

People Living with HIV Needs Assessment

Regions III-IX

Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals
Office of Public Health

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INTRODUCTION

Purpose of the Louisiana Statewide Needs Assessment

This report was prepared by The Policy & Research Group (PRG) for the Louisiana Office of Public Health STD/HIV Program (OPH SHP) within the Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH). The purpose of this needs assessment is to gain understanding of the current care and service needs of People Living with HIV (PLWH) in eight of the nine DHH OPH Public Health Regions of Louisiana. In particular, the assessment aims to provide an accurate estimate of the extent of PLWH's unmet primary-care and HIV-related support service needs, their experiences in accessing those services, their perceived barriers to those services, and some insight into their reported knowledge of those services.

Layout of the Report

This report presents the characteristics of survey respondents in the New Orleans Eligible Metropolitan Area (NO EMA) and Louisiana Regions III through IX and provides basic aggregate results of responses provided to survey questions. Region II conducted their own HIV needs assessment and thus is not included in this report. A description of the methods used to conduct the needs assessment and analyze the data, as well as a copy of the survey instrument, are included as appendices to this report.

Characteristics of Survey Respondents

Table 1 presents the estimated number and percentage of PLWH in each region, the needs assessment targets by region, and the resulting survey responses.

Table 1: Statewide Needs Assessment Targets

Region	Number of PLWH [†]	Percentage of PLWH	Target Number of Surveys	Number Returned	Percentage of Target
NO EMA	6,568	35.9%	500	501	100%
III	646	3.5%	50	50	100%
IV	1,373	7.5%	80	80	100%
V	996	5.4%	50	50	100%
VI	781	4.3%	50	47	94%
VII	1,425	7.8%	90	87	97%
VIII	961	5.2%	60	64	100%
IX	991	5.4%	70	68	97%
TOTAL	13,741	75.1%**	950	947	99%

* As reported by state surveillance data in the December 31, 2010, Surveillance Quarterly Report.

** Percentage does not sum to 100% because region II was not included in this analysis. Region II includes 24.9% of PLWH.

A total of 446 surveys were returned from regions III through IX to PRG during the data collection period.¹ This represents 99% of the goal of 450 responses as set by OPH SHP. Region VIII administered four additional surveys to PLWH who requested to be part of the needs assessment.

¹ A total of 446 people from regions III through IX responded to this Needs Assessment (n=446). However, some respondents chose not to answer certain questions, and some questions were only applicable to specific sub-groups of the sample. Thus, the reported "n", which refers to the number of individual responding to each question, varies per question.

Table 2 presents baseline characteristics of the respondents.

Table 2: Background Characteristics of Survey Respondents

	NO EMA and Regions III-IX		NO EMA		Regions III-IX	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
Gender						
Male	577	61%	288	58%	289	65%
Female	333	36%	187	38%	146	33%
Transgender	30	3%	21	4%	9	2%
Race						
African-American	634	68%	334	68%	300	67%
Caucasian/White	251	27%	128	26%	123	28%
Asian/Pacific Islander	2	<1%	1	<1%	1	<1%
Native American	11	1%	3	1%	8	2%
Multi-racial	24	3%	16	3%	8	2%
Other	13	1%	8	2%	5	1%
Hispanic/Latino	44	5%	32	8%	12	3%
Age						
13-19	4	1%	3	1%	1	<1%
20-24	41	5%	23	5%	18	4%
25-29	80	9%	47	10%	33	8%
30-34	85	10%	41	9%	44	11%
35-39	83	9%	45	10%	38	9%
40-44	137	15%	70	15%	67	16%
45-49	176	20%	90	19%	86	21%
50-54	140	16%	72	15%	68	16%
55-59	83	9%	43	9%	40	10%
60+	56	6%	32	7%	24	6%

- Due to rounding, some percentages do not sum to 100%.
- Not all persons responded to every question; thus the total number of responses may not sum to the sample size.

A. BACKGROUND

HIV Status

Figure A1: HIV Status (n=439)

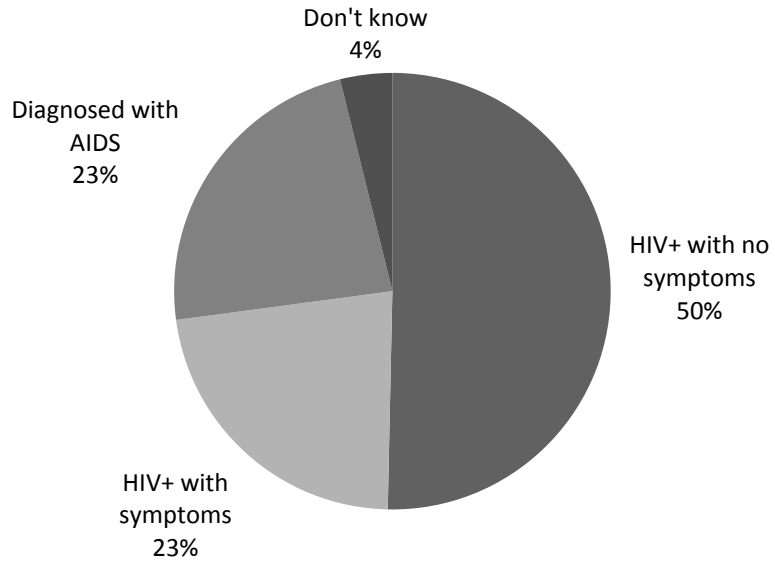


Figure A2.a: Length of Time Since HIV Diagnosis (n=415)

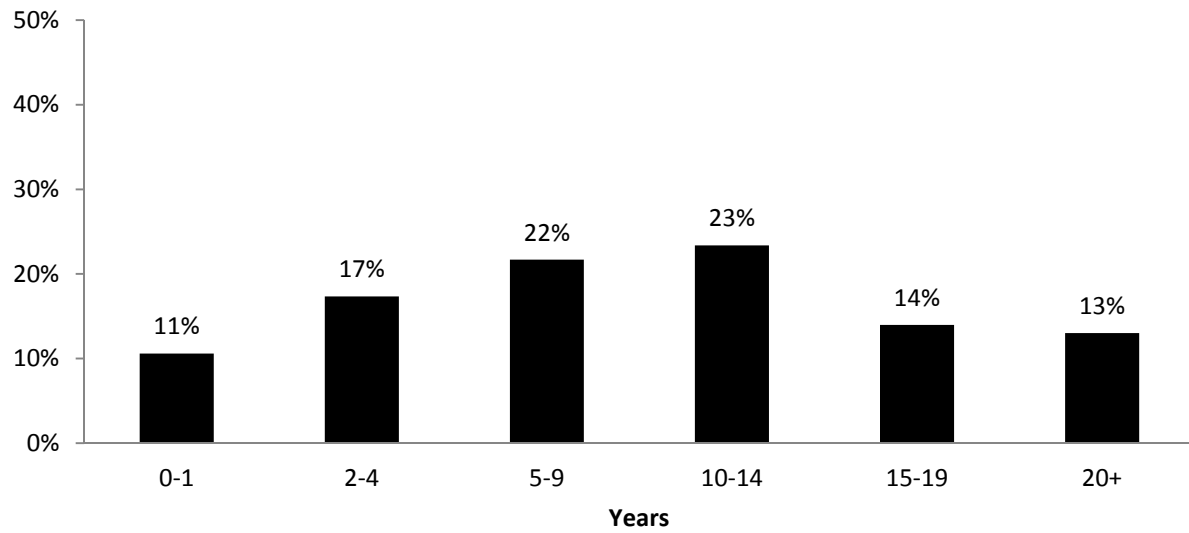
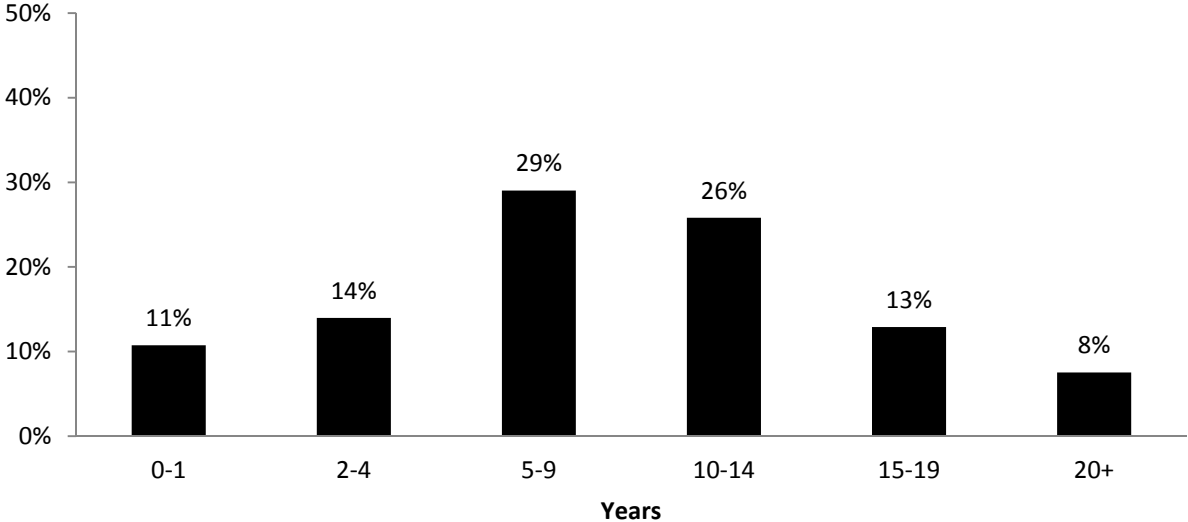


Figure A2.b: Length of Time Since AIDS Diagnosis (n=93)



- Due to rounding, percentages do not sum to 100%.

Figure A3: Living in Louisiana at Time of HIV Diagnosis (n=430)

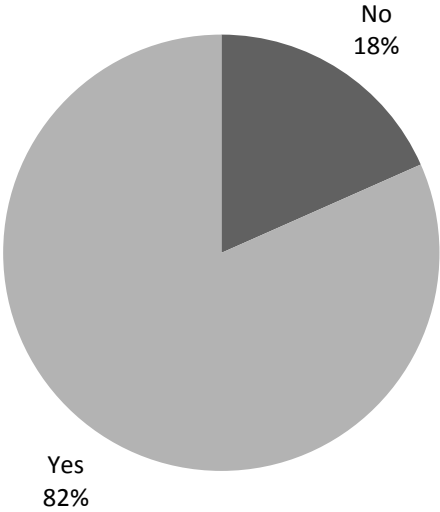
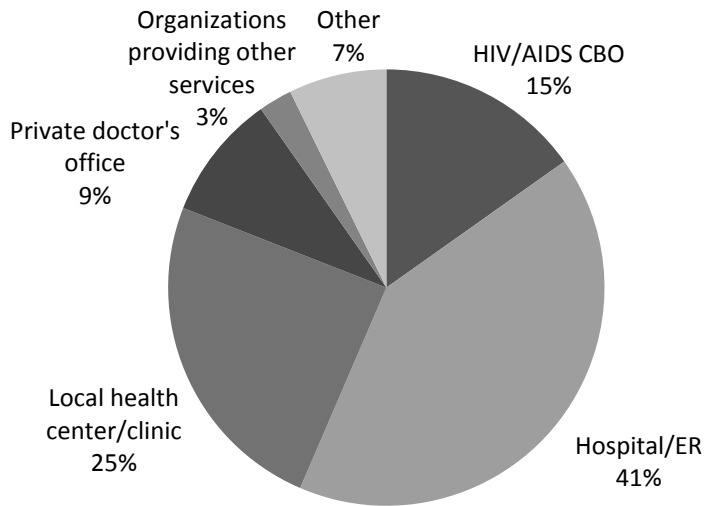
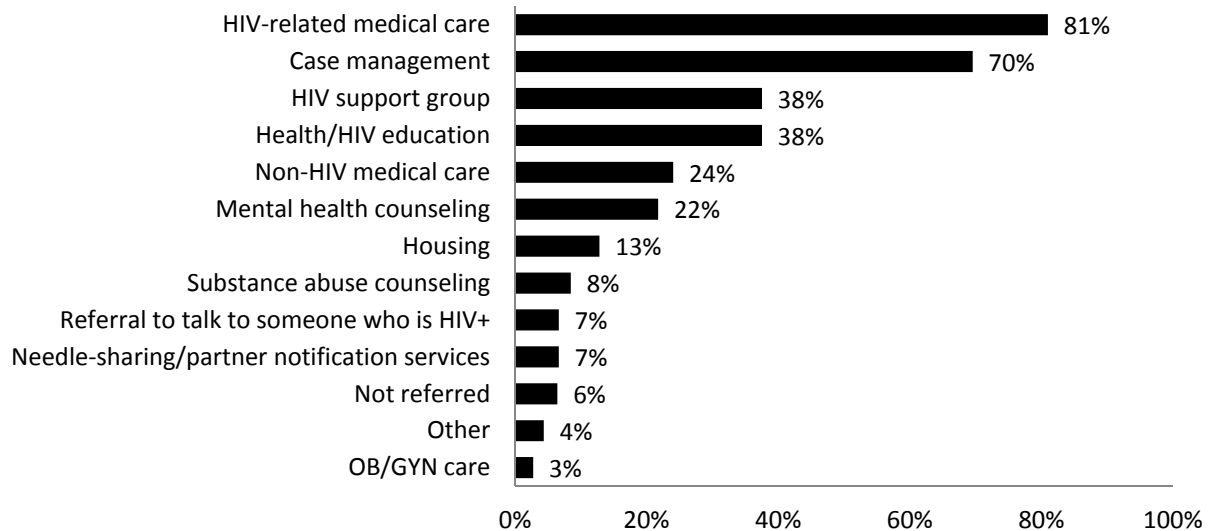


Figure A4: Place Where Respondents Were Told of HIV Diagnosis (n=441)



- People were able to identify places other than those given where they were told of HIV diagnosis. Out of the 32 people who chose “other”, 31 responded. Responses written in by more than one respondent are: jail/prison (14 people); plasma center/lab (four people); blood bank (two people); and health unit (two people).

Figure A5: Service Referrals at the Time of HIV Diagnosis (n=437)



- All respondents were asked which service referrals they received at the time of HIV diagnosis. Some people did not provide a response, and some selected more than one service. Therefore, the sum of all categories may not meet or may exceed 100%.
- Out of the 437 people who responded to this question, 324 respondents reported two or more service referrals at the time of HIV diagnosis (74%).

Background Characteristics

Figure A6: Gender (n=444)

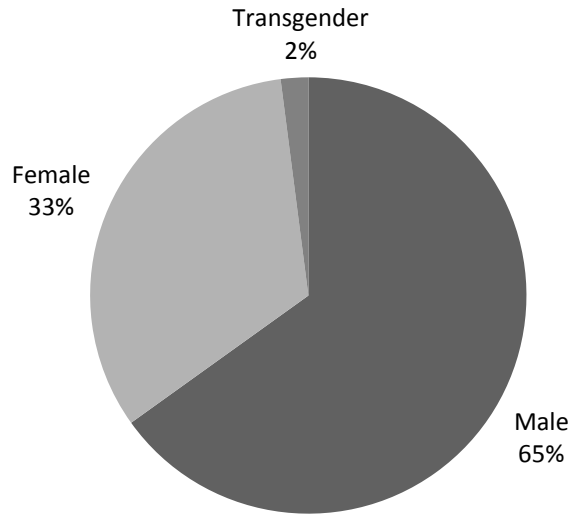
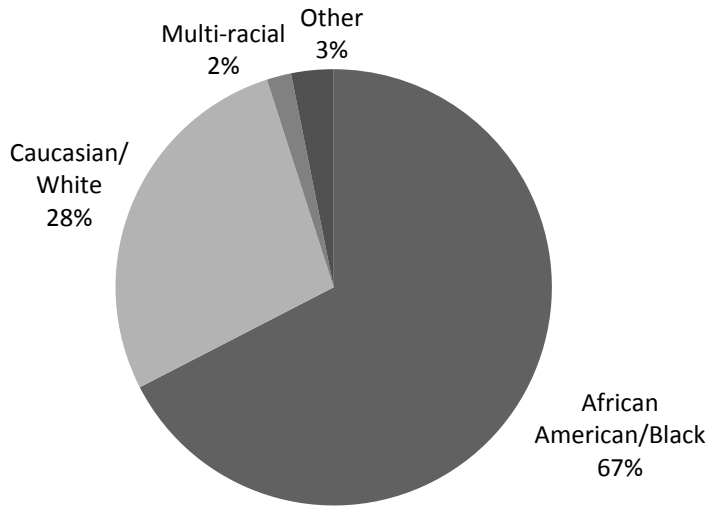


Figure A7: Race (n=445)



- Included in the “other” category are those persons who specifically chose “other” (1%), along with those who identified as Native American (2%) and Asian/Pacific Islander (<1%).

Figure A8: Latino/Hispanic (n=418)

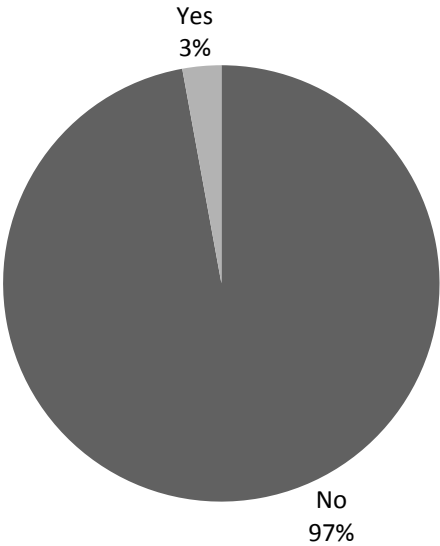
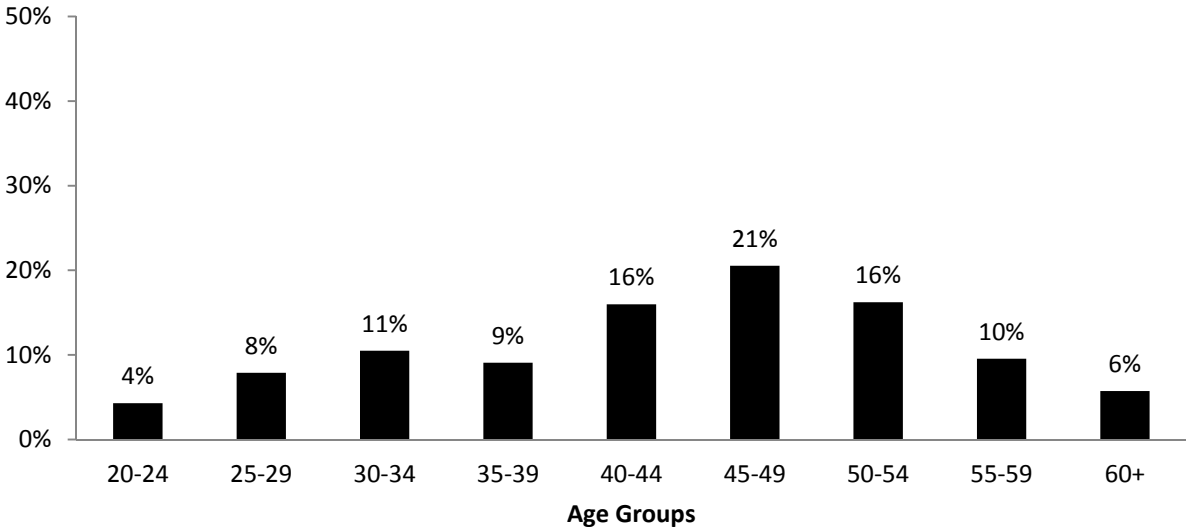


Figure A9: Age (n=419)



- Included in this analysis, but not represented in this chart, are respondents between the ages of 13 and 19 (<1%).
- Due to rounding, percentages do not sum to 100%.

Figure A10: Highest Level of Education Completed (n=440)

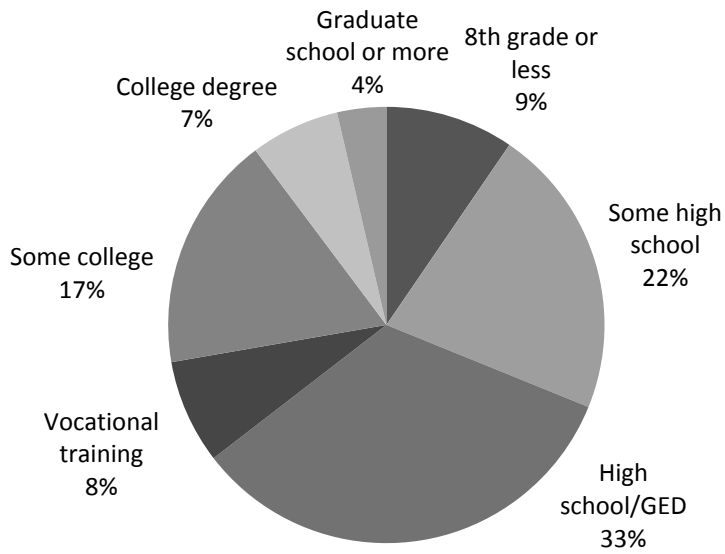


Figure A11: Current Marital Status (n=434)

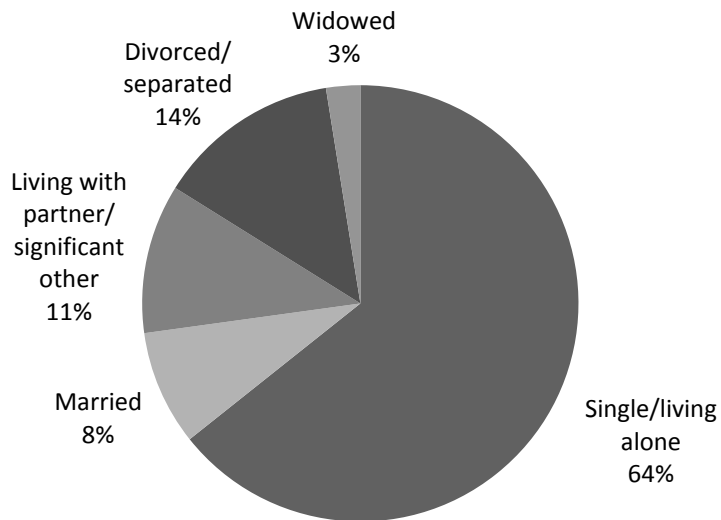
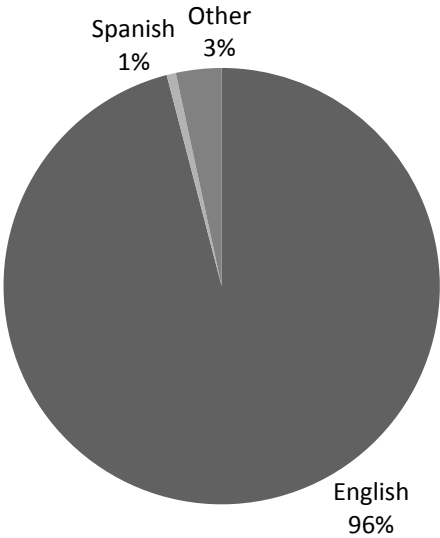
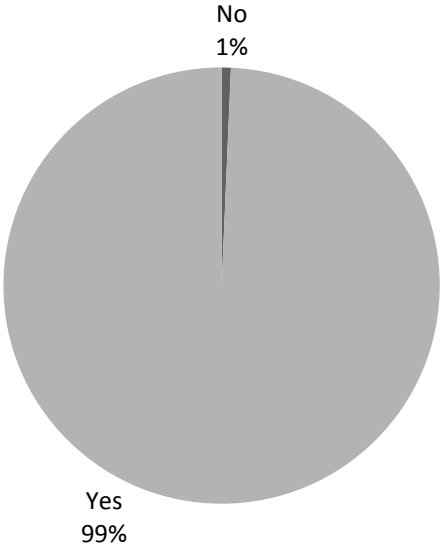


Figure A12: Language Preference (n=444)



- Categories reporting 0% responses, Vietnamese and French, are not included in the figure.

Figure A13: U.S. Citizenship (n=441)



- Due to respondent confidentiality and privacy concerns, we do not report the number of individuals that reported living in the U.S. legally and illegally.

B. EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME

Employment

Figure B1: Employment Situation in the Last Six Months (n=441)

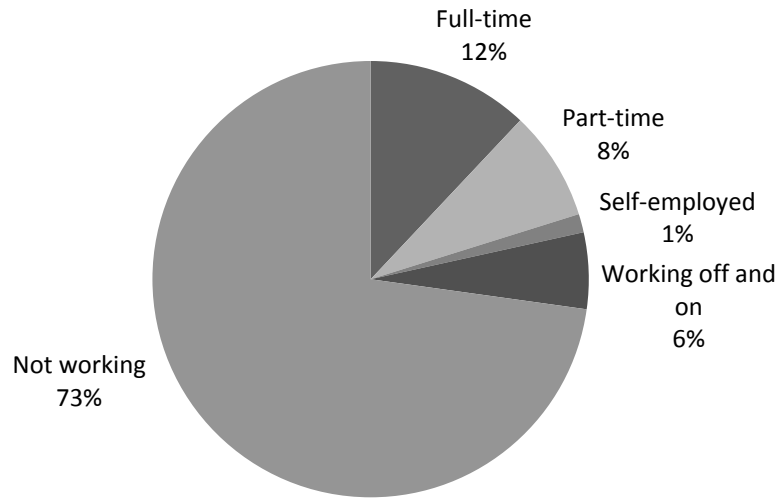
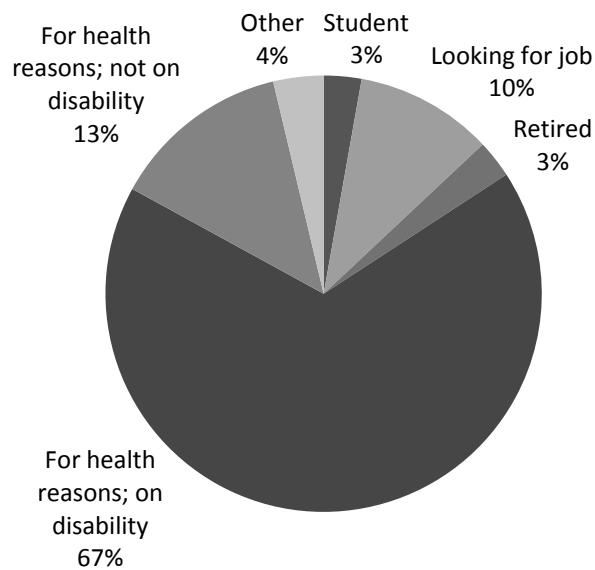


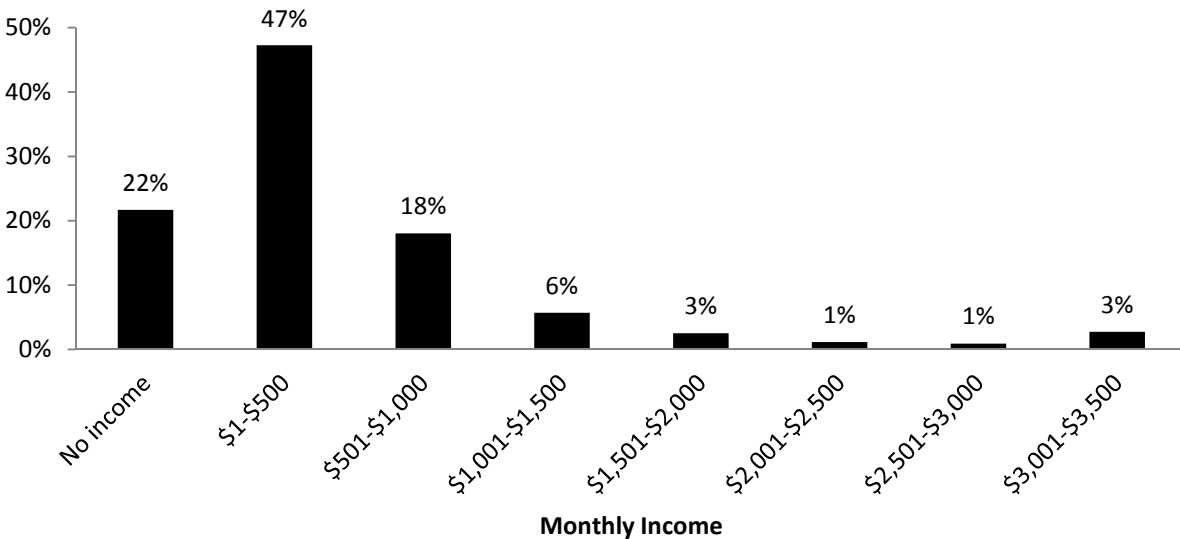
Figure B2: Reasons for Not Being Employed in the Last Six Months (n=323)



- Included in this analysis are persons who indicated that they were either not working in the last six months (n=321) or were working off and on during that time (n=25). Out of the 346 people who could respond, 323 provided reasons for not being employed in the last six months.

Income

Figure B3: Reported Monthly Household Income (n=438)



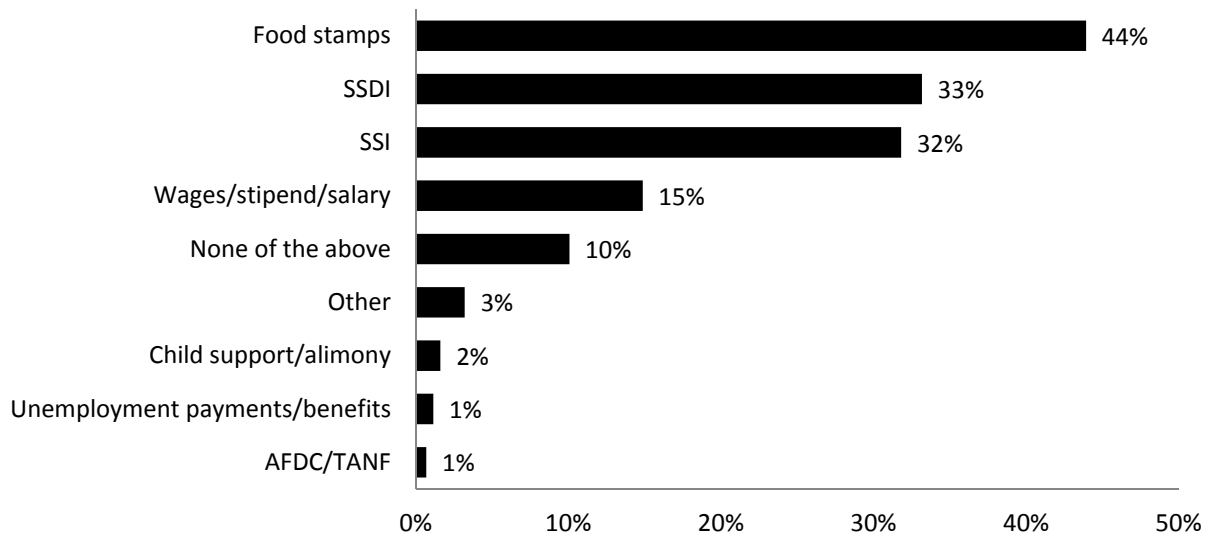
- A category reporting 0% responses, "More than \$3,500", is not included in the figure.
- Due to rounding, percentages do not sum to 100%.

Table B1: Mean Number of People per Household by Income (n=303)

Monthly Income	Number of Persons in Income Range	Mean Number of People per Household
No monthly income	59	1.3
\$1-\$500	141	1.5
\$501-\$1,000	61	2.0
\$1,001-\$1,500	16	1.3
\$1,501-\$2,000	9	2.3
\$2,001-\$2,500	4	2.8
\$2,501-\$3,000	3	2.3
\$3,001-\$3,500	10	1.2
More than \$3,500	-	-

- Respondents were asked to indicate a) household income and b) the number of persons in their household supported by their reported income. If respondents did not respond to both questions they were excluded from analysis. While 438 persons indicated their household income, only 306 indicated the number of persons supported by that income. The number of people who responded to both questions was 303.
- The "number of persons in income range" refers to the number of people in that income range who also reported the number of people in their household supported by their income.
- For the 306 persons who indicated the number of people supported by their income, the mean number of people is 1.6.

Figure B4: Sources of Household Income (n=437)

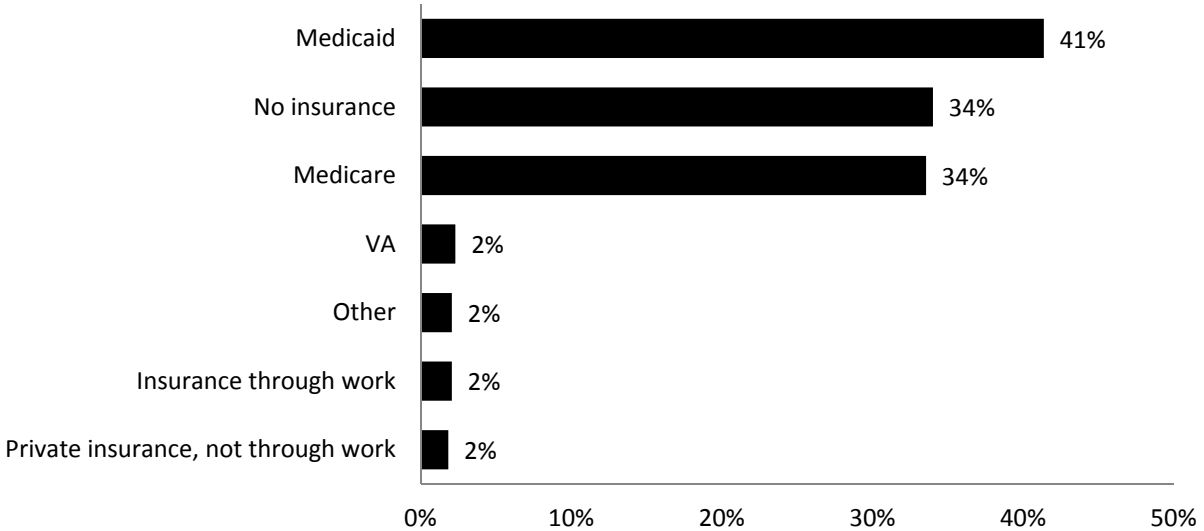


- All respondents were asked to indicate their sources of household income. Some people did not provide a response, and some selected more than one source. Therefore, the sum of all categories may not meet or may exceed 100%.
- Out of the 437 people who responded to this question, 153 respondents reported two or more sources of income (35%).
- SSI - Supplemental Security Income; SSDI - Social Security Disability Insurance; AFDC – Aid to Families with Dependent Children; TANF – Temporary Assistance to Needy Families.

C. MEDICAL CARE

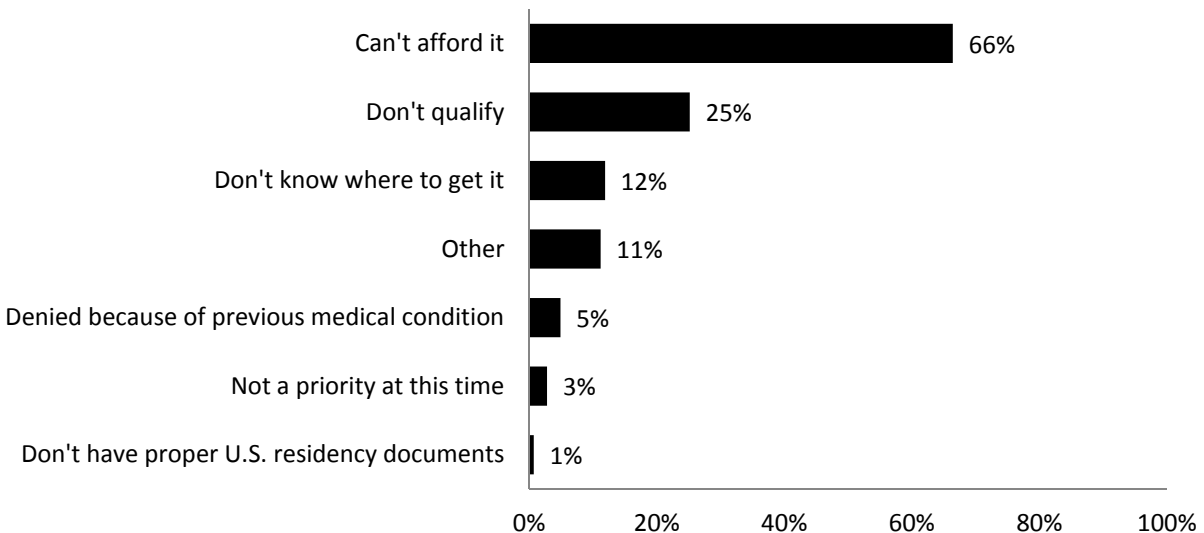
Health Insurance

Figure C1: Sources of Health Insurance for HIV Medical Care (n=435)



- A category reporting 0% responses, “COBRA”, is not included in the figure.
- All respondents were asked to indicate their sources of HIV-related medical insurance. Some people did not provide a response, and some selected more than one source. Therefore, the sum of all categories may not meet or may exceed 100%.
- Out of the 435 people who responded to this question, 71 respondents reported two or more sources (16%).
- Included in this analysis but not represented in this figure are respondents who reported “State high-risk insurance pool” as a source of health insurance (<1%).

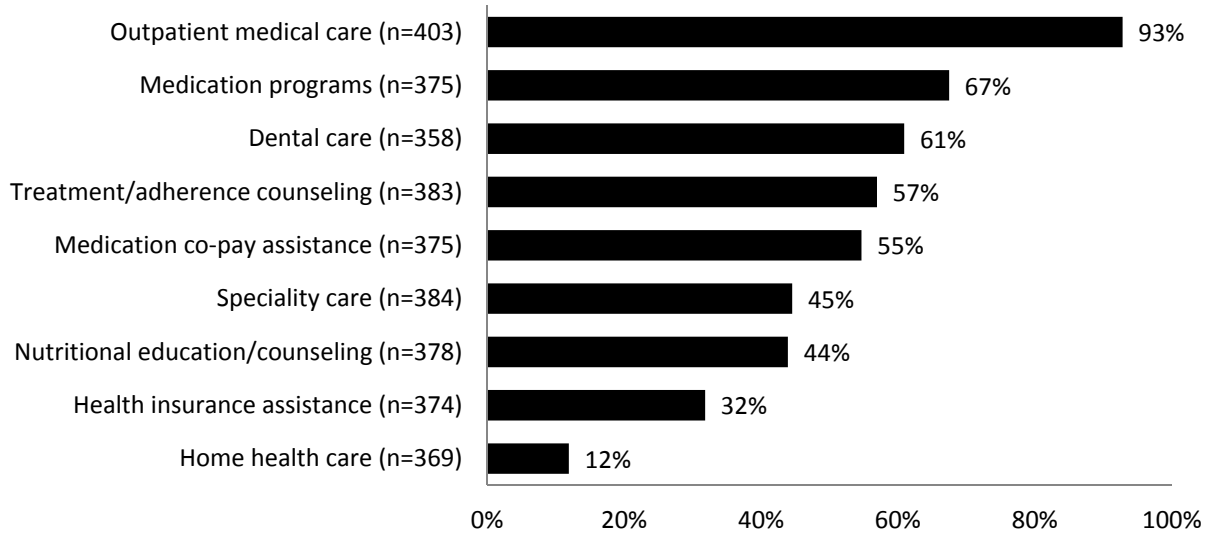
Figure C2: Barriers to Obtaining HIV Health Insurance Coverage (n=143)



- Included in this analysis are persons who indicated they did not have health insurance for their HIV-related medical care. Out of the 148 people who could respond, 143 persons provided barriers that prevented them from obtaining coverage; 25 reported two or more barriers (18%).
- Since respondents were permitted to select more than one category or not answer the question at all, the sum of all categories may not meet or may exceed 100%.

Medical Services

Figure C3: Use of Medical Care Services



- Respondents were given several lists of services and asked to indicate whether they a) needed the service, b) knew about the service, c) asked for the service, d) received the service, and e) if they received it, whether it met their needs. Respondents were instructed to respond to each question; however, not all respondents provided feedback for all services.
- This chart presents the percentage of respondents who indicated they received medical care services.

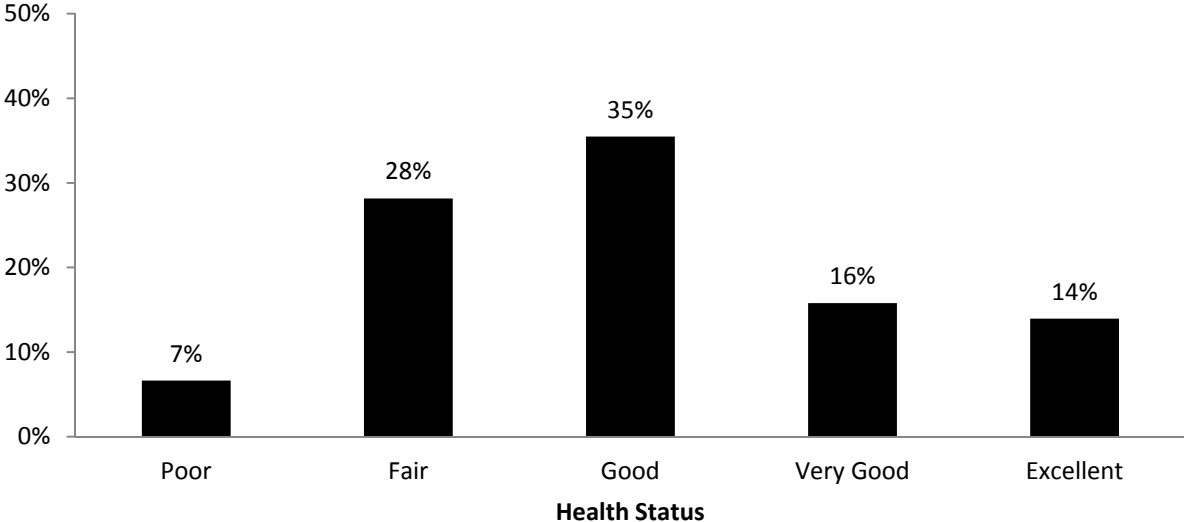
Table C1: Need of Medical Care Services by Use

Persons Receiving:	Needed it	Knew about it	Asked for it	Met needs
Outpatient medical care	95% (n=372)	98% (n=372)	90% (n=371)	99% (n=368)
Specialty care	96% (n=170)	95% (n=170)	95% (n=169)	96% (n=168)
Dental care	97% (n=216)	99% (n=216)	98% (n=216)	96% (n=211)
Medication programs	97% (n=251)	96% (n=252)	96% (n=251)	99% (n=247)
Medication co-pay assistance	97% (n=203)	94% (n=203)	96% (n=204)	99% (n=202)
Treatment/adherence counseling	94% (n=217)	74% (n=200)	88% (n=217)	100% (n=210)
Nutritional education/counseling	93% (n=165)	93% (n=165)	86% (n=164)	97% (n=162)
Health insurance assistance	97% (n=117)	95% (n=119)	93% (n=118)	98% (n=119)
Home health care	88% (n=42)	95% (n=43)	95% (n=42)	100% (n=43)
Persons Not Receiving:	Needed it	Knew about it	Asked for it	Met needs
Outpatient medical care	36% (n=28)	52% (n=29)	14% (n=28)	--
Specialty care	9% (n=213)	53% (n=213)	5% (n=212)	--
Dental care	50% (n=138)	67% (n=139)	27% (n=138)	--
Medication programs	18% (n=121)	68% (n=120)	11% (n=119)	--
Medication co-pay assistance	15% (n=169)	53% (n=169)	5% (n=167)	--
Treatment/adherence counseling	10% (n=164)	77% (n=162)	2% (n=163)	--
Nutritional education/counseling	16% (n=212)	54% (n=212)	3% (n=211)	--
Health insurance assistance	13% (n=253)	47% (n=254)	3% (n=252)	--
Home health care	4% (n=324)	50% (n=324)	2% (n=321)	--

- This table presents the needs of people who responded about their use of medical care services.
- The first half of the table, labeled “Persons Receiving”, considers how many people who received a particular service said that a) they needed it, b) they knew about it, c) they asked for it, and d) the service met their needs.
- The second half of the table, labeled “Persons Not Receiving”, considers how many people who did not receive a particular service said they a) needed it, b) knew about it, and c) asked for it.

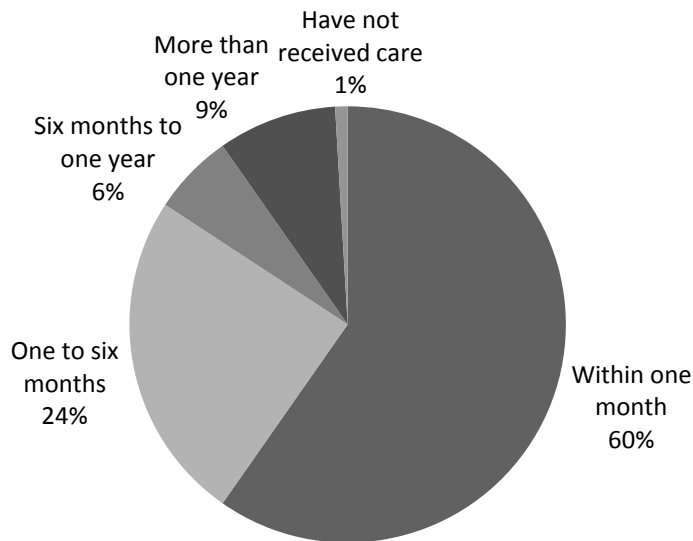
Overall Health

Figure C4: Self-Reported Overall Health Status (n=437)



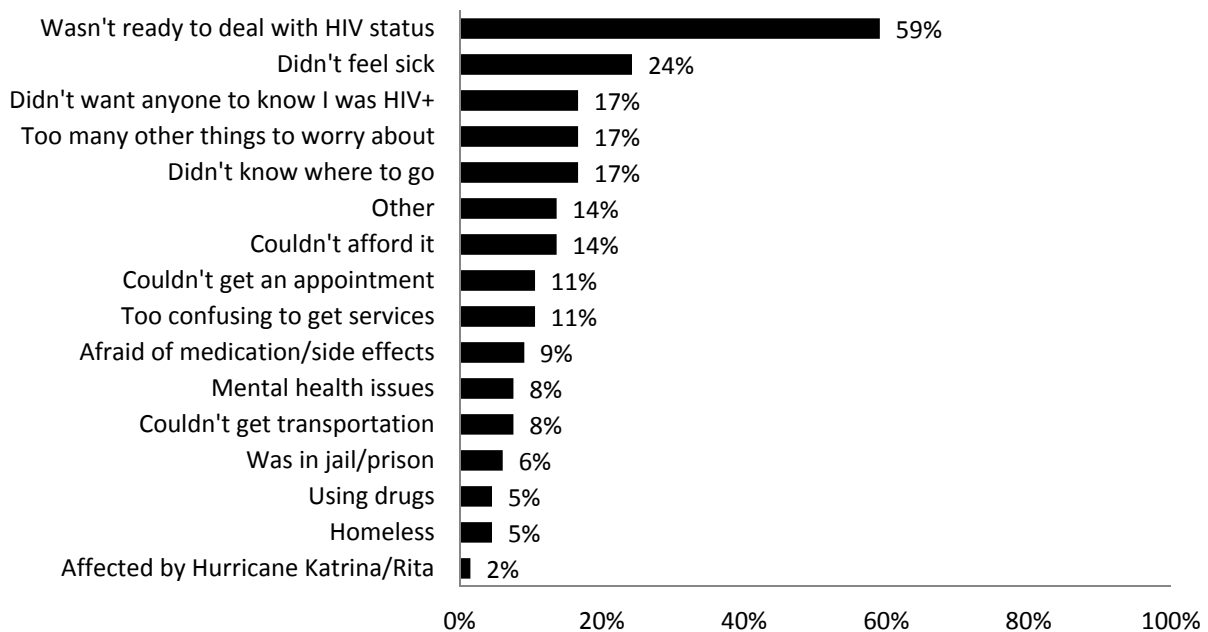
Health-Seeking Behavior

Figure C5: Time from HIV Diagnosis to HIV-Related Medical Care (n=435)



- Included in this analysis, but not represented in this chart, are persons reporting they have not chosen to receive care (<1%).

Figure C6: Reasons for Not Receiving Medical Care More Than Six Months After Diagnosis (n=66)



- A category reporting 0% responses, "Couldn't get child care", is not included in the figure.
- Included in this analysis are persons who reported that they had not received medical care more than six months after their diagnosis. Out of the 71 persons who could respond, 66 provided reasons for not receiving care; 27 respondents reported two or more barriers (41%).
- Since respondents were permitted to select more than one category or not answer the question at all, the sum of all categories may not meet or may exceed 100%.

Figure C7: Have Sought HIV-Related Medical Care in Last Six Months (n=433)

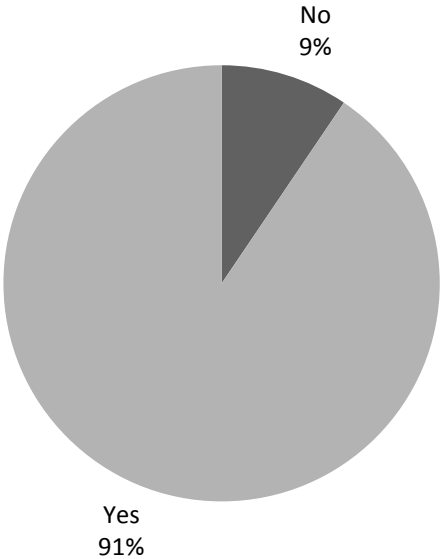
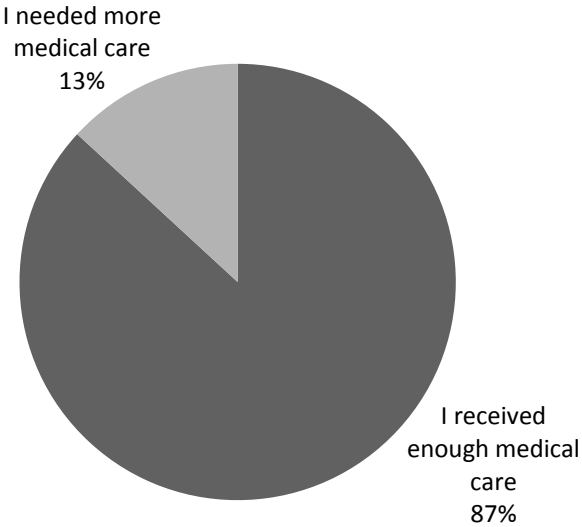
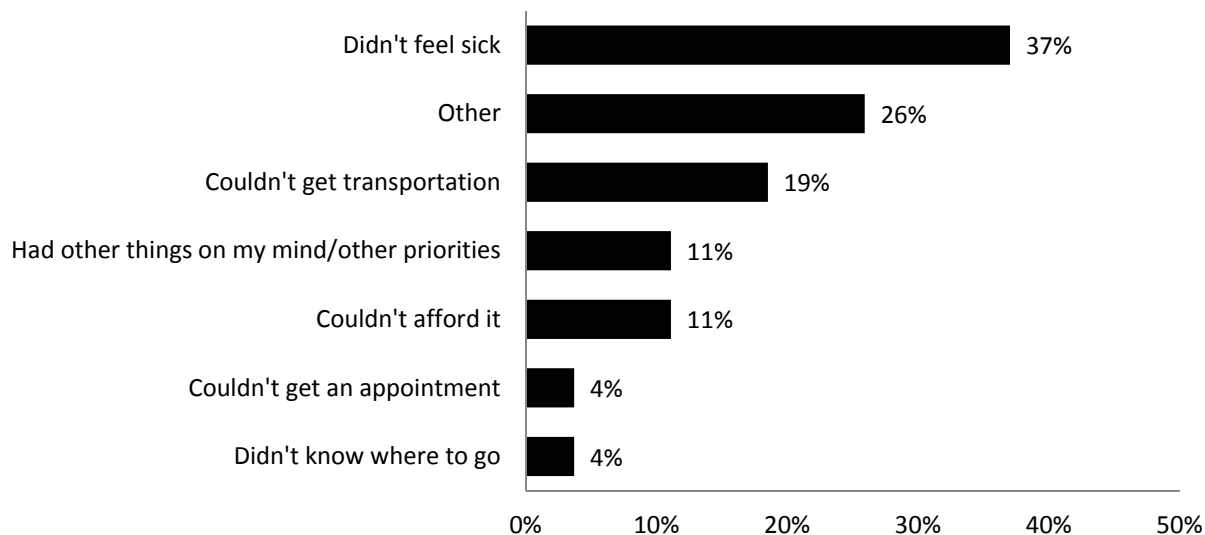


Figure C8: Level of Medical Care Received in Last Six Months (n=381)



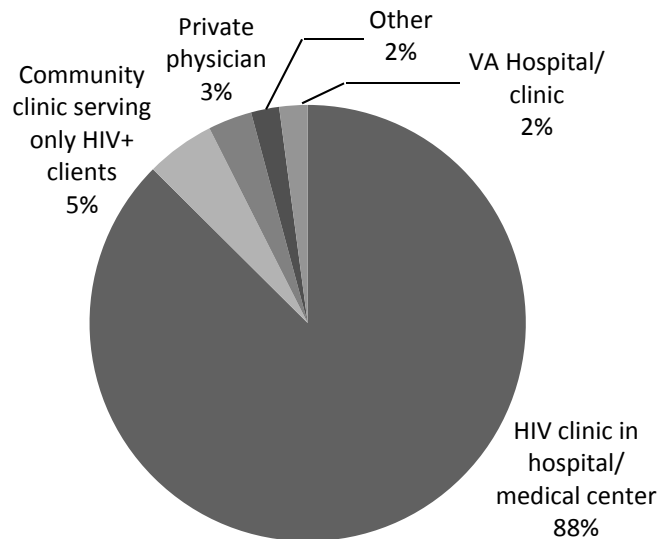
- Included in this analysis are respondents who indicated they sought out medical care in the last six months. Out of the 392 people who could respond, 381 respondents indicated the level of care received.
- Included in this analysis, but not represented in this figure, are respondents who reported they did not receive care (<1%).

Figure C9: Reasons for Not Seeking Out or Receiving HIV-Related Medical Care in the Last Six Months (n=27)



- Categories reporting 0% responses, "Couldn't get child care" and "Didn't want anyone to know I was HIV+", are not included in the figure.
- Included in this analysis are persons who did not seek out or receive care in the past six months. Out of the 42 persons who could respond, 27 persons indicated reasons for not seeking out or receiving care; three respondents reported two or more reasons (11%).
- Respondents were able to identify reasons other than those given for not seeking out or receiving care. Out of the seven people who chose "other", five responded. Responses written in by more than one respondent are: didn't need it (two people).
- Since respondents were permitted to select more than one category, or not answer the question at all, the sum of all categories may not meet or may exceed 100%. No responses were written in by more than one respondent.

Figure C10: Places Where Respondents Regularly Receive HIV-Related Medical Care (n=432)



- Included in the "other" category are the persons who specifically chose "other" (<1%), as well as the respondents who reported regularly receiving HIV-related medical care at a non-HIV specific medical clinic (<1%) and at an ER (1%). Two respondents reported they did not receive care (<1%).

Medical Adherence

Figure C11: Currently Taking HIV Medications Prescribed by a Doctor (n=437)

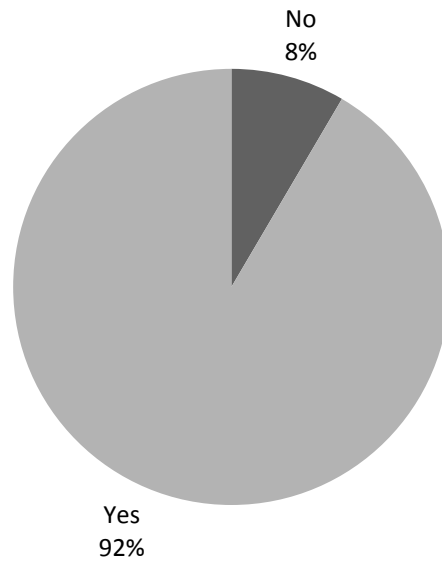
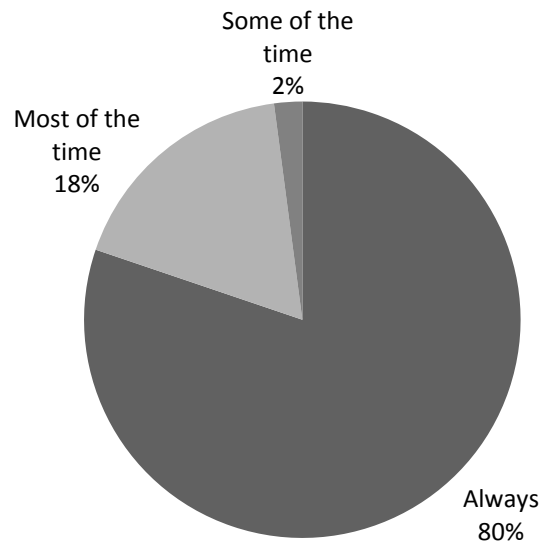
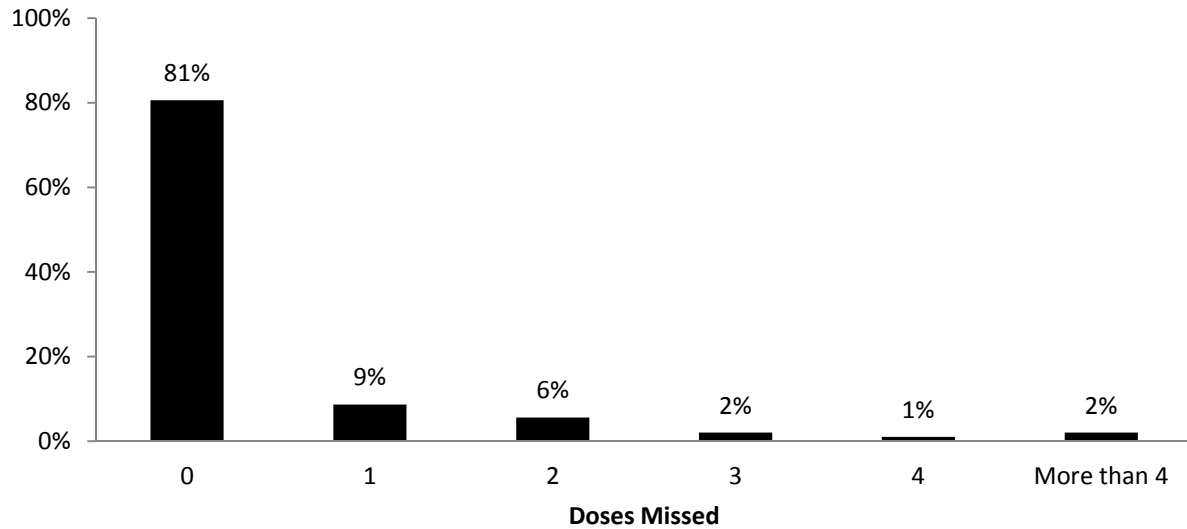


Figure C12: Adherence to Medications Prescribed by Doctor (n=386)



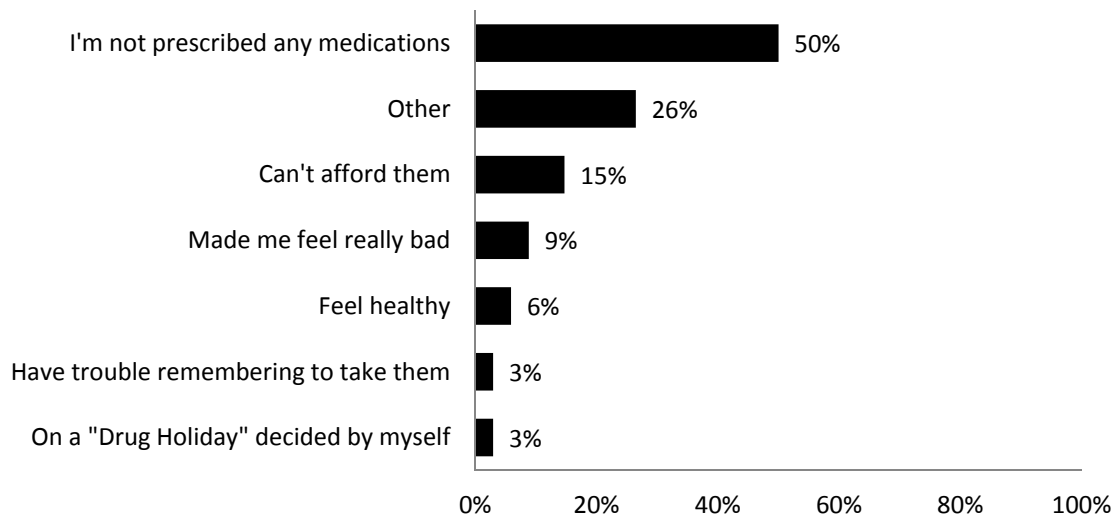
- Included in the analysis are persons who indicated that they are currently taking HIV medications prescribed by a doctor. Out of the 400 persons who could respond, 386 provided answers regarding their adherence to medication.
- Included in this analysis, but not represented in the chart, are respondents who reported hardly ever taking their HIV medications as the doctor said they should (1%).

Figure C13: Number of Doses Missed in the Last Three Days (n=392)



- Included in the analysis are persons who indicated that they are currently taking HIV medications prescribed by a doctor. Out of the 400 people who could respond, 392 provided answers regarding the number of doses missed in the last three days.
- Due to rounding, percentages do not sum to 100%.

Figure C14: Reasons for Not Currently Taking HIV Medications (n=34)



- Categories reporting 0% responses, "I don't know where to get them", "On a 'Drug Holiday' directed by my doctor", and "Worried someone will find out I have HIV", are not included in the figure.
- Included in the analysis are persons who indicated that they are not currently taking HIV medications prescribed by a doctor. Out of 37 persons who could respond, 34 persons provided reasons for not taking HIV medications; four respondents reported two or more reasons (12%).
- Respondents were able to identify reasons other than those given for not taking HIV medication. Out of the nine people who chose "other", seven responded. No responses were written in by more than one respondent.
- Since respondents were permitted to select more than one category or not answer the question at all, the sum of all categories may not meet or may exceed 100%.

Out of Care

Figure C15: HIV-Positive for Two Years or More (n=426)

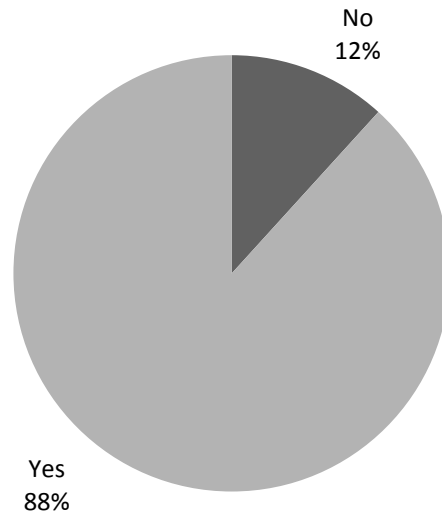
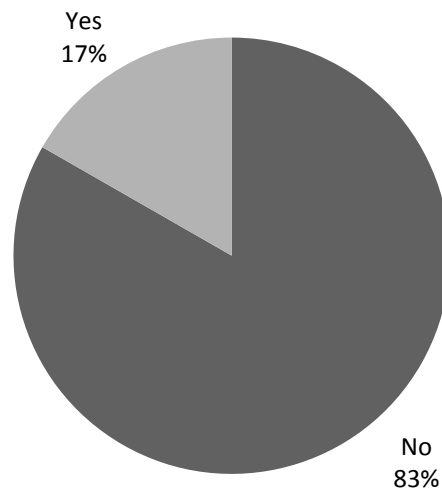
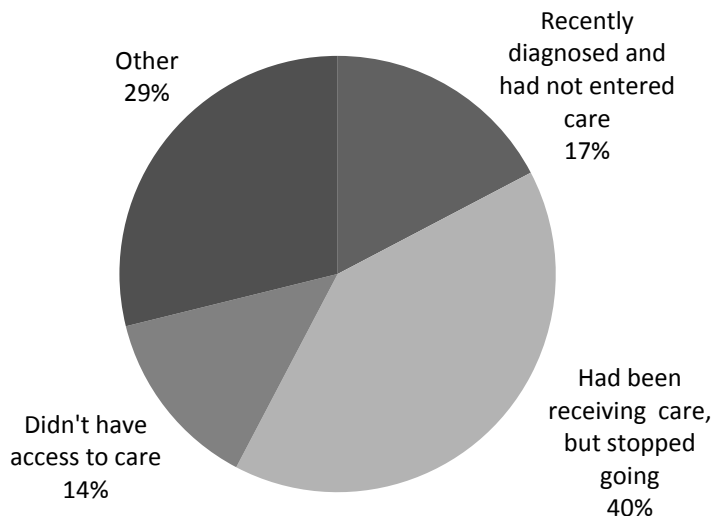


Figure C16: Ever Been out of HIV-related Medical Care for at Least 12 Months (n=353)



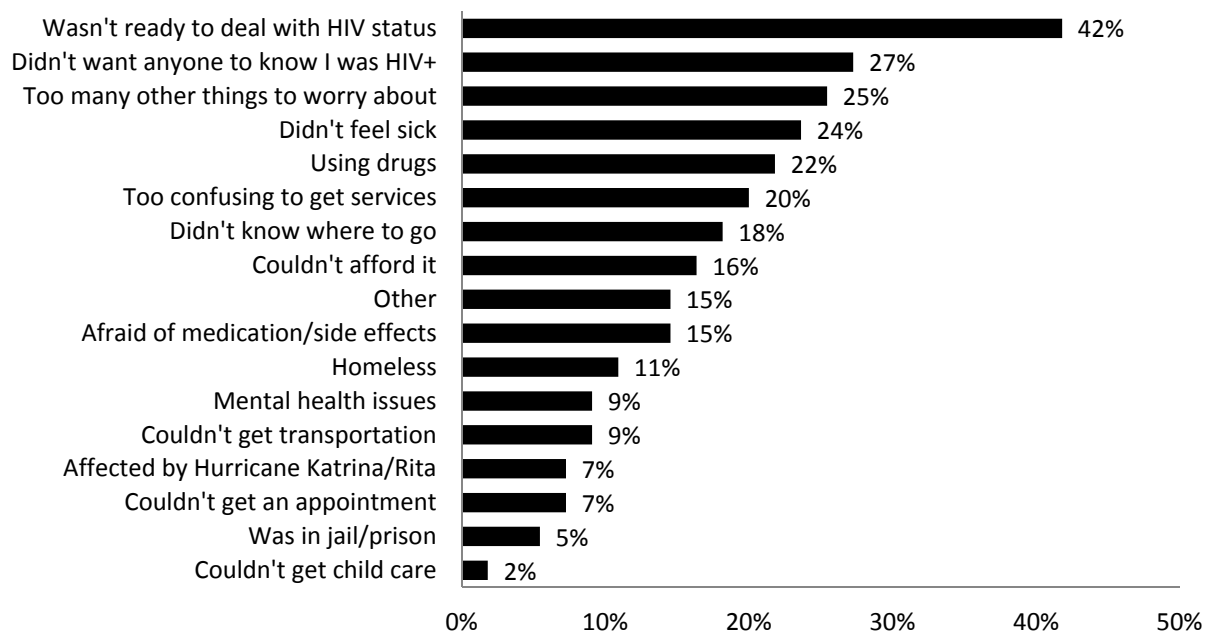
- Included in the analysis are persons who indicated that they have been HIV+ for at least two years. Out of the 376 people who could respond, 353 provided an answer as to whether they have ever been out of care for at least 12 months.

Figure C17: Reasons for Being Out of Care (n=52)



- Included in this analysis are persons who said they have been HIV+ for at least two years and had a period of at least 12 months when they were out of care. Out of the 59 persons who could respond, 52 provided reasons for being out of care.

Figure C18: Barriers to Receiving HIV-Related Medical Care When Out of Care for at Least 12 Months (n=55)



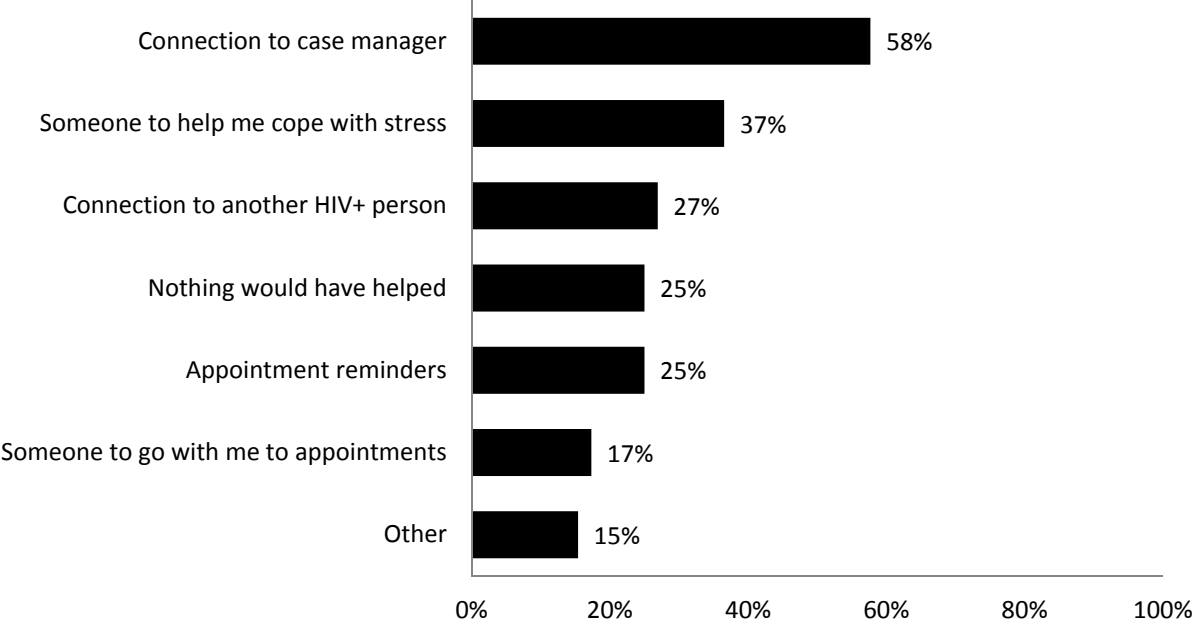
- Included in this analysis are persons who said they have been HIV+ for at least two years and had a period of at least 12 months when they were out of care. Out of the 59 persons who could respond, 55 persons provided barriers to receiving medical care; 32 persons reported two or more barriers (58%).
- Since respondents were permitted to select more than one category or not answer the question at all, the sum of all categories may not meet or may exceed 100%.

Figure C19: Reasons for Getting Back Into HIV-Related Medical Care (n=54)



- Included in this analysis are persons who said they have been HIV+ for at least two years and had a period of at least 12 months when they were out of care. Out of the 59 persons who could respond, 54 persons provided reasons for getting back into care; 24 respondents reported two or more reasons (44%).
- People were able to identify reasons other than those given for getting back into care. Out of the 15 people who chose “other”, 12 responded. Responses written in by more than one respondent are: “drugs/new meds” (three people) and “friend or family member” (two people).
- Since respondents were permitted to select more than one category or not answer the question at all, the sum of all categories may not meet or may exceed 100%.

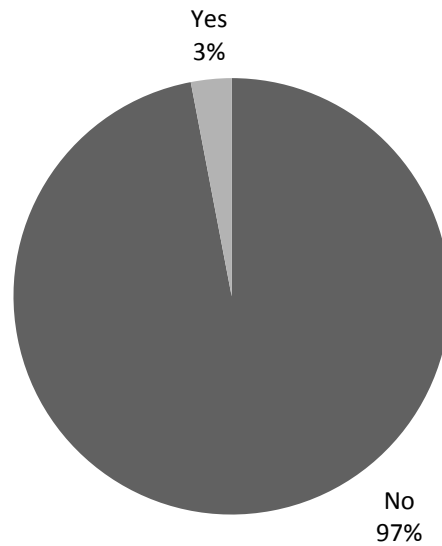
Figure C20: Services That Would Have Helped Respondent Get Back Into Care (n=52)



- Included in this analysis are persons who said they have been HIV+ for at least two years and had a period of at least 12 months when they were out of care. Out of the 59 persons who could respond, 52 persons provided an answer for services that would have helped them get back into care; 27 persons reported two or more services (52%).
- Since respondents were permitted to select more than one category or not answer the question at all, the sum of all categories may not meet or may exceed 100%.

Pre- and Post-Natal Care

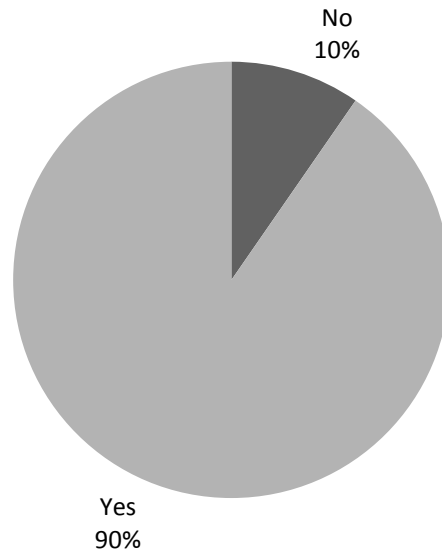
Figure C21: Females who are Currently Pregnant or Have Been Pregnant in the Last 12 Months (n=133)



- Female respondents were asked to indicate whether they had been pregnant in the last 12 months. Of the 146 females in the sample, 133 indicated their pregnancy status.
- Due to respondent confidentiality and privacy concerns, we do not report on the number of women reporting that they received medication for prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT) or reporting that their baby is seeing a doctor or not seeing a doctor.

Case Management

Figure C22: Use of Case Management Services (n=415)



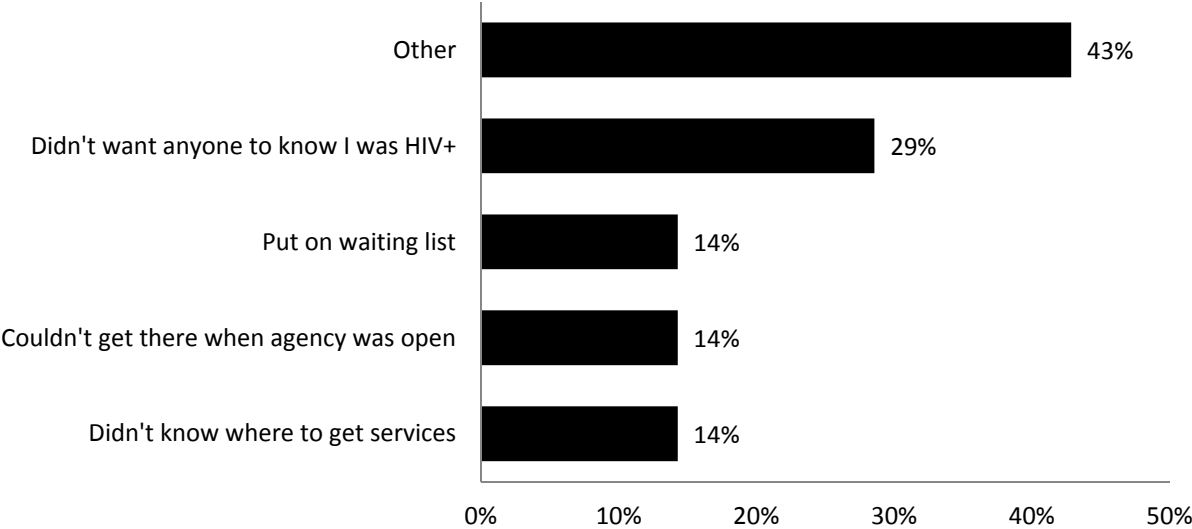
- Respondents were given several lists of services and asked to indicate whether they a) needed the service, b) knew about the service, c) asked for the service, d) received the service, and e) if they received it, whether it met their needs. Respondents were instructed to respond to each question; however, not all respondents provided feedback for all services.
- This chart presents the percentage of respondents who indicated they received case management services.

Table C2: Need of Case Management Services by Use

Persons Receiving:	Needed it	Knew about it	Asked for it	Met needs
Case management services	98% (n=373)	98% (n=372)	92% (n=373)	99% (n=366)
Persons Not Receiving:	Needed it	Knew about it	Asked for it	Met needs
Case management services	25% (n=40)	58% (n=40)	13% (n=40)	-- --

- This table presents the needs of people who responded about their use of case management services.
- The first half of the table, labeled “Persons Receiving”, considers how many people who received a particular service said that a) they needed it, b) they knew about it, c) they asked for it, and d) the service met their needs.
- The second half of the table, labeled “Persons Not Receiving”, considers how many people who did not receive a particular service said they a) needed it, b) knew about it, and c) asked for it.

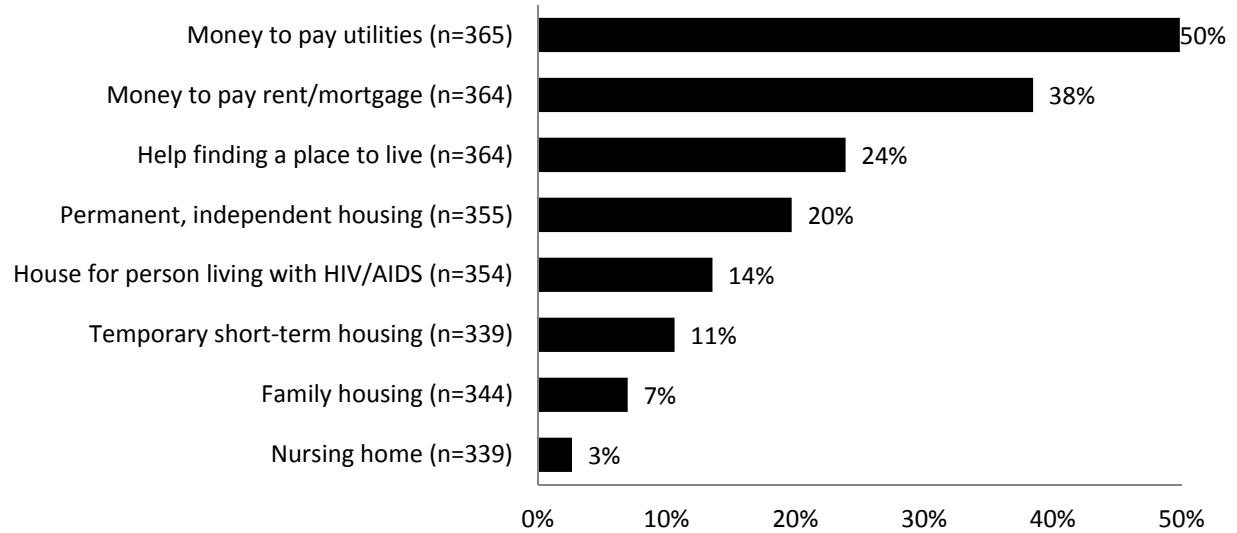
Figure C23: Barriers to Receiving Case Management Services (n=7)



- Categories reporting 0% responses, "Didn't qualify" and "Services were not in my language", are not included in the figure.
- Included in this analysis are persons who indicated they needed case management services but did not receive the service. Out of 10 people who could respond, seven provided barriers to receiving case management services; one respondent reported two or more barriers (14%).
- Since respondents were permitted to select more than one category or not answer the question at all, the sum of all categories may not meet or may exceed 100%.
- People were able to identify reasons other than those given for not receiving services. Out of the three people who chose "other", three responded. No responses were written in by more than one respondent.

D. HOUSING

Figure D1: Use of Housing Services



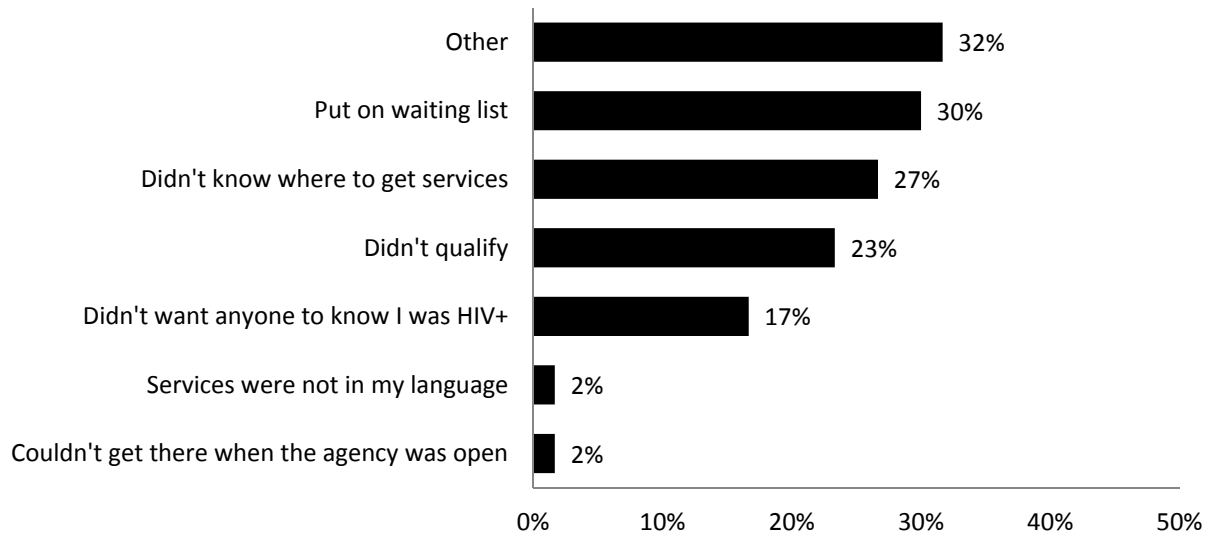
- Respondents were given several lists of services and asked to indicate whether they a) needed the service, b) knew about the service, c) asked for the service, d) received the service, and e) if they received it, did it meet their needs. Respondents were instructed to respond to each question; however, not all respondents provided feedback for all services.
- This chart presents the percentage of respondents who indicated they received housing services.
- “Family Housing” refers to the category in the housing list, “housing where my child(ren) can live with me”.

Table D1: Need of Housing Services by Use

Persons Receiving:	Needed it	Knew about it	Asked for it	Met needs
Help finding a place to live	93% (n=86)	87% (n=87)	93% (n=87)	90% (n=83)
Permanent, independent housing	96% (n=70)	91% (n=70)	96% (n=70)	87% (n=70)
Temporary short-term housing	89% (n=36)	92% (n=36)	89% (n=36)	86% (n=35)
Housing where my child(ren) can live with me	88% (n=24)	88% (n=24)	88% (n=24)	88% (n=24)
Nursing home	78% (n=9)	100% (n=9)	89% (n=9)	63% (n=8)
Money to pay utilities	98% (n=182)	97% (n=181)	98% (n=182)	97% (n=175)
Money to pay rent/mortgage	98% (n=138)	98% (n=138)	99% (n=138)	94% (n=136)
House for person living with HIV	98% (n=47)	91% (n=47)	94% (n=48)	87% (n=45)
Persons Not Receiving:	Needed it	Knew about it	Asked for it	Met needs
Help finding a place to live	16% (n=276)	58% (n=274)	9% (n=276)	--
Permanent, independent housing	17% (n=284)	55% (n=283)	11% (n=284)	--
Temporary short-term housing	7% (n=302)	55% (n=300)	3% (n=301)	--
Housing where my child(ren) can live with me	4% (n=318)	41% (n=318)	2% (n=319)	--
Nursing home	2% (n=329)	51% (n=328)	1% (n=328)	--
Money to pay utilities	21% (n=182)	62% (n=182)	8% (n=182)	--
Money to pay rent/mortgage	21% (n=221)	64% (n=222)	8% (n=222)	--
House for person living with HIV	10% (n=302)	53% (n=302)	3% (n=305)	--

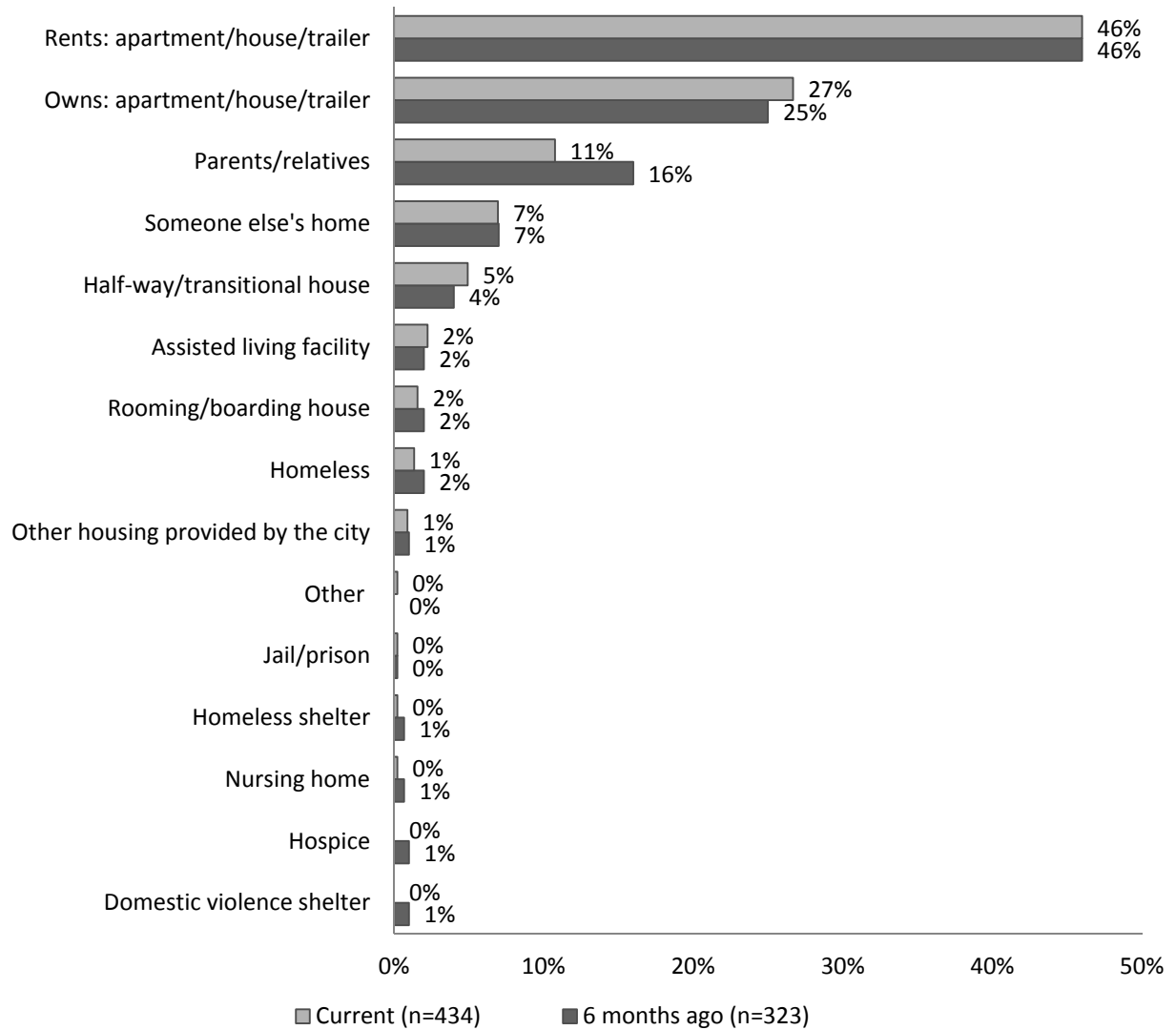
- This table presents the needs of people who responded about their use of housing services.
- The first half of the table, labeled “Persons Receiving”, considers how many people who received a particular service said that a) they needed it, b) they knew about it, c) they asked for it, and d) the service met their needs.
- The second half of the table, labeled “Persons Not Receiving”, considers how many people who did not receive a particular service said they a) needed it, b) knew about it, and c) asked for it.

Figure D2: Barriers to Receiving Housing Services (n=60)



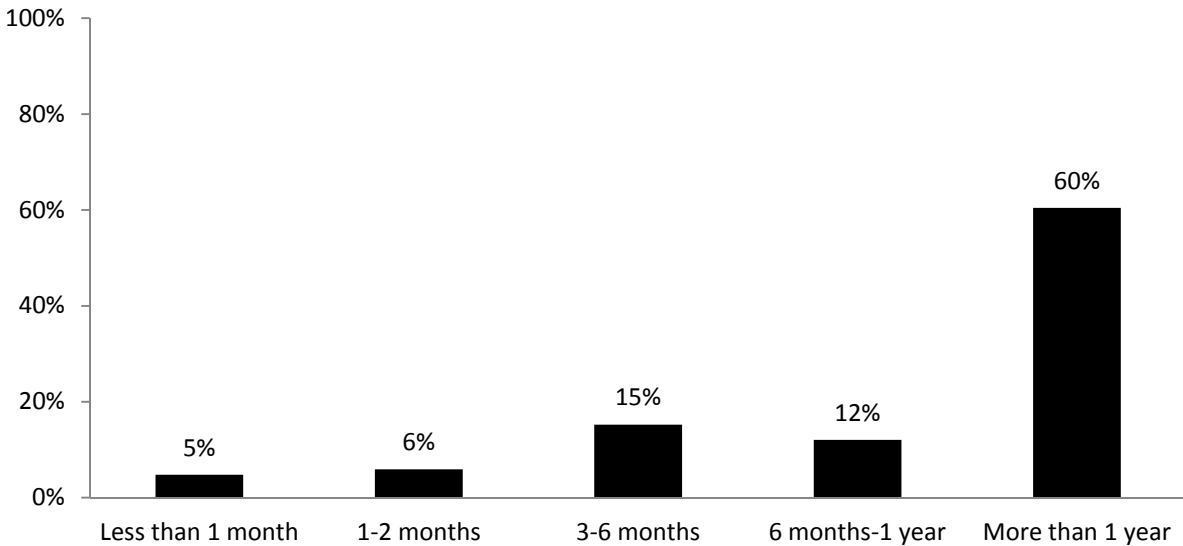
- Included in this analysis are persons who indicated they needed housing services but did not receive them. Out of the 105 people who could respond, 60 provided barriers to receiving housing services; 14 respondents reported two or more barriers barrier (23%).
- Since respondents were permitted to select more than one category or not answer the question at all, the sum of all categories may not meet or may exceed 100%.
- People were able to identify reasons other than those given for not receiving services. Out of the 19 people who chose "other", 17 responded. Responses written in by more than one respondent are: "didn't need services" (three people).

Figure D3: Places Where Respondents Live Now and Six Months Ago



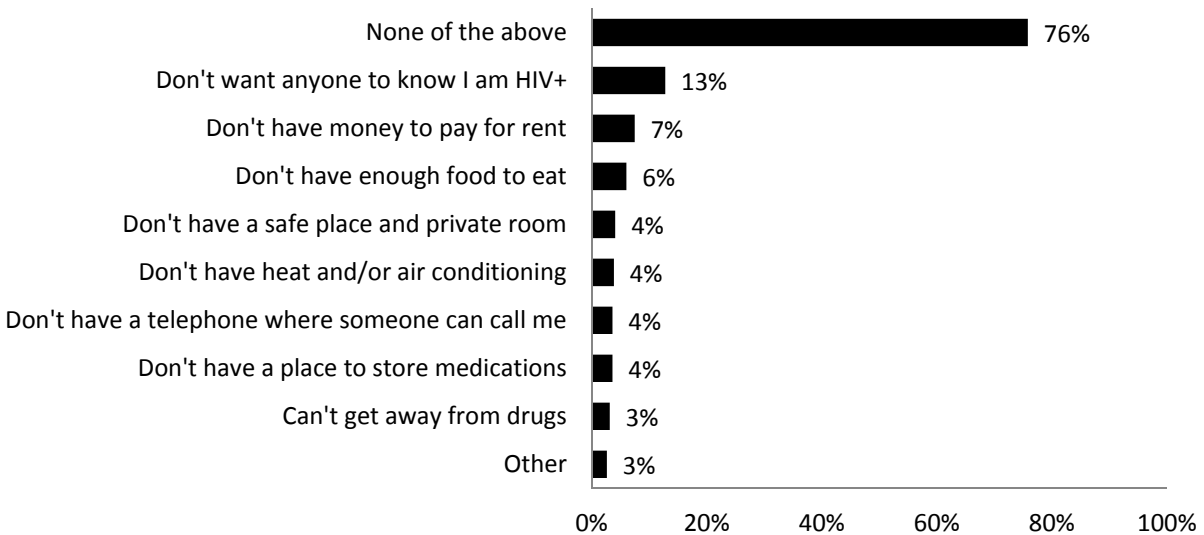
- All respondents were asked to indicate where they live now and where they lived six months ago. Some people did not provide a response; some indicated living in more than one place. The sum of all categories, therefore, may not meet or may exceed 100%.
- Out of the 434 people who responded to the question where they currently live, 3% of respondents reported living in two or more types of housing currently.
- Out of the 323 people who responded to the question where they lived six months ago, 2% of respondents reported living in two or more types of housing six months ago.

Figure D4: Length of Time at Current Residence (n=440)



- Included in this analysis, but not represented in this chart, are the respondents who did not know the length of time they had been at their current residence (2%). Thus, the percentages do not sum to 100%.

Figure D5: Housing-related Barriers that Stop Respondent from Taking Care of their HIV (n=414)



- All respondents were asked to think about any current problems with their housing situation that prevent them from taking care of their HIV. Some did not provide a response, and some selected more than one housing-related barrier to care. Therefore, the sum of all categories may not meet or may exceed 100%.
- Out of the 414 people who responded to this question, 48 respondents reported two or more housing-related barriers that stopped them from taking care of their HIV (12%).

Figure D6: Problems Obtaining Housing in the Last Six Months (n=422)

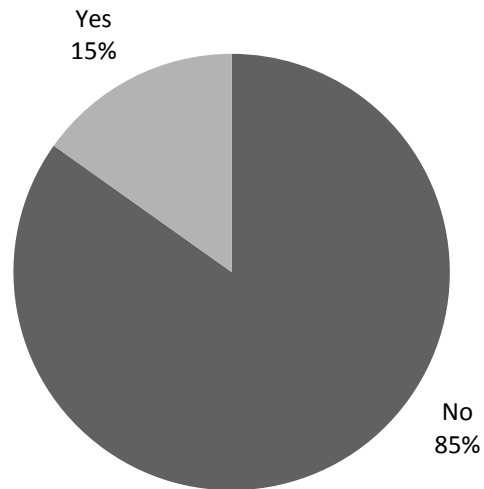
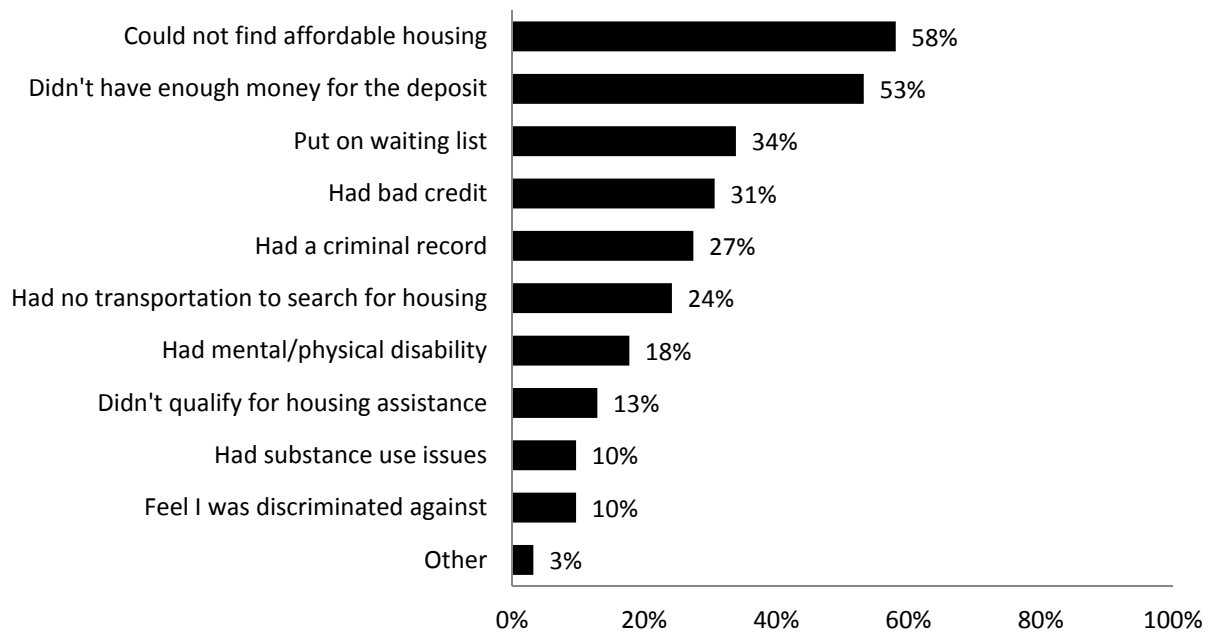
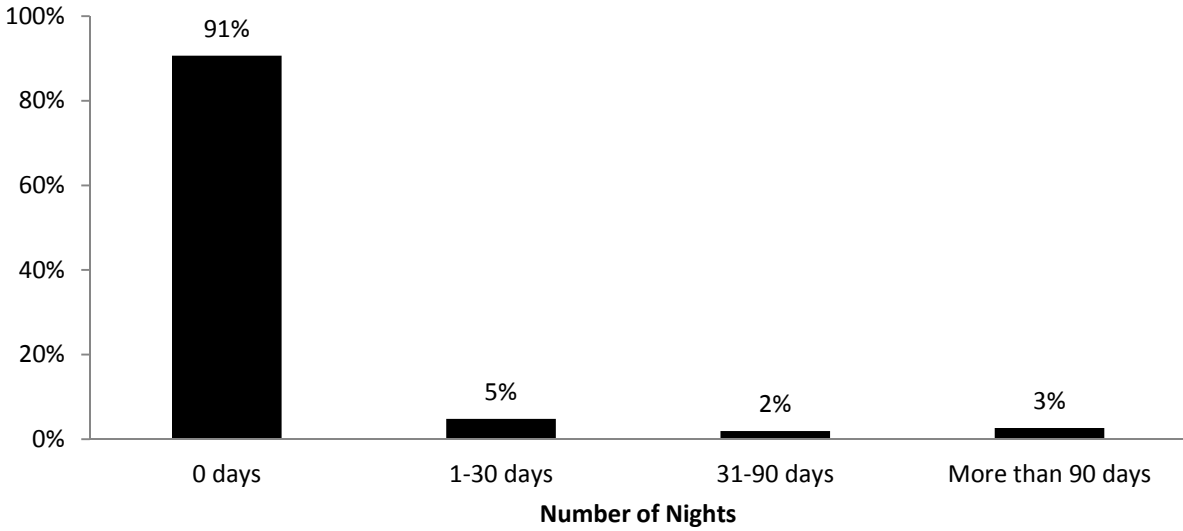


Figure D7: Barriers to Obtaining Housing in the Past Six Months (n=62)



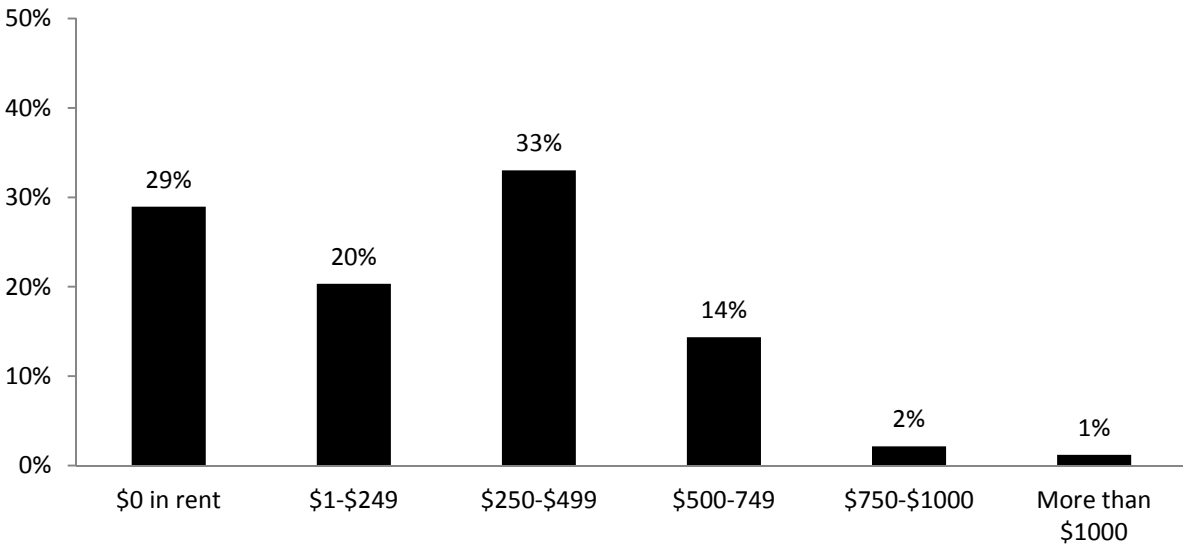
- Included in this analysis are persons who indicated they had trouble getting housing in the past six months. Out of the 64 persons who could respond, 62 provided barriers to obtaining housing; 39 respondents reported two or more barriers (63%).
- Since respondents were permitted to select more than one category or not answer the question at all, the sum of all categories may not meet or may exceed 100%.

Figure D8: Nights Spent Homeless or Without a Place to Sleep (n=417)



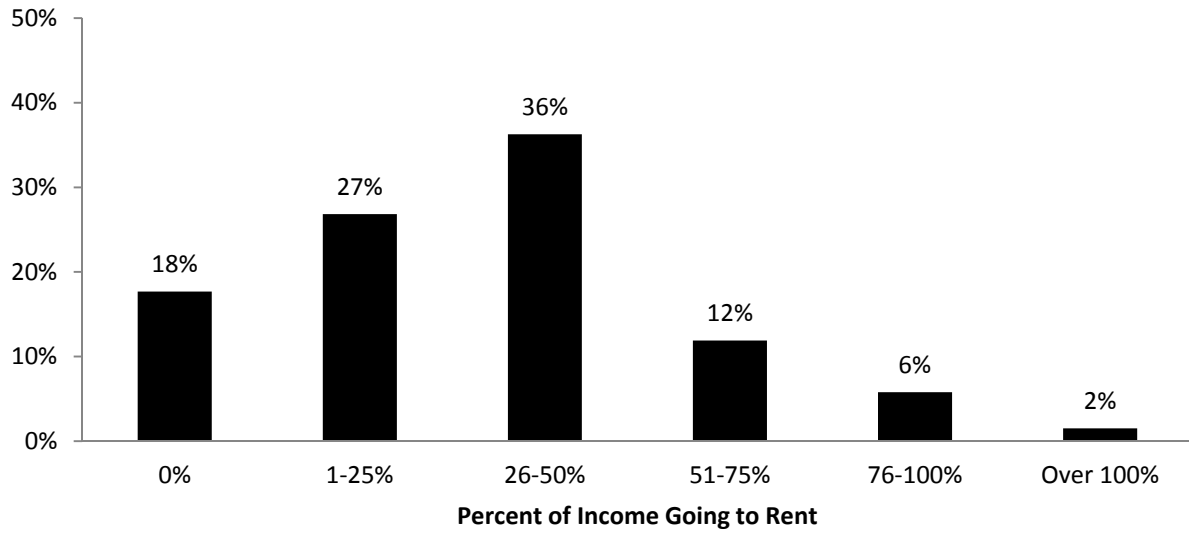
- Due to rounding, percentages do not sum to 100%.

Figure D9: Monthly Rent/Mortgage Contributions (n=418)



- For the 418 people who responded to this question, the average contribution was \$261.99 to their monthly rent or mortgage; range = \$0 to \$1141.
- Due to rounding, percentages do not sum to 100%.

Figure D10: Percentage of Monthly Income that Goes Towards Rent (n=328)



- Respondents were asked to indicate their monthly income in order to calculate the percentage of income going to rent. If respondents did not respond to both the rent and the income question, they were excluded from analysis.
- Due to rounding, percentages do not sum to 100%.

Figure D11: Receiving Monthly Housing Subsidy (n=436)

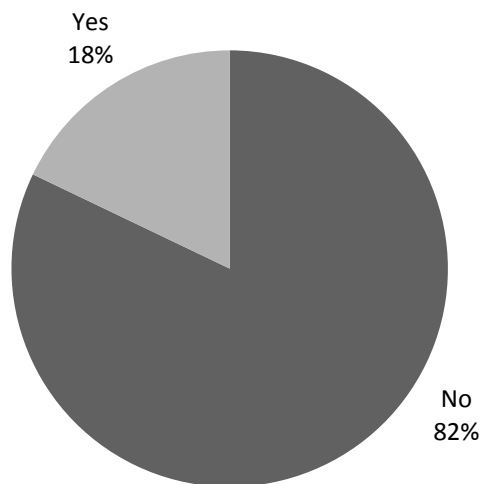
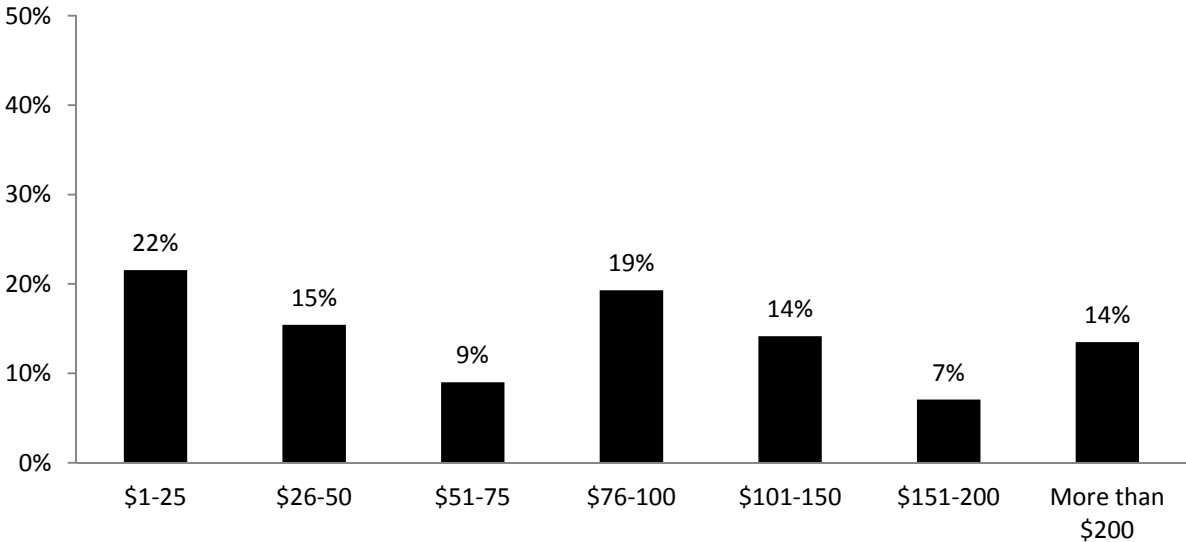


Figure D12: Increase per Month in Rent/Mortgage That Would Cause Respondents to Move (n=311)



- All respondents were asked how much of an increase in rent or mortgage would prompt them to move. Some people did not provide a response, and some indicated that the question did not apply because they did not have rent/mortgage payments.
- Out of the 427 people who responded to this question, 116 indicated that the question did not apply (27%). Those to whom the question did not apply were excluded from the analysis.

E. INCARCERATION

Figure E1: Incarcerated in the Past 12 Months (n=434)

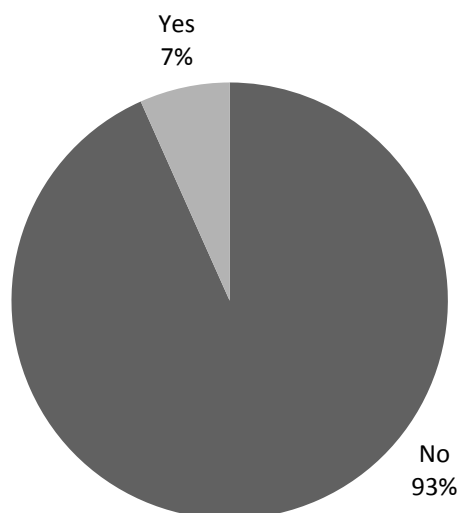
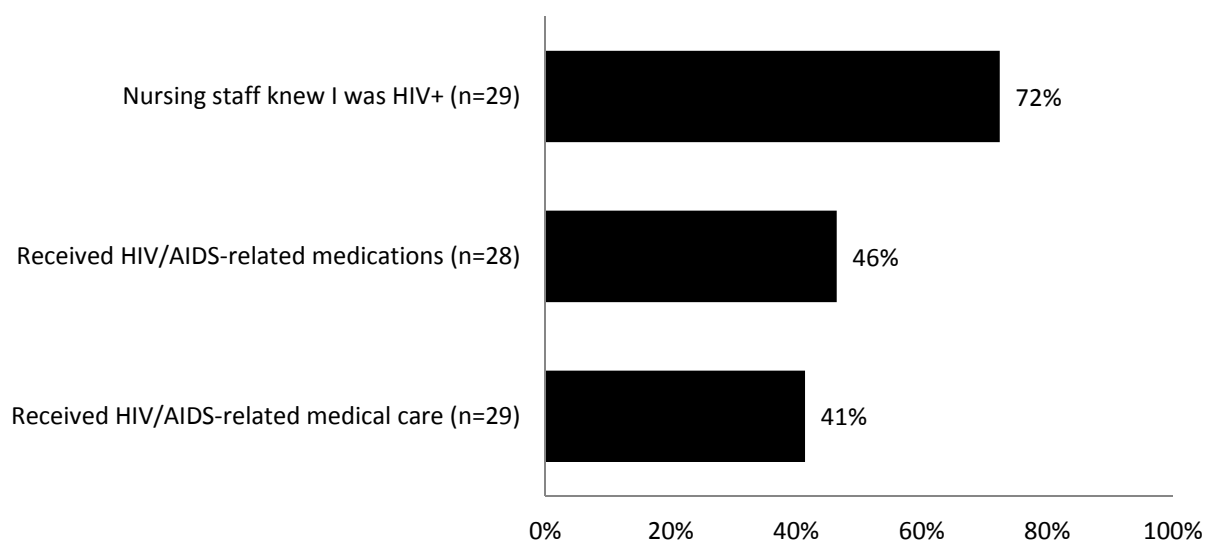
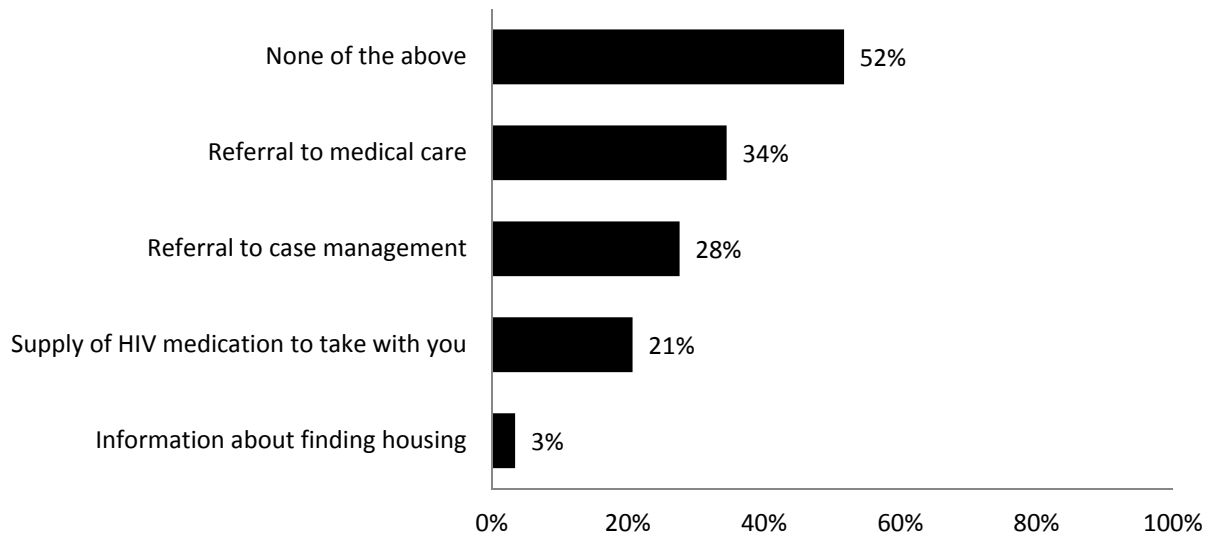


Figure E2: HIV-Related Medical Care While in Jail/Prison



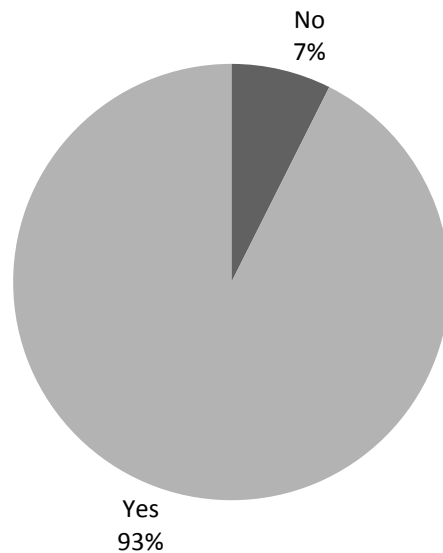
- Included in the analysis are persons who indicated that they had been incarcerated during the past year. Out of the 29 persons who could respond, 29 responded as to whether nursing staff knew of their HIV status; 29 responded as to whether they received HIV-related medical care while in prison; 28 responded as to whether they received HIV-related medications while in prison.

Figure E3: Type of Assistance Received when Released from Jail/Prison (n=29)



- A category reporting 0% responses, “other”, is not included in the figure.
- Included in the analysis are persons who indicated that they had been incarcerated during the past year. Out of the 29 who could respond, 29 persons provided answers for the type of assistance received when released from jail/prison; 8 respondents reported two or more types of assistance (28%).
- Since respondents were permitted to select more than one category or not answer the question at all, the sum of all categories may not meet or may exceed 100%.

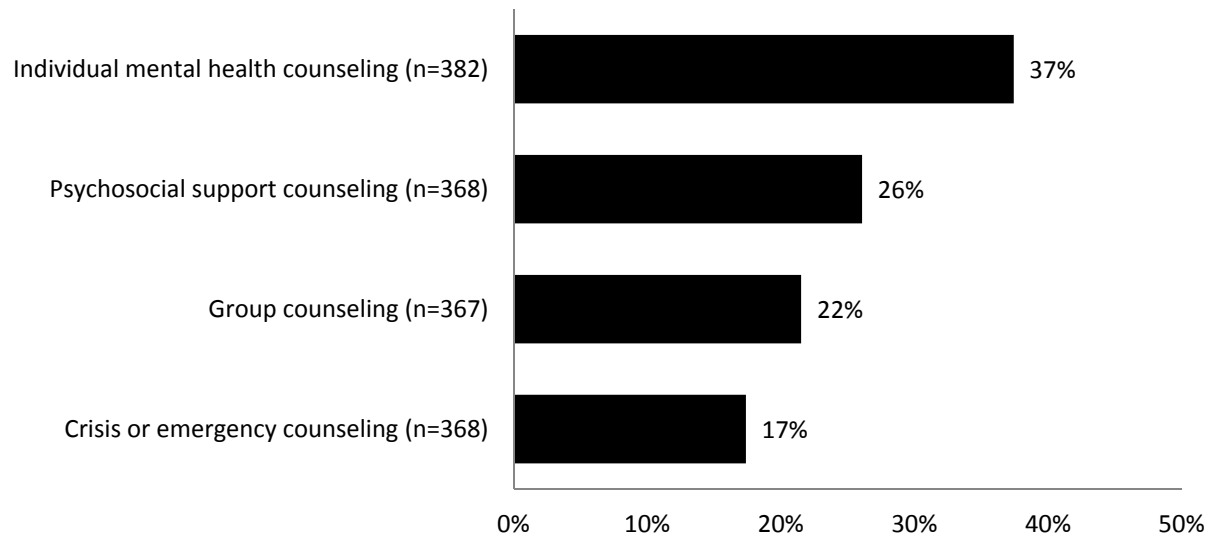
Figure E4: Access to HIV-Related Services after Release from Jail/Prison (n=27)



- Included in the analysis are persons who indicated that they had been incarcerated during the past year. Out of the 29 who could respond, 27 provided an answer to the question about whether they were able to access HIV-related services after release from jail/prison.
- Out of the two persons who reported not being able to access needed HIV services after release, barriers preventing them from accessing these services included: “no insurance” (one person), “didn’t know where to go” (one person), “had trouble finding friends I could trust” (one person), “couldn’t get away from drugs” (one person), and “didn’t want anyone to know I was HIV+” (one person).

F. MENTAL HEALTH

Figure F1: Use of Mental Health Services



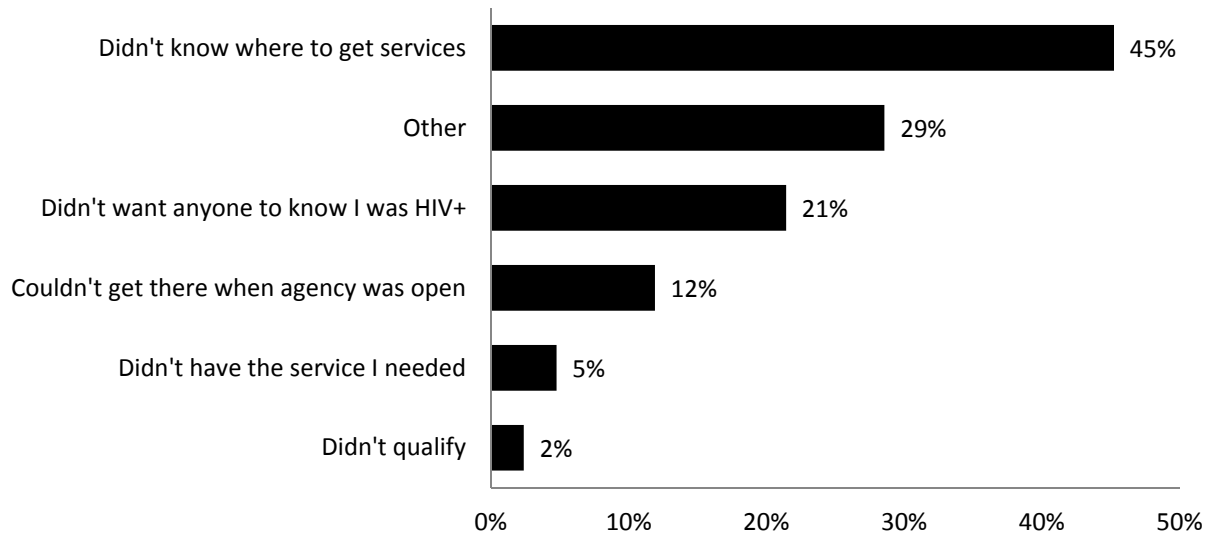
- Respondents were given several lists of services and asked to indicate whether they a) needed the service, b) knew about the service, c) asked for the service, d) received the service, and e) if they received it, whether it met their needs. Respondents were instructed to respond to each question; however, not all respondents provided feedback for all services.
- This chart presents the percentage of respondents who indicated they received mental health services.

Table F1: Need of Mental Health Services by Use

Persons Receiving:	Needed it	Knew about it	Asked for it	Met needs
Individual mental health counseling	98% (n=141)	96% (n=141)	94% (n=140)	92% (n=138)
Group counseling	96% (n=79)	99% (n=79)	94% (n=79)	97% (n=77)
Crisis or emergency counseling	57% (n=79)	83% (n=76)	54% (n=76)	79% (n=56)
Psychosocial support counseling	77% (n=78)	90% (n=77)	77% (n=77)	89% (n=61)
Persons Not Receiving:	Needed it	Knew about it	Asked for it	Met needs
Individual mental health counseling	16% (n=238)	67% (n=238)	7% (n=238)	--
Group counseling	9% (n=285)	62% (n=287)	2% (n=287)	--
Crisis or emergency counseling	9% (n=303)	55% (n=303)	2% (n=302)	--
Psychosocial support counseling	13% (n=270)	60% (n=270)	3% (n=271)	--

- This table presents the needs of people who responded about their use of mental health services.
- The first half of the table, labeled “Persons Receiving”, considers how many people who received a particular service said that a) they needed it, b) they knew about it, c) they asked for it, and d) the service met their needs.
- The second half of the table, labeled “Persons Not Receiving”, considers how many people who did not receive a particular service said they a) needed it, b) knew about it, and c) asked for it.

Figure F2: Barriers to Receiving Mental Health Services and Other Counseling (n=42)



- Categories reporting 0% responses, “Services not in my language” and “Put on a waiting list”, are not included in the figure.
- Included in this analysis are persons who indicated they needed mental health services and other counseling but did not receive them. Out of the 65 people who could respond, 42 provided barriers to receiving mental health services and other counseling; six people reported two or more barriers (14%).
- Since respondents were permitted to select more than one category or not answer the question at all, the sum of all categories may not meet or may exceed 100%.
- People were able to identify reasons other than those given for not receiving services. Out of the 12 people who chose “other”, 11 responded. Responses written in by more than one respondent are: “didn’t need service” (two people); and “no transportation” (two people).

Figure F3: Respondents Reporting Feeling These Emotions Over the Last Two Weeks

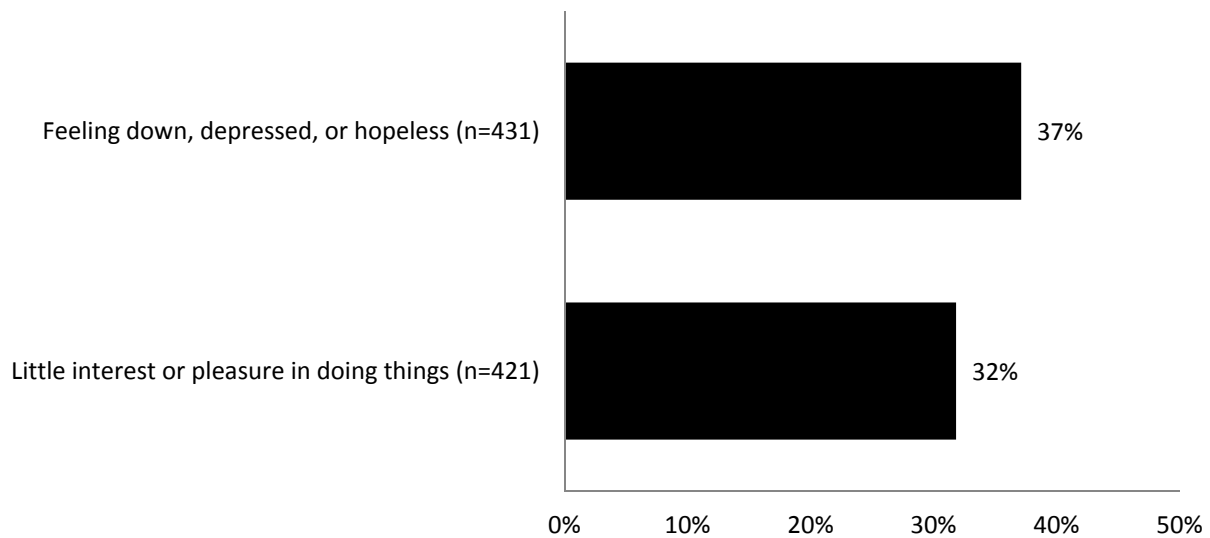


Figure F4: Received Mental Health Services or Counseling in the Last Six Months (n=431)

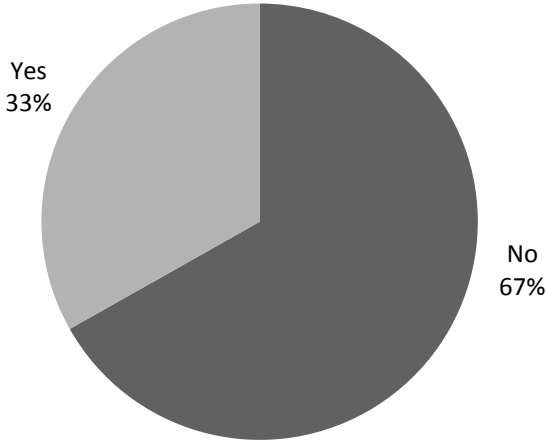


Figure F5: Hospitalized for Mental Health Reasons in Last Six Months (n=427)

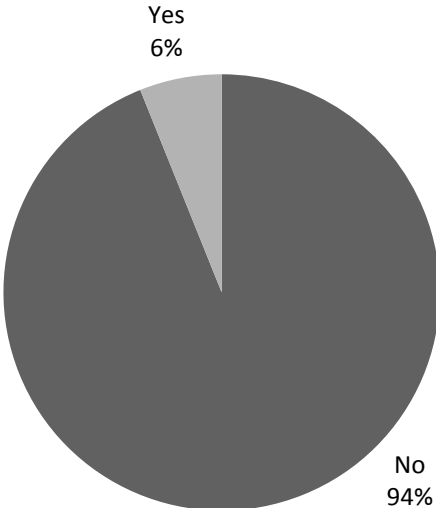


Figure F6: Prescribed Medicine for Mental Health Reasons in the Last Six Months (n=426)

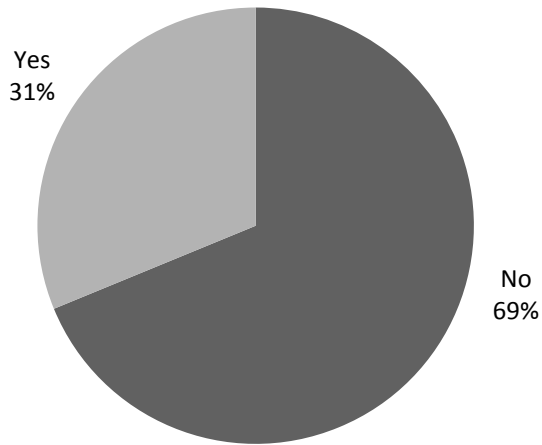
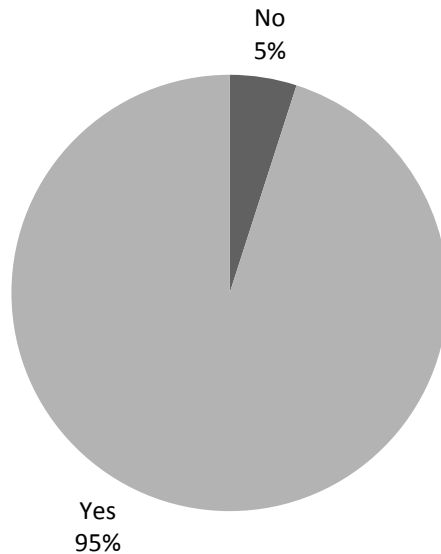


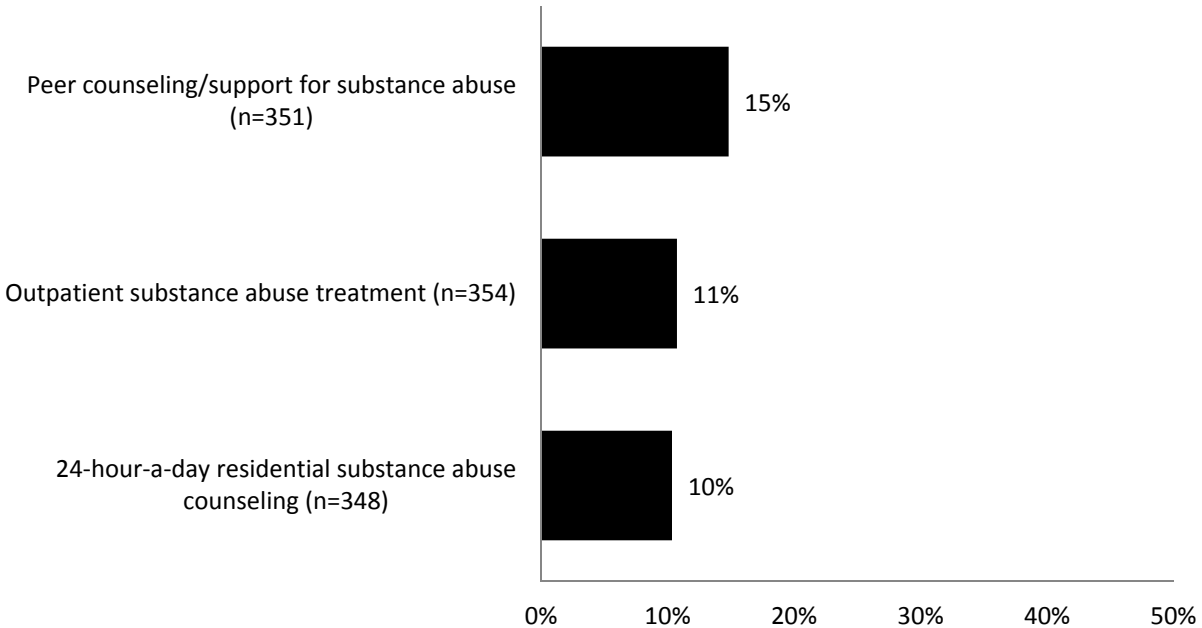
Figure F7: Received Needed Mental Health Medications (n=121)



- Included in this analysis are persons who indicated that they were prescribed medicine for mental health reasons. Out of 133 people who could respond, 121 indicated whether they received the needed medications.
- Out of the six people who indicated they did not receive needed mental health medications, six people provided reasons for not receiving them; one responded s/he didn't know where to get them, two persons responded they couldn't afford them, and three persons responded "other".

G. SUBSTANCE USE

Figure G1: Use of Substance Use Counseling Services



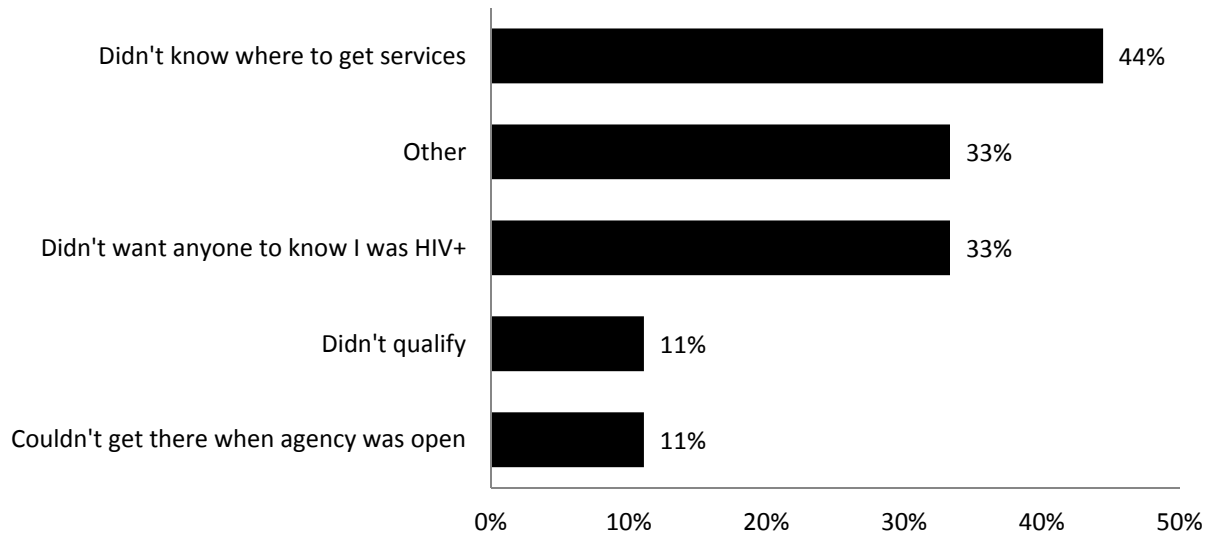
- Respondents were given several lists of services and asked to indicate whether they a) needed the service, b) knew about the service, c) asked for the service, d) received the service, and e) if they received it, did it meet their needs. Respondents were instructed to respond to each question; however, not all respondents provided feedback for all services.
- This chart presents the percentage of respondents who indicated they received substance use counseling services.

Table G1: Need of Substance Use Counseling Services by Use

Persons Receiving:	Needed it	Knew about it	Asked for it	Met needs
Outpatient substance use treatment	95% (n=38)	100% (n=38)	97% (n=37)	97% (n=37)
24-hour-a-day residential substance use counseling	94% (n=36)	97% (n=36)	100% (n=36)	100% (n=35)
Peer counseling and support	98% (n=52)	100% (n=52)	100% (n=52)	98% (n=50)
Persons Not Receiving	Needed it	Knew about it	Asked for it	Met needs
Outpatient substance use treatment	4% (n=314)	64% (n=313)	1% (n=314)	--
24-hour-a-day residential substance use counseling	2% (n=310)	57% (n=311)	1% (n=311)	--
Peer counseling and support	2% (n=297)	55% (n=297)	1% (n=298)	--

- This table presents the needs of people who responded about their use of substance use counseling services.
- The first half of the table, labeled “Persons Receiving”, considers how many people who received a particular service said that a) they needed it, b) they knew about it, c) they asked for it, and d) the service met their needs.
- The second half of the table, labeled “Persons Not Receiving”, considers how many people who did not receive a particular service said they a) needed it, b) knew about it, and c) asked for it.

Figure G2: Barriers to Receiving Substance Use Counseling Services (n=9)



- Categories reporting 0% responses, "Services were not in my language", "Was put on a waiting list", and "Didn't have the service I needed", are not included in the figure.
- Included in this analysis are persons who indicated they needed substance use counseling services but did not receive them. Out of the nine people who could respond, nine persons provided examples of barriers to receiving substance use counseling services; two respondents reported two or more barriers.
- Since respondents were permitted to select more than one category or not answer the question at all, the sum of all categories may not meet or may exceed 100%.
- People were able to identify reasons other than those given for not receiving services. Out of the three people who chose "other", three responded. No responses were written in by more than one respondent.

Figure G3: In Treatment for Substance Use in the Last Six Months (n=417)

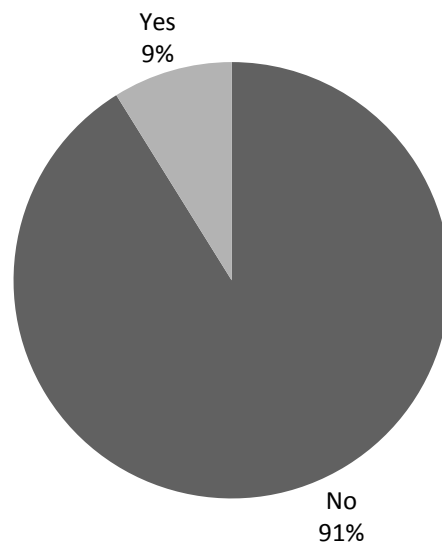
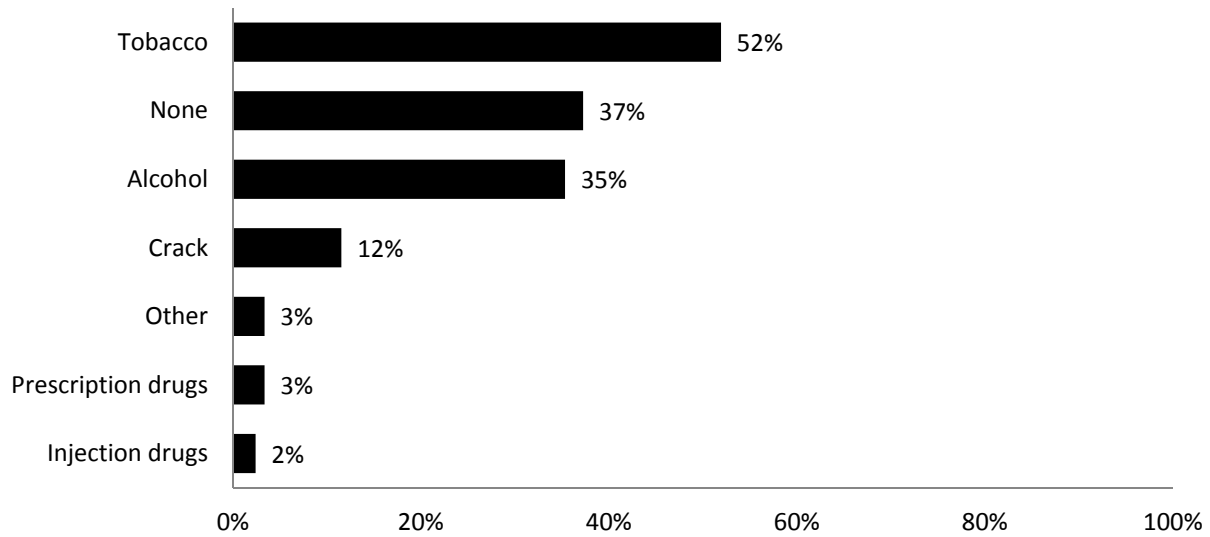
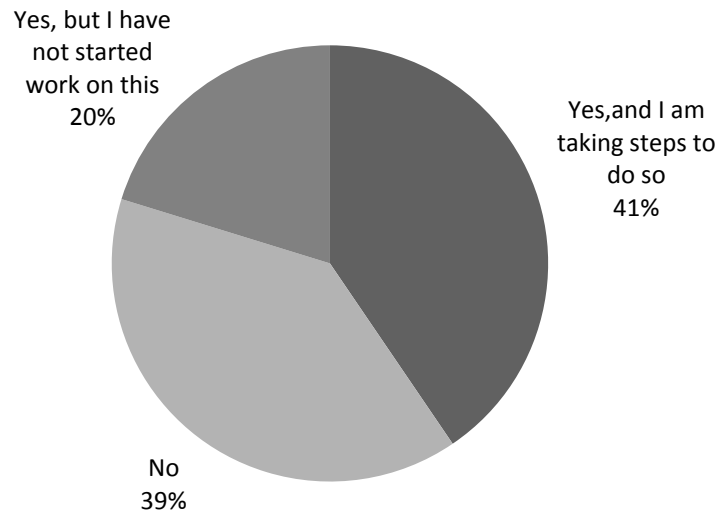


Figure G4: Type of Substances Used During the Past Six Months (n=416)



- All respondents were asked to indicate the types of substances, if any, used in the past six months. Some people did not provide a response, and some selected more than one type of substance. Therefore, the sum of all categories may not meet or may exceed 100%.
- Out of the 416 people who responded to this question, 132 respondents reported two or more substances used in the past six months (32%).

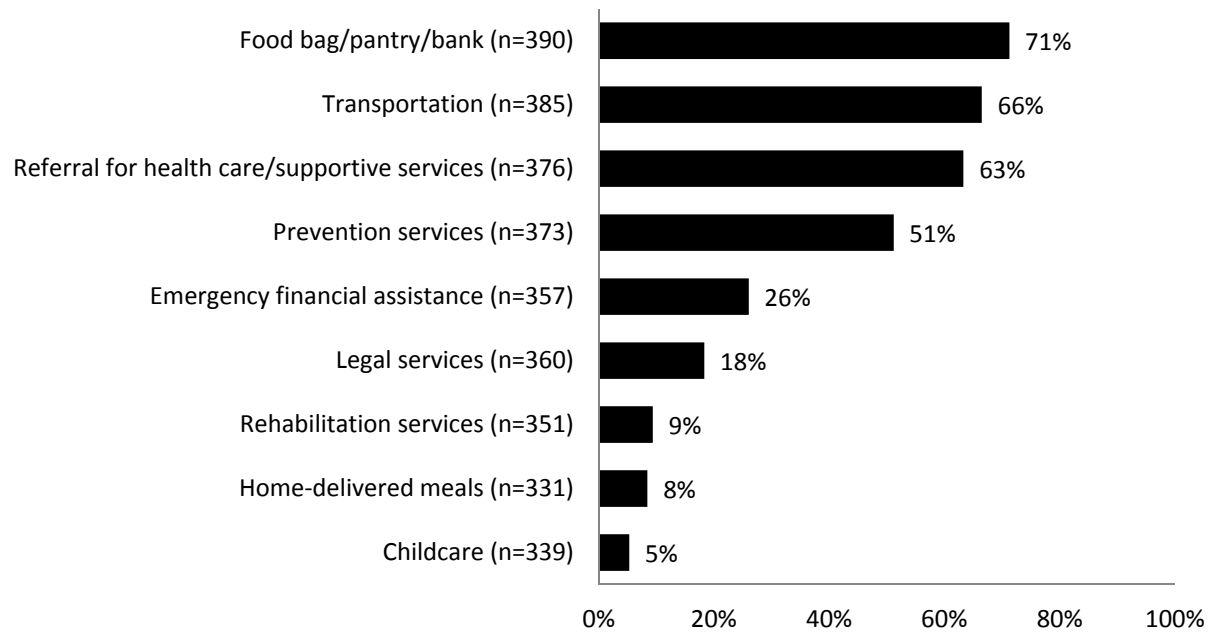
Figure G5: If Using Substances, Desire to Stop (n=247)



- Included in this analysis are persons who indicated the type of substance(s) they used in the past six months (n=262). Excluded are those individuals who indicated they had not used substances in the past six months (n=155) and the five individuals who answered this question but chose the response option, "I didn't use any of those substances". Out of the 257 people who could respond, 247 provided a response to this question.

H. SUPPORTIVE SERVICES

Figure H1: Use of Supportive Services



- Respondents were given several lists of services and asked to indicate whether they a) needed the service, b) knew about the service, c) asked for the service, d) received the service, and e) if they received it, did it meet their needs. Respondents were instructed to respond to each question; however, not all respondents provided feedback for all services.
- This chart presents the percentage of respondents who indicated they received supportive services.

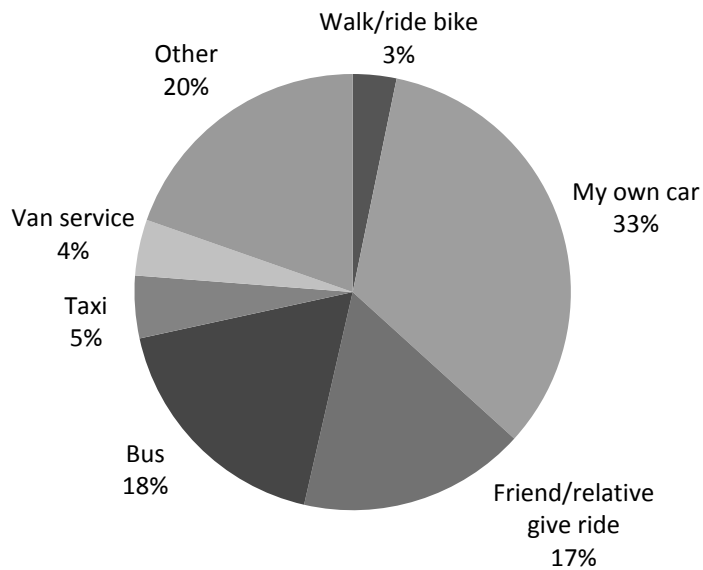
Table H1: Need of Supportive Services by Use

Persons Receiving:	Needed it	Knew about it	Asked for it	Met needs
Referral for health care/supportive services	100% (n=236)	94% (n=237)	97% (n=236)	99% (n=230)
Food bag/pantry/bank	100% (n=278)	97% (n=276)	97% (n=277)	92% (n=270)
Home-delivered meals	82% (n=28)	86% (n=28)	89% (n=28)	93% (n=27)
Legal services	98% (n=66)	94% (n=66)	97% (n=66)	98% (n=61)
Prevention services	94% (n=190)	98% (n=190)	94% (n=189)	99% (n=177)
Childcare	83% (n=18)	89% (n=18)	94% (n=18)	100% (n=17)
Emergency financial assistance	99% (n=92)	95% (n=92)	99% (n=92)	99% (n=86)
Transportation	99% (n=255)	99% (n=254)	99% (n=254)	96% (n=246)
Rehabilitation services	97% (n=33)	97% (n=32)	94% (n=32)	87% (n=31)
Persons Not Receiving:	Needed it	Knew about it	Asked for it	Met needs
Referral for health care/supportive services	17% (n=138)	56% (n=138)	8% (n=137)	--
Food bag/pantry/bank	32% (n=112)	50% (n=112)	11% (n=112)	--
Home-delivered meals	8% (n=299)	37% (N=302)	2% (n=303)	--
Legal services	12% (n=291)	54% (n=294)	3% (n=293)	--
Prevention services	13% (n=180)	63% (n=182)	1% (n=181)	--
Childcare	4% (n=321)	33% (n=321)	1% (n=321)	--
Emergency financial assistance	18% (n=264)	49% (n=264)	5% (n=263)	--
Transportation	16% (n=129)	60% (n=129)	7% (n=129)	--
Rehabilitation services	6% (n=318)	45% (n=318)	2% (n=317)	--

- This table presents the needs of people who responded about their use of supportive services.
- The first half of the table, labeled “Persons Receiving”, considers how many people who received a particular service said that a) they needed it, b) they knew about it, c) they asked for it, and d) the service met their needs.
- The second half of the table, labeled “Persons Not Receiving”, considers how many people who did not receive a particular service said they a) needed it, b) knew about it, and c) asked for it.

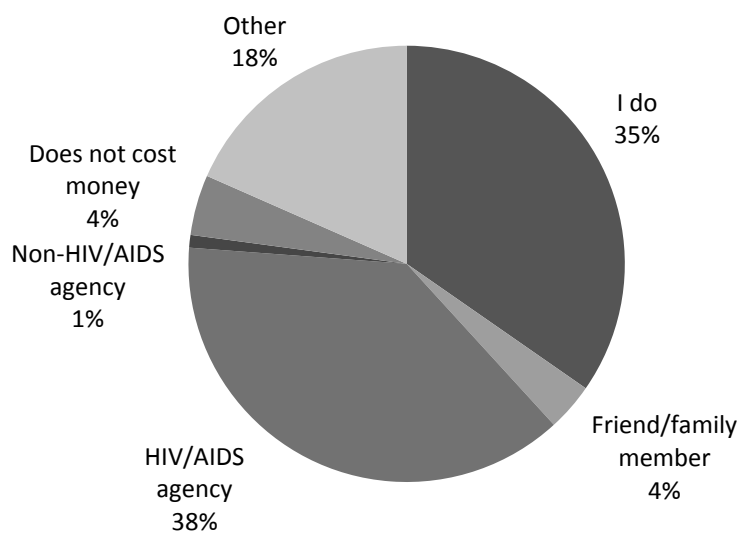
Transportation

Figure H2: Usual Means of Transportation to HIV Services (n=433)



- Respondents were able to identify types of transportation other than those given used to get to HIV-related services. Out of the 85 people who chose "other", 82 provided responses. The majority of responses were combinations of the response options given, (e.g. walk, or ride a bike, or a friend/relative gives me a ride) (72 people). Additional responses written in by more than one respondent are: "CARES/Acadia" (two people), "Medicaid transportation" (two people), "Ryan White agency" (two people).

Figure H3: Who Pays for Transportation (n=424)



APPENDIX A – Methods

The needs assessment consisted of a facility-based survey to consumers of HIV services using a self-administered instrument in both English and Spanish. The administration of the survey in NO EMA took place over five weeks, from April 6 to May 4, 2011. The administration of the survey in regions III through IX took place over five weeks, from May 1 to May 31, 2011. Consumers who completed the survey were given a \$10 gift card in appreciation for their participation. Peer coordinators were used to assist consumers in completing the survey instrument, to coordinate the return of completed surveys to The Policy & Research Group (PRG), and to manage the gift cards. This section describes the procedures and instruments used in this needs assessment.

Instrument

The 2011 instrument is a revised and adapted version of the 2008 Needs Assessment. Revisions to the instrument were made by the Louisiana Office of Public Health STD/HIV Program (OPH SHP), with input from the New Orleans Regional AIDS Planning Council (NORAPC) and consumers.

The instrument covers eight domains: general information; employment and income; medical care; housing; incarceration; mental health services; substance use services; and, supportive services. The general information section includes questions on basic demographic information and HIV status. The employment and income section asks about employment status, amount of income, and sources of income. Medical care covers a variety of topics including health insurance, use of medical services, health-seeking behavior, medication adherence, barriers to accessing care, out-of-care status, and maternity care. The housing sections ask about present and past residence, barriers to accessing housing and housing services, homelessness, and rent/mortgage contributions. Incarceration covers HIV-related medical care and assistance received while in prison/jail, as well as barriers to accessing services after release from prison/jail. The mental health sections ask about counseling and mental health services used by respondents and barriers to accessing those services. The substance use sections ask about substance use and barriers to accessing substance use services. Finally, the supportive services section asks about transportation and use of other services, such as childcare, legal services, and emergency financial assistance.

The final version of the instrument contains a total of 63 primary questions, 15 sub-questions to account for skip patterns, and six multiple category questions with 34 total categories. Thus, the instrument contains 112 total questions within 12 pages. Due to the skip patterns built into the survey, respondents were not expected to answer all 112 questions. Questions were mostly closed-ended, including multiple-selection, dichotomous, and select-all-that-apply response options. Some questions included an “other” category so that respondents could write in a unique response if the available categorical response options were not comprehensive enough. From the field-testing of the instrument, the survey was expected to take between 30 to 45 minutes to complete. The final instrument was also translated into Spanish with support from the Louisiana Latino Health Coalition for HIV/AIDS Awareness (LLHC).

Sample

The Louisiana Public Health regions (Figure 1) and *Ryan White* funding structures were used to organize administration of the needs assessment. In regions III through IX, OPH SHP determined that the desired sample size would be 450 people. In the NO EMA, NORAPC determined that the desired sample size would be 500 people. The NO EMA includes all parishes in Region I (Orleans, St. Bernard, Plaquemines, Jefferson, and St. Charles), and several additional parishes from Region III (St. James and St. John the Baptist) and Region IX (St. Tammany).

Figure 1: Map of Louisiana Public Health Regions



The sampling approach relied solely upon convenience sampling. Any person living with HIV (PLWH) who walked into any one of the participating agencies and was at least 13 years old during the administration period was eligible to complete the Needs Assessment survey.^{2,3} OPH SHP established sampling targets for each region. PRG, OPH SHP, and NORAPC staff were in regular communication with each regional agency during administration of the needs assessment to ensure that sampling targets were being met.

² The age for participation was determined by OPH SHP based on the minimum age to consent for HIV treatment.

³ At two agencies, the Family Advocacy, Care & Education Services program of Children's Hospital (FACES) and the Medical Center of Louisiana at New Orleans, only people living with HIV/AIDS who were 18 years or older were eligible to participate in the survey due to IRB constraints.

Partners

The needs assessment was conducted with the cooperation of 12 agencies across the state. Partner agencies were responsible for distributing surveys to consumers and handling incentives used during survey administration. One person at each agency was identified as the agency representative, serving as the point of contact for PRG. A partner list is provided in Appendix B.

Peer coordinators were assigned to work in each agency and manage administration and collection of surveys and distribution of incentives.⁴ Peer coordinators were consumers who either had previously served as peer coordinators during the 2008 HIV Needs Assessment, or were chosen by OPH SHP or NORAPC to assist in the administration of the survey. The peer coordinators were based in one of the participating agencies and approached consumers who entered the agency. The peer coordinators' responsibilities included: helping consumers complete the survey, managing incentives (though agency representatives had ultimate responsibility for incentives), and preparing completed surveys for shipping back to PRG. In Regions III-IX, peer coordinators received a \$10 gift card for each week they worked.

Training

All individuals who were involved with the administration of the Needs Assessment attended a training conducted by OPH SHP or NORAPC. The training covered the administration of the survey, the instrument, management of incentives, and confidentiality agreements.

Administration

All of the materials necessary to begin collecting data, including surveys and incentives, were mailed or hand-delivered by PRG to the agencies. Data were collected in NO EMA from April 6 to May 4, 2011 and in regions III through IX from May 1 to May 31, 2011. Regions that reached their targets before the close of the data collection period were instructed to stop administering surveys. However, NO EMA and region VIII made several copies of the survey to administer the instrument to additional persons requesting to take part in the needs assessment, and OPH SHP decided to include these extra surveys in the sample. During data collection, each consumer that visited a participating agency was offered the chance to take the Needs Assessment survey. Receptionists, case managers, and peer coordinators were all involved in recruiting participants for the survey. Each consumer who agreed to complete the survey was given a survey packet, which included the paper version of the survey, instructions, an envelope in which to place the completed survey, and a pen. The instruction sheet explained the purpose of the needs assessment, how long it would take to complete the survey, that the survey was completely voluntary, and a reminder that respondents could only complete one survey. Consumers were assured that the survey was completely confidential, that their responses would not be used to identify them, and that the information collected would be used only for planning purposes. Consumers also were instructed not to write any identifying information on the survey itself or on the accompanying envelope.

When available, consumers were given a private space where they could complete the survey. Peer coordinators and agency staff were available to assist participants as needed.

When the consumers completed the surveys, they placed the survey in sealed envelopes, returned them to the agency representative or peer coordinator, and received a \$10 Walmart gift card as a gesture of appreciation for their time and participation. Completed surveys were kept sealed and in a secure place, and were mailed to PRG on a weekly basis. In Orleans Parish, a PRG representative collected the completed surveys twice per week directly from the participating agencies.

⁴ Two agencies did not have a peer coordinator and an agency representative coordinated administration of the surveys.

Data entry and cleaning

Data entry of the surveys occurred as soon as they were received at PRG. Upon receipt, surveys were counted, inspected for errors, and marked with an individual unique number. Surveys were entered using an online *Remark Web Survey* data form that was created by PRG. Then, the data were cleaned to account for missing responses, multiple answers, and any other possible errors. After data entry was complete, 10% of the surveys were randomly chosen and responses on the paper surveys were compared with data in the dataset. This was done to ensure data-entry accuracy. Once all surveys were entered and cleaned, they were converted to *Stata 10.0* files for data analysis.

Data analysis

Data analysis was conducted in *Stata 10.0*. Responses to all questions were tabulated and corresponding figures and tables were created to depict distribution of responses. The total number of people who responded to each question (“n”) was reported for each figure. However, there were no questions to which the entire sample responded; thus the reported “n” varies throughout the report. Respondents were excluded from analyses if: a) they did not provide an answer to a particular question; b) they did not belong to the sub-population of respondents to which the question pertained; or c) the analysis was based upon responses to more than one question, and the respondent did not answer all applicable questions (e.g., mean number of people per household by income).

As previously mentioned, some questions allowed respondents to provide “other” responses if they felt their situation was not represented by the given answers. PRG reviewed responses to all questions with an “other” category. For each particular question, if over 10% of the respondents in the full, statewide sample or over 20% of respondents in the other two samples selected the “other” category, we report any response written in by more than one respondent below the appropriate figure. The responses are presented from most common to least common. It should be noted that not all persons who responded “other” provided written-in responses.

For all questions, if the response percentage to a category was $\leq 1\%$, the category was still included in the analysis, but it was either omitted from the figure or reported in the “other” category percentage. In all of these cases, a note was included below the appropriate figure describing the distribution. Any category reporting 0% responses was omitted from figures and was noted below the figure.

PRG makes every effort to protect respondent confidentiality and privacy. In cases where the respondent’s identity might reasonably be revealed with the data available, we do not publish data where the number of cases in a cell is fewer than five or such other number which could, in the opinion of the researchers, result in the disclosure of confidential personal information.

For the NO EMA report, two separate tables were generated, which ranked services needed and services in which respondents reported a gap (needed the service but didn’t receive it). For the “Services Needed” table, ranking was determined by the total number of person who provided an affirmative response to the question “Did you need this service?” For the “Service Gaps” table, ranking was determined by the total number of respondents who provided an affirmative response to the question “Did you need this service?” combined with a negative response to the question “Did you receive this service?” In each table, the service with the highest number of respondents ranked first and the service with the least number of respondents ranked last.

APPENDIX B – List of Partners

Region III:

NO/AIDS Task Force – Collaborative AIDS Support Services

Region IV:

Acadiana Cares

Region V:

Southwest Louisiana AIDS Council (SLAC)

Region VI:

Central Louisiana AIDS Support Services (CLASS)

Region VII:

The Philadelphia Center

Region VIII:

Greater Ouachita Coalition Providing AIDS Resources and Education (GO CARE)

Region IX:

Volunteers of America IX

APPENDIX C – Survey Instrument

2011 Needs Assessment Survey FOR PERSONS LIVING WITH HIV/AIDS

Please STOP if you have already taken this survey. Each individual is only allowed to take this survey ONE TIME.

What is this survey for?

The survey asks people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) in Louisiana what HIV/AIDS services they need and what HIV/AIDS services they are getting. The information that is gathered from these surveys helps determine what services will be offered to PLWHA for the next 2 years. Data is being collected from April 1 – April 30.

Why should you complete this survey?

Completing this survey gives YOU a voice and helps us understand your needs relating to HIV/AIDS services. We won't know the services you need most unless YOU tell us. Your input *does* matter. Plus, you will get a **\$10 gift card to Wal-Mart** just for completing the survey!

How long will this survey take?

This survey takes 30-45 minutes to complete. Please take as long as you need to answer each question. If there is a question you do not understand, please ask for help from the survey coordinator.

Do I have to complete this survey in order to receive HIV/AIDS services?

No. Please understand the completion of this survey is **strictly voluntary**. If you do not want to complete the survey, it will not affect the services you receive. You may stop the survey at any time or skip any question that you do not want to answer.

Will this information be used to identify me as an individual?

No. All information collected through this survey is completely confidential and anonymous. **Please do not put your name or any identifying information on this survey.** The information is collected for planning purposes only and the individual's information will **NOT** be shared with anyone.

If you need help taking this survey, please ask the peer coordinator or agency staff for help. If you have any further questions regarding this survey, please contact Erika Sugimori at the New Orleans Regional AIDS Planning Council at 504-821-7334.

This Survey Serves You!!!

2011 Needs Assessment Survey

FOR PERSONS LIVING WITH HIV/AIDS

INTRODUCTION

Completing this survey gives you a voice and helps us understand your needs as it relates to HIV/AIDS services available to you.

There are no right or wrong answers. Please take as much time as you need to answer each question based on **your** experiences. If you have any questions or don't understand something, please ask the peer assistant to explain the question to you.

Your responses are anonymous. Your answers will never be linked to you. Thank you in advance for completing this survey.

SECTION A. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. What is your HIV/AIDS status?

- HIV positive with no symptoms (asymptomatic)
- HIV positive with symptoms
- Diagnosed with AIDS
- Don't know

2. What year did you find out you were HIV infected?

3. If you are living with AIDS, in what year were you diagnosed with AIDS?

4. When you found out you were HIV+, did you live in Louisiana? Yes No

4a. If yes, which parish? _____

4b. If no, what state? _____

5. Where were you told you were HIV+?

- HIV/AIDS community-based organization
- Hospital/ER
- Local health center or clinic
- Private doctor's office
- Organizations providing other services (family planning, substance use treatment, etc.)
- Other (specify: _____)

6. What parish do you live in now? _____

7. What is your zip code? _____

8. I am _____

- Male (SKIP TO Q9)
- Female
- Transgender (SKIP TO Q9)

8a. If female, are you currently pregnant, or have you been pregnant within the last 12 months?

- Yes
- No (SKIP TO Q9)

8b. If YES, are you currently receiving or did you receive any medication to prevent transmission of HIV from you to your baby?

- Yes No

8c. If your baby has been born, is s/he seeing a doctor?

- Yes
- No
- My baby has not yet been born

9. How would you describe your race?

- African American/Black
- Caucasian/White
- Asian/Pacific Islander
- Native American
- Multi-racial
- Other (specify: _____)

10. Do you consider yourself to be Latino/a/Hispanic?

- Yes No

11. What language do you feel most comfortable speaking?

- English
- Spanish
- Vietnamese
- French
- Other (specify: _____)

REMINDER: All information collected in this survey is anonymous. It **cannot** and **will not** be used to identify you and **will not** affect your receipt of HIV/AIDS services.

12. Are you a United States citizen?

- Yes
- No

13. If no, are you living in the United States legally?

- Yes
- No

14. How old are you? _____

This Survey Serves You!!!

15. What is the highest level of education you completed?

- 8th grade or less
- Some college
- Some high school
- College degree
- High School / GED
- Graduate school or more
- Vocational Training

16. What is your current marital status?

- Single/Living alone
- Married
- Living with a partner/significant other
- Divorced/separated
- Widowed

SECTION B. EMPLOYMENT & INCOME

17. What best describes your work situation in the last 6 months?

- Full-time
- Part-time
- Self-employed (you have your own business)
- Working off and on
- Not working

18. If you are *not* working, why not?

- Student
- Looking for a job
- Retired
- For health reasons; and I'm on disability
- For health reasons; and I'm not on disability
- Other (specify: _____)

19. What was your total household income last month? (Include all the money you received, plus the money anyone else who lives with you received. Include money from government assistance, except food stamps.)

- No income
- \$1 - \$500
- \$501 - \$1,000
- \$1,001 - \$1,500
- \$1,501 - \$2,000
- \$2,001 - \$2,500
- \$2,501 - \$3,000
- \$3,001 - \$3,500
- More than \$3,500

20. How many people in your household are supported by this income?

21. Did you directly receive any of the following in the last 6 months? Answer for yourself only and not the household. (MARK ALL THAT APPLY)

- Wages/stipend/salary from a job
- SSI (Supplemental Security Income)
- SSDI (Social Security Disability Insurance)
- AFDC/TANF (Aid to Families with Dependent Children/Temporary Assistance to Needy Families)
- Child Support/Alimony
- Unemployment payments/benefits
- Food stamps
- Other (specify: _____)
- None of the above

22. What kind of health insurance (including Medicaid or Medicare) do you have that covers your HIV/AIDS-related medical care/medications? This could be your insurance or someone else's if you are on their plan. (MARK ALL THAT APPLY)

- No insurance
- Insurance through work
- COBRA (continuation of insurance paid through your last employer)
- Private insurance, not through work
- Medicare
- Medicaid
- State High Risk Insurance Pool
- VA (Veteran's Administration)
- Other (specify: _____)

23. If you selected *no insurance* above, what is preventing you from getting health insurance? (MARK ALL THAT APPLY)

- I can't afford it
- I don't know where to get it
- I was denied because of a previous medical condition
- I don't have proper U.S. residency documents
- I don't qualify
- It is not a priority for me at this time
- Other (specify: _____)

SECTION C. HOUSING

24. Mark the columns to tell us where you live NOW and where you lived 6 MONTHS AGO?

	NOW	6 mos. ago
Apartment/house/trailer that <i>I own</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Apartment/house/trailer that <i>I rent</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
At my parent's/relative's apartment/house/trailer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Someone else's apartment/house/trailer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
In a rooming or boarding house	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
In a "supportive living" facility (Assisted Living Facility)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
In a half-way house, transitional housing or treatment facility (drug or psychiatric)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nursing home	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Homeless (on street/in car/abandoned building)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Homeless shelter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Domestic violence shelter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other housing provided by the city or state	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hospice	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
In jail/prison	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify: _____)		

25. Approximately how long have you lived at your current residence?

- Less than 1 month
- 1 – 2 months
- 3 – 6 months
- 6 months – 1 year
- More than 1 year
- Don't know
- I'm homeless

26. Think about your housing situation now: do any of the following stop you from taking care of your HIV/AIDS? (MARK ALL THAT APPLY)

- I don't have a safe and private room
- I don't have a place to store my medications
- I don't have a telephone where someone can call me
- I don't have enough food to eat
- I don't have money to pay for rent
- I don't have heat and/or air conditioning
- I don't want anyone to know I am HIV+
- I can't get away from drugs (in the neighborhood)
- Other (specify: _____)
- None of the above

27. Now think about general problems you had getting housing. In the past 6 months, did you have any trouble getting housing?

- Yes
- No

28. If you answered YES above, what kept you from getting housing? (MARK ALL THAT APPLY)

- I didn't have enough money for the deposit
- I could not find affordable housing
- I had no transportation to search for housing
- I had bad credit
- I was put on a waiting list
- I had a mental/physical disability
- I had a criminal record
- I didn't qualify for housing assistance
- I feel I was discriminated against
- I had substance use issues
- Other (specify: _____)

29. In the past year, how many nights have you NOT had a place of your own in which to live and sleep? (Meaning you were homeless, in a shelter, on the street, or in a similar situation) _____

30. How much do you and/or your household pay monthly to the rent or mortgage? (This is not necessarily the amount of your rent, but how much you and your household members ACTUALLY PAY.) _____

31. To give us an idea about how much of your household income goes to pay this rent, please tell us the total amount of monthly income you and/or your household members receive each month. _____

32. How much of an increase PER MONTH in rent or mortgage would cause you to have to find a new place to live?

- \$1 - \$25
- \$26 - \$50
- \$51 - \$75
- \$76 - \$100
- \$101 - \$150
- \$151 - \$200
- An increase of more than \$200
- N/A: I do not have rent or mortgage

33. Are you currently receiving an ongoing monthly housing subsidy, such as Section 8, Housing Choice Voucher, Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH), Shelter+Care, or living in public housing?

- Yes
- No

34. Were you in jail or prison during the past year?

- Yes
- No (Skip to SECTION D.)

34a. If you answered YES above, did jail/prison nursing staff know you were HIV+?

- Yes
- No

34b. Did you receive HIV/AIDS-related medical care while in jail/prison?

- Yes
- No

34c. Did you receive HIV/AIDS-related medications while in jail/prison?

- Yes
- No
- N/A: I wasn't prescribed HIV meds at the time

34d. When you were released from jail/prison, which of the following did you receive? (MARK ALL THAT APPLY)

- Information about finding housing
- Referral to medical care
- Referral to case management
- A supply of HIV medication to take with you
- Other (specify: _____)
- None of the above

34e. After release, were you able to access the HIV/AIDS-related services you needed?

- Yes (Skip to SECTION D.)
- No

34f. If you answered NO above, what kept you? (MARK ALL THAT APPLY)

- No insurance – financial reasons
- I didn't know where to go
- I had trouble finding friends I could trust
- I didn't have documentation or ID to qualify
- I didn't want to take off from work
- I couldn't get away from drugs
- I didn't have transportation to get services
- I didn't want anyone to know I was HIV+
- Other (specify: _____)

SECTION D. ACCESS & BARRIERS TO HIV CARE

35. In general, how would you describe your overall health today?

- Poor
- Fair
- Good
- Very Good
- Excellent

36. Did you seek out HIV/AIDS-related medical care during the last 6 months?

- Yes
- No (Skip to Q38)

37. If you answered YES above, select the following that applies:

- I received enough medical care (Skip to Q39)
- I needed MORE medical care than I received (Skip to Q39)
- I did not receive medical care

38. If you did not seek out or receive HIV/AIDS-related medical care in the last 6 months, why not? (MARK ALL THAT APPLY)

- I didn't know where to go
- I couldn't get an appointment
- I couldn't get transportation
- I couldn't get child care
- I couldn't afford it
- I had other things on my mind/other priorities
- I didn't want anyone to know I was HIV+
- I didn't feel sick
- Other (specify: _____)

39. Where do you REGULARLY receive your HIV/AIDS-related medical care?

(SELECT ONLY ONE)

- HIV clinic in a hospital/medical center
- Emergency Room (ER)
- Community clinic serving only HIV+ clients
- Private physician's office/clinic
- Other community clinic that is not HIV-specific
- VA Hospital/clinic
- N/A: I don't receive HIV/AIDS-related medical care
- Other (specify: _____)

40. Are you currently taking HIV medications prescribed to you by a doctor?

- Yes
- No (Skip to Q41)

40a. If YES, do you take them as the doctor said you should?

- Always
- Most of the time
- Some of the time
- Hardly ever

40b. How many doses of medication have you missed in the last three days?

- None
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- More than 4

41. If you are NOT currently taking HIV medications prescribed to you, why not?

(MARK ALL THAT APPLY)

- I don't know where to get them
- I can't afford them
- They made me feel really bad
- I'm on a 'Drug Holiday' (break from taking HIV meds) directed by my doctor
- I'm on a 'Drug Holiday' (break from taking HIV meds) decided by myself
- I feel healthy
- I'm worried someone will find out I have HIV
- I have trouble remembering to take my medications
- N/A: I'm not prescribed any HIV medications
- Other (specify: _____)

SECTION E. MENTAL HEALTH & SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES

42. Over the last 2 weeks, have you been bothered by either of the following problems?

- | | Yes | No |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Little interest or pleasure in doing things | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Feeling down, depressed, or hopeless | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

43. During the past 6 months, have you received counseling or other mental health services?

- Yes No

44. During the past 6 months, have you been hospitalized for mental health reasons?

- Yes No

45. During the past 6 months, have you been prescribed medicine for mental health reasons?

- Yes
- No (Skip to Q46)

45a. Did you get the needed medications?

- Yes No

45b. If NO, why not?

- I didn't know where to get them
- I couldn't afford them
- I couldn't get transportation
- Other (specify: _____)

46. During the past 6 months, have you been in treatment for substance use?

- Yes No

47. Have you used any of the following during the past 6 months? (MARK ALL THAT APPLY)

- Tobacco
- Alcohol
- Crack
- Injection drugs (non medical use)
- Prescription drugs used other than as prescribed
- Other (specify: _____)
- None of the above (Skip to SECTION F.)

48. Do you have a desire to stop using?

- Yes, and I am taking steps to do so.
- Yes, but I have not started to work on it.
- No
- N/A: I don't use any of these substances.

SECTION F. OVERALL SUMMARY

For each of the services below, please respond to each question.

49. MEDICAL CARE	A		B		C		D		E	
	Did you <i>need</i> this service?		Did you <i>know</i> about this service?		Did you <i>ask</i> for this service?		Did you <i>receive</i> this service?		IF YOU RECEIVED SERVICE, did it meet your needs?	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
EXAMPLE: Help choosing a TV	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Y	<input type="radio"/> N	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Y	<input type="radio"/> N	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Y	<input type="radio"/> N	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Y	<input type="radio"/> N	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Y	<input type="radio"/> N
a. Outpatient medical care – an appointment with a doctor, nurse, or other provider to take care of your on-going HIV treatment	<input type="radio"/> Y	<input type="radio"/> N	<input type="radio"/> Y	<input type="radio"/> N	<input type="radio"/> Y	<input type="radio"/> N	<input type="radio"/> Y	<input type="radio"/> N	<input type="radio"/> Y	<input type="radio"/> N
b. Specialty care – an appointment with a specialist, for example dermatologist or gynecologist	<input type="radio"/> Y	<input type="radio"/> N	<input type="radio"/> Y	<input type="radio"/> N	<input type="radio"/> Y	<input type="radio"/> N	<input type="radio"/> Y	<input type="radio"/> N	<input type="radio"/> Y	<input type="radio"/> N
c. Dental care	<input type="radio"/> Y	<input type="radio"/> N	<input type="radio"/> Y	<input type="radio"/> N	<input type="radio"/> Y	<input type="radio"/> N	<input type="radio"/> Y	<input type="radio"/> N	<input type="radio"/> Y	<input type="radio"/> N
d. Medication programs - help paying for and obtaining HIV/AIDS related drugs, including the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP)	<input type="radio"/> Y	<input type="radio"/> N	<input type="radio"/> Y	<input type="radio"/> N	<input type="radio"/> Y	<input type="radio"/> N	<input type="radio"/> Y	<input type="radio"/> N	<input type="radio"/> Y	<input type="radio"/> N
e. Medication co-pay assistance – help paying for co-pays on other (non HIV-related) medications	<input type="radio"/> Y	<input type="radio"/> N	<input type="radio"/> Y	<input type="radio"/> N	<input type="radio"/> Y	<input type="radio"/> N	<input type="radio"/> Y	<input type="radio"/> N	<input type="radio"/> Y	<input type="radio"/> N
f. Treatment / adherence counseling – someone to help you understand your medications and doctor’s instructions, and strategies to keep with your prescribed medications schedule	<input type="radio"/> Y	<input type="radio"/> N	<input type="radio"/> Y	<input type="radio"/> N	<input type="radio"/> Y	<input type="radio"/> N	<input type="radio"/> Y	<input type="radio"/> N	<input type="radio"/> Y	<input type="radio"/> N
g. Nutritional education/counseling – someone to help you with eating habits and nutrition issues affecting your health status	<input type="radio"/> Y	<input type="radio"/> N	<input type="radio"/> Y	<input type="radio"/> N	<input type="radio"/> Y	<input type="radio"/> N	<input type="radio"/> Y	<input type="radio"/> N	<input type="radio"/> Y	<input type="radio"/> N
h. Health insurance assistance – help with premium payments to private health insurance plans, including COBRA (a type of health insurance)	<input type="radio"/> Y	<input type="radio"/> N	<input type="radio"/> Y	<input type="radio"/> N	<input type="radio"/> Y	<input type="radio"/> N	<input type="radio"/> Y	<input type="radio"/> N	<input type="radio"/> Y	<input type="radio"/> N
i. Home health care – a licensed health care worker to help with prescribed treatments at home	<input type="radio"/> Y	<input type="radio"/> N	<input type="radio"/> Y	<input type="radio"/> N	<input type="radio"/> Y	<input type="radio"/> N	<input type="radio"/> Y	<input type="radio"/> N	<input type="radio"/> Y	<input type="radio"/> N

50. CASE MANAGEMENT	A		B		C		D		E	
	Did you <i>need</i> this service?		Did you <i>know</i> about this service?		Did you <i>ask</i> for this service?		Did you <i>receive</i> this service?		IF YOU RECEIVED SERVICE, did it meet your needs?	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
a. Case management – someone to help with medical appointments, getting medications, scheduling transportation, and getting public and financial assistance	<input type="radio"/> Y	<input type="radio"/> N	<input type="radio"/> Y	<input type="radio"/> N	<input type="radio"/> Y	<input type="radio"/> N	<input type="radio"/> Y	<input type="radio"/> N	<input type="radio"/> Y	<input type="radio"/> N

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51. If you did NOT get the case management services you needed, why not? (MARK ALL THAT APPLY)

- I didn't know where to get services I was put on a waiting list
 I couldn't get there when the agency was open Services were not in my language
 I didn't want anyone to know I was HIV+ Other (specify: _____)
 I didn't qualify

52. MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES & OTHER COUNSELING	A		B		C		D		E	
	Did you <i>need</i> this service?		Did you <i>know</i> about this service?		Did you <i>ask</i> for this service?		Did you <i>receive</i> this service?		IF YOU RECEIVED SERVICE, did it meet your needs?	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
a. Individual mental health counseling – a professional to talk to if you have a mental health diagnosis (such as depression, bipolar, schizophrenia)	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N
b. Group counseling (including support groups) – a professional to assist you <i>in a group format</i> if you have a mental health diagnosis	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N
c. Crisis or emergency counseling – support and assistance during a crisis to minimize stress of an event	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N
d. Psychosocial Support Counseling – individual and group support by peers (people living with HIV) and other non-clinical staff (includes Support Groups)	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N

53. If you did NOT get the above counseling services you needed, why not? (MARK ALL THAT APPLY)

- I didn't know where to get services I was put on a waiting list
 I couldn't get there when the agency was open They didn't have the service I needed
 I didn't want anyone to know I was HIV+ Services were not in my language
 I didn't qualify Other (specify: _____)

54. SUBSTANCE ABUSE COUNSELING	A		B		C		D		E	
	Did you <i>need</i> this service?		Did you <i>know</i> about this service?		Did you <i>ask</i> for this service?		Did you <i>receive</i> this service?		IF YOU RECEIVED SERVICE, did it meet your needs?	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
a. Outpatient substance abuse treatment services – treatment for alcohol and/or legal and illegal drugs through office visits with specially qualified staff	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N
b. 24 hour-a-day residential substance abuse counseling – short-term treatment in a residential setting	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N
c. Peer counseling and support for substance abuse	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N

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55. If you did NOT get the substance abuse counseling services you needed, why not? (MARK ALL THAT APPLY)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> I didn't know where to get services | <input type="checkbox"/> I was put on a waiting list |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I couldn't get there when the agency was open | <input type="checkbox"/> They didn't have the service I needed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I didn't want anyone to know I was HIV+ | <input type="checkbox"/> Services were not in my language |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I didn't qualify | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify: _____) |

56. HOUSING	A		B		C		D		E	
	Did you need this service?		Did you know about this service?		Did you ask for this service?		Did you receive this service?		IF YOU RECEIVED SERVICE, did it meet your needs?	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
a. Help finding a place to live	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N
b. Permanent, independent housing	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N
c. Temporary short-term housing	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N
d. Housing where my child(ren) can live with me	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N
e. Nursing home	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N
f. Money to pay utilities	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N
g. Money to pay rent/mortgage	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N
h. House for persons living with HIV/AIDS (Assisted Living)	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N

57. If you did NOT get the housing services you needed, why not? (MARK ALL THAT APPLY)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> I didn't know where to get services | <input type="checkbox"/> I was put on a waiting list |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I couldn't get there when the agency was open | <input type="checkbox"/> Services were not in my language |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I didn't want anyone to know I was HIV+ | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify: _____) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I didn't qualify | |

58. SUPPORTIVE SERVICES	A		B		C		D		E	
	Did you need this service?		Did you know about this service?		Did you ask for this service?		Did you receive this service?		IF YOU RECEIVED SERVICE, did it meet your needs?	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
a. Referral for health care/supportive services – someone to direct you to public services you need	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N
b. Food bag, food pantry or food bank	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N
c. Home delivered meals	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N
d. Legal services – assistance with evictions and housing discrimination, wills or estate planning, power of attorney, confidentiality breaches, eligibility for public benefits	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N
e. Prevention services– information about living with HIV, safer sex, telling friends, family and partners (needle sharing and/or sexual) about your status, etc.	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N

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58. SUPPORTIVE SERVICES –continued–	A		B		C		D		E	
	Did you <i>need</i> this service?		Did you <i>know</i> about this service?		Did you <i>ask</i> for this service?		Did you <i>receive</i> this service?		IF YOU RECEIVED SERVICE, did it meet your needs?	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
f. Childcare so that you may attend medical and other clinical appointments	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N
g. Emergency financial assistance – help paying for emergency expenses, including critical items when other assistance is not available	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N
h. Transportation - assistance or rides to medical and other clinical appointments	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N
i. Rehabilitation services – therapies to help improve your quality of life, such as physical therapy	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N

59. How do you usually get to the HIV/AIDS Services that you need? (SELECT ONLY ONE)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Walk or ride my bike | <input type="checkbox"/> Taxi |
| <input type="checkbox"/> My own car | <input type="checkbox"/> Van service |
| <input type="checkbox"/> My friend/relative gives me a ride | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify: _____) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bus | |

60. If the above transportation costs money, who pays for it?

- I do
- Friend/Family member
- HIV/AIDS agency
- Non-HIV/AIDS agency
- N/A: It does not cost money
- Other (specify: _____)

Please continue to the next page.

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BY ANSWERING THIS SECTION & TELLING US ABOUT **YOUR EXPERIENCE
YOU HELP THOSE IN YOUR COMMUNITY WHO ARE *NOT IN CARE***

61. Now we want to know about your experience when you were FIRST DIAGNOSED. At the time of your HIV diagnosis, were you referred for any of the following services? (MARK ALL THAT APPLY)

- Medical care related to the HIV diagnosis
- Medical care for another condition other than HIV
- Case management (someone to help you get HIV services)
- If pregnant, for OB/GYN care
- Counseling for substance abuse (alcohol or other drugs)
- Counseling for mental health (depression, etc.)
- Housing
- Health/HIV education
- HIV support group
- Services to help contact needle sharing and/or sexual partners about potential exposure to HIV
- Referred to talk to someone who is HIV+
- NO**, I was not referred for services
- Other (specify: _____)

62. How soon after your diagnosis did you receive HIV/AIDS-related medical care? (SELECT ONE)

- Within 1 month
- 1 – 6 months
- 6 months – 1 year
- More than one year
- I have not yet received care
- I have chosen not to receive care

63. If it took you more than 6 months after being diagnosed or you have not yet received care, why is that? (MARK ALL THAT APPLY)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> I wasn't ready to deal with my HIV status | <input type="checkbox"/> I couldn't get transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I didn't know where to go | <input type="checkbox"/> I couldn't get child care |
| <input type="checkbox"/> It was too confusing to get services | <input type="checkbox"/> I had mental health issues (depression, etc.) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I was homeless | <input type="checkbox"/> I had too many other things to worry about |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I couldn't afford it | <input type="checkbox"/> I was afraid of medications/side effects |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I was using drugs | <input type="checkbox"/> I didn't want anyone to know I was HIV+ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I couldn't get an appointment | <input type="checkbox"/> I didn't feel sick |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I was affected by Hurricane Katrina and/or Rita | <input type="checkbox"/> I was in jail or prison |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify: _____) | |

PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING IF YOU HAVE BEEN HIV+ FOR AT LEAST 2 YEARS

64. Have you been HIV+ for at least 2 years?

- Yes
- No (STOP HERE – *Thank you* for completing this survey.)

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65. Have you *ever* had a period of at least 12 months that you did not receive HIV/AIDS-related medical care?

- Yes
- No (STOP HERE – *Thank you* for completing this survey.)

66. What best describes your situation during that period?

- I was recently diagnosed and had not entered HIV/AIDS-related medical care
- I had been receiving HIV/AIDS-related medical care, but stopped going
- I didn't have access to care
- Other (specify: _____)

67. During that time, what kept you from getting HIV/AIDS-related medical care? (MARK ALL THAT APPLY)

- I wasn't ready to deal with my HIV status
- I didn't know where to go
- It was too confusing to get services
- I was homeless
- I couldn't afford it
- I was using drugs
- I couldn't get an appointment
- I was affected by Hurricane Katrina and/or Rita
- Other (specify: _____)
- I couldn't get transportation
- I couldn't get child care
- I had mental health issues (depression, etc.)
- I had too many other things to worry about
- I was afraid of medications/side effects
- I didn't want anyone to know I was HIV+
- I didn't feel sick
- I was in jail or prison

68. What caused you to get back into HIV/AIDS-related medical care? (MARK ALL THAT APPLY)

- I was ready to deal with my HIV
- I got sick and knew I needed care
- I got the information I needed to get back into care
- I found housing
- I was able to deal with the other things I was worried about/ other problems in my life.
- I found a doctor or medical facility I liked
- Someone working in HIV-related care contacted me to return to care
- I got out of jail or prison
- I got back into care with the doctor I had before evacuation (for Katrina/Rita)
- Other (specify: _____)

69. Would the following services have helped you start going? (MARK ALL THAT APPLY)

- Connection to case manager to link me to services or support
- Connection to another HIV+ person to link me to services
- Someone to help me cope with stress
- Appointment reminders
- Someone to go with me to appointments
- Nothing would have helped
- Other (specify: _____)

Thank you for sharing & ensuring your voice is heard.