

# The HIV Epidemic in Infants, Children, Adolescents and Women Today – 2020 UNAIDS Update

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# The HIV Epidemic in Infants, Children and Adolescents

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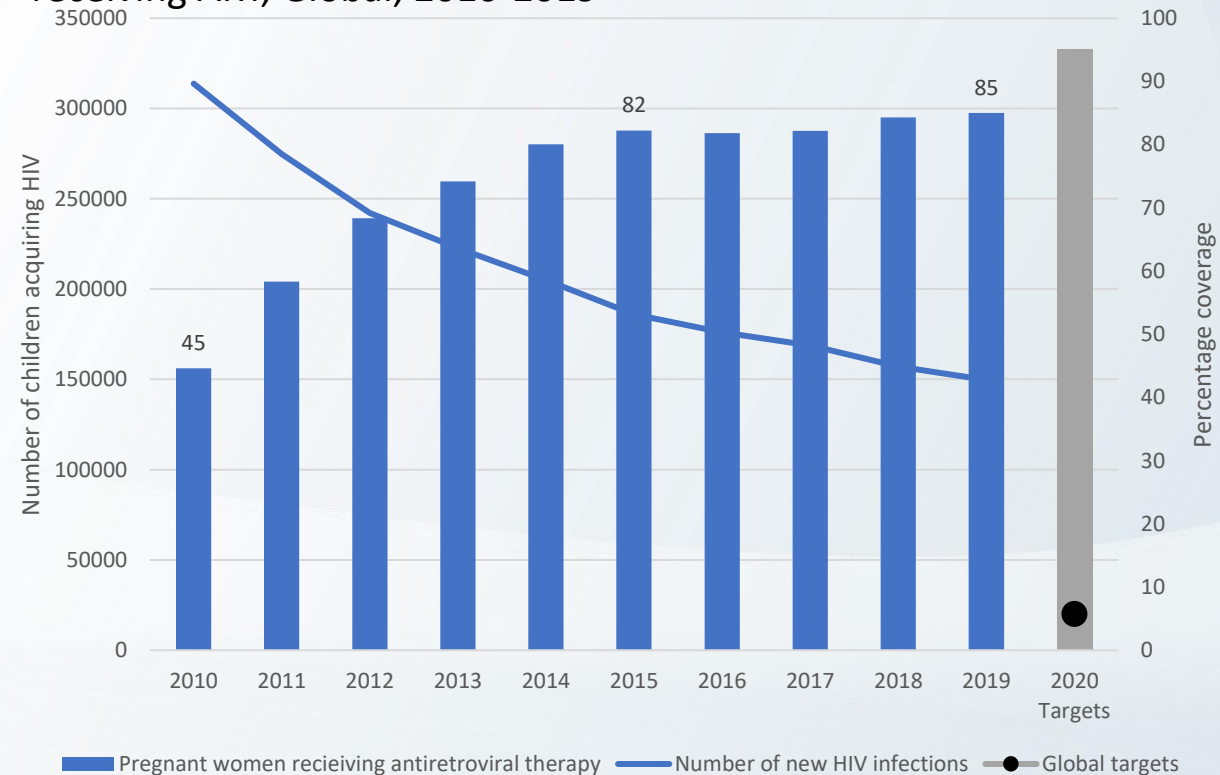
I have no conflicts of interest and nothing to disclose.

# Overview

- Have we made progress against global targets?
  - <20,000 new child infections in 2020 In 2019: 150,000
  - 1.4 million children <15 years receiving treatment in 2020 In 2019: 950,000
- ... and what has happened in 2020? ... COVID-19 service disruptions
  - Initial drops in pregnant women receiving ART appear to have been temporary
  - Declines in children receiving treatment in 2020

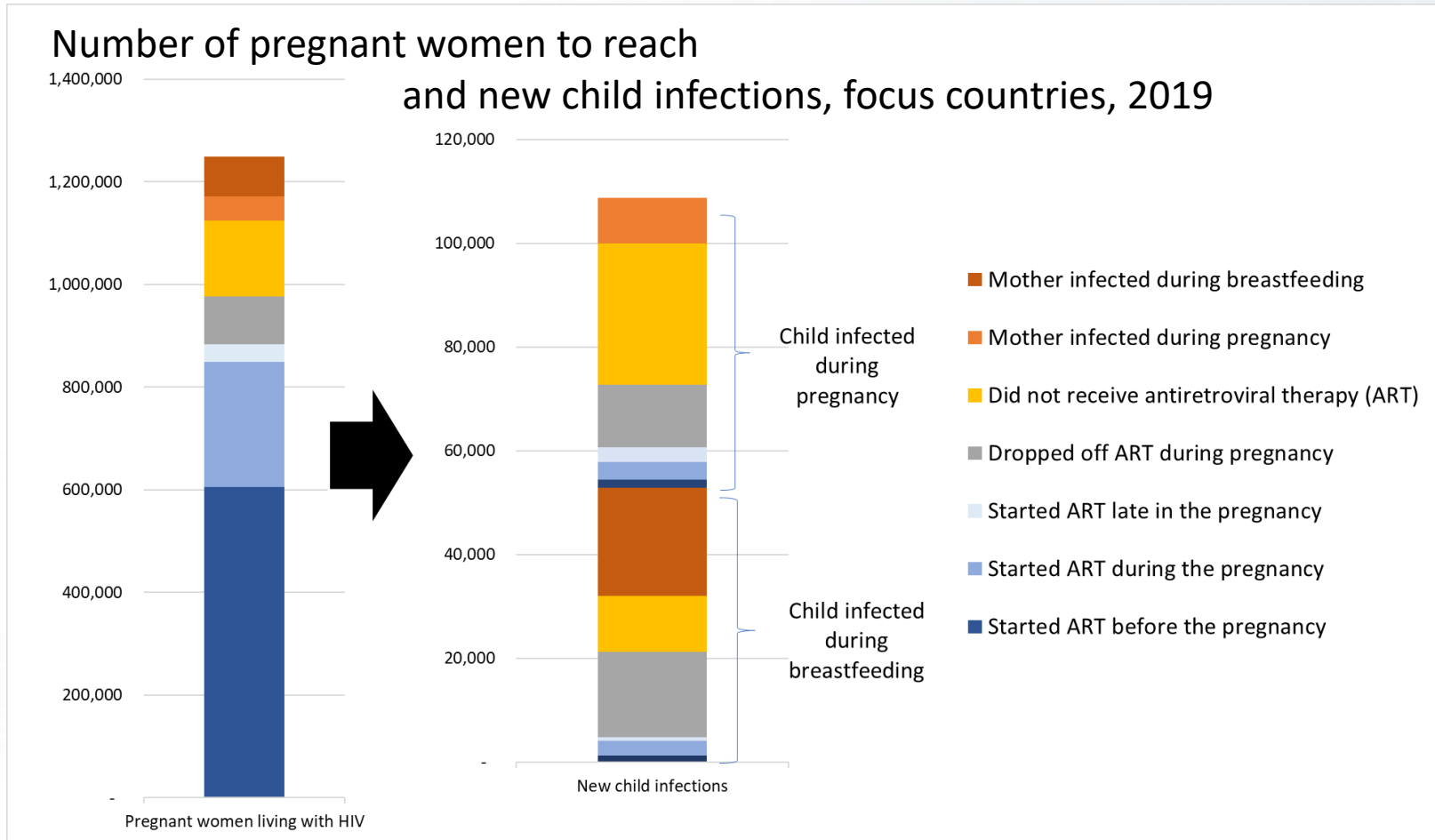
# Progress toward global target of 95% coverage is good, but new HIV infections among children persist

Number of new child infections and the percent of pregnant women receiving ART, Global, 2010-2019



Source: UNAIDS 2020 Estimates

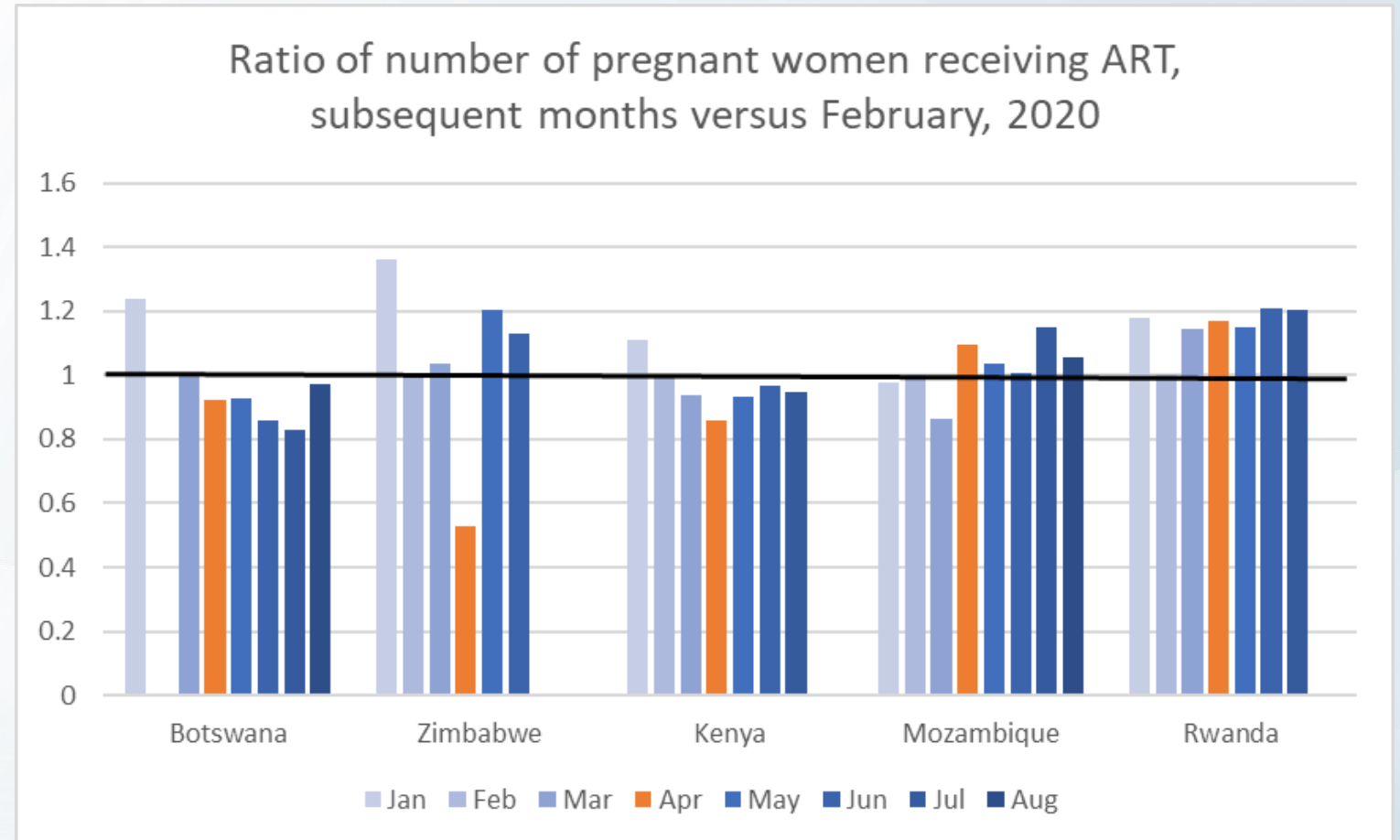
# We know there are three key interventions to reduce new child infections



- Close the remaining gaps in access to ART for pregnant women – primarily in western and central Africa
- Support women to remain in care and adhering to treatment throughout pregnancy and breastfeeding
- Prevent new HIV infections among pregnant and breastfeeding women

# The impact of COVID-19 on PMTCT services

- Assuming services were at normal volume in February
- There was a dip in services in some countries but all countries have returned to parity with February's numbers



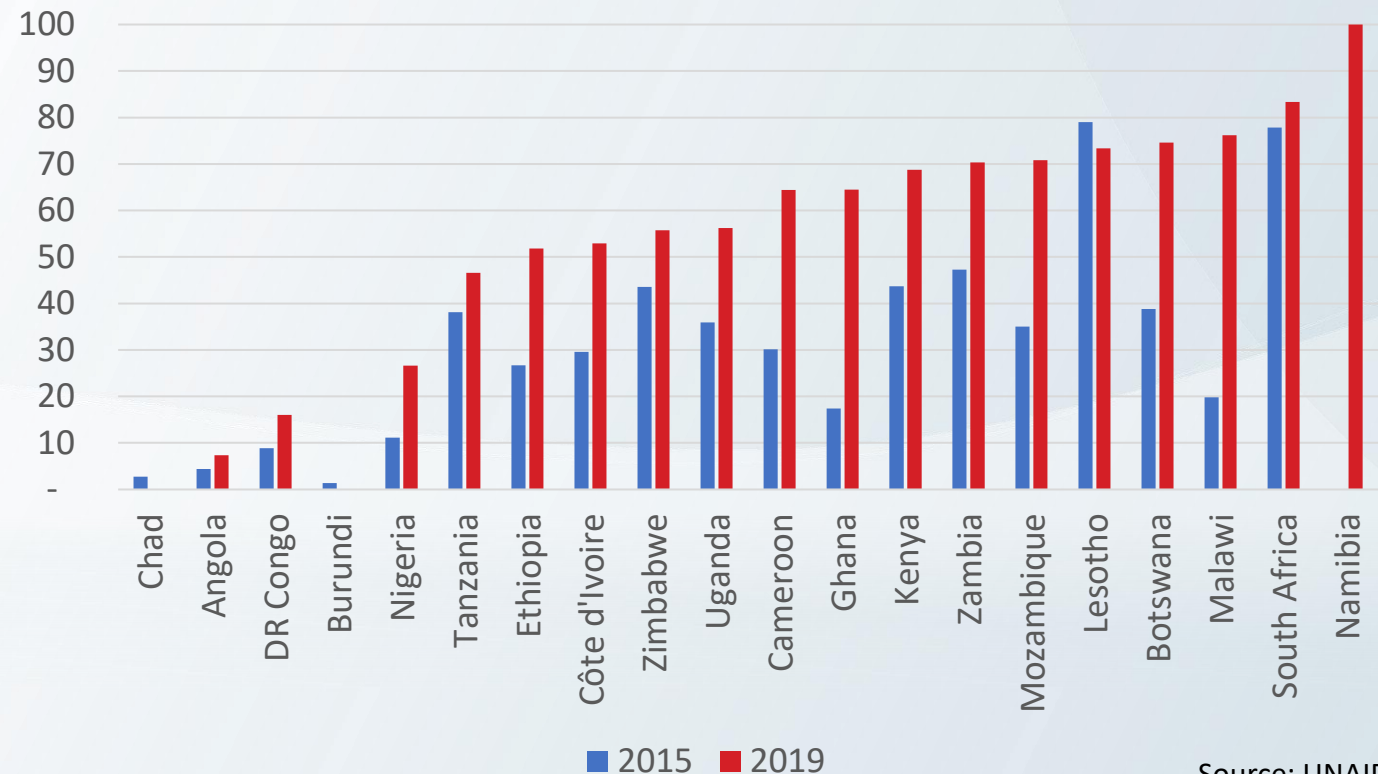
Botswana used March as baseline instead of February

Source: Preliminary analysis of UNAIDS, UNICEF and WHO HIV services disruption monitoring data, September 2020

# Early infant diagnosis has improved since 2015 but remains alarmingly low

- Globally 720,000 HIV exposed children were tested at 2 months,
- Well short of the 1.3 million children exposed to HIV during pregnancy and delivery in 2019

Percent of HIV exposed children receiving a virological test at 2 months of age, focus countries, 2015 and 2019

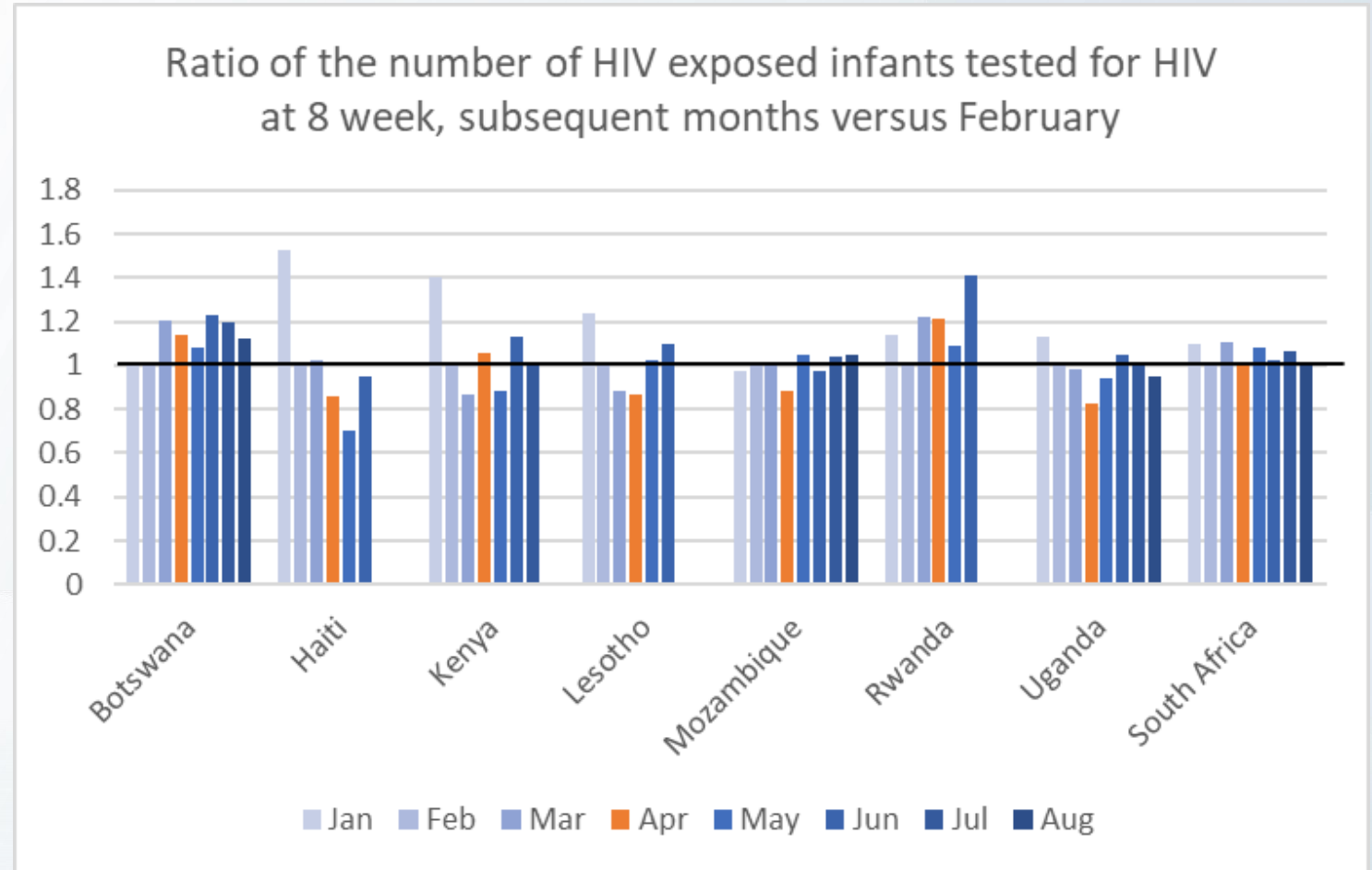


Source: UNAIDS 2020 Estimates



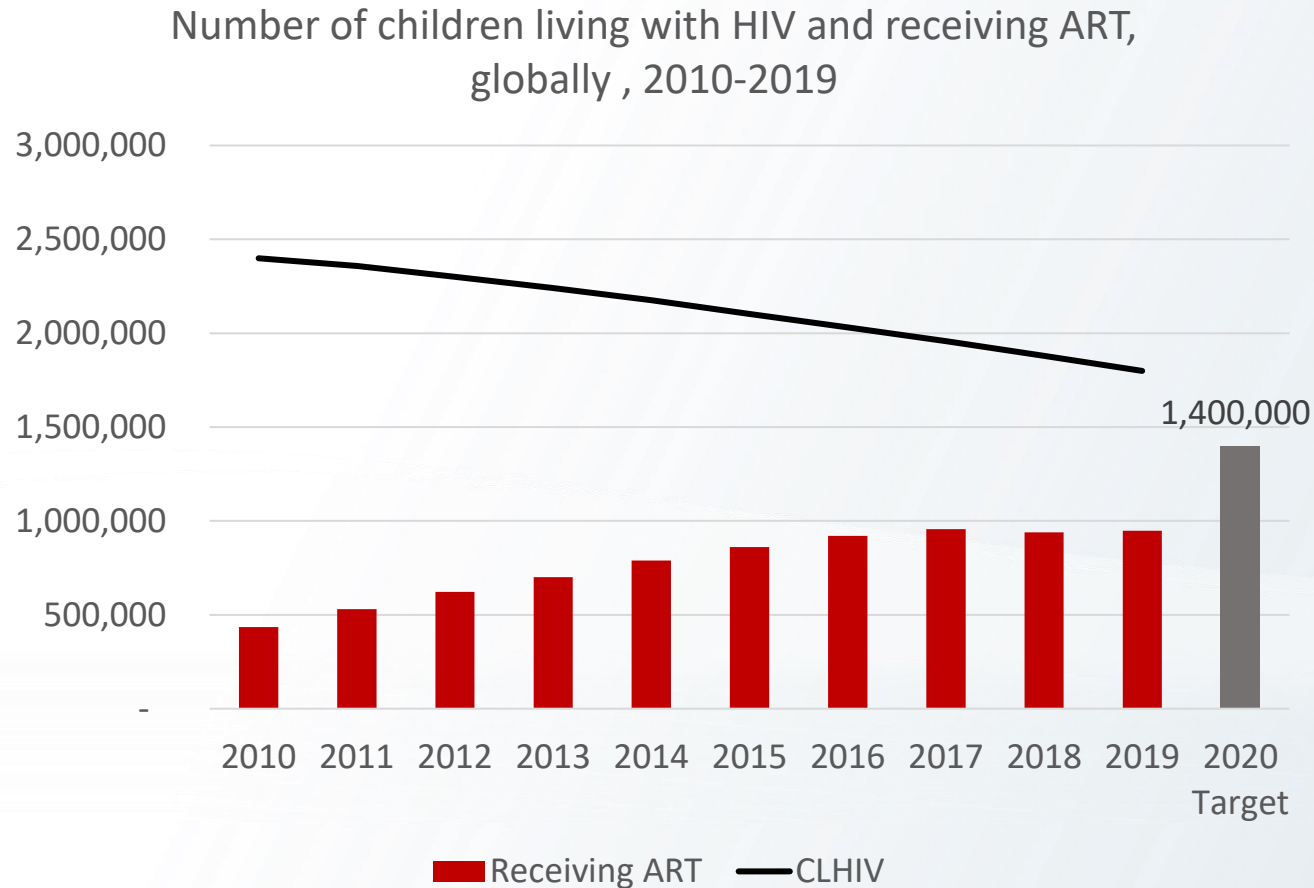
# Impact of COVID-19 on early infant diagnosis

- Assuming services were at normal volume in February
- There was a dip in services in 5 of 8 countries reporting data



Source: Preliminary analysis of UNAIDS, UNICEF and WHO HIV services disruption monitoring data, September 2020

# 53% of children living with HIV are receiving treatment compared to 68% of adults



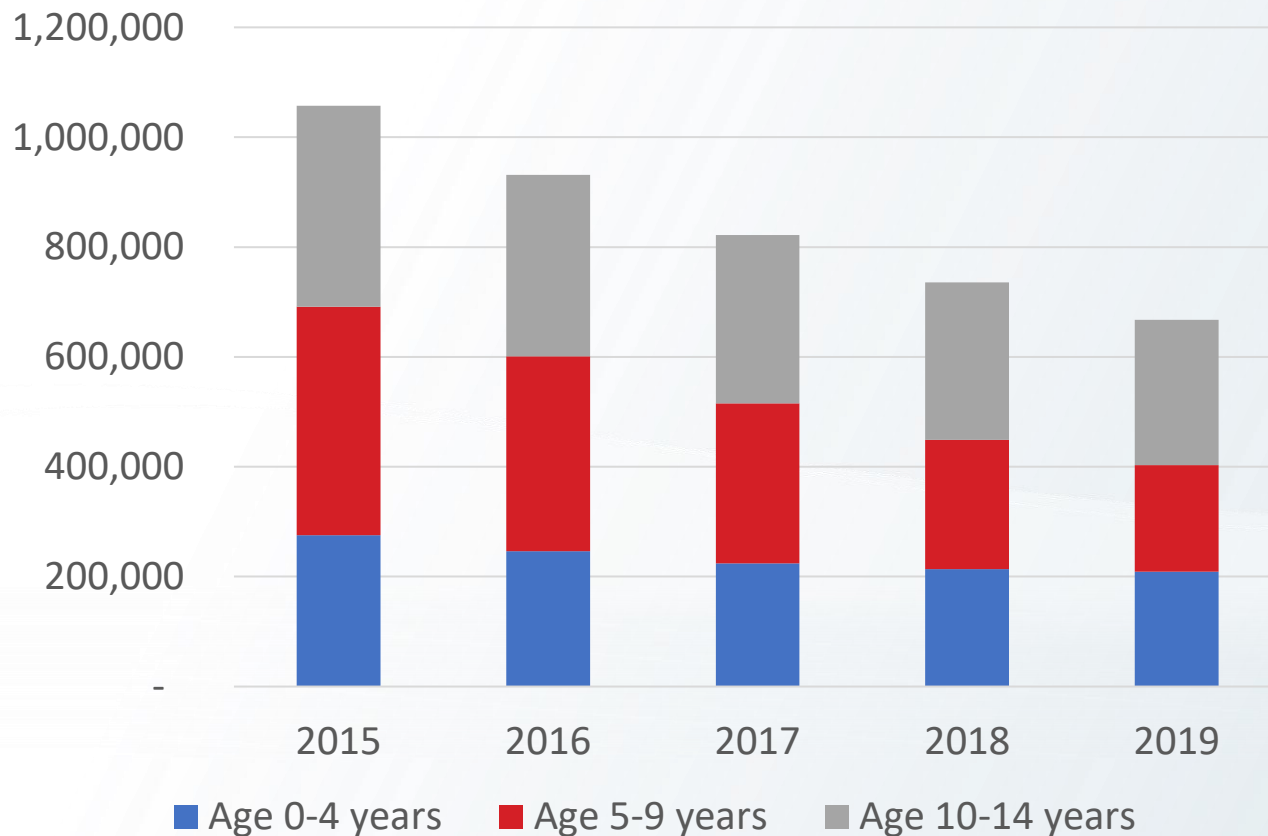
- Only 950,000 children receiving treatment in 2019
- Children living with HIV is declining as children age into adulthood
- Most recent data suggest lower numbers in mid-2020

Source: UNAIDS 2020 Estimates

# Children living with HIV not on treatment is declining

These children are older and will not be identified through early infant diagnosis

Children living with HIV **not** receiving antiretroviral therapy  
by age group, focus countries, 2019



- Children living with HIV are aging out
- Reduction in vertical transmissions means that 69% of the untreated children are over age five

Source: UNAIDS 2020 Estimates



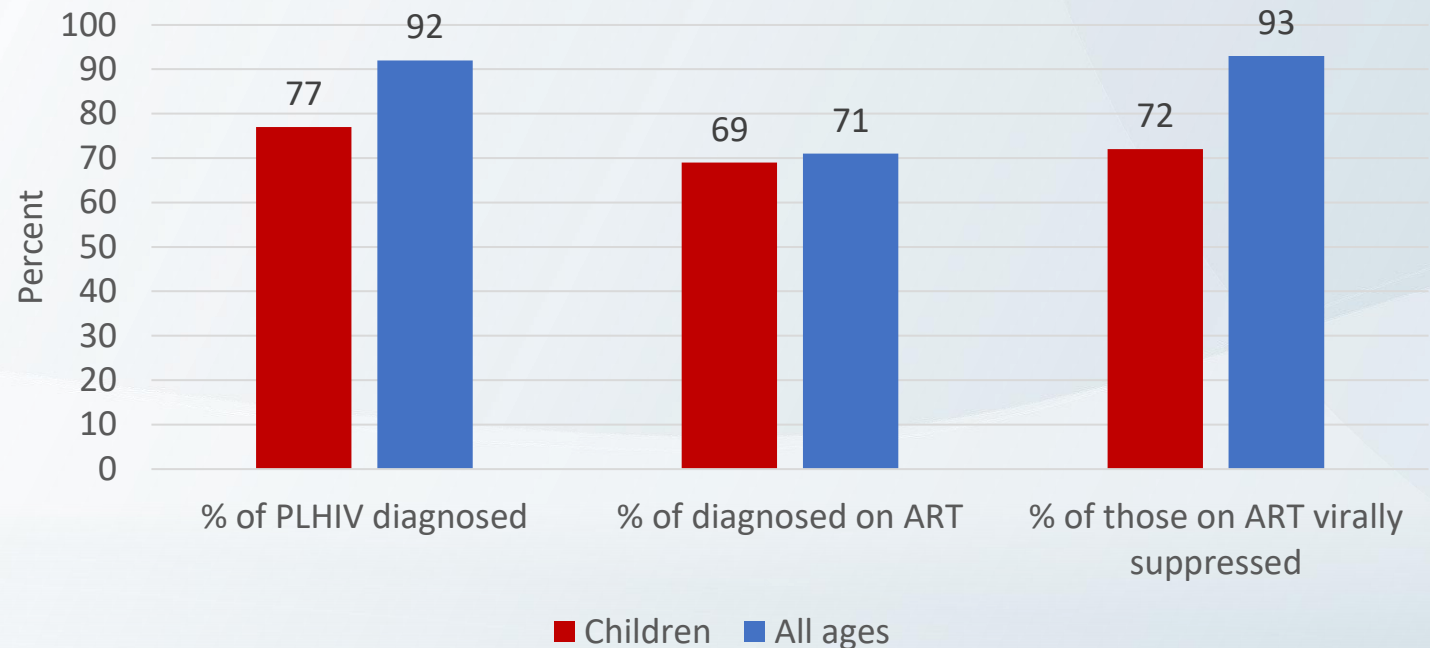
# Gaps to the 90-90-90 targets are wider for children

Compared to adults:

Children are less likely to be diagnosed

And among those on ART, children are less likely to have suppressed viral loads

90-90-90 treatment targets, children compared to all ages, South Africa, 2019

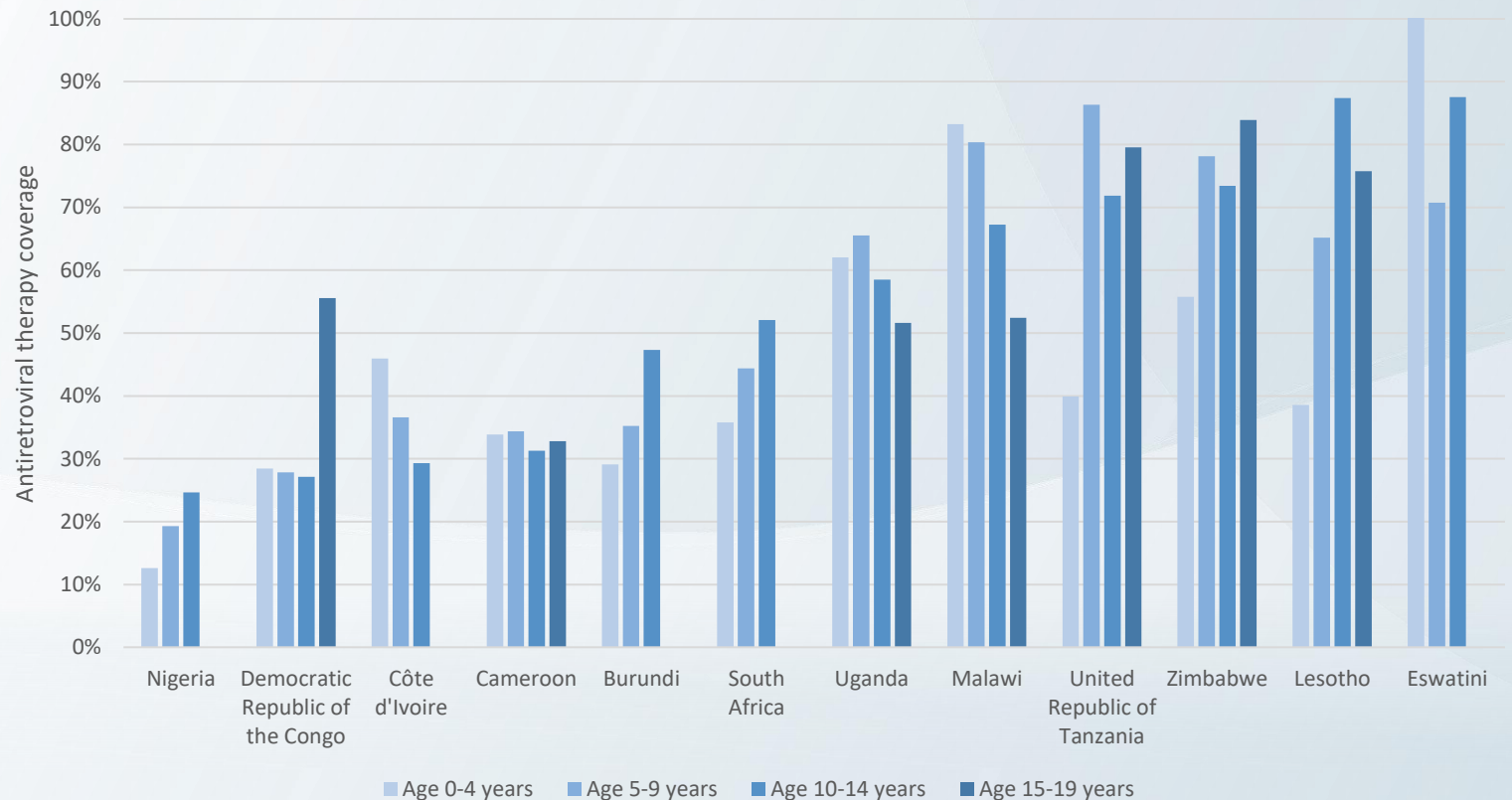


Source: Thembisa Model 2020.

# What do we know about adolescents?

- 12 of the 21 focus countries provided age disaggregated data
- Among those 12, 5 did not have data for the 15-19 age group
- 2 countries show lower coverage for people 10-19 years
- Continued effort to disaggregate data and review gaps in treatment by age

Children and adolescents living with HIV receiving antiretroviral therapy by age group, select countries, 2019



Source: UNAIDS 2020 Estimates

# Conclusions

- Maintain the gains on closing treatment gap for pregnant women
- Provide options for women at risk of HIV to test routinely during their reproductive years
- Support women living with HIV to remain virally suppressed during pregnancy and breastfeeding
- Reach the remaining 600,000 HIV exposed infants with early infant diagnosis
- Intensify family index testing to reach the remaining 850,000 children currently not on treatment

# Thank you



For additional information please go to:  
Data: [Aidsinfo.unaids.org](https://aidsinfo.unaids.org)

Or find reports at [www.unaids.org](https://www.unaids.org)

Latest Global AIDS Report: Seizing the moment  
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