Black Gay Men's Network of Ontario

What We Know

BGMN discusses Sex Now Survey results among Black same gender loving men

Thursday April 12, 2020

Black Gay Men's Network of Ontario

Agenda

#	Item	Speaker
1	Intro, housekeeping, land acknowledgment	CRBC & BGMN
2	BGMN introduction	
3	CBRC/Sex Now	CBRC
4	BGMN Panel Discussion	BGMN
5	Q&A	

Black Gay Men's Network of Ontario

Land Acknowledgement

The BGMN of Ontario acknowledges that its members live and work on Turtle Island, which is the ancestral home of First Nations, Inuit, Metis and multiple Indigenous tribes and groups. Whether land is ceded or unceded, their lives and culture are under continual threat by colonization and white supremacy.

As an organization, we understand how these same forces continue to impact those of the African diaspora in Canada. The harmful effects felt from the enslavement of African peoples, disruption and forced migration from our native homelands, and present-day state violence all negatively impact ACB people in Ontario, this country, and globally.

We stand in solidarity with our Indigenous family as we work to address systemic prejudices and other forces that undermine our health and wellness and the ability to live self-actualized lives.

Black Gay Men's Network of Ontario

Our History

Web: bgmn.ca
Social: @BGMNOntario
Email: **bgmnotario@gmail.com**

Black Gay Men's Network of Ontario

Our History

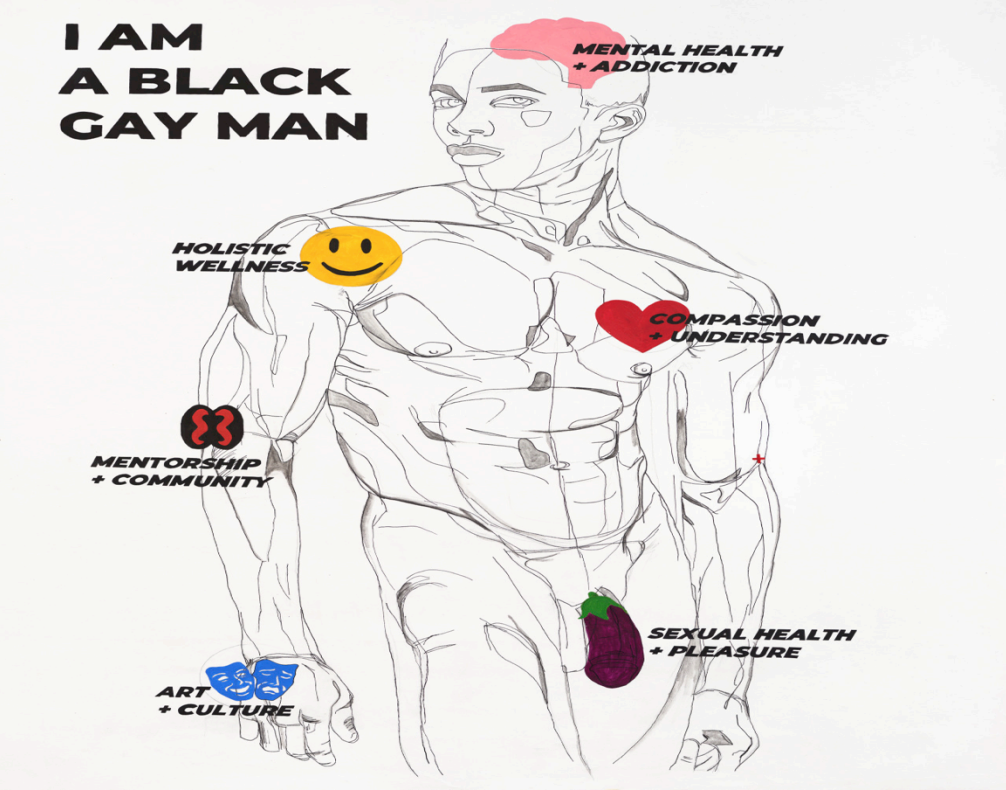
2010: The Ontario African, Caribbean, and Black Gay Men's Summit: Cultures of Sexuality And Black Men's Health

2018 & 2019: The African, Caribbean and Black (ACB) Same Gender Loving (SGL) Dialogue

At each gathering, we narrated our own health needs.

Black Gay Men's Network of Ontario

Our History



Artwork done by Oluseye

Black Gay Men's Network of Ontario

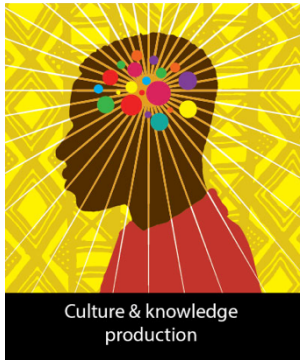
Our Future

Our vision for the future, creating a strong supportive Black gay community

Creating committees in four key areas:

1. Culture and Knowledge production
2. Sexual health and pleasure
3. Substance use

4. Mentoring



Black Gay Men's Network of Ontario

What We Know

We acknowledge that research needs improvement.

Reviewing current data helps us narrate our health and wellness needs.

We want to hold space for areas of improvement, while having a focused discussion on available data.

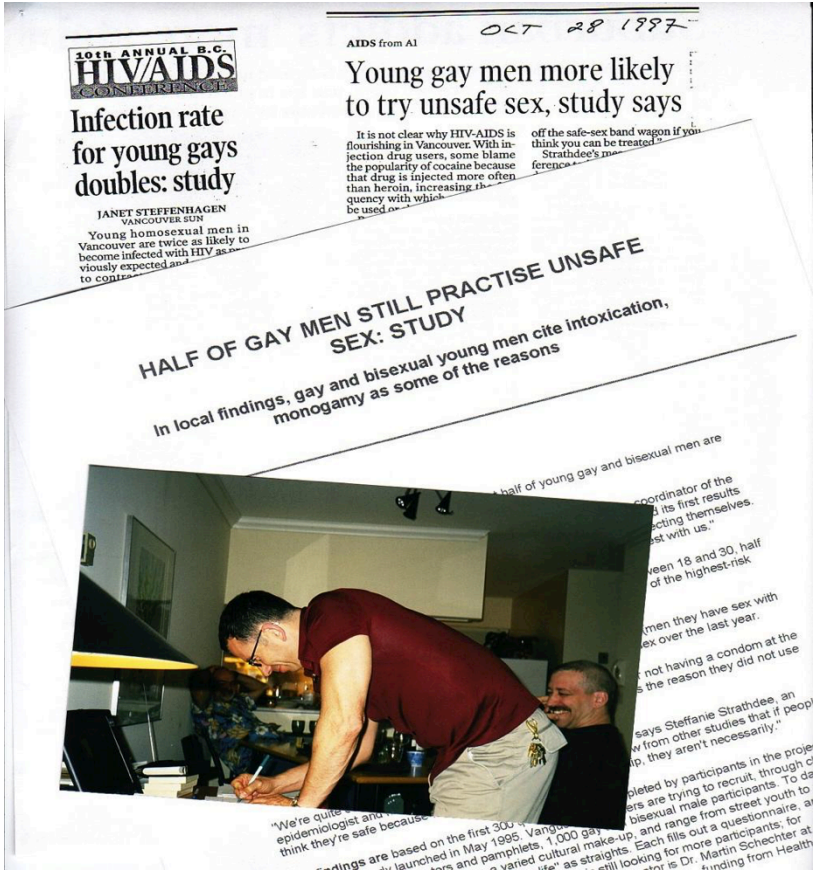
Who Are We?

- **Community-Based Research Centre (CBRC)** promotes the health of gay, bisexual, trans, Two-Spirit, and queer men (GBT2Q) through research and intervention development
- **CBRC's core pillars** position the organization as a thought leader, transforming ideas into actions that make a difference in our communities

1. community-led research
2. knowledge exchange
3. network building
4. leadership development

cbrc

Action research *by* and *for* gay men



10th ANNUAL B.C. HIV/AIDS CONFERENCE

Infection rate for young gays doubles: study

JANET STEFFENHAGEN
VANCOUVER SUN

Young homosexual men in Vancouver are twice as likely to become infected with HIV as previously expected and

AIDS from A1

OCT 28 1997

Young gay men more likely to try unsafe sex, study says

It is not clear why HIV-AIDS is flourishing in Vancouver. With injection drug users, some blame the popularity of cocaine because that drug is injected more often than heroin, increasing the frequency with which

off the safe-sex band wagon if you think you can be treated."

Strathdee's me

ference

HALF OF GAY MEN STILL PRACTISE UNSAFE SEX: STUDY

In local findings, gay and bisexual young men cite intoxication, monogamy as some of the reasons

half of young gay and bisexual men are

coordinator of the its first results ecting themselves. st with us."

ween 18 and 30, half of the highest-risk

men they have sex with ex over the last year.

not having a condom at the s the reason they did not use

says Steffanie Strathdee, an w from other studies that if peop ip, they aren't necessarily."

pleted by participants in the proje ers are trying to recruit, through c bisexual male participants. To da and range from street youth to

questionnaire, a

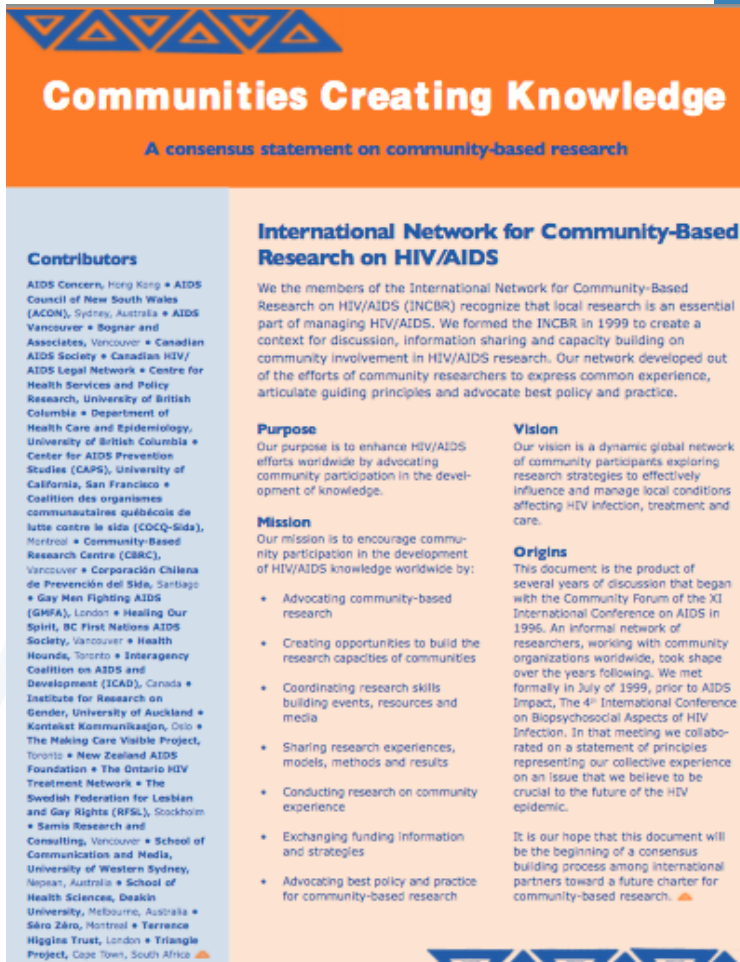
participants, for

Martin Schechter at

funding from Health

"We're quite epidemiologist and think they're safe because

findings are based on the first 300 launched in May 1995. Vanc and pamphlets, 1,000 ga a varied cultural make-up, and life" as straights. Each fills out a still looking for more participants, for tor is Dr. Martin Schechter at



Communities Creating Knowledge

A consensus statement on community-based research

Contributors

AIDS Concern, Hong Kong • **AIDS Council of New South Wales (ACON)**, Sydney, Australia • **AIDS Vancouver** • **Bognar and Associates**, Vancouver • **Canadian AIDS Society** • **Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network** • **Centre for Health Services and Policy Research, University of British Columbia** • **Department of Health Care and Epidemiology, University of British Columbia** • **Center for AIDS Prevention Studies (CAPS), University of California, San Francisco** • **Coalition des organismes communautaires québécois de lutte contre le sida (COCQ-Sida)**, Montreal • **Community-Based Research Centre (CBRC)**, Vancouver • **Corporación Chilena de Prevención del Sida**, Santiago • **Gay Men Fighting AIDS (GMFA)**, London • **Healing Our Spirit, BC First Nations AIDS Society**, Vancouver • **Health Hounds**, Toronto • **Interagency Coalition on AIDS and Development (ICAD)**, Canada • **Institute for Research on Gender, University of Auckland** • **Kontekst Kommunikasjon**, Oslo • **The Making Care Visible Project**, Toronto • **New Zealand AIDS Foundation** • **The Ontario HIV Treatment Network** • **The Swedish Federation for Lesbian and Gay Rights (RFSL)**, Stockholm • **Samis Research and Consulting**, Vancouver • **School of Communication and Media, University of Western Sydney**, Nepean, Australia • **School of Health Sciences, Deakin University**, Melbourne, Australia • **Sáro Záro**, Montreal • **Terrence Higgins Trust**, London • **Triangle Project**, Cape Town, South Africa

International Network for Community-Based Research on HIV/AIDS

We the members of the International Network for Community-Based Research on HIV/AIDS (INCBR) recognize that local research is an essential part of managing HIV/AIDS. We formed the INCBR in 1999 to create a context for discussion, information sharing and capacity building on community involvement in HIV/AIDS research. Our network developed out of the efforts of community researchers to express common experience, articulate guiding principles and advocate best policy and practice.

Purpose

Our purpose is to enhance HIV/AIDS efforts worldwide by advocating community participation in the development of knowledge.

Mission

Our mission is to encourage community participation in the development of HIV/AIDS knowledge worldwide by:

- Advocating community-based research
- Creating opportunities to build the research capacities of communities
- Coordinating research skills building events, resources and media
- Sharing research experiences, models, methods and results
- Conducting research on community experience
- Exchanging funding information and strategies
- Advocating best policy and practice for community-based research

Vision

Our vision is a dynamic global network of community participants exploring research strategies to effectively influence and manage local conditions affecting HIV infection, treatment and care.

Origins

This document is the product of several years of discussion that began with the Community Forum of the XI International Conference on AIDS in 1996. An informal network of researchers, working with community organizations worldwide, took shape over the years following. We met formally in July of 1999, prior to AIDS Impact, The 4th International Conference on Biopsychosocial Aspects of HIV Infection. In that meeting we collaborated on a statement of principles representing our collective experience on an issue that we believe to be crucial to the future of the HIV epidemic.

It is our hope that this document will be the beginning of a consensus building process among international partners toward a future charter for community-based research.

Some Sex Now History

Vancouver Pride, 2002

- National periodic health survey of GBQ men (inclusive of trans and Two-Spirit people)
- Run by the Community-Based Research Centre (CBRC)

- Timeline:
  - 2002-2005: in-person, British Columbia
  - 2007, 2008: online, British Columbia
  - 2010, 2012, 2015, 2019: Online, national
  - 2018, 2020: in-person, national

Strengths of Sex Now

- **Canada's largest survey of GBT2Q health**
  - The large sample size allows us to show common experiences among GBT2Q and advocate for policy changes
  - An important source of data on GBT2Q health

- **Canada's longest-running survey of GBT2Q health (since 2002)**
  - Insight into trends between years (e.g., changes during the pandemic), although year-to-year comparison must be made with caution.

- **Provides scarce data on BIPOC GBT2Q, including ACB GBTQ**
  - The data can be used to apply for grants, inform programming, and advocate for policy change
  - The data could inform better data collection practice and gather data on the broader ACB GBTQ population in the future

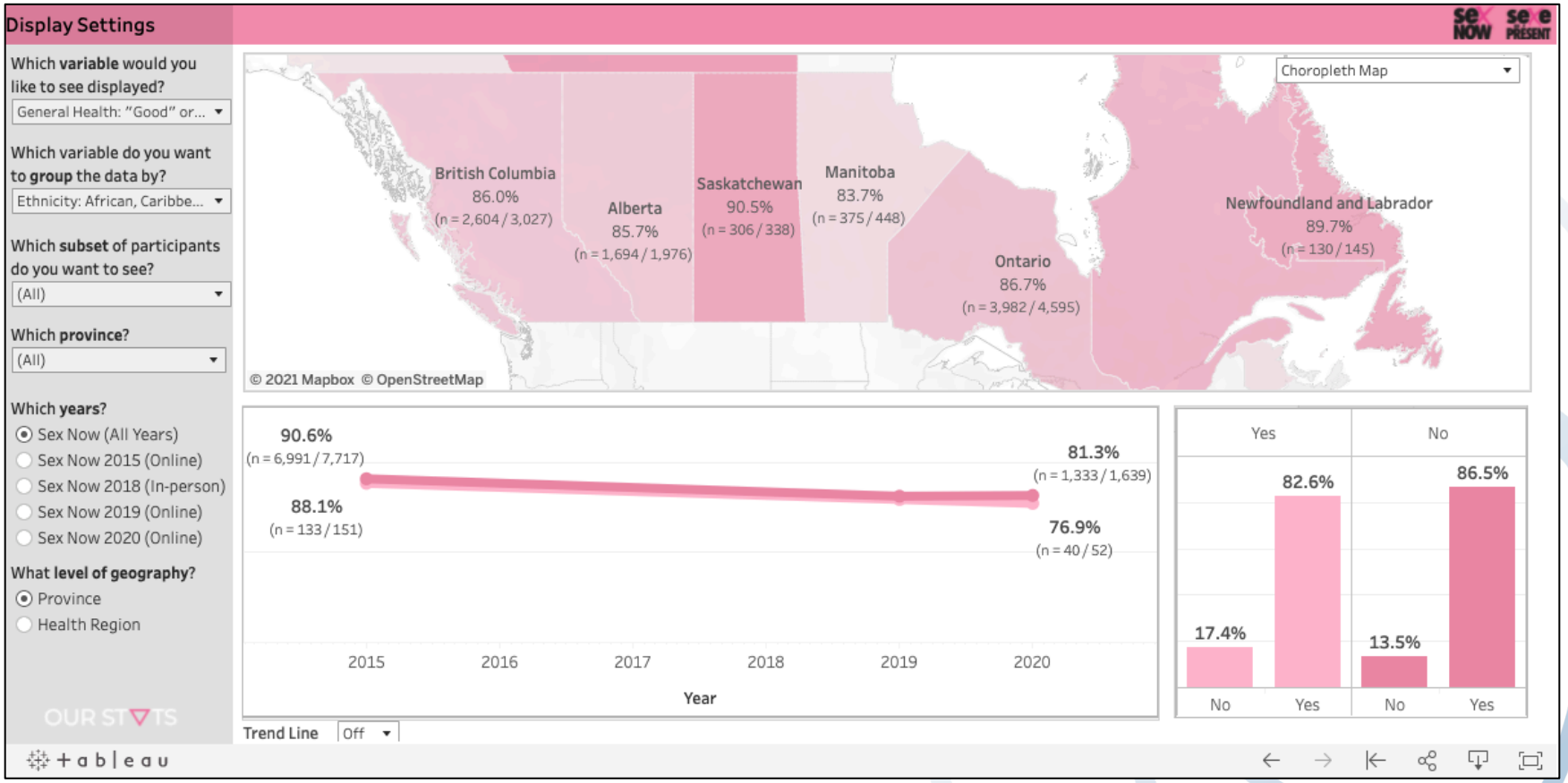
Limitations of Sex Now

- **Overrepresentation of white participants (73.9% in 2018, 82% in 2019, 83.5% in 2020)**
  - ? A small # of ACB participants (4.1% in 2018, 4.1% in 2019, 3% in 2020); sample size can make it hard to do ACB-specific analyses
  - ? A small # of other BIPOC participants

- **Had been available only in EN/FR**
  - ? Spanish, Punjabi, and Traditional & Simplified Chinese added for Sex Now 2021

- **Not representative of all GBT2Q people**
  - ? Unlikely to represent some GBT2Q sub-populations (e.g., newcomers)
  - ? Over-representation of folks who are more out, more educated, have a higher socioeconomic status

Our Stats Dashboard



Now Recruiting – Sex Now 2021: Test@Home

Add your voice and complete the survey at: **https://www.cbrc.net/sex_now_2021**

How the Comparative Data is Organized

1. The National Data on ACB Participants in Canada in 2018, 2019, 2020
2. Ontario Data on ACB and “Not ACB” participants across all years of Sex Now data (2015-2020)

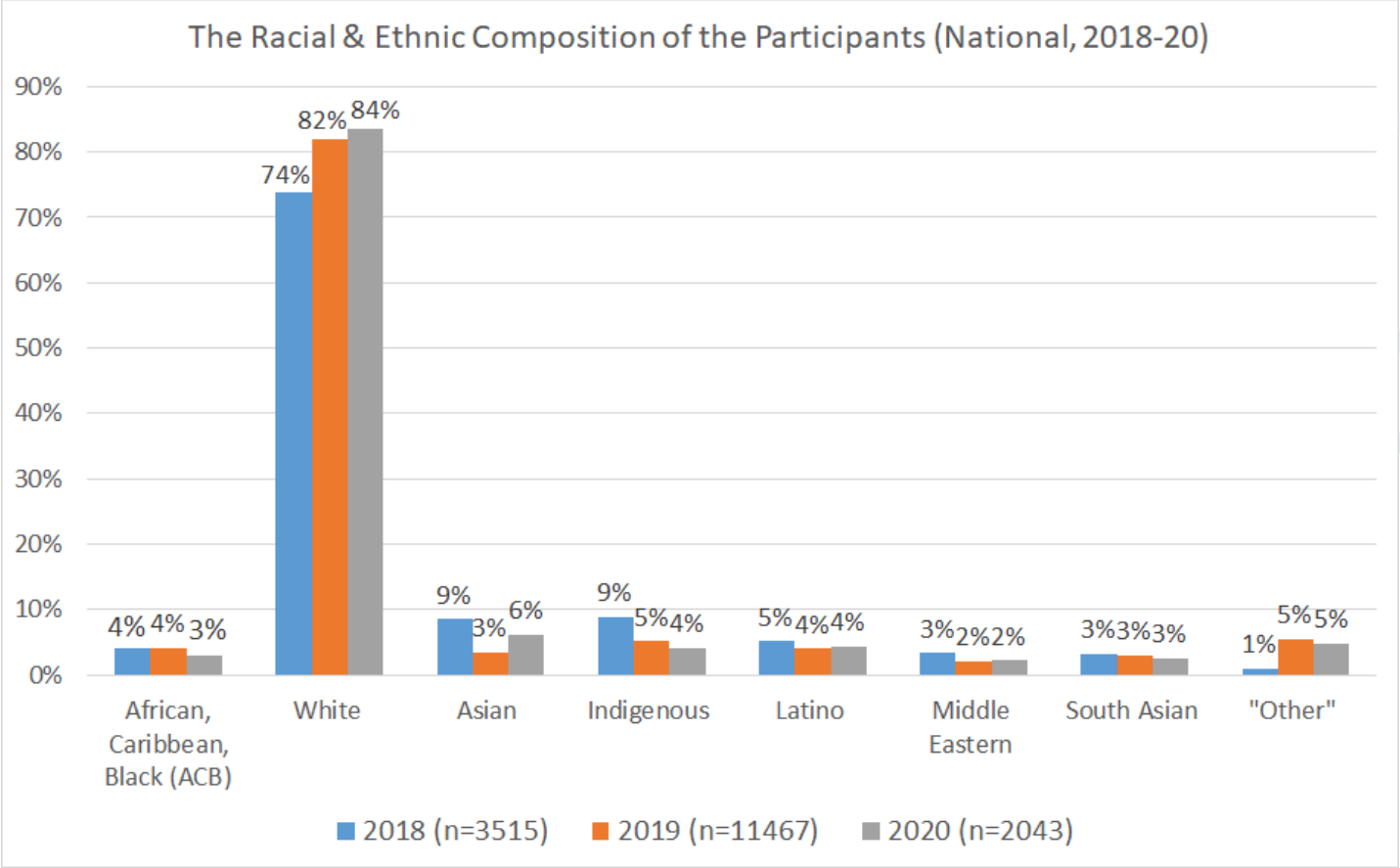
Black Gay Men's Network of Ontario

What We Know

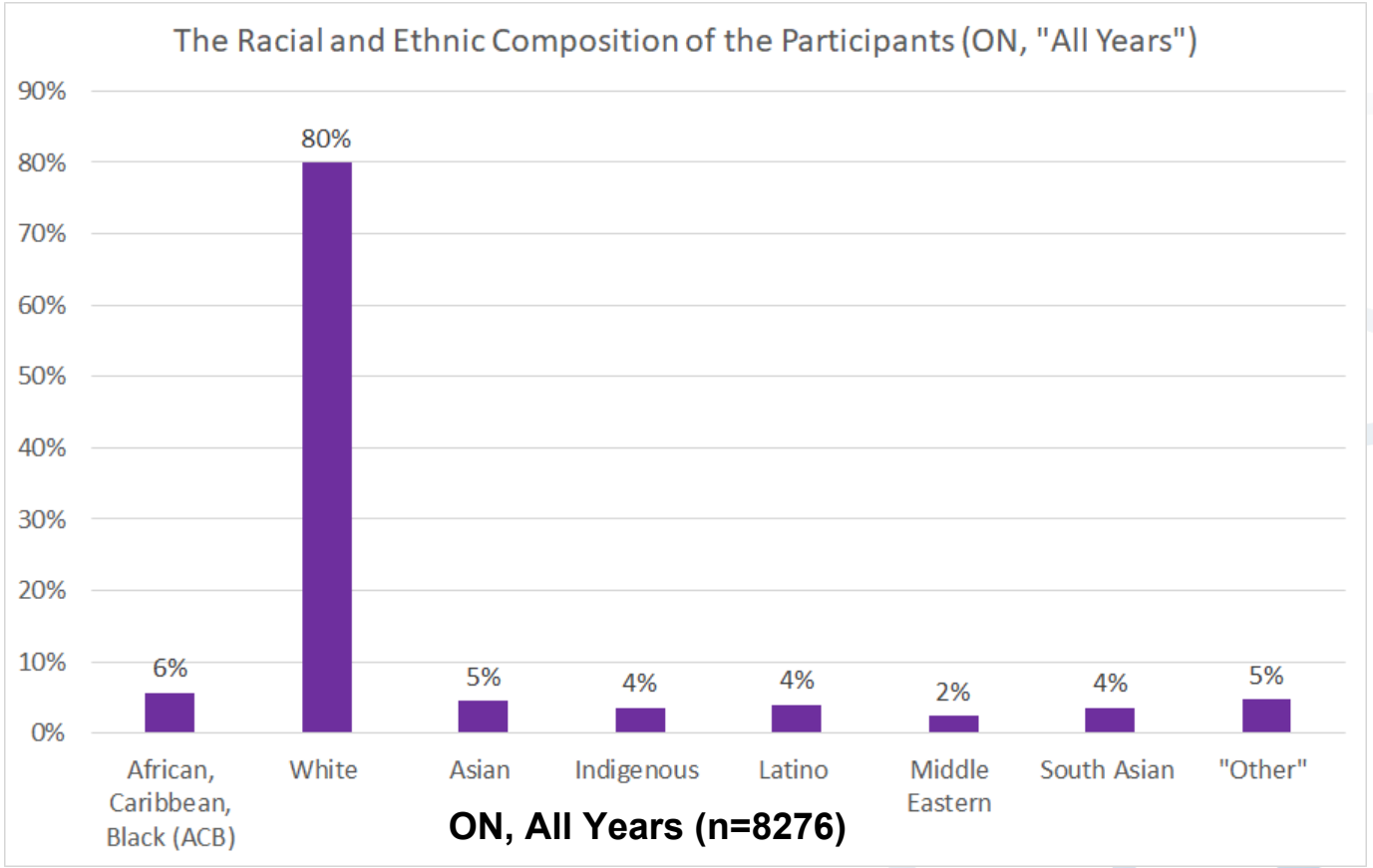
Our Panellists:

Kymani Montgomery
Jermane Hall
Dr. Lance McCready

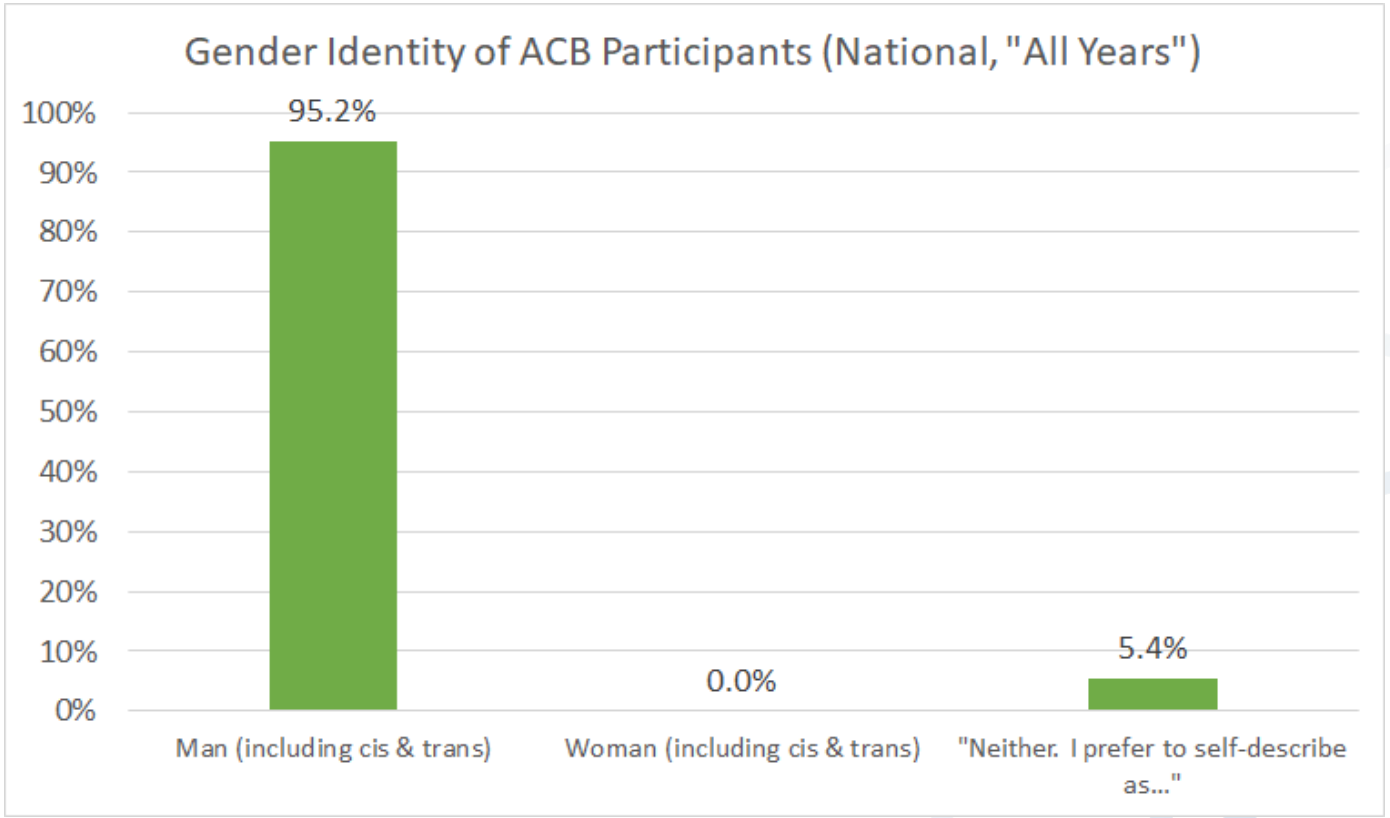
Participants' Self-Reported Racial and Ethnic Identities (National)



Participants' Self-Reported Racial and Ethnic Identities (ON)

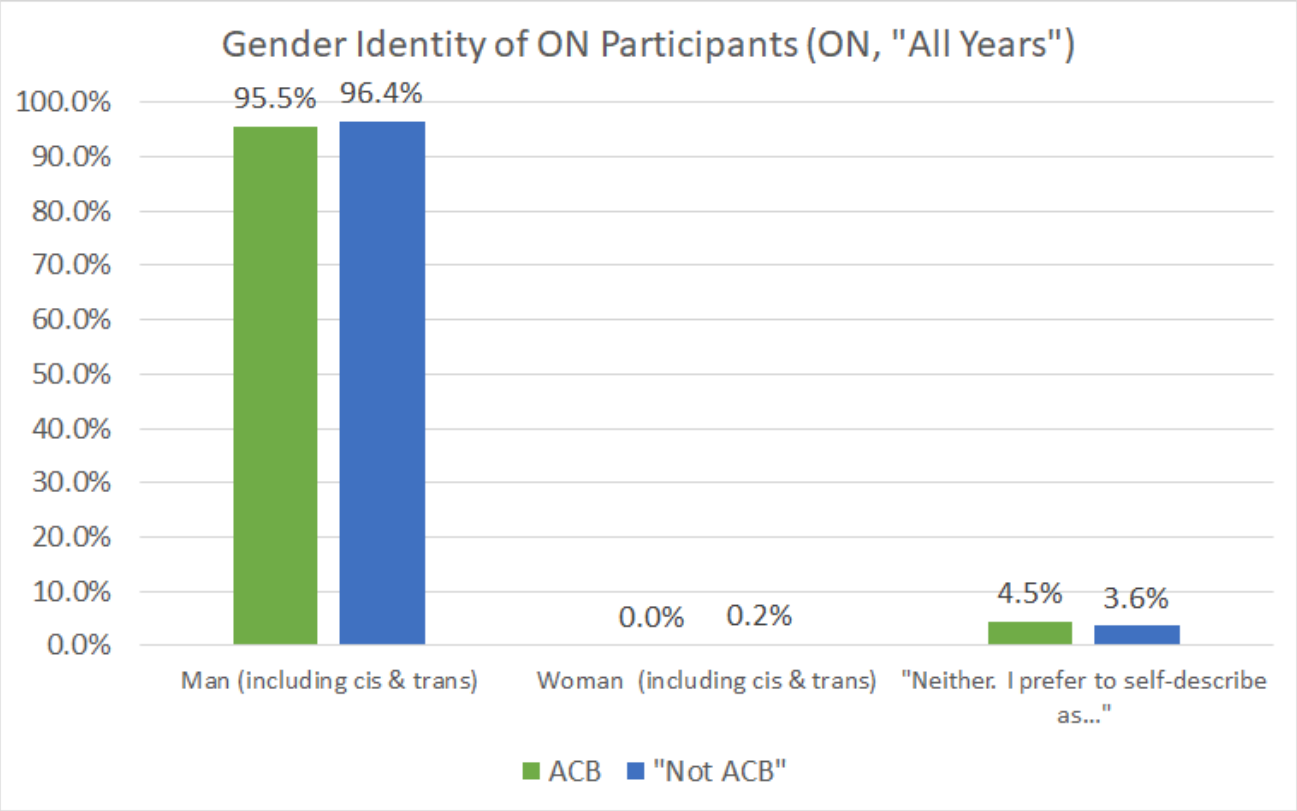


Gender Identity (National)



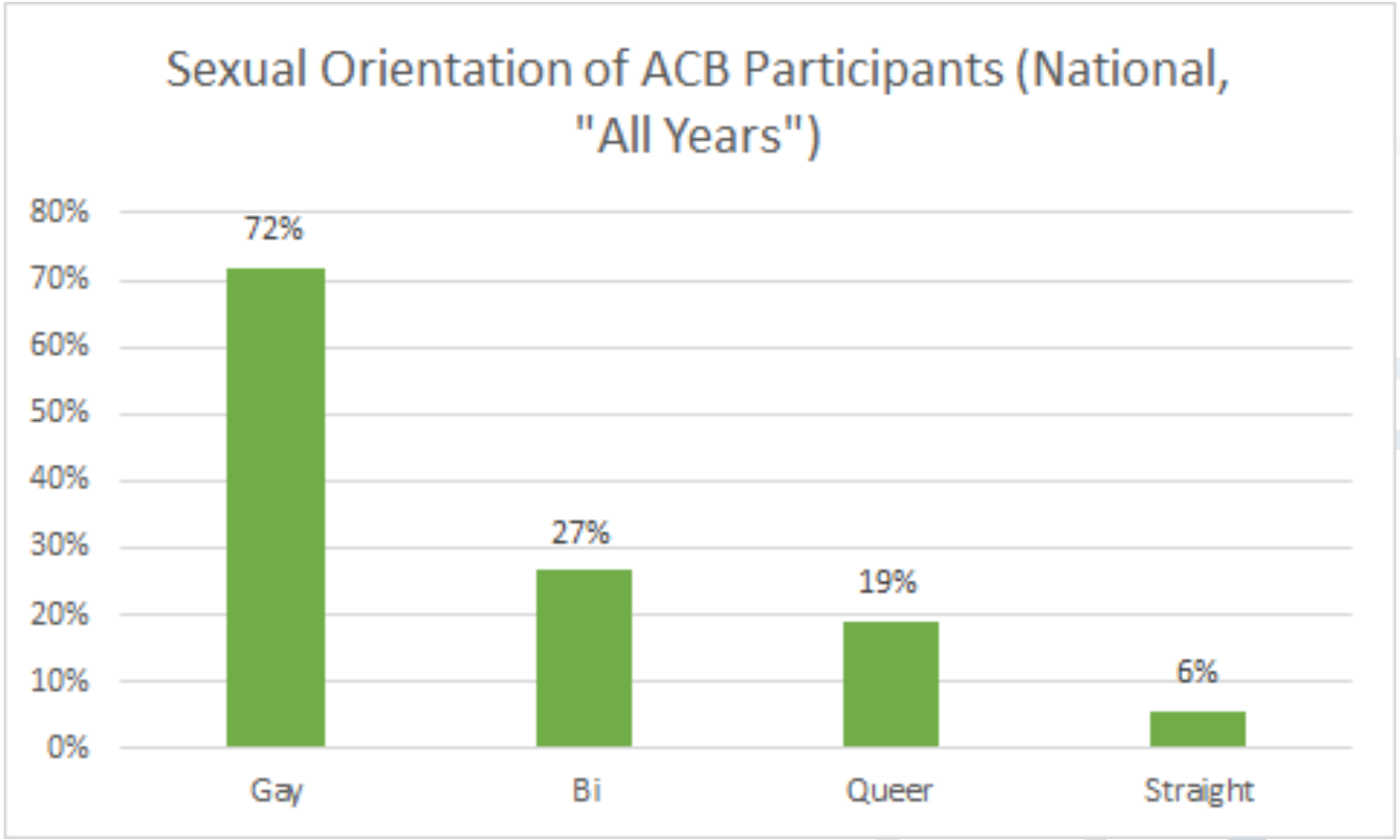
- **6.6% of ACB participants nationally identified as trans**

Gender Identity (ON)



- **6.2% of ACB participants in ON identified as trans**
- **5.6% of "Not ACB" participants in ON identified as trans**

Sexual Orientation (National)



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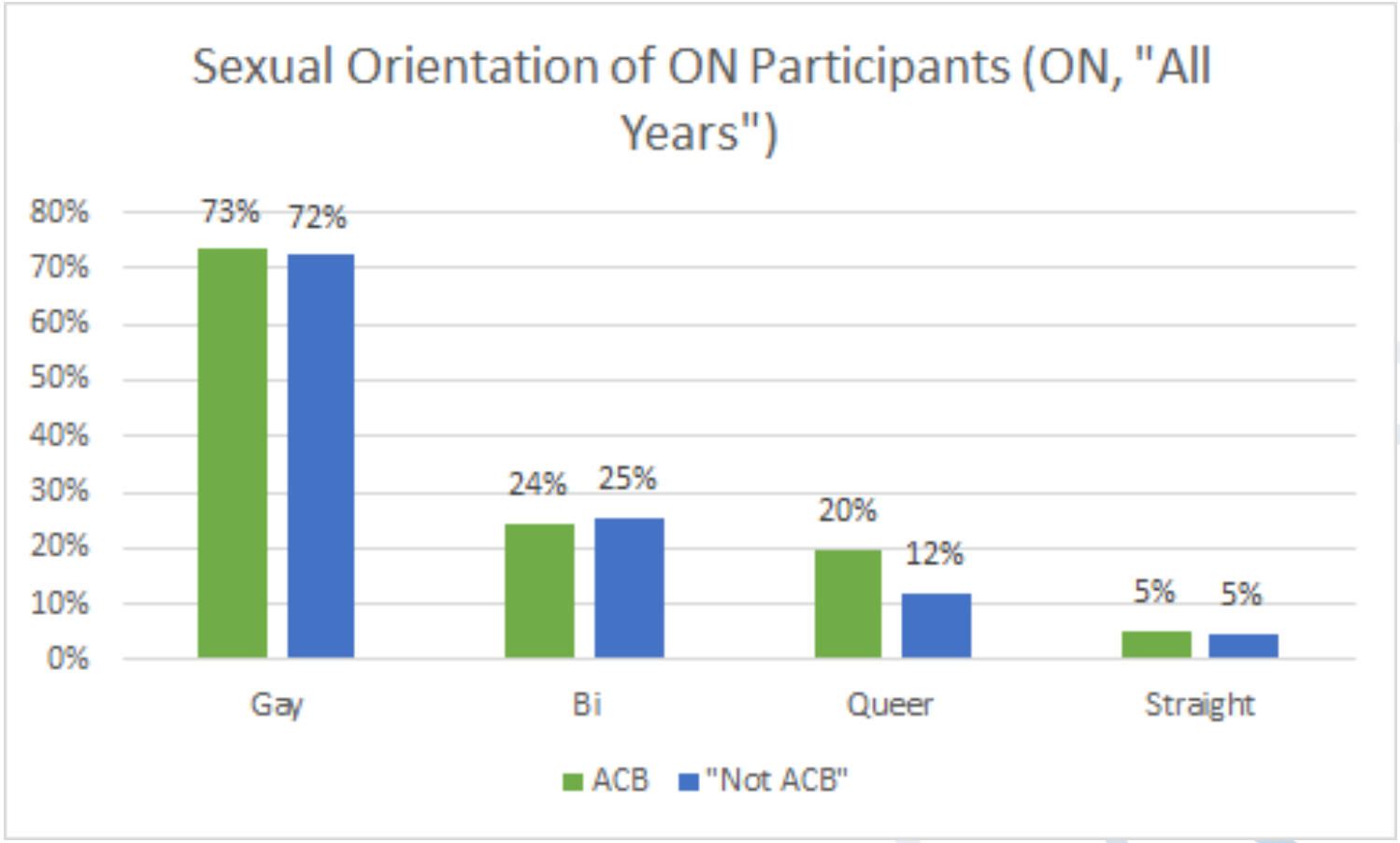
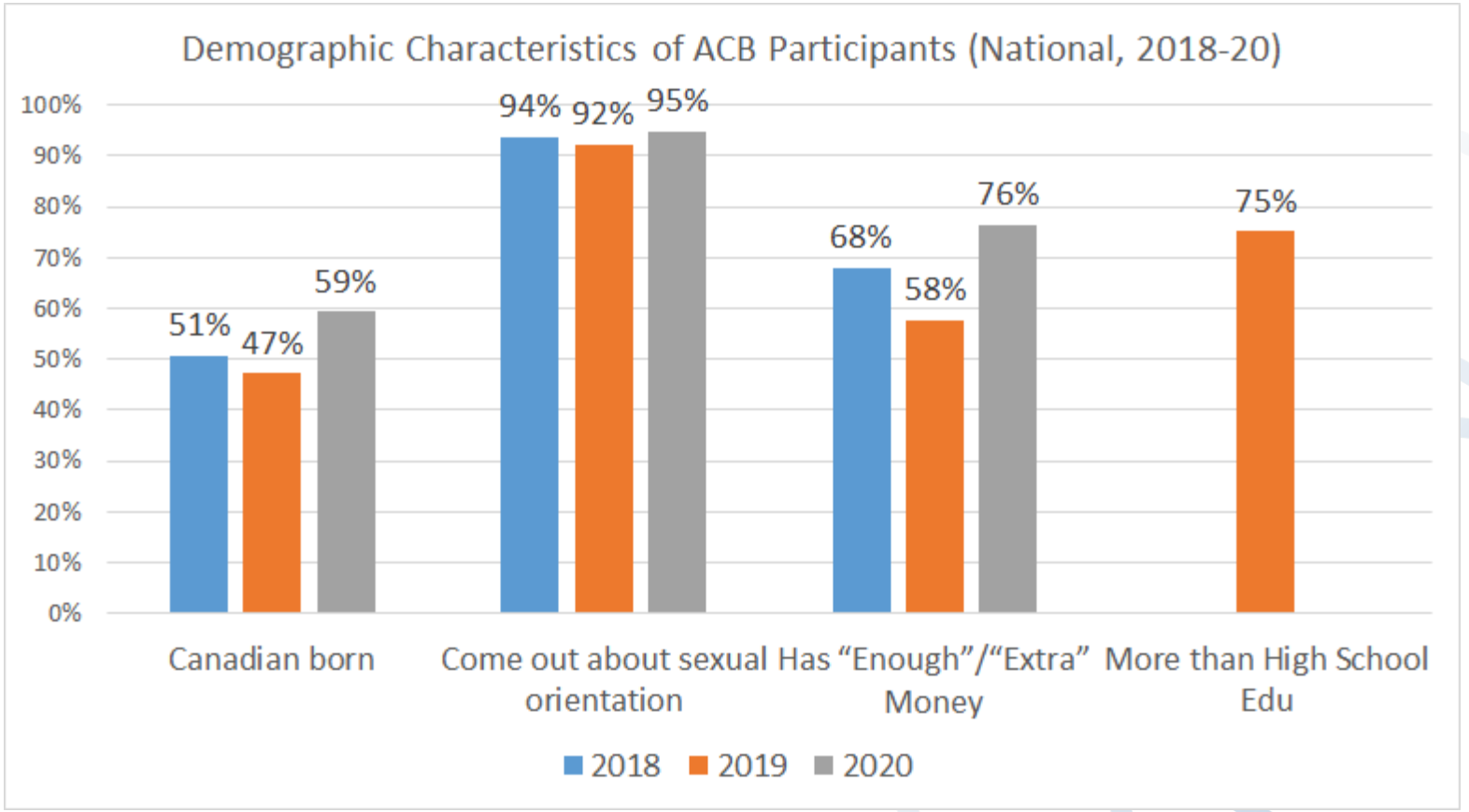
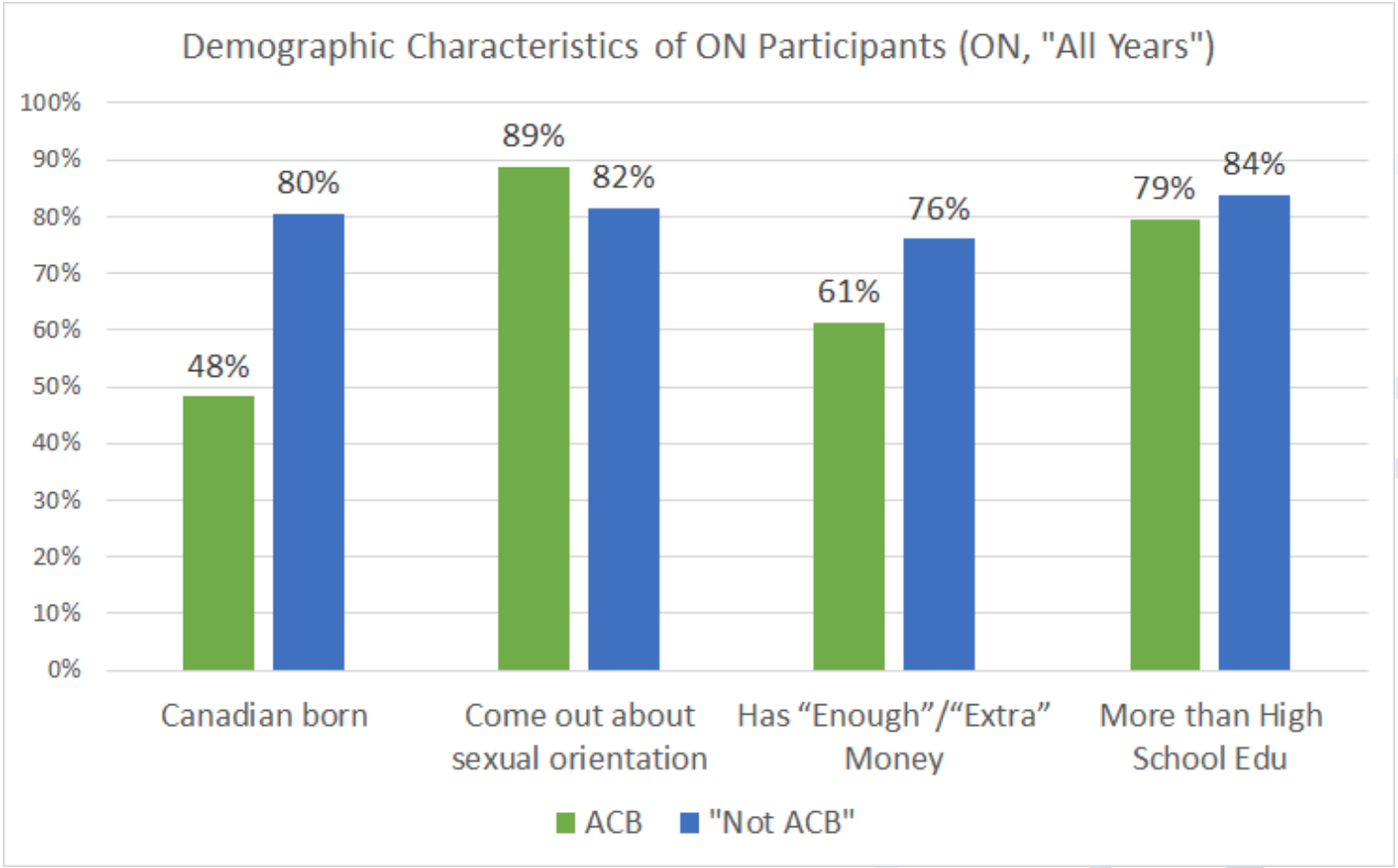


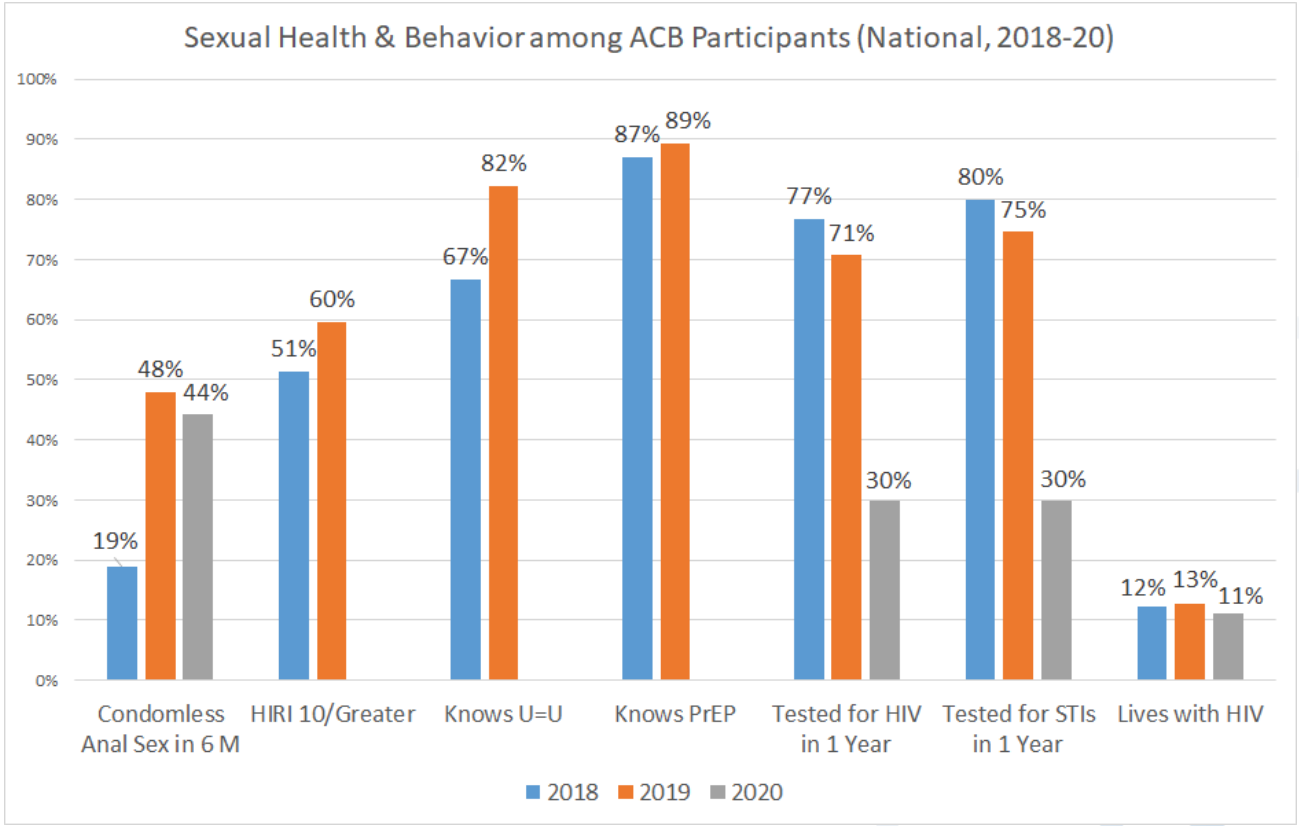
Demographics (National)



Demographics (ON)



Sexual Health and Behavior (National)



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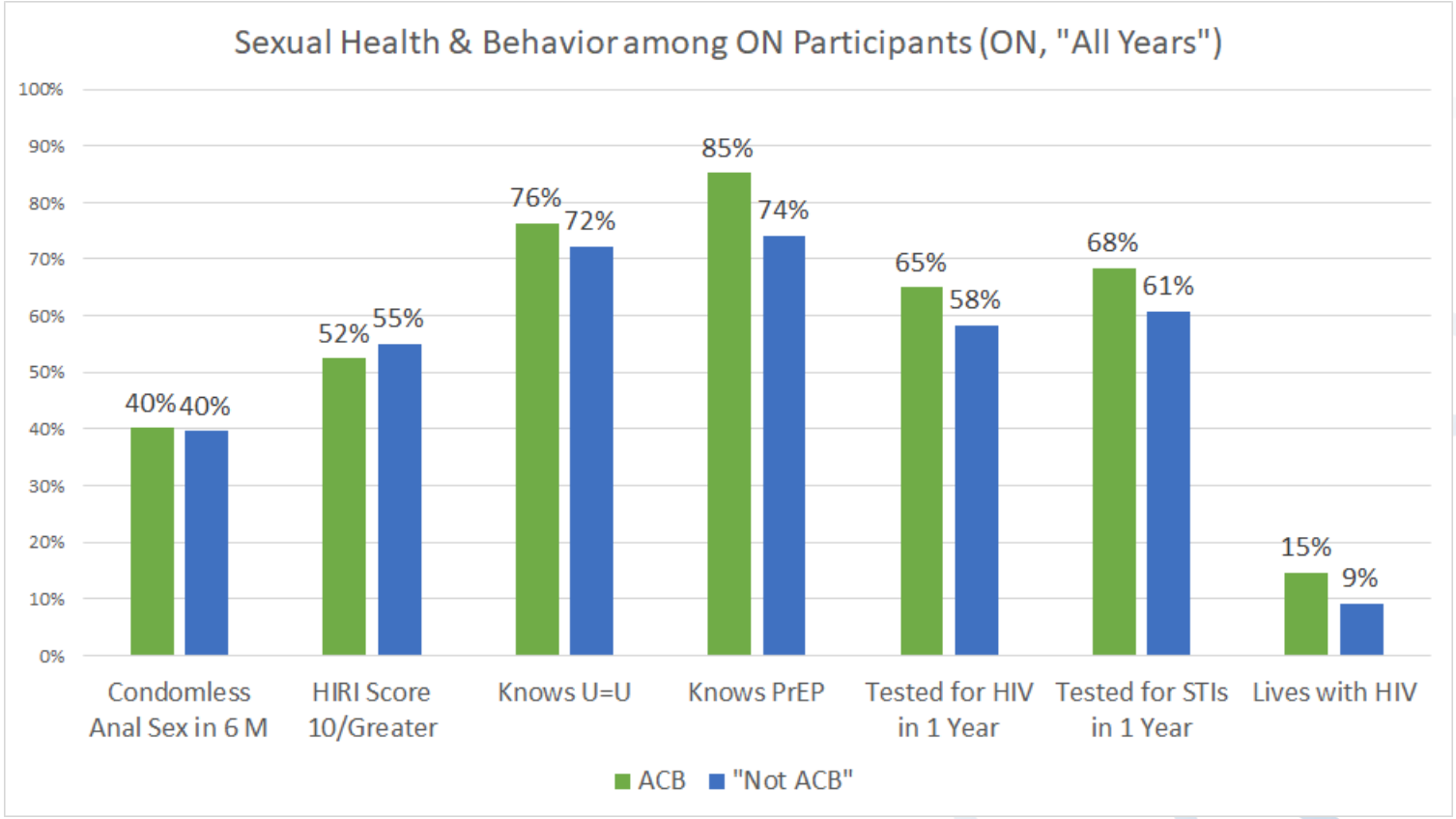
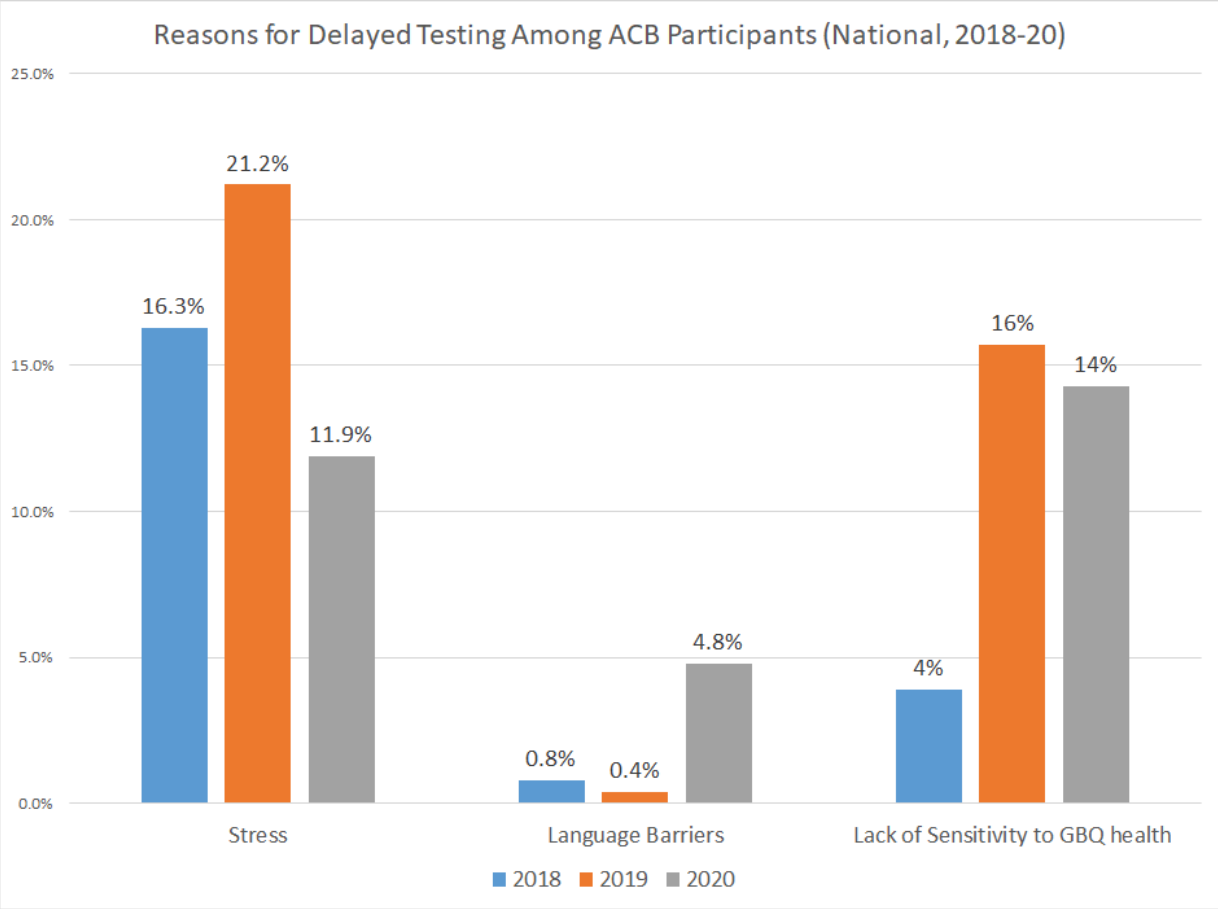


Healthcare Access/Barriers (National)



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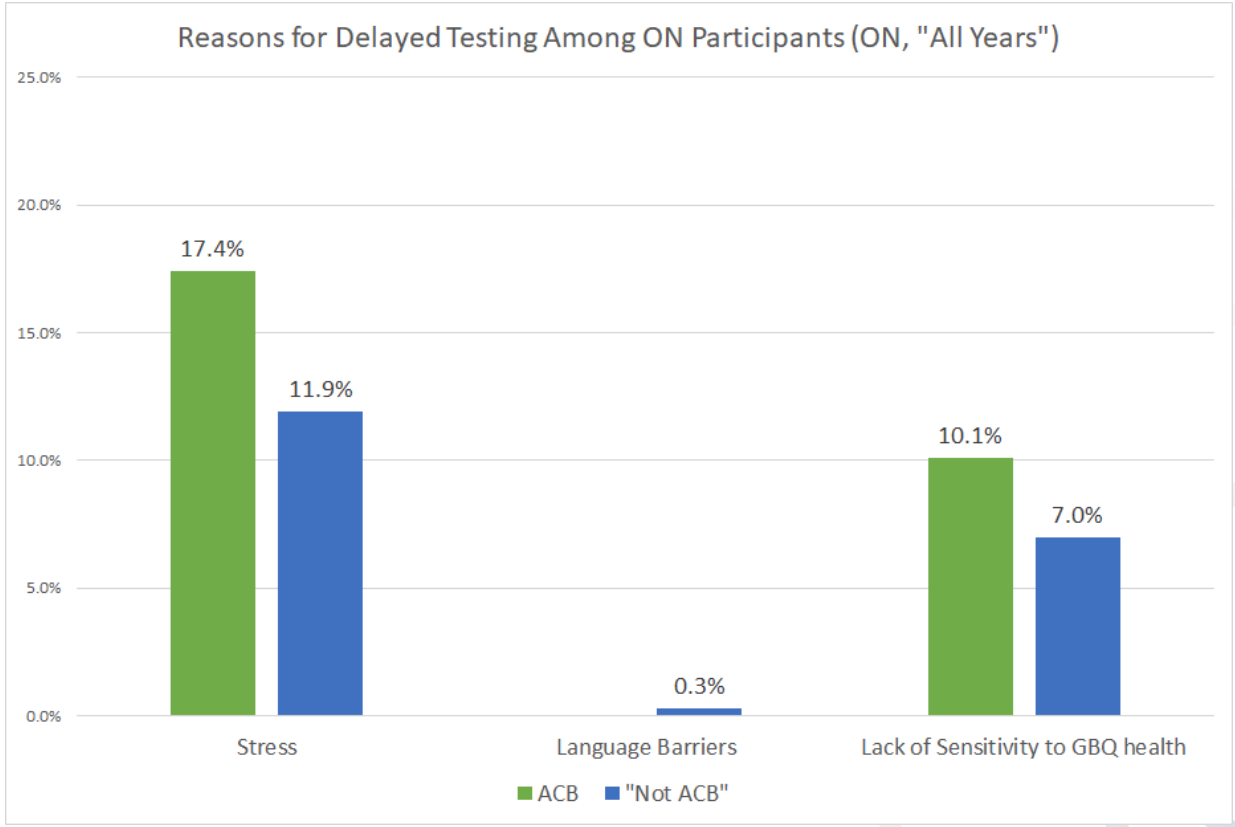
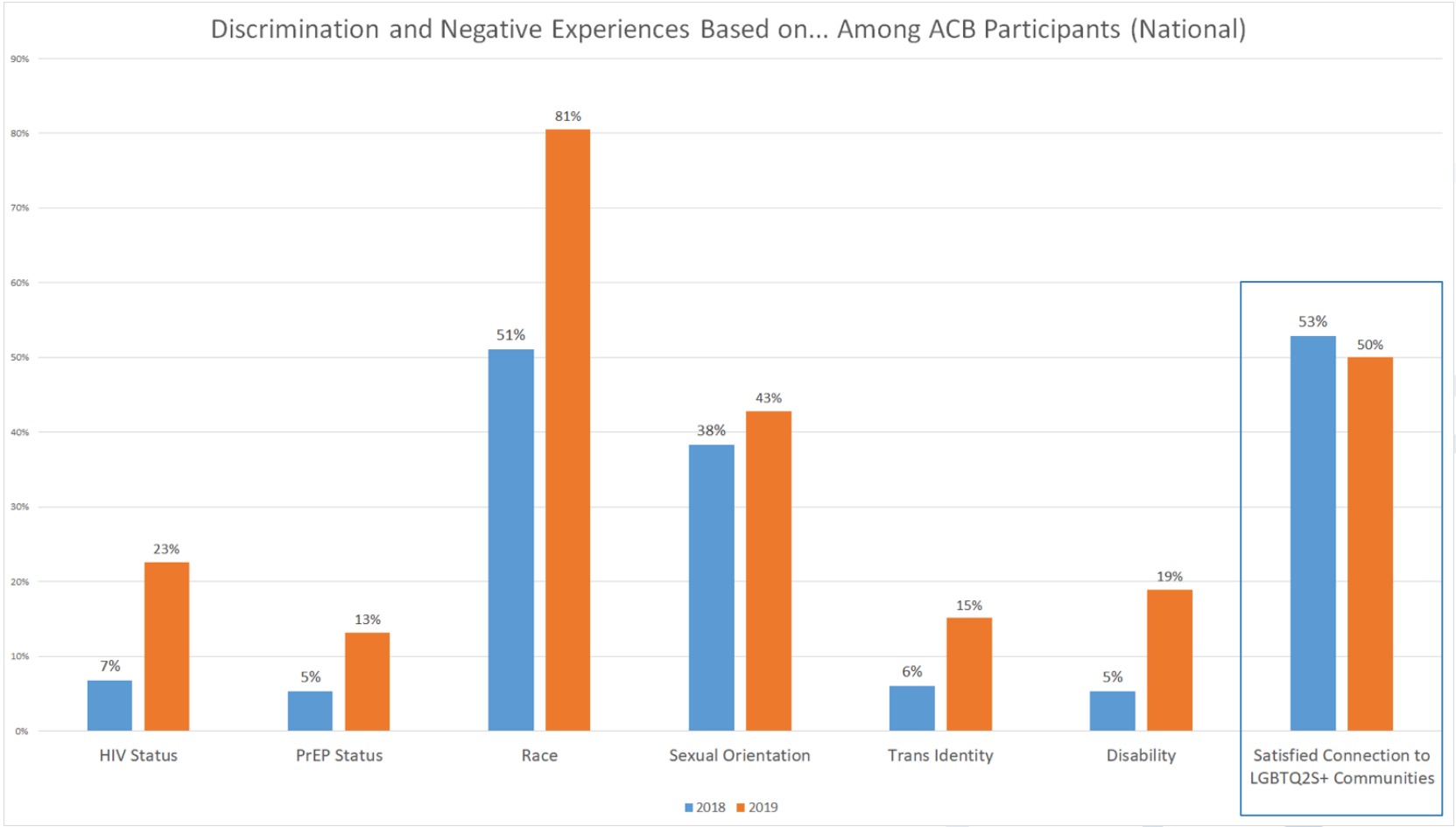
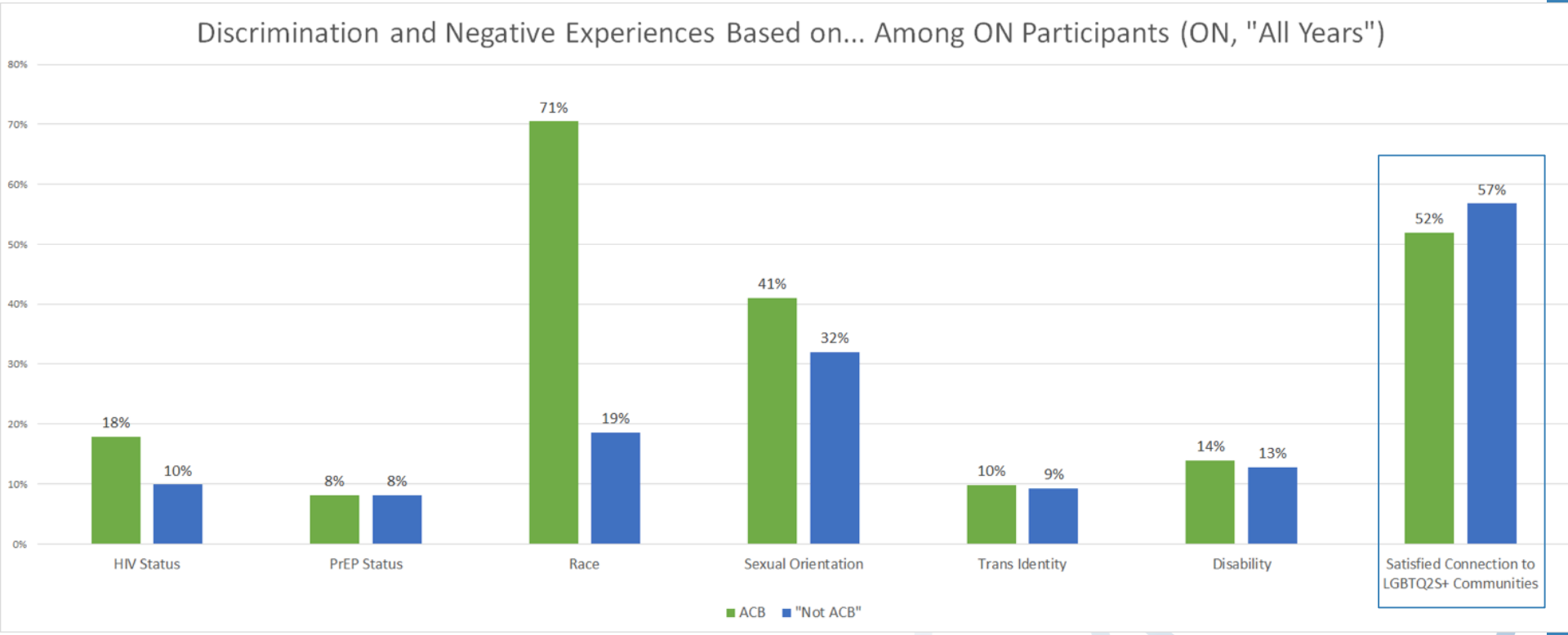


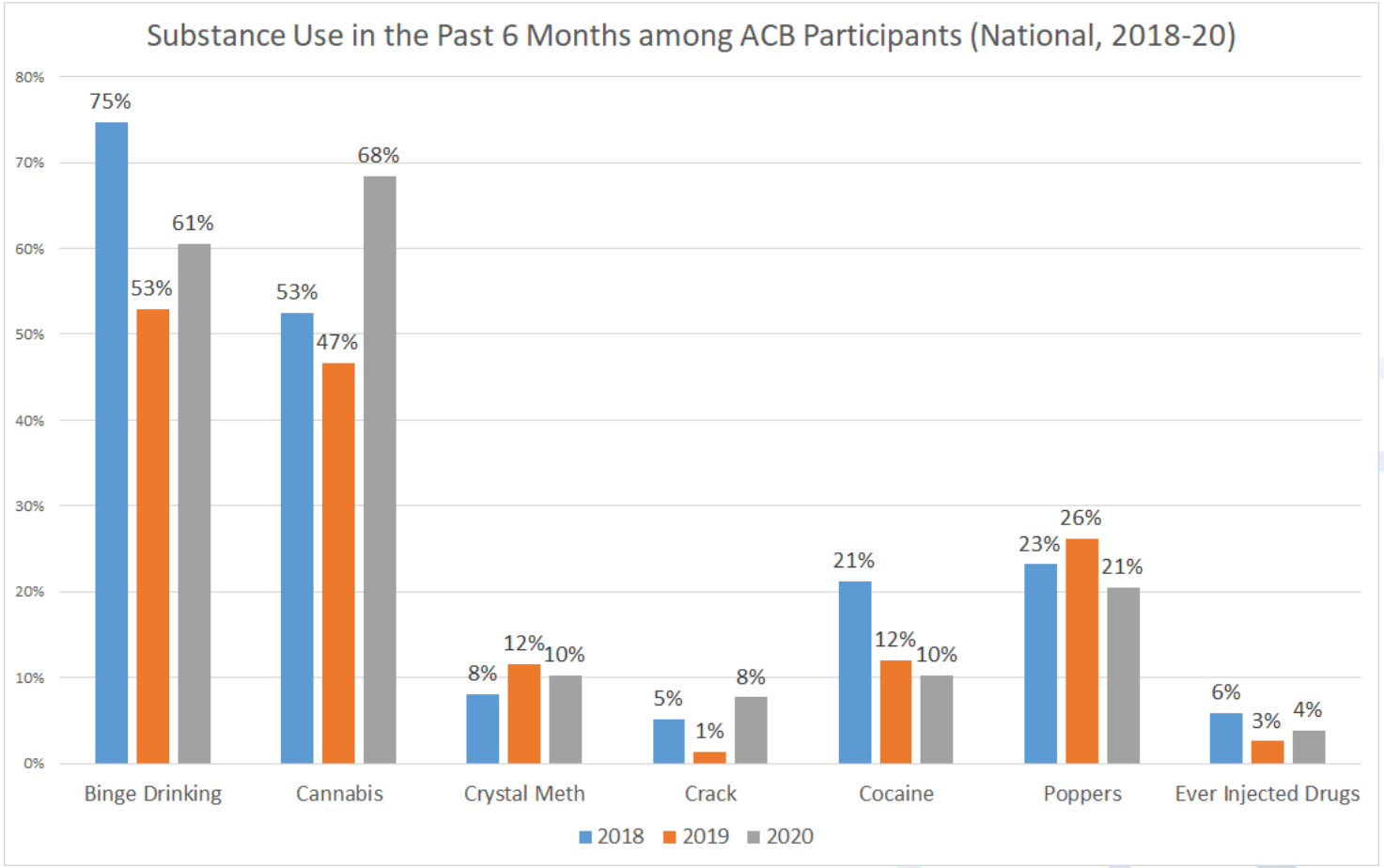
Discrimination (National)



Discrimination (ON)



Substance Use (National)



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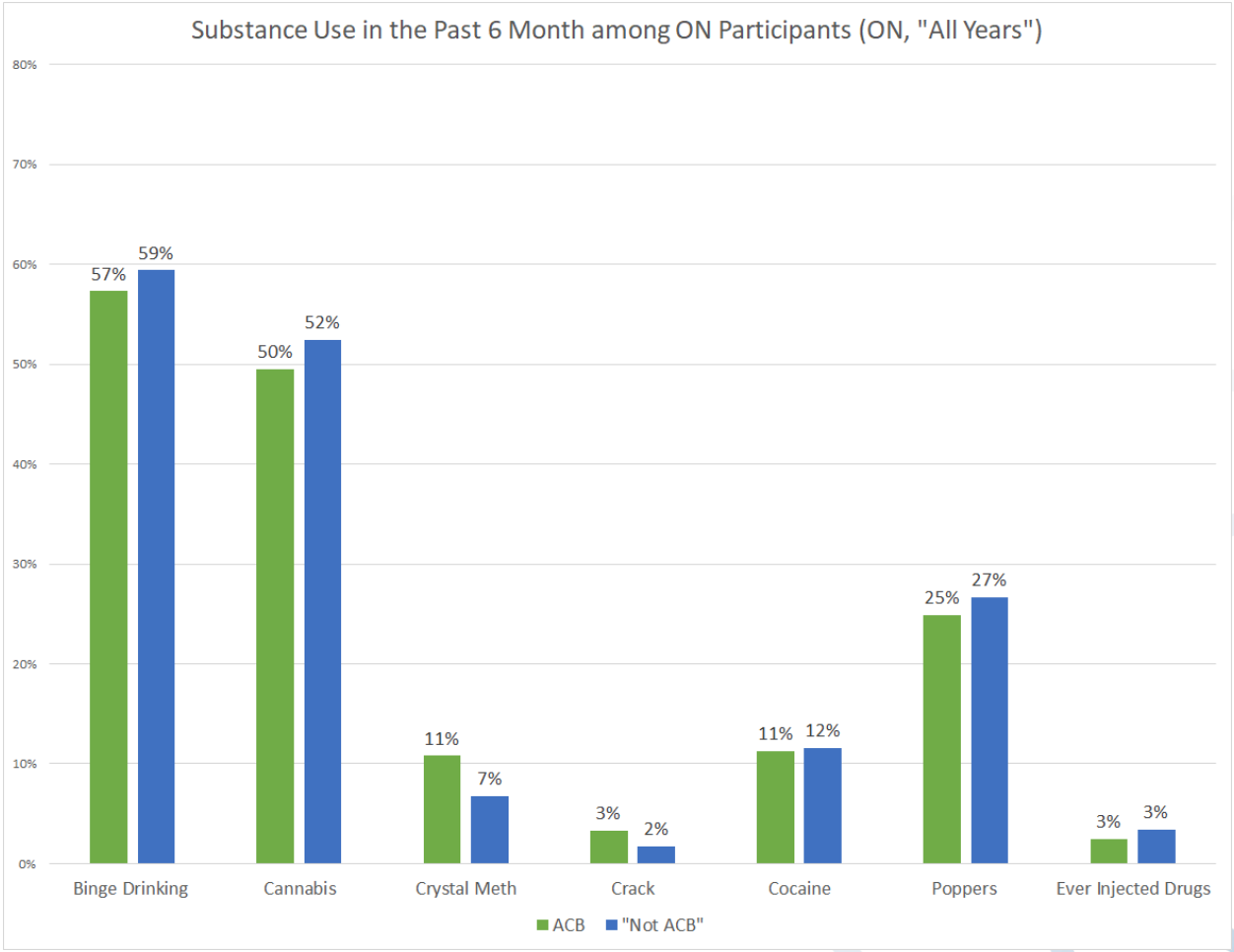

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Final Thoughts

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Q&A