



Policy responses, and understanding drug use and HIV

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UKRAINE - УКРАЇНА

Ukraine gained independence after the collapse of Soviet Union in 1991 and has since veered between seeking closer integration with Western Europe and being drawn into the orbit of Russia, which sees its interests as threatened by a Western-leaning Ukraine.



Europe's second largest country, Ukraine is land of wide, fertile agricultural plains, with large pockets of heavy in the east.

While Ukraine and Russia share common historical origins, the west of the country has closer ties with its European neighbors, particularly Poland, and nationalist sentiment is strongest there.

A significant minority uses Russian as its first language, particularly in the cities and industrialized east. In Crimea, an autonomous republic on Black Sea that was part of Russia until 1954, ethnic Russian make up about 60% of the population.

Russia once again seized and annexed Crimea in March 2014, amid the chaos following the fall of President Victor Yanukovich.

FACTS

Ukraine

Capital: Kyiv

Population 44.9 million

Area 603,700 km
(233,090 sq miles)

Major languages

Ukrainian (official), Russian

Major religion

Christianity

Life expectancy

64 years (men), 75 years
(women)

Currency hryvnya

UN, World Bank



Age and Use period in 1981 – 1999

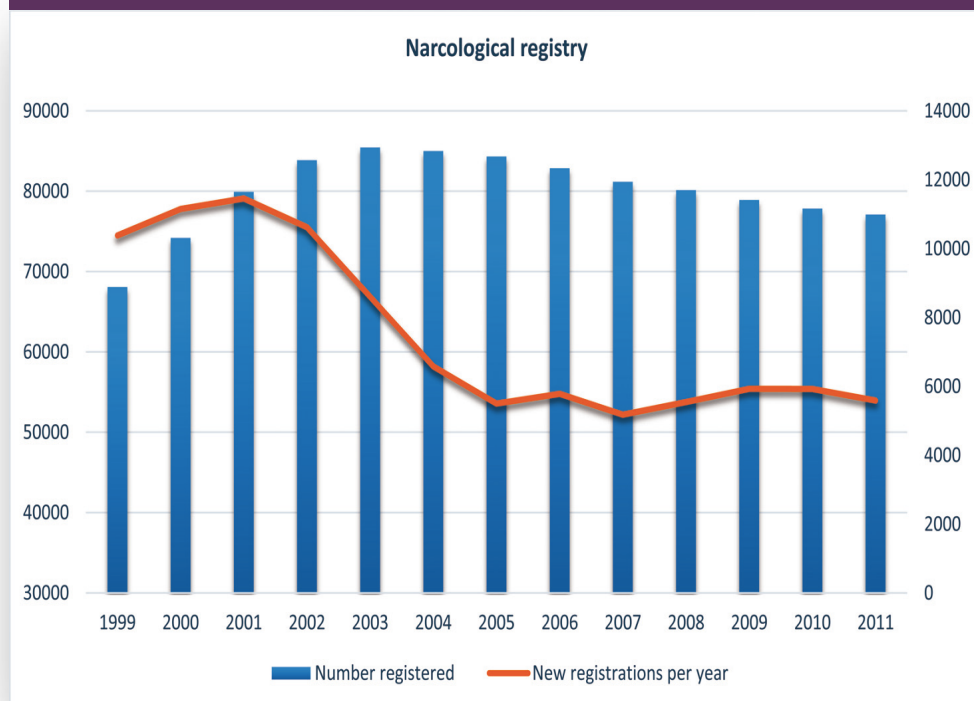
History of using drugs from 1 to 5 years – **83%**

- 6 years or more– **17%**
- The mean age of users ~ **21-26** years

Linsky I.V..

Tavride Journal of Psychiatry. 1999. - Volume 3, № 4.

People with SUD in 1999 – 2011 yy



In 2012 N = 7 128

34,6 – average age of participants

- **14,1** – mean # of years of drug use
- HIV – **48%**
- HCV – **75%**
- TB – **5%** (in life)

Estimated
N of
PWIDs

2004 – 460 000

2010 – 360 000

2014 – 340 000

PWIDs - **70%** of HIV cases 1987 - 2004.

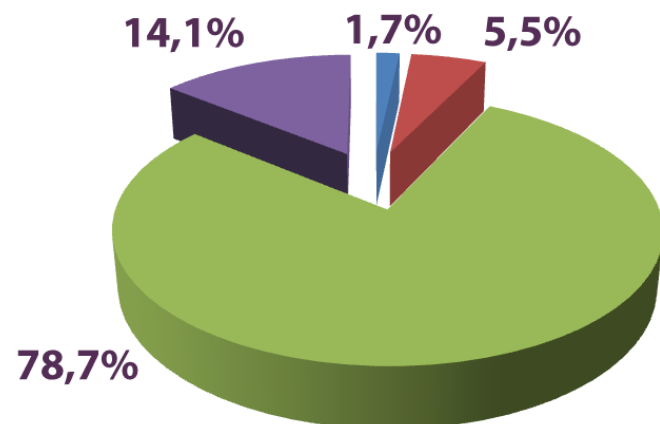
Ukraine was home to the fastest growing HIV epidemic in Europe. (UNAIDS/WHO 2005)

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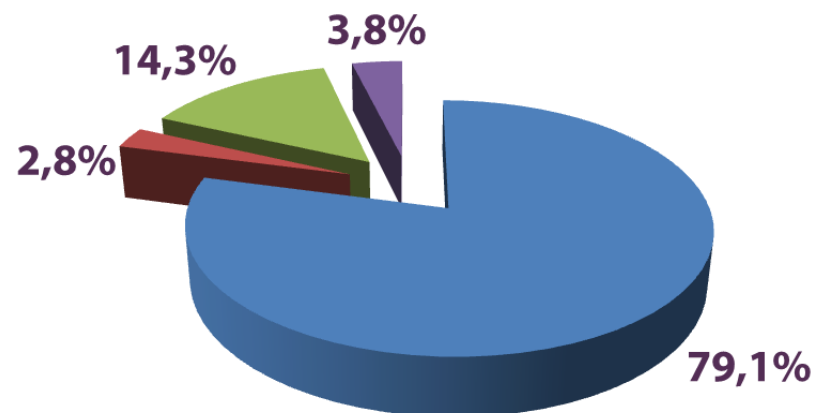
HIV transmission in Ukraine



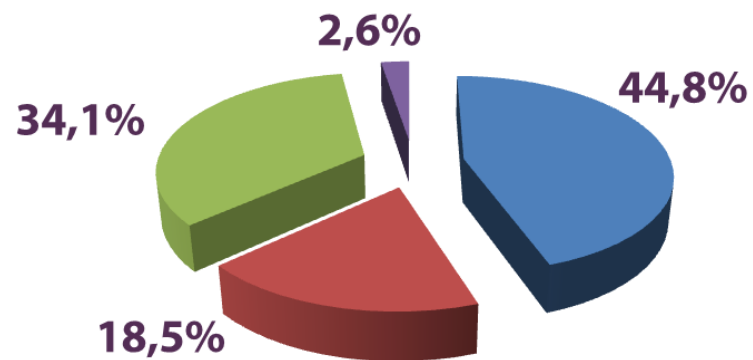
1987 - 1994



1995 - 1998



2005



- Injection of drugs
- From mother to child
- Sexual
- Undetermined

Data of the Ukrainian AIDS Center

Mode of Transmission Attributed to HIV Cases by Gender in Ukraine, 2005-2011

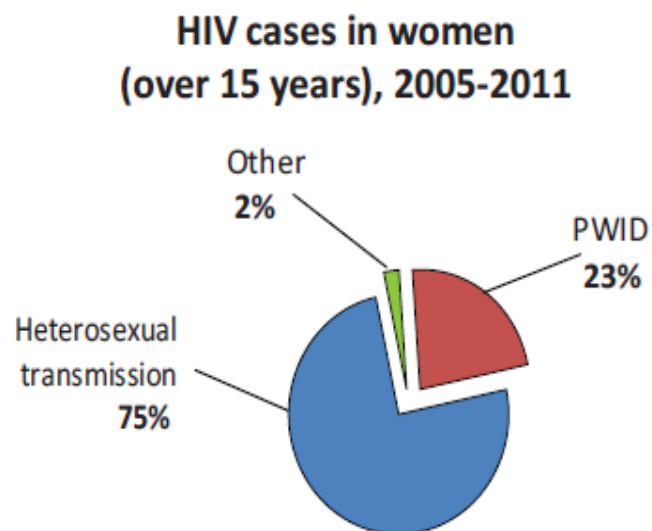


Figure 1. Mode of transmission attributed to HIV cases in women, 2005-2011

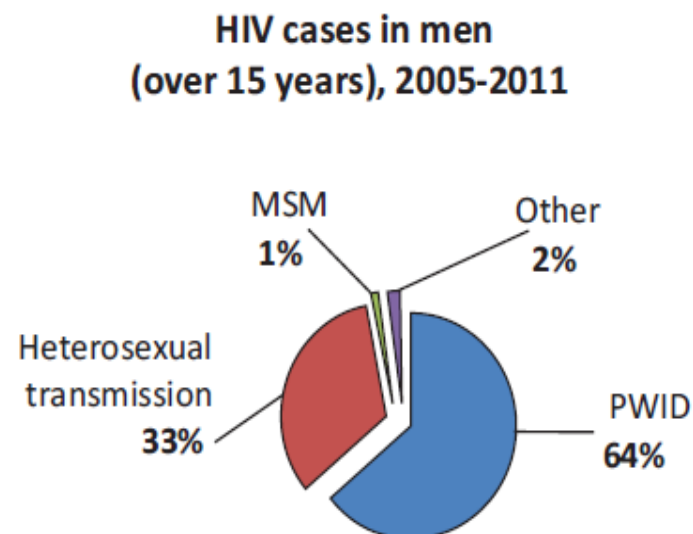


Figure 2. Mode of transmission attributed to HIV cases in men, 2005-2011

HIV transmission in Ukraine



N. Zaller et al. / International Journal of Drug Policy 26 (2015) 37–42

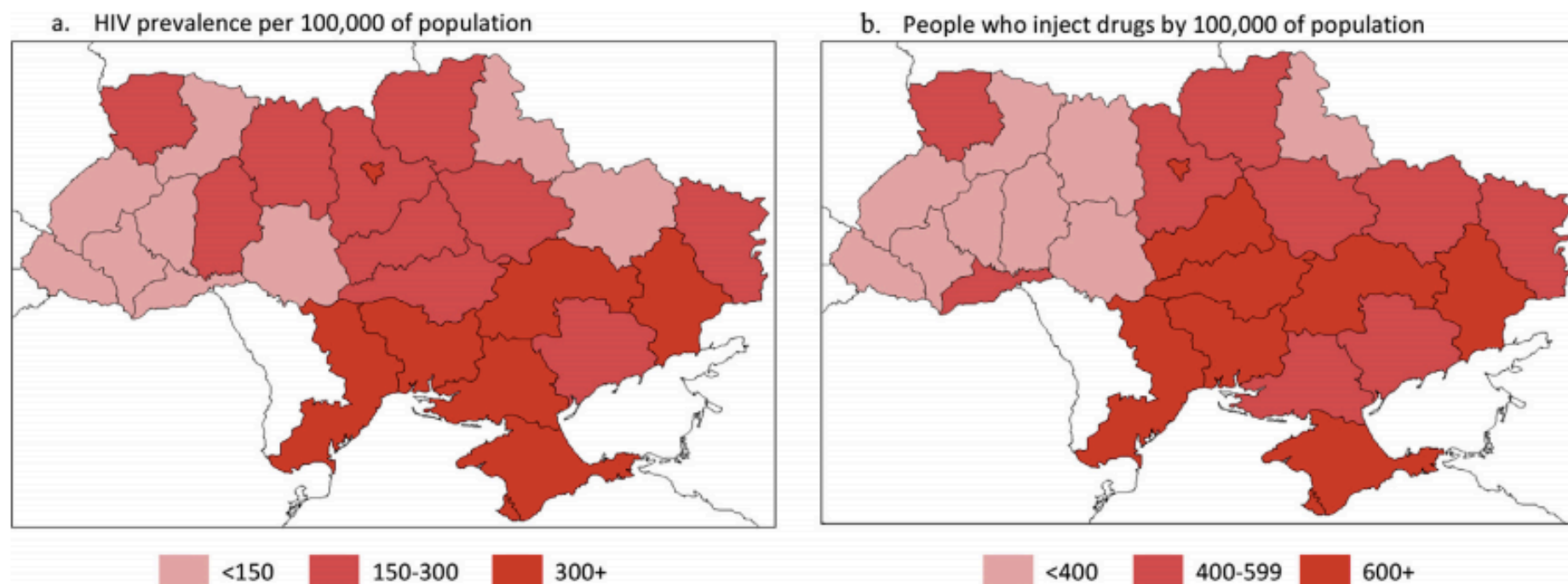
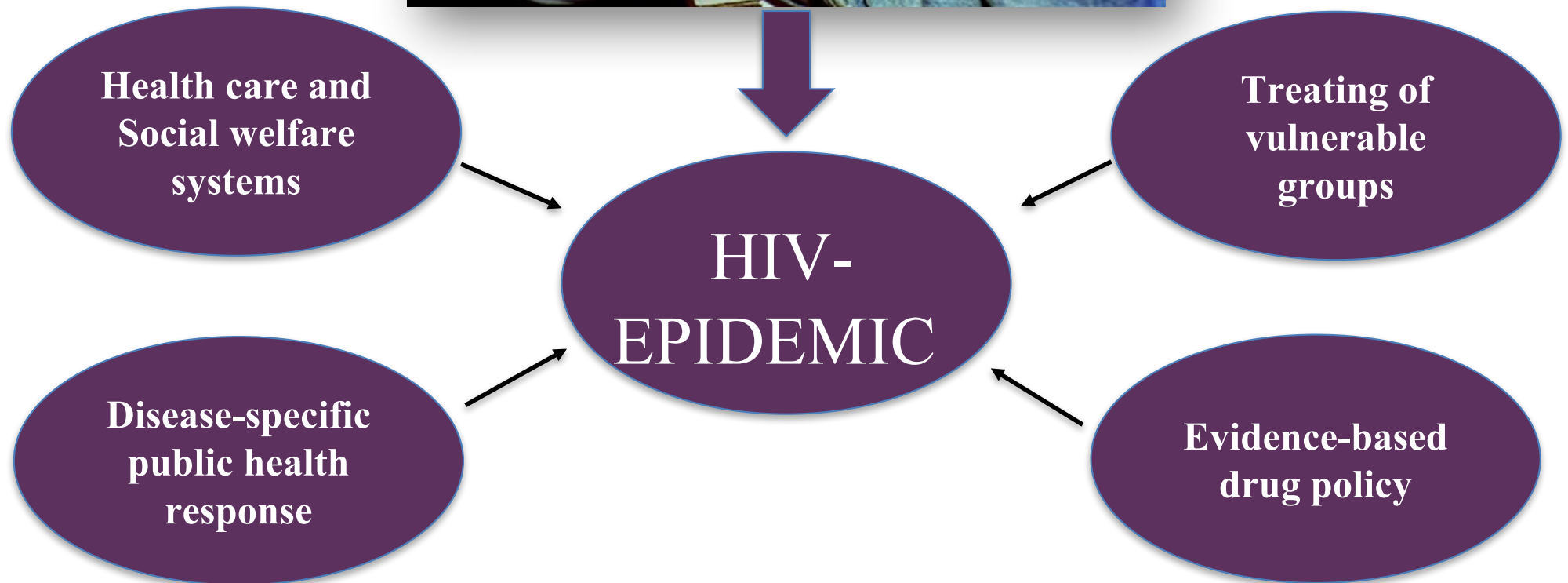


Fig. 1. HIV prevalence (a) per 100,000 of population (2013) and (b) people who inject drugs by 100,000 of population (2013).



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Ukrainian President with the Minister of Health, UNAIDS Country Coordinator and HIV Activists (2007y)

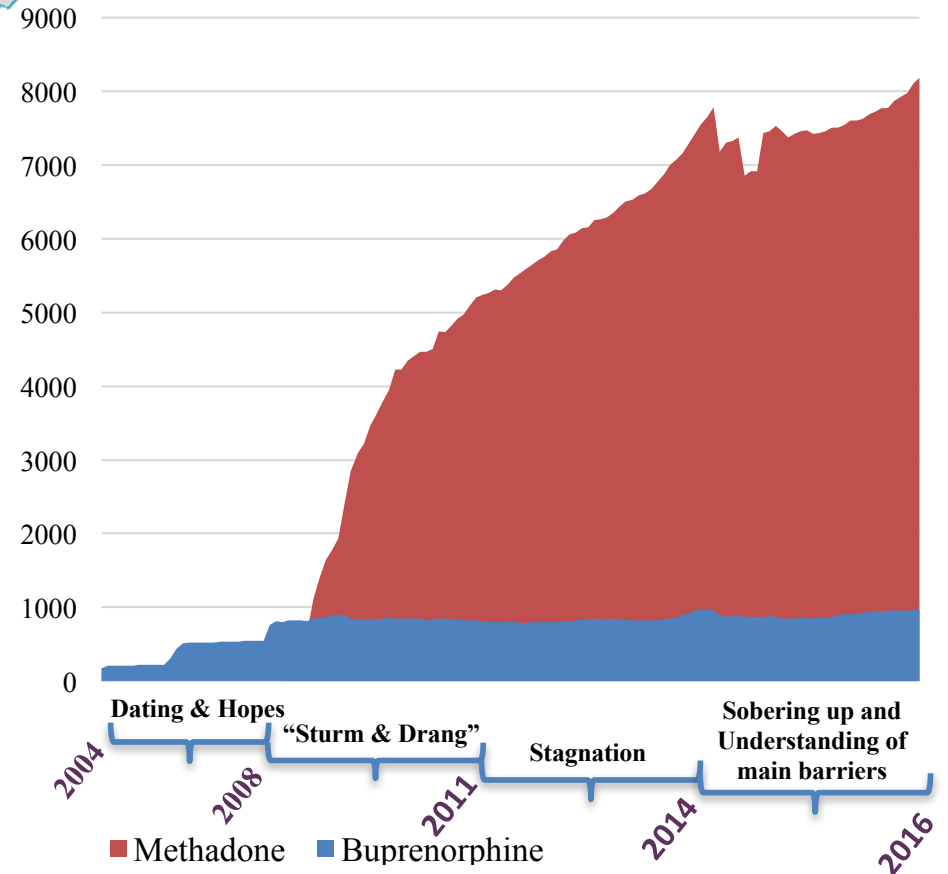
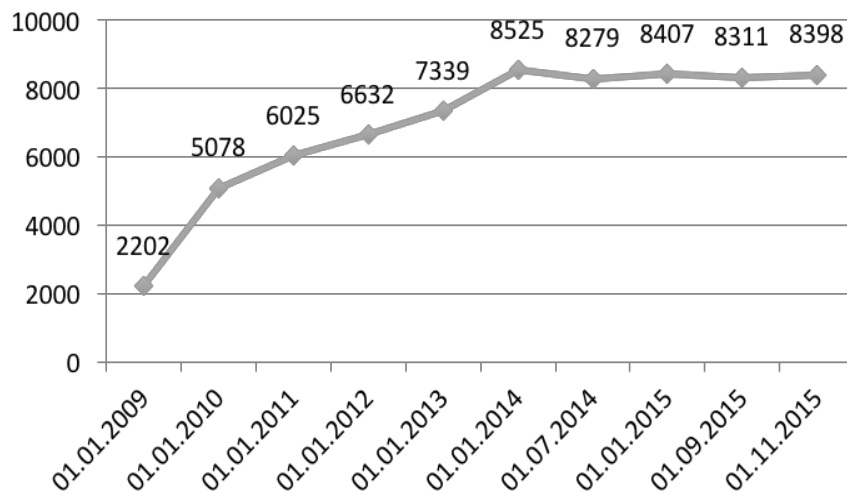
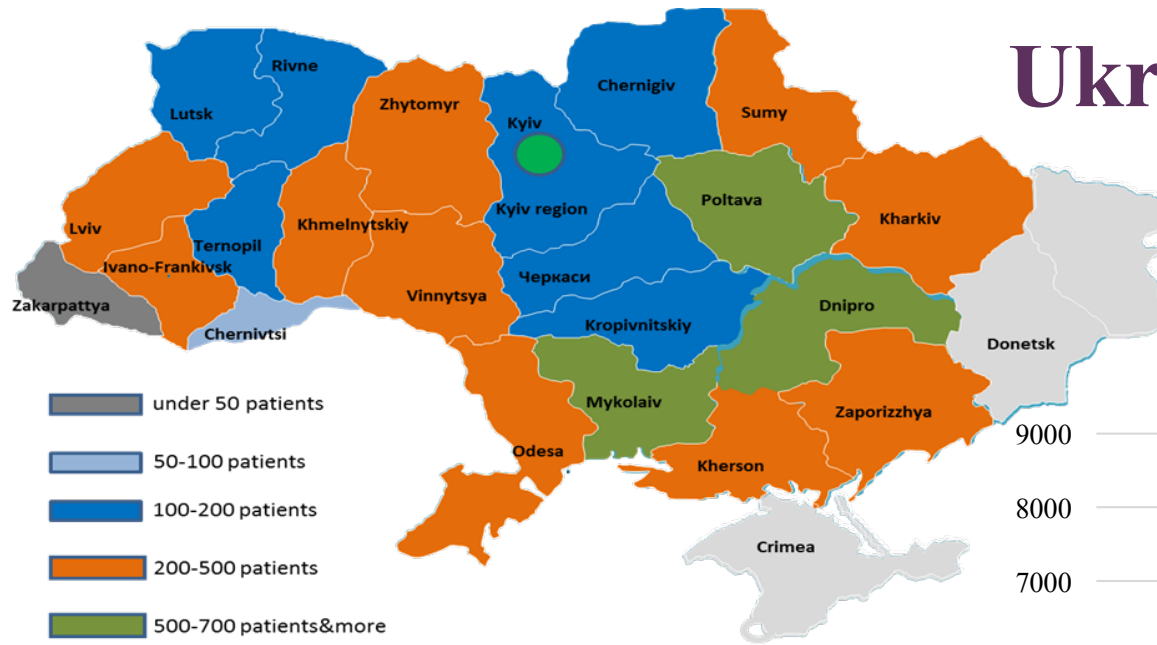


Ukraine' Experience of OAT Provision



Years	Period	Challenge	Way to Overcome
2004-2007	Dating or Time of Hopes	Political resistance, Rigid legislation, Public misunderstanding	Parliament Hearings, Media Campaign, Public discussions, New legislation
2008- 2010	“Sturm und Drang”	Police Attacks, Doctors arrests, Patient detentions; Lack of infrastructure and trained staff	Powerful advocacy; Activation of international partners, including UN-agencies
2011-2013	The Stagnation	Lack of interest from Ukrainian GVN, Increasing of Low-enforcement influence	Accumulation of scientific data; Advocacy and lobbying through GFATM
2014-2016	Sobering up and Understanding of main barriers	Intrinsic individual, institutional and structural barriers	Research activity (implementation science) increasing; Public health system reforming

Ukraine' Experience of OAT Provision



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Evidence-based drug policy

The Strategy of the State Policy Regarding Drugs (Narcotics) until the year 2020 was adopted by PM in 2013.

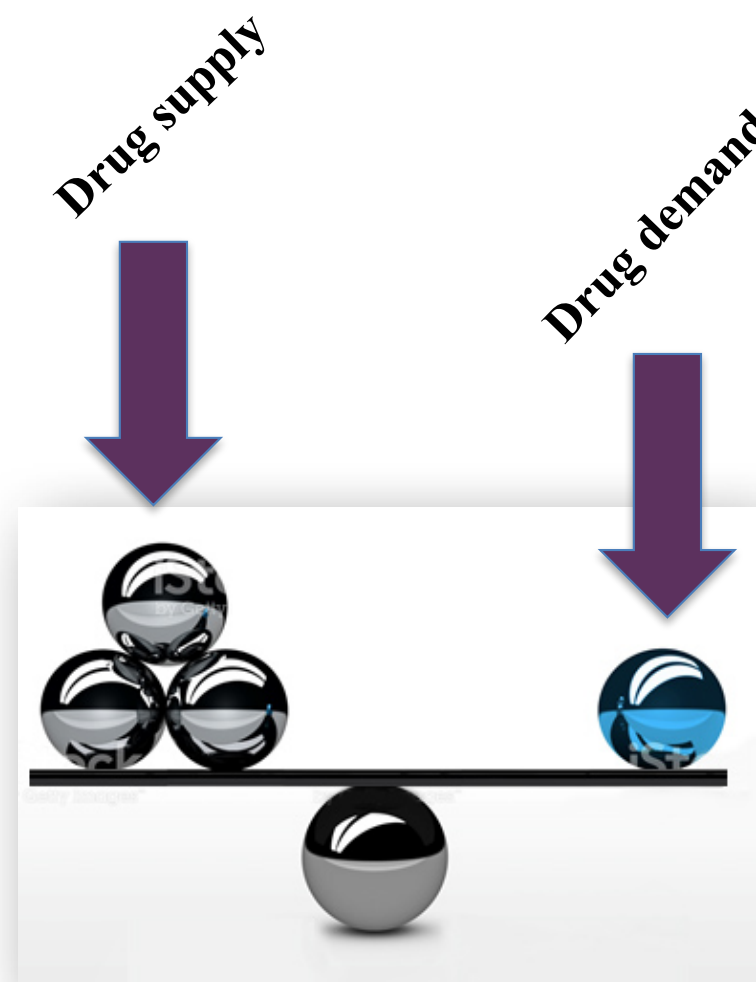
Since the adoption of the Strategy in Ukraine, the balance has been optimized between supply reduction and demand for illicit drugs, thus prioritizing public health functions instead of repression, and increasing access of patients to pain relief medicines and using opioid agonists for drug addiction treatment.



Police & SSU

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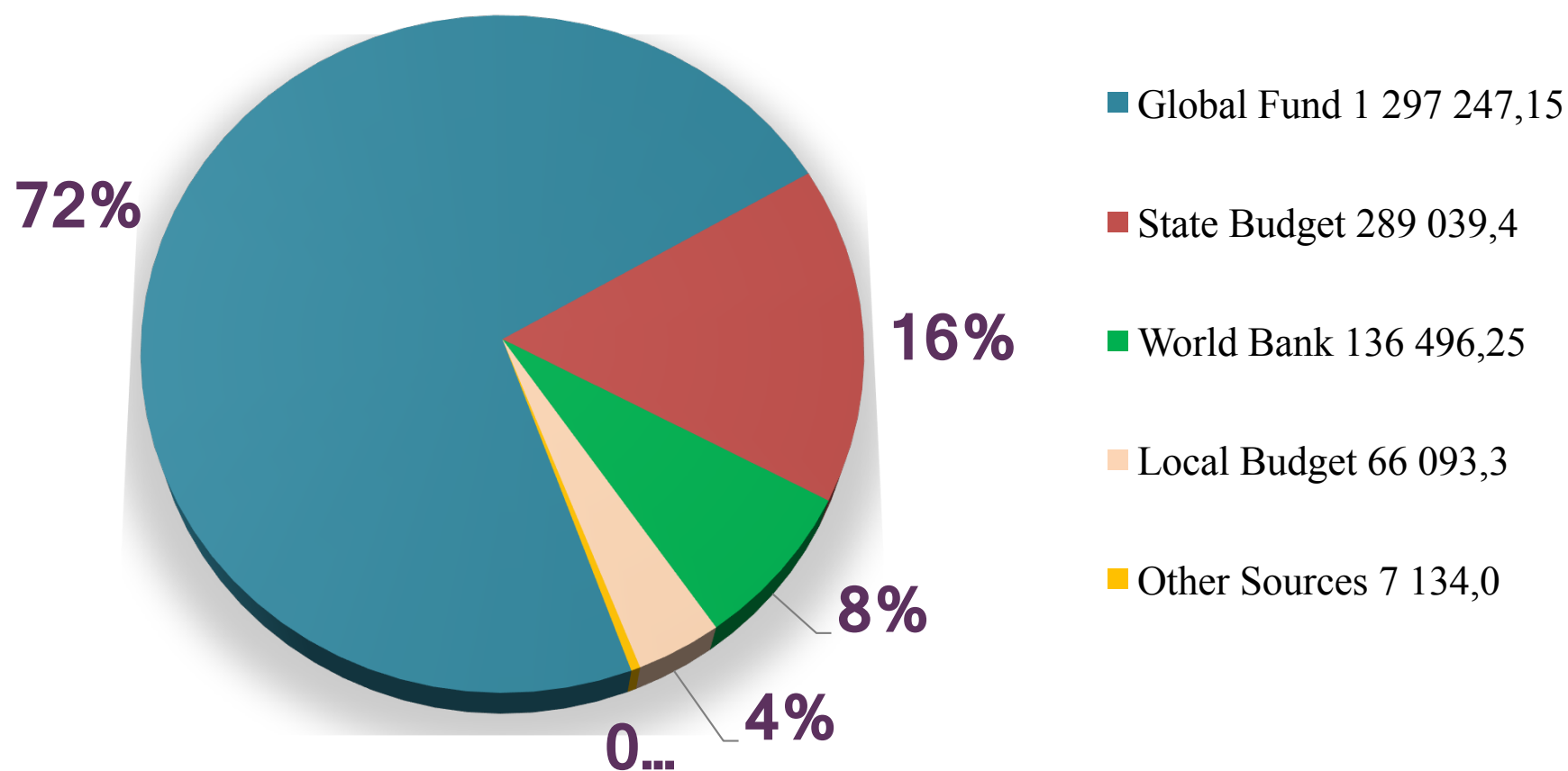
Public Health



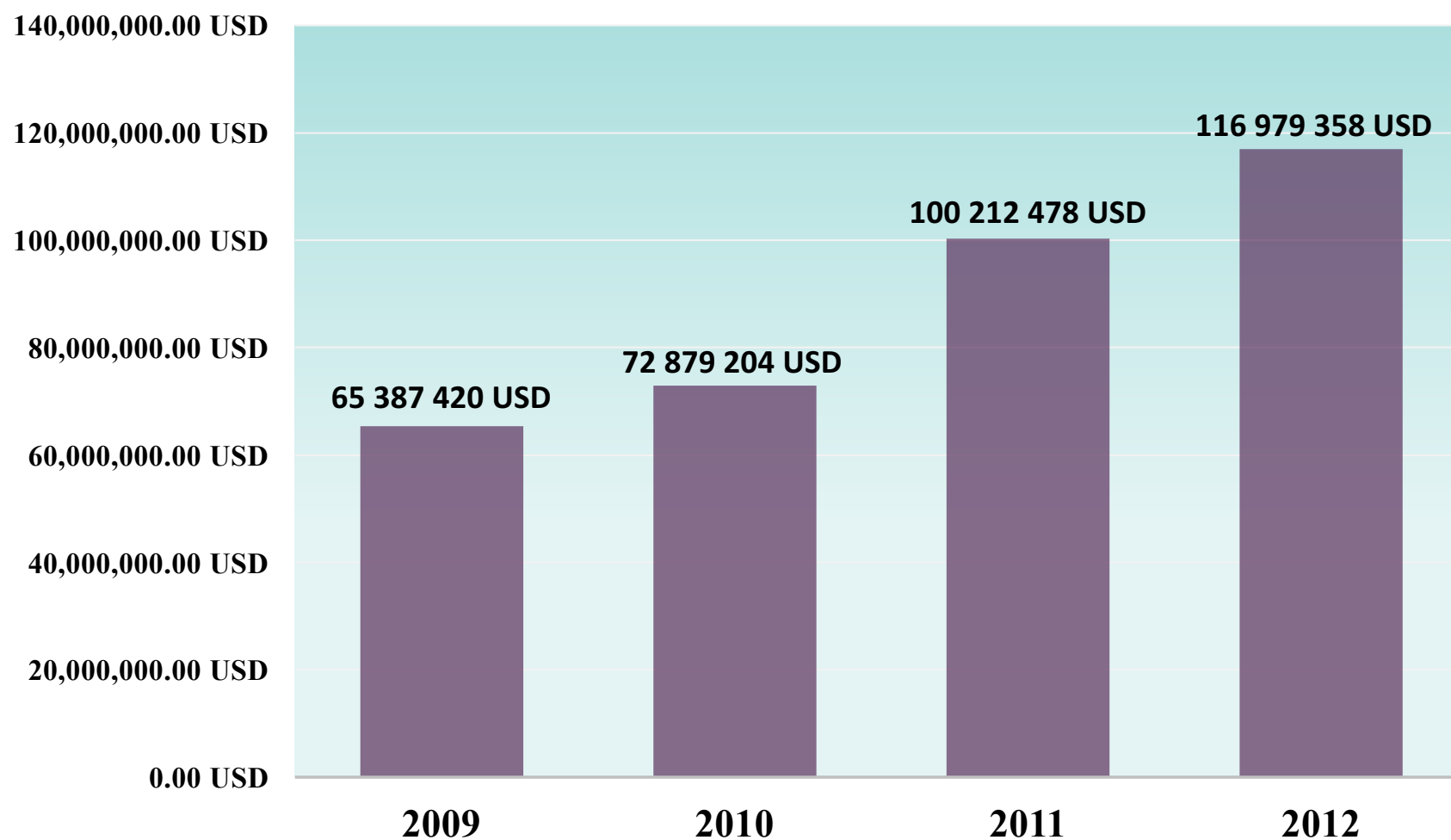
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Sources of Funding: National AIDS Programme

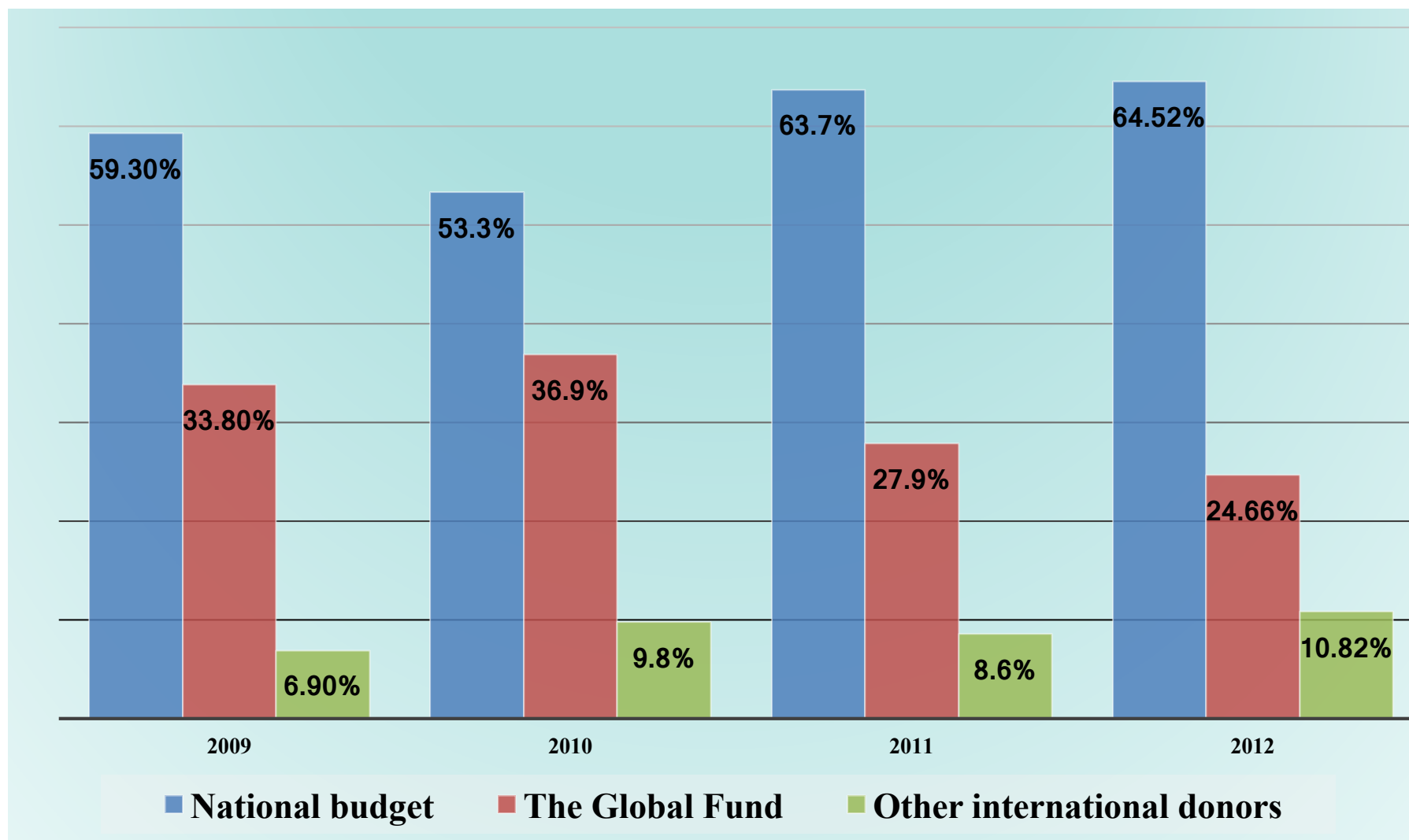
2004-2008 (thousands UAH)



Total amount of national expenses for HIV treatment, USD (2009-2012)



Sources of funding (2009-2012)



CONCLUSIONS



- Drug injections still plays an important role in HIV-epidemic
- Huge progress has been made in the last decade thank to common national and international efforts
- The country found the adequate response to the double epidemic
- It includes conceptual changes in drug policy, public health priorities and financing
- There is no ground to stop the progress. There are sill lot of barriers and problems to curb the epidemic.

**Thank you
for your attention!**

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