

# High Reach and Adoption of Secondary DREAMS Services among AGYW in Zambia: A country-wide RE-AIM Assessment of DREAMS Implementation 2016-2022

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## BACKGROUND

- In Zambia the DREAMS initiative was implemented primarily as an HIV prevention intervention for adolescent girls and young women (AGYW).
- DREAMS has also contributed to the holistic development and wellbeing of AGYW through secondary services, such as socioeconomic support and family planning.
- These secondary services extend beyond primary services to provide sustained support and address multifaceted challenges faced by AGYW.
- We assessed the reach and adoption of secondary services among AGYW in 14 districts in Zambia.

## METHODS

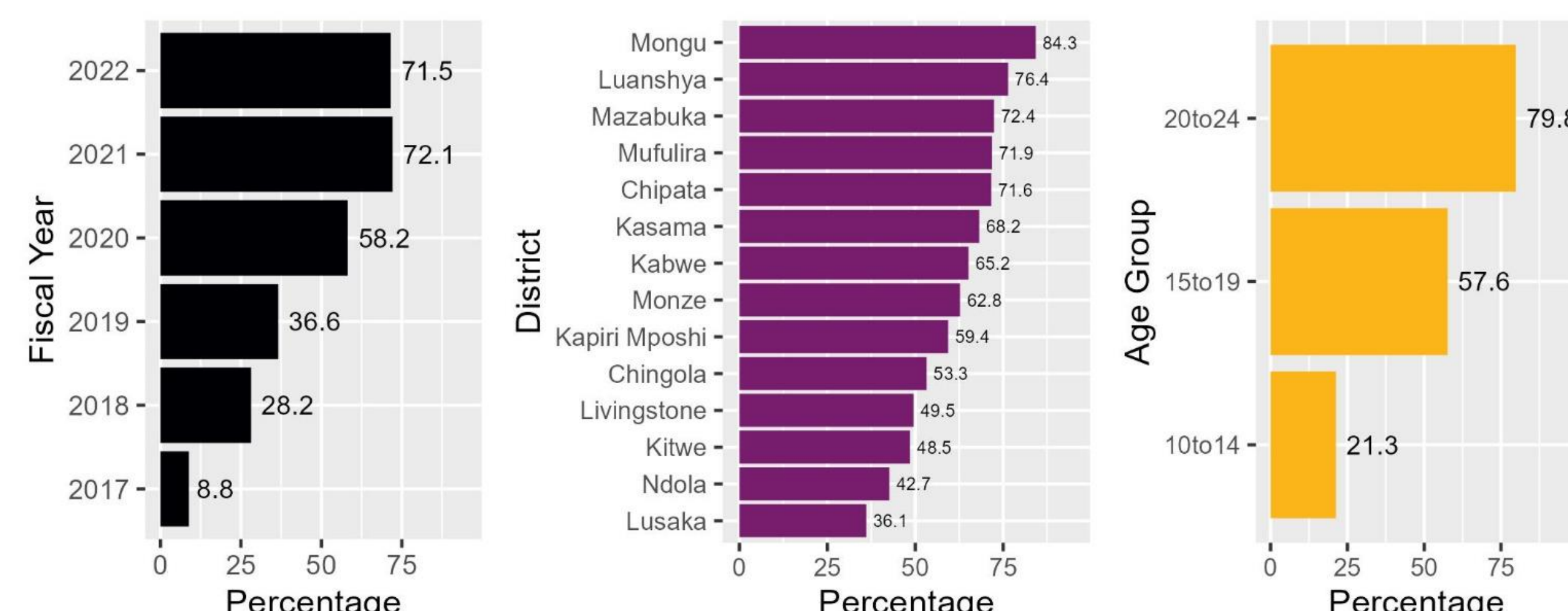
- Conducted a multi-year, country-wide assessment of DREAMS program implementation from 2016 to 2022 in 14 Zambian districts
- Used the Reach, Effectiveness, Adoption, Implementation, and Maintenance (RE-AIM) implementation science framework
- Collated Aggregate and line-listed client-level data from all DREAMS implementing partners since the inception of DREAMS in 2016
- Quantitatively analyzed the reach and adoption of secondary DREAMS services among AGYW across all the programs using R-Studio and SAS

The DREAMS programs across Zambia successfully reached **over one million AGYW** over the years, and **52% of AGYW** enrolled in DREAMS received secondary services, especially older AGYW aged 15-24.

## RESULTS

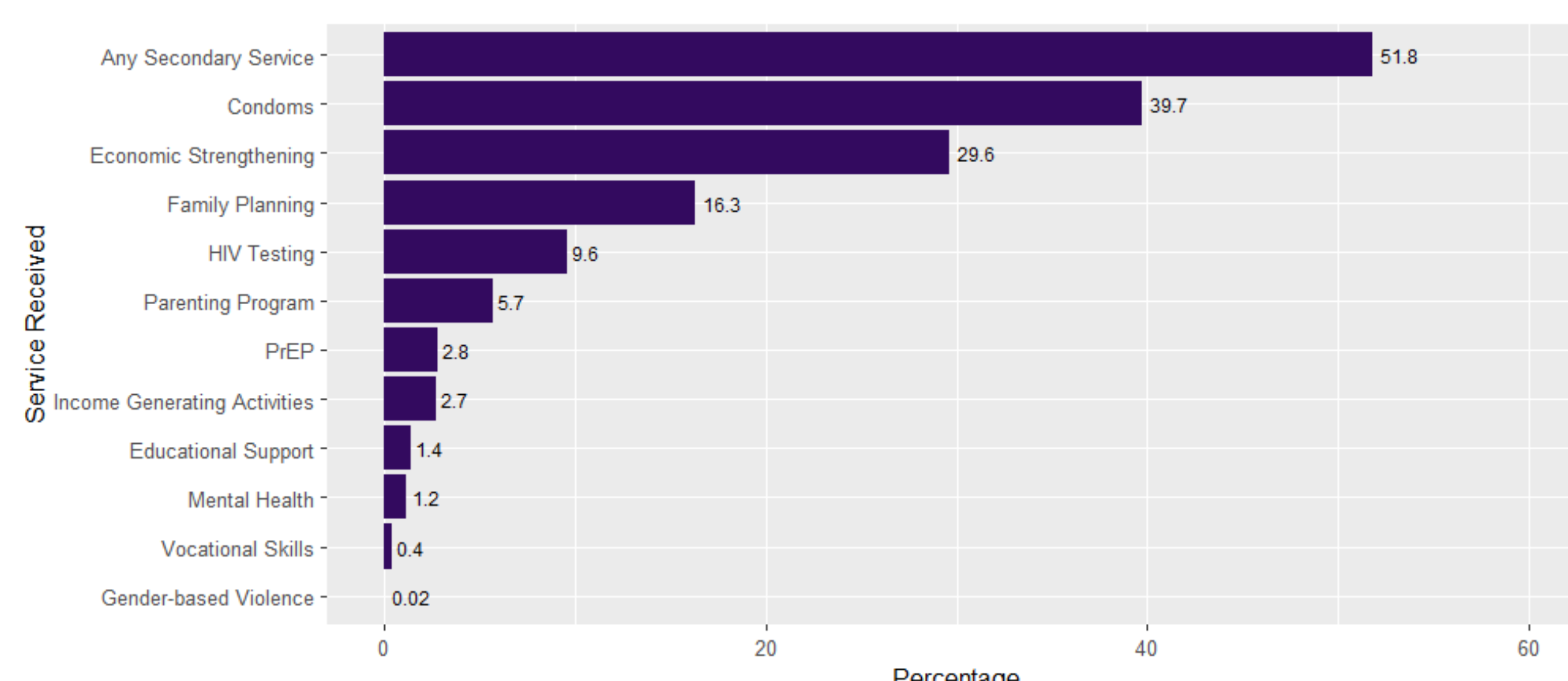
- 1,091,641 AGYW were enrolled, with 976,689 accessing DREAMS services across the years (**Figures 1 and 2**)
- 565,378 (51.8%, 95% CI:51.7-51.9%) received at least one secondary service
- Secondary services engagement was lowest in the earliest years of DREAMS implementation and reached 72.1% by FY2021 (**Figure 3**)
- By district, uptake of any secondary service ranged from 36.1% in Lusaka to 84.3% in Mongu (**Figure 3**)
- Without considering eligibility due to age differences, engagement in secondary services was highest in the 20-24 age group (**Figure 3**)
  - 20-24 years:** 79.8% (95% CI:79.7-79.9%)
  - 15-19 years:** 57.6% (95% CI:57.5-57.8%)
  - 10-14 years:** 21.3% (95% CI:21.2-21.4%)

**Figure 3. Any Secondary Service Receipt by Fiscal Year, District, and Age, N=1,091,641**



- Socioeconomic support services were the most commonly accessed, while biomedical services followed, including condom distribution, family planning, and HIV testing (**Figure 4**)

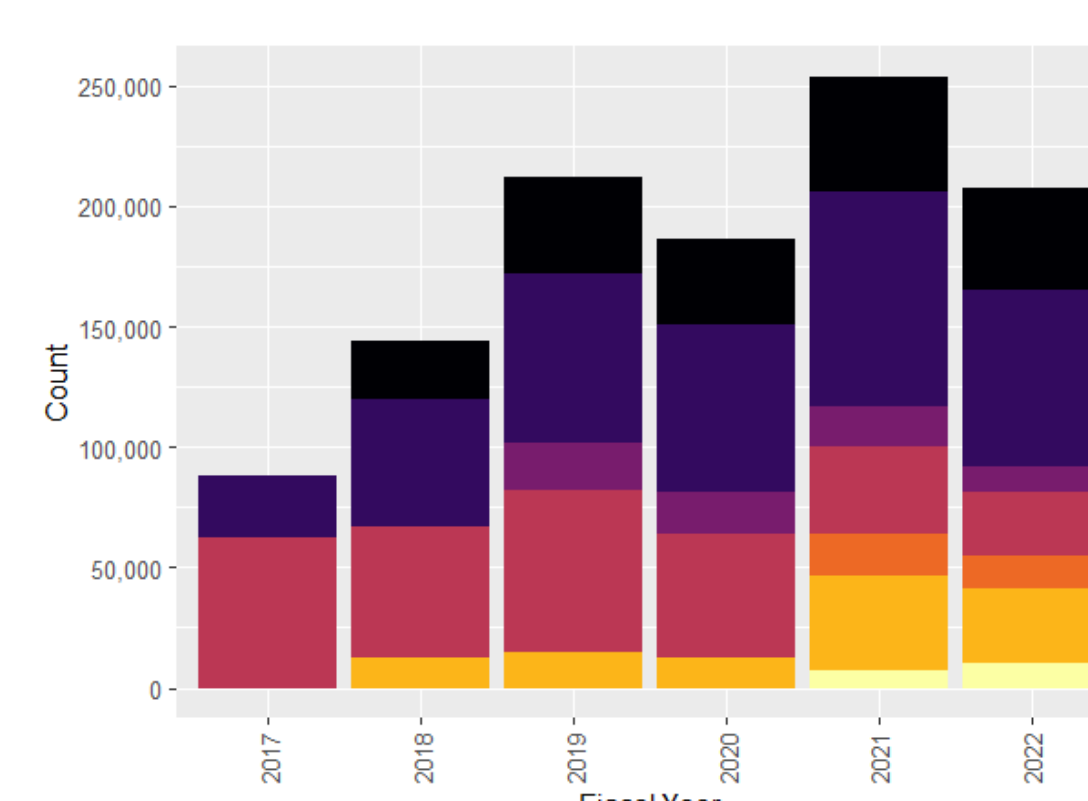
**Figure 4. DREAMS Secondary Service Type, N=1,091,641**



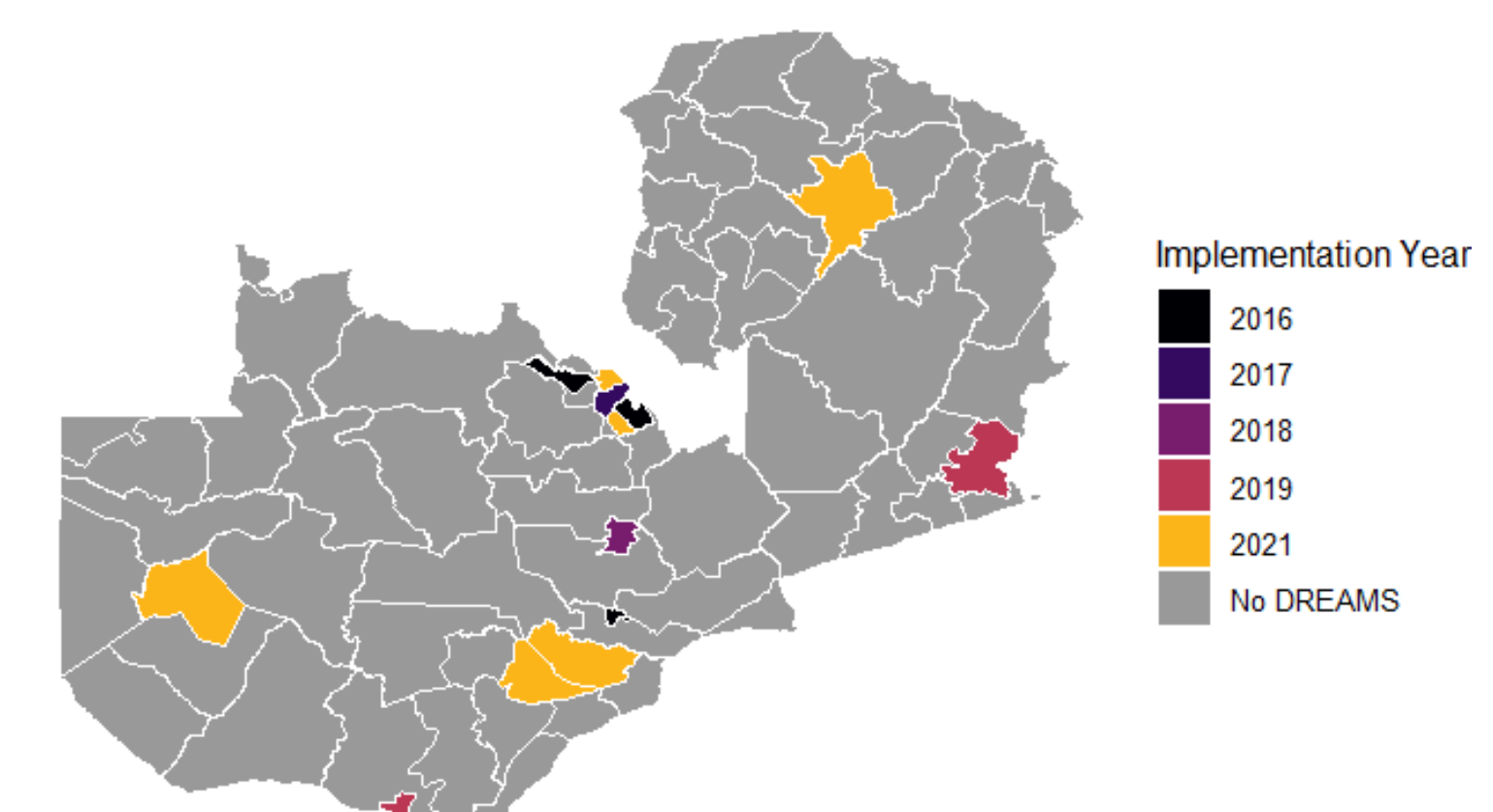
**DREAMS appears to be highly effective at reaching at-risk AGYW with multifaceted services in Zambia**

**We would like to graciously thank and acknowledge the DREAMS participants and their contributions to this research.**

**Figure 1. DREAMS Participants Enrolled by Fiscal Year**

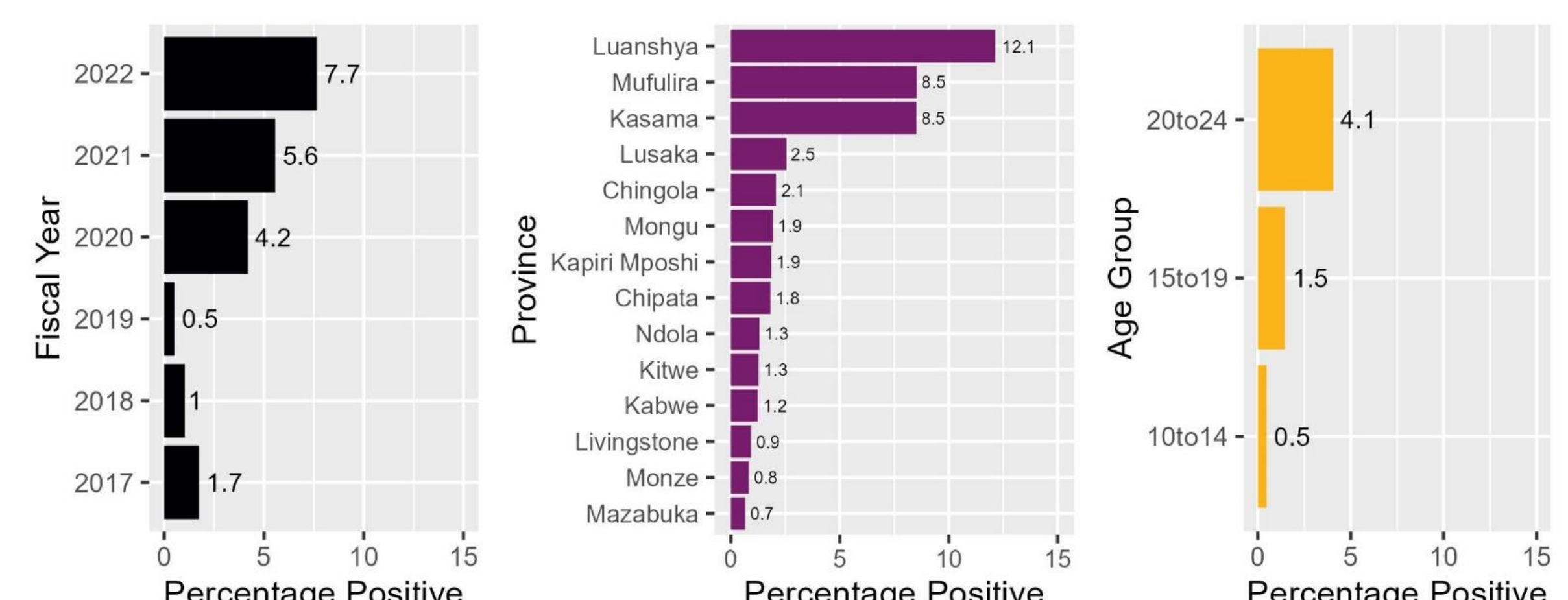


**Figure 2. DREAMS Geographic Distribution by Year of Implementation**



- 2,328 (2.2%) of 104,859 AGYW accessing HIV testing services tested positive for HIV. Test positivity increased annually from FY2020 to FY2022
- Overall, the districts in Southern province (Livingstone, Monze, and Mazabuka) had the lowest HIV test positivity (**Figure 5**)
- HIV test positivity was highest in the 20-24 age group with 4.1% of AGYW aged 20-24 testing positive (**Figure 5**)

**Figure 5. HIV Test Positivity by Fiscal Year, District, and Age, N=104,859**



- The prevalence of PrEP engagement overall was 2.8% or 20,680 of 741,514 AGYW aged 15 to 24 enrolled (**Figure 6**)
- PrEP engagement increased from 0.8% in FY2017 and 4.6% in FY2022, and was highest in the 20-24 age group with 5.0% (**Figure 6**)

**Figure 6. PrEP engagement by Fiscal Year, District, and Age, N=741,514**

