

Perth Gay Community Periodic Survey: 2021 key results and trends

Curtis Chan
cchan@kirby.unsw.edu.au
@curtisxchan



GAY COMMUNITY PERIODIC SURVEY

- Repeated, cross-sectional, community-based survey on HIV and sexual health for gay and bisexual men
- Conducted every ~2 years since 1998
- Recruitment at gay venues and events conducted by WAAC during Perth Pride; online recruitment added in 2016
- In 2021, WAAC also ran online advertising
- Partnership between CSRH, the Kirby Institute, WAAC, Curtin University and WA Health
- Reports available from [CSRH website](#)

2021 round

- First round conducted after COVID-19 emerged
- 1,013 participants
- 47% from venues/events, 53% online
- 81% gay, 16% bisexual
- 67% Australian born
- 89% from greater Perth area
- 50% university degree
- 66% full-time employed
- 4% Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander

Perth
2021

Gay Community Periodic Survey

Curtis Chan¹
Timothy Broady²
James MacGibbon²
Benjamin Bavinton²
Limin Miao²
Melissa Coci²
Roanna Lobo⁴
Sharmila Radha Krishnan⁵
Tyler Morgan⁴
Garrett Prestage¹
Martin Holt²

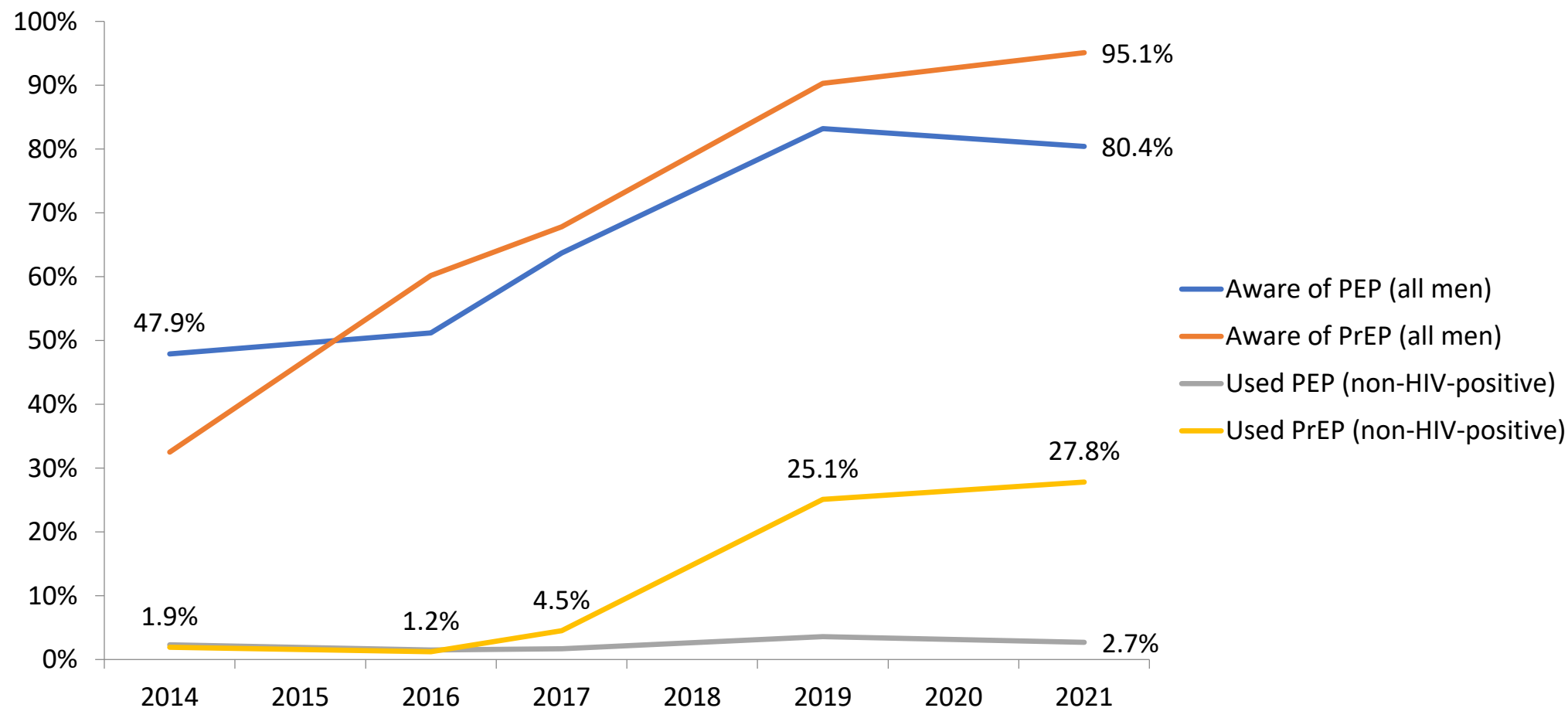
1. The Kirby Institute, UNSW Sydney
2. Centre for Social Research in
Health, UNSW Sydney
3. Department of Health, Western
Australia
4. Curtin University
5. WAAG



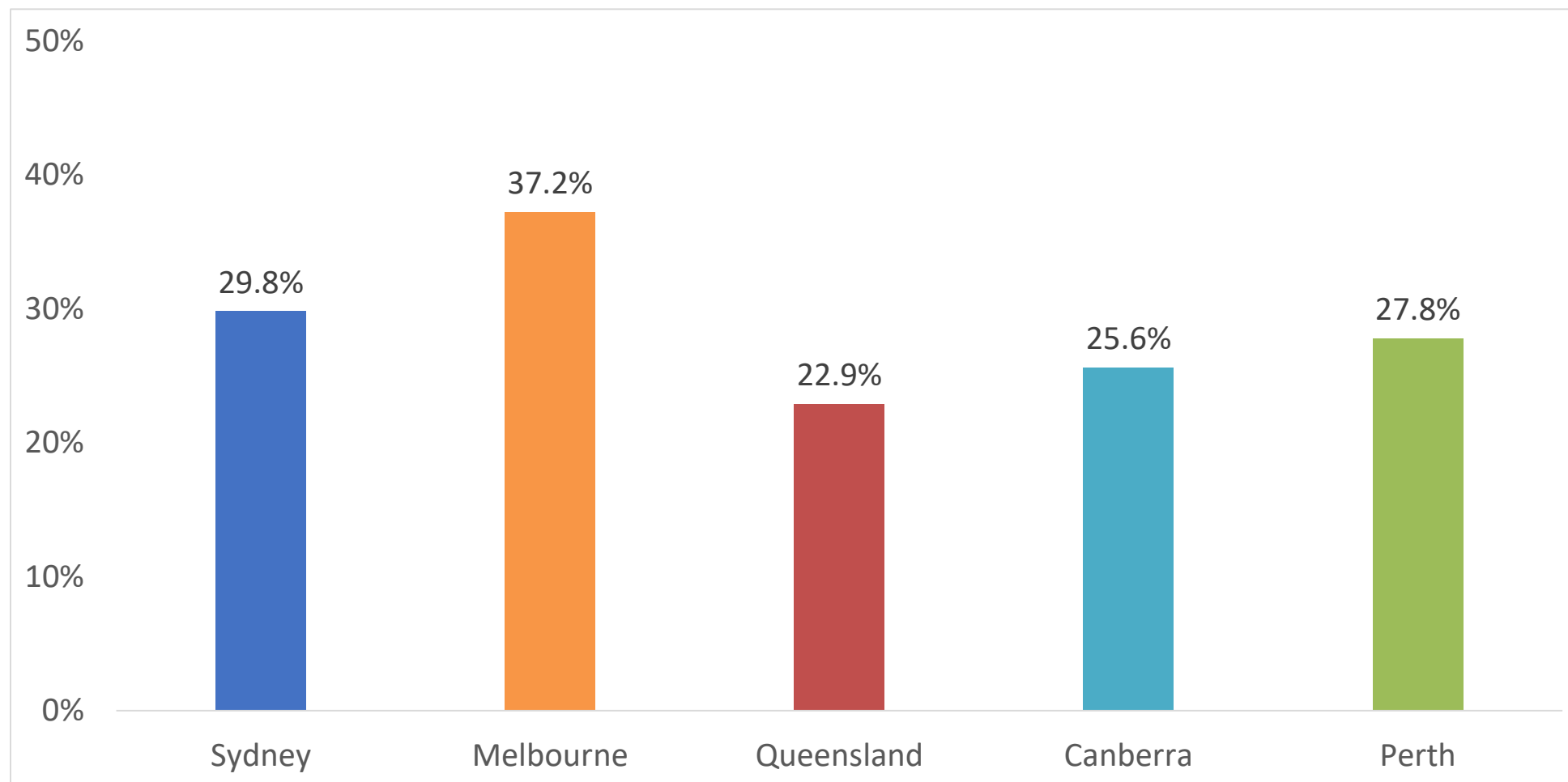
COVID-19 impacts

- 19% lost income or their job
- 42% had been tested for COVID-19
- 31% had reduced no. of sexual partners
- 88% had two or more doses of a COVID-19 vaccine
- Of former/current PrEP users:
 - 70% had reduced use
 - 8% had stopped due to COVID-19

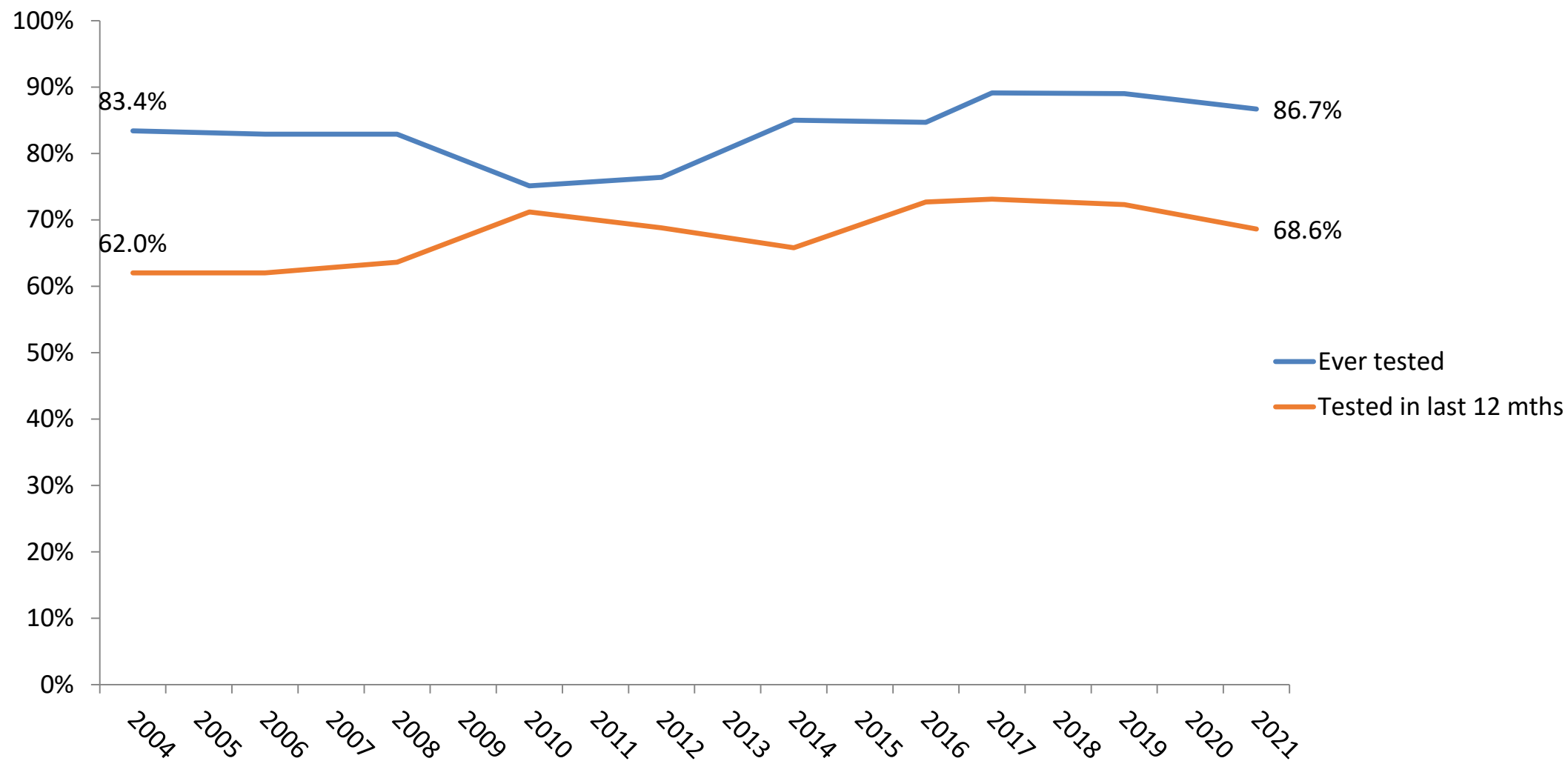
PrEP/PEP use and awareness



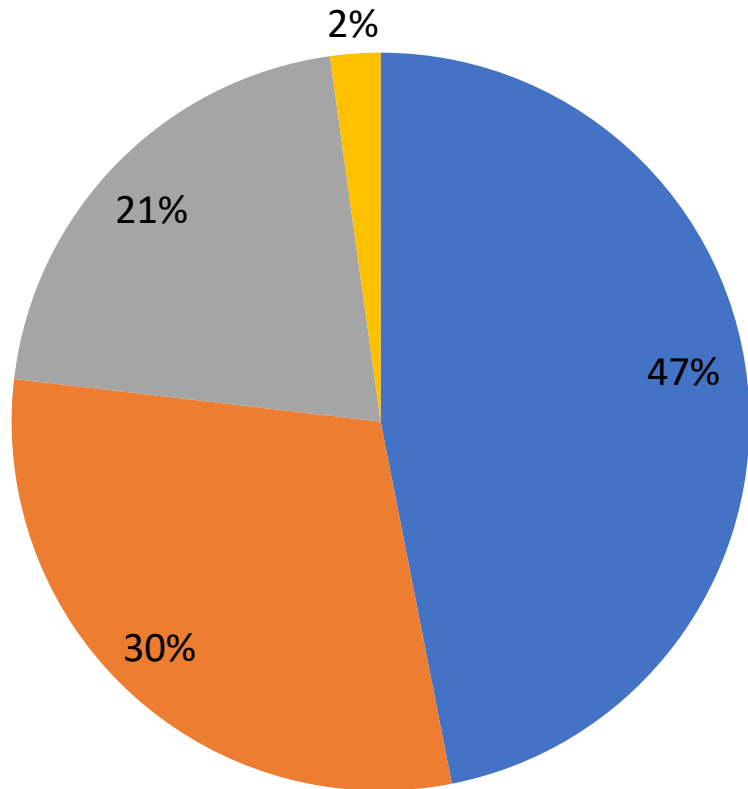
PrEP use around Australia (2021)



HIV testing



Where men were last tested for HIV (2021)



- General practice
- Sexual health clinic/hospital
- Community-based service
- Other

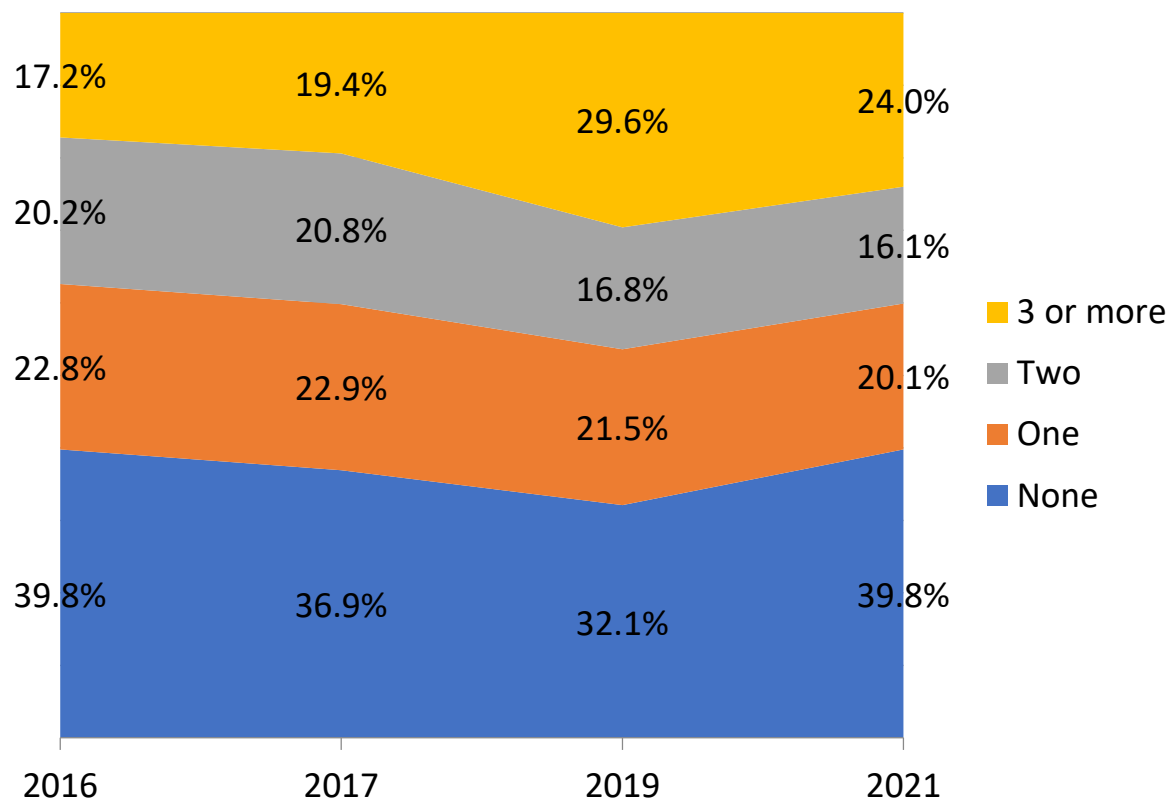
From 2014:

Increase in sexual health clinic/hospital
22.4% -> 30.1%

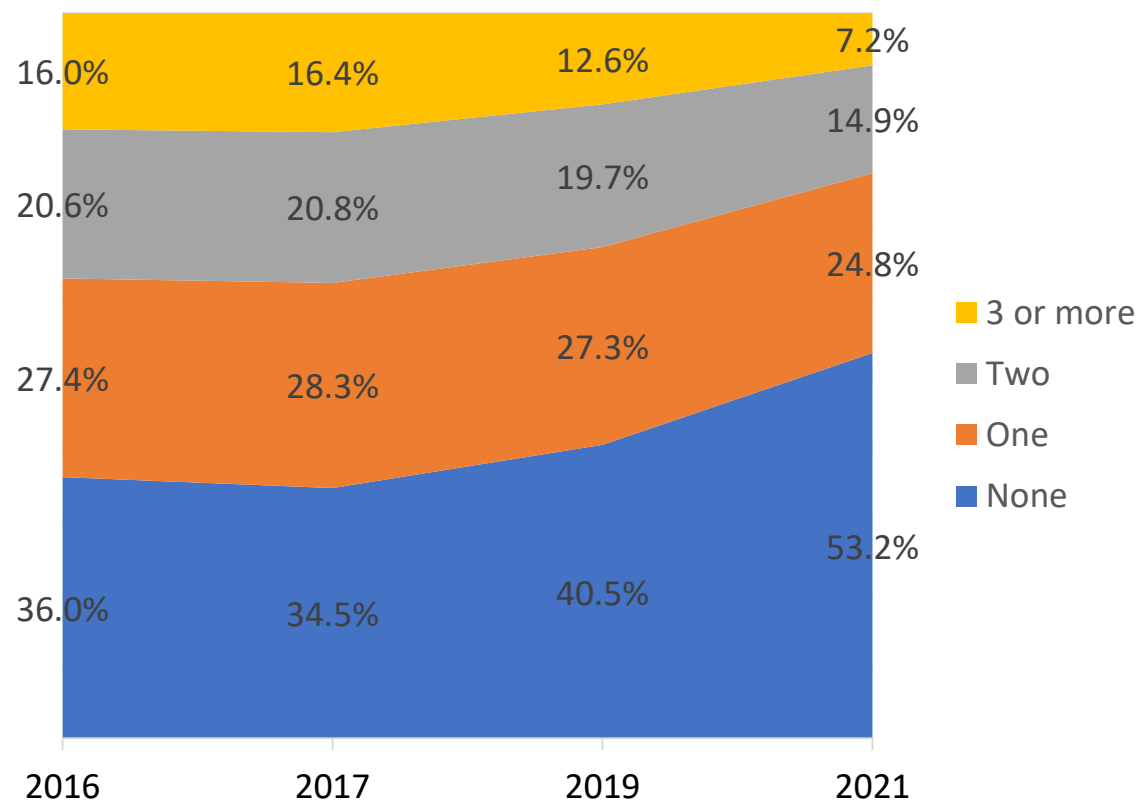
Decrease in community-based service (M Clinic)
28.0% -> 20.9%

No. of HIV tests in previous year

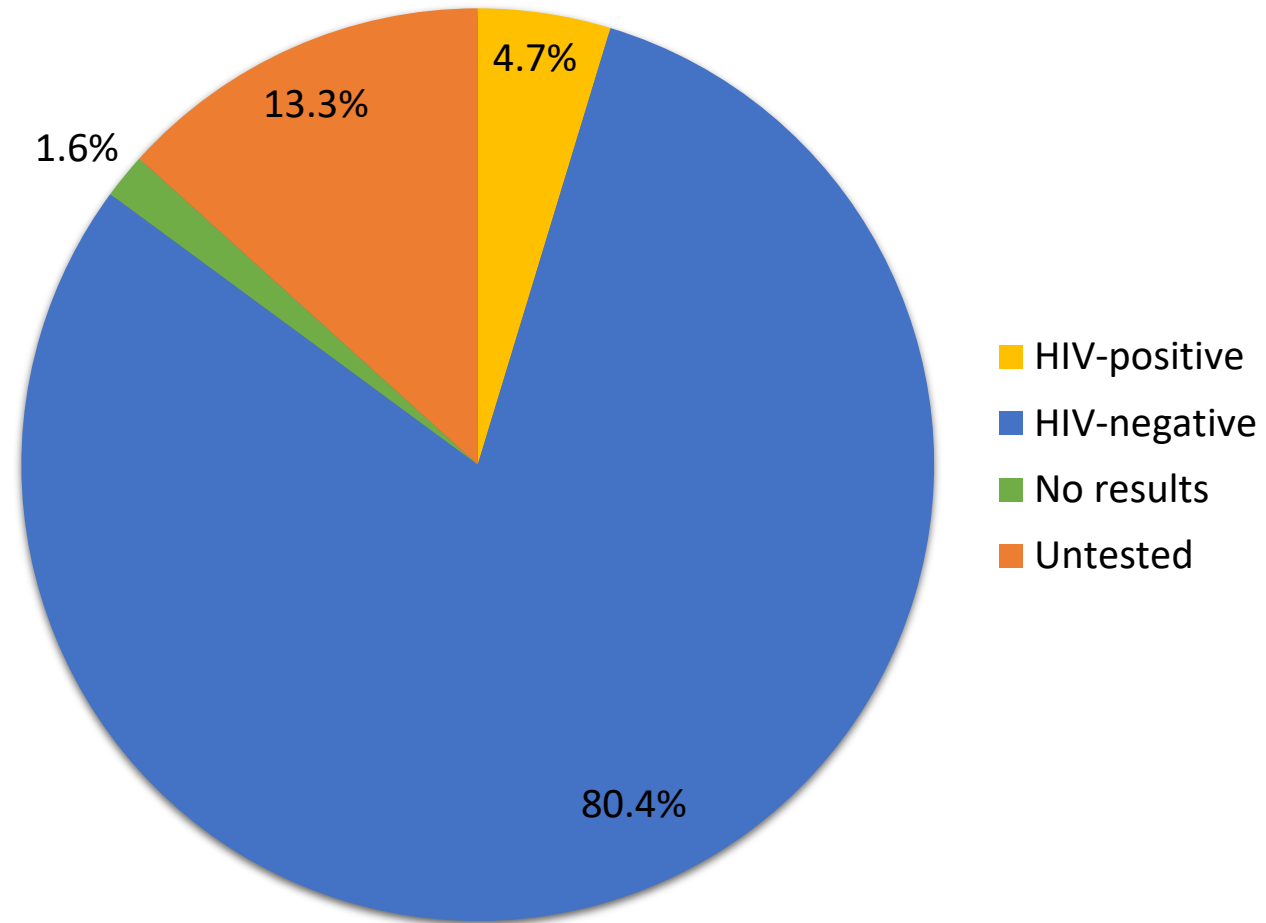
All non-HIV-positive participants



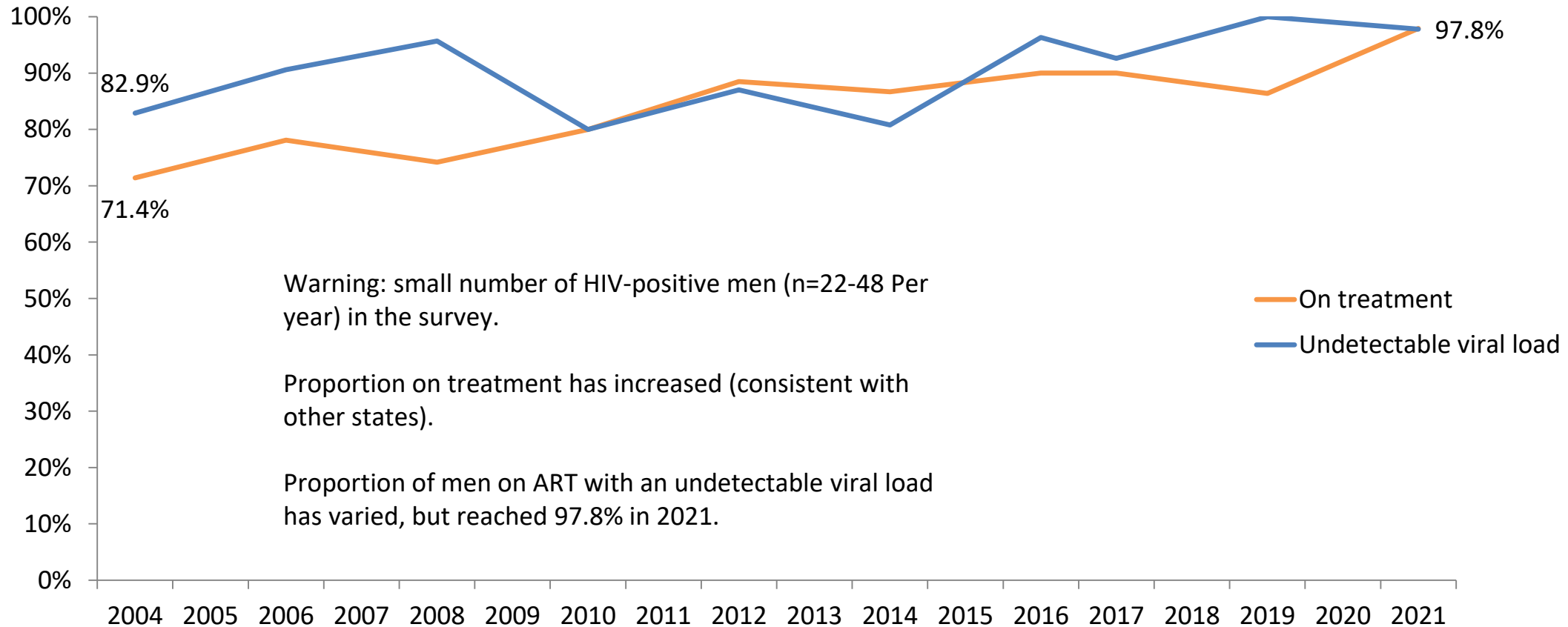
Non-HIV-positive participants excluding PrEP users



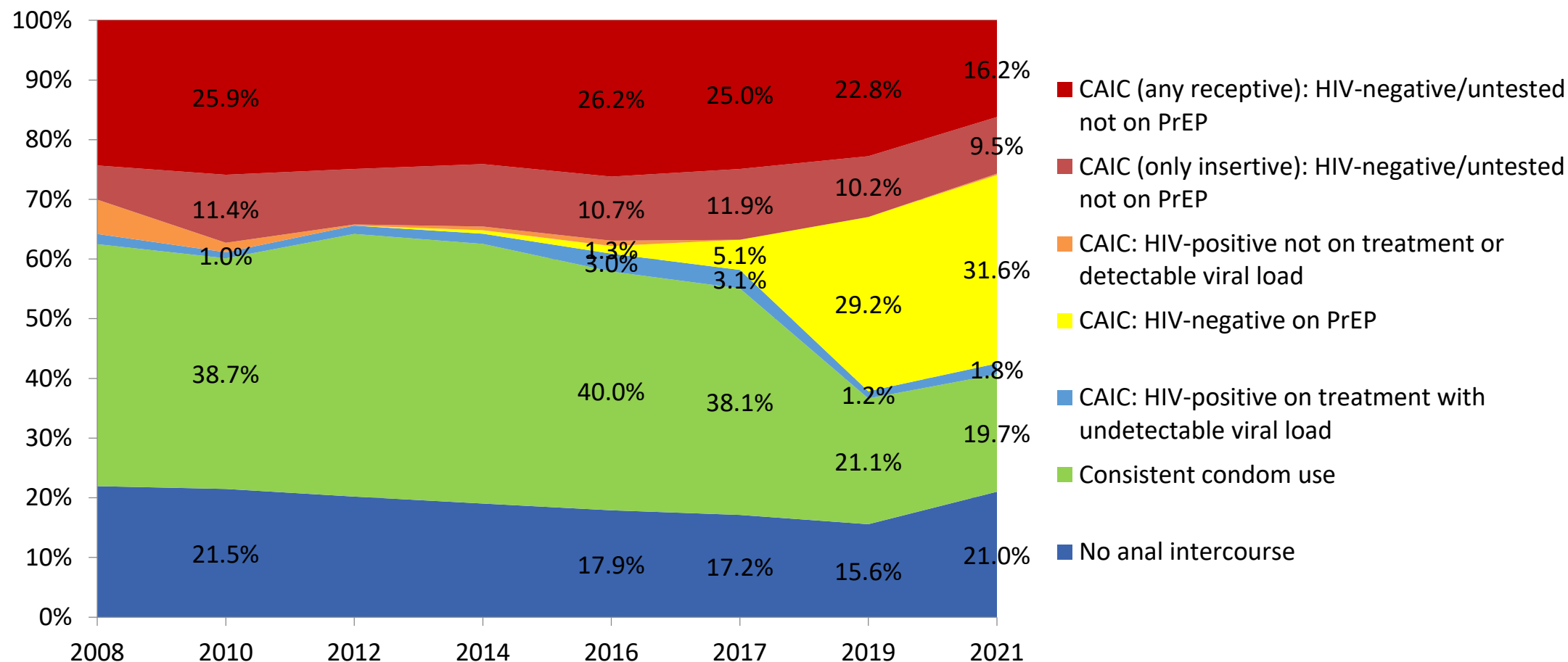
HIV status (2021)



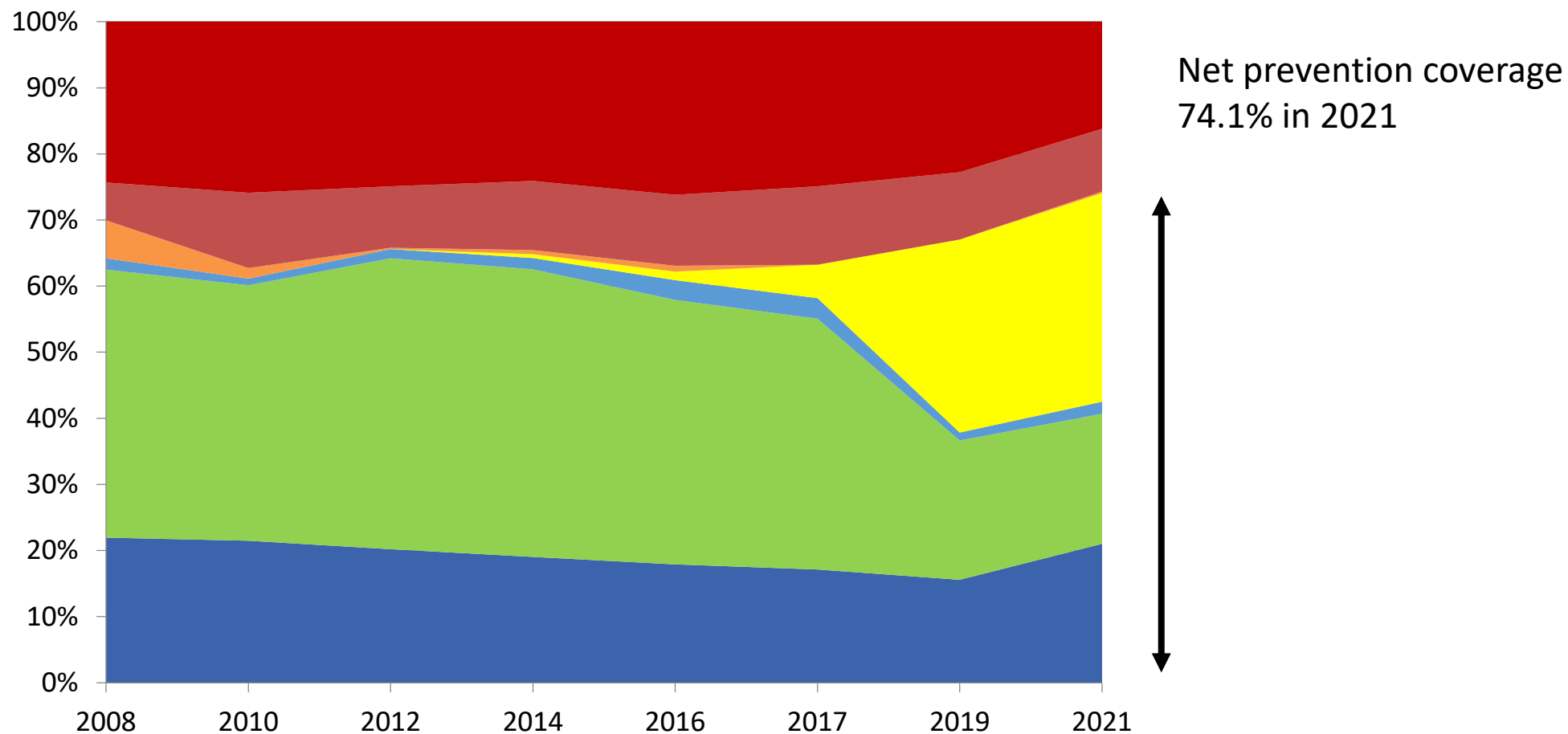
HIV-positive men



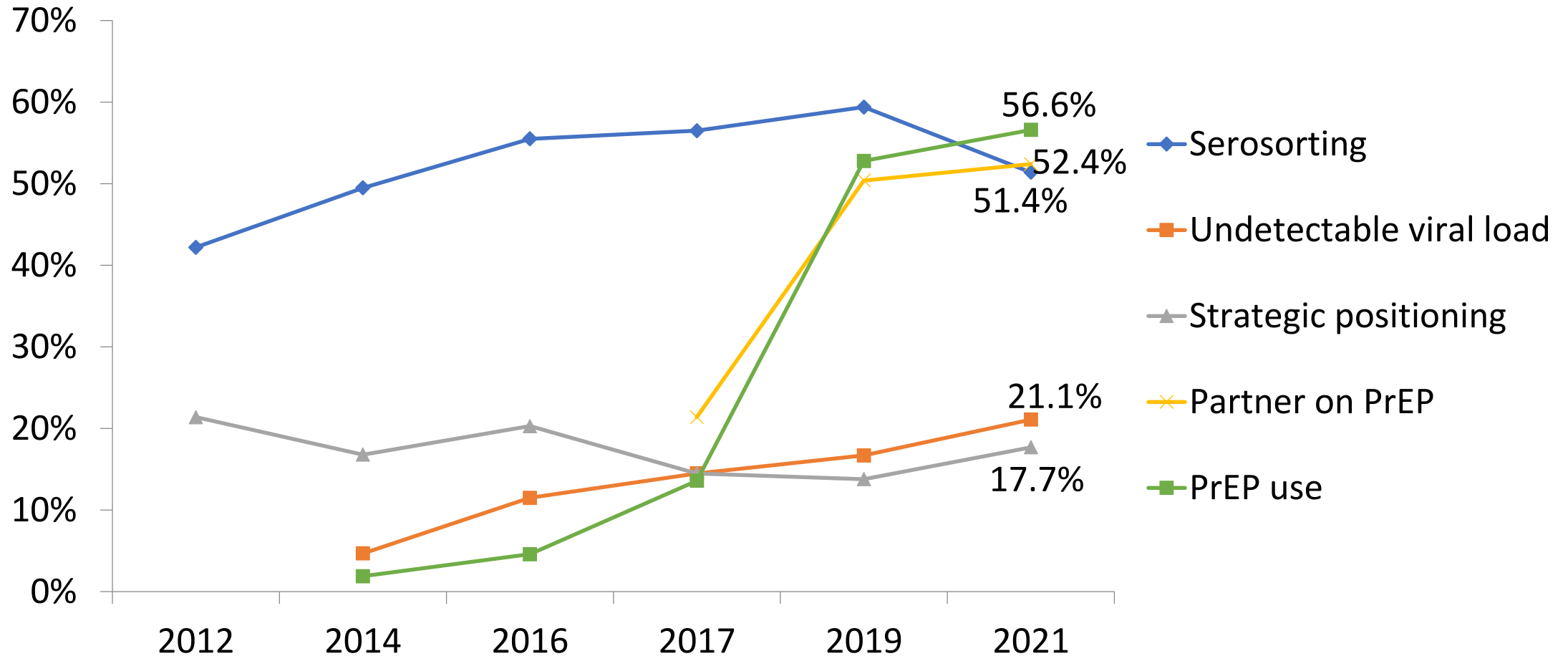
Sex with casual male partners (last 6m)



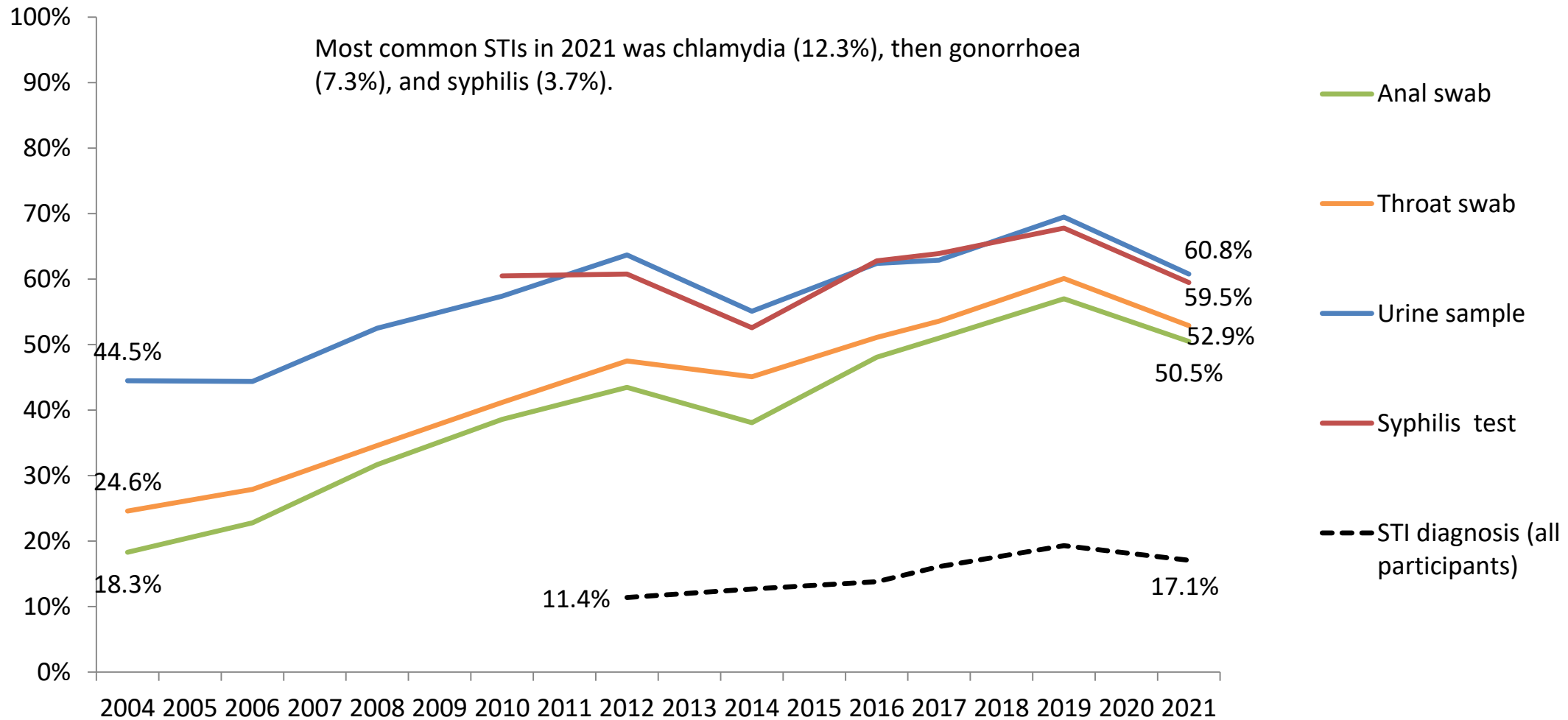
Sex with casual male partners (last 6m)



Risk reduction strategies during CAIC (HIV-negative men)



STI testing



Summary

- COVID-19 caused disruptions to sexual behaviour and PrEP use, but HIV treatment was unaffected and remained consistently high
- Net prevention coverage increased significantly but still $\frac{1}{4}$ reported some risk of HIV with casual partners
- Declines in HIV/STI testing from 2019 to 2021, but STI diagnoses remained stable
- PrEP and UVL play increasing role in preventing transmission during casual condomless sex

Acknowledgments

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- Centre for Social Research in Health: Timothy Broady, James MacGibbon, Limin Mao, Martin Holt
- Kirby Institute: Ben Bavinton, Garrett Prestage