

TOWARDS EMTCT IN THE SOLOMON ISLANDS

**ELIMINATION OF MOTHER-TO CHILD TRANSMISSION OF HIV OF HIV, SYPHILIS
AND HBV IN THE ASIA PACIFIC REGION**

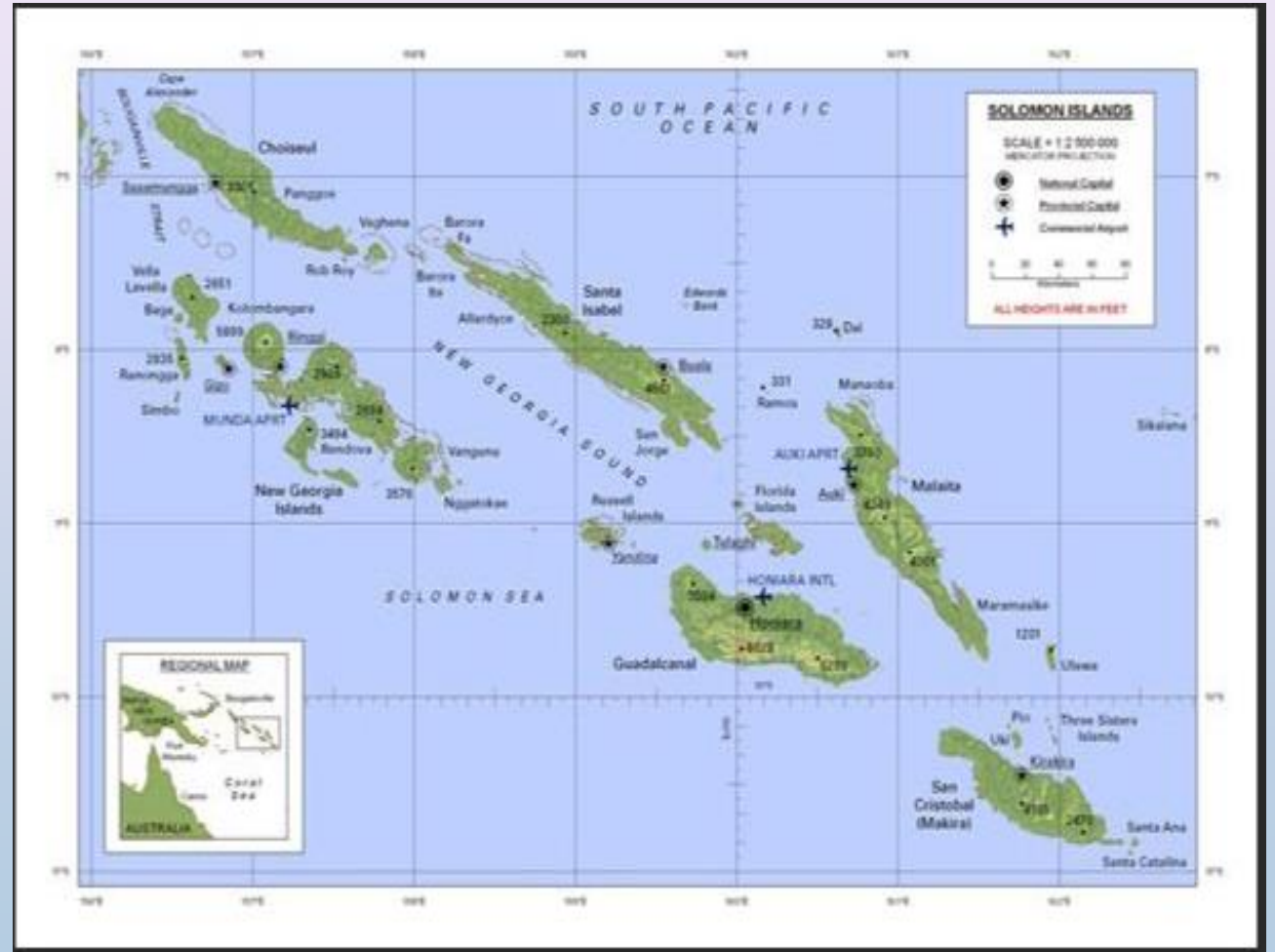
**I WOULD LIKE TO BEGIN BY ACKNOWLEDGING WITH GRATITUDE THE
TRADITIONAL OWNERS OF THE LAND WHICH WE MEET ON, THE KAURNA
PEOPLE. I WOULD LIKE TO PAY MY UTMOST RESPECTS TO ELDERS PAST PRESENT
AND EXTEND THAT RESPECT TO ANY ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT
ISLANDER PEOPLE IN THE AUDIENCE TODAY**

OVERVIEW

- **Section 1. Current situation of HIV, syphilis and hepatitis B**
- **Section 2: Approach to PMTCT/EMTCT & National Commitment and priorities**
- **Section 3. Key issues and challenges**
- **Section 4. Success stories**
- **Section 5. Integration of services into reproductive, maternal, neonatal and child health**
- **Section 6. Impact of introducing Point of Care Testing (PoC) into antenatal care services**
- **Section 7. Data collection and surveillance**
- **Section 8. Future Direction**

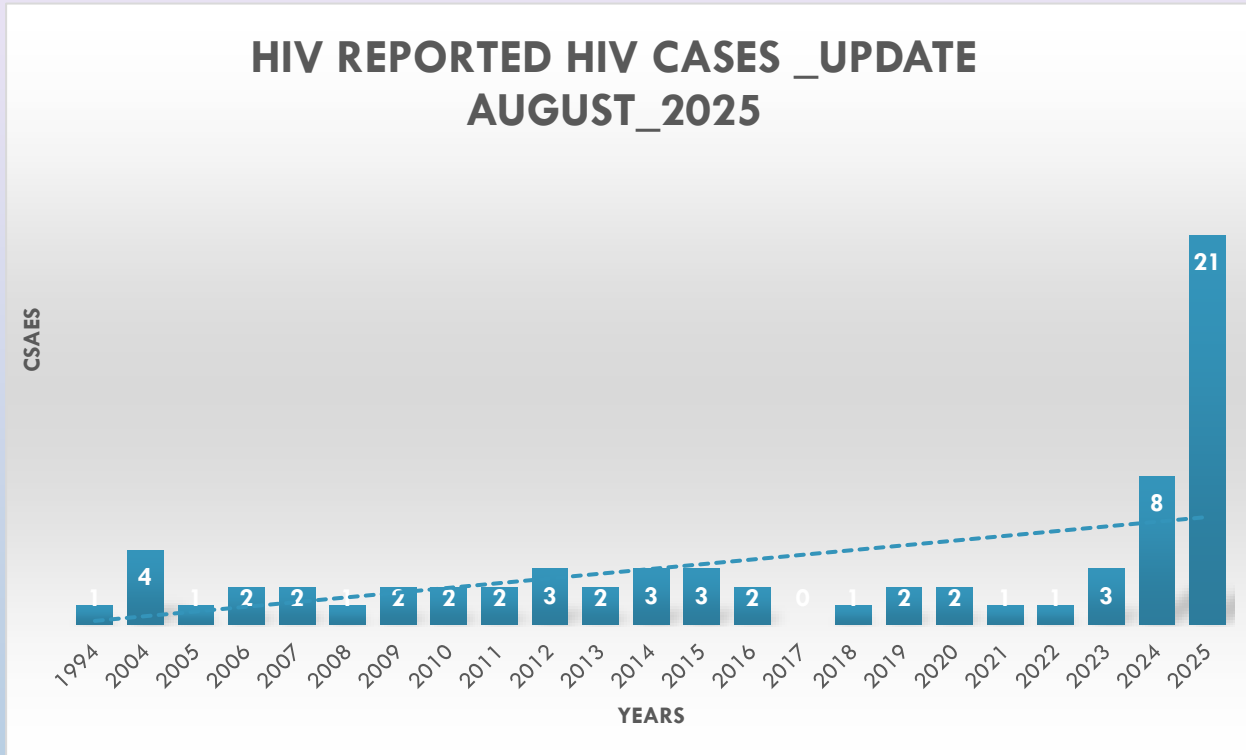
SOLOMON ISLANDS

- Estimated Population: **835,712**
- Estimated Population for Women with child bearing age: **213,092**
- 9 Provinces
- 353 health facilities and only 335 health facilities are functioning.
- 1 National Referral Hospital, 9 provincial hospitals, 2 Faith Based Hospitals, 35 Area Health Centres, 115 Rural Health Centres & 174 Nurse Aide Posts
- **1 national laboratory and 7 provincial laboratories**

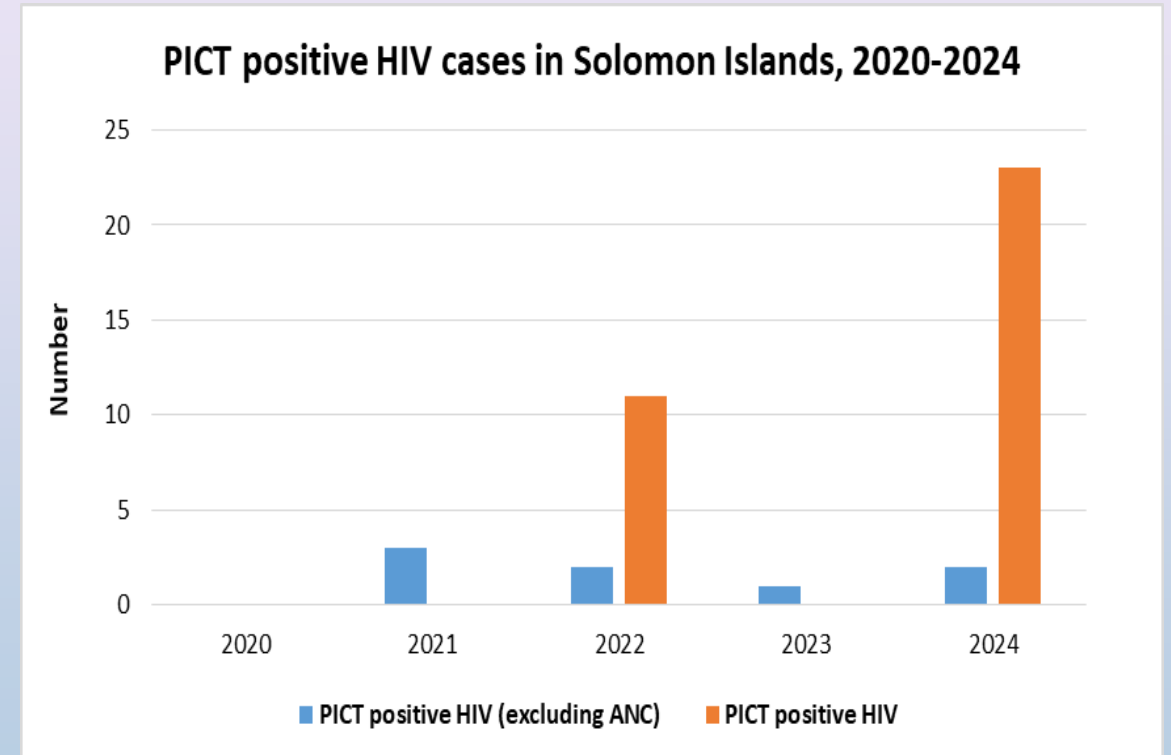


SECTION 1a. CURRENT SITUATION OF HIV, SYPHILIS AND HEPATITIS B in SOLOMON ISLANDS

❖ HIV & AIDS

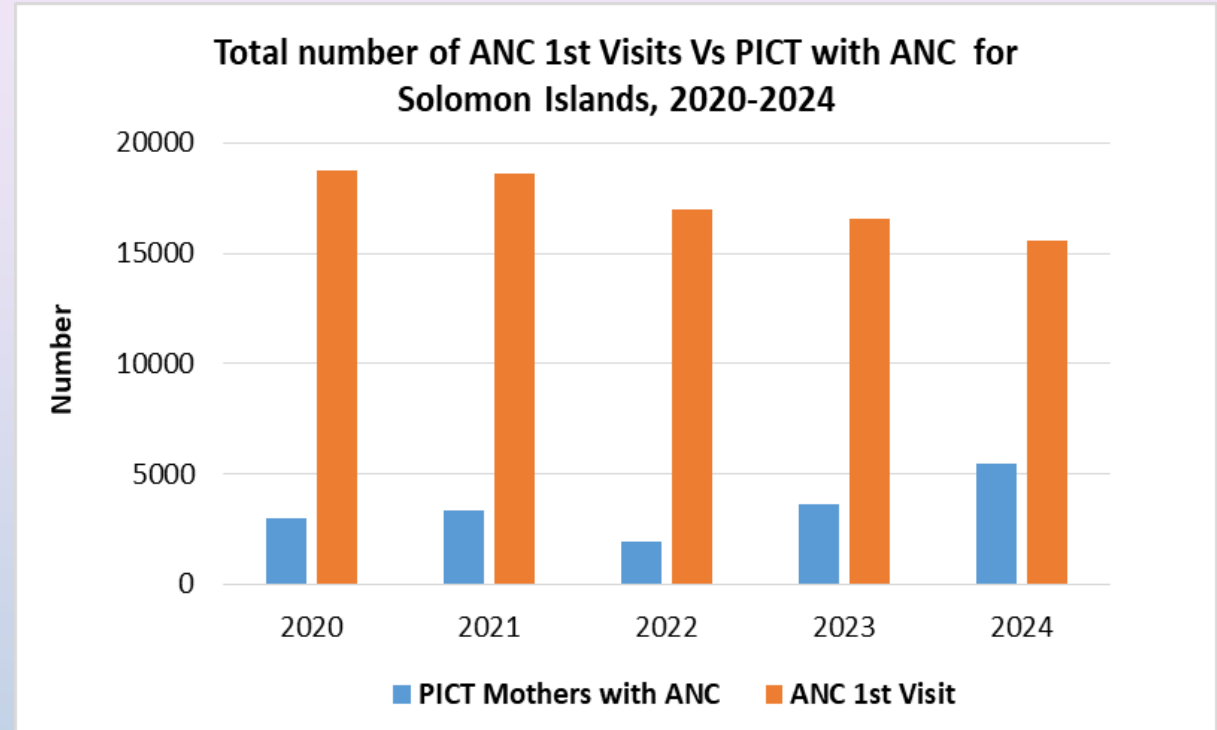
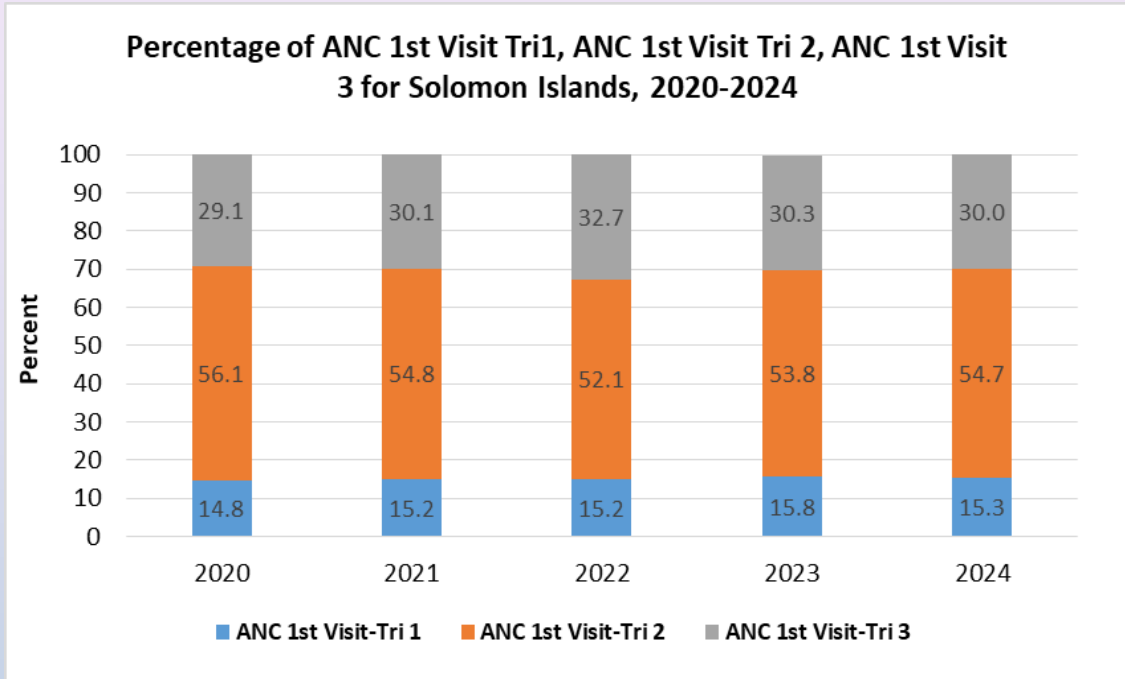


❖ PICT positive HIV cases



3 antenatal mothers detected from 2024 to 2025 who have given birth.

SECTION 1c. ANC First Visit Vs PICT with ANC for Solomon Islands, 2020-2024

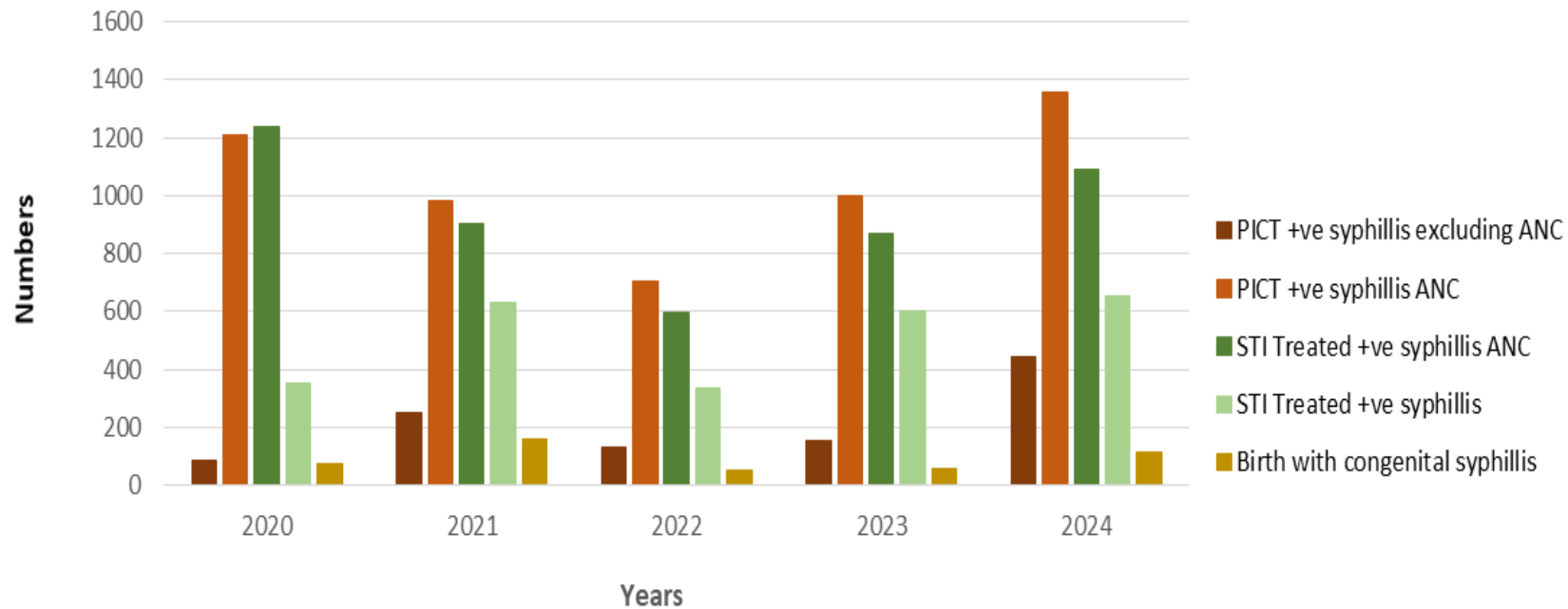


- ❖ About 55% pregnant women went for ANC 1st Visit service in Trimester 2 for the last five years.
- ❖ In 2024, 35% pregnant women had PICT.

Total number of PICT with ANC Vs ANC 1st Visit for Solomon Islands, 2020-2024					
Type	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
PICT Mothers with ANC	2990	3310	1914	3632	5458
ANC 1st Visit	18742	18641	16948	16572	15572
% of PICT Mothers with ANC	16	18	11	22	35

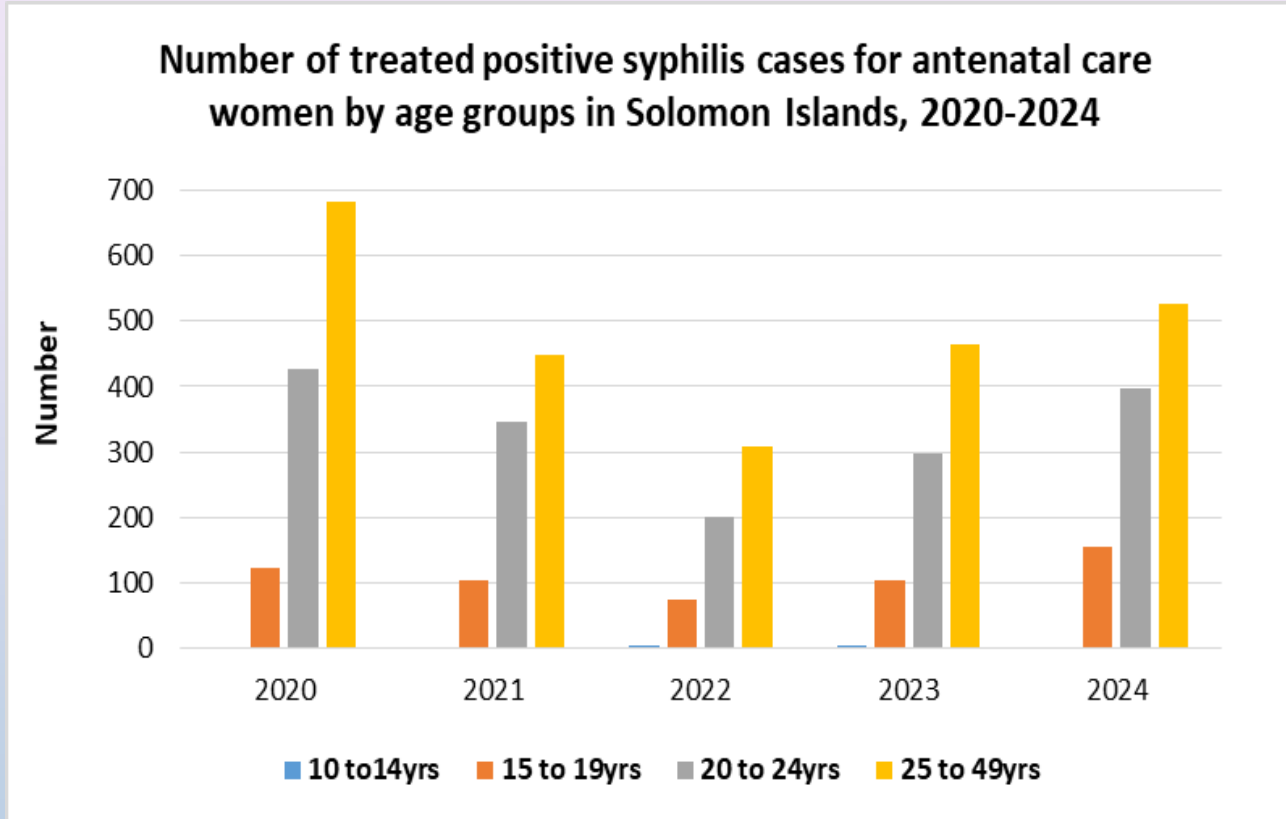
SECTION 1b. SYPHILLIS POSITIVE AND TREATED CASES AND BIRTH WITH CONGENITAL SYPHILLIS

PICT positive, STI treated positive syphilis cases and birth with congenital syphilis cases in Solomon Islands, 2020-2024



- ❖ Country has high number of PICT positive cases for ANC women with 1,358 for 2024
- ❖ 1,088 ANC women were treated for STI positive syphilis in 2024

SECTION 1d. SYPHILLIS POSITIVE TREATED CASES FOR ANC WOMEN BY AGE GROUP IN SOLOMON ISLANDS, 2024



	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
10 to 14 Years	2	0	4	3	0
15 to 19 Years	122	104	73	104	156
20 to 24 Years	428	347	201	298	397
25 to 49 Years	683	448	309	464	526
Total	1235	899	587	869	1079

Section 1e. Hepatitis B and C Positive and Negative cases for Solomon Islands, 2020-2024

Total Hepatitis B tests for Solomon Islands, 2020-2024

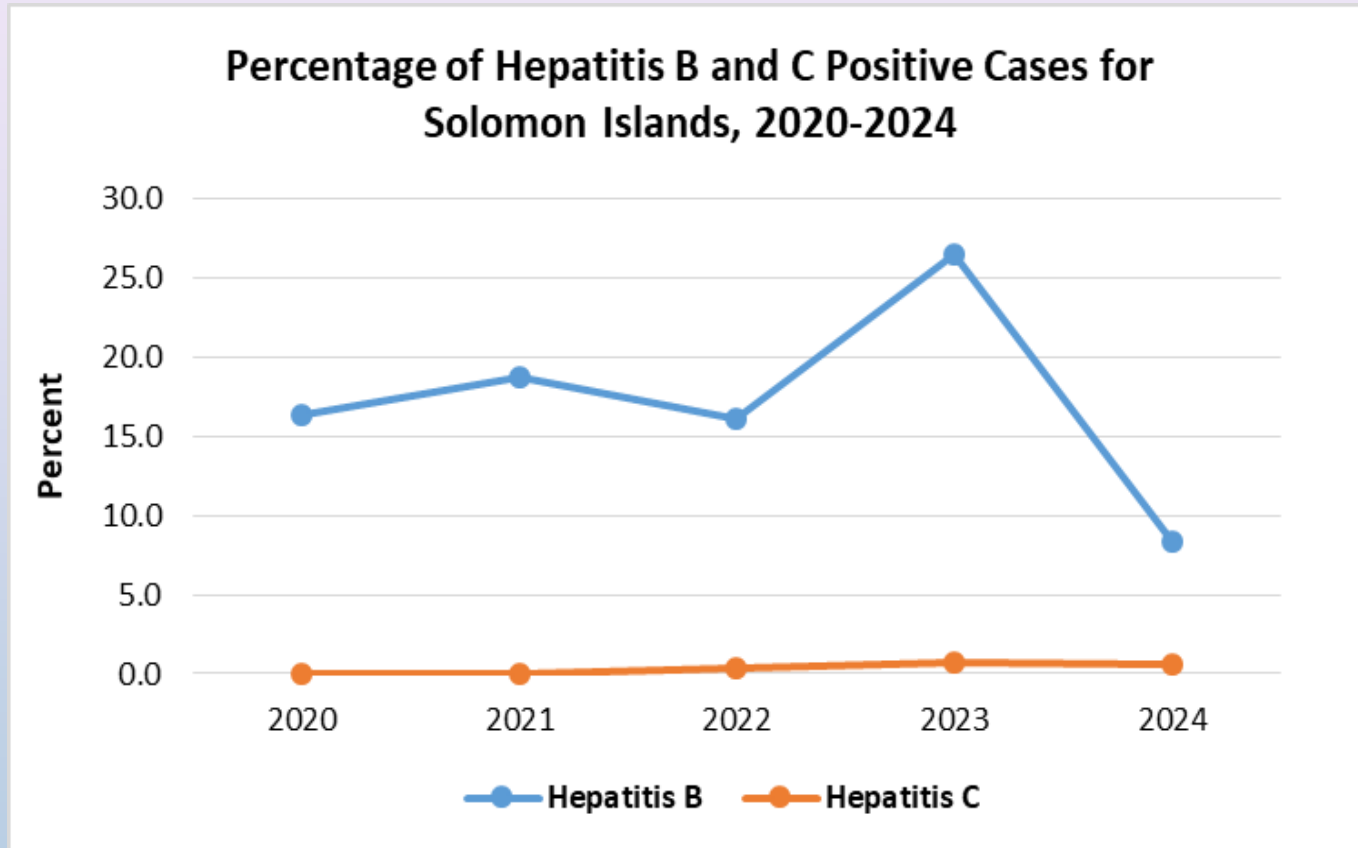
Hepatitis B tests	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Positive	773	1003	986	1263	515
Negative	4710	5375	6135	4768	6136
Total Tests	5483	6378	7121	6031	6651
% of Positive Hepatitis B	16.4	18.7	16.1	26.5	8.4

Total Hepatitis C tests for Solomon Islands, 2020-2024

Hepatitis C tests	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Positive	0	18	15	33	14
Negative	0	4084	3941	4768	2432
Total Tests	0	4102	3956	4801	2446
% of Positive Hepatitis C	0.0	0.4	0.4	0.7	0.6

- Hepatitis B has more positive cases compared to Hepatitis C for the last five years. On average 17.22% Hep B cases during the last 5 years. Hep B testing is still not routine for ANC mothers

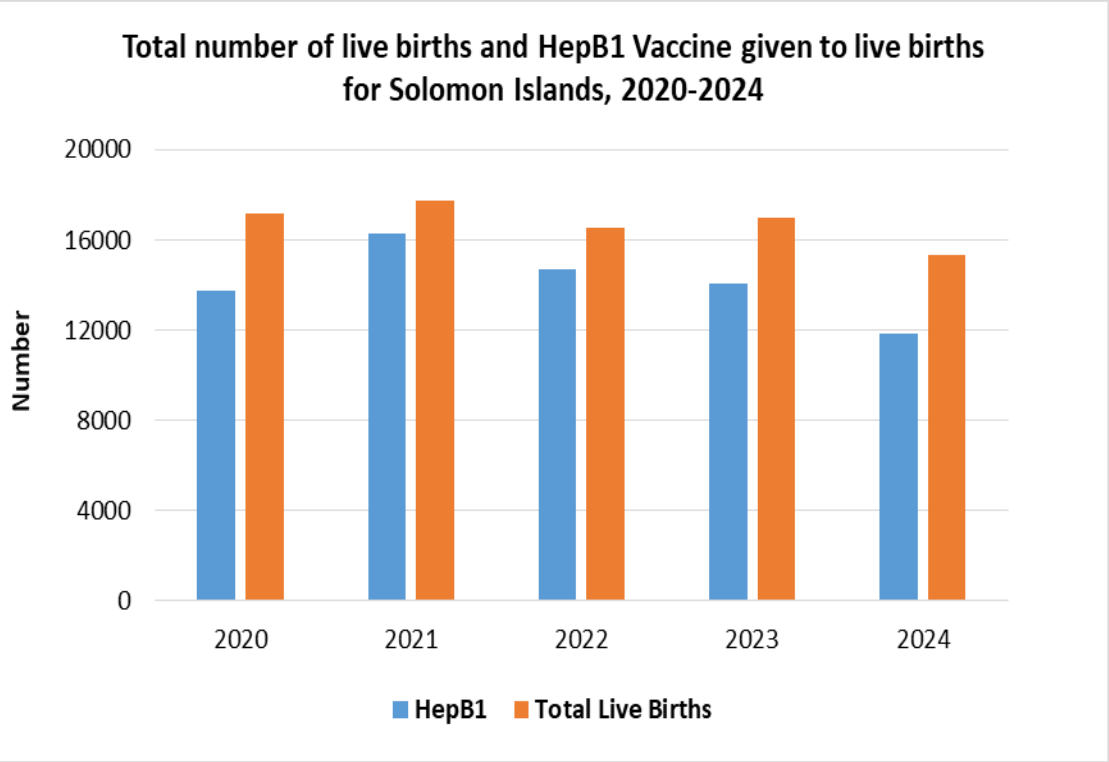
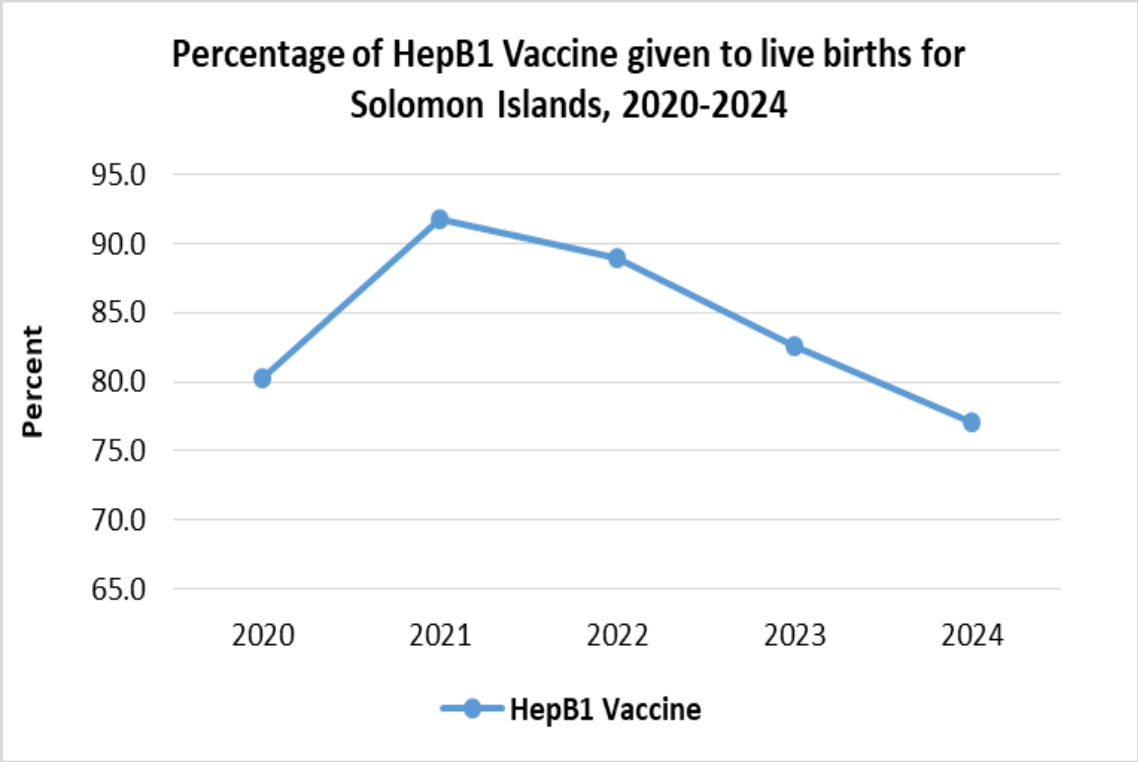
Section 1e. Cont.. Percentage of Hepatitis B and C Positive cases for Solomon Islands, 2020-2024



Percentage of Positive Hepatitis B and C cases for Solomon Islands, 2020-2024

Type of Hepatitis	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Hepatitis B	16.4	18.7	16.1	26.5	8.4
Hepatitis C	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.7	0.6

Section 1e. Cont.. Percentage of Hepatitis B1 vaccine given to live births for Solomon Islands, 2020-2024



The percentage of HepB1 vaccine given to the new live births has decreased from 92% in 2021 to 77% in 2024.

Total live births and Hepatitis B1 Vaccine given to live births for Solomon Islands, 2020-2024					
Total number/percentage	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
HepB1 vaccine	13760	16245	14680	14029	11806
Live births	17142	17711	16498	16986	15328
Percentage of HepB1	80.3	91.7	89.0	82.6	77.0

Section 2: Approach to PMTCT/EMTCT & National Commitment and priorities

- Screening & testing - Dual HIV/Syphilis test kit integrated into ANC training package
- Capacity building for Midwives, Registered nurses and Nurse aids in ANC training package.
- Hepatitis B Birth dose vaccination and implementation of follow up doses
- National HIV Committee with technical working groups (TWG)
- Solomon Islands National Health Strategy plan 2022- 2030 to be realigned to address triple elimination
- Develop Solomon Islands National strategy on the prevention of Parent to child transmission of HIV, Syphilis, Hepatitis B 2025 -2027
- Healthy Family toolkit- to train nurses and midwives, peer educators and volunteers to educate ANC mothers on triple elimination

Section 3: Key issues and Challenges

- **Cold chain - issues**
- **SUPPLY CHAIN:** STOCKOUTS OF POC TEST KITS DISRUPT SERVICES
- **TRAINING:** CONTINUOUS MENTORING IS NEEDED FOR NURSES AND MIDWIVES ON PERFORMING AND RECORDING POC TESTS.
- **DATA REPORTING:** SOME FACILITIES STILL DO NOT CONSISTENTLY ENTER POC RESULTS INTO HIS.
- **QUALITY ASSURANCE:** EXTERNAL QA SYSTEMS ARE NOT YET CONSISTENTLY APPLIED ACROSS PROVINCES.
- **Limitation** of Hepatitis B screening and testing. Lack of test kit.
- **Births,** - 10% OCCURRED AT HOME, AND IN THESE CASES, THE HEPATITIS B BIRTH DOSE WAS ADMINISTERED **LATER THAN THE RECOMMENDED 24-HOUR WINDOW**
- **Limited** satellite and outreach services
- Infrastructure – closure of Health facilities due to being run down

Section 4. Success stories

- Improved birth dose vaccination steady above 81%
- Integrated EMTCT of HIV, Syphilis, Hepatitis B into ANC training package
- Improved screening and testing at POC led to improved early detection, early treatment and early referrals.
- Development of Healthy Family tool kit
- 50% of midwives and nurses trained on ANC package of care

Section 5. Integration of services into Reproductive, Maternal, Neonatal and Child health

- HEPATITIS B BIRTH DOSE VACCINATION AND FOLLOW UP DOSES
- INTEGRATION OF EMTCT OF HIV, SYPHILIS HEPATITIS B ON ANTENATAL CARE TRAINING PACKAGE
- SCREENING, TESTING AND TREATMENT AT POINT OF CARE TESTING SITES
- TREATMENT OF HEP B ANC MOTHERS AT HIGH RISK CLINIC
- INTEGRATION OF REPRODUCTIVE, MATERNAL, NEONATAL AND CHILD HEALTH DURING OUTREACH TOURS AND SATELLITE SERVICES



Section 6. Impact of introducing Point of Care Testing (PoC) into antenatal care services

1. IMPROVED COVERAGE AND EARLY DETECTION
2. LINKAGE TO IMMEDIATE TREATMENT AND PREVENTION
3. REDUCTION OF MISSED ANTENATAL APPOINTMENTS
4. IMPROVED DATA CAPTURED AND SURVEILLANCE BENEFITS
5. EQUITY IN ACCESS

Section 7. Data collection and surveillance

- PAPER BASED
- ROUTINE MONTHLY REPORTING TO HIS FROM CLINICS(HEALTH INFORMATION SYSTEM)
- DATA TIMELINESS, COMPLETENESS AND QUALITY PROBLEM WITH UNDER REPORTING
- EMTCT INDICATORS NOT CAPTURED IN HEALTH INFORMATION SYSTEM
- HEP B TESTING IN ANTENATAL MOTHERS NOT ROUTINE

SECTION 7. DHIS2 TECHNICAL & FINANCIAL SUPPORT

❖ DHIS2 Technical Support

- DHIS2 technical support is provided by Mr. Neeraj and Mr. Vasco
- DHIS2 Hosting – BAO System

❖ DHIS2 Financial Support from mainly World Health Organization (WHO) and other donor agencies.

Section 9. Future Direction

- Solomon Islands policy on HIV, Syphilis and HBV
- Review and update Solomon Islands National HIV, Syphilis and Hepatitis B treatment guideline
- Complete Solomon Islands Blood bank policy
- Develop Solomon Islands National Referral Pathway policy for ANC mothers with HIV, Syphilis and Hepatitis B
- Quantification and forecasting on ART, test kits, viral load cartridges and other consumables
- Develop guideline on EID and Paediatric HIV treatment guidelines

THANK YOU!

(TAGIO TUMAS!)