

Advancing the LGBT health agenda: the role of state government

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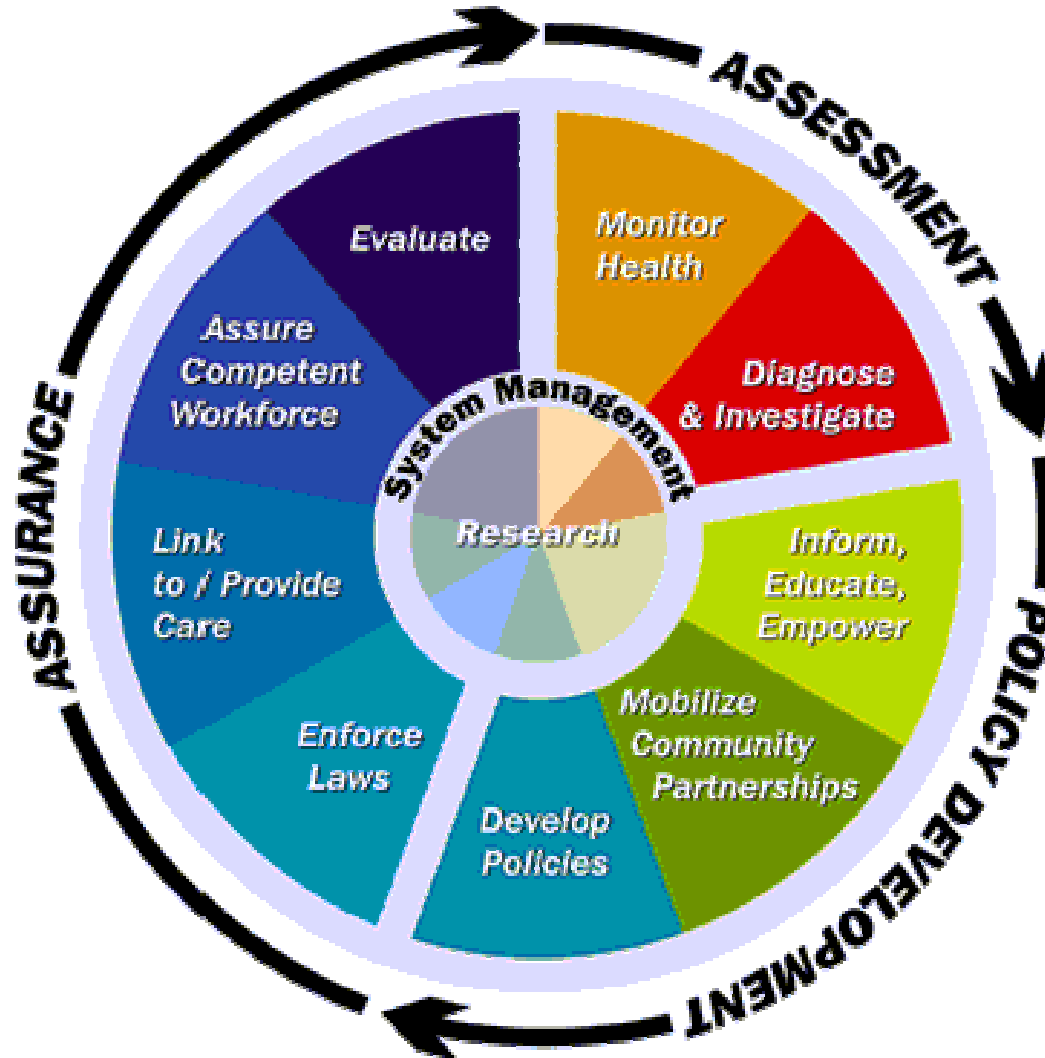
Presenter Disclosures

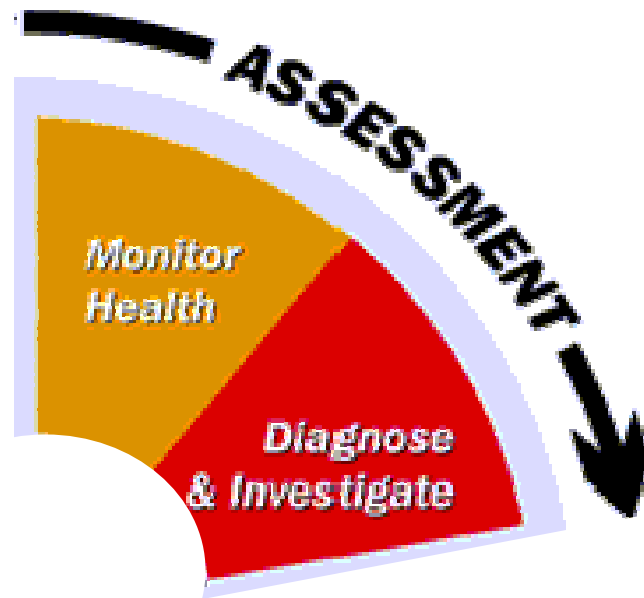
Mari Gasiorowicz

The following personal financial relationships with commercial interests relevant to this presentation existed during the past 12 months:

No disclosures to report

Core Functions and Essential Services of Public Health



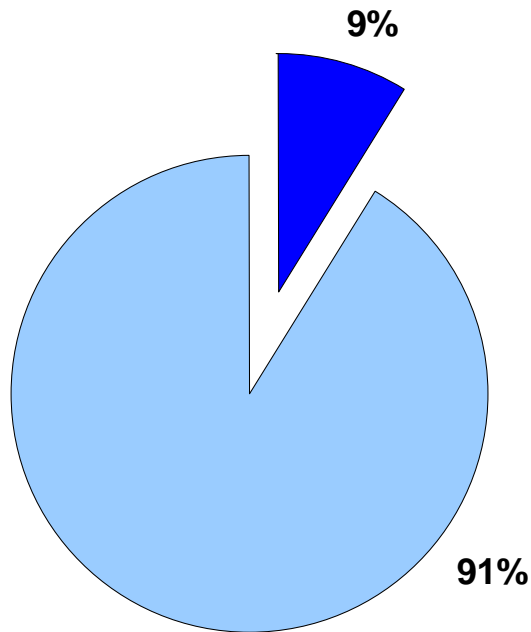


Assessment

- Youth Risk Behavior Survey
- Behavioral Risk Factor Survey
- HIV surveillance data

Percent of sexually active high school students that reported same-sex contact, Wisconsin, 2007 and 2009

- Same-sex sexual contact
- Opposite-sex sexual contact only

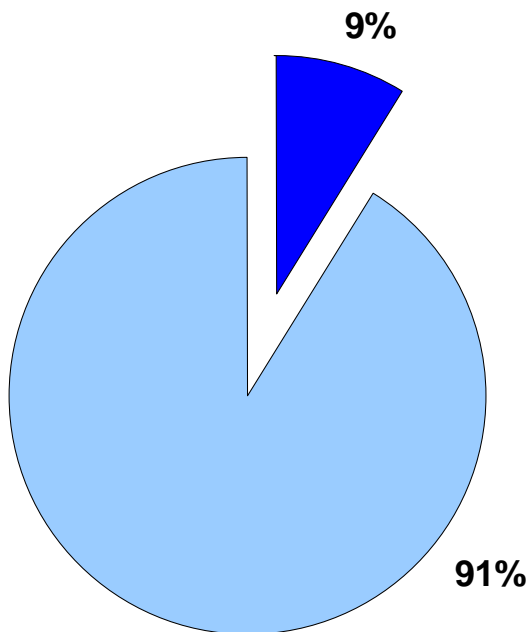


Wisconsin

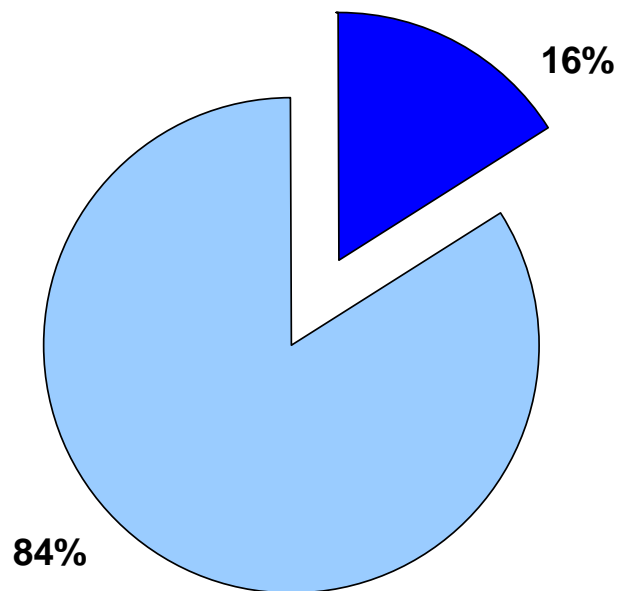
Sources: Wisconsin Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2009, Departments of Public Instruction and Health Services; Milwaukee Public Schools

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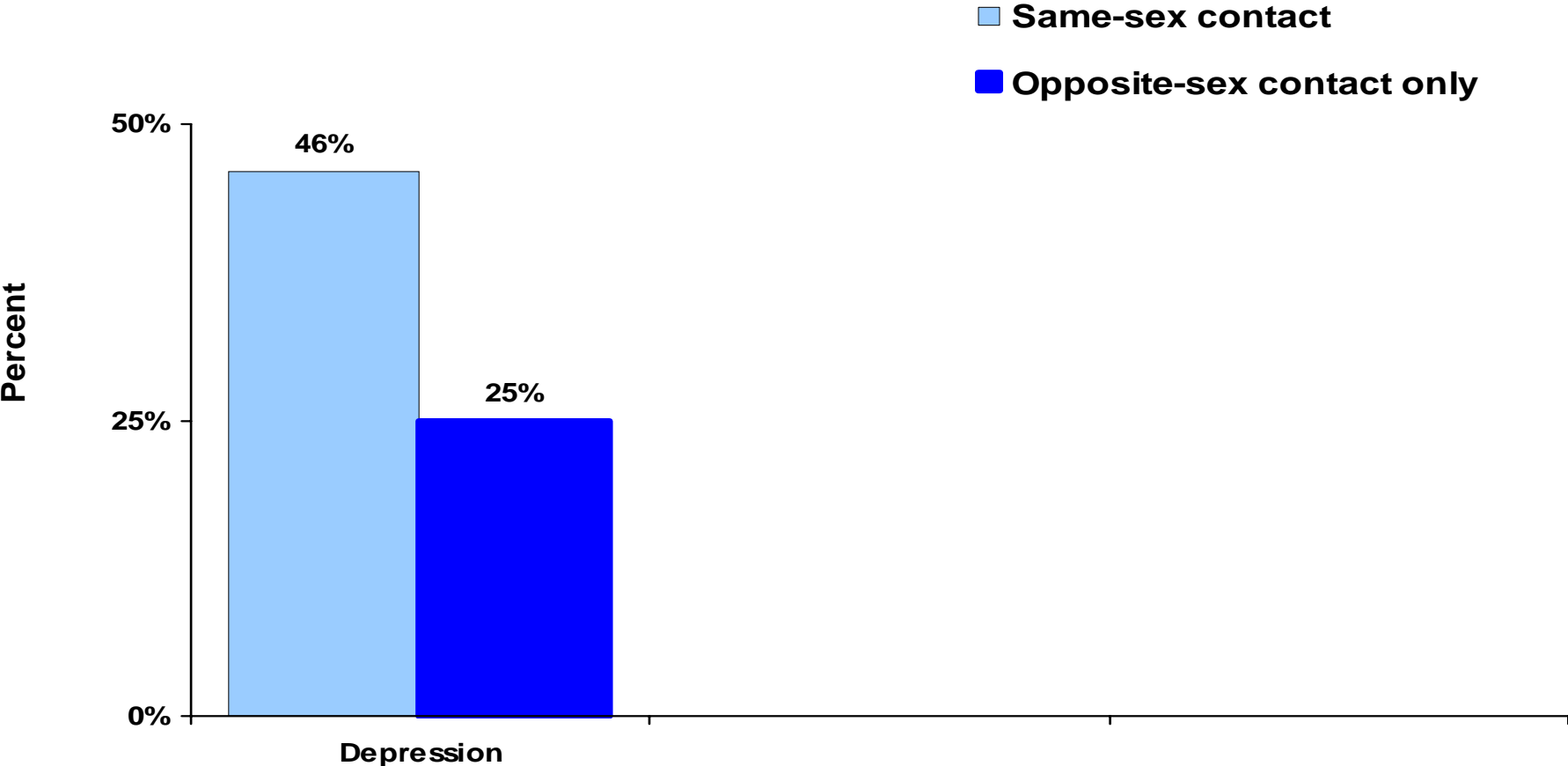
Wisconsin



Milwaukee

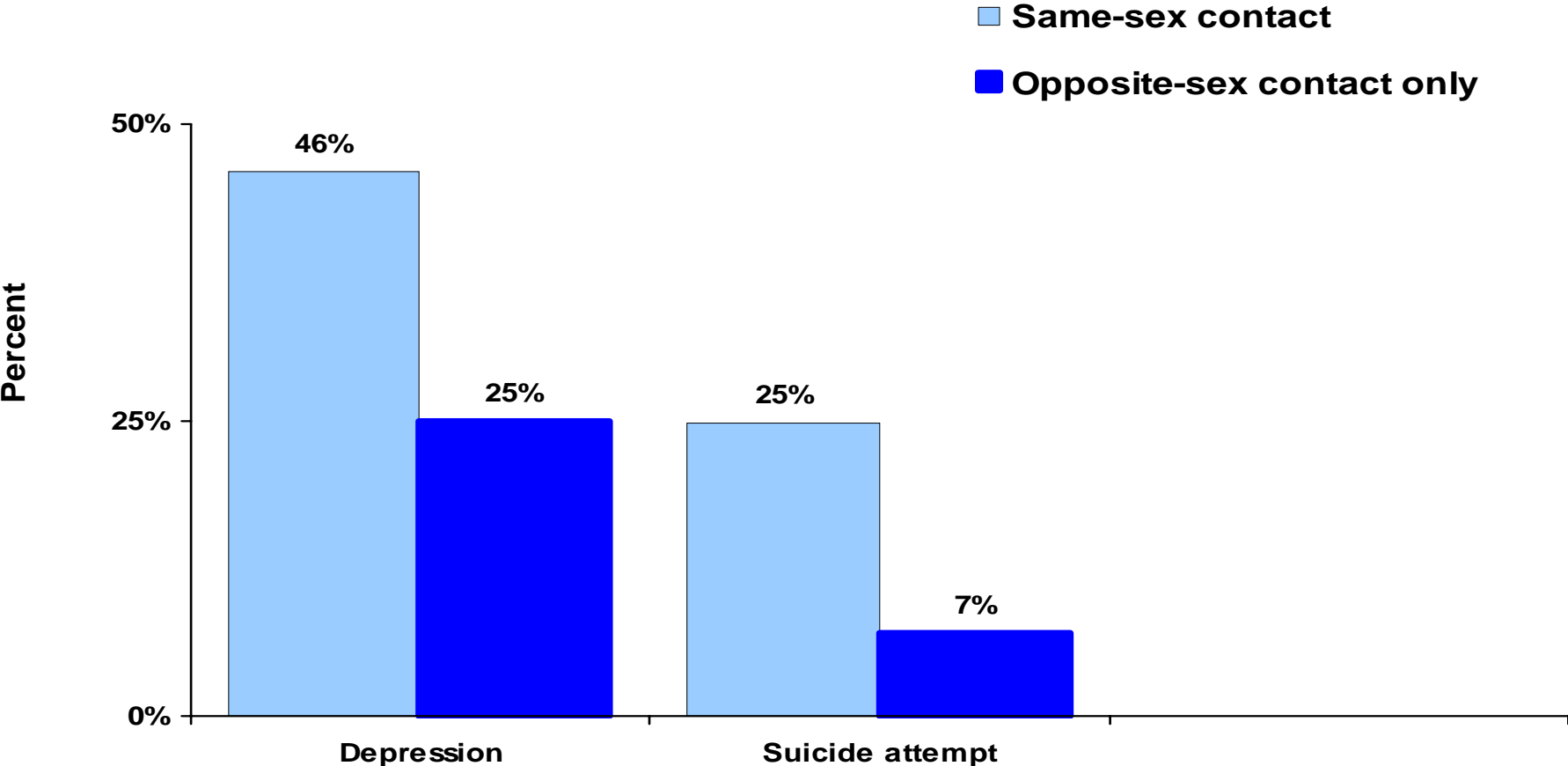
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Selected health behaviors and risks for youth engaging in same-sex versus only opposite-sex sexual contact, Wisconsin, 2007 and 2009



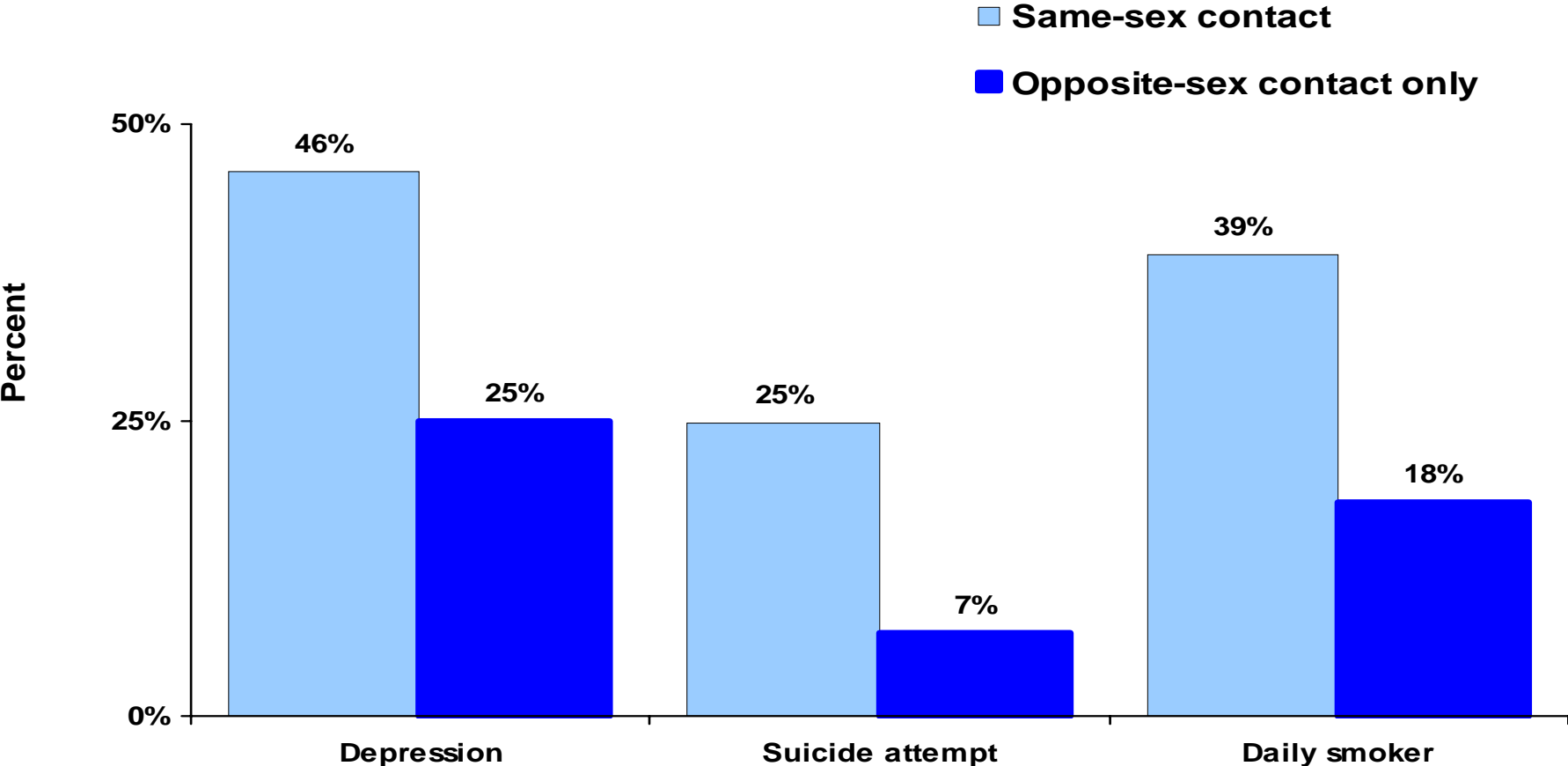
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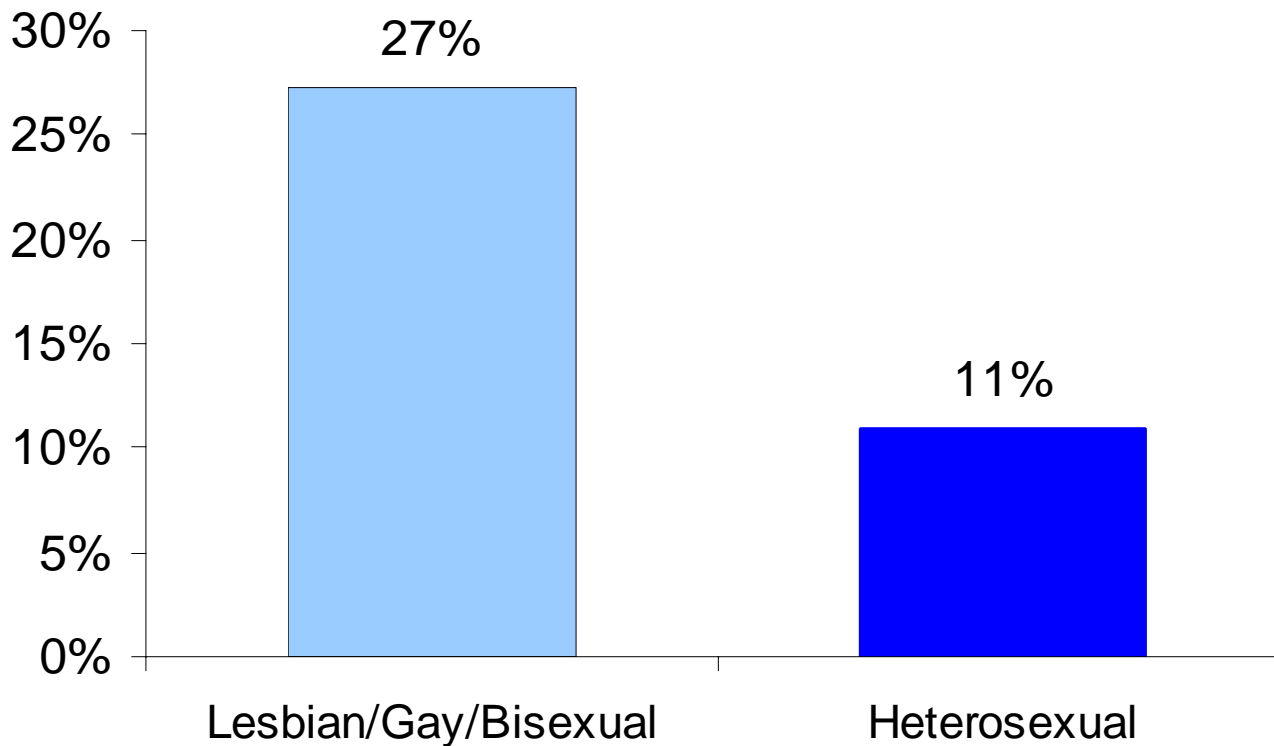
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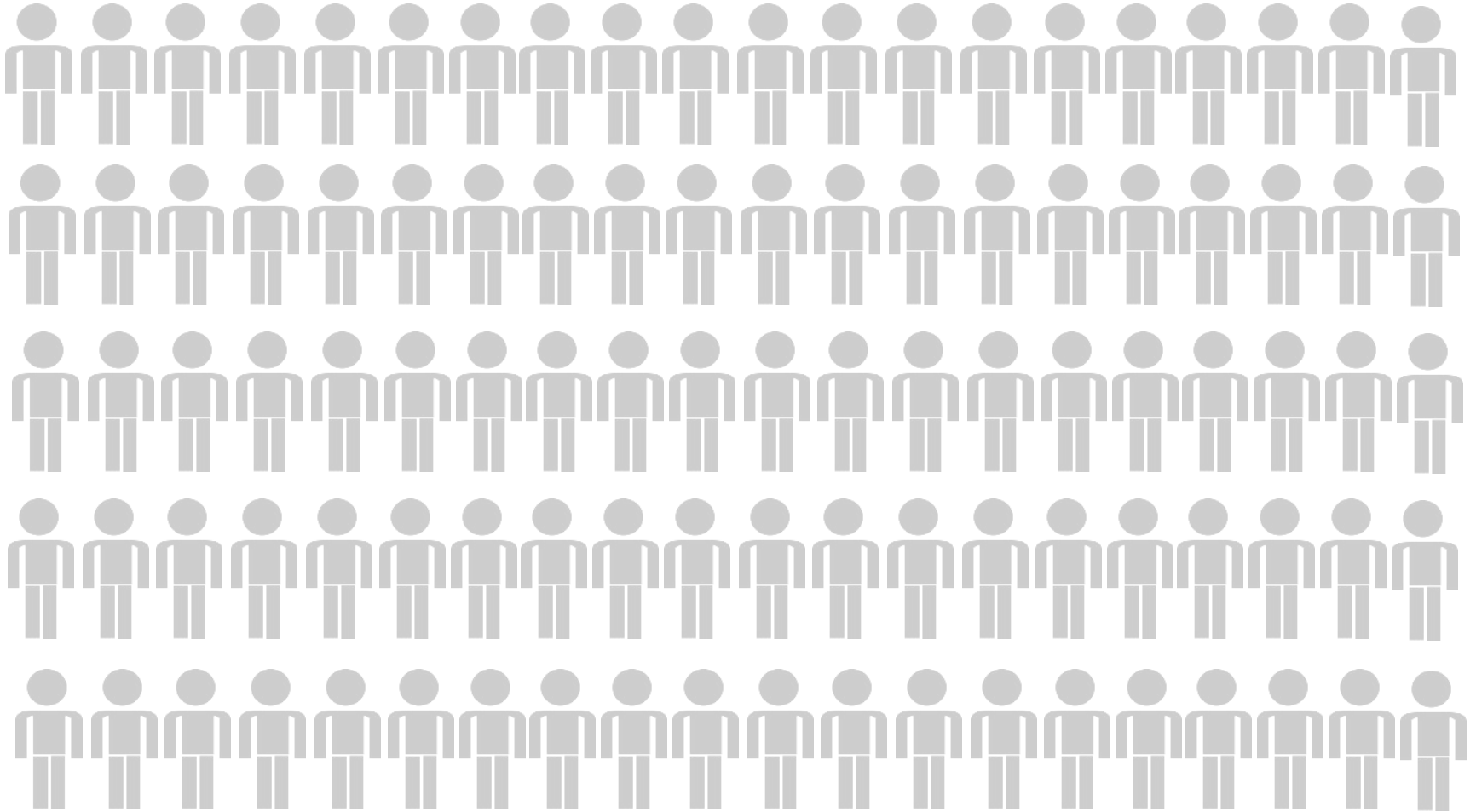


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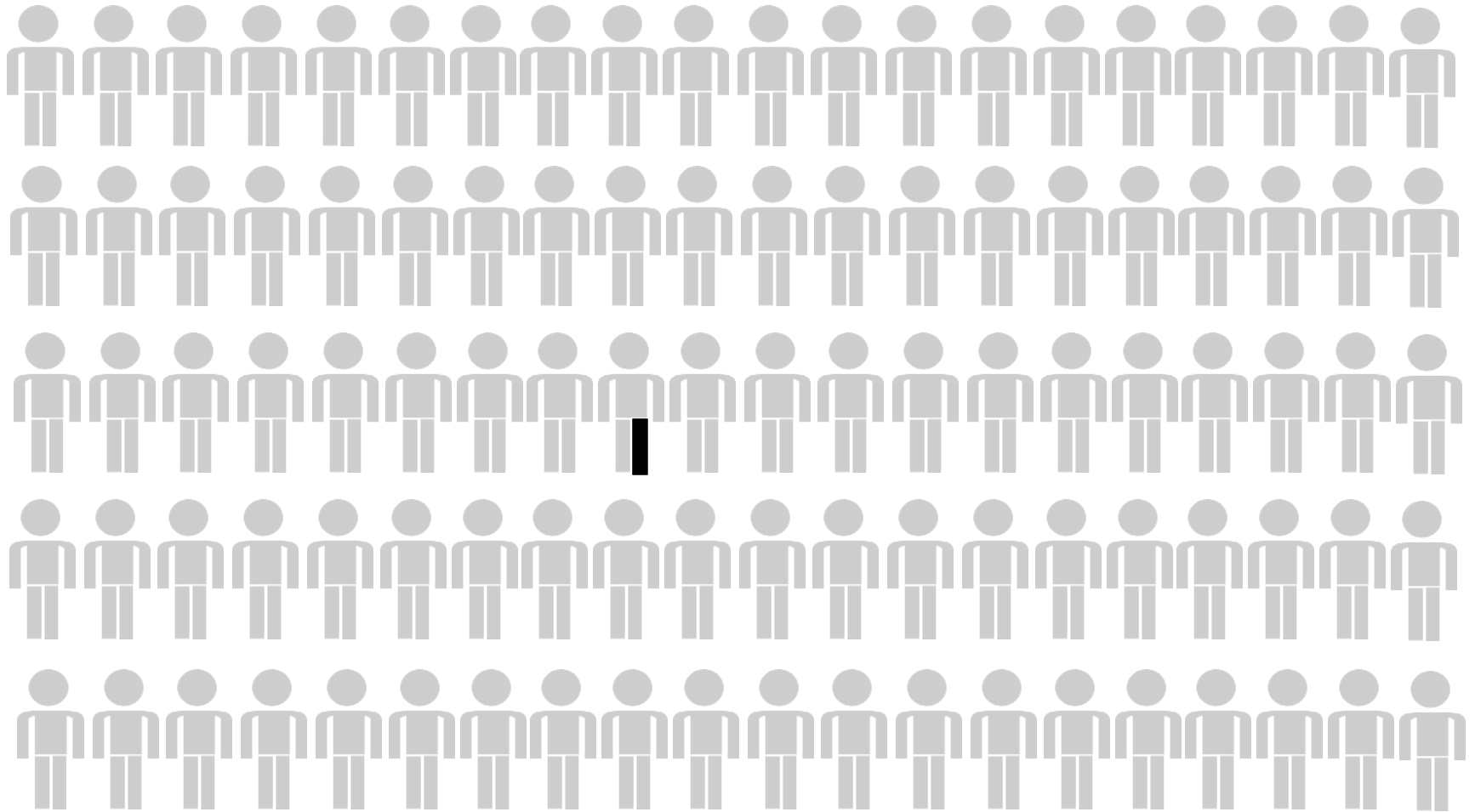
Percent of Wisconsin adults without healthcare coverage by sexual orientation, 2007 and 2008



Of 100 Wisconsin residents, ages 15-59,
how many have HIV?

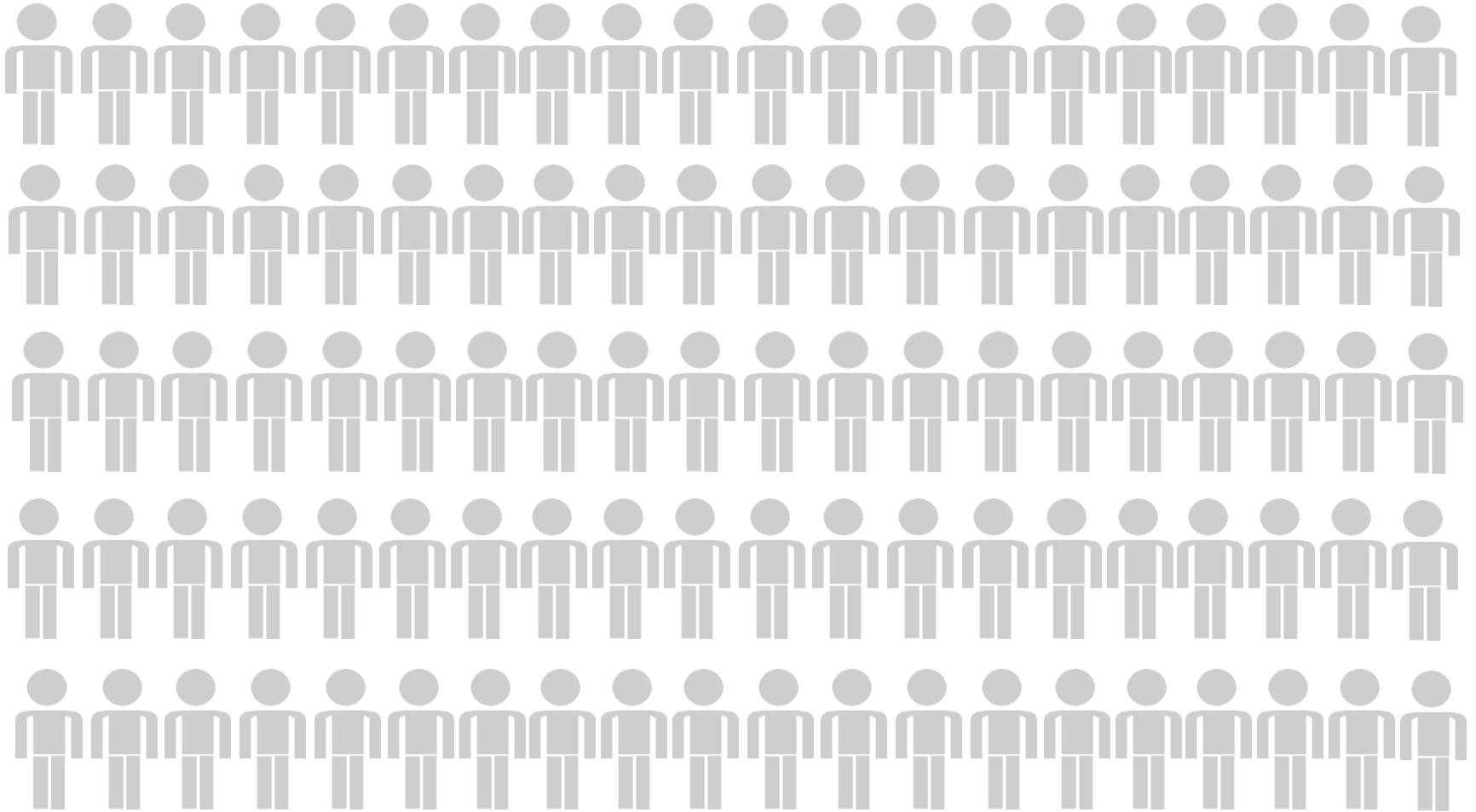


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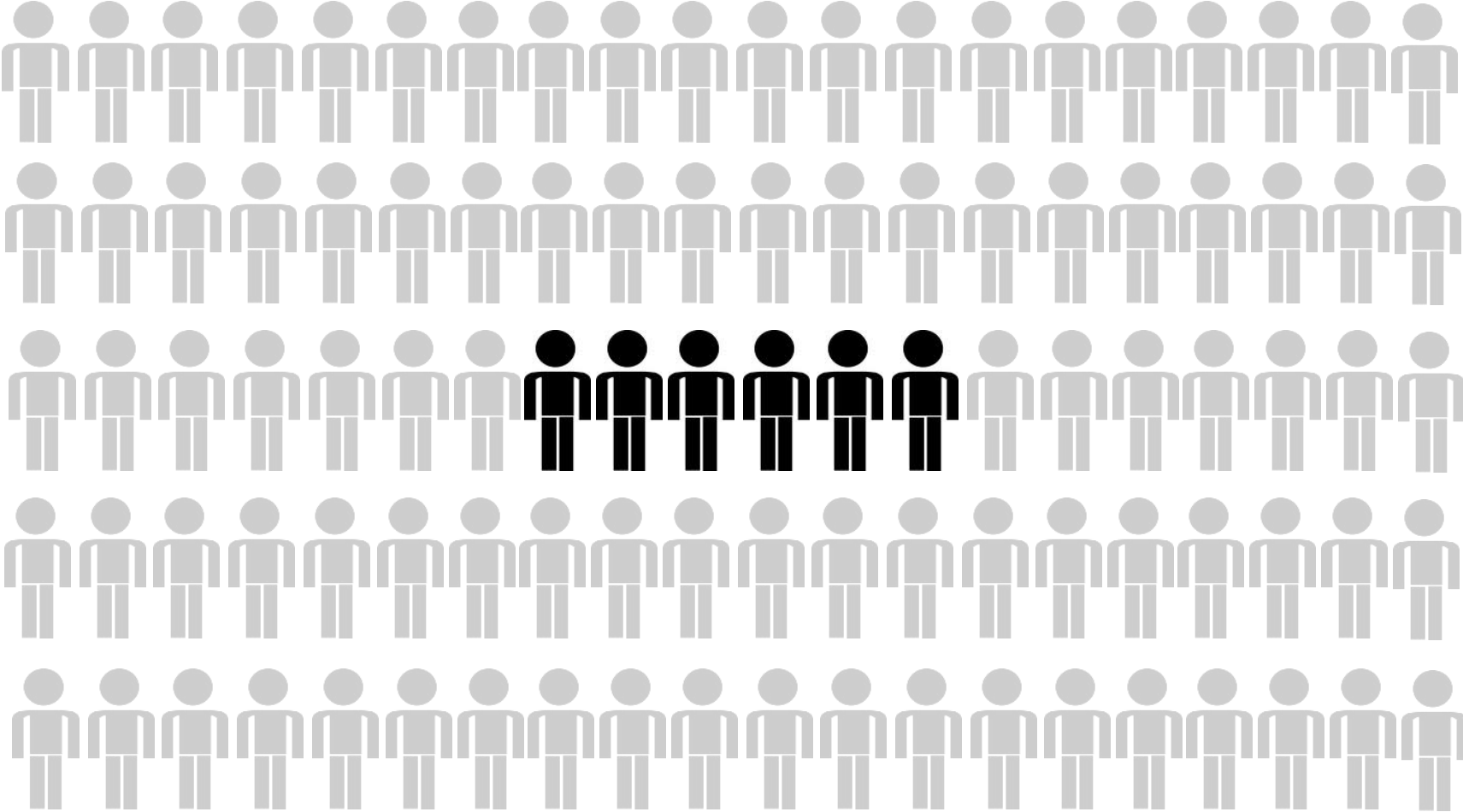


Less than one
(2 in 1,000)

Of 100 white men who have sex with men, in Wisconsin, ages 15-59,
how many have HIV?



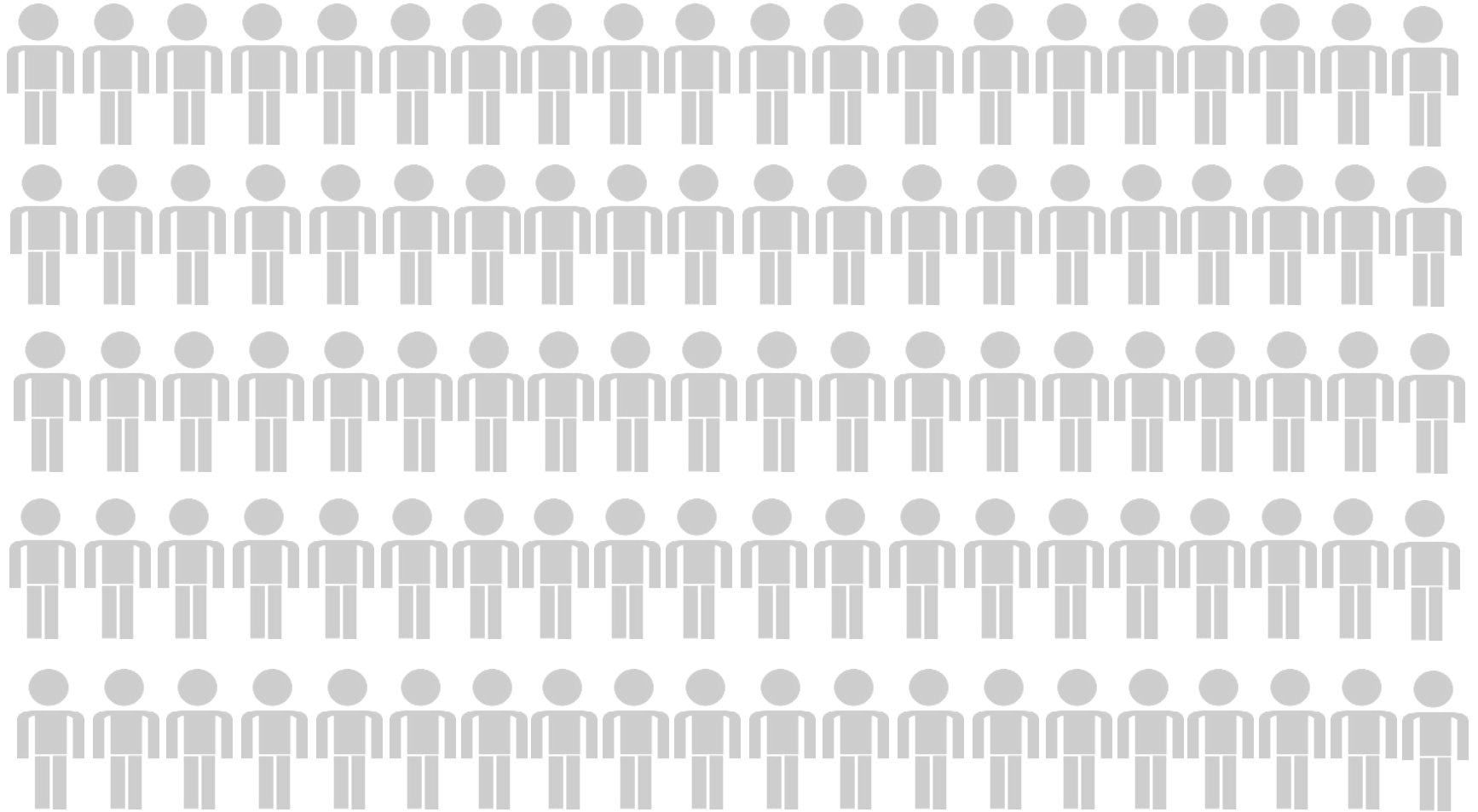
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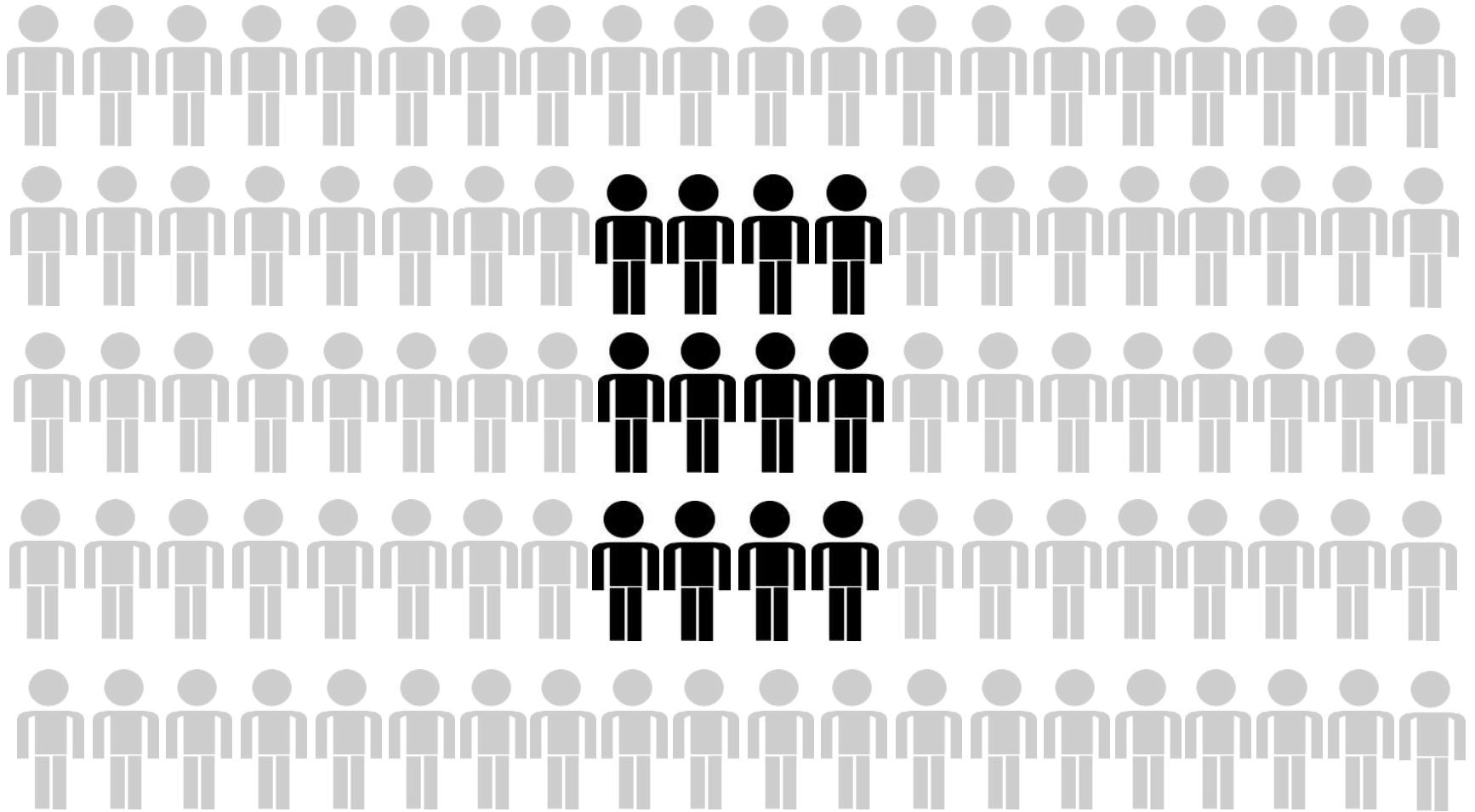
3 to 6

Source: Wisconsin Division of Public Health, AIDS/HIV Program, 2010

Of 100 Latino/Hispanic men who have sex with men in Wisconsin, ages 15-59,
how many have HIV?

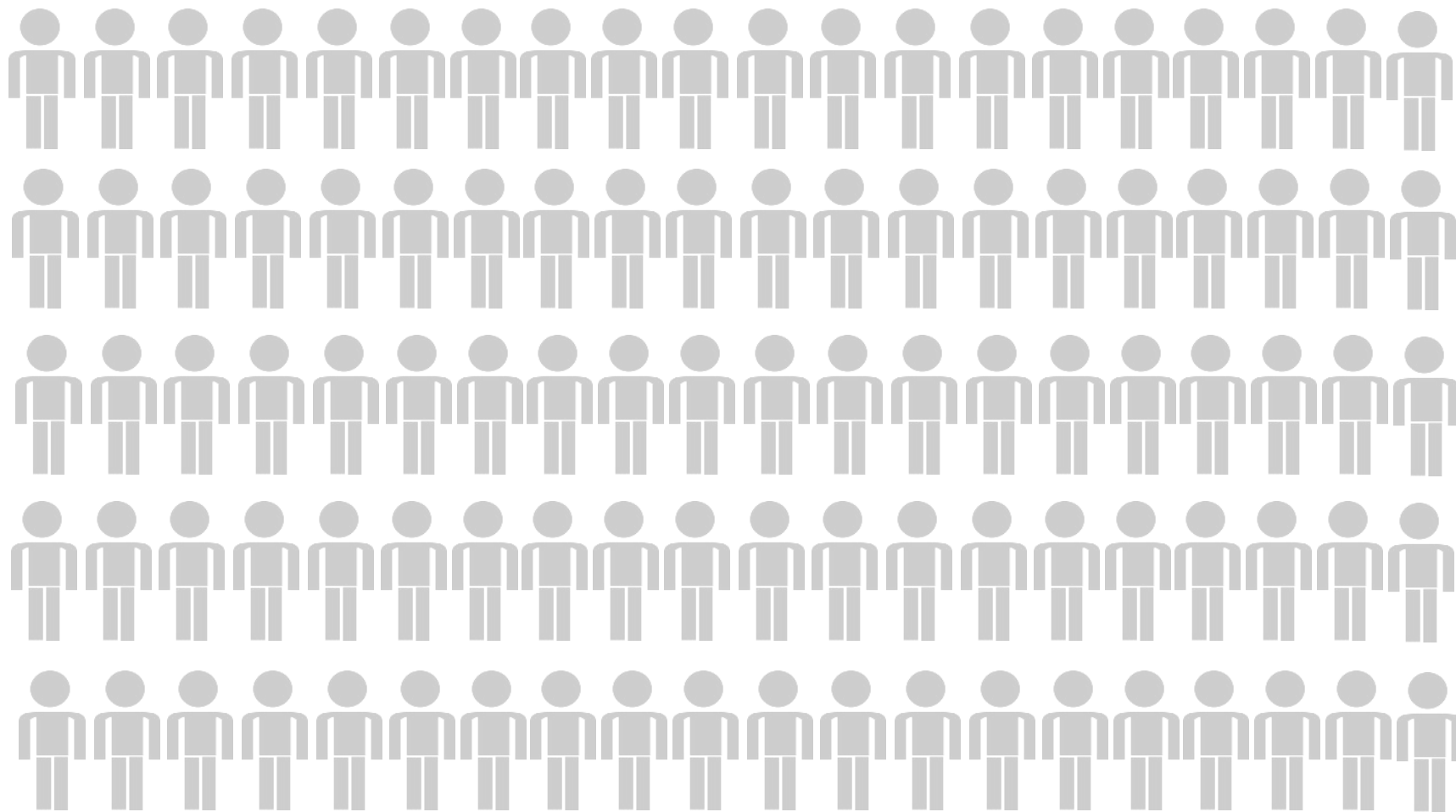


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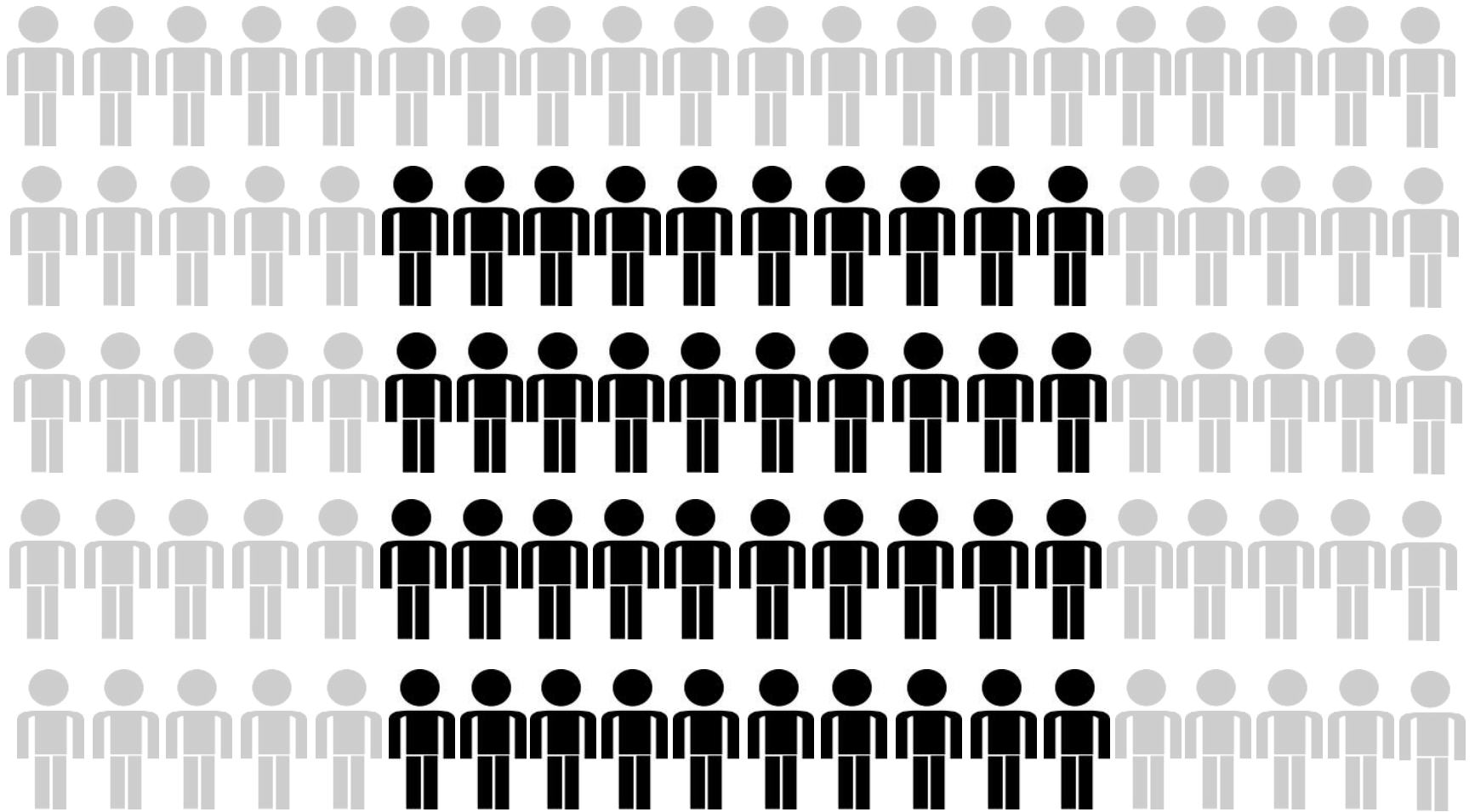


6 to 12

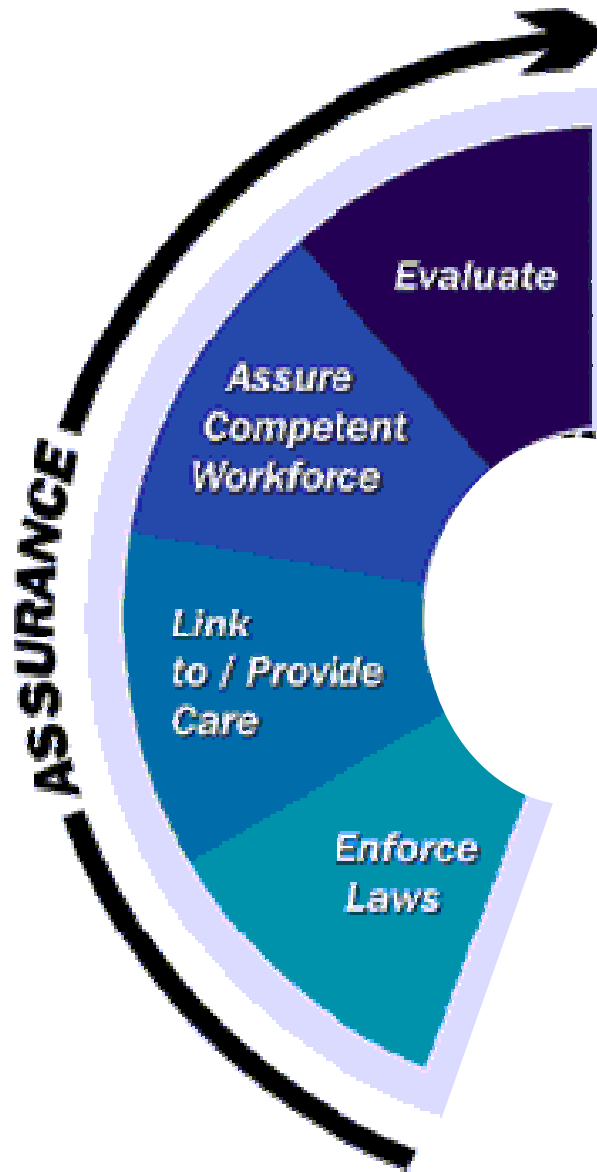
Of 100 African American men who have sex with men in Wisconsin, ages 15-59,
how many have HIV?



Of 100 African American men who have sex with men in Wisconsin, ages 15-59,
how many have HIV?



20-40



Assurance

- Competent workforce
- Funding local agencies to provide services
 - HIV services and 3 non-HIV LGBT health projects
 - Public service campaign to address homophobia
- Evaluation of services and resource allocation
- Development and launch of LGBT health website
 - 4 Public policy grad students – spring 2009, review websites
 - Public health grad student – summer 2010 developed website

Banner for Wisconsin Department of Health Services LGBT Health web site





WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES



- LGBT Health Home
- General Resources
- Alcohol & Drugs
- Cancer
- HIV/AIDS
- Mental Health
- Sexual Health
- Tobacco
- Violence/Safety
- Health Reports
- Service Locator
- News Feed
- Contact us

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Health

The lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) community is made up of people from diverse backgrounds, and its members vary by race, ethnicity, age, income, and education. For some, their sexual orientation or gender identity is central to their self-concept, while for others, this is not the case. Despite differences among LGBT people, one experience many share is encountering stigma or discrimination. This social inequality is often associated with poorer health status.

Evidence indicates that Wisconsin's LGBT youth and adults experience greater adverse health outcomes with regard to alcohol, drug, and tobacco use, safety and violence, mental health, and HIV/AIDS when compared to their non-LGBT peers.

In order to create a health promoting environment and to reduce health inequities, LGBT persons must have access to culturally competent medical treatment and prevention services and must be included in public health outreach programs. The first step toward accomplishing this goal is to make the LGBT community, service providers, educators, and the broader public aware of health issues affecting LGBT people and to make resources available to address these issues.



*Life **can** get so much better...*

If you or someone you know is facing an emotional or suicide crisis, contact the [National Suicide Prevention Lifeline](#) at 1-800-273 TALK (8255).

Gay & Bisexual Men	Lesbian & Bisexual Women	Transgender Persons	LGBT Youth	Educators	Service Providers
This website is designed to increase knowledge about LGBT health disparities and LGBT health resources in Wisconsin.					



Policy Development

- Community engagement: build support within DHS and participate in external networks
- State health plan
- Advocacy by DHS administrators

and injury from an early age, while also recognizing the importance of prevention and good treatment for people who already have chronic disabilities.

It also puts a premium on the well as the length of life, which extends to the plan to preserving functioning and

“Health disparities and health equity are a complex set of issues for populations who experience life through the intersections of race, gender and/or as a sexual minority. The stress of these identities caused by stigma and discrimination, not the identity itself, affects a person’s self esteem, which often affects people’s ability to take preventive measures to assure good health. We must therefore teach psychological independence. We are not what they say we are.”

Brenda Coley, Chairperson
Wisconsin Minority Leadership Council
Director of Adult Services, Diverse and Resilient, Inc., Milwaukee

The second goal emphasizes the critical importance of addressing health disparities (persistent and systematic differences in the health outcomes of several Wisconsin populations). For example, African American children die on their first birthday at a rate that resembles infant mortality rates in Jamaica and Botswana, nearly three times the rate for White infants; death rates from heart disease in American Indians are nearly three times that of Whites; and the rate of suicidal thoughts among gay youth is more than twice as high as for straight youth. Not only do such disparities violate our sense of fairness and justice, they appear to be more prevalent in Wisconsin than in many other states, and they reduce the chance for Wisconsin to be the healthiest



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July 17, 2009



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Inclusion of questions addressing sexual orientation, same-sex sexual behavior, and gender identity on the national YRBS and BRFS

Dear Drs. [Kann](#) and [Balluz](#),

The Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) and Behavioral Risk Factor Survey (BRFS) are important tools for measuring health behaviors and conditions in youth and adults. Data from these surveys help us understand disparities in health based on geography, race/ethnicity, gender and other characteristics. Many jurisdictions use these data to make decisions about health programming and government

Key elements to success

- Partnership between state government and community organizations
- High-level departmental support
- Funding is always helpful, but a lot can be accomplished through creative staffing and use of students
- Robust data, strategically presented
- Successes, both within a jurisdiction and across jurisdictions, build on one another

(Thank you Illinois and North Dakota)

For more information:

- **Session 5169.0 at APHA on Wednesday at 12:30:**
Chitra Karki, Health disparities experienced by youth engaging in same-sex sexual contact in Wisconsin
- **Wisconsin LGBT Health website:**
<http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/lgbthealth/index.htm>
Or Google **wi lgbt health**
- Mari Gasiorowicz, mari.gasiorowicz@wi.gov