



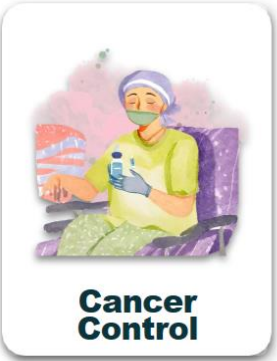
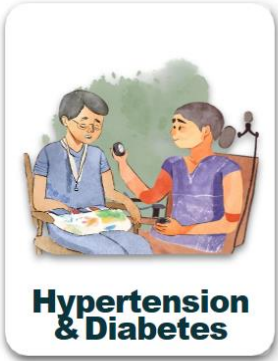
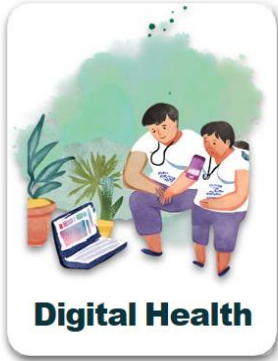
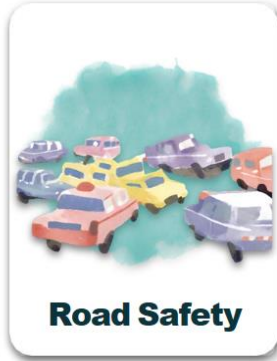
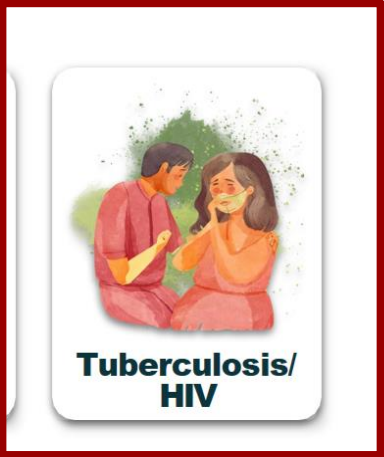
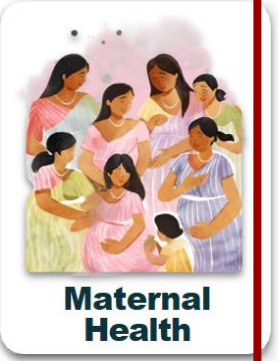
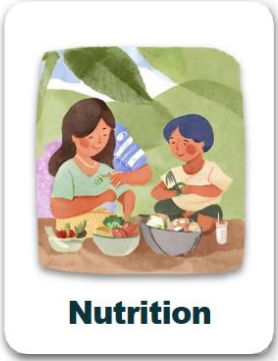
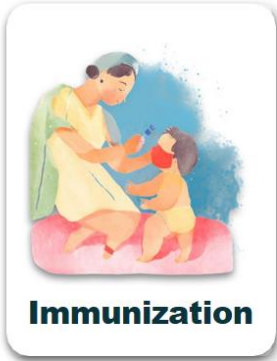
HIV Program in the Philippines

International AIDS Society

March 14, 2024 | Luxent, QC



doh.gov.ph

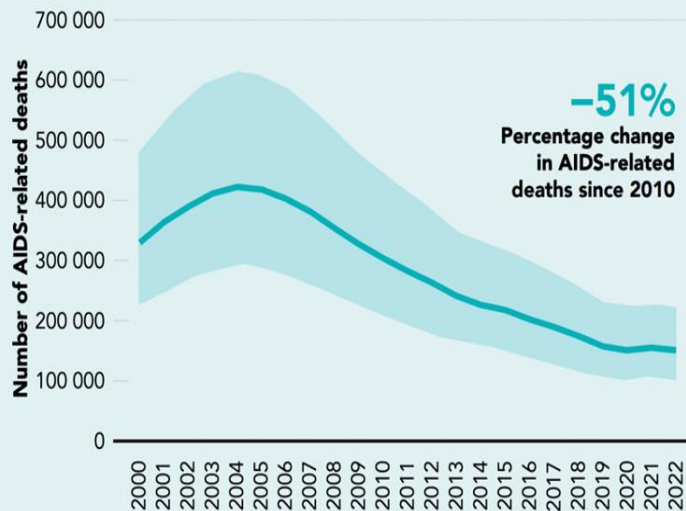
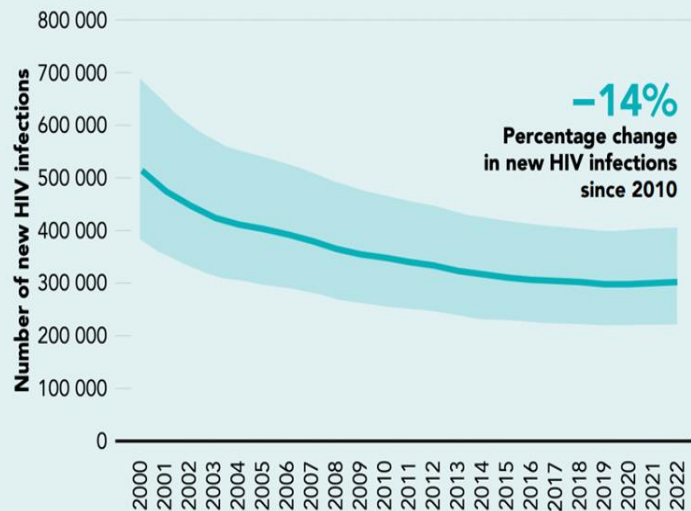


DOH's 8 Priority Programs

Overview of HIV Epidemic in the Philippines

Asia Pacific Region witnessed a 14% decrease in new HIV infections and 51% decrease in AIDS-related death between 2010 to 2022

Figure 4.1 Numbers of annual new HIV infections and AIDS-related deaths, Asia and the Pacific, 2000–2022

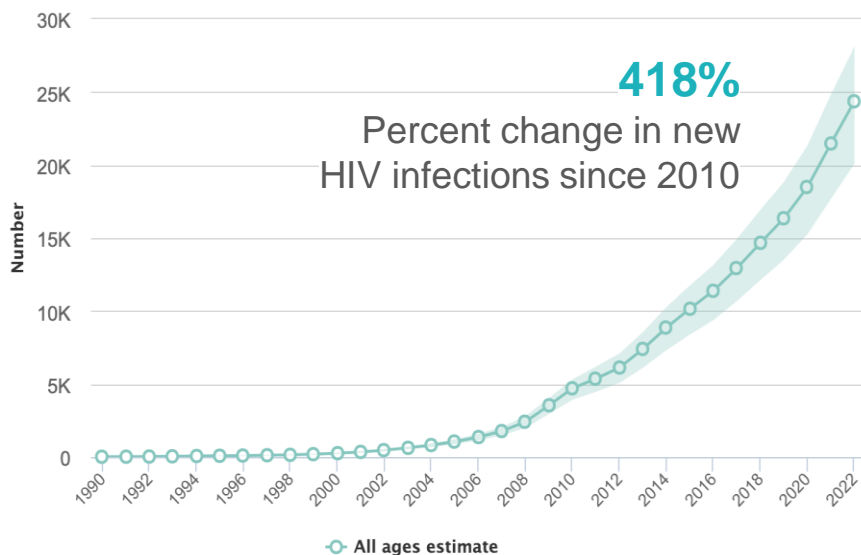


— New HIV infections

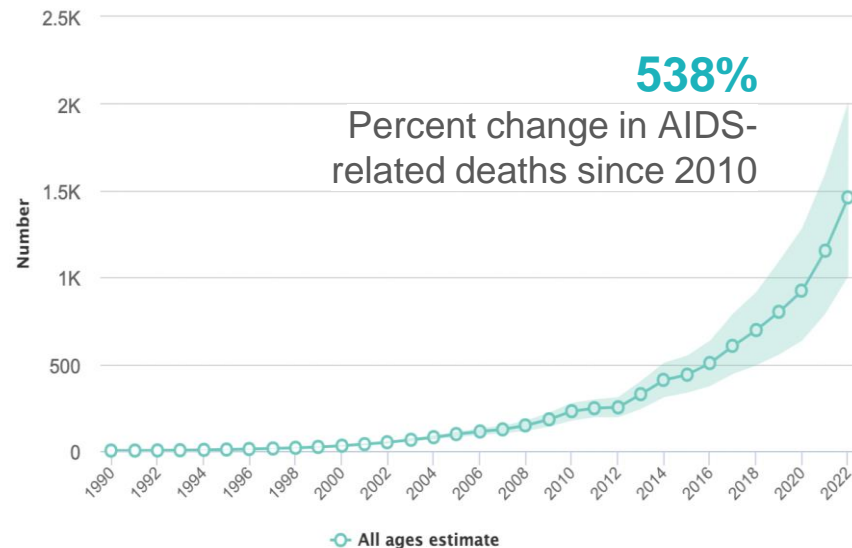
— AIDS-related deaths

However, new infections and AIDS-related deaths in the Philippines continues to rise rapidly

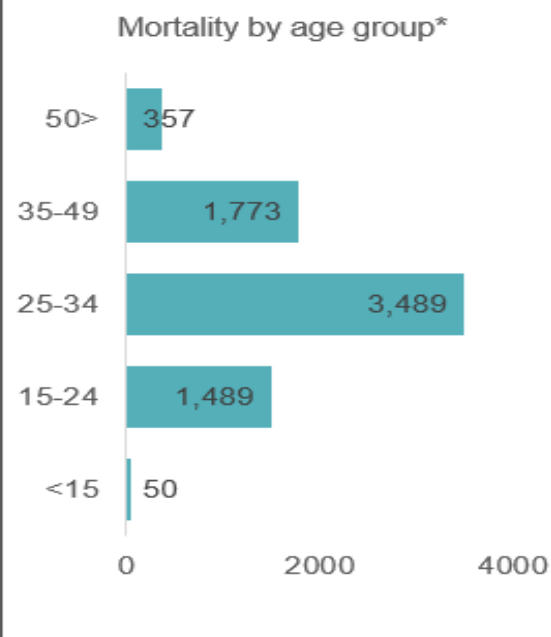
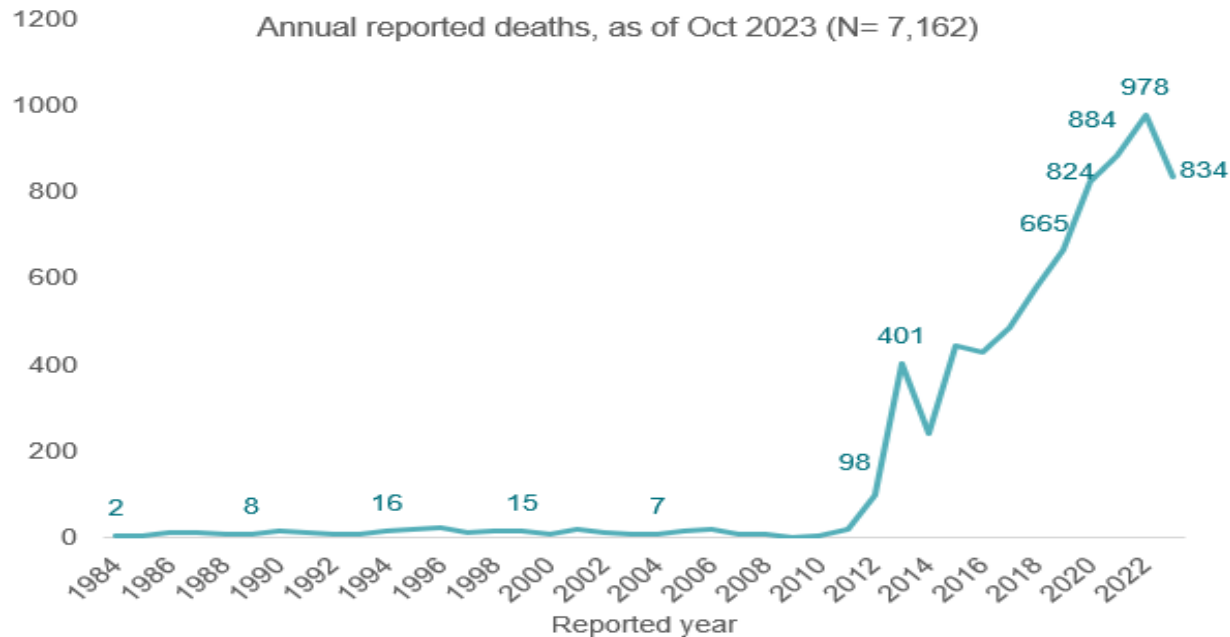
Trend of new HIV infections



Trend of AIDS-related deaths



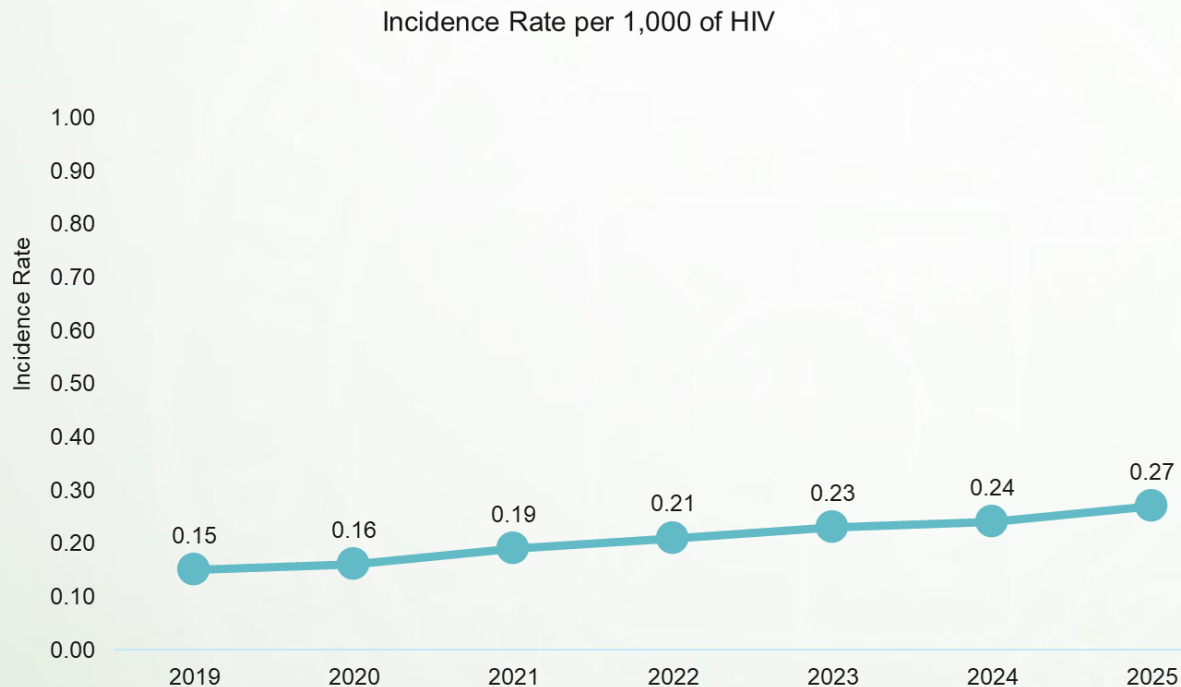
Nearly a thousand deaths among diagnosed with HIV were reported in 2022 and as of October 2023, deaths reported already reached 834. Almost half (49%) of which came from the 25-34 years old.



Source: HIV, AIDS and ART Registry of the Philippines, October 2023

*4 had no data on age at death

Incidence rate per 1,000 of HIV, (2019-2025)



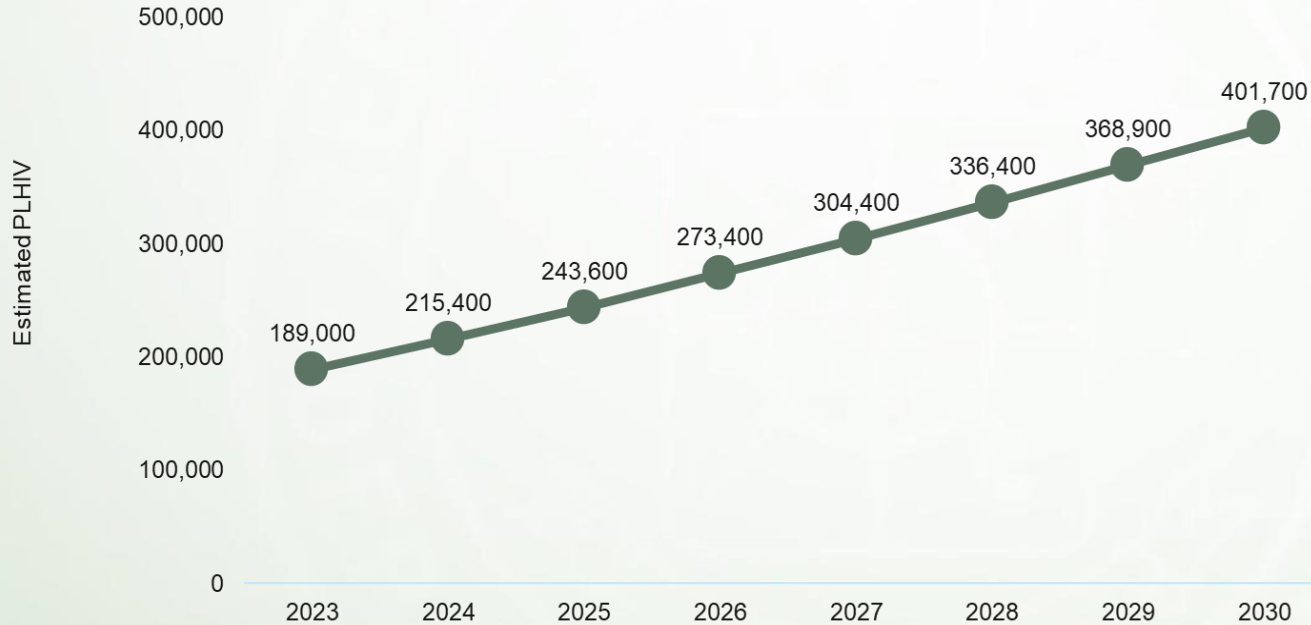
The Philippines has an incidence rate of less than 1% per 1,000 uninfected population.

However the rapidly increasing HIV epidemic is largely affecting the **key populations**, hence **HIV is still a concentrated epidemic in the country.**

Source: AIDS Epidemic Model (AEM)-Spectrum, May 2023

Estimated People Living with HIV (2023-2030)

Number of Estimated PLHIV, 2023-2030



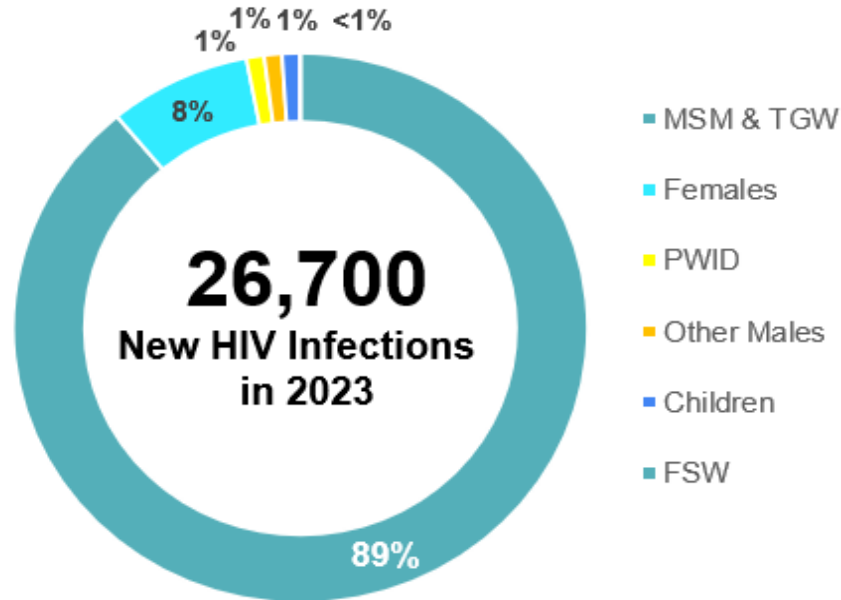
With the rapidly increasing HIV epidemic in the country, **the estimated 189,000 People living with HIV by the end of 2023** is projected to increase by **more than two times to 401,700 PLHIV by 2030.**

Source: AIDS Epidemic Model (AEM)-Spectrum, May 2023

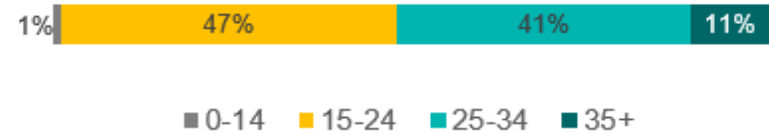


The Philippine HIV Epidemic is largely among MSM & TGW. The youth remains the driver of new infections.

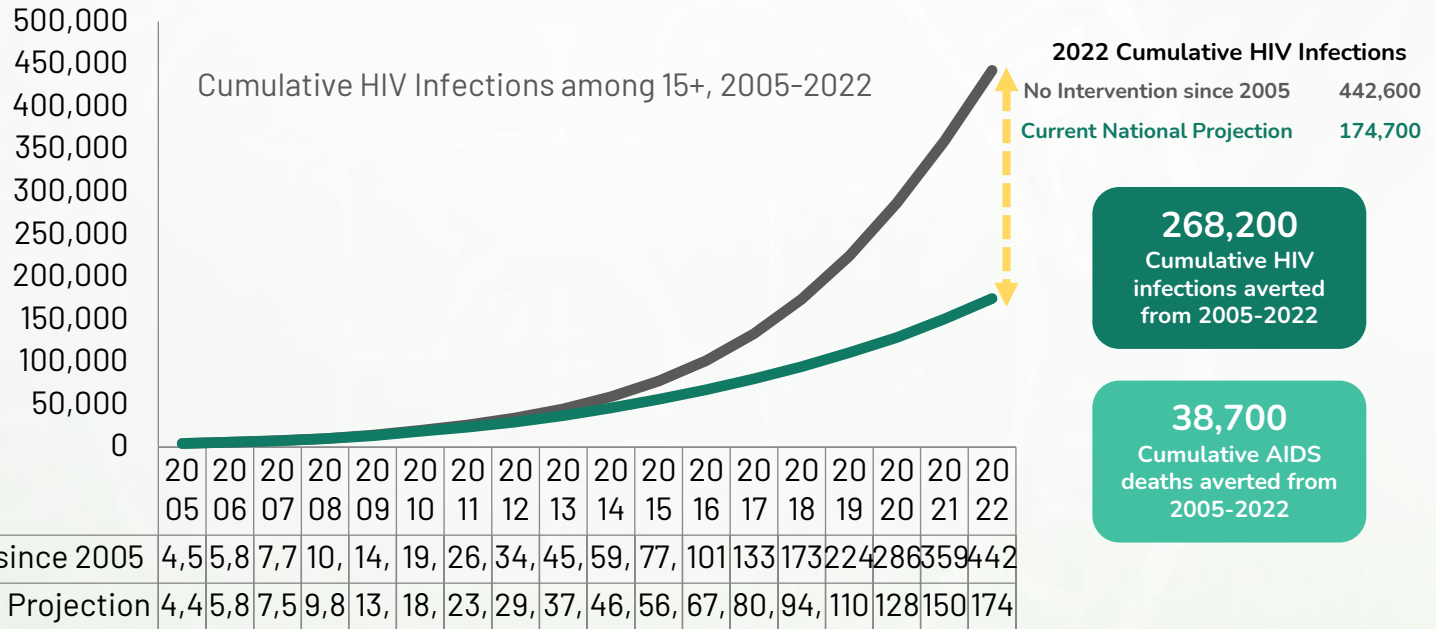
New HIV infections by key and vulnerable group, 2023



New HIV infections by age group, 2023

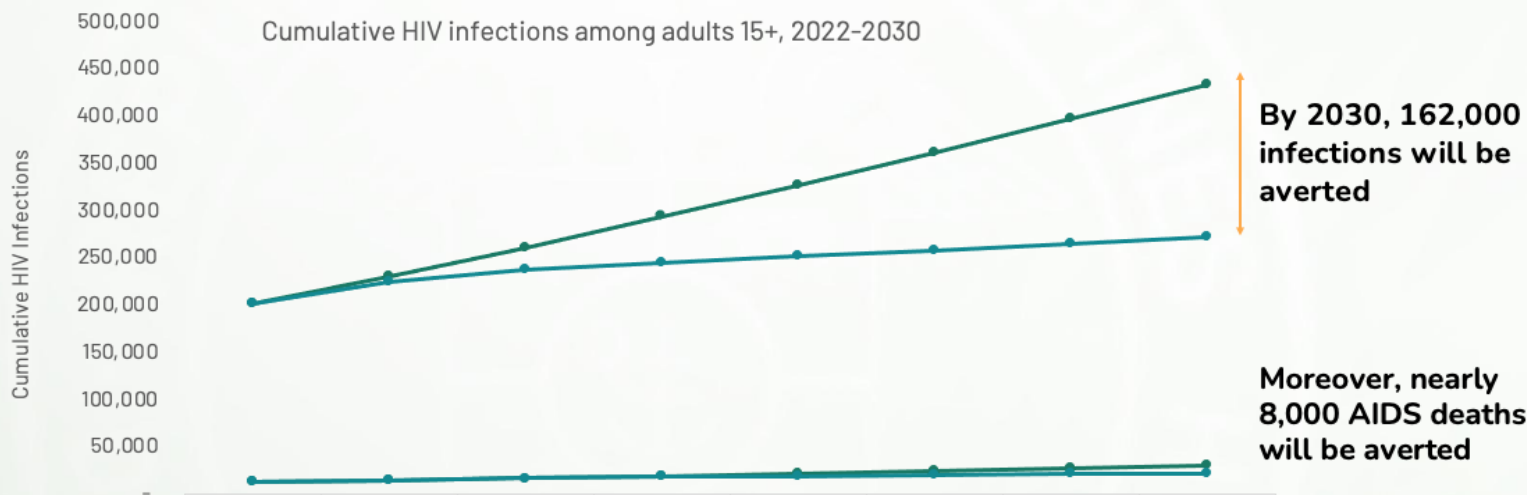


With the collaborative efforts and interventions in the country, an estimated 268,200 HIV infections had been averted between 2005 and 2022



Source: AIDS Epidemic Model, May 2023
 Note: Cumulative infections includes reported deaths

With the achievement of the 95-95-95 and AMTP7 Targets, we can avert as much as 162,000 new infections by 2030



	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
— National Projection (New Infections)	201,200	229,700	260,300	292,700	326,400	361,200	396,800	432,900
— AM TP7 Targets Projection (New Infections)	201,000	223,300	237,200	244,500	251,000	257,600	264,200	270,900
— National Projection (AIDS deaths)	11,800	13,800	16,000	18,400	20,900	23,600	26,400	29,300
— AM TP7 Targets Projection (AIDS deaths)	11,800	13,800	16,000	17,800	18,800	19,700	20,600	21,500

Notes:

Source: AIDS Epidemic Model, May 2023

The National HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control Program

National HIV/AIDS Program Target



95%

PLHIV know
their status



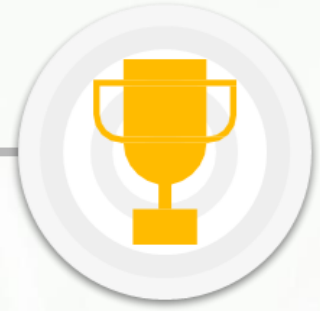
95%

Diagnosed
PLHIV enrolled
and alive on
ART



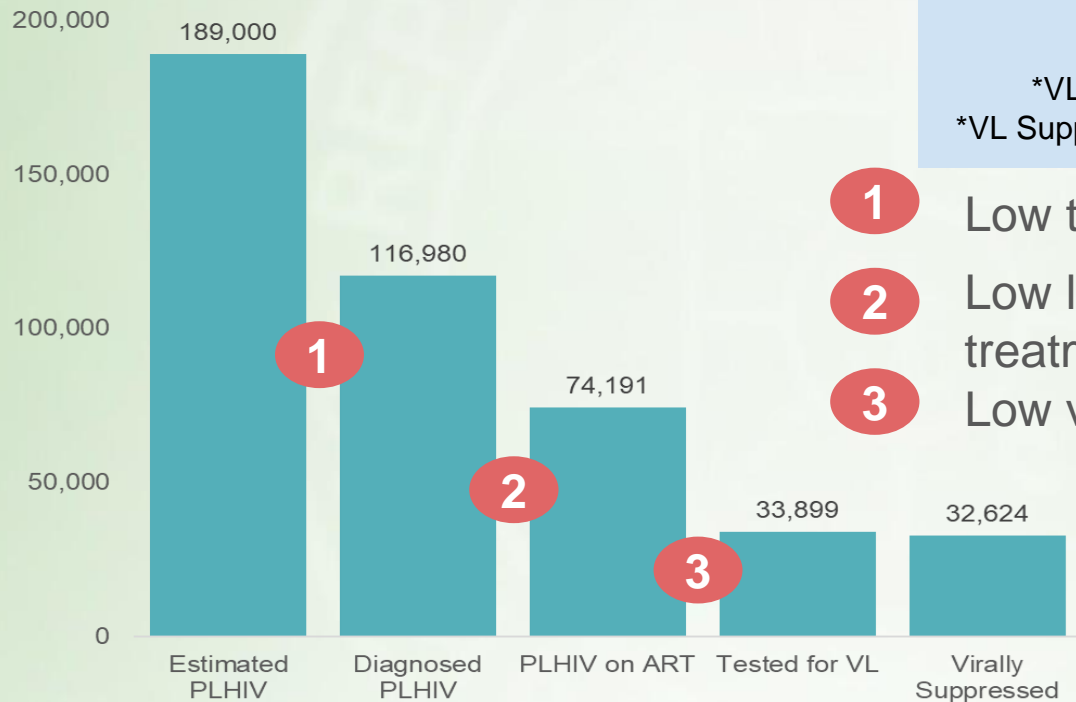
95%

PLHIV enrolled
to treatment
are virally
suppressed



**End AIDS
related
deaths
by 2030**

Addressing the gaps across the cascade is a priority to reach 95-95-95 by 2030



95-95-95 Accomplishment:

62 – 63 – 44*

*VL testing coverage among PLHIV on ART: 46%

*VL Suppression among tested for VL (<1000 cells/uL): 96%

1

Low testing coverage

2

Low linkage to care and enrollment to treatment among diagnosed PLHIV

3

Low viral load testing coverage

Prevention



Improving HEALTH LITERACY through social and behavior change communication (SBCC) campaigns and interventions



The Health is Life Campaign will focus on the Health Promotion Framework Strategy's seven priority areas. These are the pillars upon which health promotion efforts for improving health outcomes will be centered.

Priority Area 6

Practice Safe Sex

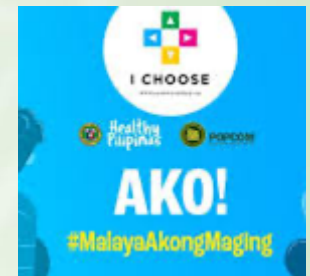
Sexual and Reproductive Health

Promoting positive sexual and reproductive behavior






The KonsulTayo Campaign aims to encourage Filipinos to get the care they need to avoid negative health outcomes in the future. The campaign primarily targets for the general public to know what services are under primary care and who provides these services.

PARTNERS



Priority Preventive Services

Priority Preventive Services	Primary Preventive	Secondary Preventive	Tertiary Preventive
	<p>Combination HIV Prevention (condoms, lubricants, PrEP, target messaging)</p> <p>(Indicator: Cumulative PrEP enrollment)</p> 	<p>HIV screening, testing and diagnosis</p> <p>(Indicator: HIV diagnosis among estimated PLHIV)</p> <p>Early HIV treatment initiation and retention to care</p> <p>(Indicator: HIV treatment coverage among diagnosed PLHIV)</p> <p>Prophylaxis of HIV-Exposed Infants (Indicator: HIV-exposed infants given ARV prophylaxis)</p> 	<p>Diagnosis and Management of Opportunistic Infections (Prophylaxis or Treatment)</p> <p>Viral load Monitoring to prevent drug resistance</p> <p>(Indicator: Virally suppressed PLHIV among those on ART)</p> 

Addressing challenges on PrEP is a prerequisite to scaling up PrEP coverage from 25k to 153k by 2026

ADDRESSING CHALLENGES ON PREP INITIATION

13%

Awareness on PrEP

32%

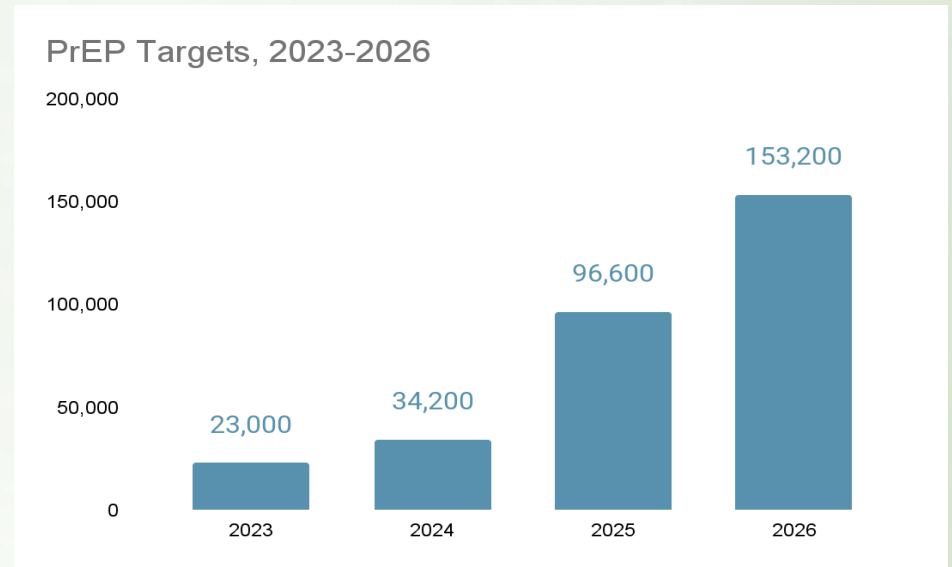
Willing to take PrEP

Top reasons for not taking PrEP:

- Feels no risk (48%)
- Afraid of side effect (22%)
- No time (15%)

27,297

Total PrEP Enrollees as of October 2023



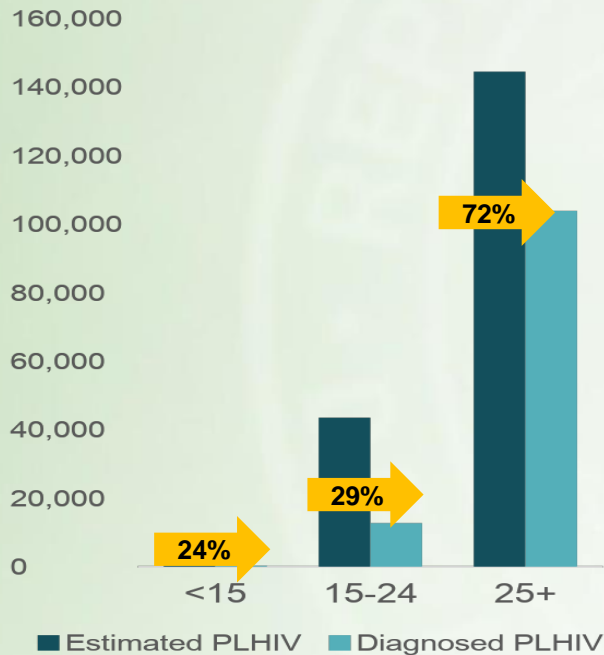
Screening & Diagnosis

Screening & Diagnostic coverage of young people lag behind

DIAGNOSIS COVERAGE IS <30%

FOR AGE BELOW 25

Diagnosis Coverage



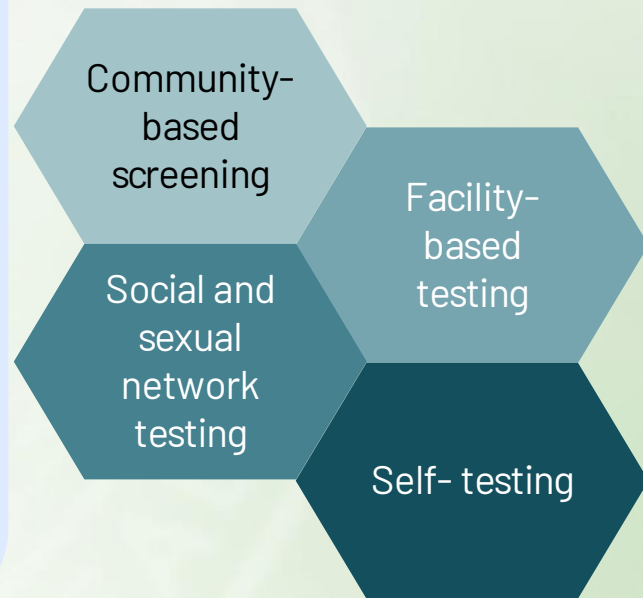
Top reason for not getting tested by age group

- **15-17:** Afraid of HIV test result (43%)
- **18-24:** No time (36%)
- **25+:** Feels no need to get tested (64%)

Testing Preference

- **52%** Prefer to be tested by MedTech
- **29%** Prefer to be tested by someone they know
- **12%** Prefer to be tested by someone they don't personally know
- **7%** Prefer self test

LEVERAGING DIFFERENTIATED TESTING MODALITIES TO IMPROVE REACH



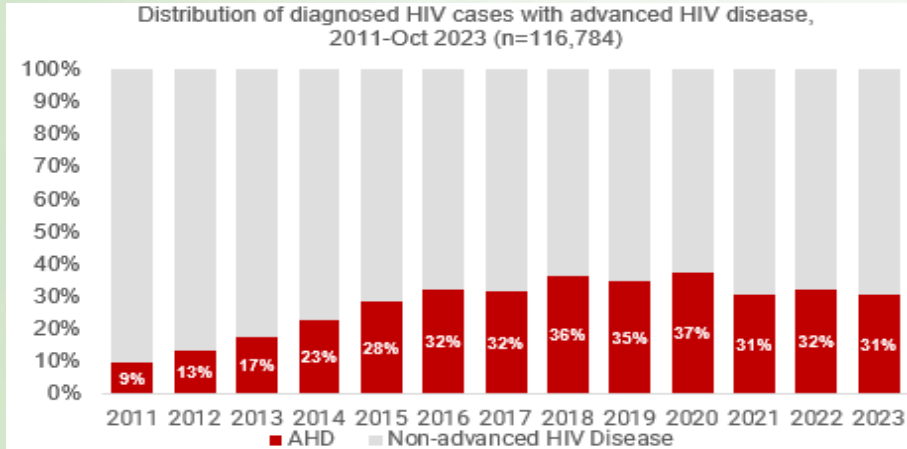
Source: AIDS Epidemic Model (AEM)-Spectrum, May 2023

HIV, AIDS and ART Registry of the Philippines, Oct 2023

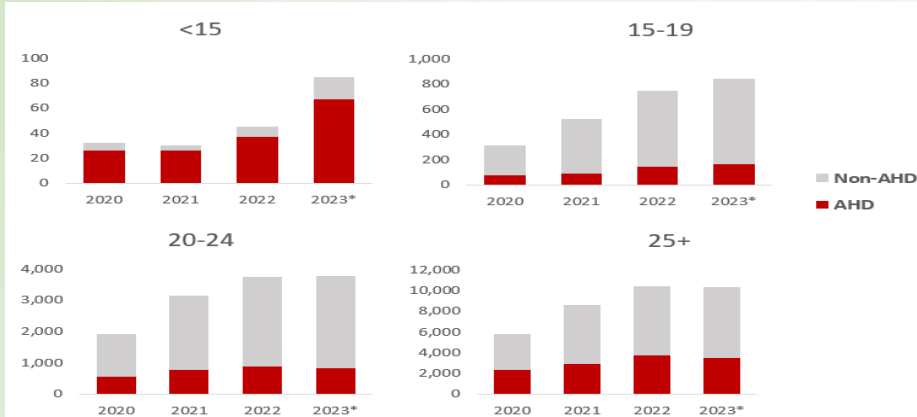
2022 Integrated HIV Behavioral and Serologic Surveillance (IHBSS) among MSM & TGW

Late diagnosis and treatment initiation delays persists

ONE IN THREE DIAGNOSED CASES HAS ADVANCED HIV DISEASE (AHD)

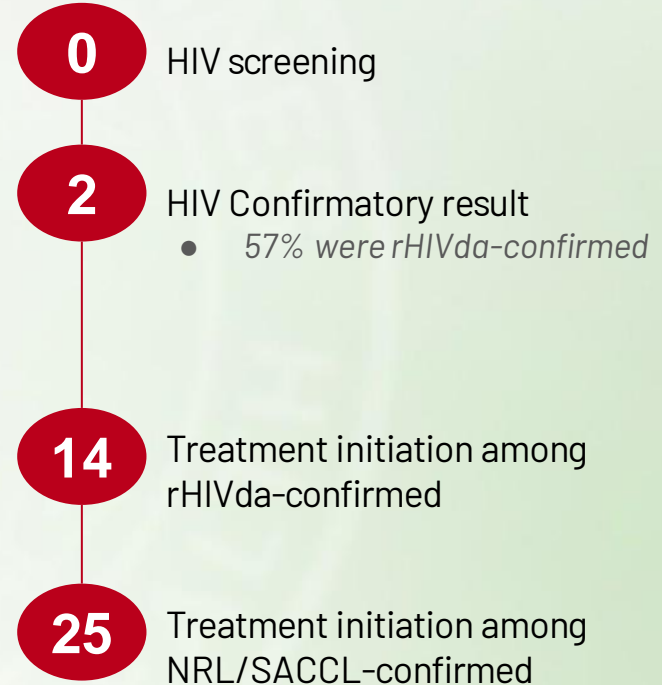


Trend of diagnosed cases and AHD disaggregated by age group, 2020-2023*



NEWLY DIAGNOSED CLIENTS TAKE AT LEAST TWO WEEKS BEFORE TREATMENT INITIATION

Median days from screening



Source:

HIV, AIDS and ART Registry of the Philippines, October 2023

rHIVda Scale-up Plan

Before ROP 2023

33

Confirmatory rHIVda
Clinical Laboratory

As of March 6,
2024

85

Confirmatory rHIVda
Clinical Laboratory

Gaps and challenges:

- Lack of budgetary support to implement rHIVda
- Lack of SOPs and documentation
- Lack of equipment and supplies
- Requires additional trainings
- Low testing census

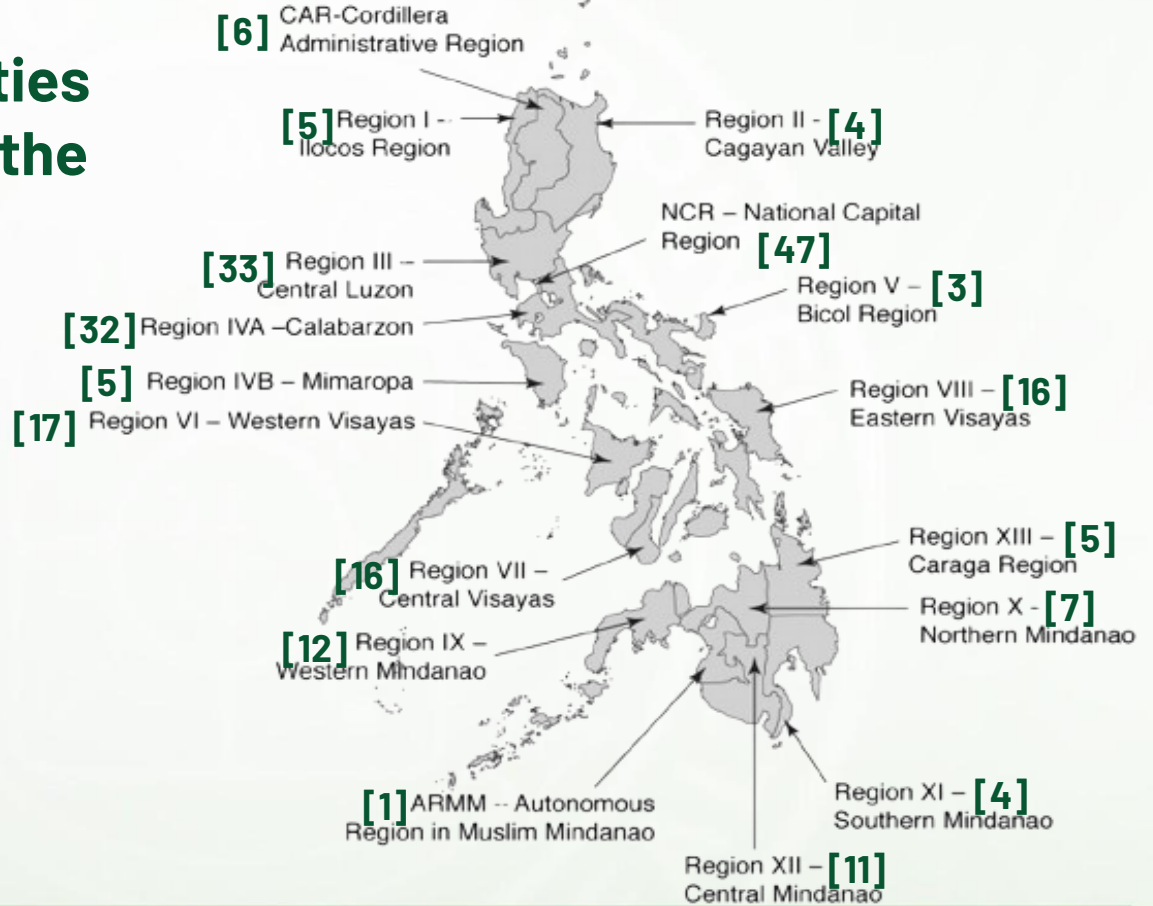
RECALIBRATION:

- From 1351, we prioritize establishing at least 1 CrCI per province and 1 per HUDC while also targeting high disease burden areas and treatment hubs.



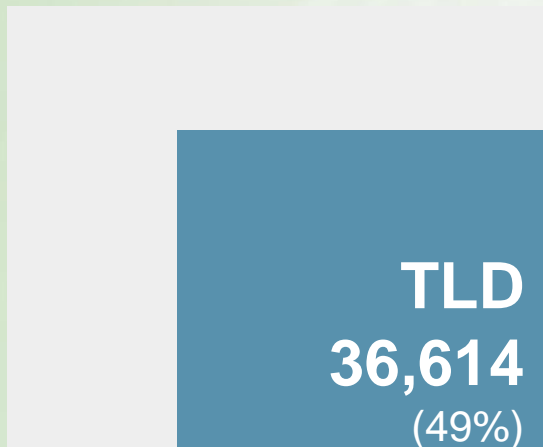
Treatment

Primary HIV Care Facilities and Treatment Hubs in the Philippines



Providing TLD and MMD to improve treatment retention

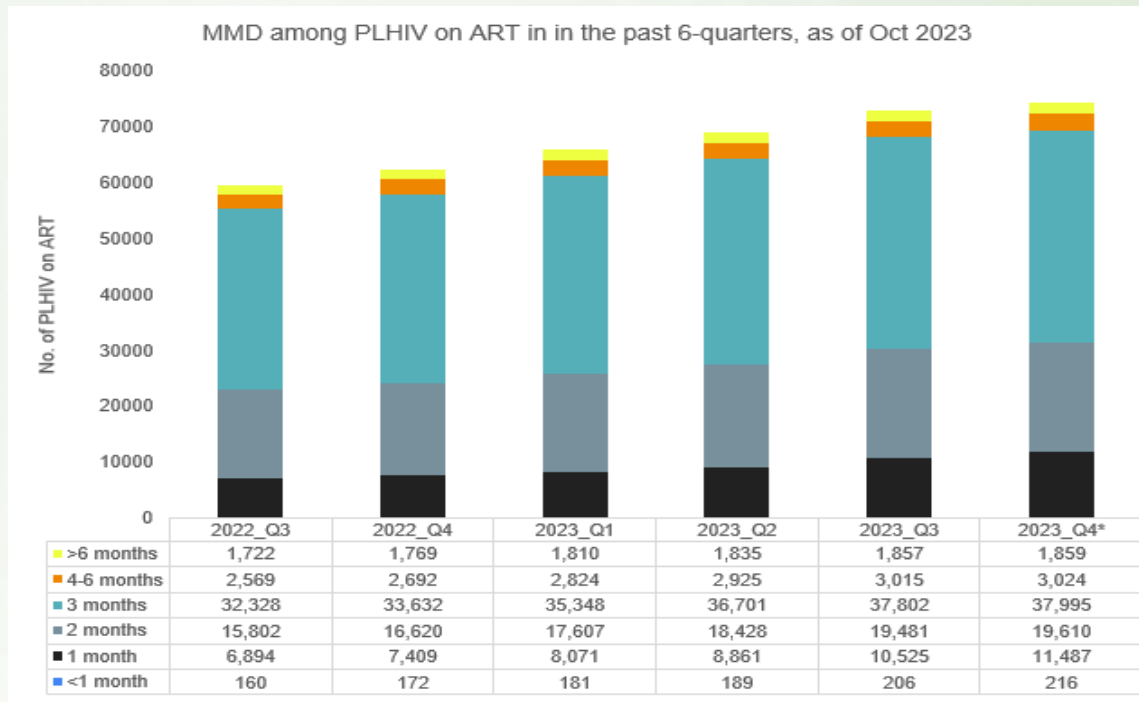
ALIGNED TO THE TLD TRANSITION PLAN, CURRENT COVERAGE IS AT 49% (among PLHIV on ART)



HOWEVER, ONLY 7 OF 10 (68%) NEW ENROLLEES WERE STARTED ON TLD



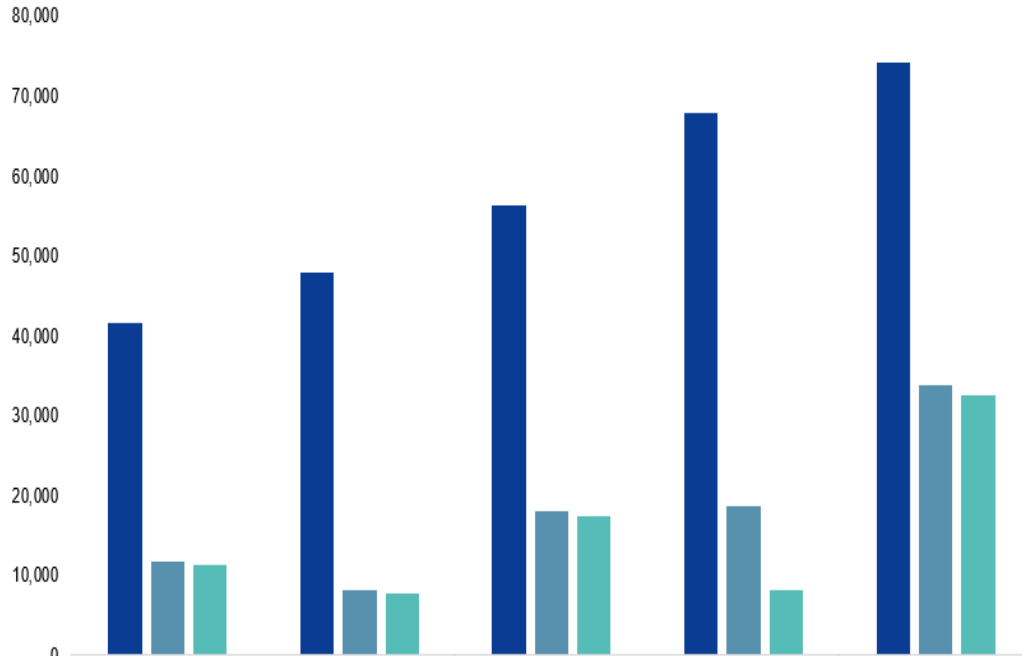
MMD-6 IS HIGHLY ENCOURAGED, BUT SITE-LEVEL ARV SUPPLY AND OHAT CLAIMS ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENT ARE CENTRAL TO LOW PRACTICE



Care

National viral load testing coverage at 46%, highest recorded in the program

Viral Load Testing and Suppression among PLHIV on ART, 2019 - October 2023



	2019	2020	2021	2022	*2023
■ PLHIV on ART	41,666	47,977	56,385	67,998	74,191
■ VL Tested	11,757	8,155	18,101	18,704	33,899
■ VL Suppressed	11,253	7,706	17,318	8,072	32,624

Year	% of Viral Load Tested	% Increase
2019	28%	-
2020	17%	-11%
2021	31%	14%
2022	28%	-3%
2023	46%	18%

Source:
HIV, AIDS and ART Registry of the Philippines, Oct 2023

Based on VL suppression of (<1000 cells/uL)

Challenges and Concerns

Challenges in achieving the targets

Prevent

- ✓ Low level of knowledge on HIV among key populations
- ✓ Low condom use among key populations
- ✓ Low PrEP coverage
- ✓ Stigma including self-stigma hindering access to available services
- ✓ Inadequate capacity building for service providers
- ✓ Unstable supply of RDTs for rHIVda

Treat

- ✓ Unstable supply of diagnostics (VL cartridges)
- ✓ Unstable supply of medicines for multi-month dispensing (MMD)

Sustain, Care and Protect

- ✓ Available machines (e.g. cartridge-based NAAT) not optimally used

Strategies and ways forward

Prevent

- Implement combination prevention through condom, PrEP, U=U messaging and targeted community strategy for KP and vulnerable populations
- Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) expansion and public introduction of post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP)
- Community and online outreach
- Integration of mental health in HIV prevention interventions for KP
- Elimination of mother to child transmission
- HIV-exposed infants tested for HIV within 2 months, given ART for prophylaxis

Treat

- Release of guidelines implementation tool (GIT) for HIV testing services (HTS)
- Full transition to safer and simpler ARVs (eg. Dolutegravir-based regimen)
- Optimization of Genexpert machine for multi-disease use including HIV viral load testing
- Point of care testing for early infant diagnosis
- Expansion of rHIVda sites
- Expansion of treatment hubs and Primary HIV Care Facilities nationwide.
- Submission of monthly inventory report through OHASIS to ensure uninterrupted supply of ART
- STRIDERS optimization

Sustain, Care and Protect

- Implement intensified case management incorporating mental health training and adherence counselling.
- Implement one stop shop set-up across HIV facilities for optimized case management.
- Implement differentiated HIV testing services optimizing available platforms
- Pilot Konsulta-SDG PhilHealth sandbox



Sa Bagong Pilipinas, Bawat Buhay Mahalaga!



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