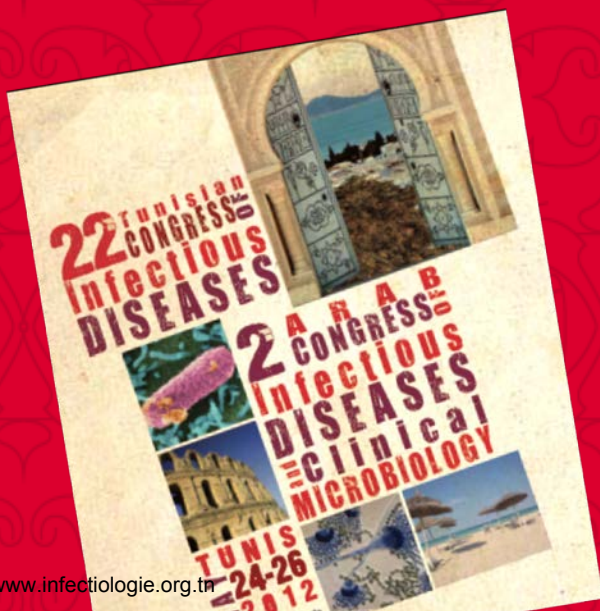


# HIV and AIDS in the Middle East and North Africa

UNAIDS Regional Report on AIDS | Dec. 2011



Presented by Dr. Hamidreza Setayesh,  
UNAIDS MENA RST  
at 2<sup>nd</sup> Arab Congress on Infectious Disease,  
Hammamet, Tunisia, May 2012



**The Dynamics  
of HIV**

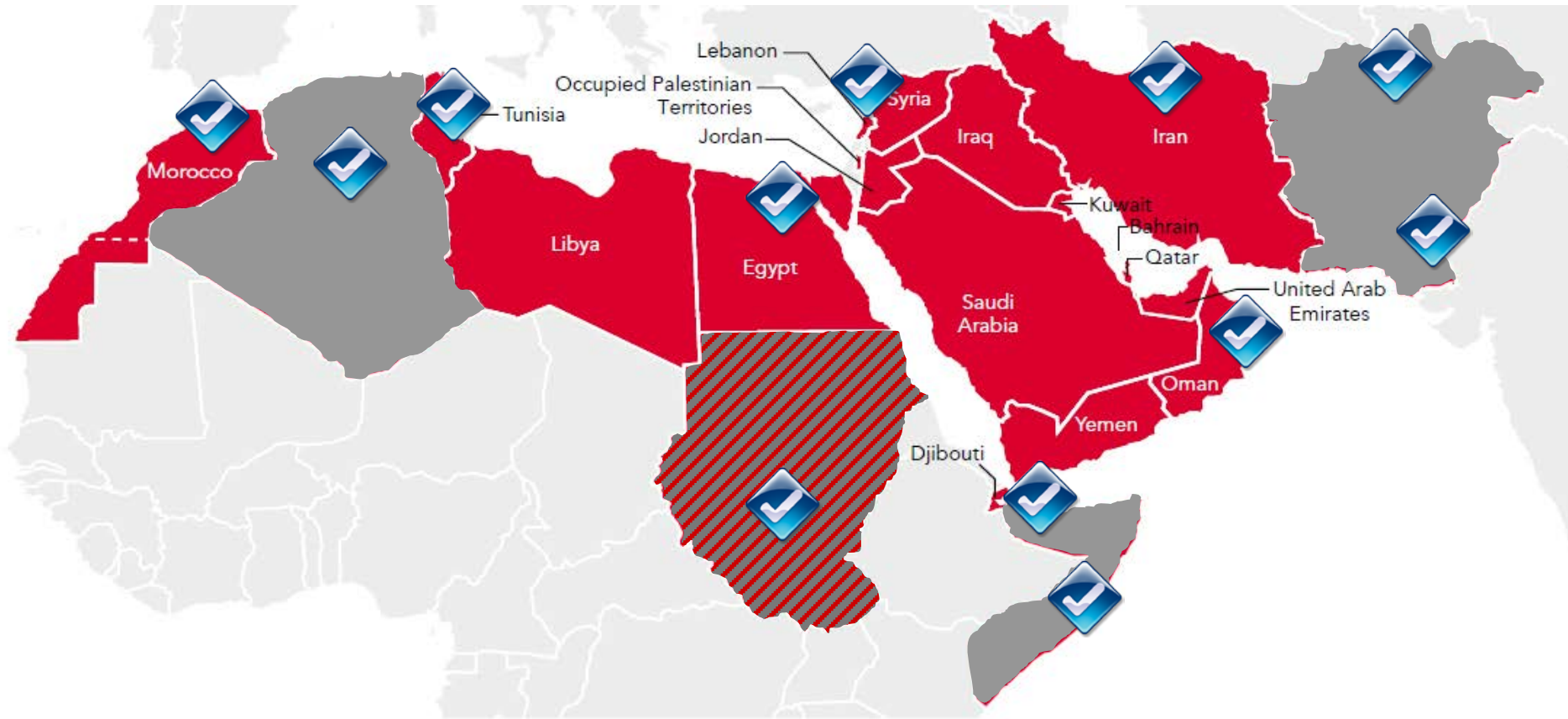
**Zero  
New HIV Infections**

**Zero  
AIDS-related deaths**

**Zero  
Discrimination**

**Challenges and  
Recommendations**

# Middle East and North Africa



# Countries that reported data on key populations

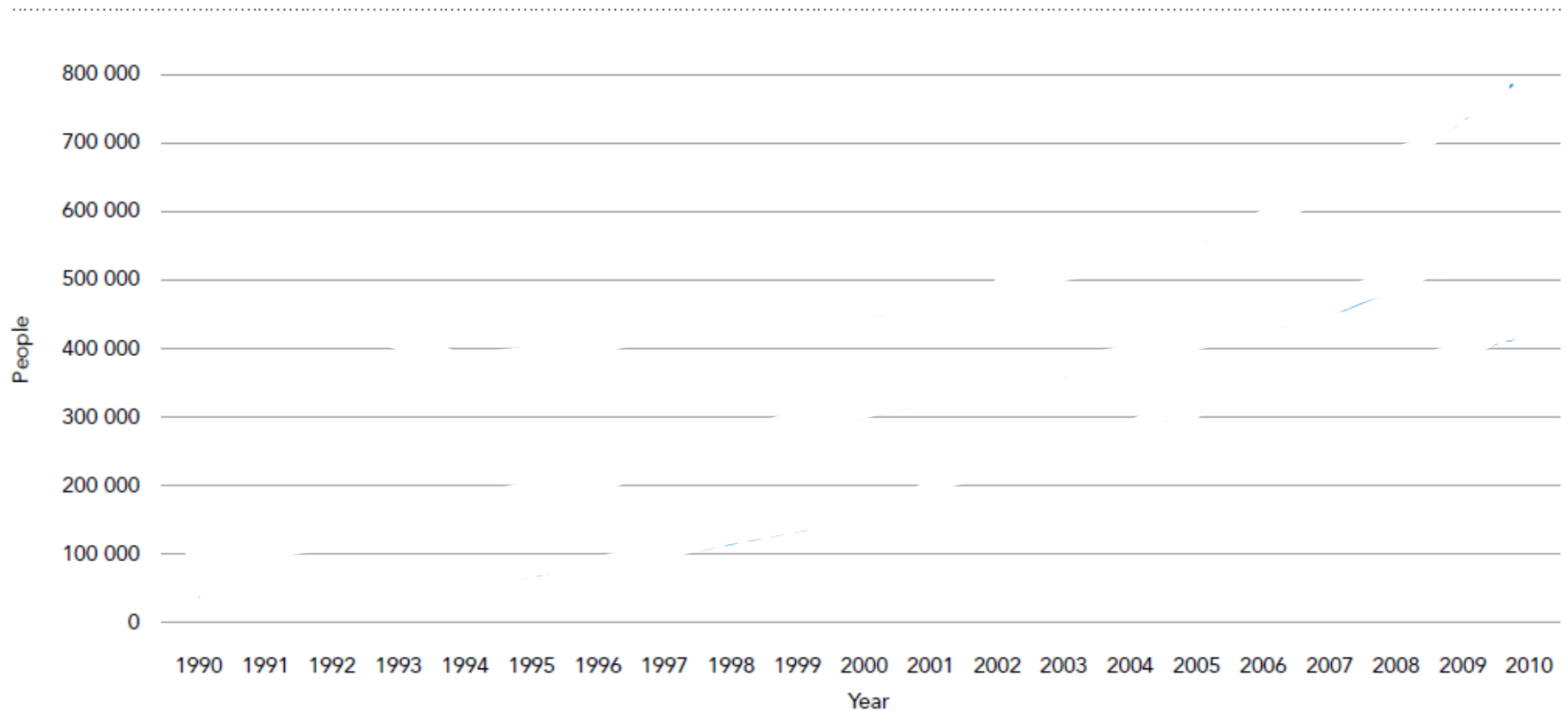


**ZERO NEW HIV INFECTIONS.  
ZERO DISCRIMINATION.  
ZERO AIDS-RELATED DEATHS.**



# The Dynamics of HIV

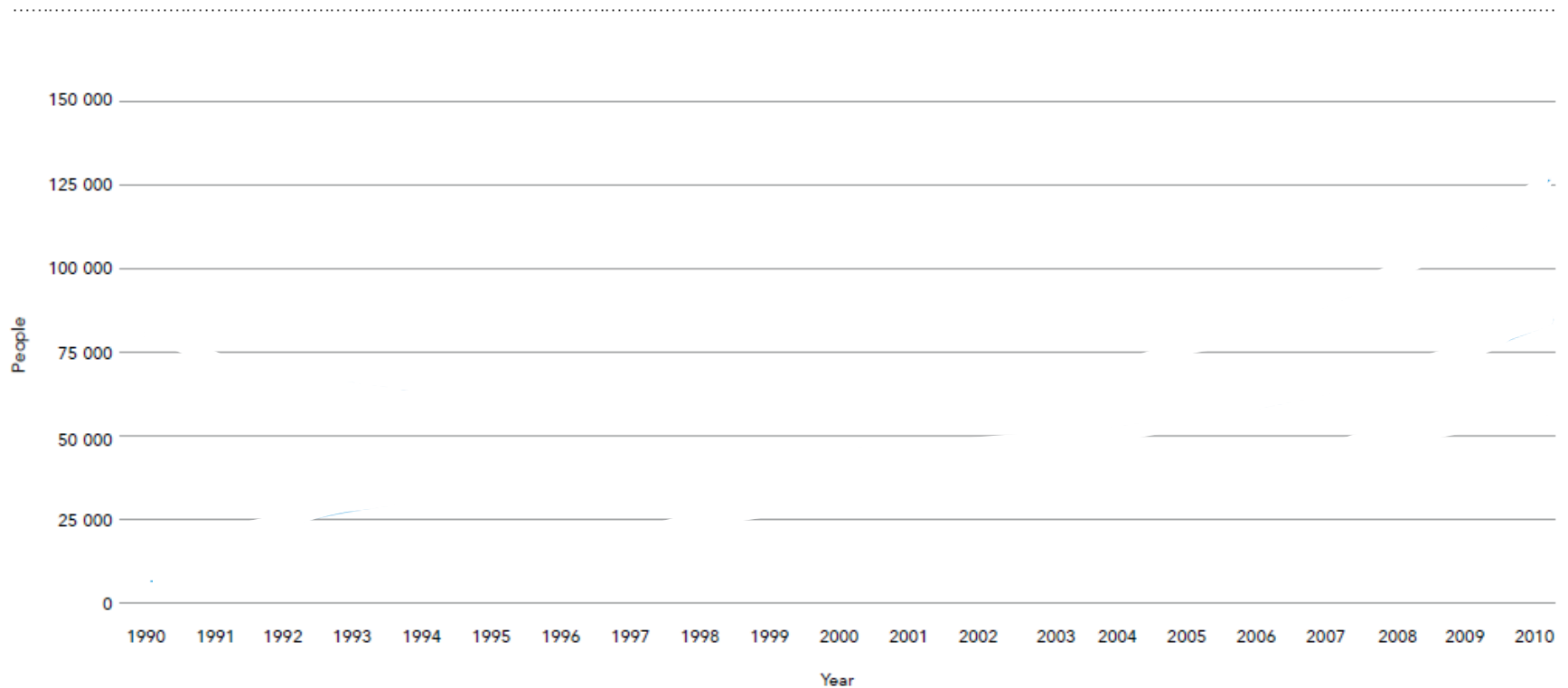
# Estimated HIV prevalence (adults and children)



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ZERO DISCRIMINATION.  
ZERO AIDS-RELATED DEATHS.**

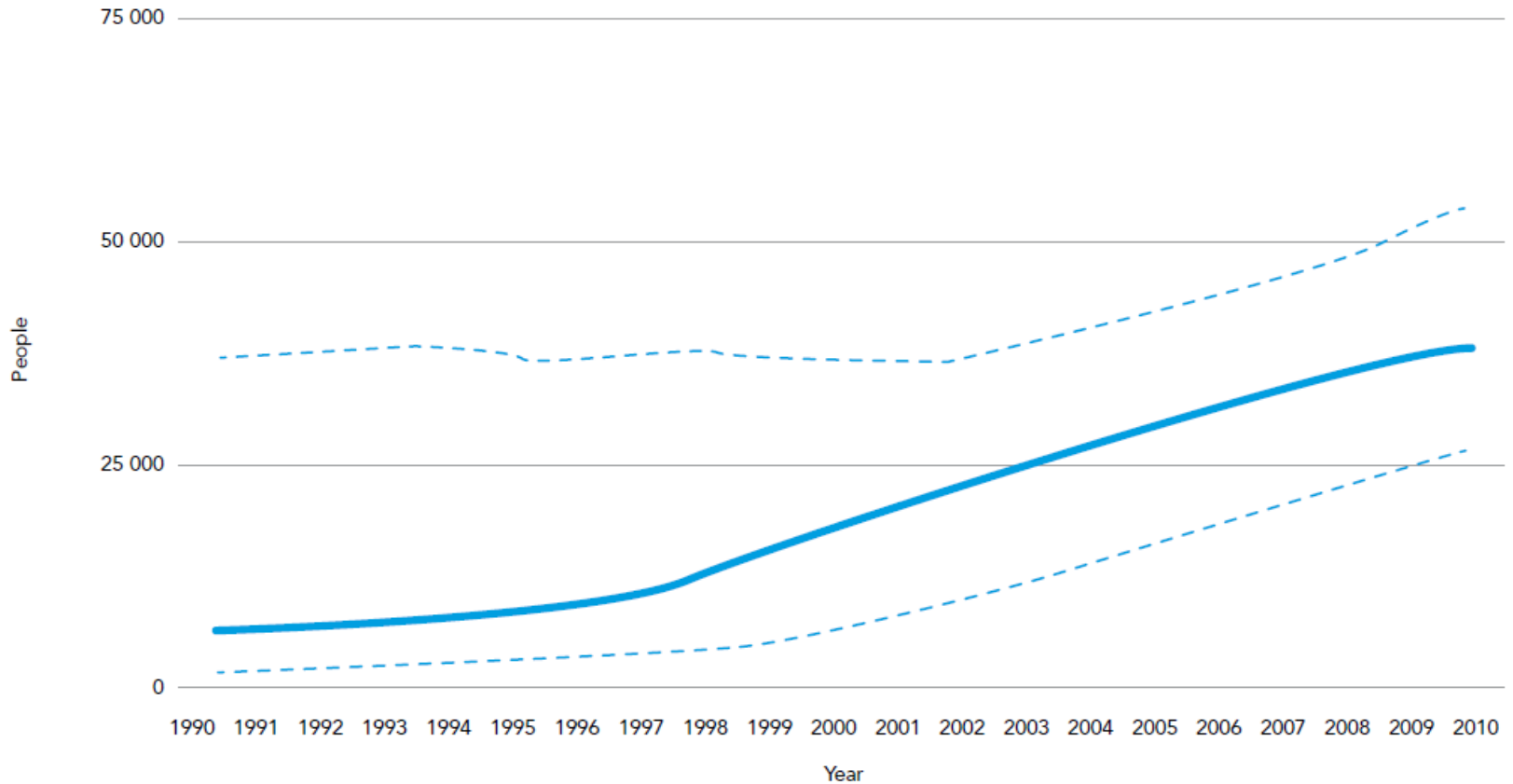


# Estimated New Infections (adults and children)



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# Estimated deaths due to AIDS

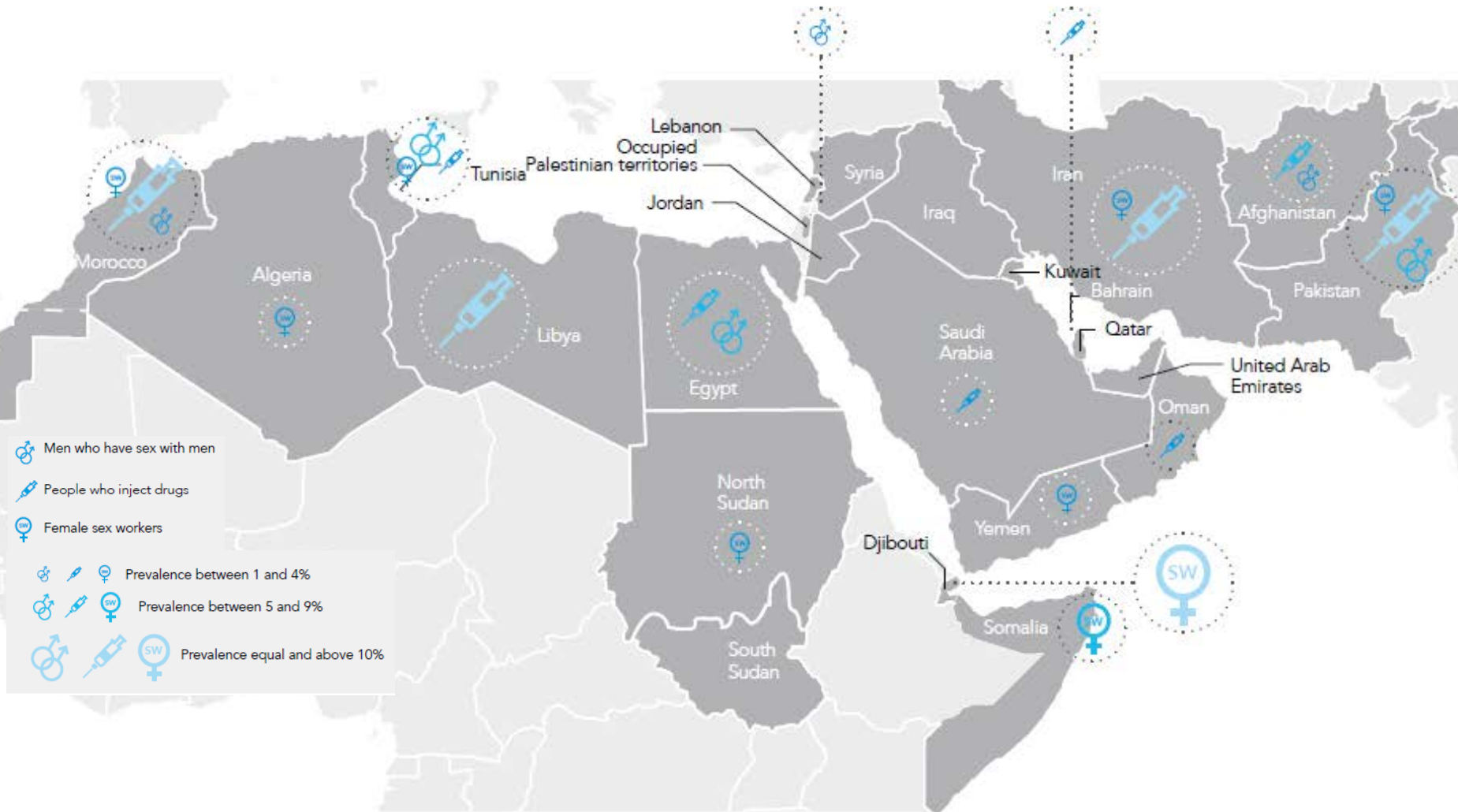


**ZERO NEW HIV INFECTIONS.  
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ZERO AIDS-RELATED DEATHS.**





# HIV prevalence among key populations



**ZERO NEW HIV INFECTIONS.  
ZERO DISCRIMINATION.  
ZERO AIDS-RELATED DEATHS.**





**Zero  
New HIV Infections**

# Condom use of Female Sex Workers, last client



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ZERO AIDS-RELATED DEATHS.**



**World Health  
Organization**

Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean



**UNAIDS**  
JOINT UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME ON HIV/AIDS

UNHCR  
UNICEF  
WFP  
UNDP  
UNFPA

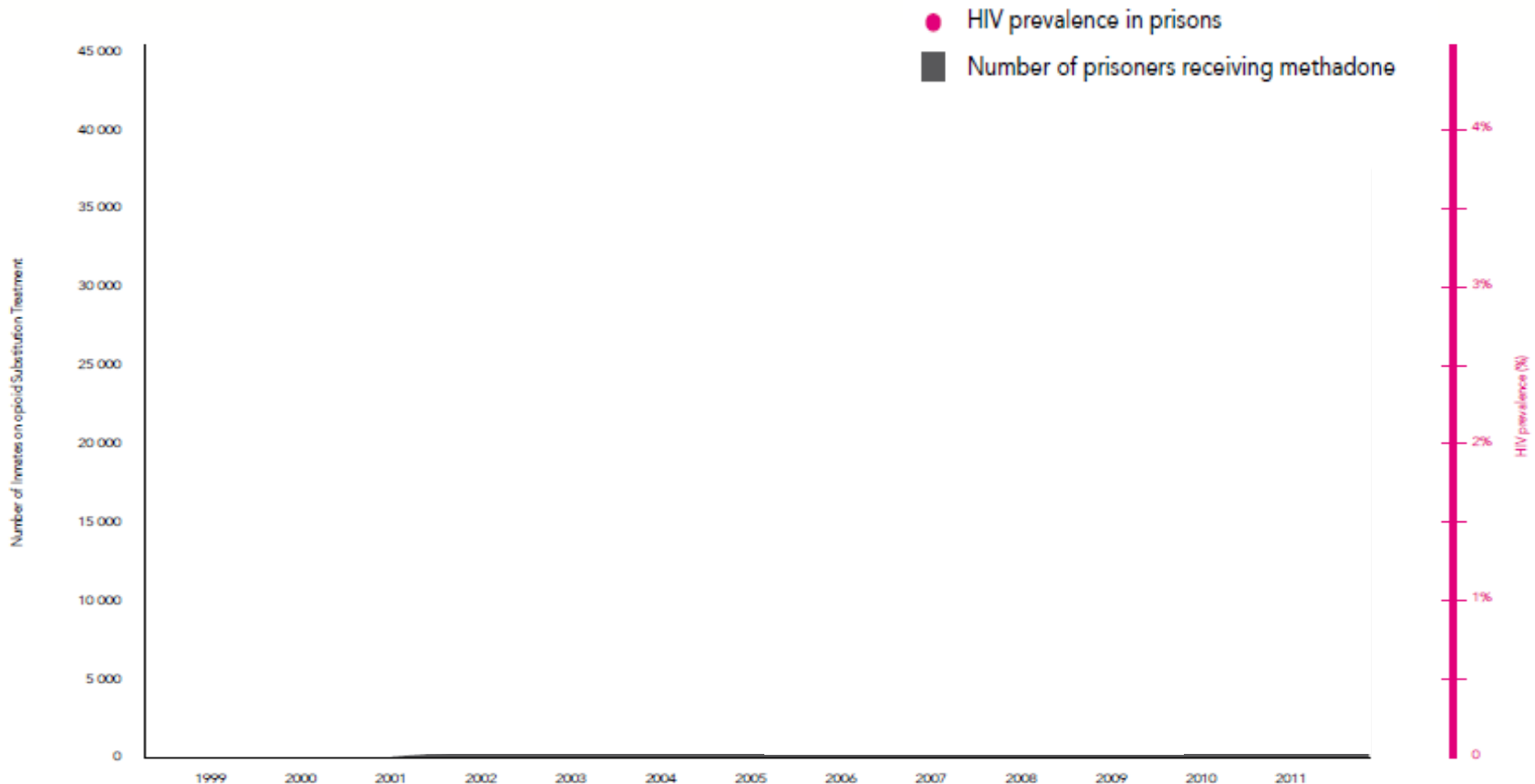
UNODC  
ILO  
UNESCO  
WHO  
WORLD BANK

# Condom use and use of sterile injecting equipment People who inject drugs



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# Trends in HIV prevalence and provision of opioid substitution therapy in prisons: Iran

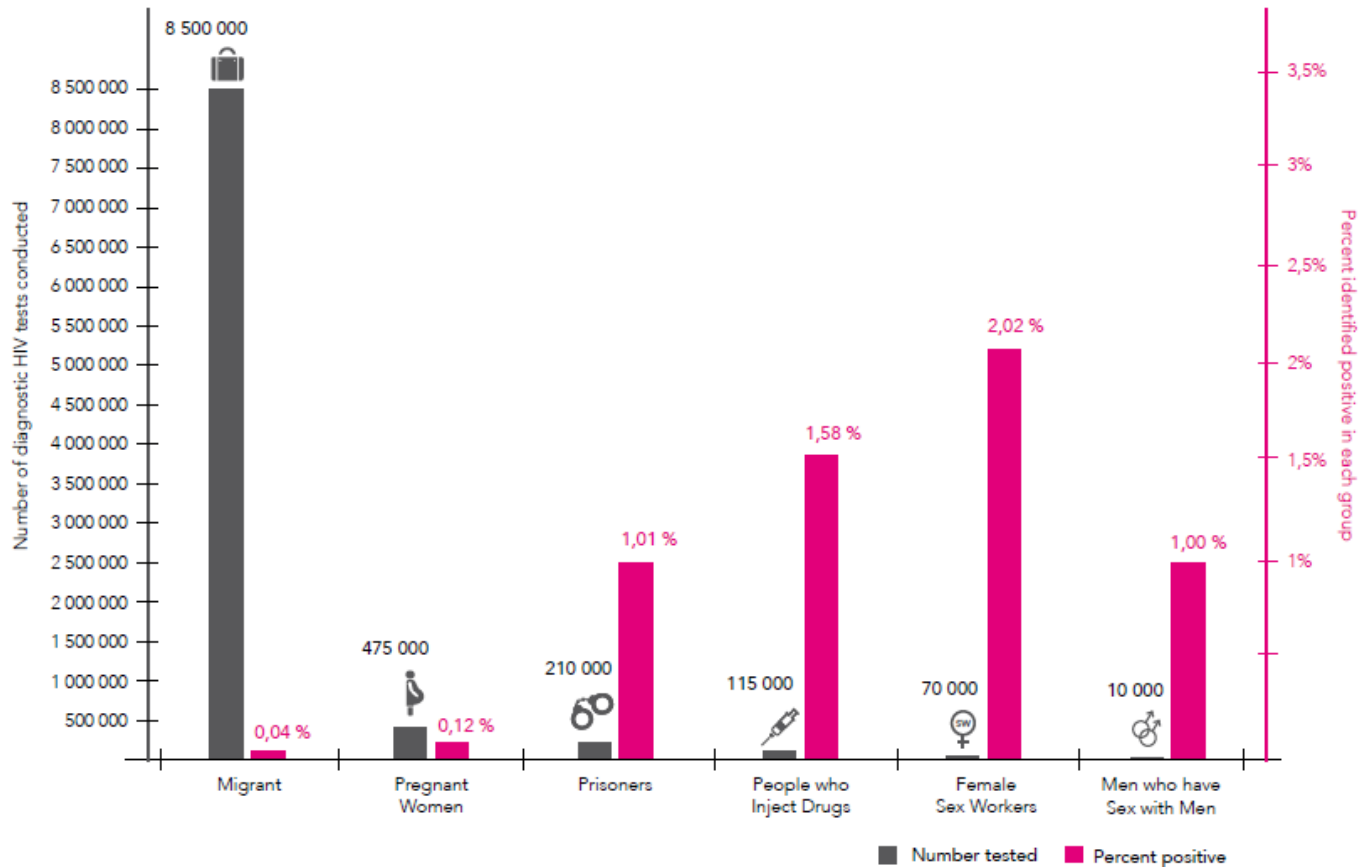


This graph does not demonstrate a decrease in the new HIV infections (incidence). The data points are result of HIV sero-surveillance and show point prevalence. It is important to consider limitations in interpretation of this data as it can be confounded by high turnover rates and possible increase in mortality

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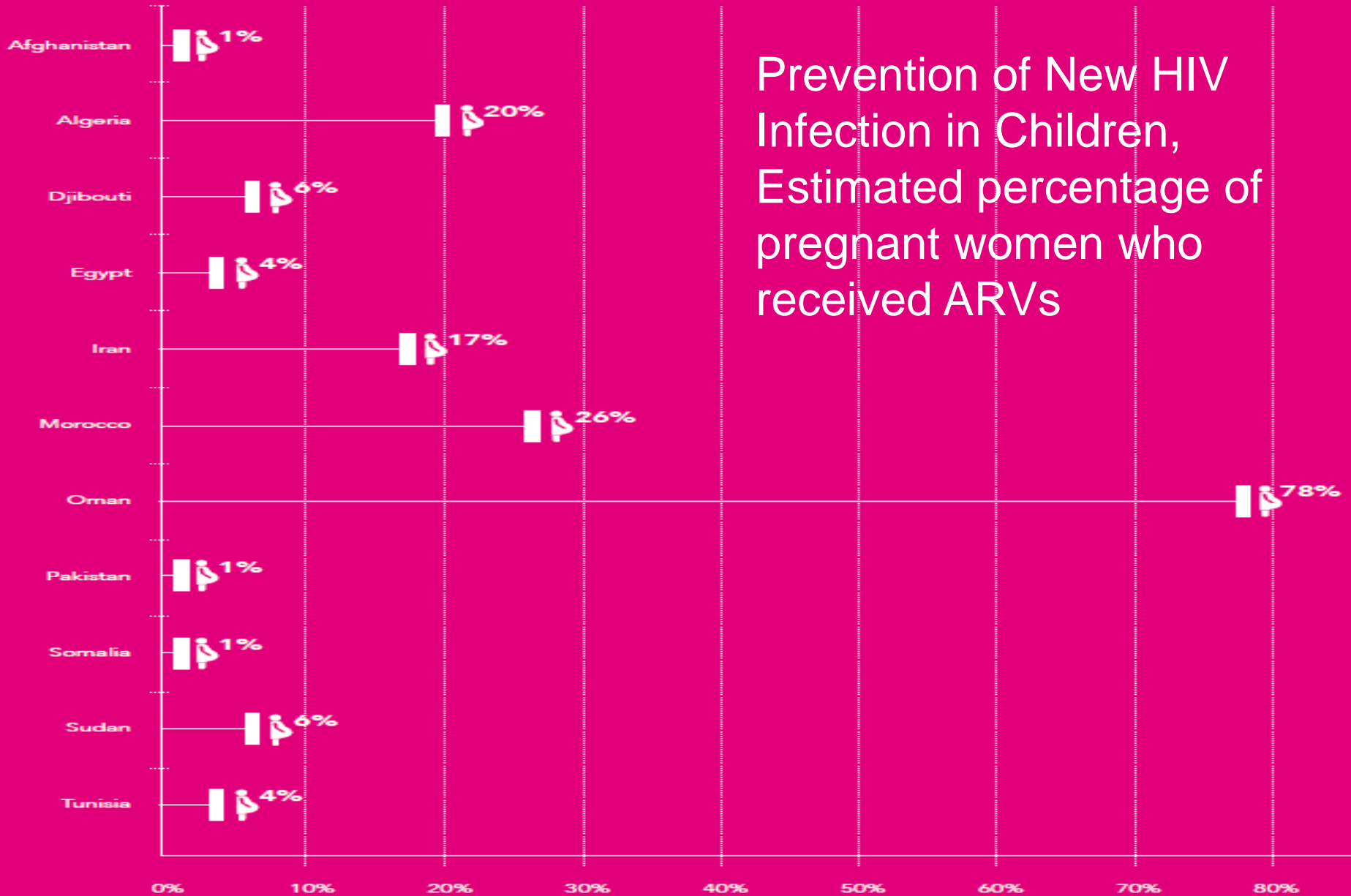
# HIV testing in different population groups

## Number tested vs. percent positive (1989-2007)



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# Prevention of New HIV Infection in Children, Estimated percentage of pregnant women who received ARVs



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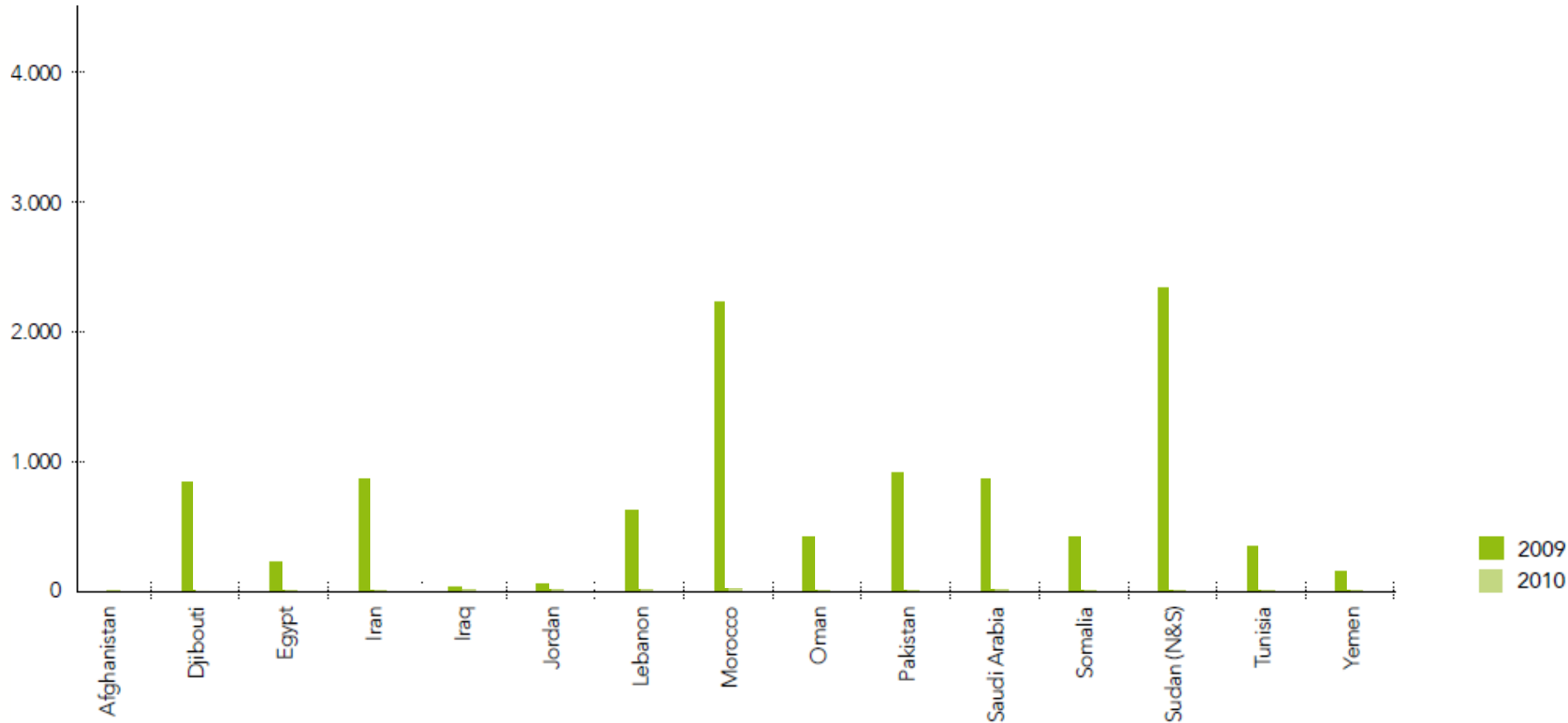


# Zero AIDS-related Deaths



# Number of eligible adults and children receiving ART

## Selected countries. 2009-2010



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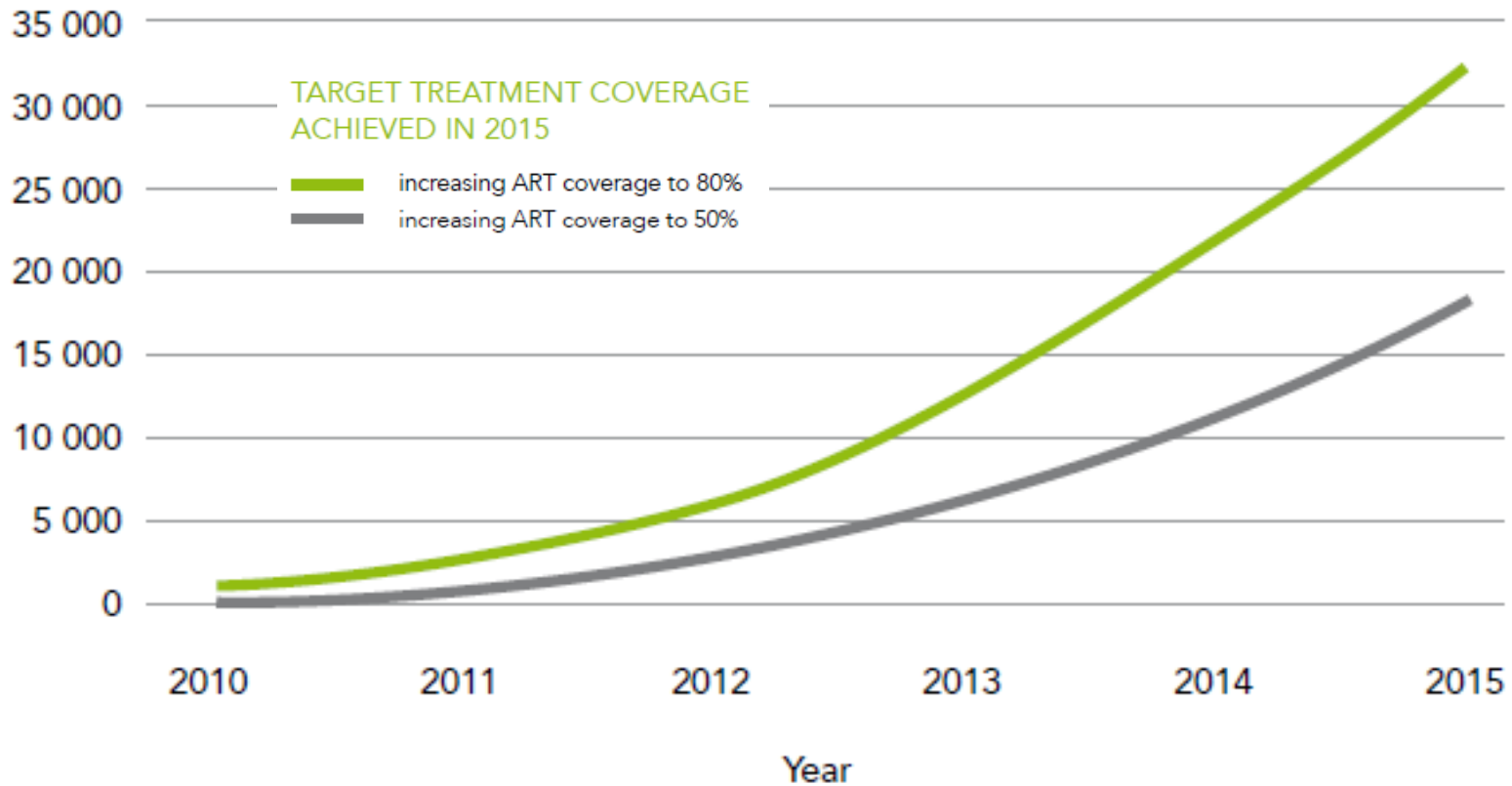
## Treatment 2.0

- ✓ an easy to use pill—low in toxicity and doesn't lead to drug resistance.
- ✓ a drastically reduced need for costly labs—monitoring can be done at home.
- ✓ no stock-outs—a low-cost supply chain and the community ensures that pills are there when you need them.
- ✓ treatment is contributing greatly to the prevention effort.

## Treatment 2.0

- 59% of medical students, nurses and young physicians felt HIV came to "immoral people" (n=1500)
- 83% of health workers felt AIDS patients should be quarantined (n=346)
- 73% felt they would be "at great danger" in contacting PLHIV and 17% would avoid dealing with them altogether
- 53% felt that every patient should be examined for HIV so that those who turn up positive can be isolated
- 67% of them were misinformed about some aspects of HIV transmission or prevention
  - 29% thought **toilet seats** can transmit HIV and 20% reported mosquito bites.

# Projected annual number of deaths averted by 2015 increasing ART coverage to 50% and 80%

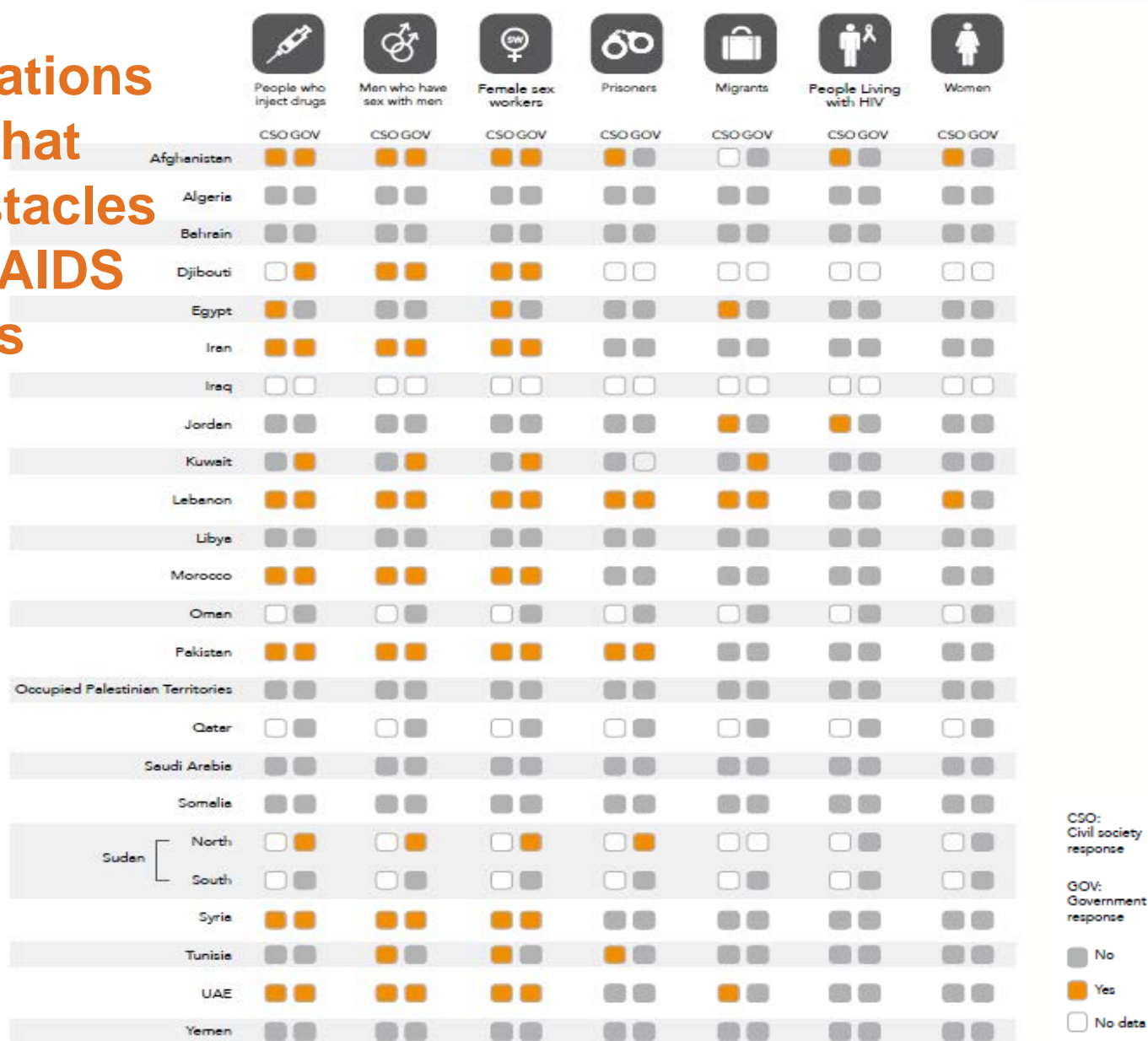


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**Zero  
Discrimination**

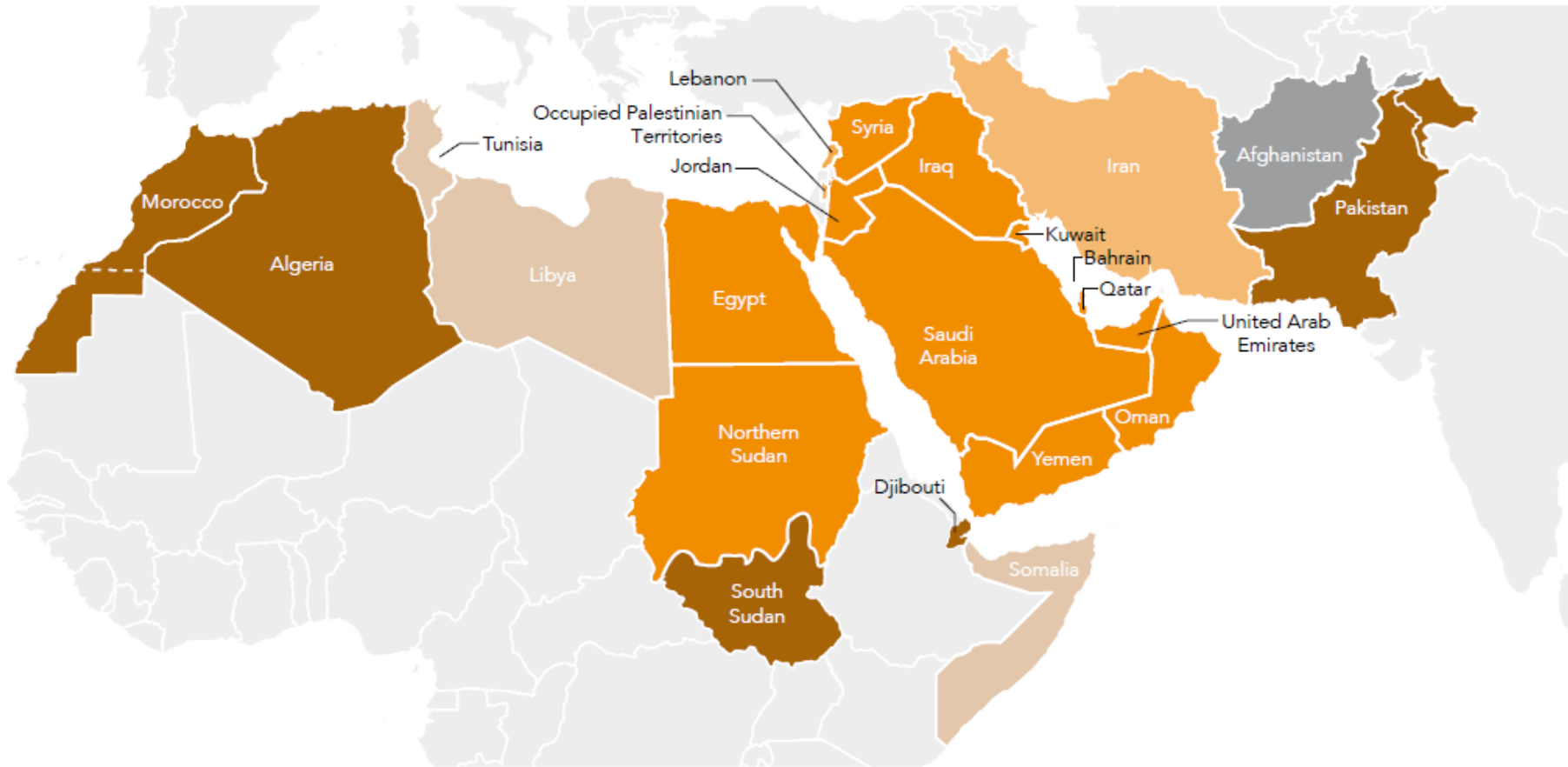
# Laws, regulations or policies that present obstacles to effective AIDS programmes



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# Countries that impose HIV related restriction on entry, stay or residence of people living with HIV



■ Ban on entry or deport    ■ No long term Visas    ■ No restrictions    ■ Conflicting info    ■ N/A or no data

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ZERO AIDS-RELATED DEATHS.**





# Challenges and Recommendations



# Main Challenges

- **Stigma and Discrimination**
- Low level of non-mandatory **HIV testing** and counseling
- Low **Treatment** coverage and adherence
- Insufficient **political leadership**
- Limited engagement and capacities of **civil society** organizations
- Insufficient **funding** for needed programmes

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ZERO AIDS-RELATED DEATHS.**



# Recommendations for MENA countries

- Learn from **successful experiences within the region**
- Expand **quality treatment coverage**
- Review existing **laws and policies** that hinder effective HIV programmes
- Promote regular **anti-stigma campaigns** to influence public opinion
- Demonstrate the **political courage** to focus the response on populations most affected by HIV
- Invest in generating strategic information, in the right populations and right programmes – **smart investment**
- The **2011 Political Declaration** should be the foundation for political leadership

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A photograph capturing a serene sunset scene at a beach. The sky is a deep, warm orange, with the sun low on the horizon. In the foreground, five children are silhouetted against the bright light, actively engaged in a game of soccer on the sandy shore. A ball is visible on the ground to the right. In the middle ground, a small boat with a canopy is on the water. The background features a range of mountains under the glowing sky.

**Thank You**

**SetayeshH@unaids.org**