



THE SIXTH SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL HIV PREVALENCE, INCIDENCE, AND BEHAVIOUR SURVEY (SABSSM VI)

20 YEARS OF STRATEGIC HIV AND PUBLIC HEALTH DATA

Key findings for Eastern Cape
15 August 2024



science & innovation
Department: Science and Innovation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



HSRC
Human Sciences
Research Council



OVERVIEW OF PRESENTATION



- Background about the SABSSM survey series
- Main objectives of the study
- Study methods
- Provincial results
 - Response rates
 - National HIV prevalence
 - Antiretroviral treatment
 - Viral load suppression
 - Progress towards 95-95-95 targets
 - Key drivers of the HIV epidemic
- Concluding remarks

HISTORY OF THE SURVEY

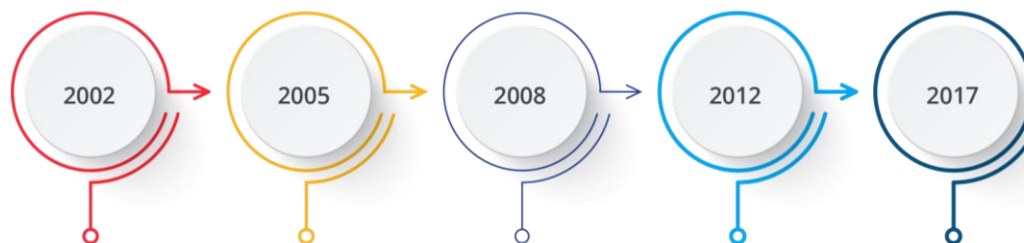


- Expanded scope
- Larger sample size
- Increased biomarkers
- Take all approach



Major source of information for measuring the progress of the implementation of the South African National Strategic Plan (NSP) for HIV, STIs and TB

Survey year



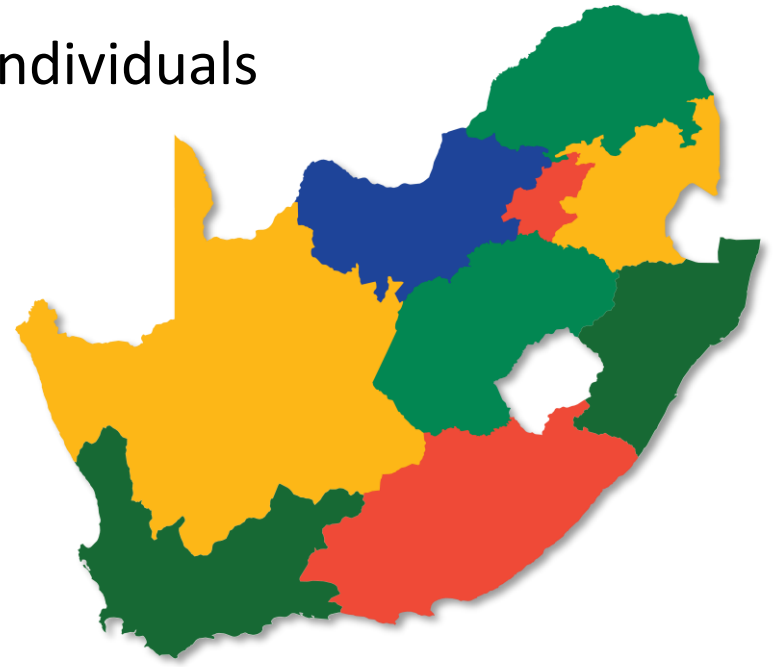
MAIN OBJECTIVES

To estimate at national, provincial and district levels (PEPFAR and NDoH priority):

- HIV prevalence (adults and children)
- Exposure to ART
- Viral load suppression in HIV-infected individuals

To estimate at **the** national level:

- HIV incidence (annualized rate of new HIV infections)



STUDY METHODS

Geographic scope

- National level: 9 provinces
- District level: 27 PEPFAR and 6 National Department of Health priority districts



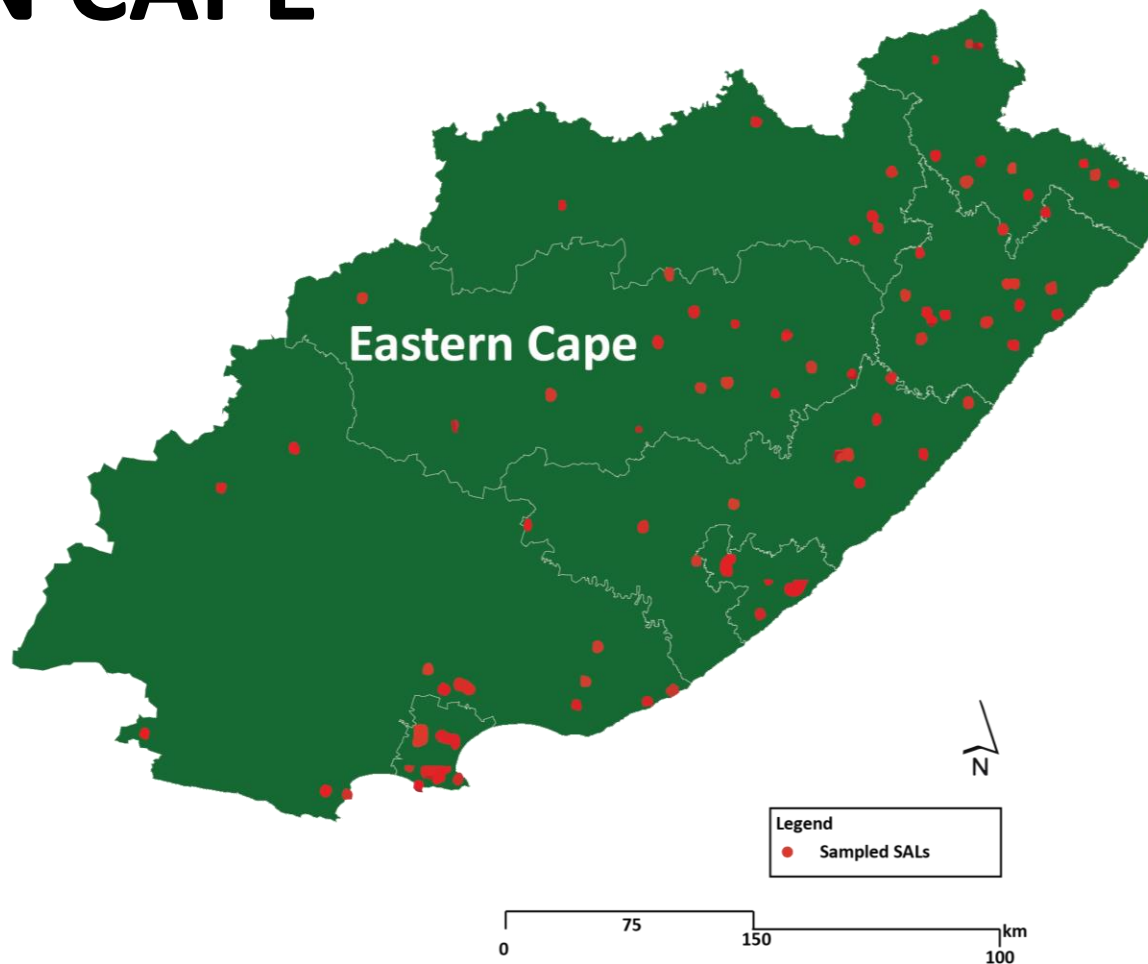
Study design and population

- A cross-sectional, population-based household survey, using multi-stage stratified cluster random sampling
- The study design and methods are validated in the five previous surveys

Survey population

- Persons of all ages living in South Africa at the time of the survey
- All members of the selected households were invited to participate
- Data **collected** from January 2022 to April 2023
- Expected sample size for Eastern Cape: 17 195

SABSSM VI SAMPLE FOR EASTERN CAPE



QUESTIONNAIRES

Household Questionnaire



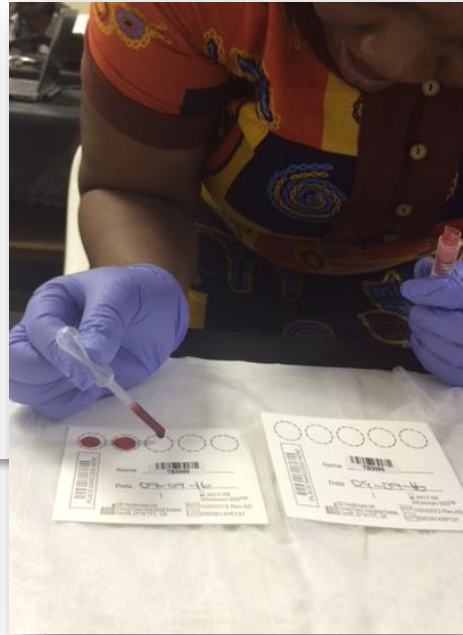
- This questionnaire was used to record a household listing of members and other household-level information

Individual Questionnaires



- Questionnaire for parent/guardian of children aged 0 to 11 years
- Questionnaire for children aged 12 to 14 years
- Questionnaire for persons aged 15 years and older

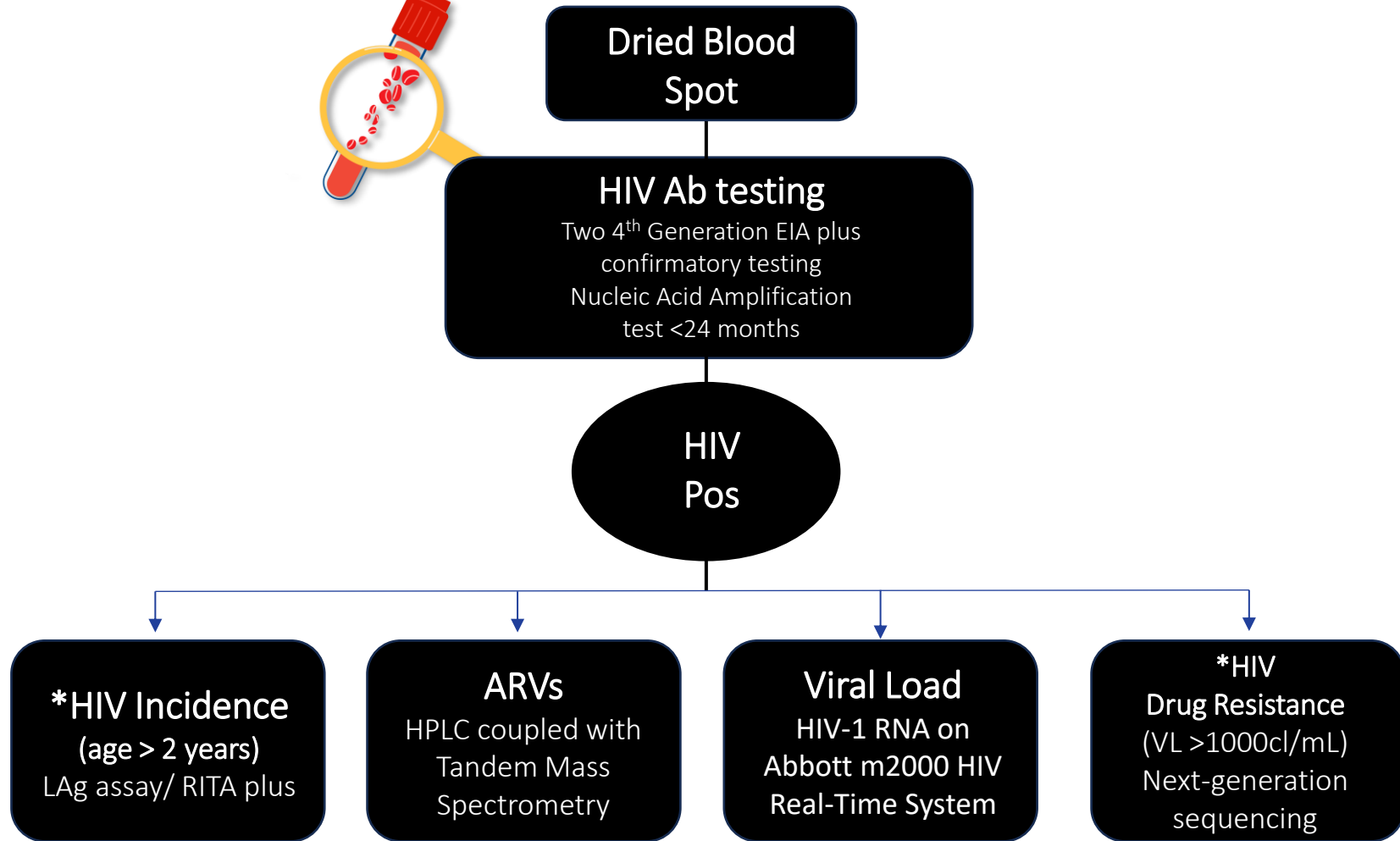
SPECIMEN COLLECTION



Dried blood spot (DBS)
specimens collected by

- finger-prick
- heel-prick in infants < 24 months

SPECIMEN TESTING



* Not reported in this presentation



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RESULTS – Eastern Cape



RESPONSE RATES

- **4 893** *VPs were approached, where **4 198** **85.8%** were valid
- Of the valid **4 198** households, **80.1%** completed a household interview
- Of the eligible **11 150** individuals, aged **0+** years, **95.3%** were interviewed, and **61.5%** provided blood for HIV and additional testing
- Of the **1 823** eligible **males**, aged **15+ years**, **92.0%** were interviewed, and **57.4%** provided blood for HIV and additional testing
- Of the **2 963** eligible **females**, aged **15+ years**, **96.1%** were interviewed, and **67.3%** provided blood for HIV and additional testing

*VP- A visiting point is a physical address or a dwelling where a household or a group of households can be found. It can be a house, shack, vacant stand or a hotel

HIV PREVALENCE BY PROVINCE, SOUTH AFRICA, 2017 AND 2022



HIV Prevalence (%)

2017 National: 14,0



Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpumalanga	Limpopo
8,6	15,9	8,2	17,0	18,0	14,8	12,1	19,4	10,1

2022 National: 12,7



Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpumalanga	Limpopo
12,3	13,7	8,9	15,6	16,0	12,3	11,9	17,4	8,9

OVERALL HIV PREVALENCE, EASTERN CAPE, 2017 AND 2022



In **2017**, the overall HIV prevalence was **15.9%**, translating to

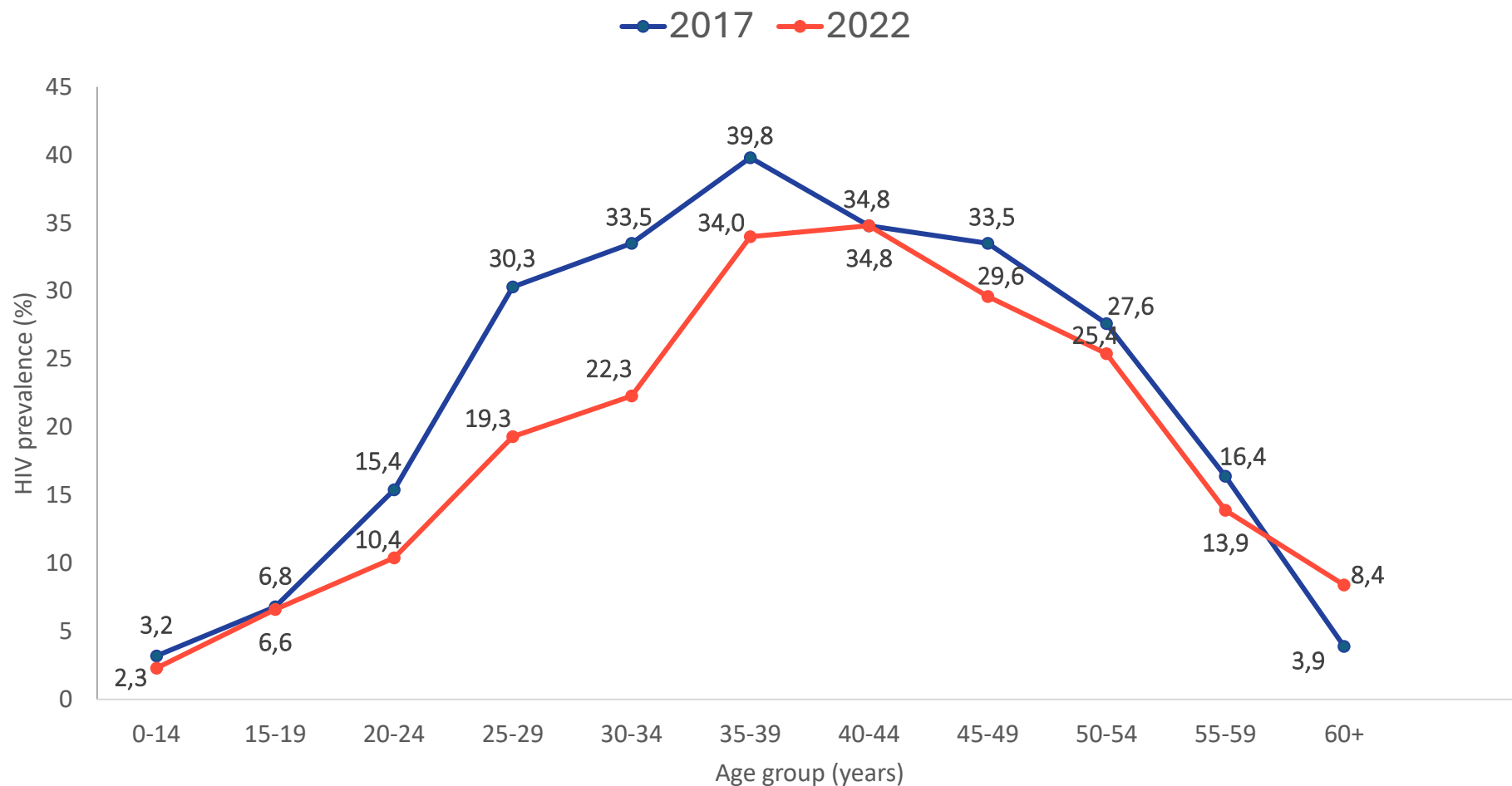
1,000,000 million people living with HIV.

In **2022**, the overall provincial estimate for HIV prevalence for all ages was

13.7%

translating to **980,000** people living with HIV.

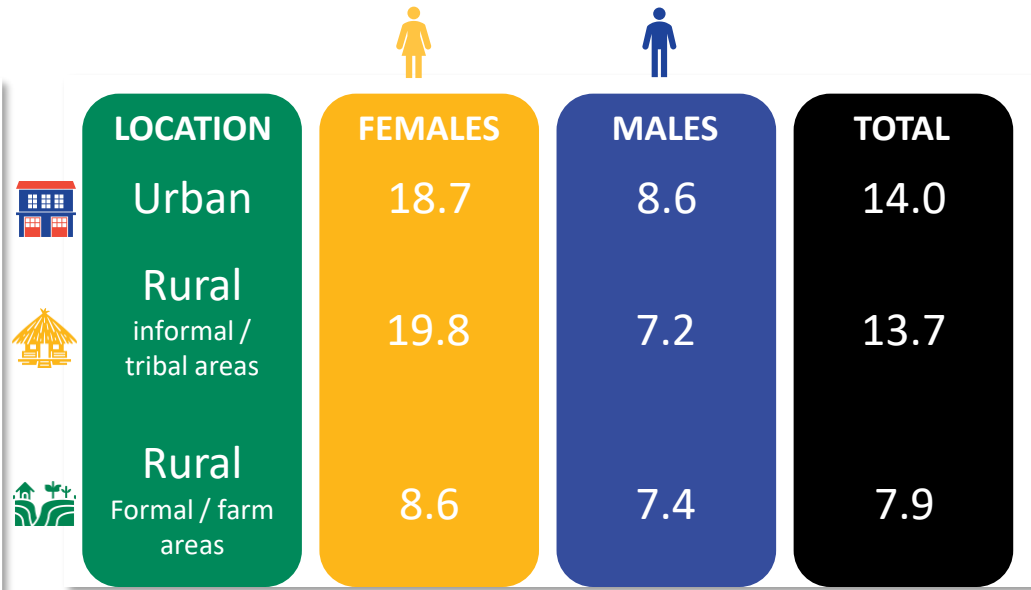
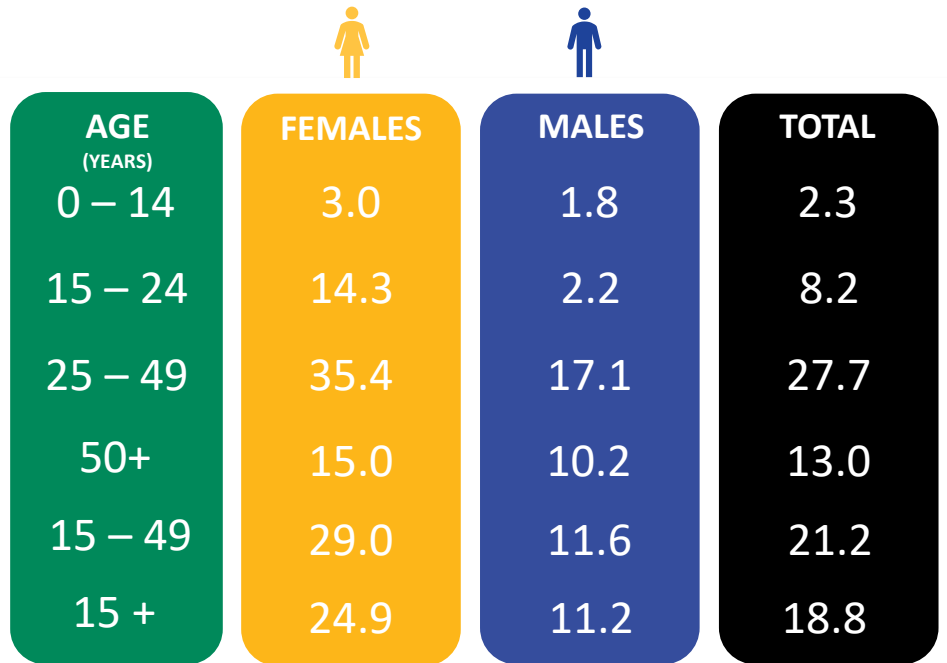
OVERALL HIV PREVALENCE BY AGE GROUP, EASTERN CAPE, 2017 AND 2022



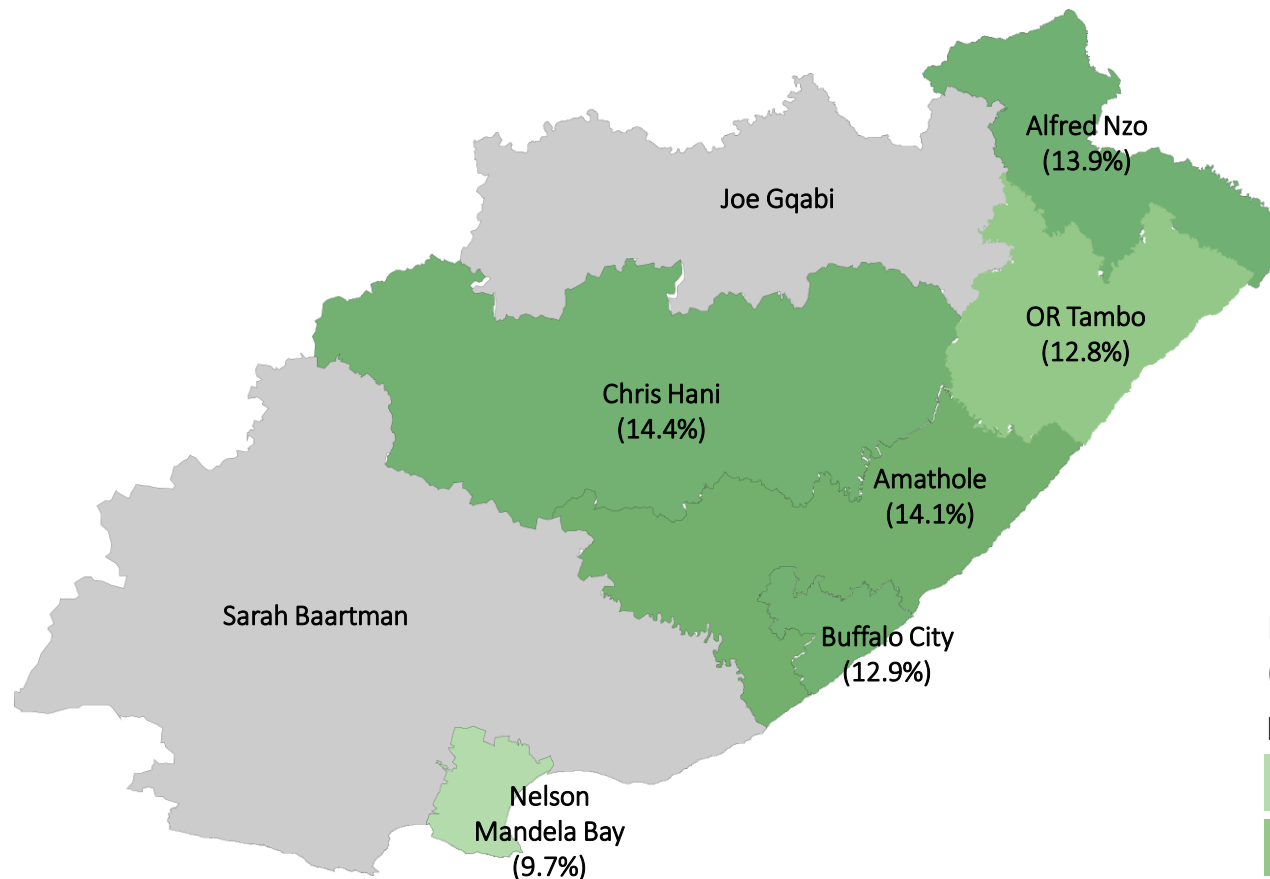
OVERALL HIV PREVALENCE, BY SEX FOR SELECTED DEMOGRAPHICS, EASTERN CAPE, 2022



Total Females: 19.2% **Total Males: 7.8%** **Total Both Sexes: 13.7%**

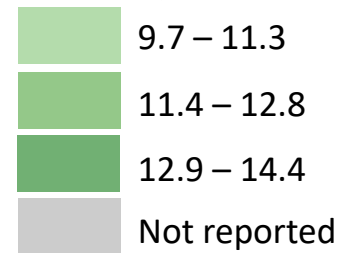


OVERALL HIV PREVALENCE, BY SELECTED DISTRICTS, EASTERN CAPE, 2022



HIV prevalence by District (2022)

Percentage (%)



ANTIRETROVIRAL TREATMENT COVERAGE BY PROVINCE, SOUTH AFRICA, 2017 AND 2022

ART coverage (%)

2017 National: 63.7



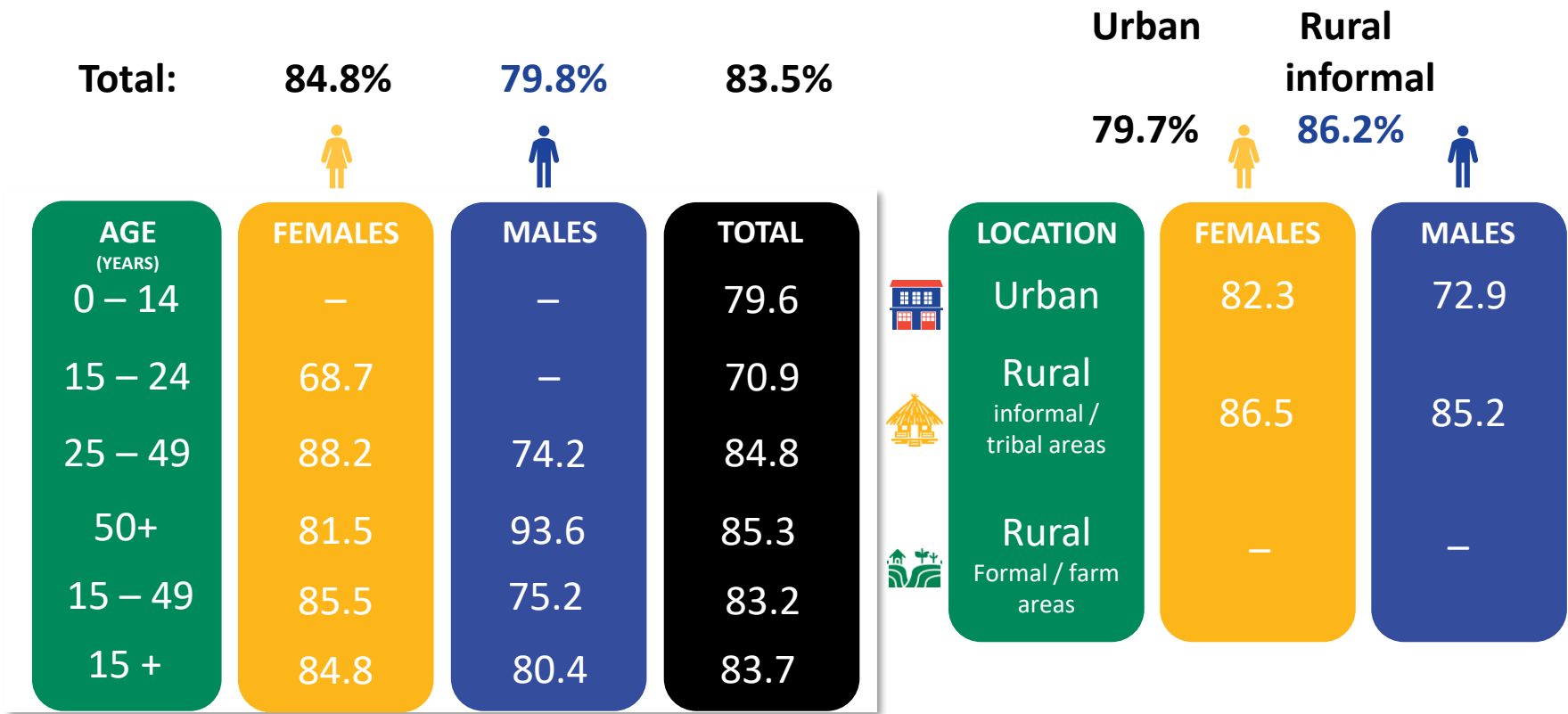
KwaZulu-Natal	Northern Cape	Eastern Cape	Mpumalanga	Free State	Limpopo	North West	Western Cape	Gauteng
71.2	54.9	67.8	65.4	64.7	62.8	60.7	54.4	56.0

2022 National: 80.9

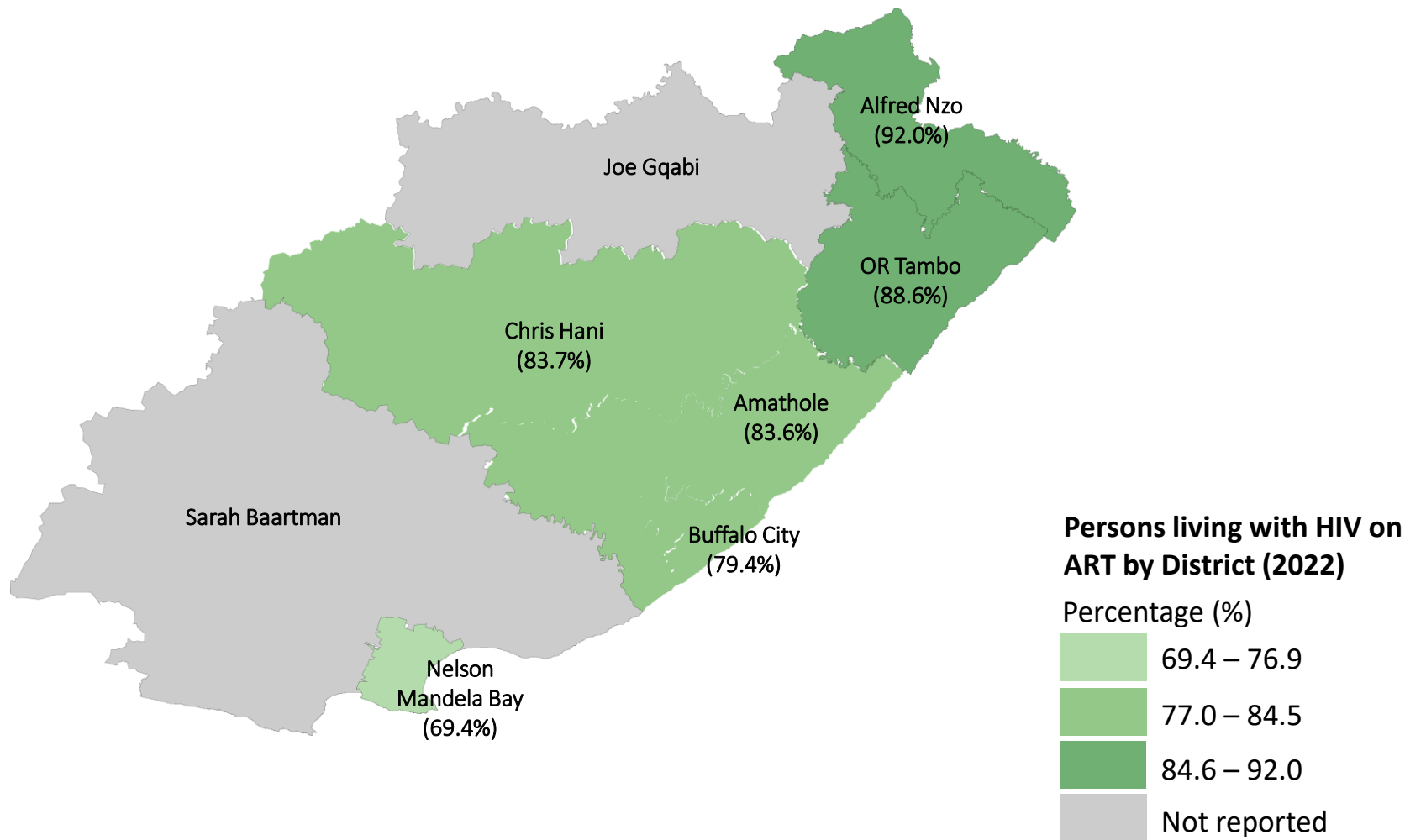


KwaZulu-Natal	Northern Cape	Eastern Cape	Mpumalanga	Free State	Limpopo	North West	Western Cape	Gauteng
87.3	86.2	83.5	81.8	81.3	80.8	78.9	76.8	73.4

ANTIRETROVIRAL TREATMENT COVERAGE, BY SEX FOR SELECTED DEMOGRAPHICS, EASTERN CAPE, 2022



OVERALL ANTIRETROVIRAL TREATMENT, BY SELECTED DISTRICTS, EASTERN CAPE, 2022



VIRAL LOAD SUPPRESSION BY PROVINCE, SOUTH AFRICA, 2017 AND 2022

Viral load suppression (%)

2017 National: 61.6



KwaZulu-Natal	Mpumalanga	Free State	Gauteng	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Western Cape	North West	Limpopo
67.8	60.0	66.2	55.3	66.3	52.2	54.6	58.7	60.8

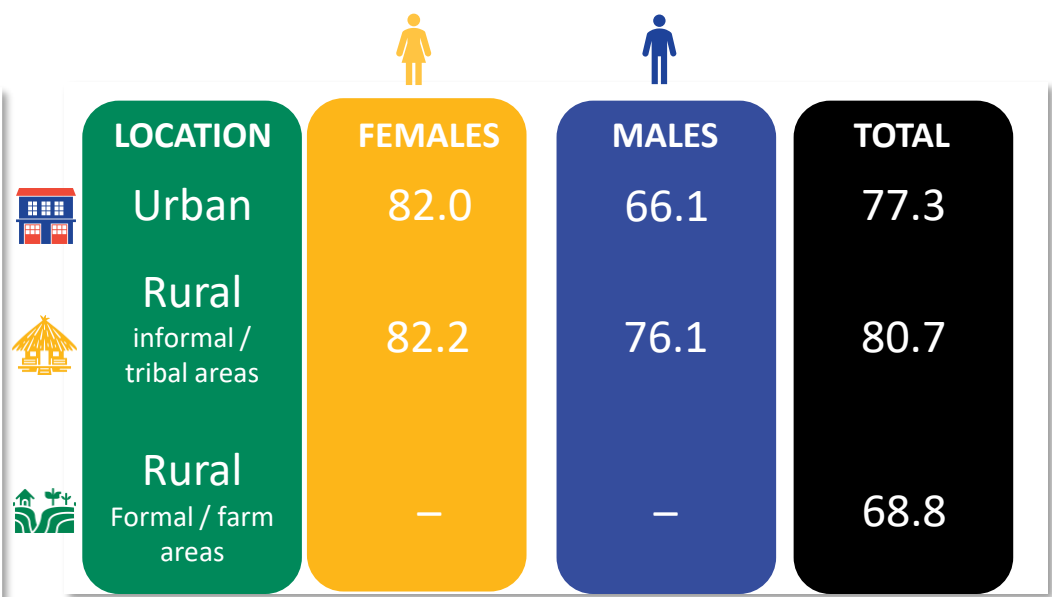
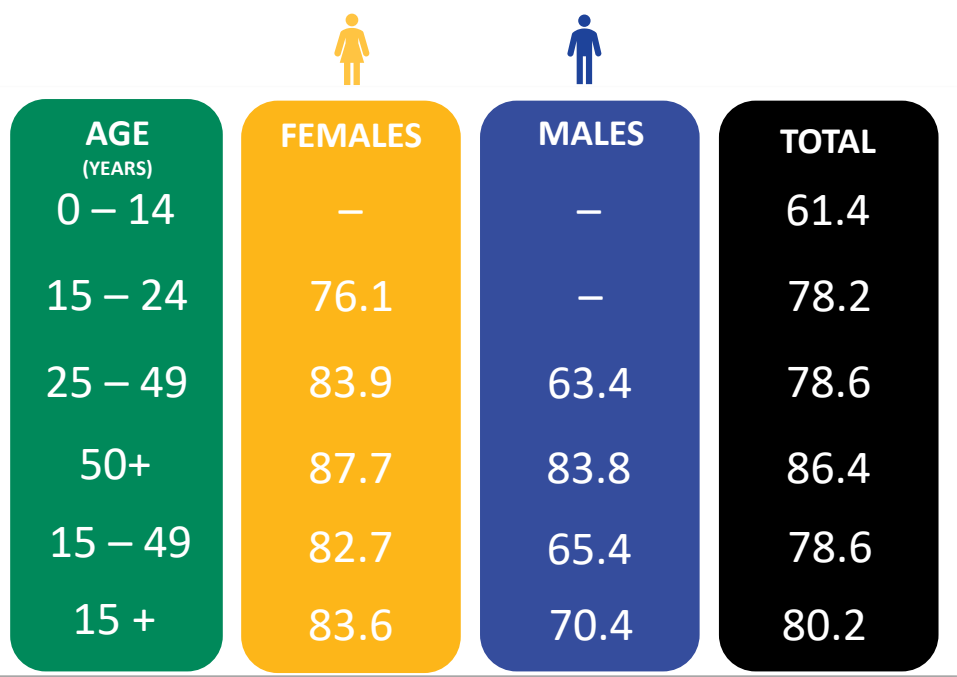
2022 National: 81.4



KwaZulu-Natal	Mpumalanga	Free State	Gauteng	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Western Cape	North West	Limpopo
86.8	82.5	81.1	79.7	79.3	78.6	78.4	77.0	77.0

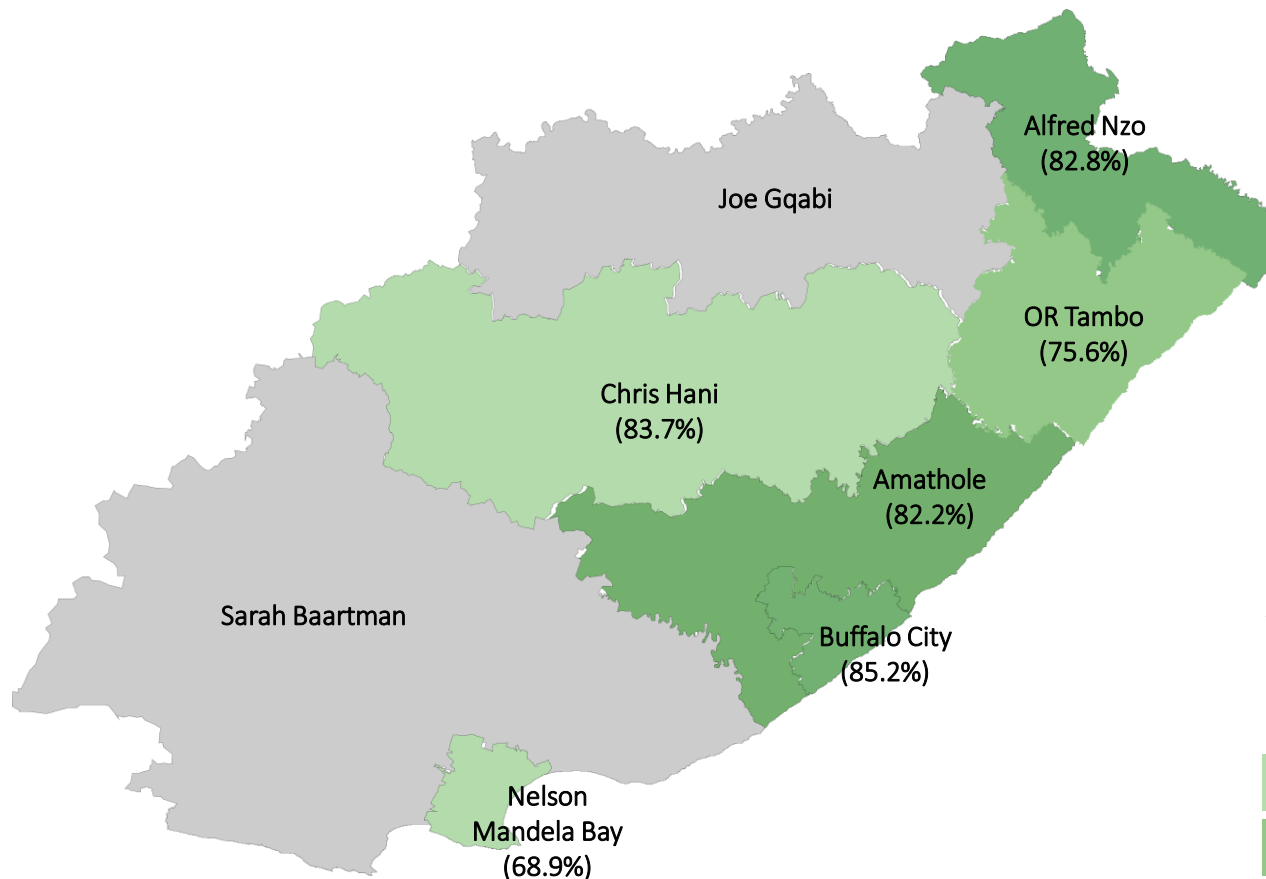
POPULATION VIRAL LOAD SUPPRESSION*, BY SEX FOR SELECTED DEMOGRAPHICS, EASTERN CAPE, 2017 AND 2022

Total Females: 82.1% Total Males: 71.5% Total: 79.3%



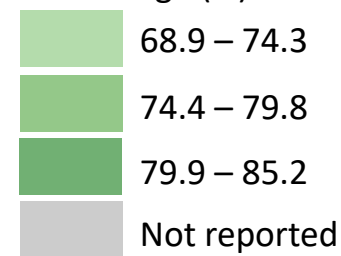
*Viral load <1,000 copies/ml

OVERALL VIRAL LOAD SUPPRESSION BY SELECTED DISTRICTS, EASTERN CAPE, 2022



Viral Load Suppression by District (2022)

Percentage (%)



95-95-95 TARGETS: DEFINITIONS with Eastern Cape estimates, 2022



First 95

Diagnosed/knows status if tested positive in the study and



Had self-reported being positive or



Tested positive for ART in the study or



Self-reported using ART



Second 95

On ART*



Tested positive for ARVs in the study



Self-reported using ART

*among those who know HIV status



Third 95

Virally suppressed‡



Viral load <1000 copies/ml

‡ among those on ART

95-95-95 TARGETS FOR PEOPLE AGED 15 YEARS AND OLDER LIVING WITH HIV, BY SELECTED DEMOGRAPHICS, EASTERN CAPE, 2022

Overall (Ages 15+ Years) **93.7%** Aware of HIV Status (First 95) | **88.3%** On ART (Second 95) | **90.3%** Virally suppressed (Third 95)

Sex (ages 15+ years)	Aware of HIV Status (First 95)	On ART (Second 95)	Virally suppressed (Third 95)
Male	89.3	87.6	85.9
Female	95.1	88.4	91.5

Age	Aware of HIV Status (First 95)	On ART (Second 95)	Virally suppressed (Third 95)
15 – 24	81.4	86.2	91.1
25 – 49	94.8	88.3	90.0
50+	95.6	88.9	90.9
15 – 49	93.2	88.1	90.1

95-95-95 TARGETS FOR PEOPLE AGED 15 YEARS AND OLDER LIVING WITH HIV, BY SELECTED DEMOGRAPHICS, EASTERN CAPE, 2022

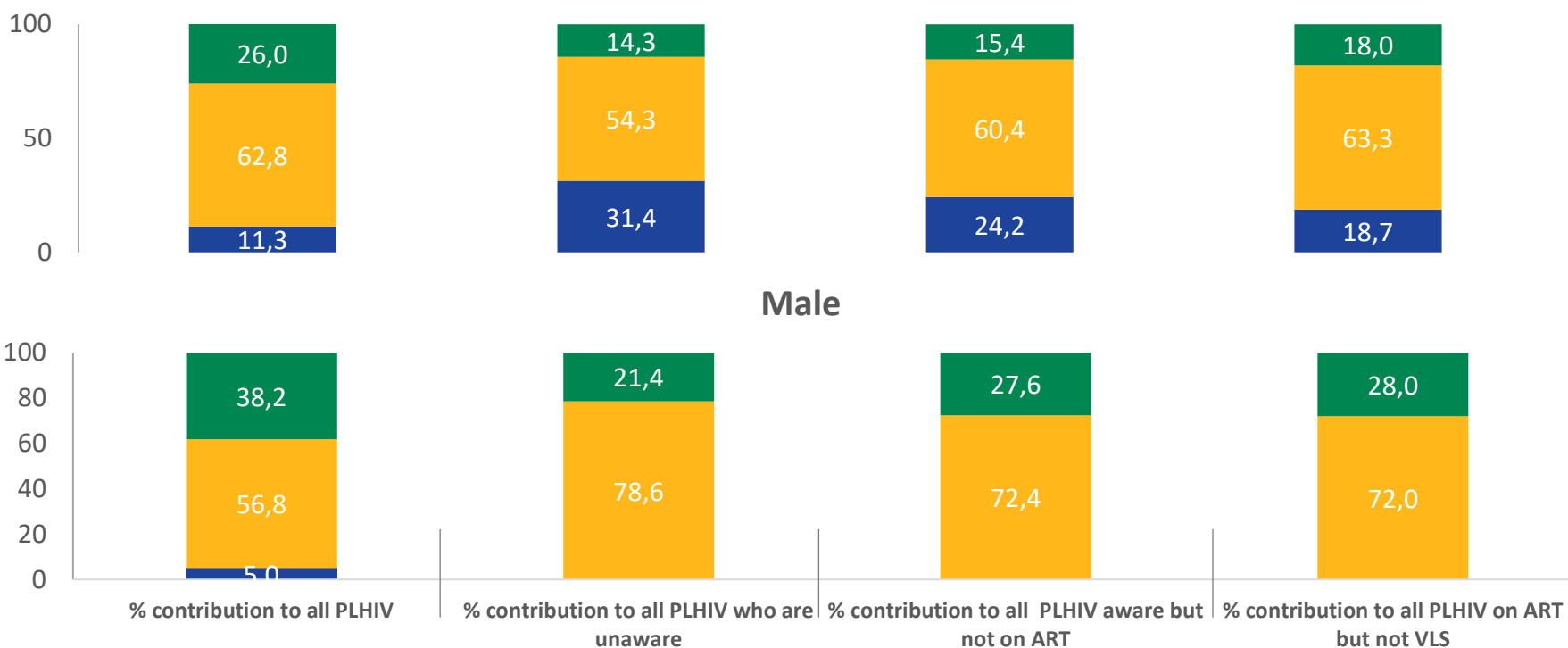
Overall (Ages 15+ Years) **93.7%** Aware of HIV Status (First 95) **88.3%** On ART (Second 95) **90.3%** Virally suppressed (Third 95)

Districts	Awareness of HIV Status (first 95)	On ART (second 95)	Virally suppressed (third 95)
Alfred Nzo	98.4	93.7	91.6
Amathole	96.3	87.9	92.1
Buffalo City	88.8	90.0	88.9
Chris Hani	95.9	85.2	91.5
O.R. Tambo	91.5	96.9	90.7
Nelson Mandela Bay	91.5	84.3	78.6

GAPS IN 95-95-95 TARGETS FOR PEOPLE AGED 15 YEARS AND OLDER LIVING WITH HIV, BY AGE GROUPS AND SEX, EASTERN CAPE, 2022

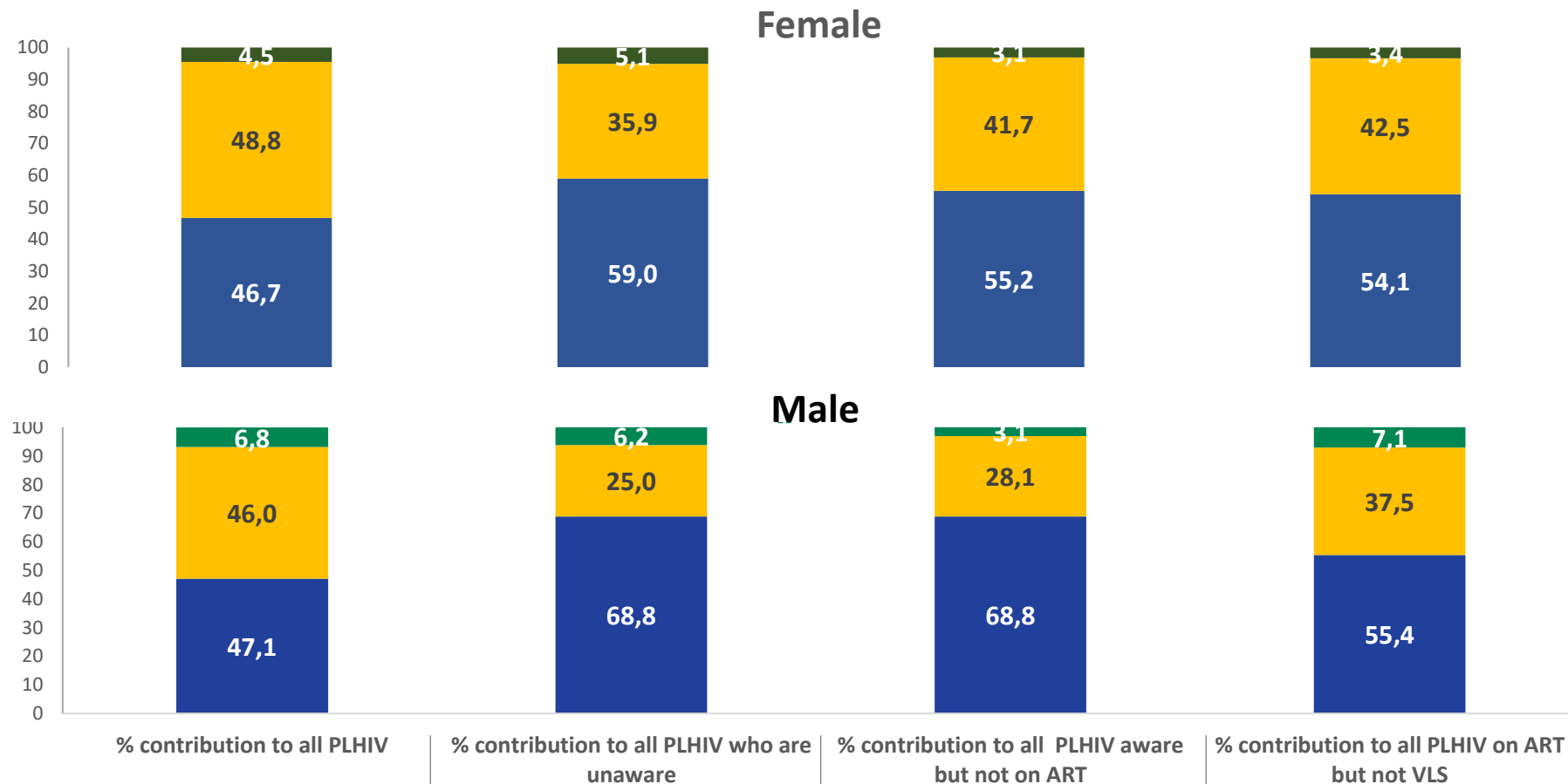
■ 15 to 24 ■ 25 to 49 ■ 50 and older

Female



GAPS IN 95-95-95 TARGETS FOR PEOPLE AGED 15 YEARS AND OLDER LIVING WITH HIV, BY LOCALITY AND SEX, EASTERN CAPE, 2022

■ Urban areas ■ Rural informal/tribal areas ■ Rural formal/farm areas





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KEY DRIVERS OF THE HIV EPIDEMIC



SEXUAL DEBUT BEFORE THE AGE OF 15 YEARS AMONG YOUTH AGED 15–24 YEARS BY PROVINCE, SOUTH AFRICA, 2017 AND 2022

Early sexual debut (%)

2017 National: 13.0



Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpumalanga	Limpopo
14.0	15.8	11.4	13.7	8.2	12.0	14.8	13.3	13.5

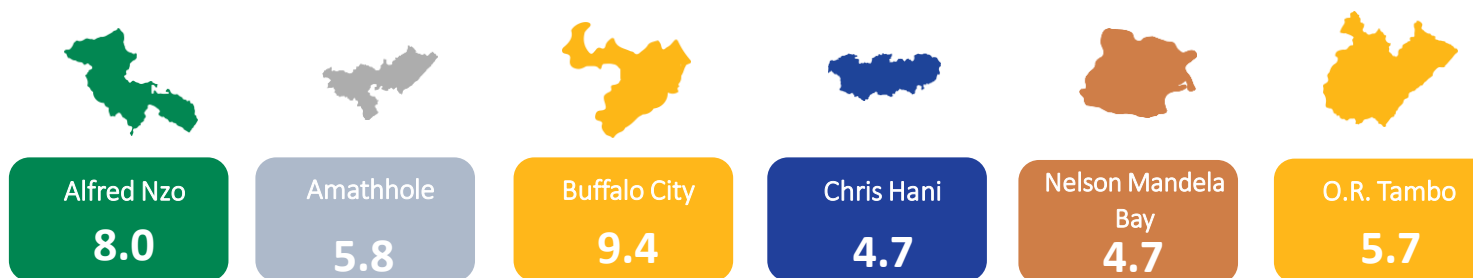
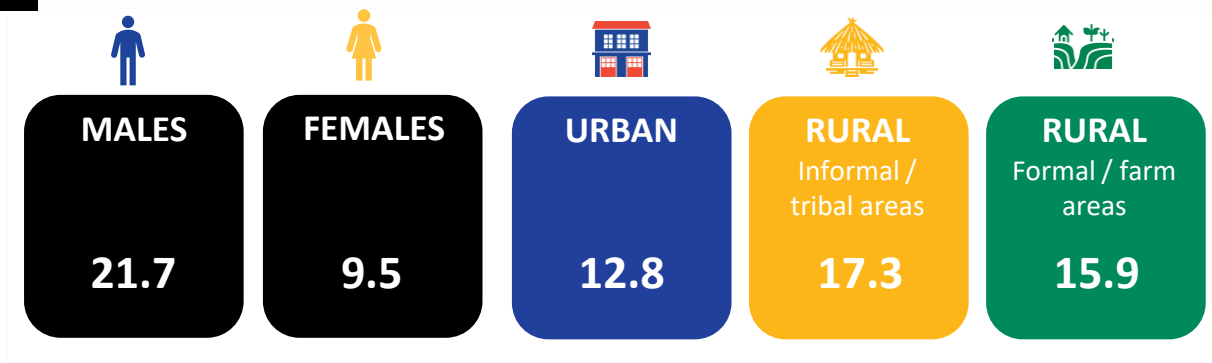
2022 National: 11.2



Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpumalanga	Limpopo
16,3	15.3	8.0	9.2	8.6	8.8	13.2	5.4	8.7

SEXUAL DEBUT BEFORE THE AGE OF 15 YEARS AMONG YOUTH AGED 15–24 YEARS, BY SELECTED DEMOGRAPHICS, EASTERN CAPE, 2022

Overall, EC: 15.3%



MULTIPLE SEXUAL PARTNERS AMONG 15 YEARS AND OLDER IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS BY PROVINCE, SOUTH AFRICA, 2017 AND 2022

Multiple sexual partners (%)

2017 National: 10.8



Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpumalanga	Limpopo
7.6	10.9	11.0	13.0	9.4	11.1	12.8	7.9	12.0

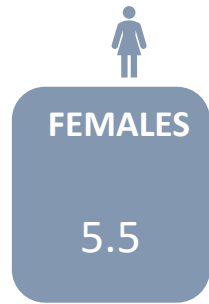
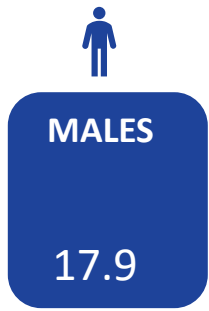
2022 National: 8.9



Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpumalanga	Limpopo
6.7	11.9	8.4	7.8	11.0	9.5	7.8	5.1	11.4

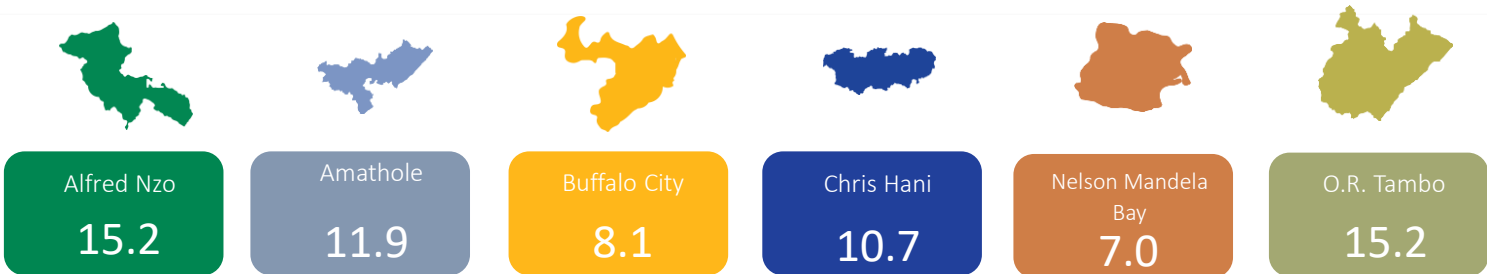
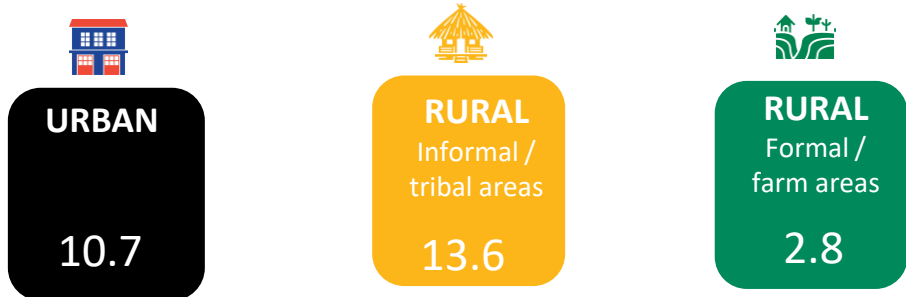
MULTIPLE SEXUAL PARTNERS AMONG 15 YEARS AND OLDER IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS, BY SEX AND AGES, EASTERN CAPE 2022

Total: 11.9 %



MULTIPLE SEXUAL PARTNERS AMONG 15 YEARS AND OLDER IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS, BY LOCALITY AND DISTRICT, EASTERN CAPE 2022

Total: 11.9%



CONDOM USE DURING MOST RECENT SEXUAL ENCOUNTER AMONG PEOPLE AGED 15 YEARS AND OLDER BY PROVINCE, SOUTH AFRICA, 2017 AND 2022



Condom use at last sexual encounter (%)

2017 National: 39,0



Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpumalanga	Limpopo
26,6	38.1	39,2	42,5	44,9	44,7	36,3	46,3	41,6

2022 National: 31,8



Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpumalanga	Limpopo
22,1	34.7	30,4	34,8	32,8	32,2	30,3	46,1	29,8

CONSISTENCY OF CONDOM USE WITH THE LAST SEXUAL PARTNER AMONG PEOPLE AGED 15 YEARS AND OLDER BY PROVINCE, EASTERN CAPE, 2022

Condom use (%)



	Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpumalanga	Limpopo	National
Every time:	13.4	21.7	17.7	22.7	17.7	21.4	20.0	24.6	20.1	19.5
Almost every time:	5.3	5.4	7.6	8.9	9.3	3.6	4.7	11.0	4.4	6.3
Sometimes:	16.5	24.7	22.4	19.3	27.8	24.4	21.6	32.0	22.5	23.5
Never:	64.9	48.2	52.3	49.2	45.2	50.7	53.8	32.4	53.0	50.7

CONSISTENCY OF CONDOM USE WITH A LAST SEXUAL PARTNER AMONG PEOPLE AGED 15 YEARS AND OLDER BY DISTRICT, EASTERN CAPE, 2022

Condom use (%)

	Alfred Nzo	Amathole	Buffalo City	Chris Hani	Nelson Mandela Bay	O.R.Tambo
Every time:	22.6	26.6	24.0	21.4	16.2	21.4
Almost every time:	5.7	4.1	3.3	4.7	3.7	7.9
Sometimes:	32.3	30.6	23.9	28.0	14.6	27.6
Never:	39.5	38.7	48.8	46.0	65.5	43.2

SELF-REPORTED CIRCUMCISION AMONG MALES AGED 15 YEARS AND OLDER BY PROVINCE, SOUTH AFRICA, 2017 AND 2022

Male circumcision (%)

2017 National: 60.0



Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpumalanga	Limpopo
52.0	80.5	39.2	57.2	38.3	50.9	64.4	63.7	81.3

2022 National: 63.7



Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpumalanga	Limpopo
50.9	77.2	35.6	59.2	54.6	60.8	64.0	71.8	87.7

SELF-REPORTED CIRCUMCISION TYPE AMONG MALES AGED 15 YEARS AND OLDER BY PROVINCE, SOUTH AFRICA, 2022



Medical circumcision



Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpumalanga	Limpopo
46.3	14.3	71.4	72.4	87.6	66.0	70.6	68.1	46.0

Medical circumcision Total: 60.0

Traditional circumcision



Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpumalanga	Limpopo
53.5	85.0	28.6	26.4	11.8	33.5	28.7	31.4	52.0

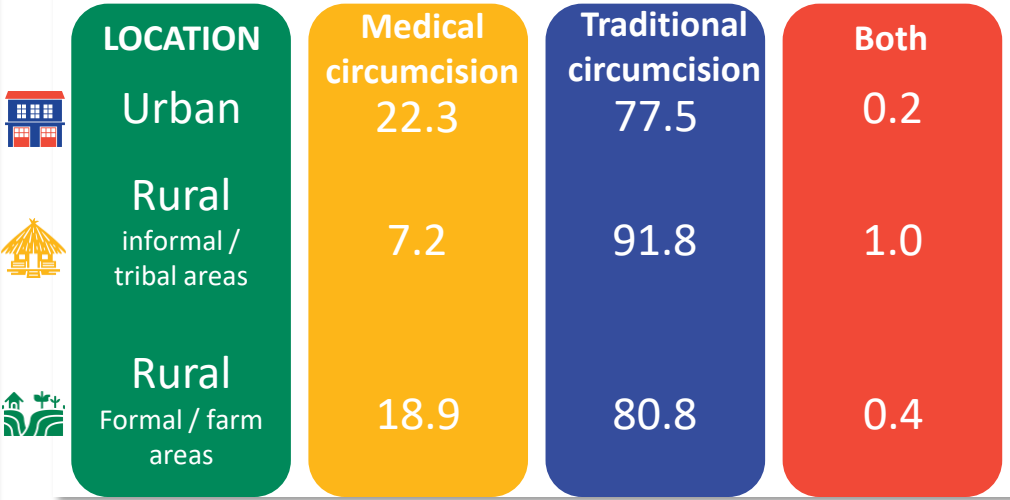
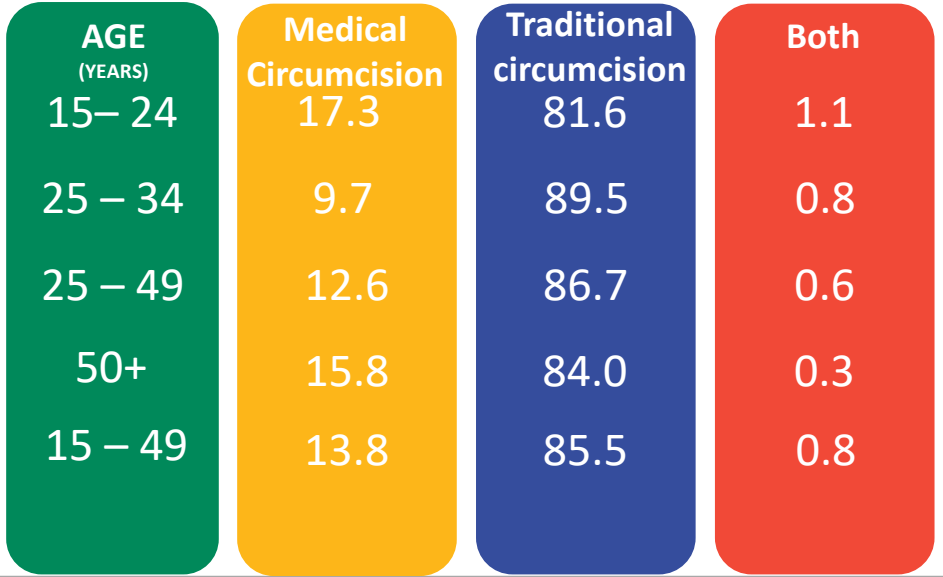
Traditional circumcision Total: 39.2

Both Total: 0.8

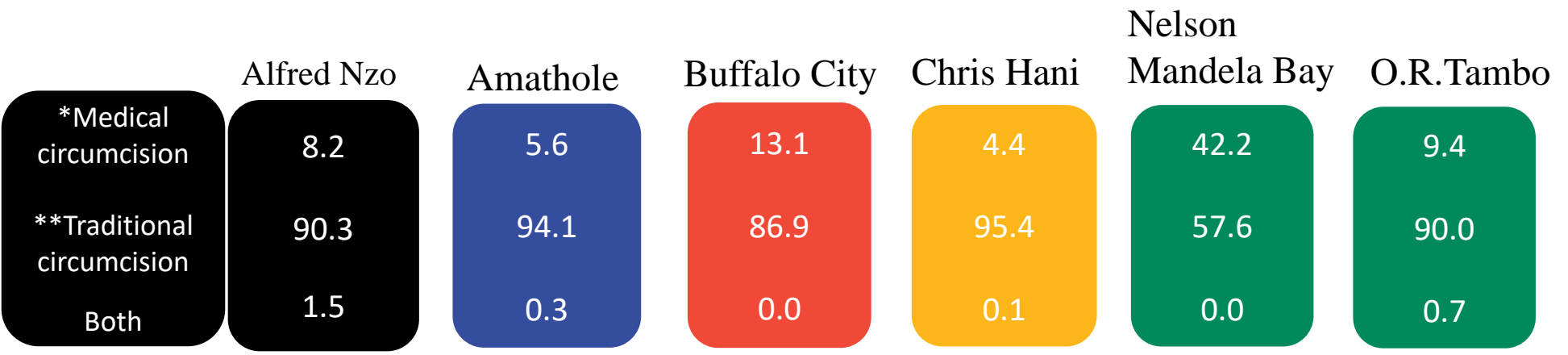
0.2	0.6	0.0	1.2	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.6	2.0
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SELF-REPORTED CIRCUMCISION TYPE AMONG MALES AGED 15 YEARS AND OLDER, FOR SELECTED DEMOGRAPHICS, EASTERN CAPE, 2022

Medical circumcision 14.3% **Traditional circumcision 85%** **Both 0.6%**

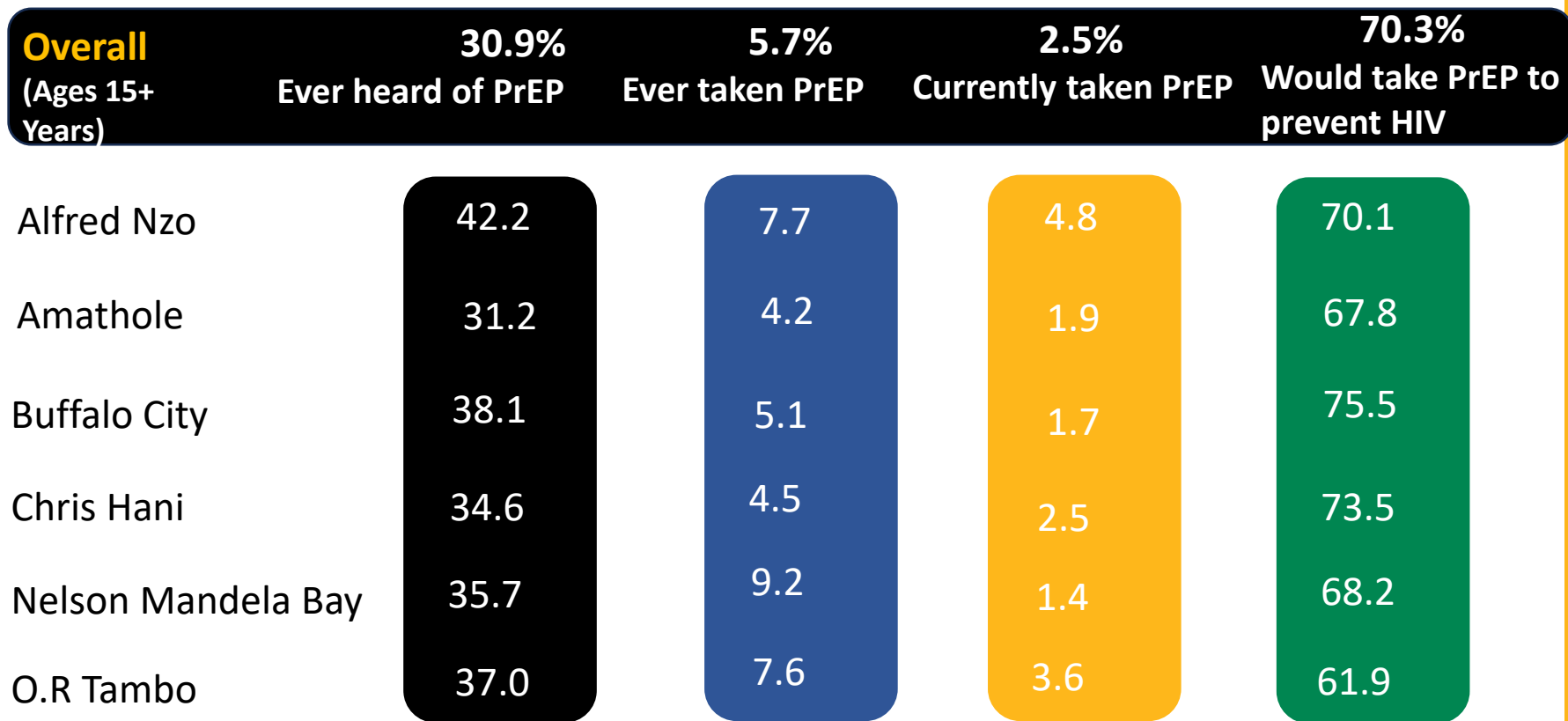


SELF-REPORTED CIRCUMCISION TYPE AMONG MALES AGED 15 YEARS AND OLDER FOR SELECTED DISTRICTS, EASTERN CAPE, 2022



* self-reported male circumcision performed by a healthcare provider
 ** self-reported male circumcision not performed by a healthcare provider

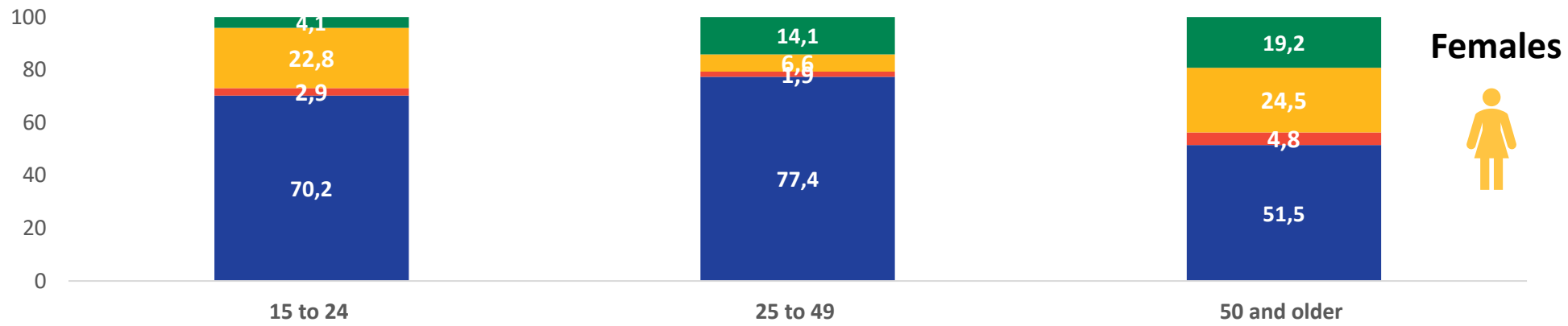
AWARENESS AND UPTAKE OF PRE-EXPOSURE PROPHYLAXIS (PREP) AMONG PEOPLE 15+ YEARS*, EASTERN CAPE, 2022



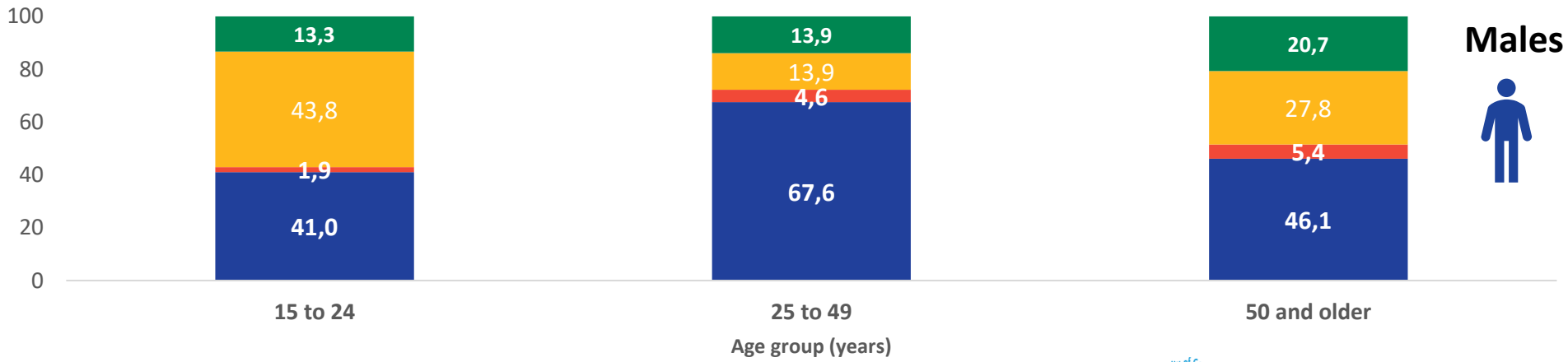
*People aged 15+ years who were HIV-negative or newly diagnosed HIV-positive in the survey.

HIV testing among people aged 15 years and older, by age groups, Eastern Cape, 2022

■ Tested in past 3 years & received results ■ Tested but did not receive result ■ Never tested ■ Tested > 3 years ago



■ Tested in past 3 years & received results ■ Tested but did not receive result ■ Never tested ■ Tested > 3 years ago



CONCLUSIONS

- A shift in the HIV epidemic curve towards older age groups signals a stabilizing epidemic.
- ART coverage and population viral load suppression increased between the 2017 and 2022 surveys; however, progress varies by district, age **and** sex.
- Disparities in the burden of HIV remain, with HIV prevalence >6-fold higher in females aged 15–24 years compared to males of the same age.
- Gaps in the continuum of HIV care persist, particularly among adolescent girls and young women aged 15–24 years, and among people living in urban areas, especially adult men.
- Prevalence of circumcision among males is generally high, with majority of men having traditional circumcision.
- PrEP awareness and uptake was universally low; however, willingness to take PrEP is high.

Actions for consideration

- Consider a long-term strategy to care for individuals in an aging HIV epidemic.
- Heighten focus on campaigns such as U=U and other strategies to promote uptake and sustained use of ART, especially among young people, adult men and urban areas.
- Assess and address district-level gaps to improve access to HIV prevention, care and treatment services
- Enhance prevention efforts that target groups disproportionately affected by the drivers of HIV infection such as women and young people.
- Focus efforts to sustain high coverage of male circumcision, and continue to engage with traditional houses, leadership and practitioners to ensure maximum health benefits among circumcised men
- Enhance accurate public awareness and demand for effective HIV prevention measures including HIV testing and counseling, condom use and PrEP.

THANK YOU



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CONSORTIUM AND PARTNERS



U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
South African Medical Research Council (SAMRC)

- National Institute for Communicable Diseases (NICD)
- University of Cape Town (UCT)
- National Department of Health (NDoH)
- South African National AIDS Council (SANAC)
- United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
- United States Agency for International Development (USAID)



FUNDING SOURCE



President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

LIST OF CONTRIBUTORS

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Dr Edmore Marinda	Co-Principal Investigator
Dr Sean Jooste	Co-Principal Investigator
Dr Shandir Ramlagan	Project Director
Dr Musawenkosi Mabaso	Project Director
Dr Lehlogonolo Makola	Overall Project Manager
Mr Johan Van Zyl	Project Manager: Quality Control
Dr Vuyelwa Mehlomakulu	Project Manager: HIV Testing Services
Dr Rindidzani Magobo	Project Manager: Laboratory Testing
Ms Yolande Shean	Communications Manager
Mr Phaleng Maribe	Data Manager
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Mr Lesiba Ofentse Molopa	Co-Investigator/Coordinator

U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

Name	Role
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Dr Pelagia Murangandi	Co-investigator
Ms Nuha Naqvi	Co-investigator

South African Medical Research Council (SAMRC)

Name	Role
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Dr Nonhlanhla Yende-Zuma	Statistician
Ms Mikateko Mazinu	Statistician
Ms Yusentha Balakrishna	Statistician

National Institute for Communicable Diseases (NICD)

Name	Role
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Ms. Beverly Singh	Co-Investigator
Ms Ewalde Cutler	Co-Investigator
Ms Zinhle Brukwe	Co-Investigator

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Prof Lubbe	Co-Investigator
Ms Sandra Castel	Co-Investigator