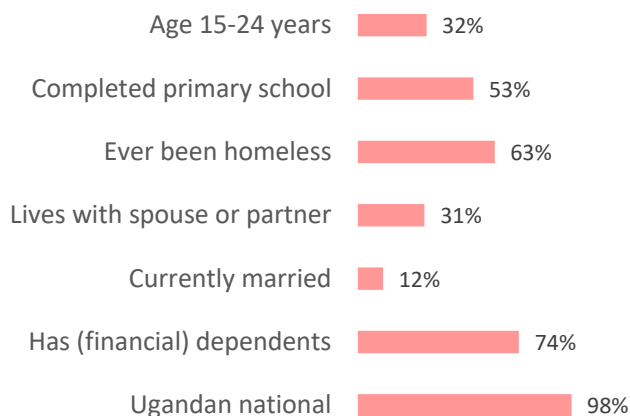


Crane 3 Survey Summary – Female Sex Workers and Sexually Exploited Children in Kampala, Uganda 2021

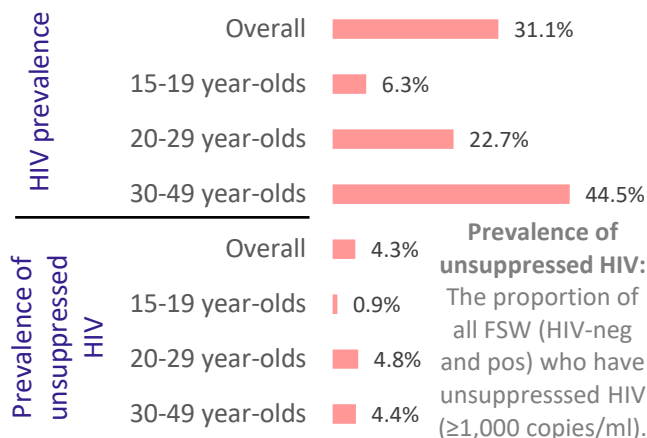


Survey methods. This respondent-driven sampling (RDS) survey took place May-Oct 2021 using a single survey office in downtown Kampala. Female sex worker (FSW) participants were female, 15-49 years old, resided in greater Kampala, and sold sex to men in the last 6 months. Participants 15-17 years old were considered sexually exploited children (SEC). Data were collected through audio computer-assisted self-interviews; blood was tested for HIV, viral load, and active syphilis; cervicovaginal swabs were tested for human papilloma virus (HPV). Sample size was 1,589 participants; estimates are weighted unless stated otherwise.

Demographics



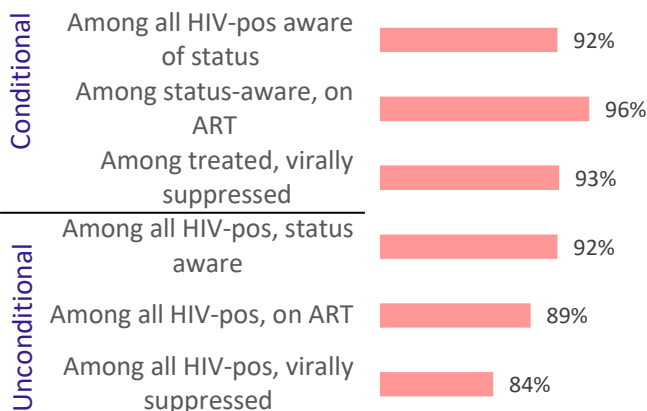
Prevalence of HIV and unsuppressed HIV



Median age was 29 years; half were 23 to 35 years old (participants under 18 years were referred to protection services). Most had dependents and had experienced homelessness at some point in their life. On average, FSW/SEC had been selling sex for 2-3 years.

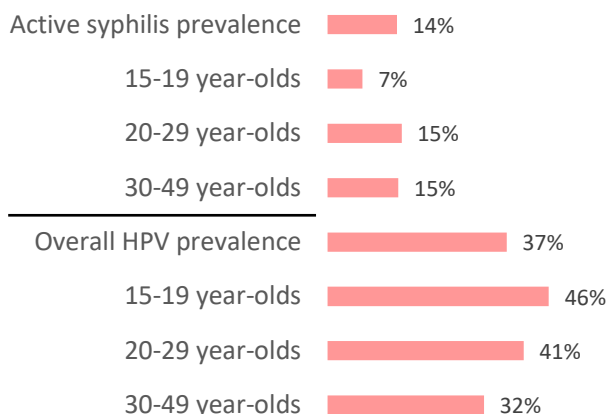
HIV prevalence was high, rose sharply with age and was similar to past Crane surveys in Kampala. The prevalence of unsuppressed HIV (among all FSW/SEC) was smaller than previous surveys (19%) due to treatment.

UNAIDS 95-95-95 Targets



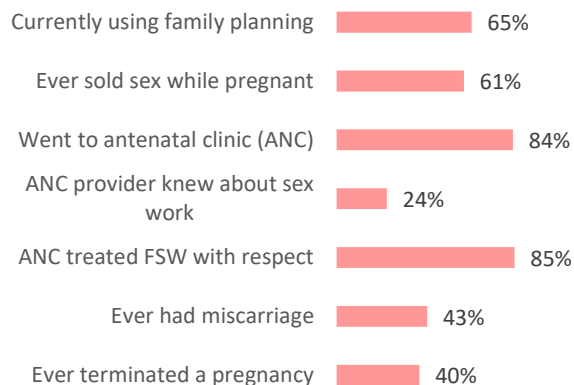
Status awareness and treatment status are based on self-report and/or being virally suppressed. 84% of all FSW/SEC living with HIV were virally suppressed.

Prevalence of Syphilis and HPV

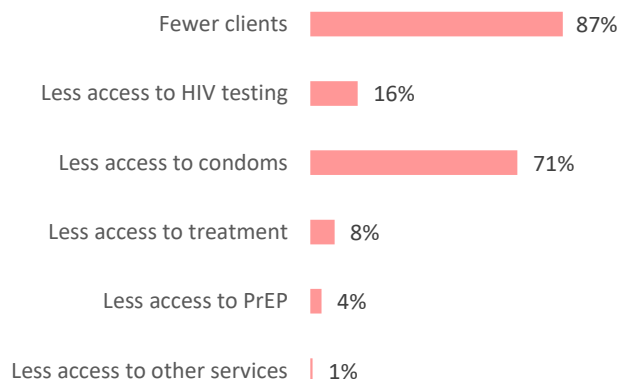


One in seven FSW/SEC tested positive for active syphilis, and more than one in three tested positive for a high-risk HPV strain (high-risk strain for cervical cancer).

Reproductive Health



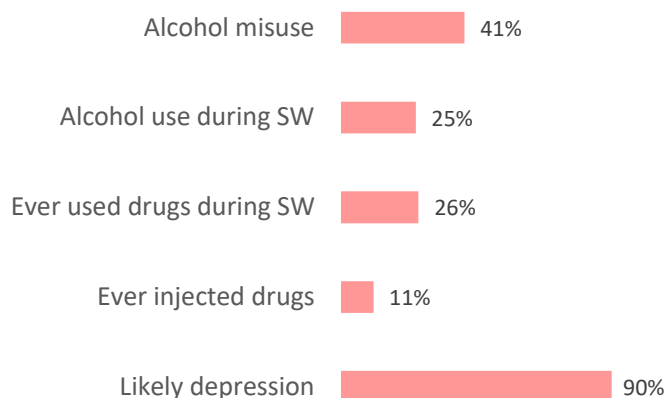
COVID-19 Impact



Only one quarter of FSW/SEC reported that their antenatal care (ANC) providers knew of their sex work. Three out of five had ever sold sex while pregnant and two out of five had ever terminated a pregnancy.

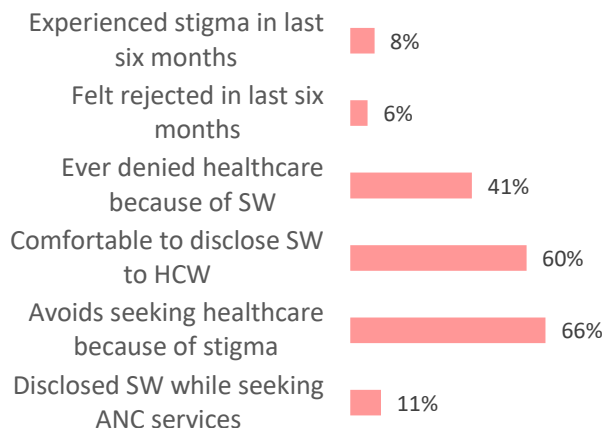
Most stated they had fewer clients due to COVID-19 and less access to condoms. However, access to HIV testing, treatment, pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) or other services was largely unaffected by COVID-19.

Alcohol, Drug Use, Depression



Two out of five FSW/SEC screened positive for alcohol misuse; a quarter consumed alcohol during sex work (SW) and a quarter consumed drugs during sex work. Nine out of 10 screened positive for likely depression and one in ten ever injected drugs.

Stigma



Two out of five FSW/SEC ever experienced stigma. The same proportion reported ever being denied healthcare. Sixty percent felt comfortable disclosing their sex work to a health care worker (HCW) and yet two thirds also reported avoiding seeking healthcare for fear of stigma.

Population size estimate: Using the survey's sampling data and characteristics we estimate the Kampala FSW/SEC population size at 4,400 (interquartile range: 3,900-5,000).

Pediatric HIV estimate: The survey also sampled children of FSW/SEC; out of 1,957 eligible children (aged 0-17 years), 845 (43%) enrolled in the survey and were tested for HIV. Of these, 14 (1.7%) tested HIV-positive (unweighted).

The **Crane Survey** is a collaboration of the Population Council, Makerere University/School of Public Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Infectious Diseases Institute, and Ministry of Health.

Funding: This survey has been supported by the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) through the CDC under the terms of #GH002127).

Disclaimer: The mark "CDC" is owned by the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services (HHS), is used with permission and is not an endorsement by HHS or CDC. The findings and conclusions are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the funding agencies. The results presented here should be considered preliminary and are subject to change.

Version date: 24-Mar-2022.

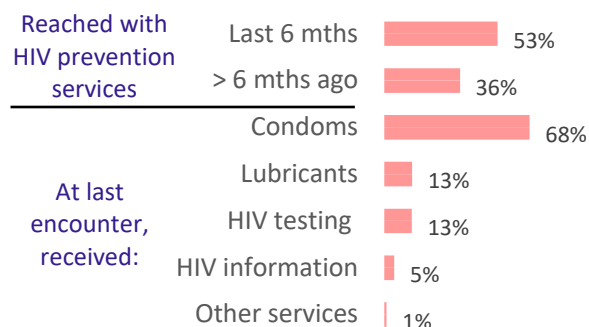
Crane 3 Survey Summary: HIV Prevention

Female Sex Workers and Sexually Exploited Children in Kampala, Uganda 2021

Violence: Almost half of FSW/SEC reported having been raped: 27% in the last 12 months, another 21% more than 12 months before the survey. Similarly, more than half reported having been hurt by others: 34% in the last 12 months, 20% more than 12 months ago. SEC and other abused FSW were actively referred for psycho-social support.

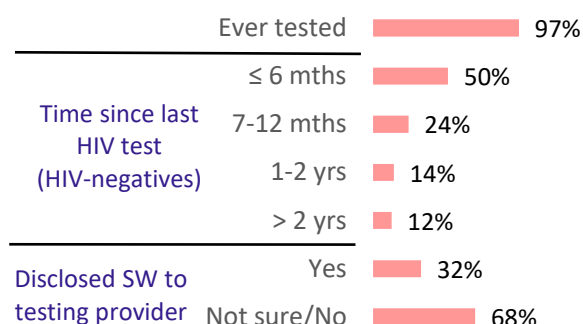
Condoms: During the last three commercial sex acts, 71% reported having used a condom all three times, whereas 13% reported not having used any condoms, the remaining 16% used condoms sometimes.

Outreach Services



53% of FSW/SEC received outreach services in the last 6 months, and 36% more than 6 months ago. Items received most often included condoms, but much less often lubricants or testing services.

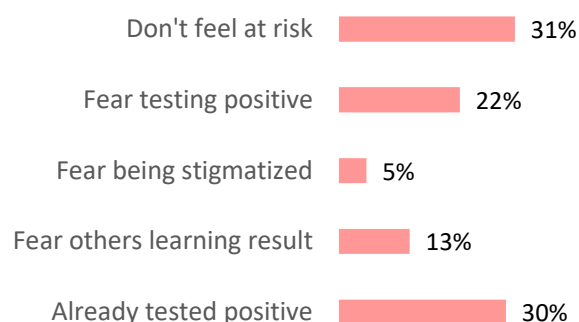
HIV Testing



Almost all FSW/SEC had ever tested for HIV, half of all HIV-negative FSW/SEC had tested within the last 6 months, and three quarters within the last 12 months. Only one third of tested FSW/SEC disclosed their sex work to the testing provider.

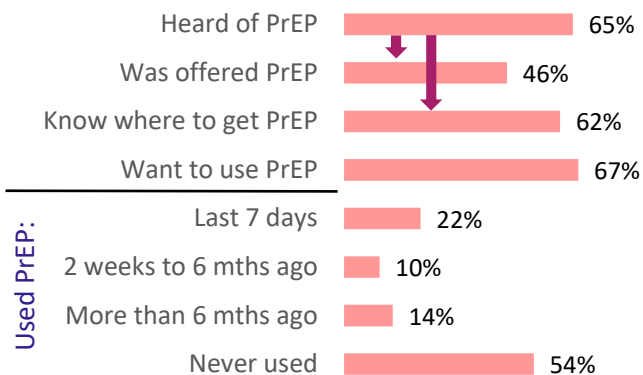
U=U: Less than half (46%) of FSW/SEC living with HIV in Kampala have heard about Undetectable=Untransmittable. After learning the definition of U=U, three out of five (61%) stated that they believe U=U is true.

Reason for Not Testing for HIV in Last 12 Months



Among those who did not test in the last 12 months, almost one-third did not feel at risk for HIV, while one in five feared testing positive, and one in eight feared others may learn about their HIV status.

Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP)

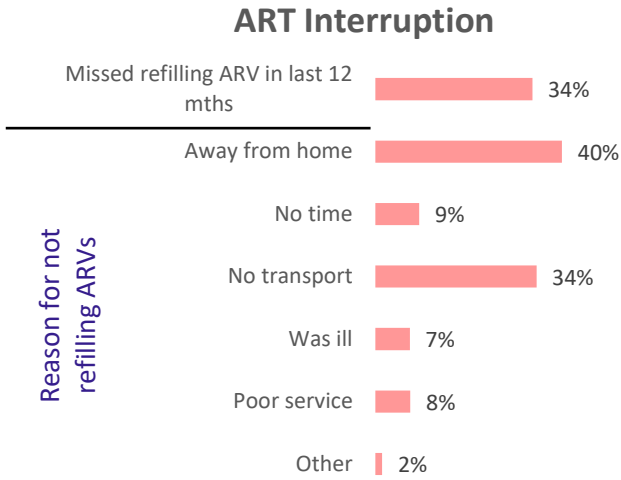
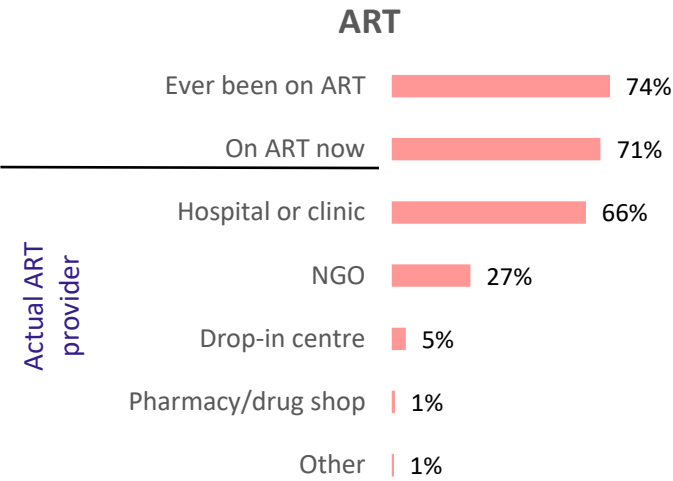


Only two-thirds of HIV-neg FSW/SEC had ever heard of PrEP; of these, fewer than half were ever offered PrEP while two-thirds knew where to get PrEP. Two-thirds of all FSW/SEC wanted to use PrEP. More than half of had never used PrEP, and only one-fifth currently used PrEP (last 7 days).

Crane 3 Survey Summary: HIV Treatment

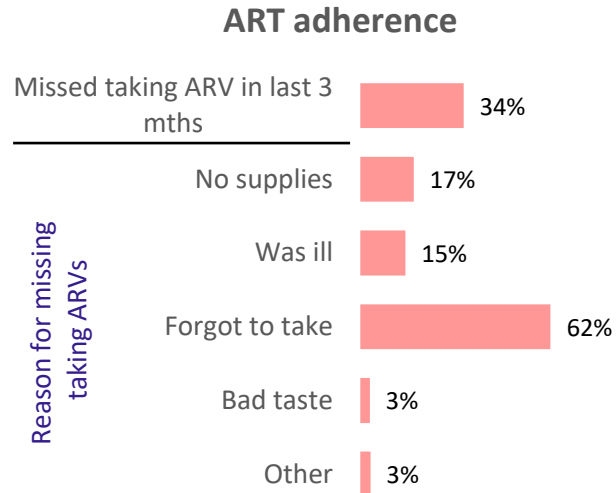
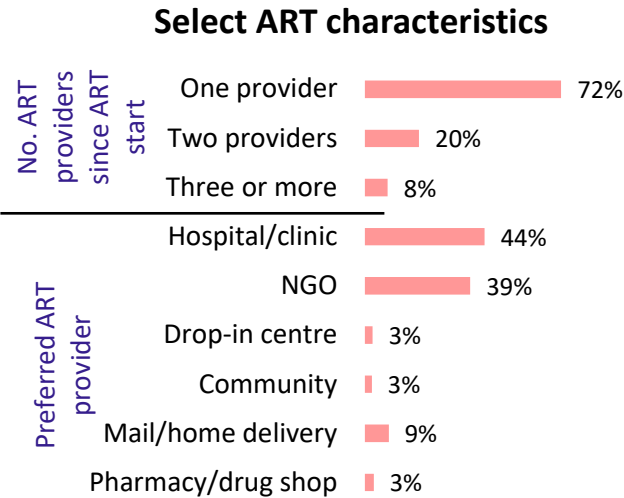
Female Sex Workers and Sexually Exploited Children in Kampala, Uganda 2021

Three-quarters (75%) of FSW/SEC living with HIV reported they did not have enough food. Among those on anti-retroviral treatment (ART), only one in three (34%) believed their treatment provider knows about their sex work, and almost all (93%) said their provider treated them with respect.



Among FSW/SEC living with HIV, three quarters reported ever having been on ART, and most (71%) were currently on ART. Almost all (93%) received their ARVs from hospitals or clinics, or through NGOs.

One third of FSW/SEC missed refilling their ARVs in the last 12 months; the most frequent reasons were being away from home and not having transport.



More than a quarter of FSW/SEC living with HIV had received their treatment from more than one provider since ART initiation. Their preferred ART providers included hospitals, clinics, and NGOs.

About a third of FSW/SEC missed taking their ARVs at least once in the last 3 months, with the most commonly reported reason having forgotten to take them.

Viral load testing: Among HIV-positive FSW/SEC who were aware of their HIV-positive status, 61% stated that their VL had been measured in the preceding 12 months. Of these, 66% had received and understood their result.