The State of HIV Prevention in Lesotho

Policy and structural barriers

Key populations

- Criminalization of the behaviour of key populations
  - Gay men and other men who have sex with men
  - People who inject drugs
  - Transgender people
  - Prisoners

The national strategy includes critical elements of the programme package for key populations.

- Avoided health care because of stigma and discrimination
  - 8% of 2020 target

Population size
- 7,500
- 10,100
- 15,600
- 20,200

Adolescent girls and young women

Proportion of women who experienced intimate partner violence
- 55%

Girls who completed lower secondary education
- Yes

Policies on life skills-based HIV and sexuality education (secondary schools)
- Yes

Laws requiring parental consent for adolescents to access HIV testing services, age of consent
- Yes, <12

Linkages between HIV and sexual and reproductive health services

- HIV testing services integrated within sexual and reproductive health
- Provider-initiated condom promotion integrated into sexual and reproductive health services

HIV programme coverage and outcomes

- ADOLESCENT GIRLS, YOUNG WOMEN & MALE PARTNERS
- KEY POPULATIONS
- CONDOM PROGRAMMING
- VOLUNTARY MEDICAL MALE CIRCUMCISION
- ANTIRETROVIRAL DRUG-BASED PREVENTION
- PREVENTION OF VERTICAL TRANSMISSION OF HIV

Number of new HIV infections (all ages)
- 19,900
- 14,400
- 9,700
- 4,900

HIV prevalence
- Young women, 15-24 years
  - 2010: 5%
  - 2020: 4%
  - 2025 target: 2%

- Gay men and other men who have sex with men
  - 2010: 55%
  - 2021: 49%
  - 2025 target: 25%

- People who inject drugs
  - 2010: 5%
  - 2021: 4%
  - 2025 target: 2%

Data sources: UNAIDS 2021 epidemiological estimates; Global AIDS Monitoring 2021; and ICF – the DHS Program STATcompiler.

Note: 2020 and 2025 targets represent the country's required contribution to global targets, a 75% reduction by 2020 and 82.5% reduction by 2025 against 2010 as a baseline. These reductions are required to achieve a 90% reduction by 2030.

Note: The 2021 UNAIDS epidemiological estimates represent the year 2020. Other data points may refer to various years when the surveys were conducted.