

Characterizing the Sexual Behavior of Labor Mexican Migrants: Practices, Partners, Contexts and HIV Risk

Ana Martinez-Donate, PhD

Department of Population Health Sciences

UW-Madison

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Purpose

- ▶ To estimate the rate of HIV among a probability-based sample of deported Mexican labor migrants in Tijuana, Mexico
- ▶ To estimate the last 12-month prevalence of risky sexual practices for HIV infection
- ▶ To characterize the sexual behavior, sexual partners, and contexts of sexual practices in the U.S. among this population



Background: Migration and HIV Risk

- ▶ Migration plays a role in the transmission and relocation of diseases across regions
- ▶ Sending, receiving, and intermediate communities face health threats and health care challenges
- ▶ International labor migration has been linked to increased HIV risk in different parts of the world
- ▶ Sociocultural, economic, and political factors contribute to behavioral changes

(UNAIDS, 2008; Amirkhanian, 2010; Magis-Rodriguez, 2004; Coffee, 2004; Apostolopoulos et al., 2006; Munoz-Laboy et al., 2007; Magis-Rodriguez, 2010)



Background: The Deported Population

- ▶ HIV risk may be greatest among unauthorized labor migrants
- ▶ In addition to 7 million unauthorized Mexican migrants, high volume of apprehensions, repatriations, and re-entries:
 - ▶ In 2009, approximately 500,000 apprehensions in US-Mexico border region
 - ▶ In 2010, 445,882 events of repatriation from the U.S. to the North border region of Mexico
- ▶ Deported may be the most vulnerable among unauthorized Mexican migrants



The Deported Population (Cont'd)

- ▶ Lack of accurate HIV risk estimates for this segment of labor migrant population
- ▶ Previous survey found high rates of HIV risk practices, no HIV infection
- ▶ Small sample size, year of study limit generalizability
- ▶ This study examines this question with a larger sample of migrants deported to Tijuana, Mexico
 - ▶ 22% of apprehensions
 - ▶ 28.5% of repatriations

(Martinez-Donate et al., 2005; Rangel et al., 2006; US Department of Homeland Security, 2011; Instituto Nacional de Migracion, 2010)



Methods

- ▶ Cross-sectional, probability survey conducted outside deportation station in Tijuana, Mexico (N = 693)
- ▶ Migrants returned via deportation from August through November, 2009
- ▶ A multistage, random sampling design
- ▶ Anonymous questionnaire on sociodemographics, migration history, HIV-risk behaviors
- ▶ On-site rapid HIV testing and laboratory confirmatory testing
- ▶ Response rate: 89% (survey); 79% HIV test.



Demographics & Migration History

	Weighted Population (N=36,971)
Age (years), Mean (SD)	31.8 (9.2)
Completed high school or higher, %	13.7
Married/cohabiting, %	49.3
Lived with spouse/partner while in the U.S., %	35.0
Years spent in the US during lifetime, Mean (SD)	9.2 (9.8)
Crossed the border illegally, %	96.4
Previous history of deportation, %	53.8
Time spent in the US during last 12 months, %	
• 24 hours or less	18.4
• Less than 6 months	14.6
• Less than 12 months	21.4
• 12 months	45.7
Plans to return to the U.S., %	70.5



Rates of HIV Infection

	Sample % (95% CI)	Weighted Population % (95% CI)
Males		
• Estimate	1.23 (0.32—2.14)	0.80 (0.20—1.40)
• Lower bound estimate*	1.09 (0.28—1.90)	0.73 (0.18—1.28)

CI: Confidence Interval; NA: Not applicable.

* Assuming all non-tested participants were HIV negative.

Last 12-month Sexual Risk Practices

	Weighted Population (N=36,971)
Number of vaginal or anal sex partners, %	
• Zero	14.2
• One	48.7
• 2-5	29.0
• 6 or more	8.2
Unprotected vaginal or anal sex, %	62.6
Anal sex with same-sex partners, %	1.1
Unprotected anal sex with same-sex partners,* %	18.2
Vaginal or anal sex with casual partners, %	27.0
Unprotected vaginal or anal sex with casual partners,* %	56.7
Vaginal or anal sex with commercial sex worker, %	9.4
Unprotected vaginal or anal sex with commercial sex worker,* %	41.5

* Among those who had sex with this type of partners



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* Among those who had sex with this type of partners



Last Sexual Event in the U.S.: Behaviors

	Weighted Population (N=22,123)
Vaginal sex	93.5
Used a condom for vaginal sex	26.1
Insertive anal sex	12.1
Used a condom for insertive anal sex	16.5
Receptive anal sex	0.3
Used a condom for receptive anal sex	0.0
Gave oral sex	21.6
Used a condom for given oral sex	14.4
Received oral sex	28.4
Used a condom for received oral sex	13.0



Last Sexual Event in the U.S.: Behaviors

	Weighted Population (N=22,123)	U.S. adults (NSSHB, 2009)
Vaginal sex	93.5	80.2
Used a condom for vaginal sex	26.1	
Insertive anal sex	12.1	6.5
Used a condom for insertive anal sex	16.5	
Receptive anal sex	0.3	2.4
Used a condom for receptive anal sex	0.0	
Gave oral sex	21.6	37.0
Used a condom for given oral sex	14.4	
Received oral sex	28.4	43.9
Used a condom for received oral sex	13.0	



Last Sexual Event in the U.S.: Behaviors (Cont.)

	Weighted Population (N=22,123)
Vaginal sex	93.5
Used a condom for vaginal sex	26.1
Insertive anal sex	12.1
Used a condom for insertive anal sex	16.5
Receptive anal sex	0.3
Used a condom for receptive anal sex	0.0
Gave oral sex	21.6
Used a condom for given oral sex	14.4
Received anal sex	28.4
Used a condom for received anal sex	13.0



Last Sexual Event in the U.S.: Behaviors (Cont.)

	Weighted Population (N=22,123)	U.S. adults (NSSHB, 2009)
Vaginal sex	93.5	
Used a condom for vaginal sex	26.1	24.7
Insertive anal sex	12.1	
Used a condom for insertive anal sex	16.5	26.5
Receptive anal sex	0.3	
Used a condom for receptive anal sex	0.0	44.1
Gave oral sex	21.6	
Used a condom for given oral sex	14.4	
Received anal sex	28.4	
Used a condom for received anal sex	13.0	



Last Sexual Event in the U.S.: Partners

	Weighted Population (N=22,123)
Gender of the last sexual partner, %	
• A man	0.2
• A man who dresses and acts like a woman	0.2
• A woman	97.7
• None of the above	2.0
Type of partner, %	
• Stable partner	76.1
• Causal partner	18.7
• Sex worker	5.2

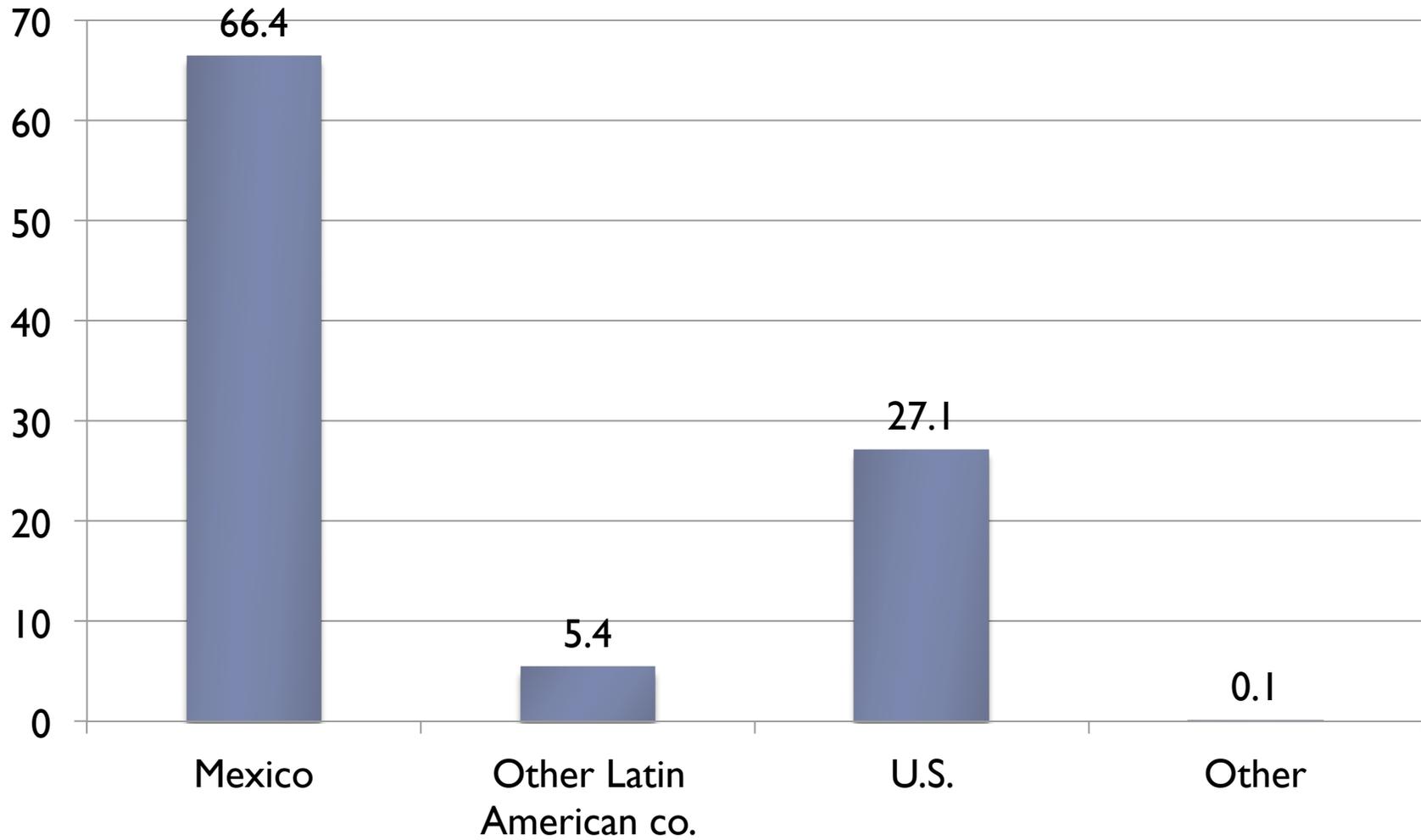


Last Sexual Event in the U.S.: Partners

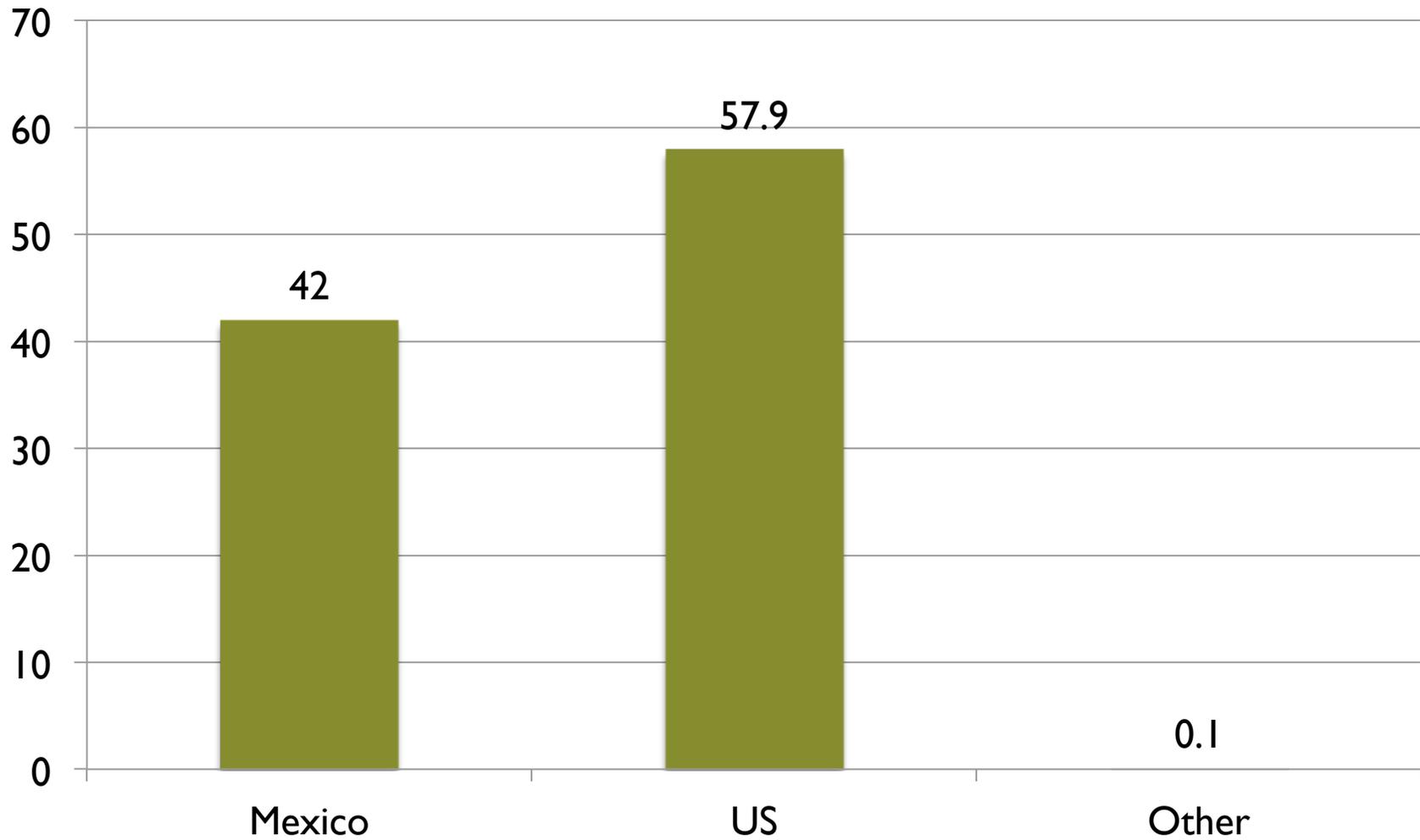
	Weighted Population (N=22,123)	U.S. adults (NSSBH, 2009)
Gender of the last sexual partner, %		
• A man	0.2	
• A man who dresses and acts like a woman	0.2	
• A woman	97.7	92.2
• None of the above	2.0	
Type of partner, %		
• Stable partner	76.1	51.6
• Causal partner	18.7	20.3
• Sex worker	5.2	4.3



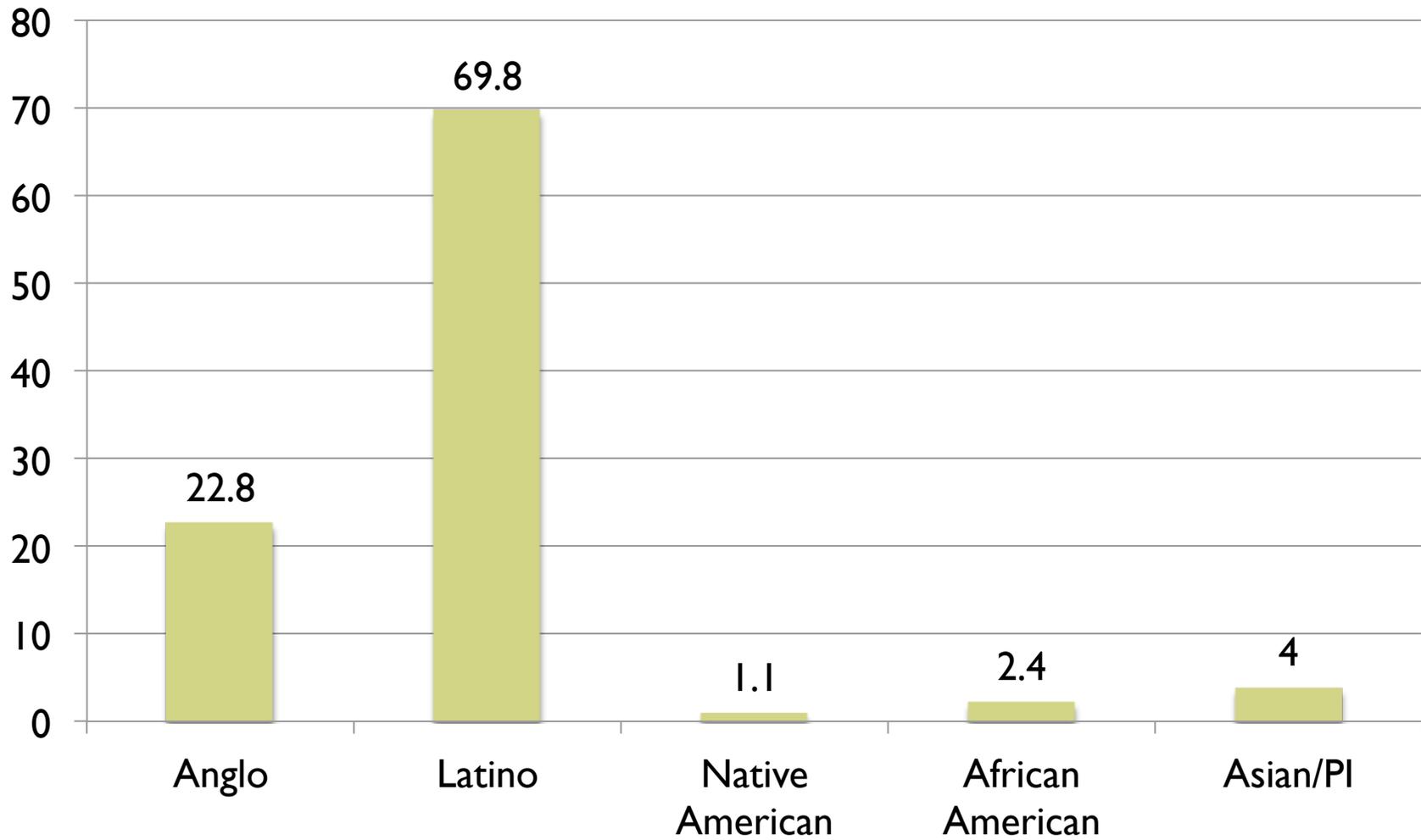
Last Partner's Country of Origin



Country Where They Met Last Partner



Last Partner's Ethnicity (US Born Only)

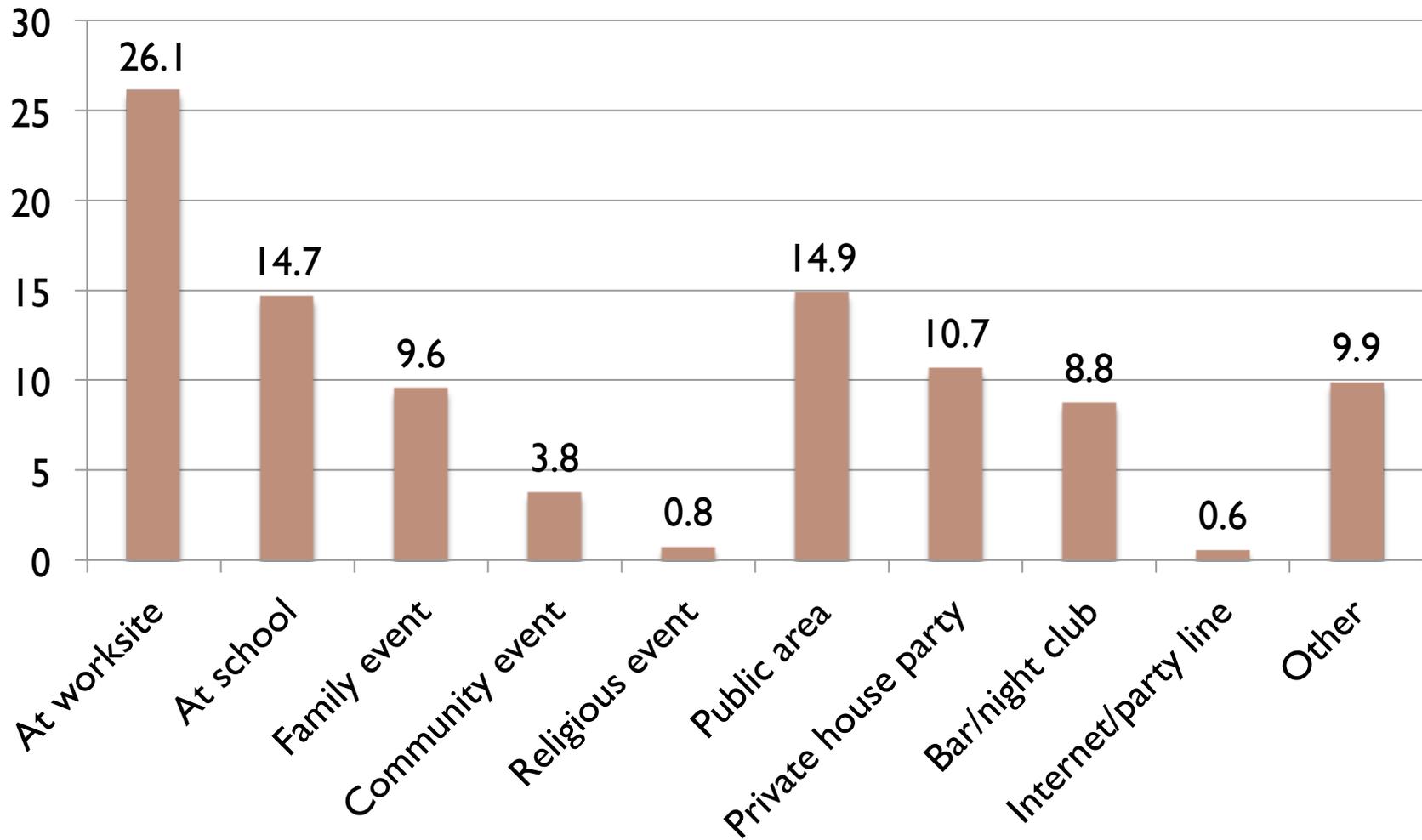


Last Sexual Partner: Perceived Risk

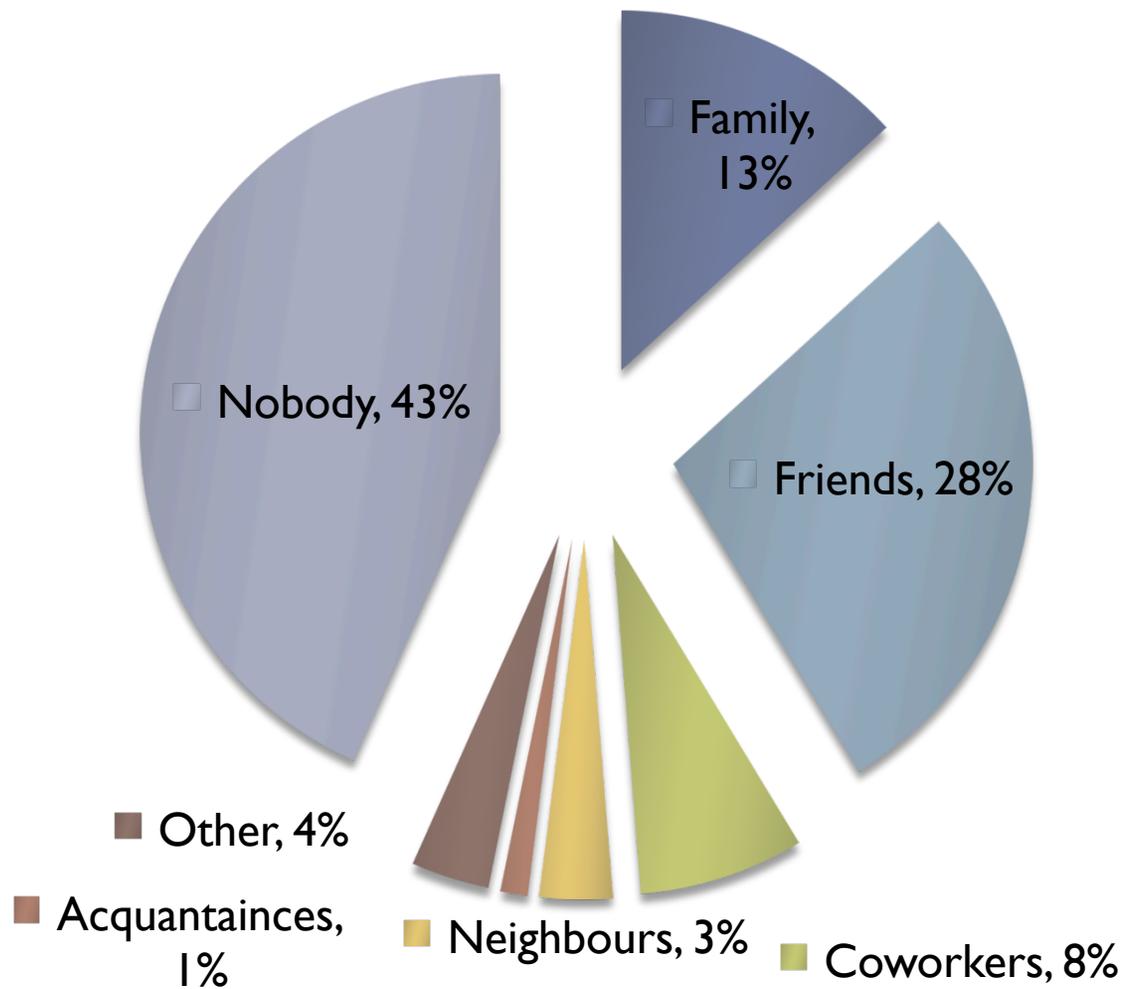
	Weighted Population (N=22,123)
The partner's HIV status	
• Sure negative	50.3
• Believe negative but not sure	25.4
• Don't know	24.1
• Sure positive	0.2
This partner had other sexual partners concurrently	15.2
This partner had a history of injection drug use	3.5



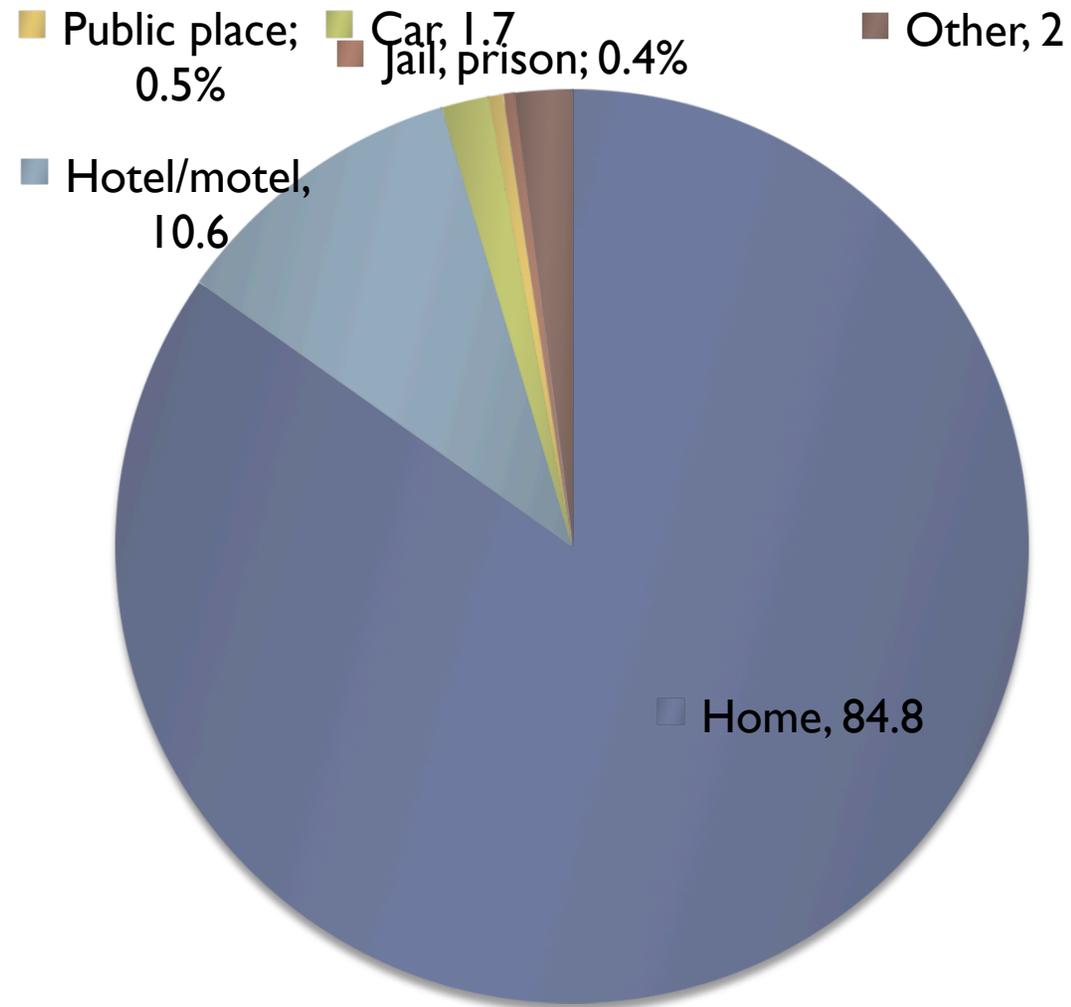
How They Met Their Last Partner



How They Met Their Last Partner (Cont.)



Context of Last Sexual Event: Place



Context of Last Sexual Event (Cont.)

	Weighted Population (N=22,123)
Consumed alcohol before or during sex, %	30.9
Used drug to get high before or during sex, %	8.2
Exchanged money, shelter or other goods for sex, %	1.2



Context of Last Sexual Event (Cont.)

	Weighted Population (N=22,123)	U.S.adults (NSSBH, 2009)
Consumed alcohol before or during sex, %	30.9	22.1
Used drug to get high before or during sex, %	8.2	
Exchanged money, shelter or other goods for sex, %	1.2	



In Summary

- ▶ Rate of HIV infection among deported males is higher than for adult males in Mexico and U.S.
- ▶ High prevalence of sexual risk practices among deported Mexican migrants:
 - ▶ Sex with casual, sex workers, and other high-risk partners
 - ▶ Lower rates of condom use
 - ▶ Sex with multiple partners
 - ▶ Sex in high risk contexts
- ▶ On the other hand, some protective factors:
 - ▶ Less receptive anal sex, less same-sex partners
 - ▶ More stable partners



Public Health Implications

- ▶ Circularity & volume of this population
- ▶ An issue for receiving, sending, and border regions
- ▶ Future likely to get worse given economy and immigration policies
- ▶ Binational HIV prevention programs targeting this disenfranchised population are needed on both sides of the US – Mexico border
 - ▶ Collaborative partnerships
 - ▶ Financial incentives
 - ▶ Linkage to supportive networks & services



Limitations

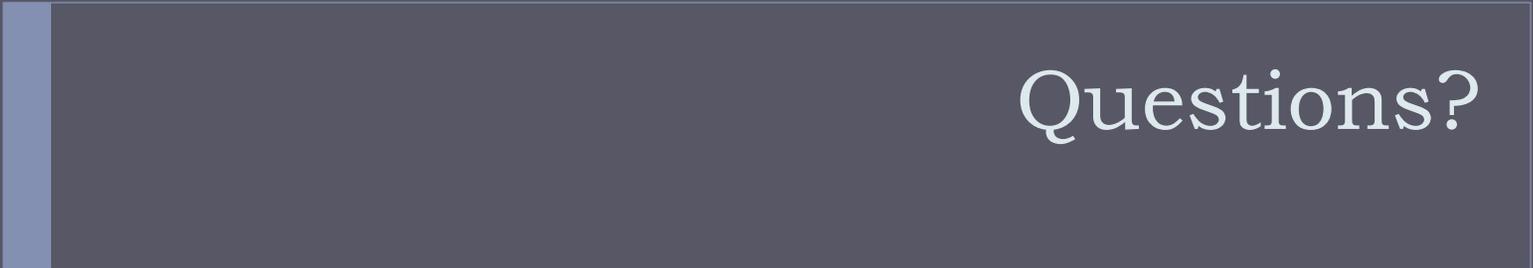
- ▶ Self-selection
- ▶ Self-report
- ▶ Limited to Tijuana and 5-month period



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Questions?