

# HIV RISK BEHAVIORS AMONG NON-MEDICAL PRESCRIPTION DRUG USERS IN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACILITIES



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## BACKGROUND

- Increased risk of HIV among injection and non-injection substance users
- Sparse information on link between NMUPD (nonmedical use of prescription drugs) and HIV risks
- NMUPD is a prevalent problem in the U.S., leading to more seeking treatment for addiction
- Treatment provides a rare opportunity for HIV prevention/testing among substance users

## METHODS

**Aim:** To examine the HIV risk behavior profiles of non medical users of prescription drugs in public and private treatment clinics.

**Eligibility:** ages 18-59, NMUPD 5 or more days in the 90 days before treatment, current enrollment in publically- (n=272) or privately-funded (n=265) treatment facility, HIV negative.

**Quantitative questionnaire:** A one-time standardized face-to face interview was conducted which included questions about sexual and drug behaviors, including NMUPD: opioids, benzodiazepines, stimulants, antidepressants and antipsychotics (instrument: Global Appraisal of Individual Needs questionnaire).

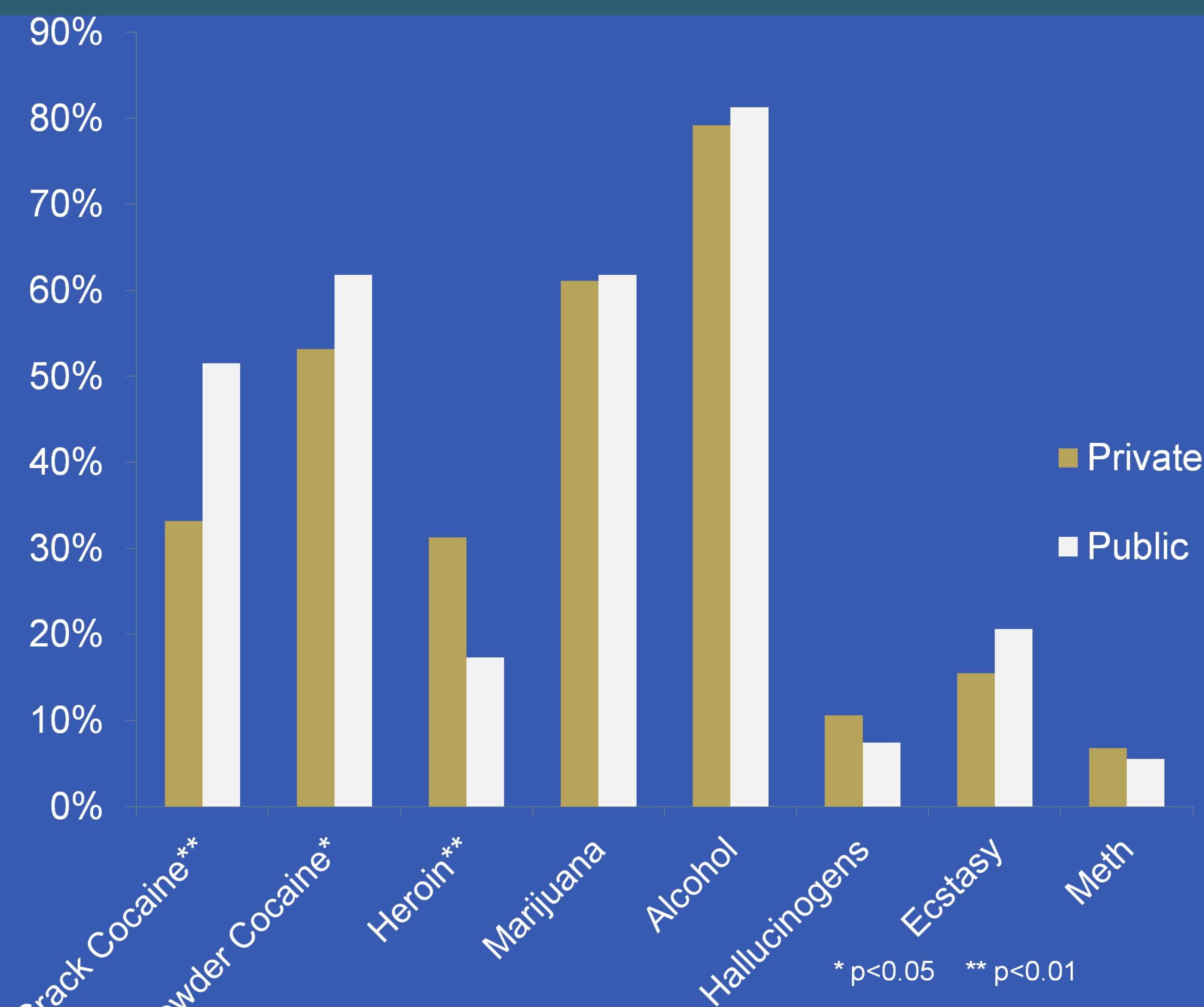
## SELECTED DEMOGRAPHICS

	Private	Public
RACE/ETHNICITY**		
NH WHITE	82.3%	35.3%
HISPANIC/LATINO	7.2%	40.1%
NH AFRICAN AMERICAN/BLACK	4.5%	19.9%
OTHER	6.0%	4.8%
MEAN NUMBER OF TIMES HIV TESTED**	4.4	7
MEAN AGE**	29	34
FEMALE GENDER	40%	41%
DIPLOMA**	58%	42%
LOW INCOME <sup>a</sup>	30%	55%
HEALTH INSURANCE**	71.2%	30.1%

\*\*p<0.01

<sup>a</sup>Income \$1000 or less in the last month

## PAST 90 DAY DRUG USE OF NON-NMUPD



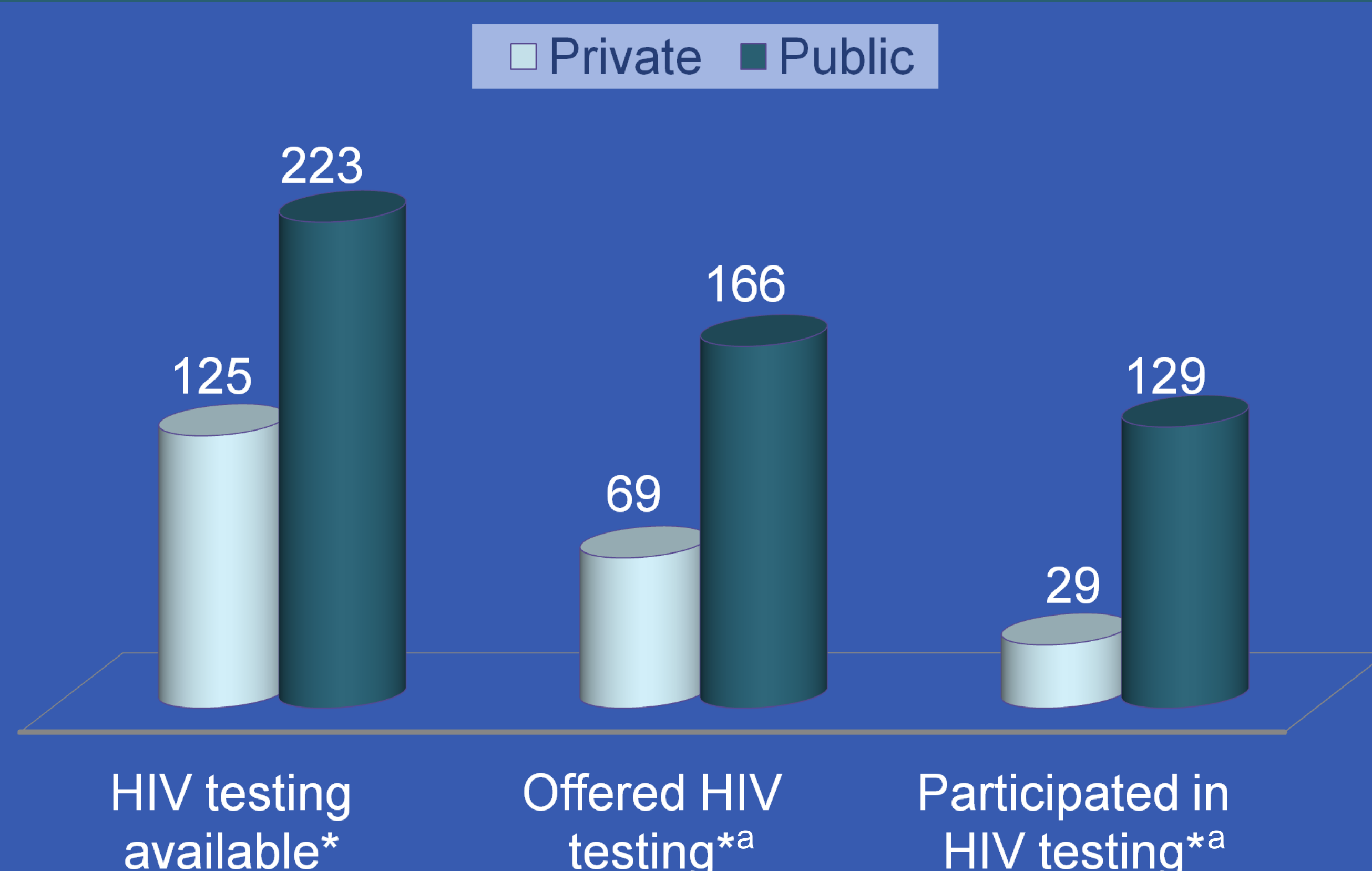
\* p<0.05 \*\* p<0.01

## RESULTS

	PRIVATE	PUBLIC
SEXUAL BEHAVIORS		
SEX WITH AN IDU (PAST YR)*	57 (23%)	37 (15%)
SEX WITH NO CONDOM (PAST YR)**	227 (89%)	208 (80%)
BOUGHT OR SOLD SEX (PAST YR)**	42 (16%)	84 (31%)
HAS PRIMARY PARTNER	134 (62%)	139 (63%)
ROUTES OF NMUPD IN PAST 90 DAYS		
ORALLY**	225 (84.9%)	229 (93.5%)
SNORTING**	181 (68.3%)	121 (49.39%)
SMOKING**	78 (29.4%)	46 (18.8%)
INJECTING**	90 (34.9%)	44 (18.0%)
NEEDLE RISK (PAST YR)		
INJECTED A DRUG**	109 (41.1%)	60 (22.1%)
REUSED A NEEDLE THAT SOMEONE ELSE USED	37 (33.9%)	26 (43.3%)

\*p<0.05 \*\*p<0.01

## RESULTS: AVAILABILITY OF HIV TESTING AT FACILITY



\*p<0.001

<sup>a</sup>Only participants who answered "yes" to the question, "is HIV testing available to you in this program" were included.

## CONCLUSIONS

Private treatment participants are more likely to report unconventional routes of NMUPD, including injection.

Private treatment clients also report higher prevalence of several sexual risk behaviors.

However, private treatment clients report less available/prevalent HIV testing at their facilities; and a lower average number of HIV tests completed in the past.

Results suggest:

- A need for routine HIV testing and referral in both substance abuse treatment settings.

- Tailored needle and sexual risk reduction interventions.

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