



Tervise Arengu Instituut
National Institute for Health Development



**Prevalence of HIV and risk behaviours
among PWID: an update, using data from
cross-sectional study among PWID,
conducted in Narva, 2014**

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Methods:

- Studies for assessment of risk behaviour and infectious diseases among injecting drug users (PWID) have been conducted in Estonia since 2005
- respondent driven sampling (RDS) was used to recruit PWID
- data collection was conducted from May 2014
- participants had to be 18 years or older, speak Russian or Estonian, have injected drugs in the last 4 weeks, and be able to provide informed consent
- an interviewer-administered questionnaire in face-to-face interviews was used
- interviews were held in a room of the syringe exchange program
- venous blood was collected from participants and tested for HIV antibodies



Overview of the study



In total 350 persons participated in 2014 study

65% (n=229) were male



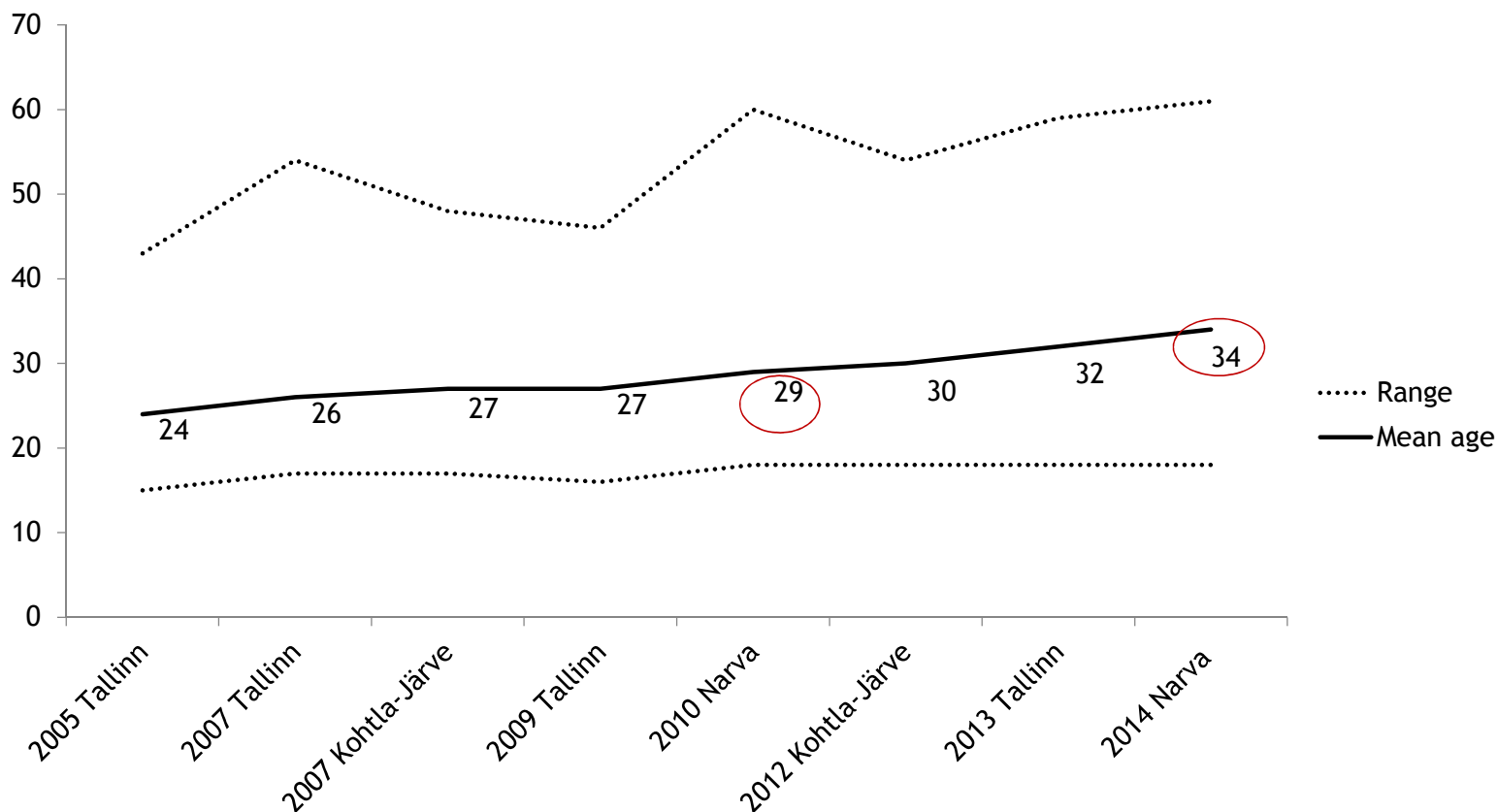
92% (n=253) were Russian speaking

Mean age*

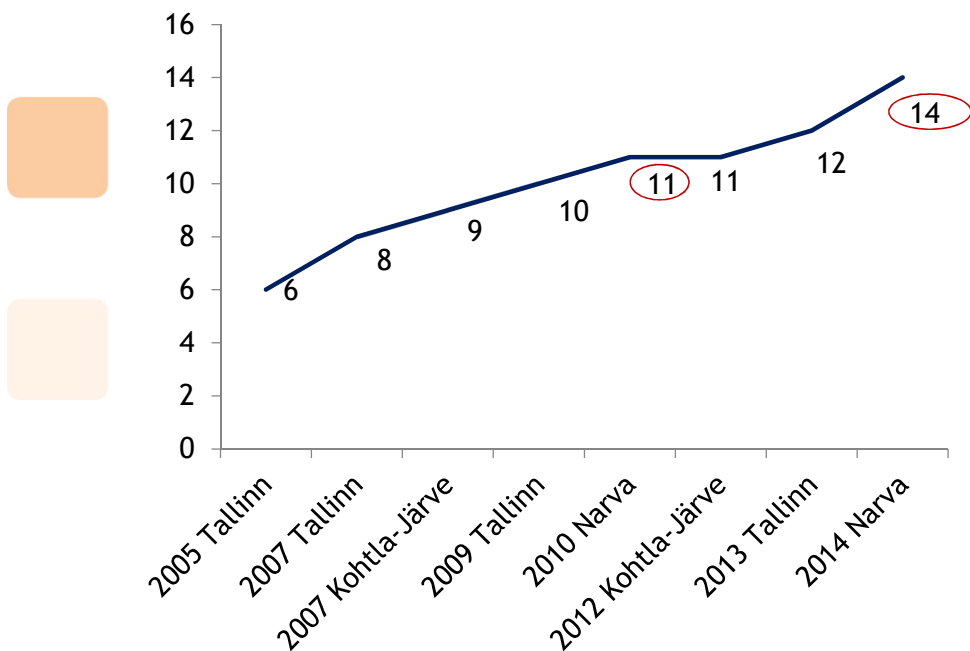
*inclusion criteria was being 18 or older

Mean age was 34 years (range 18 to 61 years)

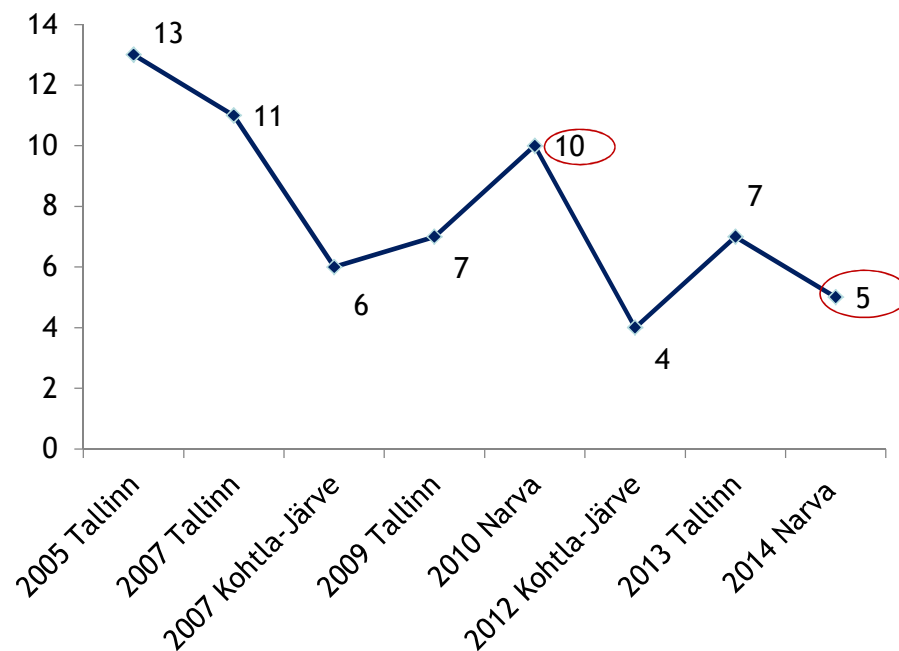
Females were slightly younger than males (32 years versus 35 years)



Median duration of injecting drug use (years)




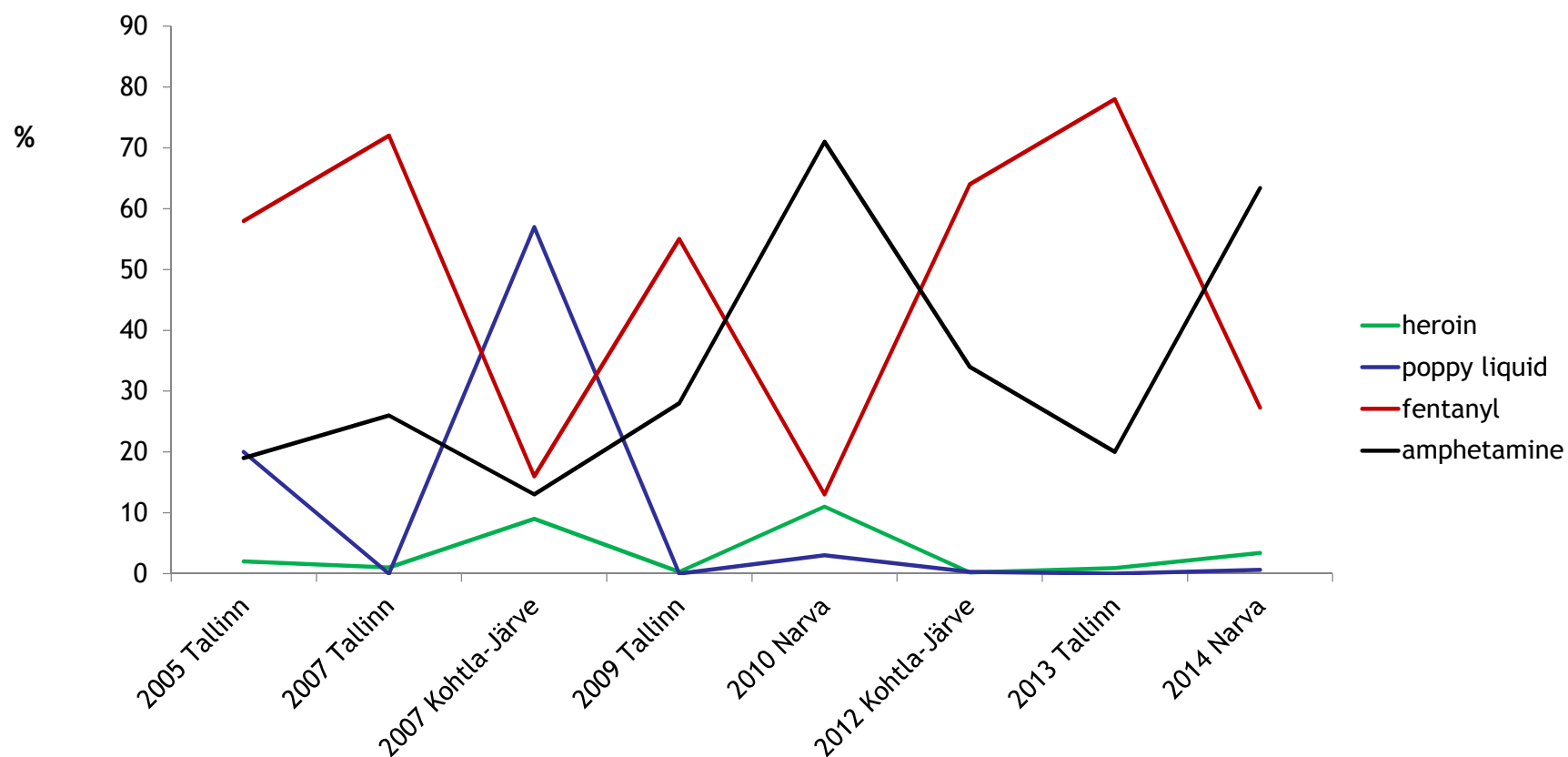
Injecting career 2 years and less (%)



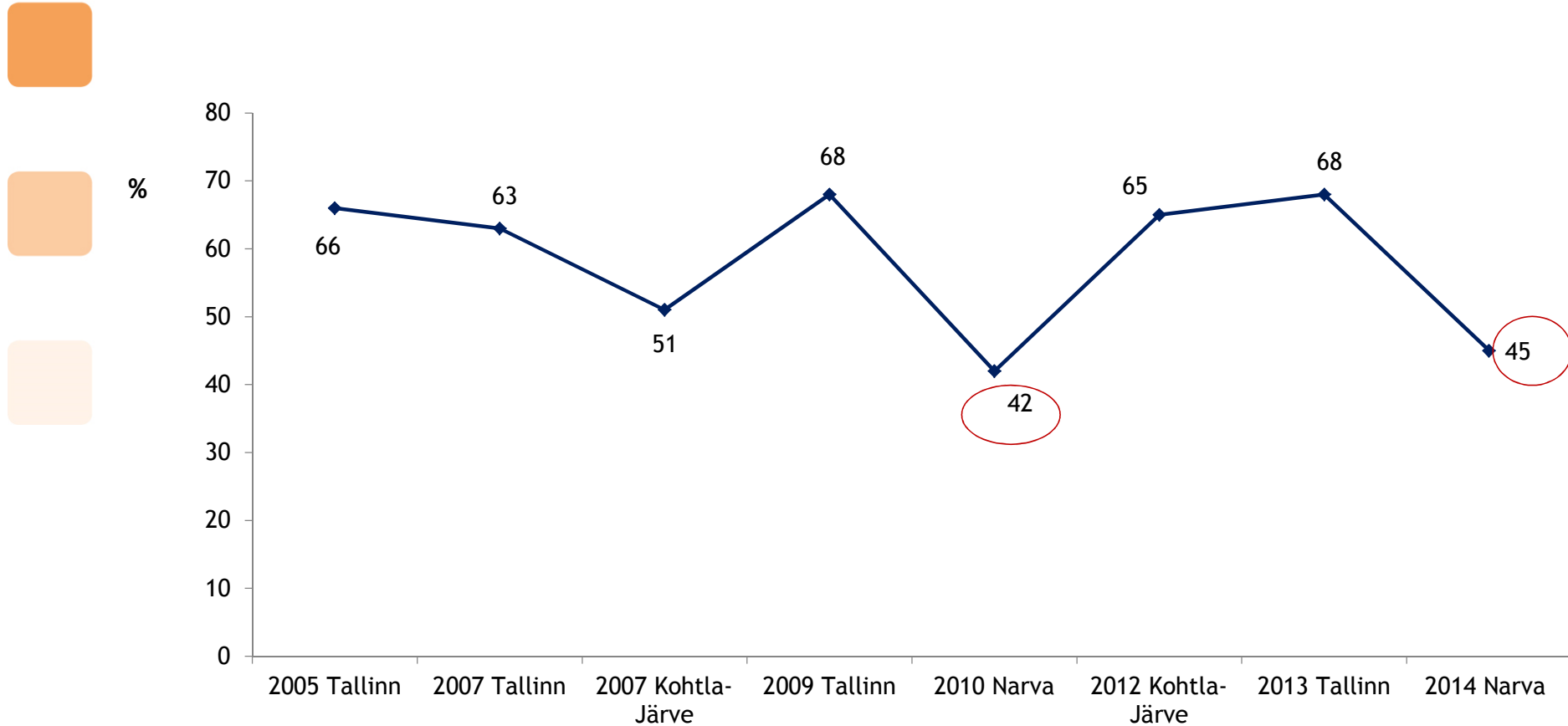
**In 2014 study:
the mean age of starting injecting was 20 years (range 10–50 years)**

Main drug injected in last 4 weeks

 The main drugs injected during last four weeks were amphetamine (63%, n=204) and fentanyl (27%, n=88)



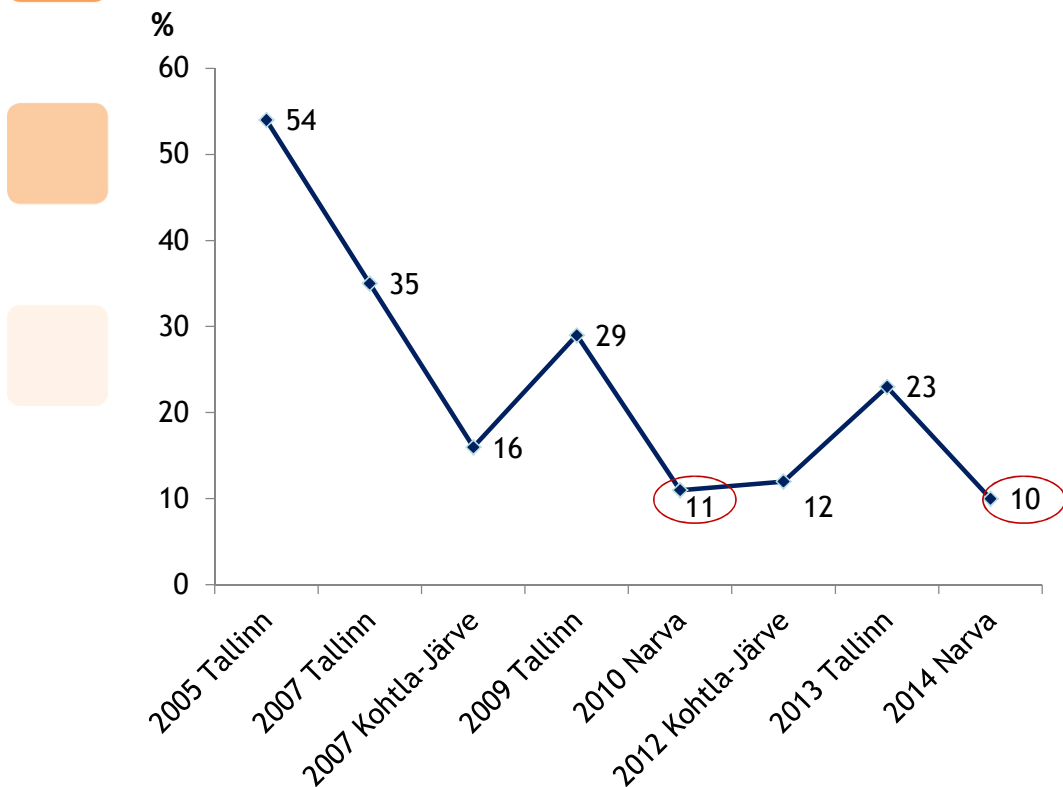
Life-time prevalence of self-reported non-fatal overdose



In 2014 study:

45% (n=157) of respondents self-reported life-time non-fatal overdose experience
10% (n=35) had experienced non-fatal overdose during last year

Sharing of used syringes (last 4 weeks):



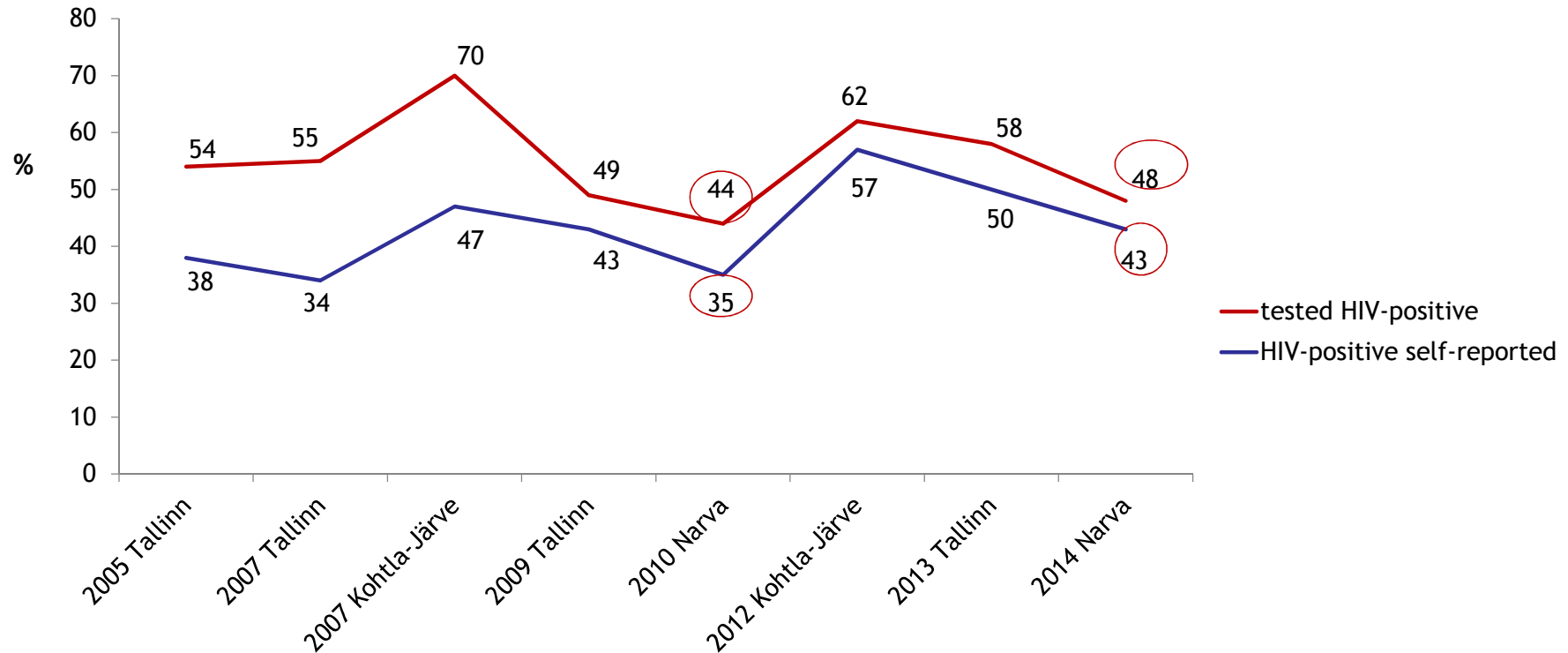
Main sources for clean syringes (last 4 weeks) in 2014:

	<i>n</i>	%
Syringe exchange program	197	69,8
Pharmacy	38	13,5
Outreach worker	29	10,3
Friends	14	5,0
Other injecting drug users	3	1,1
Family	1	0,3

14% of the study participants never got new syringes from syringe exchange point and/or from outreach worker

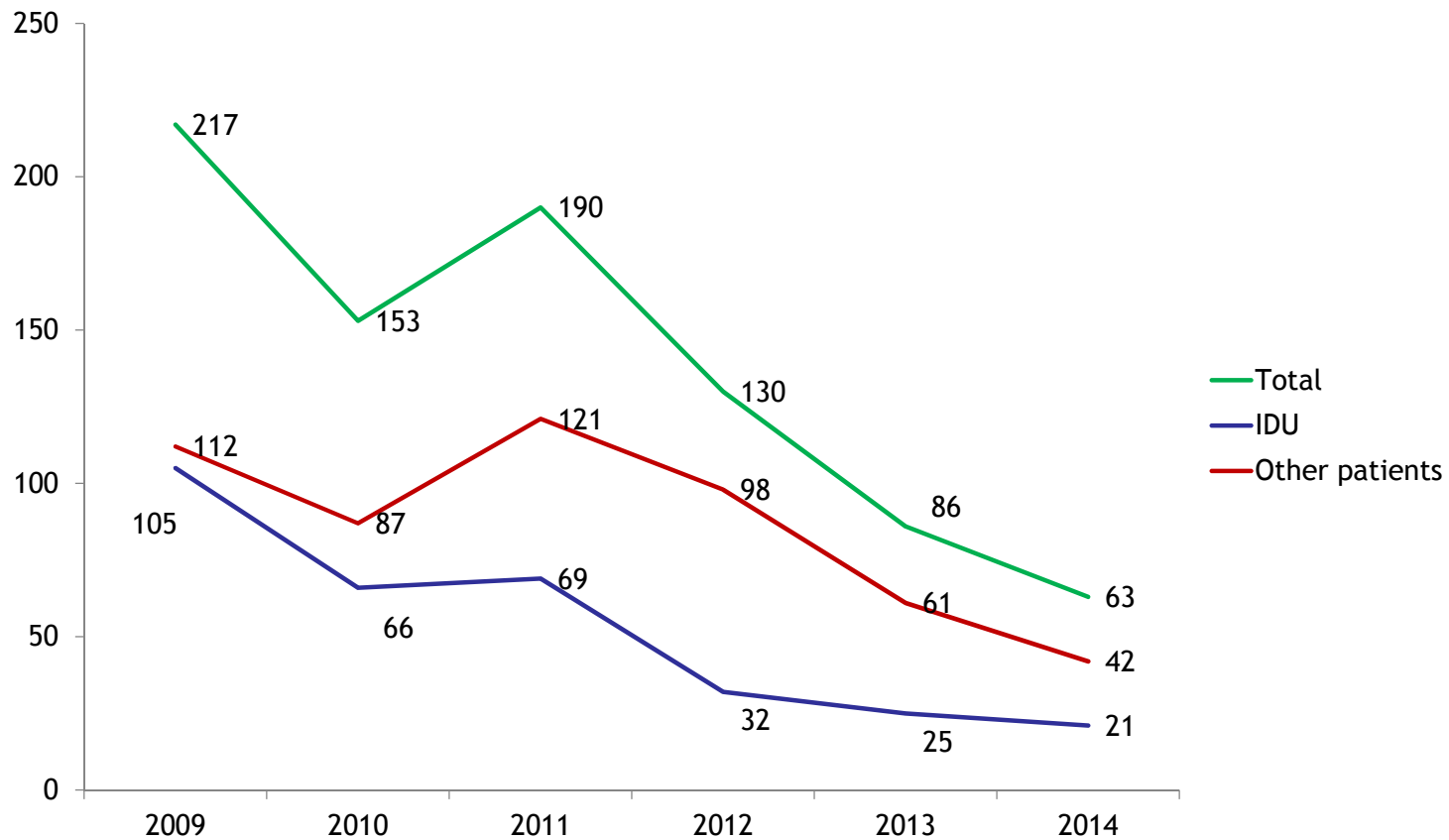
78% of the study participants threw used syringes in the trash, 20% returned to NEPs or outreach worker

Knowledge of HIV serostatus compared to HIV testing



**In 2014 study: 87% (n=303) of respondents self-reported HIV testing
87% (n=131) of HIV positive visiting infectionist regularly (at least once a year)**

Newly diagnosed HIV cases in AIDS Counselling Centers by mode of transmission, 2009-2014 (NIHD)





Hepatitis

- The incidence rate of acute hepatitis B has decreased from 1.2 per 100,000 population (n=16) in 2011 to 0.6 per 100,000 population (n=8) in 2014.
- The incidence rate of acute hepatitis C has increased from 1.3 per 100,000 population (n=17) in 2011 to 1.6 per 100,000 population (n=20) in 2014
- HCV antibody prevalence among PWID ranges from 61 to 94% (61% in 2014 study)
- HBsAg prevalence from 3 to 22% (22% in 2014 study)



Drug treatment (in 2014 study):



33% (n=112) of the study participants had received drug treatment during their life

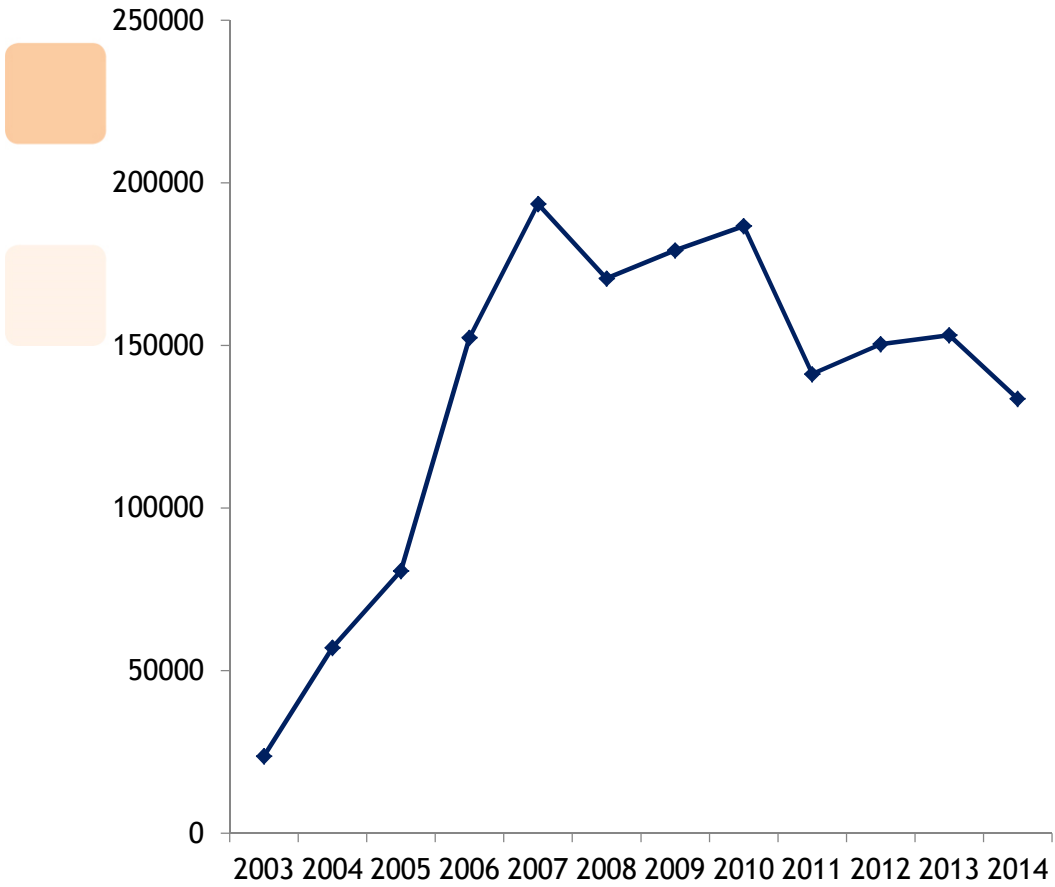


7% (n=23) were on drug treatment during the study, receiving mainly methadone treatment

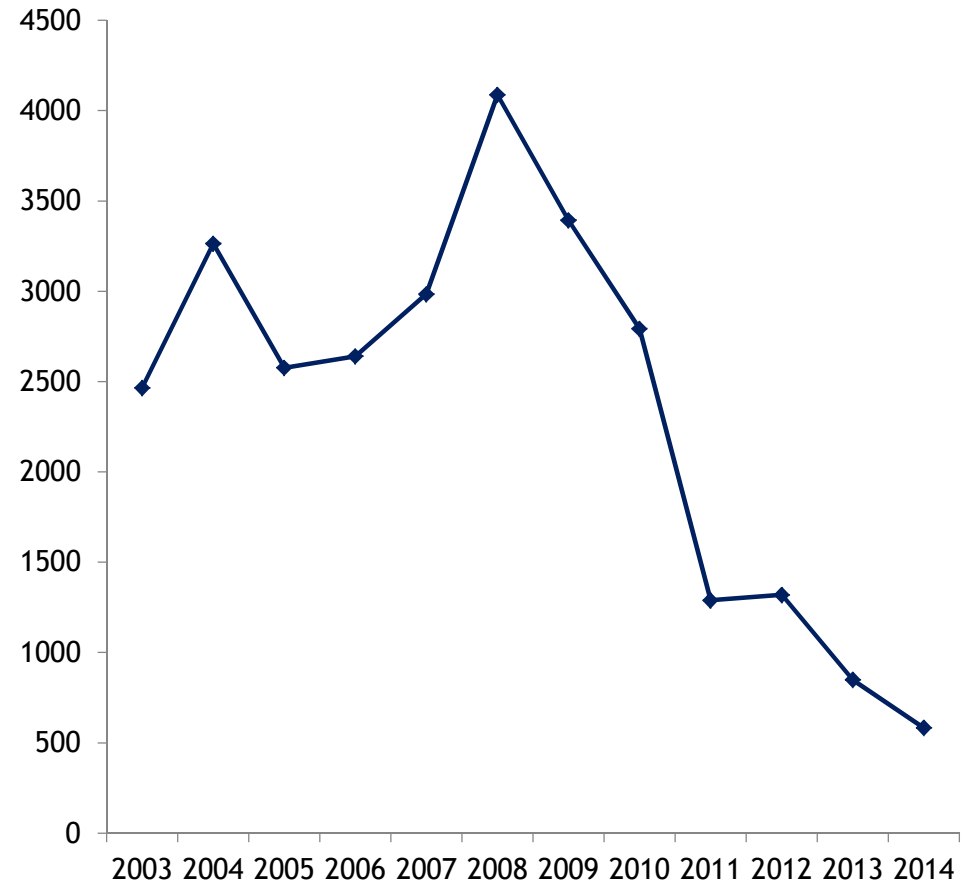
NSP visits



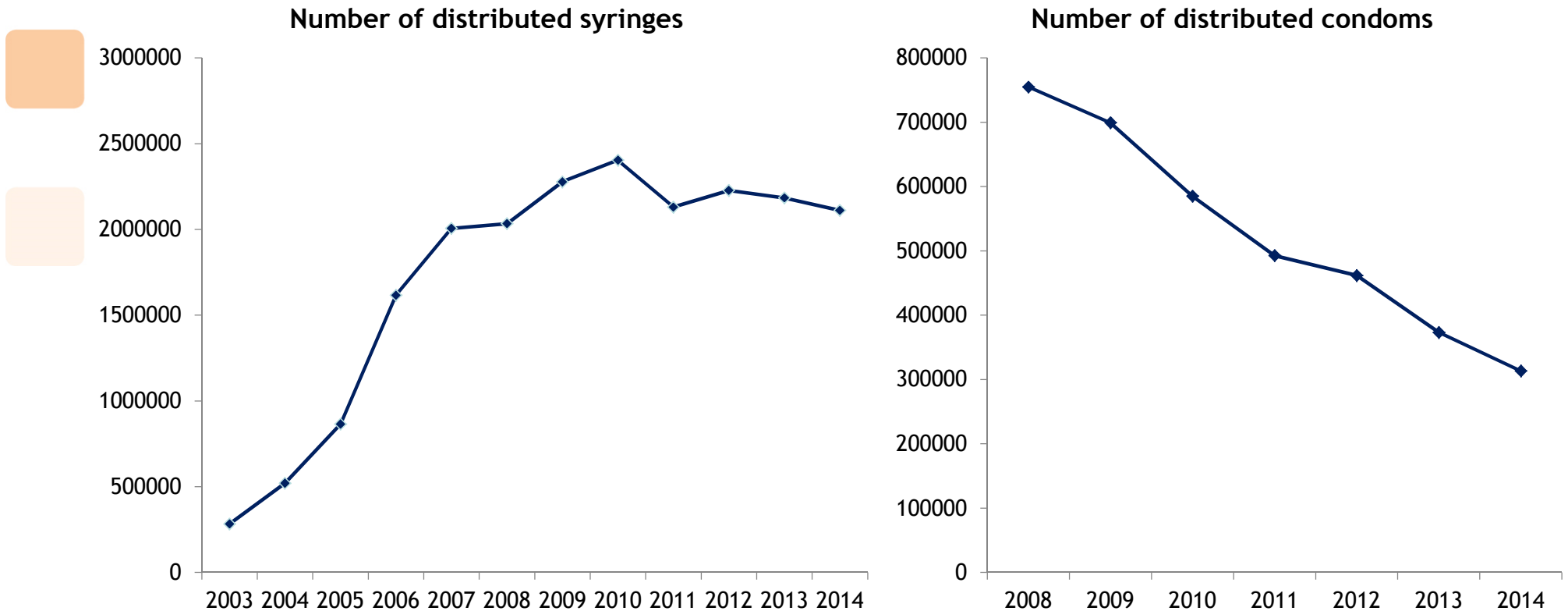
Number of NSP visits



Number of first time visitors



Number of distributed syringes and condoms (NIHD)



**27% of the study participants had intercourse with occasional partner in last 6 months and
29% never used condoms with occasional partner (2014 study)**



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Thank you

