

$$[\text{TEST OFTEN}] + [\text{TREAT EARLY}] + [\text{PREVENT}] = \text{ENDING HIV 2025}$$

..... END STIGMA

TOWARDS THE ELIMINATION OF HIV TRANSMISSION IN NSW

New South Wales is a world leader in responding to HIV, beginning with our swift response to HIV/AIDS in the 1980s. Significant successes under the previous *NSW HIV Strategy 2016 – 2020* mean that the virtual elimination of HIV transmission is now possible under the new *NSW HIV Strategy 2021 – 2025*.

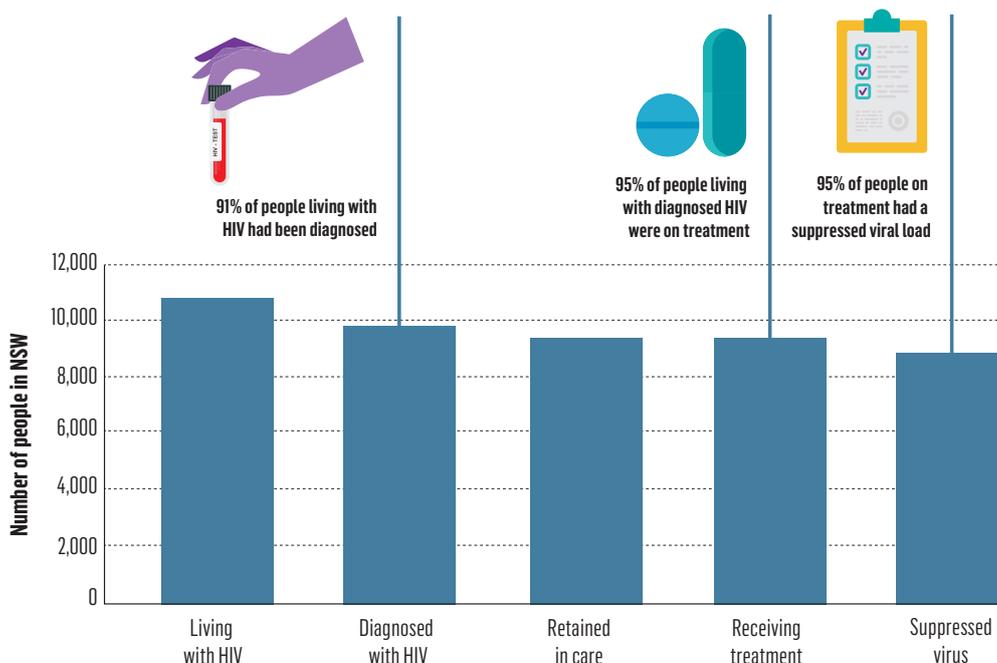
High rates of diagnoses and treatment for people living with HIV

In 2019, NSW achieved two of the UNAIDS Fast-track 95–95–95 targets for HIV diagnosis, treatment and viral suppression (**Figure 1**).

New ways to prevent, test and treat HIV have led to dramatic reductions in rates of diagnoses, now the lowest since surveillance began in 1985.

Figure 1: The NSW HIV diagnosis and care cascade, 2019

Source: Unpublished analysis using data to December 2019 by the Kirby Institute, UNSW



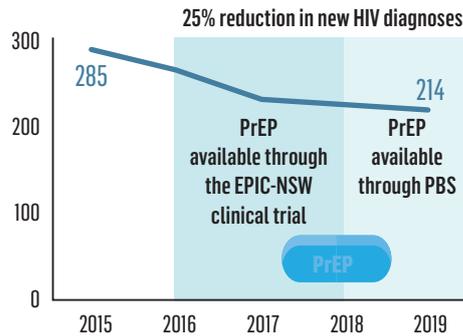
PREVENT

Significant reductions in HIV transmission

HIV diagnoses decreased by 19% among all NSW residents between 2015 and 2019, and by 25% among men who have sex with men (MSM) (Figure 2). This reduction is greatly attributed to the rapid roll-out of HIV Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP), whereby an HIV-negative individual takes antiretroviral medication to prevent HIV infection.

By the end of 2019, over 13,800 NSW residents were dispensed PrEP.

Figure 2: New HIV diagnoses in MSM



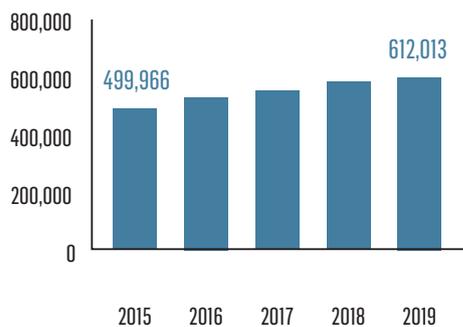
TEST OFTEN

Increases in testing

There was a 22% increase in the number of HIV serology tests conducted in NSW between 2015 and 2019 (Figure 3).

However increased testing in priority populations is required. In 2019, 56% of Australian-born MSM diagnosed with HIV had not had a recent test, and 65% of overseas-born MSM diagnosed had not had a recent test.

Figure 3: HIV serology tests in NSW



TREAT EARLY

Getting people living with HIV on treatment sooner

HIV treatment is effective. Rapid access to treatment after diagnosis improves health outcomes for people living with HIV and prevents ongoing transmission.

The time from HIV diagnosis to treatment initiation continues to improve

By 2019, 96% of NSW residents diagnosed with HIV had initiated treatment within six months of their diagnosis, with 44% initiating within two weeks. This has increased significantly since 2015. (Figure 4)

Figure 4: Time to treatment for NSW residents newly diagnosed

