

KEY FINDINGS FROM 2018

PEOPLE WHO INJECT DRUGS IN THE PORTLAND MSA

#### Overview

- National HIV Behavioral Surveillance (NHBS)
- Monitor behaviors and prevention service use
- 22 project areas
- Key populations
  - High risk heterosexuals
  - Men who have sex with men
  - People who inject drugs



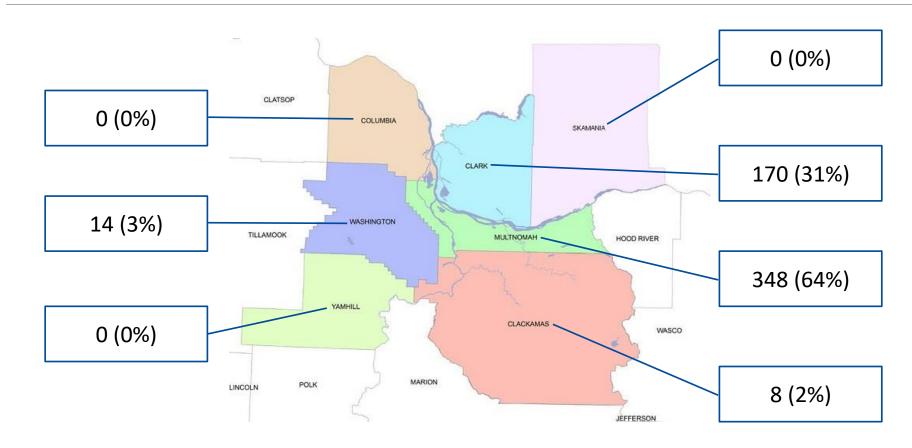
### Data collection

- Respondent driven sampling
- Cash incentives
- Eligibility:
  - Live in the sampling area
  - At least 18 years old
  - Injected drugs in the last 12 months
- •Survey
- HIV/HCV rapid testing



# Key Findings

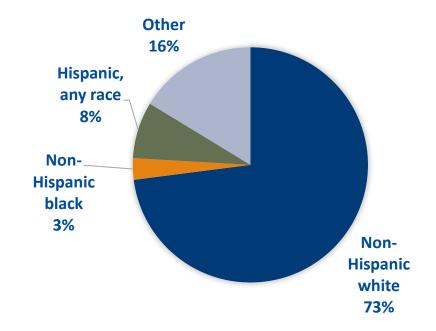
# Study sample (N = 540)



# Demographics

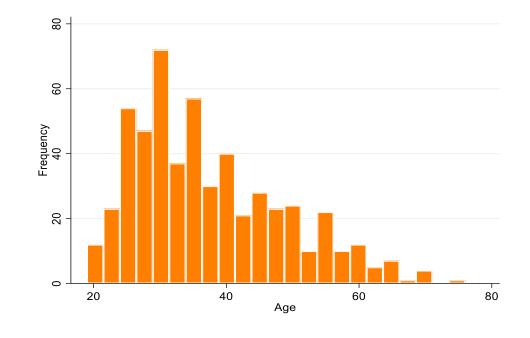


60% Male



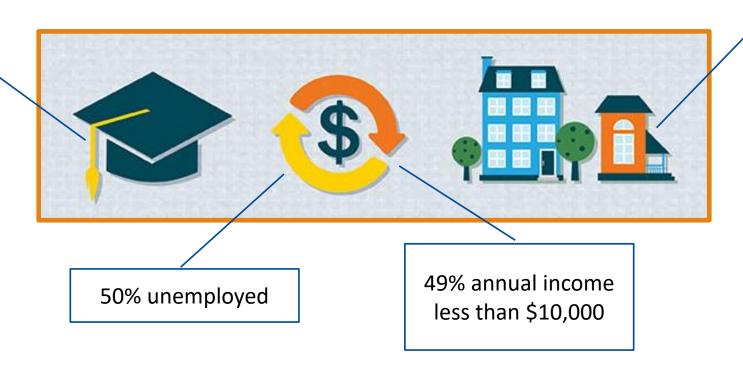


#### 80% Heterosexual/Straight



### Socioeconomic status

56% have high school degree or less



76%
experienced
homelessness in
last year

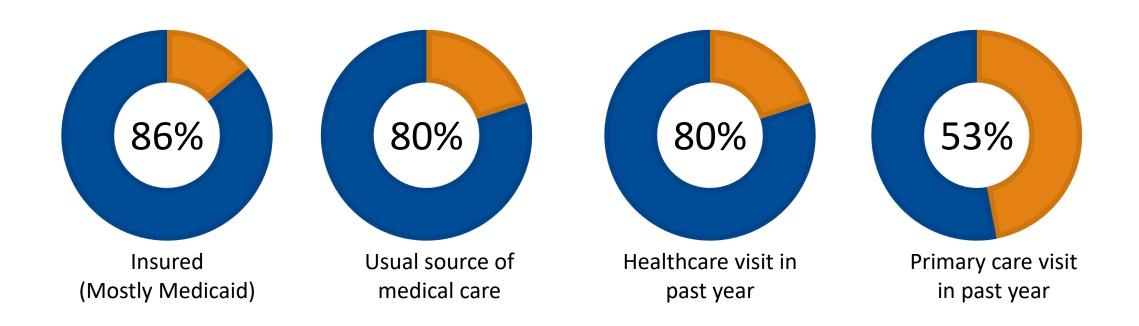
#### Risk factors

- Adverse childhood events (ACEs)
  - Almost all participants (97%) reported at least 1 ACE
  - At least half of participants reported 6 or more ACEs (13 possible)
- Almost half (42%) screened positive for serious mental illness



- Criminal justice
  - 89% held or arrested ever
  - 50% held or arrested in past year

### Engagement in health care



#### Sex behaviors

50% had multiple sex partners



 37% had condomless sex with a casual sex partner

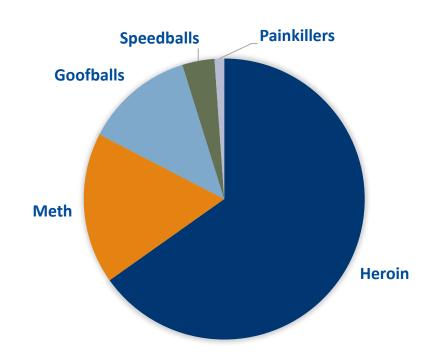


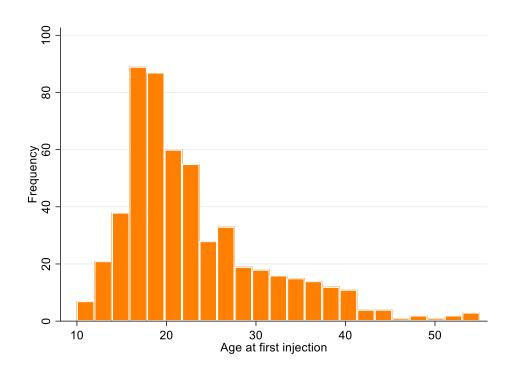
• 9% engaged in transactional sex



# Injection drug use

#### 79% injected more than once a day





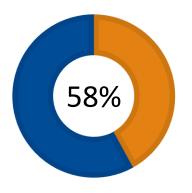
# Injection drug sharing behaviors

Shared equipment with others	73%
Used cooker/cotton/water after someone	67%
Gave needle to someone after using	52%
Used needle after someone else	42%
Used drugs divided by a used needle	37%
Had multiple injection partners in past year	68%

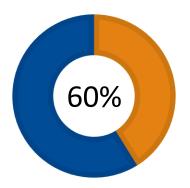


### Injection behaviors

Public injection and skin infections

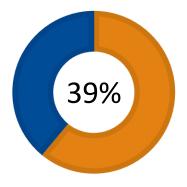


Injected in public in past month

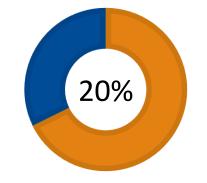


Had skin or soft tissue infections in past year

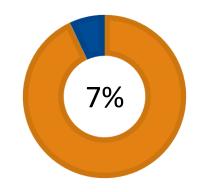
Initiation



Injected in front of a non-user

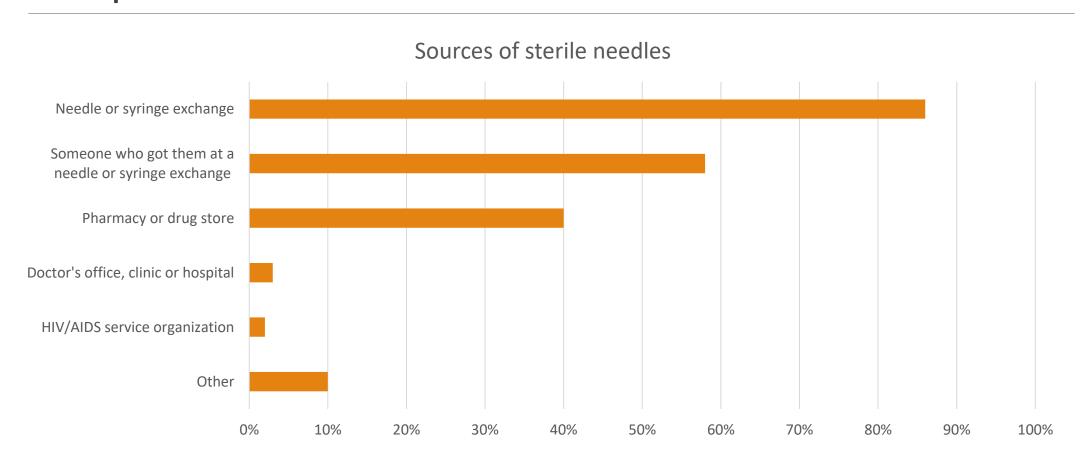


Explained injecting to a non-user



Injected someone for the first time

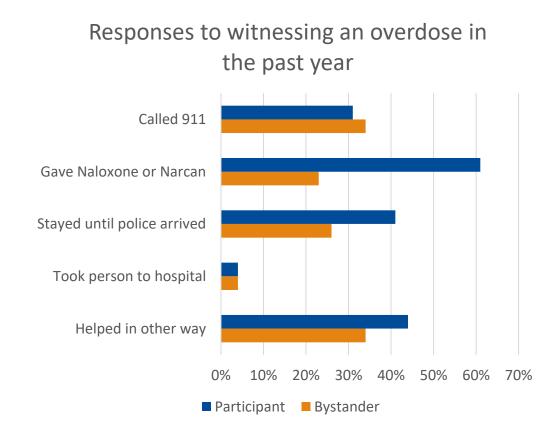
### Acquisition of sterile needles



#### Overdose

 26% experienced an overdose in the past year

- •74% witnessed an overdose in the past year
  - 52% witnessed 1-5 overdoses
  - 12% witnessed 6-10 overdoses
  - 10% witnessed 10+ overdoses



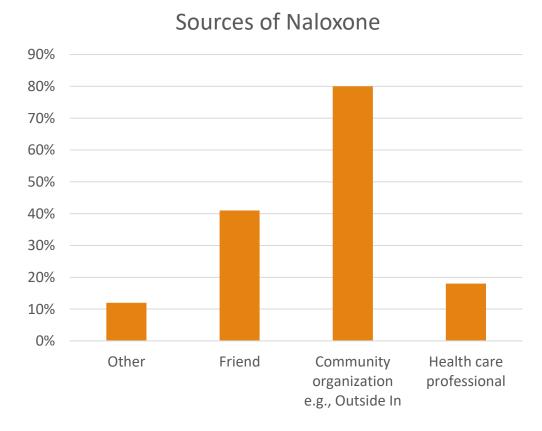
### Naloxone

83% ever carried Naloxone



• 59% currently own Naloxone

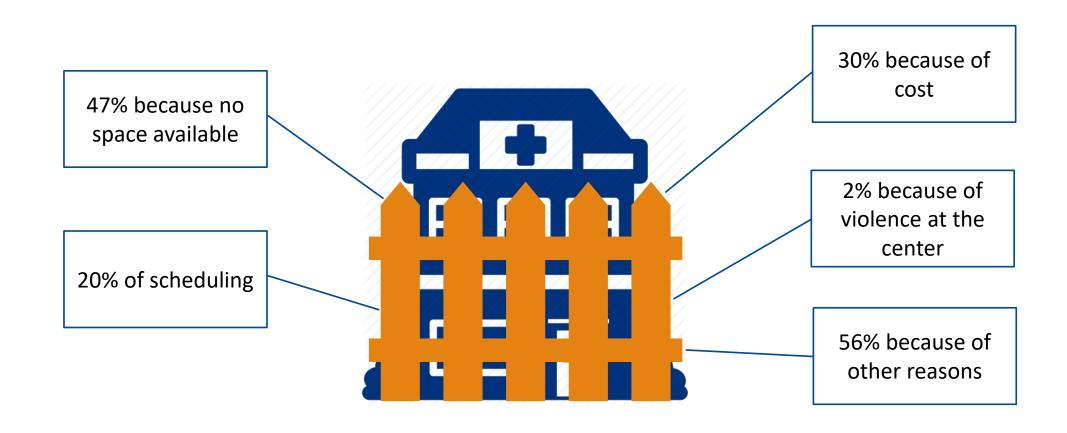




#### Substance use treatment

- 49% of participants received substance use treatment in past year
- 29% of participants wanted to get into a treatment program but were unable to
- 54% of people who used heroin/opioid participated in medication assisted treatment (MAT) in the past year
- 28% of people who used heroin/opioid wanted to participate in MAT but were unable to

#### Barriers to treatment



### IDU-related stigma



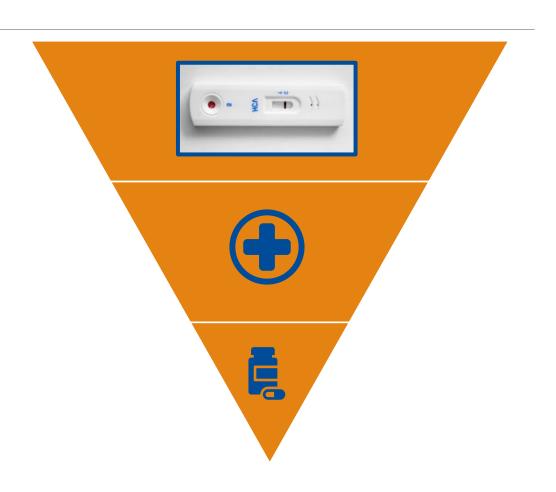
- Fear of being judged about injection drug use prevented:
  - 29% from accessing an emergency room
  - 15% from accessing Methadone or suboxone treatment
  - 13% from accessing a wound clinic
  - 12% from accessing HIV/STI testing

#### $\mathsf{HCV}$

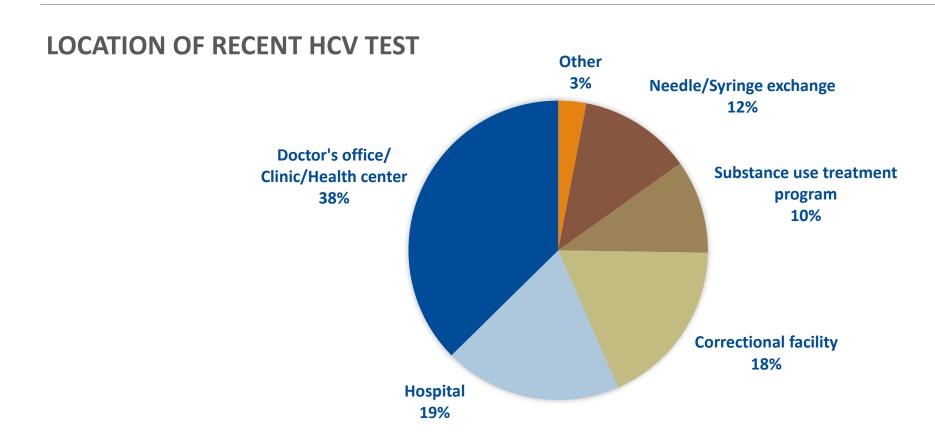
86% had been tested for HCV

- 68% tested positive on site
  - 44% self-reported positive
  - 24% new positives

 5% reported taking medication for HCV

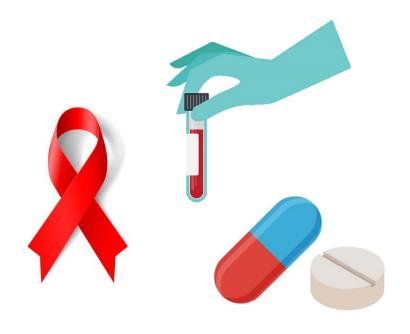


### **HCV**



### STIs and HIV

- STI testing
  - 34% tested for STIs in past year
  - 3% tested positive for Gonorrhea or Chlamydia
  - 1% tested positive for Syphilis
- HIV testing
  - 85% ever tested for HIV
  - 2% tested positive for HIV
- PrEP
  - 15% aware of PrEP
  - 3% used PrEP in the past year (<1% took PEP)



# Thank you!









Have questions about our data?

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