

Background

- Rakai Health Sciences Program research is integrated with comprehensive HIV prevention and treatment
- RHSP has supported HIV prevention and care since 1990s and added antiretroviral therapy in June 2004
- Currently, comprehensive HIV services fully supported by the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) through the Centers for Disease Control (CDC).
- Implemented through a District-led programming approach
- Supported only Rakai district between 2004-2016
- 2017 to-date, services to 12 districts to cover Rakai, Kyotera, Bukomansimbi, Lwengo, Lyantonde, Ssembabule, Mpigi, Kalungu, Butambala, Gomba and Kalangala (84 islands)



Services Provided

- HIV testing and counseling
- Antiretroviral therapy
- Diagnosis and treatment of opportunistic infections
- Elimination of Mother to Child Transmission of HIV (eMTCT)
- Pre- Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) Services
- Tuberculosis diagnosis and treatment
- Laboratory services
- Services to Orphans and Vulnerable children (OVC)
- DREAMS (*Determined Resilient Empowered AIDS-free Mentored Safe*) programming
- Voluntary male medical circumcision (VMMC)



RHSP Service Program

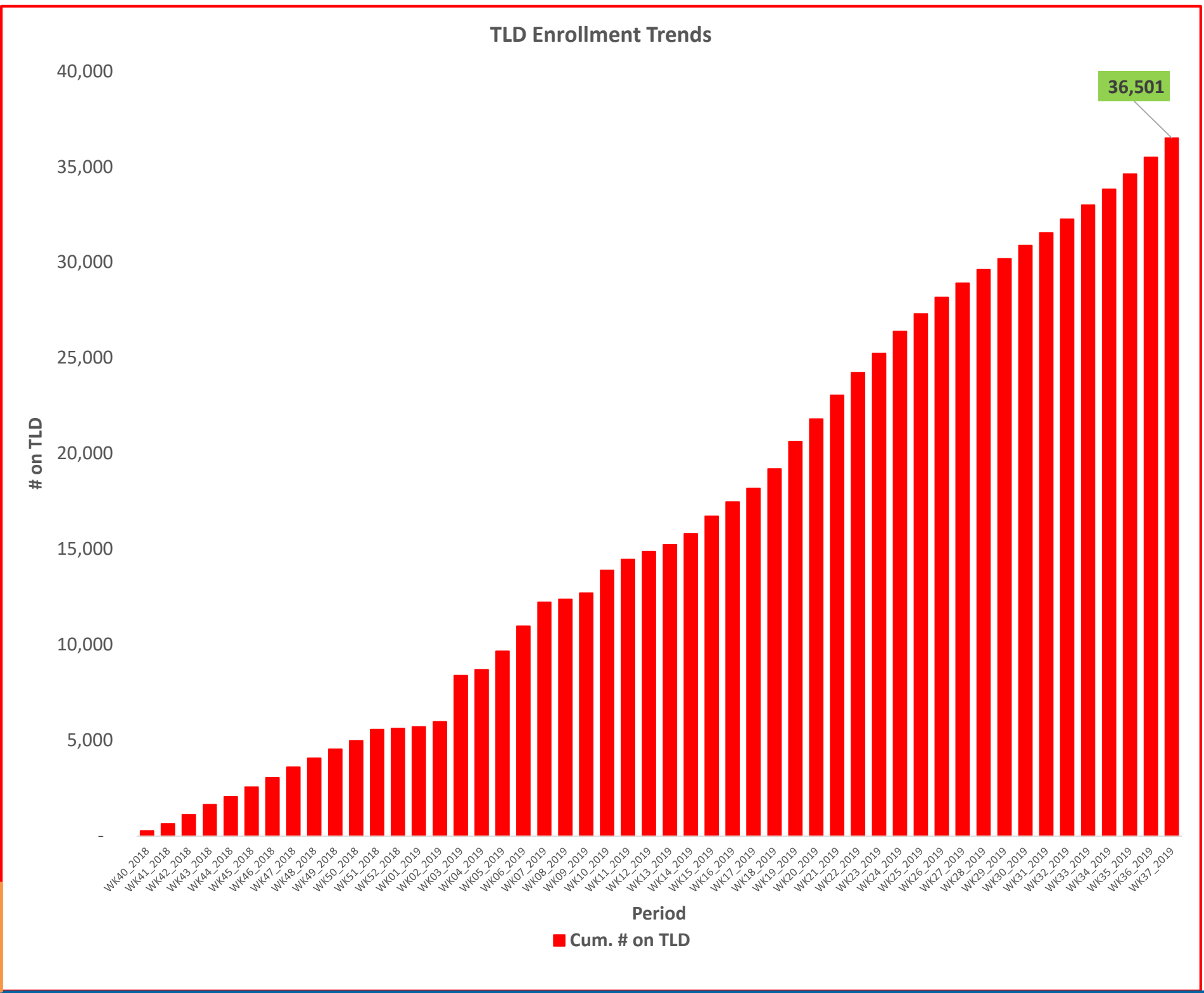
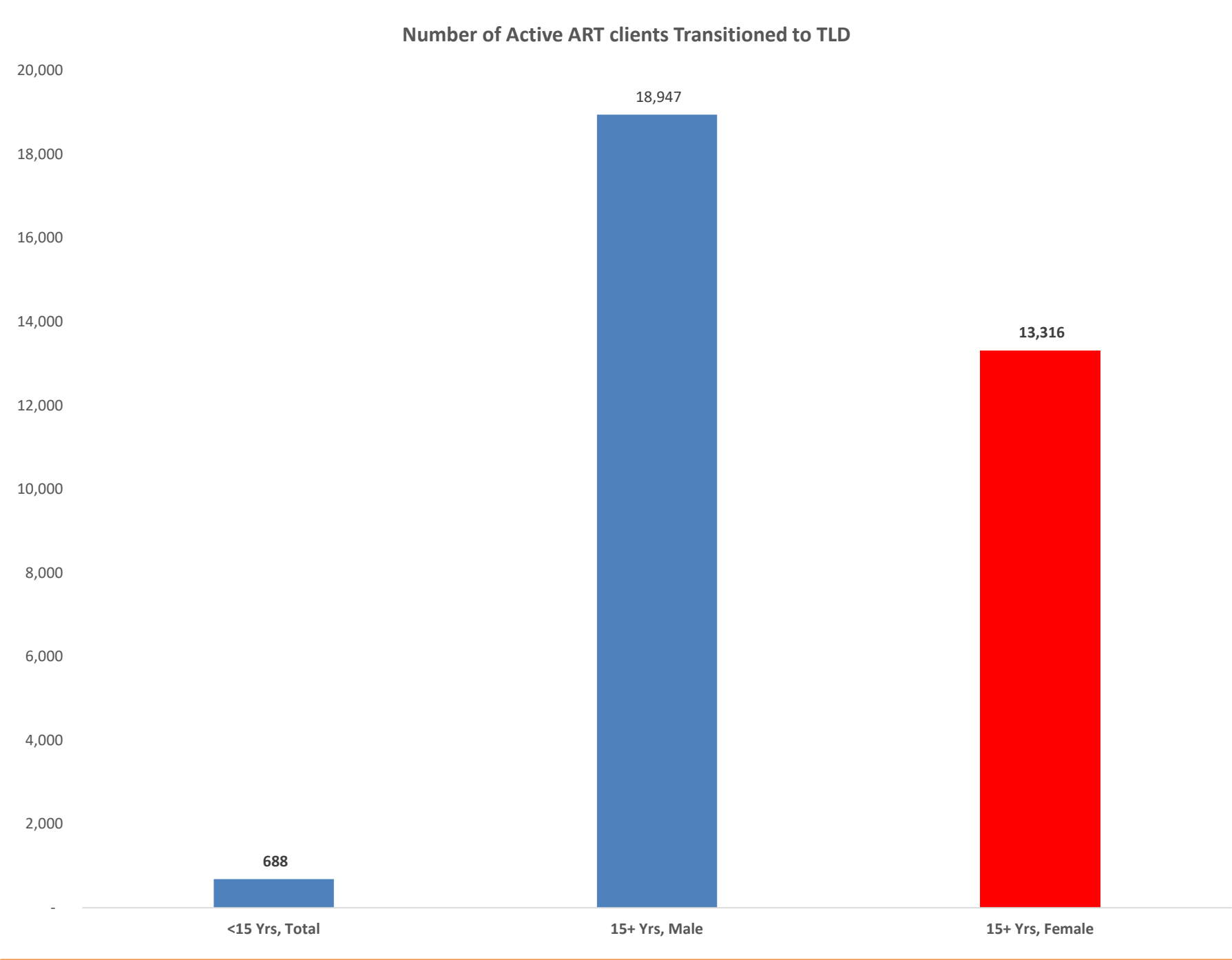
- Serving 198 health facilities in Masaka region
- ~27% of clients are in districts covered by the RCCS
- Special focus on key and priority population programming (fisher folk, sex workers, MSM, ..)
- Test and start strategy-same day ART initiation
- Emphasis on
 - retention in care
 - Roll out of the Unique identifier system
 - Patient transition to safer and more efficacious ART regimens (**Dolutegravir-based**)



KASENSERO FISHING COMMUNITY, home to KP, PP

Transition to Dolutegravir-based regimen

TLD (Tenofovir 300+Lamivudine 300+Dolutegravir 50)

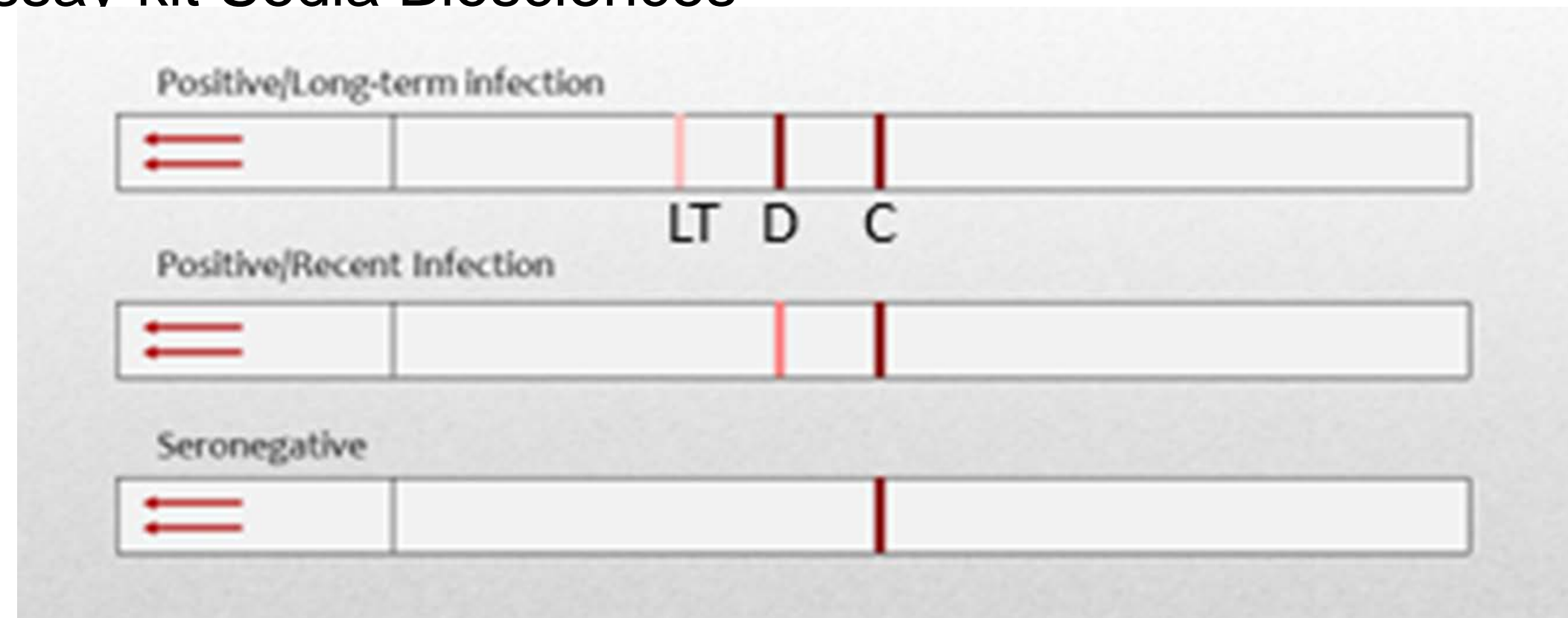
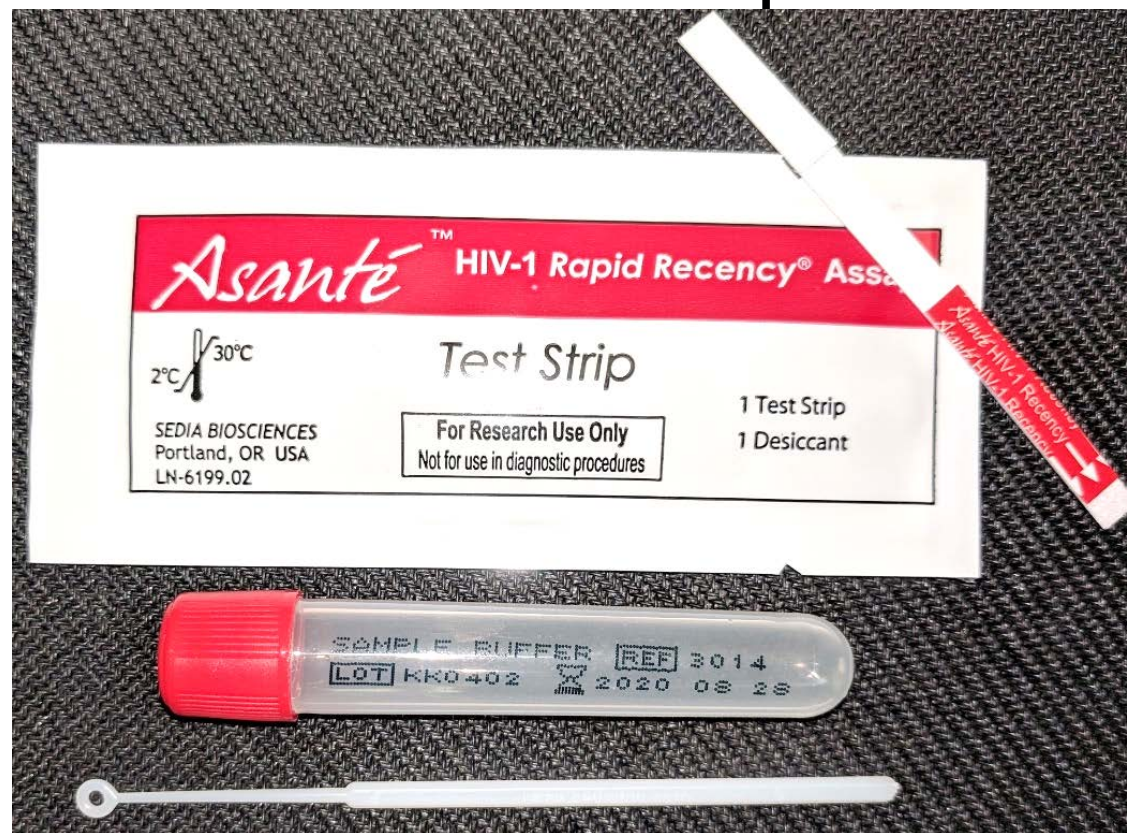


Cummulatively, **36,501 (64%)** Patients transitioned to TDF-3TC-DTG (TLD) By Mid sept 2019.

RHSP Service Program

Recency testing

- Aimed at identification of Recent HIV Infection for HIV Public Health Response
- Have procured test kits, trained providers
- Will use *Asante* Rapid Recency Assav kit Sedia Biosciences



RHSP Service Program

Unique Client identification (UI)

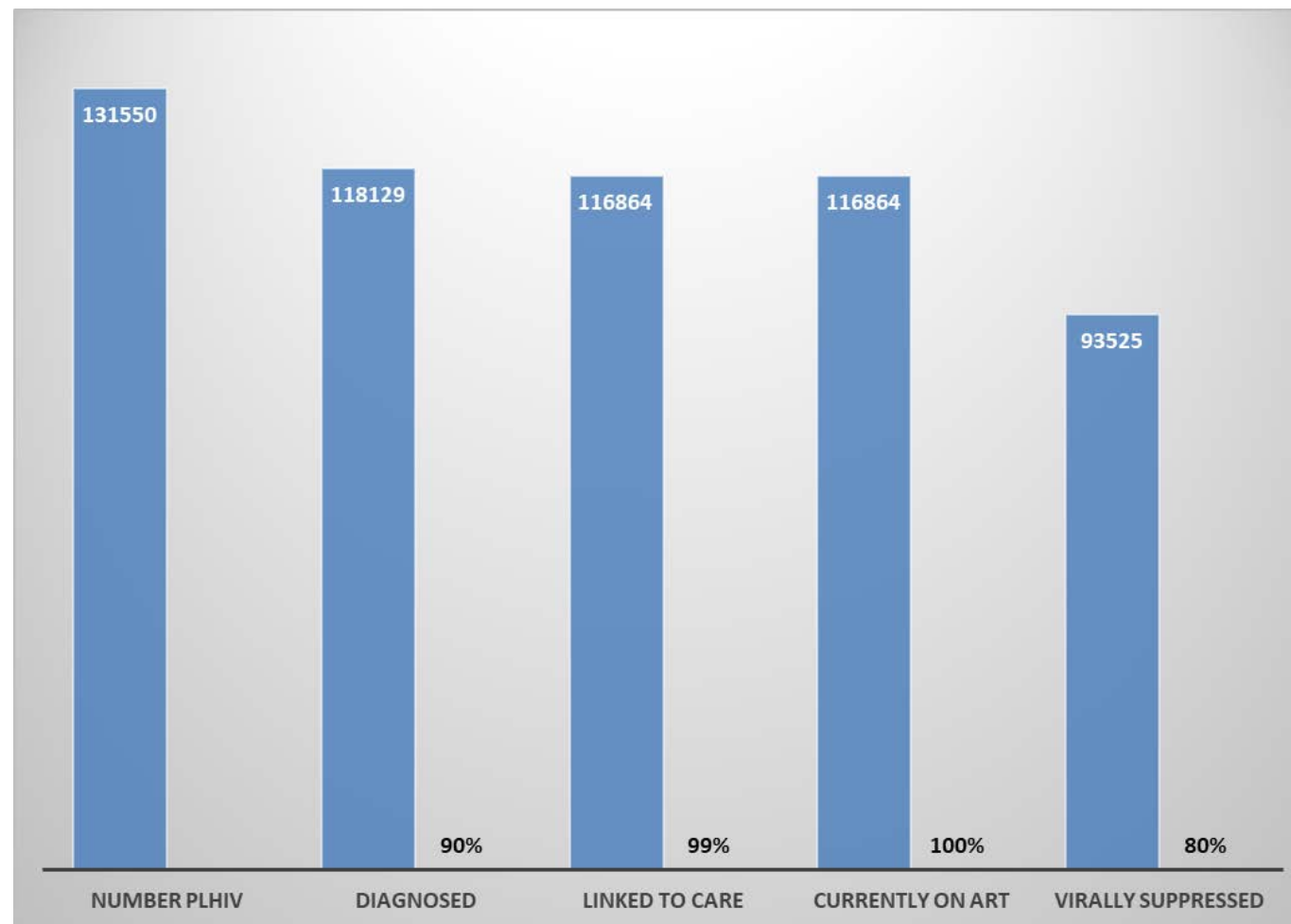
- Unique identifiers are numeric or alphanumeric codes that can be used to correctly identify a client when accessing health-care services at same or multiple health facilities
- **Rationale:** Client self-transfers among clinics undermines retention estimation
- Rolled out use of Unique Identifiers in 15 Health facilities in Kalangala district, 48 facilities (in Rakai, Kyotera, Masaka in progress)
- UI will support client follow-up and tracking within and across health facilities
- Currently using **Fingerprint** reader through the Ug Electronic medical Record system



Progress

ART Cascade

- ~**116,984** on ART (out of 125,592 HIV positive persons in the region; ~93 % coverage)
- ~90 % of clients on ART are virally suppressed



eMTCT

- ~90% of HIV-positive pregnant women on ART
- HIV infection among infants and young children has declined to 0.9%.
- Pregnant women whose partners remain of unknown status are given HIV self-testing kits to facilitate diagnosis among men

Progress

DREAMS Programming

- **DREAMS** (Determined Resilient Empowered AIDS-free Mentored and Safe)
- Adolescents and Young Women *10-24 years*
- Focuses on the reduction of HIV incidence in AGYW by delivering age-appropriate package of evidence-based interventions that include:
 - condom promotion
 - HIV testing and counselling
 - community mobilization and norms change
 - post-violence care
 - parenting/care-giver programs
 - expanded and improved contraceptive mix
 - combined socio-economic approaches
 - educational subsidies and cash transfers
- Have supported **115,700** AGYW



Progress

Orphans and Vulnerable children (OVC)

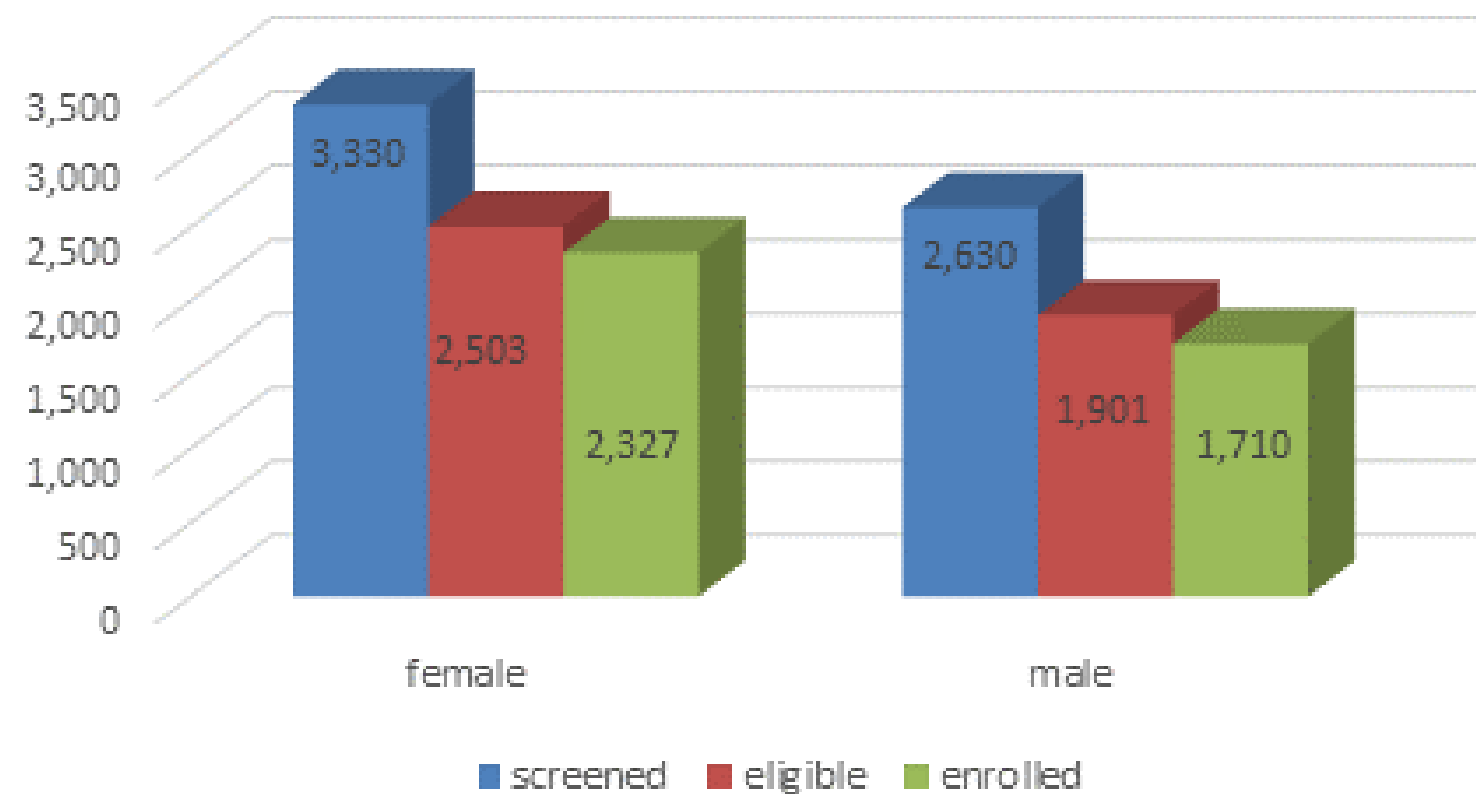
- OVC services in 8 of the 12 districts
(Kalangala, Masaka, Bukomansimbi, Lyantonde, Sembabule, Kalungu, Mpigi and Lwengo).
- **35,569** OVC, ages 10-17years) supported
- Focus on keeping OVC and caregivers/family
 - Healthy
 - -HTS, ART, viral suppression, nutrition, food security
 - Case management
 - Household visits, assessment of vulnerability, child protection, hygiene and sanitation
 - Safe
 - Support for sexual and gender-based violence survivors
 - Schooled- Education subsidies



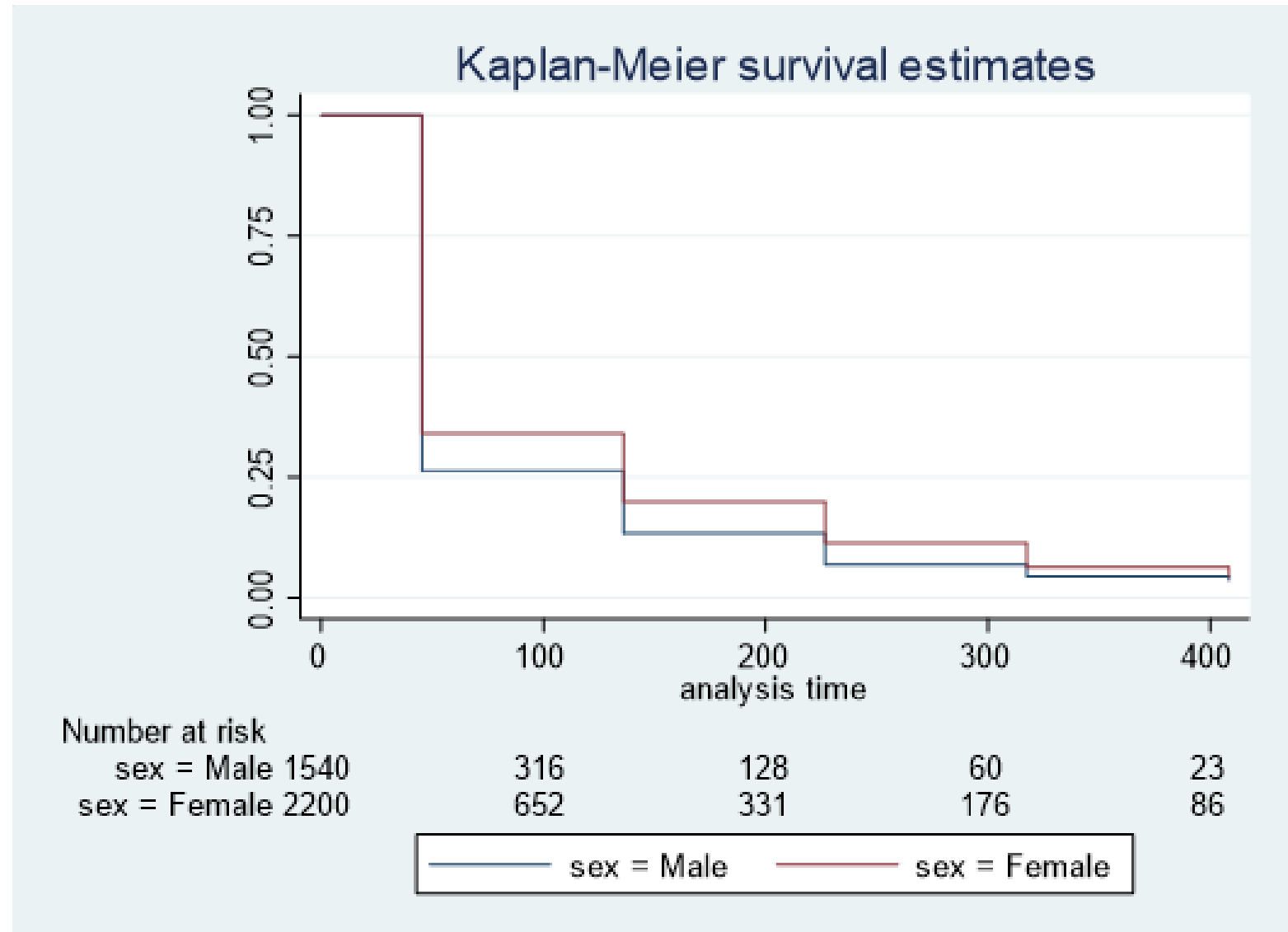
Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis

- **Oral** tenofovir and Lamivudine
- Delivery approaches: static, outreaches
- Provided PrEP to **4037** Clients
 - 1710 males , 2,327 (58%)female
 - Fisher folk, Females sex workers, Discordant couples, Truckers
Men who have sex with men

Prep cascade



12-months Retention on PrEP



Retention is a major challenge

Progress

VMMC

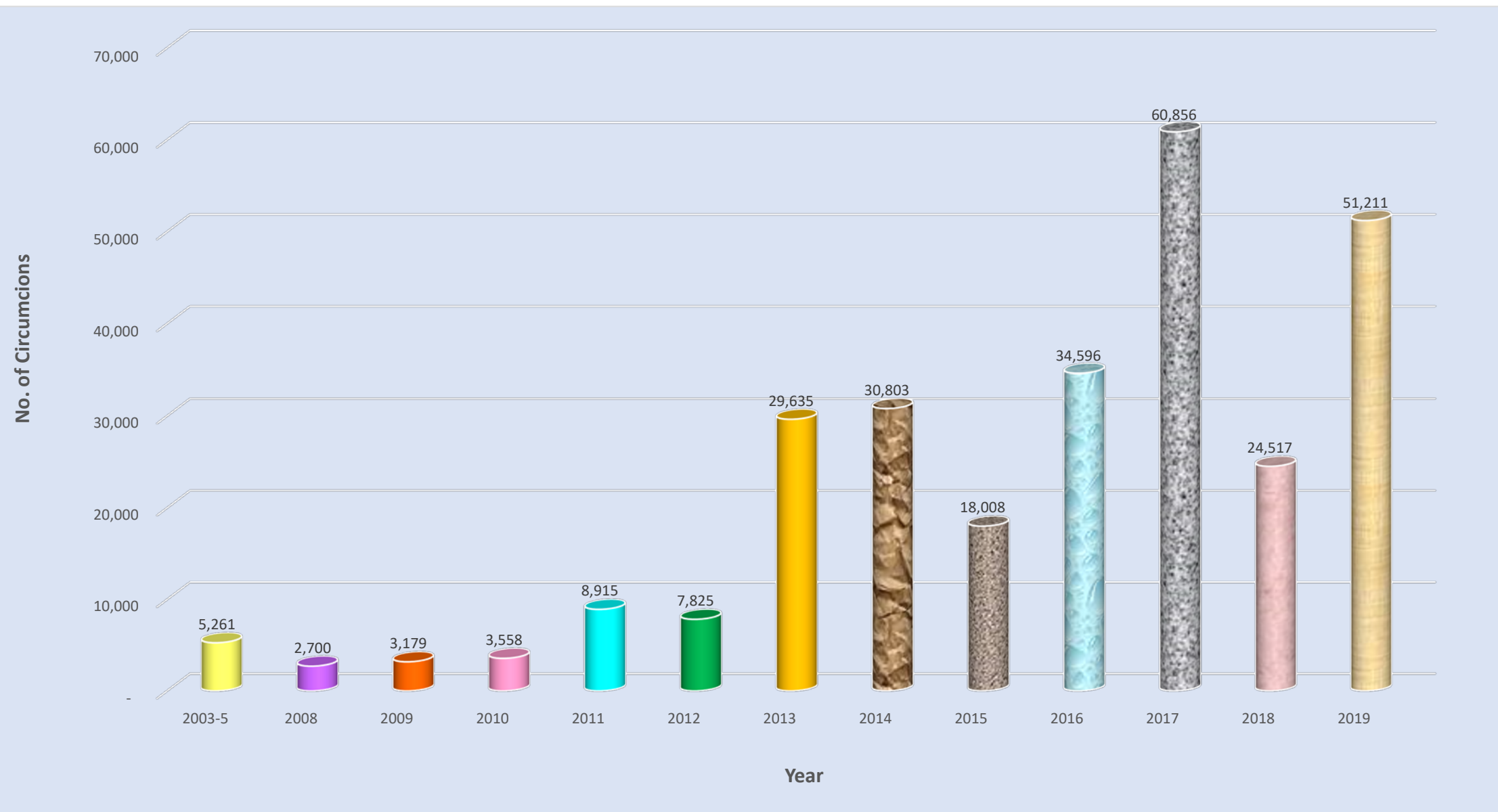


- RHSP provides VMMC services to males ages 10 years and older in Masaka region.
- Services are provided via static clinics and mobile VMMC camps
- Supports training of VMMC providers nationally

Progress

VMMC

281,064 circumcisions provided between 2007 to date



VMMC training

VMMC training for **2,622**

- 872 surgeons
- 956 theater assistants
- 794 VMMC counselors.
- Training of trainers to
 - 79 surgical trainers
 - 32 theater assistant trainers
 - 19 counsellor trainers

Evaluations

- Combination HIV prevention impact evaluation (CHPIE)
- Evaluation of the Impact of the National Program for Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission of HIV (PMTCT) in Uganda.
- Program evaluation protocol-
 - Will support evaluation of the HIV services provided in Masaka region



THANK YOU

Phone Number

256 701 444 074

Email Address

gnakigozi@rhsp.org