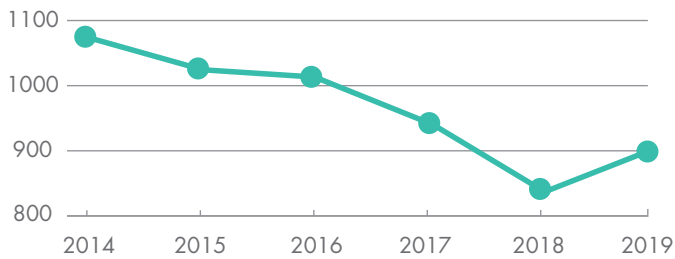


afao HIV IN AUSTRALIA 2021

KEY STATS

NUMBER OF HIV NOTIFICATIONS FROM 2014



29,045

people estimated to be living with HIV in 2019.



3,020

people unaware they were HIV positive in 2019.

KEY POINTS



Rapid uptake of PrEP, in combination with treatment as prevention, has led to declines in HIV notifications among Australian-born gay and bisexual men.

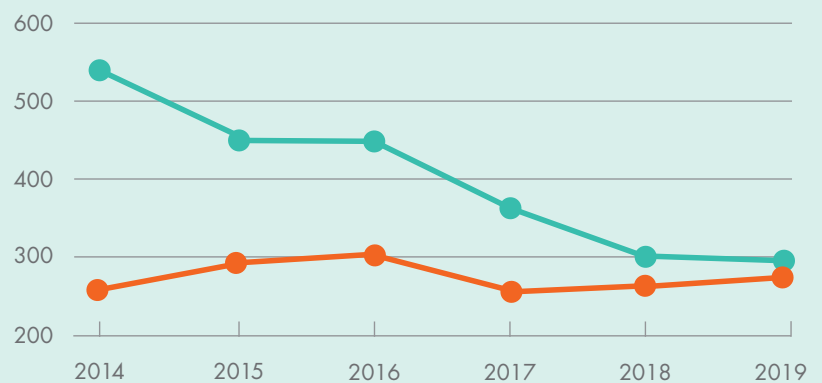


Across the last six years, there has been a 44% decrease in HIV notifications among Australian-born gay and bisexual men.



Carefully informed messaging – in language – is needed to ensure overseas-born gay and bisexual men have access to the same information as Australian-born gay and bisexual men.

HIV AND GAY AND BISEXUAL MEN AUSTRALIAN-BORN VS OVERSEAS-BORN



OVERSEAS BORN
291

TOTAL
597

AUSTRALIAN BORN
299

INNOVATIONS IN HIV

PrEP (Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis):

The use of HIV medication by people at risk of HIV to prevent HIV acquisition.

Since April 2018, PrEP has been available through the PBS. In March 2020, an estimated **25,282** people were accessing PrEP.

COVID-19 caused considerable disruption. Research from the Kirby Institute shows that in the three months to June 2020, **42%** of gay and bisexual men stopped using PrEP. ^[2]

There is an urgent need for education to drive up PrEP use.

PEP (Post-Exposure Prophylaxis):

Month-long daily treatment to prevent HIV acquisition following exposure to risk.

TasP (Treatment as Prevention):

There is zero risk of sexual transmission from someone on HIV treatment with an undetectable viral load.

HIV self-testing:

HIV test device that allows testing at home.

In November 2018, Australia's first HIV self-test was approved. Research shows HIV self-tests increase testing among infrequent and non-testers. For the benefits of self-tests to be realised, availability needs to be expanded to pharmacies.

HIV PREVALENCE IN AUSTRALIA

0.14%
of all adults in Australia have HIV

IMPACT OF HIV PREVENTION

The lifetime cost of treatment and care for someone with HIV is **\$1 million**. Modelling shows investment in HIV can save billions of dollars through averted infections.

Every \$1 spent on Needle and Syringe Programs saves the community \$27 in healthcare costs.



UNAIDS FAST-TRACK TARGETS

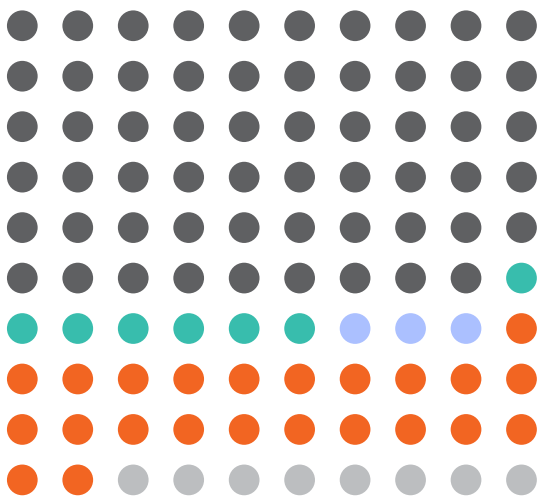
AUSTRALIA

UNAIDS GLOBAL 2030 TARGET: **95%**



20% OF PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV IN AUSTRALIA DO NOT HAVE A SUPRESSED VIRAL LOAD

HIV TRANSMISSION IN AUSTRALIA: 2019 DATA



59% MEN WHO HAVE SEX WITH MEN (MSM)

7% MSM AND INJECTING DRUG USE

3% INJECTING DRUG USE

23% HETEROSEXUAL SEX

8% OTHER/UNSPECIFIED

WHY IS AUSTRALIA SUCCESSFUL?



COMMUNITIES LEADING THE RESPONSE

Ongoing investment in trusted and credible community-led HIV organisations to provide education and support.

PEER EDUCATION

Involving priority populations in the response. Community-led HIV prevention. Peer-based rapid HIV testing.



HARM REDUCTION

Needle and Syringe Programs



PREVENTION

Health promotion programs reinforcing condom use, Undetectable = Untransmissible (U=U), regular HIV testing, PEP and PrEP.



ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLE

Over the last five years, the rate of diagnosis has been between **1.3 and 1.9 times** as high among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people than Australian born non-Indigenous people (3.3 vs. 2.6 per 100,000 in 2019).

WHAT afao AND ITS MEMBERS BRING TO THE RESPONSE



- Initiated by the community
- Designed by the community
- Implemented by the community
- Responsive to the evolving needs of the community
- Often enacted through partnership with mainstream
- Dependent on community for authority

afao and its members

AFAO is the national federation for the HIV community response. AFAO works to end HIV transmission and reduce its impacts in Australia, Asia and the Pacific. AFAO's members are the AIDS Councils in each state and territory – ACON, Meridian, NTAHC, Queensland Council for LGBTI Health, TasCAHRD, Thorne Harbour Health and WAAC – the National Association of People Living with HIV Australia (NAP-WHA); the Australian Injecting & Illicit Drug Users League (AIVL); the Anwernekenhe National HIV Alliance (ANA); and Scarlet Alliance, Australian Sex Workers Association. AFAO advocates for its member organisations, promotes medical and social research into HIV and its effects, develops and formulates policy on HIV issues, and provides advice to Commonwealth, state and territory governments.

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[1] Unless stated otherwise, data for this factsheet has been drawn from the Kirby Institute's HIV webpage at <https://data.kirby.unsw.edu.au/hiv> (2020)
 [2] Hammoud, Mohamed A et al, 'Substantial Decline in Use of HIV Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) Following Introduction of COVID-19 Physical Distancing Restrictions in Australia: Results from a Prospective Observational Study of Gay and Bisexual Men' [2020] *Journal of acquired immune deficiency syndromes* (1999)