HIV estimates

- HIV prevalence in the Region is 0.1% (low epidemic).
- The estimated number of people living with HIV (PLHIV) in the Region in 2016 is 360,000, including 12,000 children aged 0–14 years.
- 70% (252,000) PLHIV live in 3 countries Pakistan, Islamic Republic of Iran and Sudan.
- New infections have reached 37,000 in 2016 with Pakistan, Islamic Republic of Iran, Sudan and Somalia contributing to 83% of the total new infections in the Region.
- HIV mortality: 17,000 people have died of AIDS in 2016 compared to 15,000 in 2014.

Fig. 1 Estimated number of PLHIV in the Region 2010–2016

Fig 2. Distribution of PLHIV in the Region
While the percentage of the general adult population living with HIV in the Region remained among the lowest globally (0.1%), key populations continue to be disproportionately affected.

- High rates of infection are found among people who inject drugs (PWID) in Afghanistan (4.4%), Islamic Republic of Iran (9.3%), Egypt (2.4%), Morocco (7.9%), Tunisia (3.9%) and Pakistan (21%).
- HIV prevalence among men having sex with man (MSM) was estimated at 12.6% in Lebanon, followed by Morocco (5.7%) and Sudan (1.4%) and Tunis (1.4%).
- HIV prevalence among sex workers: Djibouti (12.9%), Somalia (5.2%), Egypt (2.8%), and Pakistan (3.8%).

**ART coverage**

The number of PLHIV receiving antiretroviral therapy doubled from 2013 reaching 54 300 in 2016. Nonetheless, the Region continues to demonstrate the lowest coverage.
- 15% coverage for ART
- 18% coverage for pediatric HIV treatment
- 13% coverage for effective antiretroviral regimens to prevent mother-to-child transmission.

ART coverage varies across countries in the Region; where high ART coverage is reported in countries such as Qatar (86%), Kuwait (80%), Jordan (55%) Morocco (48%), other countries such as Afghanistan (7%), Pakistan (7%) and Sudan (10%) still have a very low coverage.

Fig. 5 HIV cascade of care in the Region