

The European MSM Internet Sex Survey (EMIS)

DETERMINANTS OF HAVING NEVER BEEN TESTED FOR HIV AMONGST MIGRANT MEN WHO HAVE SEX WITH MEN IN SPAIN

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BACKGROUND

- In Spain, immigration is a relatively recent phenomenon.
- In 2012, 35% of new HIV infections occurred in foreign people.
- New HIV diagnoses occur predominantly among MSM (51% vs other groups).
- Among HIV-positive MSM, 33% are migrants (EMIS,2010)
- Undiagnosed HIV presents great potential for the spread of infection.
- No research has specifically focused on migrant MSM who have never been tested for HIV.

OBJECTIVES

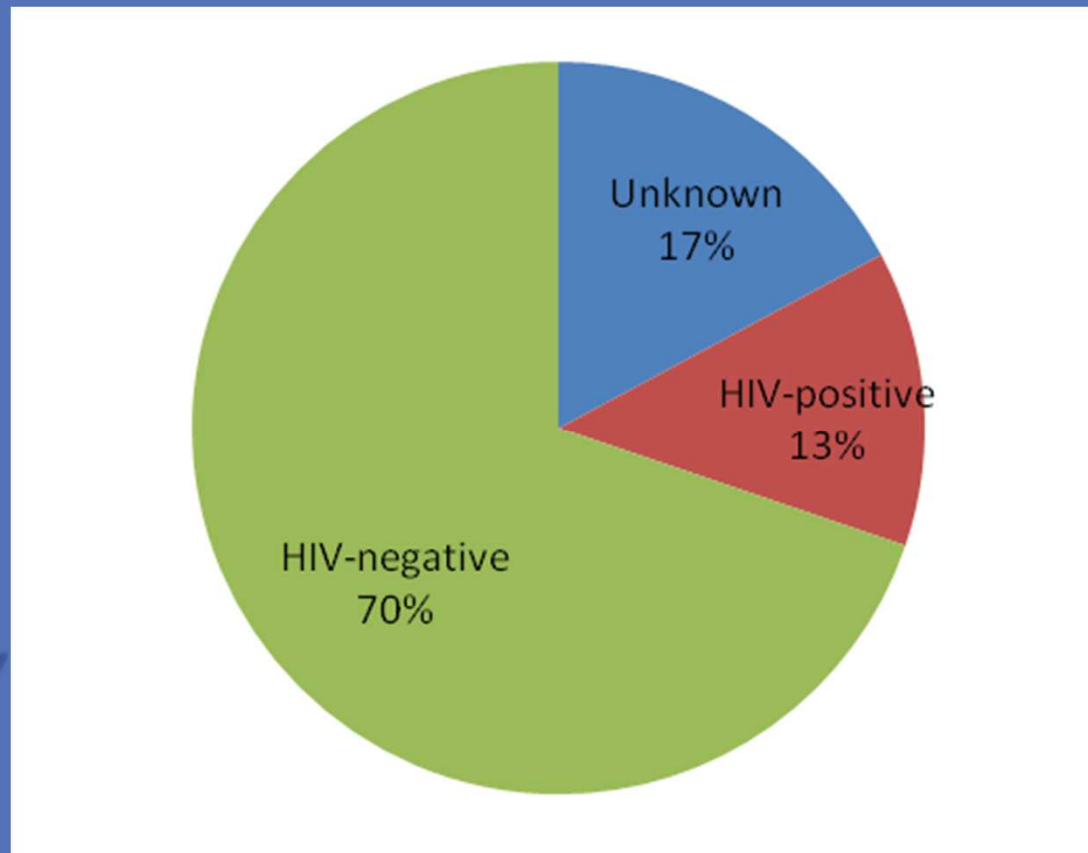
- To describe the socio-demographic profile of migrant MSM who have never been tested for HIV in Spain.
- To analyse factors associated with never testing for HIV among migrant MSM

METHODS (Weatherburn et al., 2013)

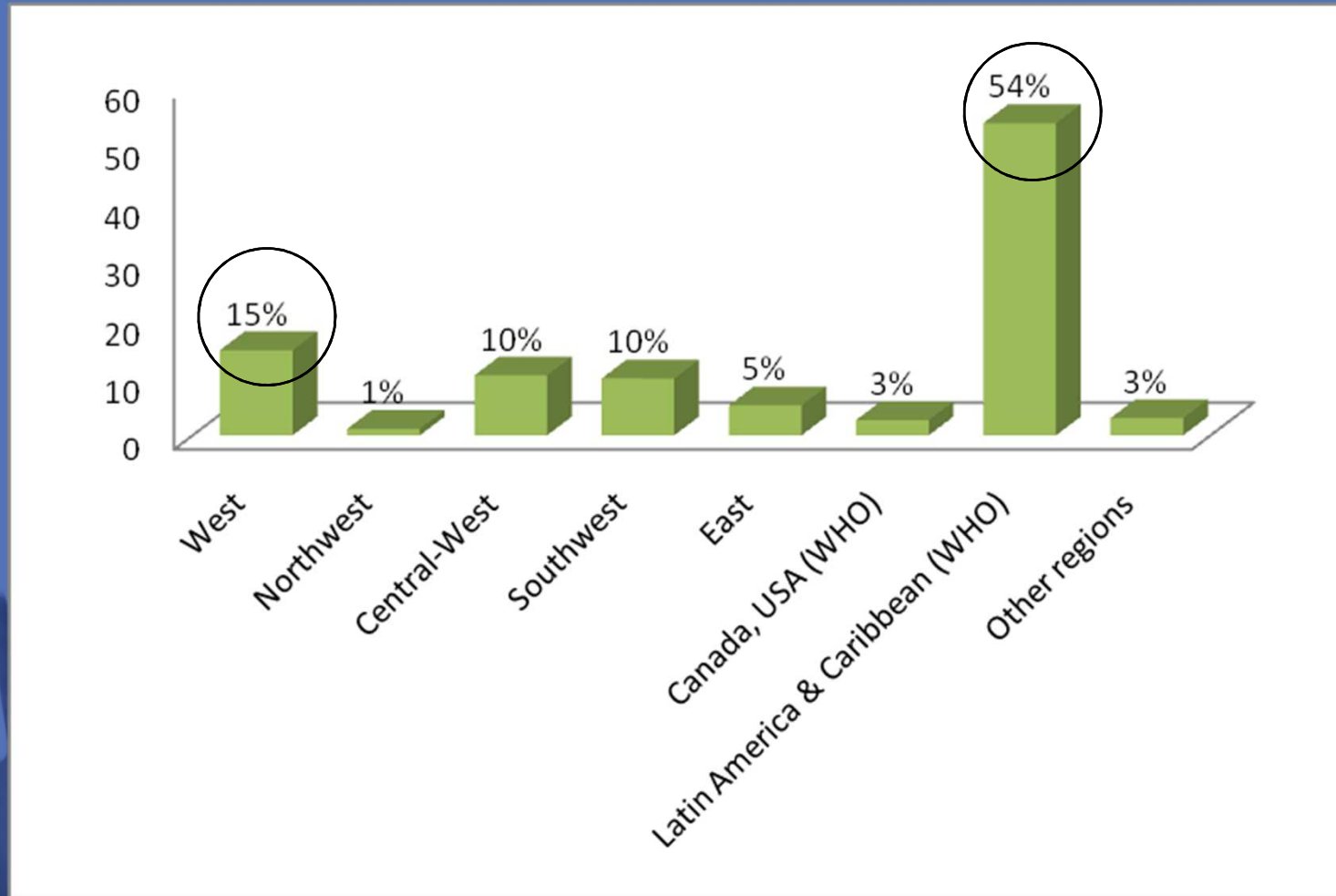
- Collective approach including diverse partners (governmental, academic and NGO) and social media.
- Online questionnaire in 25 European languages.
- Participants were reached mainly through national and pan-European web sites.
- It was online for 3 months (June through August 2010)
- Migrants were defined as men who were not born in Spain
- Final sample for analysis in Spain: 13,111 men.
- Ch-square and multivariate analyses were conducted to assess characteristics associated with never testing for HIV.

RESULTS

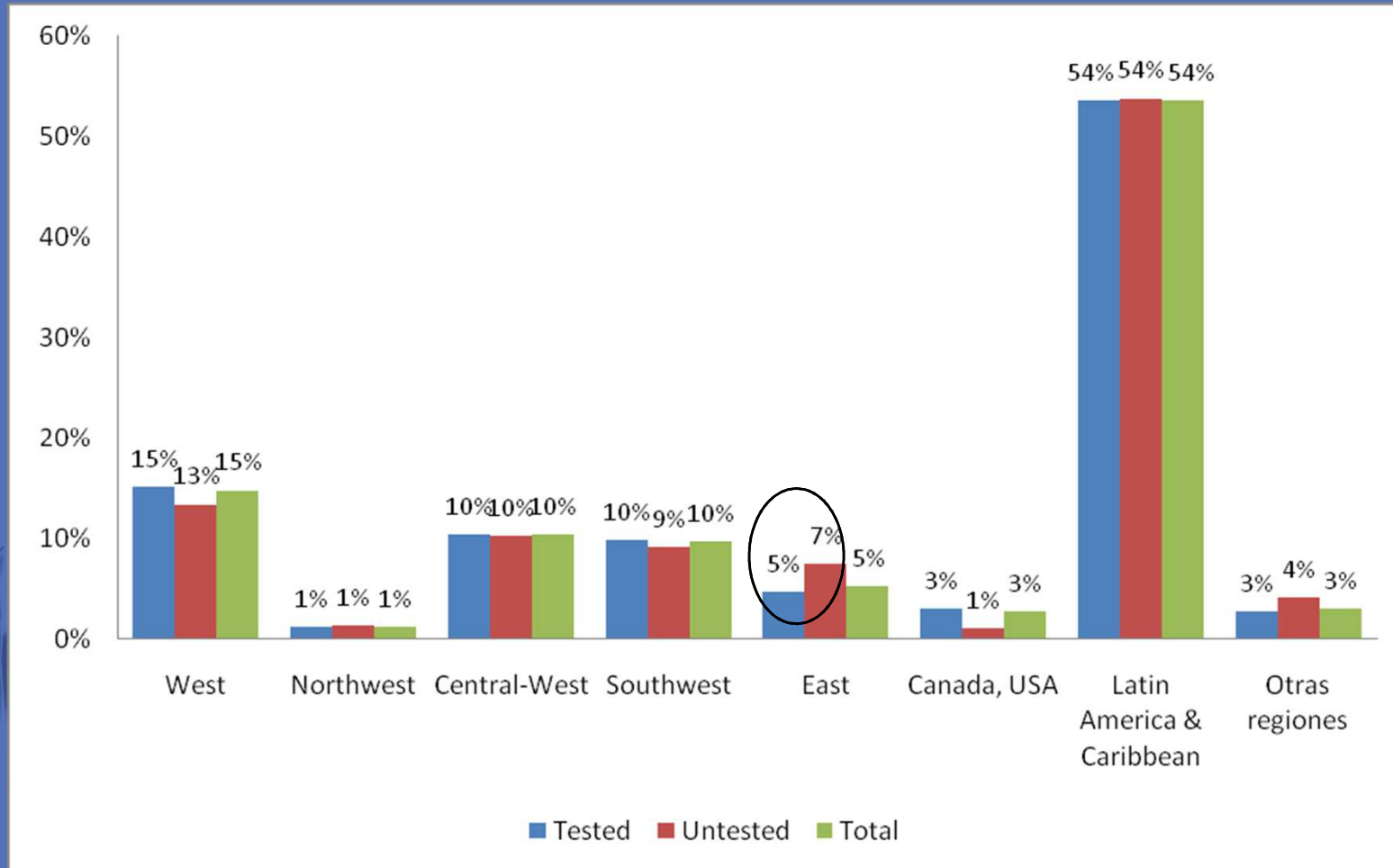
Proportion of migrant respondents according to HIV serostatus (n=2869)



Region of origin

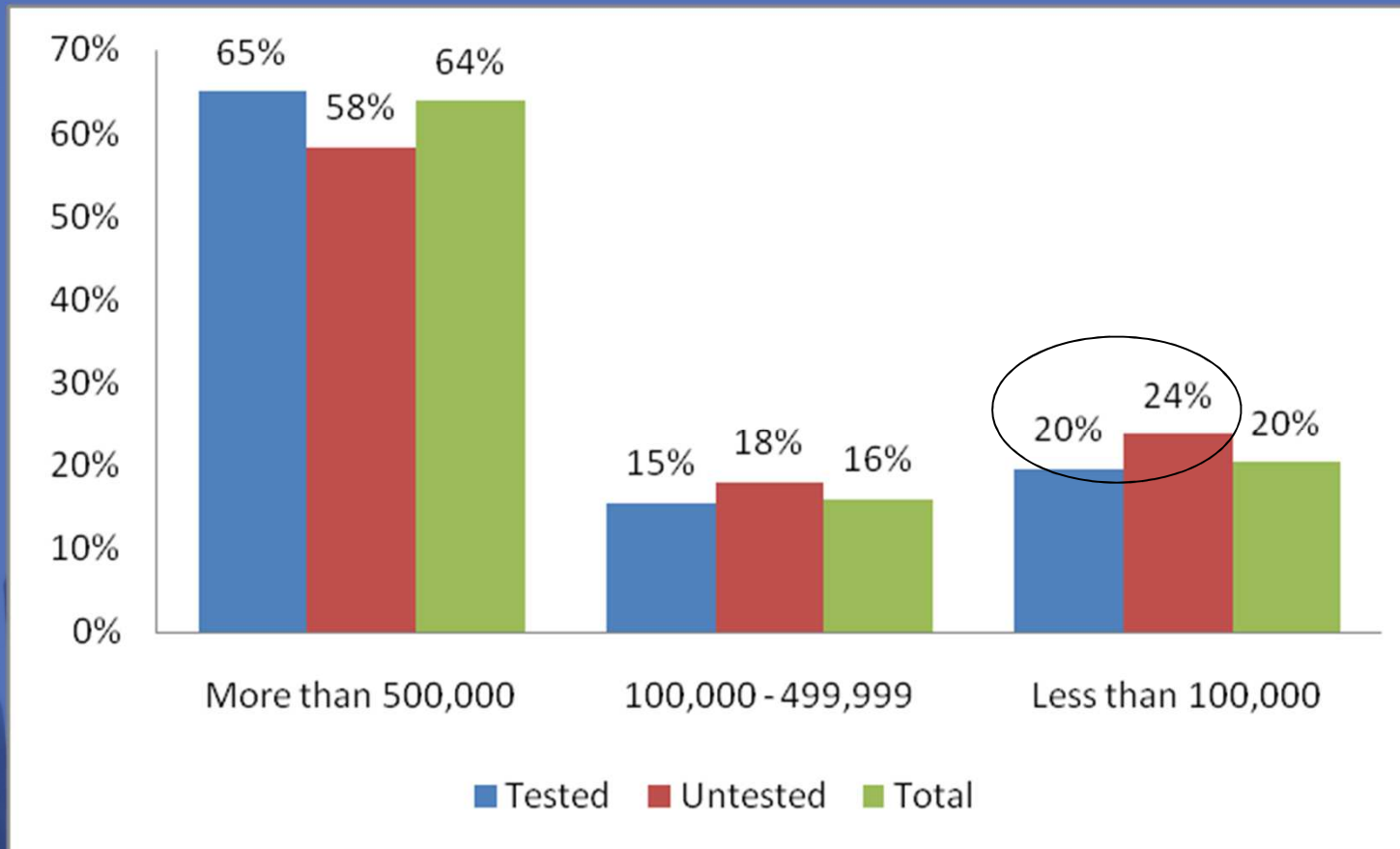


HIV testing status by region of origin



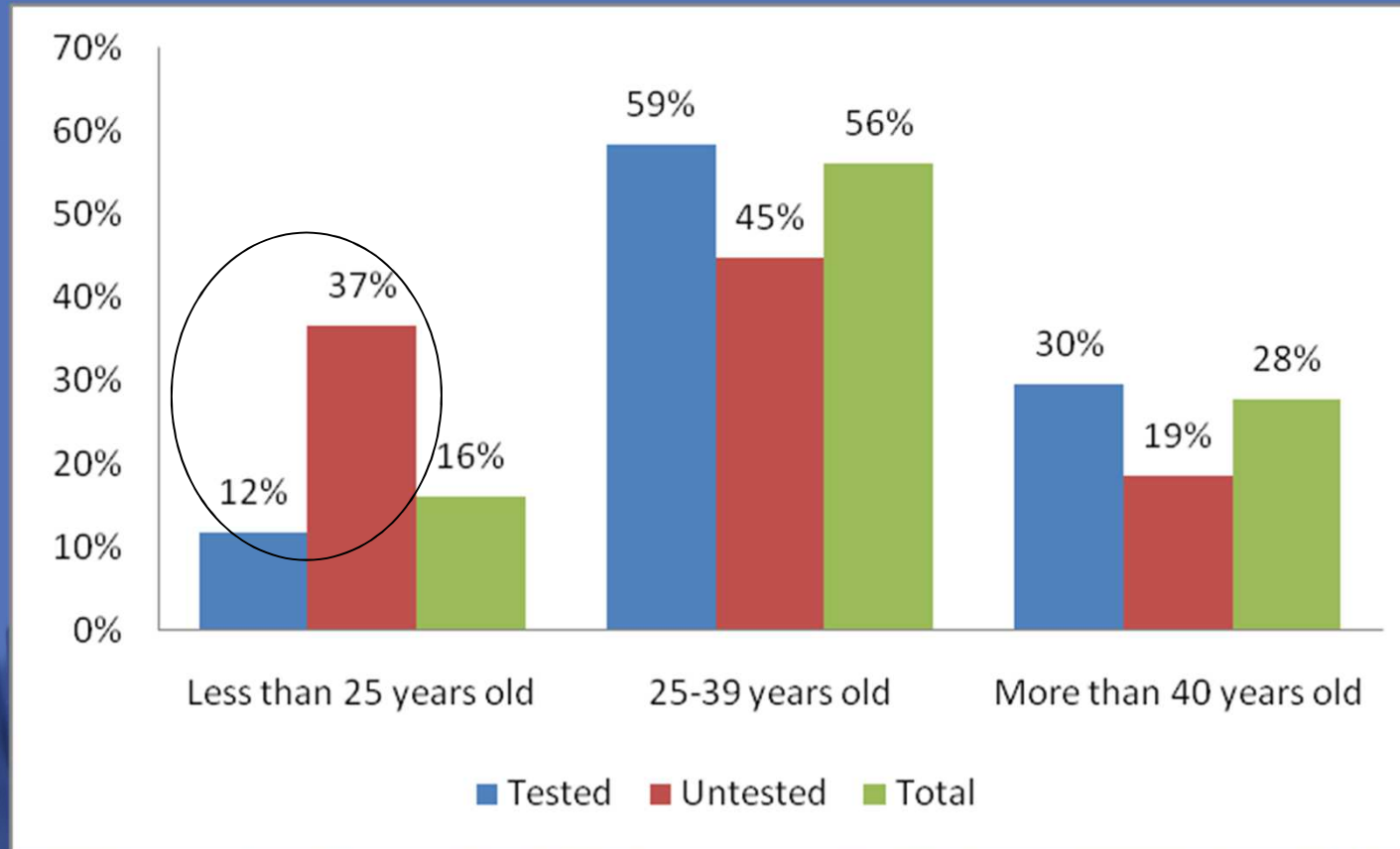
p<0.05

HIV testing status by population of town of residence



p<0.05

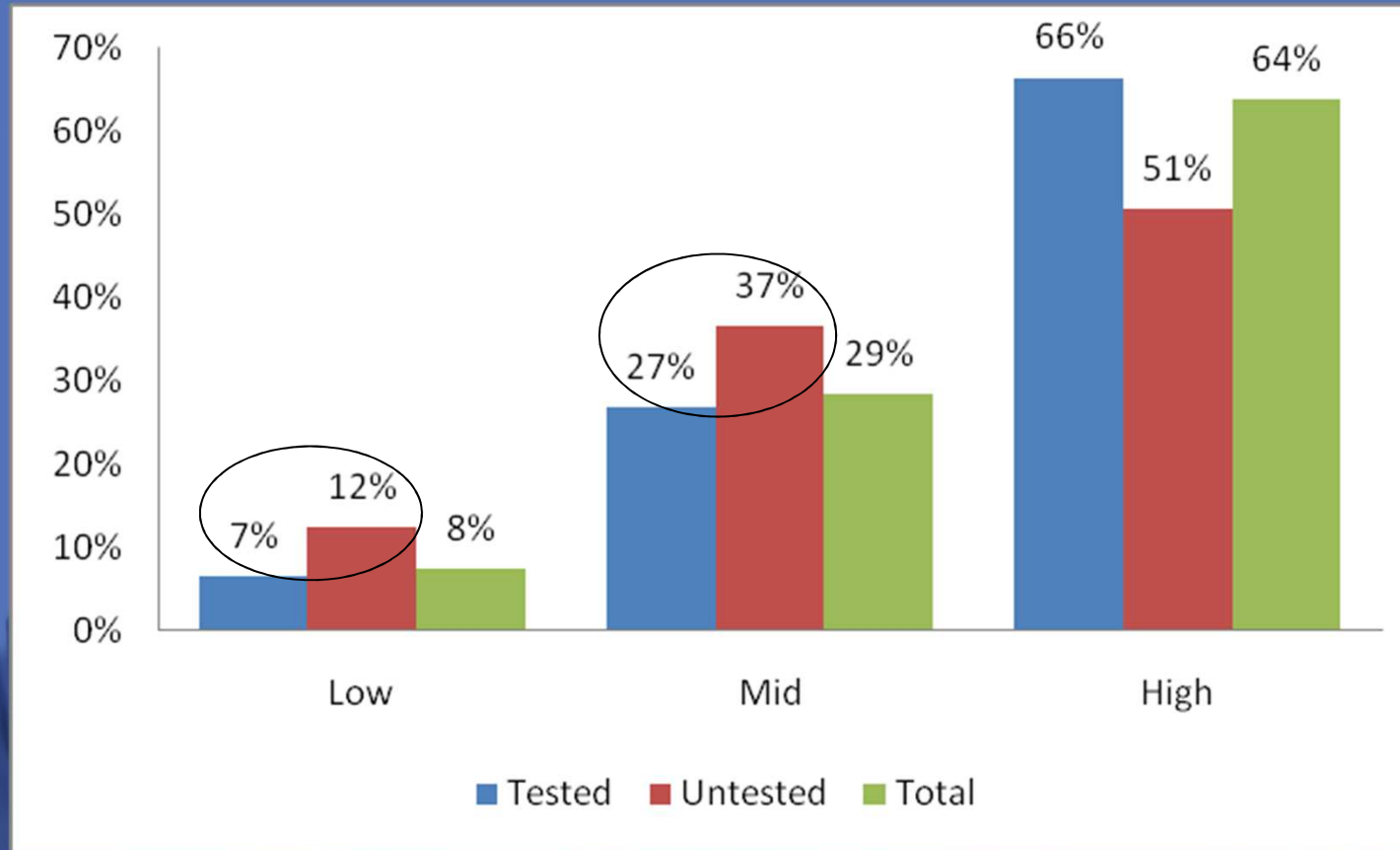
HIV testing status by age group



p<0.001

Median: **Tested: 34; Untested: 28; Total: 33**

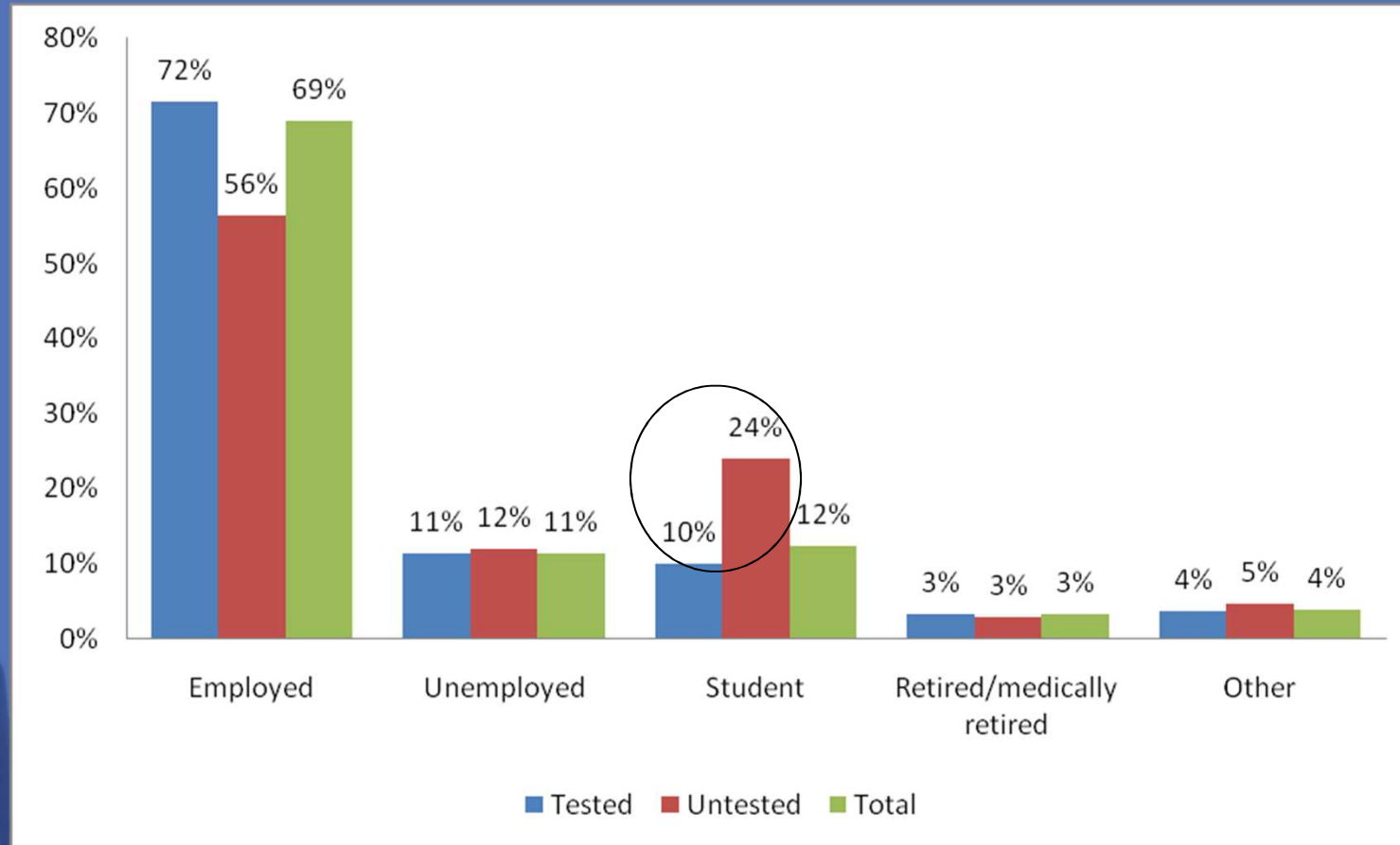
HIV testing status by Education level



Low: ISCED 1 and 2
Medium: ISCED 3 and 4
High: ISCED 5 and 6

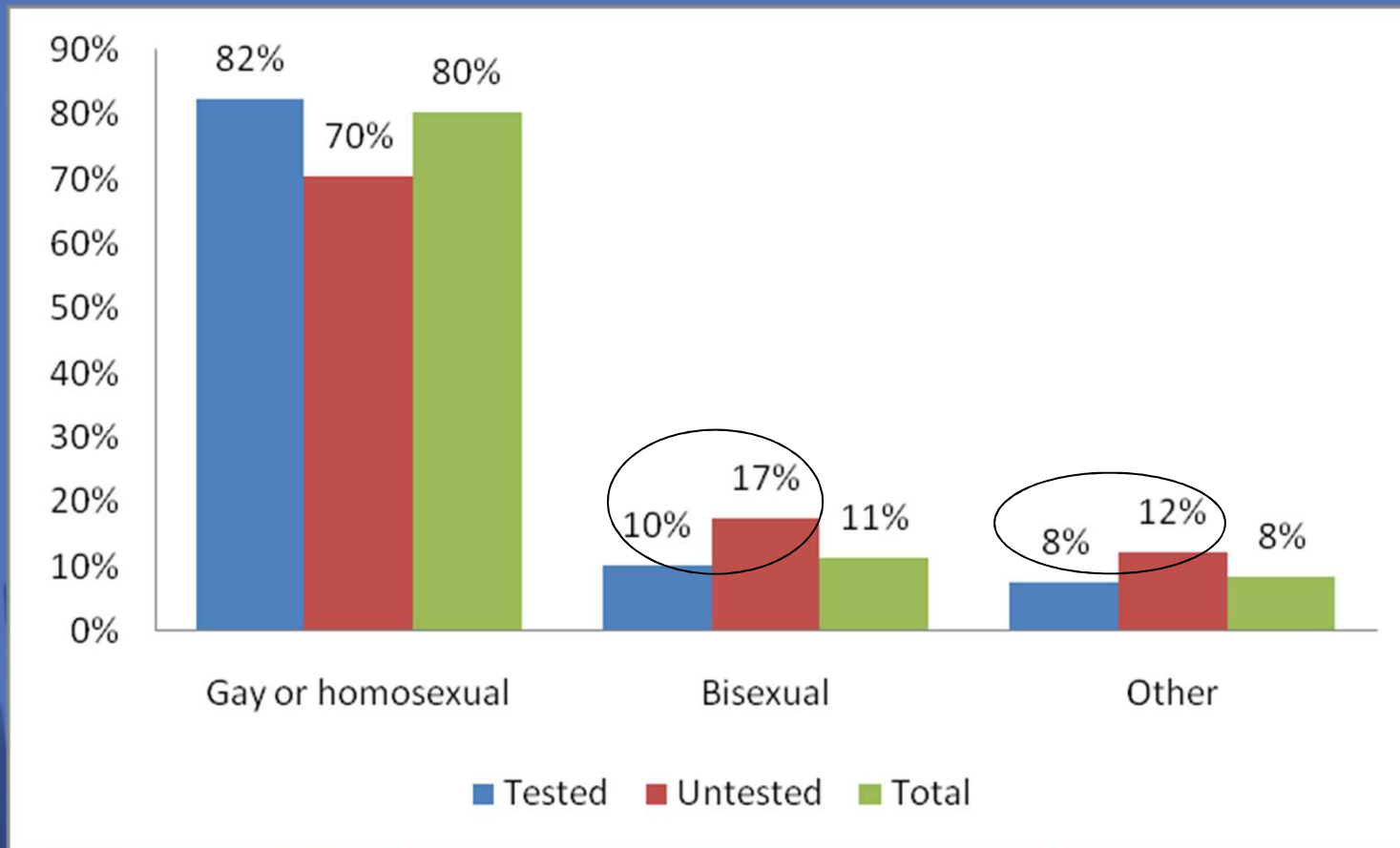
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HIV testing status by employment



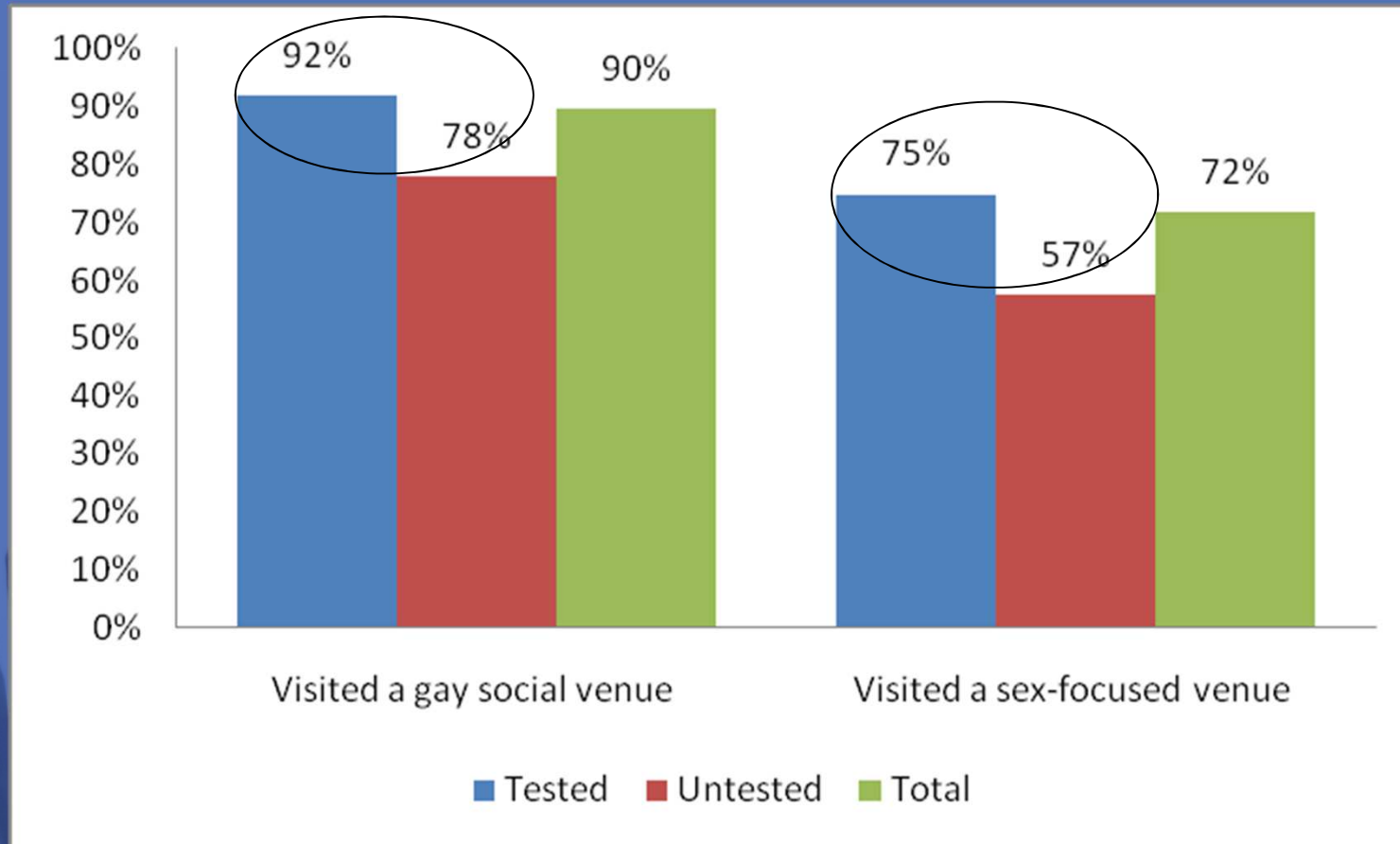
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HIV testing status by sexual identity



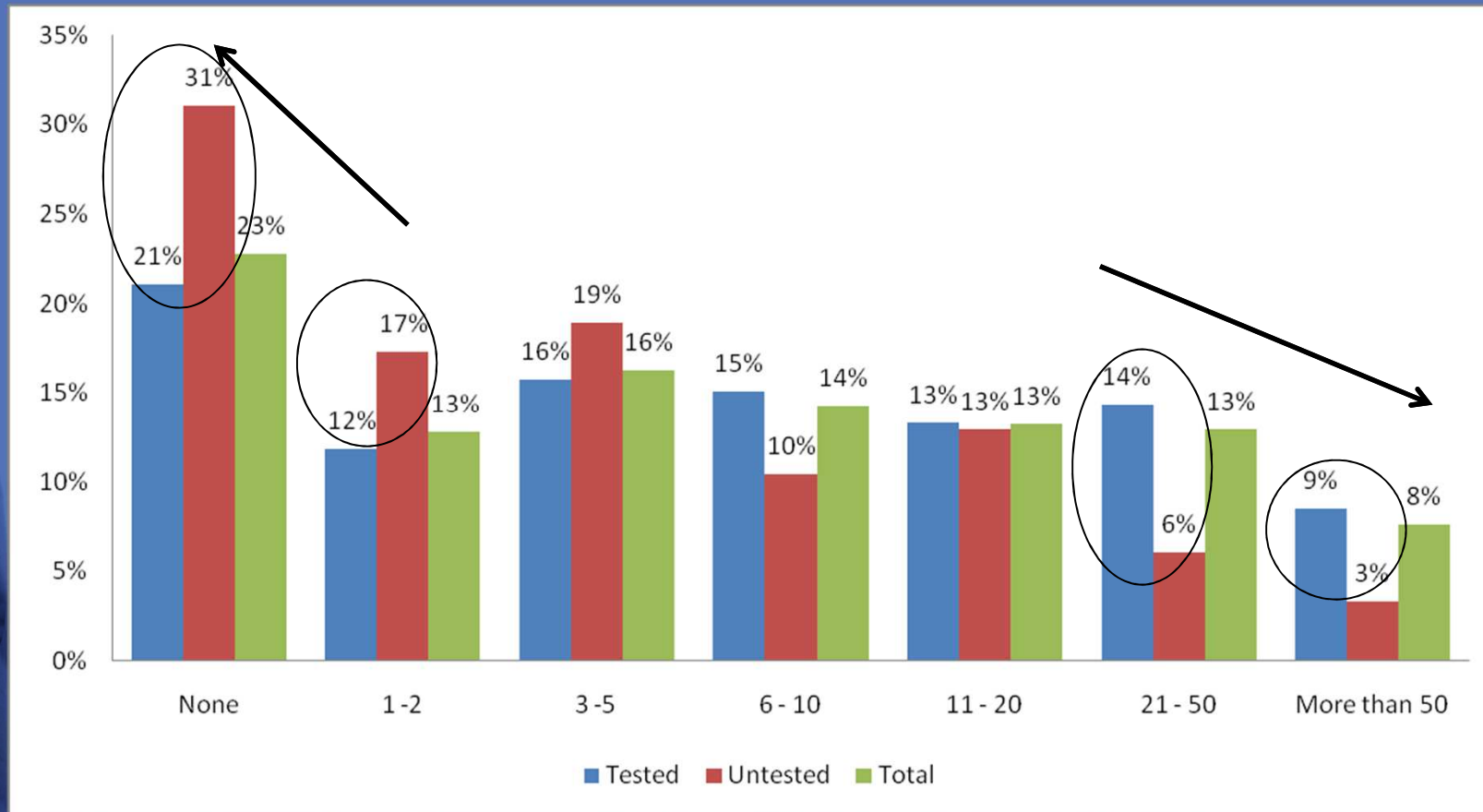
p<0.001

HIV testing status by MSM who visited a gay venue in the last 12 months



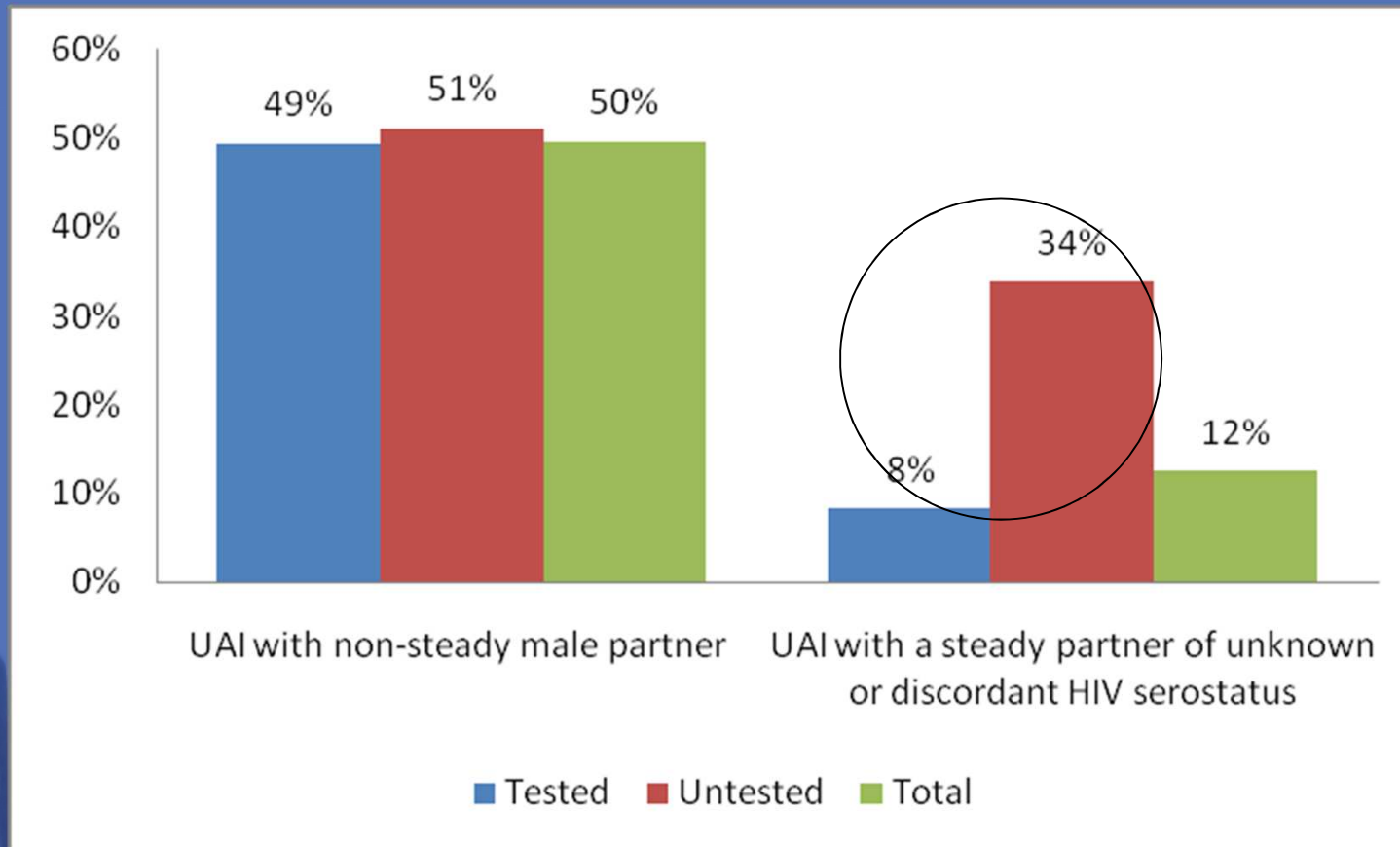
$p < 0.001$

Number of non-steady partners in the last 12 months



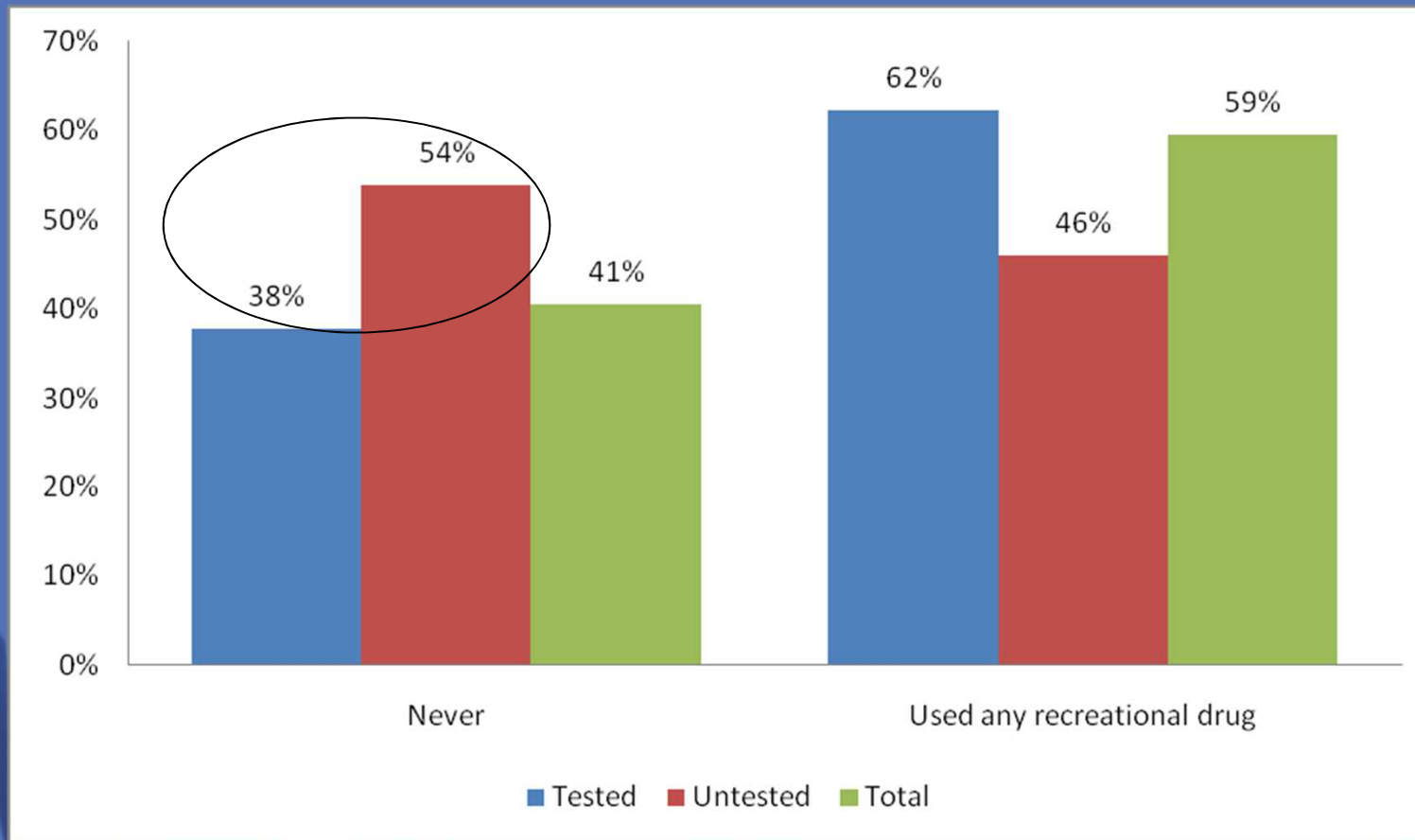
$p < 0.001$

UAI and HIV risk by type of partner in the last 12 months



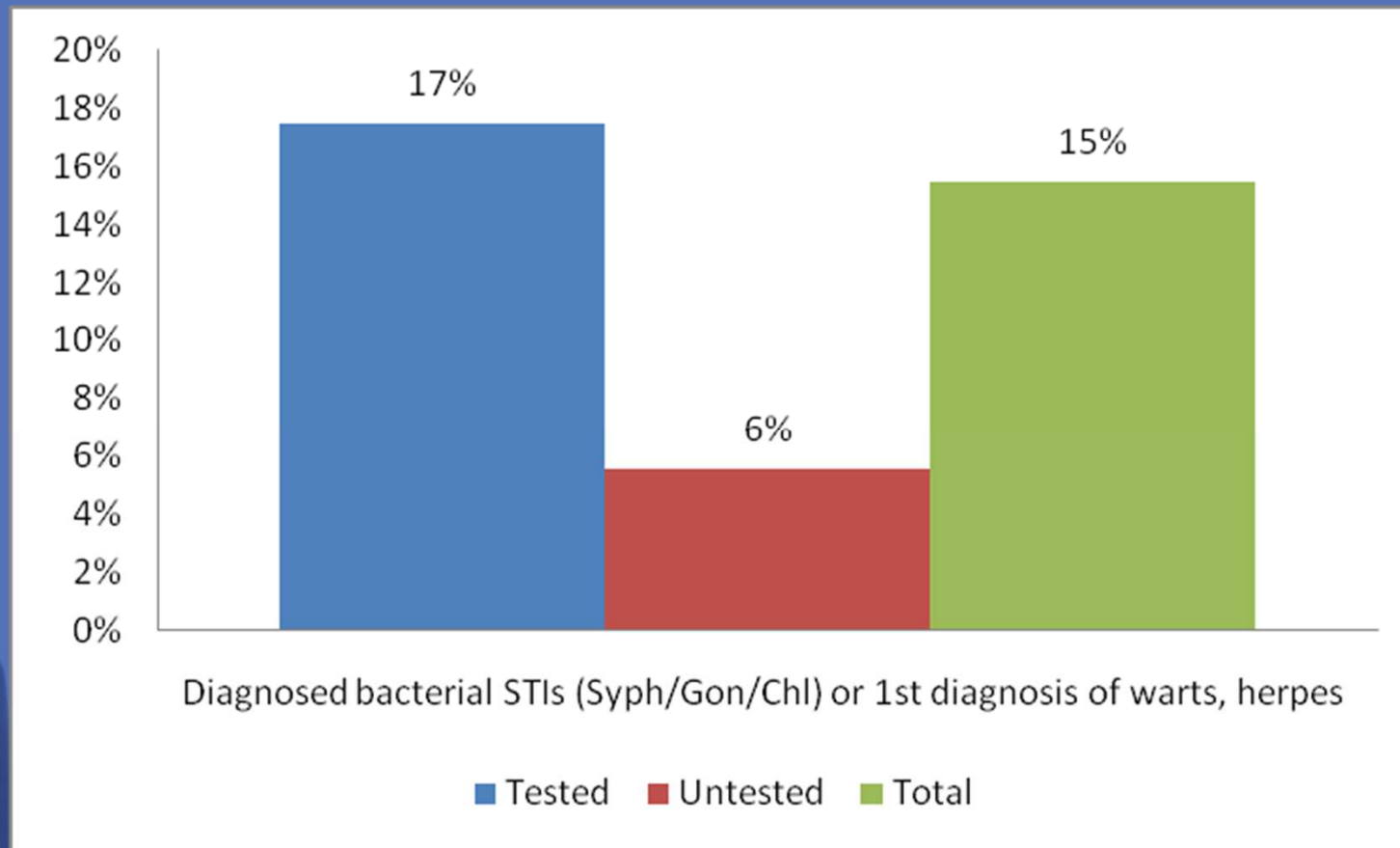
p<0.001

Drug use in the last 12 months



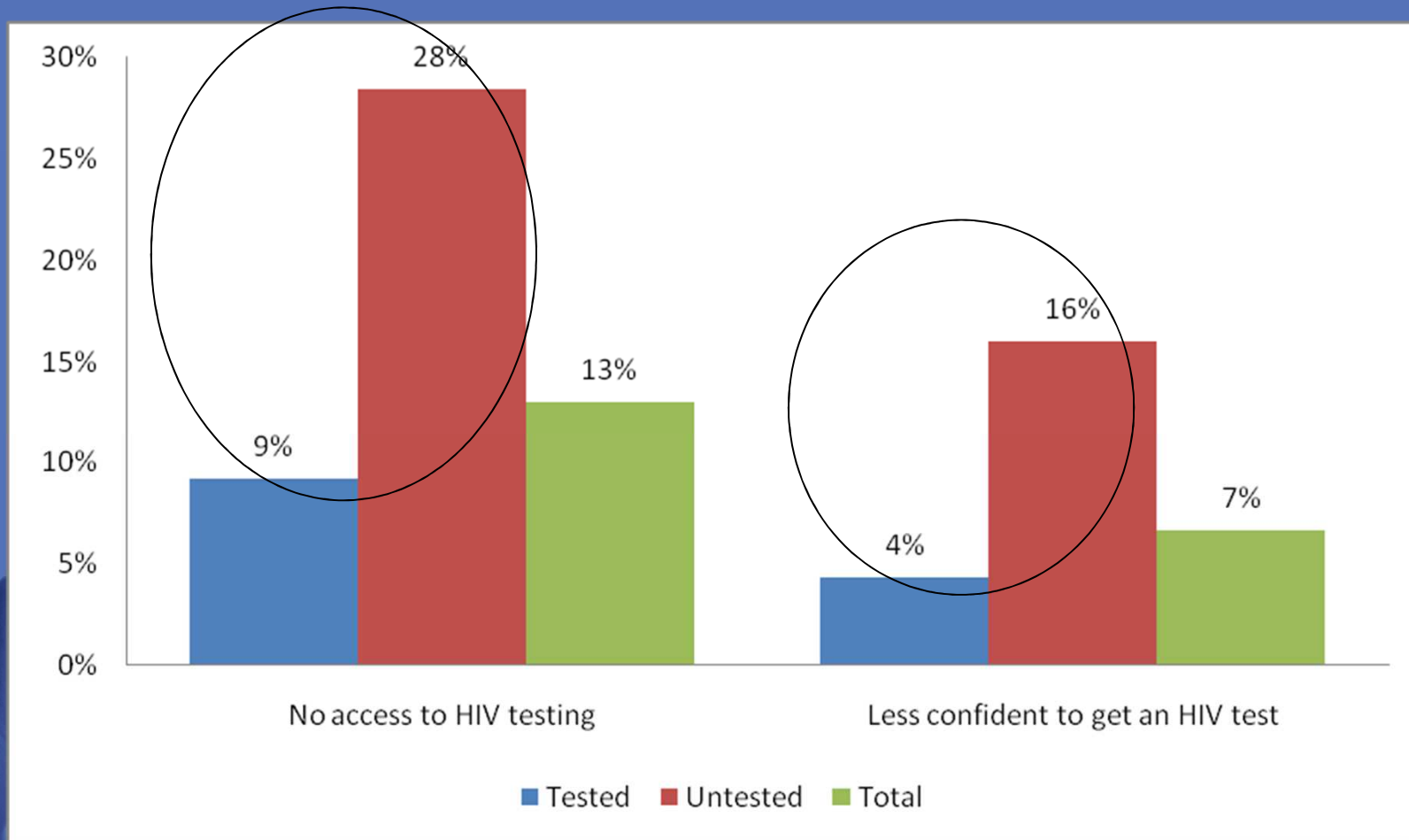
p<0.001

Diagnosis of any STI in the last 12 months



$p < 0.001$

Perceived access to HIV testing

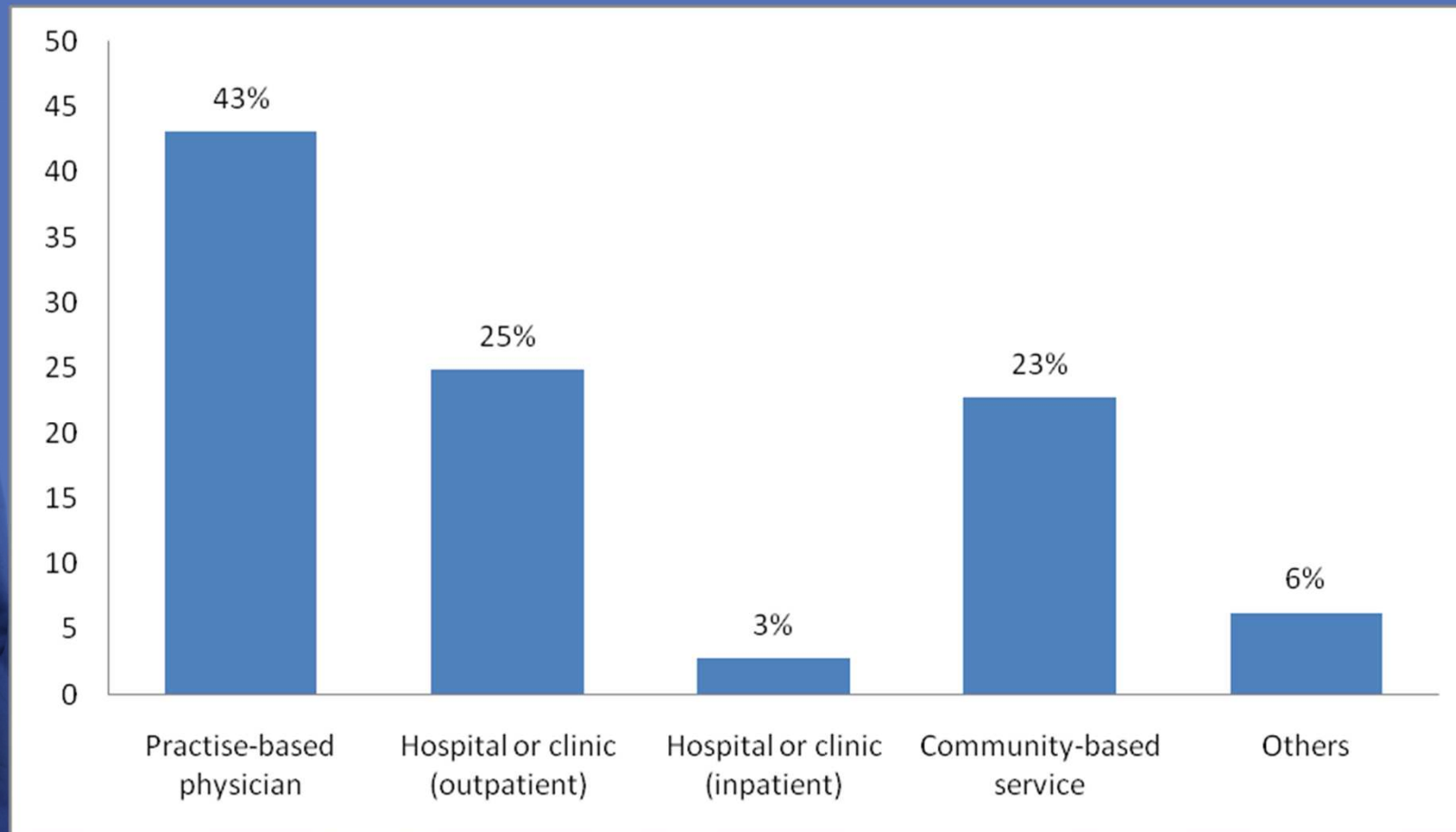


p<0.001

Factors associated with never testing for HIV

VARIABLES	aOR	95%CI
Being less than 25 years old.	1.99	1.31 - 3.04
Being out to no-one or only few people.	1.81	1.35 - 2.44
Not having a steady partner.	2.00	1.47 - 2.72
Having had UAI with a steady partner of unknown or discordant HIV serostatus in last 12 months	8.35	5.84 - 11.93
Not having been diagnosed with any STI in the last 12 months.	1.78	1.05 - 3.02
Never tested for STIs other than HIV	7.34	5.45 - 9.88
Having less than 3 non-steady partners in last 12 months:		
None	2.18	1.10 - 4.30
1 -2 non-steady partners	2.21	1.09 - 4.48

Where are migrant MSM having HIV testing? (n=2,360)



Conclusions

- The profile of the MSM who had never been tested for HIV indicates that most of them are hard to reach and therefore may not have access to prevention programs.
- Having never been tested is related to not having had risk behaviors (however, non-testers involved in high risk behaviours with steady-partners).
- Interventions should promote *negotiated security* strategies amongst men couples.

Recommendations

- Increasing access to and knowledge of HIV testing sites is needed.
- Visits to health care providers (GP) can be used to promote testing among MSM.
- Prevention messages should recommend HIV testing at least annually for sexually active MSM.

Thank you for your attention!

More information @
www.emis-project.eu

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