



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

MHSS

Ministry of Health and
Social Services

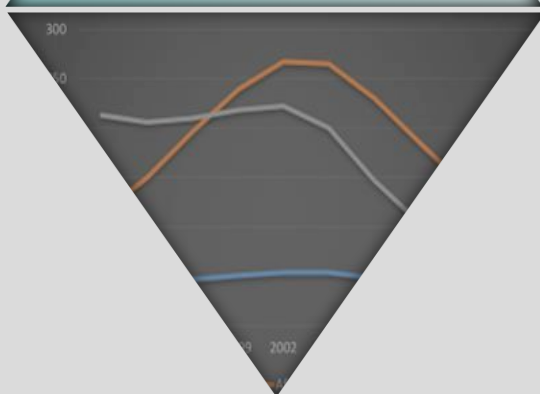
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QUARTERLY BULLETIN

Quarter 4

2023, January - March



Directorate of Special Programmes

Response Monitoring and Evaluation Subdivision

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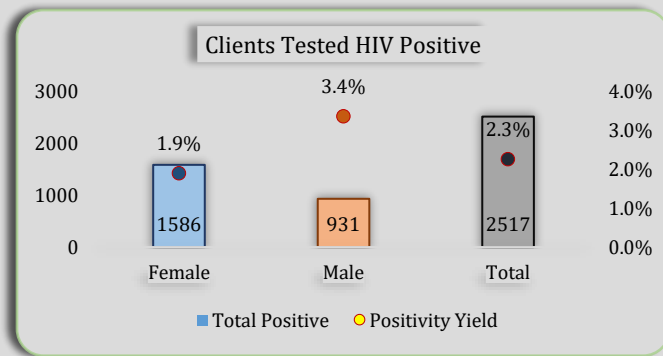
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AT A GLANCE



A total of **111 458** people tested for HIV:
83 720 females and **27 738** males

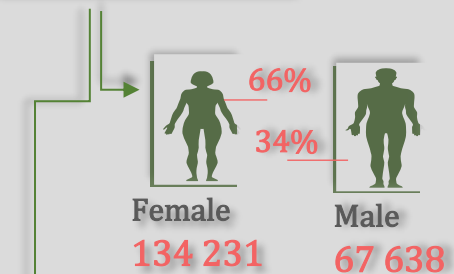


93% Successfully linked to care

❖ **2 401** Patients newly started on ART of which **2 258** were eligible for TPT and **1 633** started TPT

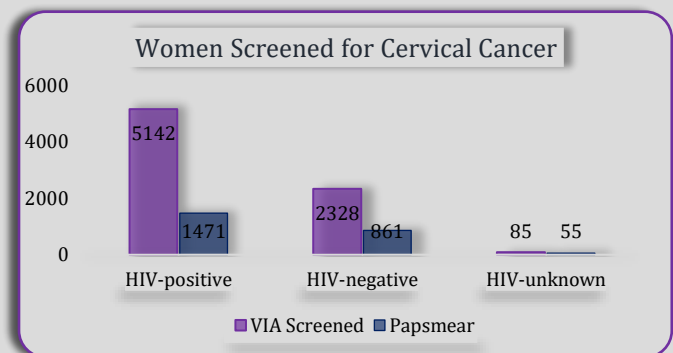
❖ TB Screening for Quarter four (Q4) is **94%**

201 869 HIV+ active patients on antiretroviral therapy



Q4 Viral Load Suppression – 96%

- Male VLS – **95%**
- Female VLS – **96%**



❖ **4 431** Voluntary Medical Male Circumcisions done

Reporting Rate per Programme Area

Programme	Number of. (Measure)	Expected to Report	No. Reported	Reporting Rate
HTS	Facilities	356	354	99%
ART	Facilities	350	354	101%
CECAP	Districts	36	36	100%
VMMC	Districts	36	36	100%
MIMS	Organisations	8	8	100%

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PREFACE

The Response Monitoring and Evaluation (RME) subdivision falls under the Expanded National AIDS Response Coordination division of the Directorate of Special Programmes (DSP) within the Ministry of Health and Social Services (MHSS). The RME subdivision has three main roles that includes; (1) supporting the Directorate of Special Programmes in coordination of routine data collection, (2) Shepherding of research and evaluation and (3) Coordination of the HIV and AIDS multi-sectoral monitoring and evaluation activities as part of the UNAIDS “Three Ones Principles” which relates to a One National AIDS Authority, One Coordination and One Monitoring and Evaluation Framework.

This Bulletin is part of an agreed requirement outlined in various documents as a deliverable of the RME subdivision. One such document is the National Strategic Framework (NSF) for HIV and AIDS Response in Namibia 2017/18 to 2022/23 which is a necessary and critical feature of Namibia’s HIV and AIDS Response. This effort aims to highlight the good practices, challenges and plans being conducted by the subdivision. Additionally, it is a tool that is aimed at informing stakeholders on critical information for various uses, including planning and implementation of HIV/AIDS response.

Data needs vary for different audiences and therefore exhibiting the progress of implementation of various programmes can never be sufficient. The expectation of this Bulletin focuses on the data and progress done for quarter four which runs from January to March of the 2022/23 financial year.

Data systems in many parts of the world face challenges of human resource constraints at all levels, limited infrastructures, and the level of data quality. These general challenges among others also affect the RME subdivision. The RME is continuously engaging various stakeholders to seek and implement various activities to improve data quality. Data collected by RME is subjected to rigorous processes to ensure quality. These efforts form the basis of our strong confidence in the data that RME produces.

The Directorate extends gratitude to all relevant stakeholders involved in the data collection, management and reporting for their continuous support and engagement in the HIV response. The Directorate would like to encourage various stakeholders and the public to utilize the information contained in this document.

The RME will include data variables from other programmes and continue the production of this bulletin on a quarterly basis.

.....
Ms. Naemi N. Shoopala
Acting Director: Directorate of Special Programmes

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AIDS - Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
ART - Antiretroviral Therapy
CECAP - Cervical Cancer Prevention
COVID-19 - Coronavirus disease
CSO - Civil Society Organization
CxCa - Cervical Cancer
DAPP - Development Aid from People to People
DHIS2 - District Health Information System Version 2
DSP - Directorate of Special Programmes
eHTS - HIV Testing Services electronic system
ePMS - Electronic Patient Monitoring System
HIV - Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HSRD - Health Sector Response Division
HTS - HIV Testing Service
LLETZ – Large Loop Excision of the Transformation Zone
MHSS - Ministry of Health and Social Services
MIMS - Multi-Sectoral Information Management System
NAMAF – Namibia Association of Medical Aid Funds
NAPPA - Namibia Planned Parenthood Association
NCS – Namibian Correctional Service
NHP – Namibia Health Plan
NSF - National Strategic Framework
PrEP - Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis
Q-ePMS - Quantum-electronic Patient Monitoring System
RME – Response Monitoring and Evaluation
SRHR – Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights
TB - Tuberculosis
TPT - TB Preventative Therapy
UNAIDS - United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
VIA – Visual Inspection with Acetic Acid
VMMC - Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision
WBCG - Walvis Bay Corridor Group

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SUMMARY NOTES

Welcome to our Quarterly Bulletin that describes HIV and related programmes performance for the period of January to March 2023. Data in this Bulletin is presented in two sections. Section one which presents data from the Ministry of Health and Social Services (MHSS) health facilities and Section two which presents data that was collected from non-MHSS health services providers under the Multi-Sectoral Information Management System (MIMS).

This performance data covers program areas of HIV Testing Service (HTS), Antiretroviral Therapy (ART), TB screening among HIV positive clients, TB Preventative Therapy (TPT), Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision (VMMC) and Cervical Cancer Prevention (CECAP) Program.

Interpretation of performance results should be based on relevant inputs that were made, service delivery processes that took place during the quarter as well as other relevant internal and external contexts that influence program performance. For example, the CECAP program is more suited to provide an explanation for an increase in the number of women screened for Cervical Cancer (CxCa) using Visual Inspection with Acetic Acid (VIA) method during this quarter compared to the previous one.

A total of 111,458 individuals were tested for HIV infection (75.1% females) during the quarter of January to March 2023. Of these, 2,517 (2.3%) were found to be HIV positive. On the other hand, a total of 2,401 individuals were newly initiated on ART this quarter. While a total of 201,869 people living with HIV (PLHIV) were actively receiving ART. This quarter also showed an HIV viral load suppression rate of 96% among those who received viral load test.

During this quarter, more clients were tested for HIV compared to the last quarter i.e. 111,458 compared to 95,200 respectively. The number of patients active on ART this quarter increased by 3,503 from 198,366 to 201,869. The difference could relate to the common trend depicting low reporting rate from health facilities during the previous quarter. This has always been observed after the festive season.

About 4,431 VMMC were done during the period of January to March 2023. Young men aged 15-19 years made up 61.0% of the beneficiaries. The data reported under the MIMS on VMMC represent only numbers coming from private practitioners registered with Abt Associates.

Lastly, data reported through the MIMS highlighted the significant contribution that community-based organisations are making in HIV case finding, particularly among men, with high positivity rate. The MIMS Program under RME has done a commendable work in obtaining ART data from WBCG and NHP and this is a result of continuous engagement with the Civil Society Organizations (CSO) and private sector. RME will continue to work closely with concerned stakeholders to facilitate this process.

SECTION I: DATA REPORTED THROUGH MHSS FACILITIES

HIV Testing

HIV Testing Service by Sex

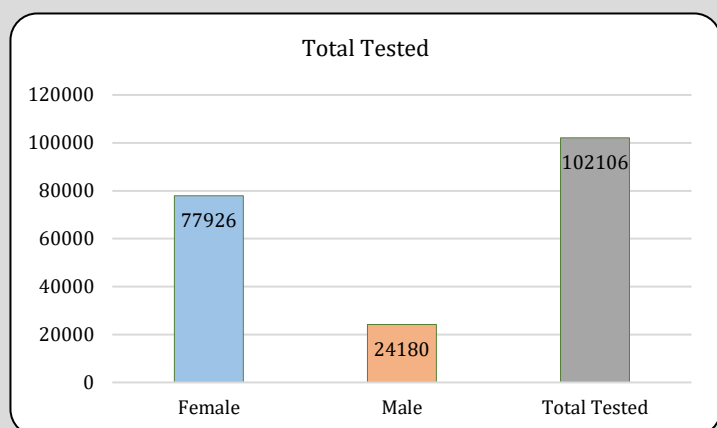


Figure 1: Total Number of Clients Tested for HIV by Sex in MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia, January to March 2023

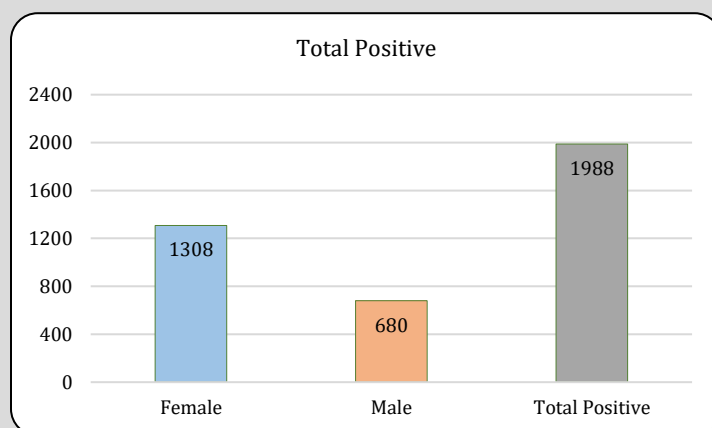


Figure 2: Total Number of Clients Tested Positive for HIV by Sex in MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia, January to March 2023

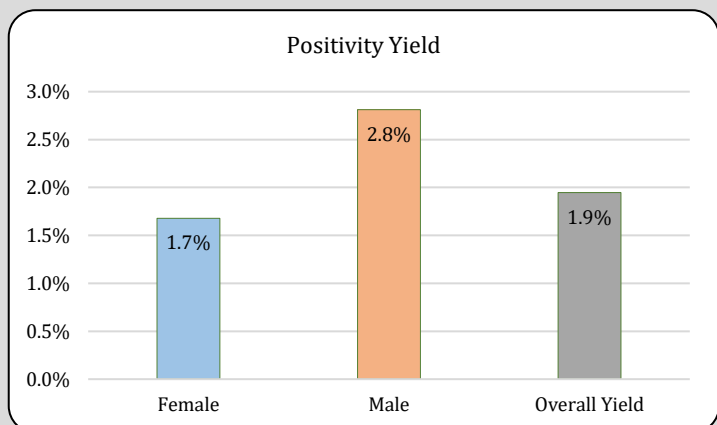


Figure 3: HIV Positivity Yield by Sex in MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia, January to March 2023

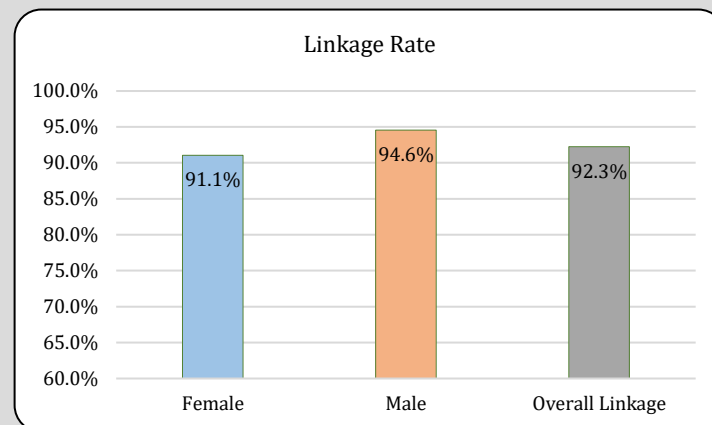


Figure 4: Proportion of Clients Tested HIV Positive and Linked to Care by Sex in MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia, January to March 2023

***Note:** Positivity yield is the percentage of clients who tested HIV positive out of the total number tested for HIV for that specific reporting period. i.e., Female positivity yield = $(\text{Total number of female tested HIV positive} / \text{Total number of females tested for HIV}) \times 100$

HIV Testing Service by Age Group

Total tested

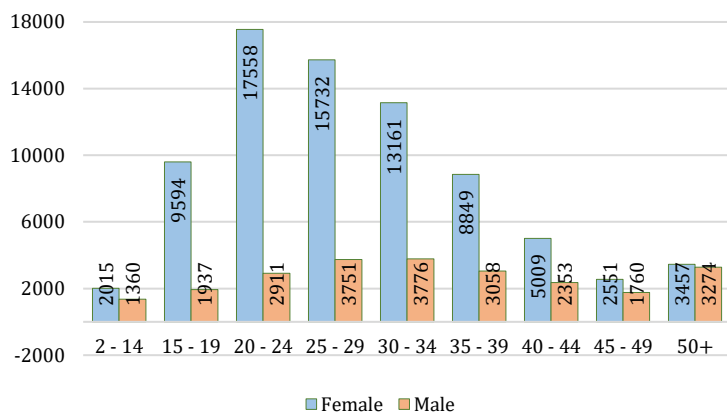


Figure 5: Total Number of Clients Tested for HIV by Sex and Age Group in MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia, January to March 2023

Total Positive

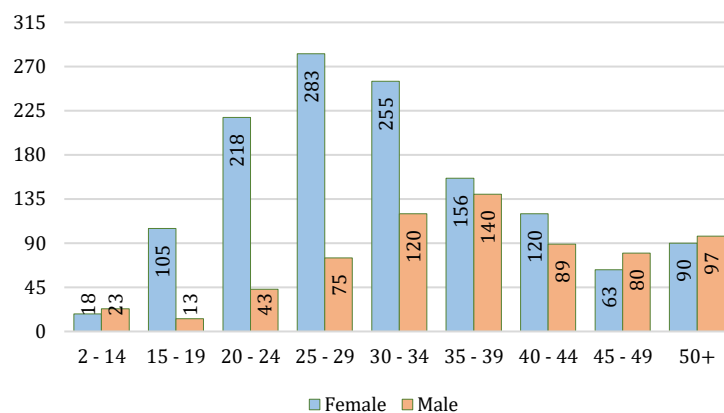


Figure 6: Total Number of Clients Tested Positive for HIV by Sex and Age Group in MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia, January to March 2023

Positivity Yield

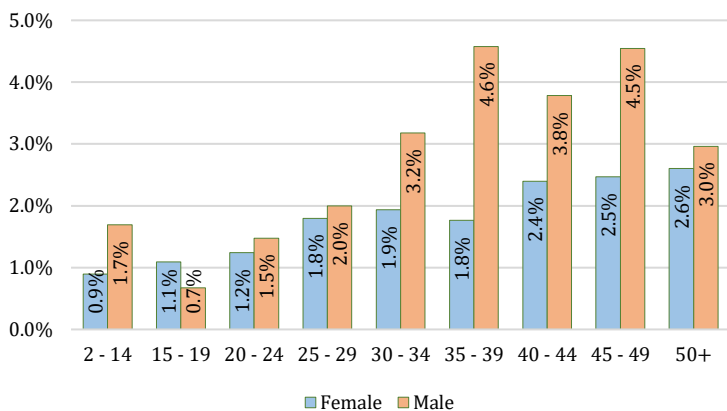


Figure 7: HIV Positivity Yield by Sex and Age Group in MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia, January to March 2023

Linkage Rate

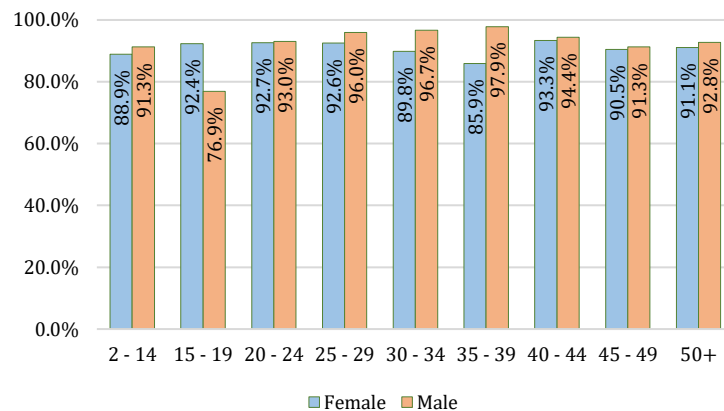


Figure 8: Proportion of Clients Tested HIV Positive and Linked to Care by Sex and Age group in MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia, January to March 2023

HIV Testing Service by Region

Total Tested

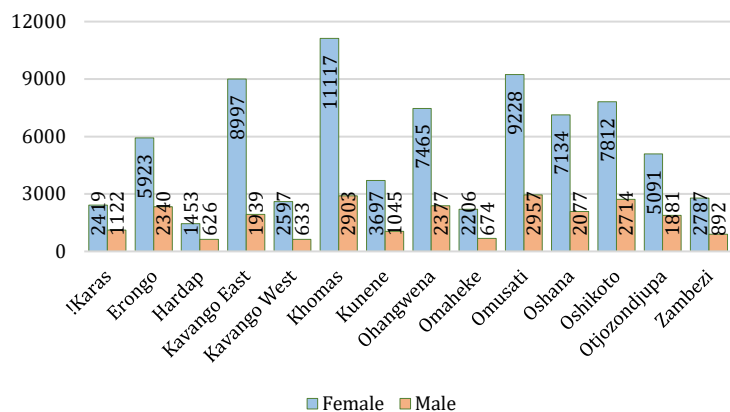


Figure 9: Total Number of Clients Tested for HIV by Sex and Region in MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia, January to March 2023

Total Positive

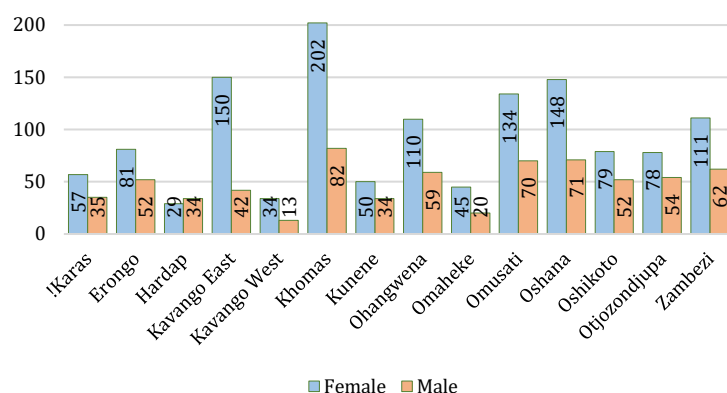


Figure 10: Total Number of Clients Tested Positive for HIV by Sex and Region in MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia, January to March 2023

Positivity Yield

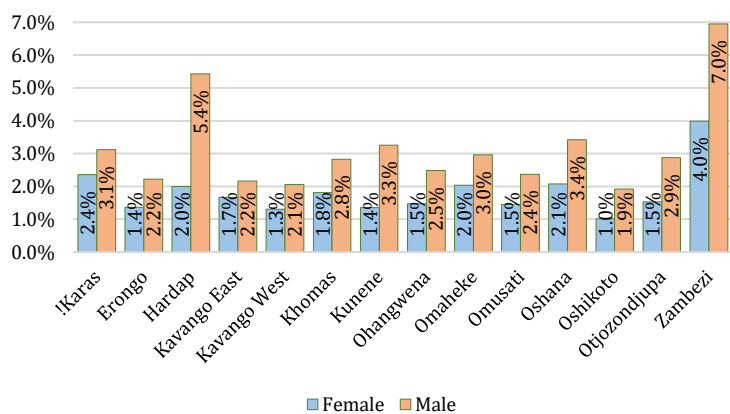


Figure 11: HIV Positivity Yield by Sex and Region in MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia, January to March 2023

Linkage Rate

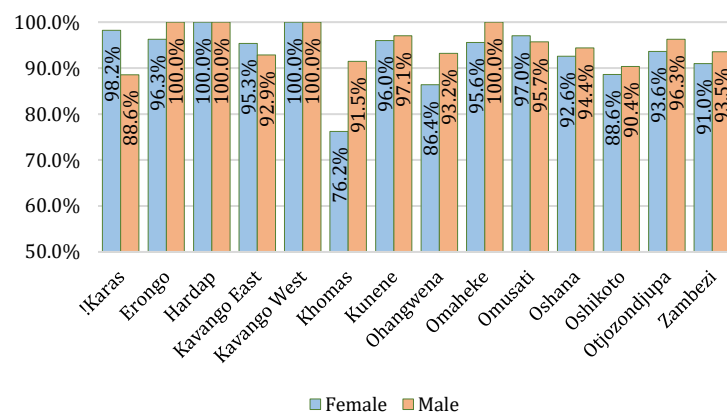


Figure 12: Proportion of Clients Tested HIV Positive and Linked to Care by Sex and Region in MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia, January to March 2023

HIV Testing Service Trends

Total Tested

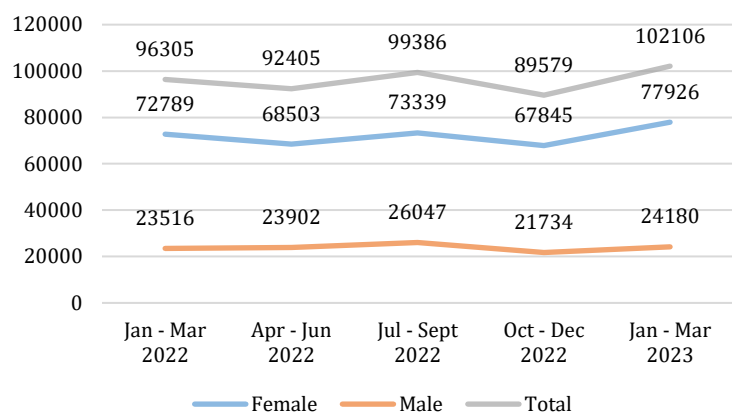


Figure 13: Quarterly Trend of Clients Tested for HIV by Sex in MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia, January 2022 to March 2023

Total Positive

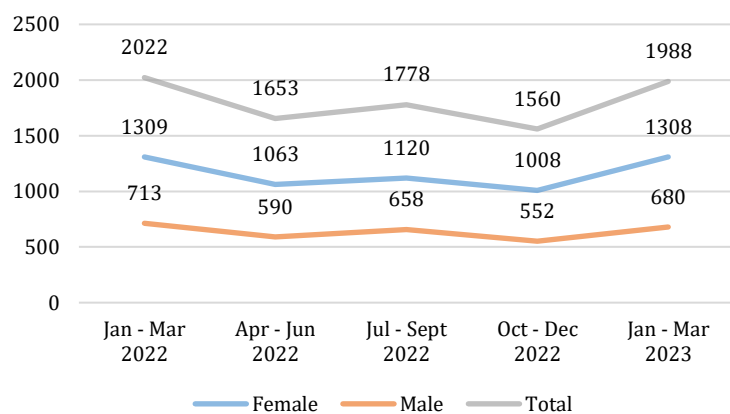


Figure 14: Quarterly Trend of Clients Tested HIV Positive by Sex in MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia, January 2022 to March 2023

Positivity Yield

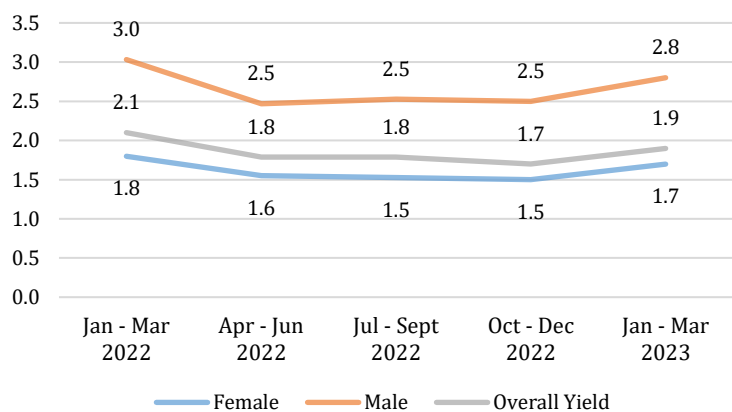


Figure 15: Quarterly Trend of HIV Positivity Yield by Sex in MHSS Health Facilities, January 2022 to March 2023

Linkage Rate

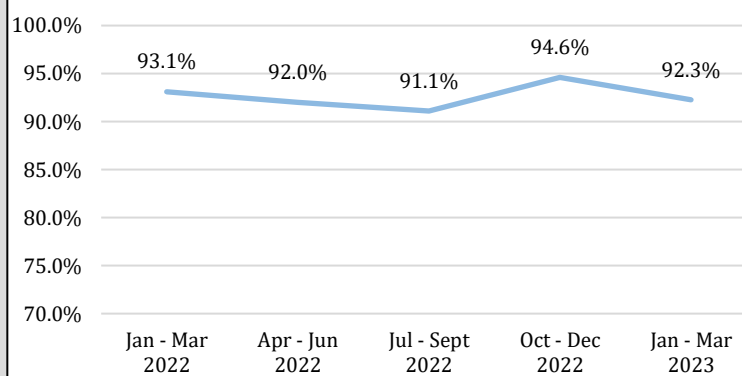


Figure 16: Quarterly Trend of Clients Tested HIV Positive and linked to Care in MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia, January 2022 to March 2023

Period of Last HIV Test

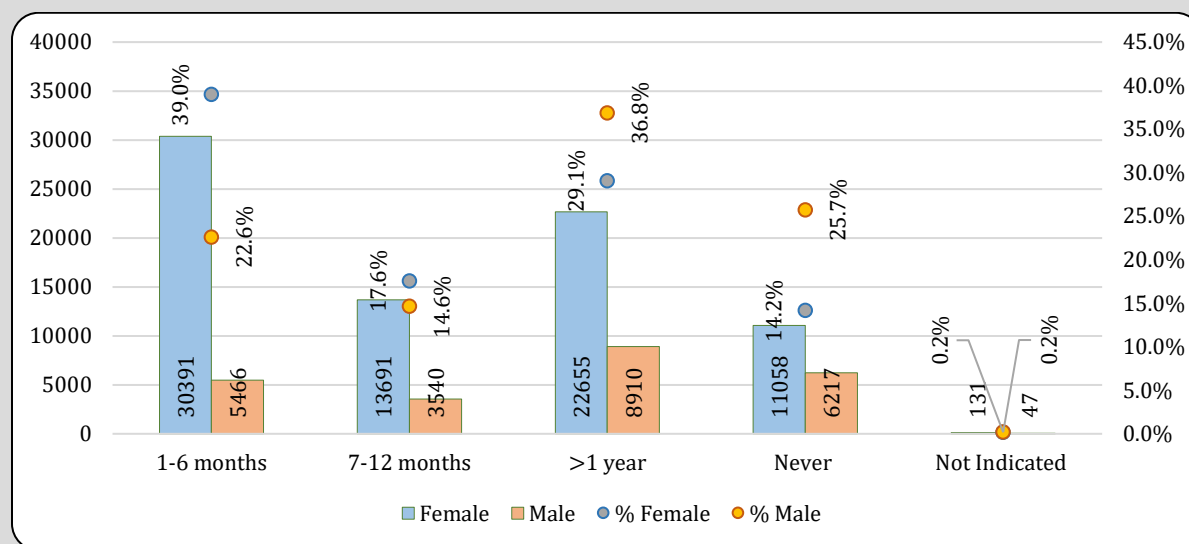


Figure 17: Number and Percentage of Clients Tested for HIV by Sex and Period of Last HIV Test, in MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia, January to March 2023

***Note:** The percentage is calculated out of the total tested for the quarter for each sex, i.e., % Female last tested at 1 – 6 months = $(\text{number of female last tested 1 – 6 months} / \text{Total number of females tested for HIV}) \times 100$

Reporting Rate in HTS Program

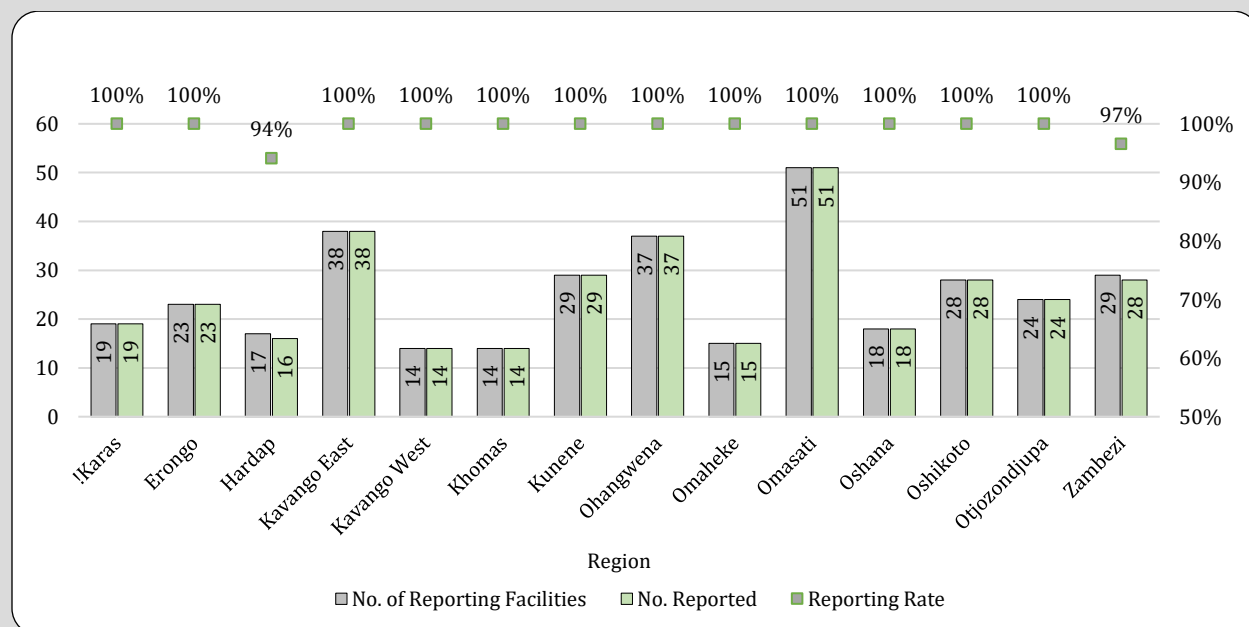


Figure 18: Reporting Rate in HTS by Region for January to March 2023 in MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia

ART Services

Patients Newly Started on ART

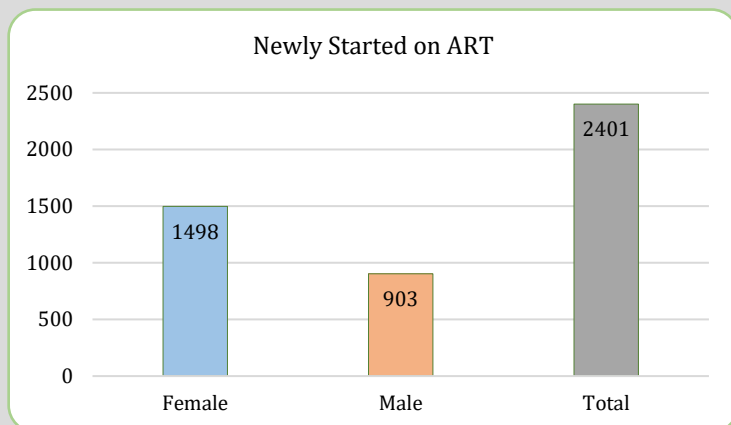


Figure 19: Total Number of Patients Newly Started on ART by Sex in MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia, January to March 2023

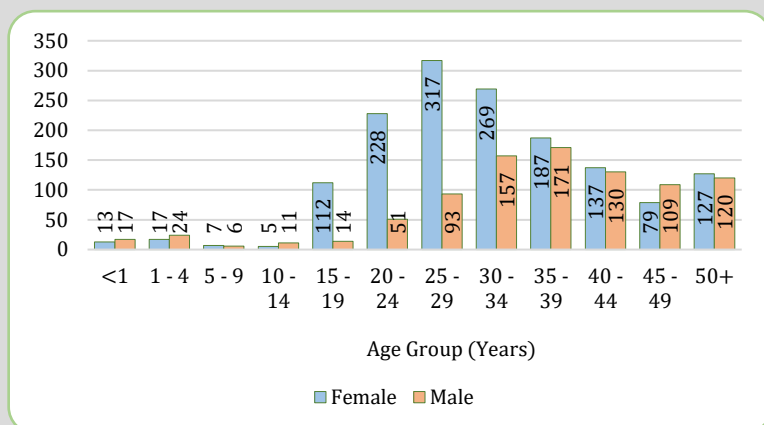


Figure 20: Total Number of Patients Newly Started on ART by Sex and Age Group in MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia, January to March 2023

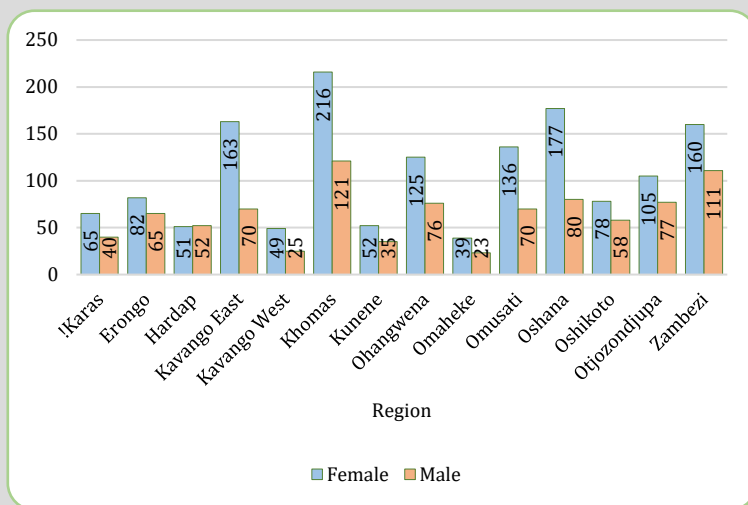


Figure 21: Total Number of Patients Newly Started on ART by Sex and Region in MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia, January to March 2023

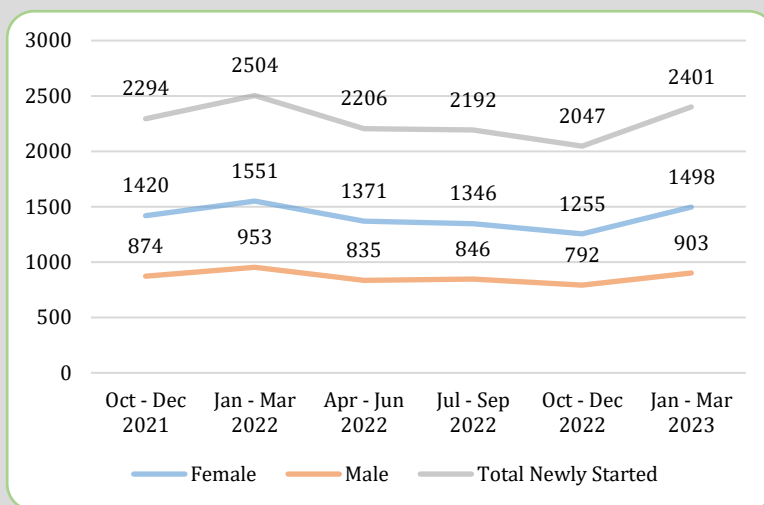


Figure 22: Quarterly Trend of Patients Newly Started on ART in MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia, October 2022 to March 2023

***Note:** The number of newly started on ART in all quarters except the one of Jan – Mar 2023 is comparable. There is a trend of high new on ART during (Jan – Mar) quarters as it was observed for the same quarter in 2022.

Patients Currently Active on ART

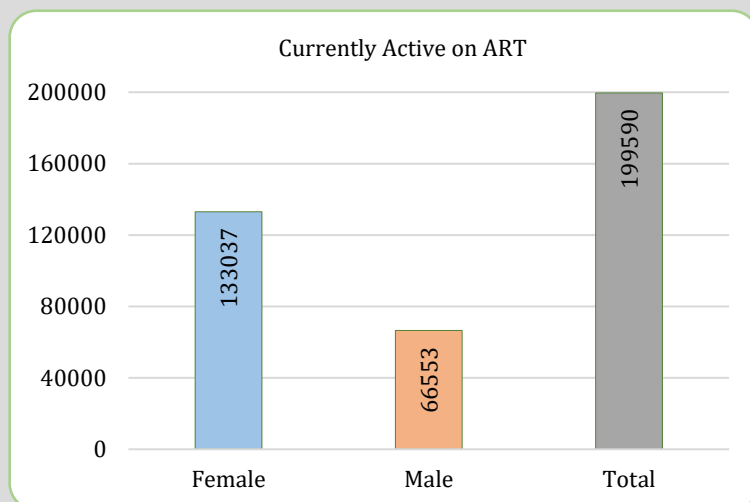


Figure 23: Total Number of Patients Currently on ART by Sex in MHSS Facilities in Namibia, January to March 2023

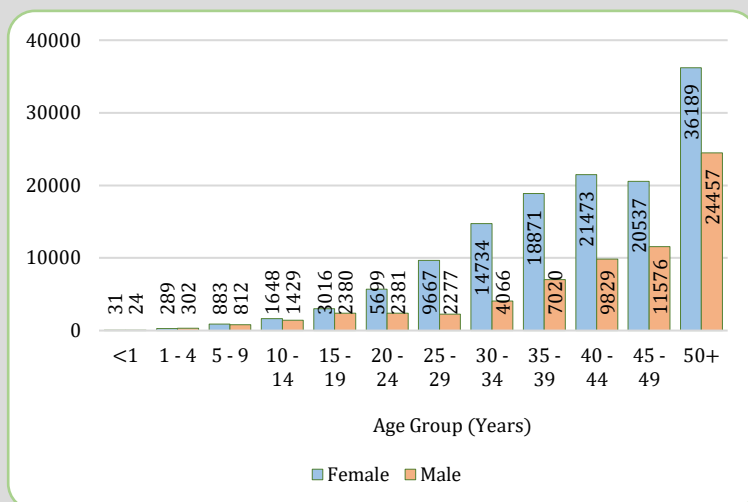


Figure 24: Total Number of Patients Currently on ART by Age Group and Sex in MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia, January to March 2023

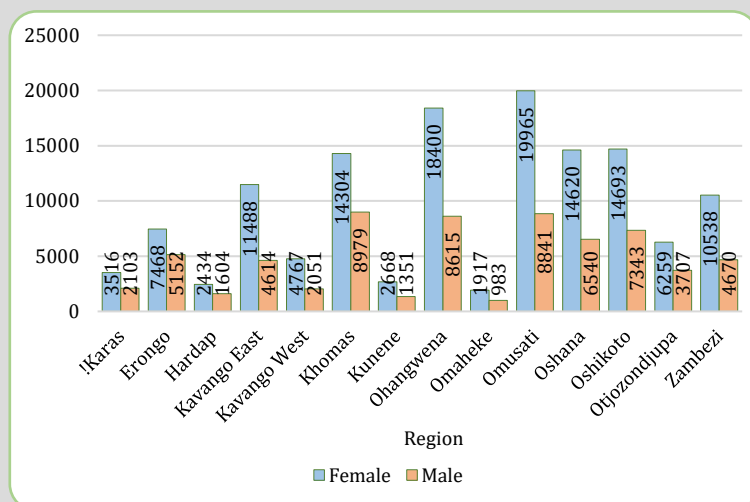


Figure 25: Total Number of Patients Currently on ART by Region and Sex in MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia, January to March 2023

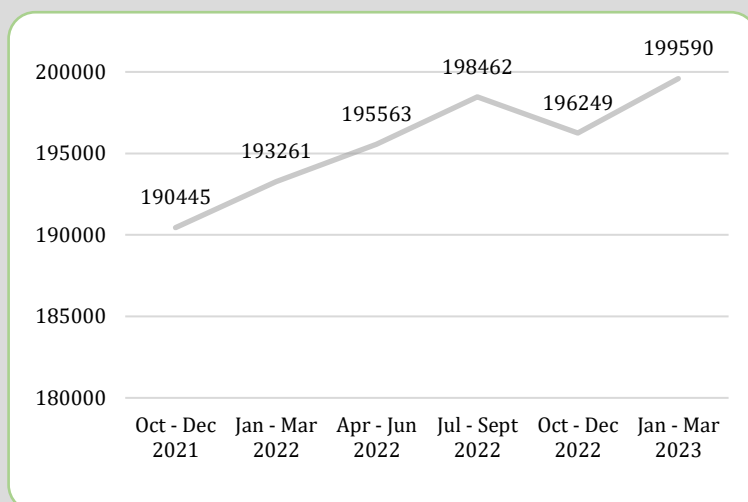


Figure 26: Quarterly Trend of Patients-Currently-on-ART by Sex in MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia, October 2021 to March 2023

TB Screening

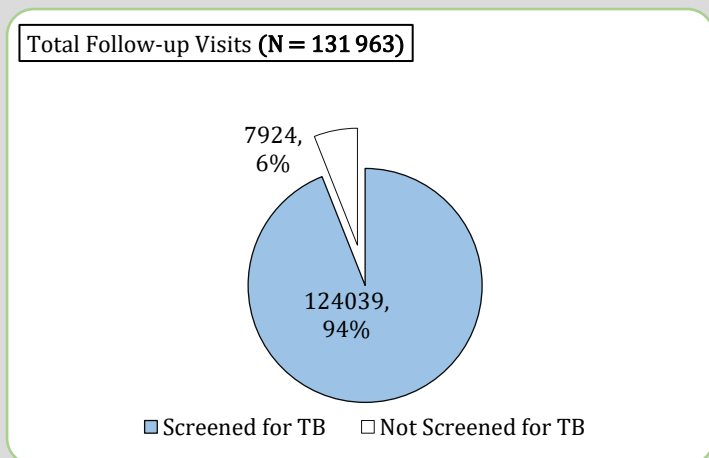


Figure 27: Proportion of patients Screened for TB at Follow-Up Visits in MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia, January to March 2023

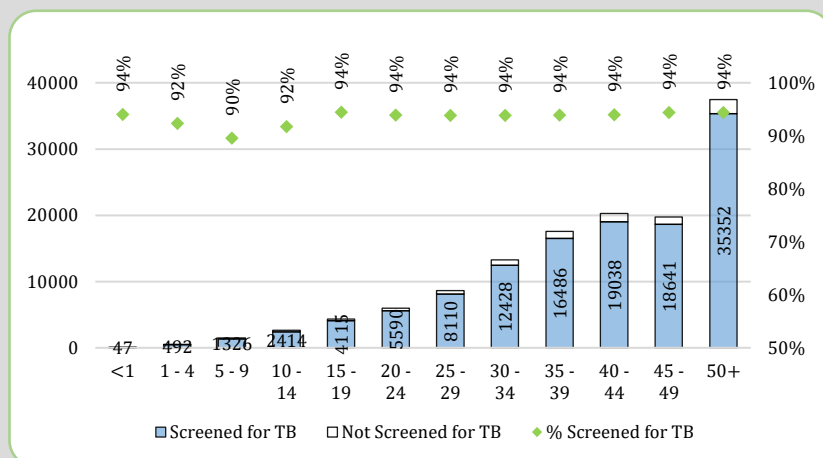


Figure 28: Proportion of patients Screened for TB at Follow-Up Visits by Age Group in MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia, January to March 2023

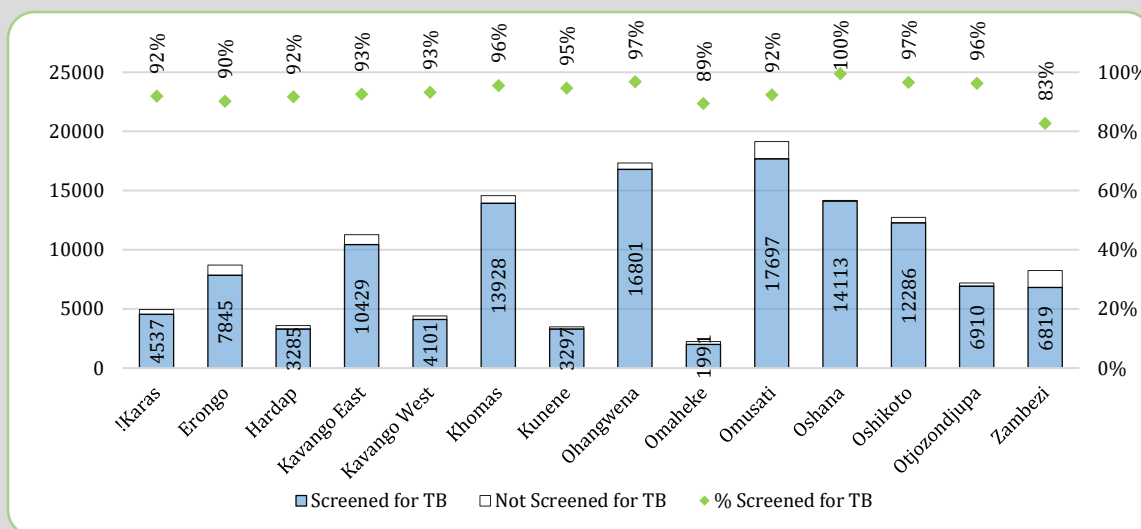


Figure 29: Proportion of Patients Screened for TB at Follow-Up Visits by Region in MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia, January to March 2023

TB Preventative Therapy (TPT)

Total Newly started on ART eligible for TPT: **2 258**

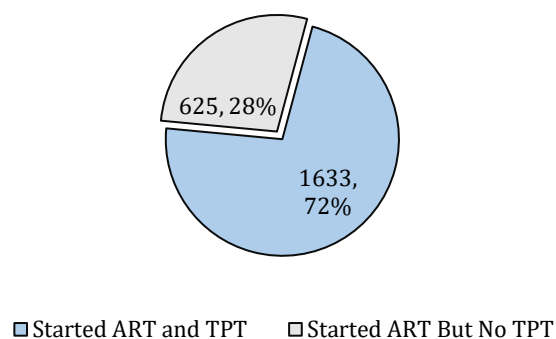


Figure 30: Proportion of Patients Newly Started on ART who were Eligible for TPT and were Initiated on TPT in MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia, January to March 2023

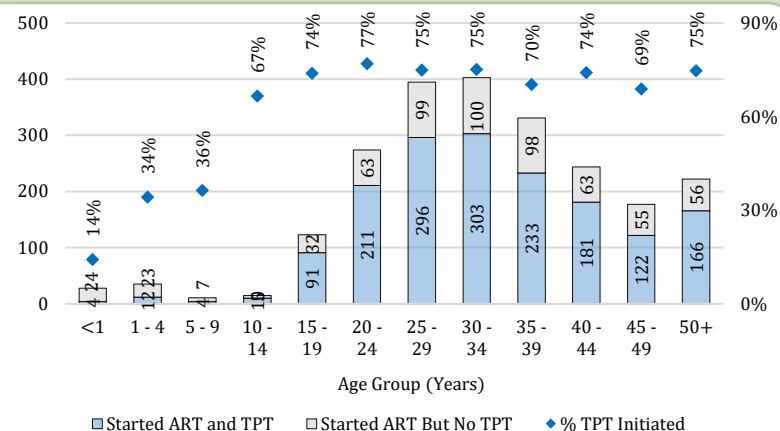


Figure 31: Proportion of Patients Newly Started on ART who were Eligible for TPT and were Initiated on TPT by Age Group in MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia, January to March 2023

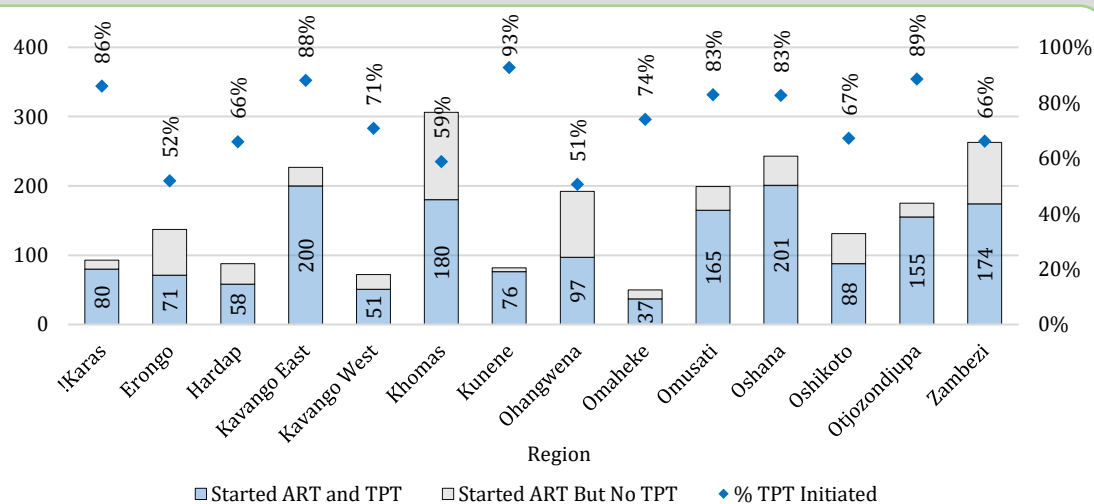


Figure 32: Proportion of Patients Newly Started on ART who were Eligible for TPT and were Initiated on TPT by Region in MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia, January to March 2023

Viral Load Testing and Suppression

Total Viral Load done: 36 752

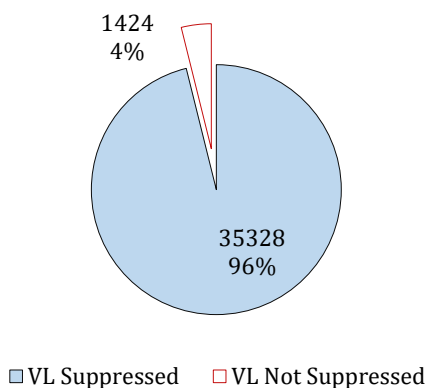


Figure 33: Proportion of patients with Viral Load Done who are Virally Suppressed (VL<1000 copies/μl of blood) in MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia, January to March 2023

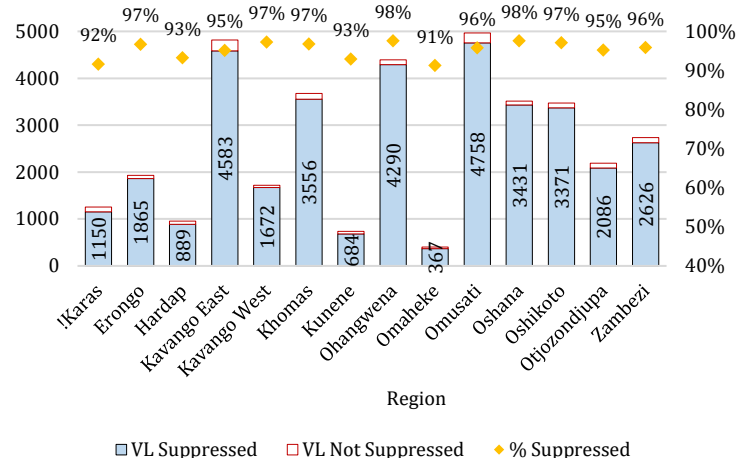


Figure 34: Proportion of patients with Viral Load Done who are Virally Suppressed (VL<1000 copies/μl of blood) by Region in MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia, January to March 2023

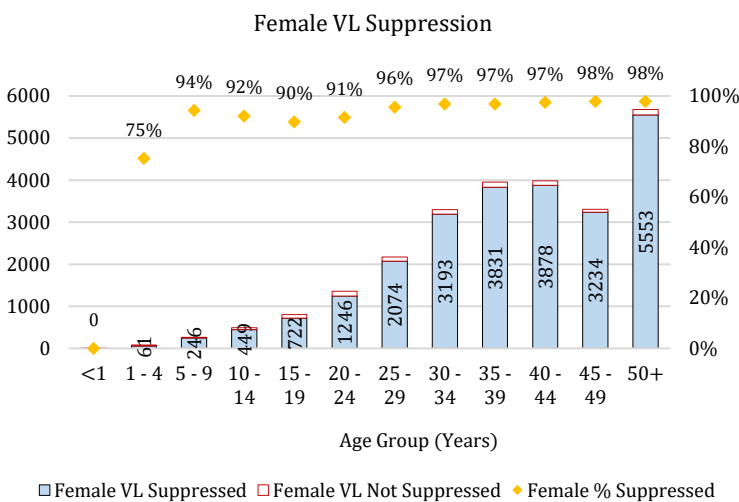


Figure 35: Proportion of Female Patients with Viral Load Done who are Virally Suppressed (VL<1000 copies/μl of blood) by Age Group in MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia, January to March 2023

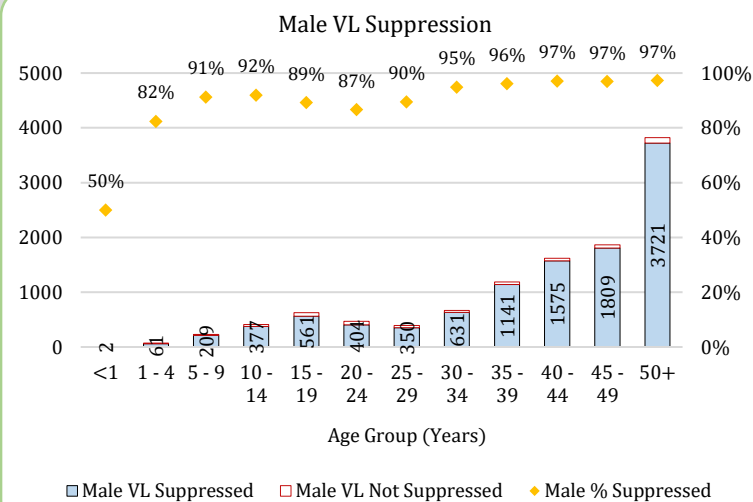


Figure 36: Proportion of Male patients with Viral Load Done who are Virally Suppressed (VL<1000 copies/μl of blood) by Age Group in MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia, January to March 2023

Patients Reported to have Died While on ART

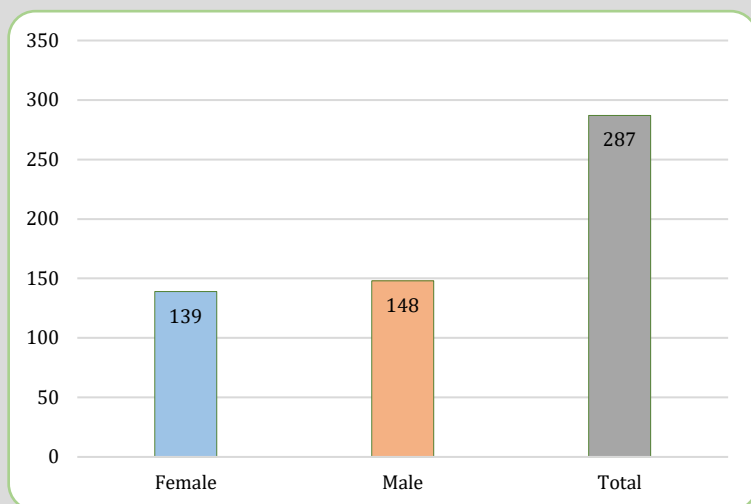


Figure 37: Number of patients Reported to Have Died While on ART by Sex in MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia, January to March 2023

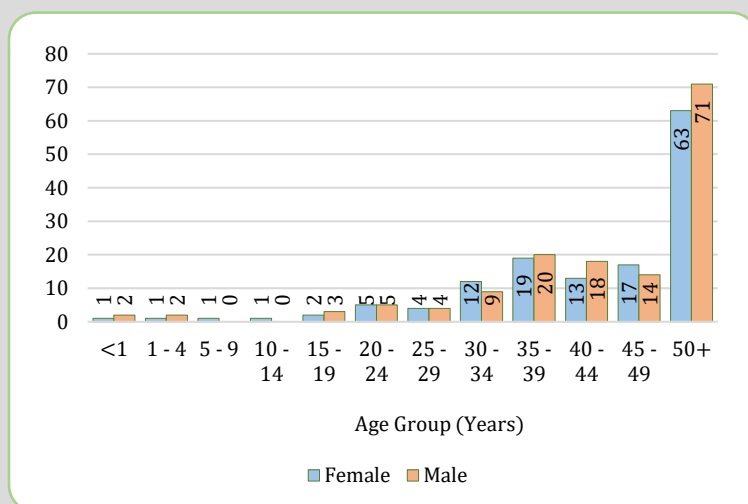


Figure 38: Number of Patients Reported to Have Died While on ART by Age Group and Sex in MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia, January to March 2023

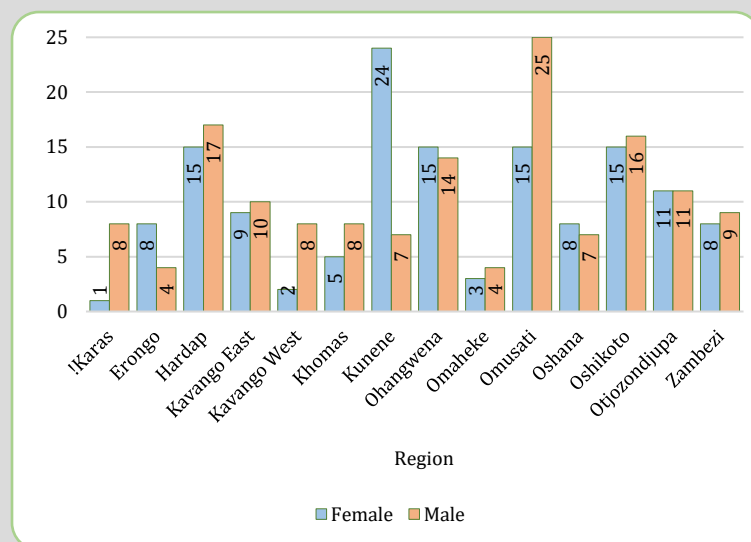


Figure 39: Number of Patients Reported to Have Died While on ART by Region and Sex in MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia, January to March 2023

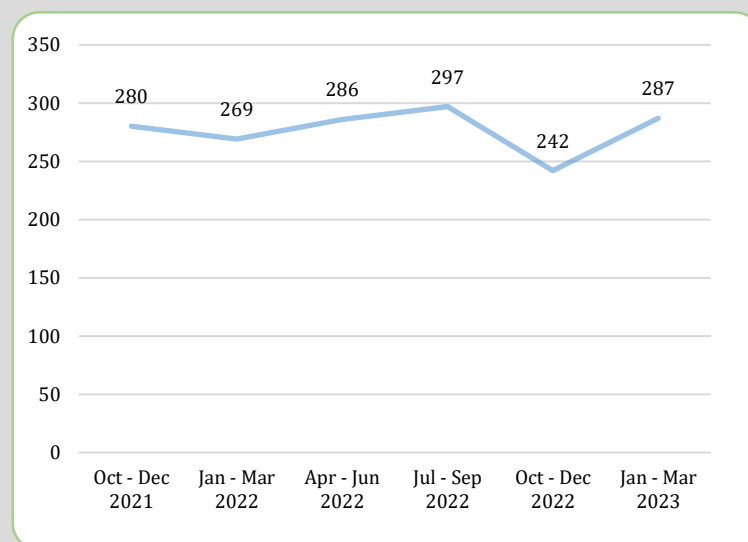


Figure 40: Quarterly Trend of Patients who were Reported to have Died While on ART in MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia, October 2021 to March 2023

Reporting Rate in ART Program

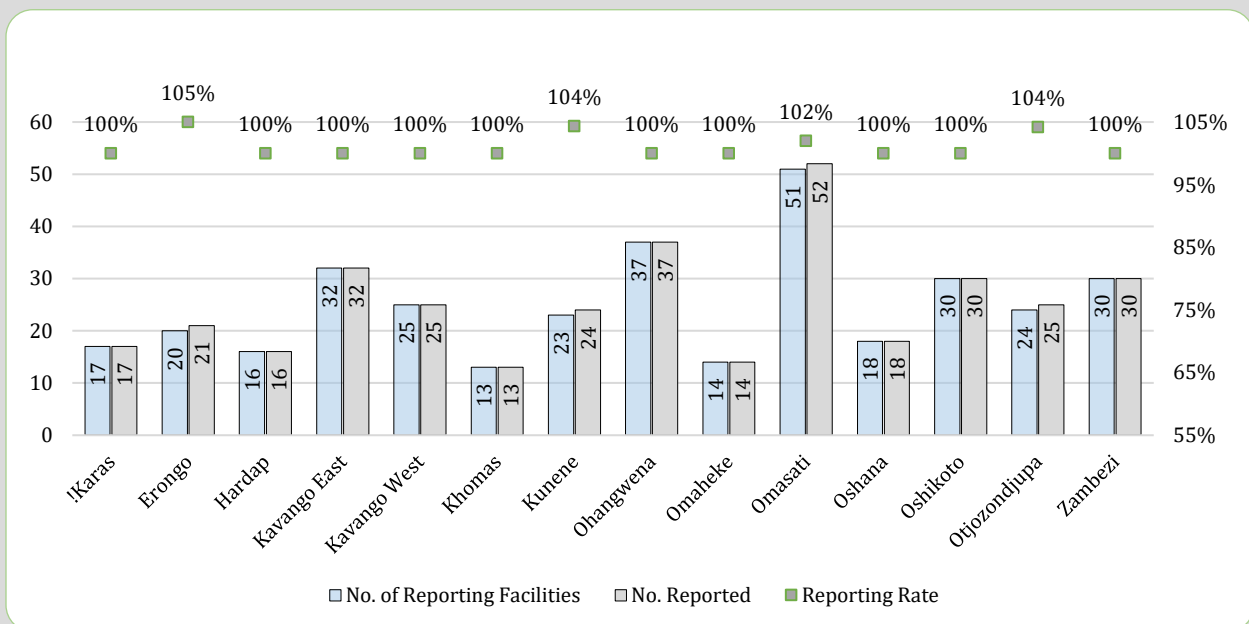


Figure 41: Reporting Rate in ART by Region for January to March 2023 in MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia

***Note:** more than 100 percentage reported in some regions was due to addition of one or more reporting health facility to the usual reporting facilities, The additional facilities are always incorporated into the denominator (No. of Reporting Facilities) for the following quarter.

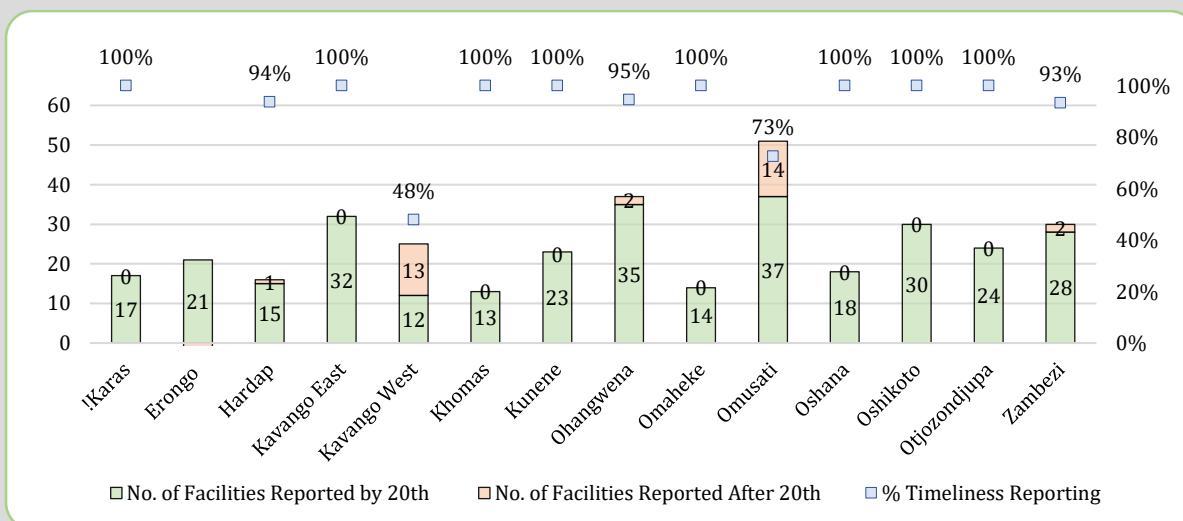


Figure 42: Proportion of Health facilities submitting Reports on Time by Region in MHSS Health Facilities, January to March 2023

Cervical Cancer Screening Program

Total Number Screened

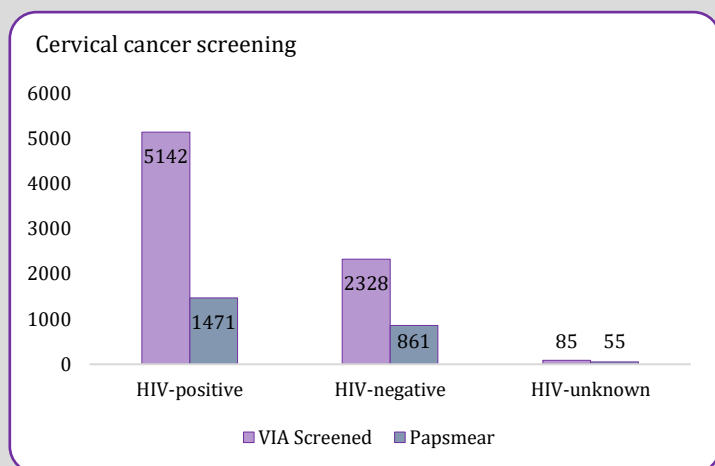


Figure 43: Number of Women Screened for Cervical Cancer by Screening Method and HIV Status in MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia, January to March 2023

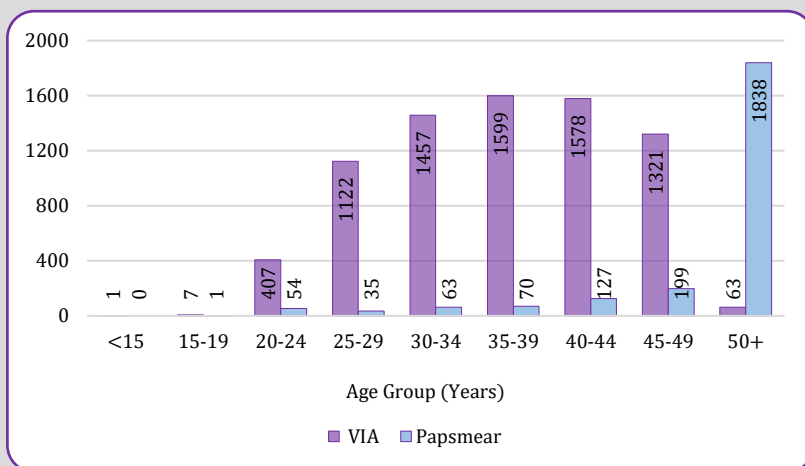


Figure 44: Number of Women Screened for Cervical Cancer by Screening Method and Age Group in MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia, January to March 2023

***Note:** The reason for high number of women screened using Papsmear method among those aged 50+ years is related to programmatic guidelines to apply the technic for this age group

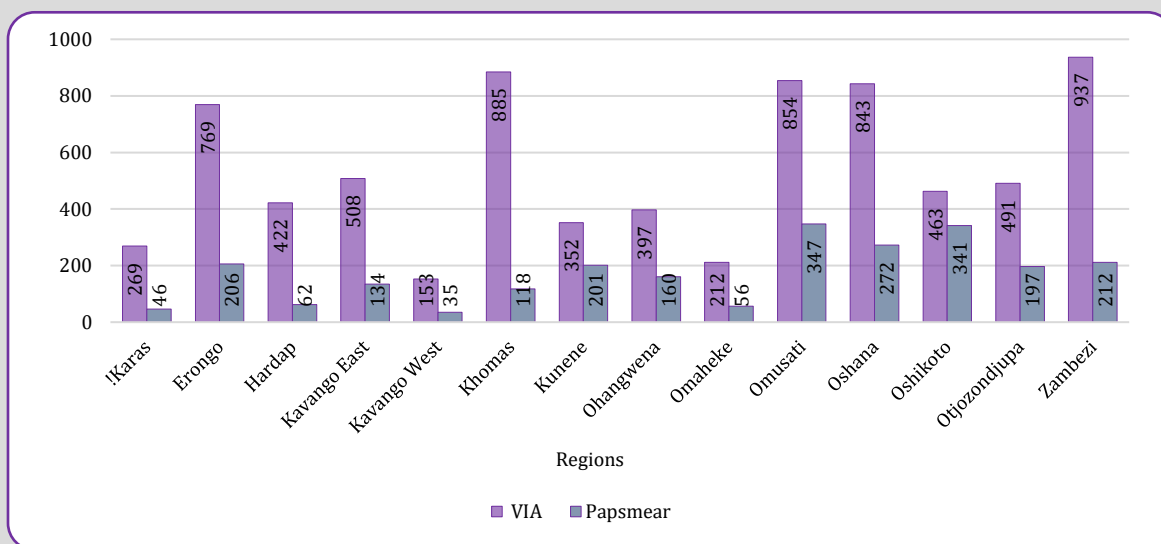


Figure 45: Number of Women Screened for Cervical Cancer by Screening Method and Region in MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia, January to March 2023

Cervical Cancer Screening Results

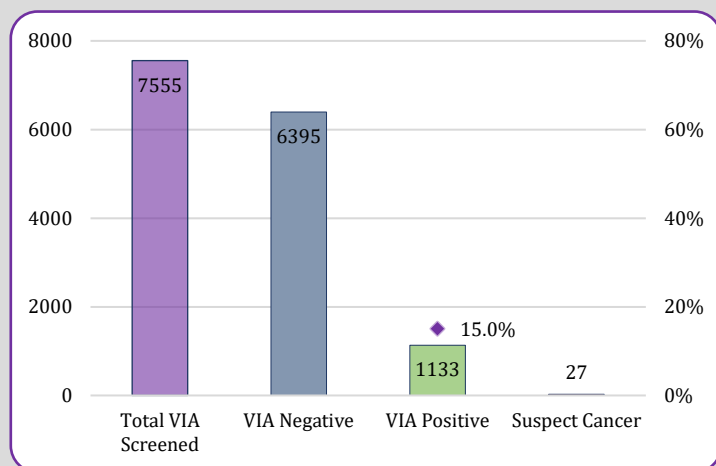


Figure 46: Number of Women Screened for Cervical Cancer Using VIA Method by Screening Result, and VIA Positivity Rate in MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia, January to March 2023

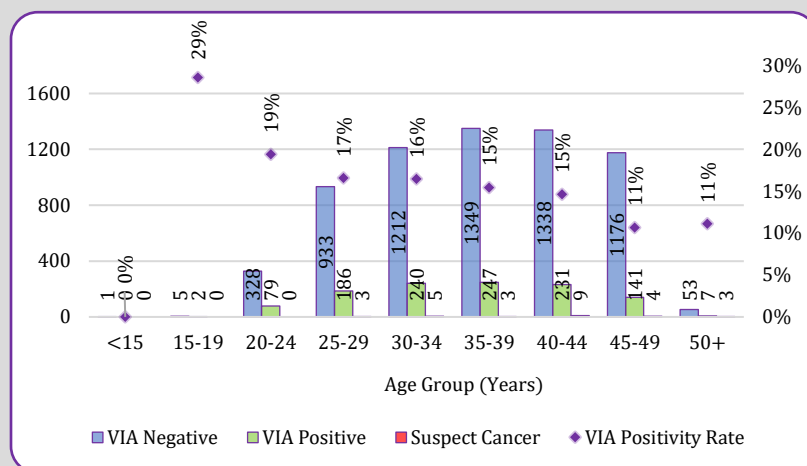


Figure 47: Number of Women Screened for Cervical Cancer Using VIA Method by Screening Result and Age Group, and VIA Positivity Rate in MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia, January to March 2023

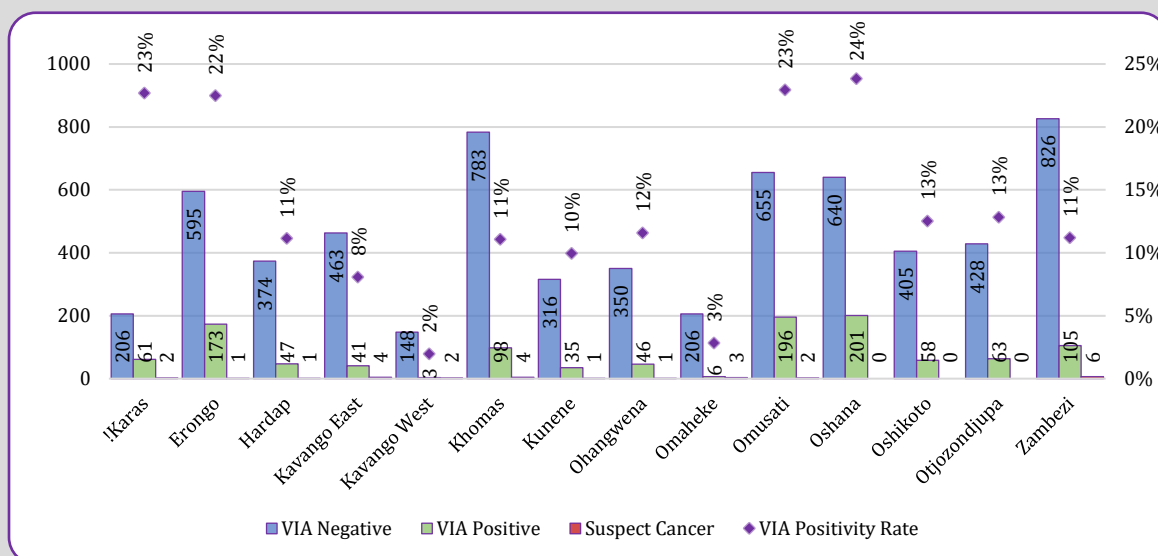


Figure 48: Number of Women Screened for Cervical Cancer Using VIA Method by Screening Results and Region, and VIA Positivity Rate in MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia, January to March 2023

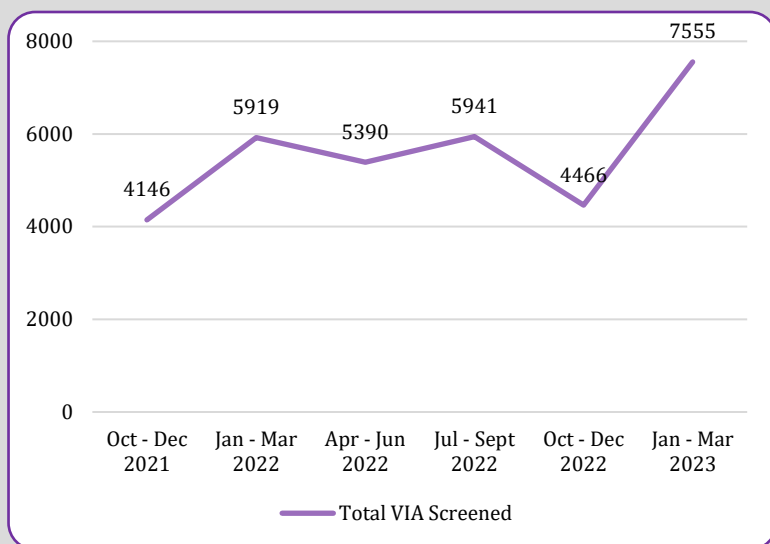


Figure 49: Quarterly Trend of Women Screened for Cervical Cancer Using VIA Method in MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia, October 2021 to March 2023

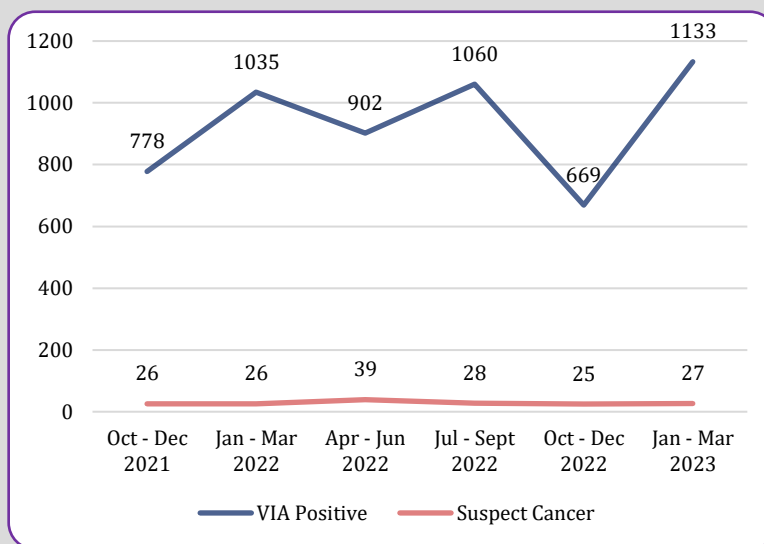


Figure 50: Quarterly Trend of VIA Positive and Suspect Cancer Results in MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia, October 2021 to March 2023

Treatment Methods for Abnormal Screening Results

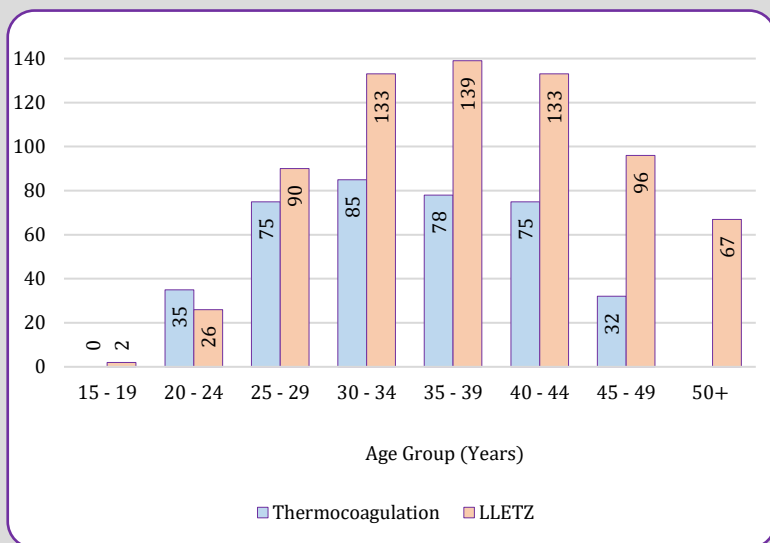


Figure 51: Number of Women Treated for Pre-Cancerous Lesion by Treatment Method and Age Group in MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia, January to March 2023

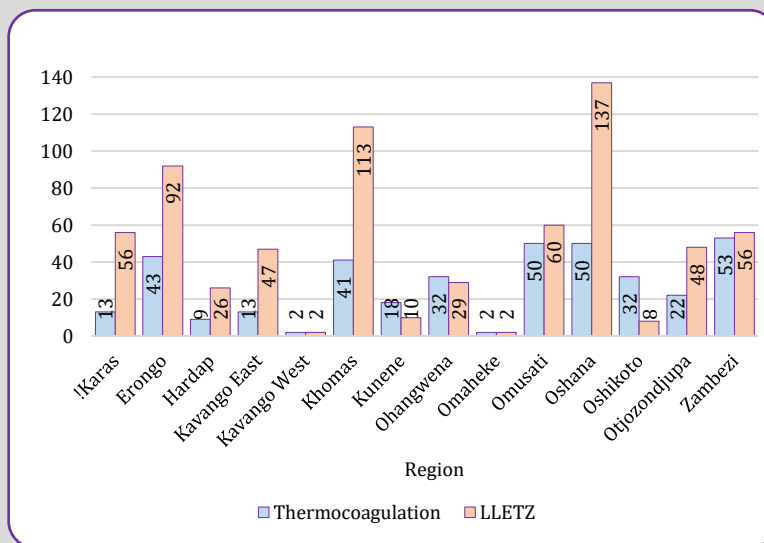


Figure 52: Number of Women Treated for Pre-Cancerous Lesion by Treatment Method and Region in MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia, January to March 2023

Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision (VMMC)

***Note:** Data reported under VMMC includes number of males circumcised under the VMMC program and male circumcisions done for any other purpose.

Number of VMMC Done

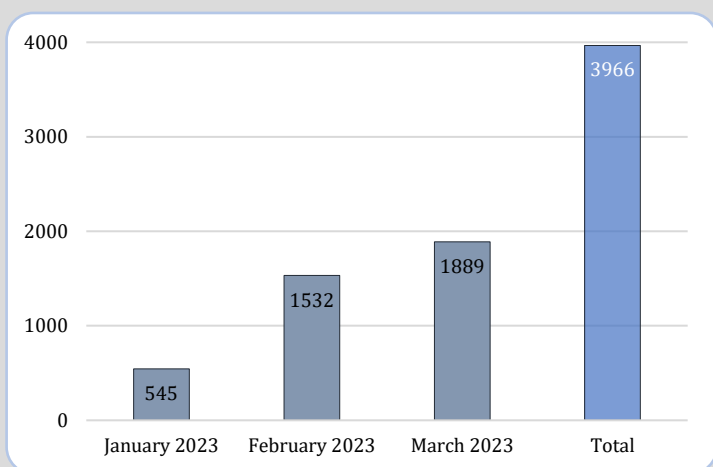


Figure 53: Number of VMMC Done by Month in MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia, January to March 2023

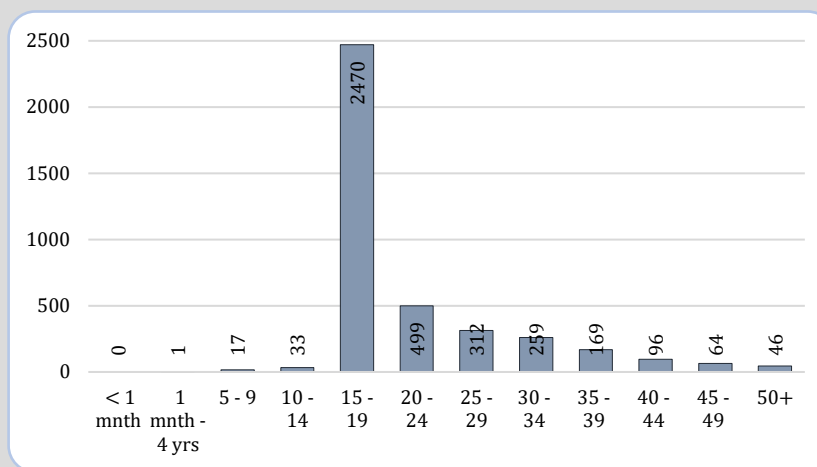


Figure 54: Number of VMMC Done by Age Group in MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia, January to March 2023

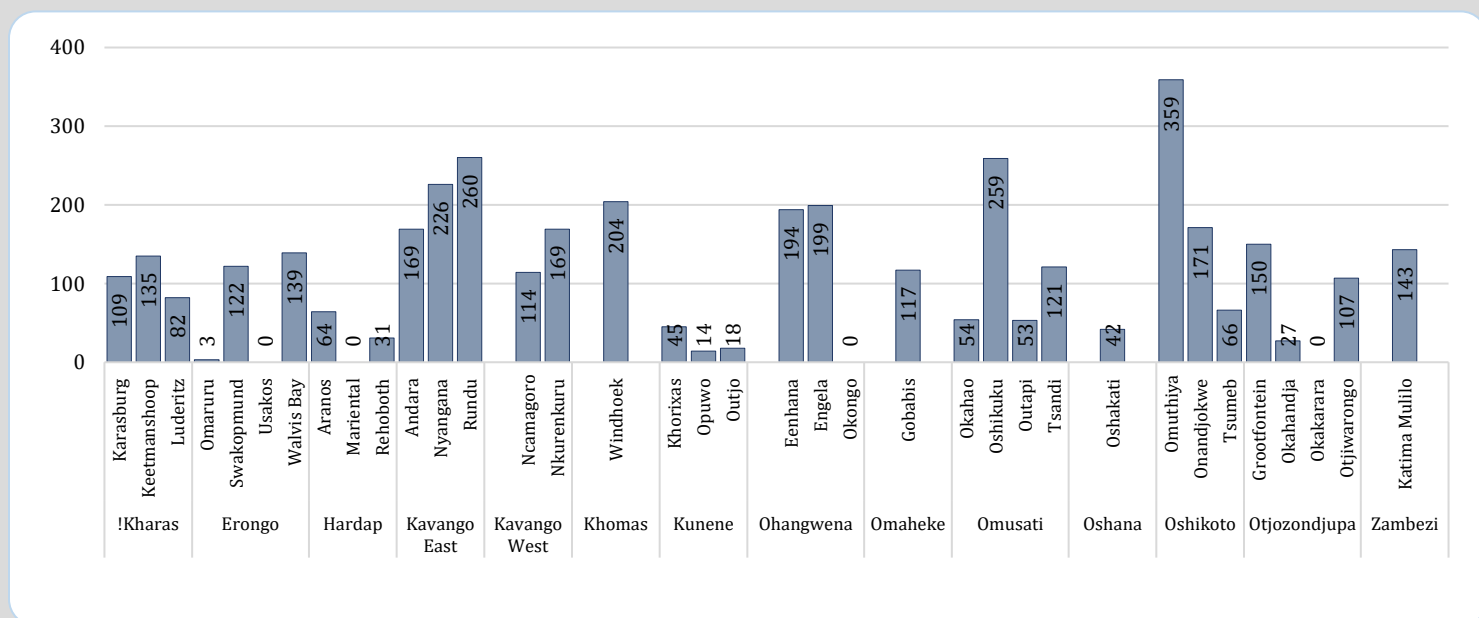


Figure 55: Number of VMMC Done by Region and District in MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia, January to March 2023

HIV Testing in VMMC

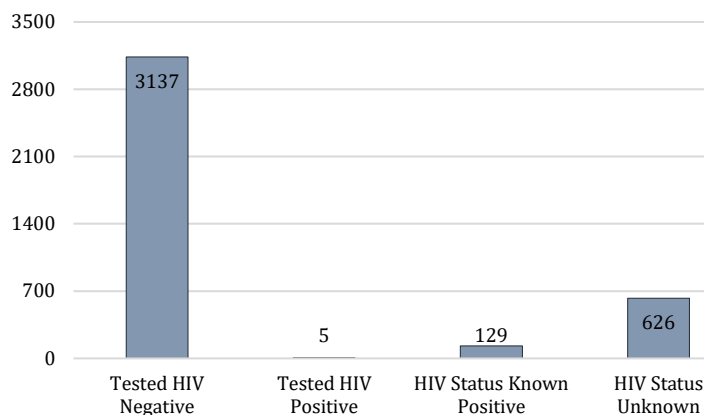


Figure 56: Number of HIV Testing Done in VMMC Settings in MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia, January to March 2023

***Note:** HIV Status Unknown could represent clients who presented a recent HIV negative result and clients who refused HIV testing at VMMC.

VMMC Quarterly Trends

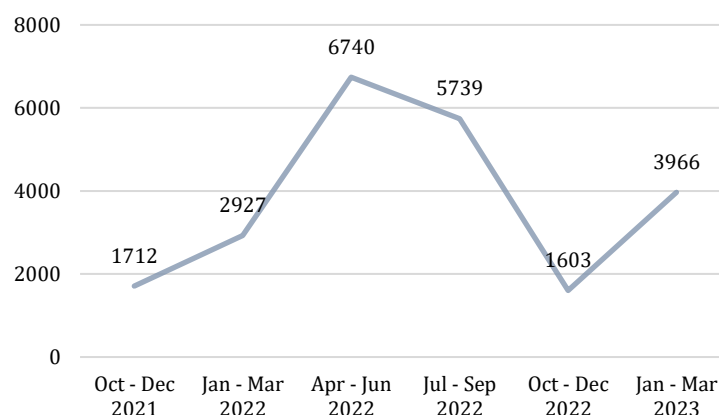


Figure 57: Quarterly Trend for VMMC Done in MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia, July 2021 to December 2022

Reporting Rate in VMMC

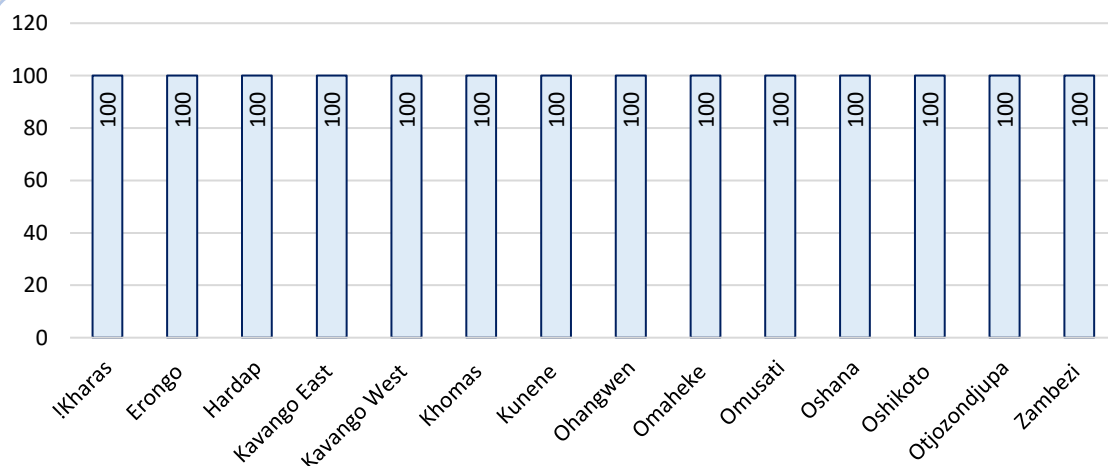


Figure 58: Reporting Rate in VMMC by Region in MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia, January to March 2023

SECTION II: DATA REPORTED THROUGH THE MULTI-SECTORAL INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS (MIMS)

***Note:** MIMS is a system that collects, analyzes, and reports HIV/AIDS response information from non-MHSS facilities including but not limited to private-for-profit facilities, community based Civil Society Organisations (CSO) and other line ministries. The current report contains data from Development Aid from People-to-People (DAPP), Debmarine, Men's Health Program that operates under MHSS (DSP), Namibian Correctional Service (NCS), Omnicare Trust, Walvis Bay Corridor Group (WBCG), Namibia Health Plan (NHP) and Namibia Planned Parenthood Association (NAPPA). These organizations target different population groups such as men (e.g., Men's Health), adolescent girls and young women (e.g., WBCG, DAPP, NHP), key population groups (e.g., NAPPA, WBCG, Omnicare Trust).

HIV Testing Services

HIV Testing Service by Sex

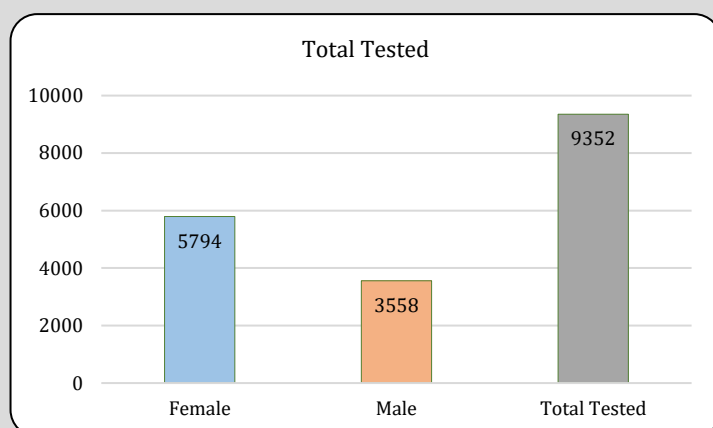


Figure 59: Number of Clients Tested for HIV by Sex in Non-MHSS Settings in Namibia, January to March 2023

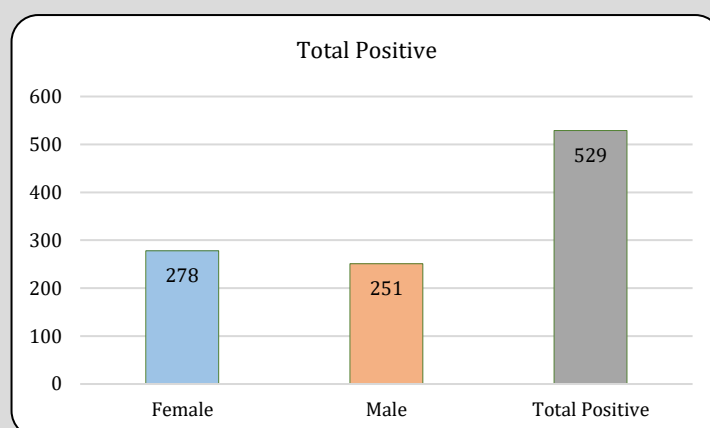


Figure 60: Number of Clients Tested HIV Positive by Sex in Non-MHSS Settings in Namibia, January to March 2023

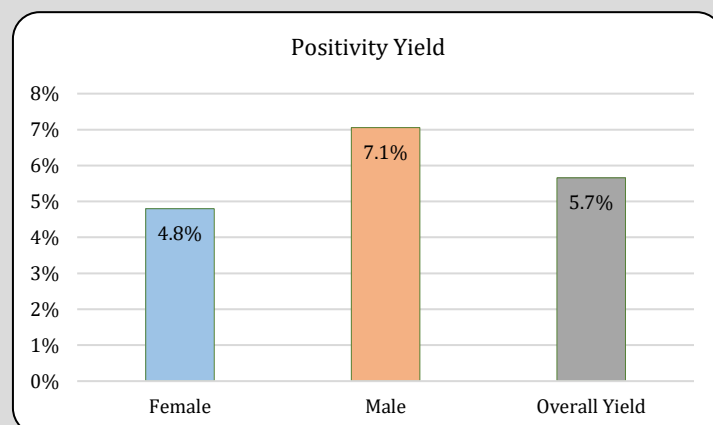


Figure 61: Positivity Yield by Sex in Non-MHSS Settings in Namibia, January to March 2023

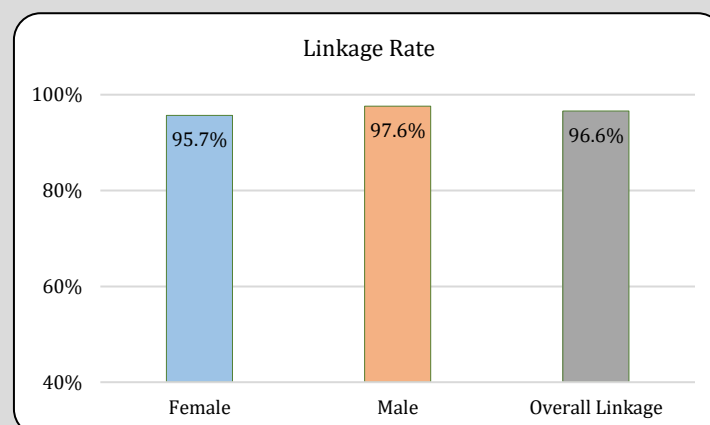


Figure 62: Proportion of Clients Tested HIV Positive and Linked to Care by Sex in Non-MHSS Health Settings in Namibia, January to March 2023

HIV Testing Service by Age Group

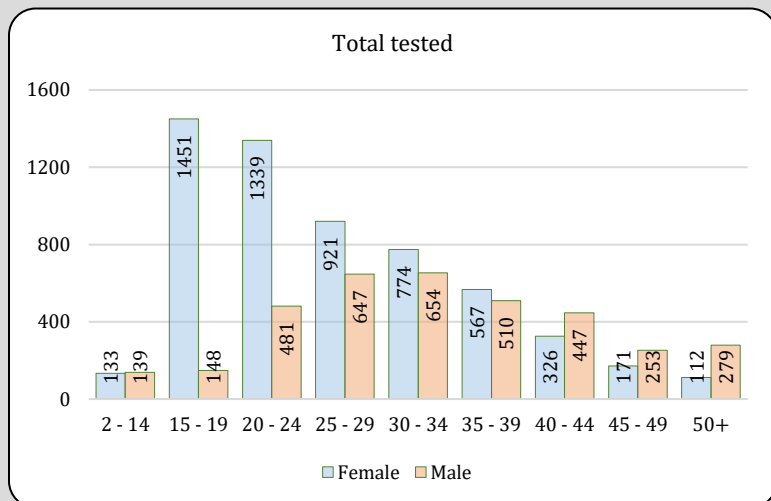


Figure 63: Number of Clients Tested for HIV by Age Group and Sex in Non-MHSS Settings in Namibia, January to March 2023

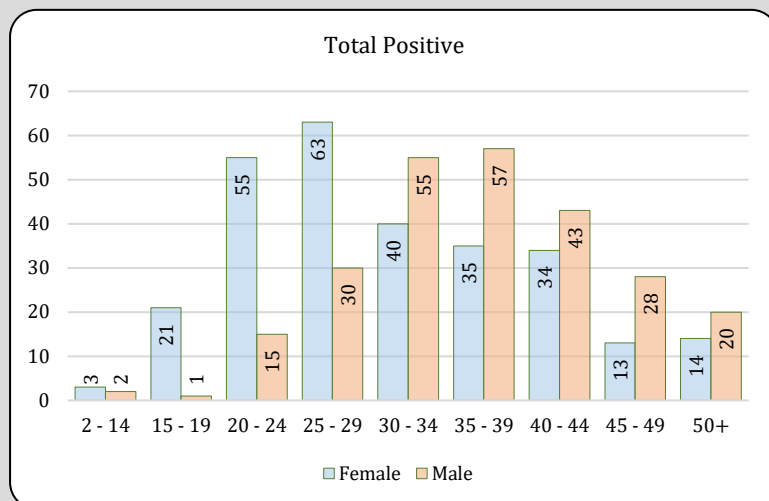


Figure 64: Number of Clients Tested HIV Positive by Age Group and Sex in Non-MHSS Settings in Namibia, January to March 2023

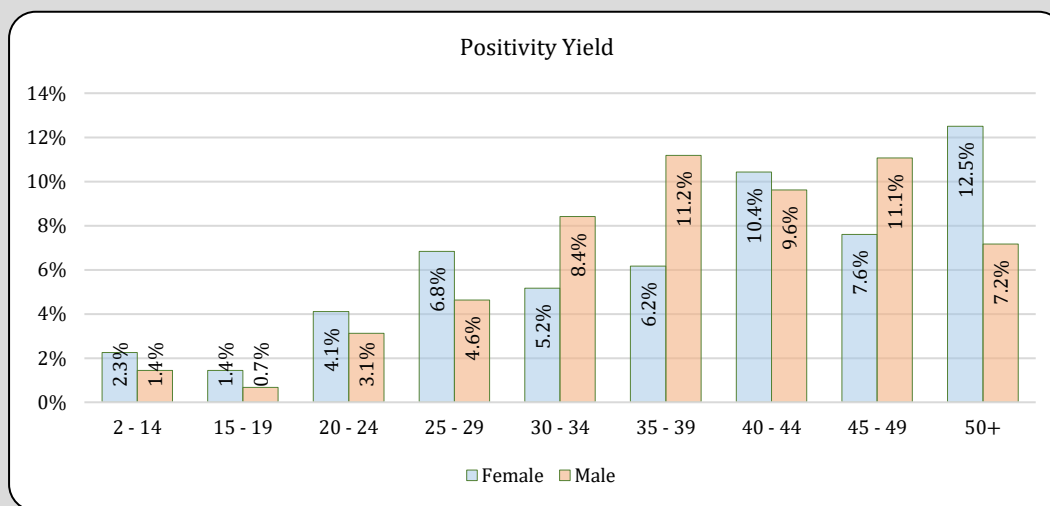


Figure 65: Positivity Yield by Age Group and Sex in Non-MHSS Settings in Namibia, January to March 2023

HIV Testing Service by Organisation

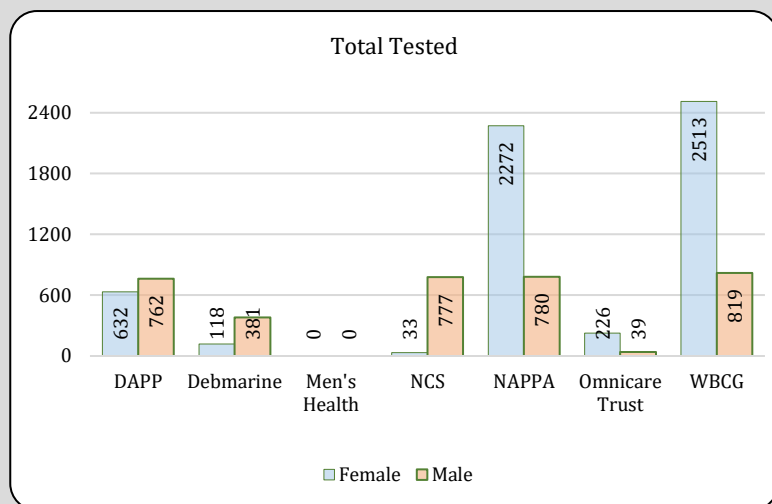


Figure 66: Number of Clients Tested for HIV by Organisation and Sex in Non-MHSS Settings in Namibia, January to March 2023

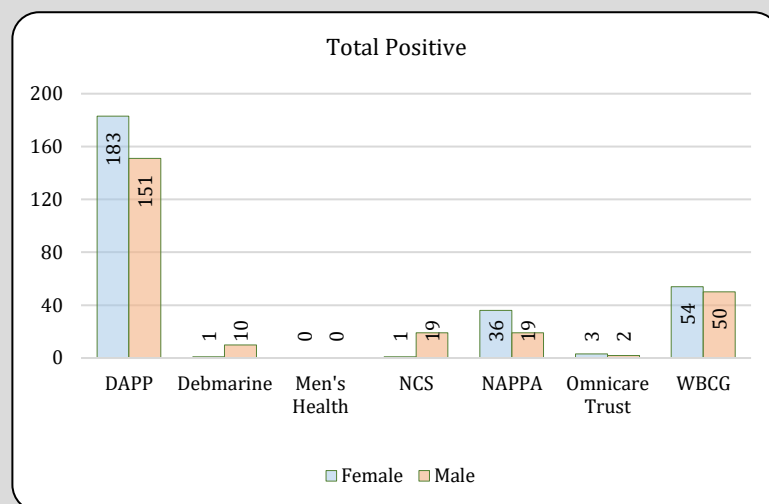


Figure 67: Number of Clients Tested HIV Positive by Organisation and Sex in Non-MHSS Settings in Namibia, January to March 2023

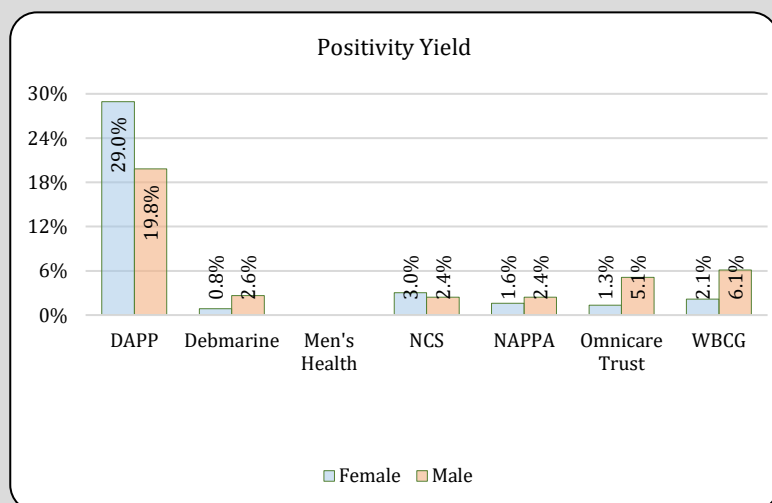


Figure 68: Positivity Yield by Organisation and Sex in Non-MHSS Settings in Namibia, January to March 2023

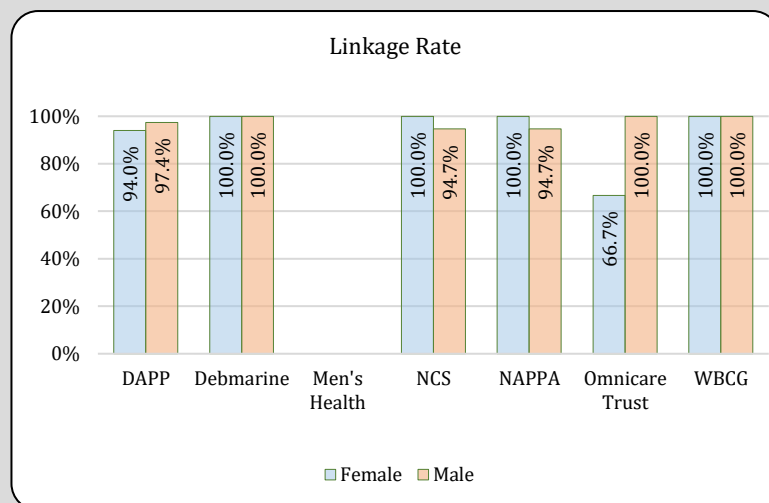


Figure 69: Percentage of Clients Tested HIV Positive and Linked to Care by Organisation and Sex in Non-MHSS Settings in Namibia, January to March 2023

HIV Testing Service Trends

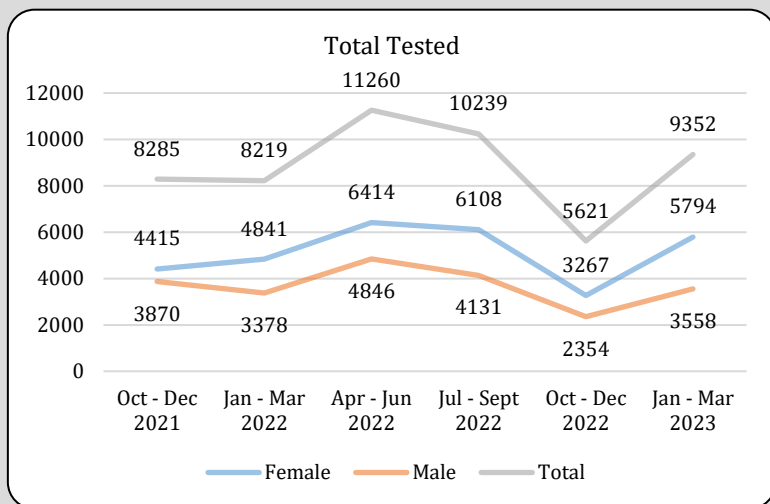


Figure 70: Quarterly Trend of Clients Tested for HIV by Sex from Non-MHSS Settings in Namibia, October 2021 to March 2023

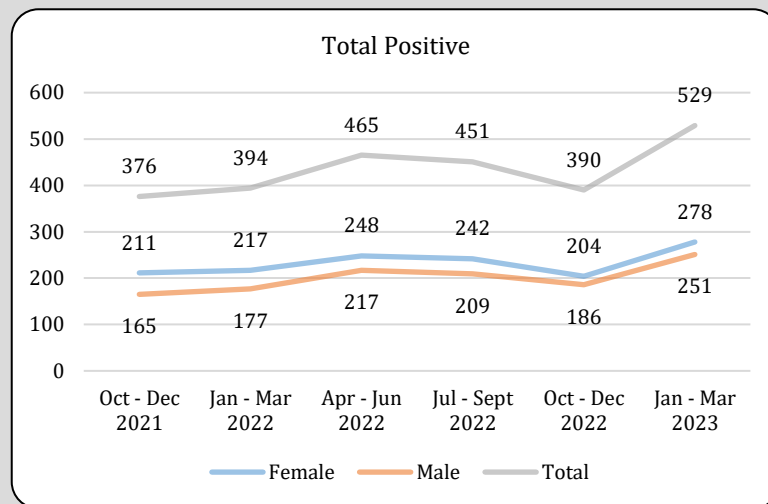


Figure 71: Quarterly Trend of Clients Tested HIV Positive by Sex from Non-MHSS Settings in Namibia, October 2021 to March 2023

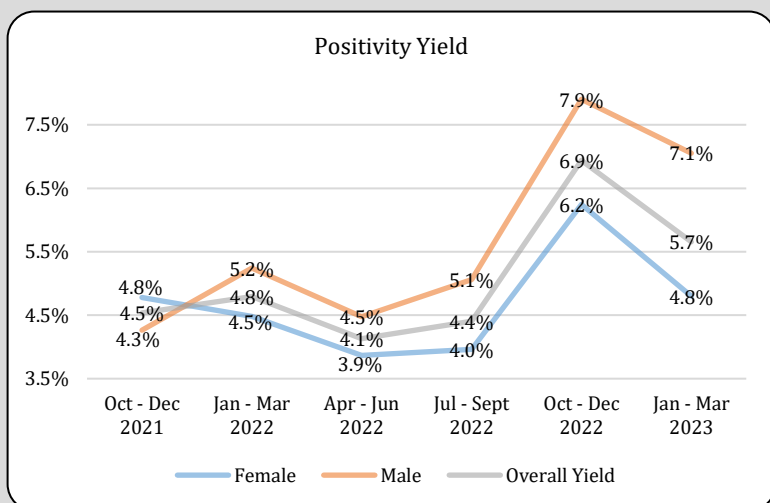


Figure 72: Quarterly Trend for Positivity Yield in Non-MHSS Settings in Namibia, October 2021 to March 2023

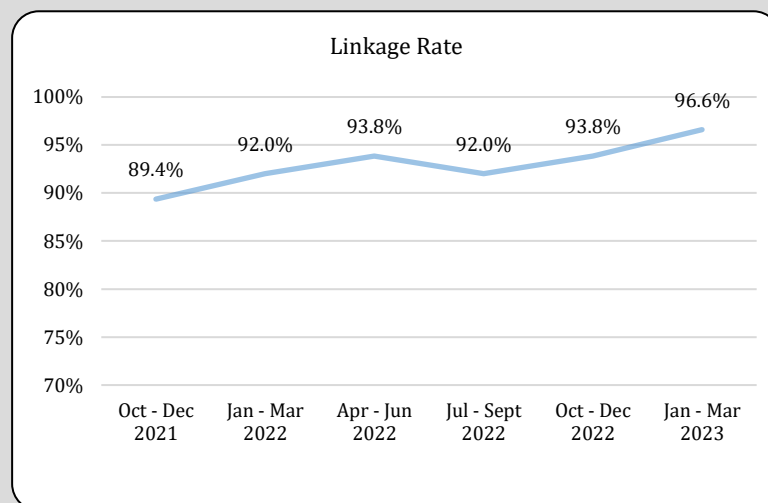


Figure 73: Quarterly Trend of Linkage Rate to Care in Non-MHSS Settings in Namibia, October 2021 to March 2023

Reporting Rate for HTS in MIMS

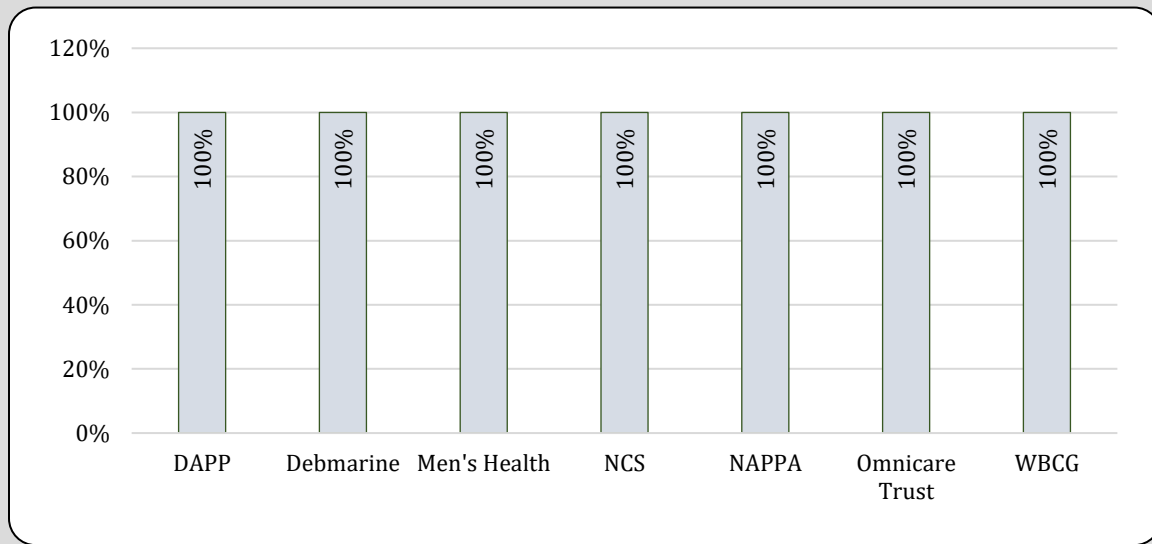


Figure 74: Reporting Rate for HTS in MIMS by Organisation in Non-MHSS Settings in Namibia, January to March 2023

ART Services in MIMS

Patients Currently Active on ART

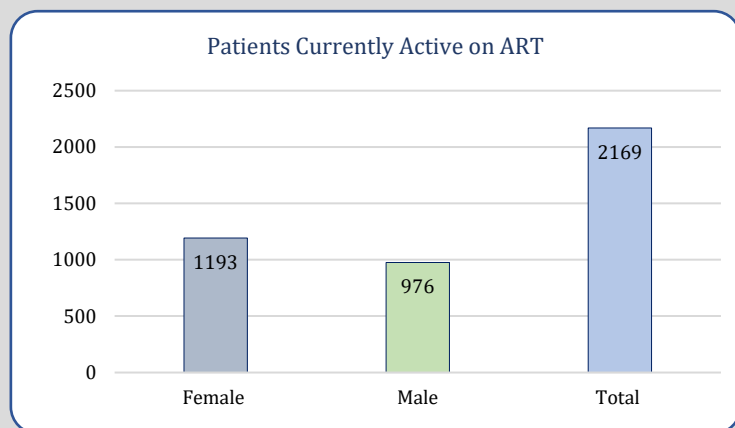


Figure 75: Number of Patients Currently Active on ART by Sex in non-MHSS Settings Namibia, January to March 2023

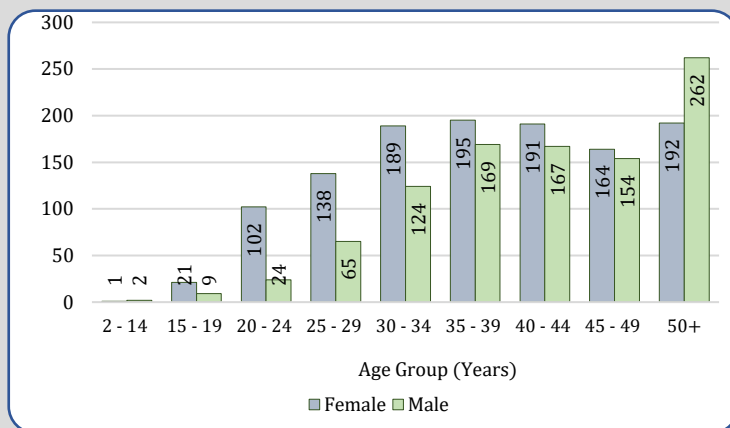


Figure 76: Number of Patients Currently Active on ART by Sex and Age Group in non-MHSS Settings Namibia, January to March 2023

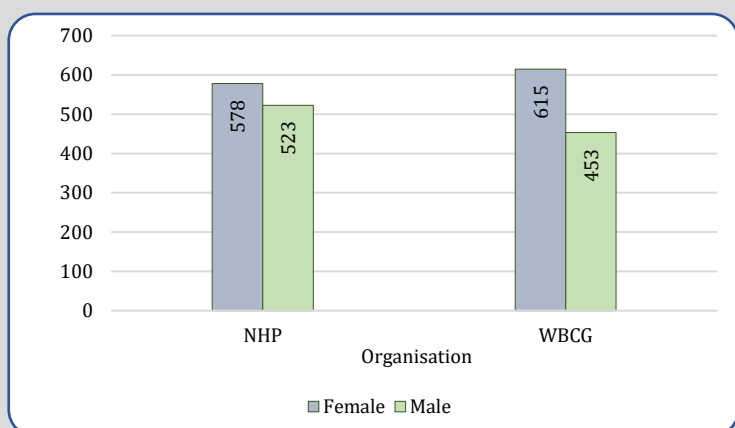


Figure 77: Number of Patients Currently Active on ART by Sex and organisation in non-MHSS Settings in Namibia, January to March 2023

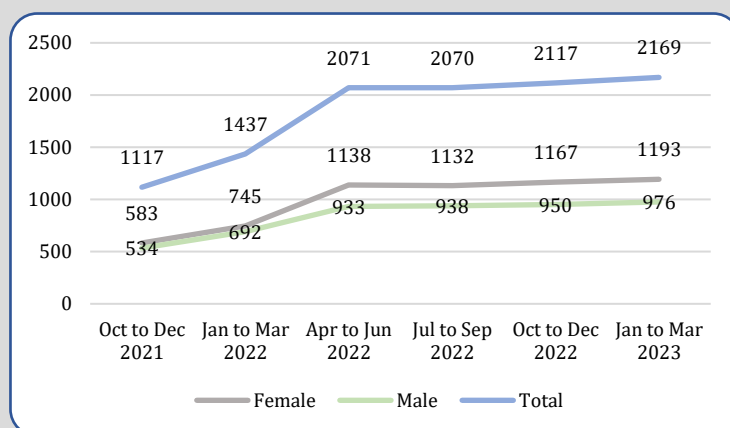


Figure 78: Quarterly Trend of Patients Currently Active on ART in non-MHSS Health Settings in Namibia, October 2021 to March 2023

ART Services in NCS			
Indicators	Female	Male	Total
No. Newly Initiated on ART	0	4	4
No. Currently Active on ART	1	109	110

Figure 79: Number of Patients Newly Initiated on ART and Number of Patients Currently Active on ART by Sex in Namibian Correctional Service (NCS), January to March 2023

VMMC in MIMS

Number of VMMC Done

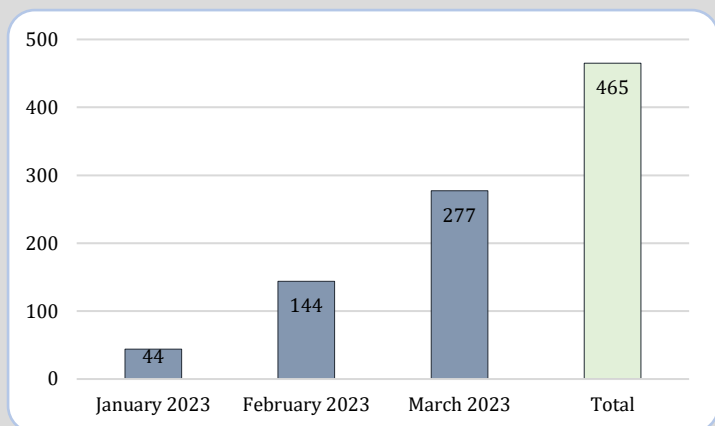


Figure 80: Number of VMMC Done by Month in Non-MHSS Facilities in Namibia, January to March 2023

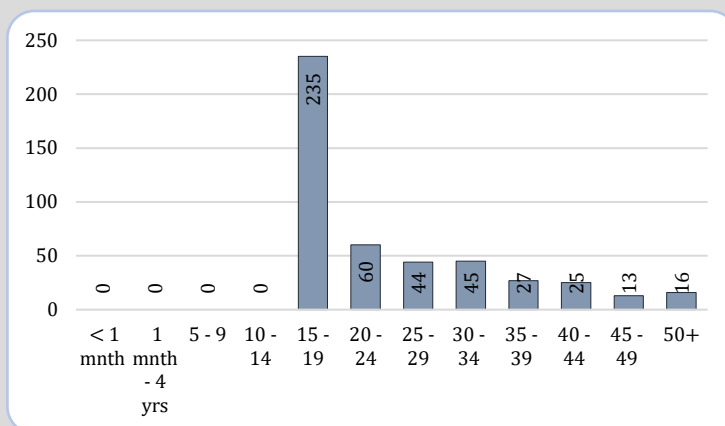


Figure 81: Number of VMMC Done by Age Group in Non-MHSS Health Facilities in Namibia, January to March 2023

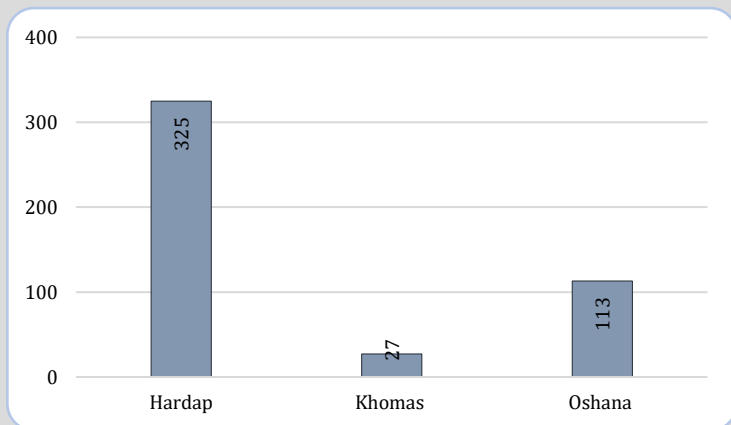


Figure 82: Number of VMMC Done by Region in Non-MHSS Health Settings in Namibia, January to March 2023

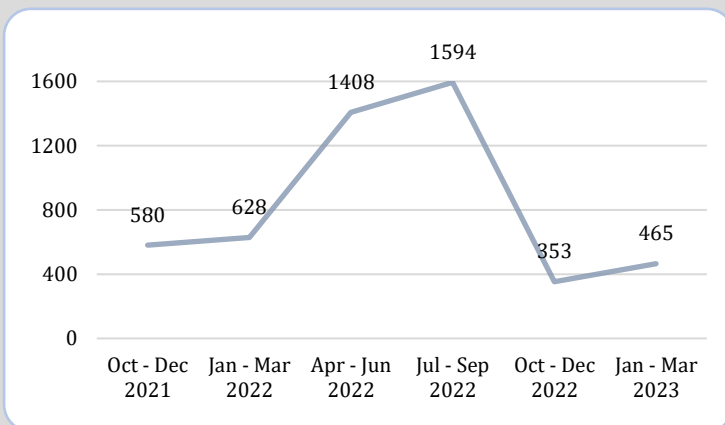


Figure 83: Quarterly Trend for VMMC Done in Non-MHSS Health Settings in Namibia, July 2021 to March 2023



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