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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

[Phumzile Mchunu]

Community-based harm reduction services: Eastern Cape,

[21/04/2023] Phase 2022b [July – December 2022]



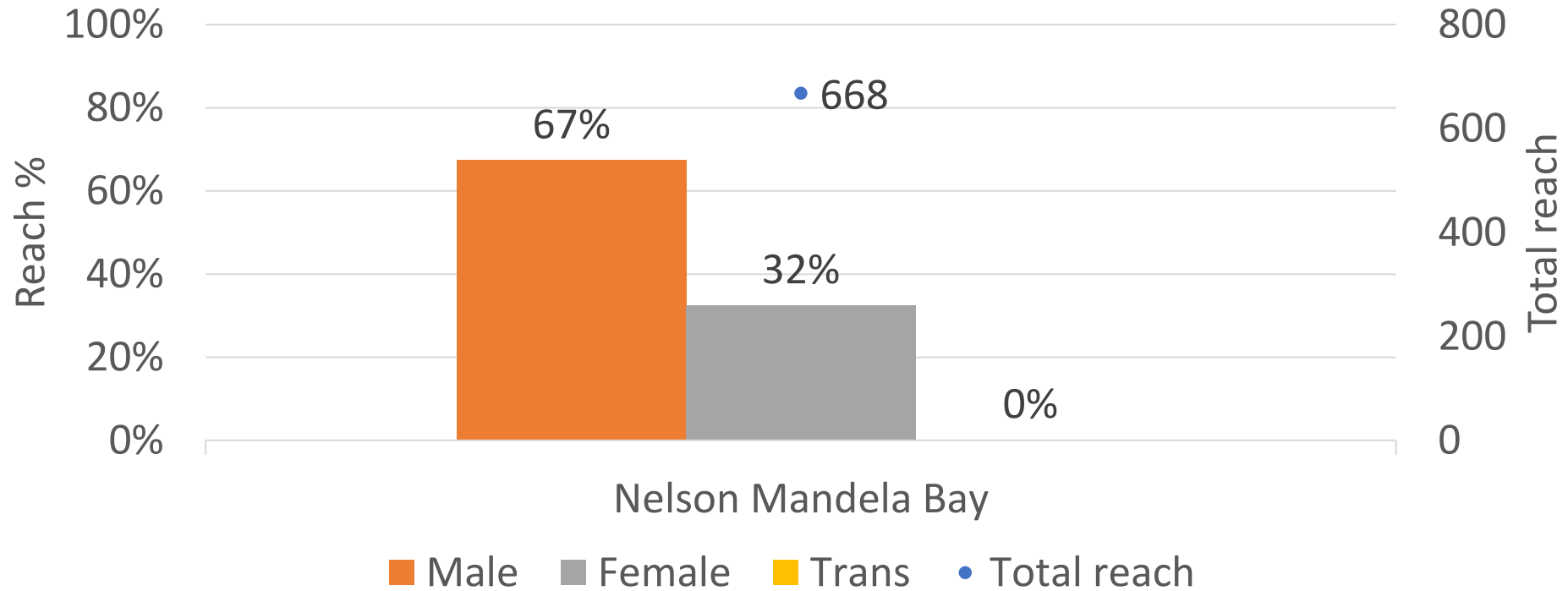
Needle & syringe reach, by gender



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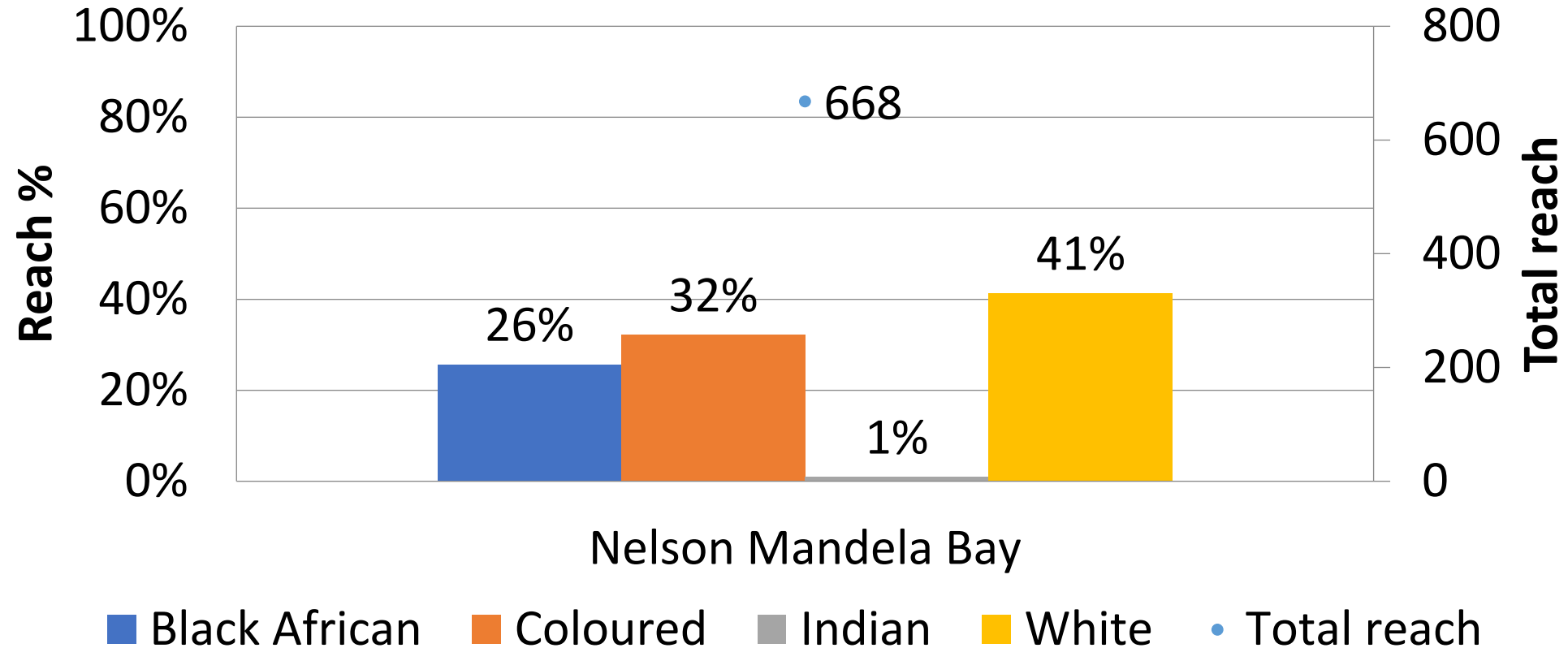
Needle & syringe reach, by population group



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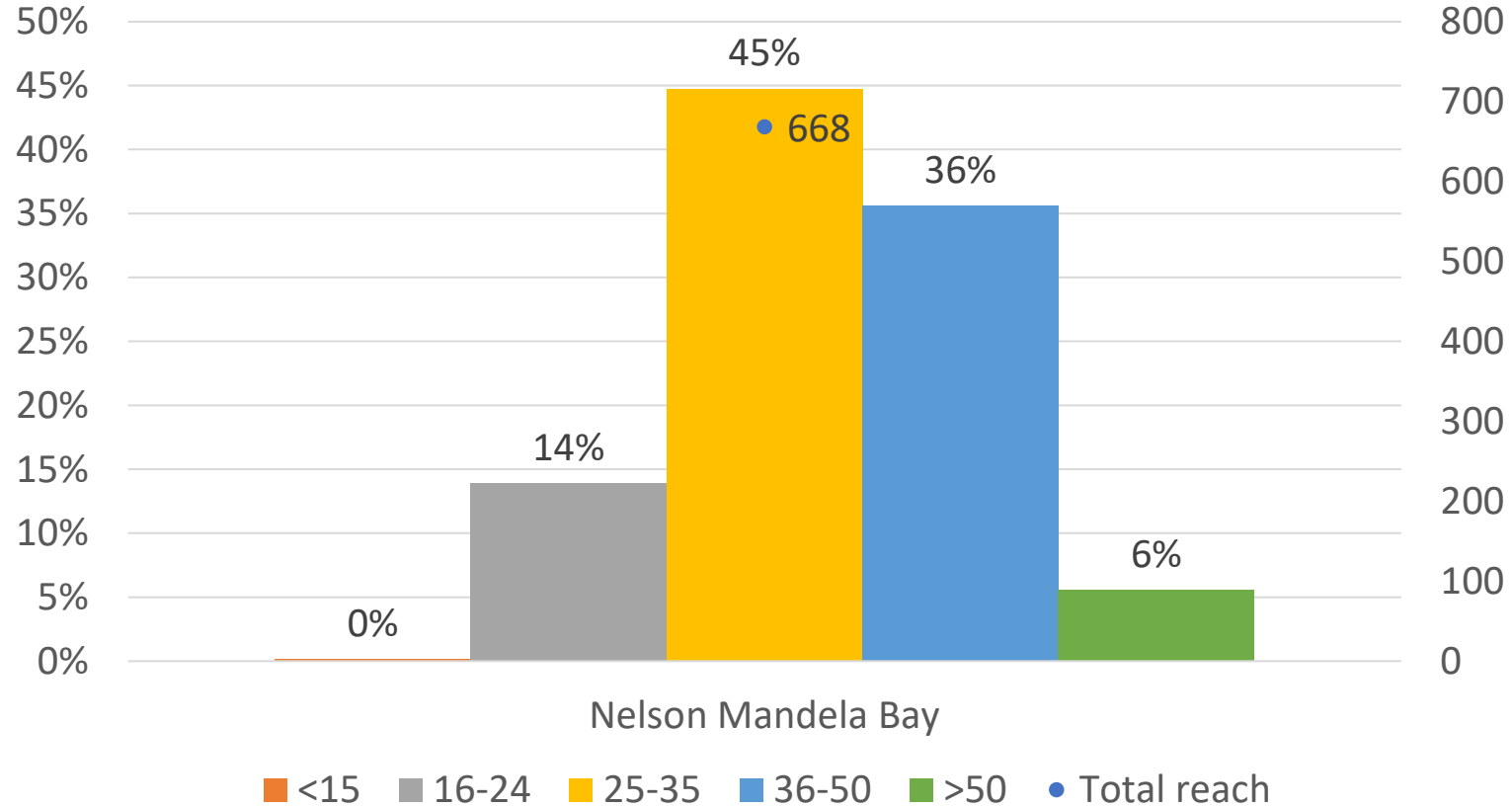
Needle & syringe reach, by age



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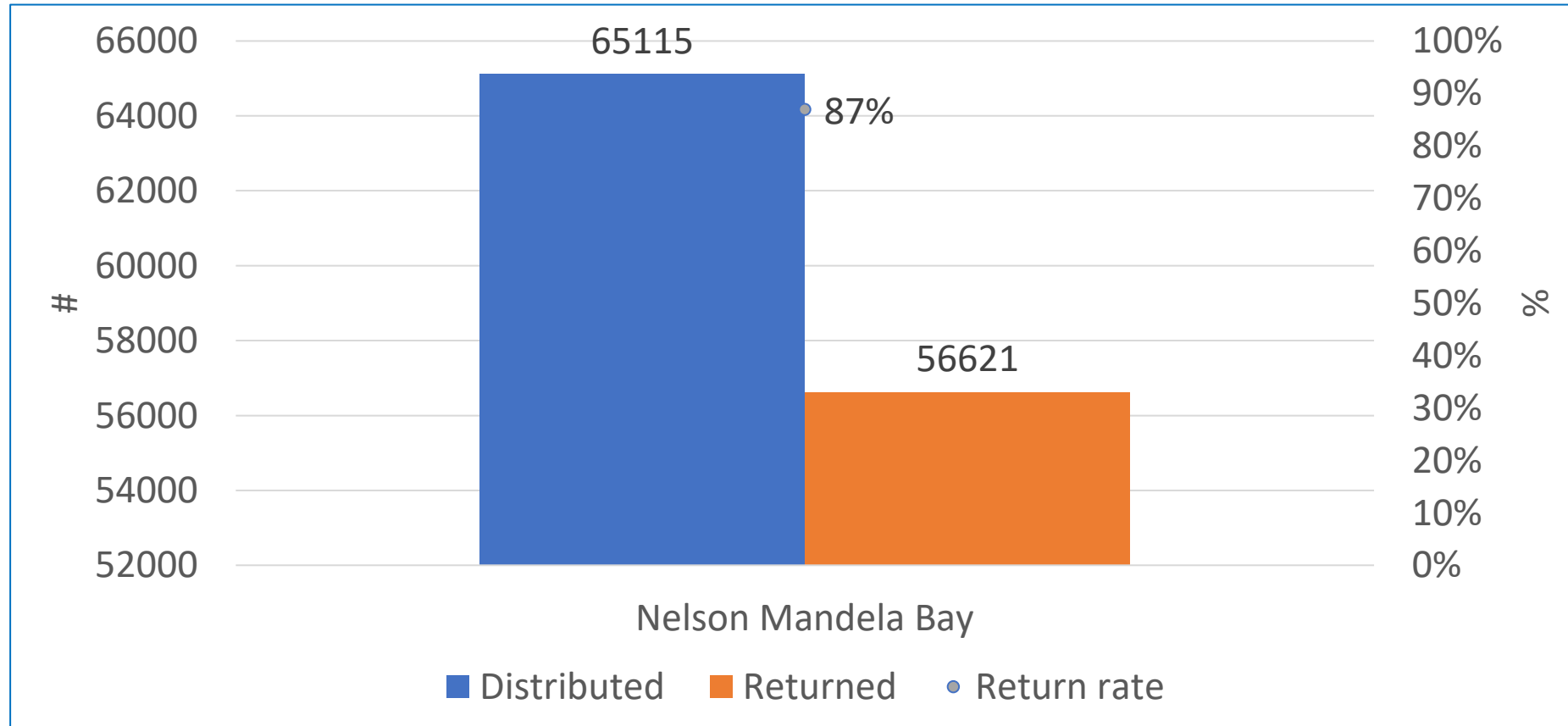
Needle & syringe distribution & return rate



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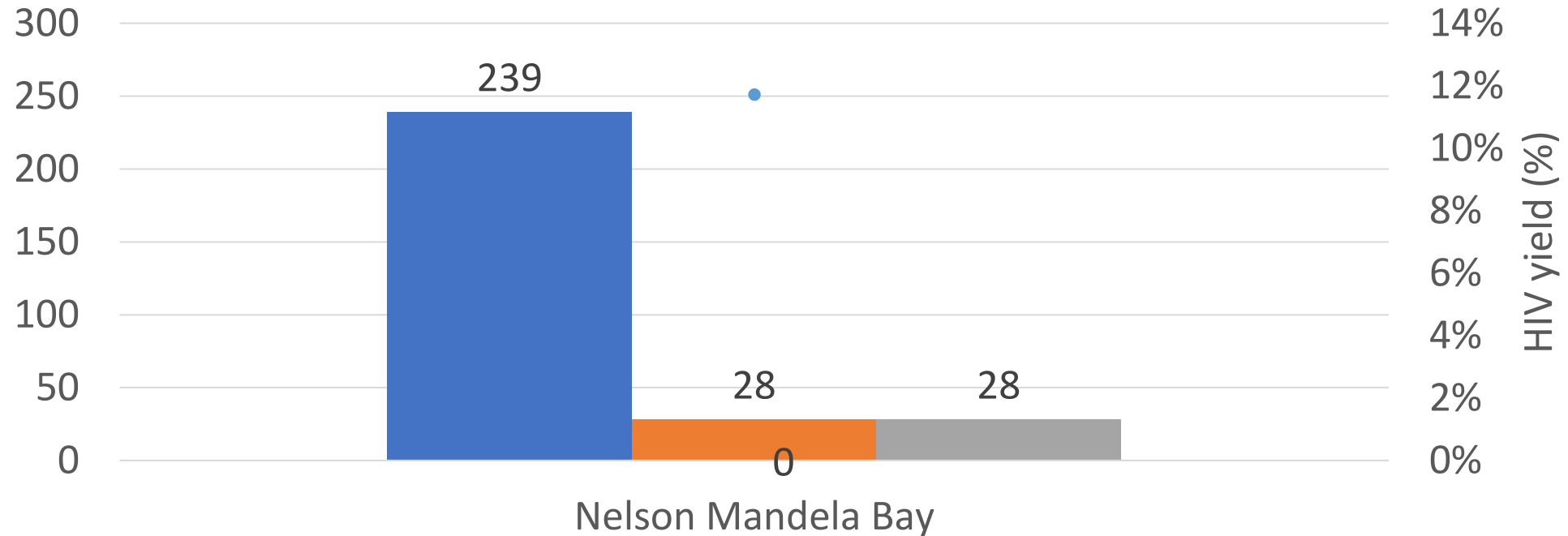
HIV testing & treatment cascade



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■ Tested ■ Newly diagnosed HIV+ve ■ On ART — Viral load done • % HIV positive



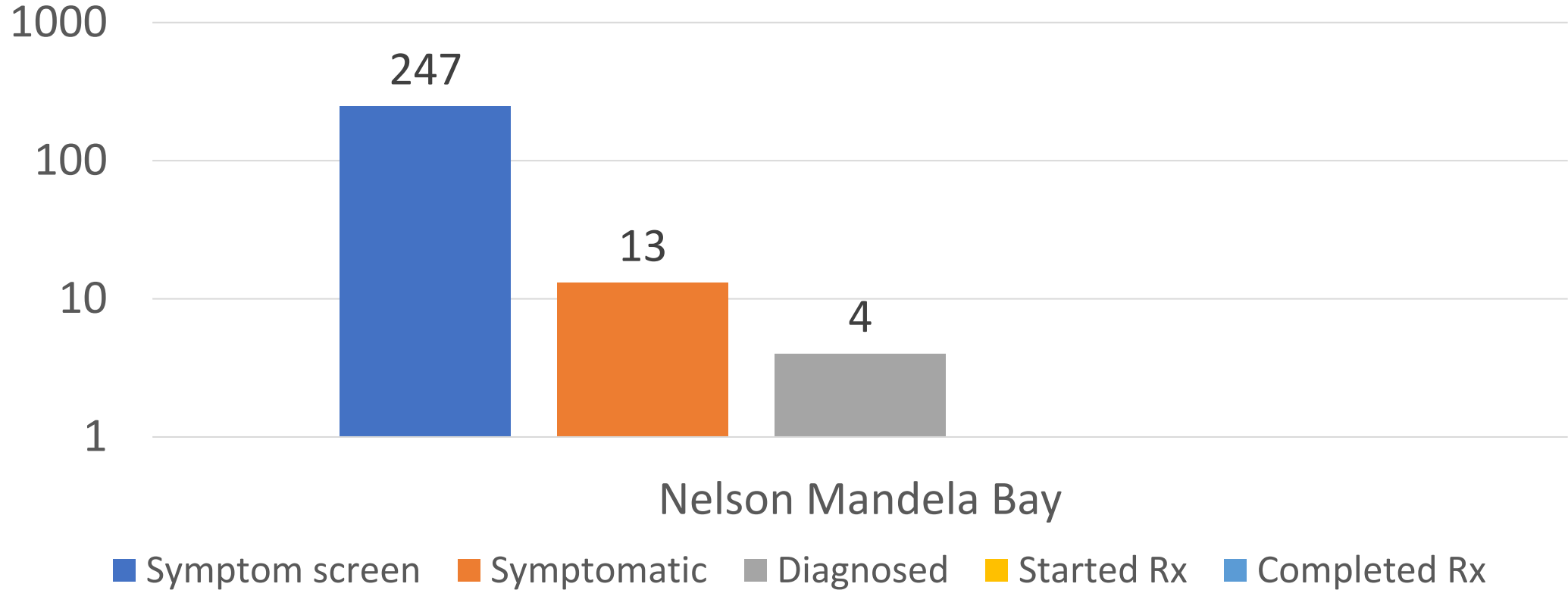
TB testing & treatment cascade



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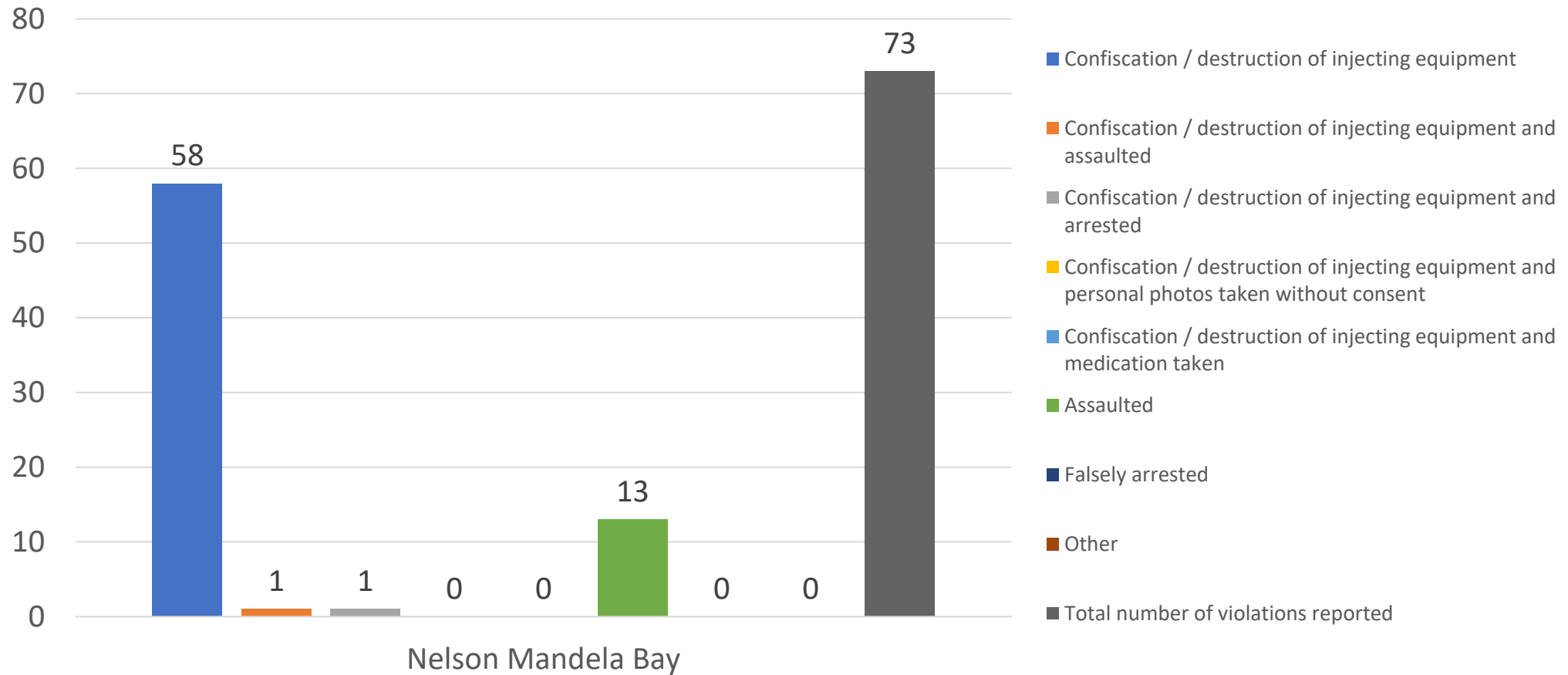
Human rights violations



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Mortality & overdose



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- 1 Six (6) clients deceased due to natural causes and five (5) clients in prison but continue to receive services from the NMB team.

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Nelson Mandela Bay

■ All deaths ■ Fatal overdoses



Issues & challenges



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- Limited Government rehabilitation centres and shelters in the EC continues to be a challenge.
- During this period the Municipality was demolishing abandoned buildings where our clients find shelter, this made it difficult to locate some of our clients.
- Confiscations of needles by law enforcement officers and clients who steal needles from each other to sell and buy drugs.
- The team experienced two (2) violent robberies in Sub district A.
- In October to December the team had no office space and was operating on outreach only.
- Even though the team planned for the festive season, some clients still lost their treatment and our Professional Nurses re-issued medication in January.
- Unsuccessful referrals due to clients who either want to close cases or no longer interested to continue with the referral process makes offering comprehensive services a challenge



Successes



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- Three (3) sensitization trainings conducted in Mount road, Algoa police Station and Summerstrand.
- Through these sensitization training relationships were strengthened with police stations in the area and our clients needs recognized.
- New sites have been established increasing our REACH.
- HTS target reached and linkage to care 100%.
- All ART clients retained into care.
- We received a Mobile truck to better service our clients and this made provision for wholistic services.
- Services to woman, clients attend female empowerment groups facilitated by our Social Worker.
- A police search was done in one of our client's sites and they were happy to report that no violation took place and their needles were not confiscated.
- As of January NMB, has a New office in Newton Park, Gqeberha and clients have been informed of the new address through outreach, Awareness and groups.
- NMB has been working closely with the drug dealers in the area for the December period, ambassadors were selected who distributed HR packs to clients and were also responsible for needle returns during office closure.





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Acknowledgements



NACOSA
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FOR SOUTH AFRICA AND IS

