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
HIV in key populations at higher risk

- 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 disproportionally 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