

NATIONAL HIV BEHAVIORAL SURVEILLANCE (NHBS)

FACT SHEET FROM INTERVIEWS AMONG WOMEN AT HIGH RISK OF HIV INFECTION IN WAYNE AND OAKLAND COUNTIES, MI, 2016

What is NHBS?

The National HIV Behavioral Surveillance System (NHBS) is a survey funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to monitor behaviors of populations at high risk for HIV infection.

Heterosexuals at increased risk for HIV (HET) are those who live in high poverty areas across Wayne or Oakland Counties.

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services participated in the HET cycle in 2010, 2013, and 2016, and will again participate in 2019.

Information collected from NHBS HET cycles can be used to describe trends in the heterosexual population in Wayne County, identify gaps in prevention services, and help design more effective HIV prevention programs.

Characteristics of Sample

In 2016, a snowball sampling strategy was designed to increase participation among women who exchange sex for money, drugs, or other items. Eligible participants were females living in Wayne or Oakland Counties, MI who had sex with a person of the opposite sex in the 12 months preceding the survey.

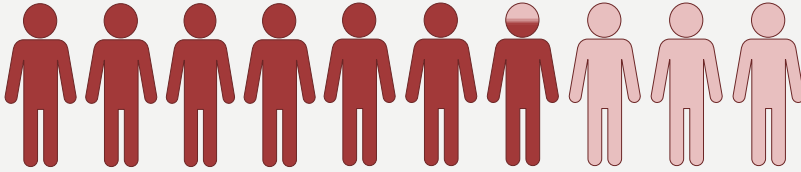


Table 1: Select Characteristics of Participants, n = 517

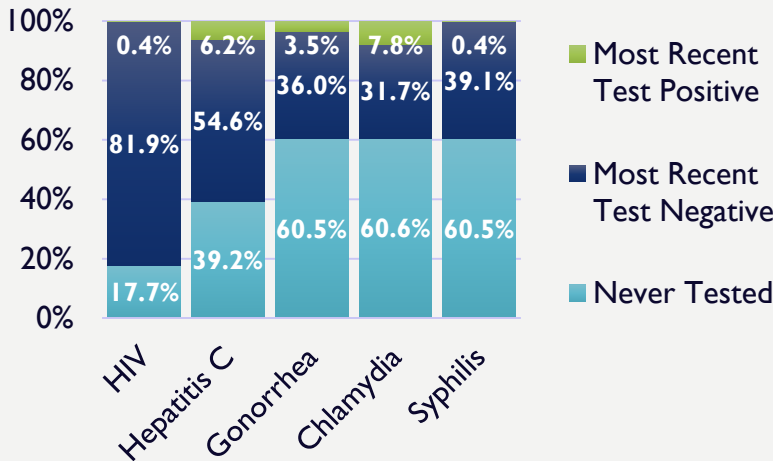
Characteristic	n	%
Gender		
Female	517	100%
Age		
18-19	21	4%
20-24	44	9%
25-29	53	10%
30-39	105	20%
40-49	126	24%
50+	168	32%
Race/ethnicity		
Black	461	89%
White	32	6%
Hispanic	6	1%
Multi/Ot	18	3%
Poverty Status		
Above Poverty	65	13%
Below Poverty	451	87%
Missing Data	1	<1%
Residence		
Detroit	478	92%
Oakland Co.	2	<1%
Wayne Co.	35	7%
Missing Data	2	<1%
Employment		
Employed full-time	63	12%
Employed part-time	70	14%
Not in Work Force	174	34%
Unemployed	197	38%
Education		
Grades 1 through 8	18	3%
Some high school	149	29%
HS Diploma or GED	206	40%
Some college, Associate Degree	126	24%
Bachelors Degree or higher	18	3%
Sexuality		
Bisexual	154	30%
Gay	7	1%
Heterosexual	356	69%
Marital status		
Married	19	4%
Cohabitate	18	3%
Separated	32	6%
Divorced	54	10%
Widowed	26	5%
Never Married	368	71%

Exchange Sex

69% of participants reported exchanging sex for money, drugs, or other items in the previous 12 months.

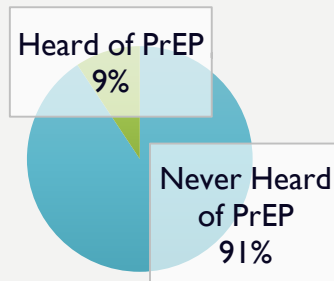


STI Testing

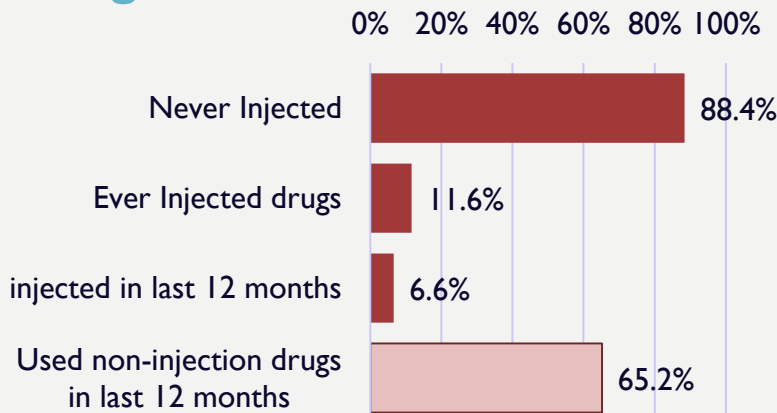


PrEP Awareness

9% of participants had heard of PrEP, or Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis, as a form of HIV prevention



Drug Use



BEHAVIORS AMONG HIGH RISK WOMEN

Among the 517 women found eligible to participate in the 2016 NHBS Survey, 357 (69%) reported exchange sex in the last 12 months.

Of these, 28% reported the most common way to find exchange partners was walking on the street

22% most commonly found exchange partners through family and friends

19% most commonly picked up exchange partners in public places such as bars and hotels

Women in the sample were asked about a variety of behaviors related to HIV risk:

0.4% had ever tested positive for HIV prior to the survey

0.78% tested positive at the time of the survey

70.6% had engaged in condomless sex in the previous 12 months

63.6% of women engaged in condomless sex with a partner of unknown HIV status

91% of women had never heard of PrEP

6.6% had injected drugs in the past year

35% of women who had injected in the past year had used shared needles

For more information on NHBS, contact Emily Higgins at 248-424-7916 / higginse@michigan.gov