

# 1 The Global Context and New Zealand

## Around the globe



There are **37.9 million** people living with HIV and **5000** new infections each day.



HIV is a major global public health issue and has claimed more than **35 million** lives so far.



Since 1997 significant progress in prevention and treatment has been made, with **new infections reduced by 40%**.



Prevention and care vary from country to country. **Only 62%** of the global population are able to access antiretroviral drugs.



## In New Zealand

- There is low prevalence of HIV with around 4000 people living with the virus. **Gay, bisexual, and men who have sex with men (MSM)** are the most affected.
- **HIV diagnoses have declined in the last 2 years** due to a number of prevention strategies such as: improved access to treatments for all people living with HIV; access to Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) for those at risk of HIV; and ongoing campaigns to promote testing.
- The biggest barrier to ending HIV is **stigma and discrimination**.
- Research shows that **due to stigma people are less likely to test for HIV** and people living with HIV are less likely to access treatment.
- **Undiagnosed and untreated HIV** are the biggest reasons HIV continues to be transmitted.