

MASVINGO CITY COUNCIL RAPID ASSESSMENT OF ADOLESCENT SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH (ASRHR)

JANUARY 2022



FACT SHEET

This fact sheet is a summary of the findings of the ASRHR Rapid Assessment undertaken in Masvingo City Council as part of an eight-country study¹ from November 2019 to December 2020. The research aims to strengthen youth-led and focused efforts to promote ASRHR through gender and youth responsive local governance. Gender Links Zimbabwe conducted the study in thirteen Centers of Excellence for Gender in Local Government.² In Masvingo, the study covered 3 clinics; 90 respondents: 56% young women and 44% young men (see table overleaf). This fact sheet should be read together with the Zimbabwe and the Southern Africa ASRHR Rapid Assessment research pamphlets. Key findings include:

Accessibility

- Seventy-two percent of respondents reported being within 10 km of a clinic.
- Responses to whether the clinics open after school were very low at 22%.
- Almost all respondents (94%), said that clinics open during weekends. In Mucheke, all respondents said the clinic opens during weekends. Only Rujeko clinic (88%) had a response rate lower than 90%.
- Over three-quarters of respondents (79%) said that the clinic had a comfortable waiting area.
- The average cost of ASRHR services in Masvingo is USD\$1.

Quality of care

- Most young people (88%) said they were treated with respect. This ranged from 81% at Rujeko clinic to 100% at Mucheke clinic.
- Ninety-six percent of young people indicated that there was privacy at the clinic. This varied from 91% at Rujeko to 100% at Mucheke clinics. Almost all respondents (97%) said they were treated with confidentiality.
- Almost three quarters (74%) of respondents said that clinics did not require their parents to be present. Only Rujeko (69%) has a response rate that is lower than average.
- A high proportion (88%) of young people indicated that health workers spent sufficient time with them.

At Mucheke clinic all respondents said they had sufficient time with health workers.

- Almost all young people said they received appropriate information with the lowest response rate at Rujeko clinic (81%). Comprehensive sexual education is a key component of ASRHR that assists young people to make better ASRHR choices.

Sexual and reproductive health services

- Less than a third of young people (32%) requested contraceptives. These requests ranged from 25% at Mucheke to 40% at Rujeko clinics. Almost all (90%) of those who requested contraceptives received them. Young people in all clinics but Rujeko (83%) requested contraceptives.
- Less than a quarter (24%) of young women requested a pregnancy test. Less than half (44%) of those who requested, received the service. Rujeko clinic (33%) had the least response. At the time of the study, 2% of young women were pregnant.
- Twenty-three percent of young women requested sanitary pads and just over half (55%) of those who requested received them. Mucheke clinic did not distribute any sanitary pads possibly because of unavailability.
- Demand for male circumcision which has been shown to reduce the spread of HIV and AIDS is relatively low in Masvingo at 24%, overall. Almost all requests (89%) for circumcision were met.
- A third of respondents requested an HIV test and almost all (96%) of those who requested the service received it. This is evidence of Zimbabwe's commitment to reducing HIV infections.
- Only ten percent of young people requested an STI test and half of those requests were met. However, STI tests were only done at Rujeko clinic.
- Eight percent of young people requested anti-retroviral treatment and 83% of these requests were met. Only 67% of young people who requested for ARV treatment at Rujeko received, compared to all in Mucheke and Runyararo clinics.
- Almost all the respondents (90% overall) said health workers asked about their mental health. This is clear evidence that the city of Masvingo is placing importance on the mental well-being of young people.

¹ Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mauritius, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe
² Bindura RDC, Bulawayo City, Gweru City, Harare City, Kadoma City, Makoni RDC, Masvingo City, Murehwa RDC, Mutare City, Mvurwi Town, Umuza RDC, Zibagwe RDC and Zvimba RDC

FOR MORE INFORMATION go to:

<https://genderlinks.org.za/what-we-do/governance/local-action-for-voice-and-choice/>

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KEY DATA FROM THE RAPID ASSESSMENT OF ASRHR SERVICES IN MASVINGO CITY ZIMBABWE

Indicator	Masvingo City Council	Mucheke	Rujeko	Runyararo
Total sample	90	26	32	32
% female	56%	58%	50%	59%
% male	44%	42%	50%	41%
Logistic information on health facilities				
Health facility within 10km from your home %	72%	73%	75%	69%
The facility opens after school? %	22%	12%	34%	19%
The facility opens on weekends? %	94%	100%	88%	97%
The facility has a comfortable waiting and consultation area? %	79%	69%	72%	94%
Average fee in USD	\$1	\$1	\$2	\$1
Quality of care				
Peer counsellors available %	64%	100%	44%	63%
Young people treated with respect %	88%	100%	81%	84%
Young people are treated without parent present %	74%	81%	69%	74%
Young people have privacy %	96%	100%	91%	97%
Young people have confidentiality %	97%	96%	94%	100%
Health workers spend sufficient time with young people %	88%	100%	75%	91%
Young people receive appropriate information %	91%	100%	81%	94%
Sexual and reproductive health services (%)				
Maternal health				
% Young people who requested contraceptives	32%	25%	40%	27%
% Young people who requested contraceptives that received contraceptives	90%	100%	83%	100%
% Young women who requested a pregnancy test	24%	13%	40%	14%
% Young women who received a pregnancy test	44%	100%	33%	50%
% Young women who were pregnant	2%	8%	0%	0%
Menstrual health				
% Young women who requested pads	23%	7%	47%	16%
% of those who requested pads that received pads	55%	0%	71%	33%
HIV and AIDS and STI				
% Young men who requested male circumcision	24%	18%	19%	36%
% of those who requested male circumcision received an appointment	89%	100%	100%	75%
% who requested HIV test	33%	24%	52%	18%
% of those who requested who received HIV test	96%	100%	94%	100%
% who requested STI test	10%	5%	19%	3%
% who requested who received STI test	50%	0%	67%	0%
% who requested anti-retrovirals (ARVs)	8%	11%	9%	4%
% who requested who received ARVs	83%	100%	67%	100%
% who said Health worker asked about mental health	90%	77%	97%	94%
Follow up and referral				
% who said the HW set up a follow up appointment	83%	68%	93%	85%
% referred to a relevant facility	90%	100%	90%	81%