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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

[Bronwyn Gantana]

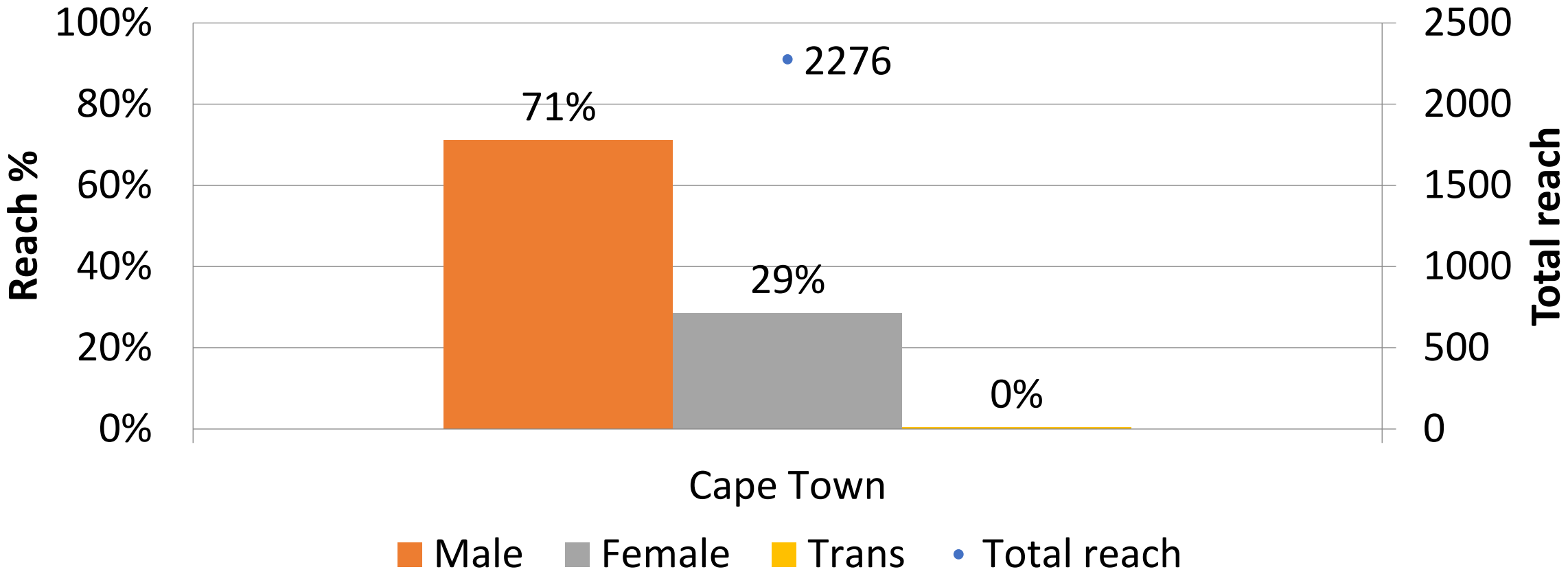
## Community-based harm reduction services: Western Cape

[26 Oct 2026] Phase 2026a [Jan – Jun 2026]

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# Needle & syringe reach, by gender

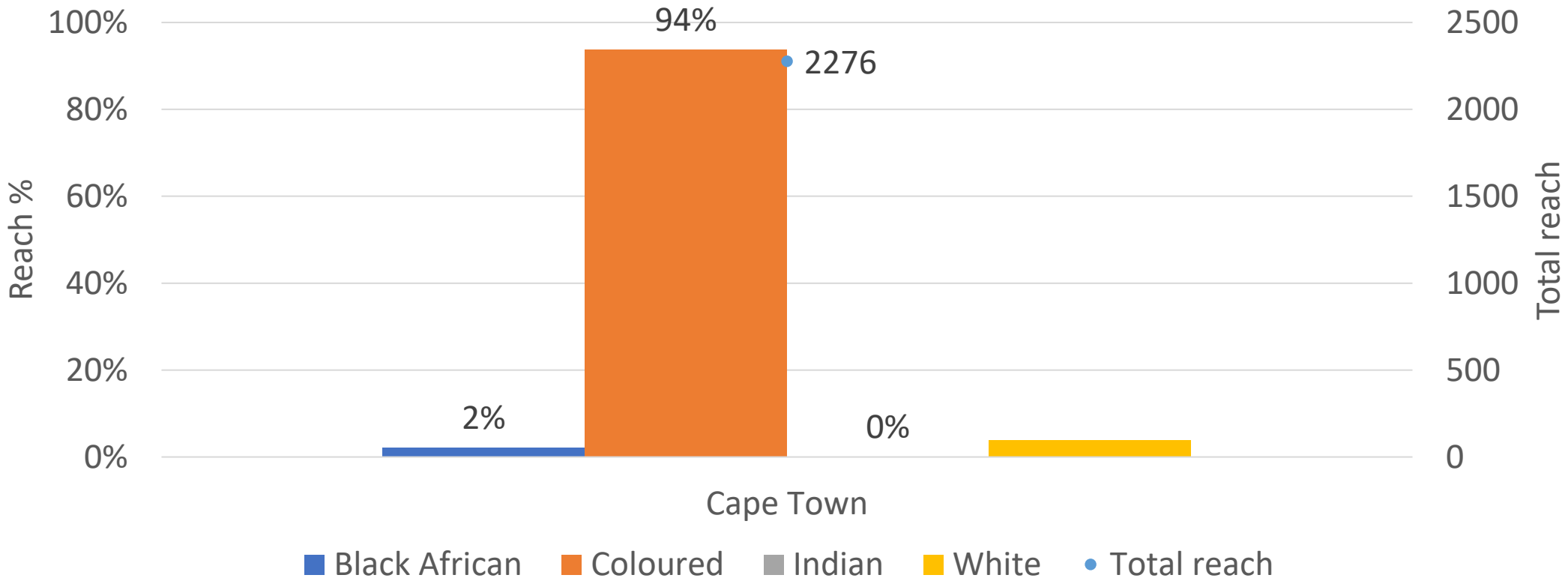
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# Needle & syringe reach, by population group

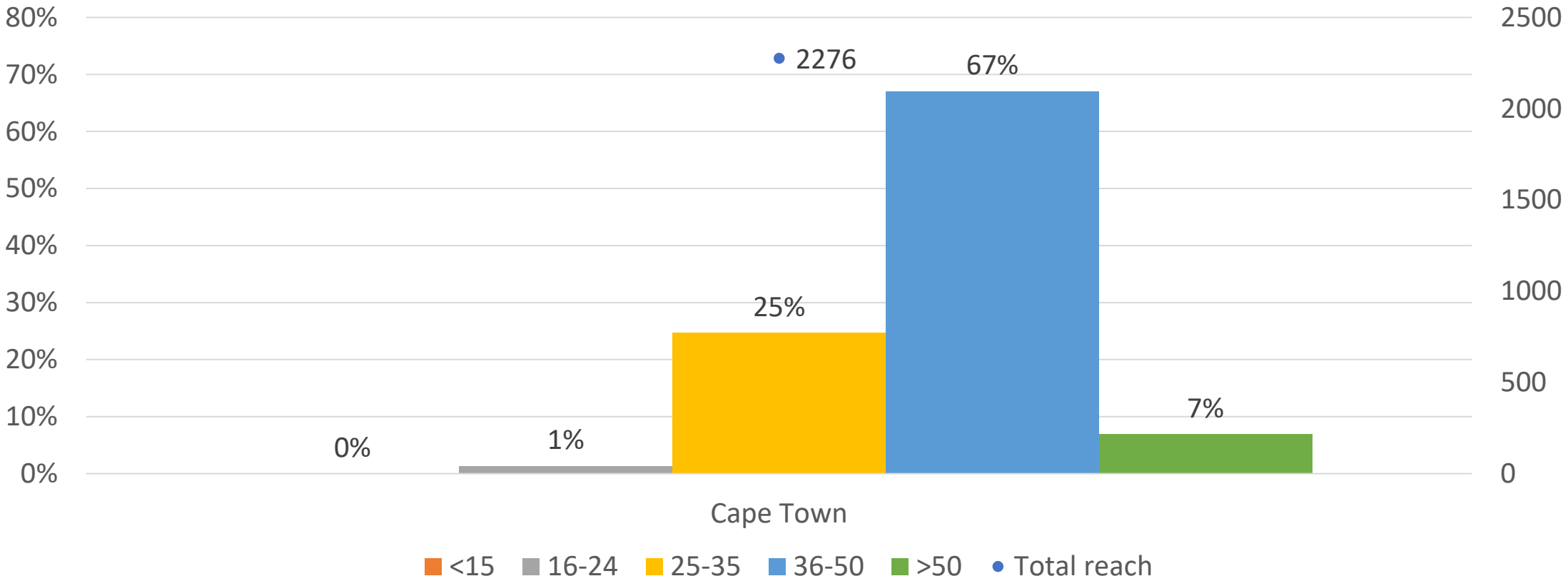
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# Needle & syringe reach, by age

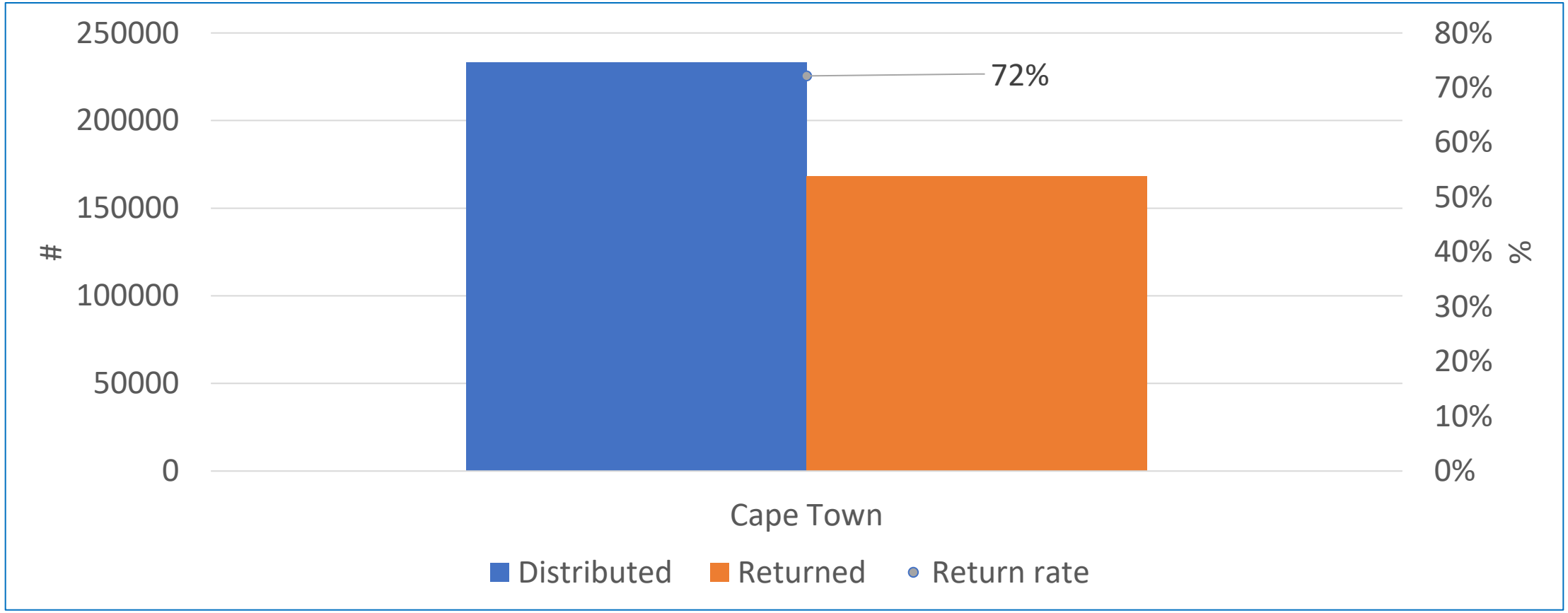
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# Needle & syringe distribution & return rate

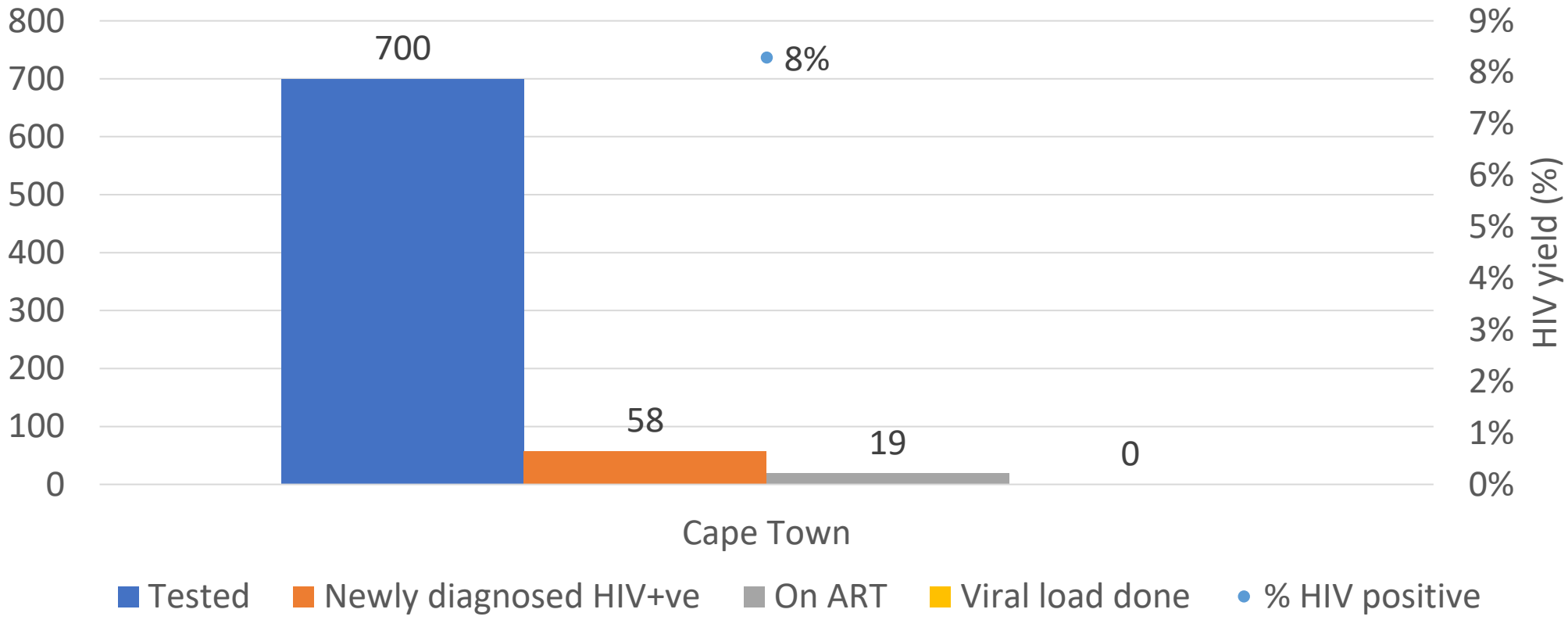
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# HIV testing & treatment cascade

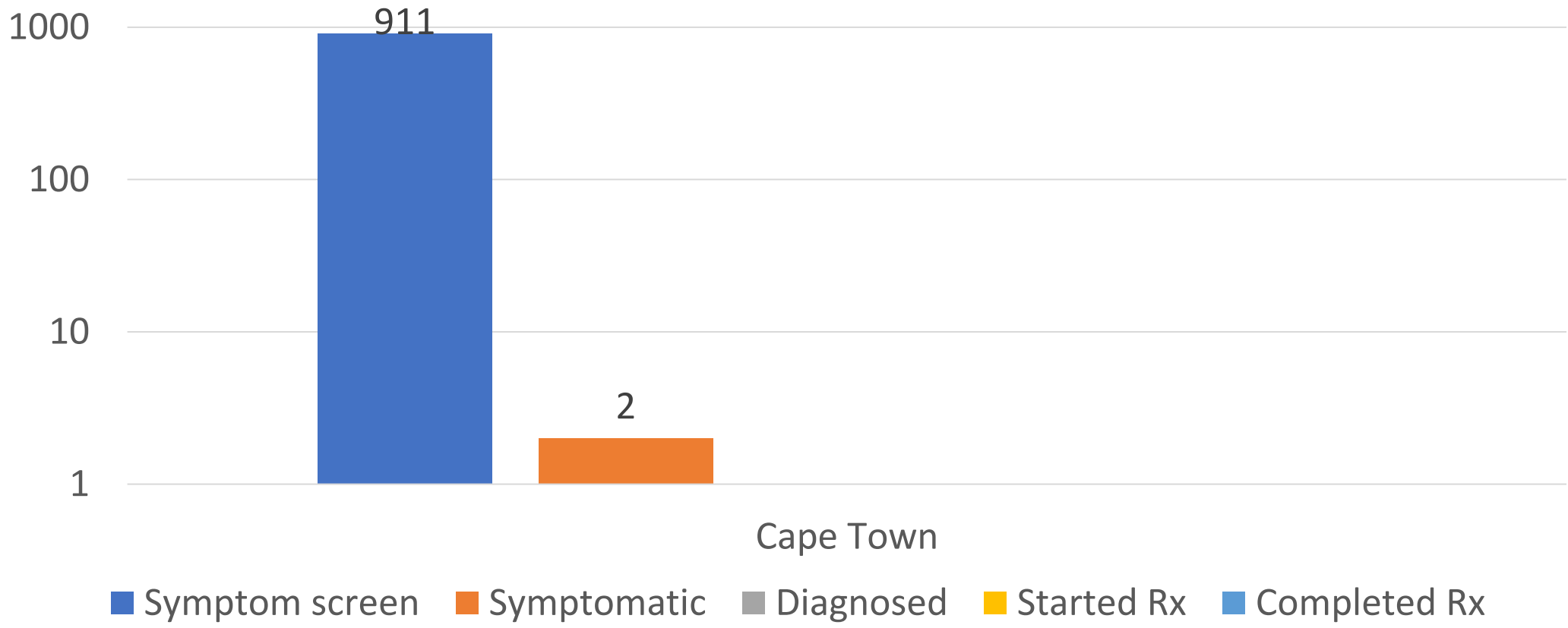
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# TB testing & treatment cascade

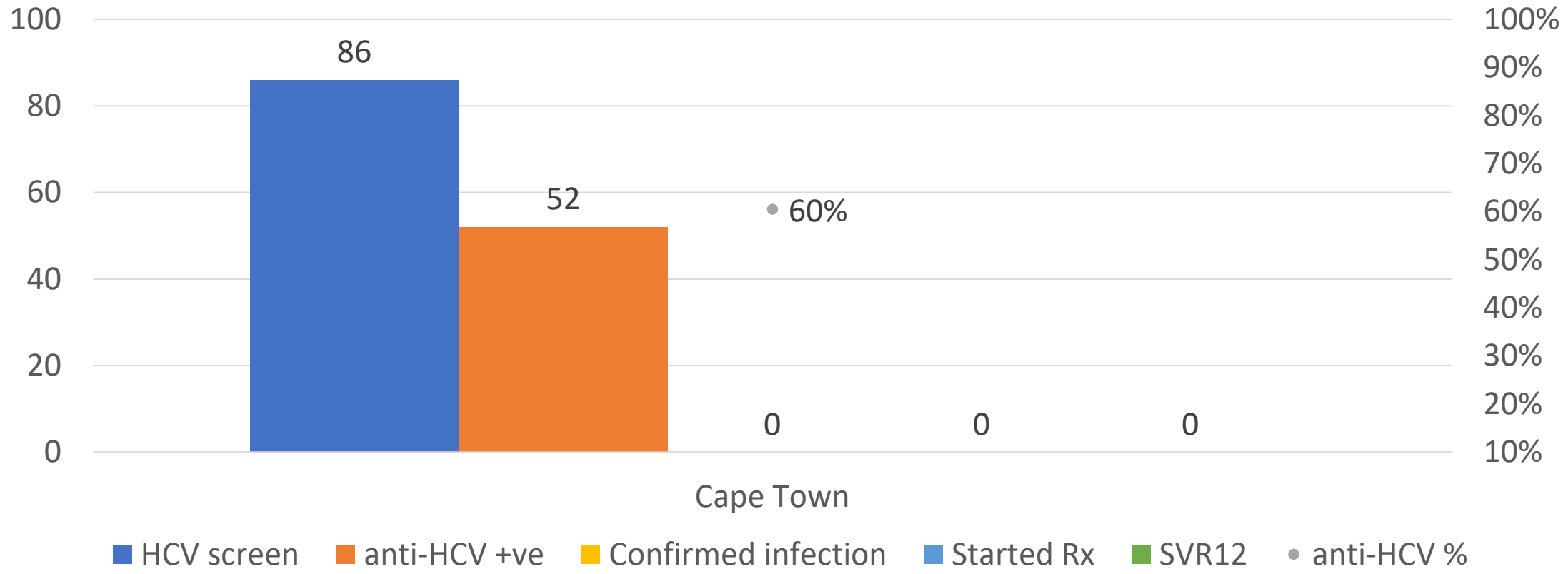
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# HCV testing & treatment cascade

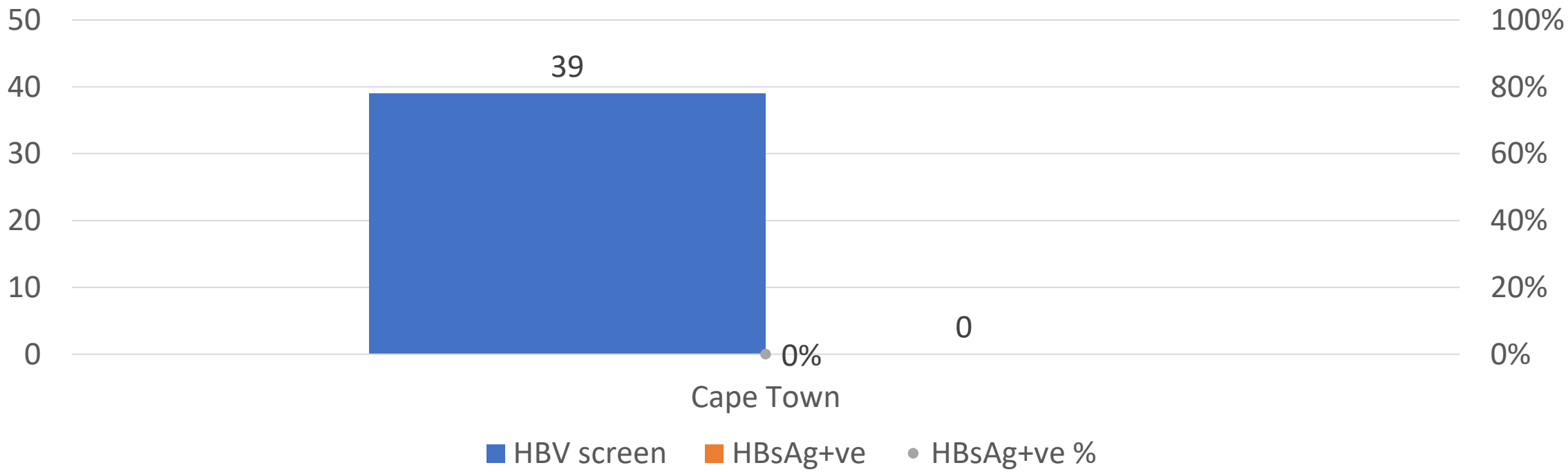
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# HBV testing

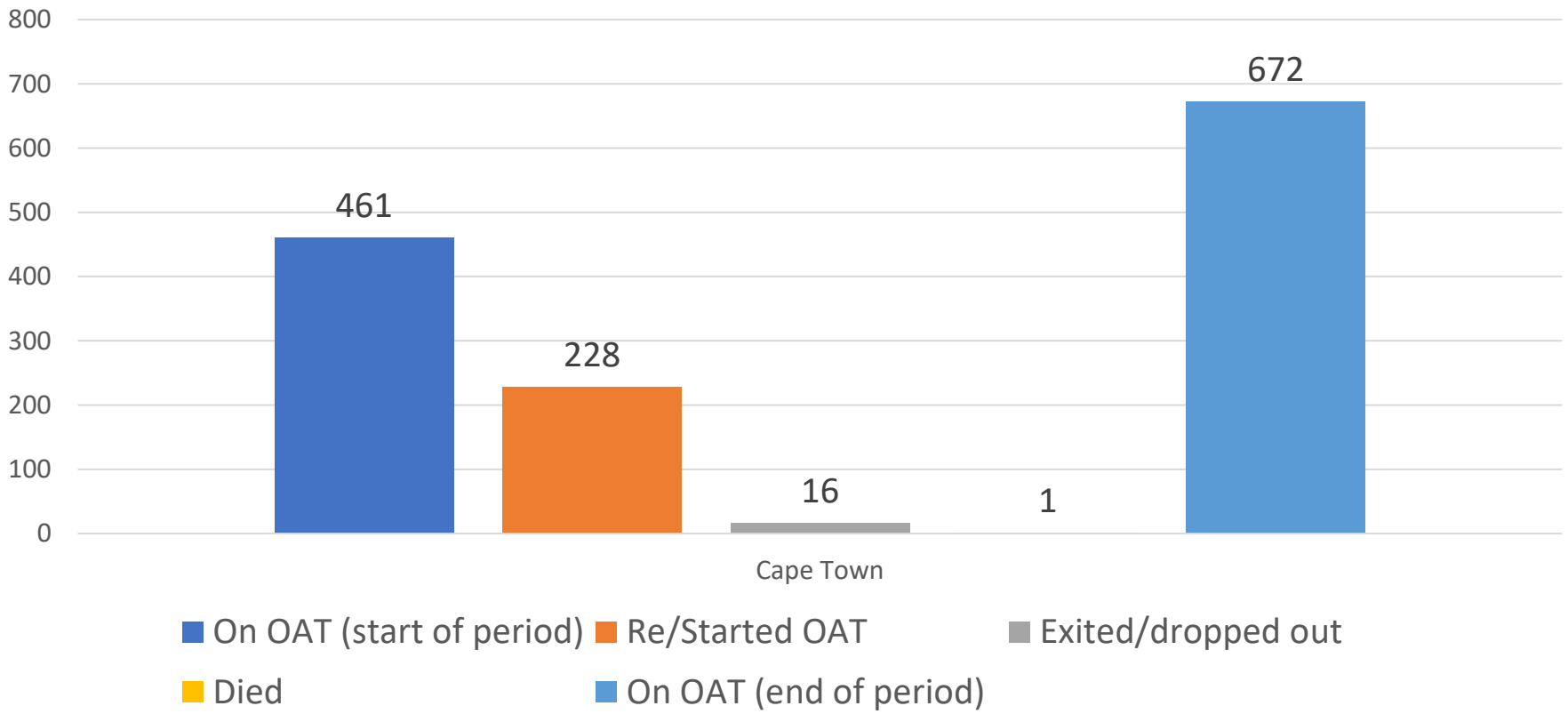
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# Opioid agonist therapy

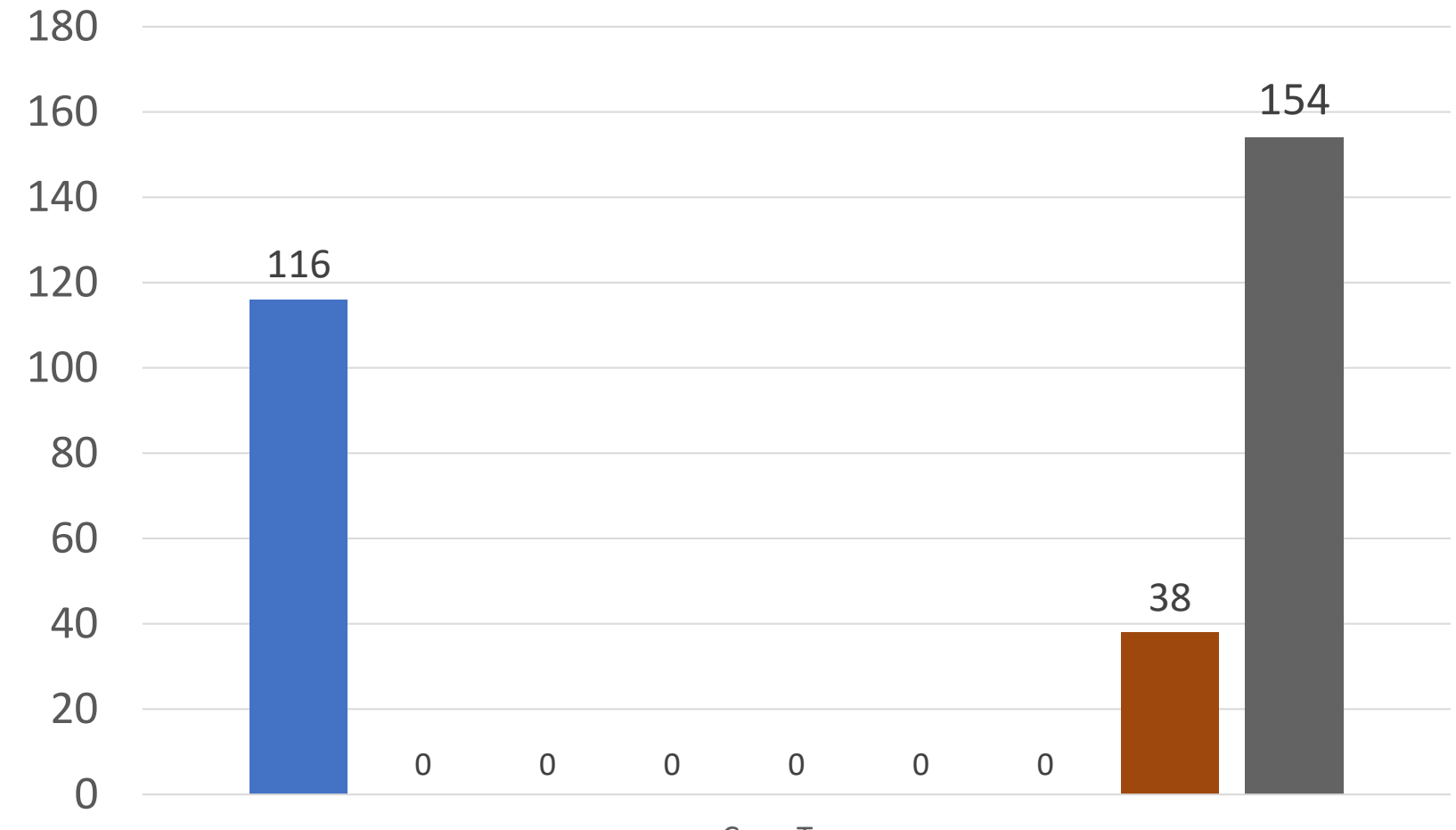
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# Human rights violations

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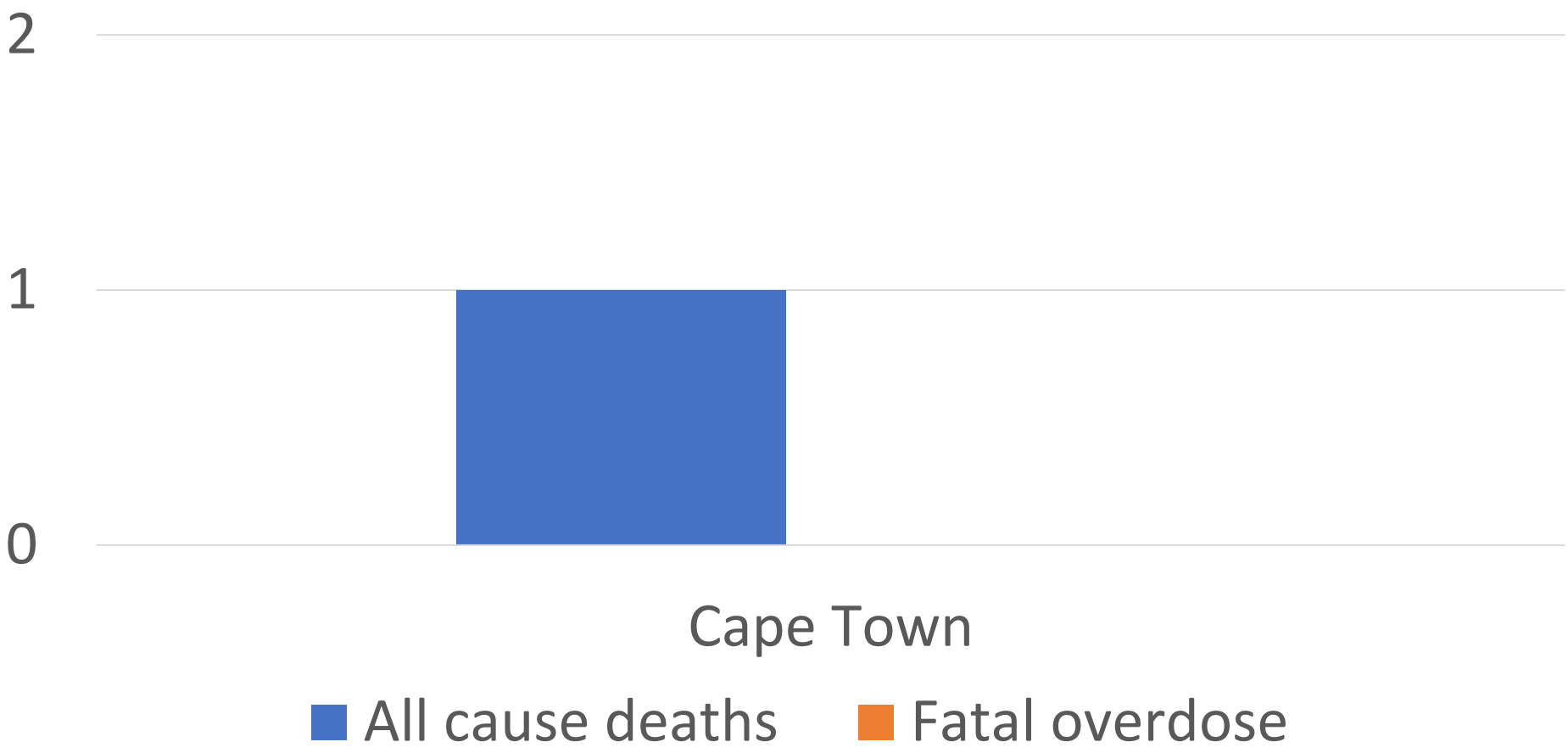



- Confiscation / destruction of injecting equipment
- Confiscation / destruction of injecting equipment and assaulted
- Confiscation / destruction of injecting equipment and arrested
- Confiscation / destruction of injecting equipment and personal photos taken without consent
- Confiscation / destruction of injecting equipment and medication taken

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# Mortality & overdose

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# Issues & challenges



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- Delays in contracting and in the transition from NACOSA to Aurum as the new Global Fund principal recipient
- Staffing issues
- Ongoing high levels of needle/syringe confiscations: 116 of 154 reported violations (75%)
- Needle/syringe return rate fell from 97% (2025b) to 72%
- Reach down from 3,076 (2025b) to 2,276 clients
- HIV treatment linkage: 19 of 58 newly diagnosed confirmed on ART (33%); no viral load results recorded
- HCV cascade stalled: 52 of 86 screened anti-HCV positive, but no PCR confirmation or DAA starts reported

# Successes



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- OAT clients up from 461 to 672 (+46%), with 228 started or restarted in the period
- 233,130 needles and syringes distributed, up from 226,155 in 2025b
- High proportion of women who inject drugs accessing services (29%)
- Low mortality: 1 all-cause death and no fatal overdoses reported
- Integrated services maintained: NSP, OAT, and HIV, TB, HCV and HBV screening

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# Acknowledgements

NACOSA

TBHIVCARE

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