

Country progress report - Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

Global AIDS Monitoring 2019



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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

SVG has expanded testing by collaborating with NGO Vince chap care SVG to conduct outreach HIV testing. The MOH has also employ peer navigator to help to link persons to care also to track lost to follow up and navigate back into care

Policy questions (2018)

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 in few (<50%) 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?

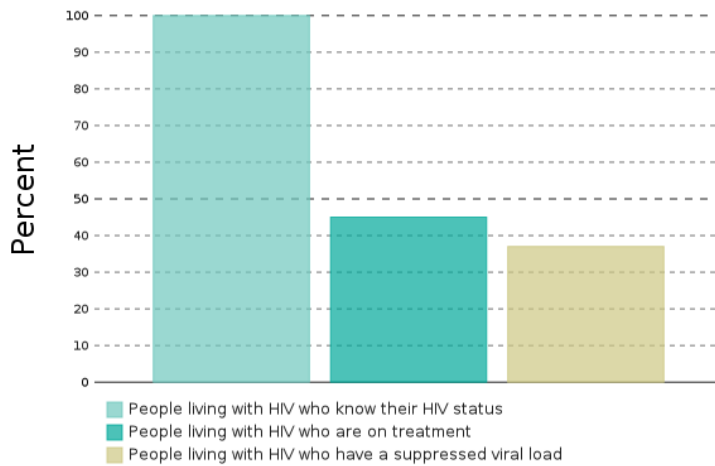
a) For adults and adolescents

-

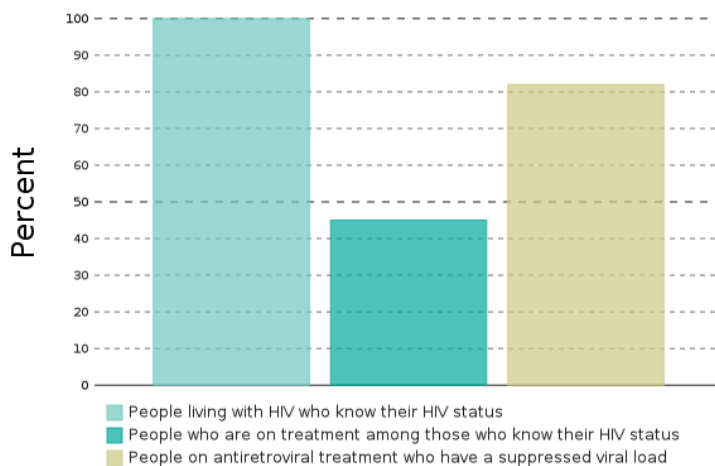
b) For children

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HIV testing and treatment cascade, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (2018)

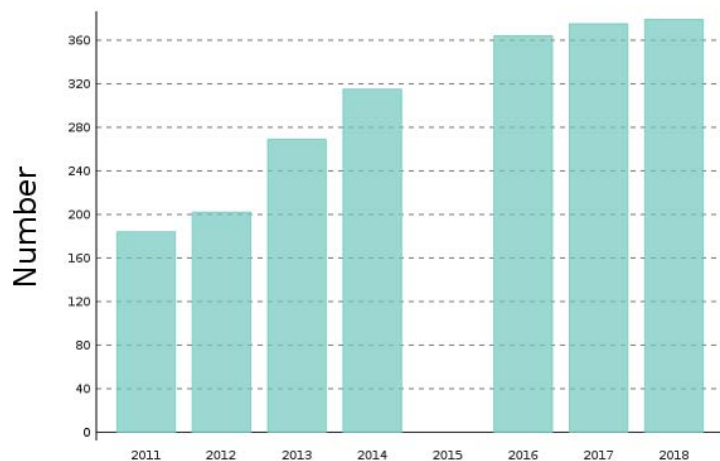


Progress towards 90-90-90 target, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (2018)



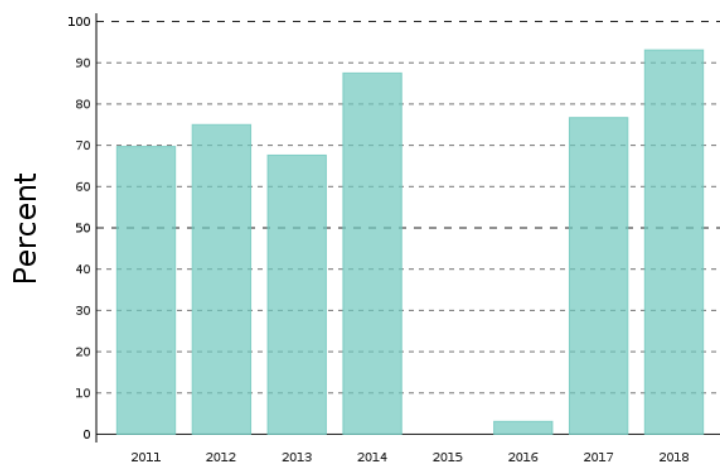
1.2 People living with HIV on antiretroviral therapy, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (2011-2018)

Number of people on antiretroviral therapy at the end of the reporting period



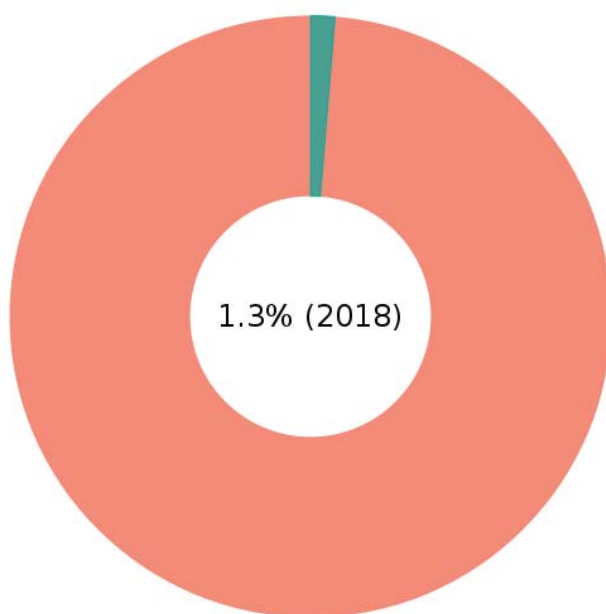
1.3 Retention on antiretroviral therapy at 12 months, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (2011-2018)

Percentage of adults and children living with HIV known to be on antiretroviral therapy 12 months after starting



1.8 HIV testing volume and positivity, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

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



Number of HIV tests conducted = 4 453

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

PMTCT program is in place Ante natal are tested for HIV and positive mothers are referred into care and treatment , exposed babies are provided with prophylactic treatment and replacement feed

Policy questions (2018)

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: -

Elimination target(s) (such as the number of cases/population) and year: -

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?

-; -

2.3 Preventing mother-to-child transmission of HIV, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (2011-2018)

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



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

Condoms are made available and are provided free

Policy questions: Key populations (2018)

Criminalization and/or prosecution of key populations

Transgender people

-

Sex workers

Selling sexual services is criminalized

Men who have sex with men

Yes, imprisonment (up to 14 years)

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

Drug use or consumption is specified as a criminal offence

Legal protections for key populations

Transgender people

No

Sex workers

No

Men who have sex with men

No

People who inject drugs

-

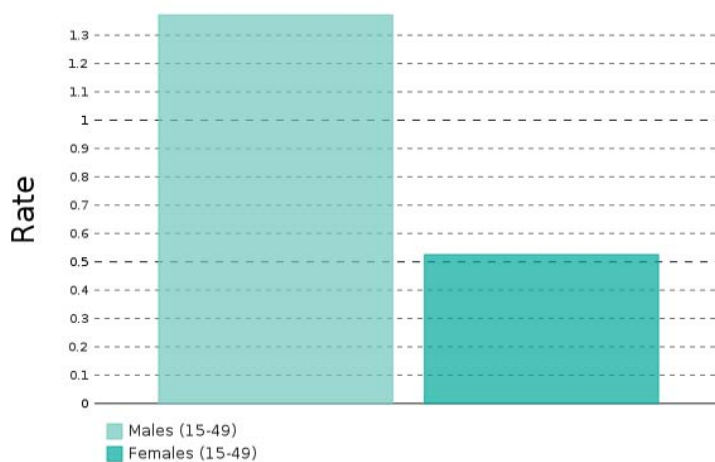
Policy questions: PrEP (2018)

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

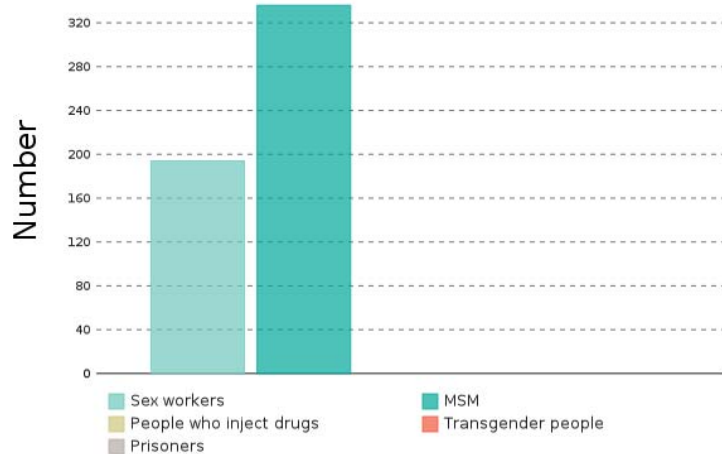
No, guidelines have not been developed

3.1 HIV incidence rate per 1000, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (2018)

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



3.2 Estimates of the size of key populations, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines



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

NAP held workshops to sensitize healthcare workers and public about stigma and discrimination. There is also an HIV workplace policy.

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

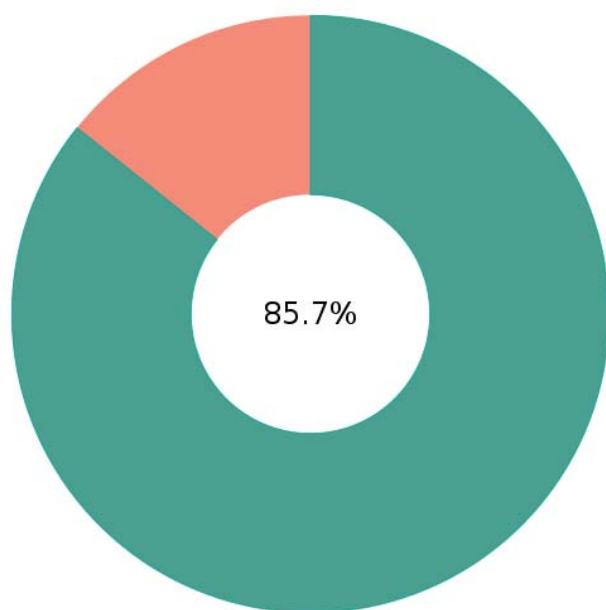
What protections, if any, does your country have for key populations and people living with HIV from violence?

-

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?

-

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

NAS continue to build the capacity of youth through out reach health educational session at community collages, secondary schools teachers training workshops on HIV/STI safe sex practices Social mobilization at cultural activities example carnival ,valentine, Adds placed on television and bill boards,

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

Yes

b) Secondary school

Yes

c) Teacher training

No

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

This issue need to be address much more work need to be done to ensure that HIV sensitive social protection is in full effect by 2020

Policy questions (2018)

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

Yes, and it is being implemented

a) Does it refer to HIV?

No

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

No

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?

Yes

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

Yes

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

Community-led service delivery

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

Progress summary

SVG is planning to integrate HIV into primary health care technical assistance was provided by PAHO in 2017 to assess the primary health care facilities for readiness and in 2018 PAHO again provided technical assistance to cost integration into primary health care plans are in place to pilot in selective health facilities

Policy questions (2018)

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

No

What safeguards in laws, regulations and policies, if any, provide for the operation of CSOs/CBOs in your country?

- 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

Number of condoms and lubricants distributed by NGOs in the previous year

a) Male condoms:

14000

b) Female condoms:

5000

c) Lubricants:

5000

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

legal literacy capacity building training were held for key population People living and affected by HIV and AIDS facilitated by ECADE

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?

-

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)?

-

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

-

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

Mechanisms are not sensitive to HIV

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

Policy questions (2018)

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)

No

b) The national strategic plan governing the AIDS response

No

c) National HIV-treatment guidelines

No

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

Co-trimoxazole prophylaxis