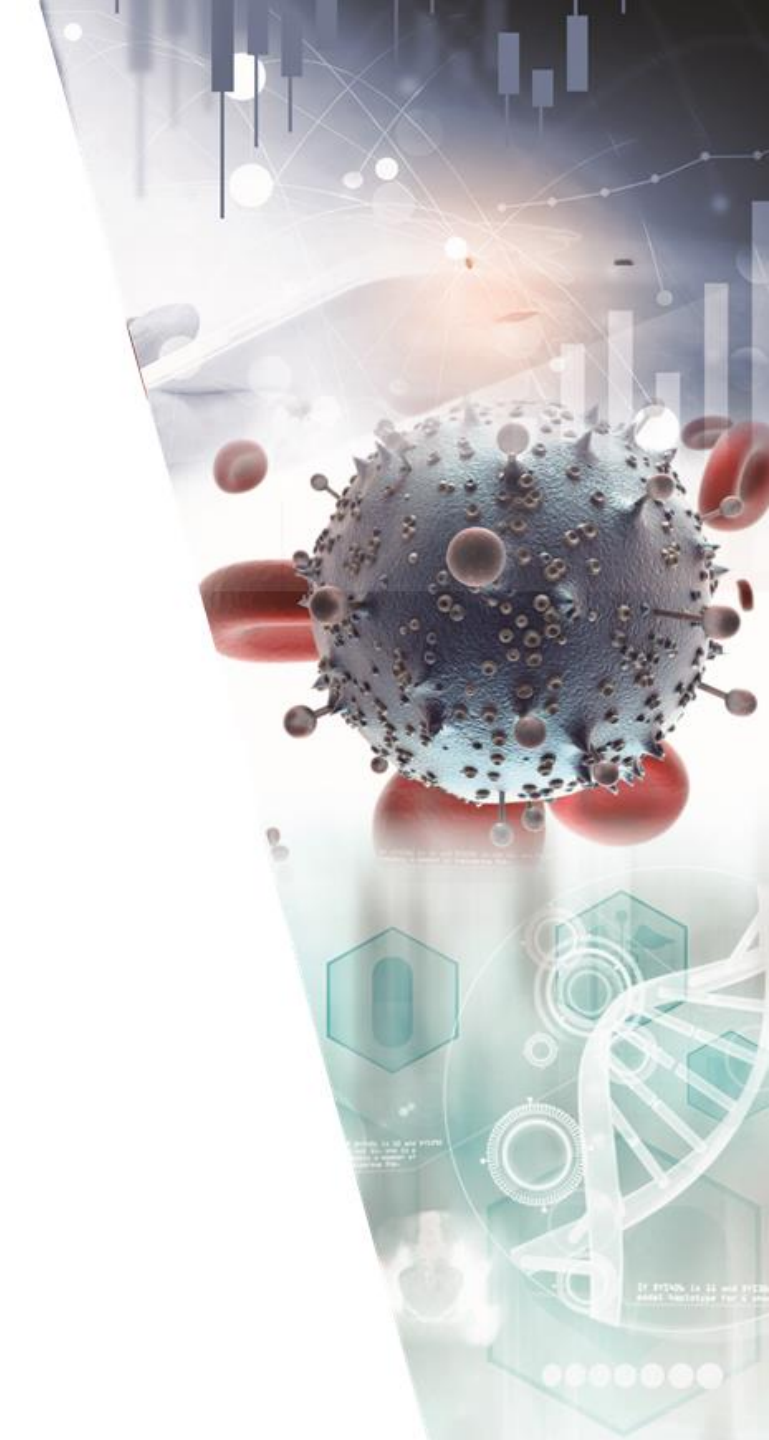


# The DREAMS Evaluation 2018 Cross-Sectional Survey

Cherie Cawood  
Epicentre





## Who is Epicentre ?

- A South African company, established in 2001 in KwaZulu-Natal
- Conducts public health research and implementation projects in South Africaer , Swaziland and Lesotho
- Offices in Johannesburg, Pietermaritzburg and Cape Town
- 50 permanent and 400 contract staff including HIV counsellors, field staff, supervisors and trainers

# Background

---

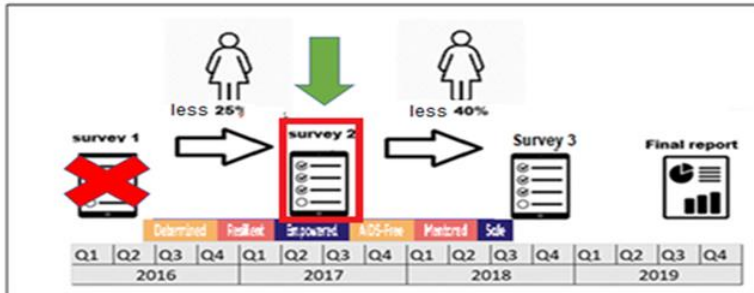
- **Determined, Resilient, Empowered, AIDS-free, Mentored and Safe (DREAMS)** programme is a comprehensive, multisectoral strategy, introduced by PEPFAR, to reduce HIV incidence among AGYW by 40% over two years.
- **DREAMS** programme is a component of the national *She Conquers* campaign
- We provide the results from data collected for the DREAMS evaluation study in South Africa.

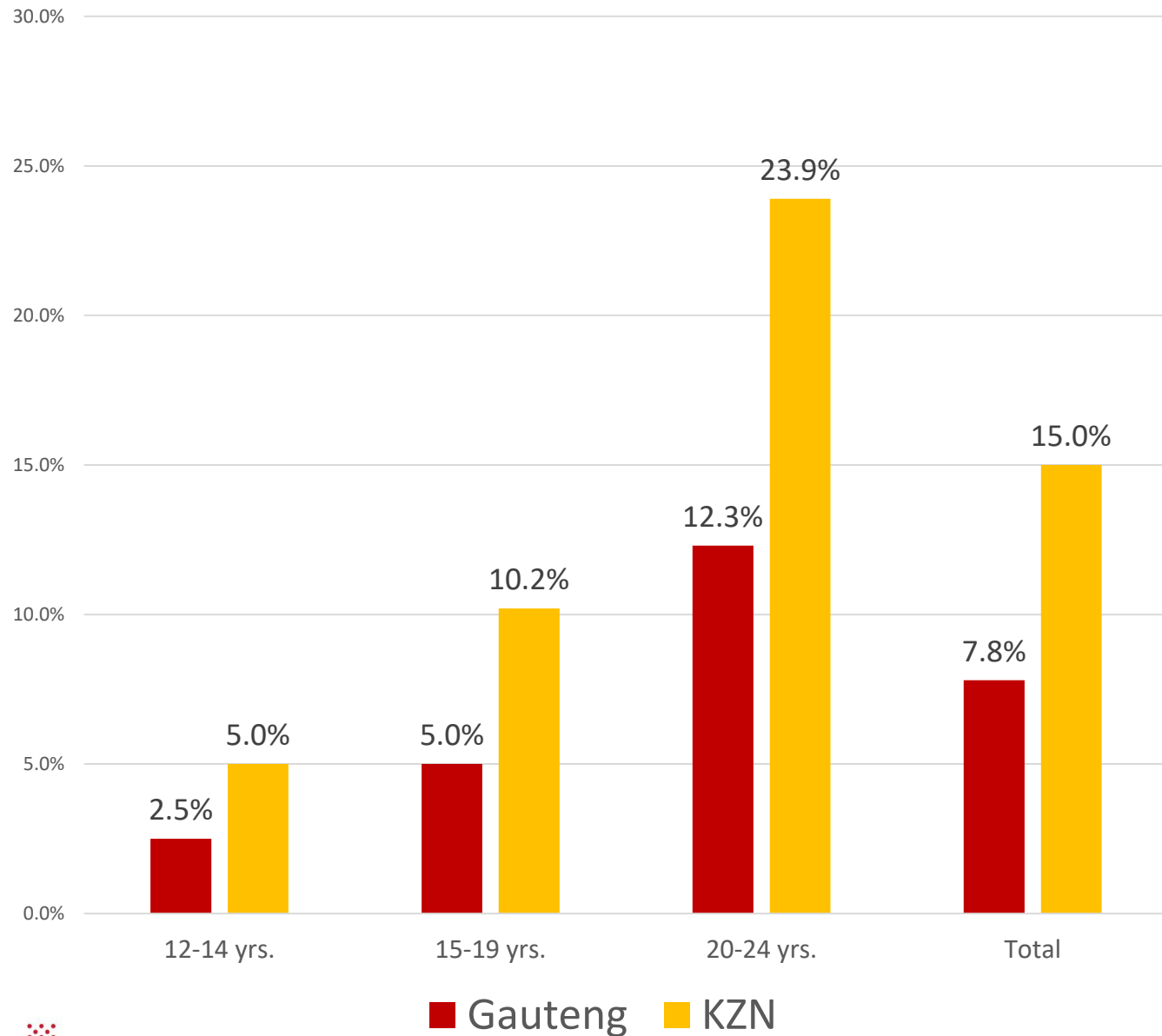




# Methods

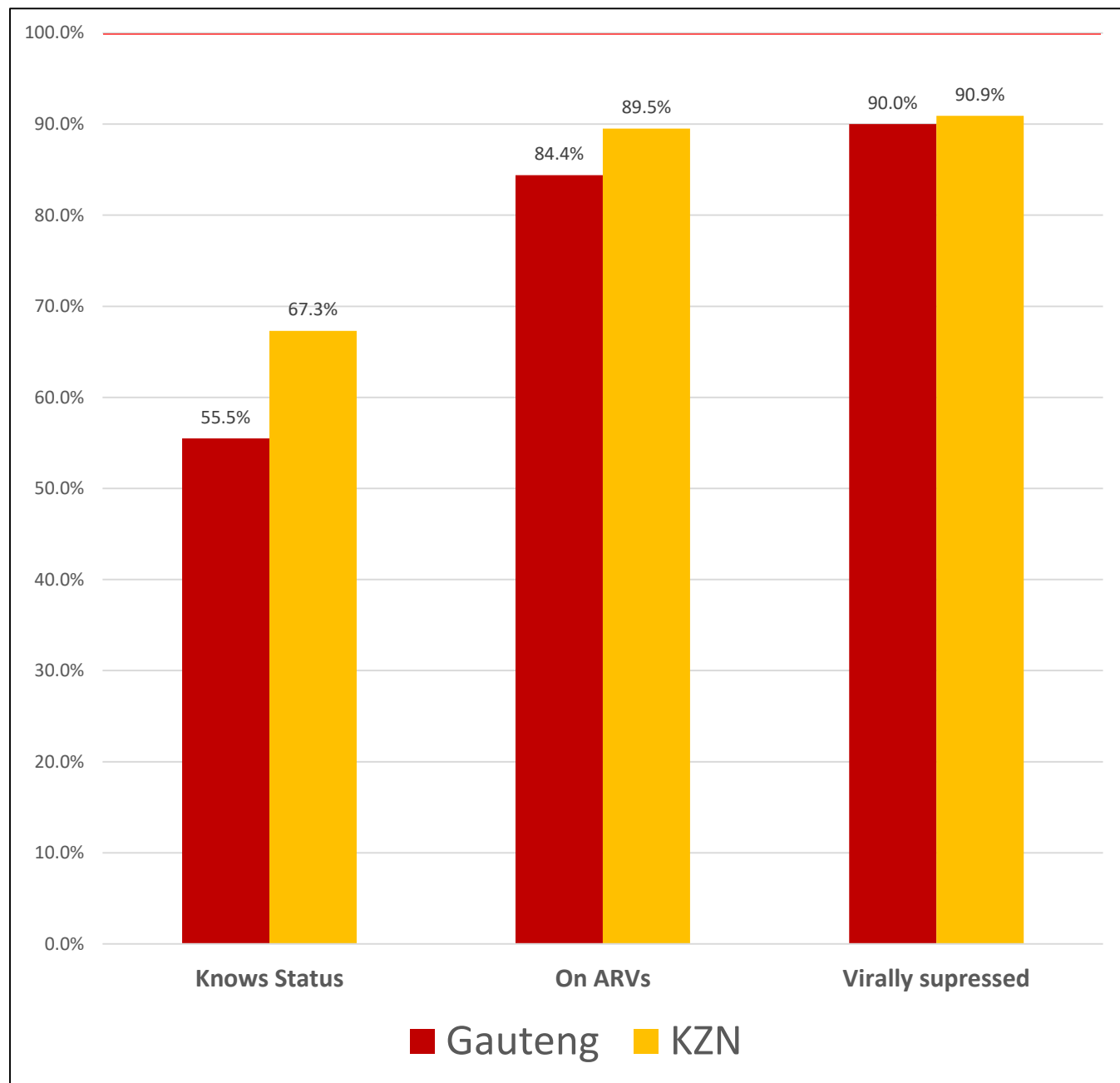
- **Purpose:** To assess the impact of the DREAMS interventions on HIV incidence, prevalence of HIV and STI, and other indicators over time among AGYW in four districts in South Africa
- **Design:**
  - Cross-sectional surveys of AGYW (12-24 years).
  - A stratified cluster-based sampling approach was used to select 18,500 AGYW in this household-based survey.
  - A questionnaire was administered, and biological samples were collected
- **Timelines:** Fieldwork was conducted, from March 2017 to July 2018.





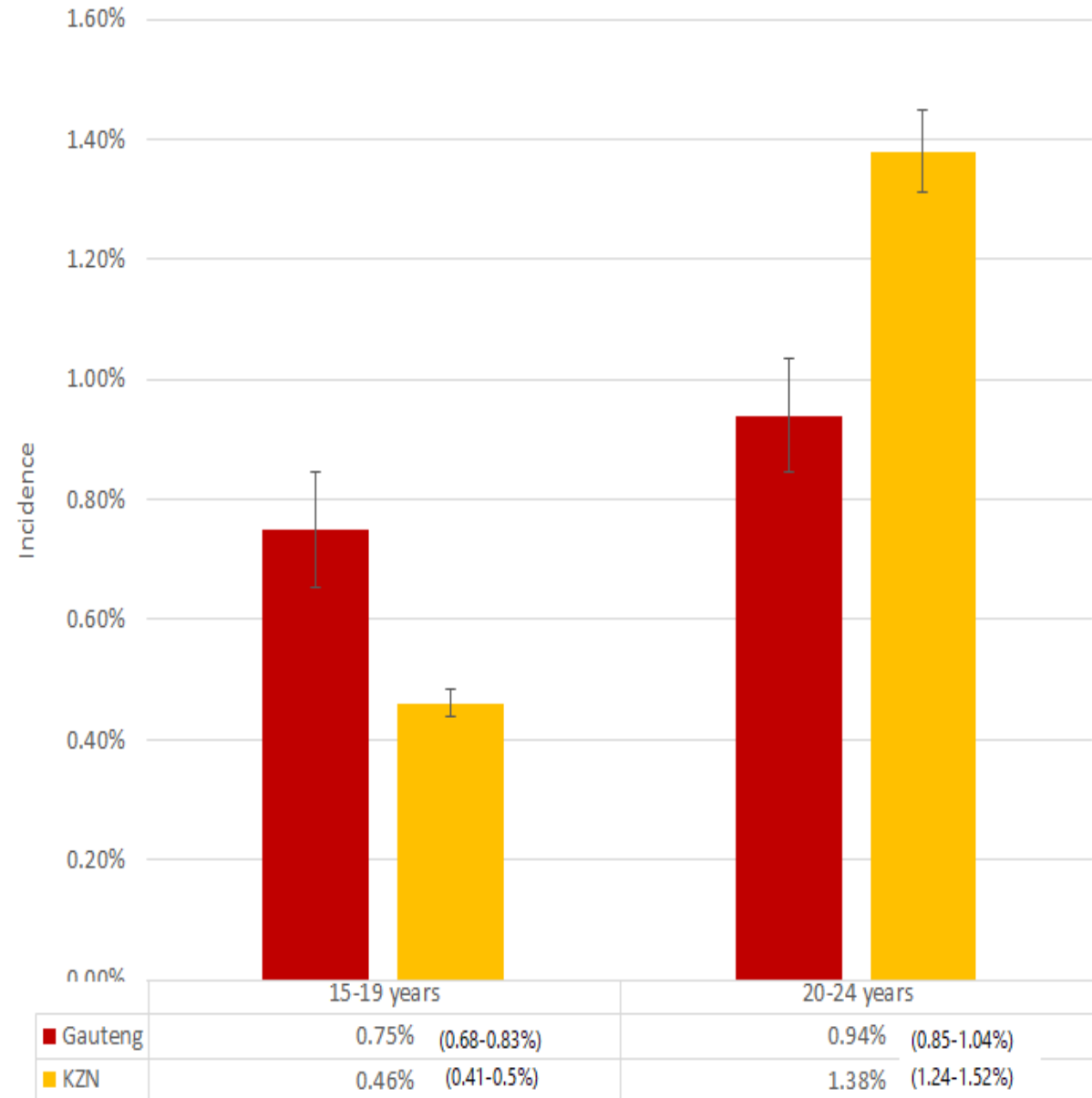
# HIV Prevalence by age group and province

# Treatment cascade (12-24 years of age)

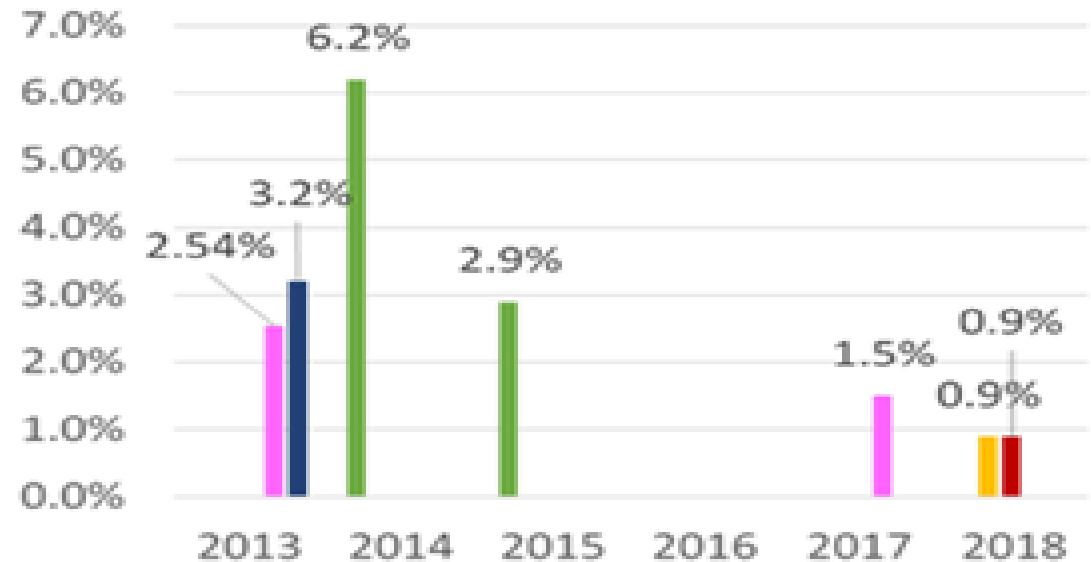


# HIV incidence

0.87% (0.79–0.96 %) overall in AGYW 15–24 years



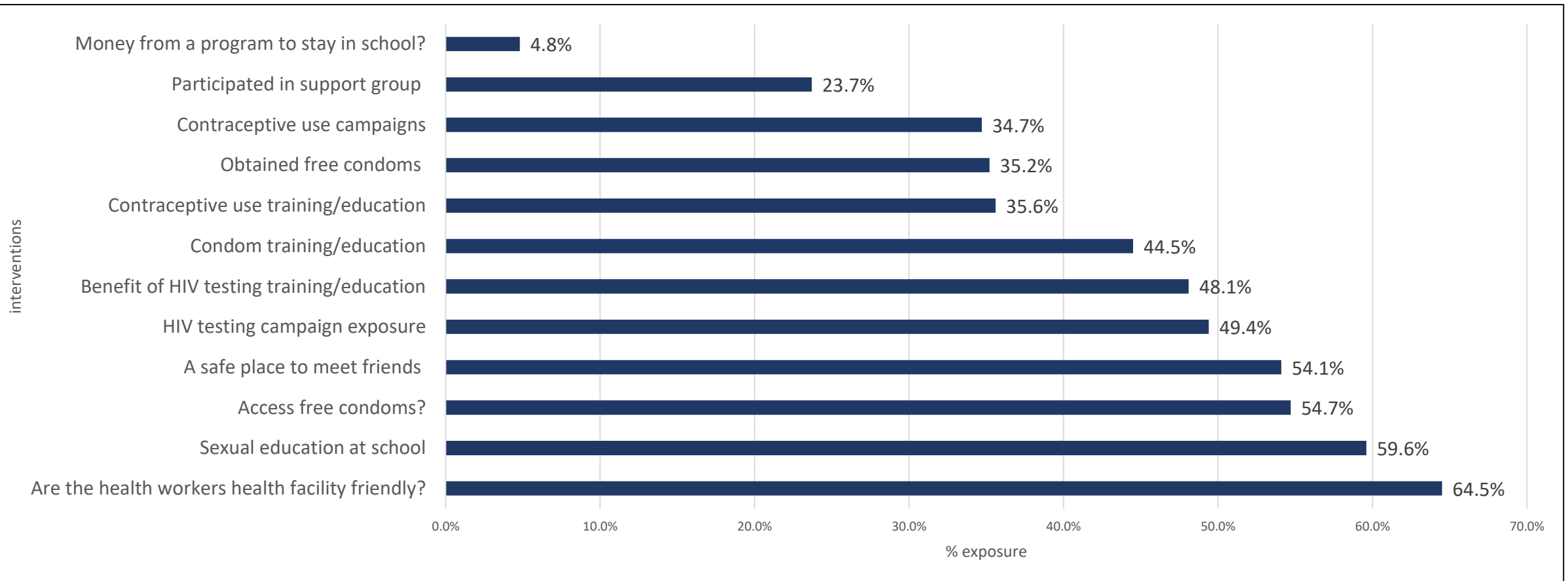
# HIV INCIDENCE TRENDS USING BIOMARKER- BASED METHOD (2012–2018)



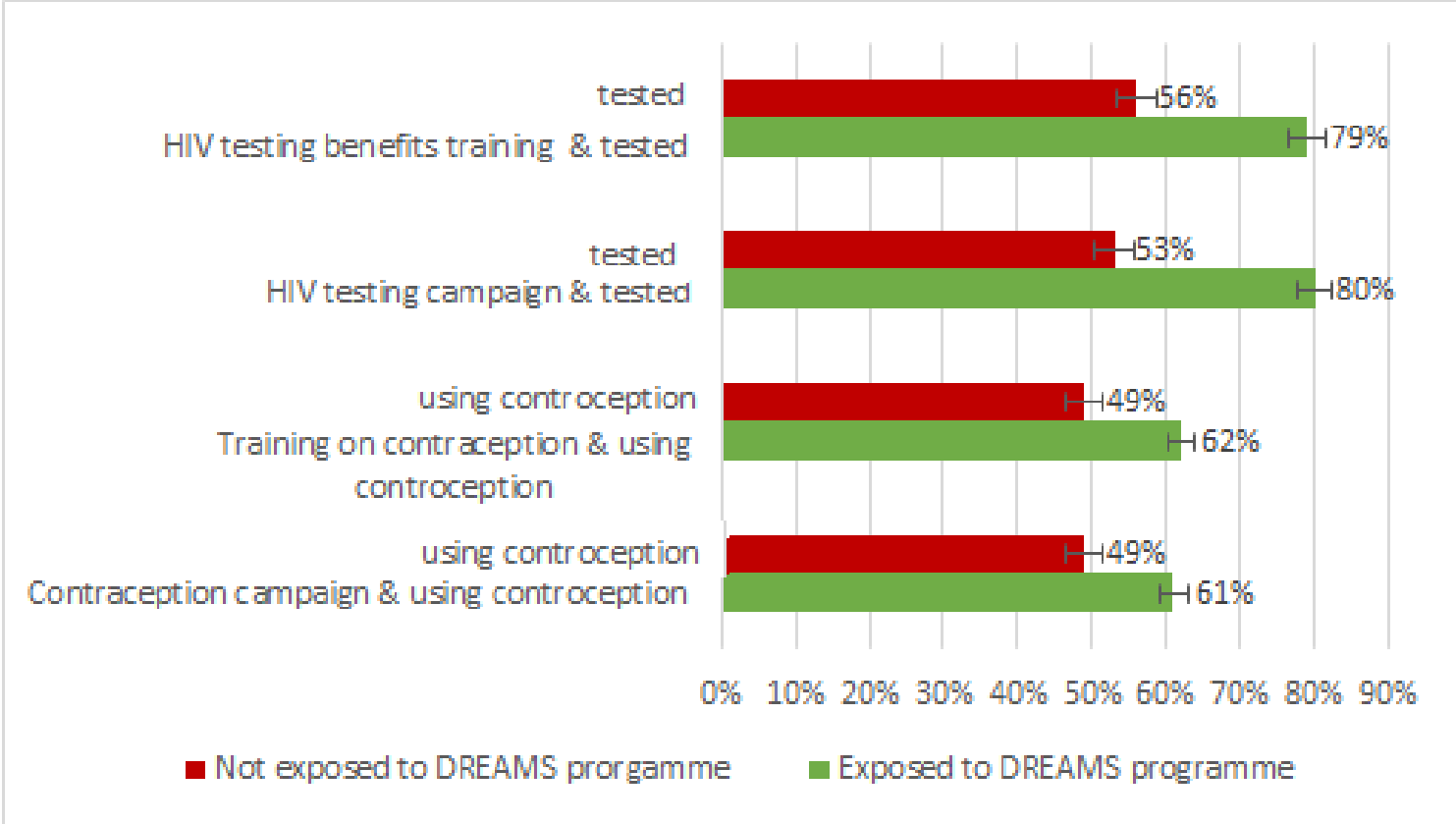
- HIPSS uMgungundlovu(F 15-24yrs)
- DREAMS eThekweni&uMgungundlovu (F 15-24yrs)
- DREAMS COJ & Ekurhuleni (F15-24yrs)
- SABSSM National (F 15-24yrs)
- Eshowe (F 15-29yrs)



# DREAMS “LIKE” PROGRAMME COVERAGE



HEALTH-SEEKING  
BEHAVIOUR  
AND  
EXPOSURE TO THE  
DREAMS “LIKE”  
PROGRAMMES



# Key findings



- The HIV incidence results were in keeping with the downward trends found in other incidence study findings
- The treatment cascade indicates that
  - 44.5% of the HIV-positive AGYW in Gauteng and 30.3% of the AGYW in KZN did not know their HIV status.
  - Once diagnosed, most of AGYW began treatment
  - Once on treatment, most AGYW were virally suppressed
- Health-seeking behaviour such as HIV testing and contraception use was higher in AGYW who attended DREAMS “like” programmes compared to AGYW who did not attend DREAMS “like” programmes
- The coverage of DREAMS programmes was about 50% in AGYW

# Study Team and acknowledgements

## Investigators

- Epicentre AIDS Risk Management
- Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- Health Economics and HIV/AIDSs Research Division (HEARD)
- National Institute for Communicable Diseases, National Health Laboratory Service (NICD/NHLS)
- Medical Research Council (MRC)
- Population Council

## Collaborating Partners

- District managers
- Department of Health
- South Africa AIDS Council



## Study sponsorship and funding Statement

DREAMS evaluation is funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) under terms of the cooperative agreement) 3U2GGH000372-02W1 and the US Presidents Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR)

### Disclaimer

The findings and conclusions in this presentation are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official position of the CDC.

The mark “CDC” is owned by the US Dept. of Health and Human Services and is used with permission. Use of this logo is not an endorsement by HHS or CDC of any product, service, or enterprise.

