

# Community Convening on Crystal Meth

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County of Los Angeles, Department of Public Health



Act Now Against Meth Coalition  
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# Overview

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- Background on Meth & HIV
- HIV Counseling and Testing Data
  - HIV New Positives by Prioritized Behavioral Risk Groups (BRGs)
  - Meth Users by BRG
  - HIV New Positives by Meth Use
  - Meth Users by Race
  - Meth Users by Age
- Implications for an HIV Prevention Response
- OAPP's Response
- Next Steps
- Community Leadership



# What We Know About Crystal Meth, Sex & HIV Among Men Who Have Sex with Men (MSM)

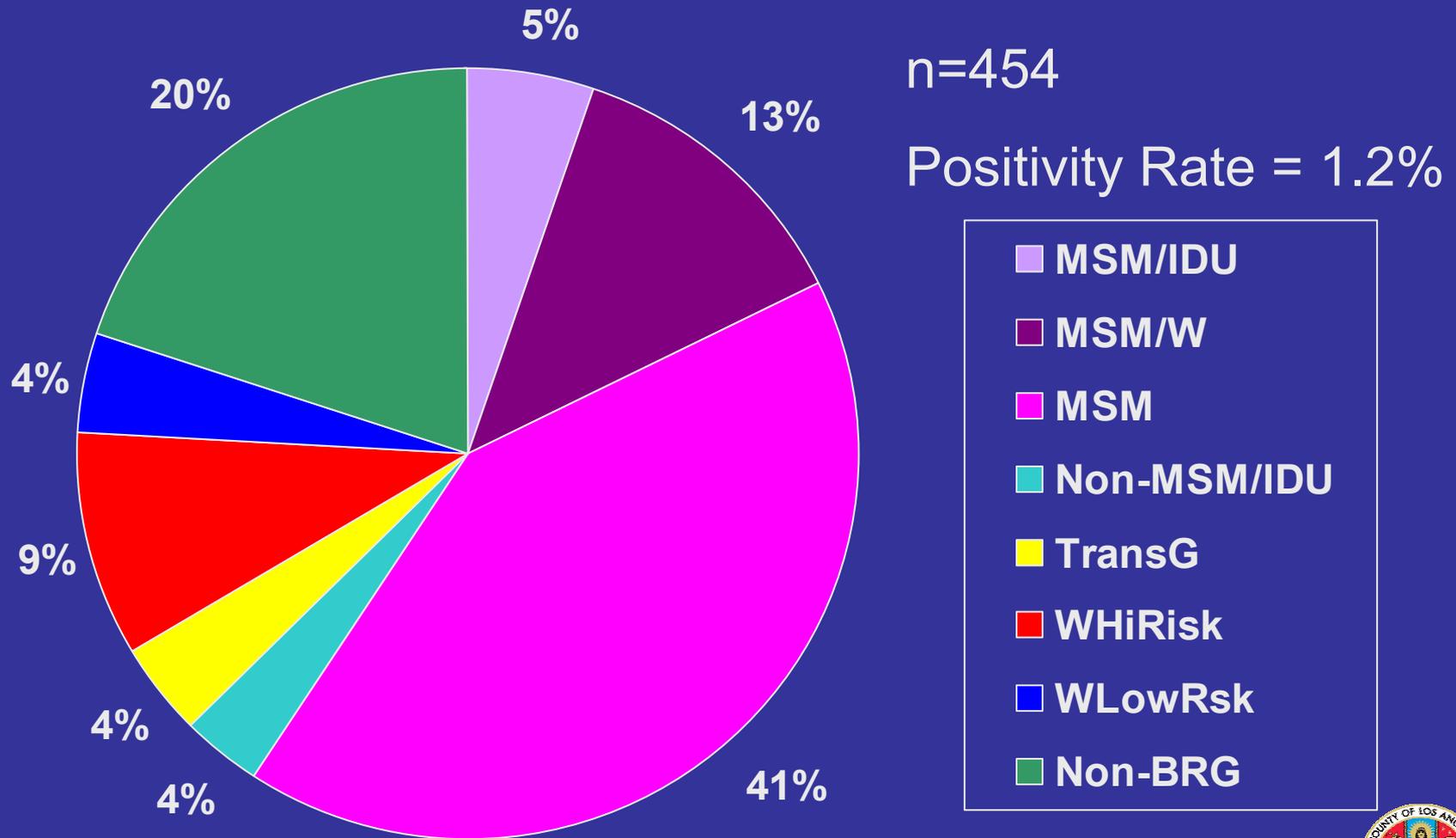
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- Highly associated with risky sexual behaviors (decreased condom use, multiple sex partners)
- Poor adherence to HIV medication among HIV positive individuals compromises health
- Drug holidays and party lifestyle further destroys immune system and overall health
- 1 out of 10 gay men in LAC have used meth within the last 6 months
- Meth using MSM are between 2-3 times more likely to be HIV+ than MSM who don't use meth



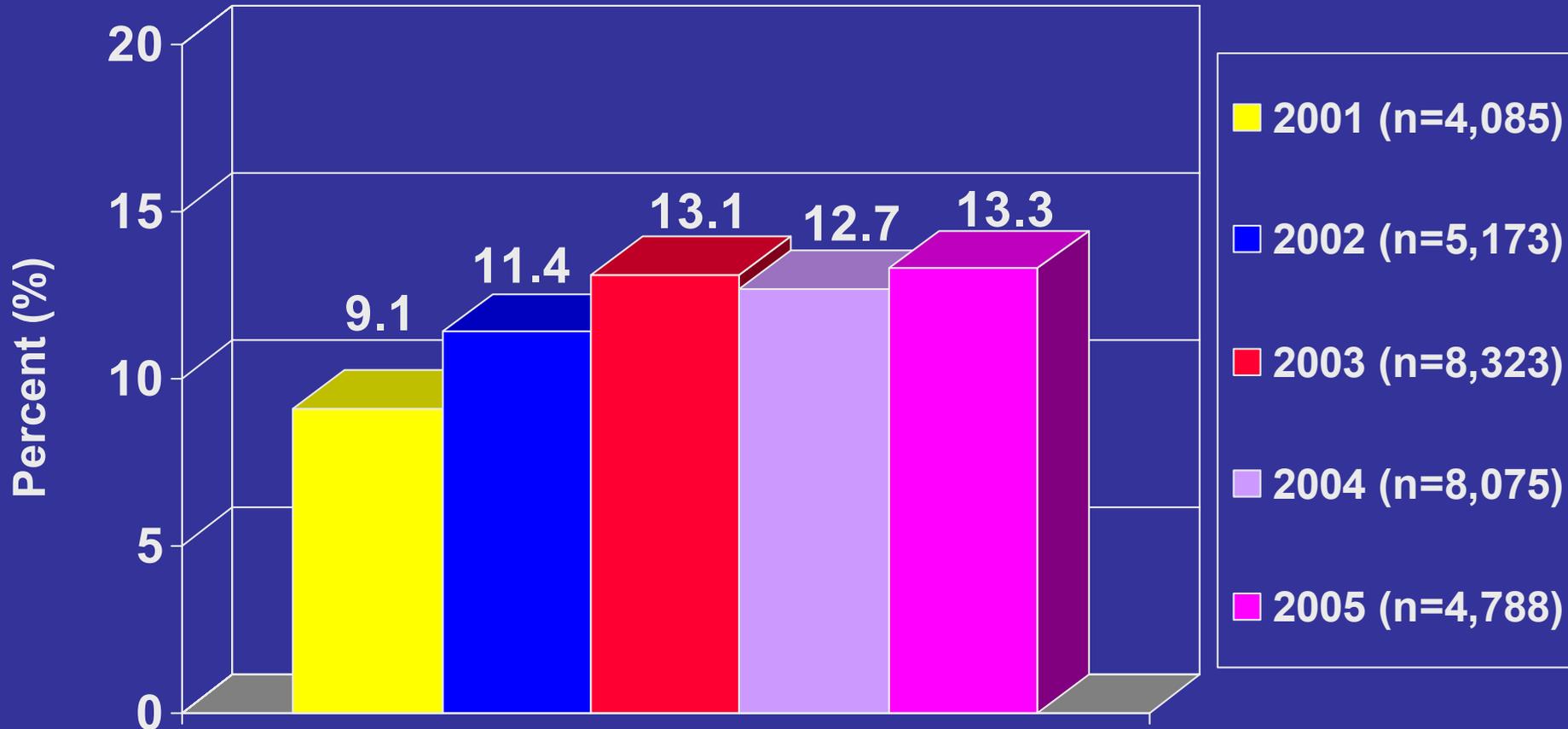
# Los Angeles County Counseling & Testing Data, 2005

## All New HIV Positives by Behavioral Risk Group



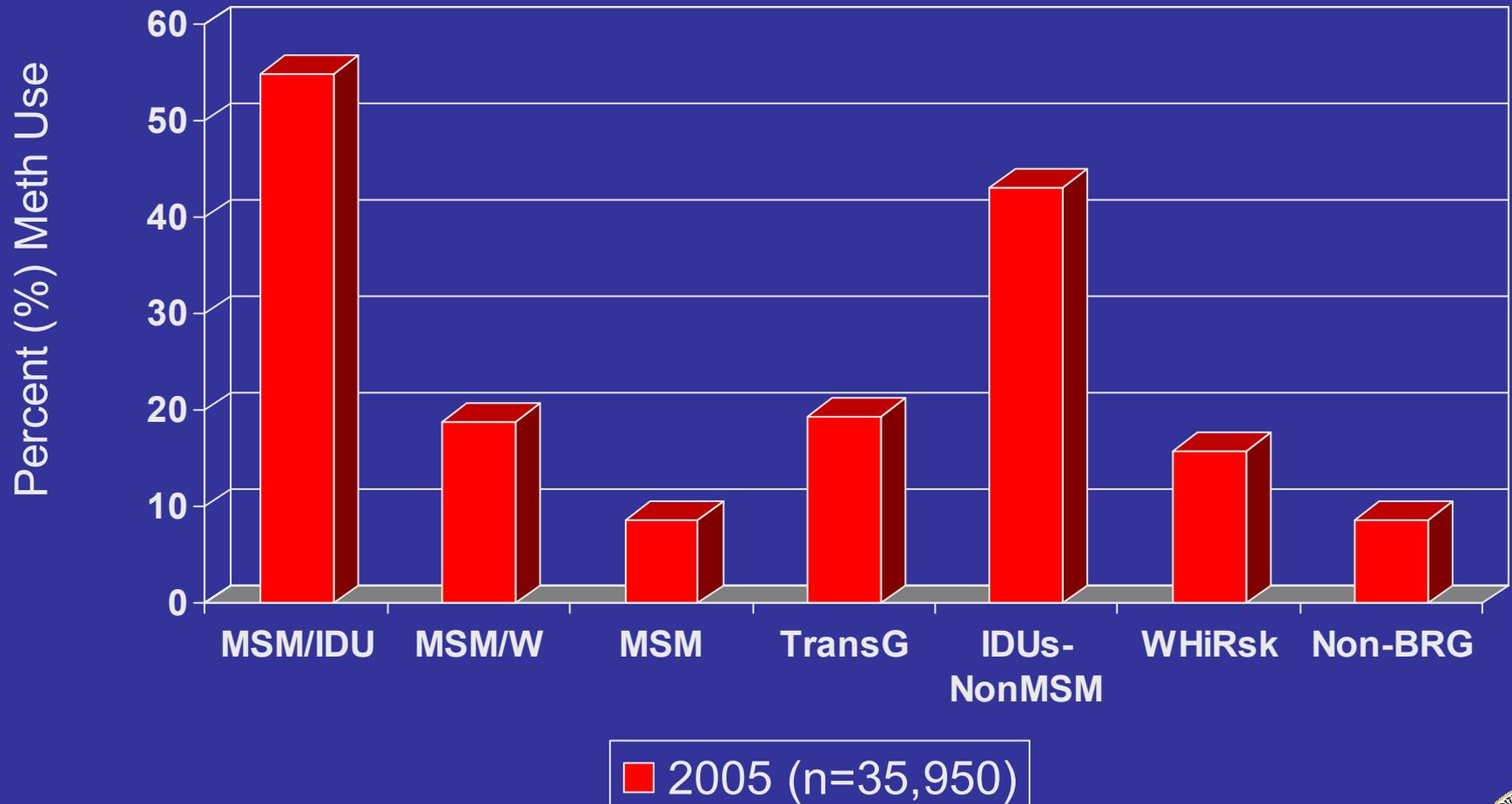
# Los Angeles County Counseling & Testing Data, 2001-2005

## Meth Use Among all Tests



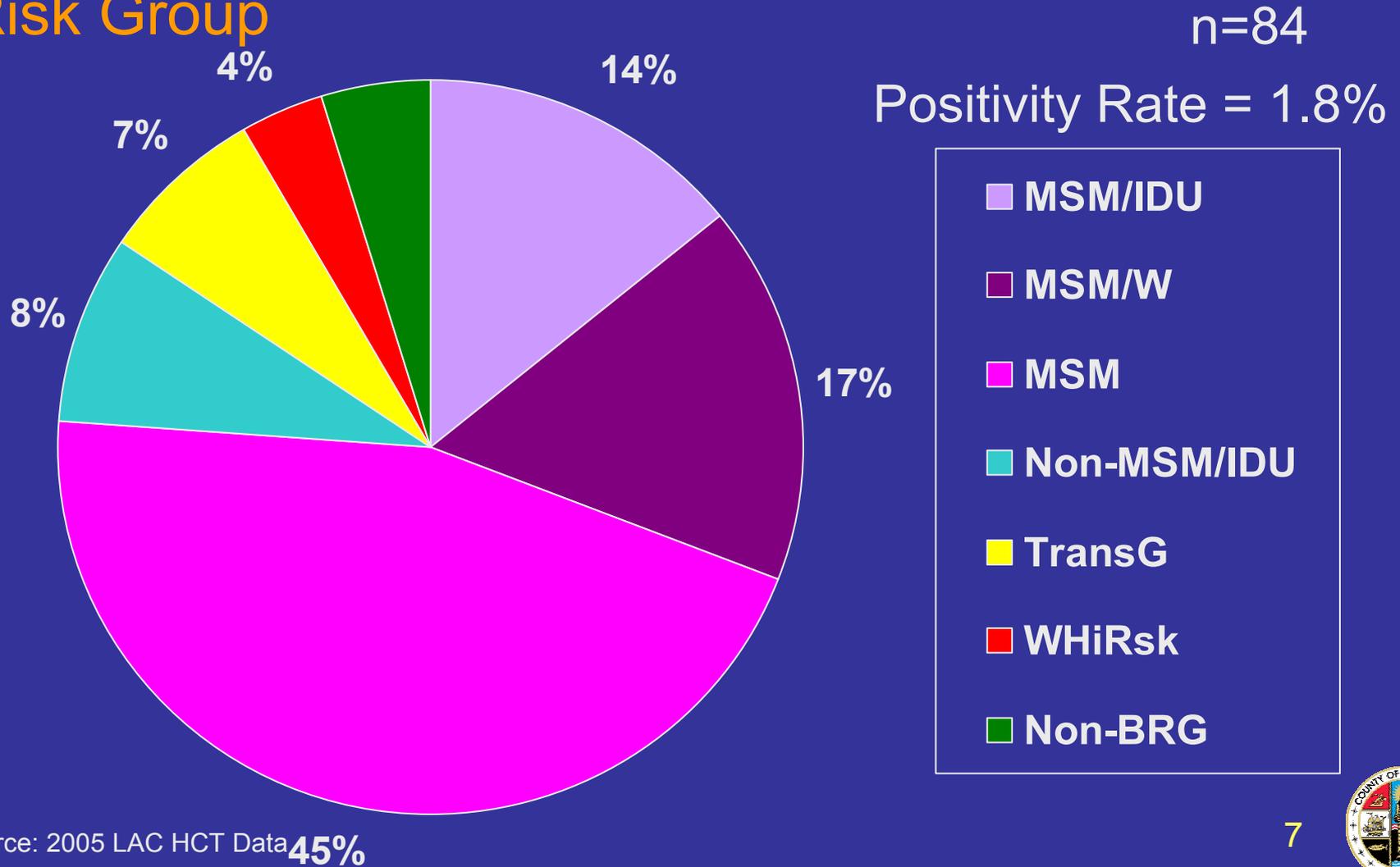
# Los Angeles County Counseling & Testing Data, 2005

## Meth Use Among Behavioral Risk Groups



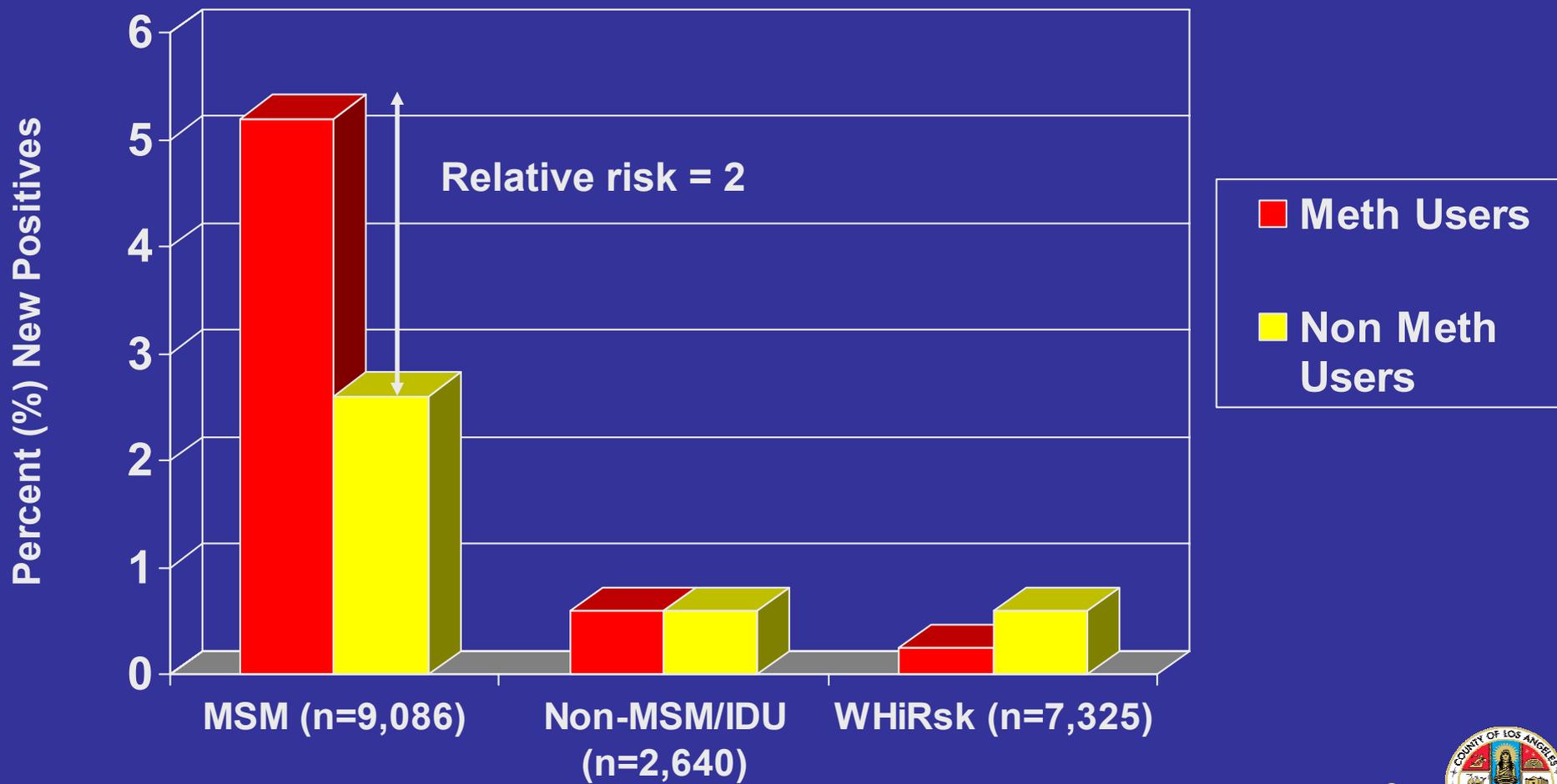
# Los Angeles County Counseling & Testing Data, 2005

## New HIV Positives Among Meth Users by Behavioral Risk Group



# Los Angeles County Counseling & Testing Data, 2005

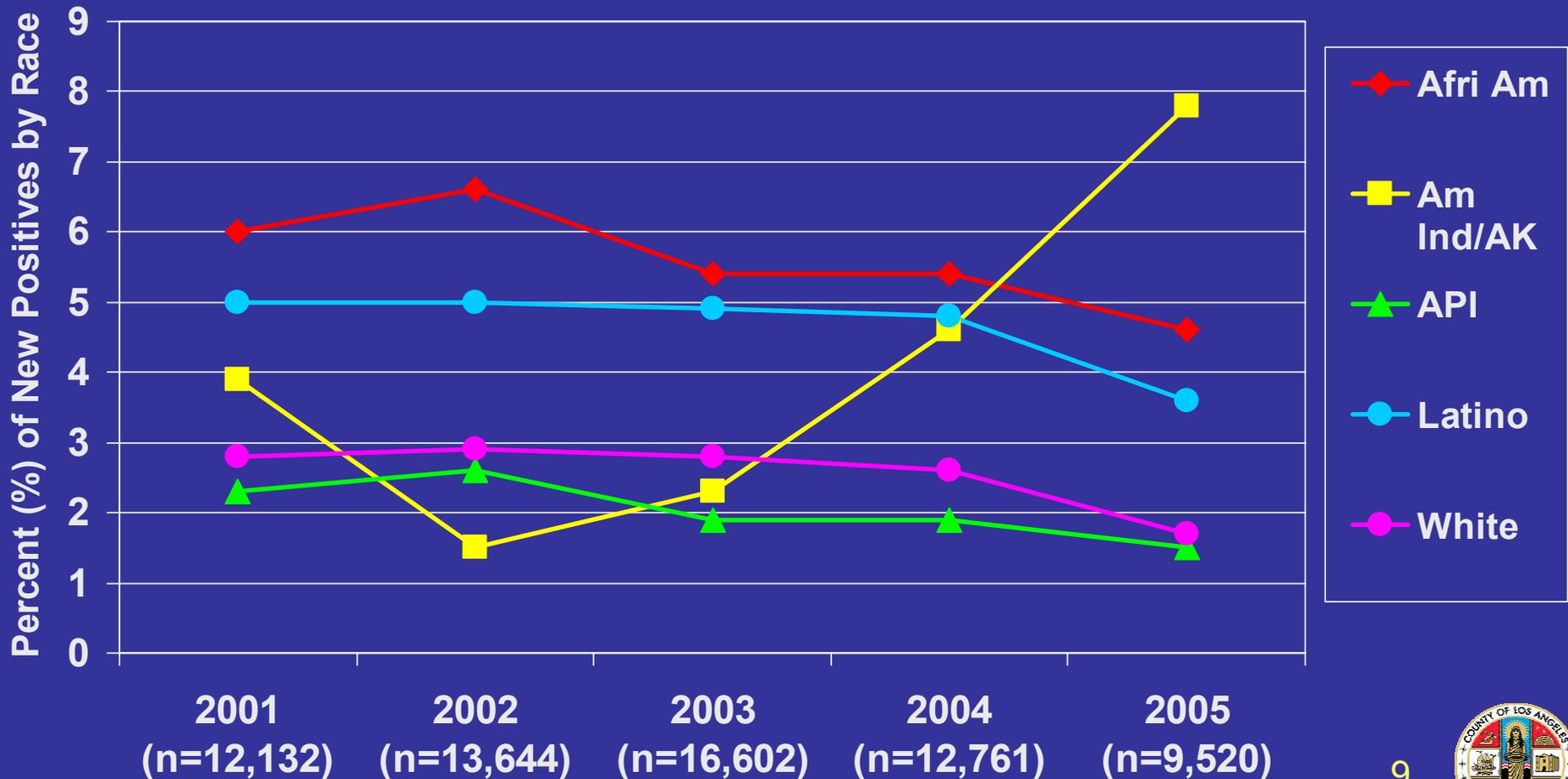
## New HIV Positive Meth Users vs. New HIV Positive Non-Meth Users



# Los Angeles County Counseling & Testing Data, 2001-2005

## HIV prevalence Among MSM by Race

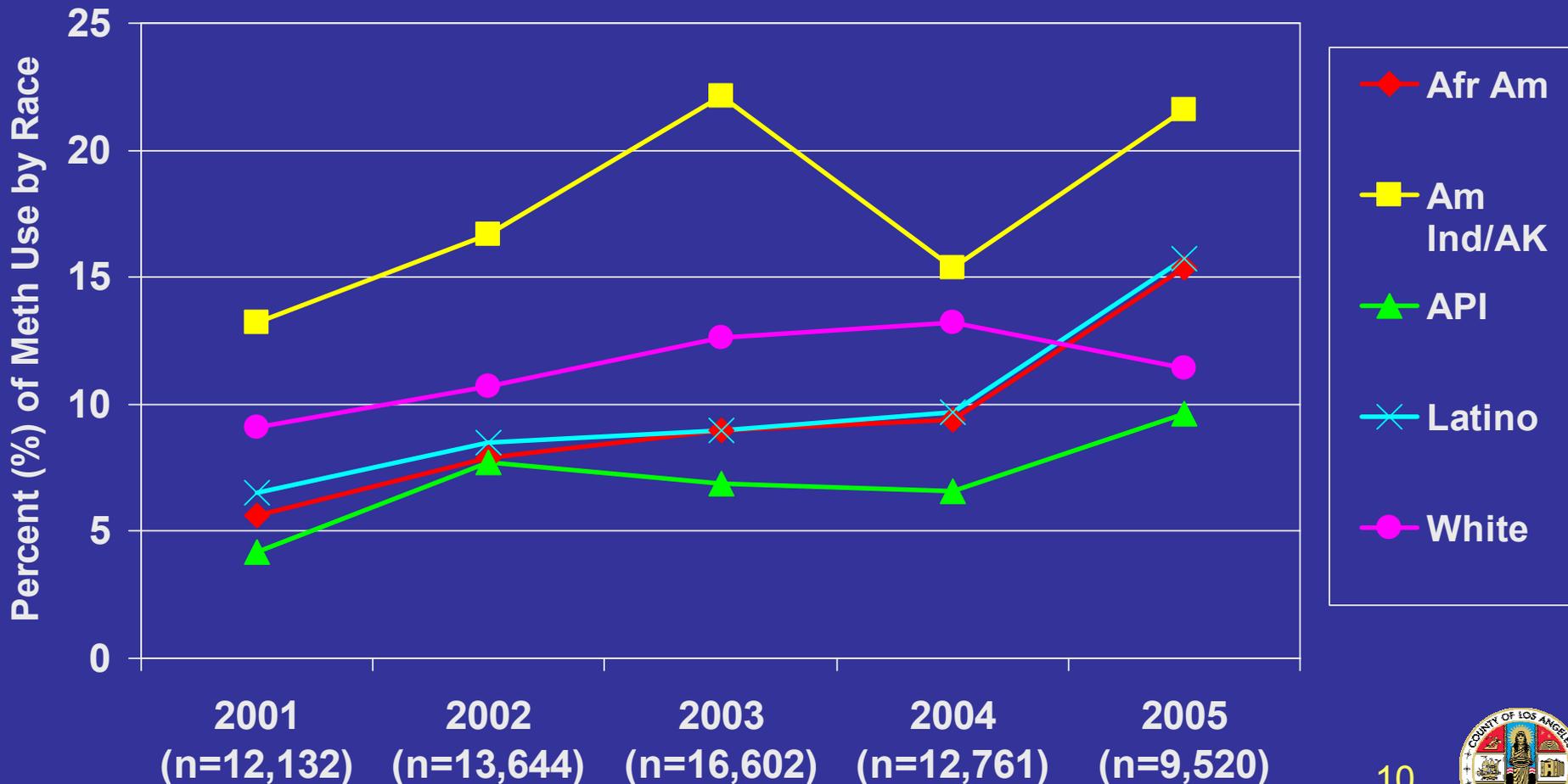
What percentage of each race (among MSM) are positive?



# Los Angeles County Counseling & Testing Data, 2001-2005

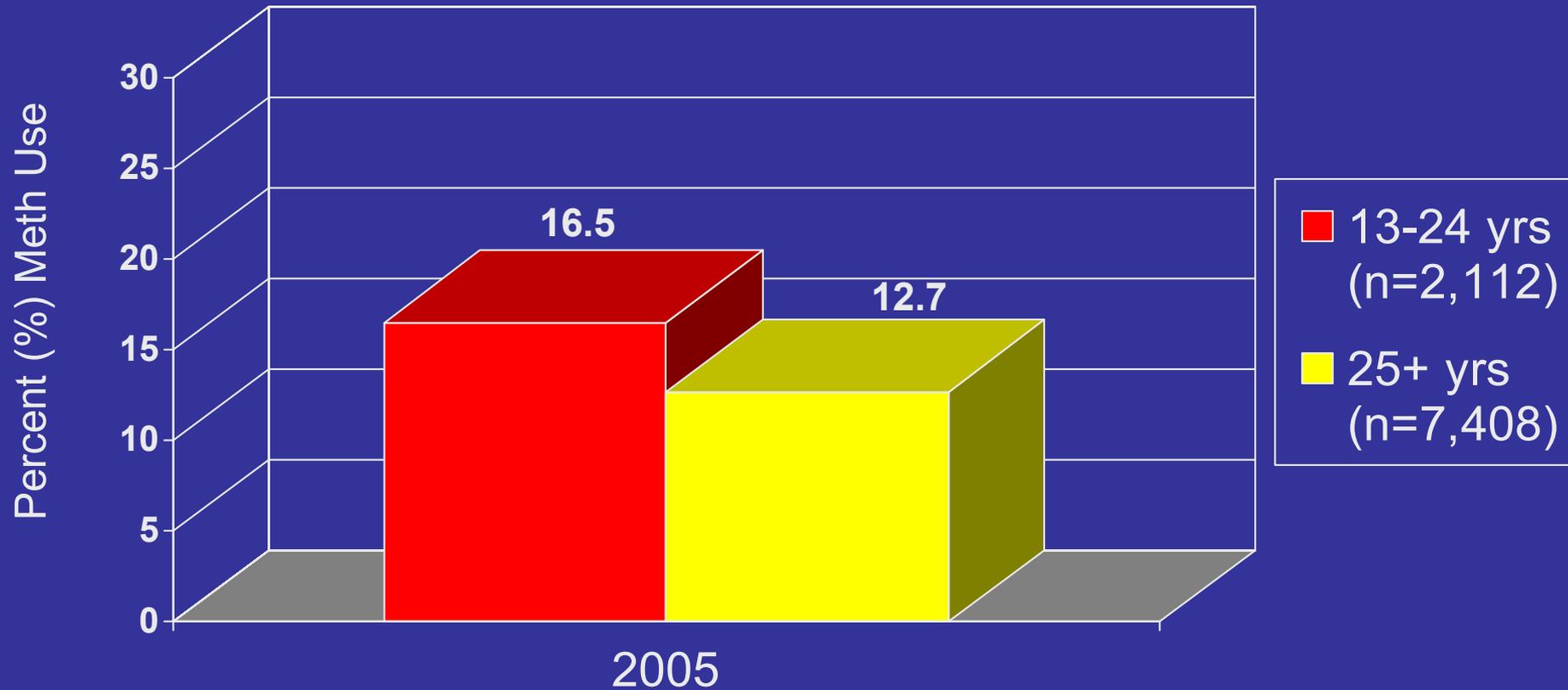
## Meth Use Among all MSM by Race

What percentages of each race (among MSM) are using?



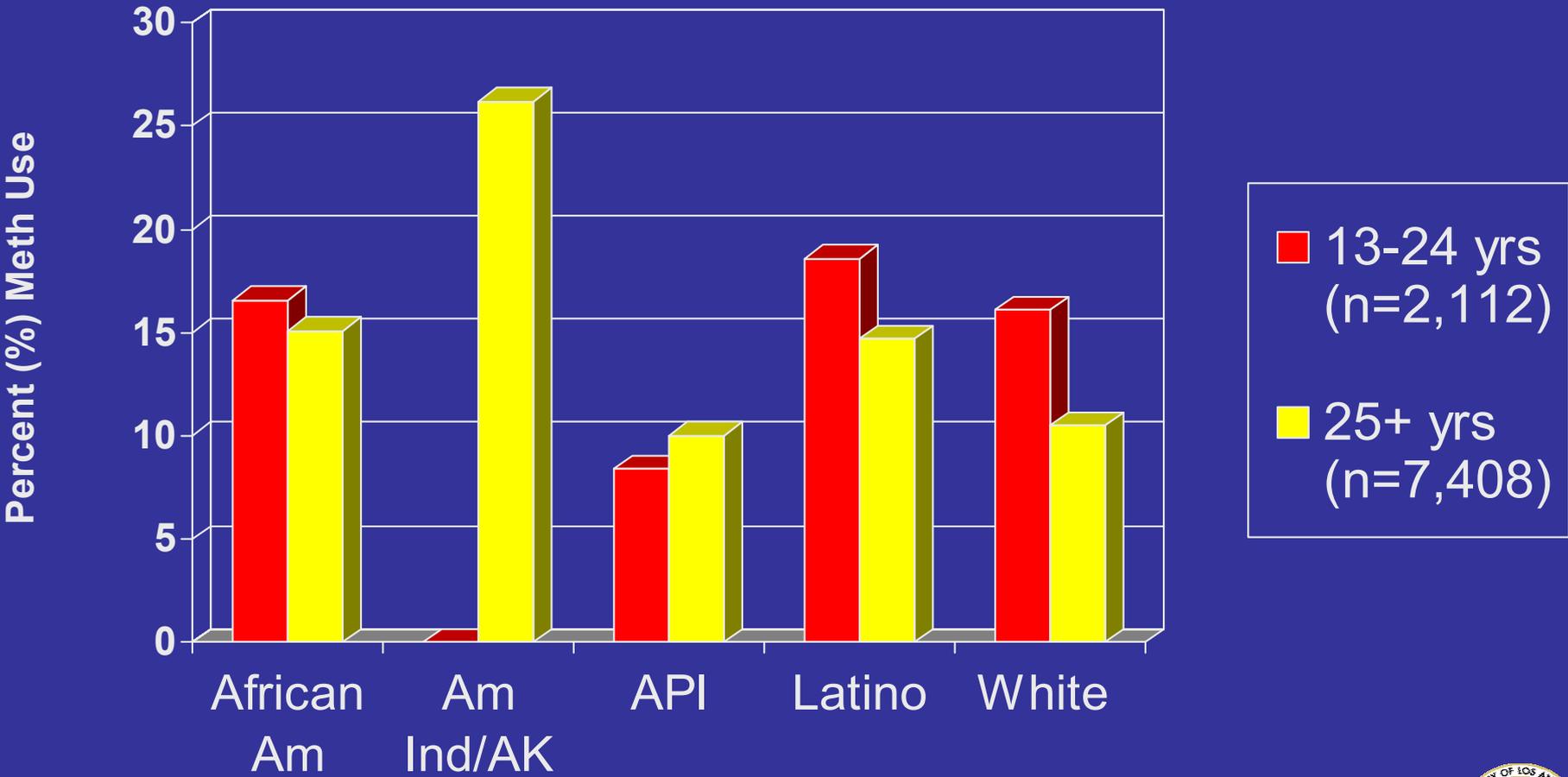
# Los Angeles County Counseling & Testing Data, 2005

## Meth Use Among all MSM by Age



# Los Angeles County Counseling & Testing Data, 2005

## Meth Use Among all MSM by Age and by Race



# Implications for an HIV Prevention Response

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- HIV prevention efforts should specifically target MSM due to high HIV positivity rates among this population that are using meth
- Any interaction that MSM have within the healthcare system should be used to discuss HIV risk and meth use
- Understand overlapping risk factors for MSM
- Prevention efforts should address use of internet partnering (PnP) by MSM



# OAPP's Response

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- Conducted Crystal Meth Situational Assessment (2005) to gain a deeper understanding of the issues surrounding crystal meth use among MSM in LAC
- HIV Prevention Planning Committee
  - Convened Meth WorkGroup
  - Recommendations added to HIV Prevention Plan as Addendum
  - HIV Prevention Plan 2009-2013: Comprehensive section on meth



# OAPP's Response (con't)

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- Funded 3 new HIV and Crystal Meth Prevention Programs (for MSM)
  - LA Gay and Lesbian Center
  - CA State Long Beach
  - Van Ness Recovery House
- Increased funding to expand services of 2 current HIV and Crystal Meth Prevention Programs (for MSM and family/friends)
  - APLA
  - CA Drug Consultants



# OAPP's Response (con't)

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- Collaboration/support for continuing research efforts examining evidence based prevention and treatment strategies
  - Project Tech Support (research partnership with Van Ness Prevention Division/UCLA)
    - CDC-funded grant targeting out-of-treatment meth-using MSM



# Next Steps (OAPP)

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- Continue to monitor trends in populations at risk (e.g. YMSM of color) to best align services
  - **Coordinated Joint Needs Assessment: Data will be available by August 2007**
- Examine opportunities for programming for women & adolescents in context of HIV (PPC)
- Commitment to integration of County health services



# Community Leadership/Ownership

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- Actively raise awareness in your community about meth use
- Be familiar with signs of use to identify problems among friends & family
- Encourage users to seek help
- Work to change the community norm around acceptance of meth



# For Additional Information:

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