



# HIV PREVENTION ATTITUDES, BEHAVIORS & BELIEFS AMONG A GROUP OF AT- RISK\* NORTH DAKOTANS

Survey General Findings

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\*substance use; unsafe sex

## STUDY RATIONALE

- ◆ 800,000-900,000 people currently living with HIV in the US
- ◆ 40,000 new HIV infections in the US per year

- ◆ Nationwide Studies

Substance use is related to:

- ↑ Sex Partners
- ↓ Condom Use

Source: CDC, 2002; Koopman et al., 1994

# STUDY PURPOSE

- ◆ Learn more about members of this at-risk ND population:
  - Demographics
  - Living Arrangement
  - Attitudes, Beliefs & behavior ~ drugs, sex, HIV
  - Need & Use of health/social services
  - Health Status

# STUDY METHODOLOGY

- ◆ In 2001, Respondents Recruited from Five ND sites: Fargo, Grand Forks, Minot, Jamestown, Bismarck\*
- ◆ Respondents paid \$10 for study participation
- ◆ Convenience Sample (N=356)

\*excluded from this analysis

# CONVENIENCE SAMPLING

## ◆ Advantages

- Very low cost
- No need for list of population elements
- Tough-to-Reach Subjects
- Hones research questions

## ◆ Disadvantages

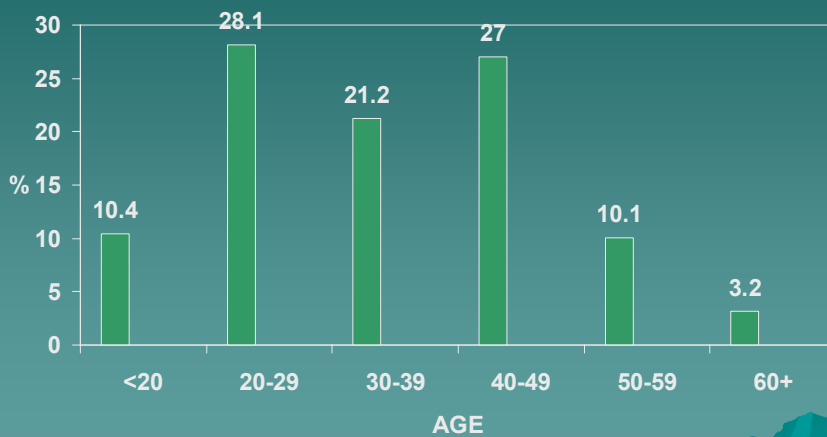
- Variability and bias cannot be measured or controlled
- Limited generalizability

# DEMOGRAPHICS

# RESPONDENTS' LOCATION (N=356)

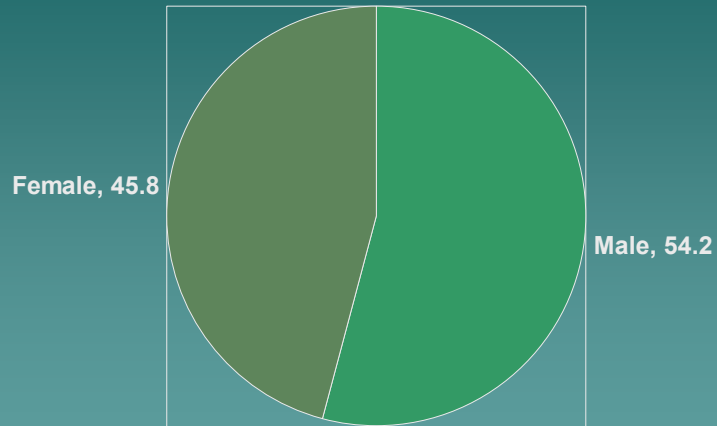


# AGE

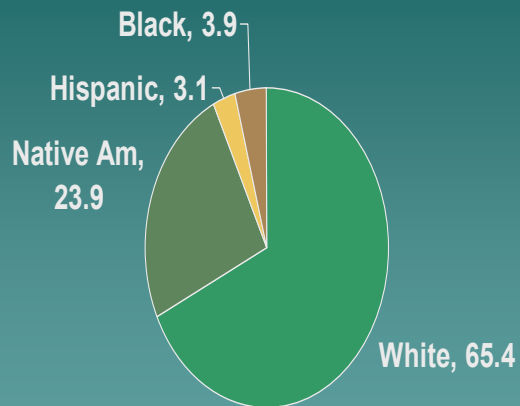


(Range=18-72; Mean=35.2; Median=35)

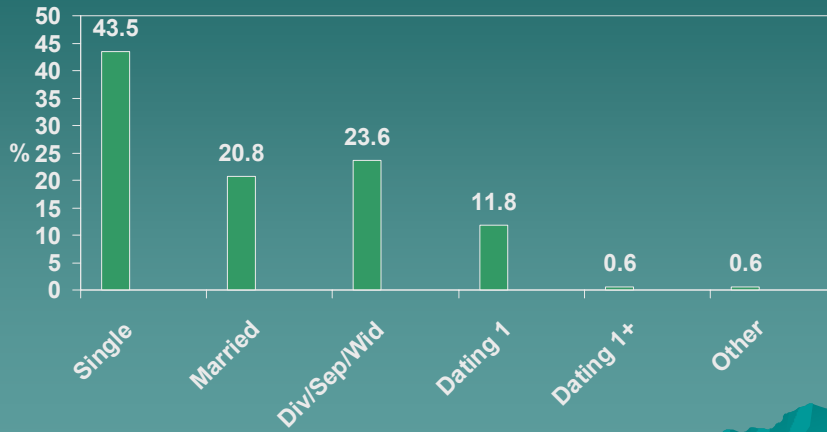
# GENDER



# RACE



# MARITAL STATUS



# EDUCATION



# ANNUAL INCOME



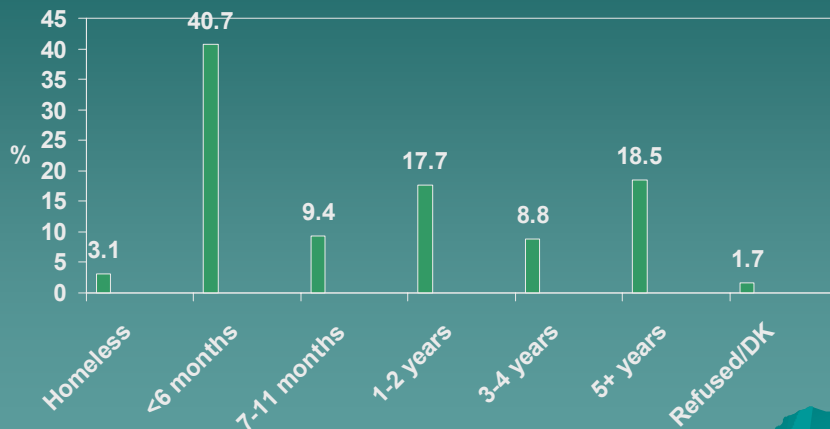
# PRESENT RESIDENCE



# LIVING ARRANGEMENT

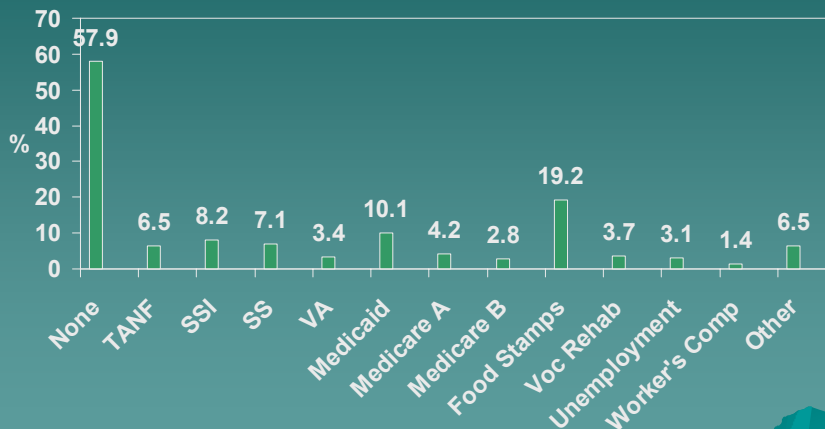


# LENGTH OF TIME IN PRESENT RESIDENCE



# BENEFITS and SERVICES

## BENEFITS RECEIVED IN THE PAST 2 YRS



# BENEFITS CURRENTLY RECEIVING



# SERVICES RECEIVED IN THE PAST 2 YRS



# SERVICES CURRENTLY RECEIVING

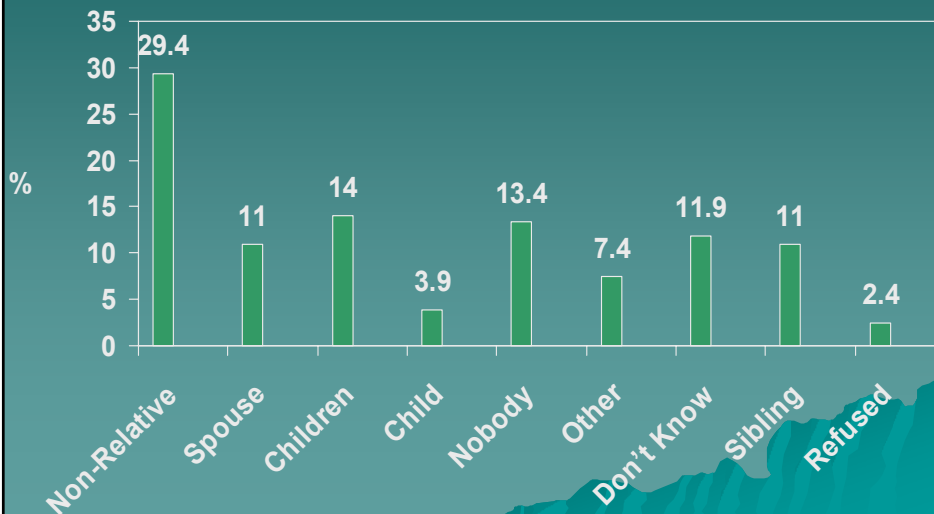


# HELP-SEEKING BEHAVIORS

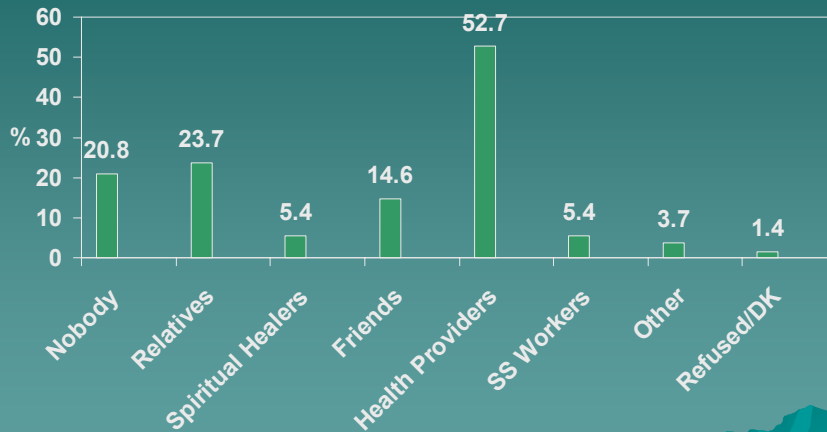
## TO WHOM YOU FEEL MOST CONNECTED



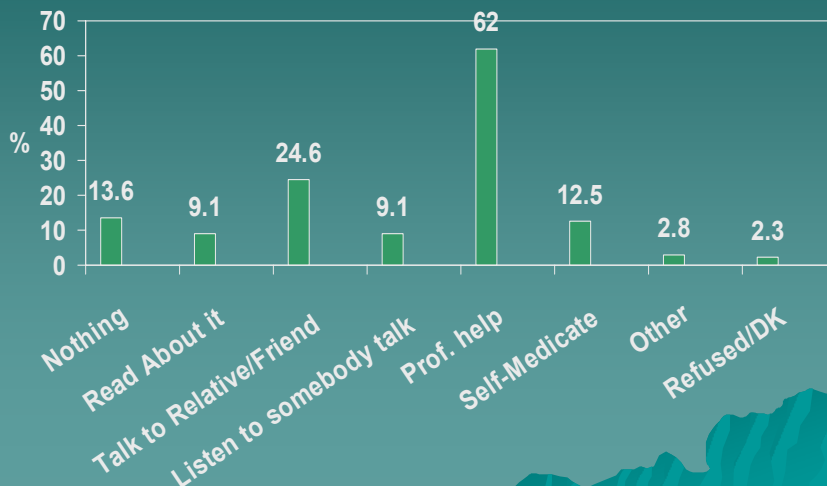
## TO WHOM YOU FEEL SOME CONNECTION



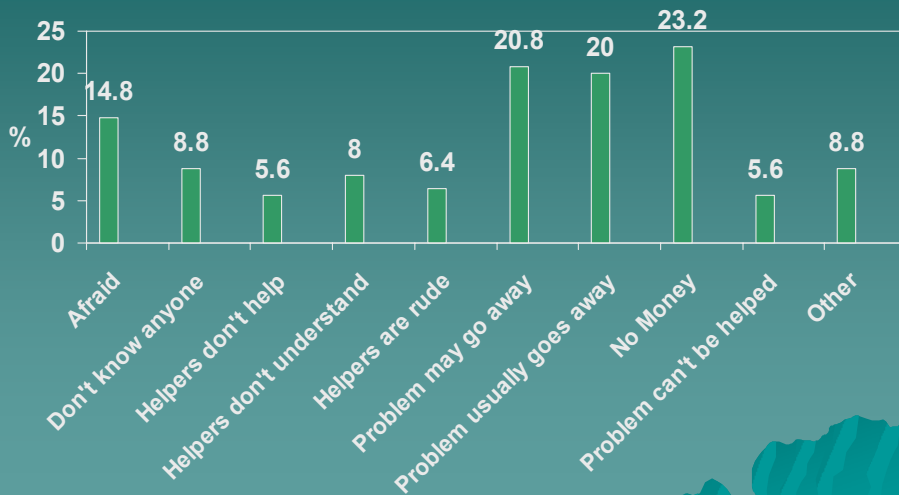
## WHEN ILL, FROM WHOM DO YOU SEEK HELP?



## WITH A HEALTH PROBLEM, WHAT DO YOU DO?



## IF YOU “DO NOTHING” FOR A HEALTH PROBLEM, WHY?

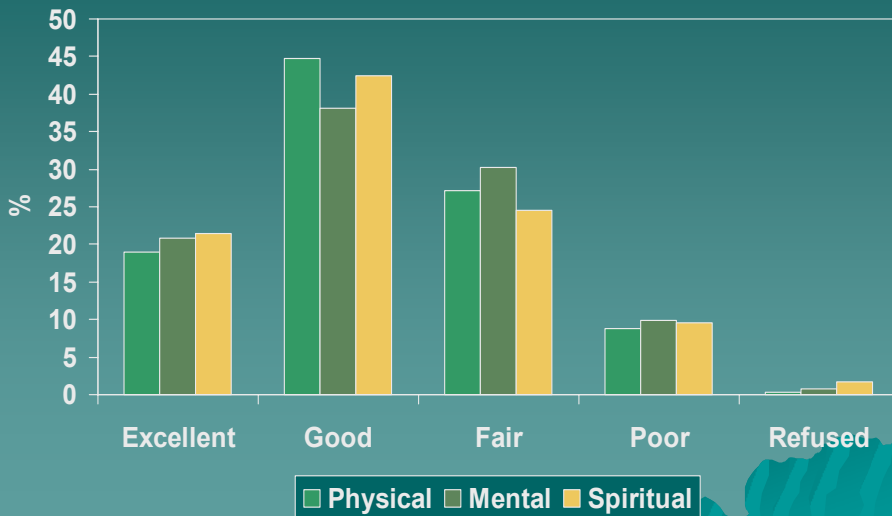


## PROBLEMS FOR WHICH YOU CANNOT GET ASSISTANCE

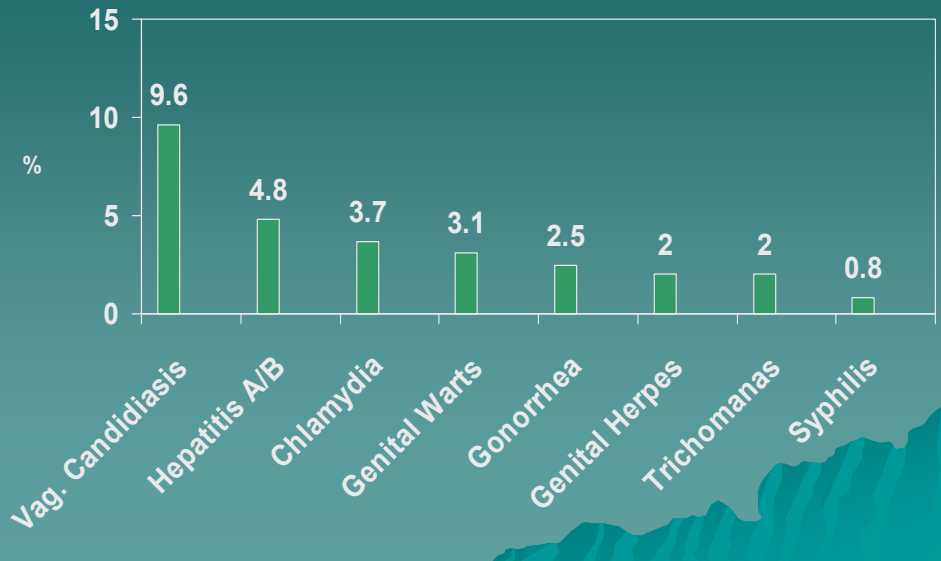


# HEALTH

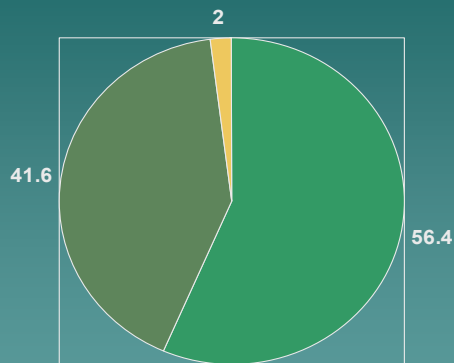
## CONDITION SELF-RATINGS



# DIAGNOSED WITH:

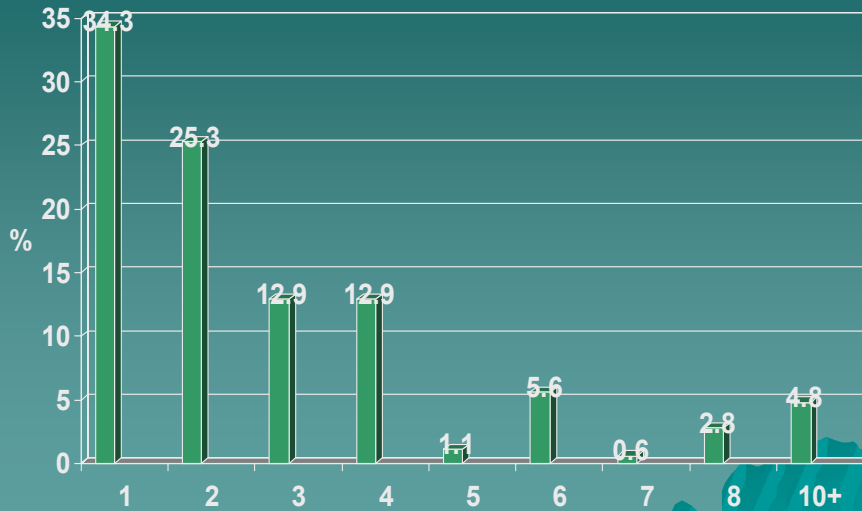


# HAS HAD A HIV/AIDS BLOOD TEST

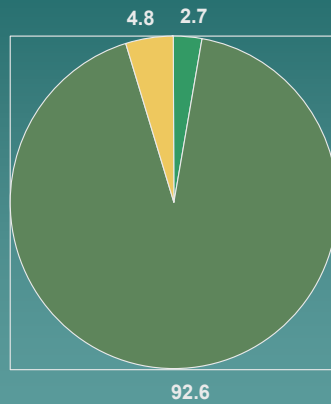


Yes No DK

# NUMBER OF HIV/AIDS TESTS

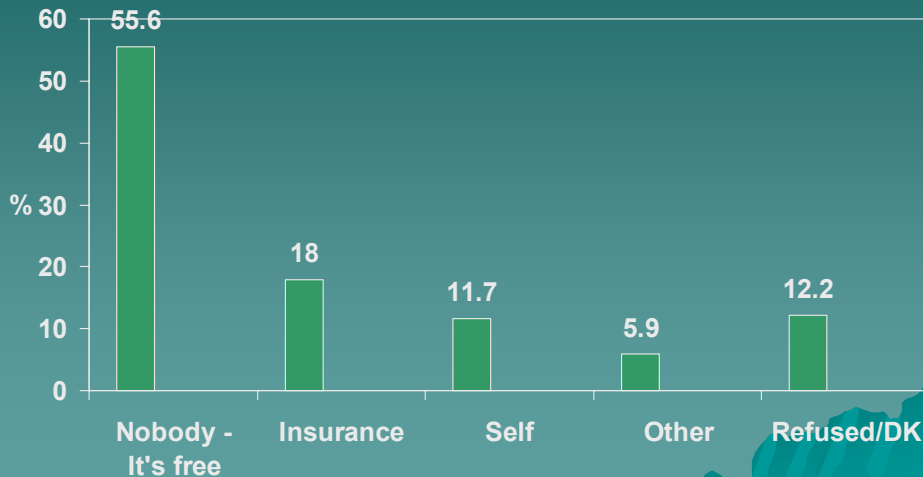


# RESULT FROM LAST HIV/AIDS BLOOD TEST



■ Positive ■ Negative ■ Refused/DK

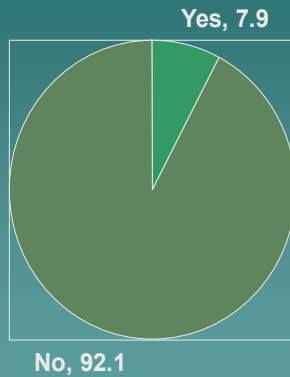
## WHO USUALLY PAYS FOR HIV/AIDS BLOOD TESTS?



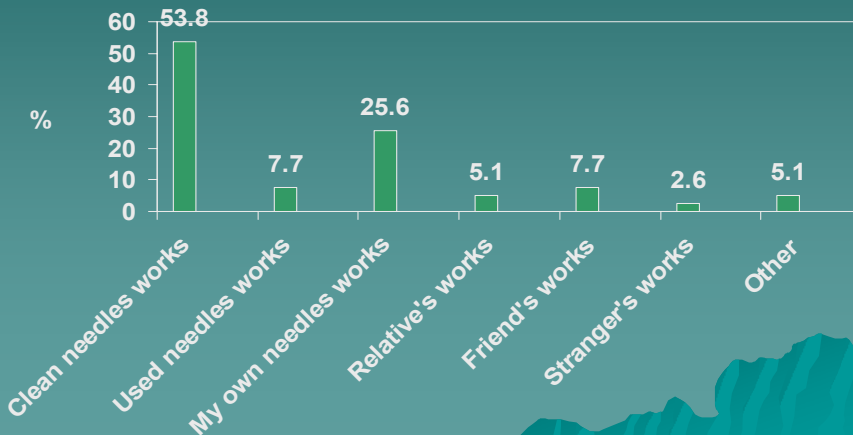
## TESTED FOR HIV/AIDS & HAVE NOT SOUGHT THE RESULTS, WHY? (N=63) FEAR OF:



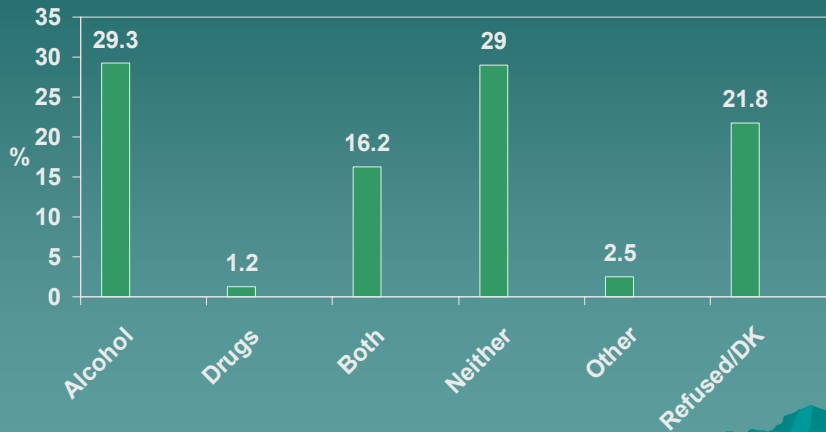
# INJECT DRUGS?



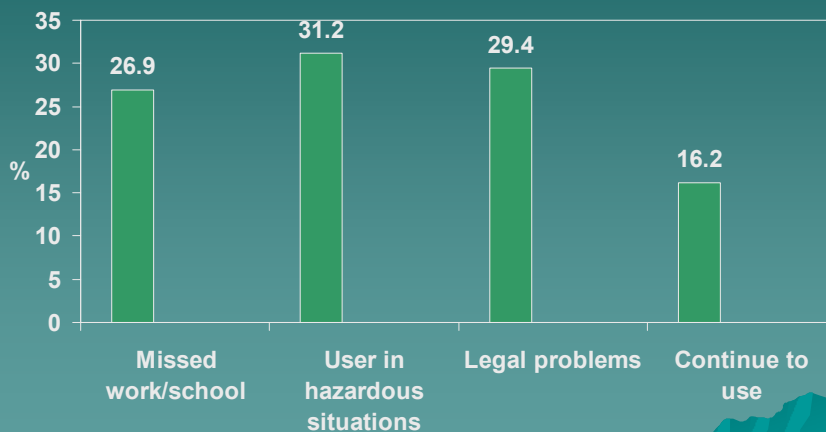
# IF YOU INJECT DRUGS, DO YOU TYPICALLY USE:



## MORE LIKELY TO ENGAGE IN SEX WHEN USING:



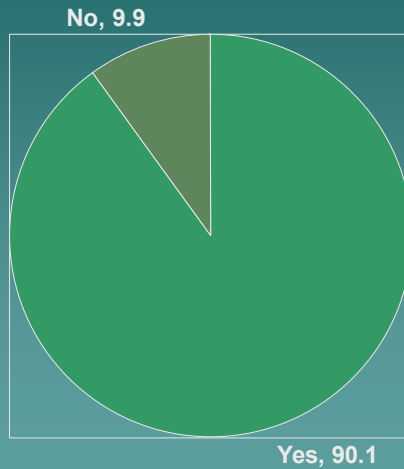
## % INDICATING THE FOLLOWING PROBLEMS:



## % INDICATING THE FOLLOWING PROBLEMS:



## EVER HAVE SEXUAL INTERCOURSE

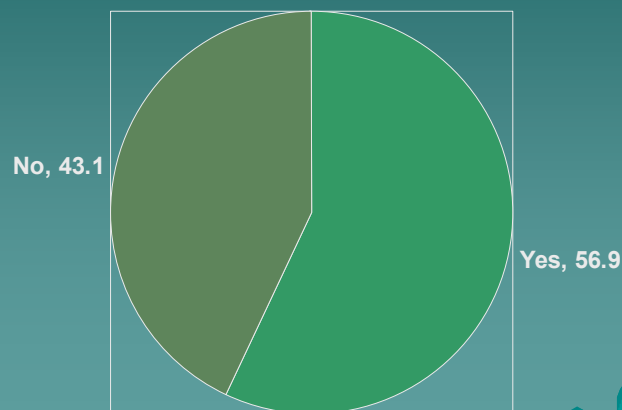


# AGE WHEN FIRST HAD SEXUAL INTERCOURSE

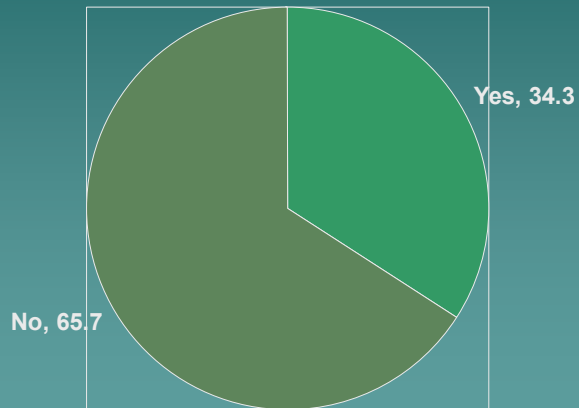
(Range=6-33; Mean=16; Median=16)



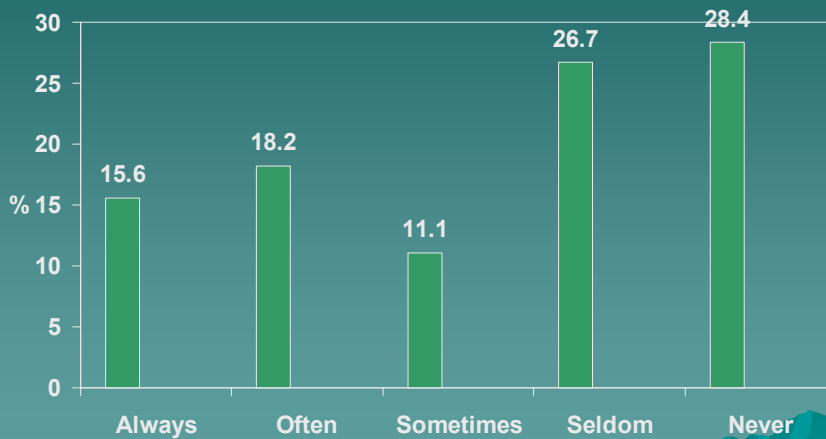
# HAVE YOU OR YOUR PARTNER EVER USED A PENILE CONDOM?



# DO YOU INSIST ON PENILE CONDOM USE?



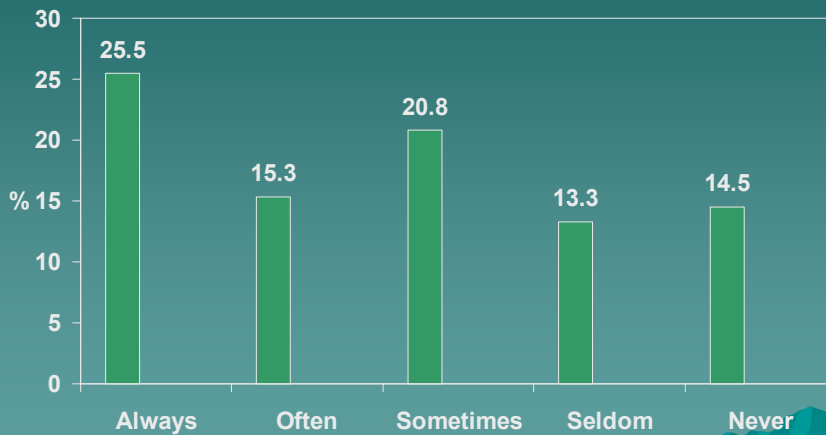
# SEXUAL BEHAVIOR: CONDOM USE



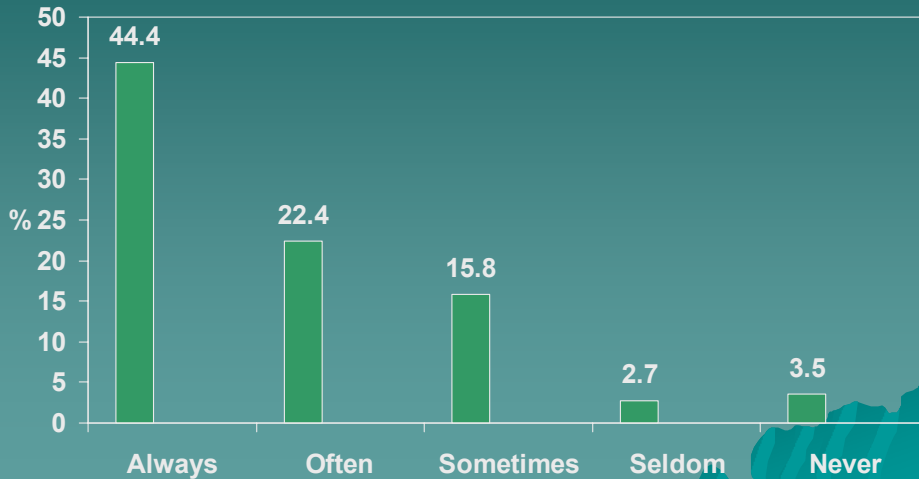
# SEXUAL BEHAVIOR: HAVE THE SAME PARTNER



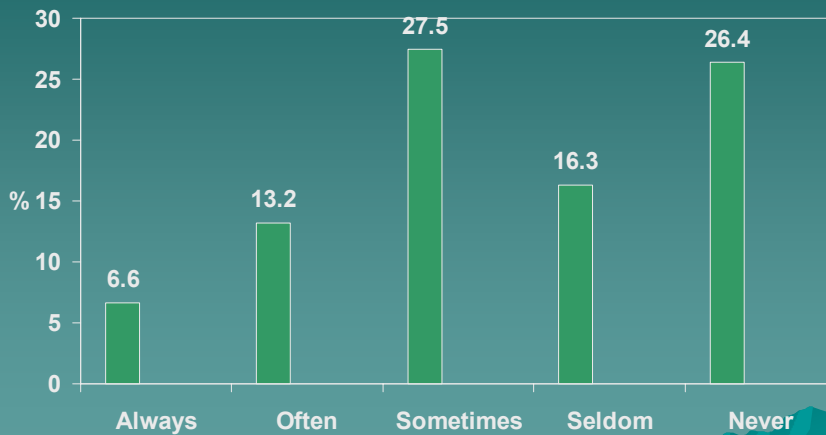
# SEXUAL BEHAVIOR: I TALK ABOUT SAFE SEX



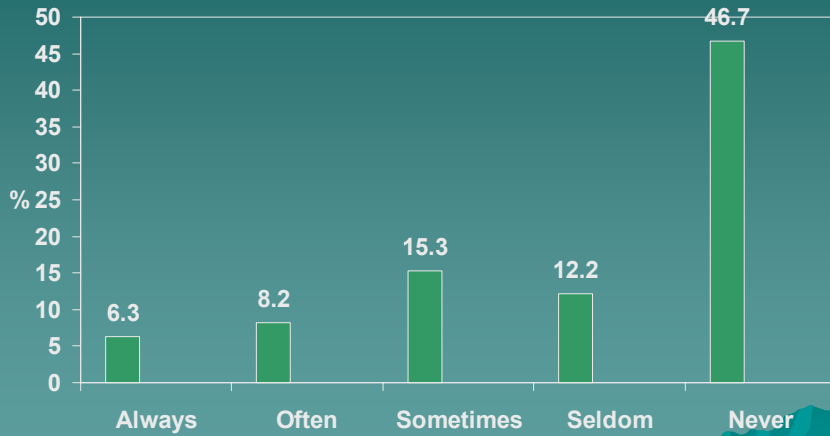
# SEXUAL BEHAVIOR: I AM IN CONTROL



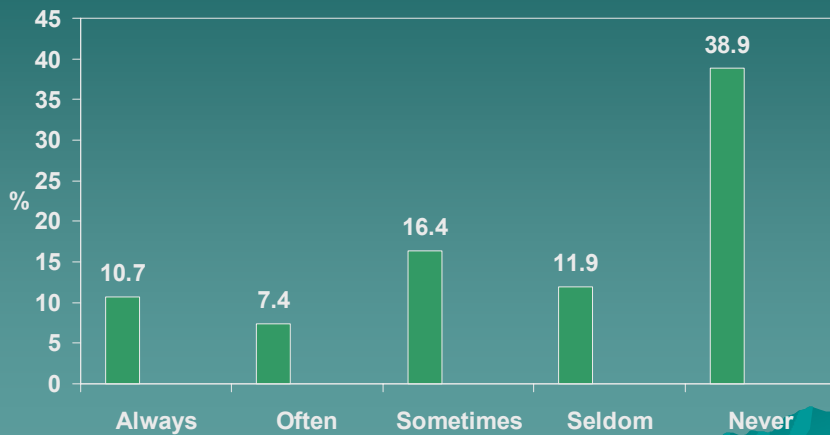
# SEXUAL BEHAVIOR: ALCOHOL USE



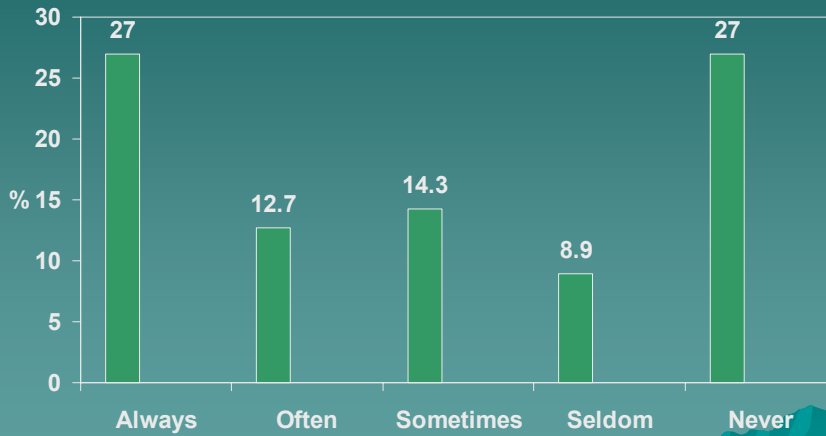
## SEXUAL BEHAVIOR: DRUG USE



## SEXUAL BEHAVIOR: I FEAR PREGNANCY



## SEXUAL BEHAVIOR: FEAR OF SEXUAL DISEASES



## SEXUAL BEHAVIOR: I KNOW PARTNER'S MEDICAL HISTORY



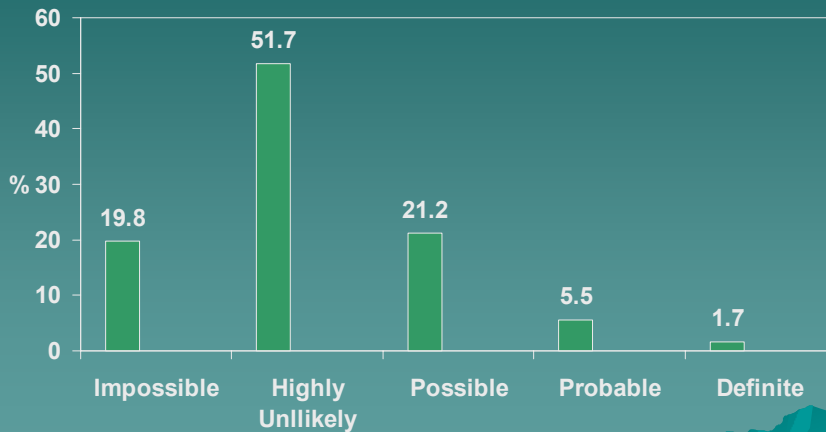
# SEXUAL BEHAVIOR: I KNOW PARTNER'S SEXUAL HISTORY



# SEXUAL BEHAVIOR: AVOIDANCE OF SEX WORKERS



# YOUR CHANCES OF GETTING HIV/AIDS



## TENTATIVE CONCLUSIONS

- ◆ Presence of some HIV high-risk behaviors
  - IV drug use; unsafe sex
- ◆ Some evidence of under-utilization of benefits and services of the indigent
- ◆ Relatively high likelihood of some survey responses being framed in a socially desirable context



## PREVENTION STRATEGY COMPONENTS

- Preventing initiation of drug injection
- Using community outreach programs to reach drug users on the streets
- Improving access to high quality substance abuse treatment programs
- Instituting HIV prevention programs in jails
- Providing health care for HIV-infected IDUs
- Increasing access to HIV risk-reduction counseling/testing for IDUs & their sex partners

Source: CDC, 2002



## BASIC PRINCIPLES: PREVENTING HIV VIA IDU

- Coordination/collaboration among all service providers to IDUs, their sex partners, and their children
- Interventions: coverage; access; quality
- Overcome stigma associated with IDU
- Tailor services & programs to the diverse populations & characteristics of IDUs

Source: CDC, 2002