HIV/AIDS Special Surveillance Report

Number 1:

HIV Testing Survey, 2001

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Public Health Service
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http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/stats/hasrsupp.htm

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Commentary

HIV prevention programs are tailored to selected groups based on an understanding of the distribution of risky behaviors in the population and the association between these risky behaviors and infection. For example, data on sexual behaviors and drug use have allowed the CDC to guide the planning, implementation, and evaluation of HIV prevention services to men who have sex with men (MSM) and injection drug users (IDU). HIV testing remains an important component of prevention activities; learning one's HIV status is the key stepping stone into care or ongoing behavioral risk reduction services (Janssen et al, 2001; CDC, 2003).

This report focuses on HIV testing patterns and risk behaviors among three groups at high risk for HIV infection: men who have sex with men recruited from gay bars, injection drug users recruited through street outreach or at needle exchange programs (NEP), and high risk heterosexuals (HRH) recruited at sexually transmitted disease (STD) clinics. Data in this report comes from the HIV Testing Survey (HITS) which was conducted in the states of California, Louisiana and Vermont and the cities of San Francisco, CA and Philadelphia, PA in 2001. See the Technical Notes at the end of this report for more information on HITS methods.

For MSM and IDU, at least 80% of HITS participants had ever been tested for HIV; most had been tested more than once and about 65% had been tested in the year before the interview (Tables 3, 4). By comparison, a lower percentage of heterosexuals had been tested ever (72%) and in the past year (50%; Tables 3, 4). All MSM from site E reported having ever been HIV tested (Table 3). These participants were recruited from bars in neighborhoods with HIV testing facilities nearby and HIV outreach activities in the bars were common. Among those tested, common reasons for testing included wanting to know and possibly having been exposed to HIV through sexual behavior or drug use (Table 5), while among those not tested, common reasons for not testing included thinking it was unlikely they had been exposed to HIV, being afraid of testing positive and thinking they were HIV-negative (Table 6). These reasons are similar to reasons reported by participants in previous waves of HITS (Kellerman et al, 2002; Hecht et al, 2000; CDC, 2000). Of those tested in the past 12 months, about 50% of MSM and IDU were tested anonymously, compared to 32% of HRH (Table 8).

Although some have held concerns that HIV case surveillance policies may have a potentially deterrent effect on testing behaviors, previous HITS data has shown this is not a widespread problem (Hecht, 2000; Lansky, 2002). In HITS-2001, overall less than 10% of participants could correctly identify their state's HIV case surveillance policy, half chose an incorrect response and about 40% did not know at all (Table 9). A large proportion (27%) of MSM recruited in site G were able to correctly identify the state's HIV case surveillance policy (Table 9). This state's reporting policy was changed recently and was widely publicized by the media as well as community organizations. A large proportion (18%) of site B's HRH were also able to correctly identify the state's HIV case surveillance policy. In two of the three STD clinics where the survey was performed, clinic attendees are asked to give informed consent for an HIV test when they register for services. This consent process includes informing clients of the state's reporting policy.

Drug use and sexual behavior data indicate a high risk population was reached through HITS. Among 599 IDU, 42% had shared needles in the 12 months before the interview (Table 10) and 54% had shared other injecting equipment (Table 11). Of those who reported sharing needles, 18% said they "always" used bleach to clean their needles. Among 594 MSM and 505 HRH, 75% of MSM, 75% of heterosexual men and 57% of heterosexual women had more than one sex partner in the past 12 months (Fig. 4). In all three of these groups, a lower proportion "always" used condoms with their primary partners than with their other partners; however, a higher proportion engaged in riskier sexual behaviors (receptive anal sex for MSM, anal sex for heterosexuals) with their primary than their non-primary partners (Tables 13, 17).

Behavioral surveys in high risk populations, such as HITS, are used by state and local areas to enhance planning for HIV prevention activities. Future success in decreasing the number of new HIV infections will result from sustained prevention efforts targeting high risk individuals and increasing knowledge of HIV serostatus among those who are infected as a gateway to sustained behavioral risk reduction interventions as well as to care and treatment (Janssen et al, 2001; CDC, 2002; CDC, 2003). Information generated from HITS should be used to help direct both ongoing and new prevention programs for high-risk populations at the state, local, and national level.

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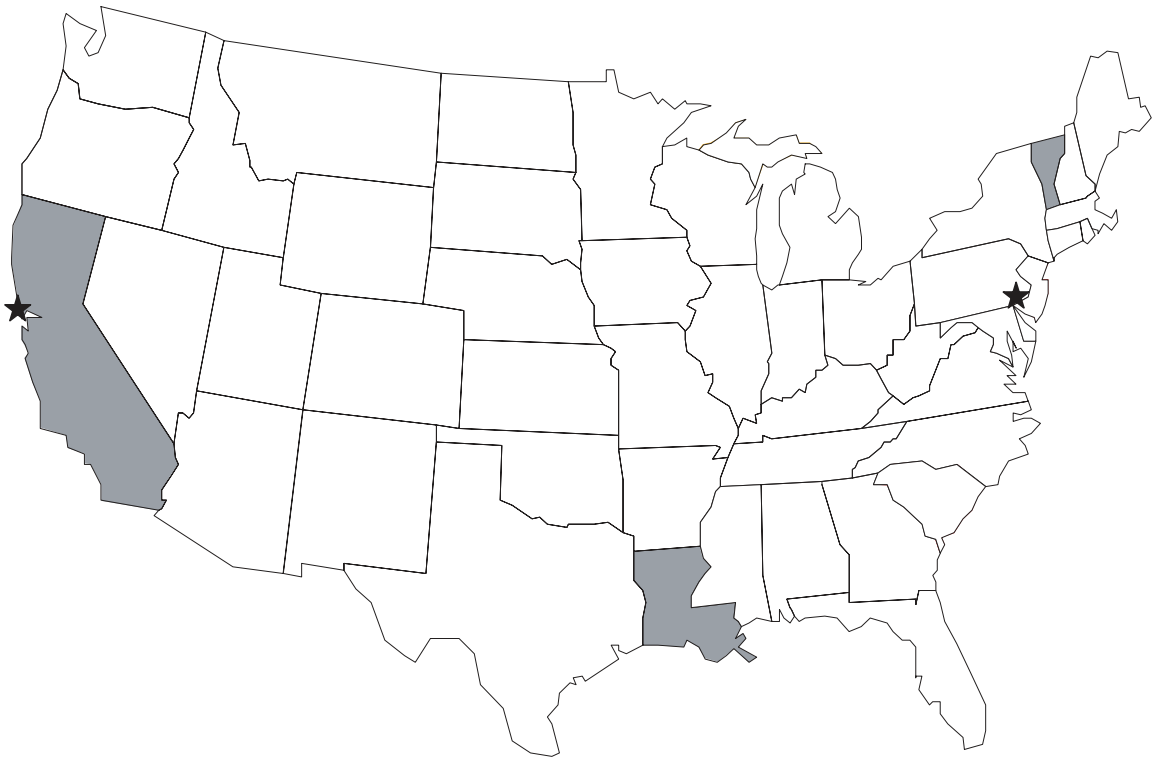
Figure 1. Study sites, HIV Testing Survey, 2001



Louisiana
Oakland, CA
Philadelphia, PA
Sacramento, CA
San Diego, CA
San Francisco, CA
Vermont

Table 1. Characteristics of participants, by recruitment venue, HIV Testing Survey, 2001

Characteristic	MSM (Bar)		HRH (STD Clinic)		IDU (Street/NEP)	
	No.	(%)	No.	(%)	No.	(%)
Race/Ethnicity						
White, not Hispanic	309	(52)	99	(20)	194	(32)
Black, not Hispanic	98	(16)	237	(47)	227	(38)
Hispanic	85	(14)	93	(18)	129	(22)
Asian/Pacific Islander	31	(5)	20	(4)	0	(0)
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	(0)	1	(0)	11	(2)
Multi-racial[a]	53	(9)	45	(9)	33	(6)
Other	16	(3)	8	(2)	2	(0)
Sex						
Male	594	(100)	282	(56)	393	(66)
Female	—	—	223	(44)	205	(34)
Age						
18-24	142	(24)	188	(37)	61	(10)
25-29	121	(20)	98	(19)	71	(12)
30-39	204	(34)	141	(28)	129	(22)
40-49	92	(15)	63	(12)	207	(35)
≥50	35	(6)	15	(3)	131	(22)
Education						
Did not complete high school	32	(5)	108	(21)	266	(44)
High school diploma or equivalent	96	(16)	186	(37)	217	(36)
More than high school	466	(78)	205	(41)	112	(19)
Employment						
Unemployed	69	(12)	189	(37)	360	(60)
	523	(88)	314	(62)	237	(40)
Study Site						
A	85	(14)	89	(18)	86	(14)
B	79	(13)	74	(15)	86	(14)
C	100	(17)	92	(18)	89	(15)
D	79	(13)	63	(12)	97	(16)
E	88	(15)	97	(19)	84	(14)
F	104	(18)	90	(18)	95	(16)
G[b]	59	(10)	—	—	62	(10)
Total	**594**	**(100)**	**505**	**(100)**	**599**	**(100)**

Note. Numbers may not add to totals due to missing data. Column percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.

MSM, Men who have Sex with Men; HRH, High Risk Heterosexuals; IDU, Injection Drug Users; NEP, Needle Exchange Program; dash indicates data not included.

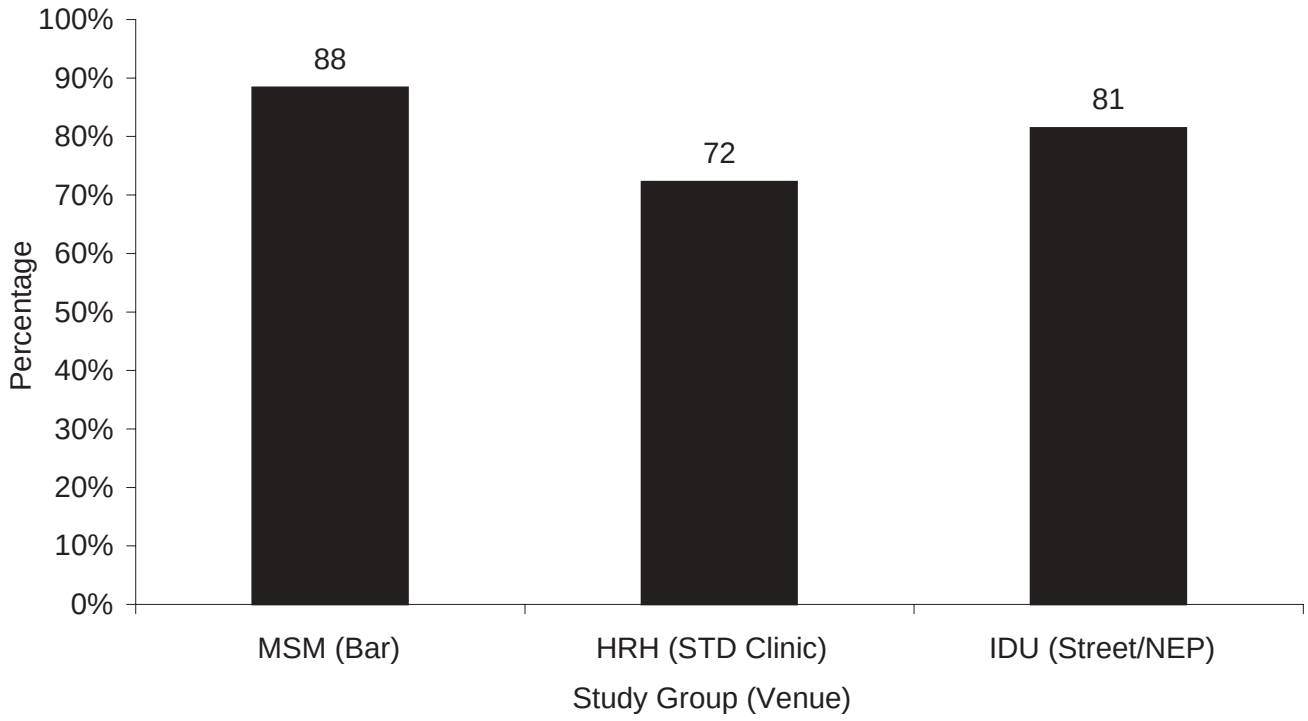
[a]Persons who reported more than 1 racial group were categorized as multi-racial. However, persons who reported they were Hispanic was categorized as Hispanic, regardless of other racial groups they reported. Those reporting Asian and Pacific Islander were combined into 1 group.

[b]See Technical notes.

Table 2. Number of participants who reported multiple races, HIV Testing Survey, 2001

Race	No.	(%)
Black & Native American	28	(21)
White & other	25	(19)
Native American & white	18	(14)
Black & white	14	(11)
Asian & Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	7	(5)
Black & other	6	(5)
Asian & White	6	(5)
Black & Native American & other	5	(4)
Black & Native American & White	4	(3)
Native American & White & Other	2	(2)
Black & Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander & other	2	(2)
Asian & black	2	(2)
Asian & black & Native American & Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander & white & other	2	(2)
White & declined to answer	1	(1)
Native Hawaiian & white	1	(1)
Native American & other	1	(1)
Native American & Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander & white	1	(1)
Black & white & other	1	(1)
Black & Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	1	(1)
Black & Native American & white & other	1	(1)
Asian & other	1	(1)
Asian & black & white	1	(1)
Asian & black & Native American & Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander & other	1	(1)
Total	**131**	**(100)**

Figure 2. Percentage of participants reporting "ever been tested for HIV," by recruitment venue, HIV Testing survey, 2001



MSM, Men who have Sex with Men; HRH, High Risk Heterosexuals; STD, Sexually Transmitted Disease; IDU, Injection Drug Users; NEP, Needle Exchange Program

Table 3. Number and percentage[a] of participants reporting "ever been tested for HIV", by recruitment venue and demographic characteristics, HIV Testing Survey, 2001

	MSM (Bar) (n=594)		HRH (STD Clinic) (n=505)		IDU (Street/NEP) (n=599)	
Characteristic	**No.**	**(%)**	**No.**	**(%)**	**No.**	**(%)**
Race/Ethnicity						
White, not Hispanic	273	(88)	69	(70)	164	(85)
Black, not Hispanic	78	(80)	174	(73)	190	(84)
Hispanic	82	(96)	64	(69)	87	(67)
Asian/Pacific Islander	27	(87)	17	(85)	0	(0)
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	(0)	1	(100)	10	(91)
Multi-racial	50	(94)	32	(71)	32	(97)
Other	13	(81)	7	(88)	2	(100)
Sex						
Male	525	(88)	190	(67)	316	(80)
Female	—	—	175	(78)	171	(83)
Age						
18-24	110	(77)	123	(65)	37	(61)
25-29	107	(88)	73	(74)	51	(72)
30-39	190	(93)	112	(79)	106	(82)
40-49	87	(95)	46	(73)	179	(86)
≥50	31	(89)	11	(73)	115	(88)
Education						
Did not complete high school	22	(69)	72	(67)	202	(76)
High school diploma or equivalent	77	(80)	133	(72)	180	(83)
More than high school	426	(91)	157	(77)	102	(91)
Employment						
Unemployed	55	(80)	137	(72)	292	(81)
Employed	468	(89)	227	(72)	195	(82)
Study Site						
A	76	(89)	60	(67)	83	(97)
B	65	(82)	44	(59)	47	(55)
C	85	(85)	79	(86)	85	(96)
D	61	(77)	39	(62)	85	(88)
E	88	(100)	77	(79)	53	(63)
F	97	(93)	66	(73)	92	(97)
G[b]	53	(90)	—	—	43	(69)
Total	**525**	**(88)**	**365**	**(72)**	**488**	**(81)**

Note. Numbers may not add to totals due to missing data.

MSM, Men who have Sex with Men; HRH, High Risk Heterosexuals; IDU, Injection Drug Users; NEP, Needle Exchange Program

[a] Denominators used to calculate percentages appear in Table 1.
[b] See Technical notes.

Table 4. Frequency of HIV tests among participants who had ever been tested, by recruitment venue, HIV Testing Survey, 2001

	MSM (Bar)		HRH (STD Clinic)		IDU (Street/NEP)	
Testing Frequency	**No.**	**(%)**	**No.**	**(%)**	**No.**	**(%)**
Number of times ever tested						
1	60	(11)	97	(27)	58	(12)
2-3	130	(25)	169	(46)	146	(30)
≥4	332	(63)	98	(27)	283	(58)
Tested in the past 12 months[a]						
Yes	353	(67)	181	(50)	315	(65)
No	132	(25)	134	(37)	121	(25)
Unknown date of test	40	(8)	50	(14)	52	(11)
Total	**525**	**(100)**	**365**	**(100)**	**488**	**(100)**

Note. Numbers may not add to totals due to missing data. Column percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.
MSM, Men who have Sex with Men; HRH, High Risk Heterosexuals; IDU, Injection Drug Users; NEP, Needle Exchange Program
[a]Within 12 months before interview.

Table 5. Reasons for seeking an HIV test among participants who had ever been tested, by recruitment venue, HIV Testing Survey, 2001

	A reason[a]						Main reason[b]					
	MSM (Bar) (n=525)		HRH (STD Clinic) (n=365)		IDU (Street/NEP) (n=488)		MSM (Bar) (n=525)		HRH (STD Clinic) (n=365)		IDU (Street/NEP) (n=488)	
Reason	**No.**	**(%)**	**No.**	**(%)**	**No.**	**(%)**	**No.**	**(%)**	**No.**	**(%)**	**No.**	**(%)**
To know where they stood	489	(93)	327	(90)	420	(86)	273	(52)	175	(48)	197	(40)
Thought exposed through sex	355	(68)	198	(54)	219	(45)	85	(16)	54	(15)	24	(5)
Thought exposed through drug use	24	(5)	16	(4)	358	(73)	1	(0)	3	(1)	125	(26)
Concerned about transmitting HIV	206	(39)	104	(28)	213	(44)	21	(4)	12	(3)	25	(5)
Wanted medical care if positive	261	(50)	182	(50)	298	(61)	13	(2)	12	(3)	16	(3)
Pregnant or wanted to have a child	9	(2)	65	(18)	44	(9)	3	(1)	32	(9)	6	(1)
Part of STD or routine checkup	186	(35)	197	(54)	153	(31)	9	(2)	27	(7)	2	(0)
Partner said he/she was HIV-positive	88	(17)	5	(1)	36	(7)	21	(4)	1	(0)	11	(2)
Sex partner wanted you to	129	(25)	61	(17)	105	(22)	15	(3)	7	(2)	10	(2)
Required for insurance/military/jail	67	(13)	38	(10)	65	(13)	7	(1)	11	(3)	12	(2)
Someone (other than a doctor) suggested getting tested	160	(30)	64	(18)	161	(33)	15	(3)	3	(1)	10	(2)
Suspected an HIV-related health problem	51	(10)	24	(7)	64	(13)	6	(1)	7	(2)	9	(2)
Doctor suggested getting tested	92	(18)	87	(24)	84	(17)	6	(1)	5	(1)	10	(2)
Other	87	(17)	54	(15)	60	(12)	25	(5)	14	(4)	21	(4)

Note. Numbers may not add to totals due to missing data. Column percentages for main reason may not add to 100 due to rounding.

MSM, Men who have Sex with Men; HRH, High Risk Heterosexuals; IDU, Injection Drug Users; NEP, Needle Exchange Program

[a] Participants were asked to indicate whether each factor had contributed to seeking testing ("A reason").
[b] Participants were asked to indicate which factor was the main one ("Main reason").

Table 6. Reasons for not seeking an HIV test among participants who never had an HIV test, by recruitment venue, HIV Testing Survey, 2001

	A reason[a]						Main reason[b]					
	MSM (Bar) (n=69)		HRH (STD Clinic) (n=140)		IDU (Street/NEP) (n=111)		MSM (Bar) (n=69)		HRH (STD Clinic) (n=140)		IDU (Street/NEP) (n=111)	
Reason	**No.**	**(%)**	**No.**	**(%)**	**No.**	**(%)**	**No.**	**(%)**	**No.**	**(%)**	**No.**	**(%)**
Unlikely to have been exposed	39	(57)	86	(61)	16	(14)	14	(20)	54	(39)	3	(3)
Afraid to find out	31	(45)	43	(31)	46	(41)	12	(17)	20	(14)	26	(23)
Thought they were HIV-negative	46	(67)	88	(63)	36	(32)	8	(12)	22	(16)	19	(17)
Didn't want to think about being HIV-positive	32	(46)	57	(41)	65	(59)	6	(9)	15	(11)	25	(23)
Didn't have time	11	(16)	41	(29)	20	(18)	3	(4)	4	(3)	6	(5)
Didn't want people to think Respondent was a drug user	5	(7)	3	(2)	37	(33)	0	(0)	0	(0)	11	(10)
Worried name would be reported to government	8	(12)	9	(6)	6	(5)	0	(0)	2	(1)	4	(4)
Worried about who would learn results	17	(25)	16	(11)	17	(15)	3	(4)	1	(1)	2	(2)
Didn't want to worry family members	21	(30)	25	(18)	17	(15)	1	(1)	1	(1)	3	(3)
Worried friends would react badly	10	(14)	13	(9)	20	(18)	1	(1)	2	(1)	2	(2)
Didn't want people to think respondent was gay	11	(16)	0	(0)	15	(14)	3	(4)	0	(0)	1	(1)
Didn't want people to think respondent was at risk	11	(16)	23	(16)	25	(23)	2	(3)	1	(1)	1	(1)
Worried that name would be reported to insurance or employer	10	(14)	9	(6)	7	(6)	1	(1)	0	(0)	0	(0)
Worried that health care provider would react badly	7	(10)	7	(5)	3	(3)	1	(1)	0	(0)	0	(0)
Other	14	(20)	19	(14)	5	(5)	12	(17)	12	(9)	4	(4)

Note. Numbers may not add to totals due to missing data. Column percentages for main reason may not add to 100 due to rounding.

MSM, Men who have Sex with Men; HRH, High Risk Heterosexuals; IDU, Injection Drug Users; NEP, Needle Exchange Program

[a] Participants were asked to indicate whether each factor had contributed to not being tested ("A reason").
[b] Participants were asked to indicate which factor was the main one ("Main reason").

Table 7. Facility administering most recent HIV test among participants tested during the past 12 months[a], by recruitment venue, HIV Testing Survey, 2001

	MSM (Bar)		HRH (STD Clinic)		IDU (Street/NEP)	
Facility	**No.**	**(%)**	**No.**	**(%)**	**No.**	**(%)**
Public health clinic	81	(23)	74	(41)	30	(10)
MD or HMO	73	(21)	11	(6)	8	(3)
AIDS prevention or outreach program	45	(13)	6	(3)	99	(31)
Hospital	54	(15)	13	(7)	45	(14)
STD clinic	5	(1)	31	(17)	5	(2)
Counseling and testing site	43	(12)	8	(4)	22	(7)
Drug treatment program	2	(1)	2	(1)	17	(5)
Correctional facility	3	(1)	4	(2)	31	(10)
Prenatal/Family planning clinic	5	(1)	7	(4)	2	(1)
Blood bank	6	(2)	3	(2)	1	(0)
Other	36	(10)	19	(10)	50	(16)
Total	**353**	**(100)**	**181**	**(100)**	**315**	**(100)**

Note. Numbers may not add to totals due to missing data. Column percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.

MSM, Men who have Sex with Men; HRH, High Risk Heterosexuals; IDU, Injection Drug Users; NEP, Needle Exchange Program

[a] Within the 12 months before interview.

Table 8. Number and percentage of participants receiving an anonymous HIV test among those tested during the past 12 months[a], by study site and recruitment venue, HIV Testing Survey, 2001

	MSM (Bar) (n=353)		HRH (STD Clinic) (n=181)		IDU (Street/NEP) (n=315)	
Study site	**No.**	**(%)**	**No.**	**(%)**	**No.**	**(%)**
A	23	(55)	9	(39)	39	(60)
B	18	(46)	2	(8)	3	(11)
C	24	(42)	15	(30)	43	(72)
D	20	(48)	11	(58)	15	(29)
E	47	(65)	16	(38)	10	(43)
F	41	(59)	5	(22)	36	(54)
G[b]	19	(59)	—	—	6	(29)
Total	**192**	**(54)**	**58**	**(32)**	**152**	**(48)**

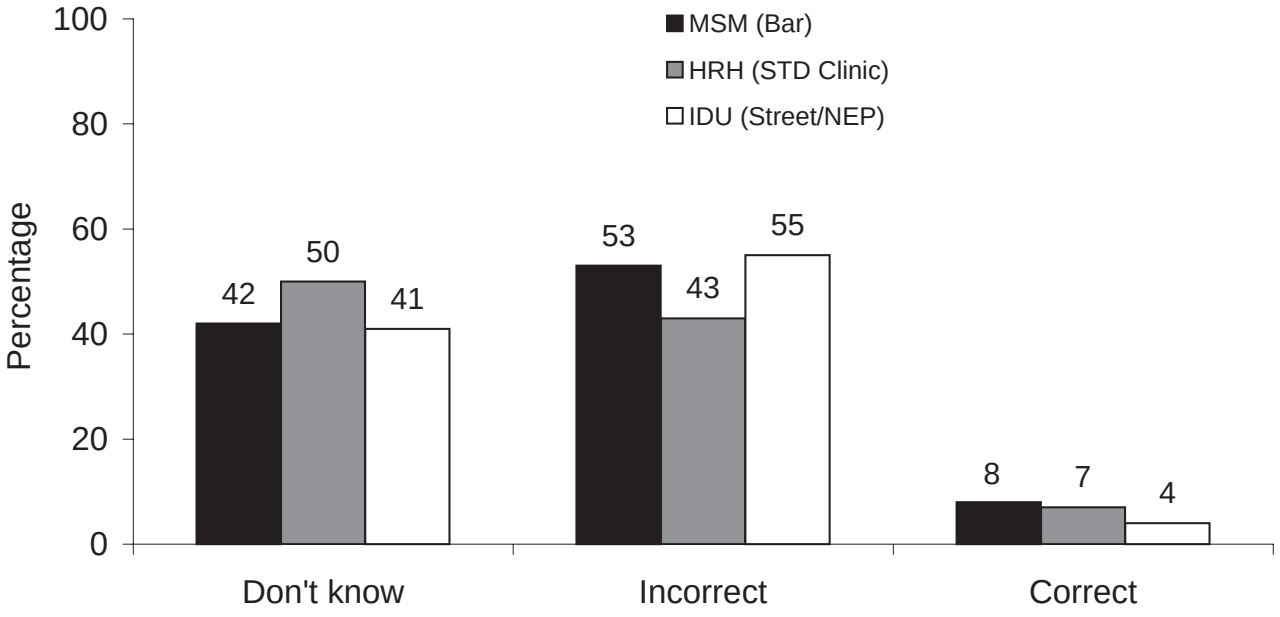
Note. Numbers may not add to totals due to missing data. Column percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.

MSM, Men who have Sex with Men; HRH, High Risk Heterosexuals; IDU, Injection Drug Users; NEP, Needle Exchange Program

[a] Most recent HIV test within the 12 months before interview.

[b] See Technical notes.

Figure 3. Participants' knowledge of HIV case surveillance policy, by recruitment venue, HIV Testing Survey, 2001



Note. Participants were categorized as correctly identifying their state's HIV case surveillance policy if they answered yes to the question describing the appropriate HIV case surveillance policy and no or "don't know" to questions describing other policies. Those who answered "don't know" to all questions were categorized as not knowing the policy, and other response patterns were considered incorrect.

MSM, Men who have Sex with Men; HRH, High Risk Heterosexuals; IDU, Injection Drug Users; NEP, Needle Exchnage Program

Table 9. Participants' knowledge of HIV case surveillance policy, by study site and venue, HIV Testing Survey, 2001

	MSM (Bar)						HRH (STD Clinic)						IDU (Street/NEP)					
		Don't know		Incorrect		Correct		Don't know		Incorrect		Correct		Don't know		Incorrect		Correct	
Study Site	Total	No.	(%)	No.	(%)	No.	(%)	Total	No.	(%)	No.	(%)	No.	(%)	Total	No.	(%)	No.	(%)	No.	(%)
A	85	38	(45)	42	(49)	4	(5)	89	48	(54)	37	(42)	4	(4)	86	17	(20)	66	(77)	3	(3)
B	79	47	(59)	30	(38)	2	(3)	74	27	(36)	33	(45)	13	(18)	86	37	(43)	45	(52)	4	(5)
C	100	48	(48)	44	(44)	7	(7)	92	33	(36)	55	(60)	4	(4)	89	27	(30)	56	(63)	6	(7)
D	79	48	(61)	26	(33)	5	(6)	63	32	(51)	28	(44)	3	(5)	97	33	(34)	58	(60)	4	(4)
E	88	18	(20)	64	(73)	5	(6)	97	70	(72)	23	(24)	3	(3)	84	54	(64)	28	(33)	2	(2)
F	104	32	(31)	64	(62)	7	(7)	90	41	(46)	43	(48)	6	(7)	95	38	(40)	55	(58)	2	(2)
G[a]	59	17	(29)	25	(42)	16	(27)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	62	38	(61)	20	(32)	3	(5)
Total	**594**	**248**	**(42)**	**295**	**(53)**	**46**	**(8)**	**505**	**251**	**(50)**	**219**	**(43)**	**33**	**(7)**	**599**	**244**	**(41)**	**328**	**(55)**	**24**	**(4)**

Note. Participants were categorized as correctly identifying their state's HIV case surveillance policy if they answered yes to the question describing the appropriate HIV case surveillance policy and no or "don't know" to questions describing other policies. Those who answered "don't know" to all questions were categorized as not knowing the policy, and other response patterns were considered incorrect.

Numbers may not add to totals due to missing data. Row percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.
MSM, Men who have Sex with Men; HRH, High Risk Heterosexuals; IDU, Injection Drug Users; NEP, Needle Exchange Program
[a] See Technical notes.

Table 10. Needle sharing during the past 12 months[a] among 599 injection drug users recruited at street location or NEP, by demographic characteristics, HIV Testing Survey, 2001

	Total	Needle sharing	
		No.	(%)
Race/Ethnicity			
White, not Hispanic	194	81	(42)
Black, not Hispanic	227	71	(31)
Hispanic	129	81	(63)
Asian/Pacific Islander			
American Indian/Alaska Native	11	5	(45)
Multi-racial	33	11	(33)
Other	2	1	(50)
Sex			
Male	393	162	(41)
Female	205	89	(43)
Age			
18-24	61	31	(51)
25-29	71	36	(51)
30-39	129	66	(51)
40-49	207	83	(40)
≥50	131	35	(27)
Education			
Did not complete high school	266	129	(48)
High school diploma or equivalent	217	80	(37)
More than high school	112	41	(37)
Employment			
Unemployed	360	154	(43)
Employed	237	96	(41)
Study Site			
Recruited at NEP			
A	86	19	(22)
C	89	13	(15)
F[b]	37	6	(16)
Recruited on street			
B	86	52	(60)
D	97	54	(56)
E	84	69	(82)
F[b]	58	14	(24)
G	62	24	(39)
Total	599	251	(42)

Note. Numbers may not add to totals due to missing data.
NEP, Needle Exchange Program

[a] Within the 12 months before interview. Respondents were asked "In the past 12 months, how often did you use a needle that you knew or suspected had been used by someone else before you?"
[b] Site F recruited on the street and in needle exchange programs

Table 11. Needle sharing and cleaning during the past 12 months[a] among 599 injection drug users recruited at street locations or NEP, HIV Testing Survey, 2001

Behavior	Total	No.	(%)
Used a needle previously used by another person	**599**		
Never		344	(57)
Sometimes		236	(39)
Always		15	(3)
Unknown		2	(0)
Missing		2	(0)
Used bleach to clean previously used needles[b]	**251**		
Never		71	(28)
Sometimes		141	(56)
Always		35	(14)
Unknown		2	(1)
Missing		2	(1)
Used water, rubbing alcohol, or peroxide to clean previously used needles[b]	**251**		
Never		167	(67)
Sometimes		73	(29)
Always		8	(3)
Unknown		1	(0)
Missing		2	(1)
Used the same cooker, cotton, rinse water or other equipment with other people	**599**		
Never		268	(45)
Sometimes		294	(49)
Always		31	(5)
Unknown		3	(1)
Missing		3	(1)
Received a bleach kit for cleaning needles	**599**		
No		325	(54)
Yes		269	(45)
Unknown		2	(0)
Missing		3	(1)

Note. Column percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.
NEP, Needle Exchange Program

[a] Within the 12 months before interview.
[b] Asked of those who said they had sometimes (n=236) or always (n=15) used a needle they knew or suspected had been used by someone else.

Table 12. Number of male sex partners during past 12 months[a], by demographic characteristics, among 594 MSM recruited in bars, HIV Testing Survey, 2001

		Male sex partners					
		1		2–3		≥4	
Characteristic	**Total**	**No.**	**(%)**	**No.**	**(%)**	**No.**	**(%)**
Race/Ethnicity							
White, not Hispanic	309	82	(27)	59	(19)	168	(54)
Black, not Hispanic	98	28	(29)	25	(26)	45	(46)
Hispanic	85	23	(27)	18	(21)	44	(52)
Asian/Pacific Islander	31	5	(16)	6	(19)	20	(65)
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Multi-racial	53	13	(25)	13	(25)	27	(51)
Other	16	3	(19)	3	(19)	10	(63)
Age							
18-24	142	39	(27)	24	(17)	79	(56)
25-29	121	26	(21)	24	(20)	71	(59)
30-39	204	50	(25)	47	(23)	107	(52)
40-49	92	24	(26)	23	(25)	45	(49)
≥50	35	15	(43)	7	(20)	13	(37)
Education							
Did not complete high school	32	8	(25)	5	(16)	19	(59)
High school diploma or equivalent	96	26	(27)	18	(19)	52	(54)
More than high school	466	120	(26)	102	(22)	244	(52)
Total	**594**	**154**	**(26)**	**125**	**(21)**	**315**	**(53)**

Note. Numbers may not add to totals due to missing data. Row percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.
MSM, Men who have Sex with Men

[a] Within the 12 months before interview.

Table 13. Receptive anal intercourse with male sex partners during the past 12 months,[a] by demographic characteristics, among 594 MSM recruited in bars, HIV Testing Survey, 2001

	Primary Partner[b] (n=342)									Non-primary Partner[c] (n=428)								
		Receptive anal intercourse[d]		Condom use during receptive anal intercourse with primary partner (n=225)							Receptive anal intercourse[e]		Condom use during receptive anal intercourse with non-primary partner (n=202)					
				Always		Sometimes		Never					Always		Sometimes		Never	
Characteristic	**Total[d]**	**No.**	**(%)**	**No.**	**(%)**	**No.**	**(%)**	**No.**	**(%)**	**Total[d]**	**No.**	**(%)**	**No.**	**(%)**	**No.**	**(%)**	**No.**	**(%)**
Race/Ethnicity																		
White, not Hispanic	178	117	(66)	36	(31)	40	(34)	41	(35)	221	91	(41)	50	(55)	33	(36)	8	(9)
Black, not Hispanic	47	25	(53)	14	(56)	8	(32)	3	(12)	70	36	(51)	24	(67)	10	(28)	2	(6)
Hispanic	54	41	(76)	13	(32)	15	(37)	13	(32)	59	36	(61)	22	(61)	12	(33)	1	(3)
Asian/Pacific Islander	17	11	(65)	1	(9)	3	(27)	7	(64)	26	17	(65)	11	(65)	6	(35)	0	(0)
American Indian/ Alaska Native	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Multi-racial	35	24	(69)	9	(38)	7	(29)	8	(33)	38	15	(39)	10	(67)	3	(20)	2	(13)
Other	9	6	(67)	4	(67)	0	(0)	2	(33)	13	6	(46)	5	(83)	1	(17)	0	(0)
Age																		
18-24	81	56	(69)	18	(32)	21	(38)	17	(30)	99	70	(71)	46	(66)	22	(31)	1	(1)
25-29	66	48	(73)	16	(33)	18	(38)	14	(29)	93	47	(51)	29	(62)	15	(32)	3	(6)
30-39	128	85	(66)	29	(34)	23	(27)	33	(39)	149	60	(40)	35	(58)	20	(33)	5	(8)
40-49	50	32	(64)	12	(38)	10	(31)	10	(31)	66	23	(35)	11	(48)	8	(35)	4	(17)
≥50	17	4	(24)	2	(50)	1	(25)	1	(25)	21	2	(10)	1	(50)	0	(0)	1	(50)
Education																		
Did not complete high school	12	11	(92)	1	(9)	5	(45)	5	(45)	25	18	(72)	6	(33)	11	(61)	1	(6)
High school diploma or equivalent	55	41	(75)	10	(24)	19	(46)	12	(29)	62	37	(60)	21	(57)	13	(35)	2	(5)
More than high school	275	173	(63)	66	(38)	49	(28)	58	(34)	341	147	(43)	95	(65)	41	(28)	11	(7)
Total	**342**	**225**	**(66)**	**77**	**(34)**	**73**	**(32)**	**75**	**(33)**	**428**	**202**	**(47)**	**122**	**(60)**	**65**	**(32)**	**14**	**(7)**

Note. Numbers may not add to totals due to missing data. Row percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.
MSM, Men who have Sex with Men

[a] Within the 12 months before interview.
[b] Defined as "a relationship with a man where you feel committed to him above anyone else and where you have had sex together."
[c] Defined as "a man who was not a primary partner."
[d] Total excludes 1 person with missing data and 4 persons who declined to answer.
[e] Total excludes 1 person who declined to answer.

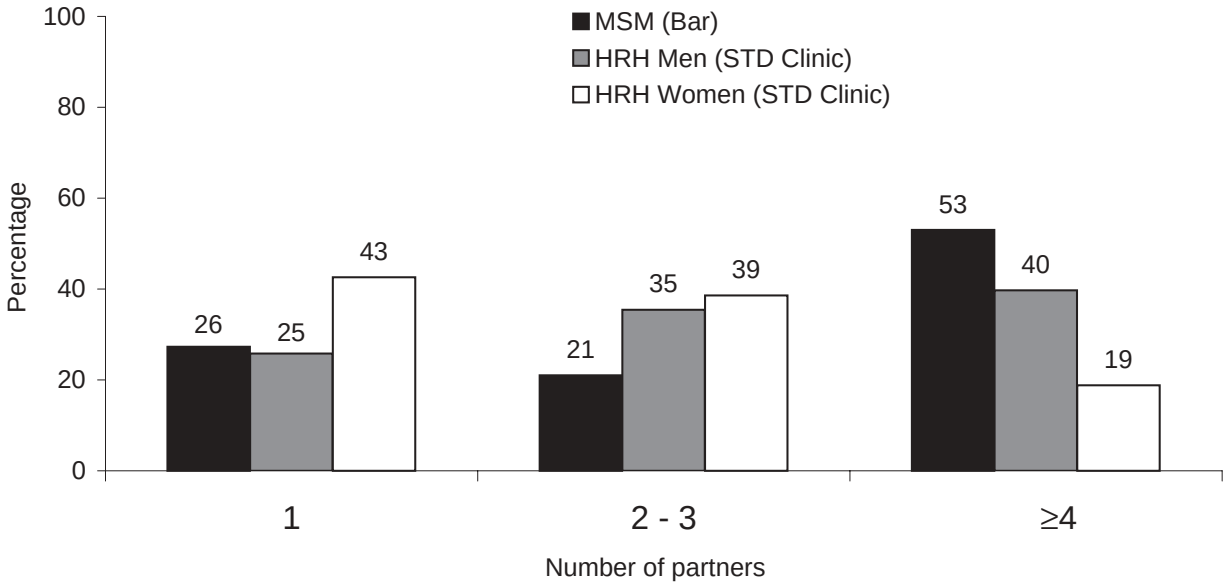
Table 14. Insertive anal intercourse with male sex partners during the past 12 months[a], by demographic characteristics, among 594 MSM recruited in bars, HIV Testing Survey, 2001

	Primary Partner[b] (n=342)									Non-primary Partner[c] (n=428)								
		Insertive anal intercourse[d]		Condom use during insertive anal intercourse with primary partner (n=264)							Insertive anal intercourse[e]		Condom use during insertive anal intercourse with non-primary partner (n=299)					
				Always		Sometimes		Never					Always		Sometimes		Never	
Characteristic	**Total[d]**	**No.**	**(%)**	**No.**	**(%)**	**No.**	**(%)**	**No.**	**(%)**	**Total[d]**	**No.**	**(%)**	**No.**	**(%)**	**No.**	**(%)**	**No.**	**(%)**
Race/Ethnicity																		
White, not Hispanic	178	136	(76)	48	(35)	42	(31)	46	(34)	221	155	(70)	91	(59)	47	(30)	16	(10)
Black, not Hispanic	47	29	(62)	14	(48)	10	(34)	5	(17)	70	51	(73)	33	(65)	14	(27)	3	(6)
Hispanic	54	46	(85)	14	(30)	20	(43)	11	(24)	59	43	(73)	24	(56)	18	(42)	1	(2)
Asian/Pacific Islander	17	9	(53)	3	(33)	2	(22)	4	(44)	26	18	(69)	9	(50)	8	(44)	1	(6)
American Indian/ Alaska Native	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Multi-racial	35	33	(94)	8	(24)	11	(33)	14	(42)	38	23	(61)	15	(65)	7	(30)	1	(4)
Other	9	9	(100)	5	(56)	1	(11)	3	(33)	13	8	(62)	6	(75)	2	(25)	0	(0)
Age																		
18-24	81	66	(81)	22	(33)	26	(39)	17	(26)	99	72	(73)	46	(64)	25	(35)	1	(1)
25-29	66	53	(80)	18	(34)	22	(42)	13	(25)	93	60	(65)	36	(60)	19	(32)	5	(8)
30-39	128	101	(79)	36	(36)	29	(29)	36	(36)	149	107	(72)	62	(58)	34	(32)	10	(9)
40-49	50	38	(76)	15	(39)	8	(21)	15	(39)	66	48	(73)	29	(60)	14	(29)	4	(8)
≥50	17	6	(35)	2	(33)	1	(17)	3	(50)	21	12	(57)	5	(42)	4	(33)	3	(25)
Education																		
Did not complete high school	12	10	(83)	1	(10)	5	(50)	4	(40)	25	20	(80)	8	(40)	9	(45)	3	(15)
High school diploma or equivalent	55	43	(78)	13	(30)	16	(37)	14	(33)	62	38	(61)	20	(53)	15	(39)	3	(8)
More than high school	275	211	(77)	79	(37)	65	(31)	66	(31)	341	241	(71)	150	(62)	72	(30)	17	(7)
Total	**342**	**264**	**(77)**	**93**	**(35)**	**86**	**(33)**	**84**	**(32)**	**428**	**299**	**(70)**	**178**	**(60)**	**96**	**(32)**	**23**	**(8)**

Note. Numbers may not add to totals due to missing data. Row percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.
MSM, Men who have Sex with Men

[a]Within the 12 months before interview.
[b]Defined as "a relationship with a man where you feel committed to him above anyone else and where you have had sex together."
[c]Defined as "a man who was not a primary partner."
[d]Total excludes 1 person with missing data and 1 person who declined to answer.
[e]Total excludes 1 person with missing data.

Figure 4. Number of sex partners during the past 12 months[a] among 594 MSM recruited in bars and 282 men and 223 women recruited in STD clinics,[b] HIV Testing survey, 2001



Note. MSM, Men who have Sex with Men; HRH, High Risk Heterosexuals; STD, Sexually Transmitted Disease

[a]Within the 12 months before interview.
[b]For MSM recruited in bars, data represent the number of male sex partners; for men recruited in clinics, data represent number of female sex partners; for women recruited in clinics, data represent number of male sex partners.

Table 15. Number of male sex partners during the past 12 months[a], by demographic characteristics, among 223 women recruited in STD clinics, HIV Testing Survey, 2001

Characteristic	Total	Number of male sex partners					
		1		2-3		≥4	
		No.	(%)	No.	(%)	No.	(%)
Race/Ethnicity							
White, not Hispanic	35	10	(29)	15	(43)	10	(29)
Black, not Hispanic	105	47	(45)	42	(40)	16	(15)
Hispanic	44	23	(52)	15	(34)	6	(14)
Asian/Pacific Islander	13	6	(46)	5	(38)	2	(15)
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Multi-racial	22	7	(32)	9	(41)	6	(27)
Other	4	2	(50)	0	(0)	2	(50)
Age							
18-24	89	33	(37)	39	(44)	17	(19)
25-29	46	24	(52)	17	(37)	5	(11)
30-39	61	23	(38)	25	(41)	13	(21)
40-49	22	13	(59)	3	(14)	6	(27)
≥50	5	2	(40)	2	(40)	1	(20)
Education							
Did not complete high school	54	22	(41)	21	(39)	11	(20)
High school diploma or equivalent	84	38	(45)	32	(38)	14	(17)
More than high school	83	35	(42)	32	(39)	16	(19)
Total	**223**	**95**	**(43)**	**86**	**(39)**	**42**	**(19)**

Note. Numbers may not add to totals due to missing data. Row percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.
STD, Sexually Transmitted Disease

[a]Within the 12 months before the interview.

Table 16. Number of female sex partners during the past 12 months,[a] by demographic characteristics, among 282 men recruited in STD clinics, HIV Testing Survey, 2001

		Number of female sex partners					
		1		2-3		≥4	
Characteristic	**Total**	**No.**	**(%)**	**No.**	**(%)**	**No.**	**(%)**
Race/Ethnicity							
White, not Hispanic	64	15	(23)	21	(33)	28	(44)
Black, not Hispanic	132	34	(26)	50	(38)	48	(36)
Hispanic	49	14	(29)	13	(27)	22	(45)
Asian/Pacific Islander	7	1	(14)	4	(57)	2	(29)
American Indian/Alaska Native	1	0	(0)	1	(100)	0	(0)
Multi-racial	23	5	(22)	9	(39)	9	(39)
Other	4	1	(25)	2	(50)	1	(25)
Age							
18-24	99	22	(22)	33	(33)	44	(44)
25-29	52	13	(25)	16	(31)	23	(44)
30-39	80	18	(23)	33	(41)	29	(36)
40-49	41	13	(32)	14	(34)	14	(34)
≥50	10	4	(40)	4	(40)	2	(20)
Education							
Did not complete high school	54	14	(26)	15	(28)	25	(46)
High school diploma or equivalent	102	22	(22)	39	(38)	41	(40)
More than high school	122	34	(28)	46	(38)	42	(34)
Total	**282**	**70**	**(25)**	**100**	**(35)**	**112**	**(40)**

Note. Numbers may not add to totals due to missing data. Row percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.
STD, Sexually Transmitted Disease

[a]Within the 12 months before interview.

Table 17. Vaginal and anal intercourse during the past 12 months,[a] among 223 women and 282 men recruited in STD clinics, HIV Testing Survey, 2001

Vaginal intercourse

	Primary partner[b]								Non-primary partner[c]							
		Vaginal intercourse		Condom use with primary partner						Vaginal intercourse		Condom use with non-primary partner					
				Always		Sometimes		Never				Always		Sometimes		Never	
	Total	No.	(%)	No.	(%)	No.	(%)	No.	(%)	Total	No.	(%)	No.	(%)	No.	(%)	No.	(%)
Men[d]	214	210	(98)	17	(8)	109	(52)	83	(40)	198	193	(97)	57	(30)	104	(54)	31	(16)
Women[e]	206	204	(99)	23	(11)	107	(52)	71	(35)	93	91	(98)	37	(41)	42	(46)	12	(13)

Anal intercourse

	Primary partner[b]								Non-primary partner[c]							
		Anal intercourse		Condom use with primary partner						Anal intercourse		Condom use with non-primary partner					
				Always		Sometimes		Never				Always		Sometimes		Never	
	Total	No.	(%)	No.	(%)	No.	(%)	No.	(%)	Total	No.	(%)	No.	(%)	No.	(%)	No.	(%)
Men[d]	214	48	(22)	3	(6)	14	(29)	31	(65)	198	51	(26)	14	(27)	8	(16)	29	(57)
Women[e]	206	30	(15)	3	(10)	8	(27)	18	(60)	93	19	(20)	2	(11)	5	(26)	12	(63)

Note. Numbers may not add to totals due to missing data. Row percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.
STD, Sexually Transmitted Disease

[a] Within the 12 months before interview.
[b] Defined as "a relationship with a (man/woman) where you feel committed to (him/her) above anyone else and where you have had sex together."
[c] Defined as someone ""who was not a primary partner."
[d] Data represent sex practices with female partners.
[e] Data represent sex practices with male partners.

Technical Notes

This report presents data collected through the HIV Testing Survey, conducted in the states of California, Louisiana and Vermont and the cities of San Francisco, CA and Philadelphia, PA in 2001. Men who have sex with men (MSM) were recruited from gay bars, heterosexuals (HRH) were recruited at sexually transmitted disease (STD) clinics, and injection drug users (IDU) were recruited through street outreach or at needle exchange programs (NEP). Within each state, the largest city and other key metropolitan areas were included. For each venue type (bar, clinic, street/NEP), specific sites were identified through formative research, which included review of existing reports, such as local HIV/AIDS surveillance reports ("secondary data review"); key informant interviews; and observations at some of the potential interview sites. Sites were selected by project staff based on the feasibility of conducting interviews in these locations and using criteria determined to obtain a diverse sample of each risk group.

Persons at the venues were eligible to participate in HITS if they were at least 18 years of age, a resident of the state for at least 6 months, and gave informed consent. Further details of selection and sampling processes within venues have been described elsewhere (Hecht et al, 2000). After eligibility was assessed and informed consent obtained, participants were administered a face-to-face interview by trained study personnel. No personal identifiers were collected. This study was reviewed for human subject protections at CDC and participating areas. For each project area, the target sample size was 100 each of MSM, HRH, and IDU. In addition, sites attempted to recruit approximately equal numbers of male and female heterosexual persons from STD clinics; there were no sex distribution requirements for IDU. Among those approached who were determined to be eligible, 2342 (83%) completed an interview (816 (71%) MSM, 636 (84%) HRH and 890 (89%) IDU). One interview was missing age, thirty-three (1%) interviews were missing residence information, and two were missing sex and were excluded from analysis.

Behaviors reported during the survey were used as selection criteria for analysis purposes. MSM must have had sex with a man in the previous 12 months. HRH must have been sexually active only with members of the opposite sex within the previous 12 months. IDU must have injected drugs in the previous 12 months. A total of 368 (16%) of persons who completed an interview did not report behaviors used as selection criteria and were not included in this analysis. Among men interviewed in bars, 104 (13% of completed interviews) had not had sex with a man in the past year. Among those interviewed in STD clinics, 68 (11%) did not report having had heterosexual sex, or had reported having sex with a same sex partner. One-hundred ninety-six (22%) of those recruited on the street did not report having injected drugs in the past year.

For this report, we used several additional criteria for exclusion from analyses. Although 11 transgender persons were interviewed, they were excluded from analysis as they were not consistently asked the sexual risk behavior questions. All persons who reported being HIV-positive were excluded from analysis (n = 102), as were those with missing data on HIV testing (n = 53) and those who never received their HIV test results (n = 74). State G did not perform the HRH component because there were no STD clinics in the state.

As all participants were administered the same questionnaire, information about risk behaviors other than those pertaining to the population recruited (e.g., sex with men among male IDU; injection drug use among MSM and HRH) are available. However, we present risk behavior data by venue because we used venue-based sampling as a means to reach persons engaging in a specific high risk behavior (e.g., injection drug use practices only for persons recruited at street/NEP venues).

The findings in this report are subject to several limitations. Data stratification in some cases may produce numbers in each category that may be too small to make reliable inferences. The study was not population-based; it was designed to enroll equal proportions of each of three groups recruited from specific venues and it may not represent all at-risk populations or their distribution in the general population. Findings from the states in this study may not be generalizable to all other states. Because the survey was interviewer-administered, some respondents may not accurately report their actual behavior. For example, a respondent may not report a less socially desirable behavior in which they are engaging (e.g. sharing needles) and may report engaging in a more socially desirable behavior that they did not actually perform (e.g. using a condom during intercourse).

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