

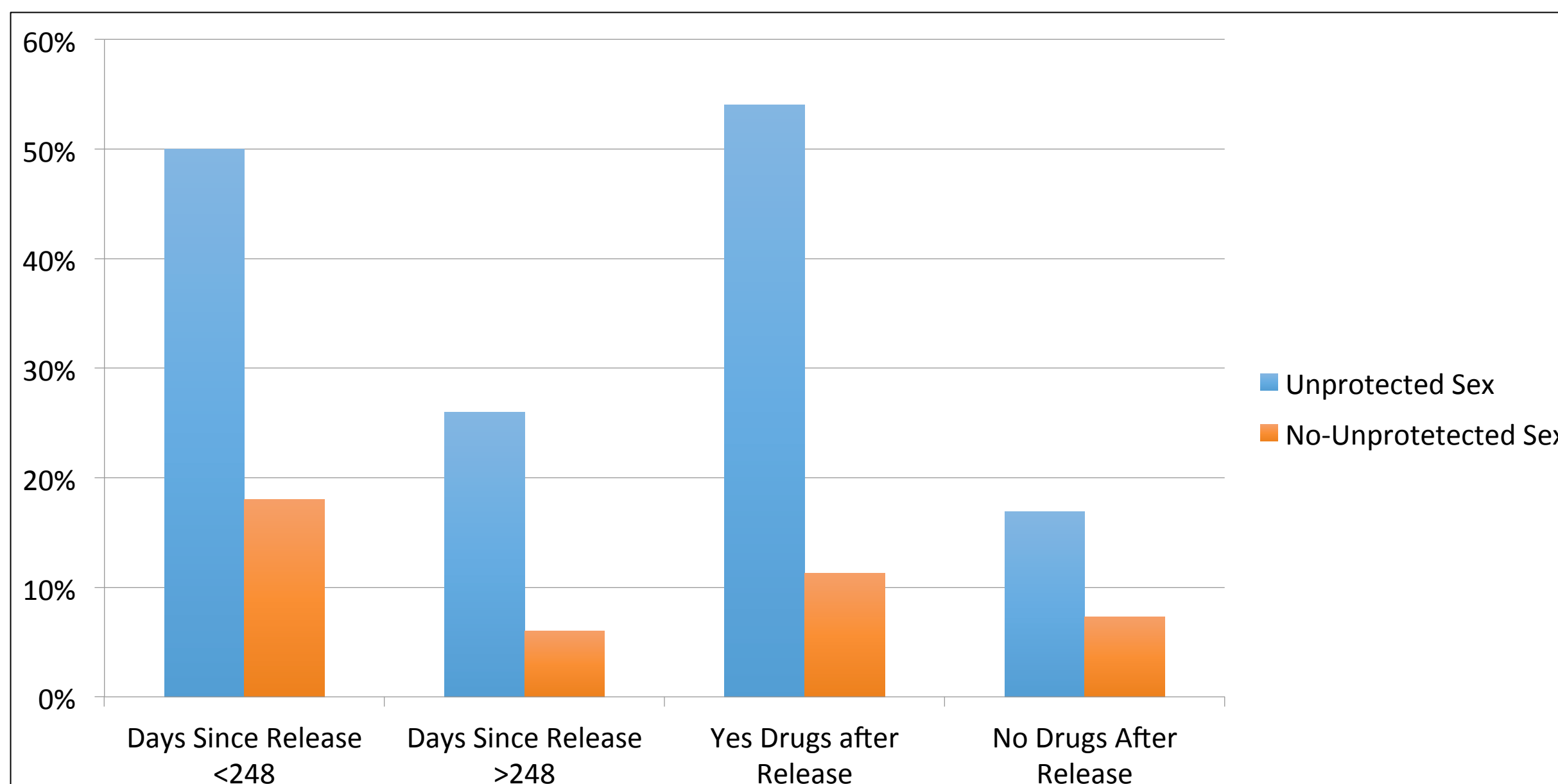
## INTRODUCTION

In the United States, incarceration rates and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection are both disproportionately high among Black Americans (CDC, 2012; USDOJ, 2012). The HIV epidemic among Black Americans is largely driven by risky sexual behavior (CDC, 2015), which reportedly increases substantially post-release from jail or prison (Vagenas et al., 2015; Brewer et al., 2014). To better understand the extent to which they engage in HIV risk behaviors post-release, this study examined factors associated with HIV unprotected sexual behavior among Black Americans recently released from incarceration.

## METHODS

One hundred and twenty-four formerly incarcerated Black Americans were interviewed between January 2014 and January 2015. Participants were recruited from criminal justice and social services agencies in the metropolitan New York City area. Descriptive statistics and bivariate statistics were used to describe the sample and examine the relationship between HIV sexual risk behavior and a range of individual factors. Chi-square tests were used to compare the characteristics of those who engaged in unprotected sex since being released from jail or prison, and those who did not engage in unprotected sex since being released from incarceration. Participants were paid \$10 for their participation.

## RESULTS

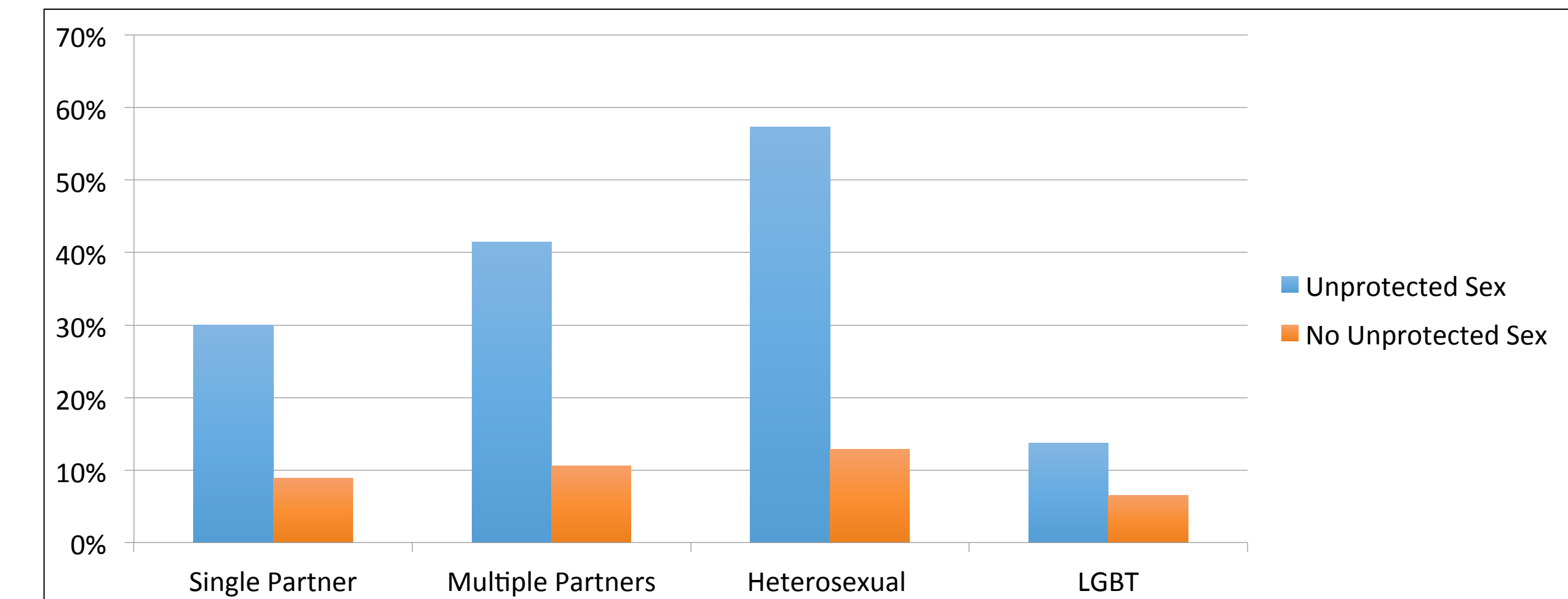


Most participants were male (85%), heterosexual (79%), and had never been married (68%). The vast majority were Black American (95%). On average, participants were 44 years old, had been incarcerated for three years, and had been released from prison within the past eight months. The vast majority reportedly engaged in illicit drug use (70%) and unprotected sexual behavior (71%) post-release from prison.

## RESULTS

Characteristics	Total Sample (n=124)	Engaged in unprotected sex	No unprotected sex	P-value
<b>Age (mean ± SD)</b>				
<45	44.5, 46, 10.3	41(33.1)	8(6.5)	0.469
>45	55(44.4), 69(55.6)	47(37.9)	16(12.9)	
<b>Gender</b>				
Female	18(14.5)	11(8.9)	5(4)	0.576
Male	106(85.5)	77(62.11)	19(15.3)	
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>				
Black	118(95.2)	82(77.4)	24(22.6)	.631
Hispanic/Latino	2 (1.6)	2(100.0)	0 (0.0)	
<b>Education level</b>				
Less than high school	37(29.8)	29(85.3)	5 (14.7)	.278
High school/GED	54(43.5)	38(79.2)	10(20.8)	
Some College	19(15.3)	14(77.8)	4(22.2)	
AA, Vocation, 4 year Degree	14(11.3)	7(58.3)	4(41.7)	
<b>Sexual Orientation/Identity</b>				
Heterosexual	98(79)	71(57.3)	16(12.9)	0.172
LGBT	26(21)	17(13,7)	8(6.5)	
<b>Marital Status</b>				
Unmarried	84(67.7)	57(46)	20(16.1)	0.173
Other	40(32.3)	31(25)	4(3.2)	
<b>Health Insurance</b>				
Medicaid	99(79.8)	73(80.2)	18(19.8)	0.045
Medicare	3(2.4)	2(100.0)	0(0)	
Private	2(1.6)	0(0.0)	2(100.0)	
No Insurance	20(16.1)	13(76.5)	4(23.5)	
<b>Incarceration duration (mean ± SD)</b>	1132.5, 720, 1391.5			
<1135	90(72.6)	64(51.6)	19(15.3)	0.417
>1135	34(27.4)	24(19.4)	5(4)	
<b>Time (Days) since release (mean ± SD)</b>	248.9, 157.5, 686.6			
<248	90(72.6)	62(50)	18(14.5)	0.616
>248	34(27.4)	26(21)	6(4.8)	
<b>Situation at Arrest</b>				
None	82(66.1)	56(45.2)	16(12.9)	0.4
Parole/Probation	42(33.9)	32(25.8)	8(6.5)	
<b>First Incarceration</b>				
Yes	19(15.3)	77(62.1)	19(15.3)	0.347
No	105(84.7)	11(8.9)	5(4)	
<b>Used drugs post-release</b>				
No	36(29)	21(16.9)	9(7.3)	0.061
Yes	87(70.2)	67(54)	14(11.3)	
<b>Multiple sexual partners</b>				
Single	59(47.6)	37(30.1)	11(8.9)	0.001
Multiple	64(51.6)	51(41.5)	13(10.6)	

## RESULTS CONT'D



Over half of our participants (n=88) reported multiple sexual partners. Those who engaged in unprotected sex were more likely than those who did not engage in unprotected sex to report multiple sexual partners (41% vs. 11%, p=.001). Participants who engaged in unprotected sex were also more likely to report illicit drug use (54% vs. 11%, p=.06).

## CONCLUSIONS

Prison-based and community-based HIV prevention programs are needed for Black Americans who experience incarceration. Programs that are offered within the period of transition between prison and the community may be especially useful for this population.

## REFERENCES

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