

# Gender disaggregation of the TB care cascade in Nigeria: a four-year retrospective study 2018–2021



## WHY THE STUDY?

- Men and women in Nigeria experience different challenges when it comes to accessing TB services.
- Understanding these gender differences is key to closing gaps in care and improving outcomes for everyone affected by TB.

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## WHAT WE DID

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- We looked back at TB service data from 14 Nigerian states between 2018 and 2021.
- This included health facility visits, TB screening, testing, treatment, and outcomes—broken down by gender.



## HOW WE ANALYSED

- We used a TB care cascade model to track where men and women were lost along the way — from visiting a clinic to successfully completing treatment.
- We calculated the gaps at each step and compared the trends for men and women.

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## WHAT WE FOUND

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- Equal numbers of men and women visited health facilities, but more women were screened for TB.
- Men were more likely to be diagnosed with TB but also had a larger screening gap.
- Women had a slightly bigger testing gap once they were identified as presumptive cases.
- A proportion of those diagnosed (both men and women) were not started on treatment.
- Treatment success was similar for both genders, but more men had negative outcomes.
- Women were more likely to have TB-HIV co-infection, though this declined over time.



## WHAT THIS MEANS

Both men and women face missed opportunities in TB care, but the reasons and stages differ. Men need more support with access and adherence, while women face barriers to testing and stigma. Better data, gender-sensitive programming, and strengthened systems are critical for equitable TB care in Nigeria.

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