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Epidemiological situation regarding
HIV/AIDS in Ukraine and Lviv region.
Vulnerable groups.

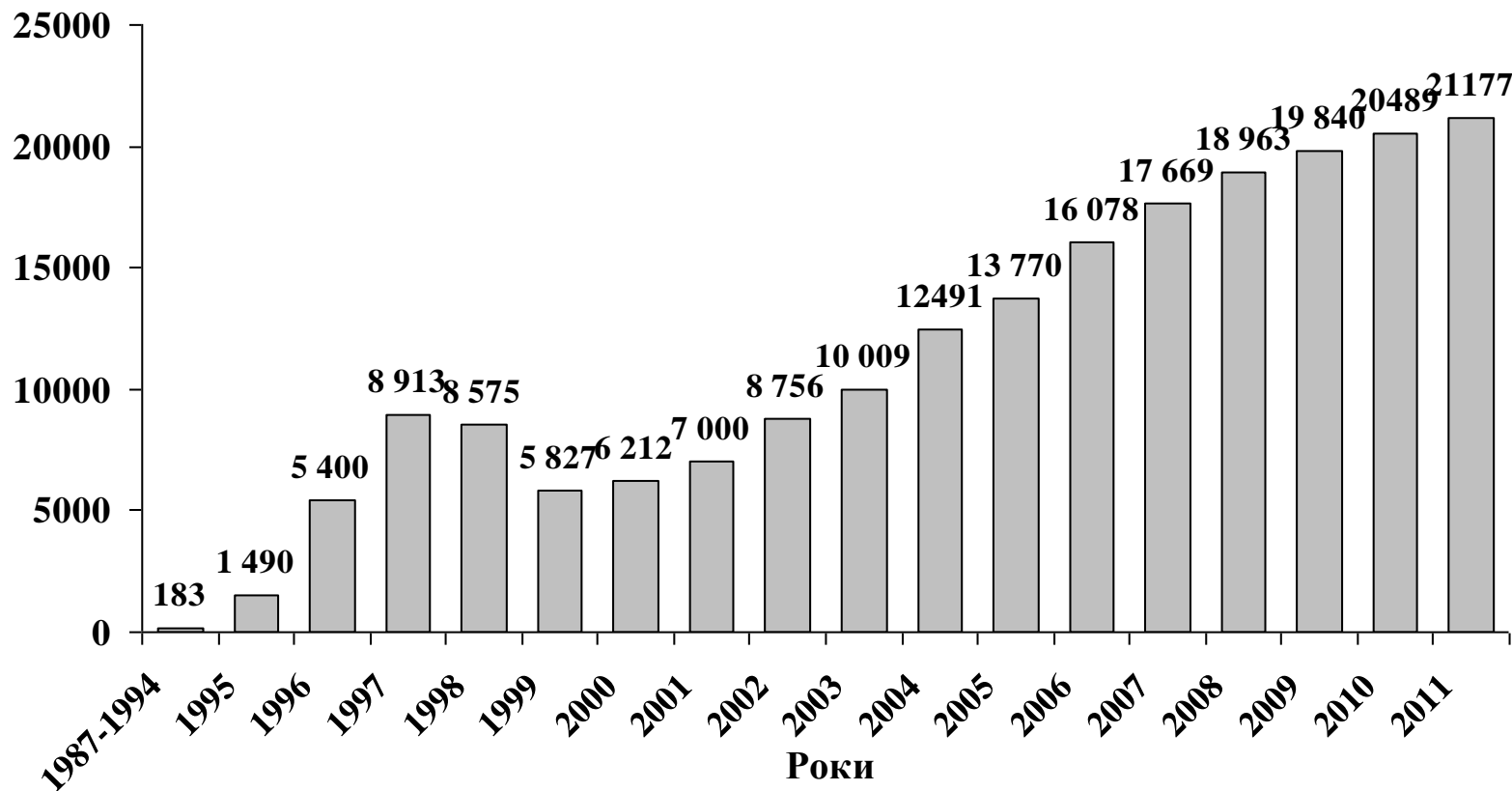
Epidemiological Situation in Ukraine

01.01.2012

120 148 HIV- infected persons in Ukraine
(264,3 на 100 000)

18 751 – with AIDS (41,2 на 100 000)

HIV new cases in Ukraine



Although the number of newly recorded HIV infection cases has increased annually since 1999, a decrease in the growth rate of this indicator has been observed during 2006–2009: 16.8%, 10.5%, 7.6%, and 5.7%, respectively. These data prove the decreasing intensity of the HIV/AIDS epidemic process in Ukraine.

Testing for HIV

- 2009 - 3 350 000
- 2010 - 3 278 000
- 2011 - 3 318 000

HIV prevalence (according official registration data)

[на 100 тисяч населення]
{дані на 01.01.2012 р.}



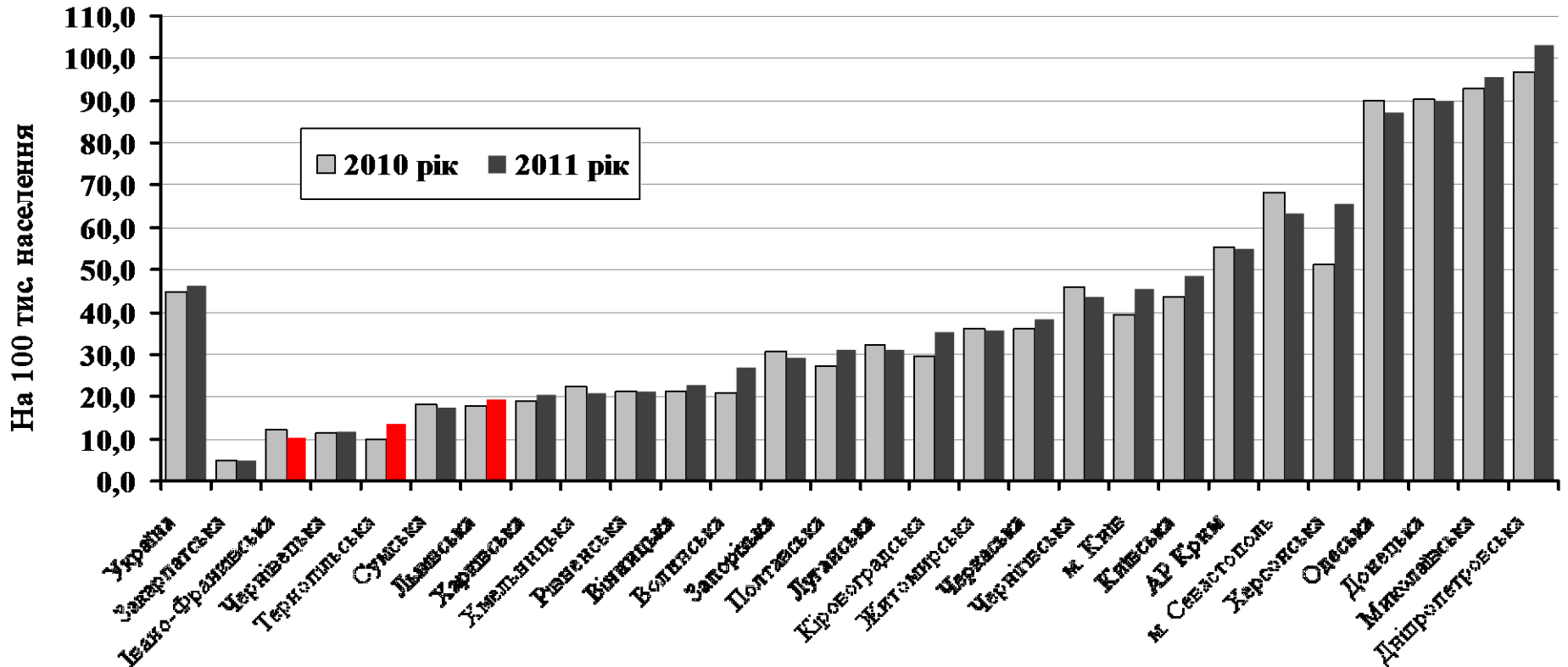
	Показник більше 300
	Показник від 100 до 300
	Показник до 100
<i>Показник по Україні – 264,3</i>	
<i>Показник по м. Київ – 295,2</i>	
<i>Показник по м. Севастополь – 431,5</i>	

Epidemic Situation in Lviv region

- Registered in Lviv regional AIDS Center as of 01.04.2012 year 2040 are HIV-infected patients, of whom 529 (25.93%) in the stage of AIDS.

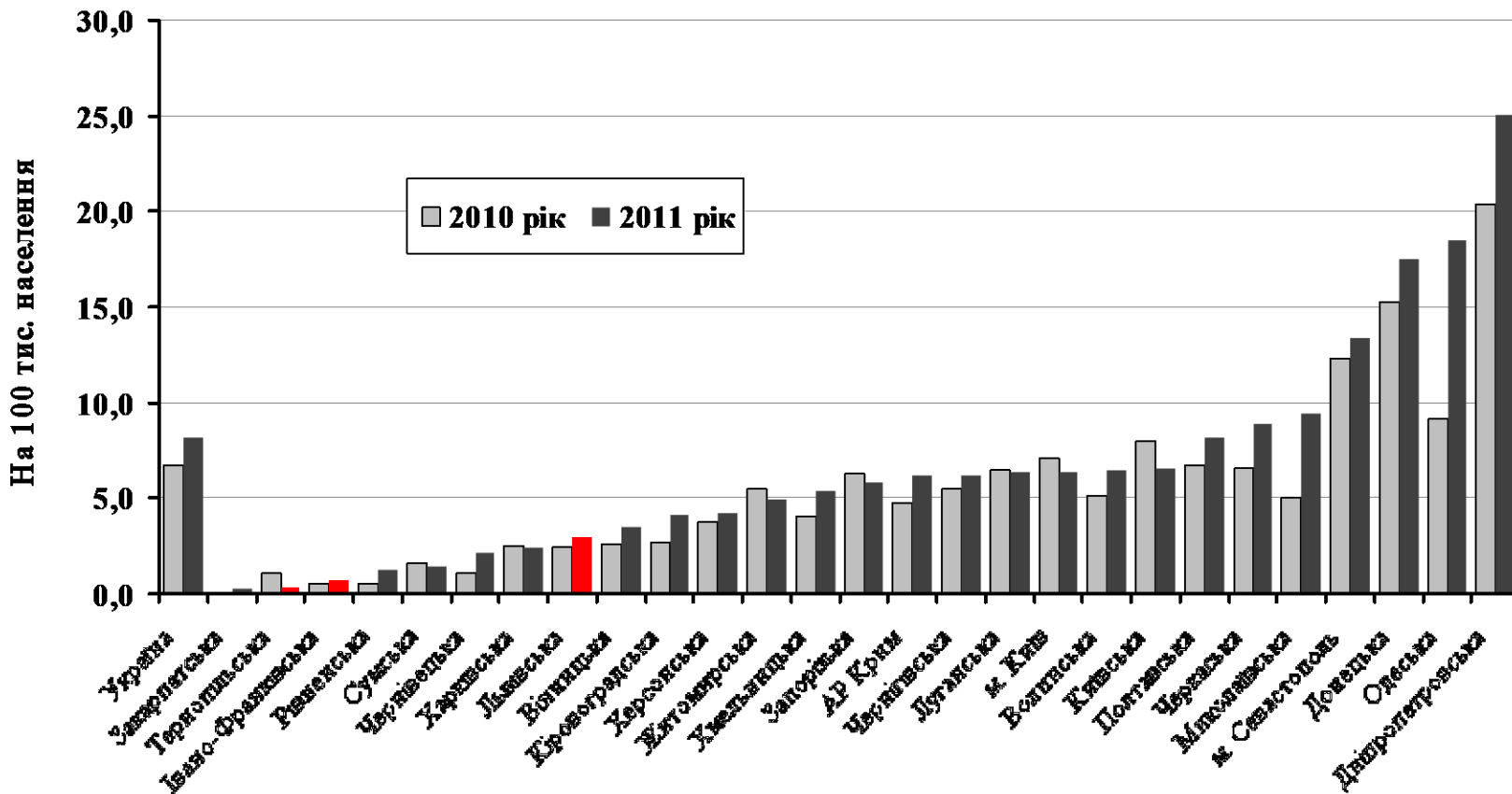
HIV INCEDENCE

Територіальний рейтинг за показником загальна захворюваність на ВІЛ-інфекцію



Deaths from AIDS

Територіальний рейтинг за показником загальна смертність від СНІД



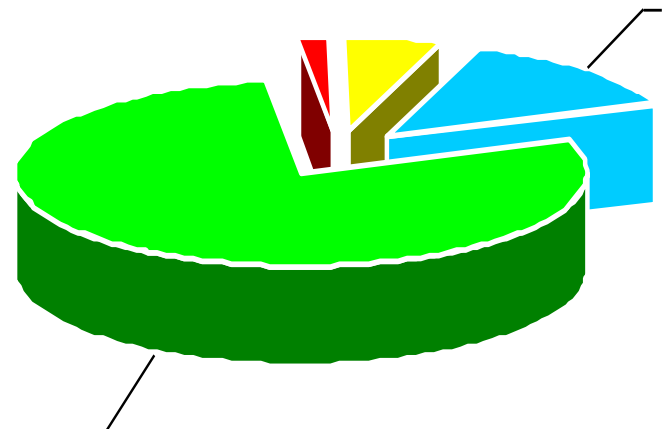
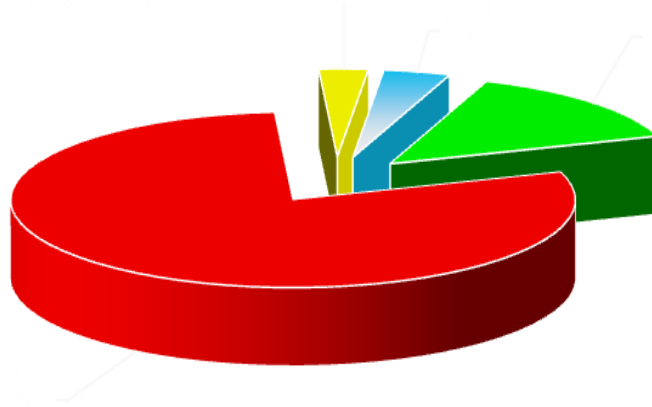
- It is universally recognized that official data do not reflect the real scale of the HIV/AIDS epidemic in Ukraine, particularly the real number of HIV-infected people. Data only provide information on people who have been tested for HIV antibodies, in whom HIV infection was found, and who were included into the Ukrainian official national register of HIV infection cases. A considerably larger number of Ukrainians may be infected but are not aware of their status.

- Updated HIV/AIDS estimates for Ukraine show that 360,000 HIV-infected people aged 15 and over were living in Ukraine at the beginning of 2010. These data differ from official statistics of the number of people living with HIV/AIDS and under clinical observation in specialized health facilities (101,182) at the beginning of 2010. The difference between these indicators proves that only 30% of people living with HIV in Ukraine, or every fourth individual, has received an HIV test and knows his or her HIV-positive status.

- According to serum epidemiological monitoring results, almost 30% of all positive cases in 2011 were identified among people examined due to clinical indications.

- During the entire period of epidemiological HIV surveillance in Ukraine, the number of deaths caused by AIDS-related diseases increased.

WAYS OF TRANSMISSION



- Ін'єкційне введення наркотиків
- Від матері до дитини
- Статевий
- Не встановлено

- Parenteral transmission, mainly by injection of narcotic substances, was the main type of HIV transmission in Ukraine from 1995 to 2007. In 2008, for the first time since 1995, a change occurred: the percentage of parenteral transmission fell below that of sexual transmission.
- The share of people infected by sexual transmission continued to grow and reached almost 54%. Parenteral transmission accounted for 32%. However, the HIV epidemic still remains concentrated in most-at-risk groups (injecting drug users and their sexual partners) in terms of HIV infection.

- Men who have sex with men (MSM) are another group at high risk of HIV infection. Between 2005 and 2009, an increasing absolute number of new HIV cases among representatives of this group was officially recorded annually: 20, 35, 48, 65, and 94, including AIDS cases. We can assume that there is a substantial underestimation of HIV infection cases connected with sexual relations between men because they are included in a different population group.

- Ukraine does not register HIV infection cases among commercial sex workers because this group can hardly be extracted from all sexual transmission cases. However, data of sentinel epidemiological surveillance indicate a broad and growing epidemic among this population.

- The number and percentage of sexual HIV transmission cases has increased since the late 1990s. In particular, the percentage of heterosexual infection cases is growing quickly. This trend indicates the growing impact of heterosexual HIV transmission. At the same time, this growth is closely connected with the risky sexual behaviour of injecting drug users.

- Male steadily prevailing among infected through injecting drug use;
- Women - in the 2 times greater among infected through sexual;

Respond for epidemic

- During the reporting period of 2008–2009, some progress began to show in Ukraine in policy and programmatic activities aimed at counteracting the HIV/AIDS epidemic.
- A functioning network of 40 AIDS Prevention and Control Centres and 737 Kabinet Dovira (Trust Rooms) was established in all regions of Ukraine

- The Monitoring and Evaluation Centre within the MoH Ukrainian AIDS Centre started functioning with support from the Global Fund grant. The centre's principal functions include coordination of monitoring and evaluation activities at country level, developing regional monitoring and evaluation systems, disseminating strategic information, etc.

- Access to harm reduction programmes for groups vulnerable to HIV infection has improved. In 2009 alone, services covered more than 150,000 IDUs (52% of the estimated number), over 25 000 of CSWs (36.2%), about 28,000 prisoners, and more than 13,000 street children.
- One achievement in recent years is not only the establishment and support of certain project activities but the development of NGO organizational infrastructure in partnership with governmental organizations providing services to most-at-risk population groups.

- Drug-dependent patients have been provided with access to rehabilitation programmes through resocialization centres as well as with access to substitution maintenance therapy (SMT).

for the first time ever in Ukraine the Verkhovna Rada (Parliament) of Ukraine adopted into law the National Programme for Prevention, Treatment, Care and Support for HIV-infected People and AIDS Patients for 2009–2013, supported by appropriate budget funding. The programme considers previous programme achievements and recommendations provided by experts and the public. Programme development involved all stakeholders: state bodies, non-governmental, international and research organizations, etc. The programme involves as co-implementing agencies with appropriate financing from the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria the two principal recipients ICF “International HIV/AIDS Alliance in Ukraine” and “All-Ukrainian Network of People Living with HIV” with their NGO subgrantees.

Access of sex workers and representatives of other risk groups to medical and social services in Lviv region (Ukraine)

Access of SW to medical and social services in Lviv region were investigated by means of six focus group meetings and two roundtable meetings with experts on HIV/AIDS problems.

Sex workers, IDU

- Test for HIV and STI
- Treatment HIV STI
- Treatment Hep C
- SMT

- During last years access to HIV-related services for the representatives of high-risk groups in Lviv region has increased.
- The changes had occurred due to activities which had been carrying out by NGOs working in the field of HIV prevention in the region. NGOs provide information, condoms, testing, counseling and social support to representatives of risk groups.
- The most important role played by NGOs, working in the regional field of HIV/AIDS, is the influence they made on public opinion in relation to the vulnerable groups. The attitude of community members to them is changing slowly, step by step.
- All the participants agree that the outreach work carried out by NGOs is of great value. It enables to find out the places and areas where the representatives of target groups use to stay or work and to bring the services closer to them.

- Outreach work provision is connected with many problems. Sometimes it is not easy for NGOs members to build attitudes with police or sanitary control organizations. The other problem is an exchange of syringes and needles which had been performed by some NGOs in 2008-2010. The problem with exchange emerged at the end of 2010 when Ukrainian legislation abolished the concept of minimal amounts of drugs permitted for personal use. Currently, possession of any quantity of drugs (even a drop of drug in an exchanged syringe) is punishable by criminal law. As a result of this legislative norm, outreach workers dealing with syringes and needles exchange are in risk to be prosecuted. Many of HIV-service NGOs continue to spread syringes and needles free of charge among representatives of the target groups but give up performing of their exchange.

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- HIV service NGOs, as well as medical institutions have serious problems with storage and recycling of disposable syringes, needles and other single use items. Lack of properly organized recycling system in the region adversely affects the implementation of HIV/AIDS preventive policies in Lviv oblast

- All participants agreed that information on HIV and STIs prevention and safe sexual practices is accessible for the representatives of high risk groups. The other point is that not all of the latter want to adopt health-enhancing professional behavior, e. g. follow recommendations of permanent condom usage or undergo regular medical check-ups.
- Sex workers prefer to obtain medical and social services delivered by private medical organizations or NGOs. They don't like to visit state and community outpatient clinics (so called women's consultations or venerological dispensaries), where they are often stigmatized by the staff.

THANK YOU

Increase the proportion of sexual transmission among newly reported HIV cases in 2006 - the first quarter 2012 – Lviv region

YEARS						
2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012 I quarter
24,8	25,5	28,6	30,1	31,0	35,3	42,0

The share of women among the total number of HIV-positive persons

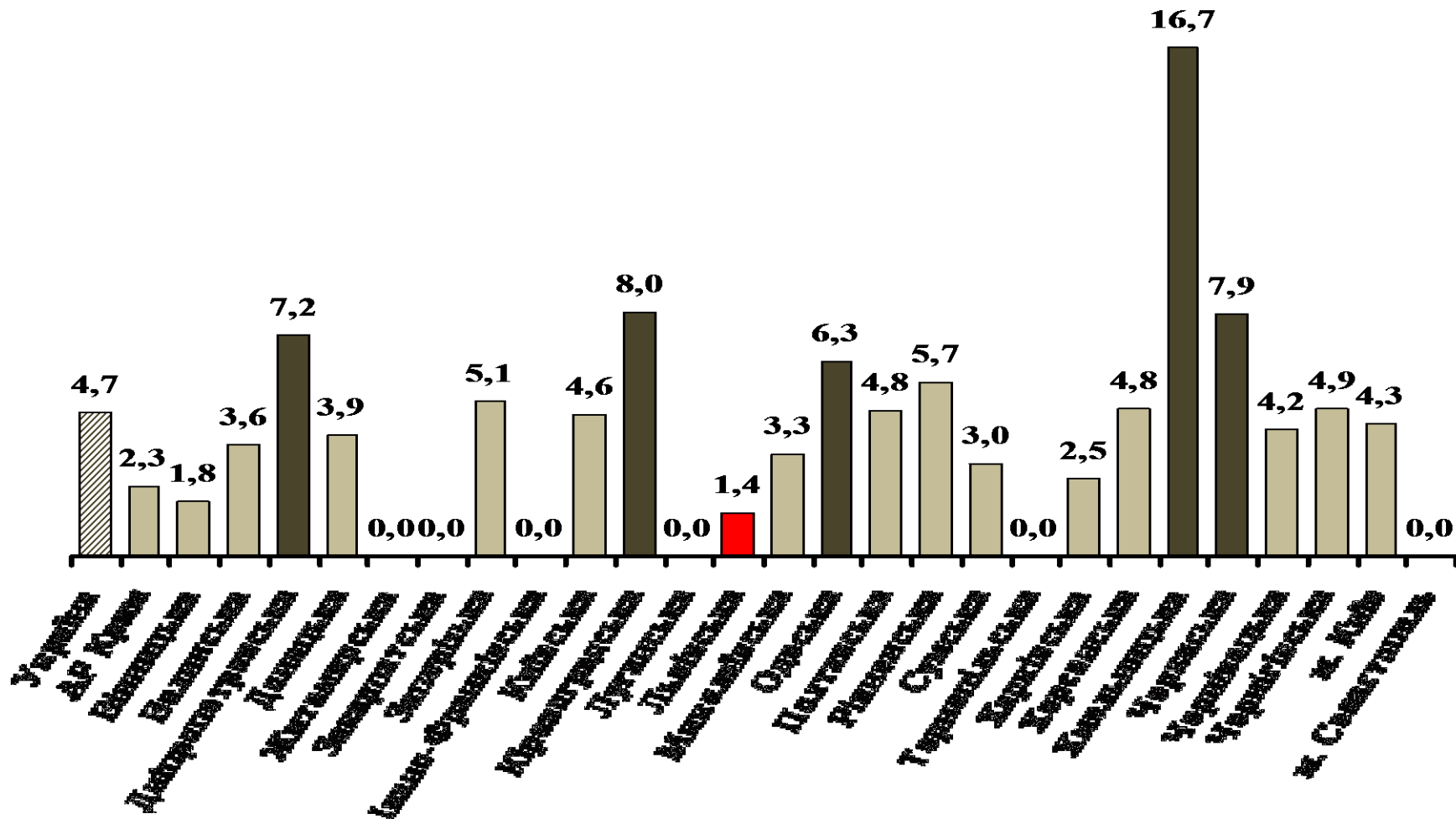
39,90% - in 2009

36,5% - in 2010

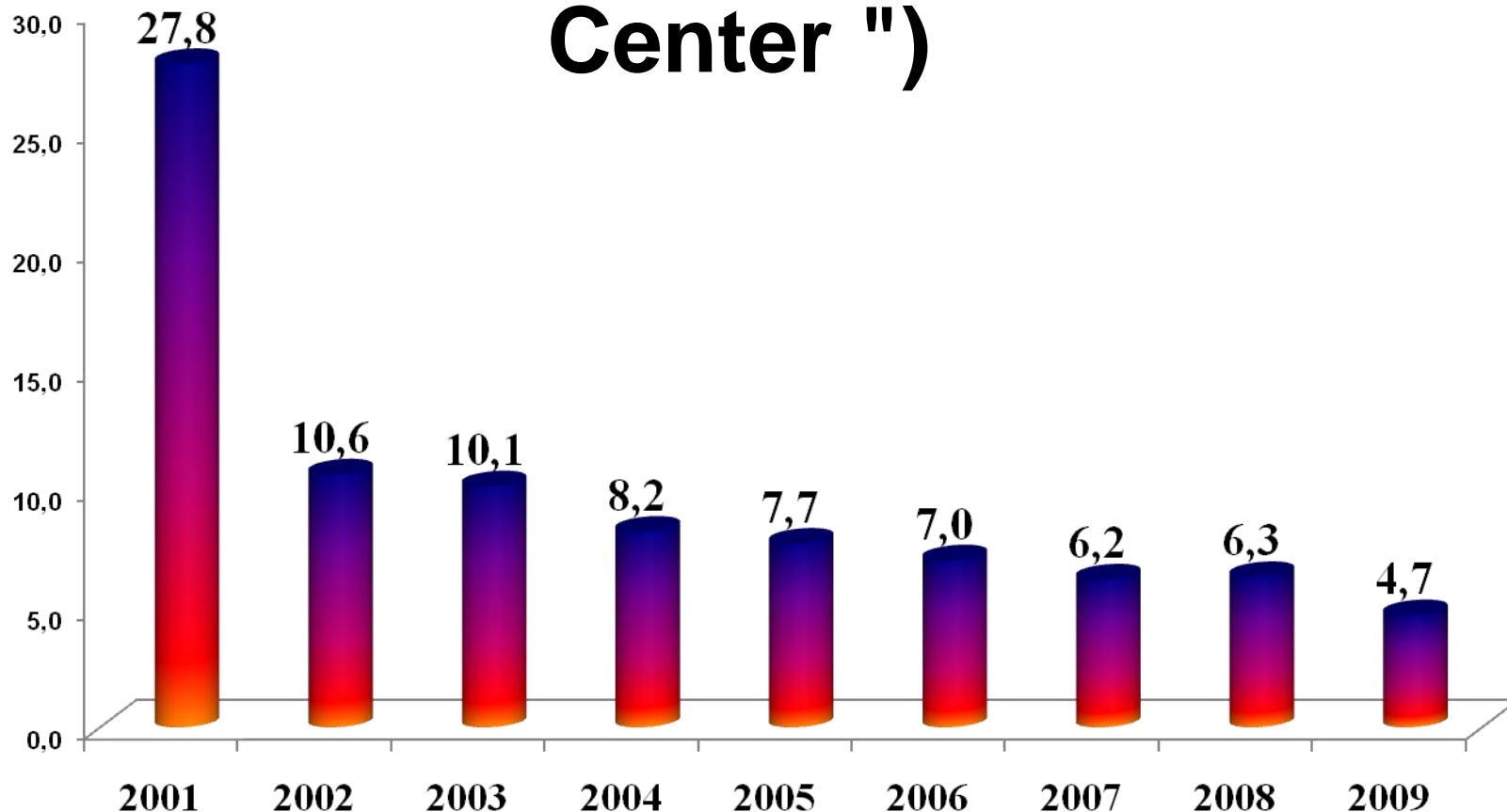
46,3% - in 2011

45,1% - in I quarter 2012 year

Відсоток вертикальної трансмісії за 2009 рік



The level of HIV transmission from mother to child in Ukraine after the ELISA (data control "Ukrainian AIDS Center ")



- The rate of treatment of active injecting drug users remains limited (according to 2009 data, only 7.5% of the total number of those receiving ART) because of insufficient availability of substitution maintenance therapy, and hence problems with forming adherence to ART.

HIV/AIDS epidemic in Ukraine is concentrated in the most-at-risk groups: among FSW, injecting drug users (IDU) and men who have sex with men (MSM).

At the same time the so-called bridge groups, in particular, clients of FSW, are becoming vulnerable to HIV/AIDS. According to the research to evaluate the size of populations vulnerable to HIV performed in 2008–2009, the estimated number of FSW in Ukraine was 65,000 to 93,000 people.