

HIV Testing in New York City: Implementing the Diagnose Pillar

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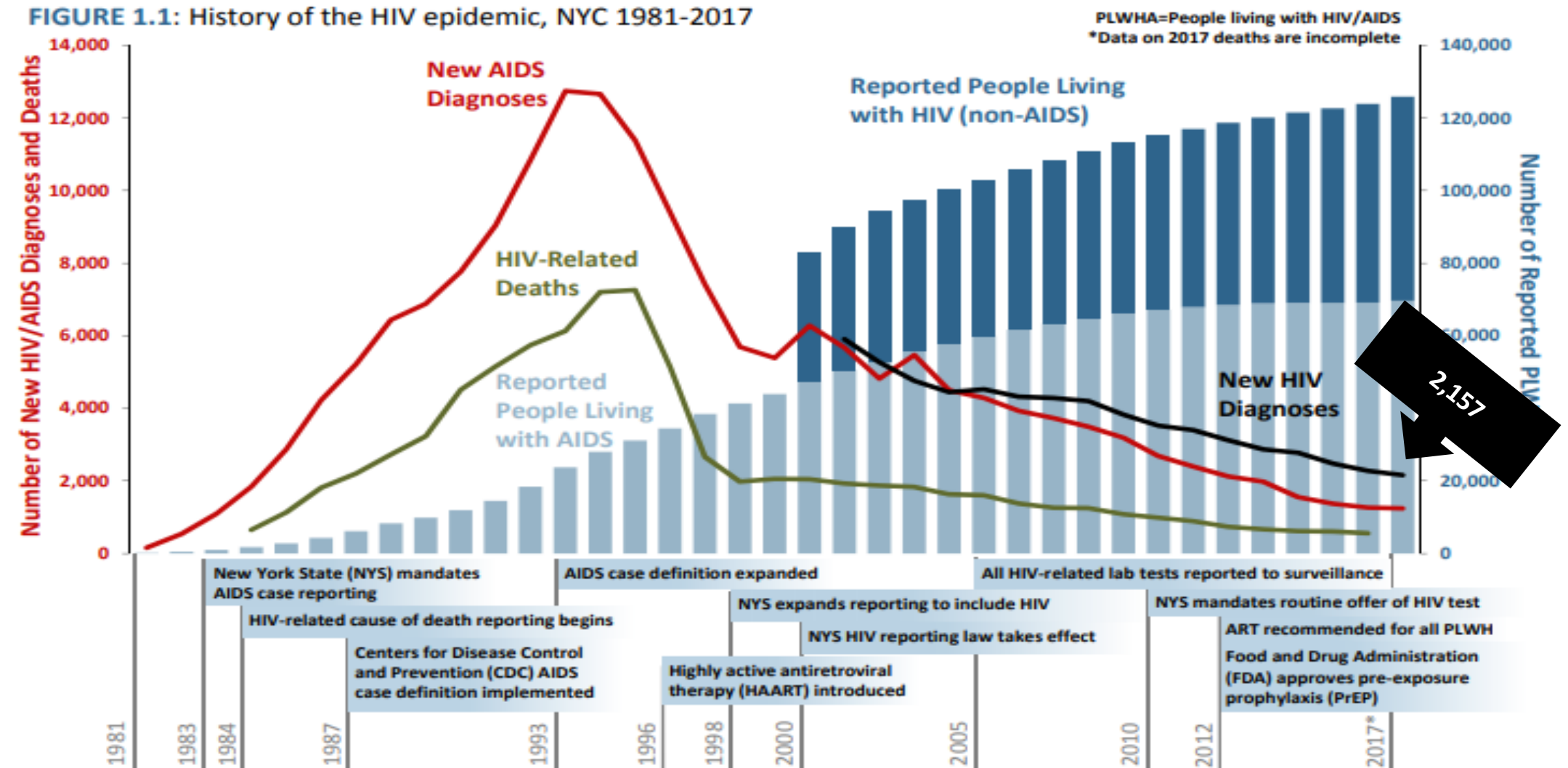


Overview

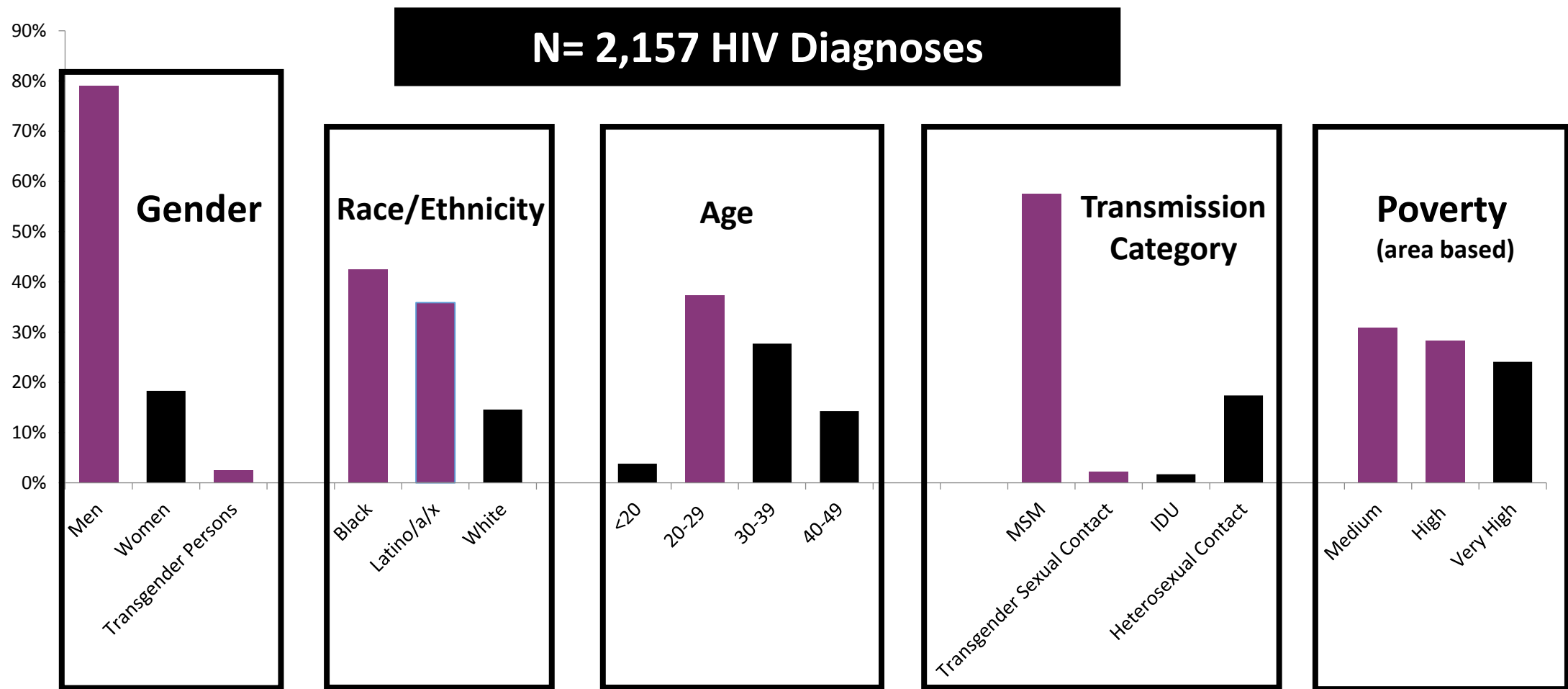
- Background and Context of HIV Testing in NYC
- HIV Testing Framework and Approach
- HIV Testing Programs and Initiatives

Background and Context of HIV Testing in NYC

History of HIV in NYC 1981-2017



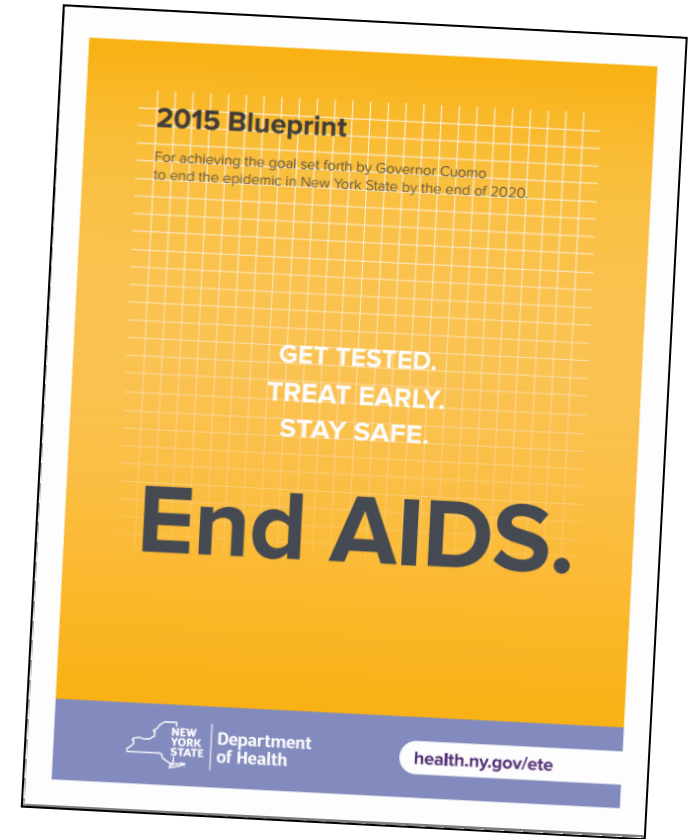
Disparities in New HIV Diagnoses



Source: NYC Dep't of Health & Mental Hygiene, HIV Surveillance Annual Report, 2017 (Dec 5, 2018), available at <https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/dires/hiv-surveillance-annualreport-2017.pdf>

New York's 3-Point Plan to End the Epidemic

1. Identify persons with HIV who remain undiagnosed and link them to health care
2. Link and retain persons with HIV in health care to maximize virus suppression so they remain healthy and prevent further transmission
3. Facilitate access to Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) for high-risk persons to keep them HIV negative.



NYS HIV Testing Law

- Recent Amendments to NYS HIV Testing Law 2010-2016
 - Requires offer of HIV testing to persons age 13 years and older in most healthcare settings
 - Written consent no longer required for testing
 - At minimum, patients must be advised orally that HIV test will be performed
 - If patient objects to HIV test, refusal must be documented in patient's medical record



History of Promoting HIV Testing

Commissioner of Health hosted meetings with CEOs/EDs of healthcare organizations to promote HIV testing (Bronx Knows and Brooklyn Knows)

Prior funding for HIV testing

- CBOs to conduct HIV testing using social network strategy
- CBOs conducting outreach testing
- Healthcare facilities to conduct HIV testing in emergency department, inpatient settings, and primary care clinics

Worked with Gilead to support FOCUS-funded agencies in NYC (more recently, FOCUS-funding in NYC is related to HCV testing)

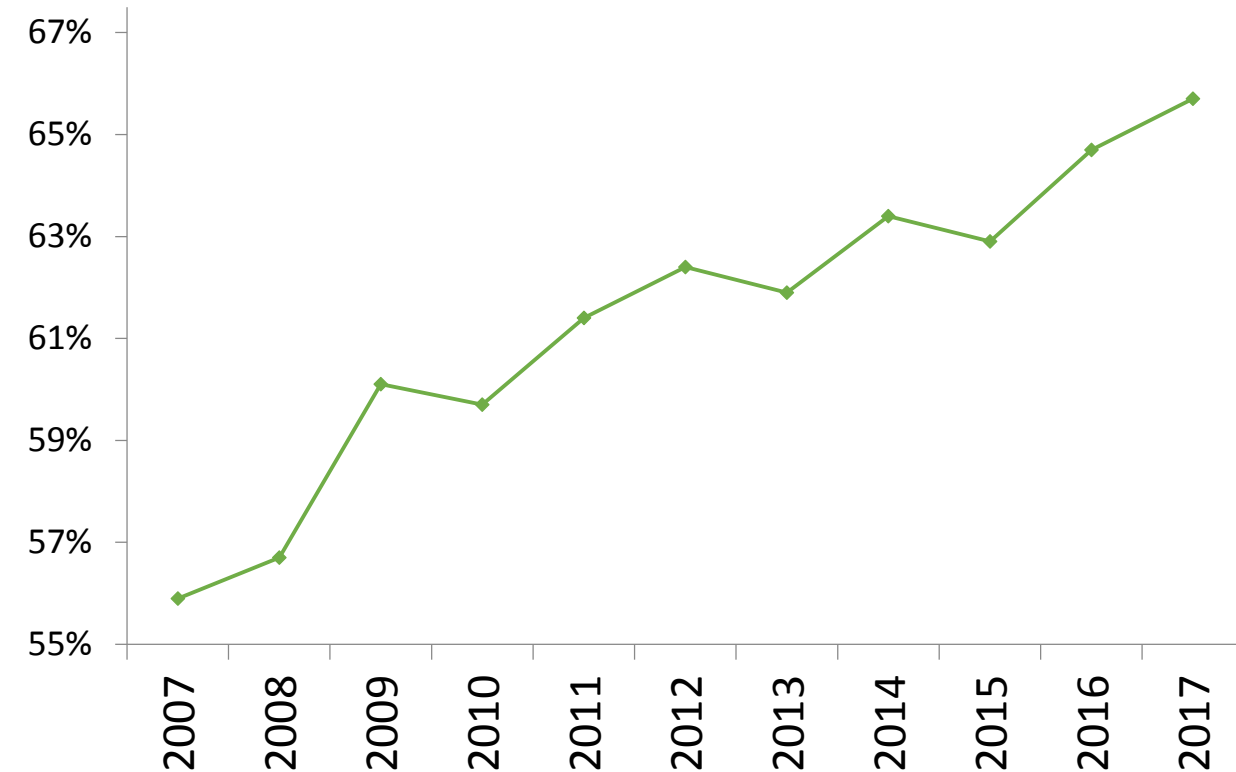
History of Promoting HIV Testing

- Technical Assistance
 - Multiple rounds of public health detailing to clinical providers on HIV testing
 - Issued guidance to providers on HIV testing
 - Give trainings and grand rounds on HIV testing
 - Through community engagement efforts, conducted workshops on HIV testing and billing to clinical and nonclinical providers
 - Established learning collaborative for several FQHCs in NYC on routinizing HIV testing (Gilead FOCUS funded)
 - Creating dashboards to review data
 - Implementing EMR changes

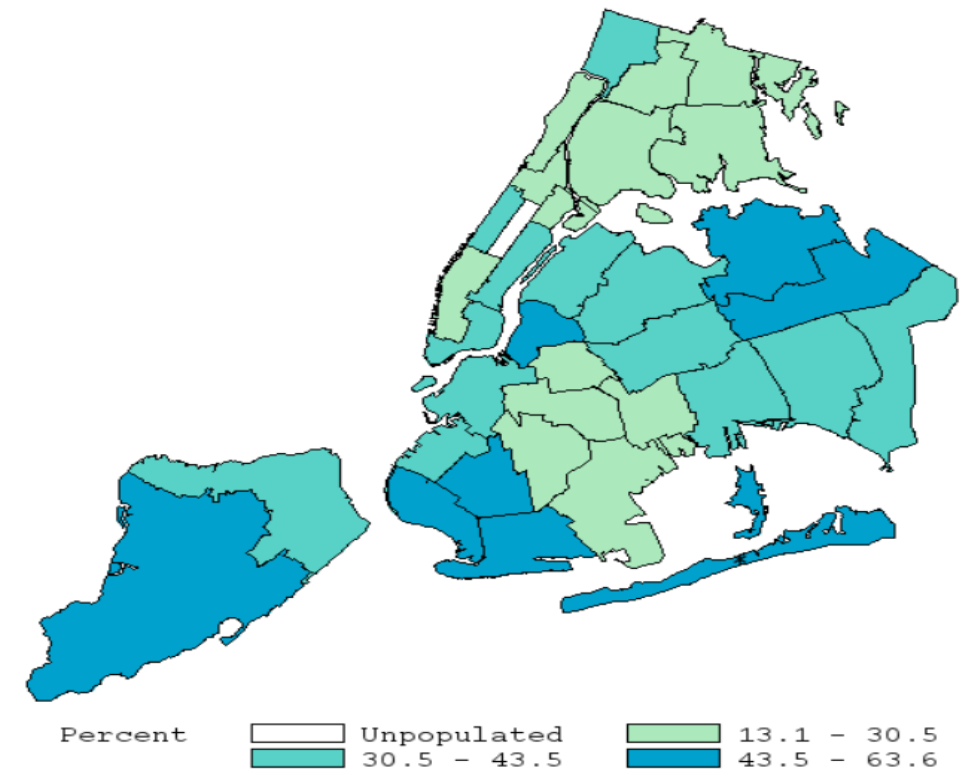


More New Yorkers Know Their HIV Status

More NYC Residents Are Ever Tested for HIV

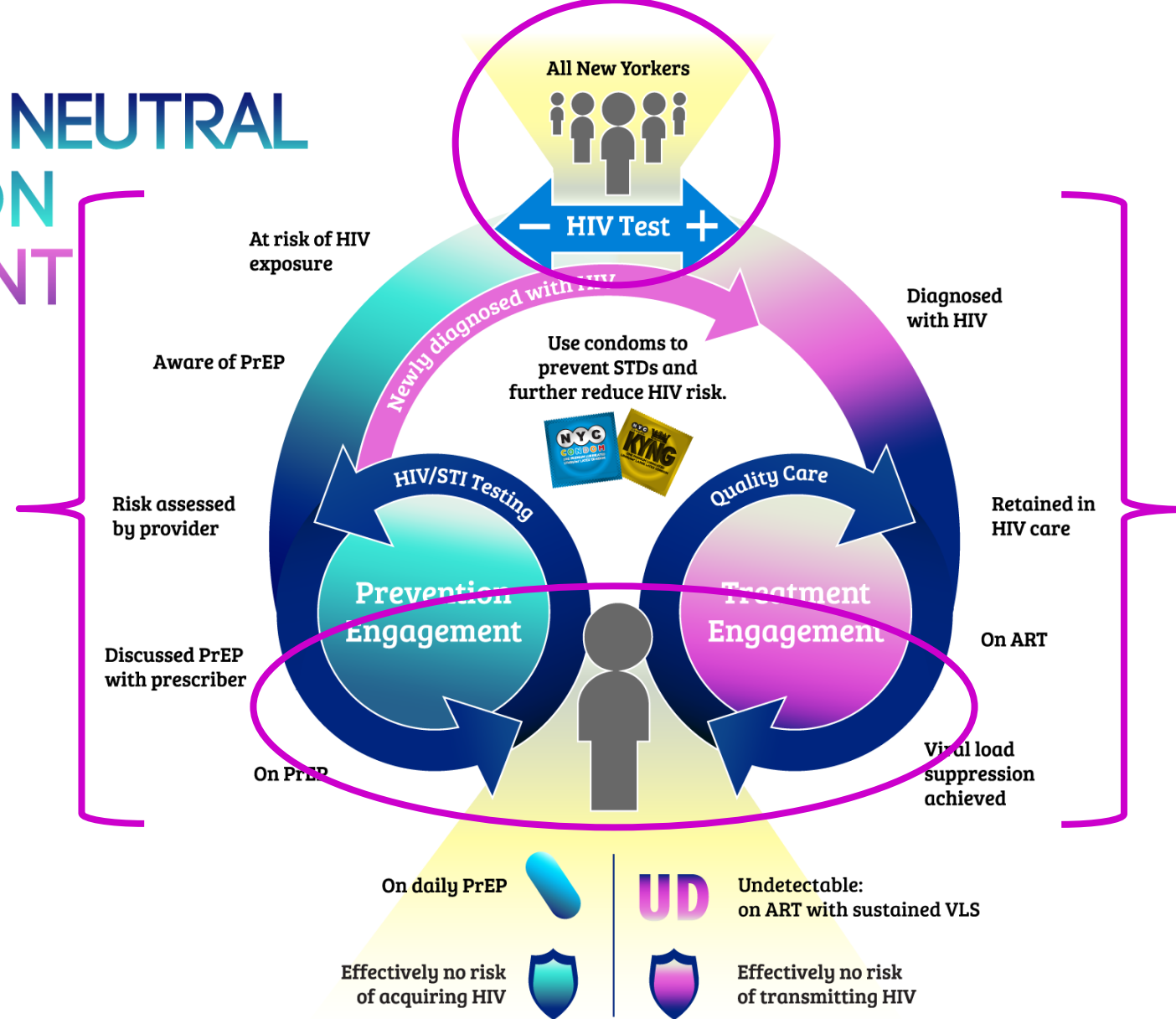


Percent of New Yorkers Never Tested, 2017



HIV Testing Framework and Approach

NEW YORK CITY'S HIV STATUS NEUTRAL PREVENTION & TREATMENT CYCLE



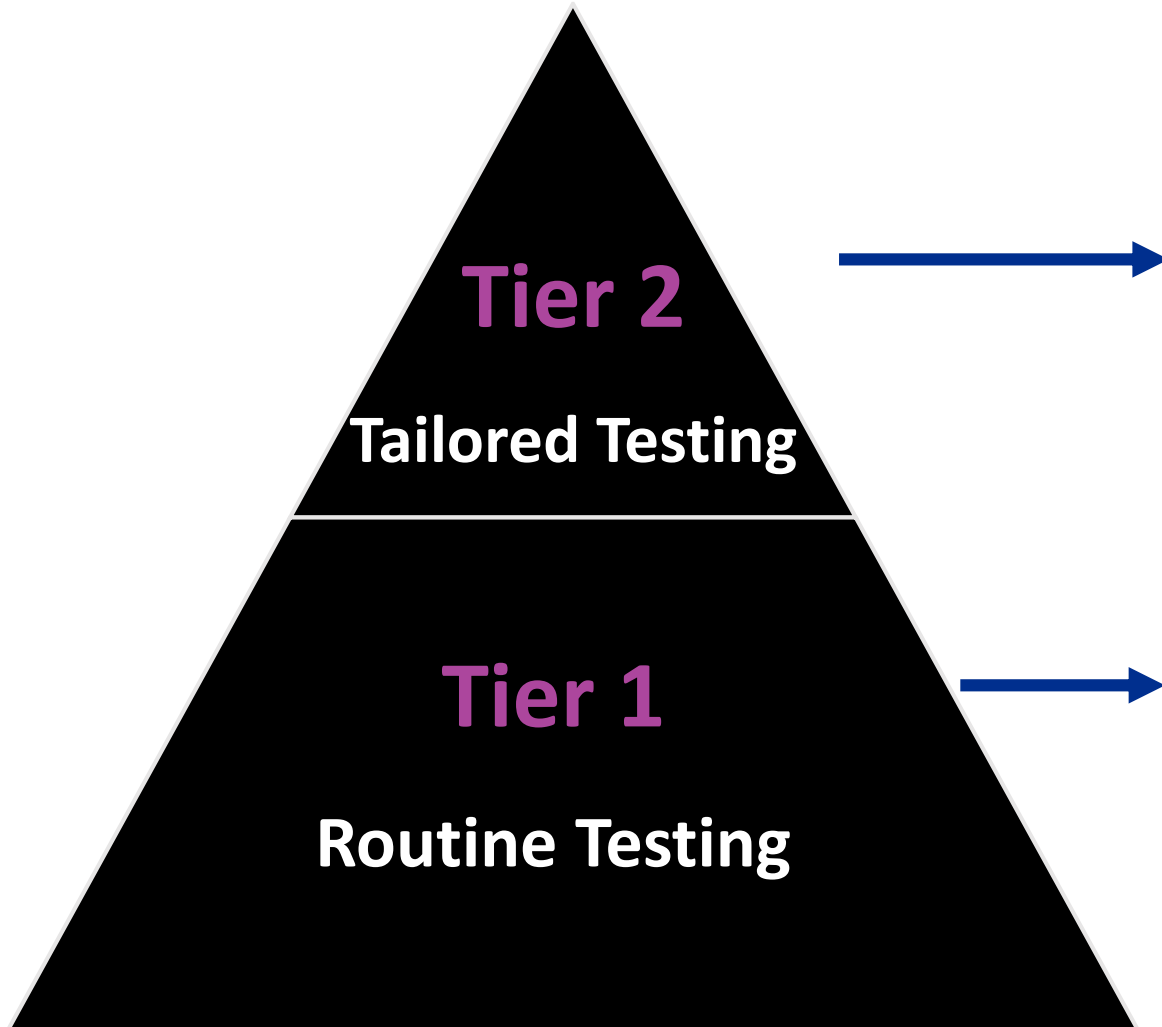
People at risk of HIV exposure **taking daily PrEP** and people with HIV **with sustained viral load suppression** do not acquire or transmit HIV.

Status Neutral Principles

- Positions testing as the gateway critical services, including critical behavioral health and social support services
- More patient-centered; focuses on engagement in care, rather than HIV status
- Reminds us that the outcome is basically the same
 - When someone with HIV is on treatment and maintains an undetectable viral load, they can't transmit the virus to their sex partners
 - When someone who is HIV-negative is taking PrEP as prescribed, they can't acquire the virus
- Helps to address the many stigmas associated with HIV and sexuality in general



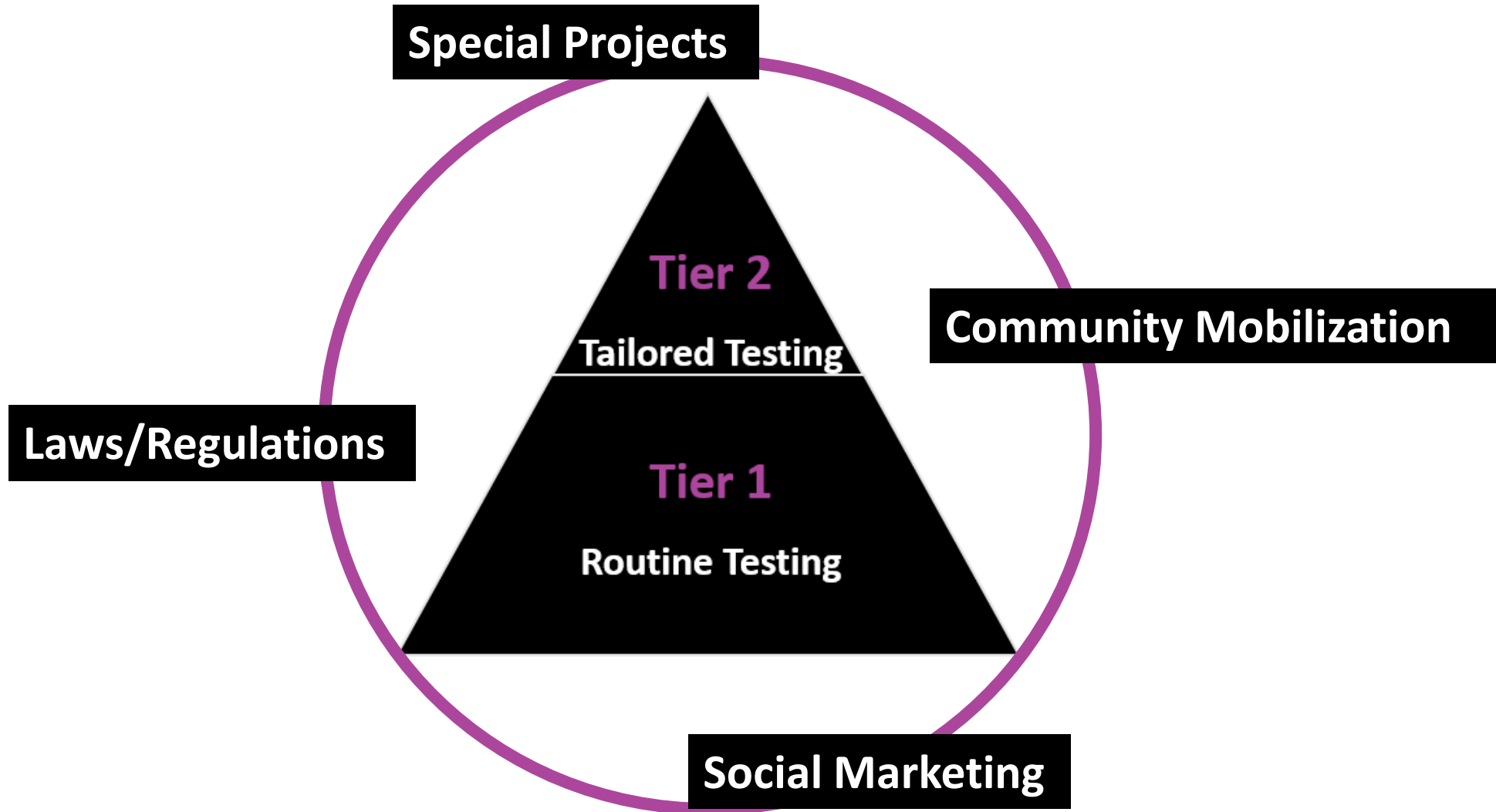
NYC's Approach to HIV Testing



1. Focus's on HIV testing in non-clinical, CBOs
2. Extends testing to people not accessing medical services
3. Allows testing to be offered in more affirming and accepting space
4. Usually grant funded

1. Leverages existing clinical structures citywide
2. Aims to offer HIV testing to all who enter a clinical setting and normalize routine offer of an HIV test
3. Usually funded through third-party payers
4. High volume

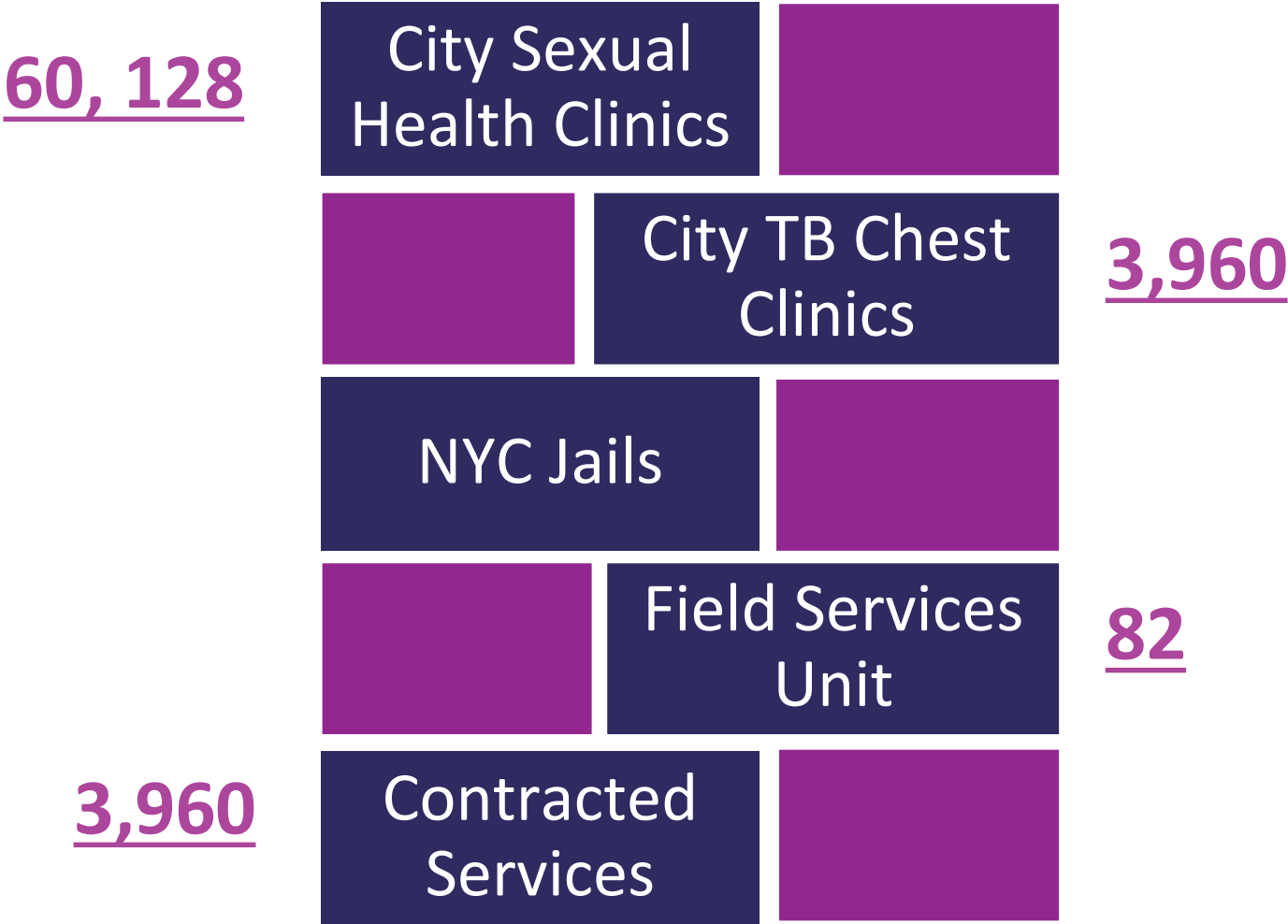
NYC's Approach to HIV Testing



HIV Testing Programs and Initiatives

Direct HIV Testing Services

2018 Total: 72,490 HIV Tests Conducted



Contracted HIV Testing Services

- Community based settings
 - Fund 16 CBOs to provide tailored testing to priority populations
 - Focuses heavily on outreach and HIV testing as the initial client engagement

Engaging Priority Populations



Focused Outreach

- Kiki/Ballroom scene
- LGBTQ persons of color networks
- Population specific shelters
- Health fairs
- Youth/LGBTQ events
- Gay clubs

Contracted HIV Testing Services

- Clinical settings
 - Fund a variety of clinics and hospitals to implement status neutral navigation
 - HIV testing is included but not primary funded activity



New York Knows Initiative

- Community mobilization initiative
- Launched on World AIDS Day 2014
- Supports HIV testing citywide
- Key HIV testing goals
 - Provide a voluntary HIV test for every New York City resident who has never been tested
 - Make HIV testing a routine part of health care in New York City



New York Knows Initiative

>220

Partners engaged

>2.4M

HIV tests conducted

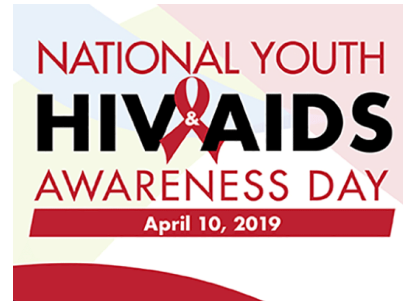
**NEW YORK
KNOWS**

WHAT'S YOUR HIV STATUS?

— stay safe **+** get care **?** get tested

New York Knows Initiative

As well as Awareness Day Commemoration



Community Events & All Partner Meetings



Social Marketi ng



¡Listos!



Dating Apps



BE HIV SURE

ONE NIGHT
CAN CHANGE YOUR HIV STATUS

BE SAFE, BE SURE, AND
GET TESTED FREQUENTLY

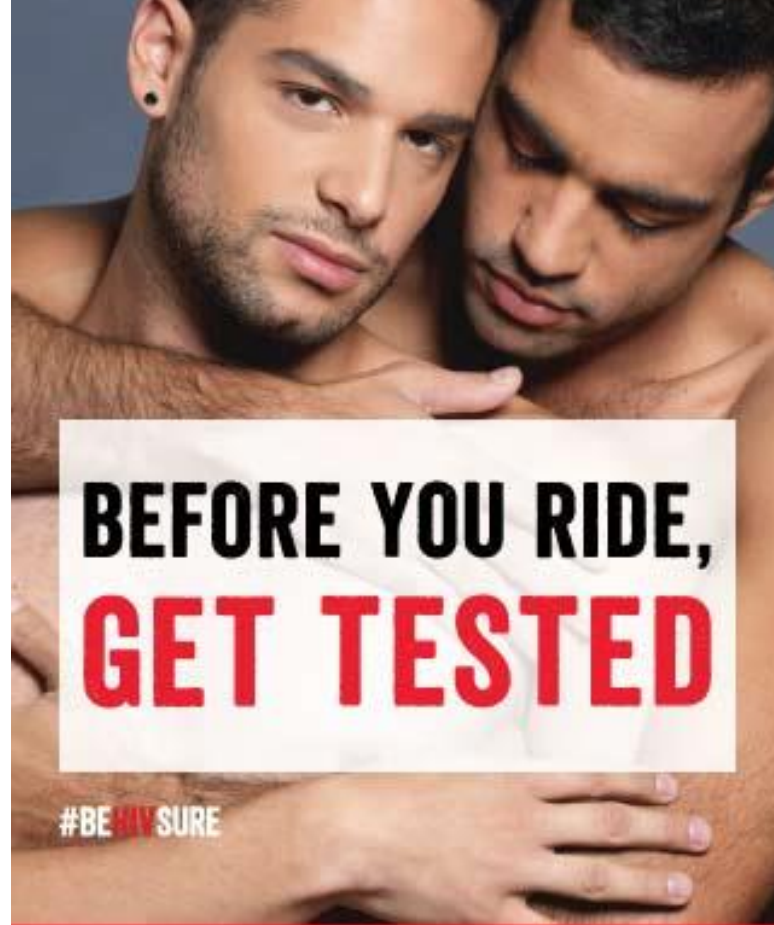
#BEHIVSURE

BEFORE YOU RIDE, GET TESTED

Free & Confidential HIV testing available
NOW at the SI Ferry Terminal.

Tap here for more info.

NYC Health | Bill de Blasio Mayor
Mary T. Bassett, MD, MPH Commissioner



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Special Projects



HIV Self-Testing (HIVST)

Goals

1. Improve access to HIV testing for priority populations in NYC
2. Decrease barriers to obtaining the HIVST
3. Increase awareness of prevention and care resources

Online Model

- Distributes HIVST to MSM and TGNC individuals who have sex with men
- Conducted entirely online – recruitment, eligibility assessment, kit order
- Tests sent at no cost, through the mail

CBO Model

- Partners with CBOs outreach and distribution
- Distribute HIVST to all NYC priority populations
- Test kits distributed at no cost directly from the CBO



Online Model (HTG)

- Launched in 2015, we distributed over 12,000 HIVST
- Participants were diverse NYC MSM and transgender individuals who were potentially at risk of HIV exposure
- Results suggest we may be reaching those not regularly connected to HIV prevention and care
 - On average, 17% never tested prior to the HTG
- Positive feedback on their experience and high acceptability of the HIVST method



Community Home Test Giveaway (CHTG)

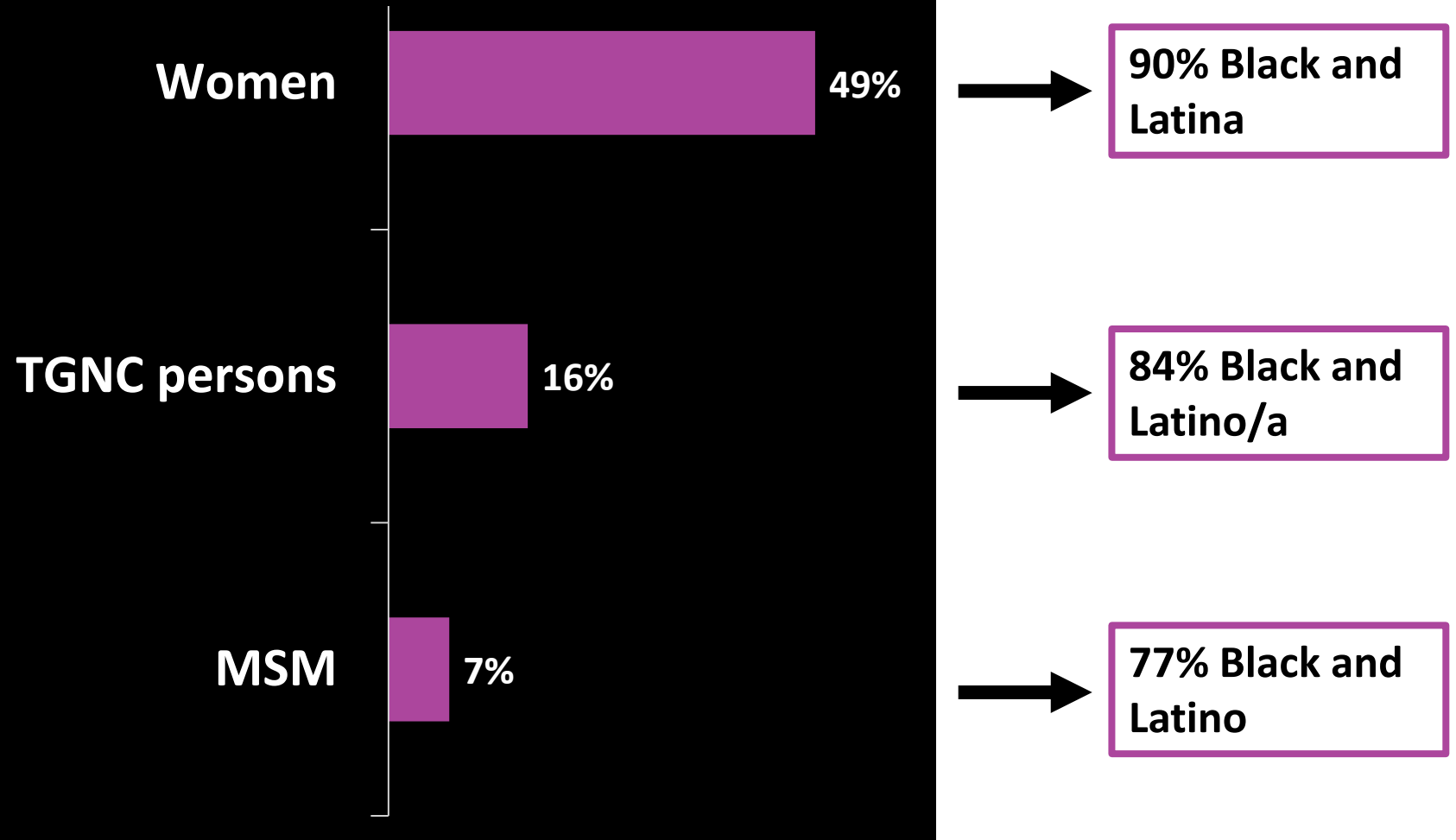
401

Kits and cards
distributed

Among participants who
responded to the
follow-up survey

- Nearly all liked the HIVST and preferred it to the clinic
- Majority tested sooner than they otherwise would have

Populations Reached



Innovative Pilot Programs: Meeting clients where they are

- Pharmacy testing initiative
 - 2016 pilot partnered with a large commercial pharmacy and several HIV testing agencies
 - Provided free HIV testing within two retail locations once a week for a year
 - Locations selected based on HIV burden
 - Offers an alternative space outside of HIV prevention specific CBOs
- Barbershop health coalition
 - Provided a microgrant funding award to a barber academy
 - Trains individuals on Rikers island to become barbers and health ambassadors
 - Promotes conversations about HIV testing at the barbers shops
 - Provides free HIV testing vouchers to clients at partner clinics



Looking Ahead

- Continue to leverage HIV testing as the gateway to status neutral service provision
 - HIV test is not the endgame, but should prompt an action
- Continue to explore innovative ways to reach people
 - With declining number of new HIV diagnoses citywide it is more challenging to identify persons with HIV who are unaware of HIV status
 - Focus on identifying people who would benefit most from testing
 - Those needing more frequent testing
 - Those with limited access to programs tailored to them
- Support systems level change for increased routinization in medical settings
 - Slow implementation of routine screening, despite changes in law
 - Important for HIV testing to be woven into the fabric of clinical care

Ending the Epidemic



NYC

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- Bureau of HIV
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Questions?

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