

Progress on HIV prevention and treatment for children and adolescents and UNICEF responses to decisions of the Programme Coordinating Board

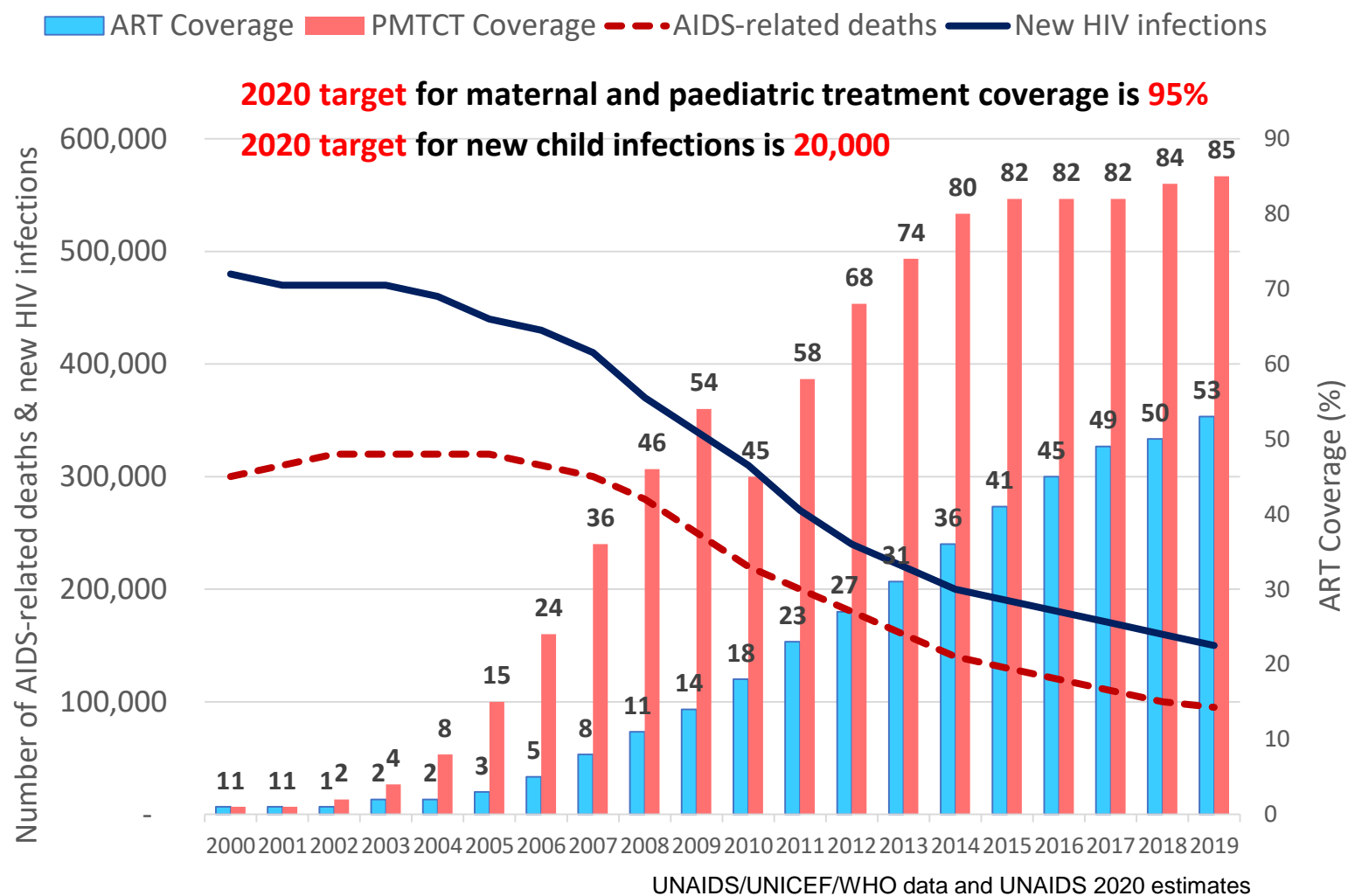
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Item 6 – Oral report on UNICEF follow-up to recommendations and decisions of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS Programme Coordinating Board meetings
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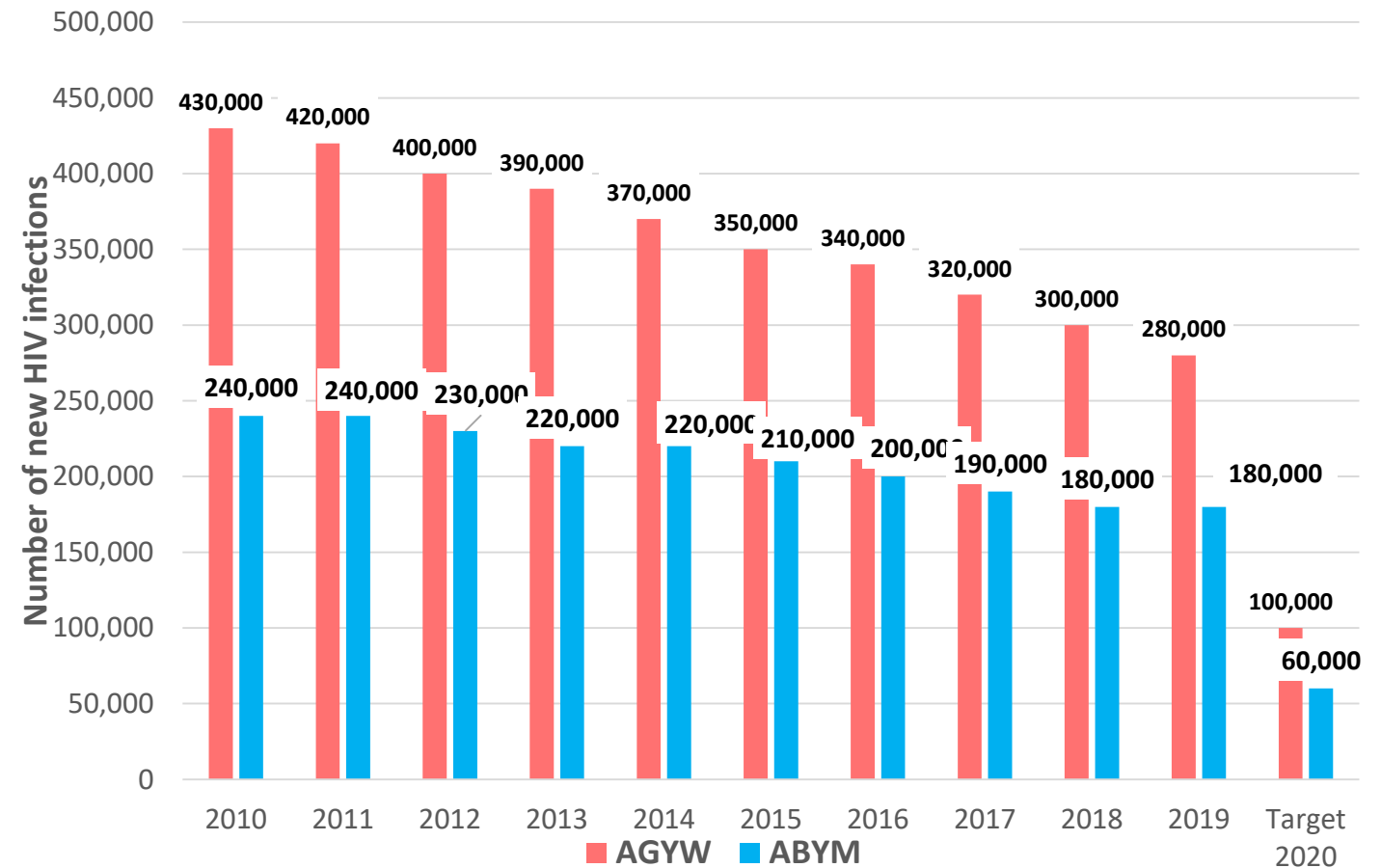
There has been great progress in treating pregnant women and children with HIV and in reductions in new infections and HIV mortality

- **Marked increases in treatment access** to 85 per cent in pregnant women (red bars) and 53 per cent in children (blue bars) in 2019
- Resultant **reductions in new child infections** (solid line) and **related mortality** (dotted lines)
- **But antiretroviral treatment (ART) coverage in children lags behind** that in pregnant women
- **Progress in treatment has also slowed over the last 4 years**



Despite progress in reducing HIV infections in adolescents and youth, girls are disproportionately affected and key populations are left behind

- New infections have reduced by **35% in adolescent girls and young women (AGYW)** and **34% adolescent boys and young men (ABYM)** since 2010
- However, AGYW are disproportionately affected and the **280,000 new infections in AGYW in 2019 is almost 3X higher than the 2020 target of 100,000**
- In some countries where the epidemic is predominantly in **key populations, new infections in adolescents and young people are rising**



UNAIDS/UNICEF/WHO data and UNAIDS 2020 estimates

Key challenges and UNICEF's response

5 key factors contributing to slow-down

Competing priorities,
waning political will

Weak systems and
structural barriers

Declining finances and
inequities in response

Sub-optimal one-size-fits-all programming
that doesn't consider regional or local
variation

Lack of granular data to understand
barriers, including lack of age- and sex-
disaggregated information

UNICEF's response

Data-informed, evidence-based **differentiated responses** for regional, national and subnational programme prioritization (e.g., focus on PMTCT in WCA, key populations in ECA/EAP)

Innovation using novel diagnostic, treatment, prevention and information technologies and strategies, combined with knowledge leadership to enhance programme responses

Strategic partnerships to leverage resources for children and adolescents

Advocacy for enhanced focus on women, children and adolescents and for adoption of best practices by national programmes, stakeholders, implementers

Effective integration with other sectors for joint results based on clearly defined and shared accountabilities

UNICEF responses to the Programme Coordinating Board decision points

PCB Decision 1

Accelerate HIV prevention

UNICEF response

- **Country coordination, strategic planning and implementation**
- **Global Prevention Coalition technical working group**
- **AGYW convener with PEPFAR, Education Plus partner, Global Fund technical assistance provider, toolkit and guide for AGYW country programming**
- **Capacity strengthening of peer networks and digital innovations**

PCB Decision 2

Strengthen and integrate HIV response into sustainable health systems for universal health coverage

UNICEF response

- **Multi-disease HIV diagnosis integration**
- **Integration of HIV in social protection services, newborn care malnutrition services and community care points**

UNICEF responses to the Programme Coordinating Board decision points

PCB Decision 3

Reduction of stigma and discrimination in all its forms

UNICEF response

- Use of digital applications to deliver services to vulnerable adolescents
- Training adolescents as advocates for change
- Generating evidence for policy and legislation reform (e.g., adolescent age of consent for HIV testing)

PCB Decision 4

Support to the development of the new UNAIDS strategy

UNICEF response

- Participated in multiple consultations and surveys
- Reviewed evidence/provided feedback to key documents
- Convened a virtual partner group discussion to provide recommendations on health and community systems strengthening for women children and adolescents

Thank you.

UNICEF Executive Board

2021 first regular session

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