



# HIV in the Caribbean

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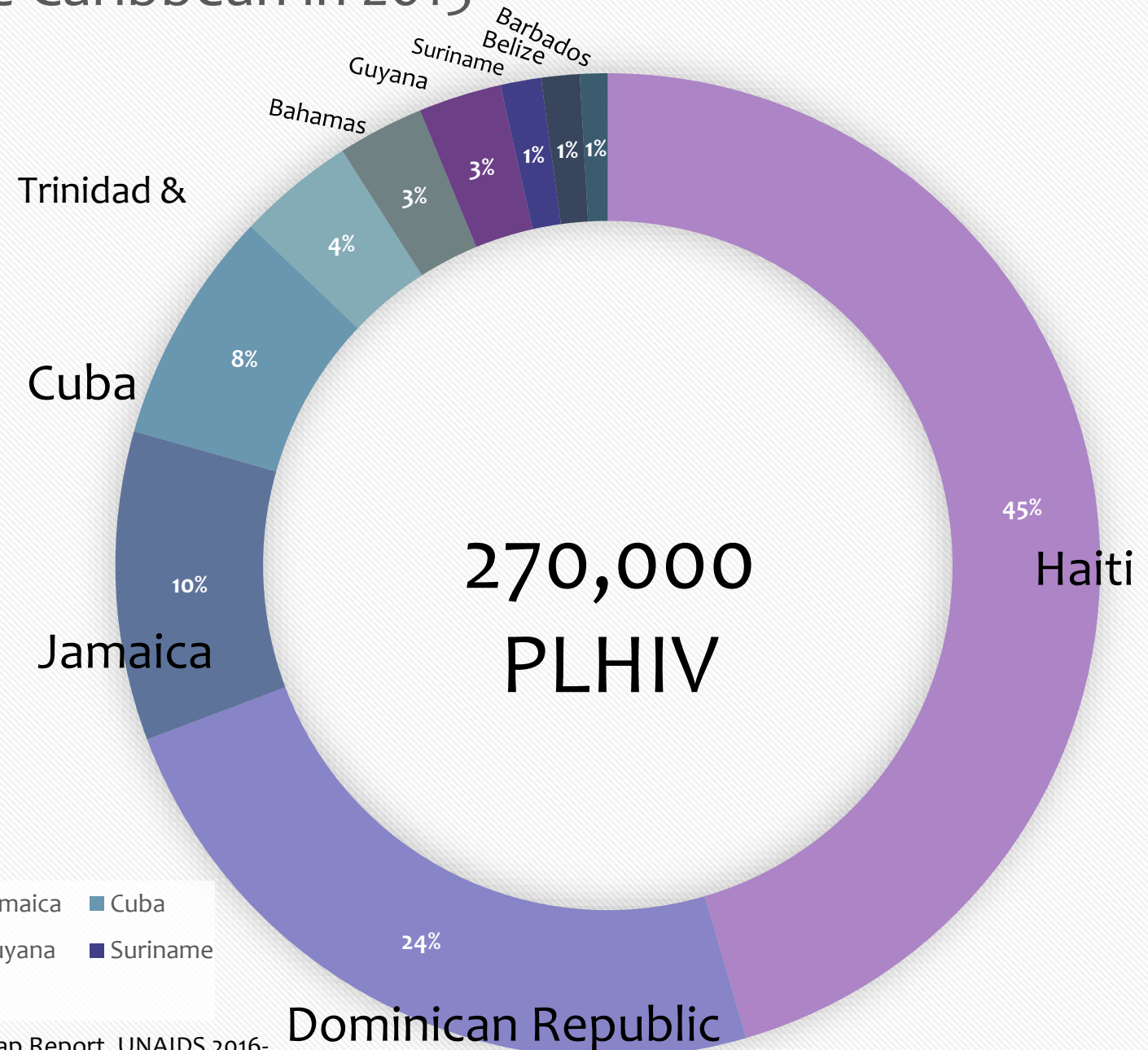
INTERNATIONAL AIDS SOCIETY (IAS) WORKSHOP: SCIENCE AND COMMUNITY IN THE RESPONSE TO HIV IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

WINDSOR CONVENTION & EXPO CENTER, BARRA DA TIJUCA, RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL

5 APRIL 2017

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# PLHIV in the Caribbean in 2015



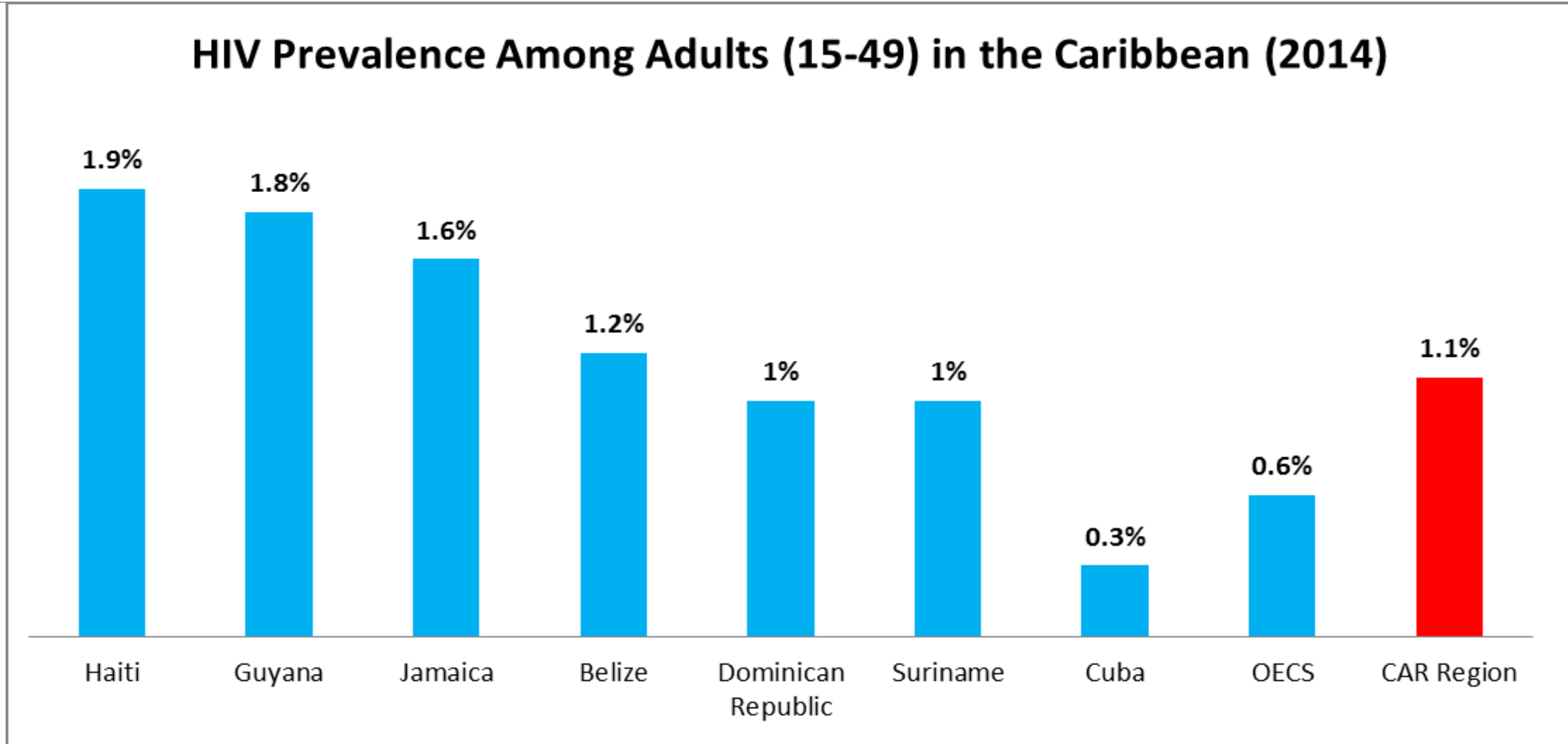
89% of PLHIV are in Haiti, Dominican Republic, Jamaica & Cuba.

A 17% reduction from 320,000 PLHIV in 2010 but that means that 50,000 people died during this period.

- Haiti
- Dom Rep
- Jamaica
- Cuba
- T&T
- Bahamas
- Guyana
- Suriname
- Belize
- Barbados

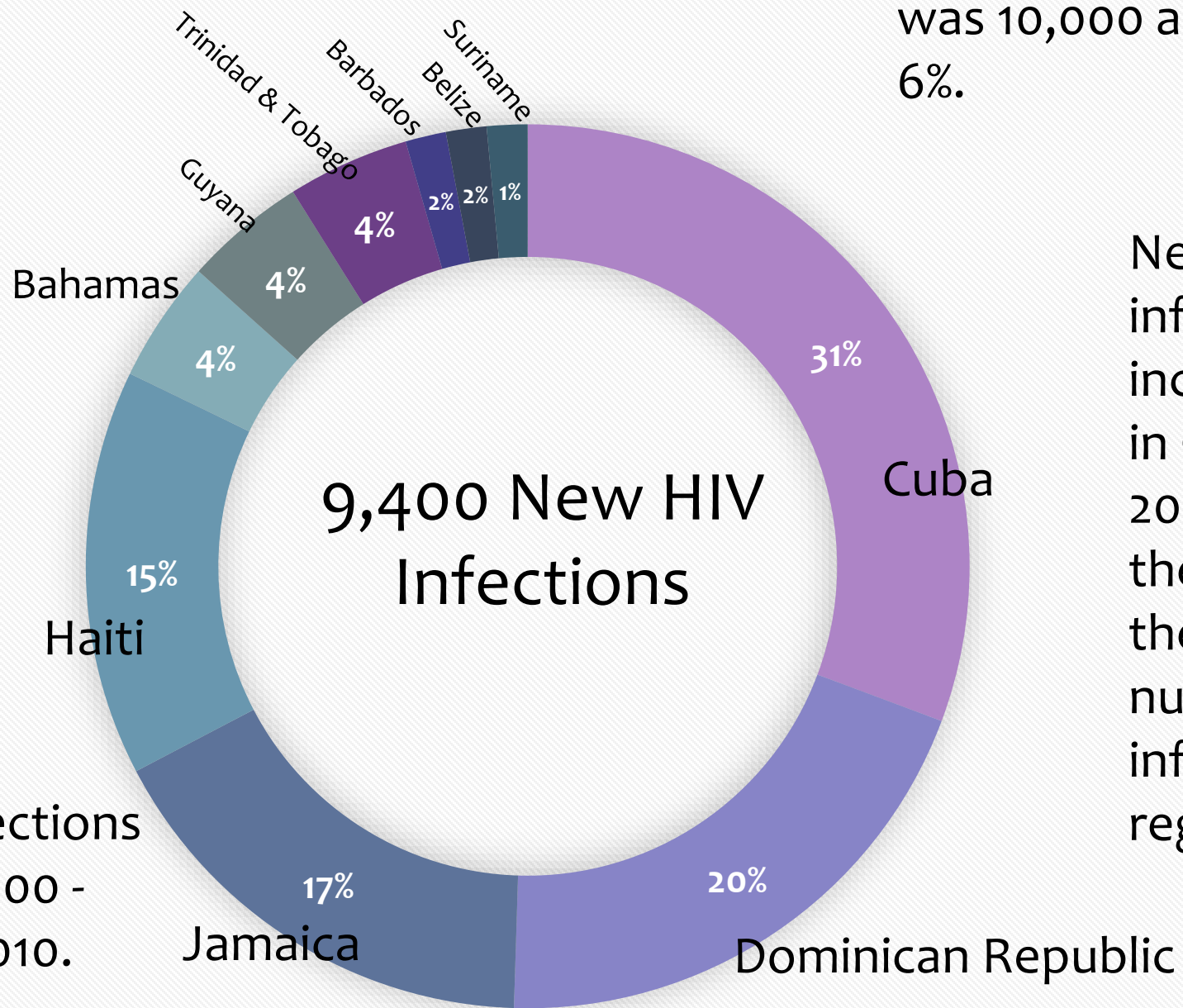
Reference: HIV Prevention Gap Report, UNAIDS 2016-annexes.

# HIV prevalence Among Adults in the Caribbean (2014)



# People newly infected with HIV Caribbean in 2015

New HIV infections in 2010 was 10,000 a reduction of 6%.



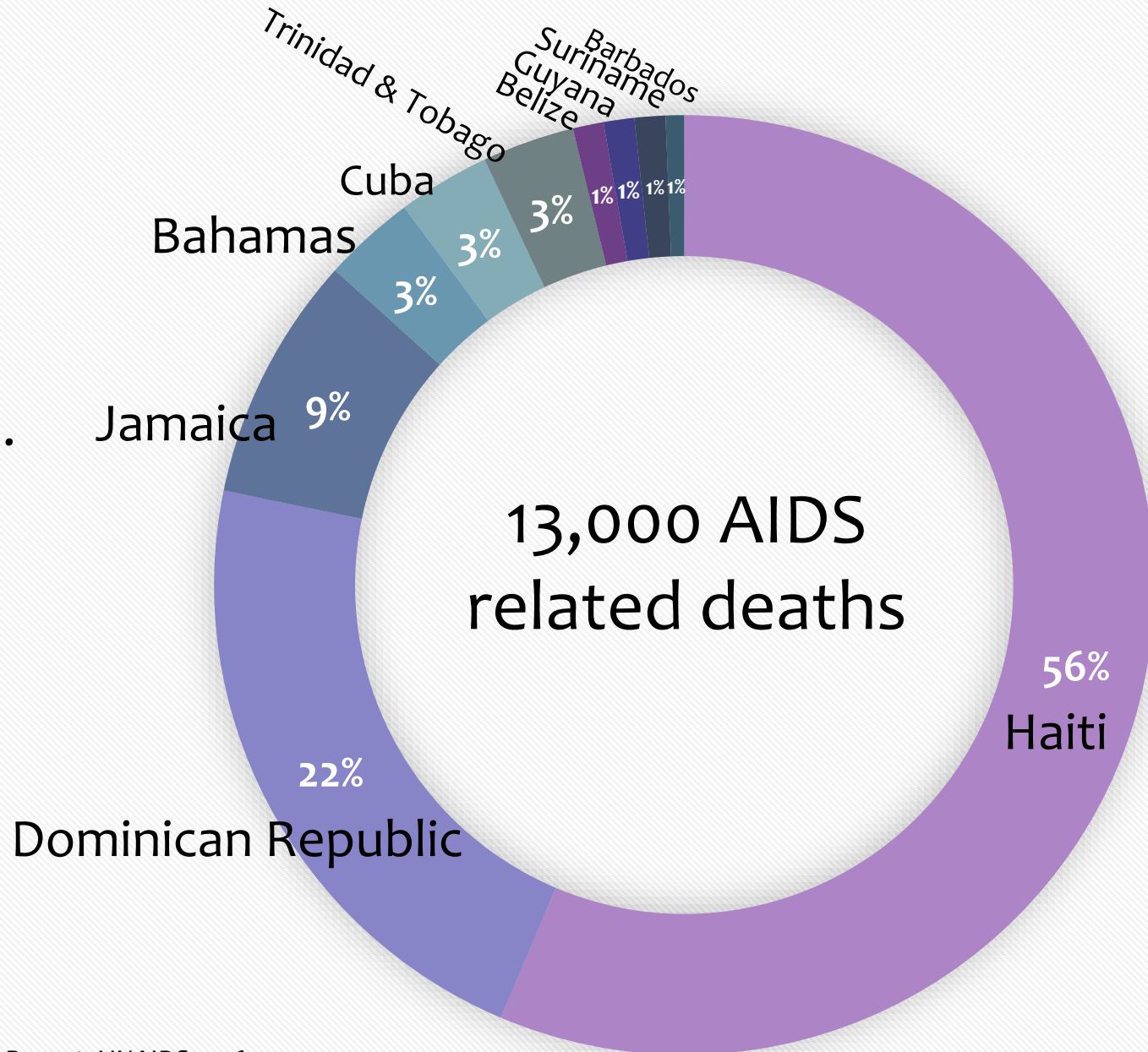
New HIV infections declined by 59% in Haiti from 2010.

New HIV infections in Jamaica 1700 - 1600 since 2010.

New HIV infections increased by 82% in Cuba from 2010 making it the country with the highest number of new infections in the region.

# Distribution of AIDS Related Deaths in the Caribbean in 2015

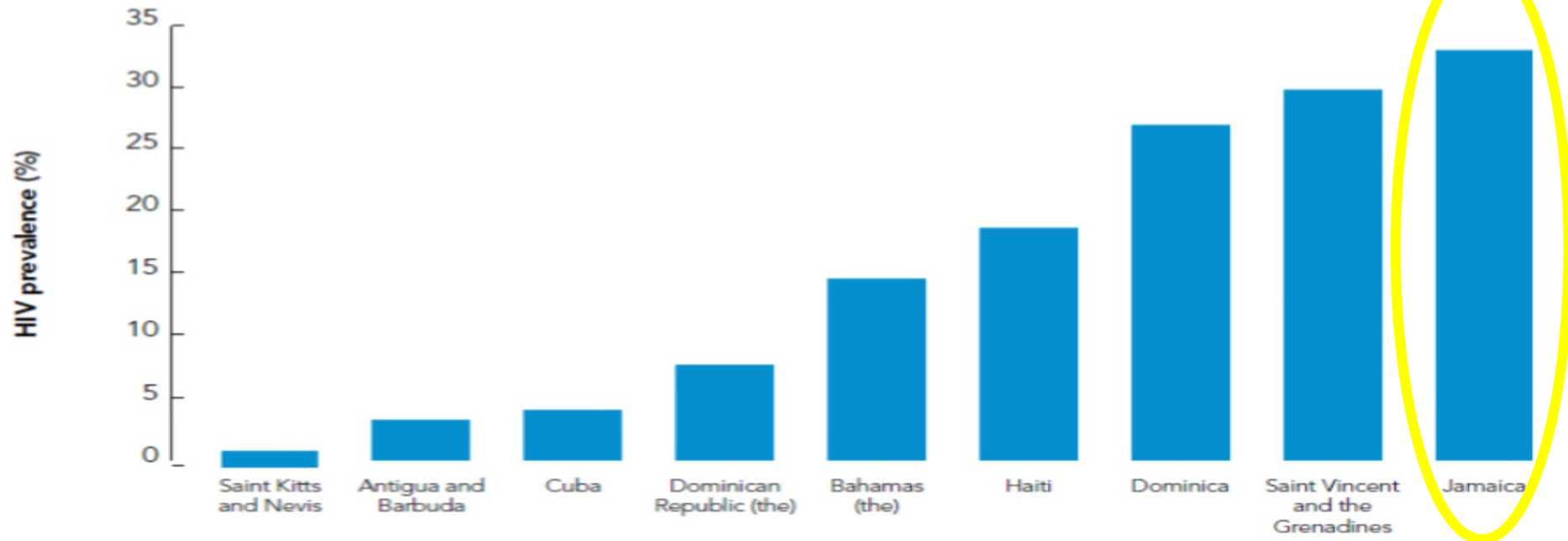
- Number of AIDS related deaths decreased by 61% from 21,000 in 2010.



Haiti had the highest number of HIV related deaths in the region contributing to more than 50% of the number.

# HIV among MSM in the Caribbean; 2009-2013

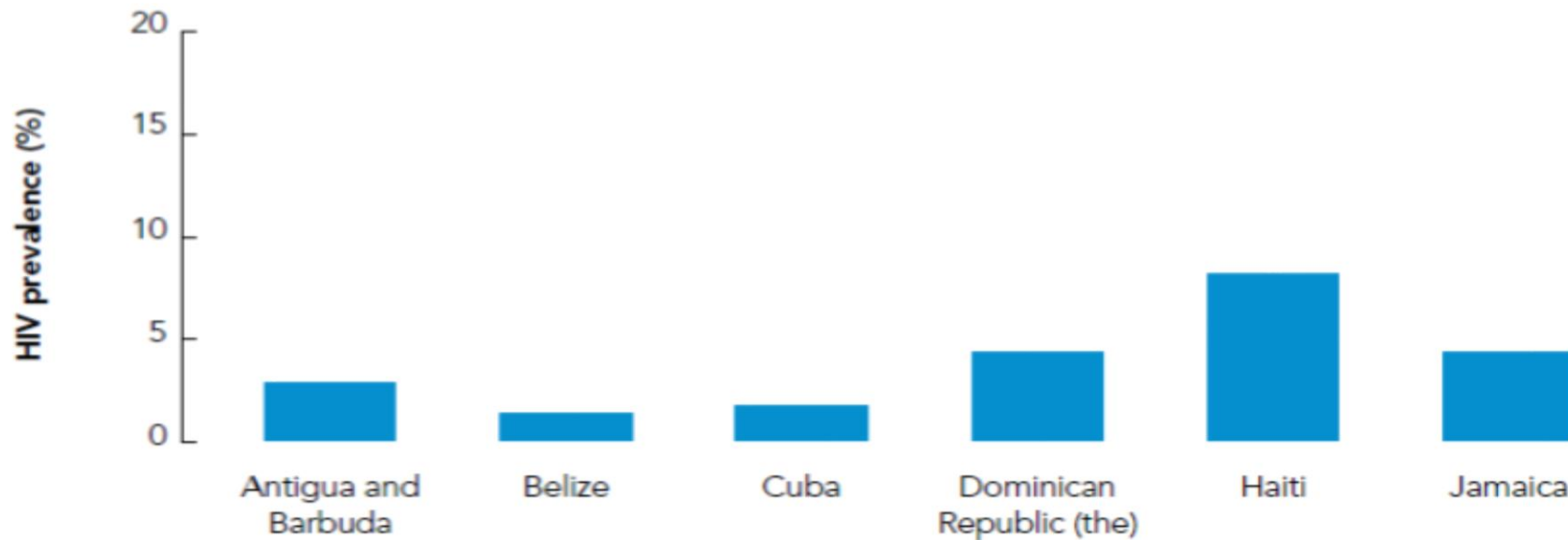
HIV prevalence among gay men and other men who have sex with men across the Caribbean, 2009–2013



Source: Global AIDS Response Progress Reporting 2014.

# HIV among FSW in the Caribbean; 2009-2013

HIV prevalence among sex workers in the Caribbean, 2009–2013



Source: Global AIDS Response Progress Reporting 2014.

# EMTCT in the Caribbean

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Cuba was the first country to have ‘eliminated’ mother to child transmission in the region

Many other countries may have reached targets and are seeking validation

## In Haiti

Haiti has the highest rate of MTCT of HIV in the Caribbean: **5.4%** with an estimated 500 infants born with HIV in 2015

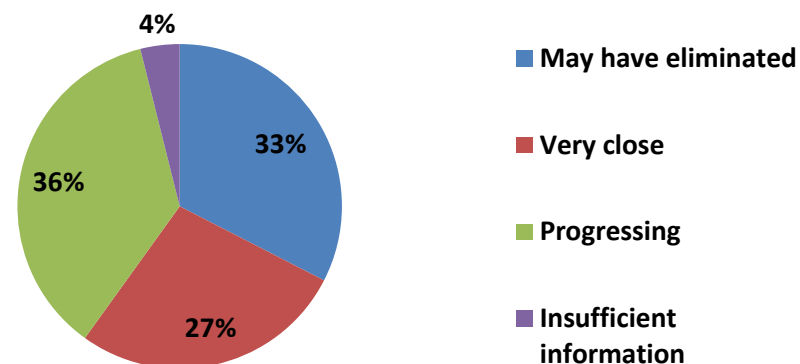
- >90% of the women in ANC tested for HIV, >95% of those put on ART
- However >50% still giving birth outside health facilities
- Low retention rates



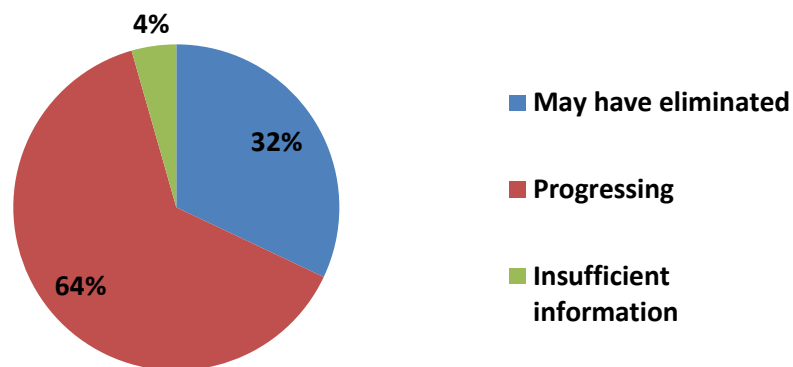
# Countries that reported data compatible with the dual elimination of HIV and syphilis, 2015

Anguilla  
 Antigua and Barbuda  
 Bahamas  
 Bermuda  
 Cayman Islands (the)  
 Cuba  
 Dominica  
 Grenada  
 Montserrat  
 Puerto Rico  
 Saba  
 Saint Kitts and Nevis  
 Saint Vincent and the  
 Grenadines  
 Sint Eustatius  
 Virgin Islands (UK)  
 Virgin Islands (US)

HIV



Syphilis



# Progress towards 90-90-90 in the Caribbean

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**diagnosed**

**By 2020, 90% of all people living with HIV will know their HIV status.**



**on treatment**

**By 2020, 90% of all people with diagnosed HIV infection will receive sustained ART.**

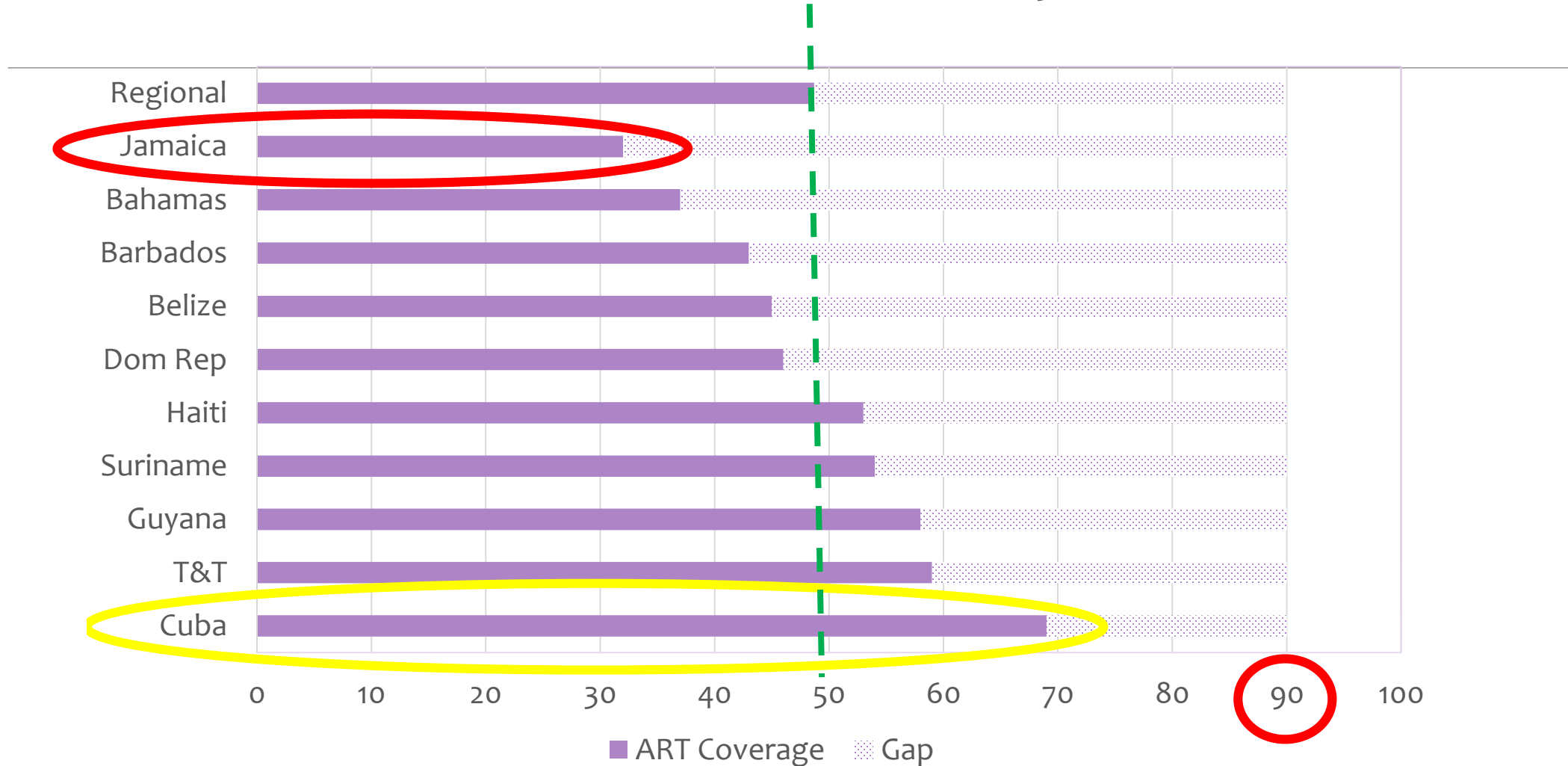


**virally suppressed**

**By 2020, 90% of all people receiving antiretroviral therapy will have viral suppression.**



# ART Coverage in the Caribbean in 2015: Towards the second 90

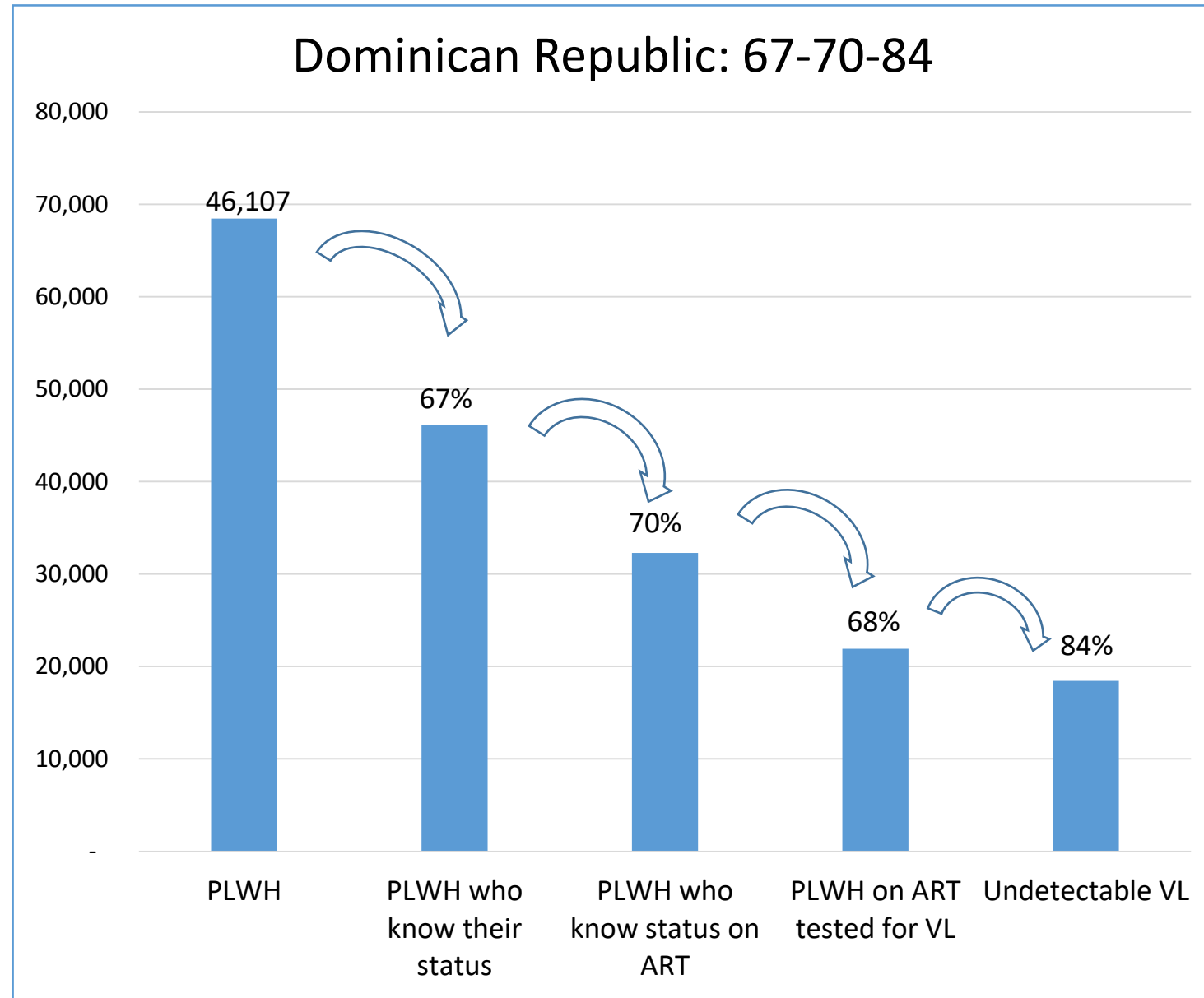




# Dominican Republic

- ❑ Estimate PLHIV: **68,459**
- ❑ **67%** (46,107) PLHIV that know their status: aim **90%**
- ❑ **70%** (32,291) of PLHIV who know their status have access to treatment: aim **90%**
- ❑ **68%** (21,926) of PLHIV that know their status tested for Viral Load
- ❑ **84%** (18,475) of PLHIV on ART tested for VL with undetectable VL: aim **90%**

**The DR is on track to reach epidemic control by 2030**

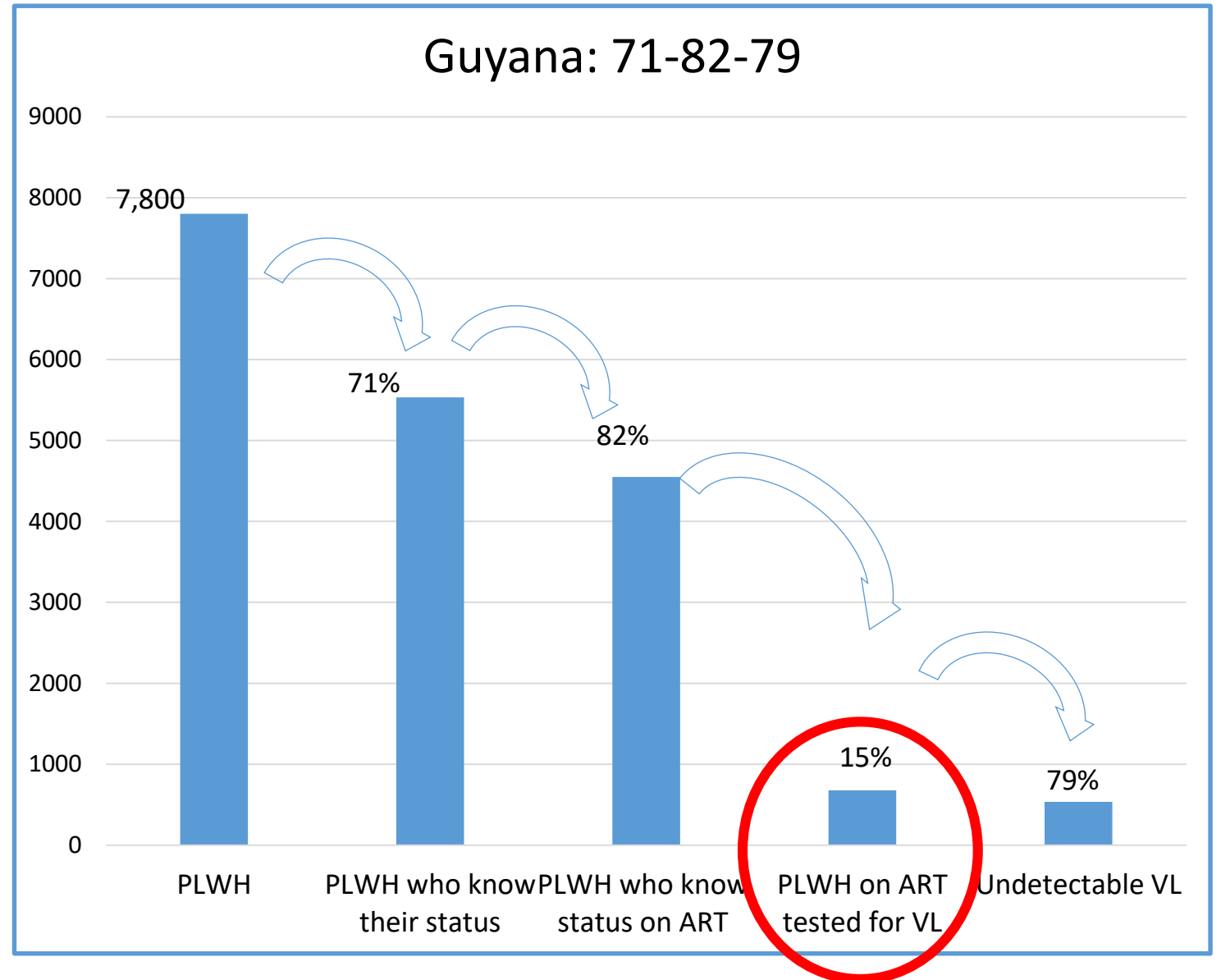




# Guyana

- ❑ Estimate PLHIV: **7,800**
- ❑ **71%**: (5,534) PLHIV who know their status: aim **90%**
- ❑ **82%** (4,551) of PLHIV who know their status have access to treatment: aim **90%**
- ❑ **15%** (677) of PLHIV on ART tested for Viral Load (VL)
- ❑ **79%** (536) of PLHIV on ART tested for VL have undetectable VL: aim **90%**

**VL testing coverage is very low and should be scaled up.**



# Implementing “Treat All” in the Caribbean

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Since the introduction of “Treat All” by the WHO in Sept. 2015, 3 countries in the Region have implemented the new ART initiation criteria;

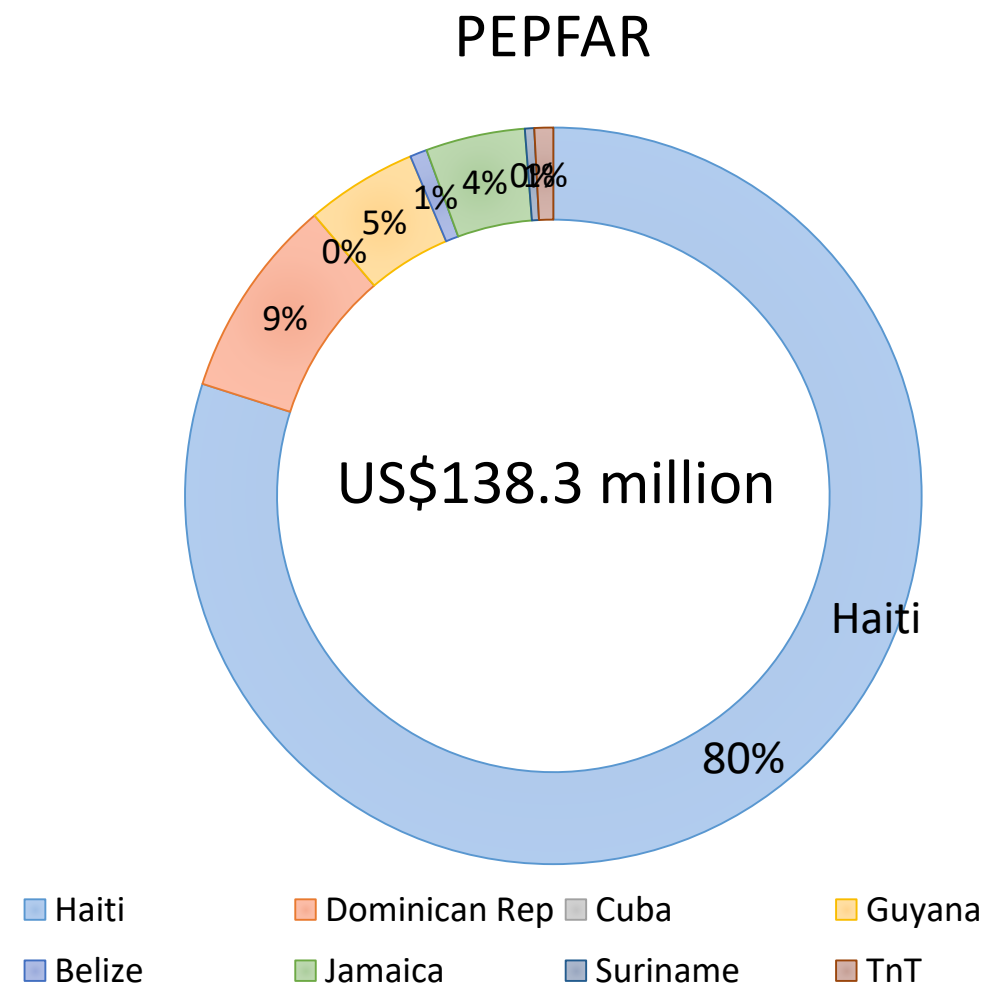
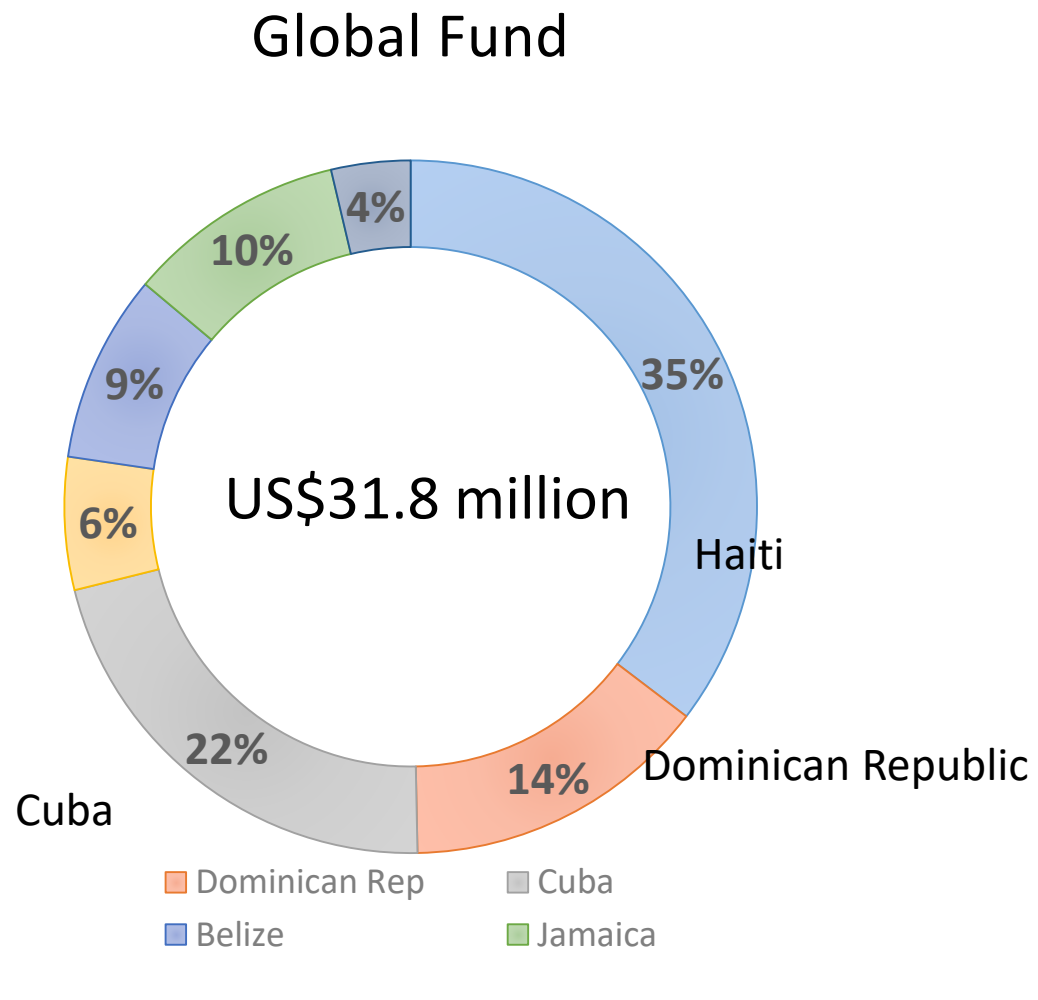
- *The Bahamas (April 2016)*
- *Barbados (Oct. 2016)*
- *Jamaica (Jan. 2017)*

**But can countries afford to implement and sustain “Treat All”?**

# HIV Expenditure by Financing Source in the Caribbean

Country Year	% Domestic Funds	% External Funds
Saint Kitts And Nevis 2013	100%	0%
Barbados 2013	99%	1%
Cuba 2013	92%	8%
Bahamas 2009	90%	10%
Trinidad and Tobago 2009	85%	15%
Grenada 2013	80%	20%
Dominica 2012	52%	48%
Suriname 2011	50%	50%
Dominican Republic 2012	49%	51%
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines 2012	44%	56%
Belize 2012	34%	66%
Jamaica 2012	23%	77%
Saint Lucia 2007	22%	78%
Antigua and Barbuda 2013	21%	79%
Haiti 2011	1%	99%
<b>Regional Average</b>	<b>59%</b>	<b>41%</b>

# Development Partner Contribution to the HIV response in selected Caribbean countries, 2016

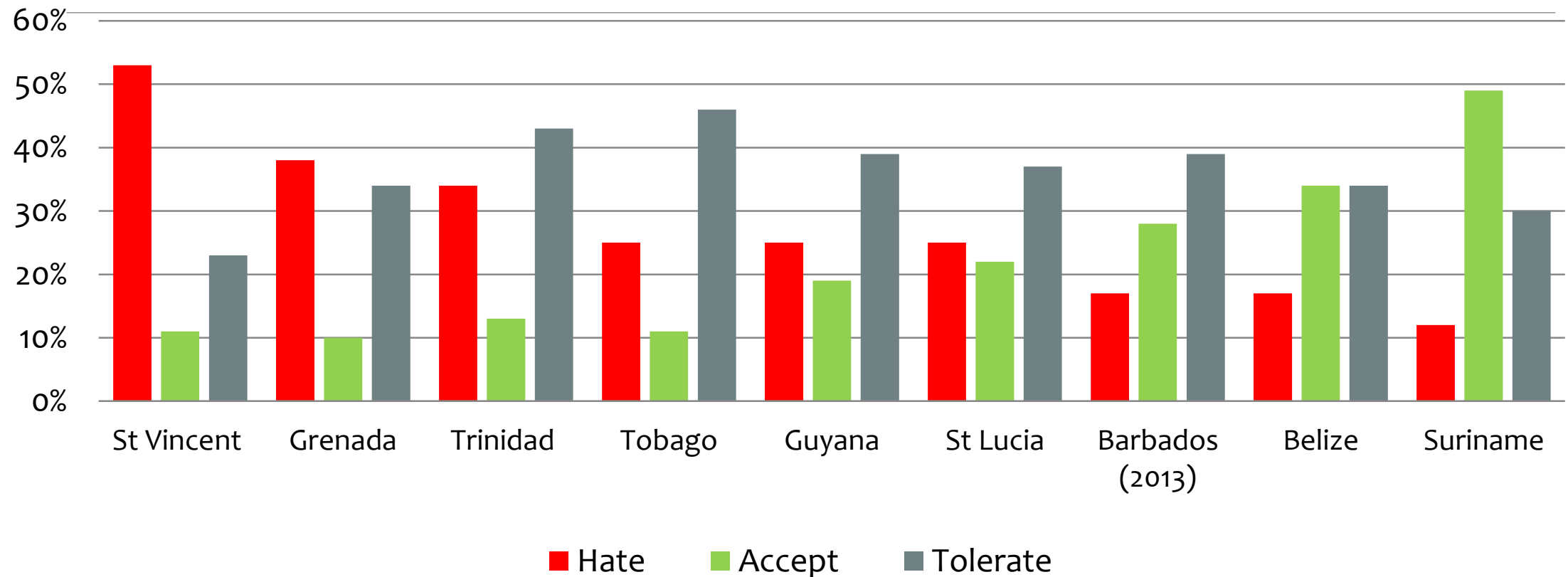




The Caribbean is one of the regions with the worst laws, policies and regulations for effective HIV prevention in key populations:

- 11 countries criminalize consensual sex between adults of the same sex
- The Caribbean report of the Global Commission on HIV and the Law found human rights abuses and laws that criminalize key populations impede access to sexual and reproductive health and justice services across the Caribbean
- Even where same sex relations NOT illegal - discrimination is widespread and only Cuba has anti-discrimination legislation for LGBT

# Attitudes towards Homosexuals: hate, accept or tolerate; Country Polls 2013/2014



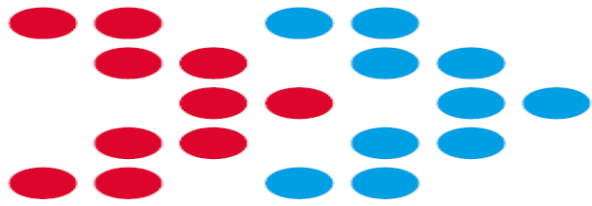
Beck EJ, Espinosa K, Ash T, Wickham P, Barrow C, Massiah E, Alli B, Nunez C. **Attitudes towards Homosexuals in Seven Caribbean Countries: implications for an effective HIV response**, AIDS Care (in press)

# HIV and the Sustainable Development Goals

**Ending AIDS and combatting HIV** is firmly enshrined in SDG 3 and is included in 14 out of 17 SDG



**By 2030, end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases**



# FAST-TRACK

ENDING THE AIDS EPIDEMIC BY **2030**

We have the vision and clearly articulated goals

But it will be challenging....

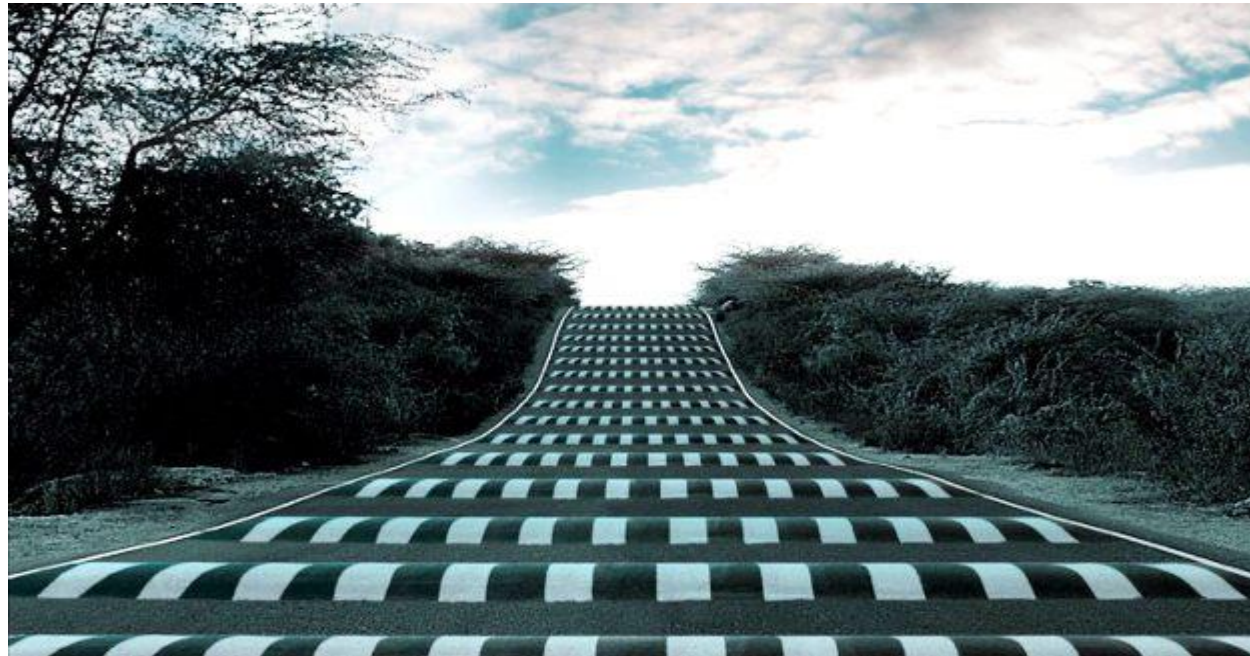


Image courtesy: Autorevolution (<https://www.autoevolution.com/news/one-third-of-the-french-speed-bumps-are-illegal-69213.html>)

# Acknowledgements

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- Dr Eddy Beck, Senior Adviser, Strategic Information and Policy, UNAIDS RST LAC
- Ms Sandra Jones, PAHO
- Dr J. Carolyn Gomes, Executive Director, Caribbean Vulnerable Communities Coalition

# Thank you for your attention!

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