



IAS 2019

10TH IAS CONFERENCE ON HIV SCIENCE
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HIV Recency Testing in Rwanda

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Background

- Rwanda is committed to achieving the global target of ending the AIDS epidemic by 2030
- Initiation of HIV recency testing was done as innovative approaches to efficiently monitor the HIV epidemic
- Initiated in October 2018 in 23 health facilities in the Kigali
- Plan to scale up nationwide to all viral load hubs



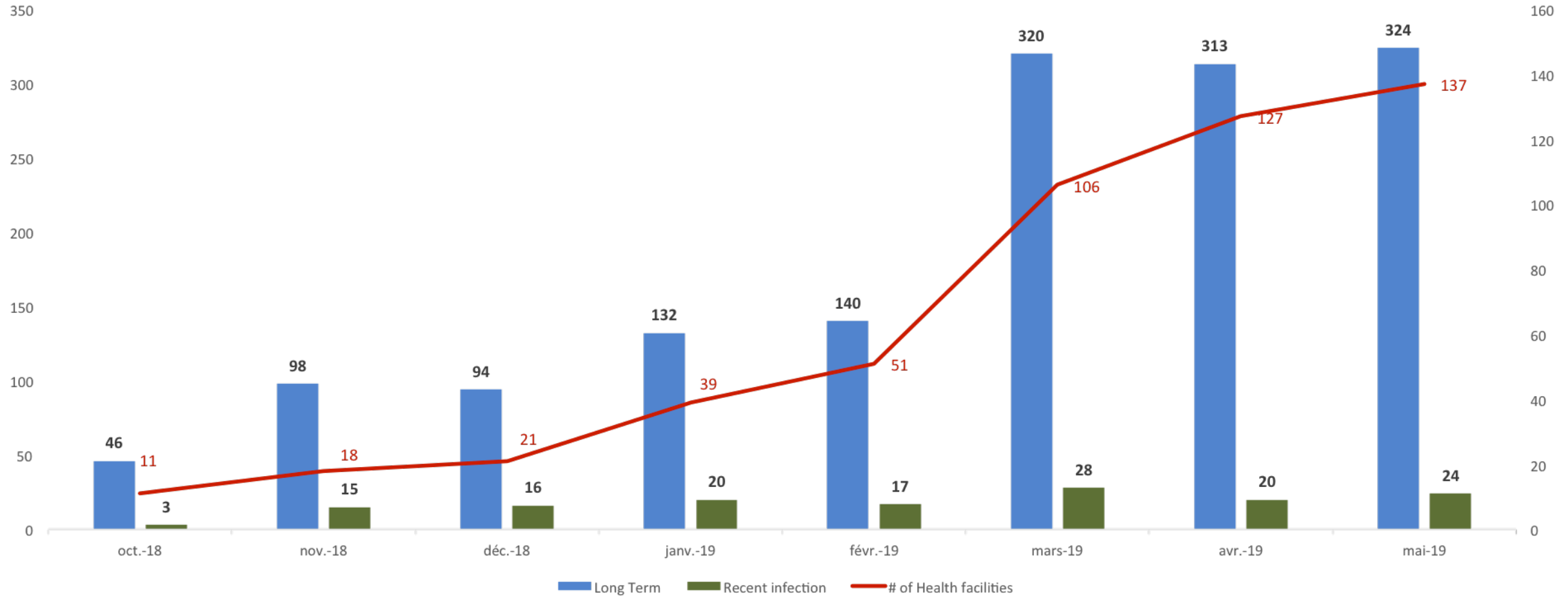
Background

Approaches used in implementing HIV recency testing:

- ✓ Initially centralized testing at National lab
- ✓ Central testing using 8 viral load hubs distributed across the country
- ✓ Point-of-care testing (POCT) for recency in pioneer sites (23 health facilities)
- Target: All sites with POCT for recency

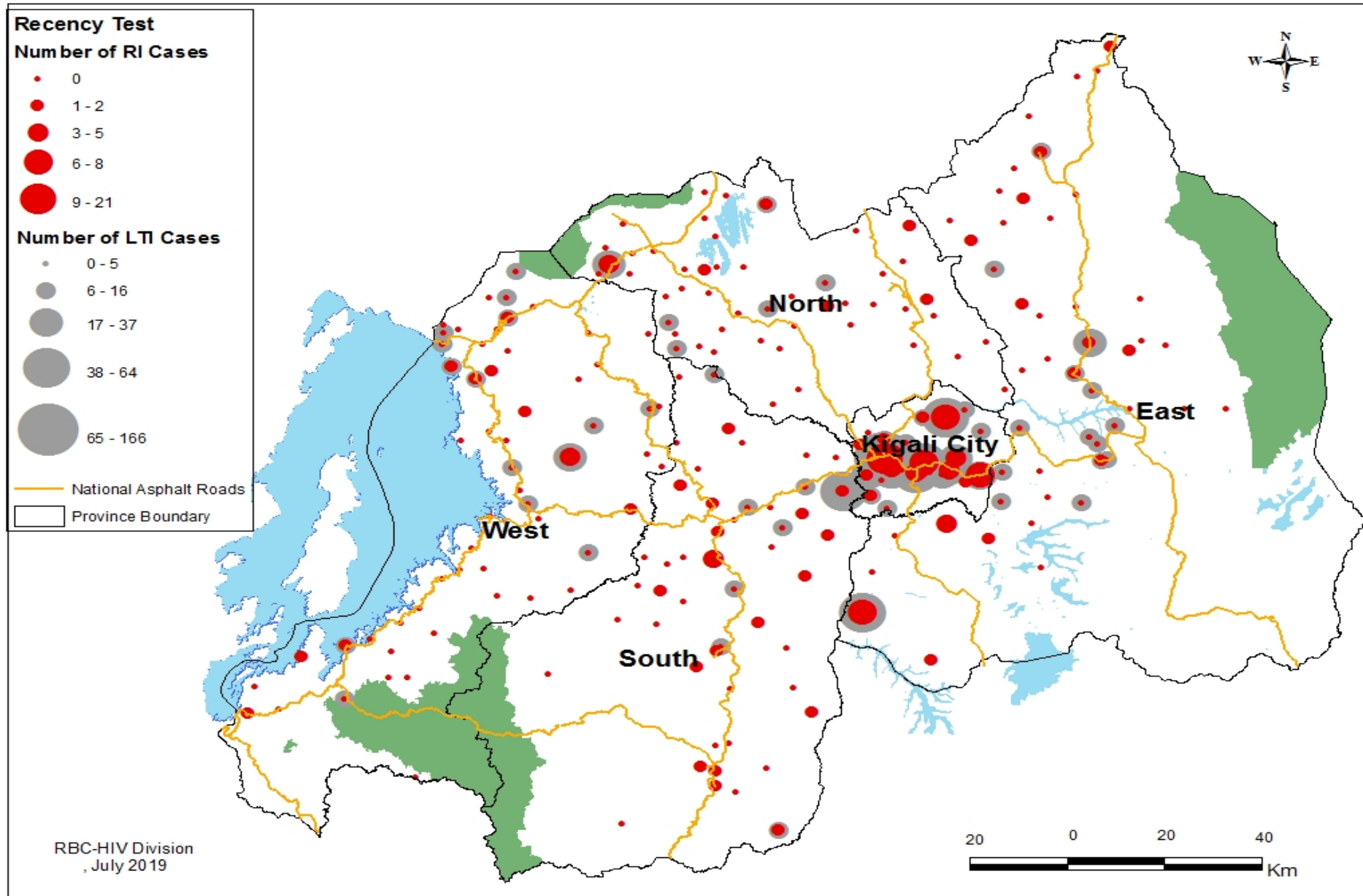


Recency Testing Status by Month and Scale Up October 2018- May 2019

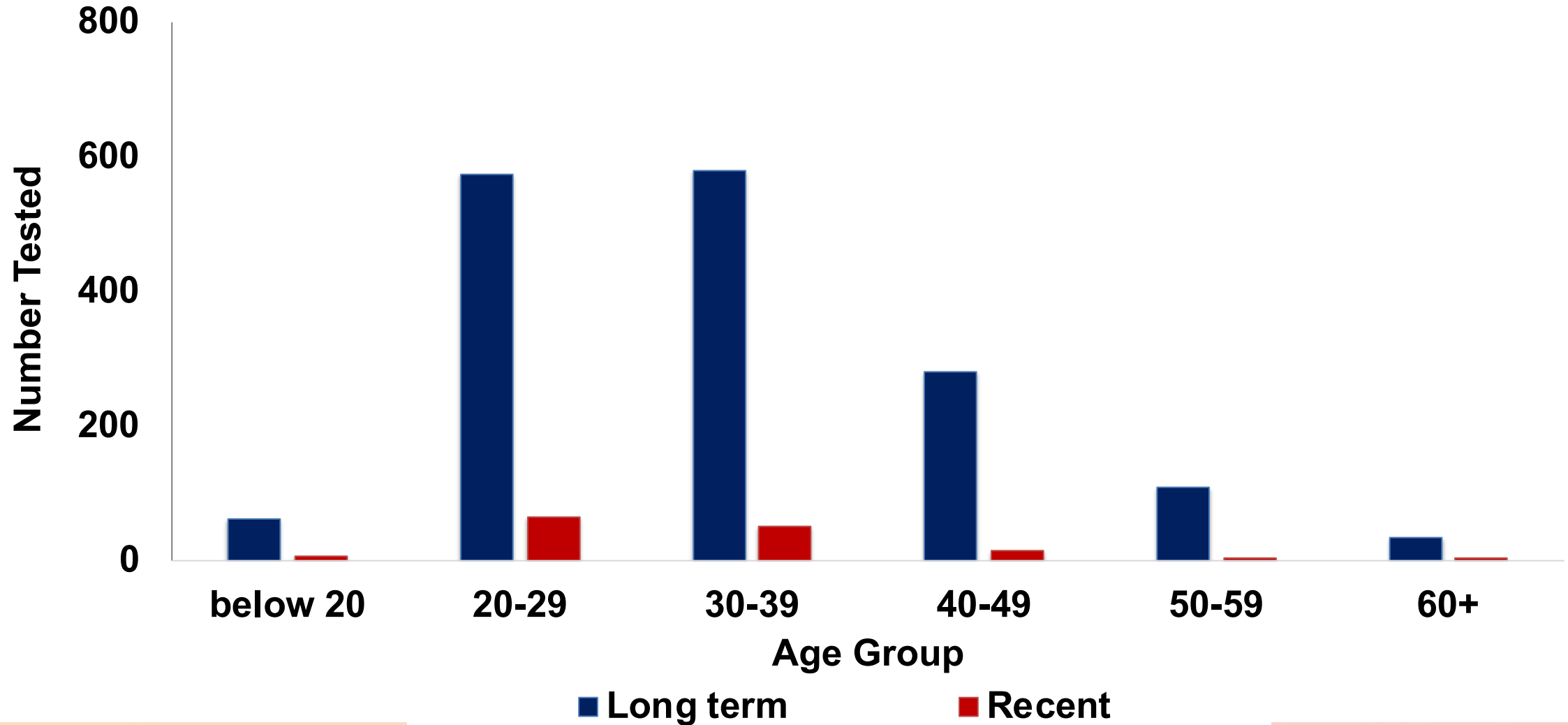


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Distribution of Recent and Long-Term Infection across Rwanda

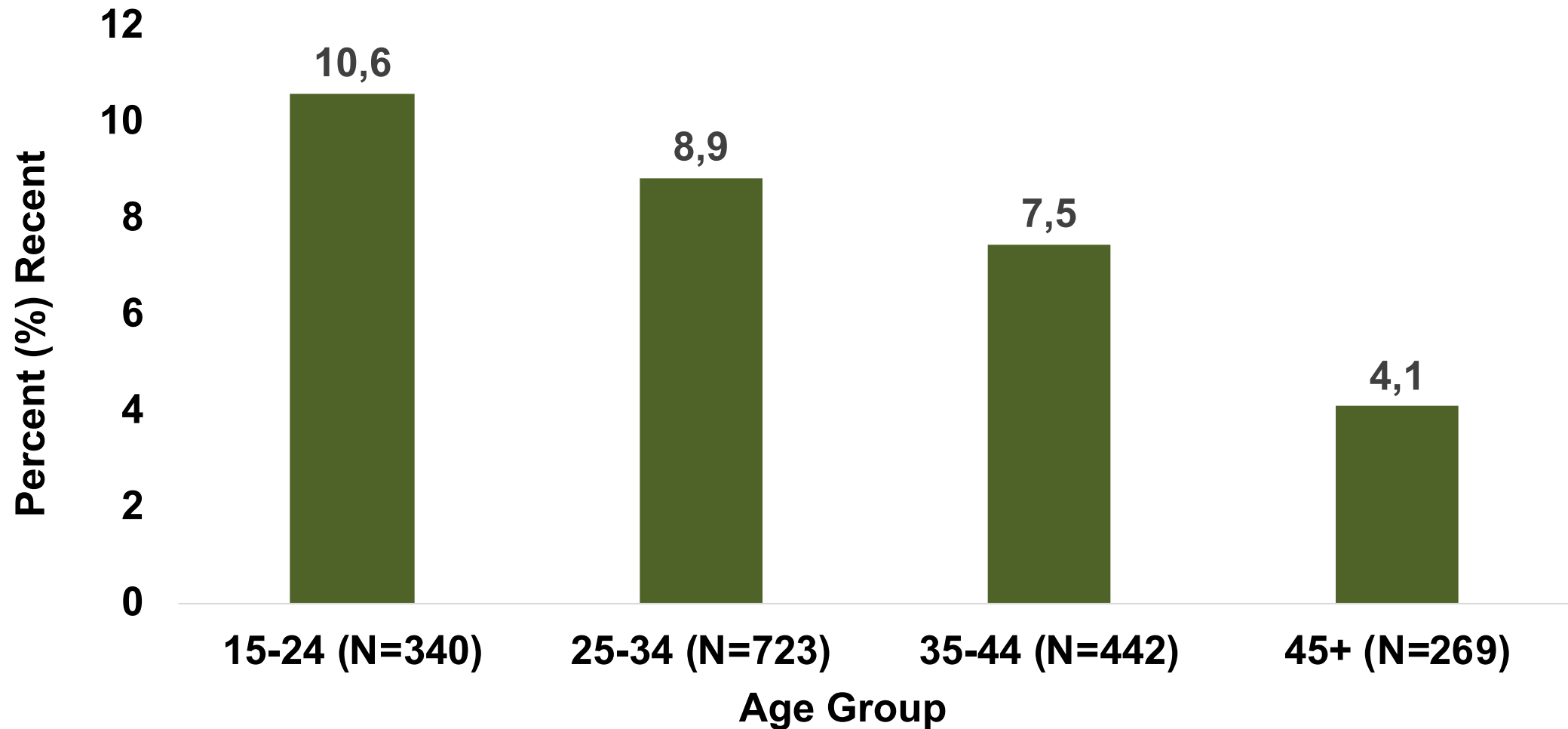


Recency Testing Status by Age Groups October 2018-May 2019

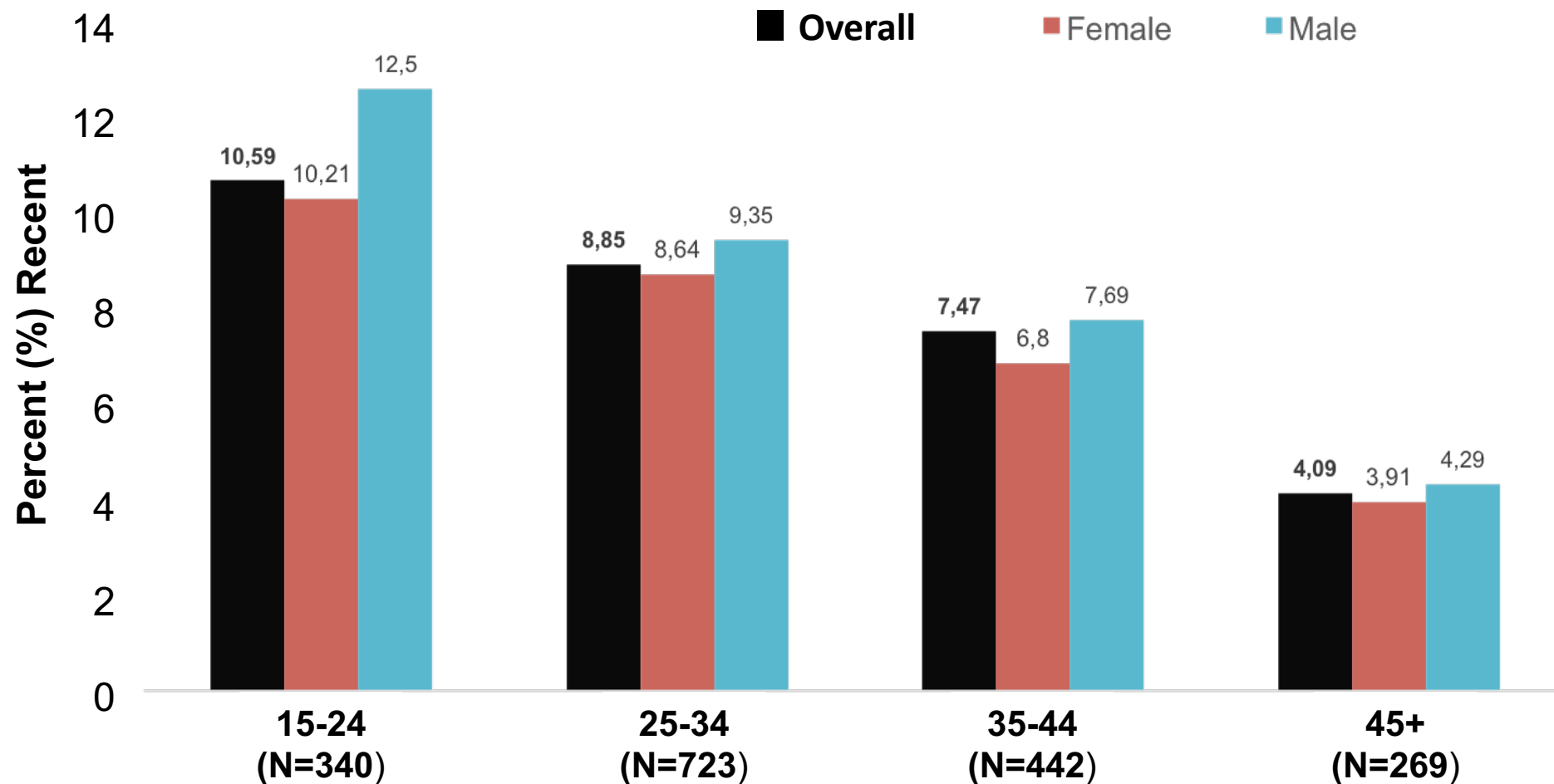


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Proportion Recent Infection among Newly Diagnosed by Age group, October 2018-May 2019

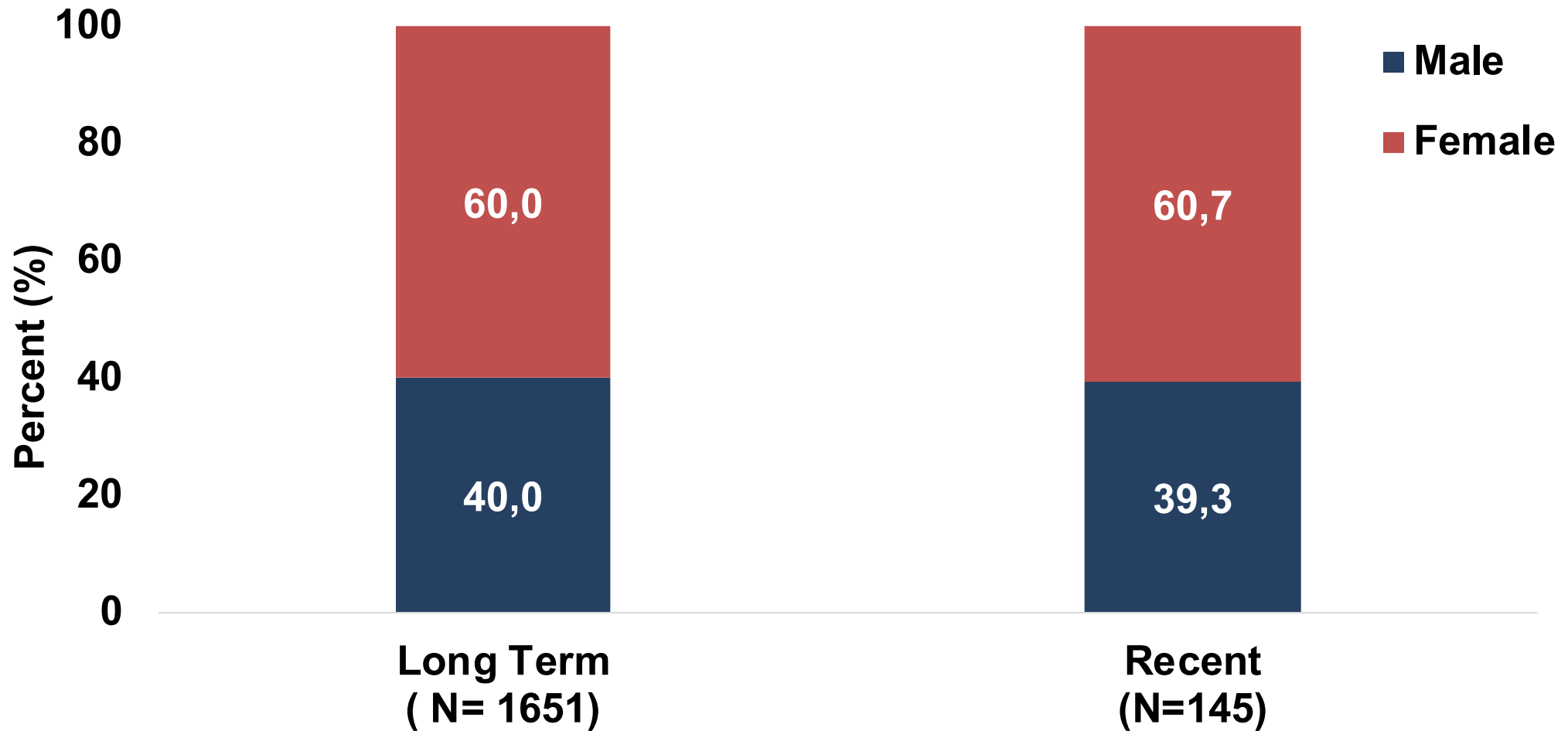


Proportion Recent Among Newly Diagnosed by Age Bands and Sex*, October 2018-May 2019

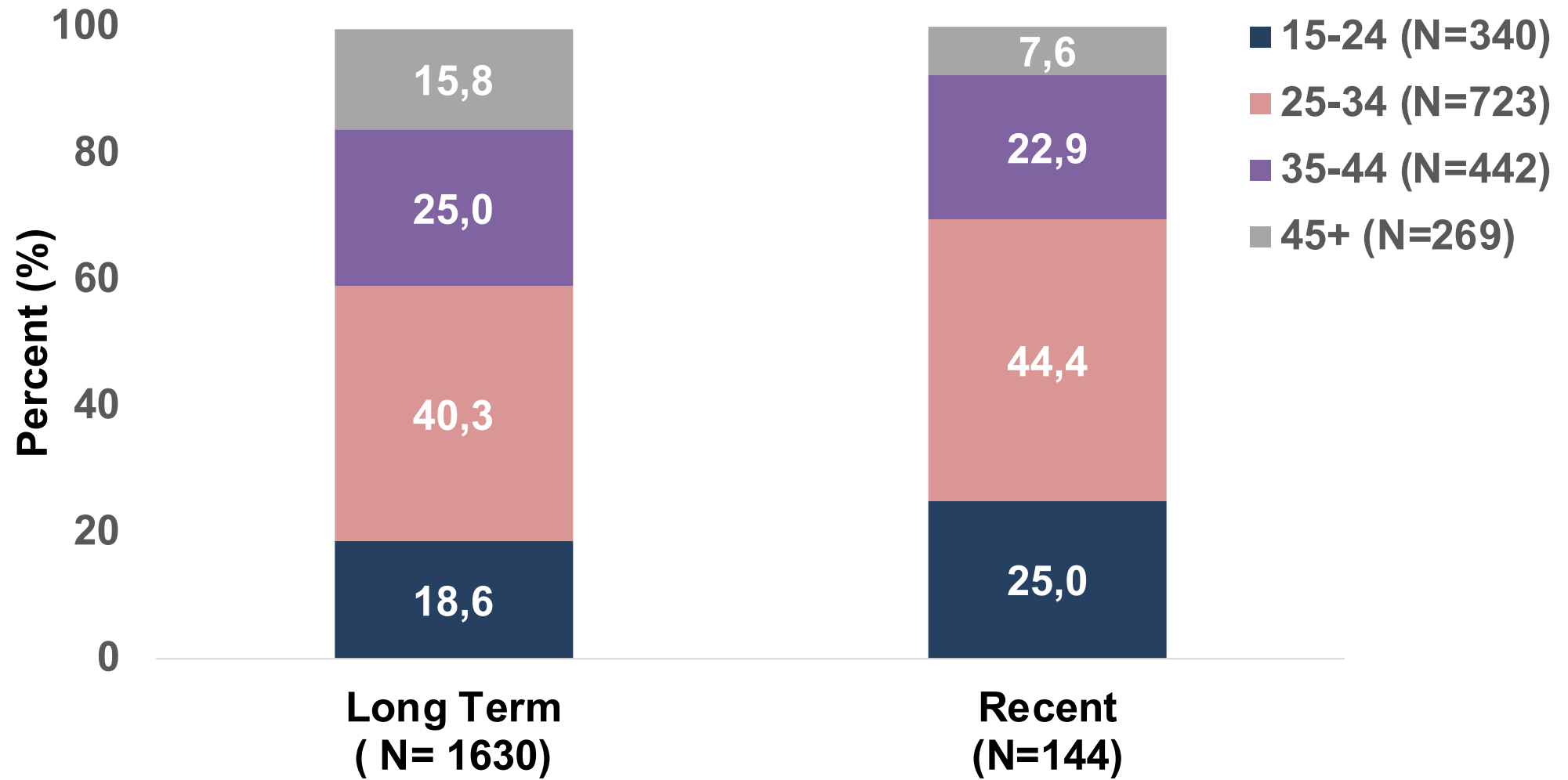


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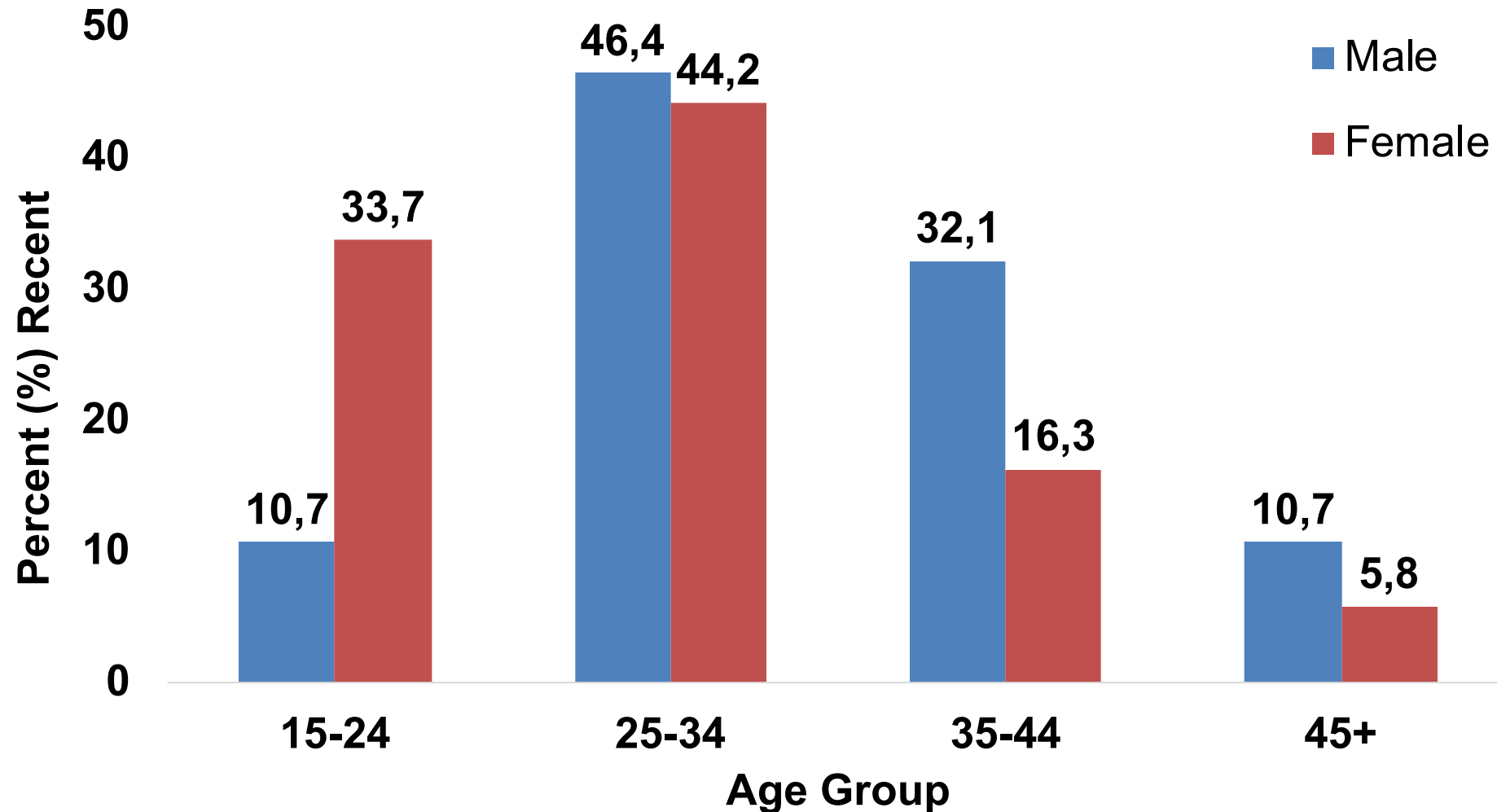
Distribution of Sex Among Newly Diagnosed PLHIV by Recency Status, October 2018-May 2019



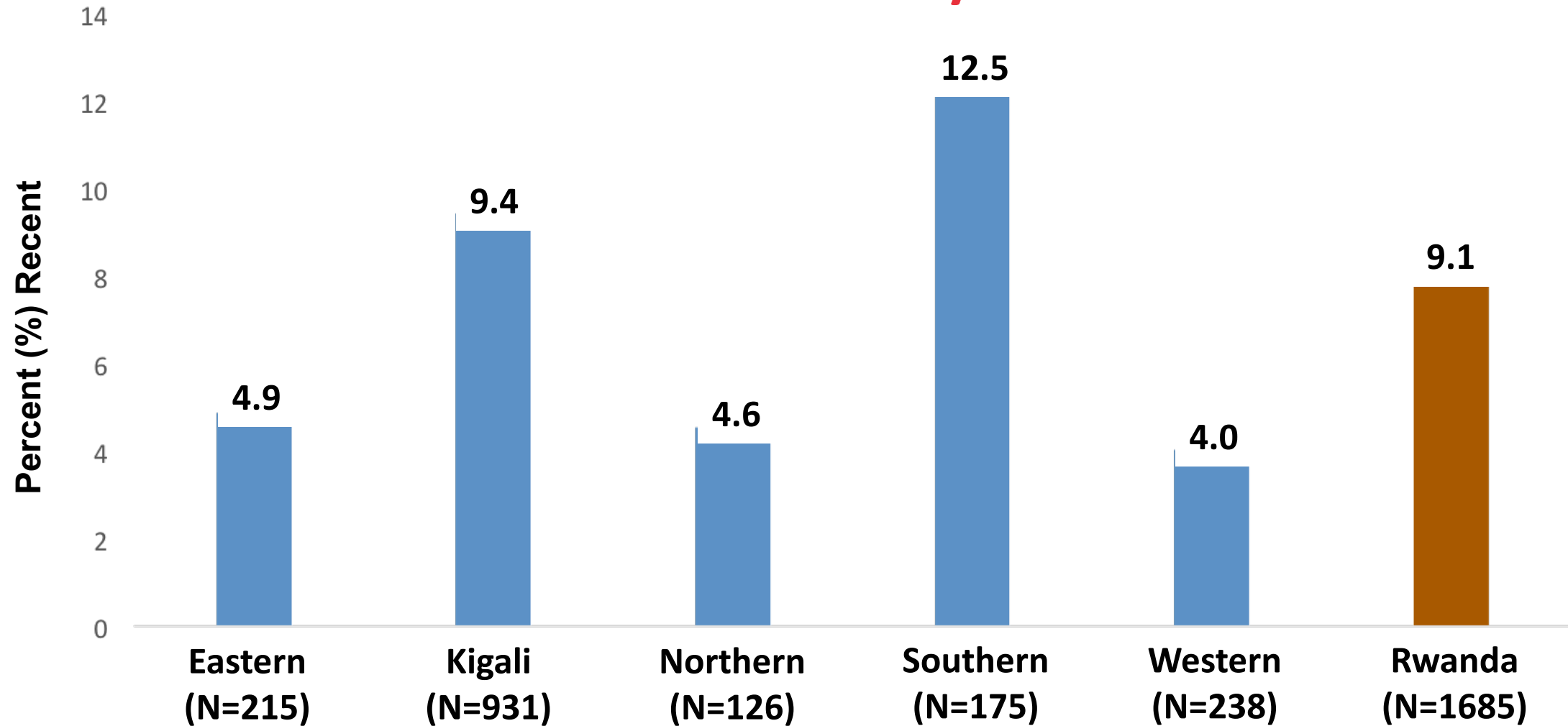
Distribution of Age Among Newly Diagnosed PLHIV by Recency Status, October 2018- May 2019



Distribution of Recent Cases by Age and Gender, October 2018-May 2019



Proportion Recent Infections by Province October 2018-May 2019

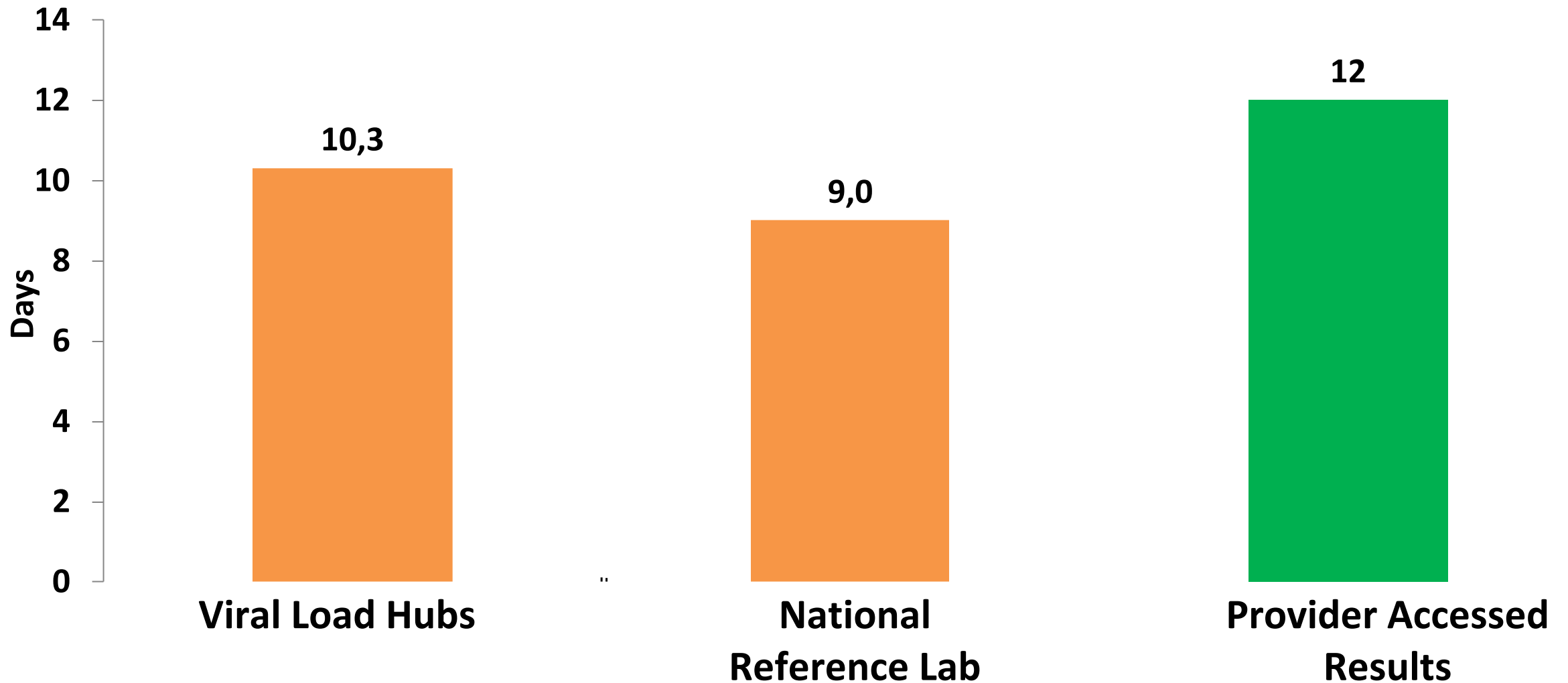


*9 cases did not have sex documented



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Median Turnaround Time for Recency Testing Results



Lessons Learned

- Integration of HIV recency testing in routine HIV testing services is feasible
- Acceptability increases with program scale up
- Majority of people newly diagnosed have long term HIV infection
 - Strengthen active case finding strategies to identify people in the early stage of infection
 - Mobilize high risk populations to test for HIV as early as possible



Conclusions

- Recent infections disproportionately occur in:
 - Young people: 15-24; 25-34 years
 - Females 15-24 where risk of new infection is >3 times higher compared to males
- Planning of HIV prevention interventions needs to target specific populations
 - Adolescent and young adults



Thank you!



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