



# PARIS

**FAST-TRACK CITIES 2024**

13-15 October 2024 | Maison de la Mutualité, Paris

## Linkage to care (LTC) of people with HIV (PHIV) in the Lisbon Metropolitan Area (AML) between 2019 and 2023 by Treatment Activist Group (GAT) community-led services

Luís Palma  
Registered Nurse



## WHO we are



### Established in 2001

GAT is a patient-led NGO that advocates for the rights and interests of people living with or affected by HIV and related co-infections in Portugal.

### Main spheres of activity

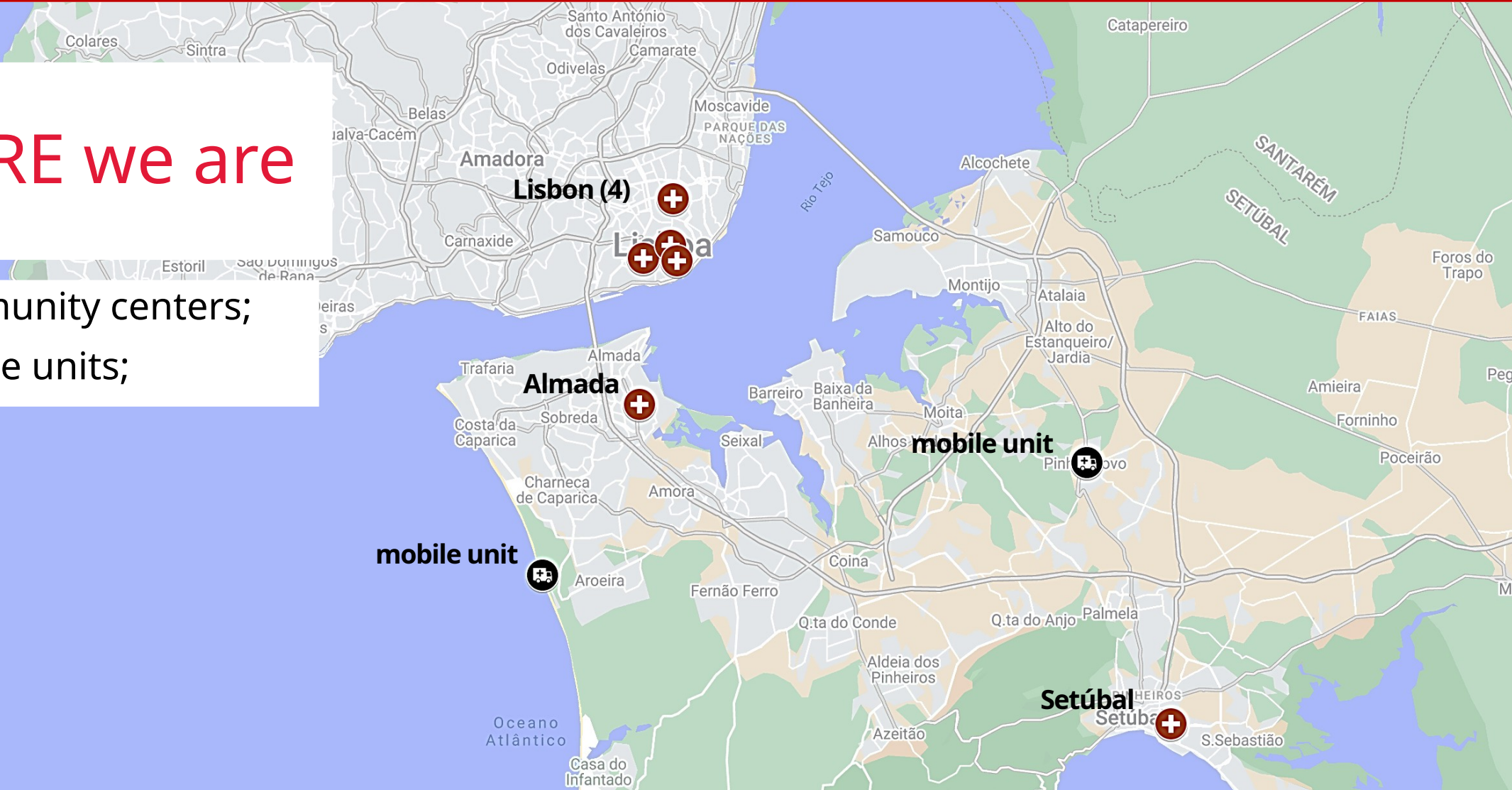
- Advocacy of equitable access to healthcare;
- Provision of preventive, diagnostic and holistic healthcare;
- Evidence generation and policy change;
- International cooperation in Portuguese speaking countries.

### Key figures

- 1,200,000 condoms distributed/year
- 65,000 HIV, HBV, HCV, syphilis tests performed/year
- 60,000 harm reduction kits distributed/year
- 31,000 screening sessions/year
- 14,000 medical and nursing visits/year
- 10,000 social services visits/year

## WHERE we are

- 6 community centers;
- 2 mobile units;



## HOW we work: Provision of preventive, diagnostic and holistic healthcare



### SCREENING

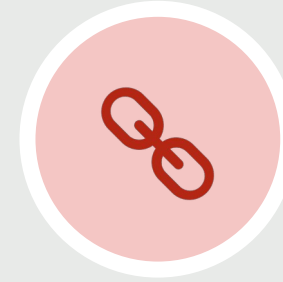
**HIV, HBV, HCV, and syphilis rapid** testing performed by trained community health workers in community centers tailored to key populations:

- men who have sex with men;
- trans people;
- sex workers;
- migrant persons;
- people who use drugs;
- people experiencing homelessness



### MEDICAL SERVICES

Bacterial STI prevention, screening and treatment, mental health services and support, community-led hepatitis post-diagnostic care, community-led biomedical HIV prevention



### LINKAGE TO CARE

Access to the national health service, navigation, assistance in retention in care and promoting health literacy.



### SOCIAL INTERVENTION

Facilitate access to government healthcare and social services, financial preparedness preparation, risk and harm reduction

### COMBINATION PREVENTION

Distribution of materials for safer sexual practices and drug use and biomedical prevention.

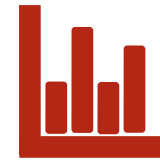
**Linkage to care (LTC) of people with HIV  
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## Method



### PHIV were grouped into:

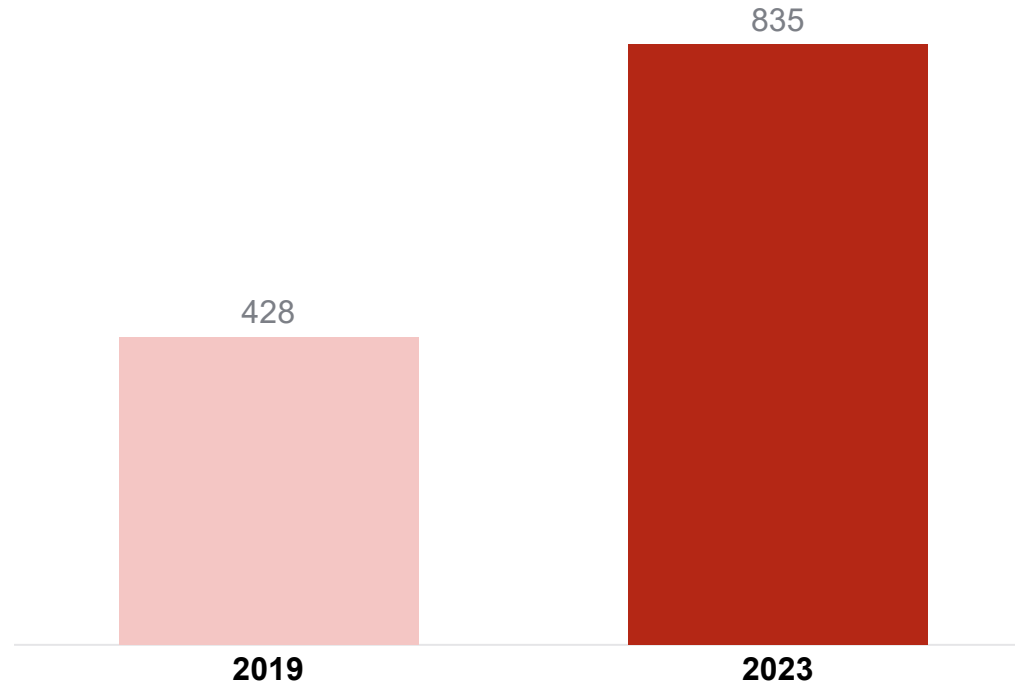
- **newly diagnosed** individuals;
- previously diagnosed in Portugal but **out-of-care**;
- previously diagnosed and on **treatment abroad but seeking HIV care** in Portugal.



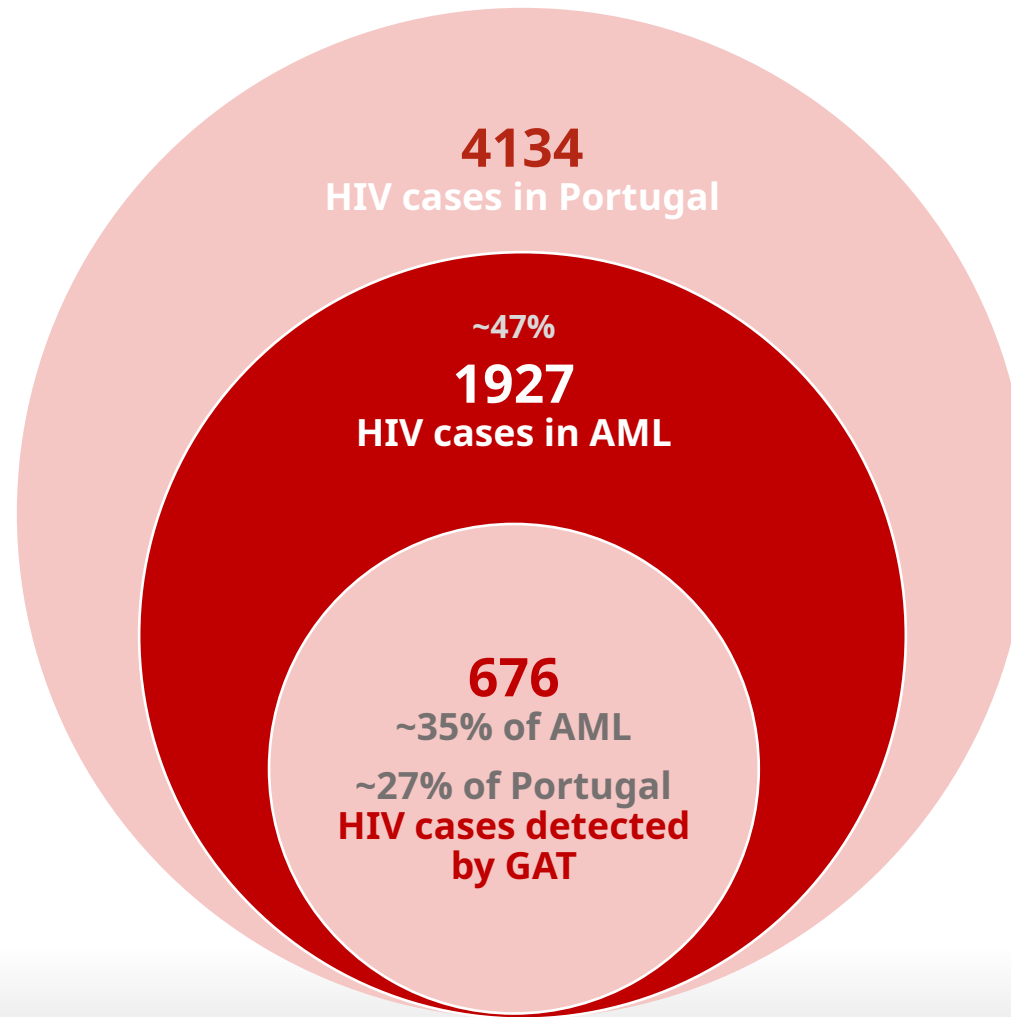
### Data was analyzed statistically for:

- Age;
- Gender;
- Country of birth;
- Key population affiliation;
- Linkage to care.

# Results – Identified PHIV

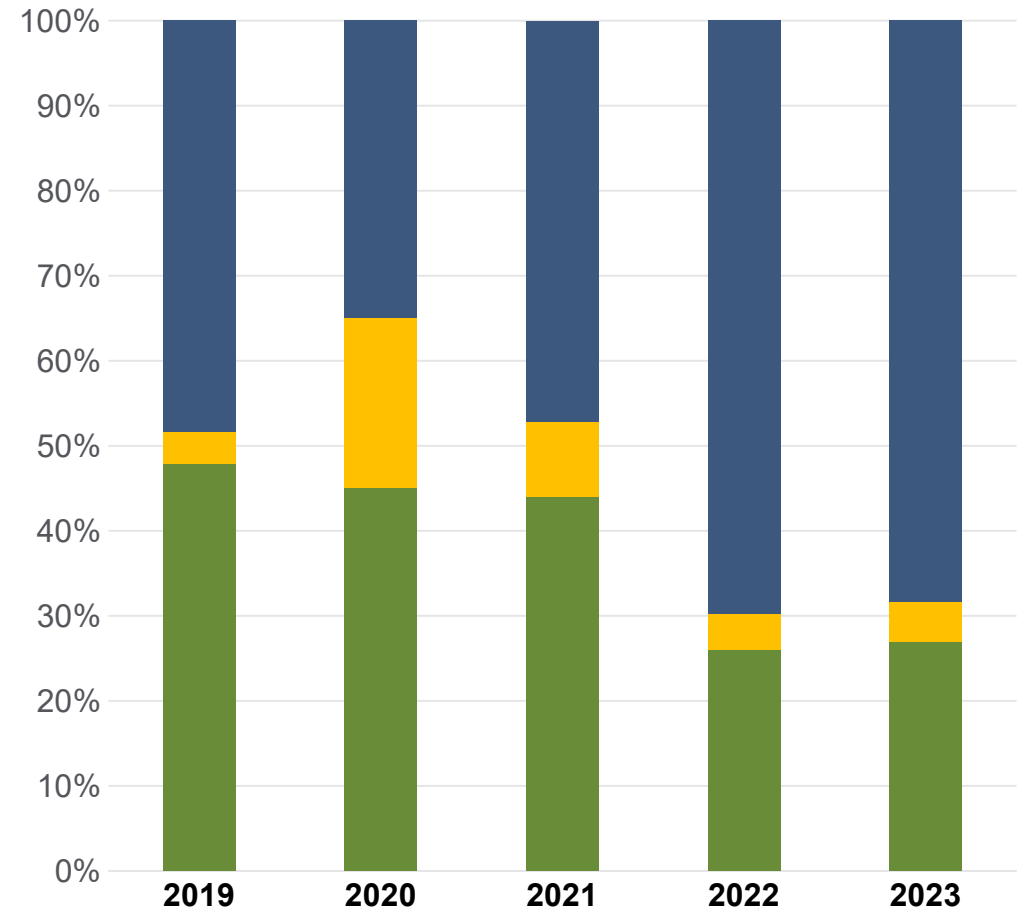
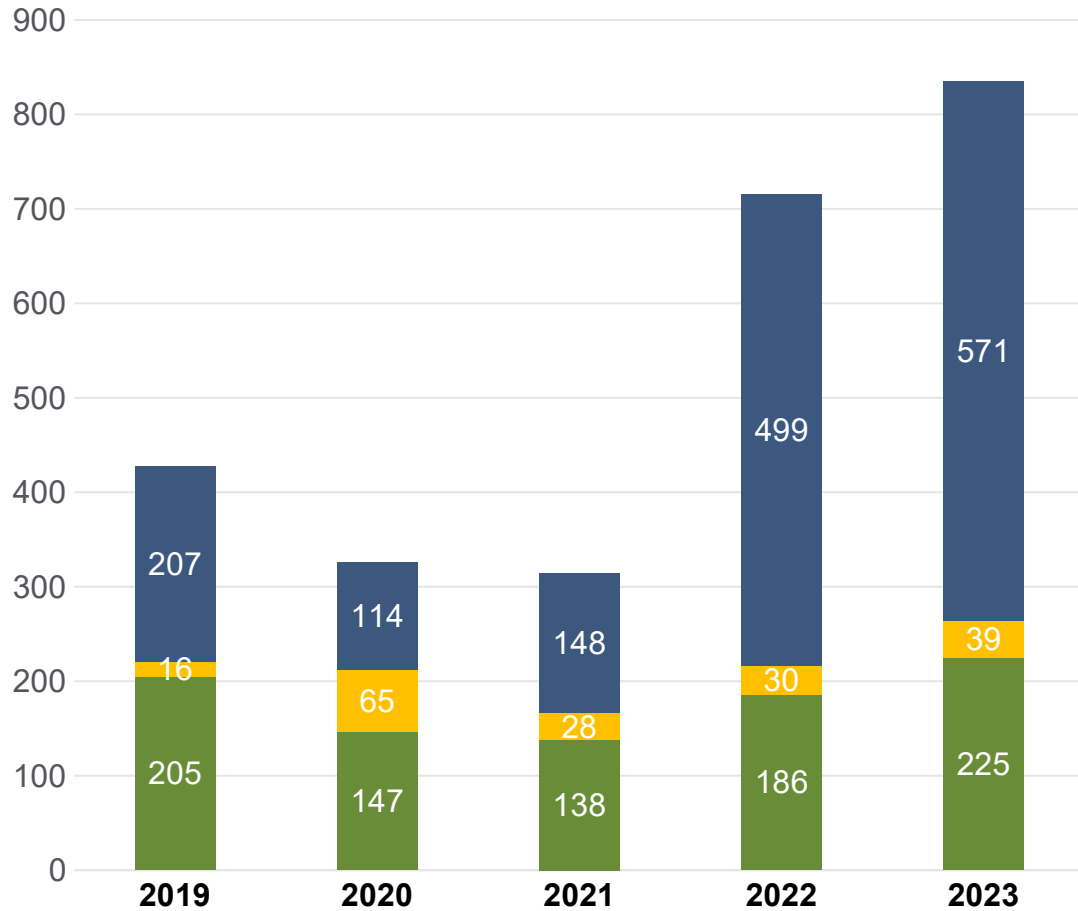


# HIV Cases – Portugal / Lisbon / by GAT – 2019/2022





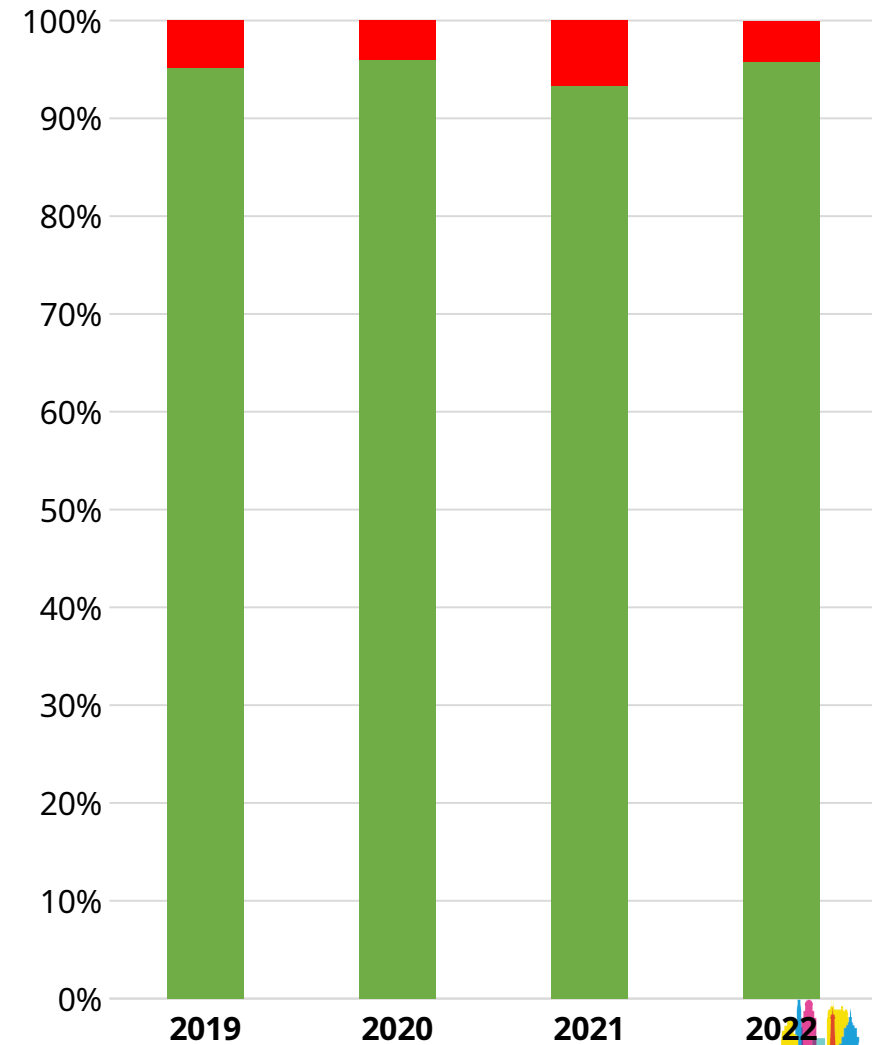
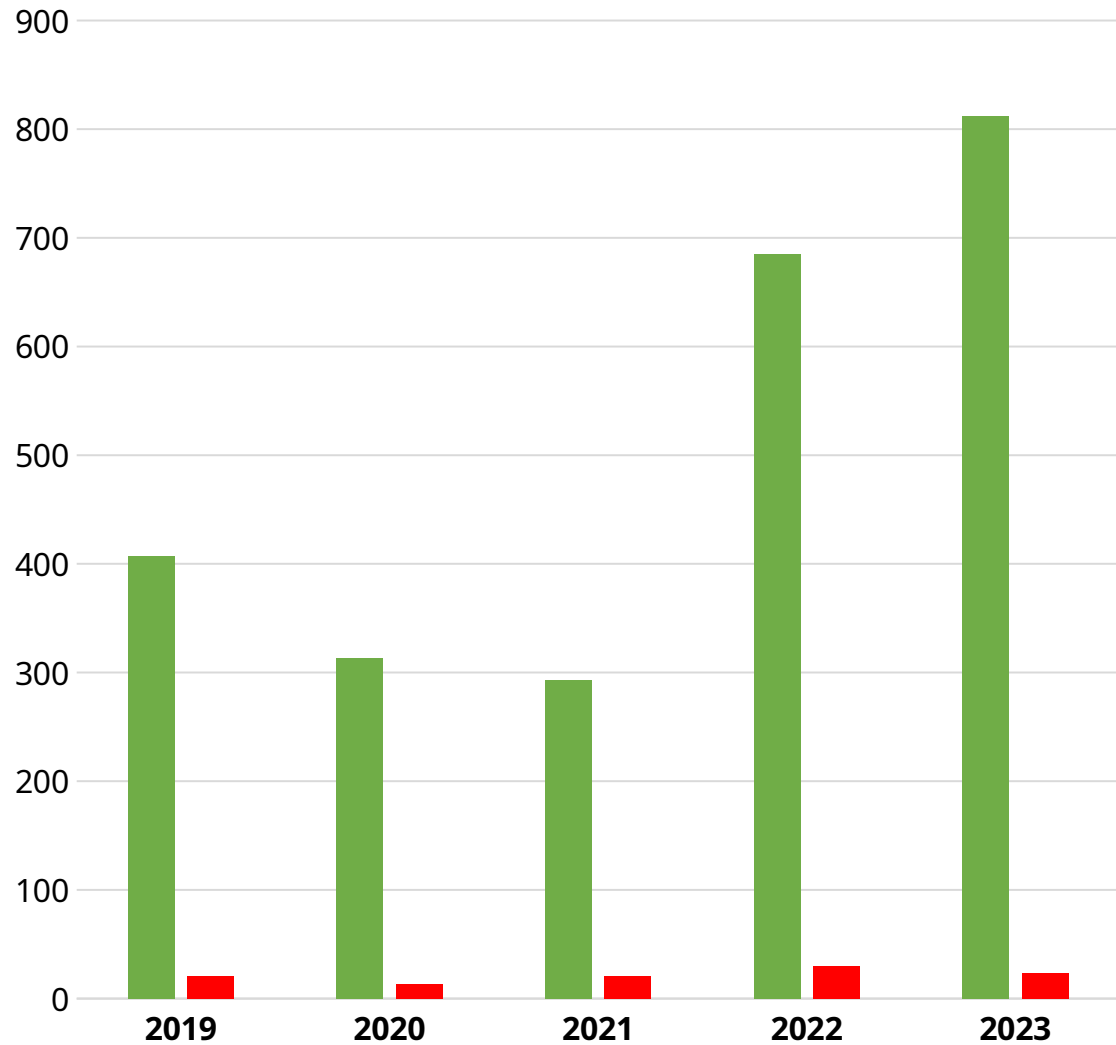
# PHIV identified at GAT



■ On treatment abroad, seeking care in Portugal   ■ Out-of-care   ■ Newly diagnosed



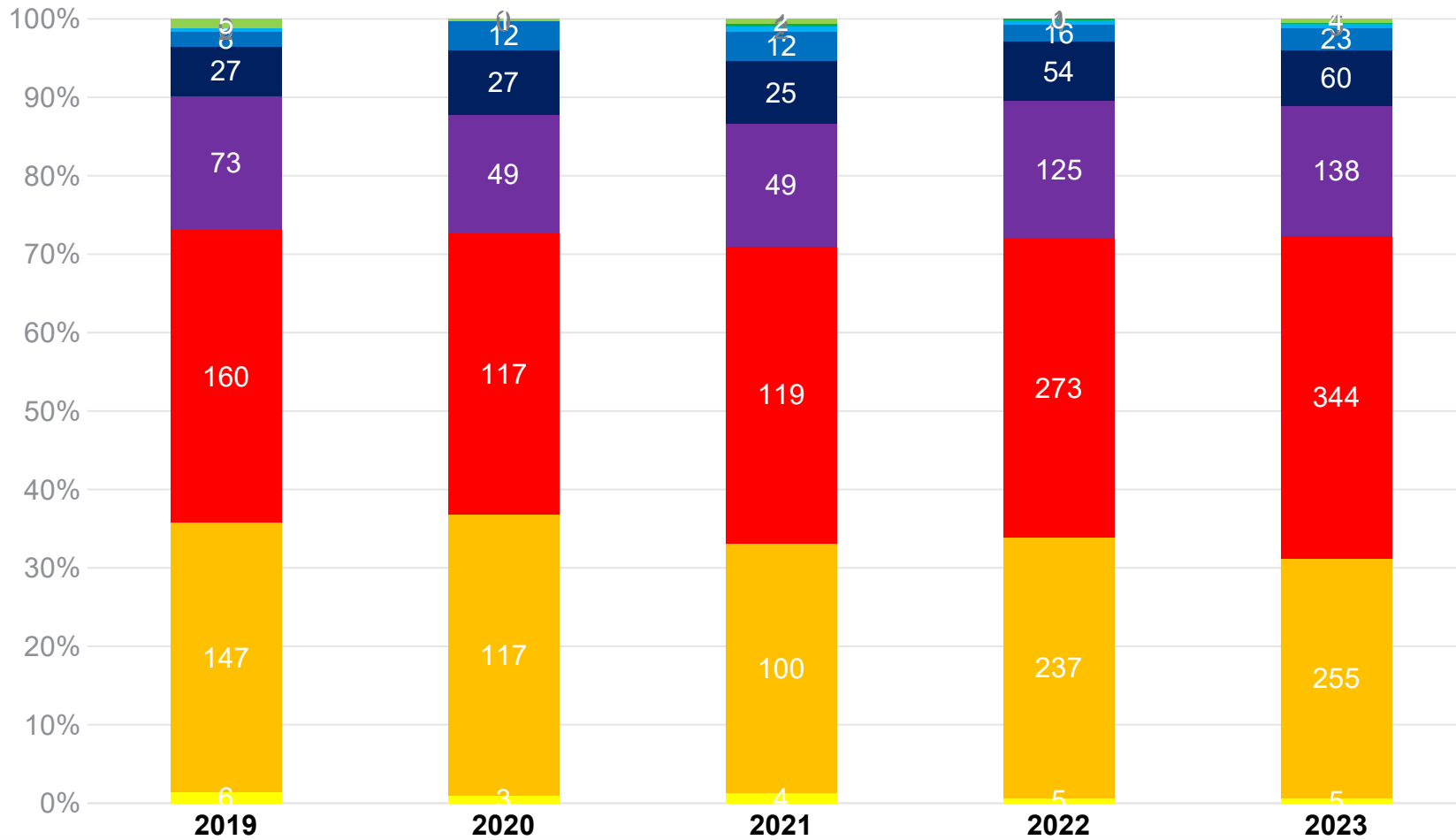
# PHIV linked to the NHS – Referral refusal



■ PHIV linked to the NHS ■ Referral refusal

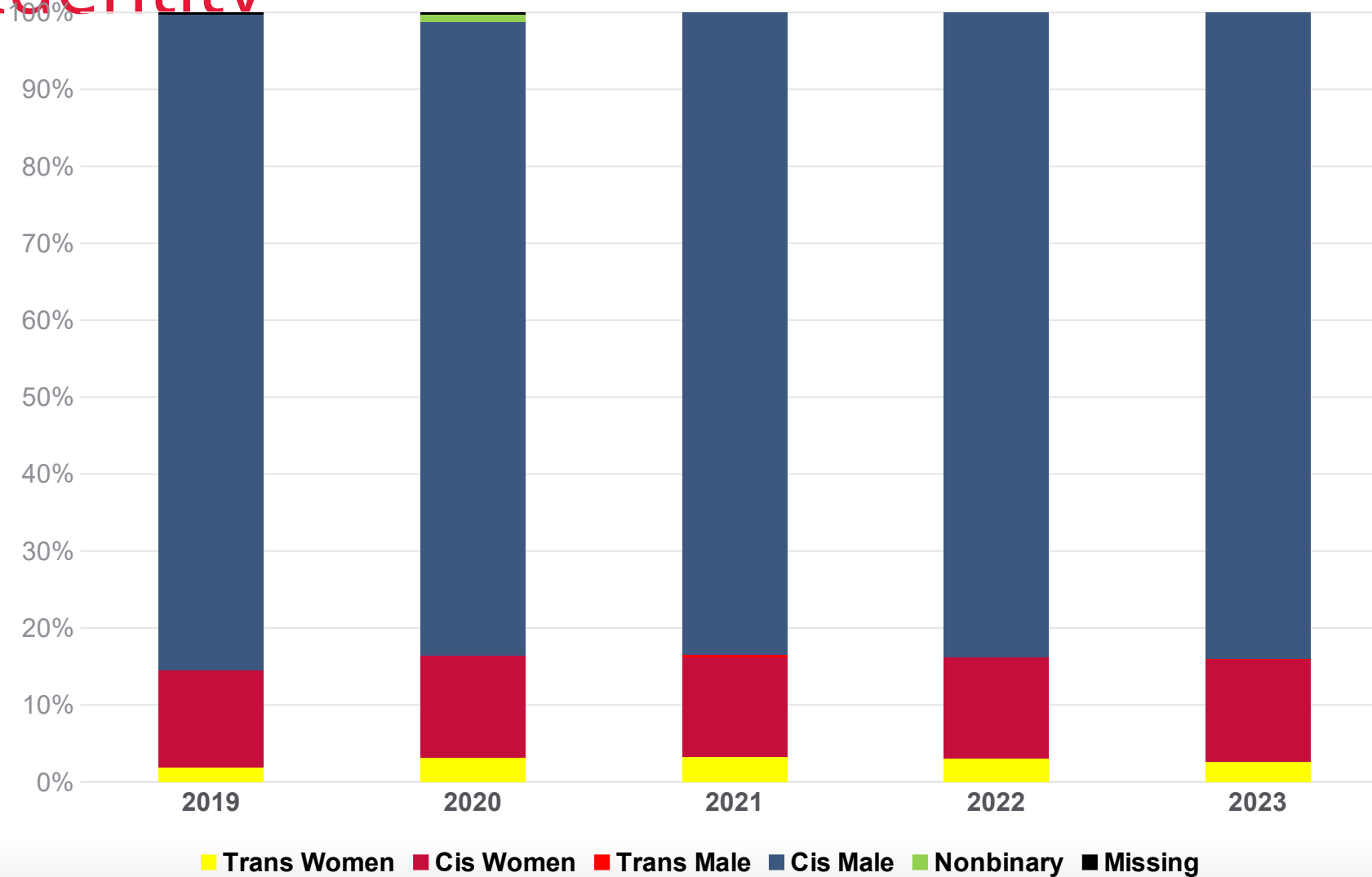


# Demographics of PLWHIV cases - AGE



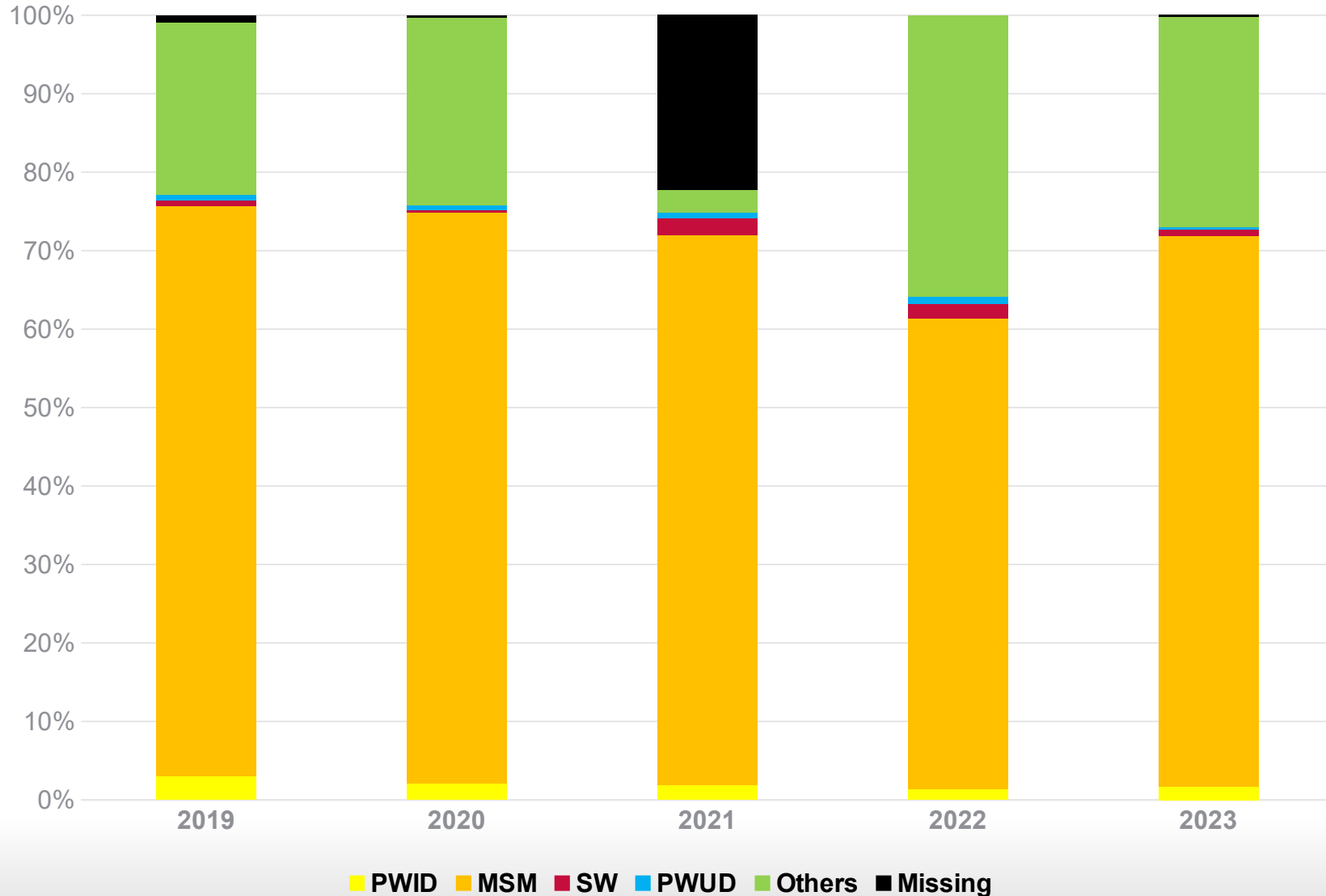
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Missing	5	1	2	0	4
80-84	0	0	1	1	1
70-79	2	0	2	4	5
60-69	8	12	12	16	23
50-59	27	27	25	54	60
40-49	73	49	49	125	138
30-39	160	117	119	273	344
20-29	147	117	100	237	255
15-19	6	3	4	5	5

# Demographics of PLWHIV cases – Gender Identity

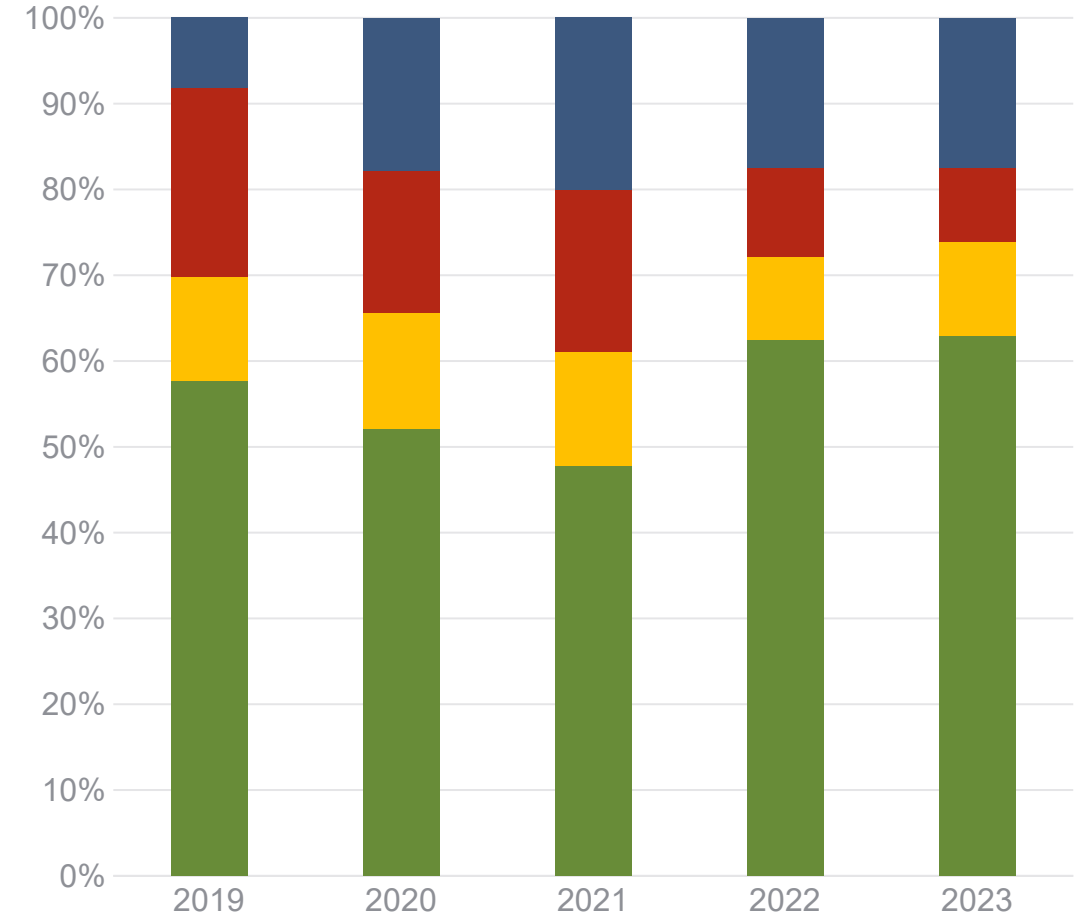
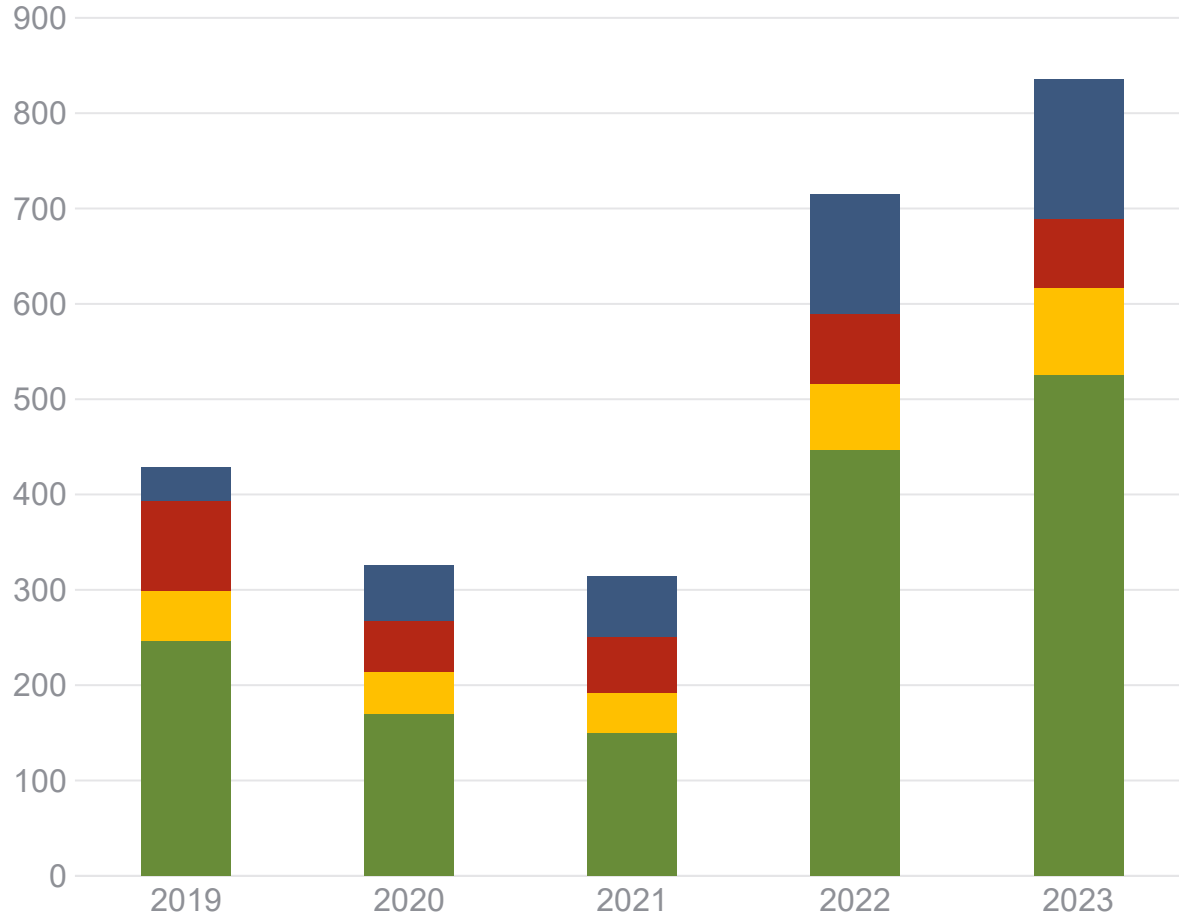


	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Missing	1	1	0	0	0
Nonbinary	0	3	0	0	0
Cis Male	365	265	262	599	701
Trans Male	0	0	1	0	1
Cis Women	54	43	41	94	111
Trans Women	8	10	10	22	22

# Demographics of PLWHIV cases – Key population



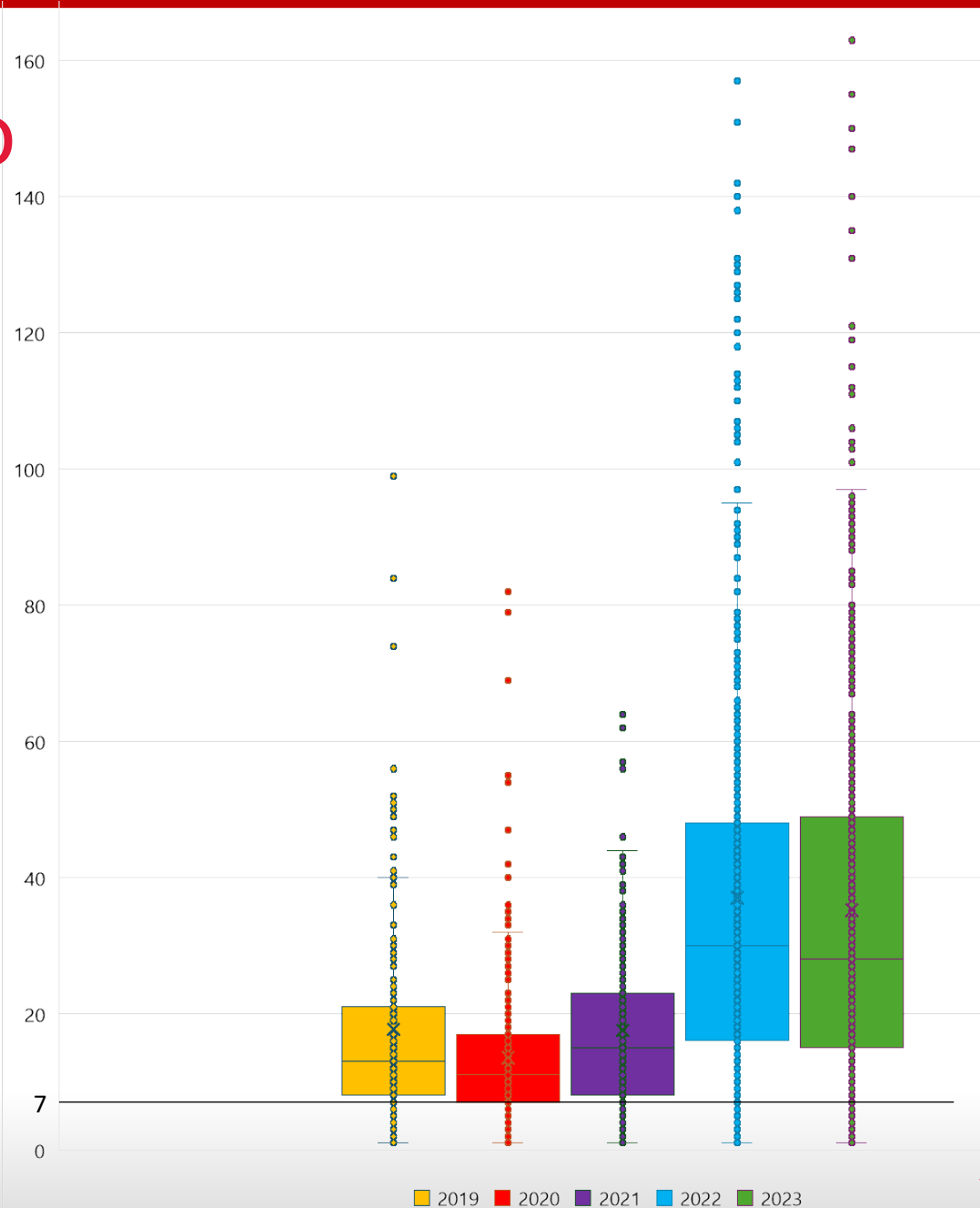
# Demographics of PLWHIV cases – Country of birth



■ Latin America ■ PALOP ■ Portugal ■ Other

# Days from referral to first medical visit

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Q1	8	7	7	16	17
Q2	12	12	15	31	32
Q3	21	19	24	50	57

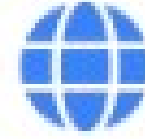


# Conclusion



## Community-Led Impact

- GAT has significantly contributed to PHIV reach, with up to 35% of ALM's new HIV cases detected by us, with a LTC rate up to 96%.



## Future Focus

- Strengthening community-led services and cooperation with hospitals is essential for achieving global HIV targets





Thank you!