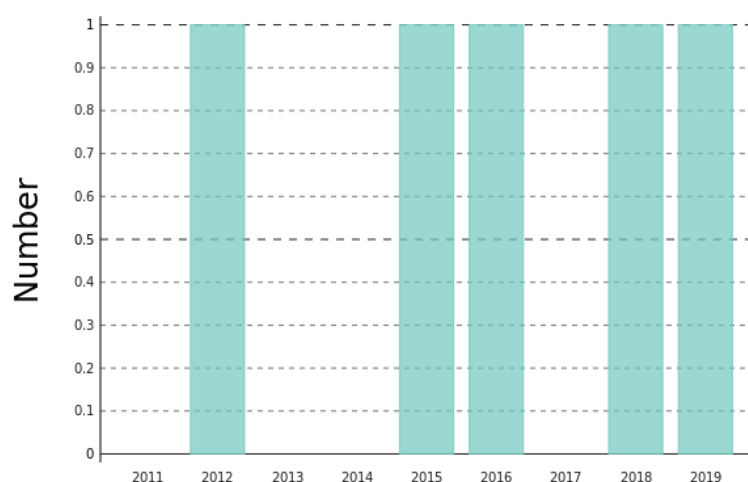
Yes

What coinfection policies are in place in the country for adults, adolescents and children?

- Isoniazid preventive therapy (IPT) or latent TB infection (LTBI) prophylaxis for people living with HIV
- Intensified TB case finding among people living with HIV
- TB infection control in HIV health-care settings
- Co-trimoxazole prophylaxis
- Hepatitis B screening and management in antiretroviral therapy clinics
- Hepatitis C screening in antiretroviral therapy clinics

10.1 Co-managing TB and HIV treatment, Saint Lucia (2011-2019)

Number of HIV-positive new and relapse TB patients started on TB treatment during the reporting period who were already on antiretroviral therapy or started on antiretroviral therapy during TB treatment within the reporting year



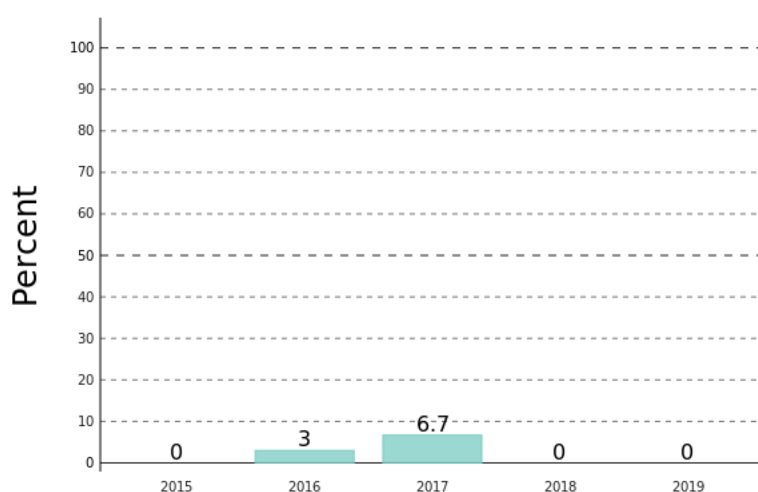
10.2 Proportion of people living with HIV newly enrolled in HIV care with active TB disease, Saint Lucia (2015-2019)

Total number of people living with HIV with active TB expressed as a percentage of those who are newly enrolled in HIV care (pre-antiretroviral therapy or antiretroviral therapy) during the reporting period



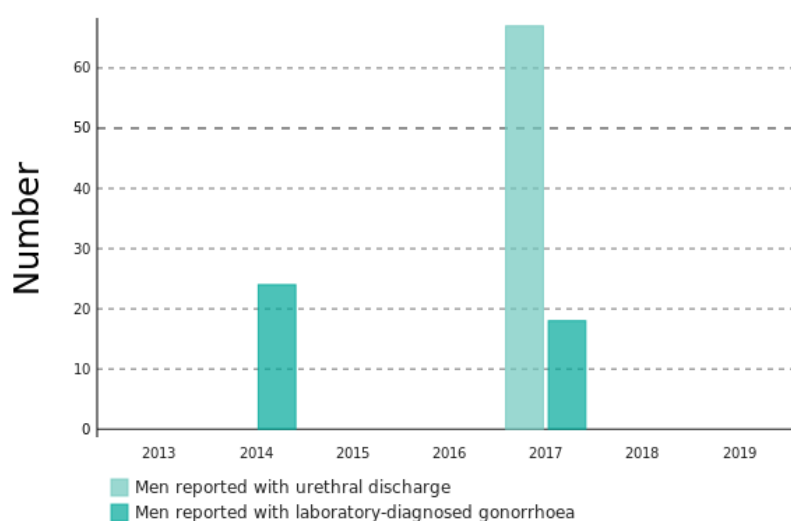
10.3 Proportion of people living with HIV newly enrolled in HIV care started on TB preventive therapy, Saint Lucia (2015-2019)

Number of patients started on treatment for latent TB infection, expressed as a percentage of the total number newly enrolled in HIV care during the reporting period



10.4/10.5 Sexually transmitted infections, Saint Lucia (2013-2019)

Number of men reporting urethral discharge in the past 12 months; number of men reported with laboratory-diagnosed gonorrhoea in the past 12 months



10.6 Hepatitis testing, Saint Lucia (2015-2019)

Proportion of people starting antiretroviral therapy who were tested for hepatitis C virus (HCV)

