

Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)  
Infection in the Netherlands



# HIV Monitoring Report

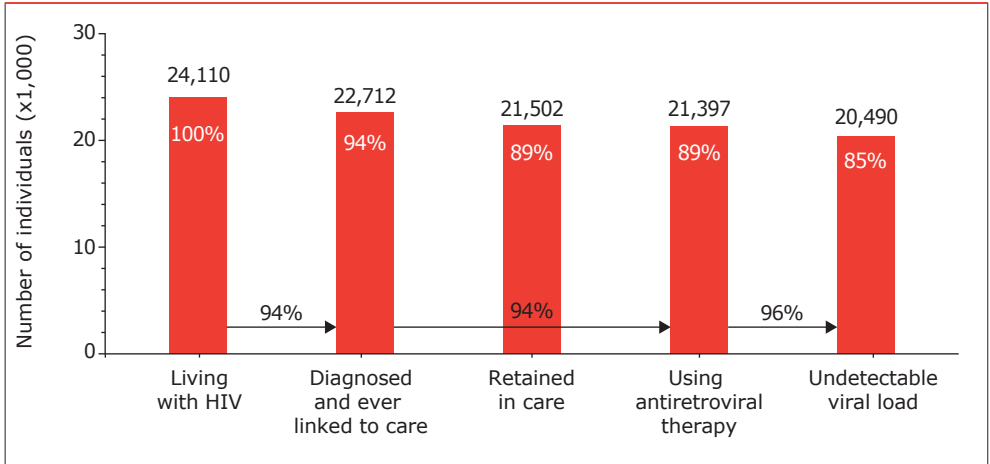
# 2022

## Summary



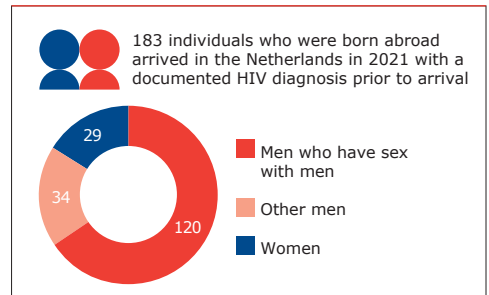
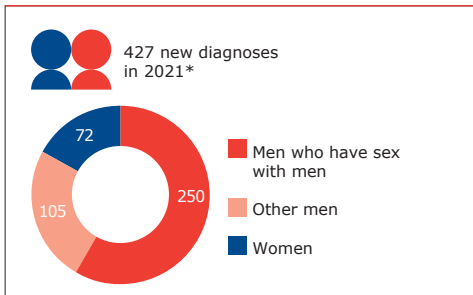
## Continuum of HIV care

This figure shows how many people are living with HIV in the Netherlands, how many of them are in care and how many of them have an undetectable viral load.\*



*The treatment of HIV is aimed at strongly suppressing multiplication of the virus. This allows health to restore and apart from that, the virus can no longer be transmitted. In this way, the treatment not only contributes to the maintenance of health, but also to the prevention of new HIV transmission.*

## New diagnoses 2021

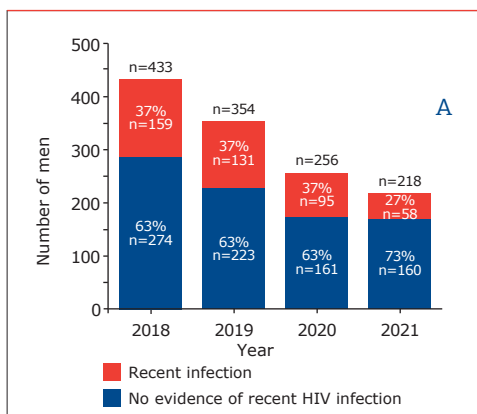


\* Numbers corrected for delay in reporting to SHM.

## The impact of PrEP on new HIV infections

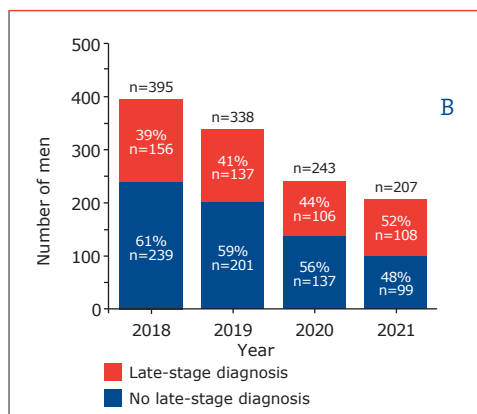
### Recent infections

Figure A shows the number of recent infections among the new HIV diagnoses in men who have sex with men. A recent infection is when someone had a negative test in the 12 months before diagnosis, or when there are indications in the blood test of an acute HIV infection.



### Late-stage diagnoses

Figure B shows the proportion of new HIV diagnoses among men who have sex with men with a late-stage diagnosis\*\*.



In 2021, in the group of men who have sex with men, the percentage of recent HIV infections has **fallen sharply by 10 percentage points**, from 37% in the period 2018-2020 to 27%.

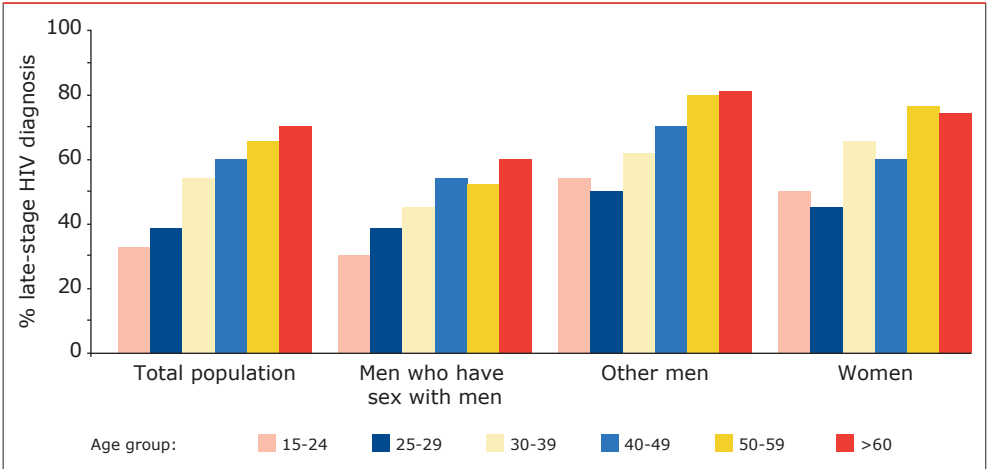
The **declining percentage** of recent HIV infections among men who have sex with men points to the effectiveness of the HIV prevention pill (PrEP). The group of men who already used to frequently test for HIV can now protect themselves against HIV with PrEP.

In recent years, the share of **late-stage HIV diagnoses** among men who have sex with men **has increased**.

\*\* Late-stage diagnosis is when CD4 cell count is below 350 cells/mm<sup>3</sup> or AIDS is present, regardless of CD4 cell count. In some men it is not known what the stage of the infection is.

## Late-stage HIV diagnoses

This figure shows the proportion of late-stage HIV diagnoses stratified by age category and for the various groups for the period 2019-2021.



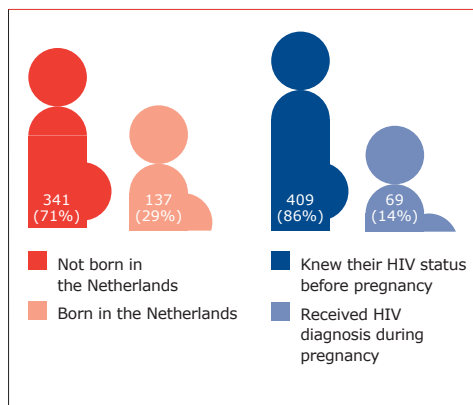
In all age groups, **the highest proportions of late-stage diagnoses** are found in other men and in women.

## Deceased

In 2021, 13 people have died as a result of an advanced HIV infection (AIDS).

## Pregnancy and breastfeeding

From 2016 to 2021, 478 women with one or more registered pregnancies were in care. A total of 448 pregnancies lasted at least 24 weeks and resulted in the birth of a baby.



Method of delivery	Number
Vaginal	311
Caesarean (planned)	63
Caesarean (unplanned)	71
Unknown	3

Pregnancy duration	Number
≥ 37 weeks	388
32-37 weeks	48
24-32 weeks	11
Unknown	1

Information about breastfeeding is available for **328 pregnancies of women with HIV** who gave birth between 2016 and 2021. For 20 pregnancies, the women indicated that they had breastfed. They all had **no detectable virus**. No HIV transmission has been reported in these pregnancies.

Due to **screening during pregnancy and proper treatment**, the transmission of HIV during pregnancy among women with HIV in care in the Netherlands is very low: 0.22% between 2016 and 2021.

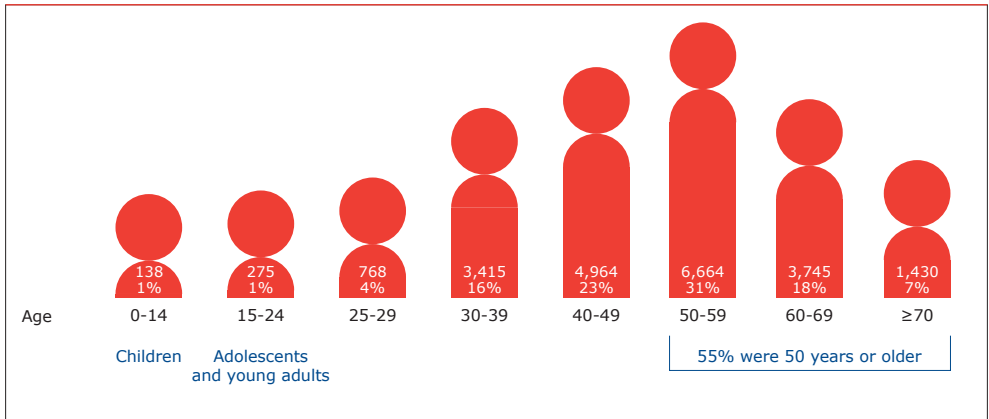
# HIV in the Netherlands



On December 31, 2021, an estimated 24,110 people are living with HIV in the Netherlands, of whom 21,399 are in care.

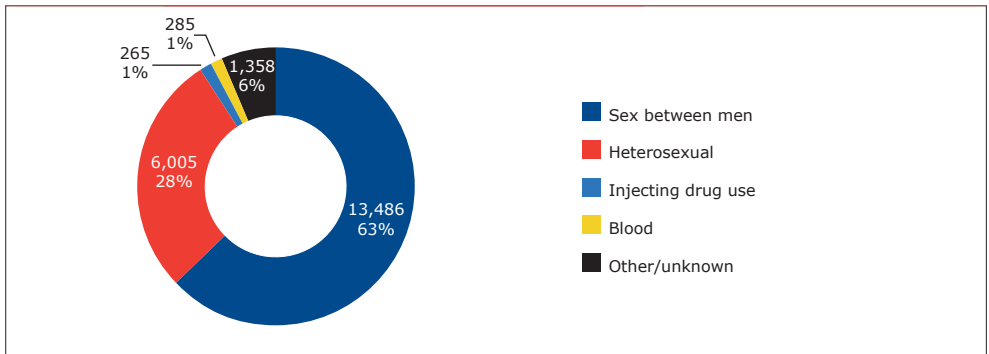
## Current age

Age distribution of people with HIV in care in the Netherlands in 2021.



## Route of transmission

This figure shows the route of transmission of all 21,399 people with HIV in care in the Netherlands in 2021.



### Regional distribution of the estimated number of people with HIV in the Netherlands

	Living with HIV, estimated	Without diagnosis, estimated
<b>Region*</b>		
Noord	1,420	130
Oost	2,690	160
Noord-Holland/Flevoland	9,060	290
Utrecht	1,380	60
Zuid-Holland Noord	1,810	120
Zuid-Holland Zuid	3,780	240
Zeeland/Brabant	2,550	150
Limburg	1,040	60
<b>Total</b>	<b>23,720</b>	<b>1,220</b>
<b>City</b>		
Amsterdam	6,350	170
Rotterdam	2,090	110
Den Haag	1,310	90
Utrecht	570	30
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,310</b>	<b>400</b>

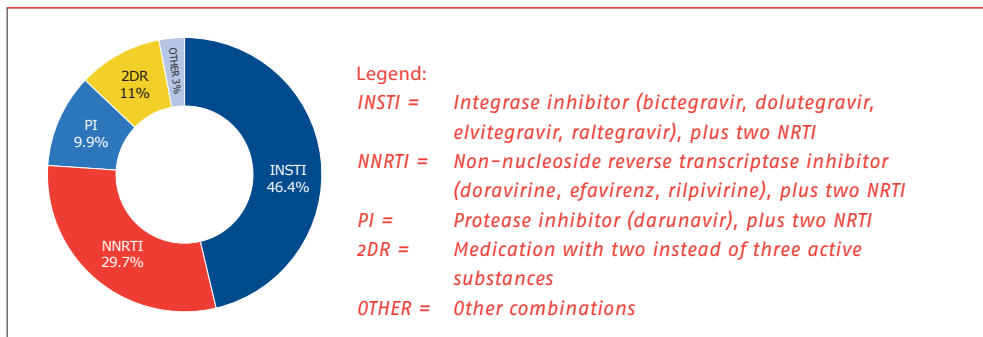
\* This is the regional division of the Centres for Sexual Health.

### Region of origin of people with HIV in care in the Netherlands

	Number	Percentage
The Netherlands	12,253	57
Sub-Saharan Africa	2,680	13
Western Europe	1,107	5
South America	1,701	8
Caribbean	975	5
South and southeast Asia	805	4
Other**	1,767	8
Unknown	111	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>21,399</b>	<b>100</b>

\*\* Other also includes the people who come from Eastern Europe.

## HIV treatment Medication use in 2021

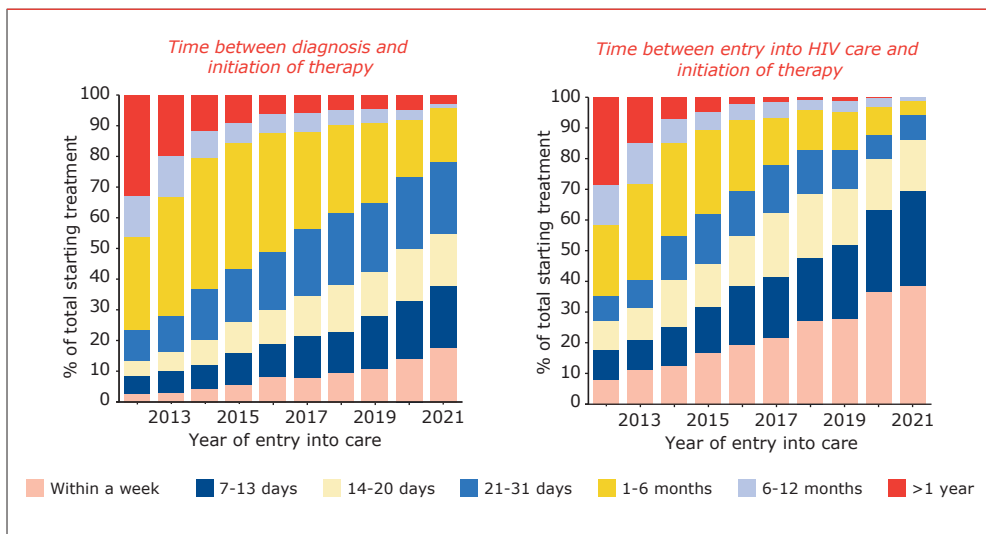


About **11%** of all people with HIV take two-dose medication instead of three active substances, the so-called **dual therapy**.

By the end of 2021, **53.5%** of people with HIV who use antiretroviral therapy use a combination therapy that is **fully or partly generically prescribable**. A generic medicine is a drug whose patent has expired so that other parties can also produce the medicine with the same active ingredients. This leads to lower drug costs.

## Start of first-line treatment

These two figures show the time between HIV diagnosis and initiation of combination antiretroviral therapy (a) and between entry into HIV care and initiation of combination antiretroviral therapy (b).



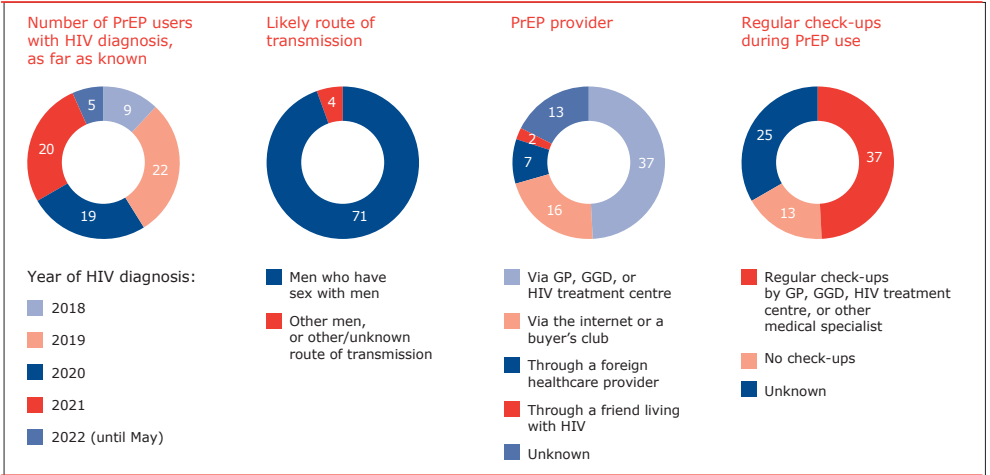
In **2021**, more than **50%** of the people with HIV started **within three weeks** of their diagnosis with combination antiretroviral therapy. In **2012**, that was **less than 15%**.

By **2021**, about **70%** of people with HIV started **within two weeks** of the first visit at the treatment centre with combination antiretroviral therapy. In **2012**, that was **less than 20%**.

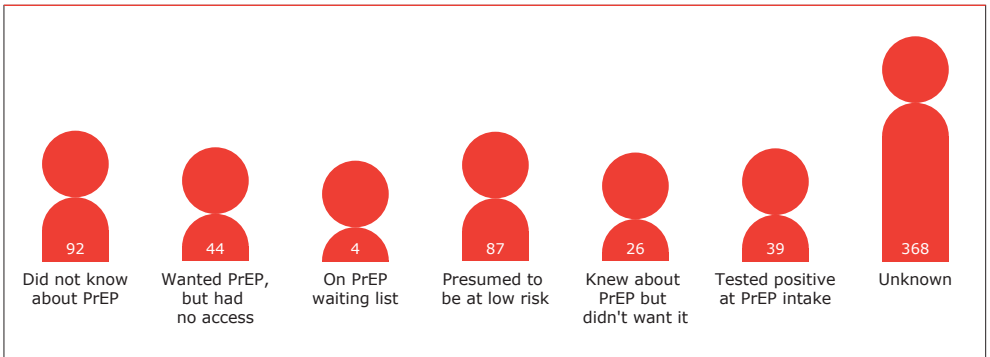


# Knowledge about and use of PrEP in people with HIV

75 people with HIV who entered care between 2018 and 31 May 2022 are known to have used PrEP in the past.



660 people with HIV who entered care between 2018 and 31 May 2022 are known not to have used PrEP in the past.



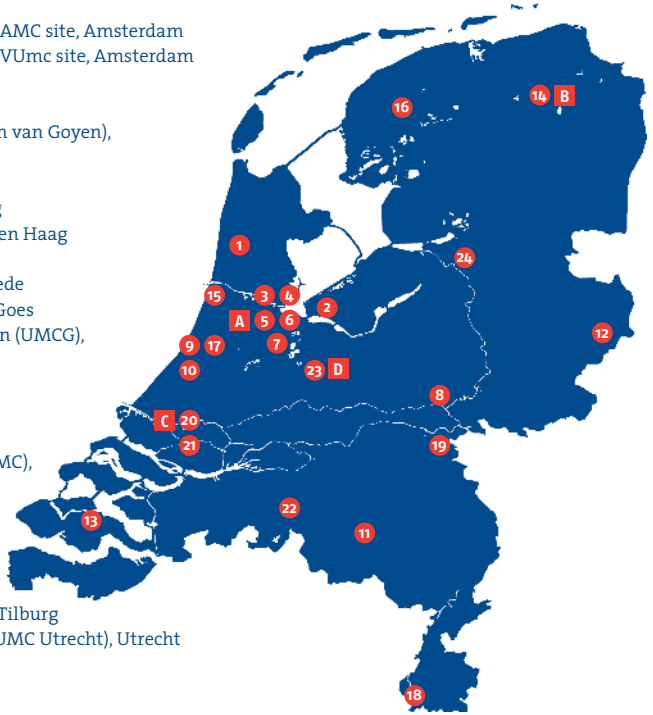
So far **48 people** have acquired HIV though would have liked to use PrEP. The actual number may be higher as this information is known for only 44% of people newly diagnosed with HIV in 2021.

**39 people** were found to have HIV at the first check-up prior to starting PrEP.

## HIV treatment centres

There are 24 treatment centres for people with HIV in the Netherlands.

- 1 Noordwest Ziekenhuisgroep, Alkmaar
- 2 Flevoziekenhuis, Almere
- 3 Amsterdam University Medical Centers, AMC site, Amsterdam
- 4 Amsterdam University Medical Centers, VUmc site, Amsterdam
- 5 DC Klinieken Lairesse, Amsterdam
- 6 OLVG, Amsterdam
- 7 Medisch Centrum Jan van Goyen (MC Jan van Goyen), Amsterdam
- 8 Rijnstate, Arnhem
- 9 HagaZiekenhuis (Leyweg site), Den Haag
- 10 HMC (Haaglanden Medisch Centrum), Den Haag
- 11 Catharina Ziekenhuis, Eindhoven
- 12 Medisch Spectrum Twente (MST), Enschede
- 13 ADRZ (Admiraal De Ruyter Ziekenhuis), Goes
- 14 Universitair Medisch Centrum Groningen (UMCG), Groningen
- 15 Spaarne Gasthuis, Haarlem
- 16 Medisch Centrum Leeuwarden (MCL), Leeuwarden
- 17 Leids Universitair Medisch Centrum (LUMC), Leiden
- 18 Maastricht UMC+ (MUMC+), Maastricht
- 19 Radboudumc, Nijmegen
- 20 Erasmus MC, Rotterdam
- 21 Maasstad Ziekenhuis, Rotterdam
- 22 ETZ (Elisabeth-TweeSteden Ziekenhuis), Tilburg
- 23 Universitair Medisch Centrum Utrecht (UMC Utrecht), Utrecht
- 24 Isala, Zwolle



In addition, there are four centres for paediatric HIV care:

- A Emma Kinderziekenhuis (EKZ), AMC-UvA, Amsterdam
- B Beatrix Kinderziekenhuis (BKZ), UMCG, Groningen
- C Erasmus MC Sophia Kinderziekenhuis, Rotterdam
- D Wilhelmina Kinderziekenhuis (WKZ), UMC, Utrecht

## About stichting hiv monitoring

Stichting hiv monitoring (SHM) collects medical data of people with HIV, of course only with their explicit consent. These data are used for research that contributes to knowledge about HIV in the Netherlands.

Data in this publication are taken from the *HIV Monitoring Report 2022*. The report covers the latest developments and trends within the population of people with HIV in the Netherlands. The report is published annually and always reports on data collected up to and including the previous year.



The entire report is available via the QR-code or via [www.hiv-monitoring.nl/2022](http://www.hiv-monitoring.nl/2022)