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SOUTH AFRICAN COMMUNITY EPIDEMIOLOGY NETWORK ON DRUG USE

- Treatment Demand Data
- Service Quality Measures (SQM)
- Community-Based Harm Reduction Services

SYMPOSIUM

Mildrett Stevens

Community-based harm reduction services: Western Cape

[25 April] Phase 2022b [July – December 2022]



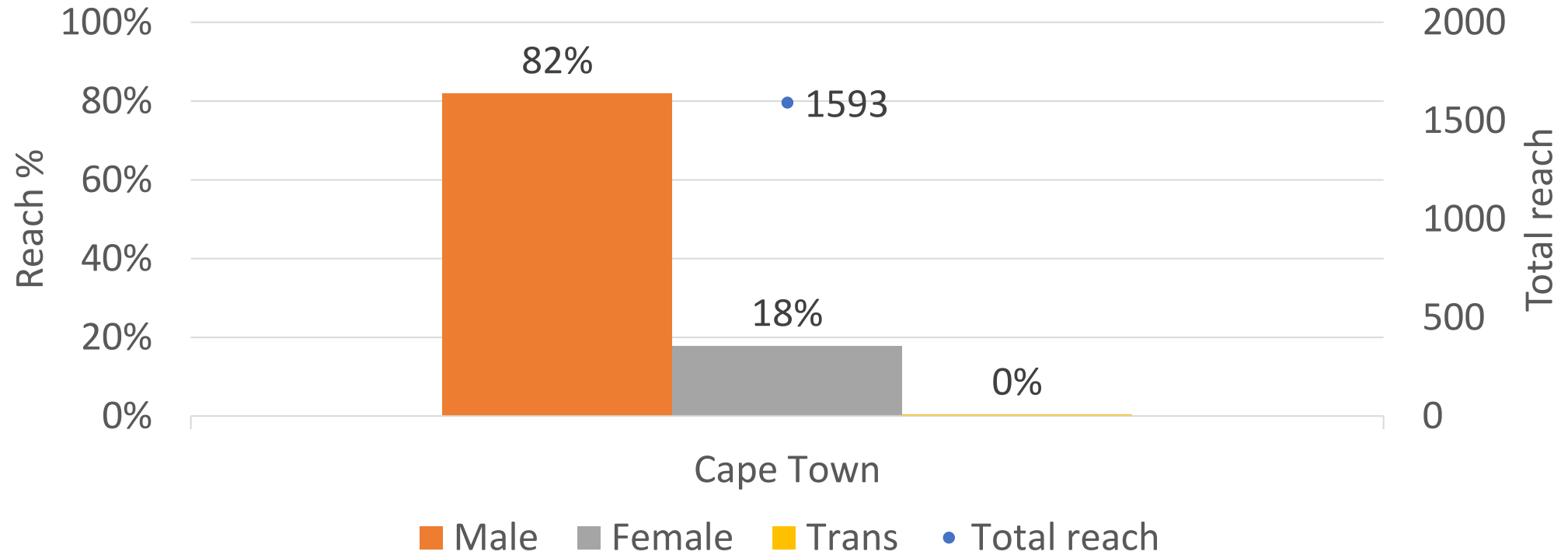
Needle & syringe reach, by gender



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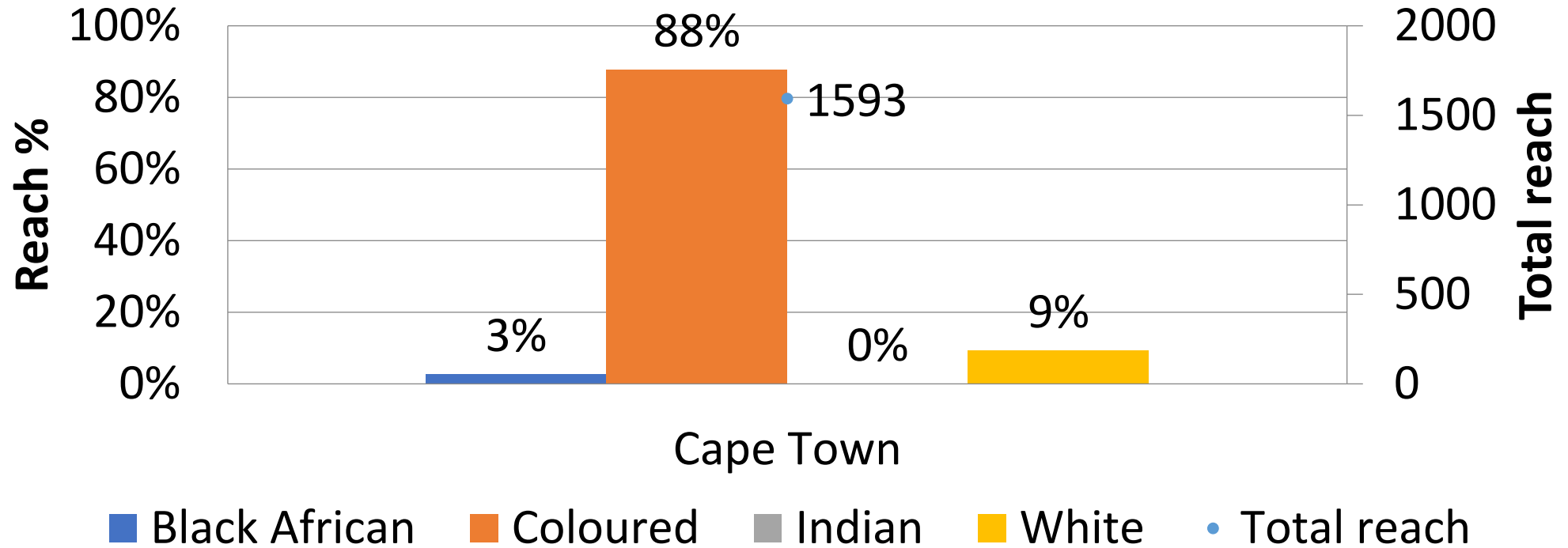
Needle & syringe reach, by population group



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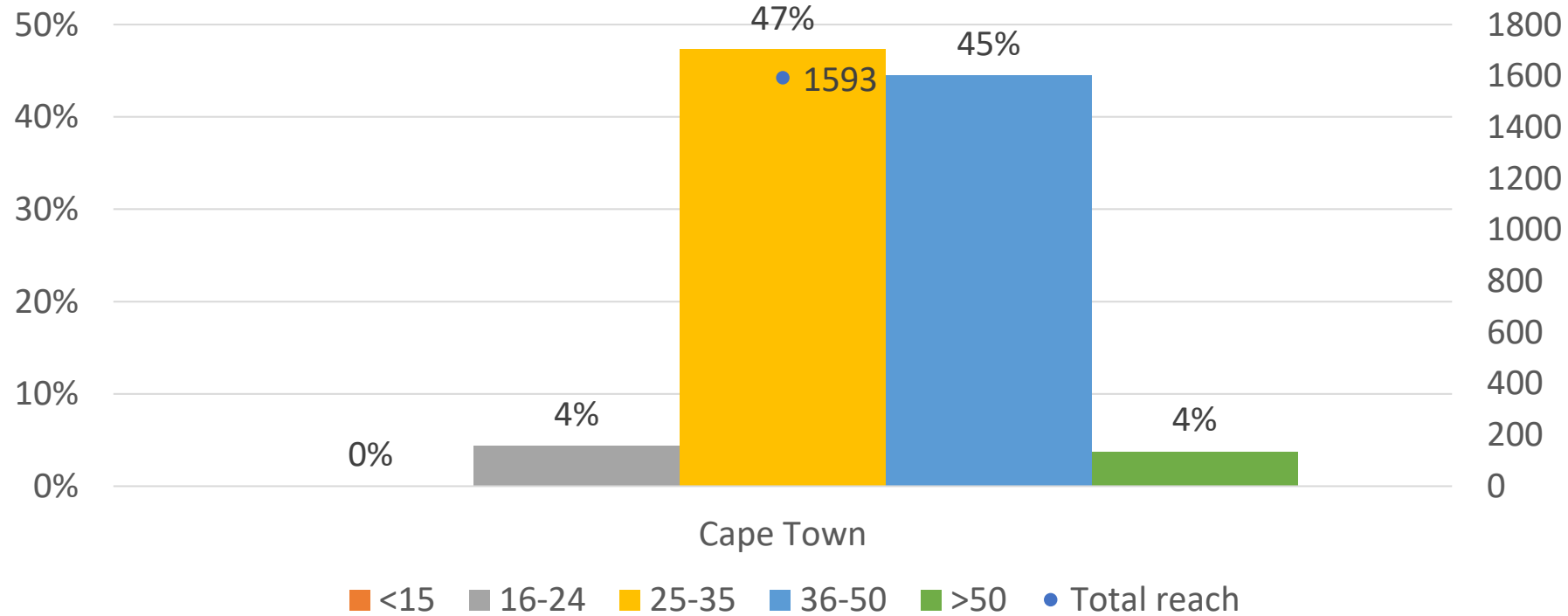
Needle & syringe reach, by age



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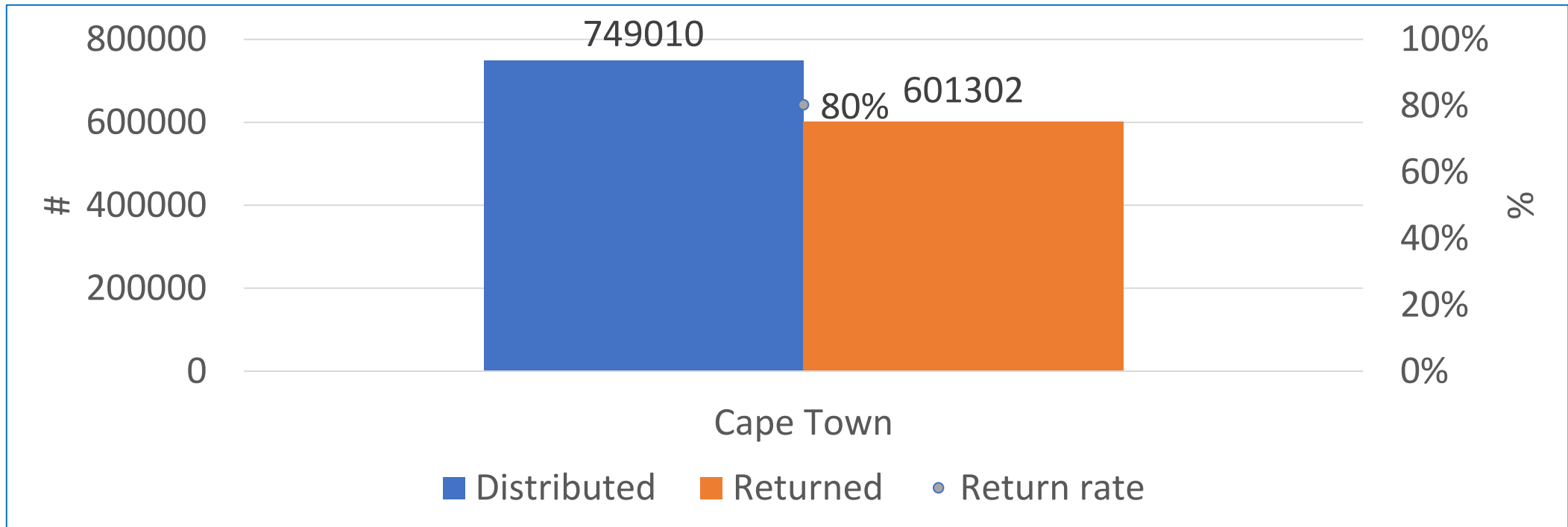
Needle & syringe distribution & return rate



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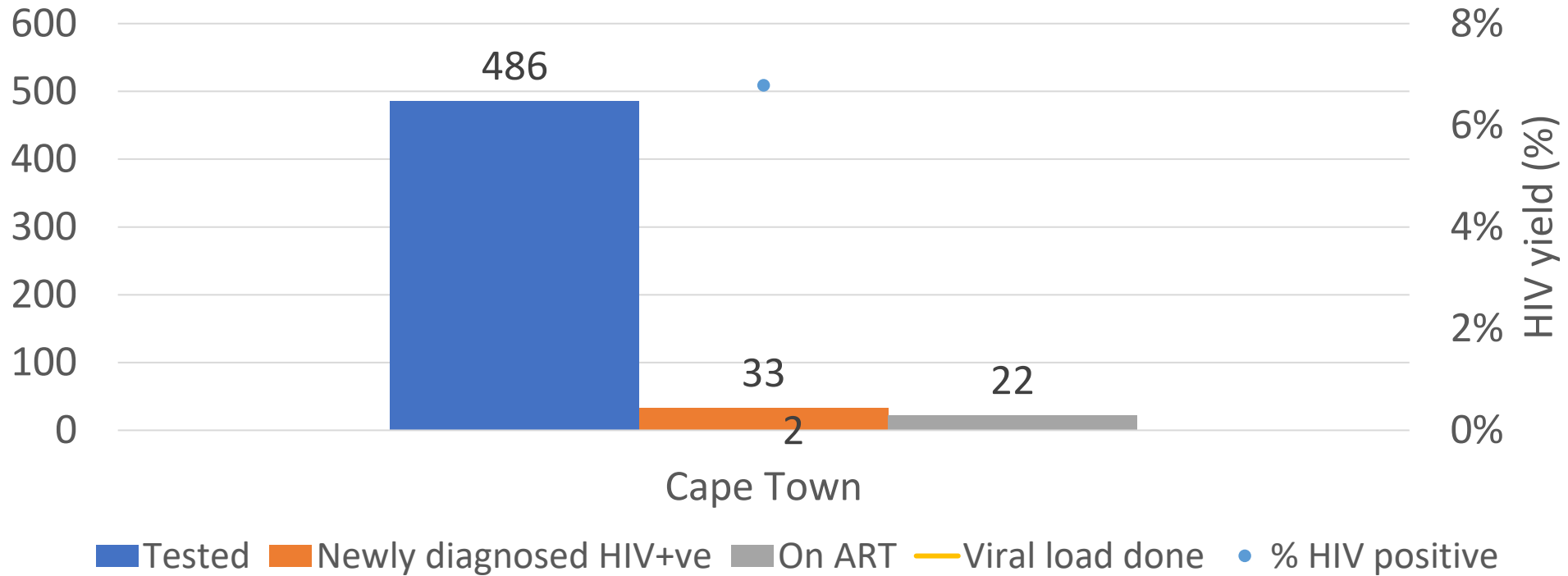
HIV testing & treatment cascade



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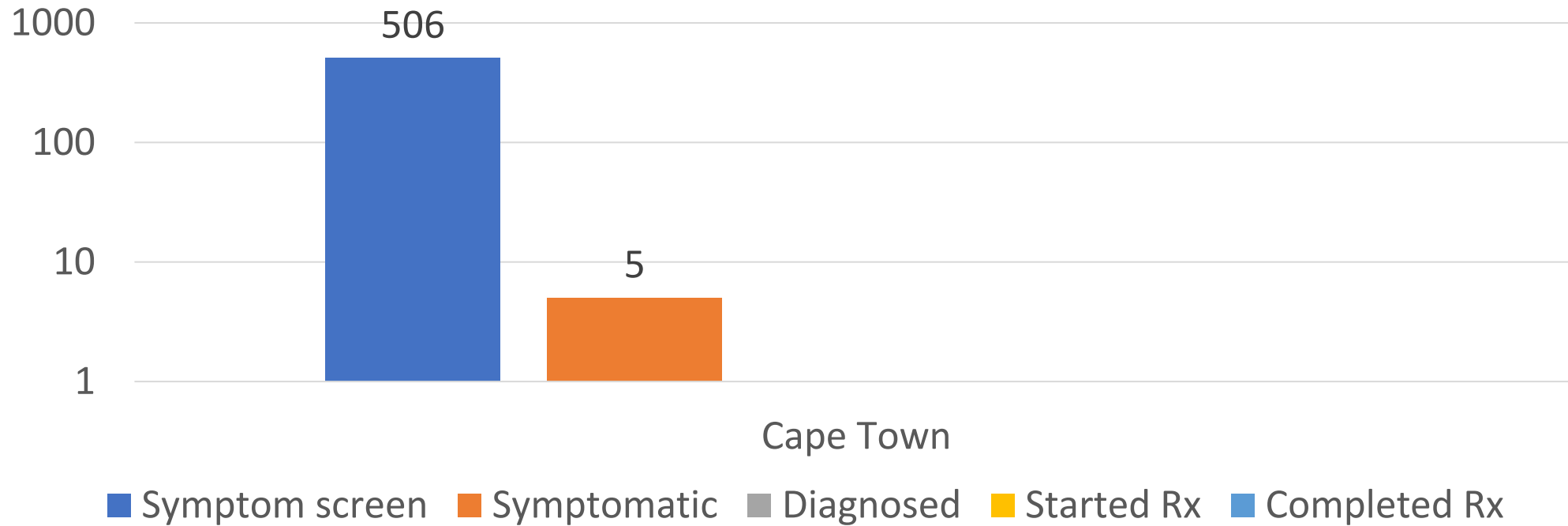
TB testing & treatment cascade



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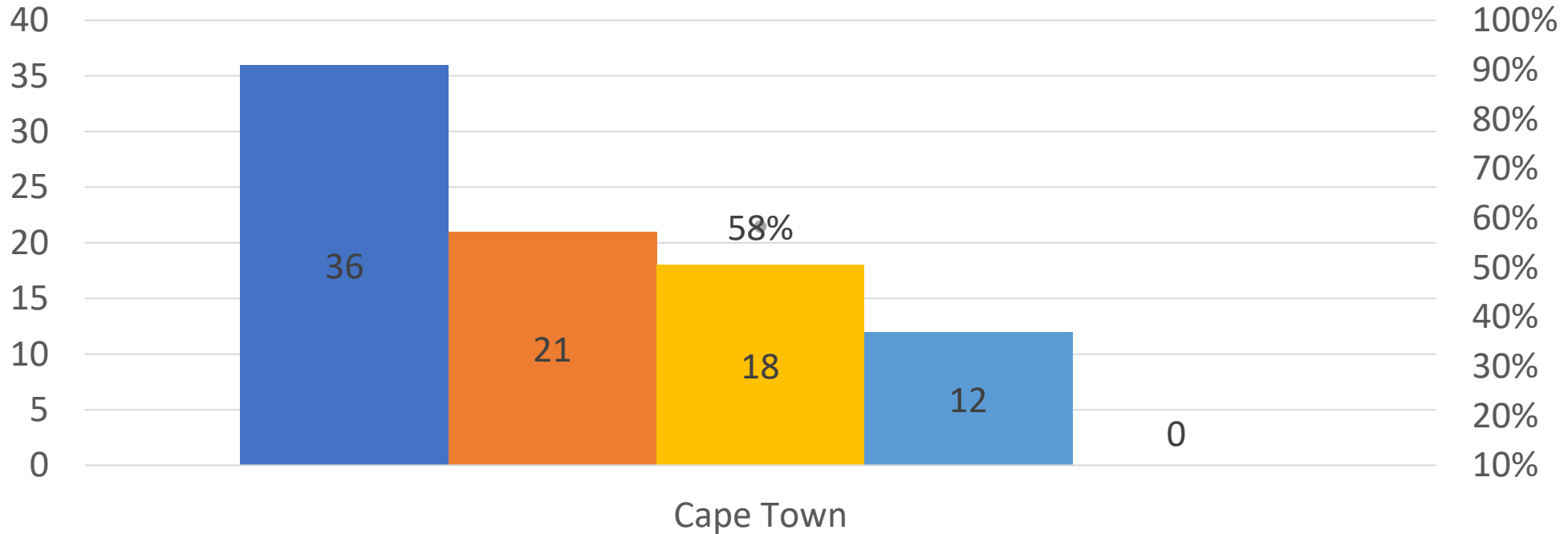
HCV testing & treatment cascade



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■ HCV screen ■ anti-HCV +ve ■ Confirmed infection ■ Started Rx ■ SVR12 • anti-HCV %



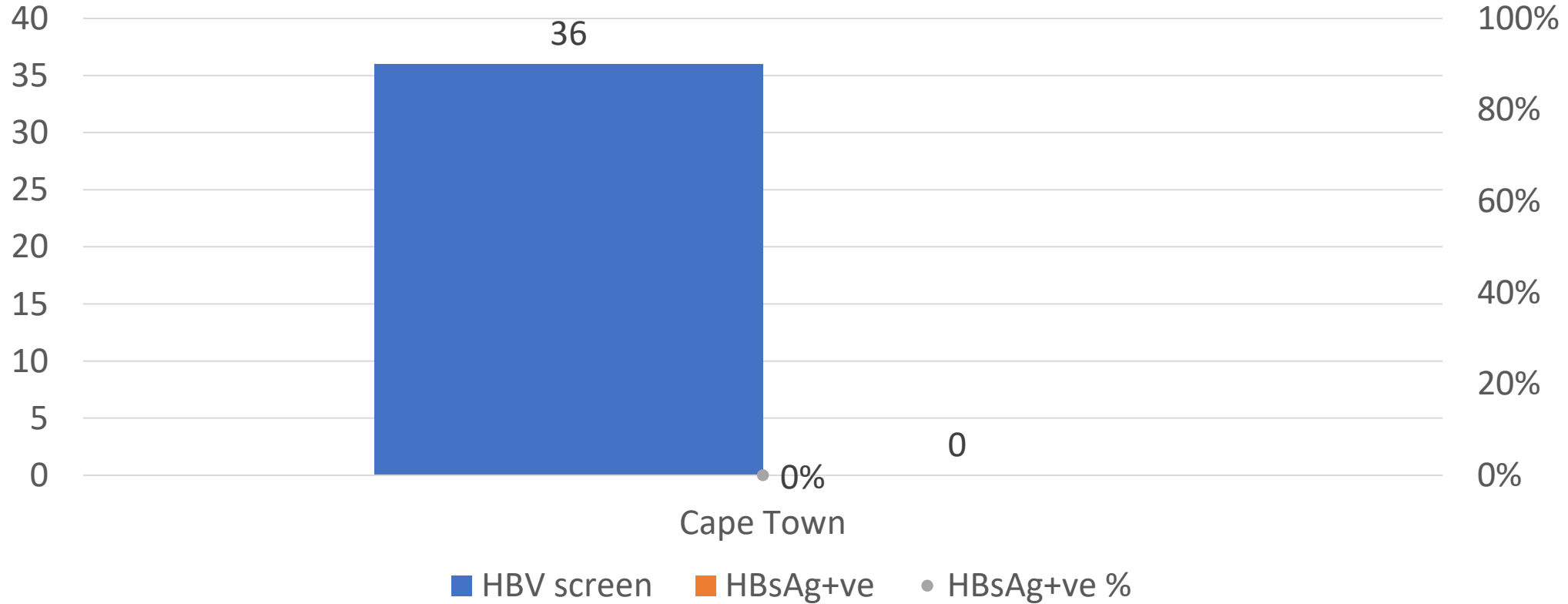
HBV testing



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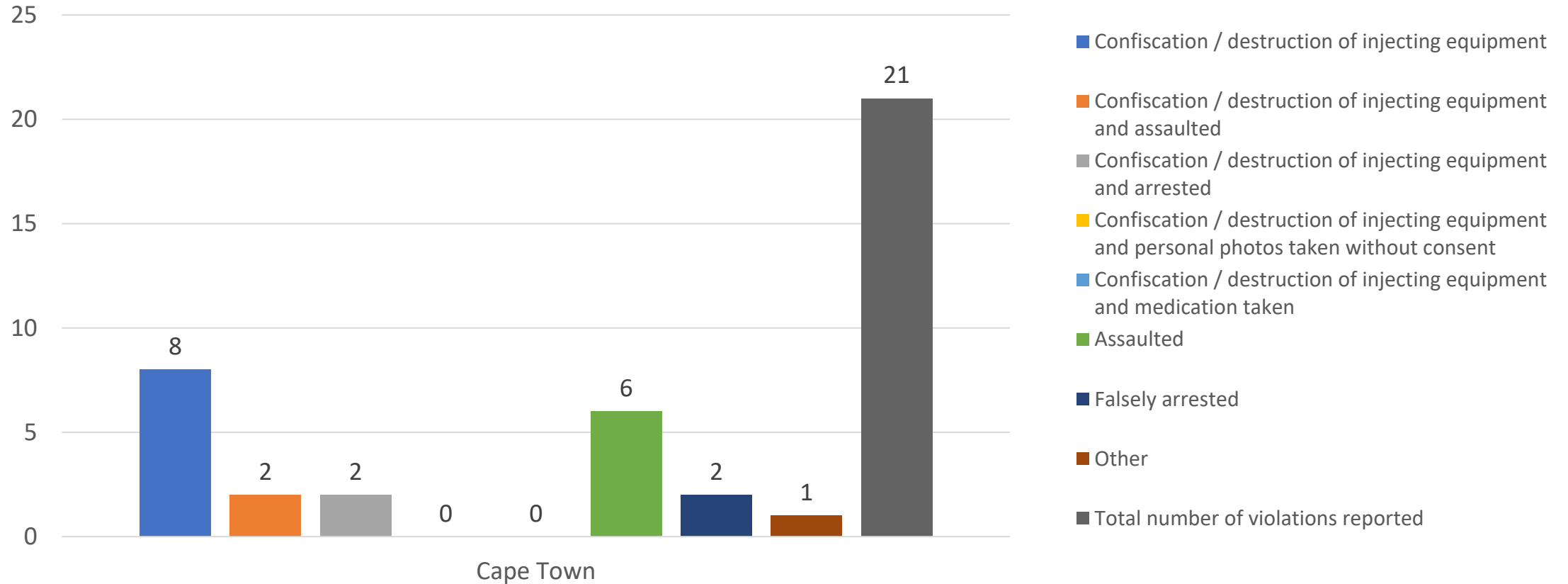
Human rights violations



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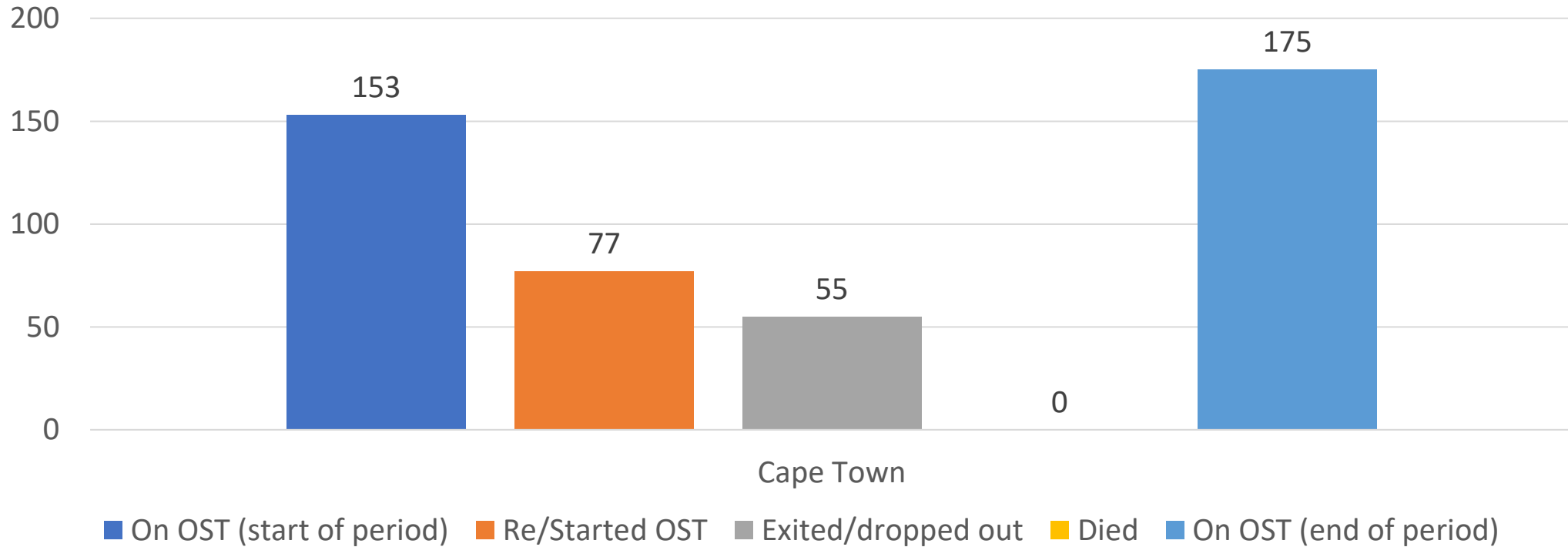
Opioid substitution therapy



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Mortality & overdose



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Cape Town

■ All deaths ■ Fatal overdoses



Issues & challenges



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- The absence of a full Harm reduction pack.
- Starting the new grant period late (19April 2022)
- No reaching the full quarterly target
- Not returning needles as clients held onto it.
- The preference of orange needles over pink needles.
- Clients not being able to access shelters due to institutions misunderstanding of heroin and OST
- The clients are not that eager to enter the premises of The Haven to go and access their dosages.
- Not having a space in Bellville as the capacity is increasing for OST clients. Clients' needs more individual counselling and support and placement for safe space for shelter.
- Having only 1 OST nurse.
- Having only one HTS tester
- OST traveling money-clients can't attend doctor's appointment or pick up medication.
- OST nurse experienced an injury on duty and as a result were off for long periods of time.
- Clients behavior causing damage to property and persons
- Delayed appointment timeframes for new staff



Successes



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- ✓ Appointment of a social worker in the programme.
- ✓ Reaching our HTS targets
- ✓ Linking to care as a result of facility buy-in of Nimart nurse initiating form the premises
- ✓ Movie day on Wednesdays for clients. It assists with retention.
- ✓ Food packs distribution to OST initiates, ART & TB linking
- ✓ OST traveling budget assist with adherence
- ✓ Staff members of J&M and CCID has been trained on needle pick-up, continues to do needle pick-ups.
- ✓ Facilities allowing Nimart nurse to initiate form their premises.
- ✓ To render psychosocial support to people who are using drugs (PWUD's)
- ✓ Facilitated more family support groups which resulted in greater client retention on the OST program.





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Acknowledgements



NACOSA
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