

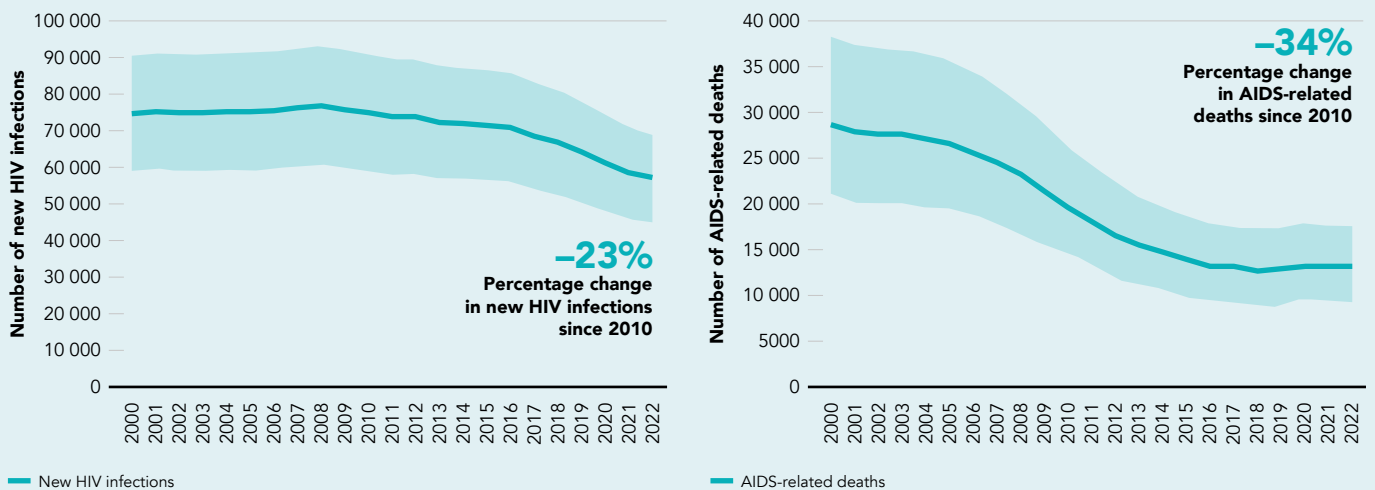
# Western and central Europe and North America



Numbers of new HIV infections in western and central Europe and North America decreased by 23% between 2010 and 2022, and numbers of AIDS-related deaths decreased by 34% (Figure 11.1). Median HIV prevalence in the region remains much higher among people from key populations than adults in the general population (Figure 11.2).

Median HIV prevalence among people from key populations in the region is significantly higher than in the general population, reaching 7.6% among transgender people (data from two countries), 5.5% among gay men and other men who have sex with men (data from 11 countries) and 5.0% among people who inject drugs (data from 11 countries).

**Figure 11.1** Numbers of new annual HIV infections and AIDS-related deaths, western and central Europe and North America, 2000–2022



Source: UNAIDS epidemiological estimates, 2023 (<https://aidsinfo.unaids.org/>).

## 2022 DATA

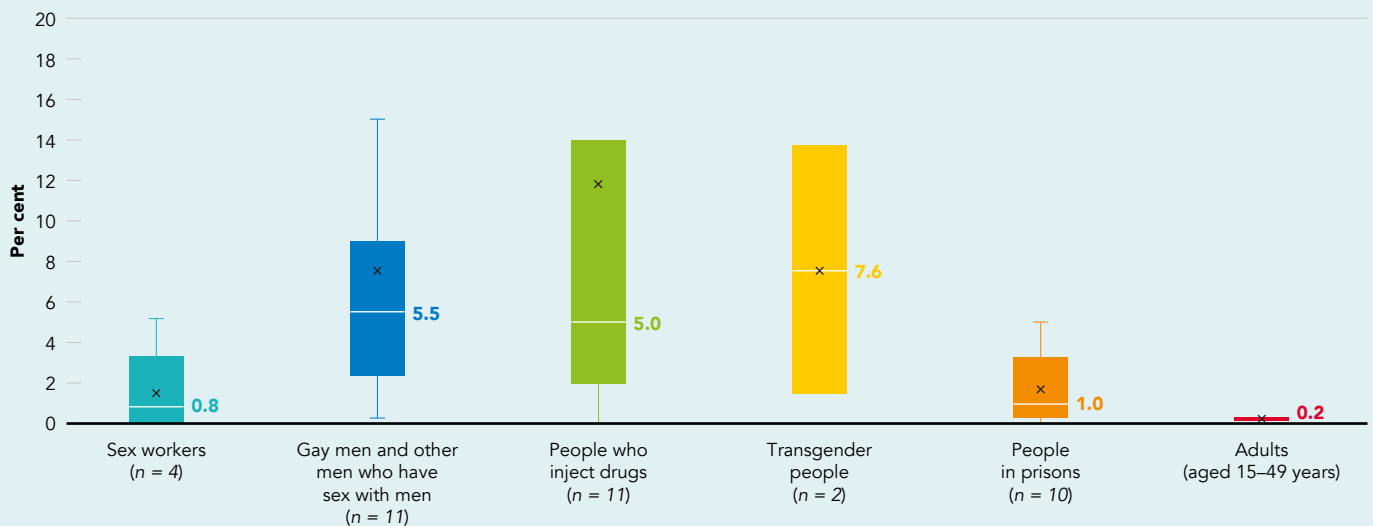
- **23%** decrease in new HIV infections since 2010
- **34%** decrease in AIDS-related deaths since 2010
- People living with HIV:  
**2.3 million [1.9 million–2.6 million]**
- New HIV infections:  
**58 000 [46 000–69 000]**
- AIDS-related deaths:  
**13 000 [9300–17 000]**

### Testing and treatment cascade (all ages):

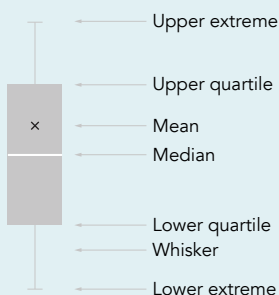
- % of people living with HIV who know their HIV status:  
**89 [75–98]**
- % of people living with HIV who are on treatment:  
**76 [64–87]**
- % of people living with HIV who are virally suppressed:  
**71 [60–82]**

About 67% of new HIV diagnoses in the United States of America in 2021 were among gay men and other men who have sex with men (1), as were about 40% of new diagnoses in the European Union and the European Economic Area (2).

**Figure 11.2** HIV prevalence among key populations compared with adults (aged 15–49 years), reporting countries in western and central Europe and North America, 2018–2022



### How to read



The median HIV prevalence among countries that reported these data in western and central Europe and North America was:

- 0.8%** among sex workers.
- 5.5%** among gay men and other men who have sex with men.
- 5.0%** among people who inject drugs.
- 7.6%** among transgender people.
- 1.0%** among people in prisons.

The estimated HIV prevalence among adults (aged 15–49 years) is **0.2% [0.2–0.3%]**.

Sources: UNAIDS Global AIDS Monitoring, 2023; UNAIDS epidemiological estimates, 2023 (<https://aidsinfo.unaids.org/>).

Notes: n = number of countries. Total number of reporting countries = 40.

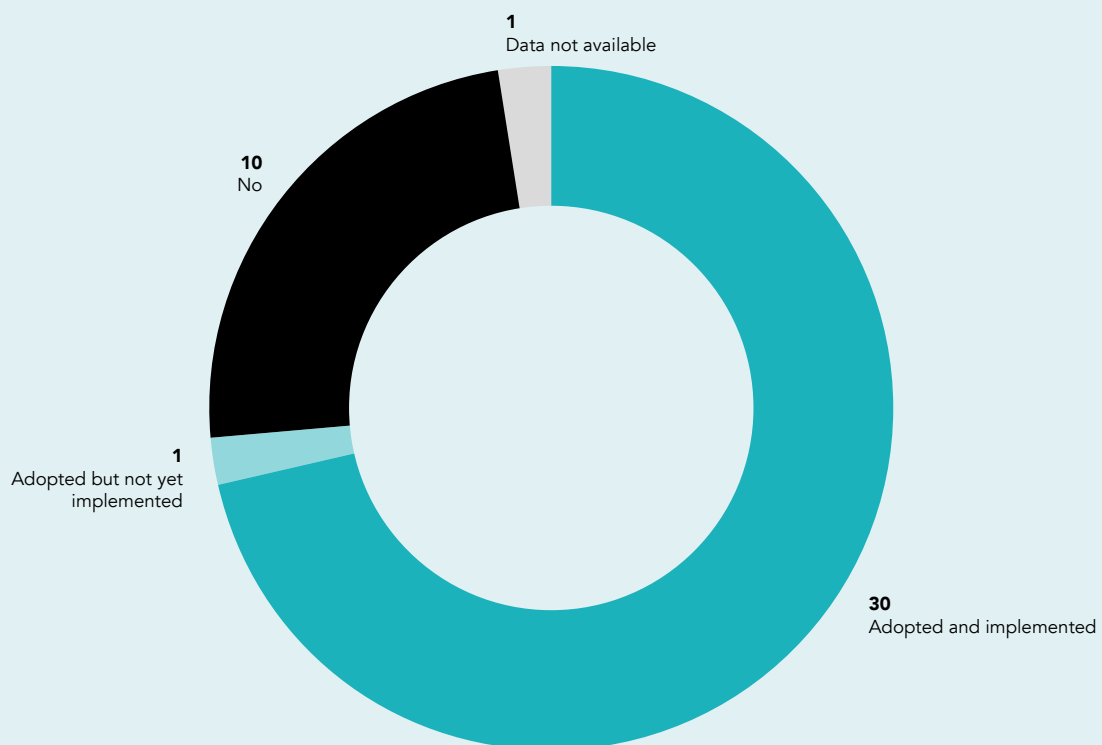
The adult prevalence uncertainty bounds define the range within which the true value lies (if it can be measured). Narrow bounds indicate that an estimate is precise, while wide bounds indicate greater uncertainty regarding the estimate.

Efforts to end AIDS in western and central Europe and North America are undermined by social and other inequalities that undermine the health and well-being of marginalized communities. In the United States, for example, rates of new HIV diagnoses among Black adults are four times higher than among people from other racial or ethnic groups and highest in the communities classified as “socially vulnerable” (1). Numbers of new HIV diagnoses in the United States increased by 18% in 2021, which likely reflects the identification and reporting of HIV diagnoses missed in 2020 (2).

In the European Union and the European Economic Area, 22% fewer HIV diagnoses were recorded in 2021 than in 2019 (2). Late HIV diagnosis remains a challenge across much of the region. In Europe in 2021, the percentage of late diagnoses (CD4 cell count <350/mm<sup>3</sup>) was highest among women (57%) and people aged 50 years or older (65%) (3). Extensive access to treatment has kept numbers of AIDS-related deaths low across the region, although an estimated 13 000 people still died due to AIDS in 2022.

Overall, in the European Union and the European Economic Area in 2022, around 92% of people living with HIV knew their HIV status, 92% of people who knew their HIV-positive status received antiretroviral therapy, and 97% of people on treatment had suppressed viral loads. Antiretroviral therapy coverage and levels of viral load suppression are comparatively low in central Europe, however.

**Figure 11.3** Adoption of WHO recommendations on oral PrEP in national guidelines, western and central Europe and North America, 2023



Source: National Commitments and Policy Instrument 2019–2020; European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control 2023.

The majority of countries in western and central Europe and North America region have adopted World Health Organization recommendations on oral PrEP in national guidelines (Figure 11.3), but inequalities in access to services persist, particularly for Black and Hispanic people in the United States (4).

In the European Union and the European Economic Area in 2021, 42% of new HIV diagnoses were in migrant or immigrant populations, with high rates of post-migration HIV acquisition as many people experience discrimination and socioeconomic deprivation (3, 5). In 2021, only a minority of countries in western and central Europe reported that pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) was available for undocumented migrants, people who inject drugs and people in prisons (6). A recent review called for greater effort to reduce the inequalities in health care experienced by migrant women (7).

The Ending the HIV Epidemic in the United States (EHE) initiative aims to reduce numbers of new HIV infections by 90% by 2030. It includes four pillars: diagnose, treat, prevent and respond. For each pillar, the EHE initiative scales up science-based strategies that can end the epidemic. On 20 May 2021, the European Parliament adopted a new resolution reiterating the commitment of the region to ending AIDS by 2030 (8).

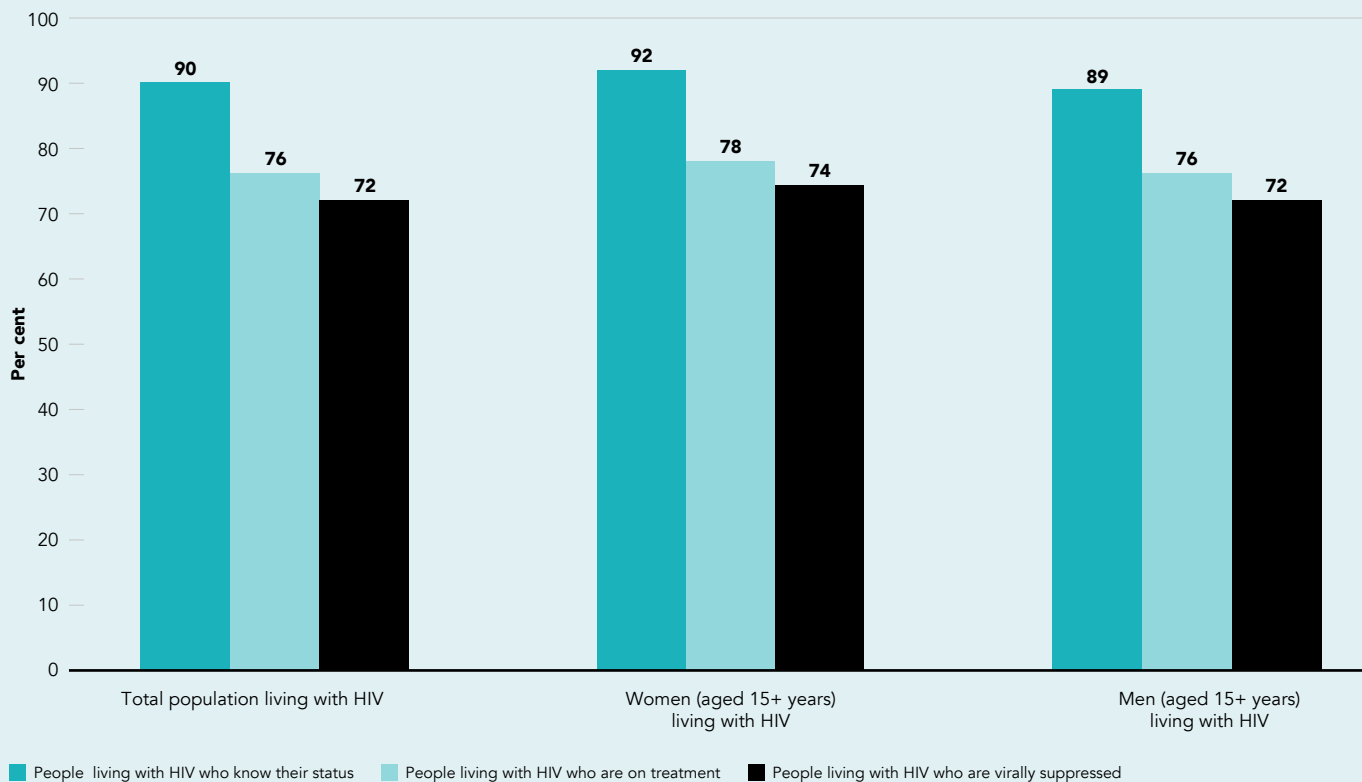
**Table 11.1** Reported estimated size of key populations, western and central Europe and North America, 2018–2022

Country	National adult population (aged 15–49 years) for 2022 or relevant year	Sex workers	Sex workers as percentage of adult population (aged 15–49 years)	Gay men and other men who have sex with men	Gay men and other men who have sex with men as percentage of adult population (aged 15–49 years)	People who inject drugs	People who inject drugs as percentage of adult population (aged 15–49 years)	Transgender people	Transgender people as percentage of adult population (aged 15–49 years)	People in prisons	People in prisons as percentage of adult population (aged 15–49 years)
Austria	3 900 000			100 000	2.58%					9 100	0.24%
Belgium	5 100 000									10 400	0.20%
Canada	17 500 000			432 000	2.50%	90 300	0.52%	100 800	0.58%	12 400	0.07%
Czech Republic	4 700 000					44 900	0.96%			19 500	0.42%
Denmark	2 600 000			60 000	2.34%						
Estonia	580 000									2 300	0.42%
Finland	2 400 000									2 800	0.12%
France	26 900 000									72 800	0.27%
Germany	33 900 000									56 600	0.17%
Ireland	2 400 000									3 800	0.16%
Israel	4 200 000										
Monaco	11 000									50	0.45%
Portugal	4 300 000					28 300	0.63%				
Serbia	4 000 000									10 600	0.26%
Slovakia	2 900 000										
Spain	20 800 000									55 800	0.27%
Turkey	45 000 000									348 300	0.77%
United States of America	158 000 000							1 000 000	0.68%		
<b>Estimated global median proportion as per cent of adult population (15–49)<sup>a</sup></b>			<b>0.55%</b>		<b>2.82%</b>		<b>0.81%</b>		<b>0.57%</b>		<b>-</b>

■ National population size estimate  
■ Local population size estimate  
■ Insufficient data  
■ No data

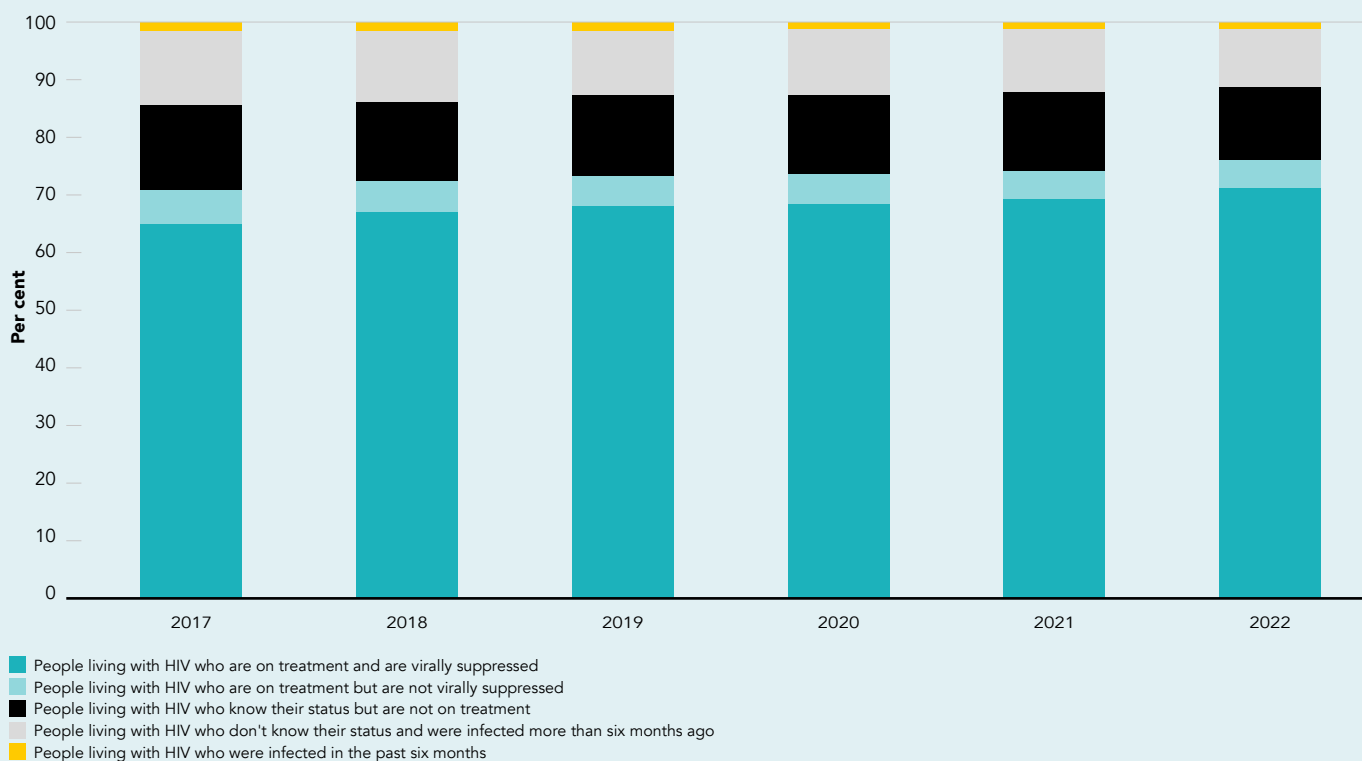
Source: UNAIDS Global AIDS Monitoring, 2023 (<https://aidsinfo.unaids.org/>); Spectrum DemProj module, 2023; United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2022). World Population Prospects 2022, Online Edition.  
<sup>a</sup> Guide for updating Spectrum HIV estimates, UNAIDS 2023 (<https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fhivtools.unaids.org%2Fwp-content%2Fuploads%2F73D-Guide-for-updating-Spectrum-HIV-estimates.docx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK>).  
 Note: Estimates shown are government-provided estimates reported for 2018–2022. Additional and alternative estimates may be available from different sources, including the Key Populations Atlas (<https://kpatlas.unaids.org/>), academic publications or institutional documents.

**Figure 11.4** HIV testing and treatment cascade, by age and sex, western and central Europe and north America, 2022



Source: UNAIDS special analysis of epidemiological estimates, 2023.

**Figure 11.5** Distribution of people living with HIV by recent infection, knowledge of status, treatment and viral load suppression, adults (aged 15+ years), western and central Europe and North America, 2017–2022



Source: UNAIDS special analysis of epidemiological estimates, 2023.

Table 11.2 Laws and policies scorecard, western and central Europe and North America, 2023

Country	Criminalization of transgender people <sup>a</sup>	Criminalization of sex work <sup>b</sup>	Criminalization of same-sex sexual acts in private	Criminalization of possession of small amounts of drugs <sup>c</sup>	Laws criminalizing transmission of, non-disclosure of or exposure to HIV transmission	Laws or policies restricting the entry, stay and residence of people living with HIV <sup>d</sup>
Andorra			43		40	
Austria	63	6	43	49	40	
Belgium	63	17	43	47	40	
Bulgaria	63	6	43	63	40	
Canada	1	1	1	1	1	
Croatia	63	21	43	11	40	
Cyprus	63	26	43	59	40	
Czechia	2	23	2	2	2	
Denmark	63	16	43	28	34	
Estonia	63	62	43	9	40	
Finland	63	6	43	52	40	
France	63	6	43	19	40	
Germany	2	2	2	2	2	
Greece		6	43	32	40	
Hungary		56	43	24	40	
Iceland	5	12	43	50	5	
Ireland	5	5	43	5	5	
Israel	4	4	4		4	
Italy	4	6	43	27	40	
Latvia	5	6	43	25	18	
Liechtenstein		13	43		40	
Lithuania	5	14	43	51	5	
Luxembourg	5	15	43	48	5	
Malta	5	22	43	29	5	
Monaco	1	1	1	4	1	
Netherlands	63	6	43	60	41	
Norway		6	43	30	42	
Poland	63	6	43	8	55	
Portugal	63	6	43	45	36	

**Criminalization of transgender people**

- Yes
- No
- Data not available

**Criminalization of sex work**

- Any criminalization or punitive regulation of sex work
- Sex work is not subject to punitive regulations or is not criminalized
- Data not available

**Criminalization of same-sex sexual acts in private**

- Death penalty
- Imprisonment (14 years–life, up to 14 years) or no penalty specified
- Laws penalizing same-sex sexual acts have been decriminalized or never existed, or no specific legislation
- Data not available

**Criminalization of possession of small amounts of drugs**

- Yes
- No
- Data not available

**Laws criminalizing transmission of, non-disclosure of or exposure to HIV transmission**

- Yes
- No, but prosecutions exist based on general criminal laws
- No
- Data not available

**Laws or policies restricting the entry, stay and residence of people living with HIV3**

- Deport, prohibit short- and/or long-stay and require HIV testing or disclosure for some permits
- Prohibit short- and/or long-stay and require HIV testing or disclosure for some permits
- Require HIV testing or disclosure for some permits
- No restrictions

Country	Criminalization of transgender people <sup>a</sup>	Criminalization of sex work <sup>b</sup>	Criminalization of same-sex sexual acts in private	Criminalization of possession of small amounts of drugs <sup>c</sup>	Laws criminalizing transmission of, non-disclosure of or exposure to HIV transmission	Laws or policies restricting the entry, stay and residence of people living with HIV <sup>a</sup>
Romania	63	6	43	44	55	
San Marino			43			
Serbia	1	1	1	1	1	
Slovakia		6	43	7	55	
Slovenia	63	58	43	53	38	
Spain	5	20	43	46	5	
Sweden	63	6	43	10	37	
Switzerland	63	54	43	31	33	
Turkey	1	1	1	1	1	
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	63	57	43	63	35	
United States of America	43	61	43	64	39	

Notes: <sup>a</sup>Laws criminalizing transgender people refers to laws that criminalize the gender expression of transgender and gender diverse people, including laws against cross-dressing or impersonating the opposite sex.

<sup>b</sup>Criminalization of sex work refers to criminalization of any aspect of sex work, including buying sexual services, selling sexual services, ancillary activities associated with buying or selling sexual services, and profiting from organizing and/or managing sex work.

<sup>c</sup>Criminalization of possession of small amounts of drugs refers to the criminalization of possession of any quantity of drugs, including possession of a quantity of drugs sufficient only for personal use. A country is considered to still criminalize possession of small amounts of drugs, even if marijuana has been decriminalized.



Source:

- 1 UNAIDS National Commitments and Policy Instrument 2022. Geneva: Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS; 2022 (<https://lawsandpolicies.unaids.org/>, accessed 6 July 2023).
- 2 UNAIDS National Commitments and Policy Instrument 2021. Geneva: Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS; 2021 (<https://lawsandpolicies.unaids.org/>, accessed 6 July 2023).
- 3 United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, United Nations Development Programme. Explainer: still not welcome: HIV-related travel restrictions. Geneva: United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS; 2019 ([https://www.unaids.org/sites/default/files/media\\_asset/hiv-related-travel-restrictions-explainer\\_en.pdf](https://www.unaids.org/sites/default/files/media_asset/hiv-related-travel-restrictions-explainer_en.pdf), accessed 6 July 2023).
- 4 UNAIDS National Commitments and Policy Instrument 2019. Geneva: Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS; 2019 (<https://lawsandpolicies.unaids.org/>, accessed 6 July 2023).
- 5 UNAIDS National Commitments and Policy Instrument 2017. Geneva: Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS; 2017 (<https://lawsandpolicies.unaids.org/>, accessed 6 July 2023).
- 6 Report on prostitution laws in the European Union. Milan: University of Milan; 2014 (<https://documentation.lastradainternational.org/lisdocs/3048-EU-prostitution-laws.pdf>, accessed 6 July 2023).
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- 8 Act of 1 April 2011 amending the Act on Counteracting Drug Addiction and certain other Acts (<https://kbpn.gov.pl/portal?id=113884>).
- 9 Act on Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances and Precursors thereof. Tallinn: Government of Estonia (<https://www.riigiteataja.ee/en/eli/530102013024/consolide>, accessed 6 July 2023).
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- 11 Amendments to the Criminal Code 1997. Zagreb: Government of Croatia (<http://dpnsee.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/Kazneni-zakon-neslu%C5%BEbeni-pro%C4%8Dni%C5%A1%C4%87eni-tekst.pdf>, accessed 6 July 2023).
- 12 General Penal Code: Article 206. (<https://www.government.is/lisalib/getfile.aspx?itemid=dd8240cc-c8d5-11e9-9449-005056bc530c>).
- 13 Criminal Code: Article 210. ([https://adsdatabase.ohchr.org/IssueLibrary/LIECHTENSTEIN\\_Criminal%20Code.pdf](https://adsdatabase.ohchr.org/IssueLibrary/LIECHTENSTEIN_Criminal%20Code.pdf)).
- 14 Criminal Code: Article 307 (<https://www.derechos.org/intlaw/doc/ltu1.html>).
- 15 Penal Code: Article 379bis ([https://sherloc.unodc.org/cld/document/lux/1879/criminal\\_code\\_of\\_luxembourg.html](https://sherloc.unodc.org/cld/document/lux/1879/criminal_code_of_luxembourg.html)).
- 16 Criminal Code: Articles 228 and 233 (<https://europam.eu/?module=legislation&country=Denmark>).
- 17 Penal Code: Articles 379, 380 and 380bis. ([https://legislationline.org/sites/default/files/documents/98/BELG\\_Constitution.pdf](https://legislationline.org/sites/default/files/documents/98/BELG_Constitution.pdf)).
- 18 Cameron S, Bernard EJ. Advancing HIV justice 3: growing the global movement against HIV criminalisation. Amsterdam: HIV Justice Network; 2019 (<https://www.hivjustice.net/publication/advancing3/>, accessed 6 July 2023).
- 19 Code de la sante publique L.3421-1. Paris: Government of France ([https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/section\\_lc/LEGITEXT000006072665/LEGISCTA000006155040/#LEGISCTA000006155040](https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/section_lc/LEGITEXT000006072665/LEGISCTA000006155040/#LEGISCTA000006155040), accessed 6 July 2023).
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- 21 Criminal Code 2011: Article 157 ([https://www.legislationline.org/download/id/7896/file/Croatia\\_Criminal\\_Code\\_2011\\_en.pdf](https://www.legislationline.org/download/id/7896/file/Croatia_Criminal_Code_2011_en.pdf)).
- 22 Criminal Code (<https://legislation.mt/eli/cap/9/eng/pdf>).
- 23 Criminal Code of the Czech Republic. Prague: Government of Czechia (<https://antislaverylaw.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Czech-Republic-Criminal-Code.pdf>, accessed 6 July 2023).
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- 44 Law 143/2000: Article 4. Bucharest: Government of Romania (<https://legislatie.just.ro/Public/DetaliuDocumentAfis/23629>, accessed 6 July 2023).
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- 50 Narcotics Act. Reykjavik: Government of Iceland ([https://www.government.is/library/Files/Narcotics%20Act\\_65\\_1974.pdf](https://www.government.is/library/Files/Narcotics%20Act_65_1974.pdf), accessed 6 July 2023).
- 51 Penal Code: Article 259. Vilnius: Government of Lithuania ([https://cjad.nottingham.ac.uk/documents/implementations/pdf/Lithuania\\_-\\_Penal\\_Code\\_as\\_amended\\_2010.pdf](https://cjad.nottingham.ac.uk/documents/implementations/pdf/Lithuania_-_Penal_Code_as_amended_2010.pdf), accessed 6 July 2023).
- 52 Penal Code, Chapter 50, Helsinki: Government of Finland ([https://www.finlex.fi/en/laki/kaanokset/1889/en18890039\\_19951010.pdf](https://www.finlex.fi/en/laki/kaanokset/1889/en18890039_19951010.pdf), accessed 6 July 2023).
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- 55 Cameron S, Bernard EJ. Advancing HIV justice 3: growing the global movement against HIV criminalisation. Amsterdam: HIV Justice Network; 2019 (<https://www.hivjustice.net/publication/advancing3/>, accessed 6 July 2023).
- 56 Criminal Code: Sections 200–202 and 205. ([https://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/ELECTRONIC/96662/114282/F-983946872/HUNGARY\\_Criminal\\_Code\\_of\\_2012\\_en.pdf](https://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/ELECTRONIC/96662/114282/F-983946872/HUNGARY_Criminal_Code_of_2012_en.pdf)).
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- 58 Law on the Protection of Law and Order. Ljubljana: Government of Slovenia. (<http://www.pisrs.si/Pis.web/pregledPredpisa?id=ZAKO3891>, accessed 6 July 2023).
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