

Trend Analysis of New HIV Infection and Methamphetamine Use Among Men Who Have Sex with Men in Los Angeles County: Implications for HIV Prevention

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Science & Response



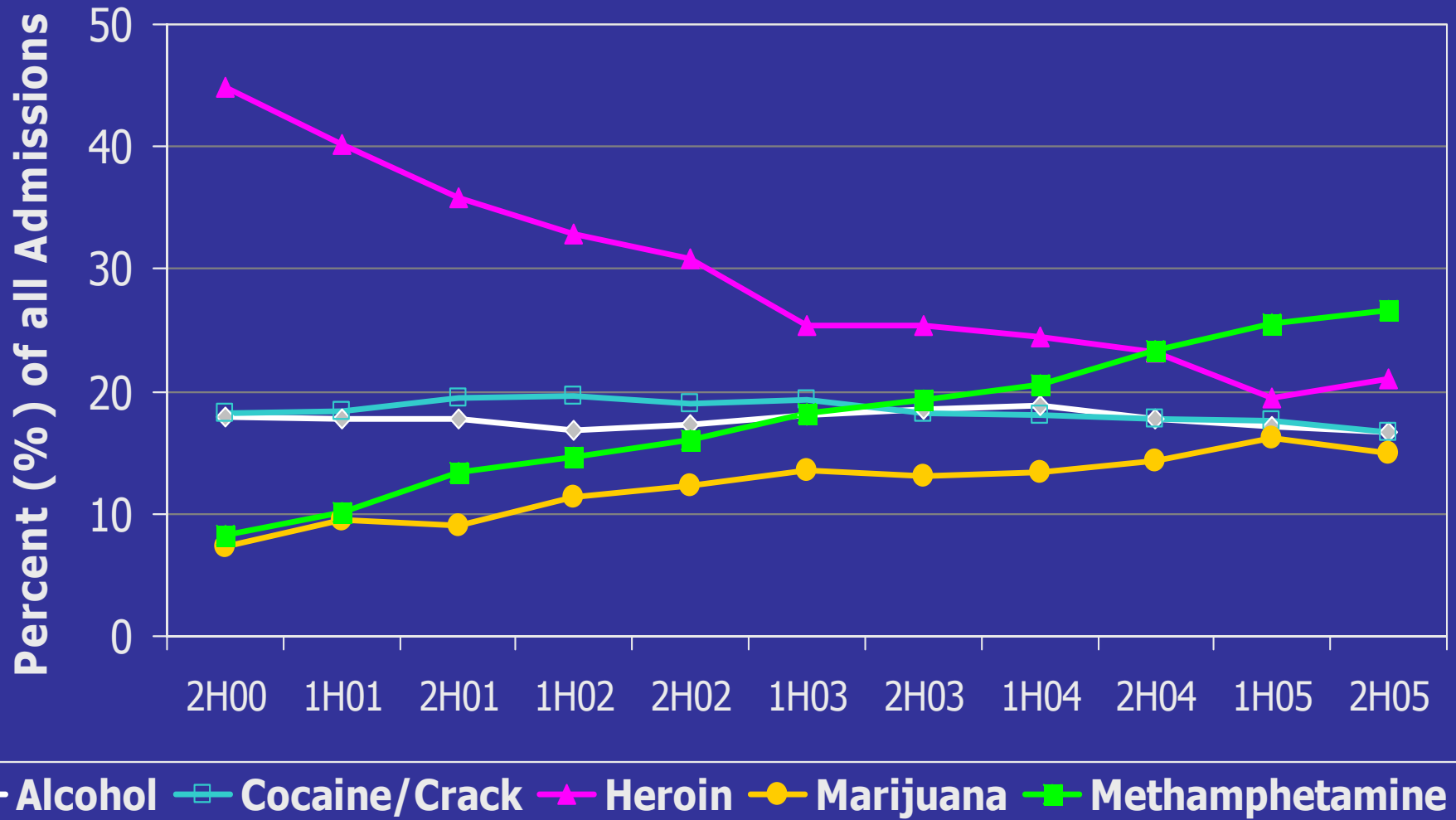
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Overview

- HIV Counseling and Testing (HCT) Data, 2001-2004
 - Overview
 - Prioritized Behavioral Risk Groups (BRGs)
 - HIV New Positives by BRG, by Meth Use
 - Relative Risk Ratios among BRG
- Crystal Methamphetamine Situational Assessment (CMSA), 2005
 - Qualitative Data Themes: Meth Use Among MSM
- Countywide Risk Assessment Survey (CRAS), 2004
 - Psychosocial Correlates Among MSM Meth Users
- Implications for Prevention Efforts



Trends in LA County Treatment Admissions by Primary Substance of Abuse



What We Know About Meth, Sex & MSM

- Often used to initiate and enhance sexual encounters^{1,2}
- Users typically have more sexual partners than non-users³
- Highly associated with risky sexual behaviors such as decreased use of condoms, anal sex, fisting and prolonged sexual activity^{3,4,5,6}
- Gay and bisexual men who use meth have a greater prevalence of HIV infection than MSM who do not use the drug^{3,7}

¹Halkitis et al. (2001), ²Reback (1997), ³Molitor et al.(1998), ⁴Purcell et al (2001),
⁵Reback et al. (1999), ⁶Shoptaw et al (1998), ⁷Chesney et al. (1998).



Los Angeles County HIV Counseling and Testing (HCT) Data, 2001-2004

General Description

- Reported by Behavioral Risk Group (BRG)
 - MSM/IDU: Men who have sex with men & are injection drug users
 - MSM/W: Men who have sex with men & women
 - MSM: Men who have sex with men
 - TransG: Transgenders at sexual risk/Transgender injection drug users
 - IDUs-NonMSM: Heterosexual male/female injection drug users
 - WHiRsk: Women at high sexual risk
 - WLoRsk: Women at low sexual risk
 - Non-BRG: Everyone else
- Reported on CA State HIV5/HIV6 software system



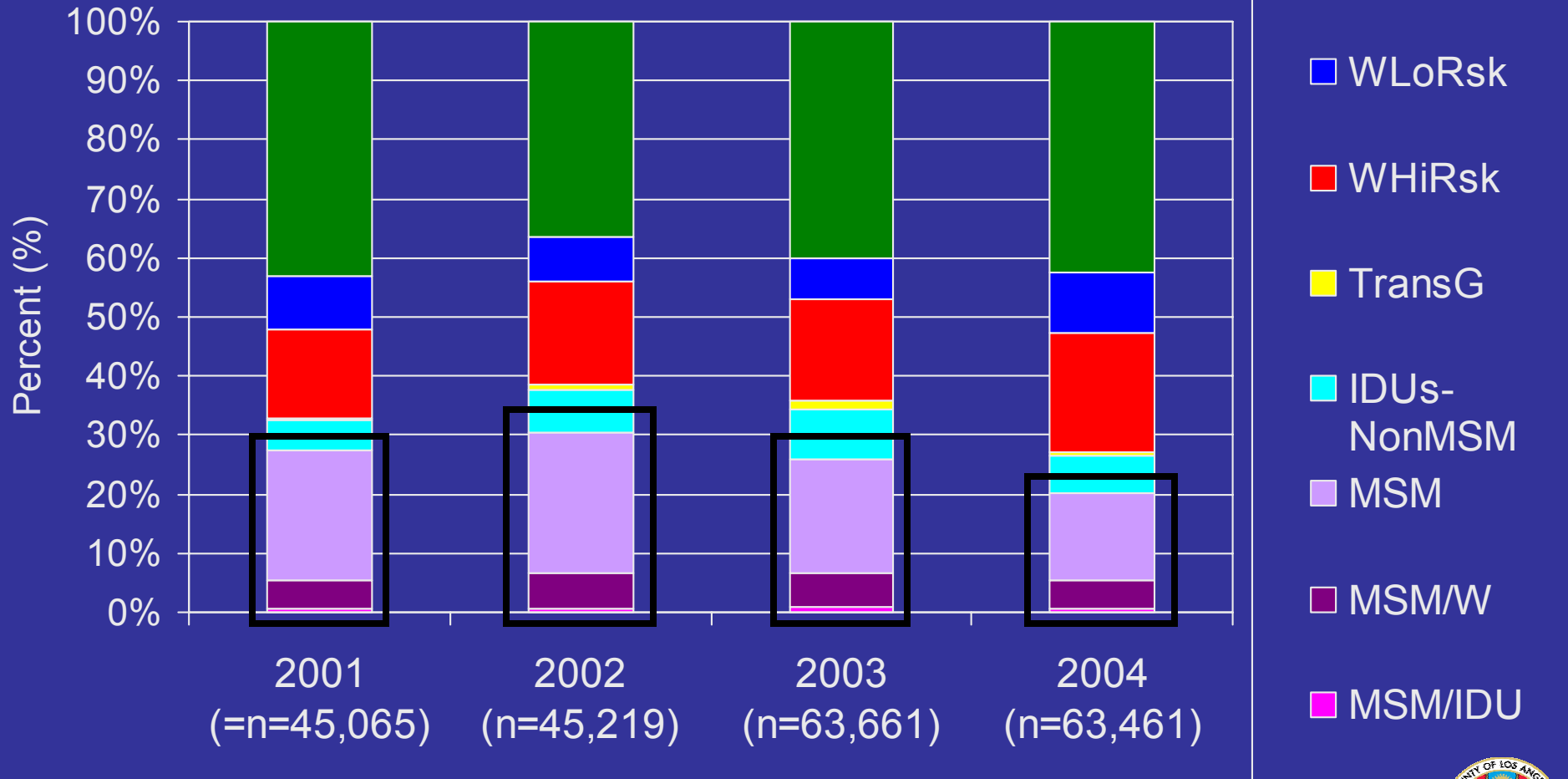
Los Angeles County HIV Counseling and Testing (HCT) Data, 2001-2004

- Data are from clients accessing services at publicly funded sites reporting to OAPP
- Sample sizes are numbers of tests performed, not total number of clients
- Clients self-identify behavior
- Methamphetamine/Amphetamine use is recorded as use within the last two years or since the last HIV test result



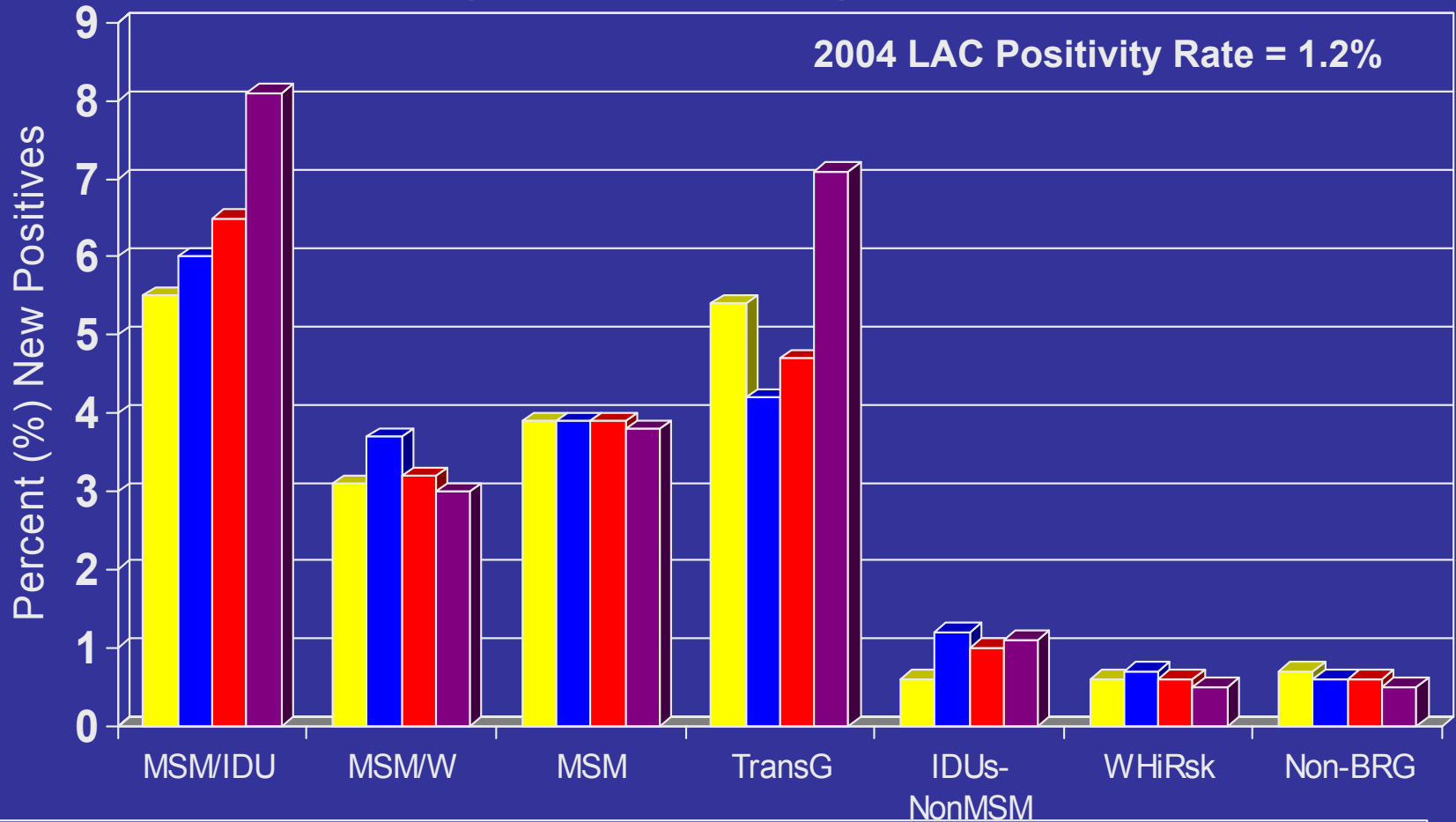
Los Angeles County HCT Data

BRG Among All Tests: 2001-2004



Los Angeles County HCT Data

HIV Positivity Rates Among BRG: 2001 - 2004

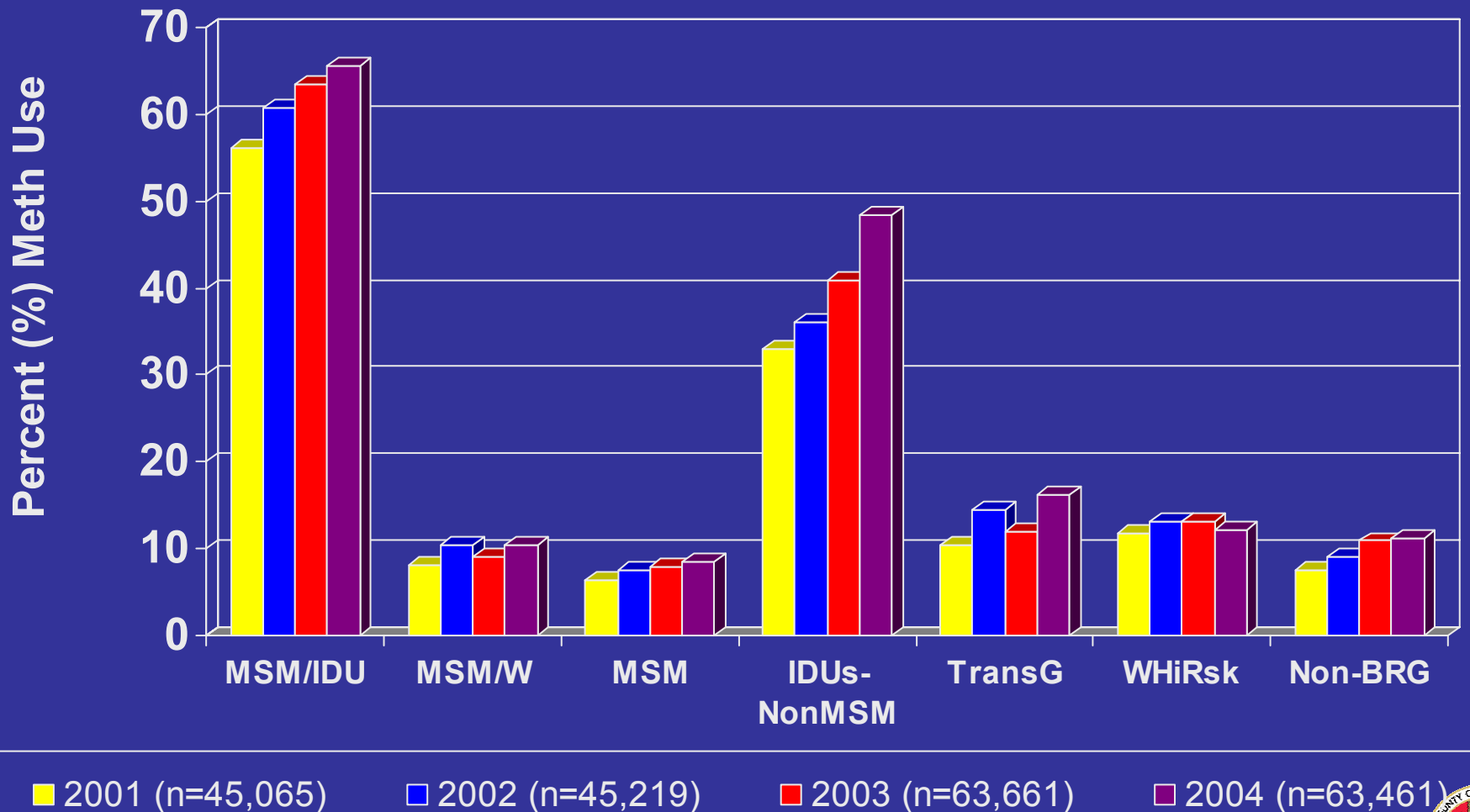


■ 2001 (n=45,065)
 ■ 2002 (n=45,219)
 ■ 2003 (n=63,661)
 ■ 2004 (n=63,461)



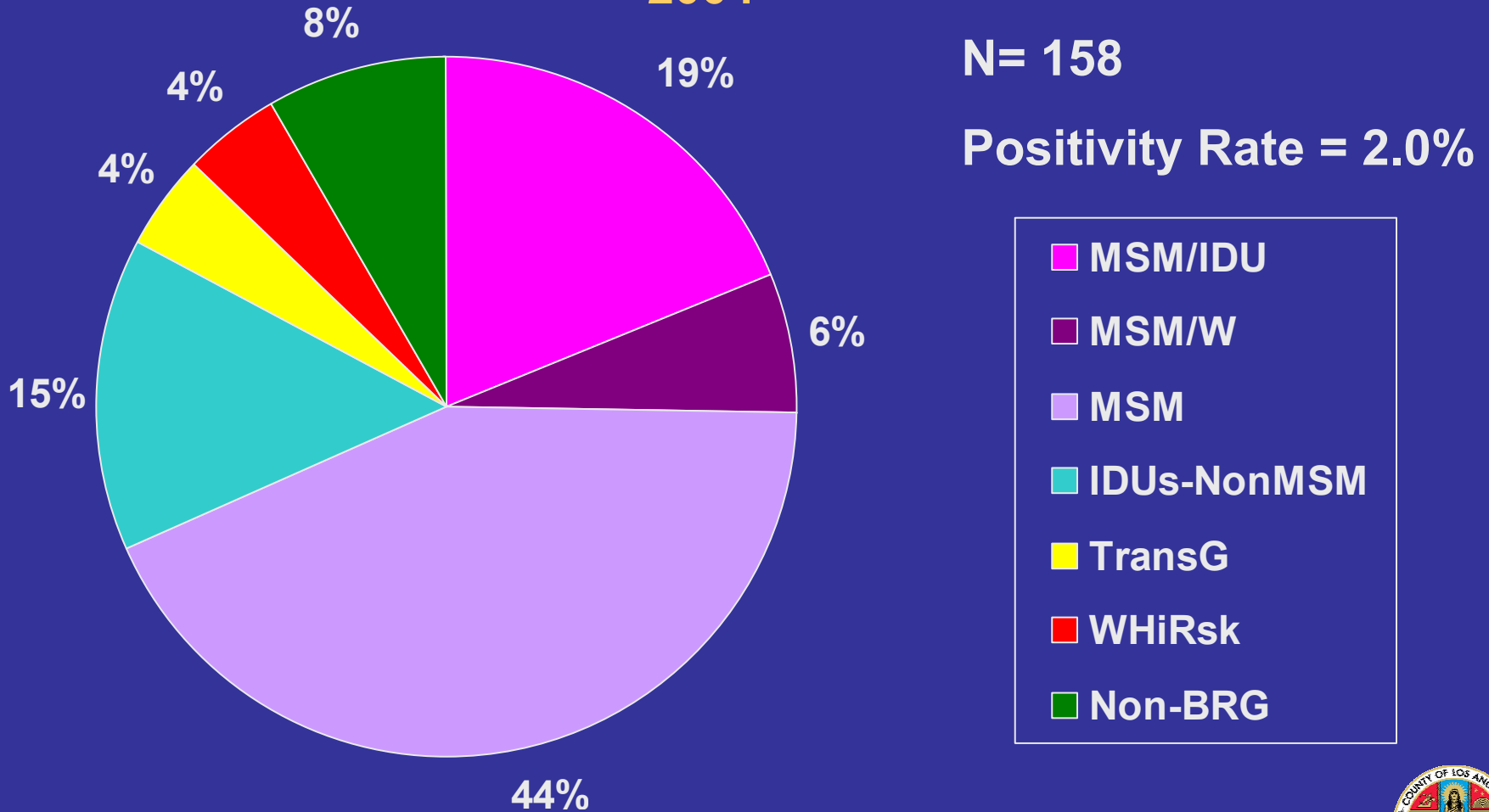
Los Angeles County HCT Data

Meth Use Among (within) BRG: 2001-2004



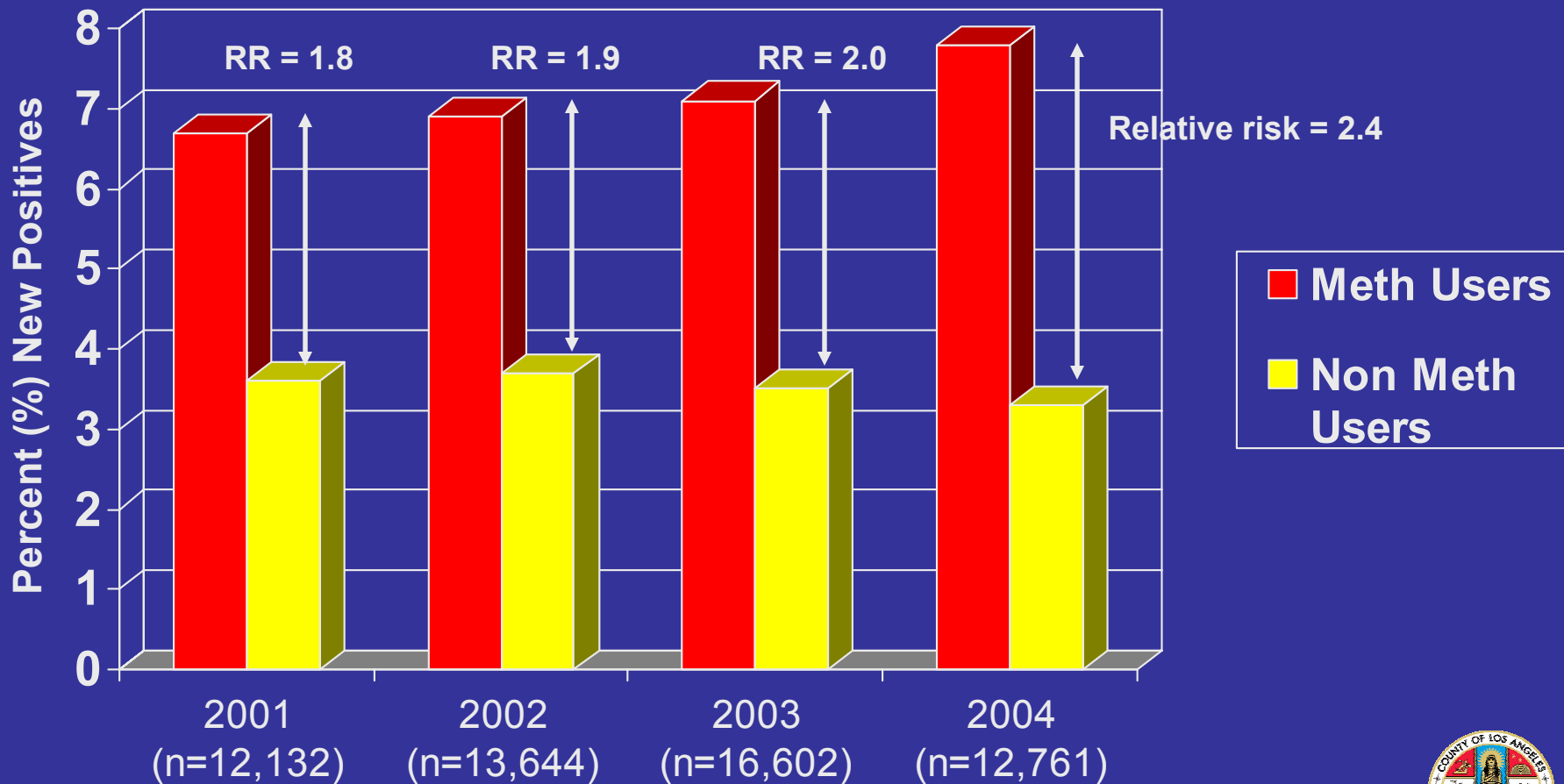
Los Angeles County HCT Data

New HIV Positives Among Meth Users by BRG, 2004



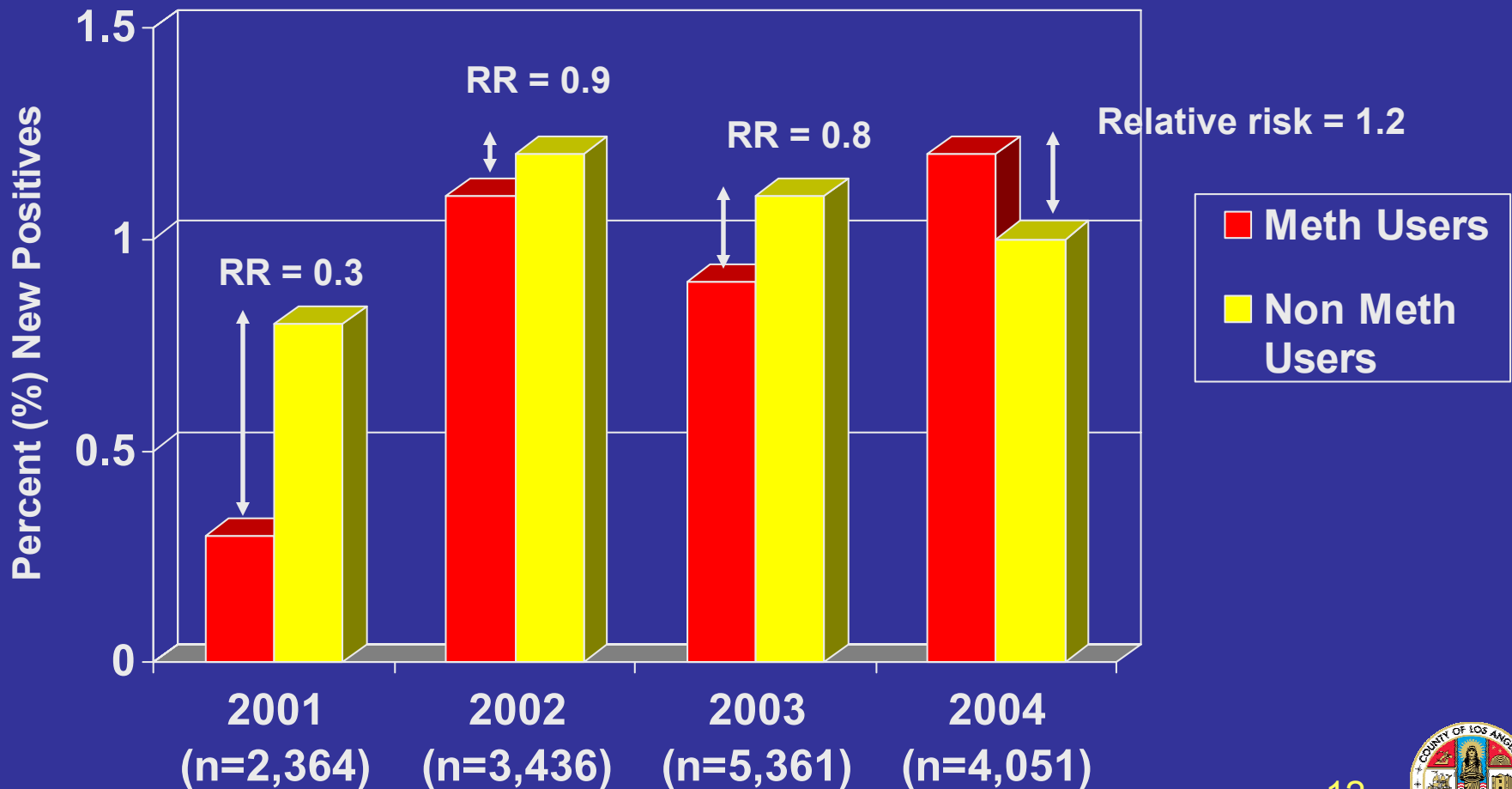
Los Angeles County HCT Data: 2001-2004

All MSM New HIV Positive Meth Users vs. New HIV Positive Non-Meth Users



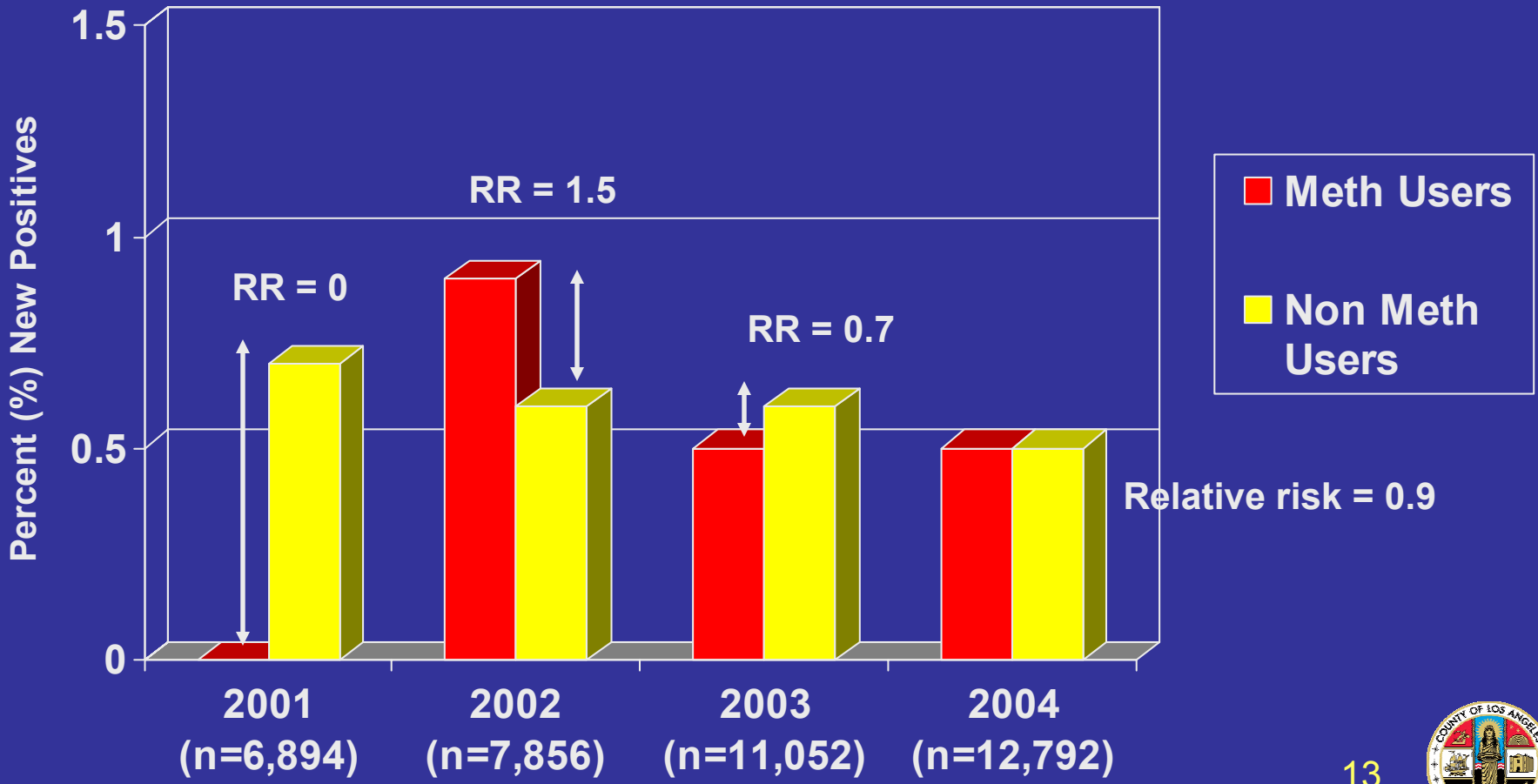
Los Angeles County HCT Data: 2001-2004

Non-MSM/IDU New HIV Positive Meth Users vs. New HIV Positive Non-Meth Users



Los Angeles County HCT Data: 2001-2004

Women at High Sexual Risk New HIV Positive Meth Users vs. New HIV Positive Non-Meth Users

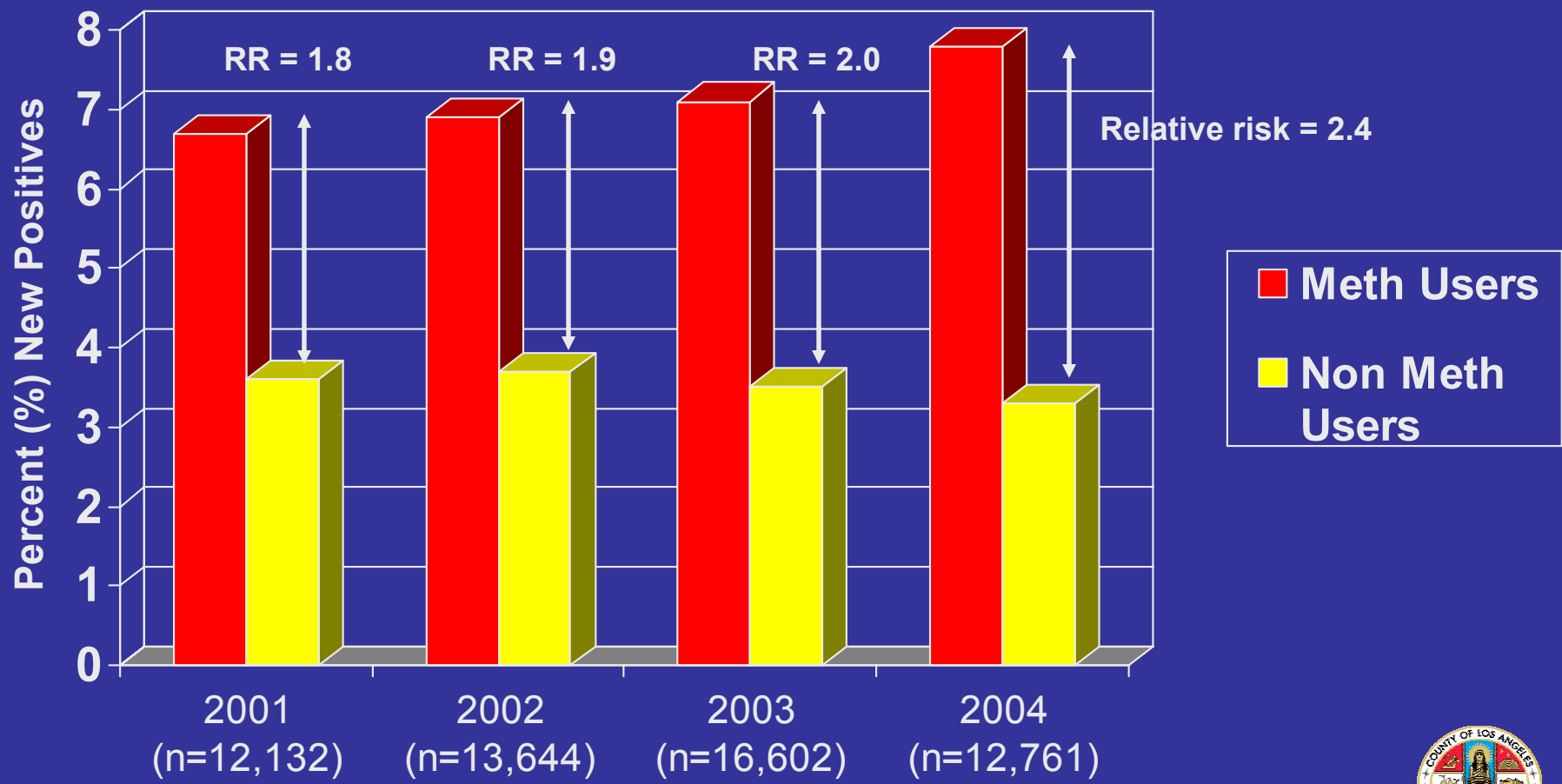


Source: 2001-2004 LAC HCT Data



Los Angeles County HCT Data: 2001-2004

All MSM New HIV Positive Meth Users vs. New HIV Positive Non-Meth Users



Source: 2001-2004 LAC HCT Data



Los Angeles HCT Data, 2001-2004

Summary/Conclusions

- MSM continue to be the population most affected by HIV in LAC
- 2001-2004 = increasing trend in relative risk for HIV positivity & meth use among MSM
- HIV prevention efforts should specifically target meth use among MSM due to high HIV positivity rates among this population that are using meth



Crystal Meth Situational Assessment (CMSA), 2005

- Gain a deeper understanding of the issues surrounding crystal meth use among MSM in LAC
- Gather qualitative information from professionals in the field
 - Expertise in HIV/AIDS/substance abuse/sexual addiction field and work with MSM



CMSA Themes: Why do MSM Use Meth?

- Societal Pressures:
 - Homophobia
 - Social stigma still associated with HIV/AIDS
 - Fear of HIV/AIDS
 - Grief/loss of friends/loved ones to HIV/AIDS
- Can result in:
 - Internalized homophobia
 - Feelings of low self worth
 - Depression (can increase susceptibility to drug addiction)

“meth is the perfect drug for the perfect group at the perfect time...” -CMSA



Los Angeles County Risk Assessment Survey (CRAS), 2004

Psychosocial Correlates: Meth Using MSM vs. Non-Meth Using MSM

N=1,675

	OR	CI (.05)
History of Sexual Abuse	2.5	2.0, 3.3
History of Domestic Violence	3.0	2.4, 3.9
Stigmatized (sexual orientation)	2.0	1.5, 2.6



Implications for an HIV Prevention Response

- Lack of effective prevention efforts for MSM
- ANY interaction that MSM has within the healthcare system should be used to discuss HIV risk and meth use
- Treat for co-morbidities (social, mental health)
- Need for culturally appropriate treatment facilities for MSM

“It is unacceptable and unethical to ask gay men to hang their sexual identities at the door.” -CMSA



Next Steps: Los Angeles County (OAPP)

- Additional research examining recreational meth use vs. chronic use
 - Project Tech Support (research partnership)
 - CDC-funded grant targeting out-of-treatment meth-using MSM
 - PI: Dr. Cathy Reback, Van Ness Prevention Division
- Will examine meth use by racial/ethnic groups & by geographic location
- Additional OAPP funded HIV programs targeting MSM meth users



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