

Uganda Update

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Uganda

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Outline

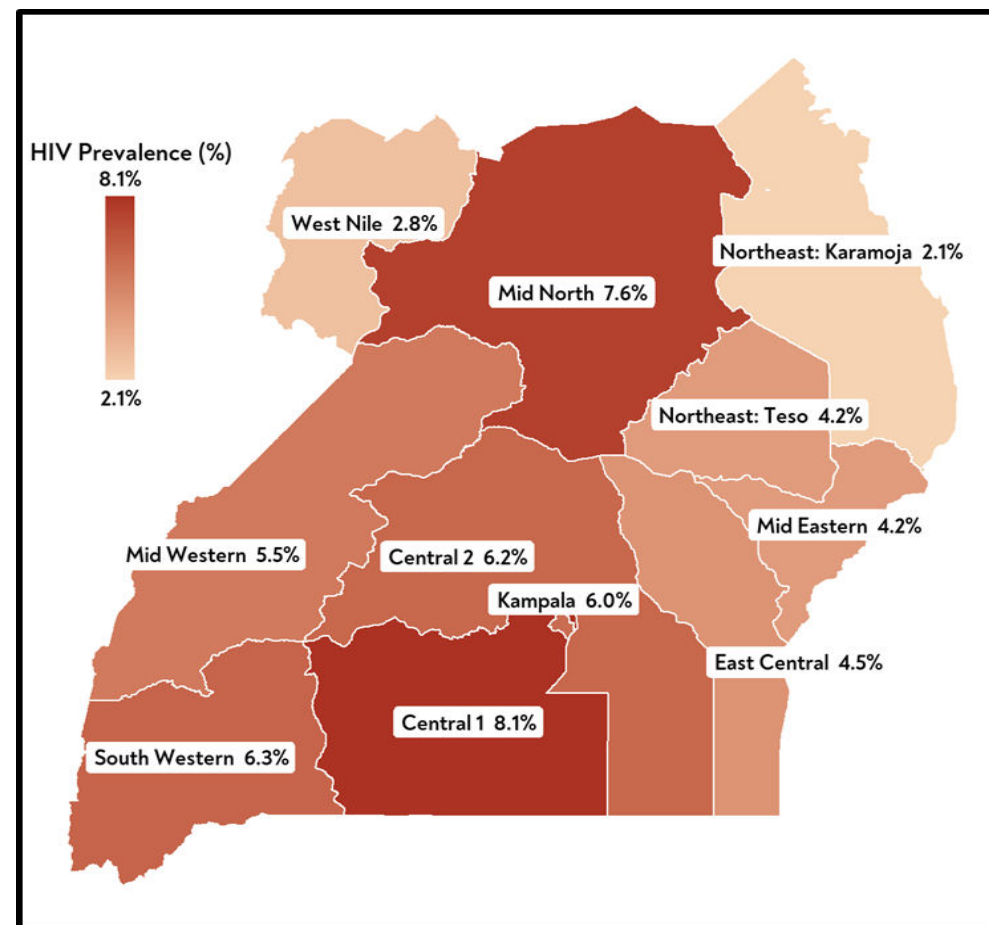
- Country background
- Progress on implementing 2023 action plans
- 2024 dHTS CMM self-staging results
- DHTS CMM results – 2023 vs 2024
- Activities that influenced the 2024 CMM results
- Engagement with CQUIN and other stakeholders on dHTS
- 2025 dHTS CMM priority activities and projected scores
- Cross-learning topics of interest in 2024
- Acknowledgements

Country Background

HIV statistics

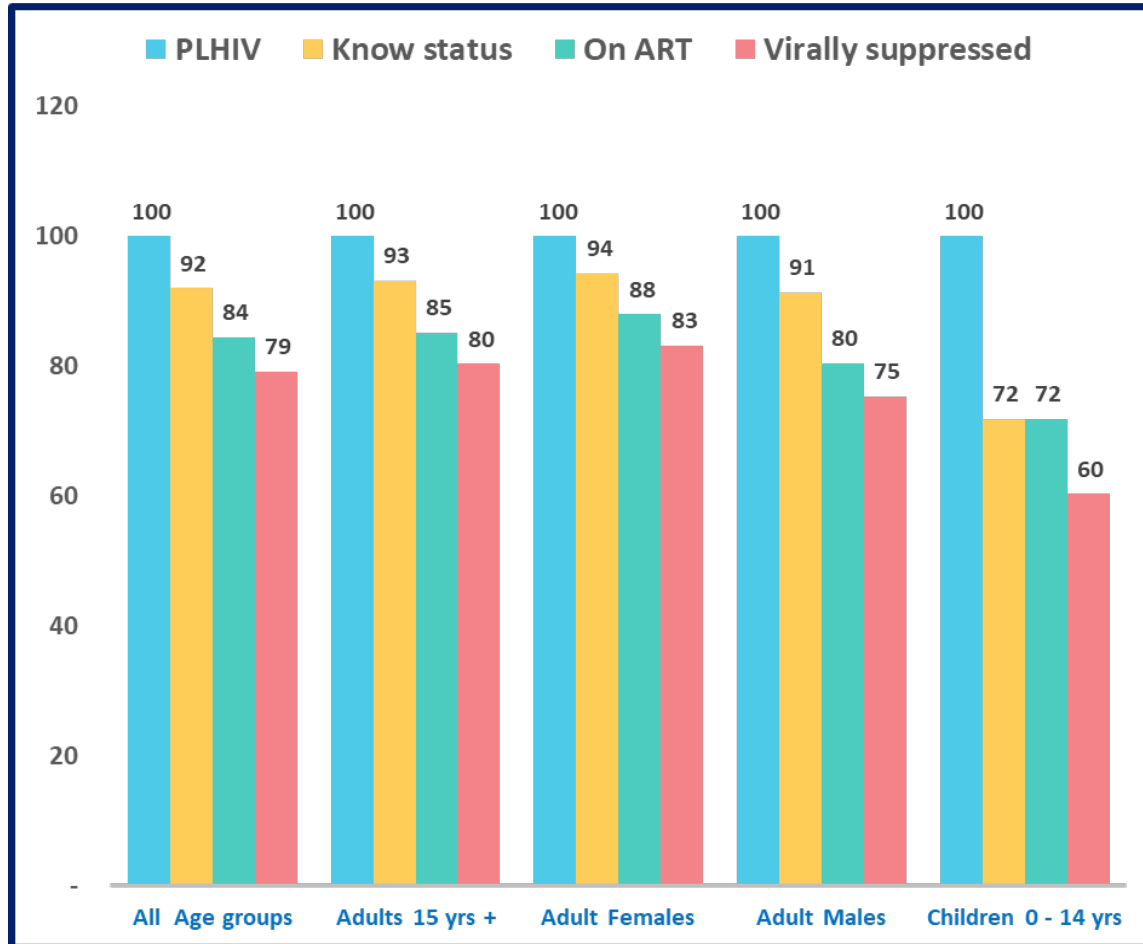
- Estimated PLHIV: **1,453,891** (*Spectrum estimates 2022*)
- HIV prevalence: Overall **5.5%** and **6.0%** among 15-64 years (*UPHIA, 2020*)
 - Women: **7.1%**
 - Men: **3.8%**
- Estimated HIV incidence Adults (aged 15–49 years) **0.17%** (*Spectrum Estimates 2022*)

Prevalence of HIV by region (UPHIA 2020)

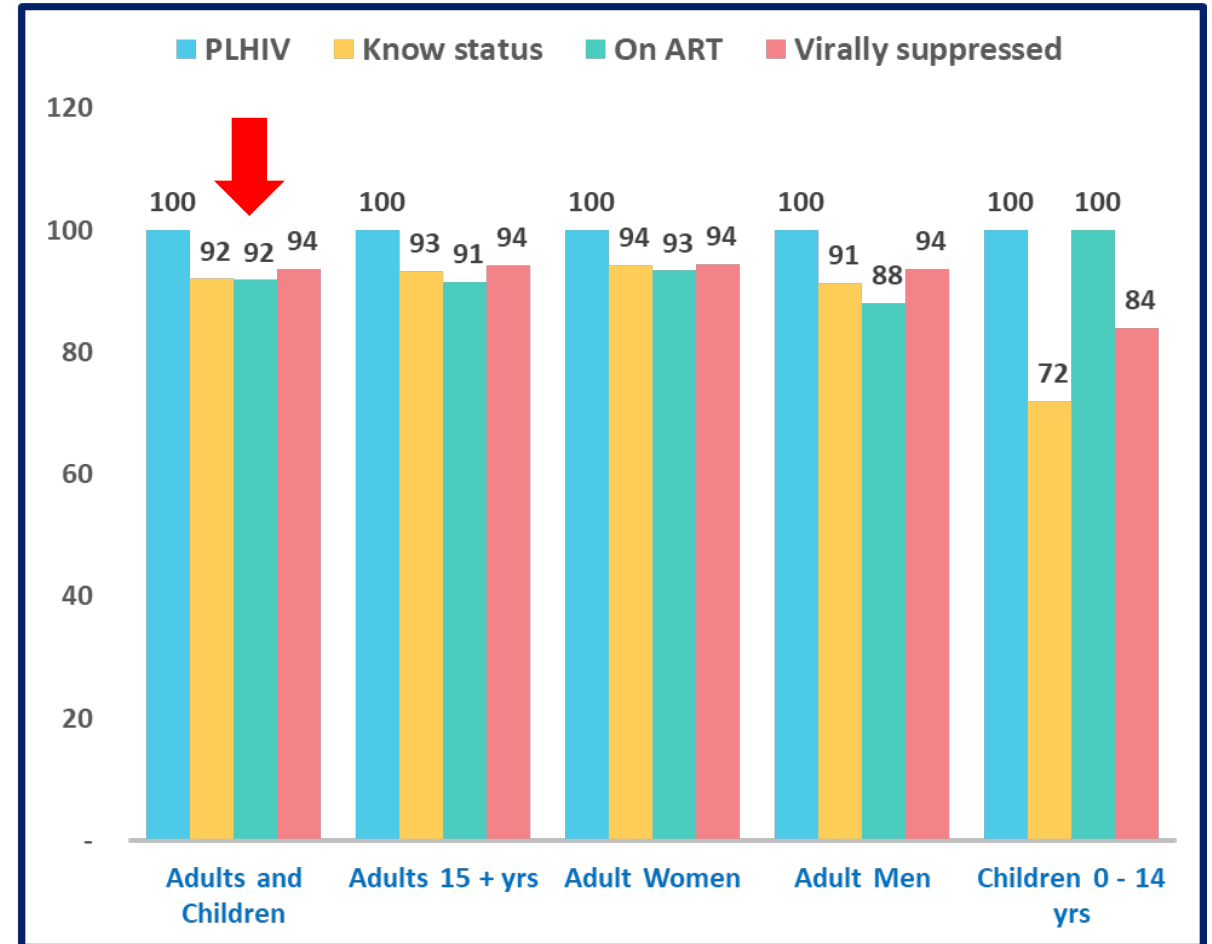


HIV Cascade: 92% of PLHIV know their status, 92% are on ART and 94% are virally suppressed

POPULATION CASCADE



CONDITIONAL CASCADE



Country Background : Country Testing Model Mix (April 2023-March 2024)

Testing Approach

| HIV Testing Approach | Entry Point | Total Tested | Total Tested HIV+ | % Tested by Modality | % Tested HIV Positive |
|---|-----------------|------------------|-------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Number of individuals reached by PITC Testing approach | Health Facility | 3,248,454 | 52,598 | 55% | 1.62% |
| | Community | 1,052,738 | 29,954 | 18% | 2.85% |
| Number of individuals reached by CICT/VICT Testing approach | Health Facility | 1,041,040 | 32,803 | 17% | 3.15% |
| | Community | 614,113 | 9,208 | 10% | 1.50% |
| Total | | 5,956,345 | 124,563 | 100% | 2.09% |

50% of our testing volume for prioritized populations was through ANC

Priority sub-populations Testing

| Population Category | Total Tested | Total Tested HIV+ | % Tested by Population Category | % Tested HIV Positive |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Prisoners | 98,076 | 3,705 | 4% | 3.8% |
| People Who Inject Drugs | 3,417 | 82 | 0% | 2.4% |
| Uniformed men | 20,501 | 363 | 1% | 1.8% |
| Migrant Workers | 34,007 | 1,077 | 2% | 3.2% |
| Truckers | 12,310 | 237 | 1% | 1.9% |
| Fisher Folk | 82,079 | 3,166 | 4% | 3.9% |
| Refugees | 45,755 | 540 | 2% | 1.2% |
| Pregnant women | 1,104,688 | 11,011 | 50% | 1.0% |
| Breastfeeding women | 288,663 | 4,970 | 13% | 1.7% |
| AGYW | 200,726 | 3,480 | 9% | 1.7% |
| People with Disabilities (PWD) | 2,794 | 161 | 0% | 5.8% |
| Others key and priority populations | 302,147 | 7,311 | 14% | 2.4% |
| Total | 2,195,163 | 36,103 | 100% | 1.6% |

Progress on implementing 2023 action plans: **Activities where progress was achieved**

| Domain | Activity | Progress |
|--|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Population coverage | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development & pilot testing of HTS service quality assessment tool to ensure provision of quality HTS and hence improve case identification and maximize efficiency and impact. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Final piloted HTS service quality assessment tool |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring & Evaluation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> HTS HMIS tools – client card, HTS register, and monthly reporting tools have been revised to include linkage to combination prevention | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> HTS HMIS tools - revised to include linkage to combination prevention |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Private sector engagement | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and disseminate private sector engagement plan Integrate Private sector representation into National HTS TWG | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engagement plan developed Private sector represented |

Activities where progress/implementation has delayed

| Domain | Activities Prioritized | Reasons for implementation delay | Plans for remediation |
|--|--|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National dHTS implementation and Scale-up plan | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a national dHTS implementation and scale-up plan | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policy actors are fragmented | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work plans being revised to accommodate new ministry direction of service integration |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Optimizing HIV Testing | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adapt the 3-test algorithm as recommended by WHO | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Field and lab evaluation reports under review | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fast-track completion of report review |

2024 dHTS CMM Results

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| Policy: Strategic Model Mix | | | |
| Finance/Resource Allocation | | | |
| Community Engagement | | | |
| Coordination | | | |
| dHTS Training | | | Scale-up Plan |
| Population Coverage | Policy: Linkage | Policy: Optimizing HIV Testing ² | Private Sector Engagement |
| Linkage to Tx: Verification | SOPs | M&E | Procurement/Supply Chain |
| Linkage to Prevention | Impact: Linkage to Tx | EQA/IQC | Linkage to Tx: Timely Linkage |
| Proficiency Testing | Impact: Linkage to Prevention | Impact: Knowledge of Status | Clinical Services |
| Most mature domains | | | Least mature domains |

Observations

- There is migration towards more mature domains, with only no Red domain
- Good collaboration between MOH and Partners (DPs, Ips, CSOs) led to improvement
- Much focus on quality of testing in the current year (2024/2025)

dHTS CMM results – 2023 vs 2024

| | Uganda | |
|--------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| | 2023 | 2024 |
| Policy: Strategic Model Mix | Green | Green |
| Policy: Optimizing HIV Testing | Orange | Yellow |
| Policy: Linkage | Yellow | Light Green |
| Finance/Resource Allocation | Green | Green |
| SOPs | Green | Light Green |
| Scale-up Plan | Orange | Orange |
| Community Engagement | Green | Green |
| Private Sector Engagement | Red | Orange |
| Coordination | Green | Green |
| dHTS Training | Green | Green |
| M&E | Orange | Yellow |
| Procurement/Supply Chain | Light Green | Orange |
| Population Coverage | Light Green | Green |
| Linkage to Tx: Timely Linkage | Light Green | Orange |
| Linkage to Tx: Verification | Green | Green |
| Linkage to Prevention | Orange | Green |
| EQA/IQC | Green | Yellow |
| Proficiency Testing | Green | Green |
| Clinical Services | Green | Orange |
| Impact: Knowledge of Status | Red | Yellow |
| Impact: Linkage to Tx | Light Green | Light Green |
| Impact: Linkage to Prevention | Light Green | Light Green |

Observations

- Improved in 6/21 Domains
- Regressed in 5/21 domains due to:
 - Revision of policies, guidelines
 - Improved availability of data to inform the staging

Next Steps:

- Finalize evaluation of the 3-test algorithm
- Leverage the National Resource Mapping exercise to cost the dHTS optimization scale-up plan.
- Assess HIV testing site and tester competency in line the national certification framework

Key lessons learned over the past year – facilitators and barriers

Facilitators

- National launch & dissemination of 2022 HTS Policy & guidelines
- Capacity building of testers through onsite mentorships
- National HTS surge from Q2 2023 - convenes IPs & RRHs to consolidate & sustain best practices in HTS esp. case finding
- Public Health Response strategy -guides HIV response from the recency infection surveillance data
- National HTS/CQI collaborative – to improve efficiencies in case identification and set the backdrop to formulate change package

Barriers/Challenges

- HTS module not fully functional in Uganda EMR
- HIV recent infection surveillance rolled out to 131/135 districts; 1002/6,937 HFs that are mainly public HFs
- Sub-optimal linkage of negatives to prevention services
- Leakages along the HIVST cascade - not all positive HIVSTs are confirmed with national algorithm
- Private sector engagement in case finding is still wanting

Engagement with CQUIN and other stakeholders on dHTS

Technical assistance received from CQUIN

- 2024 dHTS CMM staging
- Webinar on SI, Linkage WHO updates
- Development of the dHTS scale-up/optimization plan

Meetings attended

- CQUIN annual meeting
- Webinars and community of Practice calls

Other assistance

- DPR- Review of the tool, analysis of the country results



Uganda dHTS CMM staging 2024

2025 dHTS CMM priority activities and projected scores

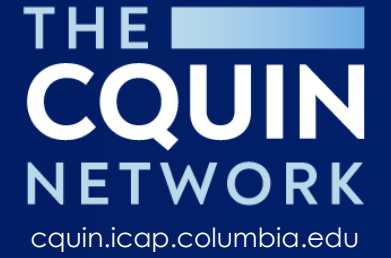
| Domain | 2024 score | 2025 Aspirational score | Planned actions |
|----------------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|---|
| Private sector engagement | Yellow | Light green | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhance private sector participant to the HTS TWG, Conduct targeted supervision with PFP leverage guidance of the Uganda private sector engagement plan |
| SI/ Monitoring & Evaluation | Yellow | Light green | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Launch of the new HMIS tools, Roll-out trainings and printing of new tools |
| Policies: Optimizing HIV Testing | Light green | Dark green | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approve and roll out the 3-test algorithm |

Cross-learning topics of interest in 2024

- Testing for re-engagement
- HIV recent infection surveillance
- Private sector engagement

Acknowledgements

- Government of Uganda/Ministry of Health
- PEPFAR (CDC, DoD, USAID)
- Global Fund
- Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI)
- PSI
- UVRI
- ICAP CQUIN
- CSOs



Thank You!

