

# Ending HIV Transmission in a 'post-pandemic' world. What is possible?

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- England's HIV Action Plan – Working towards the elimination of HIV transmission by 2030.
- Recent trends in HIV diagnosis, treatment and care in England – successes, challenges and implications for elimination programmes.
- Emerging lessons from London: Building upon the keys to success, developing integrated and more holistic approaches to HIV prevention and control.

In January 2019, the UK government committed to an ambition to end new HIV transmissions, AIDS diagnoses and HIV-related deaths within England by 2030.

The HIV Action Plan, published in December 2021, set out how government aims to achieve an 80% reduction in new HIV infections in England by 2025.

**Ambitions:**

- 1- By 2025 reduce the number of people first diagnosed in England from 2,860 in 2019 to under 600
- 2- By 2025 reduce the number of people diagnosed with AIDS within 3 months of HIV diagnosis from 219 to under 110
- 3- By 2025 reduce the deaths from HIV/AIDs in England from 230 in 2019 to under 115



# HIV Action Plan for England 2022-25

## Objectives and Actions

### Objective 1:

Ensure equitable access and uptake of HIV prevention programmes

**Action 1:** we will continue to invest in evidence-based national HIV prevention campaigns and provide additional cross-system support for local HIV prevention activities.

**Action 2:** we will continue to invest in HIV PrEP (funded at £11 million in financial year 2020 to 21 and £23.4 million in financial year 2021 to 2022) through the Public Health Grant.

### Objective 2:

Scale up HIV testing in line with national guidelines

**Action 3:** we will scale up HIV testing, focusing on those populations and settings where testing rates must increase

**Action 4:** we will reduce missed opportunities for HIV testing and late diagnosis of HIV

**Action 5:** we will innovate and transform capacity and capability for effective partner notification

### Objective 3:

Optimise rapid access to treatment and retention in care

**Action 6:** we will reduce the number of people newly diagnosed with HIV who are not promptly referred to care

**Action 7:** we will boost support to people living with HIV to increase the number of people retained in care and receiving effective treatment

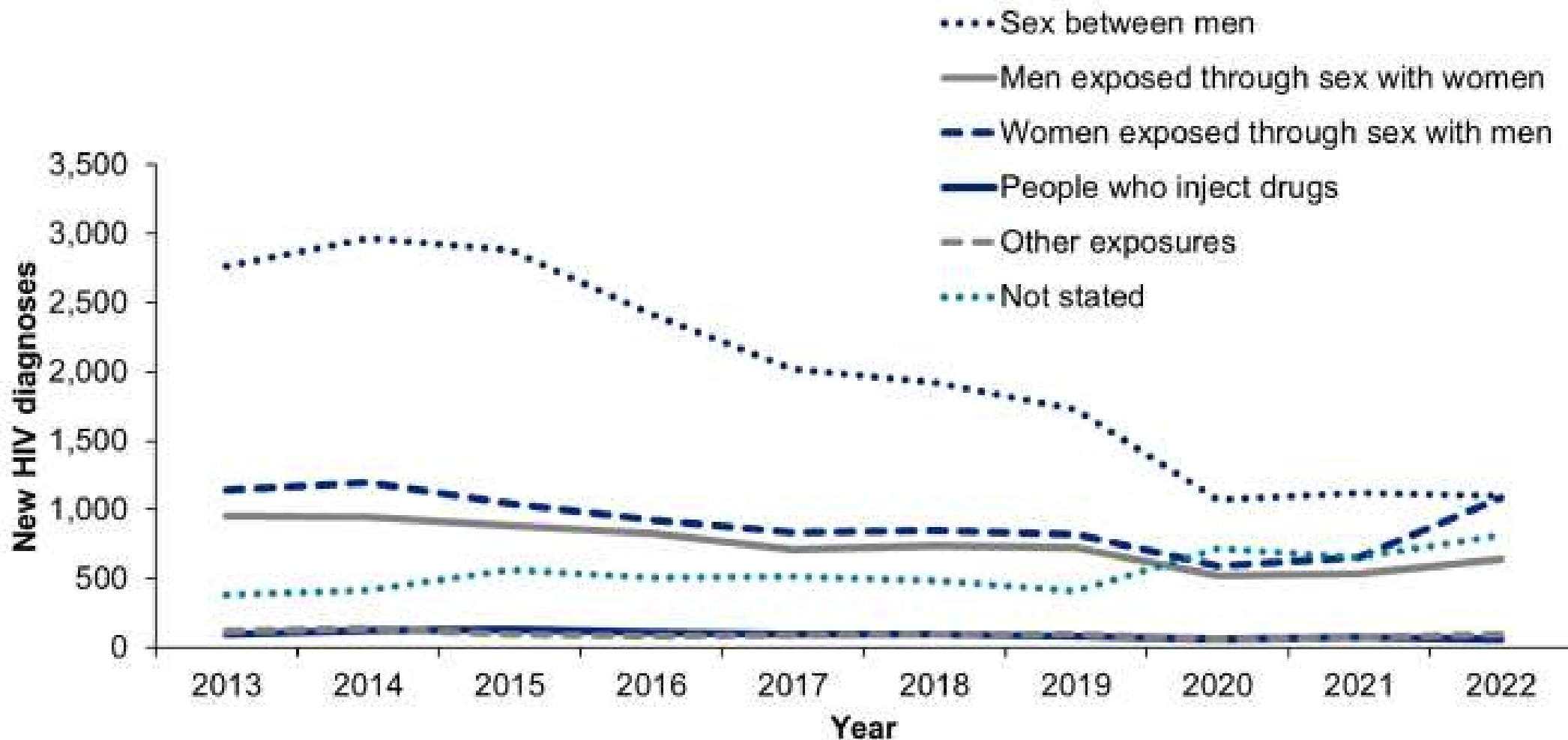
### Objective 4:

Improve the quality of life for people living with HIV and addressing stigma

**Action 8:** we will optimise the quality of life of those living with HIV

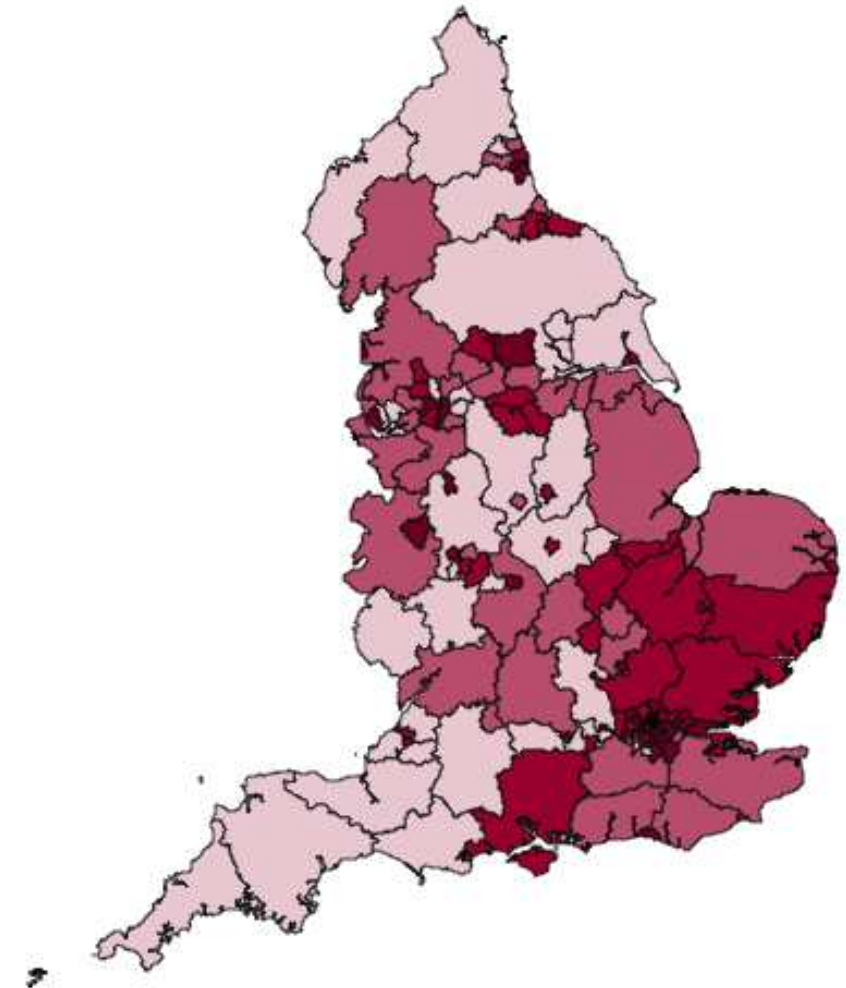
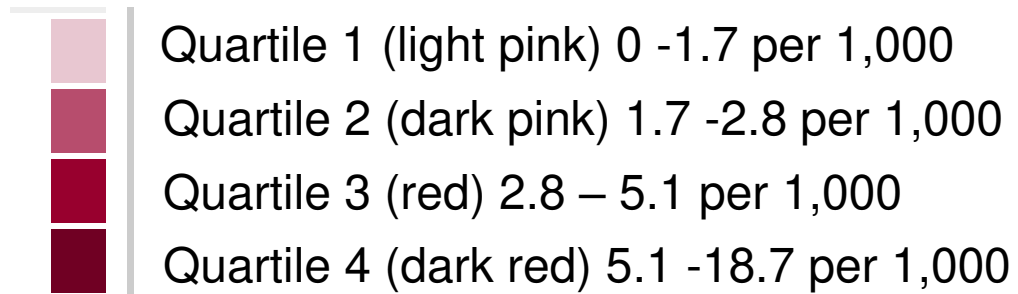
**Action 9:** we will tackle stigma and improve knowledge and understanding across the health and care system about transmission of HIV and the role of treatment as prevention

# New HIV diagnoses (all people), by probable route of exposure and gender: England, 2013 to 2022

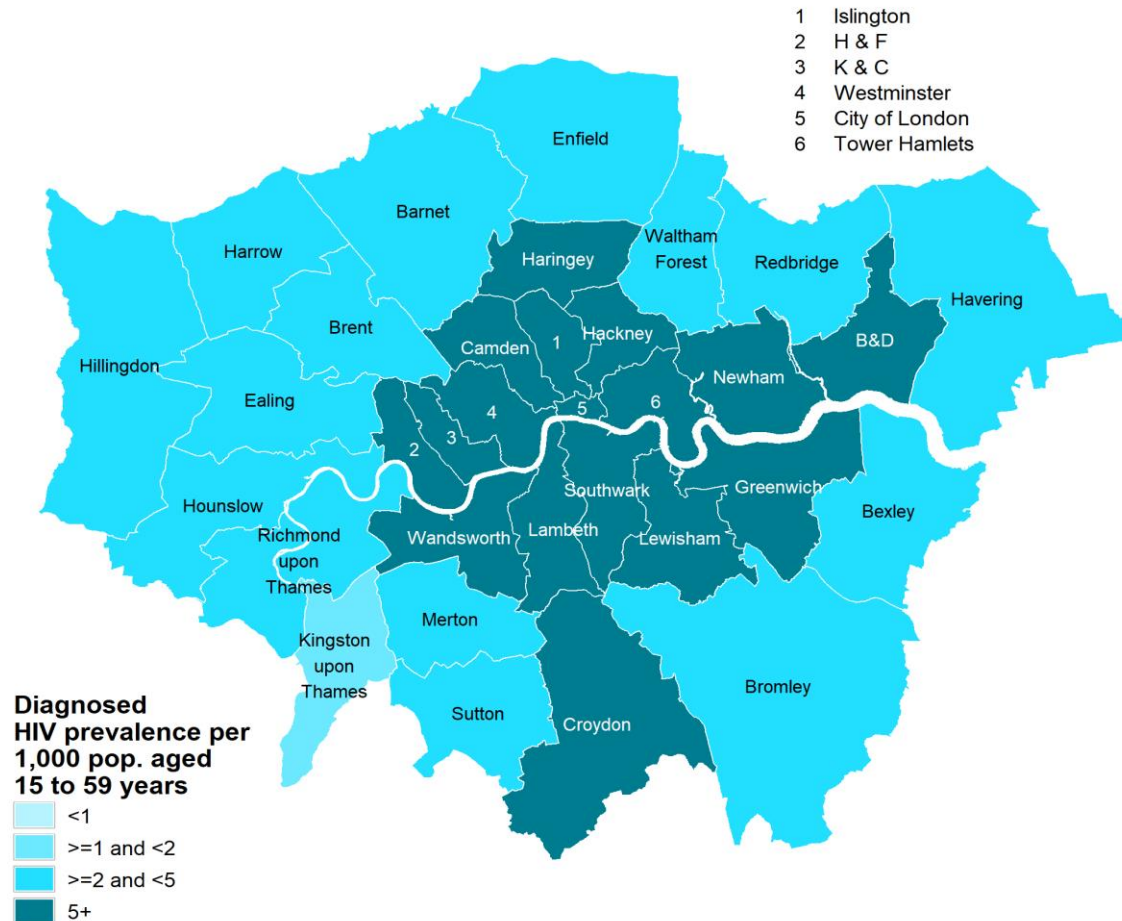


# There is variation in new diagnosis rate per 100,000 between local authorities

New HIV diagnosis among persons first diagnosed in the UK rate per 100,000, 2021 crude rate – local authorities by quartiles



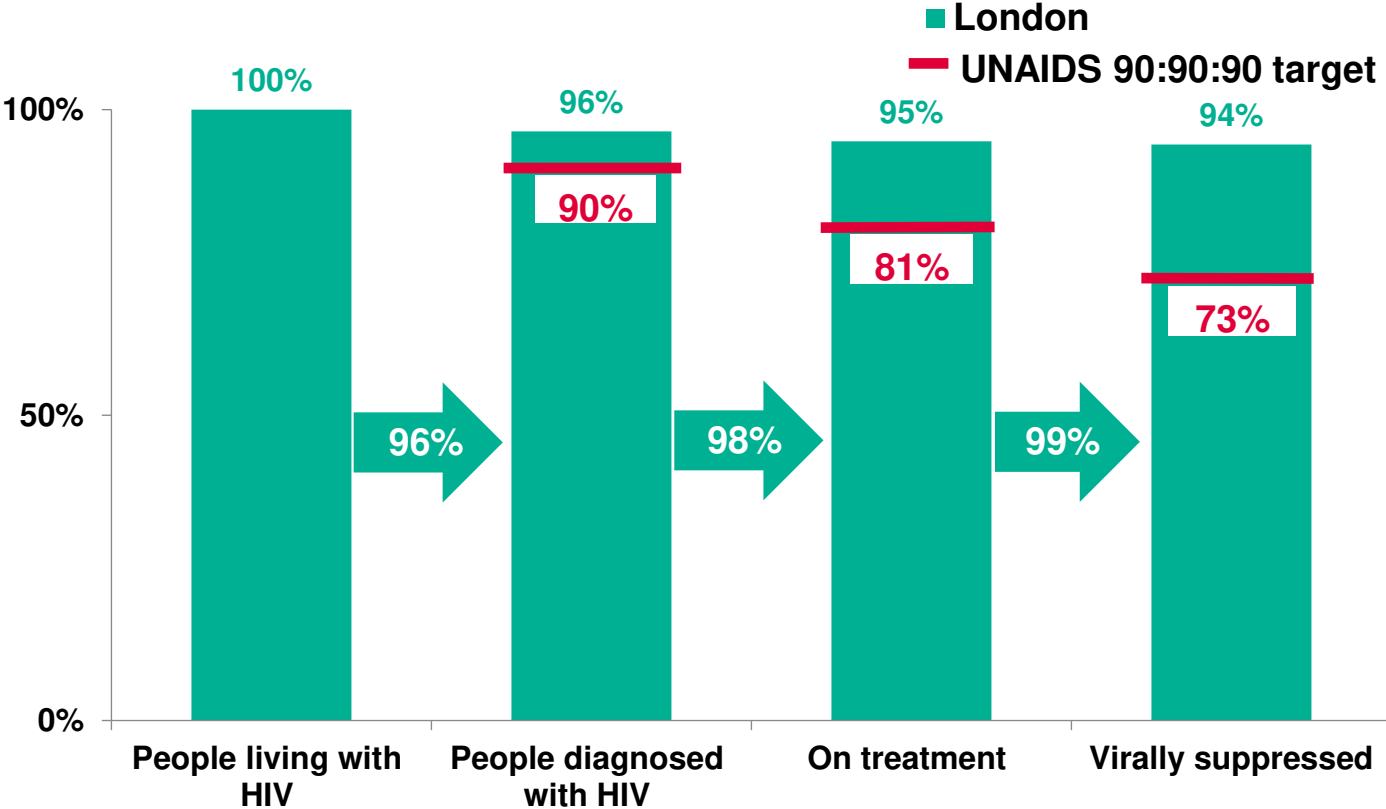
# Diagnosed prevalence (all ages) by middle super output (MSOA) of residence: London, 2020



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- This map shows people living with diagnosed HIV, rather than new diagnoses.
- The difference between inner and outer London is visible, but you can also see other geographical features, such as the Thames Gateway area (east London, close to the river), an area where much recent relatively affordable housing development has attracted migrant populations from world regions such as West Africa.
- An increase in new housing may not be matched with an increase in health service or public transport provision.

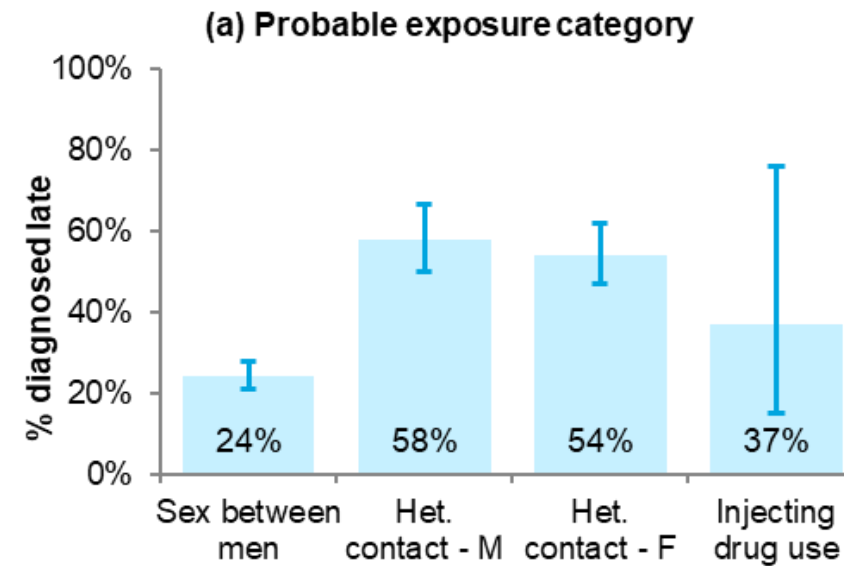
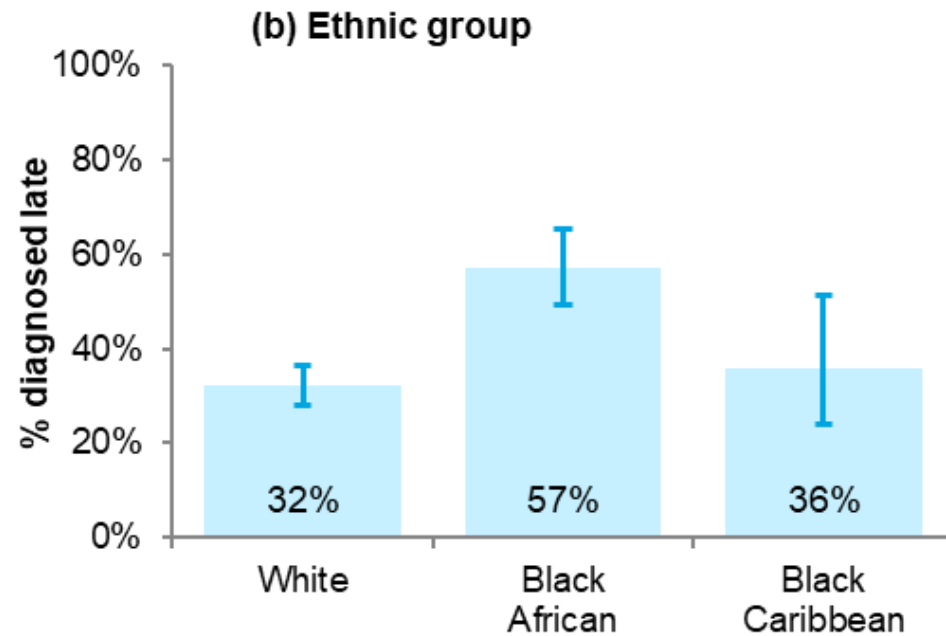
# Continuum of care: London, 2021



- London was the first city globally to reach 95-95-95. There is some evidence that a plateau may be being reached in some areas, e.g. % diagnosed on treatment, albeit at levels well above even 95-95-95
- The UNAIDS target of 90-90-90 equates to 73% of those living with HIV achieving viral suppression and being uninfected
- In London, 94% of those living with HIV are in that group

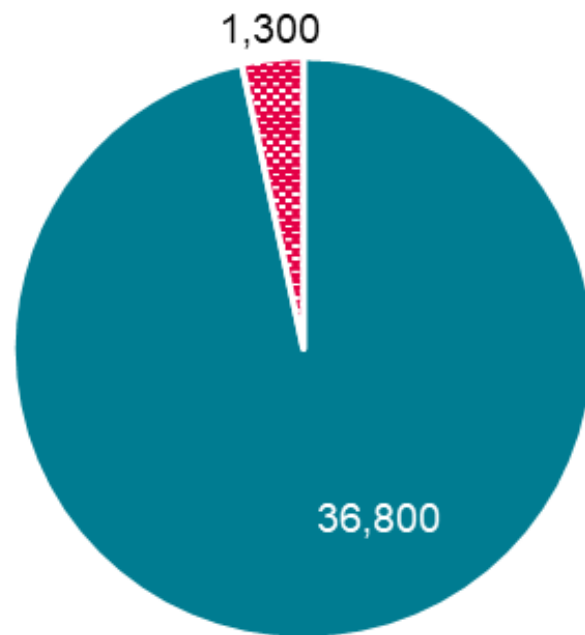


# Late diagnoses by ethnic group and probable exposure: London residents aged 15+ years, 2019-2021



From this year onward, **only diagnoses with no prior diagnosis abroad** are included in the late diagnosis calculation. White people and GBMSM continue to be diagnosed more promptly than other groups. The lower proportion diagnosed late for these groups does however reflect the higher proportion of GBMSM that are white compared to heterosexuals and vice versa.

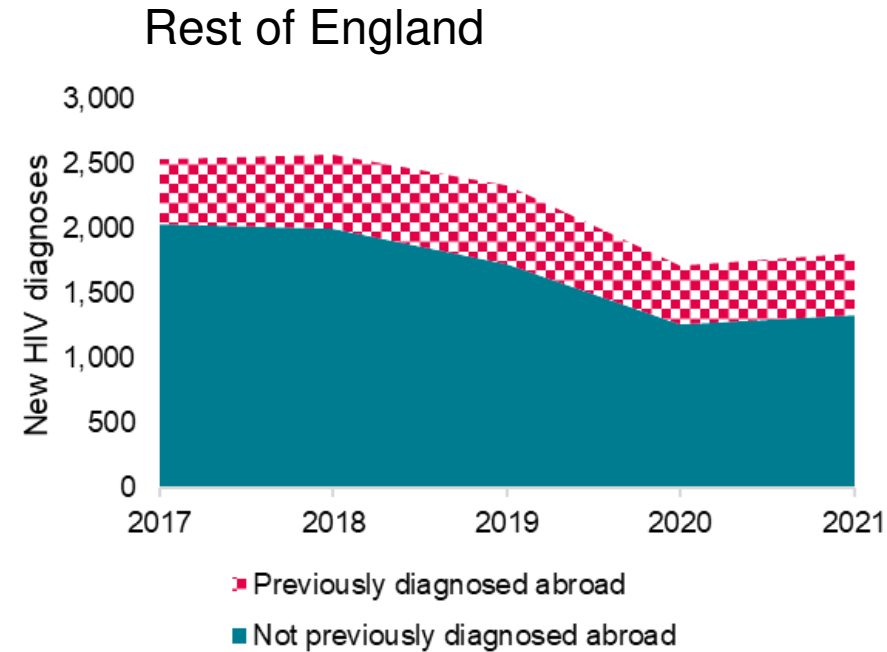
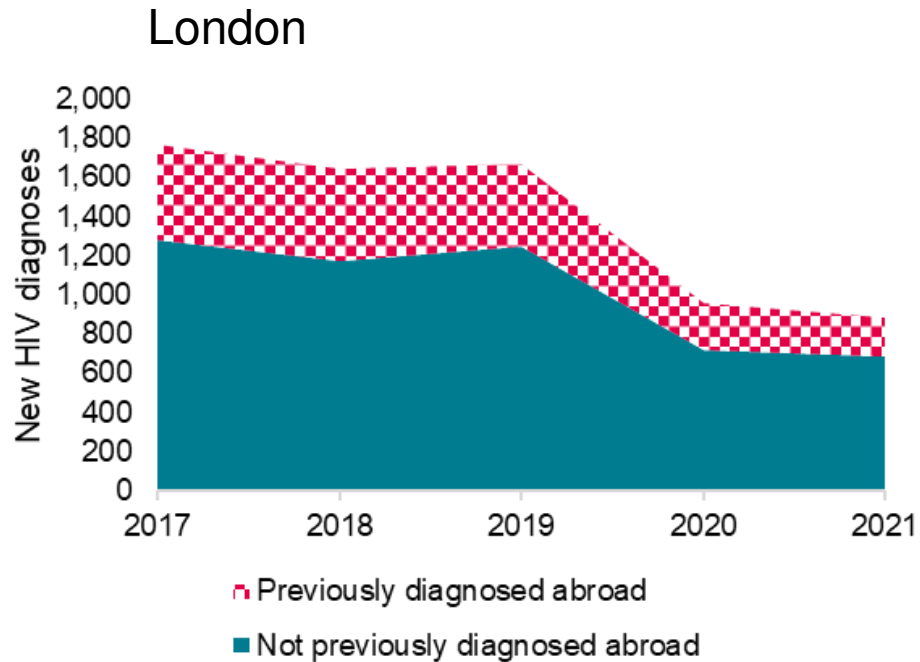
# Undiagnosed HIV infections: London



- Estimated people diagnosed with HIV
- ▣ Estimated people living with undiagnosed HIV

- Estimates suggest that in 2021 there were ~38,100 people living with HIV in London. Of these ~1,300 remained undiagnosed.
- Estimates are sensitive to modelling techniques and data quality, both of which we continue to try to improve.
- While we obviously do not have any direct information for those who remain undiagnosed, the information we have on the newly diagnosed, particularly those whose diagnosis was made late, may help us understand who is most at risk of remaining undiagnosed and how we may reach them.

# New HIV diagnoses and previous HIV diagnoses abroad



- As new infections decrease the proportion of diagnoses which are in effect re-diagnoses of people previously diagnosed abroad becomes more important
- In 2021, 22% of Londoners diagnosed with HIV had been previously diagnosed abroad (196/883) compared to 28% in 2017
- For the rest of England, the equivalent percentages are 26% for 2021 (473/1,809), compared to 19% for 2017



**Opportunities to accelerate  
HIV elimination and strengthen  
HIV prevention efforts**



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# 1

## Strengthen leadership, cross-sector collaboration and coordination for HIV elimination and STI response

FAST-TRACK CITIES LONDON

### Fast-Track Cities London Initiative

- London partners signed the global [Fast Track Cities Declaration](#) in 2018, to reach zero new HIV infections, zero HIV-related stigma and zero HIV-related deaths by 2030.
  - Mayor of London, NHS England London, UKHSA, London Councils, OHID, HIV clinicians, voluntary sector, ADPH and people living with HIV all work together.
  - The Fast-Track Cities London partnership is the only forum that brings everyone working on and living with HIV together, to work on the challenges and solutions.
- International reputation for HIV response, with great interest in how London has worked together in partnership - academic confirmation of effectiveness from St Mary's University by researcher Dr. Sara Papparini, recipient of the Circle of Excellence Award at international Fast-Track Cities Conference, Lisbon 2021 and shortlisted for Health Service Journal Award in 2022.
- Infrastructure for Fast-Track Cities enabled swift roll out of the Emergency Department opt-out HIV testing programme - identified 178 new cases in the first six months, a potential saving of c.£18m to the health economy.

DELIVERING TOGETHER

ADVOCATING FOR LONDON

LEADING ACROSS BOUNDARIES

COMMUNICATING & ENGAGING

Cross-sector collaboration and coordination creates the framework for better leadership and accountability for HIV prevention, aligned under a national plan with agreed metrics for progress and outcomes.




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# 2 Realign investments and prioritise spending in the right places to aid elimination and response efforts.

FAST-TRACK CITIES LONDON

## London HIV Fast Track Cities

Key achievements



£500K investment to **tackle stigma** at all levels 2023-26  
– HIV Confident Charter

Support to roll out of HIV **opt out testing in EDs** across London – 178 new cases of HIV found

Targeted testing of people from **marginalised communities** in faith settings, high streets, homeless hostels – over 5,000 tests

Developed **embedded peer support** model – potential to increase capacity in clinics, improve quality of life, mental health and re-engage patients in care

Research and solutions for **mental health** of people living with HIV in London – 1000s of hours of psychosocial support

Delivering **improvement collaborative** of 13 projects with 22 charities and 9 NHS trusts – foundation for next three years

Delivering innovative testing and prevention interventions at scale. Work to transform health services and permit increased scale-up and population coverage. Expand investment into new diagnostic technologies and treatment modalities.



# 3 Prioritise prevention, health promotion with a focus on cultural competence, equity and tackling stigma

**NATIONAL HIV TESTING WEEK** 6-12 FEB 2023

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Better Health Let's do this

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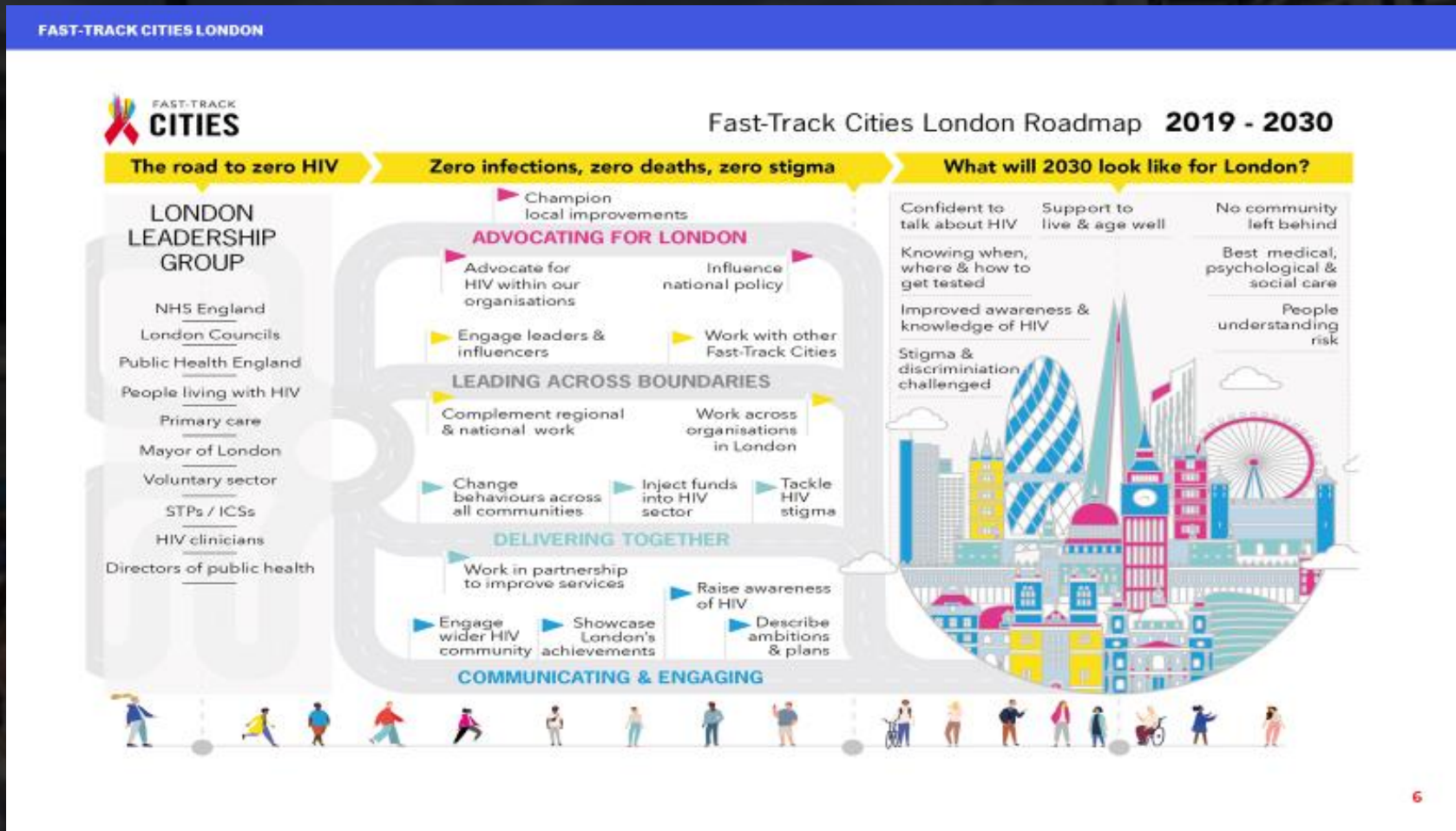
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HIV prevention, testing and tackling stigma remain important priorities for national and local HIV prevention efforts. No new national new STI prevention campaigns recently. Opportunities to deliver modern, integrated digital sexual health campaigns.



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# 4 Deepen Community Centred Approaches to Health Asset based Community Development



Community engagement, mobilisation and co-production have been critical in the pandemic response and recovery. This will require sustainable support, funding, evaluation of promising practices, and scaling-up of approaches to build equity, trust, stigma & confidence.





# Conclusion

- Implementation of the new HIV Action Plan for England underway
- Early demonstrable impact of the Opt-Out Testing Programme – collaboration, leadership, partnership, and effectiveness
- Ongoing challenges of the post-COVID recovery pressures, monkeypox outbreak, cost of living crisis, autumn/winter pressures
- Critical role of the HIV Action Plan Implementation Steering Group and new Community Advisory Group in guiding the implementation of the plan – accountability, transparency, responsiveness, delivery



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