



XIX INTERNATIONAL AIDS  
CONFERENCE JULY 22 - 27  
WASHINGTON DC USA



# HIV prevalence among FSWs and MSM in Haiti

Ministere de la Sante Publique Haiti

&

PSI Haiti



**USAID**  
ÈD PÈP AMERIKEN



# Background

## Epidemiology of HIV in Haiti:

- Spectacular reduction over the years in the general population
- High concentration among most at risk populations (MARPs)
- No national prevalence data for MARPs

## Need for evidence based interventions

- Adapted BCC messages
- Evaluation of the interventions

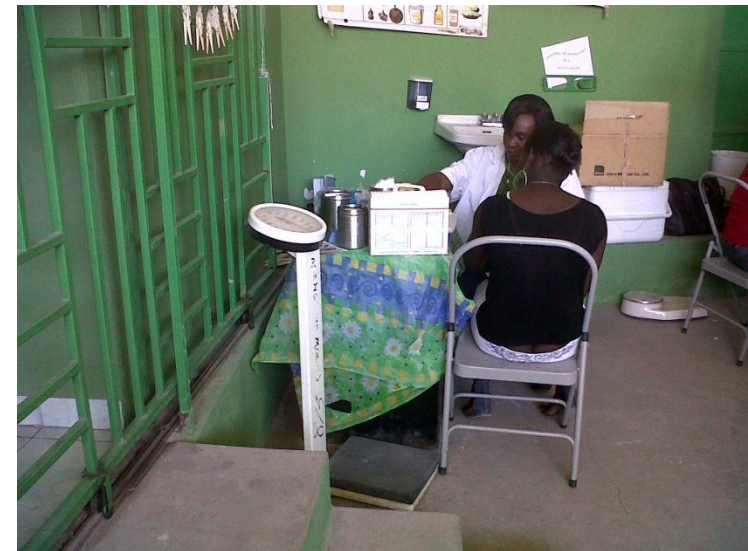
# Methodology

- National level transversal study
- Financial collaboration: PSI, KfW, USAID, UNDP, GFATM, and Housing Works
- Steering committee: MSPP/PNLS, PSI, UNAIDS, FOSREF, SEROVie, POZ, IBESR, UNDP
- Sampling: RDS –1200 FSWs, 1200 MSM
- 12 data collection centers
- Structured questionnaire and HIV/STI testing
- Ethical approval by the Haitian Biomedical Ethics Board
- Data collection: October-December 2011
- Analysis: RDSAT and SPSS



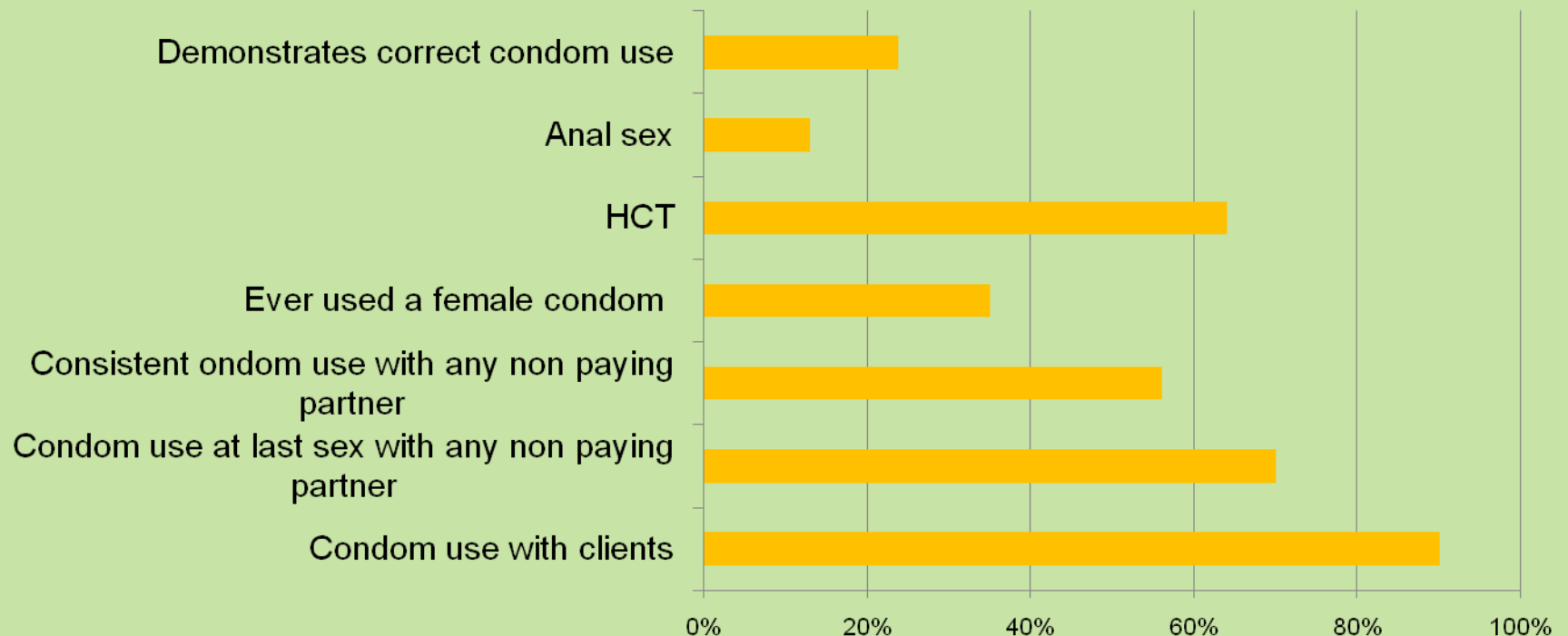
# Results: FSWs, meet Nadya

- 1235 eligible participants
- Mean age: 23.6 years
- Formal education: 7.8 years average
- Marital status: 90% singles
- Religion: Catholic 62.7%
- Mean monthly income: 5051 g. (\$125)
- Age at first intercourse: 15.1 years
- Age at first SW act : 18.4 years
- Workplace: 31% brothel, 39% street
- Gender-based physical violence : 37%
- Sexual violence : 31%

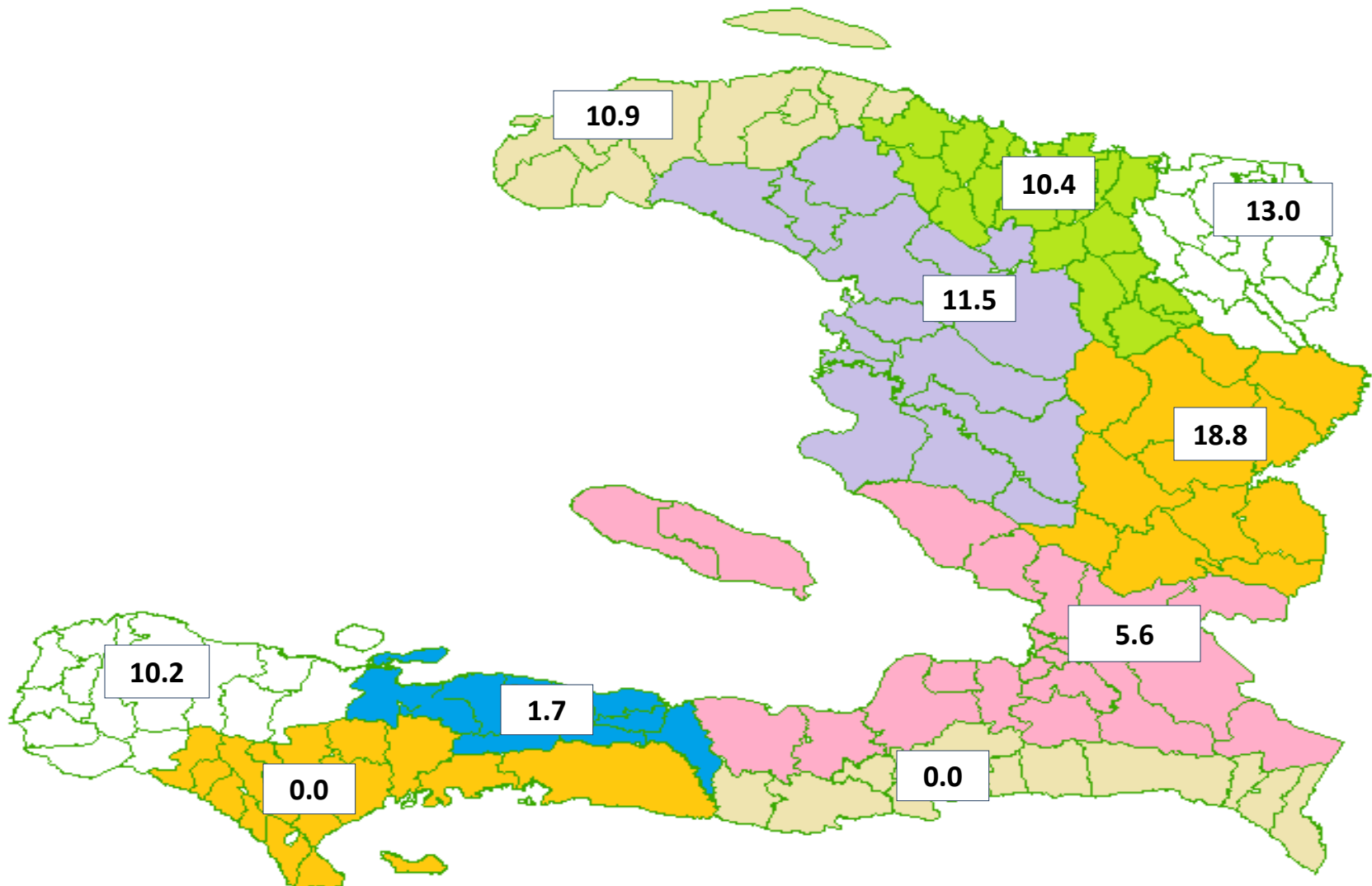


# Nadya's sexual behavior and prevalence

- Average number of clients: 9.9/week
- Mean number of casual non paying partners: 1.5/year

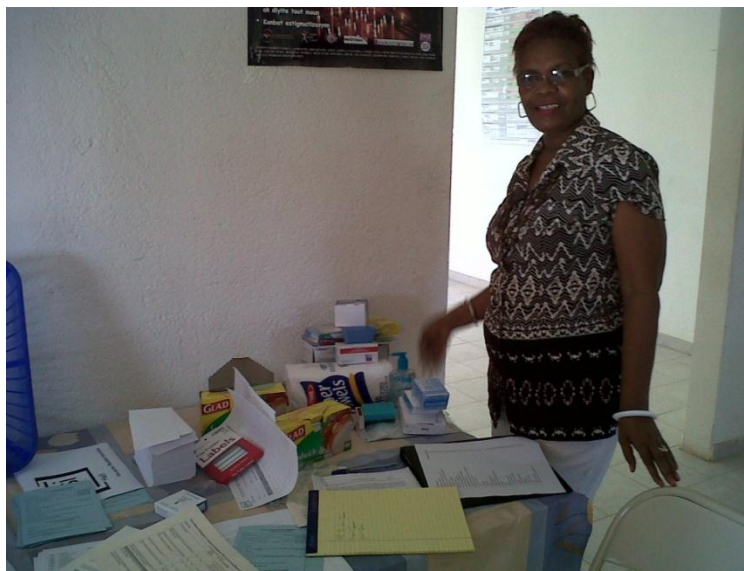


# HIV positivity among FSWs: **8.4%**



# Factors associated with HIV infection among FSWs

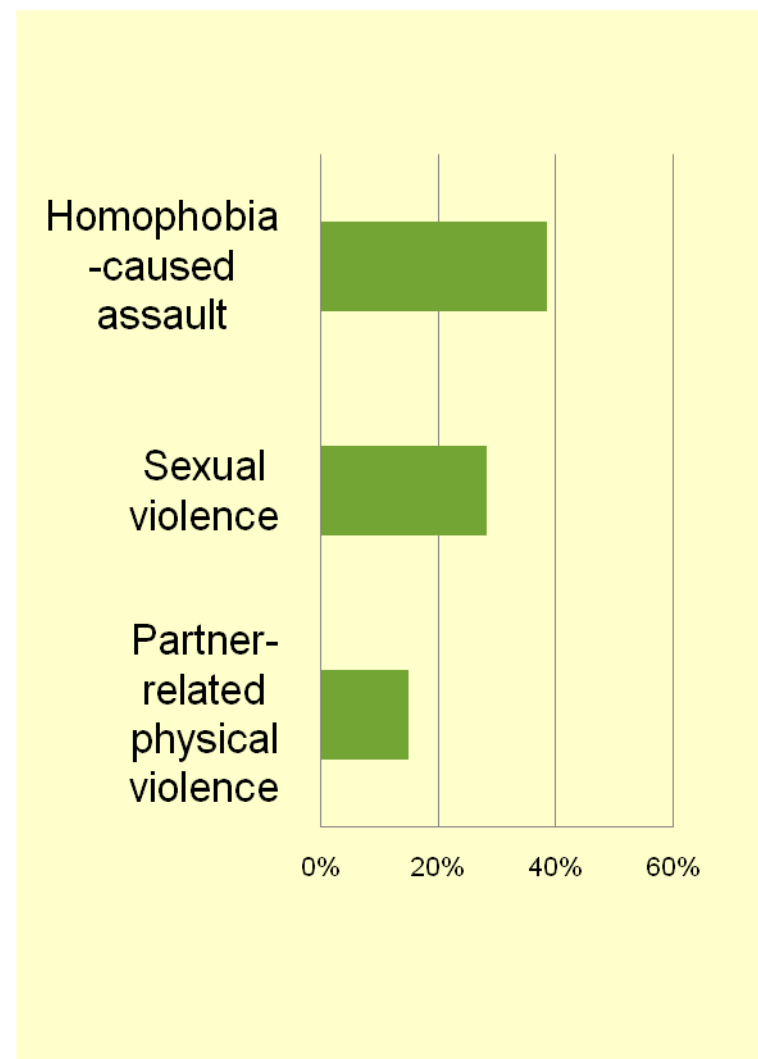
Variable	HIV Negative	HIV positive	OR
Years of formal education	7.88	5.88	.87
Working place <i>Restaurants, bars, discos vs brothel, street</i>	11.9%	20.4%	2.01





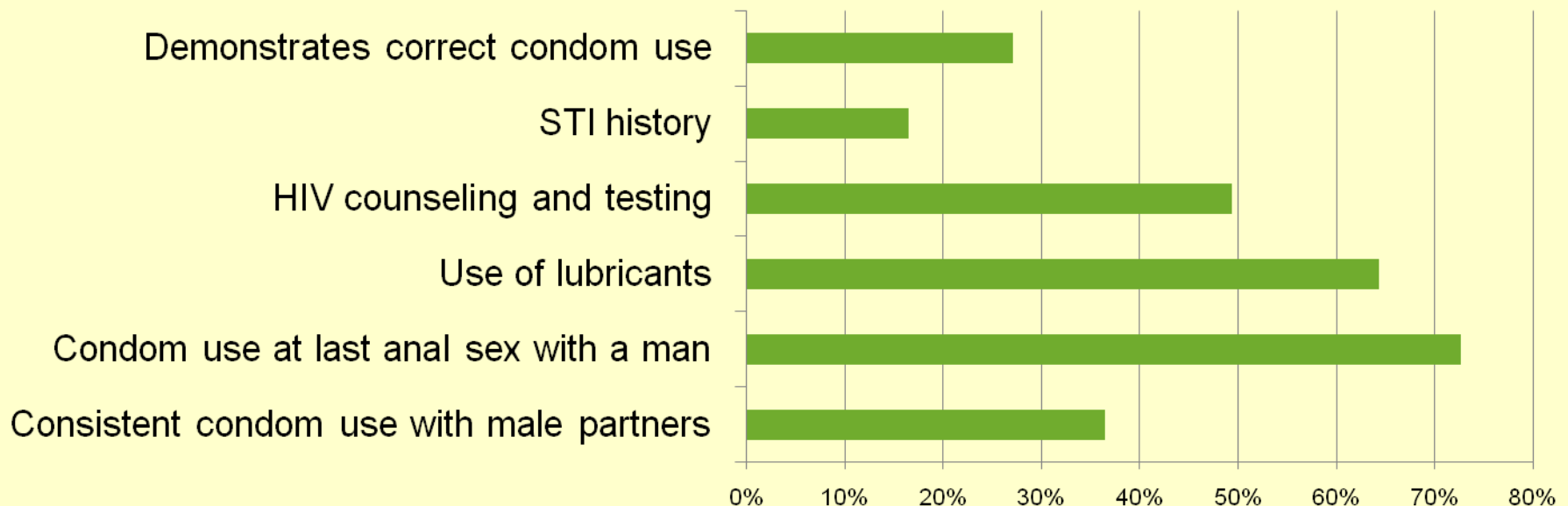
# Results: MSM, meet Ricky

- 1028 questionnaires
- Mean age: 23.2 years
- Formal education: 10.1 years
- Marital status: 82.5% singles
- Religion: catholic 49.7%
- Average monthly revenue: 5922 g (\$150)
- Domicile: Urban 81%
- Internet use: 27.4%

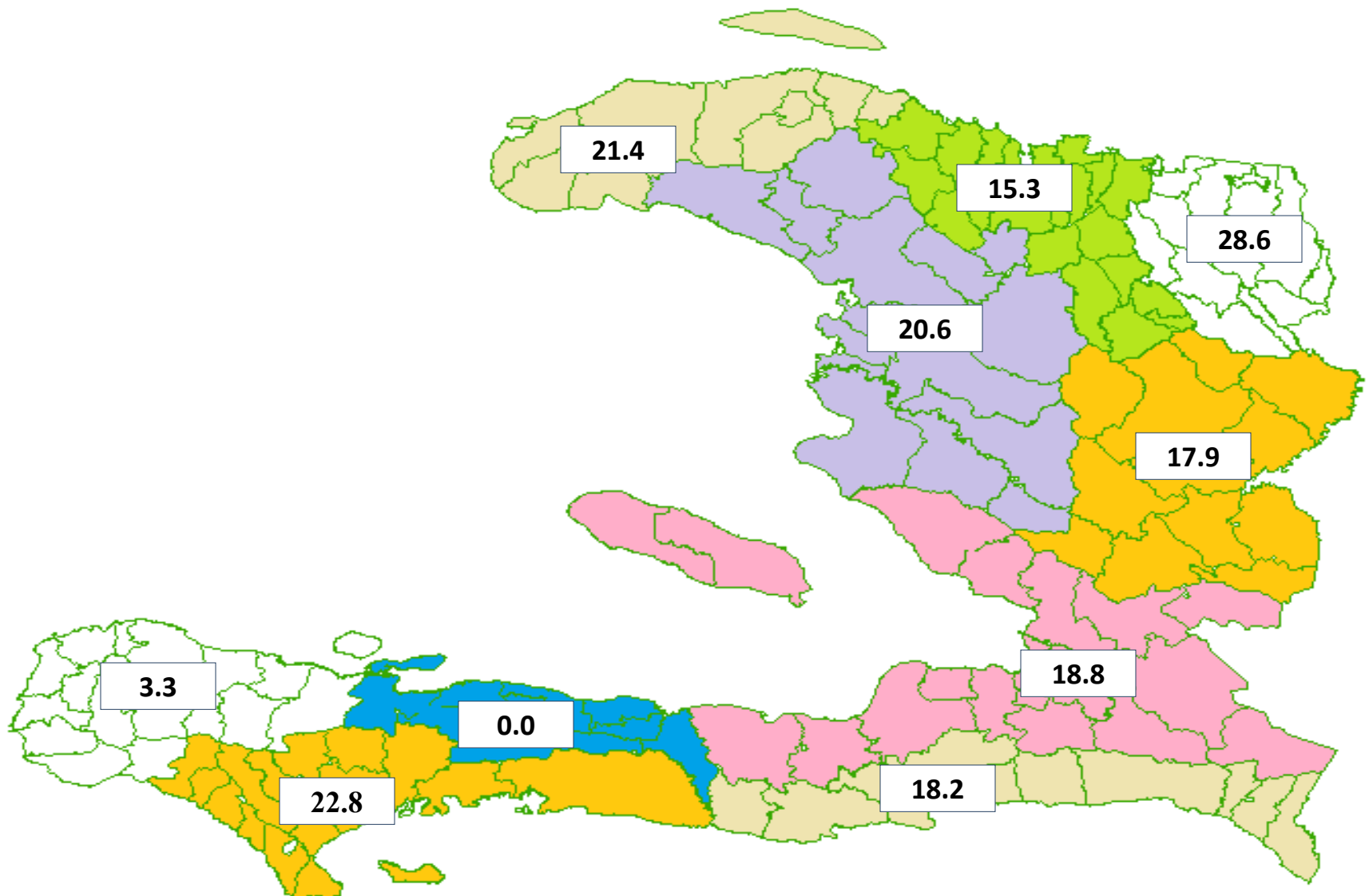


# Ricky's sexual behavior and prevalence

- Age at first intercourse: 14.3 years
- Age at first intercourse with a man: 17.3 years
- Sexual orientation : gay: 45.5%, bisexual 47.7%
- Mean number of sexual partners: 7.1 (4.8/2.3)/year
- HIV prevalence: 18.1%



# HIV Infections among MSM: **18.1%**



# Factors associated with HIV infection among MSM

<i>Variable</i>	<i>p.</i>	<i>OR</i>
Passive role in the couple	.000	5.367
Perceived brand attribute (Pantè)	.001	.584
Perceived parental support	.001	.697
History of sexual violence	.005	1.803
Use of lubricant at last anal intercourse	.000	2.238
Perceived severity	.008	.557
History of homophobia –caused abuse	.032	1.546
History of physical violence	.015	1.846
Income (above 2,500G)	.026	1.587
Perceived social support	.045	1.525

# Limitations

- Recruitment challenges
  - seeds,
  - no cross-recruitment,
  - screening for non-eligible respondents
  - double participation
  - Refusal to provide blood sample
- Potential desirability, recall bias
- Reaching special groups of FSWs
- Reaching MSM with high income and from rural areas



# Conclusions

- Both FSWs and MSM are highly affected by the HIV epidemic
- Sexual behavior
  - Sub-optimal condom use
  - Lubricant use
- HIV counseling and testing
- Violence
- Stigma

**AND**

- **First Haitian program funded by the MSPP aiming to prevent HIV infections among FSWs and MSM**





*Mesi anpil!*

