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## **PLACE in Russia:**

# **Identifying Gaps in HIV Prevention in Saratov-Engels, 2005**

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## **Executive Summary**

### ***What is the PLACE method?***

Because resources for HIV prevention programs are extremely limited, there is an urgent need to focus interventions where they are most cost-effective. To prevent new infections in a cost-effective way, AIDS prevention programs should focus on areas likely to have a higher incidence of infection. The Priorities for Local AIDS Control Efforts (PLACE) method is a monitoring tool to identify areas likely to have a higher incidence of infection.

Within these areas, PLACE identifies specific venues where AIDS prevention programs should be focused to reach those most at risk of acquiring and transmitting HIV, provides indicators that monitor HIV/AIDS prevention program coverage, and identifies gaps in prevention programs. The method has been effective at mobilizing local populations to make progress in addressing gaps in prevention program.

### ***How was the PLACE strategy developed?***

A steering committee comprised of representatives from Saratov Centre for Social Policy and Gender Studies, nongovernmental organization (NGO) Socium (Engels), NGO Megapolys (Saratov), NGO Healthy Future (Saratov), NGO Man (Saratov), and the Saratov Hot Line Centre “Tolerance” decided to implement PLACE in 10 strategically chosen areas located in the cities of Saratov and Engels. These areas were selected based on estimated high level of HIV/AIDS infection,

a lack of capacity of the local authority to prevent further spread, and contextual factors in the areas that suggested that the incidence of HIV infection is likely to be highest in these areas.

The results of PLACE will be used as the basis for local HIV/AIDS strategic plans and to guide prevention programming decisions. Without the PLACE assessments, these cities would not have the information they need to target prevention efforts. Limited information is also collected on HIV/AIDS programs not directly related to prevention programs.

### ***For which key populations should indicators be measured?***

PLACE provides a description of the population socializing at venues known to be places where people meet new sexual partners and injection drug users socialize. This is a critical group to reach with prevention programs. The steering committee also selected youth as an additional key population because of the large youth (student) population in the chosen areas.

### ***Why were Saratov and Engels selected for a PLACE study?***

Saratov and Engels were selected for a PLACE study to gain more information about the populations at high-risk for acquiring and transmitting HIV. Saratov oblast has one of the highest incidences of HIV infection in the Russian Federation and the rates in Saratov and Engels are even higher. Specifically, Saratov oblast

has an HIV prevalence of 7% among antenatal patients. This is higher than the national prevalence of 0,027%. In addition, the Saratov oblast has the following contextual factors that may be associated with a higher incidence of HIV transmission: youth, high level of drug abuse, high proportion of migrants from former Soviet Asia (Uzbekistan and Tajikistan) and from Caucus republics (Azerbaijan and Chechnya). Areas within Saratov and Engels were selected for the study based on the criteria determined by the PLACE steering committee: concentration of young people, area is known as a place where commercial sex workers (CSWs) are segregated, and area has a high criminal rate. Understanding who is at risk of infection will aid in the future development of prevention programs.

### ***Where do people meet new sexual partners and injection drug users socialize in Saratov and Engels?***

There were 400 community informants interviewed to identify venues where people meet new sexual partners and injection drug users socialize. Two hundred forty-seven venues were named (238 venues located inside the Saratov-Engels study area and nine venues outside Saratov-Engels). All venues reported by community informants were eligible for a site visit except venues situated outside the study area. Overall, a total of 238 venues reported by community informants were visited. Of the 238 venues that were visited, 32% were bars, taverns, nightclubs, and informal drinking places, but many other types of venues were visited, including streets and street corners (18%), schools and university areas (9%), and parks (8%).

### ***Many people interviewed while socializing at venues reported having met a new sexual partner at the venue.***

At 45 venues, 799 people who were socializing were interviewed. Over 76% of men and women reported that they believed that people meet new sexual partners at the venue. Approximately 45% of men and 31% of women reported having met a partner at the venue of the interview.

### ***The rate of sexual partnerships was high among venue patrons.***

The rate of new sexual partnerships reported by people socializing at the venues was very high. Approximately 85% of the men and 66% of the women interviewed reported having had a new partner in the past year; 48% of the men and 28% of the women reported having had a new partner in the past four weeks. More than 45% of men and 25% of women socializing at venues reported having had two or more partners in the past four weeks.

Approximately 56% of men reported a high rate of sexual partnership, defined as at least one new partner or two or more total partners in the past four weeks compared to 31% of women who reported a high rate. One third of women reported a low level of sexual partnership defined as one non-new partner in the past 12 months or not sexually active, compared to 15% of men who reported a low partnership level. Two kinds of explanation can be presented — men prefer not to seek and establish permanent relations; and men have a tendency to exaggerate the number of sexual contacts, while women are inclined to diminish their number of contacts because of social norms.

***Condom use was inconsistent among those who had had two or more partners in the past year or a new sexual partner in the past four weeks.***

Overall, 1,4% of people socializing at venues had never used a condom. Only 25% showed a condom to the interviewer when requested to do so. Among those who had had two or more partners in the past four weeks or a new sexual partner in the past four weeks, 79% of men and 78% of women reported using a condom the last time they had sex.

***Many youth aged 15 to 24 years reported having a new sexual partner in the past four weeks.***

Over half of male youth and 37% of female youth aged 15 to 24 reported having a new sexual partner in the past four weeks. A high rate of partnership formation, defined as at least one new partner or two or more total partners in the past four weeks, was reported by 28% of male youth and 15% of female youth. Overall, 1,5% of youth aged 15 to 24 socializing at venues had never used a condom and only 26% showed a condom to the interviewer when requested to do so. Among those who had had two or more partners in the past four weeks or a new sexual partner in the past four weeks, 82% of male youth and 79% of female youth reported using a condom the last time they had sex.

***Overall, the PLACE method found a large gap in AIDS prevention programs.***

Overall, condoms were available on the day of the venue visit at 14% of venues and 75% had not had condoms available at all during the past year. Approximately 11% of venue managers were willing to sell condoms at their venue.

***Injection drug use was not widely reported.***

The level of injection drug use is rather low. Only 3% of men and 2% of women reported injecting drugs in the past 12 months. However, over 80% of the venues named by community informants were identified as places where injection drug users socialize, 52 venue representatives reported that injection drug users could be found at their venue, and 40% of people socializing at the venues believe that injection drug users socialize at the venue. This under-reporting of personal injection drug use is likely connected with criminalization of all activity connected with drug use. Few people are ready to report experience of drug consumption because of fear of being punished and are afraid of police attention.

***Commercial sex work was reported at the venues particularly among young women. Condom use by sex workers is high.***

Commercial sex (given or received money in exchange for sex during the past 12 months) was reported by 12% of men and 11% of women socializing at venues. Female youth are overrepresented among sex workers – 85% of commercial sex workers are young women. In almost all cases of commercial sex, condoms were used. Commercial sex workers, based on this research, do not appear to be the main route of HIV transmission.

***Men rarely reported having sex with another man.***

Men rarely reported homosexual experience. This is evidence of a high level of homophobia represented in this area. Homosexuality is treated as a strong deviation and suspicion of homosexual behavior results in outrage.

### ***Alcohol consumption at venues is common.***

Beer and alcohol consumption is common at the venues. Although only 22% of venues were formal bars or taverns, alcohol was available for purchase at 42% of venues and people brought their own alcohol at 35% of venues. Almost 70% of men at the venues and 44% of women reported coming to the venue to drink alcohol. Alcohol abuse was identified by respondents as the biggest community problem. It is likely that one of the most risky activities for HIV transmission is sexual contact that happens by chance under the influence of alcohol. Thus, HIV/AIDS preventive programs must be connected with programs aimed at alcohol consumption limitation, especially among young people.

### ***Mobility and migration are not common in the study area.***

A total of 6% of men and 3% of women socializing at the venues were not residents of Saratov–Engels. Some patrons were newcomers to the area, with 2% of men and 4% of women having lived in the area less than a year. The low level of non-residents is explained by the low level of geographical mobility of the population. This is true as for mobility among cities and mobility among areas of city. In many cases, the low level of mobility is connected with wide-spread xenophobic attitudes towards non-residents and street-corner subculture effect.

### ***Program implications of the assessment: With strong community involvement, interventions need to be further focused on venues where people meet new sexual partners and injection drug users socialize.***

Based on the findings from this PLACE assessment, we recommend:

- ▲ youth population should be targeted for educational programs at schools, colleges, and universities;
- ▲ further development of interactions between nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) and state institutions;
- ▲ development of collaborative actions of health care, education, social protection, and leisure institutions to establish a network of preventive and information measures;
- ▲ AIDS preventive programs must be connected with programs aimed at alcohol consumption limitation, especially among young people; and
- ▲ realization of a social marketing campaign among venue managers, to encourage HIV/AIDS prevention programs and condom selling at the venues.

## Summary of PLACE Indicators

**Table S1. Summary of Key PLACE Indicators**

<b>Number of Community Informants Interviewed</b>	400
<b>Total Number of Venue Reports by Community Informants</b>	1 462
<b>Total Number of Venues Reported by Community Informants</b>	247
<b>Number of Venues Eligible for Venue Verification</b>	238
<b>Number of Venues Where Venue Representative Interviewed</b>	161
<b>Of These, Percentage of Venues:</b>	
that are bars or taverns	21,7
where people meet new sexual partners	79,5
where sex workers solicit	14,9
where sex occurs onsite	16,8
where IDUs socialize	32,3
where students or youth under 18 socialize	91,3
where non-residential/mobile populations socialize	87,6
where men who have sex with men socialize	14,3
where any AIDS prevention had occurred at the venue	20,5
where condoms were available and seen	13,7
where condoms were never available in the past year	74,5
where manager willing to have AIDS prevention at the venue	43,5
<b>Number of Venues Where Patrons Interviewed</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>Characteristics of Venue Patrons</b>	
Estimated number of patrons at all venues during most busy time	<b>Men</b>
	11 394
Number (%) of venue patrons interviewed at venues	<b>Women</b>
	9 773
Mean years of age of patrons	384 (48,1)
	415 (51,9)
	28,5
	21,6
<b>Percentage of Patrons Who:</b>	
are aged 15-24	64,1
are unemployed, and looking for work	17,7
are currently students	51,3
do not live in the study area	5,5
visit the venue daily	13,5
have injected drugs in the past 12 months	3,1
gave or exchanged money for sex in the past 4 weeks	2,9
had a new sexual partner in the past 4 weeks	47,7
had a new sexual partner in the past 12 months	83,3
of these, % using condom with last new partner	86,9
had more than one sexual partner in the past 12 months	81,0
of these, % using a condom at last coitus	76,5
had sex with a man in the past 12 months (men only)	0,5
had a sex partner more than 10 years older in past year	9,9
had a sex partner more than 10 years younger in past year	8,0
had a symptom of an STI in the past 4 weeks (men only)	3,1
have ever been tested for HIV	24,5
	80,2
	57,3
	69,3
	--
	23,9
	0,0
	--
	25,3
<b>Rate of Sexual Partnerships, Number (%)</b>	
High: 1+ new partners or 2+ partners past 4 weeks	214 (55,7)
Moderate: 1+ new or 2+ partners past 12 months	112 (29,1)
Low: Not sexually active or 1 sexual partner in the past 12 months	58 (15,1)
	129 (31,1)
	145 (34,9)
	140 (33,7)

**Table S2. PLACE Indicators for Youth**

Characteristics of Venue Patrons	Young Men 15-24	Young Women 15-24
<b>Number of Patrons Interviewed (% of Total Interviewed)</b>	259 (43,2)	341 (56,8)
<b>Mean Years of Age</b>	20,5	19,9
<b>Percentage of Youth Age 15-24 Who:</b>		
are unemployed, and looking for work	22,0	27,3
are currently students	70,2	69,8
do not live in the study area	7,0	3,5
visit the venue daily	17,8	10,0
have injected drugs in the past 12 months	3,1	2,6
gave or exchanged money for sex in the past 4 weeks	2,3	9,7
had a new sexual partner in the past 4 weeks	51,0	29,0
had a new sexual partner in the past 12 months	88,0	64,8
of these, % using condom with last new partner	84,7	79,2
had more than one sexual partner in the past 12 months	84,6	59,5
of these, % using a condom at last coitus	79,0	70,0
had sex with a man in the past 12 months (men only)	0,8	--
had a sex partner more than 10 years older in past year	3,9	24,6
had a sex partner more than 10 years younger in past year	0	0
had a symptom of an STI in the past 4 weeks (men only)	2,7	--
have ever been tested for HIV	19,7	24,6
are interested in being tested for HIV	27,8	36,1
<b>Rate of Sexual Partnerships, Number (%)</b>		
High: 1+ new partners or 2+ partners past 4 weeks	156 (60,2)	108 (31,7)
Moderate: 1+ new or 2+ partners past 12 months	77 (29,7)	125 (36,7)
Low: Not sexually active or 1 sexual partner in the past 12 months	26 (10,0)	107 (31,4)
<b>Problems in Area as Perceived by Youth, Number (%)</b>		
Unemployment	88 (34,0)	114 (33,4)
Violence	48 (18,5)	93 (27,3)
Access to health care	50 (19,3)	70 (20,5)
AIDS	123 (47,5)	184 (54,0)
Alcohol abuse	201 (77,6)	253 (74,2)
Lack of education	34 (13,1)	41 (12,0)
Getting food to eat	14 (5,4)	19 (5,6)
Injection drug abuse	111 (2,9)	183 (53,7)
Any of the above	237 (91,5)	301 (88,3)

**Table S3. PLACE Indicators by Level of Partnerships among Men**

	Level of Sexual Partnerships		
	Low: One or Zero Sexual Partners in Past Year	Moderate: New or Multiple Partners in Past Year	High: New or Multiple Partners in Past 4 Weeks
<b>Characteristics of Venue Patrons</b>			
<b>Number (%) of Patrons</b>	58 (15,1)	112 (29,4)	214 (55,5)
<b>Mean Years of Age</b>	25,8	23,4	22,8
<b>Percentage Men in Sexual Partnership Group Who:</b>			
are aged 15-24	44,8	68,8	72,9
are currently students	46,6	56,3	50,0
are unemployed, and looking for work	6,9	20,4	19,3
do not live in the study area	5,2	6,3	5,1
visit the venue daily	15,5	18,8	10,3
have injected drugs in past 12 months	1,7	2,7	3,7
gave or exchanged money for sex in past 4 weeks	0,0	0,0	5,1
had a new sexual partner in past 4 weeks	0,0	0,0	85,5
had a new sexual partner in past 12 months	0,0	100,0	96,7
of these, % using condom with last new partner	0,0	83,0	88,9
have met a partner at the venue	5,2	42,9	56,5
of these, % using a condom with that partner	100,0	91,7	87,6
have a live-in partner	53,5	29,5	29,0
of these, % using condom at last sex with live-in partner	19,4	36,4	35,5
have never used a condom	0,5	1,8	0,0
used a condom at last sex	39,7	69,6	79,0
had more than one sexual partner in past 12 months	0	87,5	99,1
of these, % using a condom at last coitus	0	69,7	79,7
had sex with a man in the past 12 months	0	0,0	0,9
had a sex partner more than 10 years older in past year	1,7	1,8	3,7
had a sex partner more than 10 years younger in past year	0	13,4	7,5
had a symptom of an STI in past 4 weeks	1,7	0,9	4,7
have ever been tested for HIV	25,9	24,1	24,3
are interested in being tested for HIV	12,1	26,8	33,6

**Table S4. PLACE Indicators by Level of Partnerships among Women**

	Level of Sexual Partnerships		
	Low: One or Zero Sexual Partners in Past Year	Moderate: New or Multiple Partners in Past Year	High: New or Multiple Partners in Past 4 Weeks
<b>Characteristics of Venue Patrons</b>			
<b>Number (%) of Women Interviewed</b>	140 (33,7)	145 (34,9)	129 (31,1)
<b>Mean Years of Age</b>	22,0	20,7	22,1
<b>Percentage of Women in Partnership Group Who:</b>			
are aged 15-24	76,4	86,2	83,7
are currently students	65,0	71,7	37,2
are unemployed, and looking for work	18,8	19,3	39,5
do not live in the study area	2,1	3,5	3,1
visit the venue daily	9,3	13,1	2,3
have injected drugs in the past 12 months	0	2,8	3,9
gave or exchanged money for sex in past 4 weeks	0	0	28,7
had a new sexual partner in the past 4 weeks	0	0	87,6
had a new sexual partner in the past 12 months	0	93,8	93,8
of these, % using condom with last new partner	0	78,3	85,0
have met a partner at the venue	8,6	24,1	62,8
of these, % using a condom with that partner	87,5	76,6	93,6
have a live-in partner	30,7	26,2	28,7
of these, % using condom at last sex with live-in partner	35,9	29,1	46,6
have never used a condom	3,6	2,1	0
used a condom at last sex	42,9	52,4	78,3
had more than one sexual partner in past 12 months	0	79,3	95,3
of these, % using a condom at last coitus	0	60,4	83,5
had a sex partner more than 10 years older in past year	23,2	22,6	56,7
had a sex partner more than 10 years younger in past year	6,6	0	0,8
have ever been tested for HIV	19,2	26,9	30,2
are interested in being tested for HIV	20,0	32,4	49,6

## **Step 1: PLACE Strategy**

### **Background:**

### **HIV Epidemic in the Russian Federation**

Expansion of HIV infection in the Russian Federation started in 1996. In 2004, the incidence of HIV/AIDS infection was 23.2 cases per 100 000 population. HIV/AIDS infection is registered in 87 of the 89 administrative districts in the Russian Federation. The total number of HIV infected people was 333 259 cases (2005 data). Of these, 14 348 were children. There were 1 380 people who had been diagnosed with AIDS, and of these 200 were children. There were 13 162 children born to HIV-infected mothers. Since 1996, 7 524 HIV-infected people have died, and of these, 325 were children and 993 had AIDS. At the beginning of 2005, 49% of HIV infected people were drug users. The number of HIV infected men exceeds the number of HIV infected women by 2.4 times. About 62% of HIV-infected individuals are people 20 to 30 years of age.

### **The PLACE Protocol: Objectives**

Methods for monitoring and evaluating HIV/AIDS prevention programs are urgently needed. Because resources for interventions are limited, there is an urgent need to focus interventions where they are most cost-effective. Epidemiological theory identifies a crucial role in the HIV epidemic for areas where HIV transmission is most likely to occur. A barrier to the identification of priority prevention areas (PPAs) and development of informed sexual network-based interventions within PPAs has been the lack of rapid, reliable and valid field methods for identifying

areas with high rates of new sexual partnership formation and areas where injection drug users can be reached by prevention programs.

The Priorities for Local AIDS Control Efforts (PLACE) method is a monitoring tool to identify PPAs and the specific venues within these areas where HIV/AIDS prevention programs should be focused. Population-based sero-surveys to identify areas empirically with high HIV incidence are rarely conducted due to cost, feasibility, loss to follow-up, and ethical concerns.

This approach acknowledges that contextual factors are often associated with areas where HIV incidence is high. These include:

- ▲ poverty and unemployment
- ▲ lack of health care services
- ▲ alcohol consumption
- ▲ high population mobility
- ▲ urbanization and rapid growth
- ▲ high male-to-female ratio.

Consequently, the first step in the PLACE method is to use available epidemiological and contextual information to identify areas likely to have a higher incidence of HIV infection. Subsequent steps use rapid field methods to identify and describe venues within these areas where people with many new sexual partners can be reached by prevention interventions. Characteristics of people socializing at venues are also obtained. Finally, the information is used to inform interventions in the area. Figure 1 illustrates the methodology in five steps.

The method focuses on places where new sexual partnerships are formed because the

pattern of new partnerships in a community shapes its HIV epidemic. A place-based approach has programmatic advantages. Approaches based on risk group status, such as being a trucker or commercial sex worker, can be stigmatizing and often inadequate. Clinic-based approaches miss most people with high rates of new sexual partner acquisition. The PLACE-based approach identifies high-risk individuals without having to assign them to a specific risk group. Further, it identifies specific venues where people with different risk behaviors, such as a high rate of new sexual partnership formation and risky injection drug use practices, mix.

This method was developed at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC) in the United States and pilot tested in 1999 in Cape Town, South Africa in collaboration with the University of Cape Town. The U.S. Agency for International Development has supported development of the method through the MEASURE Evaluation project at UNC.

### Ethical Review and Approval

The PLACE protocol was reviewed and approved in Saratov by Saratov State Technical University and by the institutional review board at UNC in the United States.

### Identification, Selection, and Description of Saratov-Engels

Saratov and Engels were selected for a PLACE study to gain more information about the populations at high-risk for acquiring and transmitting HIV. Saratov oblast has one of the highest incidence of HIV infection in the Russian Federation, and the rates in Saratov and Engels are even higher. Understanding who is at risk of infection will aid in the future development of prevention programs.

**Figure 1. The five steps of the PLACE protocol.**

Step	Objective
1	To identify priority prevention areas (PPAs)
2	To identify venues where people meet new sexual partners
3	To visit, map, and characterize venues in each priority prevention area
4	To describe the characteristics of people socializing at venues
5	To use findings to inform interventions

Saratov oblast ranks fourteenth in HIV prevalence among the Russian Federation's 48 oblasts. In 2005, the rate of HIV/AIDS infection in Saratov oblast was 26.0 cases per 100 000 population, which is higher than the rate of 2.8 in the federation overall. The highest concentration of HIV infection in the oblast is in Saratov – 3 108 registered cases (362.1 per 100 000) and in Engels – 409 registered cases (188.4 per 100 000). The AIDS-Centre of Saratov oblast informs that at the beginning of 2005, 6 049 HIV infected persons were registered and 81% of them were young people aged 15-29. About 80% of HIV infected people are men. The main factors of HIV/AIDS transmission are a high level of drug use among young people and sexual transmission. The growth of the injection drug use is connected with the increasing migrant flows from Asia and the Caucasus areas. In the last decade, there has been a change in the mechanism of infection transmission. In 1996, 98% of newly registered people with HIV/AIDS infection were injection drug users. In 2004, 46% of new HIV/AIDS cases were attributed to transmission through heterosexual contact.

The local system of prevention and treatment of AIDS includes prenatal centers, a family planning center, the AIDS center, and an STI center. In Saratov oblast, four federal and local programs on AIDS prevention exist. Preventive actions include educational programs, information campaigns, and condom promotion. "Against AIDS" preventive program is focused on development of a volunteer network to introduce peer education programs at schools, vocational schools, and universities. Eight NGOs work on HIV/AIDS prevention in the oblast.

The Saratov region takes a leading position in the Volga economic region due to the level and scale of its industrial development. More than 2000 large and medium enterprises represent the Saratov oblast industry. The level of unemployment is 1.8% of the total population (2.2% of number of economically active population). One third (33%) of households live in poverty (Table 1). The migration level is not high. Approximately 15 000 people (0.6% of the population) migrate to Saratov oblast annually. The majority of migrants were residents of Asia and Caucasus areas of the former Soviet Union.

The Ministry of Health has reported a high level of alcohol consumption, especially among people living in rural areas, but the ministry has not provided any statistical data.

As was expected, the most significant problem in the community is alcohol abuse. In Saratov oblast, this problem is widely discussed and the main topics for discussion are availability of alcohol for young people, the problem of selling alcohol to people under the age of 18, consumption of alcohol surrogates, and a high mortality level because of alcohol abuse. Information and education campaigns have also had an effect. A large proportion of people perceive AIDS and drug abuse as significant problems (Table 2). Rather surprising are the data on access to health care. The quality and access to health care are very low, and the condition of the health care system is very poor. These data can be explained by a prevalence of youth among respondents, who typically have not yet faced serious health problems.

## **Training and Instrument Adaptation**

The PLACE protocol was adapted to local needs and circumstances. The study instruments were translated into Russian. Interviewer selection was guided by interviewing experience, sensitivity to study questions on sexuality, flexibility regarding working hours, and ability to communicate well with a wide range of respondents.

Interviewers were selected by the local coordinator and trained by the local coordinator and a representative of the University of North Carolina. Each interviewer was also trained in research ethics and for each step of the fieldwork.

**Table 1. Description of Saratov Oblast**

		<b>Characteristic</b>	
<b>Saratov Oblast Population</b>		<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>
Male population			
<15		236 294	19,2
15-24		194 874	15,8
25-39		180 650	22,2
40-49		205 083	16,7
50+		319 065	26,1
Total		1 229 074	100,0
Female population			
<15		227 076	15,8
15-24		195 084	13,6
25-39		283 554	19,7
40-49		224 816	14,8
50+		508 258	36,1
Total		1 439 236	100,0
<b>Population Density</b>			
Size of area			
Saratov		400 sq.km	
Engels		100 sq.km	
Population per sq. km			
Saratov		2161,5	
Engels		2279,0	
Does the area include high concentrations of men?		No	
Does the area include high concentrations of women?		No	
<b>Other Sociodemographic Characteristics</b>			
Percentage of households in poverty		33,4	
Number of orphans and vulnerable children		7810 (orphans)\ 12 783 (vulnerable)	
<b>Mobility</b>			
Is the area on the border of Russia?		Yes	
Does the area include a refugee camp?		No	
Is there a commercial center in the area?		Yes	
Number of truck stops		5	
Are there major transportation routes through Saratov and Engles?		Yes	
<b>AIDS Prevention Programs</b>			
Describe condom social marketing programs		Television messages and condom promotion	
Number of nongovernmental organizations working in area		8	
<b>Testing, Counseling, ART Programs</b>			
Number of voluntary counseling and testing (VCT) centers in area		15	
Number of tests provided in past year		75 349	
Number of people receiving antiretroviral treatment (ART) in the past month/year		64	
Number of pregnant women tests screened in prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT) program (2005)		64 016	

**Table 2. Perceived Big Problems in Saratov and Engels  
According to Patrons at Venues in Saratov and Engels**

Perceived Big Problems in Area by Patrons Socializing	Men (n=383) %	Women (n=415) %
Unemployment	34,1	35,2
Violence	20,1	25,5
Access to health care	22,8	23,1
AIDS	48,2	52,3
Alcohol abuse	75,5	75,2
Lack of education	12,0	14,2
Getting food to eat	6,3	5,8
Injection drug abuse	46,9	54,7
Any of the above	90,9	88,7



## **Step 2: Where Do People Meet New Sexual Partners and Injection Drug Users Socialize?**

### **Findings from Community Informant Interviews**

#### **Methods to Identify Venues**

A sexual network venue is defined as a place or event where people with high rates of partner acquisition meet to form new sexual partnerships. A venue could be a bar, a brothel, an all-night party, or a market place. In rural areas, venues may cluster around taxi stops or places that sell beer or alcohol. New partnerships are an important focus because individuals with high rates of new partner acquisition are more likely to transmit infection and because individuals with newly acquired infections are more infectious. An injection-drug-use-network venue is defined as a place or event where injection drug users socialize and can be reached by prevention programs. Venues where injection drug users socialize are more readily accessible by prevention programs than venues where injection actually occurs. Identification of all venues in the study area, not just traditional “hot spots,” was encouraged. Along with well-selected indicators, a map of these venues can help program planners focus intervention efforts at venues where the opportunity for HIV transmission is likely to be greatest.

Community informant interviews are the primary method used to identify all venues where residents in the study area meet new sexual partners and where injection drug users socialize. Community informant interviews are a rapid method for obtaining sensitive data not otherwise available and are especially useful for obtaining data such as a list of venues that can be verified by other sources. By developing a list of venues from many community informants, the bias from any individual informant is reduced. In addition, self-presentation bias is minimized by not asking about an individual’s own sexual behavior.

There was a target of 400 community informants to be interviewed. In Saratov and Engels, 10 zones were identified and geographic boundaries were selected by the steering committee. Different kinds of people were represented among community informants. The biggest groups were taxi drivers; traveling sales people; bar, tavern, and club workers and managers; mobile hawkers and street venders; teachers; police and military officers; health care workers; injection drug users; and youth in school and youth out of school.

Most interviewers were representatives of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) currently working in the selected zones because these individuals have established contacts with different people while previously working in these zones. Thus, in many cases, they were able to obtain information easily. The biggest difficulties were connected with the interviewing of youth out of schools. Nevertheless, after being informed about the aim of the interview, informants agreed to provide us with the necessary information.

#### **Community Informant Fieldwork**

A total of 400 community informants identified 247 unique venues during nine days of fieldwork. Of the venues reported, 238 were in the study area (Table 3). These venues were considered eligible for venue verification. The interviewers found that people were willing to answer questions. None of the eligible informants declined to be interviewed.

**Table 3. Community Informant Fieldwork**

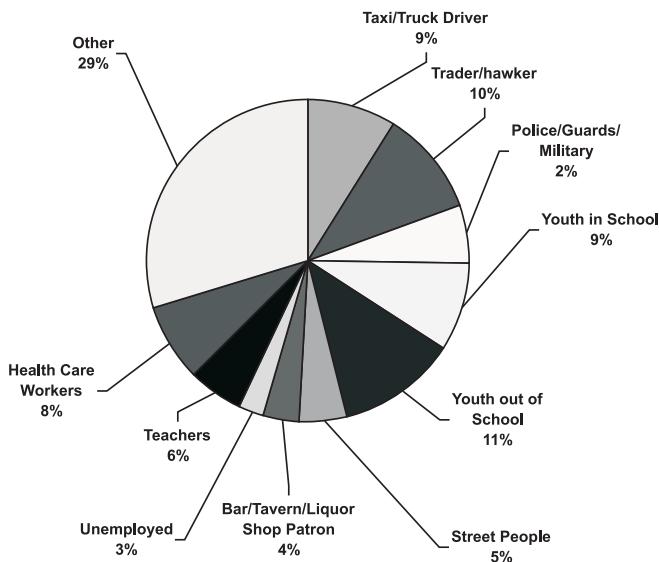
Saratov-Engels, Russia, PLACE Assessment, 2005	
<b>Number of days of community informant interviews</b>	9
<b>Number of interviewers</b>	17
<b>Percentage of eligible community informants approached for an interview who were not willing to be interviewed</b>	0%
<b>Number of venue reports</b>	1462
<b>Number of unique venues reported...</b>	247
In the study area	238
Zone 1	76
Zone 2	8
Zone 3	21
Zone 4	17
Zone 5	4
Zone 6	7
Zone 7	2
Zone 8	7
Zone 9	20
Zone 10	23
Not found	52
Outside of Saratov and Engles	9
<b>Total number of unique venues reported</b>	247

### Characteristics of Community Informants

Many different types of community informants were interviewed, including taxi drivers; traveling sales people; bar, tavern, and club workers and managers; mobile hawkers and street

venders; teachers; police and military officers; health care workers; injection drug users; and youth in school and youth out of school. Youth out of school was the most frequently interviewed group (Figure 2). Over half of the community informants were younger than 29 years of age and 50% were men (Table 4).

**Figure 2. Types of community informants.**



**Table 4. Characteristics of Community Informants**

Saratov-Engels, Russia PLACE Assessment, 2005		
Type of Community Informants	N	%
<u>By occupation</u>		
Taxi driver	30	7,5
Truck driver	6	1,5
Mechanic/petrol station attendant	3	0,8
Traveling sales person	26	6,5
Hotel or tourism worker/manager	5	1,3
Bar, tavern, or club worker/ manager	24	6,0
Security guard	9	2,3
Mobile hawker/street vender	16	4,0
Beer/liquor store owner	14	3,5
Migrant worker	4	1,0
Hairdresser, barber	5	1,3
CBO/ NGO staff	8	2,0
Teacher	22	5,5
Police/military officer	23	5,8
Health care worker	32	8,0
Church worker	1	0,3
<u>By key behavioral and sociodemographic population</u>		
STI patient	12	3,0
Injection drug user	24	6,0
Individual socializing at venue	4	1,0
Sex worker	18	4,5
Youth in school	36	9,0
Youth out of school	48	12,0
Street people	19	4,8
Unemployed	10	2,5
Other	1	0,3
Total	400	100,0
<b>Gender of community informants</b>		
Male	201	50,3
Female	199	49,8
Total	400	100,0
<b>Age of community informants</b>		
16-19	83	20,8
20-24	74	18,5
25-29	103	25,8
30-34	74	18,5
35-39	39	9,8
>=40	27	6,8
Total	400	100,0

## Community Informant Perceptions of Injection Drug Use

Approximately 58% of community informants reported that injection drug use is a problem in the area (a somewhat or very common problem), including 7% who noted that injection drug use is a very common problem. Only 3% of community informants reported that injection drug use does not occur in the area (Table 5). Based on the responses from the community informants, injection drug use is perceived to be very common in Zones 1 and 9.

## Characteristics of Reported Venues

Almost 73% of the named venues were described by community informants as places where people meet new sexual partners and where injection drug users socialize (Table 6). The proportion of places where people meet new sexual partners but injection drug users do not socialize was 19%. Overall, 8% of venues identified were places where injection drug users socialize but people did not meet new sexual partners. Thirteen of 19 injection-drug-user-only venues were situated at Zone 1 (Saratov city center) and the rest were situated in Engels.

**Table 5. Community Informants' Perceptions of Injection Drug Use**

Saratov-Engels, Russia PLACE Assessment, 2005		
	N	%
<b>Community informant's opinion about injection drug use in area</b>		
Very common	29	7,3
Somewhat common	204	51,0
Not very common	155	37,8
Does not occur in area	12	3,0
Total	400	100,0

**Table 6. Characteristics of Reported Venues**

Saratov-Engels, Russia PLACE Assessment, 2005		
	N	%
<b>Proportion of venues identified as a place where...</b>		
People meet new sexual partners only	48	19,4
Injection drug users socialize only	19	7,7
People meet new sexual partners and injection drug users socialize	180	72,9
Total	247	100,0

## **Step 3: What Are the Characteristics of Venues Where People Meet New Sexual Partners and Injection Drug Users Socialize? Findings from Venue Verification Interviews**

### **Methods**

Information from the questionnaires (Form B) about each venue was entered into a database. When the list of venues was completed, a meeting with interviewers and the heads of NGOs was organized. The aim of the meeting was to correct data from fieldwork and to eliminate any duplicates entries. An attempt to locate all venues reported by community informants was made, except for places situated outside Saratov and Engels. Venues eligible for a visit included the following: bars, taverns, night clubs, game clubs, streets and street corners, discos, parks, student and worker campuses, educational institutions, etc. Venues named that were located outside the study area were not eligible for a visit.

In this phase of the fieldwork, interviewers visited each reported venue to verify its existence and location, and to interview a person knowledgeable about the venue (such as a bar manager or owner) to obtain characteristics of the venue important for HIV/AIDS prevention. Where someone was not available for an interview on the first visit, an appointment was requested for a re-visit. Verbal consent for an anonymous interview was obtained for each completed interview.

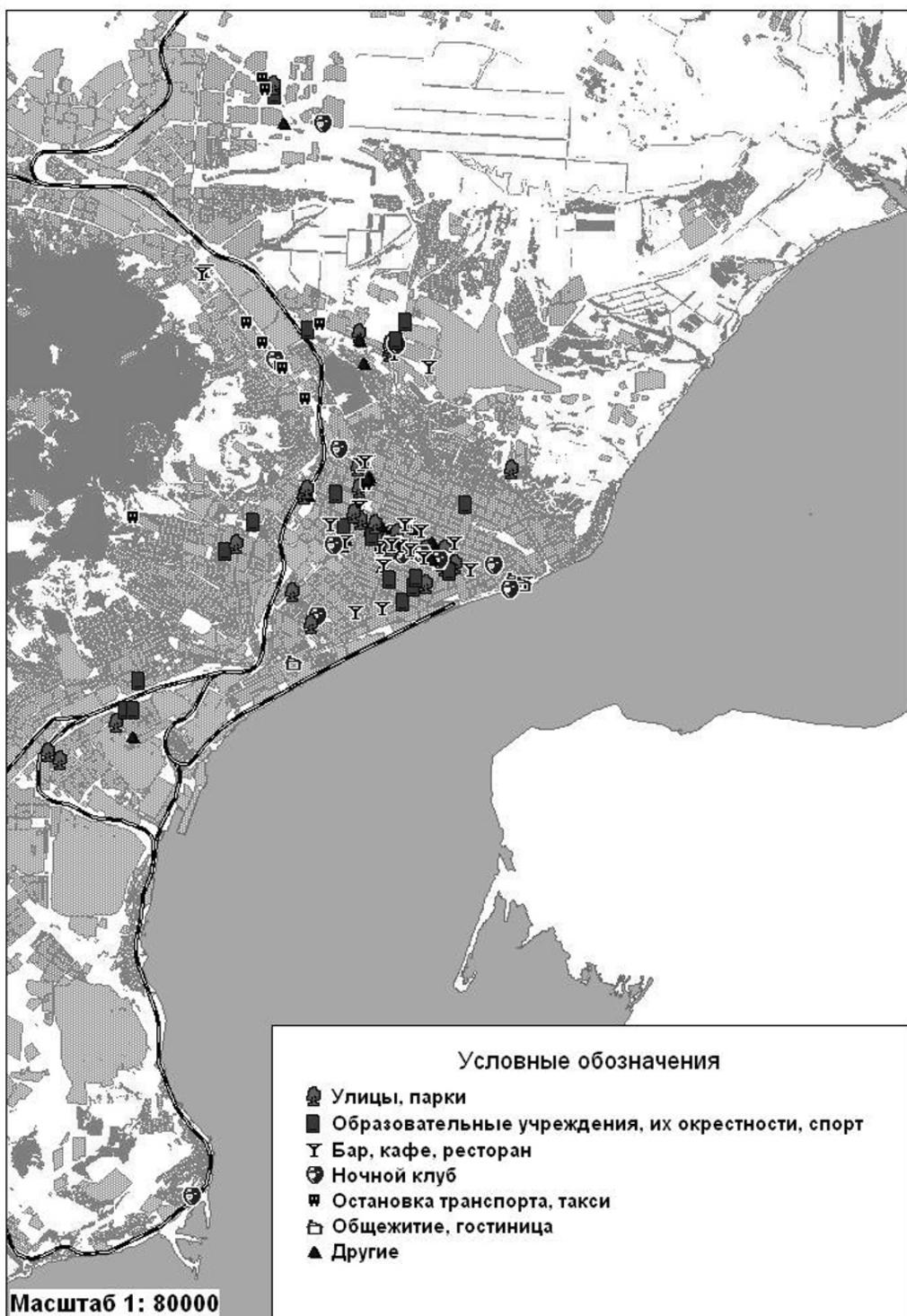
Respondents were asked about the following:

- ▲ name of the venue and number of years in operation
- ▲ types of activities occurring in the venue

- ▲ estimated number of clients at peak times
- ▲ patron characteristics, including residence, employment status, age, and gender
- ▲ whether people meet new sexual partners at the venue
- ▲ extent of HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted infection (STI) prevention activities on-site, including condoms and posters
- ▲ willingness to sell condoms.

The mapping specialist invited for participation in the project was a highly qualified geography department faculty member of Saratov State University, with previous experience working on projects where mapping was a part of the research activity. For instance, he was a member of the research team for a study of historical and cultural events in Saratov. The main method of mapping was measuring venue coordinates with a global positioning system (GPS). Geographic coordinates were compared with data from an electronic map to ensure the correct location of venue. Maps produced as a result include general maps of Saratov and Engels, as well as portions of the cities with the highest concentration of named venues. Maps can be very useful in prevention work, making it easier to coordinate prevention activities with geographic areas that have a concentration of the most risky activities. Figures 3 and 4 show maps of different venue types in Saratov and Engels.

**Figure 3.** Map showing types of venues in Saratov.\*



\* Map legend reads as follows:

Streets, parks  
Educational and sports facilities  
Bar, café, restaurant  
Night club  
Bus stop, taxi stand  
Dormitory, hotel  
Other

**Figure 4.** Map showing types of venues in Engles.\*



\* Map legend reads as follows:

Streets, parks

Bar, café, restaurant

Night club

Bus stop, taxi stand

Dormitory, hotel

Other

## Venue Verification Fieldwork

Of the 247 venues reported by community informants, 238 were eligible for a venue verification visit (Table 7). Those not eligible for

a venue verification visit included nine locations situated outside the study area (truck station, petrol station, and cafes on nearby roads). Visits to eligible venues were accomplished in 20 days by a team of 17 interviewers. Someone knowledgeable about the venue was iden-

**Table 7. Summary of Venue Verification Fieldwork**

Saratov-Engels, PLACE Assessment, 2005		
<b>Number of Days of Venue Verification</b>	20	
<b>Number of Interviewers</b>	17	
<b>Number of Interviews Conducted</b>		
By Male interviewers	112	
By Female interviewers	128	
Total	238	
<b>Gender of Venue Representative</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>
Male	63	39,1
Female	97	60,2
Missing	1	0,6
Total	161	100,0
<b>Respondent Position at the Venue</b>		
Owner, manager, staff	89	55,3
Patron	40	24,8
Other	32	19,9
Total	161	100,0
<b>Age of Venue Representative</b>		
18-19	17	10,6
20-24	46	28,6
25-29	26	16,1
30-34	23	14,3
35-39	11	6,9
>=40	37	23,0
Missing	1	0,6
Total	161	100,0
<b>Venue Eligibility for Venue Verification</b>		
Eligible venues	238	96,3
Not eligible because outside PPA	9	3,7
Total number of unique venues reported by community informants	247	100,0
<b>Outcome of Venue Verification Visits for Eligible Venues</b>		
Venue found, interview completed by willing, eligible respondent	161	67,6
Venue found but no willing respondent	22	9,2
Venue found but all potential respondents too young	5	2,1
Venue closed temporarily	15	6,3
Venue closed permanently or no longer a venue	14	5,9
Address insufficient or venue not found	15	6,3
Duplicate venue or venue already visited	5	2,1
Unknown outcome of venue verification visit	1	0,4
Total	238	100,0
<b>Number of Found and Verified Venues</b>	161	

tified and interviewed by the interviewer. Most of these venue representatives were female (60%), over age 20, and willing to answer questions. Of the 238 eligible venues, 161 were successfully located and an interview completed.

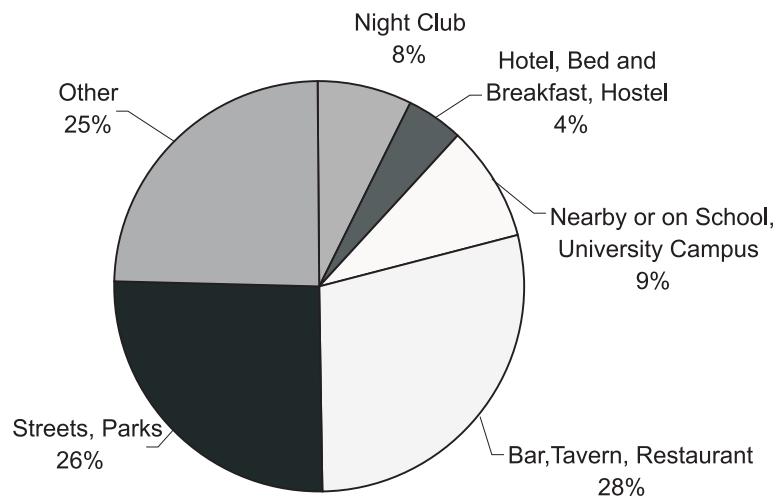
## Types of Venues

Many different types of venues were visited (Table 8 and Figure 5). The most common types of venues visited were formal bars and taverns, and streets and street corners. Some venues were reported by only one key informant, but 28 venues were reported by more than 20 community informants.

**Table 8. Types of Venues**

Interviews with a Venue Representative at 161 Venues Saratov-Engels, PLACE Assessment, 2005		
Type of Venue	N	%
<i>Eating, drinking, dancing, sleeping places</i>		
Informal bar or home brew	5	3,1
Formal bar or tavern	35	21,7
Night club	12	7,5
X-rated, adults only, go-go, massage, porno shop	2	1,2
Hotel, bed and breakfast, hostel	7	4,3
Restaurant	6	3,7
Game club	6	3,7
<i>Transportation, public, commercial areas</i>		
Bus, train, metro stop or station	4	2,5
Taxi stand	4	2,5
Port, harbor	1	0,6
Street or street corner	29	18,0
Park	12	7,5
Market	5	3,1
Nearby or on school, university campus	15	9,3
Sports venue	2	1,2
Store	2	1,2
<i>Hidden, private, or abandoned areas</i>		
Private dwelling	1	0,6
Public toilet	1	0,6
Other	12	7,5
Total of all Types of venues	161	100,0
<b>Number of Community Informants Reporting Venue</b>		
1	20	12,4
2-9	77	47,8
10-14	26	16,1
15-19	10	6,2
20+	28	17,4
Total	161	100,0

**Figure 5. Types of venues.**



### Activities that Occur at Venues and Other Characteristics of Venues

Characteristics of 161 venues were obtained from a venue representative (Table 9). Beer and alcohol consumption was common at the venues. At 42% of venues, alcohol was available; and at 35% of venues, people have the possibility to bring alcohol at venue. Music was available at 59% of venues and dancing (including exotic or go-go dancing) at 33% of venues. This was not unexpected, given that 29% of venues were bars, taverns, and night clubs. Places where youth usually socialize are streets or parks situated near some source of music (CD music kiosk, open air café, etc).

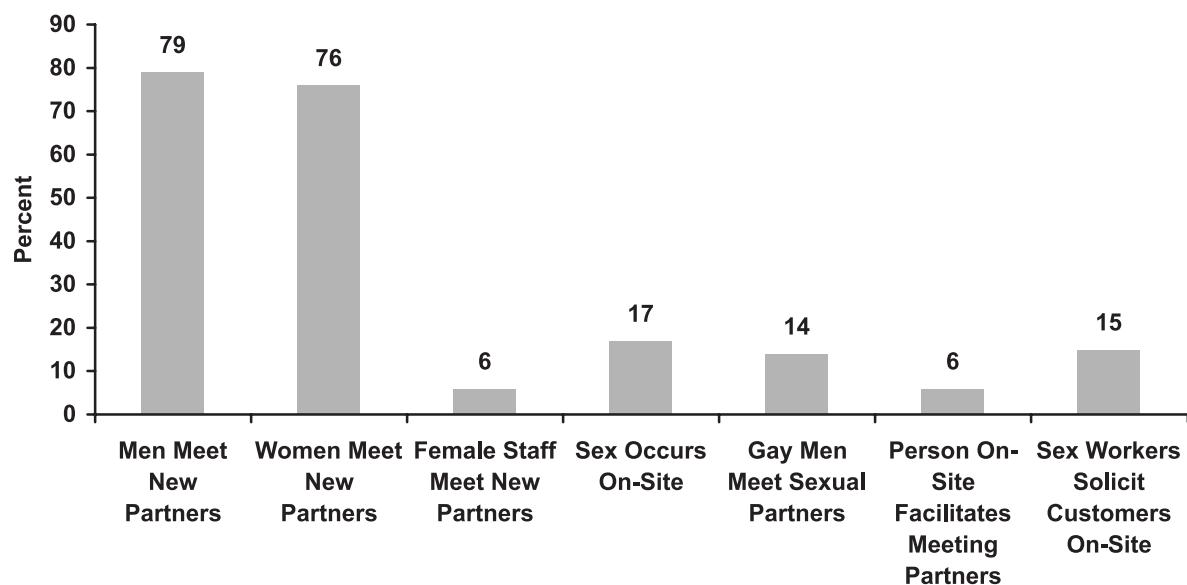
Most venues were quite stable, with 81% being in operation more than two years.

Sexual partnerships are frequently formed at these venues, according to the opinions of venue representatives. Sex work can be found at 15% of venues and sex occurs on-site at 17% of venues. It is not common for female staff to meet new sexual partners at the venue with only 6% of venue representatives reporting so. Venue representatives at 14% of venues reported that men who have sex with men (MSM) meet partners at the venue. This finding shows some differences in reports of venue representative about MSM behavior and reports of venue patrons who did not report homosexual experience. Figure 6 describes sexual partnership formation at all venues.

**Table 9. Characteristics of Found and Verified Venues**

Interviews with a Venue Representative at 161 Venues Saratov-Engels, Russia, PLACE Assessment, 2006		
Activities On-Site	N	%
People buy food and eat	66	41.0
People socialize for an hour or more	128	79.5
Beer, alcohol bought and consumed	67	41.6
People bring beer/alcohol	56	34.8
TV viewing	37	23.0
VCR or CD video viewing	24	14.9
Explicit sex videos shown	3	1.9
Dancing	39	24.2
Exotic or go-go dancing	14	8.7
Live Music	15	9.3
Recorded Music	79	49.1
Live DJ	24	14.9
Sexual Partnerships Formed at Site		
Men meet new female sexual partners at site	127	78.9
Women meet new sexual partners at site	123	76.4
Men meet male (gay) sexual partners at site	23	14.3
Someone on-site facilitates partnerships	9	5.6
Female sex workers solicit customers	24	14.9
Partners who meet at venue have sex on-site	27	16.8
Female staff meet new sexual partners at site	10	6.2
Male staff meet new sexual partners at site	11	6.8
Where Do People Socialize?		
Only indoors	59	36,7
Only outdoors	50	31,1
Both indoors and outdoors	50	31,1
Neither indoors or outdoors	1	0,6
Missing	1	0,6
Total	161	100,0
Number of Years Venue Has Been in Operation		
< 1 year	7	4,4
1-2 years	20	12,4
More than 2 years	130	80,8
Not Applicable	3	1,9
Missing	1	0,6
Total	161	100,0
Number of Male Staff during Busy Day		
0	18	11,2
1-2	22	13,7
3-4	28	17,4
5-9	27	16,8
10-19	20	12,4
20+	19	11,8
Missing	27	16,8
Total	161	100,0
Number of Female Staff during Busy Day		
0	17	10,6
1-2	4	2,5
3-4	17	10,6
5-9	39	24,2
10-19	33	20,5
20+	25	15,5
Missing	26	16,1
Total	161	100,0

**Figure 6. On-site activities as reported by venue representative.**



### Who Comes to Venues? Opinions of Venue Representatives

Venue representatives were asked where the patrons of the venue come from and the characteristics of the male and female patrons. The low level of non-residents is explained by the low level of geographic mobility of the population. This is true for mobility among cities and areas within a city. In many cases, the low level of mobility is connected with widespread xenophobic attitudes towards non-residents and street-corner subculture effect. The majority of venue patrons prefer to visit places situated near the areas where they live. This could also be influence by a poor system of public transportation: There are very few buses in the cities, especially during weekends and night time. At the same time, the highest proportion of venue patrons visit more than one venue (71% of men, 63% of women), as shown in Table 10.

### When Do People Visit Venues?

Information about the number of people visiting a venue and the venue's male-to-female ratio is very important for planning prevention programs. The majority of venues were not very big; 69% of venues had fewer than 100 people at a busy time (Table 11). Only 25 venues had more than 100 men socializing and 29 venues had over 100 women socializing at the venues' busiest times. The male-to-female ratio at all venues was 56:44. During the week, the busiest times are Friday and Saturday nights. During the year, the busiest times are public holidays and weekends.

**Table 10. Venue Representatives' Descriptions of Patrons Coming to Venue**

Interviews with Venue Representatives at 161 Venues Saratov-Engels, Russia, PLACE Assessment, 2005			
	N	%	
<b>Patrons of Venue Come from...</b>			
Saratov or Engels	110	75,8	
Elsewhere in Saratov Oblast	5	5,9	
Elsewhere in Russia	2	1,7	
Outside Russia	1	0,9	
<b>Male Patrons at Venue Visit another Venue</b>			
Yes	114	70,8	
No	6	3,7	
Do not know	39	24,2	
Missing	2	1,2	
Total	161	100,0	
<b>Female Patrons at Venue Visit another Venue</b>			
Yes	101	62,7	
No	8	5,0	
Do not know	48	29,8	
Missing	4	2,5	
Total	161	100,0	
<b>Percentage of Female Patrons Who Come Here during the Busiest Times Who ...</b>		<b>None</b>	<b>&lt; Half</b>
Live in Saratov-Engels	13,0	39,1	39,1
Are secondary or high school students	39,8	47,2	12,4
Are unemployed	41,6	43,5	5,6
Are university/college students	21,1	44,7	30,4
Are less than age 18	34,8	52,2	9,9
Live within a 10-minute walk	20,5	43,5	31,7
Come to venue at least once a week	12,4	34,8	33,5
Live outside Saratov-Engels	22,4	40,4	32,3
Drink alcohol at venue	22,4	23,0	35,4
Find a new sexual partner at venue	37,3	47,8	9,3
Appear to be injection drug users	77,0	21,1	1,2
Appear to be buying or selling sex	85,7	6,2	0
<b>Percentage of Male Patrons Who Come Here during the Busiest Times Who ...</b>		<b>All</b>	
Live in Saratov-Engels	6,2	44,7	43,0
Are secondary or high school students	32,3	54,0	13,0
Are unemployed	30,0	52,2	13,0
Are university/college students	14,9	49,7	29,8
Are less than age 18	32,9	52,8	11,8
Live within a 10-minute walk	17,4	44,7	33,5
Come to venue at least once a week	7,5	34,8	37,9
Live outside Saratov-Engels	13,0	41,6	42,2
Drink alcohol at venue	15,5	26,7	34,8
Find a new sexual partner at venue	29,8	47,8	17,4
Appear to be injection drug users	68,9	26,7	1,9
Appear to be selling or buying sex	83,2	6,8	3,8
Are gay	90,7	6,8	0

**Table 11. Busy Times at Venues and Number of Patrons**

Interviews with Venue Representatives at 161 Venues Saratov-Engels, Russia, PLACE Assessment, 2005						
Busiest Day and Times Are ...	N	%				
Friday afternoon	16	9,9				
Friday night	62	38,5				
Saturday afternoon	12	7,5				
Saturday night	41	25,5				
Sunday afternoon	1	0,6				
Sunday night	2	1,2				
Other	27	16,8				
Next-Busiest Day and Times Are						
Friday afternoon	7	4,4				
Friday night	16	9,9				
Saturday afternoon	9	5,6				
Saturday night	55	34,2				
Sunday afternoon	19	11,8				
Sunday night	18	11,2				
Other	37	23,0				
Number of Men and Women at Venue during Busiest Day at Busiest Time						
<10	14	8,7				
11-25	35	21,7				
26-50	35	21,7				
51-100	26	16,1				
101-150	12	7,5				
151-200	7	4,3				
201-250	2	1,2				
251-300	6	3,7				
> 300	23	14,3				
Missing	1	0,6				
Total	161	100,0				
Number of Patrons Socializing while at Venue during Busiest Time	Men	Women	Total			
	N	%	N	%	N	%
0-25	87	54,0	88	54,7	55	34,2
26-75	42	26,1	37	23,0	47	29,2
76-125	8	5,0	16	9,9	22	13,7
126-175	5	3,1	3	1,9	6	3,7
176-275	5	3,1	4	2,5	10	6,2
276-475	5	3,1	2	1,2	6	3,7
476-675	1	0,6	2	1,2	3	1,9
>675	1	0,6	2	1,2	5	3,1
Missing	7	4,3	8	5,0	7	4,4
Total	161	100,0	161	100,0	161	100,0
Mean	74,0		63,9		143,6	
Median	22		20		50	
Male-to-Female Ratio	56:44					
Busiest Times of the Year	N=161		% 27,3 60,3 11,8 18,0 39,8			
School holidays	44		27,3			
Public holidays	97		60,3			
Month end	19		11,8			
Now	29		18,0			
Weekends	64		39,8			

## AIDS Prevention at Venues and Condom Availability at Venues

There are gaps in HIV/AIDS prevention programs at these venues. Only 20% had ever had any HIV/AIDS prevention activities (Table 12). The most common kinds of activity are educational talks (19%), videos (19%), and posters and leaflets (22%). Discussion of the results with NGO representatives found that educational talks took place at venues where these NGOs work (street corners, schools, and campuses). Other places carried out passive actions (showed videos and had posters), but even these actions were not permanent. Post-

ers were seen by interviewers in only 7% of venues. It must be noted that 44% of venue managers are not against the organization of prevention programs. These venues could be used as a resource for HIV/AIDS prevention efforts.

Several questions were asked to assess condom availability at venues. Overall, there is a gap in condom availability at venues. Condoms were visible at 9% of venues (Table 13). Condoms were not available at the venue or within 10 minutes of the venue at night at 21% of venues. There is not a strong willingness to provide condoms at the venue with 60% of respondents not wanting to sell condoms at the venue. Figure 7 summarizes HIV prevention activities and condom availability at all venues.

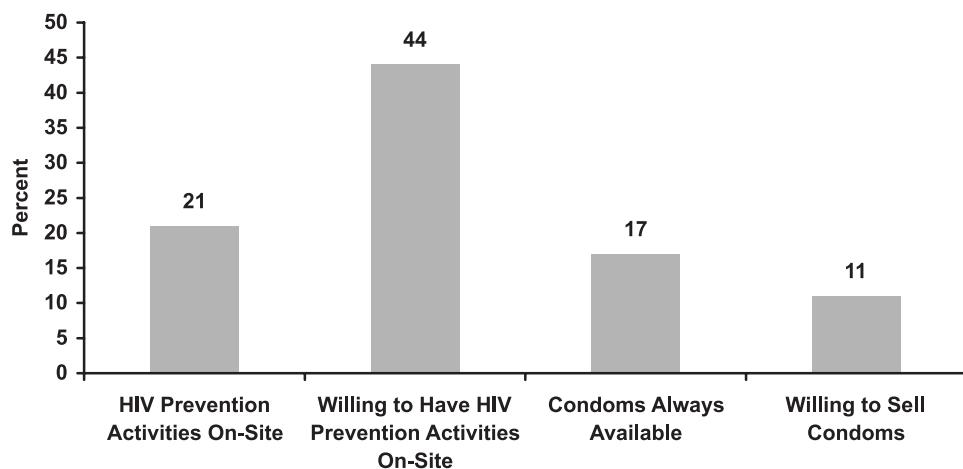
**Table 12. AIDS Prevention Activities at Venues**

Interviews with a Venue Representative at 161 Venues Saratov-Engels, Russia, PLACE Assessment, 2005		
HIV/AIDS Prevention Activities at the Venue	N	%
Ever been to any AIDS prevention activities	33	20,5
Educational talk on HIV/AIDS	31	19,3
Established peer health education program	12	7,5
Condom promotion	30	18,6
HIV/AIDS video shown	7	4,4
HIV/AIDS radio program broadcast	4	2,5
AIDS posters or leaflets	35	21,7
Other	6	3,7
Respondent Willing to Have AIDS Prevention Program at the Venue		
Yes	70	43,5
No	91	56,5
Total	161	100,0
Interviewer Observation		
Any HIV/AIDS posters displayed	11	6,8
Any HIV/AIDS brochures at site	10	6,2

**Table 13. Condom Availability at Venues**

Interviews with a Venue Representative at 161 Venues Saratov-Engels, Russia, PLACE Assessment, 2005		
<b>Condoms Available in Past Year</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>
Always	27	16,8
Sometimes	12	7,5
Never	120	74,5
Missing	2	1,2
Total	161	100,0
<b>Condoms On-Site at Time of Visit</b>		
Yes, but not seen	20	12,4
Yes, condom seen	22	13,7
No	118	73,3
Missing	1	0,6
Total	161	100,0
<b>Condom Sold or Taken Freely from Venues in Past 4 Weeks</b>		
Condoms sold	25	15,5
Condoms taken freely	9	5,6
Condoms both sold and taken freely	1	0,6
No condoms sold or taken freely	126	78,2
Total	161	100,0
<b>Condom Can Be Acquired within 10 Minutes of Venue at Night</b>		
Yes	116	72,1
No	9	5,6
Do not know	44	22,4
Total	161	100,0
<b>Respondent Willing to Sell Condoms at Venue</b>		
Yes	18	11,2
No	97	60,3
Already Selling	9	5,6
Not possible due to type of site	34	21,1
Missing	3	1,9
Total	161	100,0
<b>Interviewer Observation</b>		
Any condoms visible	14	8,7

**Figure 7. HIV prevention activities and condom availability on-site.**



### Injection Drug Use in Saratov-Engels

Venue representatives were asked whether injection drug use was a problem in the area and if they had seen any used syringes lying around. Drug use is a big problem in Russia and

Saratov Oblast. Data on drug use are likely underrepresented because of criminalization of all aspects connected with drug consumption. People prefer not to report about their experience with drug use because they are afraid of police attention. In this study, 52 venue representatives (32%) reported that people who inject drugs visit the venue (Table 14).

**Table 14. Injection Drug Use**

Interviews with Venue Representatives at 161 Venues Saratov-Engels, Russia, PLACE Assessment, 2005		
<b>Venue Representative Has Seen Used Syringes Lying around in Past 3 Months</b>		
	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>
Yes	45	28,0
No	110	68,3
Missing	6	3,7
Total	161	100,0
<b>Drug Injectors Socialize at Venue</b>		
Yes	52	32,3
No	109	67,7
Total	161	100,0
<b>Interviewer Observation</b>		
Any used syringes lying around	5	3,1



## **Step 4: What Are the Characteristics of People Who Socialize at Venues Where People Meet Sexual Partners and Injection Drug Users Socialize?**

### **Findings from Interviews with People Socializing at Venues**

#### **Methods**

##### **Selecting Venues Where Individuals Socializing Were Interviewed**

The final selection of venues could only occur after the community informant interviews and venue visits were conducted and the resulting list of reported venues compiled into a sampling frame of venues. Venues were sampled to obtain a sufficiently precise estimate of the proportion of individuals socializing at venues who report meeting a new sexual partner at the location.

At a meeting with representatives of the steering committee and interviewers, 45 venues were selected. The total number of selected venues was more than recommended number (40) because of the prevalence of small venues. The criteria for selection were: number of reports about this place (the most frequently named places were selected); type of place (different types of venues were selected); size of place and amount of venue patrons; geographical location of place; and demographic characteristic of venue patrons (gender, age, drug abuse, alcohol consumption, commercial sex worker [CSW], injection drug user [IDU]).

##### **Selecting Individuals at Selected Venues**

As mentioned, 45 venues were selected. The selection of individuals at selected venues included the following:

- ▲ Number of men and women was dependent upon the proportion of men and women as reported on during the previous step (from five to 50 people were interviewed at each place).
- ▲ Randomization was the main principle for respondent selection. At the same time, it was important to find respondents who were interested in answering questions.
- ▲ Respondents were asked about their willingness to be interviewed. Interviewers explained the aim of the study and ensured total anonymity. Each respondent received a small gift from interviewers.
- ▲ Respondents were interviewed in private. Prior to interviewing, project staff visited venues to identify places where interviewing could be held in privacy.
- ▲ The time for interviewing was selected according information about the most busy day and time at each venue. Interviewers worked in teams of two to five people (depending on size and type of venue), and included both men and women. All interviewers received safety instructions and, in the event of danger, stopped interviewing.
- ▲ At this stage of the study, it was expected that interviewers and informants would be of the same gender. All interviewers had training session before this stage of the study. A local

coordinator and assistant to the coordinator visited some locations where interviews had been conducted. During these control visits, some instances of breaking of protocol were reported. In these instances, an interviewer's interview data were annulled and the interviewer had to conduct a new interview with another informant. All of these cases were discussed at interviewer meetings.

### **Fieldwork for Interviews with People Socializing at Venues**

Interviewers approached more than 941 individuals socializing at 45 venues in the study area (Table 15). Of the individuals approached, a total of 799 completed interviews (51% men and 49% women). Individuals age 15 and older were eligible for an interview. At the beginning of a set of interviews at a venue, the interviewer recorded how many people were at the venue. Interviewers were instructed on the correct number of people to be interviewed at a venue. This number was determined by a venue's size.

### **Sociodemographic Characteristics of People Socializing at Venues**

The characteristics of the people socializing at these venues are very informative (Table 16). Over half of the men and women were younger than 24. Women were more likely to be unemployed than men. Over 58% were students and 26% of men and 20% of women had a live-in partner. Seventy-four percent of respondents had smoked a cigarette within the past week (80% of men and 69% of women).

### **How Frequently Do People Visit Venues?**

Not many people visit a venue every day, but 65% visit once a month or more. Only 12% of men and 18% of women reported that this was their first visit to the venue (Table 17). For a description of venue attendance by gender, see Figure 8. Most of the people come to the venue to socialize and drink alcohol but 30% of men and 16% of women report that they come to the venue to meet a new sexual partner (Table 17). Some people visit more than one venue per day. In fact, 1,5% visit three or more venues per day.

### **Where Do Patrons Come From?**

In the Saratov-Engels area, mobile populations are not among the key populations targeted for HIV prevention efforts. Nevertheless, mobile populations can be reached by such efforts at some venues. A total of 6% of men and 3% of women socializing at the venues were not residents of Saratov-Engels (Table 18). Some of the people were newcomers to the area and 2% of men and 4% of women had lived in the area less than a year. Most people (83%) spent the last night in a household and thus would have been eligible for a household survey. However, 7% of men and 10% of women spent the night elsewhere.

**Table 15. Summary of Fieldwork for Interviews with Individuals Socializing at 45 Venues**

Saratov-Engels, Russia, PLACE Assessment, 2005		
<b>Number of Days of Interviews with People Socializing at Venues</b>	21	
<b>Number of Venues Where Interviews Conducted</b>	45	
<b>Number of Completed Interviews with Socializing Individuals</b>	799	
<b>Number of Interviewers</b>	17	
<b>Patrons Socializing at Venue at Start of Interview</b>	<b>Men (n=941)</b> %	<b>Women (n=941)</b> %
0-4	8,8	5,2
5-9	5,2	8,0
10-14	6,9	6,7
15-19	4,5	7,9
20-29	5,5	9,9
30-39	4,9	4,9
40-49	12,0	6,4
50-100	23,3	28,5
100+	27,3	21,3
Missing	1,4	1,4
Total	100,0	100,0
<b>Day of Week Interview Conducted (%)</b>		
Monday	9,6	
Tuesday	13,6	
Wednesday	8,9	
Thursday	7,9	
Friday	16,9	
Saturday	24,3	
Sunday	18,8	
<b>Gender of Individual Approached for Interview (%)</b>		
Male	48,7	
Female	51,3	
Total	100,0	
<b>Age and Eligibility of Individuals Approached (%)</b>		
Age ≥18 (eligible)	90,6	
Age 15-17 and not with parent or on family errand (eligible)	9,2	
Age 15-17 with parent (not eligible)	0,1	
Age 15-17 on family errand (not eligible)	0	
Younger than age 15 (not eligible)	0	
Total	100,0	
<b>Willingness of Age-Eligible Individuals (%)</b>		
Yes	85,2	
No	14,7	
Not applicable (too young )	0,1	
Total	100,0	
<b>Capability of Age-Eligible Individuals (%)</b>		
Respondent capable	89,0	
Respondent not capable	0,3	
Respondent not willing / too young	14,7	
Missing	0,1	
<b>Percentage Interviewers Believed Respondents were a ...</b>		
Commercial sex worker	6,5	
Injection drug user	7,2	

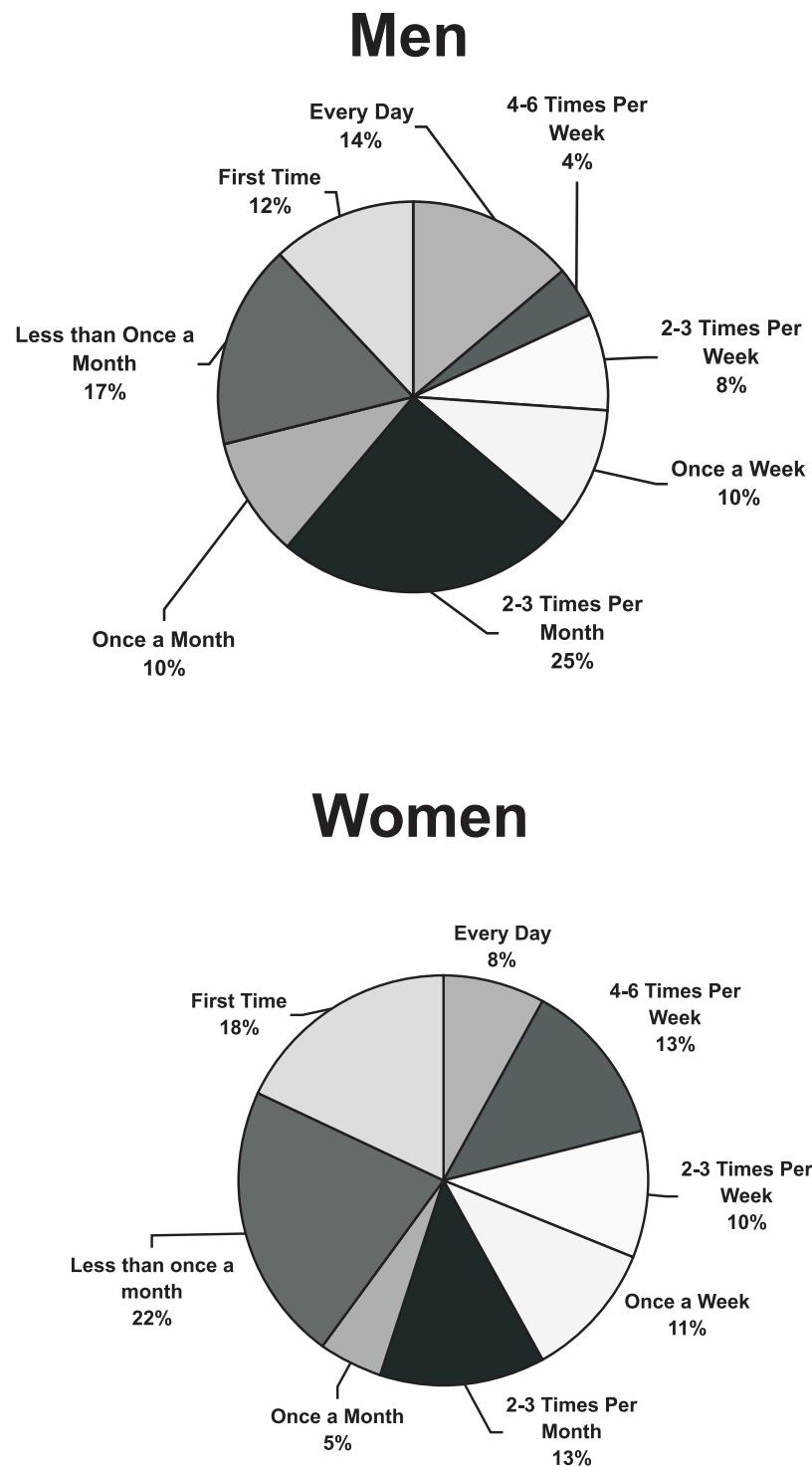
**Table 16. Self-Reported Sociodemographic Characteristics**

Interviews with Eligible and Willing Individuals Socializing at Venues Saratov-Engels, Russia, PLACE Assessment, 2005		
	Men (n=384) %	Women (n=415)%
<b>Age of Individual Socializing at Venue</b>		
15-19	21,9	35,9
20-24	45,6	46,3
25-29	18,5	12,5
30-34	8,1	1,5
35-39	4,2	1,7
40+	1,0	1,2
Missing	0,8	1,0
Total	100,0	100,0
Mean age Men=28,5; women=21,6		
Median age men=22,0; women=20,0		
<b>Employment Status</b>		
Employed full-time	39,3	20,2
Employed, part-time/occasional	21,9	15,4
Unemployed, looking for work	17,7	25,3
Unemployed, not looking	17,7	32,0
Missing	3,4	7,0
Total	100,0	100,0
<b>Student Status</b>		
Currently in primary school	1,8	2,2
Currently in secondary school or high school	2,1	5,8
Currently in university or vocational	47,4	50,6
Not currently a student	47,7	41,0
Missing	1,0	0,5
Total	100,0	100,0
<b>Highest Level of Schooling Completed</b>		
None	0,5	1,4
Primary school	24,0	22,4
Secondary school	65,6	63,6
Other	9,1	11,6
Missing	0,8	1,0
Total	100,0	100,0
<b>Respondent Has Ever Been Married</b>		
Yes	25,8	18,8
Never married	73,4	80,5
Missing	0,8	0,7
Total	100,0	100,0
<b>Respondent has a Live-In Partner</b>		
Yes	25,8	19,8
No	73,2	78,6
Missing	1,0	1,4
Total	100,0	100,0
<b>Time Respondent Most Recently Purchased Medicine, Drugs, Vitamins, or Medicinal Herbs for Self or Family Member</b>		
Today	7,6	11,3
Within past 7 days	14,6	22,7
Within past 2-4 weeks	25,0	30,4
Within past 2-6 months	28,4	23,4
Within past 7-12 months	3,9	2,9
Over a year ago	6,8	1,9
Never	13,8	7,5
Total	100,0	100,0
<b>Respondent Most Recently Smoked a Cigarette</b>		
Today	80,5	68,7
Within past 7 days	0,8	1,9
Within past 2-4 weeks	1,0	2,2
Within past 2-6 months	1,8	1,0
Within past 7-12 months	1,0	0
Over a year ago	3,7	1,4
Never	11,2	24,8
Total	100,0	100,0
<b>Respondent Most Recently Ate a Piece of Fresh Fruit or Fresh Vegetable</b>		
Today	50,3	58,3
Within past 7 days	38,5	31,6
Within past 2-4 weeks	10,2	9,6
Within past 2-6 months	1,0	0,2
Within past 7-12 months	0,0	0,2
Total	100,0	100,0

**Table 17. Self-Reported Venue-Visiting Behavior**

<b>Interviews with Eligible and Willing Individuals Socializing at Venues Saratov-Engels, Russia, PLACE Assessment, 2005</b>		
	<b>Men (n=384) %</b>	<b>Women (n=415) %</b>
<b>Frequency of Attendance at Venue</b>		
Every day	13,5	8,4
4-6 times per week	4,2	12,5
2-3 times per week	8,1	10,4
1 time per week	10,2	10,8
2-3 times per month	24,5	12,5
1 time per month	10,2	4,6
Less than 1 time per month	17,2	22,4
First time	12,2	18,3
Total	100,0	100,0
<b>Most Recent Previous Visit at Venue</b>		
Within past 7 days	43,2	40,7
Within past 2-4 weeks	30,5	23,4
Within past 2-6 months	8,6	12,8
Within past 7-12 months	2,6	1,5
Over a year ago	2,3	2,7
Never (this is first time)	12,2	18,3
Missing	0,5	0,7
Total	100,0	100,0
<b>First Attendance to Venue</b>		
Within past 7 days	2,6	0,5
Within past 2-4 weeks	2,3	2,4
Within past 2-6 months	13,5	18,4
Within past 7-12 months	9,6	8,5
Over a year ago	52,9	44,6
Never (first visit)	12,2	18,3
Missing	6,8	9,6
Total	100,0	100,0
<b>Reason for Coming to Venue</b>		
To socialize	90,4	77,4
To drink alcohol	68,8	44,1
To meet a sexual partner	29,4	16,1
<b>Total Number of Venues Attended That Day</b>		
1	17,5	16,9
2	3,7	1,2
3+	1,6	1,4
Total	100,0	100,0
Mean	0,3	0,2

**Figure 8. Frequency of attendance at venue by gender.**



**Table 18. Mobile Populations**

Interviews with Eligible and Willing Individuals Socializing at Venues Saratov-Engels, Russia, PLACE Assessment, 2005		
	Men (n=384) %	Women (n=415) %
<b>Current Residence</b>		
Resides in Saratov-Engels	94,0	97,1
Resides in Saratov oblast but not in Saratov-Engels	0,0	0,0
Resides in Russia but not Saratov oblast	5,5	2,9
Resides outside Russia	0,0	0,0
Missing	0,5	0,0
Total	100,0	100,0
<b>Years Residing at Current Residence</b>		
<1	1,8	3,6
1 year	1,3	1,9
2-4 years	12,8	11,3
5-10 years	12,0	8,2
>10 years	6,8	7,7
All of life	65,1	67,2
Missing	0,3	0,0
Total	100,0	100,0
<b>Size/Type of Residential Location</b>		
Capital city	0,3	0,0
Large city over 1 million population	8,1	8,4
Small city (population 50,000 to 1 million)	87,5	88,4
Town (under 50,000 population)	1,6	1,2
Rural area	2,3	1,9
Missing	0,3	0,0
Total	100,0	100,0
<b>Where Respondent Slept Last Night</b>		
Household	81,5	84,2
Institution	2,6	1,9
Hotel or commercial lodging	8,6	2,9
Street	0,5	0,0
Somewhere else	6,8	10,4
Missing	0,0	0,5
Total	100,0	100,0

## People Report Meeting New Sexual Partners at Venues

Many people reported meeting a new sexual partner at the venue, including 45% of men and 30% of women (Table 19). There is a difference between the reported personal behavior of respondents and the respondents' assessment of other patrons' behavior. A larger percentage reported that other people meet new sexual partners at the venue. About 78% of men and 75% of women believe that other people meet new partners at venue (Table 19 and Figure 9). Those who reported meeting a partner at the venue were likely to have met that partner at the venue within the past six

months. It is a concern that 11% of the people socializing at the venues who reported meeting a partner at the venue did not use a condom with the most recent new partner from the venue (Table 19).

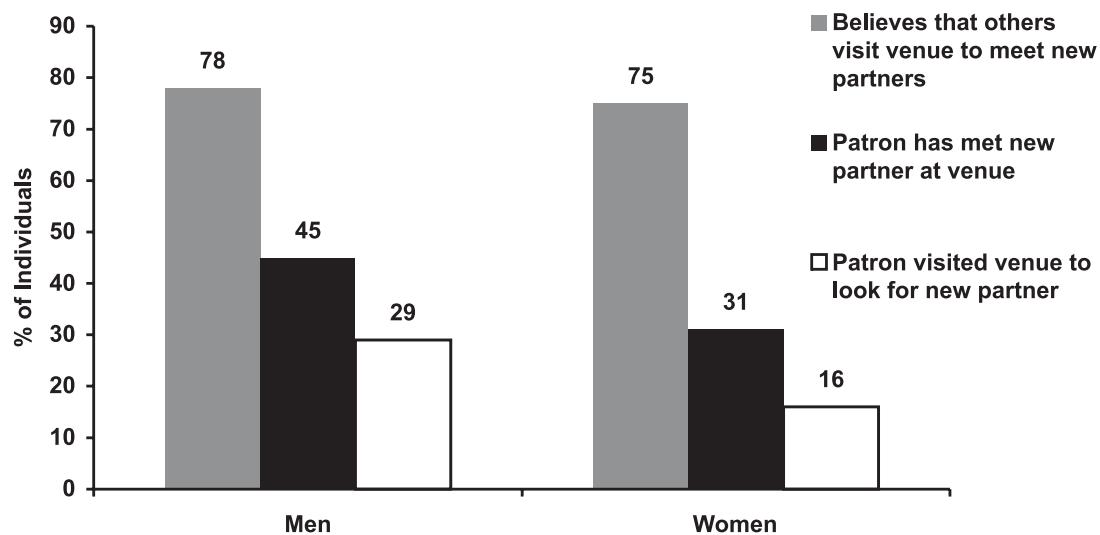
## Age at First Sex

Not all of the people socializing at venues were sexually experienced. Approximately 3% of men and 7% of women reported never having had sex (Table 20). Among those interviewed, the median age at first sex was 16.5 years.

**Table 19. Meeting a New Partner at the Venue**

Interviews with Eligible and Willing Individuals Socializing at Venues Saratov-Engels, Russia, PLACE Assessment, 2005		
	Men (n=384) %	Women (n=415) %
<b>Respondent Believes Other People Meet New Partners at Venue</b>		
Yes	77,9	75,4
No	22,1	24,6
Total	100,0	100,0
<b>Patron Ever Met a New Partner at Venue</b>		
Yes	44,8	30,8
No	55,0	68,9
Missing	0,3	0,2
Total	100,0	100,0
<b>Last Attracted New Partner at Venue</b>		
Within past 7 days	7,6	5,1
Within past 2-4 weeks	13,5	14,5
Within past 2-6 months	19,8	8,2
Within past 7-12 months	1,8	1,4
Over a year ago	2,1	1,4
Never met a new partner here	55,2	69,2
Missing	0,0	0,2
Total	100,0	100,0
<b>Used a Condom at First Sex with Last New Partner from Venue</b>		
Yes	40,4	27,2
No	4,7	3,4
Never met partner here	55,0	69,2
Missing	0,0	0,2
Total	100,0	100,0

**Figure 9. Partner selection reported by individuals interviewed at venues.**



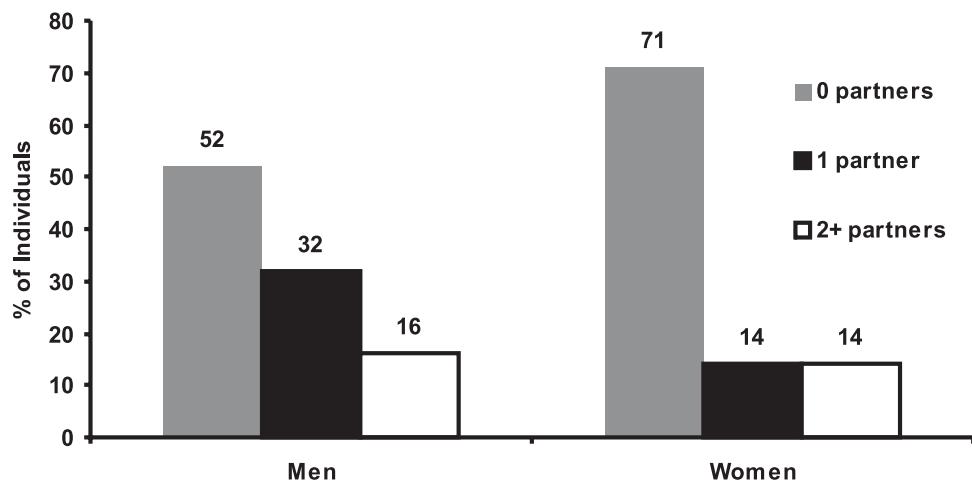
**Table 20. Ever Had Sex and Age at First Sex**

Interviews with Eligible and Willing Individuals Socializing at Venues Saratov-Engels, Russia, PLACE Assessment, 2005			
	Men (n=384) %	Women (n=415) %	
<b>Ever Had Sex</b>			
Yes	96,4	92,2	
No	2,9	7,3	
Missing	0,8	0,5	
Total	100,0	100,0	
<b>Age at First Sex</b>			
<13	1,0	1,2	
13	3,4	1,2	
14	8,1	5,5	
15	15,9	16,4	
16	24,7	25,3	
17	28,7	21,5	
18-21	14,1	20,0	
22-24	0,5	0,0	
25+	0,0	0,0	
Never had sex and younger than 18	2,3	5,5	
Never had sex and 18 or older	0,5	1,7	
Missing	0,8	1,7	
Total	100,0	100,0	

## **Number of Partners and Rate of New Sexual Partnerships**

The rate of new sexual partnerships in a population is an important determinant of the course of an HIV epidemic. Over 47% of men and 28% of women reported having a new sexual partner in the past four weeks (Table 21). Figure 10 describes the level of new sexual partnership formation in the past four weeks.

**Figure 10. Number of new sexual partners during past four weeks.**



**Table 21. Rate of Partnership Acquisition**

Interviews with Eligible and Willing Individuals Socializing at Venues Saratov-Engels, Russia, PLACE Assessment, 2005		
	Men (n=384) %	Women (n=415) %
<b>Number of Partners in Past 4 Weeks</b>		
0	10,2	22,4
1	46,9	52,3
2	22,9	10,8
3-9	19,5	4,8
10+	0,5	9,4
Missing	0,0	0,2
Total	100,0	100,0
Mean	1,7	4,9
Median	1,0	1,0
<b>Number of New Partners in Past 4 Weeks</b>		
0	52,3	71,3
1	32,0	14,2
2	9,6	3,1
3-9	6,0	1,5
10+	0,0	9,4
Missing	0,0	0,5
Total	100,0	100,0
Mean	0,7	3,2
Median	0,0	0,0
<b>Total Number of Partners in Last 12 Months</b>		
0	2,9	9,9
1	15,6	32,3
2	13,8	19,5
3-9	51,3	27,0
10+	15,9	10,8
Missing	0,5	0,5
Total	100,0	100,0
Mean	5,6	46,3
Median	4,0	2,0
<b>Number of New Partners in Past 12 Months</b>		
0	16,2	37,6
1	15,9	26,5
2	17,5	10,1
3-9	41,7	14,9
10+	8,3	10,4
Missing	0,5	0,5
Total	100,0	100,0
Mean	3,7	33,7
Median	3,0	1,0
<b>Had Sex with a Non-Live-In, Non-Marital Partner in the Past 12 Months</b>		
Yes	88,8	77,6
No	10,9	22,7
Missing	0,3	0,7
Total	100,0	100,0
<b>Had Sex with a Live-In or Marital Partner in the Past 12 Months</b>		
Yes	32,8	28,4
No	66,9	70,4
Missing	0,3	1,2
Total	100,0	100,0

## **Gender and Rate of New Sexual Partnership**

The rate and number of sexual partnerships is summarized in Table 22 into one variable that has three categories (from Table S.1). Level of sexual partnership is higher among men (56% of men in the high group vs. 31% of women in the high group). Among men with a very high rate of partnerships, 73% are age 15-24. One third of women reported a low level of sexual partnership, defined as one non-new partner in the past 12 months or not sexually active, compared to 15% of men who reported a low partnership level. Two kinds of explanation can be presented: men prefer not to seek and establish permanent relations; men have a tendency to exaggerate the number of sexual contacts, while women are inclined to diminish the number of contacts because of social norms.

## **Age Differences between Sexual Partners**

The age difference between sexual partners can be an important contributor to the spread of HIV. In Saratov-Engels, men tend to have younger partners (only 6% of men did not have a younger partner in the past 12 months, Table 23). Women tend to have older partners (only 13% did not have an older partner in the past 12 months). Both men and women prefer to establish partnerships with peers (not more than 4 years younger or older). Nevertheless, 10% of men and 24% of women had a partner more than 10 years older than themselves, and 8% of men had a partner who was more than 10 years younger.

**Table 22. Gender and Rate of Sexual Partnership**

Interviews with Eligible and Willing Individuals Socializing at Venues Saratov-Engels, Russia, PLACE Assessment, 2005		
Rate of Sexual Partnerships	Men (n=384) %	Women (n=415) %
High: 1+ new partners or 2+ partners past 4 weeks	55,7	31,1
Moderate: 1+ new or 2+ partners past 12 months	29,2	35,2
Low: Not sexually active or 1 sexual partner in the past 12 months	15,1	33,7
Missing	0,0	0,6

**Table 23. Oldest and Youngest Partnerships**

Interviews with Eligible and Willing Individuals Socializing at Venues Saratov-Engels, Russia, PLACE Assessment, 2005		
	Men (n=384) %	Women (n=415) %
<b>Age Difference between Respondent and Youngest Partner</b>		
Youngest partner >15 yrs younger	1,3	0,0
Youngest partner 11-15 yrs younger	6,7	0,0
Youngest partner 5-10 yrs younger	29,4	8,2
Youngest partner 0-4 yrs younger	56,5	30,6
No younger partner	2,3	50,6
Missing	0,8	0,7
No Partners in past 12 months	2,9	9,9
Total	100,0	100,0
<b>Age Difference between Respondent and Oldest Partner</b>		
Oldest partner >15 yrs older	7,8	13,5
Oldest partner 11-15 yrs older	2,1	10,4
Oldest partner 5-10 yrs older	8,6	21,7
Oldest partner 0-4 yrs older	44,0	41,9
No older partner	41,2	2,2
Missing	0,5	0,5
No Partners in past 12 months	2,9	9,9
Total	100,0	100,0

## **Condom Use**

Condom use is an important way to reduce HIV transmission. The level of condom use was rather high: only 0,8% of men and 2% of women had never used a condom (Table 24). Among people who reported a new partner in the past year, 12% of men and 18% of women did not use a condom during first sex with the last new partner; and 14% of men and 24% of women did not use a condom at last sex with non-live-in partner, among those who reported such a partner. These figures show the approximate size of the risk group. In general, women were less likely to report using condoms. It could be that women are more concerned about an unplanned pregnancy than acquiring an HIV infection, and consequently prefer using a more effective contraceptive method than condoms. Prevention programs focusing on women are needed because women often face responsibility for consequences of sexual relations. Because condom use is frequently over-reported in this type of survey, the interviewers also asked whether people had a condom with them at the time of the interview. Only 31% of men and 20% of women had a condom with them at the time of interview that was seen by the interviewer.

**Table 24. Condom Use**

Interviews with Eligible and Willing Individuals Socializing at Venues Saratov-Engels, Russia, PLACE Assessment, 2005		
	Men (n=384) %	Women (n=415) %
<b>Ever Used a Condom</b>		
Yes	94,8	89,2
No	0,8	1,9
Never had sex	37	8,2
Missing	0,8	0,7
Total	100,0	100,0
<b>Condom Used during Most Recent Sex</b>		
Yes	70,3	57,1
No	24,5	32,1
Never had sex / Never Used a Condom	4,4	10,1
Missing	0,8	0,7
Total	100,0	100,0
<b>Condom Used during First Sex with Last New Partner</b>		
Yes	72,9	51,6
No	10,4	11,1
No new partners in last year	16,1	37,4
Missing	0,5	0,0
Total	100,0	100,0
<b>Frequency of Condom Use with Spouse or Live-In Partner</b>		
Always	4,7	3,9
Sometimes	19,5	17,1
Never	5,7	5,3
No spouse or current live-in partner	68,0	64,3
Missing	2,1	9,4
Total	100,0	100,0
<b>Condom Used at Last Sex with Live-In Partner</b>		
Used condom	11,1	10,8
Did not use condom	22,6	17,8
No live-in partner over past year	66,3	63,9
Missing	0,8	7,5
Total	100,0	100,0
<b>Condom Used at Last Sex with NON-live-In Partner</b>		
Used Condom	75,0	57,6
Did not use condom	12,0	18,3
No NON-live-in partner over past year	10,9	22,7
Missing	2,1	1,4
Total	100,0	100,0
<b>Possession of Condom at Time of Interview</b>		
Yes, but condom not seen	11,2	2,9
Yes, condom seen	30,5	20,0
No condom	54,2	67,5
Missing	4,4	1,0
Total	100,0	100,0
<b>Time Since Last Sex without a Condom</b>		
Today	4,2	5,8
Within past 7 days	21,6	17,4
Within past 2-4 weeks	15,9	20,7
Within past 2-6 months	20,6	19,5
Within past 7-12 months	8,1	4,1
Over a year ago	9,6	8,2
Never	18,8	22,2
Missing	1,3	2,2
Total	100,0	100,0

## **Participation in HIV/AIDS Prevention Programs**

The data on condom use taken together with data on prevention programs (Table 25) present a rather bleak picture. Society needs more effective efforts aimed at AIDS prevention and promotion of safe sex, especially among young people. Saratov oblast has resources — media, health care and educational institutions, and NGOs — that must work together on these important needs. These efforts could be directed towards influencing local authority to encourage condom promotions at public places. Unfortunately, the biggest part of prevention programs has a passive character — informational campaign in the media and poster promotion of condoms. The activities of NGOs (peer education, education, condom promotion) are not enough to cope with the problem.

## **HIV/AIDS Testing**

It is important for people to know where to be tested for HIV and to get tested if they are interested in being tested. One quarter of respondents have ever been tested for HIV; and 12% of men and 17% of women had been tested within the last 12 months (Table 26). Approximately 28% of men and 34% of women are interested in being tested for HIV in the next 12 months.

**Table 25. HIV/AIDS Education and Prevention Activities**

Interviews with Eligible and Willing Individuals Socializing at Venues Saratov-Engels, Russia, PLACE Assessment, 2005		
	Men (n=384) %	Women (n=415) %
<b>HIV/AIDS Education in Past 3 Months</b>		
Attended an HIV/AIDS educational program	7,6	13,5
Saw an HIV/AIDS film or video	33,9	42,7
Heard an HIV/AIDS program on radio	46,9	53,0
Saw an HIV/AIDS prevention poster	62,2	74,2
Talked about HIV/AIDS with a health worker	12,0	28,4
Obtained condoms at venue	1,6	10,1

Approximately half of respondents thought that they were not very likely to contract the HIV/AIDS virus (Table 27). Roughly 14% thought that they were somewhat likely to contract the virus and another 16% thought that they were at no risk of HIV/AIDS. Only 0,5% of men and 2,7% of women thought that they were very likely to contract the HIV/AIDS virus. These data show the presence of some illusions among people — if in some cases more than 30% of people do not use a condom with a new partner (see Table 24), they cannot be sure that they will not contracting HIV/AIDS.

**Table 26. HIV/AIDS Testing**

Interviews with Eligible and Willing Individuals Socializing at Venues Saratov-Engels, Russia, PLACE Assessment, 2005		
	Men (n=384) %	Women (n=415) %
<b>Ever Been Tested for HIV</b>		
Yes	24,5	25,3
No	75,3	74,2
Missing	0,3	0,5
Total	100,0	100,0
<b>Tested for HIV in the Last 12 Months</b>		
Yes	11,5	17,4
No	88,3	82,2
Missing	0,3	0,5
Total	100,0	100,0
<b>Received Results for HIV Test in the Past 12 Months</b>		
Yes	23,2	24,8
No	0,5	0,7
Not applicable (never tested or tested over 12 months ago)	75,5	73,7
Missing	0,8	0,7
Total	100,0	100,0
<b>Interested in Being Tested in Next 12 Months</b>		
Yes, interested	28,4	33,5
Not interested	71,1	65,8
Missing value	0,5	0,7
Total	100,0	100,0

**Table 27. Perceived Risk of Contracting HIV/AIDS**

Interviews with Eligible and Willing Individuals Socializing at Venues Saratov-Engels, Russia, PLACE Assessment, 2005		
	Men (n=384) %	Women (n=415) %
<b>How Likely Do You Think You Are of Contracting HIV/AIDS?</b>		
Very likely	0,5	2,7
Somewhat likely	14,6	13,7
Not very likely	45,6	41,2
No risk	16,9	15,9
Don't know	22,1	25,8
Missing	0,3	0,7
Total	100,0	100,0

### **Key Population: Youth**

Approximately 70% of youth aged 15 to 24 are students. Over half of male youth and 29% of female youth reported a new sexual partner in the past four weeks (Table 28). Only 3% of youth reported injecting drugs in the past 12 months. Youth identified alcohol abuse as the biggest problem in the community.

### **Key Populations: Commercial Sex Workers, Clients, Men Who have Sex with Men, and Injection Drug Users**

Commercial sex was reported by 13% of sexually active men and 11% of sexually active women (Table 29). Approximately 85% of commercial sex workers were young women. In almost all cases of commercial sex, condoms were used. Based on this research, commercial sex workers do not appear to be the main route of HIV/AIDS transmission. Most of the risk activity identified in this study is sexual contact that happens by chance, perhaps occurring under the influence of alcohol. Thus, HIV/AIDS prevention programs must be connected with programs aimed at alcohol consumption limitation, especially among young people.

Homosexual experience was rarely reported. This finding is evidence of a high level of homophobia which is present in the city. Homosexuality is treated as a strong deviation, and suspicion in homosexual behavior results in outrage.

Data on drug use are likely underreported because of the criminalization of all aspects of drug consumption. People prefer not to report about their experience of drug use because they

are afraid of police attention. In this study, 40% of men and women socializing at the venue believe that injection drug users socialize at the venue (Table 30). Approximately 3% of men and 2% of women reported that they had injected drugs in the past 12 months. No one reported that they have ever been detained by the police for injecting drugs.

People who reported injecting drugs in the past 12 months were asked questions about many additional drug use behaviors and practices. (Because so few people reported injecting drugs, these data are not shown.)

**Table 28. Characteristics of Young Adults**

Interviews with Eligible and Willing Individuals Socializing at Venues Saratov-Engels, PLACE Assessment, 2005		
Characteristics of Venue Patrons	Young Men 15-24 (n=259) %	Young Women 15-24 (n=341) %
<b>Mean Age of Young Men = 20,5 Years</b>		
<b>Mean Age of Young Women = 19,9 Years</b>		
<b>Percentage of Youth Age 15 -24 Who:</b>		
are unemployed, and not looking for work	22,0	27,3
are currently a student	70,2	69,8
do not live in the PPA	7,0	3,5
visit the venue daily	17,8	10,0
have injected drugs in the past 12 months	3,1	2,6
gave or exchanged money for sex in the past 4 weeks	2,3	9,7
had a new sexual partner in the past 4 weeks	51,0	29,0
had a new sexual partner in the past 12 months	88,0	64,8
of these, % using condom with last new partner	84,7	79,2
had more than one sexual partner in the past 12 months	84,6	59,5
of these, % using a condom at last coitus	79,0	70,0
had sex with a man in the past 12 months (men only)	0,8	--
had a sex partner 10 years older in past year	3,9	24,6
had a sex partner 10 years younger in past year	0,0	0,0
had a symptom of an STI in the past 4 weeks (men only)	2,7	--
have ever been tested for HIV	19,7	24,6
are interested in being tested for HIV	27,8	36,1
<b>Rate of Sexual Partnerships</b>		
High: 1+ new partners or 2+ partners past 4 weeks	60,2	31,7
Moderate: 1+ new or 2+ partners past 12 months	29,7	36,7
Low: Not sexually active or 1 sexual partner in the past 12 months	10,0	31,4
<b>Problems in Area as Perceived by Youth</b>		
Unemployment	34,0	33,4
Violence	18,5	27,3
Access to health care	19,3	20,5
AIDS	47,5	54,0
Alcohol abuse	77,6	74,2
Lack of education	13,1	12,0
Getting food to eat	5,4	5,6
Injection drug abuse	42,9	53,7
Any of the above	91,5	88,3

**Table 29. Transactional Sex and Men Having Sex with Men**

Interviews with Eligible and Willing Individuals Socializing at Venues Saratov-Engels, Russia, PLACE Assessment, 2005		
	Men (n=384) %	Women (n=415) %
<b>Given or Received Money in Exchange for Sex in the Past 12 Months</b>		
Yes, in the past 4 weeks	2,9	9,4
Yes, in the past 2 to 12 months	8,9	1,3
No, not within the past 12 months	77,3	78,1
Never had sex	2,9	7,3
Missing	8,1	8,9
Total	100,0	100,0
<b>Used a Condom Last Time Gave or Received Money in Exchange for Sex</b>		
Yes	13,0	9,6
No	0,0	0,2
No sex for money in the past 12 months	75,8	75,4
Never had sex	2,9	7,3
Missing	8,3	7,5
Total	100,0	100,0
<b>Had Sex With Male in Past 4 Weeks (Men Only)</b>		
Yes	0,5	
No	98,2	
Missing	1,3	
Total	100,0	

**Table 30. Injection Drug Use**

Interviews with Eligible and Willing Individuals Socializing at Venues Saratov-Engels, Russia, PLACE Assessment, 2005		
	Men (n=384) %	Women (n=415) %
<b>Respondent Reports People Who Inject Drugs Socialize at Venue</b>		
Yes	40,1	39,8
No	59,1	59,0
Missing	0,8	1,2
Total	100,0	100,0
<b>Respondent Has Heard of a Place in Saratov Where People Can Exchange Used Syringes for New</b>		
Yes	11,7	5,8
No	87,2	93,0
Missing	0,8	1,2
Total	100,0	100,0
<b>Respondent Injected Drugs in the Past 12 Months</b>		
Yes	3,1	2,2
No	96,6	96,4
Missing	0,3	1,5
Total	100,0	100,0
<b>Last Time Respondent Injected Drugs</b>		
Within past 7 days	1,0	0,2
Within past 2-4 weeks	0,3	0,7
Within past 2-6 months	0,5	0,0
Within past 7-12 months	0,3	0,2
Over a year ago	1,0	1,2
Never injected drugs	96,6	96,4
Missing	0,3	1,2
Total	100,0	100,0

## Treatment for Sexually Transmitted Infections

Another important prevention strategy is for people to get appropriate treatment for sexually transmitted infections. In this study, only 3,1% of men reported any symptoms of STI and 34% of women had an STI symptom. Approximately 58% of men and 63% of women with symptoms reported seeking treatment. Men with symptoms tended to seek treatment from a private doctor and women tended to seek treatment from a pharmacy. Many women also reported seeking treatment from public clinics and hospitals.

## Issues of Concern in the Community

Alcohol abuse was most frequently reported as a big problem in the community. AIDS and injection drug abuse were also identified as

big problems (Table 32). Lack or education and getting food to eat were rarely reported as big problems. Men and women had similar perceptions of community problems

**Table 31. STI Symptoms**

Interviews with Eligible and Willing Individuals Socializing at Venues Saratov-Engels, Russia, PLACE Assessment, 2005		
	Men (n=384) %	Women (n=415) %
<b>Symptoms in Past 4 Weeks</b>		
Lower abdominal pain (women only)	0,8	19,0
Pain on urination (men only)	1,8	20,2
Unusual discharge	1,0	4,1
Sores	3,1	34,0
Any symptoms		
<b>Treatment Seeking Behavior</b>		
No symptoms	96,9	66,0
Symptoms and no treatment sought	1,3	12,5
Symptoms and any treatment sought	1,8	21,5
<b>Type of Treatment Sought for Symptoms</b>		
Street vendor	0,3	0,2
Pharmacy	0,5	19,3
Herbalist	0,0	0,0
Public clinic/hospital	0,5	12,3
Private doctor	1,0	5,3
No treatment	1,3	12,5
No symptoms	96,9	66,0
Total	100,0	100,0

**Table 32. Issues of Concern to the Community**

Interviews with Eligible and Willing Individuals Socializing at Venues Saratov-Engels, Russia, PLACE Assessment, 2005						
	Men (n=384) %			Women (n=415) %		
Community Problems	Big	Small	Not	Big	Small	Not
For each issue, is it a big problem, small problem, or not a problem?						
Unemployment	34,1	31,8	33,6	35,2	29,4	34,7
Violence	20,1	43,5	35,7	25,5	35,7	38,1
Access to health care	22,8	53,4	24,2	23,1	45,3	30,8
AIDS	48,2	42,5	8,9	52,3	37,6	9,4
Alcohol abuse	75,5	19,8	3,9	75,2	21,7	2,4
Lack of education	12,0	38,3	46,9	14,2	36,9	47,5
Getting food to eat	6,3	21,9	71,1	5,8	22,2	71,3
Injection drug abuse	46,9	45,6	6,8	54,7	38,1	6,3

## **Step 5: Use Results to Improve Programs**

### **Analysis and Summary of Main Results**

The main results of the PLACE assessment in Saratov-Engels are represented in tables, which summarize the characteristics of venues where HIV/AIDS prevention programs can be focused, as well as provide the characteristics of the people who socialize at these venues (Tables S1-S4).

In 10 selected zones, 247 different venues were named, including 238 venues located inside the Saratov-Engels study area and nine venues outside Saratov-Engels (Table S1). All venues reported by community informants were eligible for a site visit except venues situated outside the study area. Overall, a total of 238 venues reported by community informants were visited. Of the 238 venues that were visited, 32% were bars, taverns, nightclubs, or informal drinking places (Table 8), but many other types of venues were visited including streets and street corners (18%), schools and university areas (9%), and parks (8%). Approximately 12% of venues were not well-known (they were named only by one informant).

Almost 93% of the named venues were described by community informants as places where people meet new sexual partners. Approximately 91% of venues have youth under the age of 18 and/or students among their patrons. Only 3% of men and 2% of women reported injecting drugs in the past 12 months. However, over 80% of the venues named by community informants were identified as places where injection drug users socialize, 52 venue representatives reported that injection drug users could be found at their venue, and 40% of people socializing at venue believe that

injection drug users socialize at the venue (Table 30). About 14 % of venues were reported as places where men who have sex with men socialize, but no men reported own homosexual experience. Not many people visit the venue every day, but 65% visit at least once a month. Most of the people come to the venue to socialize and drink alcohol but 30% of men and 16% of women report that they come to the venue to meet a new sexual partner (Table 17). Information about the number of people who socialize at the venue and ratio of men to women is very important for planning prevention programs. Based on the information obtained from this study, 48% of venues have more than 100 people socializing at a busy time, and the ratio of men to women at all places included in this study is 56/44. The busiest times are Friday and Saturday evenings and holidays.

Overall, the PLACE method found a large gap in AIDS prevention programs, but a willingness to improve programs at the venues. Only 20% of venues had any HIV/AIDS prevention programs and condoms were available on the day of the venue visit at 14% of venues; 75% had not had condoms available at all during the past year (Table S1). Approximately 11% of venue managers were willing to sell condoms at their venue, and 43% of venue representatives were willing to have an HIV/AIDS prevention program at their venue.

The mean age of patrons at the venues was 22,5 years. A total of 6% of men and 3% of women socializing at the venues were not residents of Saratov-Engels (Table S1). Some patrons were newcomers to the area with 2% of men and 4% of women had lived in the area less than a year (Table 18). Students are approximately half of all the patrons – 51 % of men and 58% of women (Table S1). Commer-

cial sex was reported by 13% of men and 11% of women. Female youth are overrepresented among sex workers – 85% of commercial sex workers are young women. The rate of new sexual partnerships reported by people socializing at the venues was very high. Approximately 83% of the men and 62% of the women interviewed reported having had a new partner in the past year; 48% of the men and 28% of the women reported having had a new partner in the past four weeks (Table S1). More than 43% of men and 25% of women socializing at venues reported having had two or more partners in the past four weeks (Table 21).

The age difference between sexual partners can be an important contributor to the spread of HIV. In Saratov-Engels, men tend to have younger partners (only 6% of men did not have a younger partner in the past 12 months). Women tend to have older partners (only 13% did not have an older partner in the past 12 months). Both men and women prefer to establish partnership with peers (not more than four years younger or older). Nevertheless, 10% of men and 24% of women had a partner more than 10 years older than themselves, and 8% of men had a partner who was more than 10 years younger (Table 23).

Key indicators by level of sexual partnership formation are given in Tables S3, S4, and 22. Approximately 56% of men reported a high rate of sexual partnership, defined as at least one new partner or two or more total partners in the past four weeks compared to 31% of women who reported a high rate; while one third of women reported a low level of sexual partnership defined as one non-new partner in the past 12 months or not sexually active compared to 15% of men who reported a low partnership level (Table S1). Among those who had had two or more partners in the past 12 months, 85% of male youth and 79% of female youth reported using a condom with their last new partner.

Approximately half of respondents thought that they were not very likely to contract the HIV/AIDS virus and approximately a quarter did not know if they were at risk of HIV/AIDS. Roughly 14% thought that they were somewhat likely to contract the virus and another 16% thought that they were at no risk of HIV/AIDS. Only 0,5% of men and 2,7% of women thought that they were very likely to contract the HIV/AIDS virus (Table 27). One quarter of respondents have ever been tested for HIV including 12% of men and 17% of women who were tested in the last 12 months. Approximately 28% of men and 34% of women are interested in being tested for HIV in the next 12 months (Table 26). The study shows that many people participated in prevention programs that had a passive character (Table 25) – they heard an HIV/AIDS program on radio (47% of men and 53 % of women) or saw an HIV/AIDS prevention poster (62% of men and 74% of women).

### **Priority Venues and Recommendations**

A final seminar, dedicated to the discussion of the study results, took place in Saratov on 14 February 2006. Twenty-one representatives from the government, Saratov Oblast AIDS Center, local NGOs, and Saratov State Technical University took part in the seminar. All participants are involved in prevention programs, carry out prevention and treatment for addiction and AIDS, and conduct research in this area. The majority of participants were present at the initial presentation of the PLACE method that occurred in Saratov prior to the start the study, and therefore were familiar with the objectives and methods of the project. Furthermore, seminar participants were provided with handouts containing a brief overview of the project and the main results of the study. At the beginning of the seminar, Jacqueline Tate of MEASURE Evaluation (University of

**Table 33. Priority Venues**

<b>Venues with Key Populations On-Site</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>
Where people meet new sexual partners	128	79.5
Where sex workers solicit	24	14.9
Where IDUs socialize	52	32.3
Where students or youth under 18 socialize	145	91.3
Where men have sex with men	23	14.3
<b>Venues Meeting Criteria 1, Criteria 2, Criteria 3</b>		
Criteria 1: Three or more key populations at venue	99	61.5
Criteria 2: Venues named by 15 or more community informants	28	23.6
Criteria 3: Venues with more than 25 people	111	69.0
<b>Venues Meeting Priority Level (As Locally Defined)</b>		
Level 1: Venues meet all three criteria	28	17.4
Level 2: Venues meet two of three criteria	10	6.2
Level 3: Venues meet one of three criteria	61	37.9
Level 4: All other venues	62	38.5

North Carolina at Chapel Hill, USA) gave a short overview of the methodology. The main results of the study were presented by Natalia Lovtsova (Saratov, Center for Social Policy and Gender Studies) who had a multi-media presentation. Potential uses of the study results for developing prevention programs were discussed. A list of recommendations prepared by the steering committee regarding the improvement of prevention programs were presented to seminar participants. After considering these proposals, participants expressed their own opinions and recommendations. After receiving ethical training, representatives of the organizations involved in prevention programs were provided with a complete packet of study materials and given instructions for its use. Seminar participants expressed their appreciation for the study project, noted the practical significance of the results, and expressed hopes for the continuation of similar studies in Saratov.

Based on the results of the study, the following recommendations were made:

- ▲ Notify the professionals from government, NGOs, and universities more widely about the results of the study, and disseminate information about potential for HIV/AIDS transmission and available prevention activities. Some results of this study can be used by professionals in an information campaign and for planning preventive actions.

AIDS transmission and available prevention activities. Some results of this study can be used by professionals in an information campaign and for planning preventive actions.

- ▲ Stimulate the development of collaborative actions among health care, educational, social protection, and leisure activity institutions to establish a network of preventive and information measures.
- ▲ Influence the local authority to expand oblast programs on AIDS prevention and to stimulate collaboration between government and NGOs in the area of AIDS prevention.
- ▲ Focus prevention on the youth population, which should be targeted for educational programs at schools, colleges, and universities.
- ▲ Connect AIDS preventive programs with programs aimed at alcohol consumption limitation, especially among young people.
- ▲ Develop collaboration with venue managers to introduce preventive

actions and programmes at places where young people socialize. Organize volunteers to work at these venues.

- ▲ In collaboration with Saratov Oblast Ministry for Youth, Sport and Tourism Affairs, organize public actions with a focus on prevention of AIDS in informal venues where people socialize.
- ▲ Focus activity of NGOs in venues where members of “risk groups” socialize.

## Appendix 1: Questionnaires

### Community Informant Questionnaire (Form A)

No.	Questions	Coding categories	
A1	Priority Prevention Area	Saratov-Engels 2	
A2	Location of Interview in Priority Prevention Area	ZONE 1 1 ZONE 2 2 ZONE 3 3 ZONE 4 4 ZONE 5 5	ZONE 6 6 ZONE 7 7 ZONE 8 8 ZONE 9 9 ZONE 10 10
A3	Interviewer Number / Community Informant Number	____ / ____	
A4	Date (Day, Month, Year)	____ / ____ / ____	
A5	Gender of Community Informant	MALE 1 FEMALE 2	
A6	<p>TYPE OF COMMUNITY INFORMANT CODES:</p> <p><u>Occupations In Contact With People Socializing</u></p> <p>TAXI DRIVER 01 TRUCK DRIVER 02 MOBILE HAWKER / STREET VENDOR 03 OTHER MIGRANT AND MOBILE WORKERS 04 MECHANICS /PETROL STATIONS ATTENDANTS 05 BAR, TAVERN, CLUB WORKER/MANAGER 06 HOTEL OR TOUR ISM WORKER/MANAGER 07 SECURITY GUARDS, CLEANERS 08 HAIRDRESSER, BARBER 09 BEER/LIQUOR STORE OWNER 10 OTHER 11 OTHER 12</p> <p><u>Community Leaders</u></p> <p>MAYOR/CHIEF/COMMUNITY LEADER 20 CBO/NGO STAFF 21 TEACHER 22 POLICE / MILITARY OFFICER 23 HEALTH CARE WORKER 24</p>	<p>ENTER CODE: ____</p> <p>CODES CONTINUED:</p> <p><u>Community Leaders Continued</u></p> <p>TRADITIONAL HEALERS 25 CHURCH WORKER 26 OTHER 27</p> <p><u>Behavioral and Socio Demographic</u></p> <p>STI PATIENT 30 INDIVIDUAL SOCIALISING AT SITE 31 SEX WORKER 32 BEACH BOYS/GIGOLOS 33 YOUTH IN SCHOOL 34 YOUTH OUT OF SCHOOL 35 STREET PEOPLE 36 UNEMPLOYED 37 INJECTION DRUG USER 38 LOCAL RESIDENTS 39 OTHER 98</p>	

No.	Questions	Coding categories
<p>Hello. I am working on a research project carried out by the Saratov Center for Social Policy and Gender Studies (CSPGS). We want to talk to people like you who know about this community and ask you a few questions. The purpose of the study is to identify where better health programs are needed in this area in order to prevent the further spread of diseases that are transmitted by sex and injection drug use. We need to know the names and locations of places where you think people meet new lovers, boyfriends, girlfriends, or one-night sexual partners. People who are at these places may be especially in need of educational programs. We don't want to know the names of any private residences. We are just interested in public places. If you tell us the names of a few places, then we will visit those places to see if they would benefit from a health outreach program. Telling us the names and locations of sites should take between 5 and 15 minutes.</p> <p>We do not want to know your name or any information about yourself that could identify you. This is an anonymous questionnaire. You will not be contacted in the future. Your answers cannot be linked back to you. The questionnaires will be kept at CSPGS in a locked cabinet. The only people who will see the questionnaires are people working on this study. Some people feel anxious or embarrassed when asked these questions. Your participation is completely voluntary and you may decline to answer any specific question or completely refuse to participate. We would greatly appreciate your help in responding to these questions, even though we are not able to financially compensate you for your time. You may not personally benefit directly from this study, but the results will be used to improve health programs in this area. An ethical review board has approved this study. If you have any questions you can ask the Field Coordinator <b>Natalia Lovtsova</b>. She can be reached at _____. We want to talk with people aged 18 and older.</p>		
A7	<p>How old are you?</p> <p>RECORD AGE. STOP INTERVIEW IF RESPONDENT IS YOUNGER THAN 18.</p>	AGE IN YEARS: ___ ___
A8	<p>Are you willing to answer a few questions?</p> <p>*IF NO OR RESPONDENT TOO YOUNG, STOP INTERVIEW.</p>	<p>YES 1 NO 2 RESPONDENT TOO YOUNG 3</p>
<p>READ: We want to know where people meet new lovers, new boyfriends and new girlfriends. This includes places where people find a sexual partner for one night as well as places where people meet someone they will know for a long time. We also want to know where injection drug users can be reached by prevention programs. Knowing where these places are will help us plan health education programs there. Places can be indoor sites where people socialize such as bars and churches; outdoor sites such as parks and street corners; and places that are actually events such as weddings or community festivals. We are not interested in private places such as someone's home. We want to know about public indoor and outdoor sites and events.</p>		

No.	Questions	Coding categories
	<p>ASK EVERYONE: First let's talk about places that are close by, within a ten-minute walk of here. Could you tell me a few public places where people meet new lovers, boyfriends, girlfriends, or one-night partners within a ten-minute walk of here?</p> <p>WRITE EACH PLACE NAMED ON THE LIST IN A11. FILL OUT A SITE AND EVENT REPORT FORM FOR EACH PLACE LISTED. DO NOT RECORD MORE THAN 10 PLACES.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NEXT: Now let's talk about places that are further away. Where else do people from here meet new lovers, boyfriends, girlfriends, and one-night partners?</li> <li>• NEXT: Anywhere else?</li> <li>• NEXT: Where do _____ SUB-GROUPS IDENTIFIED AS IMPORTANT IN LOCAL EPIDEMIC meet new sexual partners? For example: Where do <i>newcomers</i> meet new lovers in <i>Priority Prevention Area</i> ? Where do <i>youth</i> meet new lovers? Where do <i>sex workers</i> solicit clients? Where do <i>gay men</i> find new sexual partners? Where do <i>travelers</i> find new sexual partners? Where do <i>injection drug users</i> socialize?</li> </ul>	
A9	We also want to know what you think about drug use in the district. How common is injection drug use in this district?	VERY COMMON 1 SOMEWHAT COMMON 2 NOT VERY COMMON 3 DOES NOT OCCUR IN DISTRICT 4
A10	<p>NUMBER OF PLACES NAMED THAT ARE:</p> <p>NOTE: IF MORE THAN ONE PPA, ADD A LINE TO INCLUDE SEPARATE LINES FOR SITES INSIDE EACH PPA</p>	<p>SITES INSIDE THIS PPA : _____</p> <p>SITES OUTSIDE THIS PPA : _____</p> <p>EVENTS INSIDE PPA : _____</p> <p>EVENTS OUTSIDE PPA : _____</p>

#### A11: LIST OF VENUES AND EVENTS

LIST EACH SITE OR EVENT NAMED BY THE COMMUNITY INFORMANT HERE. AFTER RECORDING ALL OF THE PLACES, FILL OUT A SITE REPORT FORM FOR EACH PLACE NAMED. IF YOU HAVE 5 PLACES NAMED, YOU NEED TO FILL OUT 5 SITE AND EVENT REPORT FORMS. IF YOU HAVE 10 PLACES NAMED, YOU MUST FILL OUT 10 SITE AND EVENT REPORT FORMS. THIS REQUIRES ASKING THE RESPONDENT ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS ABOUT EACH PLACE NAMED. NOTE: THIS LIST DOES NOT NEED TO BE KEYED.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_



Venue and Event Report Form (Form B)

No.	Questions	Coding Categories
B1	Interviewer Number / Community Informant Number THESE NUMBERS SHOULD BE THE SAME AS THE NUMBERS IN A3.	_____/_____
B2	Date (Day, Month, Year)	_____/_____/_____
B3	Name of Venue or Event: IF Event, Where and when does event occur?	
B4	Is this venue called by any other name? Additional names of venue:	
B5	Where is this venue located? Geographic Code Where Venue is Located.	ZONE 1 1 ZONE 6 6 ZONE 2 2 ZONE 7 7 ZONE 3 3 ZONE 8 8 ZONE 4 4 ZONE 9 9 ZONE 5 5 ZONE 10 10  OUTSIDE THIS PPA 99
B6	What is the address of the venue and how can I find it? (BE VERY DETAILED)	
B7	What kind of venue is this? TYPE OF VENUE: <b><u>Eating / Drinking / Dancing / Sleeping Places</u></b> 01 Informal place for drinking alcohol 02 Formal Bar, Tavern 03 Nightclub 04 Gay Bar 05 Porn Shop, Strip Bar 06 Massage Parlor, Bath House, Sauna 07 Room for a night 08 Hotel, Bed and Breakfast 09 Hostel 10 Overnight Truck Stop 11 Restaurant 12 Other Eating / Drinking / Sleeping  <b><u>Hidden, Private Or Abandoned Areas</u></b> 40 Unused House/Crack House 41 Private Dwelling 42 Abandoned yard, field, "bush" 43 Public Toilet 44 Other Hidden, Private	ENTER CODE: _____  <b><u>Transportation, Public, Commercial Areas</u></b> 20 Bus, Train, Metro Stop or Railway Station 21 Truck stop 22 Taxi Stand 23 River Station 24 Beach 25 Street or Street Corner 26 Parks 27 Markets 28 Church / Temple / Mosque 29 Nearby or on School, University Campus 30 Sports venue 31 Store 32 Kiosk, Store 33 Liquor Store 34 Mall, Shopping Center 35 Tourist attraction 36 Construction Venue 37 Other Transportation, Public, Commercial  <b><u>Events</u></b> 50 Concert, Festival, Cultural Show 51 Vacation, Holidays 52 Sports Events 53 Other Events
B8	Is this a site where people meet new sexual partners or where drug injectors socialize or both?	People meet sexual partners only 1 Drug Injectors socialize only 2 Both: people meet partners & drug injectors socialize 3



### Venue Verification Form (Form C)

No.	Questions	Coding Categories	
<b>THE FIELD COORDINATOR COMPLETES C1 – C5 BASED ON THE VENUE REPORT FORM FOR THE VENUE</b>			
C1	Name of Priority Prevention Area	SARATOV-ENGELS 2	
C2	Unique Venue Number	Venue Number: _____	
C3	Location of Venue	<i>IN SARATOV-ENGELS, ZONE 1</i> 1	<i>IN SARATOV-ENGELS, ZONE 6</i> 6
		<i>IN SARATOV-ENGELS, ZONE 2</i> 2	<i>IN SARATOV-ENGELS, ZONE 7</i> 7
		<i>IN SARATOV-ENGELS, ZONE 3</i> 3	<i>IN SARATOV-ENGELS, ZONE 8</i> 8
		<i>IN SARATOV-ENGELS, ZONE 4</i> 4	<i>IN SARATOV-ENGELS, ZONE 9</i> 9
		<i>IN SARATOV-ENGELS, ZONE 5</i> 5	<i>IN SARATOV-ENGELS, ZONE 10</i> 10
		<i>IN SARATOV OBLAST, BUT NOT IN SARATOV -ENGELS</i> 11	
<i>IN ANOTHER OBLAST</i> 12			
C4	How many Community Informants Reported this Venue	_____	
C5	Name of Venue Per Community Informant: _____  Address Per Community Informant:		
<b>C6 – C14 SHOULD BE COMPLETED BY THE INTERVIEWER BEFORE THE INTERVIEW</b>			
C6	Interviewer Gender	MALE 1	
		FEMALE 2	
C7	Interviewer Number	_____	
C8	Date (DD/MM/YY)	_____/_____/_____	
C9	Time of day (24 HOUR CLOCK)	_____:_____-	
C10	Was the venue found?	YES AND VENUE IN OPERATION 1	
		YES BUT VENUE CLOSED TEMPORARILY 2	
		VENUE CLOSED PERMANENTLY OR NO LONGER A VENUE 3	
		ADDRESS INSUFFICIENT, VENUE NOT FOUND 4	
		DUPLICATE VENUE, VENUE ALREADY VISITED 5	
		<b>IF VENUE NOT FOUND OR NOT IN OPERATION (C10 &gt; 1) THEN STOP.</b>	
C11	What is the proper name and correct venue address?  NAME: _____  CORRECT ADDRESS:		

No.	Questions	Coding Categories
C12	Coordinates	
C13	<p>What kind of venue is this?  <b>TYPE OF VENUE:</b>  <u><b>Eating / Drinking / Dancing / Sleeping</b></u>  <u><b>Places</b></u>            01 Informal place for drinking alcohol            02 Formal Bar, Tavern            03 Nightclub            04 Gay Bar            05 Porn Shop, Strip Bar            06 Massage Parlor, Bath House, Sauna            07 Room for a night            08 Hotel, Bed and Breakfast            09 Hostel            10 Overnight Truck Stop            11 Restaurant            12 Other Eating / Drinking / Sleeping    <u><b>Hidden, Private Or Abandoned Areas</b></u>            40 Unused House/Crack House            41 Private Dwelling            42 Abandoned yard, field, "bush"            43 Public Toilet            44 Other Hidden, Private         </p>	<p>ENTER CODE: ____</p> <p><b>Transportation, Public, Commercial Areas</b></p> <p>20 Bus, Train, Metro Stop or Railway Station            21 Truck stop            22 Taxi Stand            23 River Station            24 Beach            25 Street or Street Corner            26 Parks            27 Markets            28 Church / Temple / Mosque            29 Near by or on School, University Campus            30 Sports venue            31 Store            32 Kiosk, Store            33 Liquor Store            34 Mall, Shopping Center            35 Tourist attraction            36 Construction Venue            37 Other Transportation, Public, Commercial</p> <p><b>Events</b></p> <p>50 Concert, Festival, Cultural Show            51 Vacation, Holidays            52 Sports Events            53 Other Events</p>
<p>THE INTERVIEWER SHOULD IDENTIFY SOMEONE KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT THIS VENUE            AND THEN COMPLETE THE REST OF THIS QUESTIONNAIRE.</p>		
C14	Gender of respondent	MALE 1 FEMALE 2
C15	Position at the venue	OWNER, MANAGER, STAFF 1 PATRON 2 OTHER 3
<p>READ: Hello. I am working on a research project carried out by the Saratov Center for Social Policy and Gender Studies (CSPGS). The purpose of the study is to identify where health programs are needed to prevent the spread of infectious diseases. We want to ask people who know about this community a few questions. We are talking with hundreds of people. I would like to ask you about activities that occur here, people who come here, and whether you are interested in having health information here. The interview should take 20 to 25 minutes. I won't ask your name or any other identifying information. Some people feel anxious or embarrassed when asked these questions. Your participation is completely voluntary and you may decline to answer any question or completely refuse to participate. We appreciate your help, even though we are not able to financially compensate you. You may not personally benefit directly from this study, but the results will be used to plan new health programs for this area. This is what we will do with the information you give us. Your answers will be recorded on this questionnaire. Your name will not be recorded anywhere and we won't ask any personal information about you. The questionnaires will be kept at CSPGS in a locked cabinet. The only people who will see the questionnaires are people working on this study. An ethical review board has reviewed this study. If you have any questions you can ask the Field Coordinator, <b>Natalia Lovtsova</b> who can be reached at _____.</p>		

No.	Questions	Coding Categories
C16	How old are you?  IF RESPONDENT IS < 18, END INTERVIEW AND FIND AN OLDER PERSON KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT THE VENUE. IF RESPONDENT IS 18 OR OLDER ASK: Are you willing to answer these questions?	AGE: ____  YES 1 NO 2
RECORD IN C17 WHETHER THE INTERVIEW CAN CONTINUE ON TO C18. C17 CANNOT BE LEFT BLANK.		
C17	WAS AN INTERVIEW INITIATED?  IF NO, WHY NOT?	YES 1  NO BECAUSE: No willing respondent 2 All potential respondents too young 3
READ: NOW LET'S START THE INTERVIEW. FIRST I WILL ASK YOU ABOUT THIS VENUE.		
C18	How many years has this venue been in operation?	< 1 YEAR 1 1-2 YEARS 2 MORE THAN 2 YEARS 3 DO NOT KNOW 9
C19	How many men and women usually work here during a busy day from opening until closing, including yourself if you are one of the staff?  PROBE CAREFULLY. DO NOT LEAVE BLANK.	MALE STAFF: ____  FEMALE STAFF: ____
C20	What types of activities take place here?  READ LIST  CIRCLE ONE CODE FOR EACH ACTIVITY	YES NO  (A) PEOPLE BUY FOOD AND EAT 1 2 (B) PEOPLE SOCIALIZE FOR AN HOUR OR MORE 1 2 (C) PEOPLE CAN BUY BEER/ALCOHOL TO CONSUME ONSITE 1 2 (D) PEOPLE BRING BEER/ALCOHOL TO CONSUME 1 2 (E) TV VIEWING 1 2 (F) VCR OR CD VIDEO VIEWING 1 2 (G) EXPLICIT SEX VIDEOS SHOWN 1 2 (H) INDIVIDUAL/GROUP or COUPLE DANCING 1 2 (I) EXOTIC OR GO-GO DANCING 1 2 (J) LIVE MUSIC 1 2 (K) RECORDED MUSIC 1 2 (L) LIVE DJ 1 2
C21	Have you seen used syringes lying around inside or outside of this place in the past three months?	YES 1 NO 2

No.	Questions	Coding Categories
C22	I have been told that people meet sexual partners at places like this. In your opinion.....  READ LIST	YES NO  (A) Do men meet new female sexual partners here? 1 2 (B) Do women meet new sexual partners here? 1 2 (C) Do men meet male (gay) sexual partners here? 1 2 (D) Does someone onsite help partners hook up/link up? 1 2 (E) Do female sex workers solicit customers here? 1 2 (F) Do people have sex here at the venue? 1 2 (G) Do female staff meet new sexual partners here? 1 2 (H) Do male staff meet new sexual partners here? 1 2
C23	Where do people socialize here:  READ LIST.	Only indoors 1 Only outdoors 2 Both indoors and outdoors 3 Neither indoors or outdoors 4
C24	What are the busiest times of the year here at this venue?  READ OPTIONS	YES NO  (A) SCHOOL / STUDENT HOLIDAYS 1 2 (B) PUBLIC HOLIDAYS 1 2 (C) END OF MONTH 1 2 (D) NOW 1 2 (E) OTHER----- 1 2
C25	We would to know when the most people are at this venue during a typical week. On which day of the week do the most people visit this site?  CIRCLE CODE FOR ONLY ONE DAY OF THE WEEK UNDER "BUSIEST DAY" (CODE 1-7)  Which day of the week is the next most busy?  CIRCLE ONLY ONE CODE UNDER "NEXT BUSY" (CODE 11-77)	BUSIEST DAY      NEXT BUSY  MONDAY      1      11 TUESDAY      2      22 WEDNESDAY      3      33 THURSDAY      4      44 FRIDAY      5      55 SATURDAY      6      66 SUNDAY      7      77
C26	On <BUSIEST DAY FROM C25 e.g. "SATURDAY> when is the busiest time of the day for people to socialize? READ OPTIONS & CIRCLE ONLY ONE CODE (1-4).  On <NEXT BUSY DAY FROM C25> when is the busiest time? READ OPTIONS & CIRCLE ONLY ONE CODE.	BUSIEST DAY TIMES      NEXT BUSY  Morning: 6am - Noon      1      11 Afternoon: Noon - 6pm      2      22 Evening: 6pm -10pm      3      33 Late night: 10pm - 6 am      4      44

No.	Questions	Coding Categories				
C27	Approximately how many people (men and women) are here on the (BUSIEST DAY FROM C25) at (THE BUSIEST TIME FROM C26) ? This includes people who come here to socialize and people who come here for other reasons.  PROBE FOR CODE.  CIRCLE ONLY ONE CODE	TOTAL:	< 10	1	251-300	8
			11-25	2	301-350	9
			26-50	3	351-400	10
			51 – 100	4	401-450	11
			100 –150	5	451-500	12
			151- 200	6	501-600	13
			201-250	7	> 600	14
C28	Of these, approximately how many are socializing some or all of the time while they are here?  RECORD NUMBER SOCIALIZING.  AFTER ENTERING THE TOTAL, CIRCLE CODE FROM 1-20.  Of those socializing, how many are men and how many are women?  MEN AND WOMEN SHOULD ADD TO TOTAL.	CIRCLE CODE CORRESPONDING TO TOTAL:	1-25	1		
			26-75	2		
			76-125	4		
			126- 175	6		
			176-275	9		
			276-475	15		
			476-675	19		
			> 676	20		
		(S) TOTAL NUMBER SOCIALIZING: _____				
		(M) MEN SOCIALIZING: _____				
		(F) WOMEN SOCIALIZING: _____				
C29	Where do most of the people who come here to socialize come from?  CIRCLE CODE 1 FOR THE AREAS MENTIONED FIRST (WITHOUT PROBES).  Where else do patrons come from? Do some patrons come from...  READ AREAS NOT MENTIONED ABOVE AND CIRCLE SOME OR NONE FOR EACH ONE.	Mentioned	Some	None		
		(A) THIS ZONE	1	2	3	
		(B) ANOTHER ZONE	1	2	3	
		(C) ELSEWHERE IN SARATOV OBLAST	1	2	3	
		(D) ELSEWHERE IN THE RF	1	2	3	
		(E) OUTSIDE OF CIS (FOREIGNERS)	1	2	3	
<b>READ:</b> We would like some information on the type of women and men who come here to socialize during your busiest times. For each characteristic, tell me if none, less than half, half or more, or all of the men or women have the characteristic. Let's begin with the characteristics of the women.						
C30	How many <u>women</u> who come here during the busiest times:  (A) Live in Saratov-Engels (B) Are secondary or high school students (C) Are unemployed (D) Are university / college students (E) Are less than age 18 (F) Live within a 10 minute walk of here (G) Come here at least once a week (H) Live in another city in Saratov Oblast (I) Drink alcohol here (J) Find a new sexual partner here (K) Appear to be injection drug users (L) Appear to be selling or buying sex	None	< Half	>=Half	All	
		0	1	2	3	
		0	1	2	3	
		0	1	2	3	
		0	1	2	3	
		0	1	2	3	
		0	1	2	3	
		0	1	2	3	
		0	1	2	3	
		0	1	2	3	
		0	1	2	3	
		0	1	2	3	
		0	1	2	3	

No.	Questions	Coding Categories			
		None	< Half	>=Half	All
C31	How many <u>men</u> who come here during the busiest times:				
	(A) Live in Saratov-Engels	0	1	2	3
	(B) Are secondary or high school students	0	1	2	3
	(C) Are unemployed	0	1	2	3
	(D) Are university / college students	0	1	2	3
	(E) Are less than age 18	0	1	2	3
	(F) Live within a 10 minute walk of here	0	1	2	3
	(G) Come here at least once a week	0	1	2	3
	(H) Live in another city in Saratov Oblast	0	1	2	3
	(I) Drink alcohol here	0	1	2	3
	(J) Find a new sexual partner here	0	1	2	3
	(K) Appear to be injection drug users	0	1	2	3
	(L) Appear to be selling or buying sex	0	1	2	3
	(M) Are men who have sex with men/ gay / homosexual	0	1	2	3
C32	Do you believe that the men and women who come here go to other venues to socialize and look for a new partner?	YES MEN: 1 WOMEN: 1	NO 2 2	DON'T KNOW 9 9	
C33	IF YES to C32: Which two other venues do you think are the most popular with the people who come to this place?  What is the name of the first venue?  Where is it located?  What type of venue is it?	NAME OF FIRST VENUE: _____  (M) LOCATION: IN SARATOV -ENGELS 1 ANOTHER CITY IN SARATOV OBLAST 2 OUTSIDE OF COUNTRY 97 NO VENUE NAMED 99  (T) VENUE TYPE Apartment 1 Formal Bar, Tavern, Nightclub 2 Bath, Sauna, Massage Parlor 3 Hotel, Hostel 4 Restaurant 5 Bus, Train, Metro, Taxi, Truck Stop 6 Street 7 Mall, Shopping Center 8 Abandoned Yard, Field, Bush 9 Other (Specify): _____ 10 No Venue Named 99  UNIQUE VENUE NUMBER (FILLED IN BY COORDINATOR): _____			

No.	Questions	Coding Categories																											
C34	<p>What is the name of a second venue popular with the patrons who come here?</p> <p>Where is it located?</p> <p>What type of venue is it?</p>	<p>NAME OF SECOND VENUE: _____</p> <p>(M) LOCATION: IN SARATOV -ENGELS 1 ANOTHER CITY IN SARATOV OBLAST 2 OUTSIDE OF COUNTRY 97 NO VENUE NAMED 99</p> <p>(T) VENUE TYPE</p> <table> <tr><td>Apartment</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>Formal Bar, Tavern, Nightclub</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>Bath, Sauna, Massage Parlor</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>Hotel, Hostel</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>Restaurant</td><td>5</td></tr> <tr><td>Bus, Train, Metro, Taxi, Truck Stop</td><td>6</td></tr> <tr><td>Street</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>Mall, Shopping Center</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr><td>Abandoned Yard, Field, Bush</td><td>9</td></tr> <tr><td>Other (Specify): _____</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>No Venue Named</td><td>99</td></tr> </table> <p>UNIQUE VENUE NUMBER (FILLED IN BY COORDINATOR): _____</p>	Apartment	1	Formal Bar, Tavern, Nightclub	2	Bath, Sauna, Massage Parlor	3	Hotel, Hostel	4	Restaurant	5	Bus, Train, Metro, Taxi, Truck Stop	6	Street	7	Mall, Shopping Center	8	Abandoned Yard, Field, Bush	9	Other (Specify): _____	10	No Venue Named	99					
Apartment	1																												
Formal Bar, Tavern, Nightclub	2																												
Bath, Sauna, Massage Parlor	3																												
Hotel, Hostel	4																												
Restaurant	5																												
Bus, Train, Metro, Taxi, Truck Stop	6																												
Street	7																												
Mall, Shopping Center	8																												
Abandoned Yard, Field, Bush	9																												
Other (Specify): _____	10																												
No Venue Named	99																												
C35	<p>Have there ever been any HIV/AIDS prevention activities here at this venue?</p> <p>Has there been any...</p> <p>READ LIST</p>	<p>YES NO</p> <table> <tr><td>Any HIV/AIDS prevention?</td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>Educational talk on HIV/AIDS?</td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>Peer health education program?</td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>Condom promotion?</td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>Needle Exchange Program?</td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>HIV/AIDS video shown onsite?</td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>HIV/AIDS Radio program broadcast?</td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>HIV/AIDS posters or leaflets?</td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>Other?</td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr> </table>	Any HIV/AIDS prevention?	1	2	Educational talk on HIV/AIDS?	1	2	Peer health education program?	1	2	Condom promotion?	1	2	Needle Exchange Program?	1	2	HIV/AIDS video shown onsite?	1	2	HIV/AIDS Radio program broadcast?	1	2	HIV/AIDS posters or leaflets?	1	2	Other?	1	2
Any HIV/AIDS prevention?	1	2																											
Educational talk on HIV/AIDS?	1	2																											
Peer health education program?	1	2																											
Condom promotion?	1	2																											
Needle Exchange Program?	1	2																											
HIV/AIDS video shown onsite?	1	2																											
HIV/AIDS Radio program broadcast?	1	2																											
HIV/AIDS posters or leaflets?	1	2																											
Other?	1	2																											
C36	In the past year, how often have condoms been available here?	<p>ALWAYS 1</p> <p>SOMETIMES 2</p> <p>NEVER 3</p>																											
C37	<p>Are there any condoms here today?</p> <p>IF YES, can I see one?</p>	<p>YES, BUT YOU CANT SEE ONE 1</p> <p>YES, AND A CONDOM WAS SEEN 2</p> <table> <tr><td>BRANDS</td><td>Contex</td><td>2.1</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>Sico</td><td>2.2</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>Durex</td><td>2.3</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>Vizit</td><td>2.4</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>Lifestyles</td><td>2.5</td></tr> </table> <p>NO 3</p>	BRANDS	Contex	2.1		Sico	2.2		Durex	2.3		Vizit	2.4		Lifestyles	2.5												
BRANDS	Contex	2.1																											
	Sico	2.2																											
	Durex	2.3																											
	Vizit	2.4																											
	Lifestyles	2.5																											

No.	Questions	Coding Categories
C38	In the past four weeks, have any condoms been sold from here or taken freely?	YES, SOLD 1 YES, TAKEN FREELY 2 YES, BOTH SOLD AND TAKEN FREELY 3 NO 4
C39	Is it possible to get a condom within 10 minutes of this place at night?  If YES, where?	YES 1 NO 2 DON'T KNOW 8  SHOP 1 PHARMACY 2 KIOSK 3 BAR / NIGHTCLUB / RESTAURANT / HOTEL 4 OTHER 5
C40	Now we would like to talk about the possibility of having an AIDS prevention activity at this venue. This could include a poster, a meeting, a video, or a visit from a health outreach worker. Would you be willing to have some type of AIDS prevention program here?	YES 1 NO 2
C41	Would you be willing to sell condoms here?	YES 1 NO 2 ALREADY SELLING 3 NOT POSSIBLE DUE TO TYPE OF VENUE 9
C42	INTERVIEWER OBSERVATION:  Evidence of HIV/AIDS prevention activities noted by interviewer at the venue  RECORD THE NUMBER YOU SEE	NUMBER OF HIV/AIDS POSTERS DISPLAYED ____  NUMBER OF HIV/AIDS BROCHURES AT VENUE ____  NUMBER OF CONDOMS VISIBLE ____  NUMBER OF USED SYRINGES LYING AROUND ____

**Thank you for your participation!**

**Questionnaire For Individuals Socializing At Venues (Form D)**  
**Priorities for Local AIDS Control Efforts**

No.	Questions	Coding categories
D1	Name of Priority Prevention Area	SARATOV-ENGELS 1
D2	Interviewer Number Interviewer Gender	INTERVIEWER NUMBER ____ MALE INTERVIEWER 1 FEMALE INTERVIEWER 2
D3	Name of Venue:	
D4	Unique Venue Number	Venue Number: ____ ____ ____
D5	Location of Venue  CIRCLE A GEOGRAPHIC CODE	ZONE 1 1 ZONE 6 6 ZONE 2 2 ZONE 7 7 ZONE 3 3 ZONE 8 8 ZONE 4 4 ZONE 9 9 ZONE 5 5 ZONE 10 10 NOT IN A ZONE 99
D6	Date (DD/MM/YY)	____ / ____ / ____
D7	Day of the week	MONDAY 1 TUESDAY 2 WEDNESDAY 3 THURSDAY 4 FRIDAY 5 SATURDAY 6 SUNDAY 7
D8	Time of day (24 hour clock)	____ : ____
D9	Number socializing at venue at this time  COUNT ALL MEN AND WOMEN SOCIALIZING INSIDE AND OUTSIDE AND RECORD ON LINES PROVIDED.	MEN: ____ ____ ____ WOMEN: ____ ____ ____
D10	Individual Interview Number	Individual Interview Number: ____ ____
D11	Gender of respondent  Interviewer opinion if respondent is an IDU, CSW, and/or MSM  Is the individual part or the representative sample or oversample?	MALE 1 FEMALE 2  YES NO IDU? 1 2 CSW? 1 2 MSM? 1 2  REPRESENTATIVE SAMPLE 1 OVERSAMPLE 2

No.	Questions	Coding categories
Hello. I am working on a research project carried out by the Saratov Center for Social Policy and Gender Studies (CSPGS). We want to talk to people like you who know about this community and ask you a few questions. The purpose of the study is to identify where better health programs are needed in this area in order to prevent the spread of diseases that are transmitted by sex and injection drug use. We would like to ask you a few questions to get the information necessary to plan the programs. I would like to ask you some questions about your behavior, including your sexual and drug use behavior. The interview should take between 25 and 30 minutes of your time and you will not be contacted in the future. We will not ask you for your name. Your answers are confidential and cannot be linked back to you. The questionnaires will be kept at CSPGS in a locked cabinet. The only people who will see the questionnaires are people working on this study. Some people feel anxious or embarrassed when asked questions about their behavior. Your participation is completely voluntary and you may decline to answer any specific question or completely refuse to participate. We would greatly appreciate your help in responding to these questions, even though we are not able to financially compensate you. You may not personally benefit directly from this study, but the results may be used to plan a new health program for this area. An ethical review board has reviewed this study. If you have any questions you can ask <b>Natalia Lovtsova</b> who can be reached at _____. We want to talk with people age 15 and older.		
D12	How old are you?	DO NOT LEAVE BLANK: AGE: _____
D13	<p>IF RESPONDENT IS <math>\geq 18</math>, CODE 1.          IF RESPONDENT IS <math>&lt; 15</math>, CODE 5.</p> <p>IF RESPONDENT 15, 16, OR 17 ASK:</p> <p>Are you here with a parent or here on a family errand such as &lt;example, to buy milk&gt;?          IF RESPONDENT IS 15,16, OR 17, CIRCLE CODE 2,3 OR 4.</p> <p>DO NOT LEAVE BLANK.</p>	<p>NOT APPLICABLE AGE <math>\geq 18</math> 1          NO, NOT WITH PARENT OR ON ERRAND 2          YES, HERE WITH PARENT 3          YES, ON FAMILY ERRAND 4          NOT APPLICABLE <math>&lt; 15</math> 5</p> <p>IF D13=3, 4 OR 5. STOP INTERVIEW.</p>
<b>NOTE: Continue if the respondent is age 18 or older OR if the respondent is age 15-17 and not with a parent or on a family errand. Continue if D13=1 OR D13=2.</b>		
D14	<p>Are you willing to answer these questions?          CIRCLE 1 OR 2.</p> <p>INTERVIEWER: IF THE RESPONDENT IS WILLING BUT NOT CAPABLE OF COMPLETING THE QUESTIONNAIRE, INDICATE HERE AND WHY NOT.</p>	<p>YES 1          NO 2</p> <p>INTERVIEWER OBSERVATION:          RESPONDENT CAPABLE 1          RESPONDENT NOT CAPABLE 2</p> <p>WHY NOT: _____</p>
<b>IF RESPONDENT IS NOT WILLING OR NOT CAPABLE, STOP INTERVIEW.</b>		
D15	<p>Do you live in Saratov-Engels?          If NO: Do you live in this district/province/country?          PROBE FOR CORRECT RESPONSE.</p>	<p>IN SARATOV-ENGELS 1          IN SARATOV OBLAST, BUT NOT IN SARATOV -ENGELS 2          IN THIS REGION BUT NOT IN SARATOV OBLAST 3          IN THIS COUNTRY BUT NOT IN THIS REGION 4          OUTSIDE RUSSIA 5</p>

No.	Questions	Coding categories
D16	How would you describe where you live? READ OPTIONS	A CAPITAL CITY 1 A LARGE CITY OVER 1 MILLION POPULATION 2 A SMALL CITY (POPULATION 50,000 -1 MILLION) 3 A TOWN (URBAN AREA < 50,000 POPULATION) 4 A RURAL AREA 5
D17	How long have you lived here / there?	LESS THAN ONE YEAR 0 NUMBER OF YEARS ____ ALL MY LIFE 97
D18	Now think about where you slept last night. Did you stay in a household residence such as a family or friend's home, an institution such as a university or employee dormitory, a hotel or commercial lodging, the street or somewhere else?	A HOUSEHOLD RESIDENCE 1 AN INSTITUTION 2 HOTEL OR COMMERCIAL LODGING 3 STREET 4 SOMEWHERE ELSE 5
	<b>READ:</b> want to ask you a few questions about activities related to your health and lifestyle including how often you come here. These are questions you might get asked during a health physical. For each activity I would like to know when you most recently did the activity. If you did the activity today, just answer "today". If you never did the activity, answer "never". There is no right or wrong answer. It can be difficult to remember when you did an activity. Here is a calendar to help you answer the questions. You may keep the calendar.	
D19	When did you most recently eat a piece of fresh fruit or fresh vegetable?  READ OPTIONS, CIRCLE CODE, AND PROBE FOR DATE IF WITHIN THE PAST 12 MONTHS.  CODE AS COMPLETE A DATE AS POSSIBLE INCLUDING DAY, MONTH AND YEAR.	TODAY 1 NOT TODAY BUT WITHIN PAST 7 DAYS 2 WITHIN PAST 2-4 WEEKS 3 WITHIN PAST 2-6 MONTHS 4 WITHIN PAST 7-12 MONTHS 6 OVER A YEAR AGO 7 NEVER 9 Date (DD/MM/YY) ____ / ____ / ____
D20	When did you most recently spend the night outside of Saratov?  READ OPTIONS, CIRCLE CODE, AND PROBE FOR DATE IF WITHIN THE PAST 12 MONTHS.  CODE AS COMPLETE A DATE AS POSSIBLE INCLUDING DAY, MONTH AND YEAR.	LAST NIGHT 1 NOT LAST NIGHT BUT IN PAST 7 DAYS 2 WITHIN PAST 2-4 WEEKS 3 WITHIN PAST 2-6 MONTHS 4 WITHIN PAST 7-12 MONTHS 6 OVER A YEAR AGO 7 NEVER 9 Date (DD/MM/YY) / /
D21	When did you most recently purchase medicine, drugs, vitamins or medicinal herbs for yourself or someone in your family?  READ OPTIONS, CIRCLE CODE, AND PROBE FOR DATE IF WITHIN THE PAST 12 MONTHS. CODE AS COMPLETE A DATE AS POSSIBLE INCLUDING DAY, MONTH AND YEAR.	TODAY 1 NOT TODAY BUT WITHIN PAST 7 DAYS 2 WITHIN PAST 2-4 WEEKS 3 WITHIN PAST 2-6 MONTHS 4 WITHIN PAST 7-12 MONTHS 6 OVER A YEAR AGO 7 NEVER 9 Date (DD/MM/YY) ____ / ____ / ____

No.	Questions	Coding categories
D22	<p>When did you most recently smoke a cigarette?</p> <p>READ OPTIONS, CIRCLE CODE, AND PROBE FOR DATE IF WITHIN THE PAST 12 MONTHS.</p> <p>CODE AS COMPLETE A DATE AS POSSIBLE INCLUDING DAY, MONTH AND YEAR.</p>	<p>TODAY 1 NOT TODAY BUT WITHIN PAST 7 DAYS 2 WITHIN PAST 2-4 WEEKS 3 WITHIN PAST 2-6 MONTHS 4 WITHIN PAST 7-12 MONTHS 6 OVER A YEAR AGO 7 NEVER 9</p> <p>Date (DD/MM/YY) ____ / ____ / ____</p>
D23	<p>When did you most recently have sex without a condom?</p> <p>READ OPTIONS, CIRCLE CODE, AND PROBE FOR DATE FROM EVERYONE REGARDLESS OF WHEN THE PERSON LAST HAD SEX WITHOUT A CONDOM.</p> <p>CODE AS COMPLETE A DATE AS POSSIBLE INCLUDING DAY, MONTH AND YEAR.</p>	<p>TODAY 1 NOT TODAY BUT WITHIN PAST 7 DAYS 2 WITHIN PAST 2-4 WEEKS 3 WITHIN PAST 2-6 MONTHS 4 WITHIN PAST 7-12 MONTHS 6 OVER A YEAR AGO 7 NEVER 9</p> <p>Date (DD/MM/YY) ____ / ____ / ____</p>
D24	<p>Before today, when did you most recently come to this place?</p> <p>IF THIS IS THE FIRST VISIT TO THE VENUE, CODE 8 for D25 AND D26.</p> <p>READ OPTIONS, CIRCLE CODE, AND PROBE FOR DATE FROM EVERYONE WHO HAS EVER BEEN TO THE SITE PREVIOUSLY.</p>	<p>WITHIN PAST 7 DAYS 2 WITHIN PAST 2-4 WEEKS 3 WITHIN PAST 2-6 MONTHS 4 WITHIN PAST 7-12 MONTHS 6 OVER A YEAR AGO 7 THIS IS MY FIRST VISIT 8</p> <p>Date (DD/MM/YY) ____ / ____ / ____</p>
D25	<p>When did you come to this place for the first time?</p>	<p>WITHIN PAST 7 DAYS 2 WITHIN PAST 2-4 WEEKS 3 WITHIN PAST 2-6 MONTHS 4 WITHIN PAST 7-12 MONTHS 6 OVER A YEAR AGO 7 THIS IS MY FIRST VISIT 8</p> <p>Date (DD/MM/YY) ____ / ____ / ____</p>
D26	<p>How often do you come to this place?</p> <p>READ RESPONSES.</p>	<p>EVERYDAY 1 4-6 TIMES PER WEEK 2 2-3 TIMES PER WEEK 3 ONE TIME PER WEEK 4 2-3 TIMES PER MONTH 5 ONE TIME PER MONTH 6 LESS THAN ONCE A MONTH 7 THIS IS MY FIRST VISIT 8</p>

No.	Questions	Coding categories
D27	I've been told that this is one of the places where some people to meet new sexual partners. Do you believe that some people come here to meet a new sexual partner?	YES 1 NO 2
D28	Why did you come here today/tonight?  Did you come here to:  READ EACH...	YES NO SOCIALIZE? 1 2 DRINK ALCOHOL? 1 2 LOOK FOR A SEXUAL PARTNER? 1 2
D29	How many (other) places have you been to today to socialize, drink alcohol, or look for a person to have sex with?  How many (other) places do you plan to go to today or tonight to drink alcohol, look for a person to have sex with, or socialize?	OTHER PLACES BEEN TO: ____  OTHER PLACES WILL GO TO: ____
D30	Have you ever had sex with a person you first met here?  IF NO: CODE 2 HERE, CODE 9 FOR D31 and D32, AND CONTINUE WITH D33.	YES 1 NO 2
D31	IF YES: When was the most recent time you met someone here that you later had sex with? Did you meet the person here within the past 4 weeks? The past 12 months? Or over a year ago?	WITHIN PAST 7 DAYS 2 WITHIN PAST 2-4 WEEKS 3 WITHIN PAST 2-3 MONTHS 4 WITHIN PAST 4-6 MONTHS 5 WITHIN PAST 7-12 MONTHS 6 OVER A YEAR AGO 7 NEVER MET A NEW PARTNER HERE 9
D32	The <u>first</u> time you had sex with this person, did you use a condom?	YES 1 NO 2 NEVER MET A NEW PARTNER HERE 9
<b>READ:</b> Now I would like to ask you a few more questions about your sexual behavior. Remember that your responses are completely confidential and that your responses will be combined with the responses from all other respondents to improve community programs.		
THE NEXT 4 QUESTIONS ARE VERY IMPORTANT. DO NOT LEAVE ANY RESPONSES BLANK. PROBE FOR THE BEST ANSWER. IF THE ANSWER IS "NONE" CODE A ZERO.		
D33	Now let me ask you about the persons you have had sex with in the past four weeks including people you only had sex with one or two times and people you have sex with regularly.  In total, how many persons have you had sex with in the past 4 weeks?  PROBE CAREFULLY.	TOTAL IN PAST 4 WEEKS: ____
D34	How many of these persons are persons you had never had sex with previously?  PROBE CAREFULLY.	4 WEEK NEW: ____

No.	Questions	Coding categories
D35	In total, how many persons have you had sex with in the past 12 months?  This includes all male and female persons – people you had sex with only once and people you have had sex with regularly, such as a spouse or someone you live with. It includes all the persons you had sex with in the past 12 months including the past 4 weeks.	12 MONTH TOTAL ____
D36	How many of these persons are persons you had sex with for the first time in the past 12 months?  You might have only had sex with the person one time in the past year or many times. You might be living with the person now. What is the total number of persons that you had sex with for the first time in the past 12 months? That is the number of new sexual partners in the past 12 months.	12 MONTH NEW: ____
D37	IF ANY NEW PARTNERS IN PAST 12 MONTHS  Did you use a condom the first time you had sex with your most recent new partner?	YES 1 NO 2 NO NEW PARTNERS 9
D38	What is the age of the youngest person you had sex with in the past 12 months?  What is the age of the oldest person you had sex with in the past 12 months?  IF ONLY 1 PARTNER, MARK SAME AGE IN YOUNGEST AND OLDEST. IF NO PARTNERS IN PAST 12 MONTHS, CODE 97 FOR YOUNGEST AND OLDEST.	AGE OF YOUNGEST: ____  AGE OF OLDEST: ____
D39	Think about all the people you had sex with in the past 4 weeks. How many of these persons do you believe have been to this place at least once in the past 4 weeks?	SOCIALIZED AT THIS PLACE: ____ DOES NOT KNOW 97
D40	In the past year, did you have sex with someone you <u>weren't</u> living with or married to at the time?  IF YES, did you use a condom the last time you had sex with a person you weren't living with or married to at the time?	YES 1 NO 2  USED A CONDOM 1 DID NOT USE A CONDOM 2 NOT APPLICABLE 9
D41	In the past year, did you have sex with someone you were living with or married to at the time?  IF YES, did you use a condom the last time you had sex with a person you were living with or married to at the time?	YES 1 NO 2  USED A CONDOM 1 DID NOT USE A CONDOM 2 NOT APPLICABLE 9
D42	This next question is about the first time you had sex. Have you ever had sex? By having sex, I mean vaginal, anal or oral sex between a man and a woman or between a man and a man. If yes, how old were you the first time you had sex?  PROBE CAREFULLY.	YES, HAS HAD SEX 1 NO, NEVER HAD SEX 2  AGE AT FIRST SEX: ____ NEVER HAD SEX 97

No.	Questions	Coding categories			
IF PERSON HAS NEVER HAD SEX, CODE 9 (OR 97) FOR D43 TO D50 AND GO TO D51. ASK MEN D43-D45. CODE '9's FOR WOMEN.					
D43	Some men have problems that affect their genitals. They might have an unusual discharge, sores, or pain when they urinate. In the past 4 weeks, have you had...  CODE '9' IF FEMALE RESPONDENT	<u>SYMPTOMS</u>	YES	NO	N/A
		Pain on urination?	1	2	9
		Unusual discharge?	1	2	9
		Sores?	1	2	9
D44	IF ANY SYMPTOMS:  What did you do for treatment in the past 4 weeks? Did you....  CODE '9' IF FEMALE RESPONDENT OR NO SYMPTOMS.		YES	NO	N/A
		GET MEDICATION FROM A STREET VENDOR?	1	2	9
		GET MEDICATION FROM A PHARMACY?	1	2	9
		VISIT A HERBALIST?	1	2	9
		GO TO A PUBLIC CLINIC OR HOSPITAL?	1	2	9
		GO TO A PRIVATE DOCTOR?	1	2	9
D45	Some men have sex with other men. How many men, if any, have you had sex with in the past 12 months?		NONE	0	
		NUMBER OF MALE PARTNERS (UP TO 95):			
		MORE THAN 95	96		
		NEVER HAD SEX	97		
		FEMALE RESPONDENT	99		
ASK WOMEN D46-D47 AND CODE 9's FOR MEN :					
D46	Some women have problems that affect their genitals. They might have unusual discharge, sores, or lower abdominal pain.  In the past 4 weeks, have you had...  CODE '9' FOR MALE RESPONDENT	<u>SYMPTOMS</u>	YES	NO	N/A
		Lower abdominal pain?	1	2	9
		Unusual discharge?	1	2	9
		Sores?	1	2	9
D47	IF ANY SYMPTOMS:  In the past 4 weeks, what did you do for treatment? Did you....  CODE '9' FOR MALE RESPONDENT OR IF NO SYMPTOMS.		YES	NO	N/A
		GET MEDICATION FROM A STREET VENDOR?	1	2	9
		GET MEDICATION FROM A PHARMACY?	1	2	9
		VISIT A HERBALIST?	1	2	9
		GO TO A PUBLIC CLINIC OR HOSPITAL?	1	2	9
		GO TO A PRIVATE DOCTOR?	1	2	9
CONTINUE WITH MEN AND WOMEN.					
D48	We've talked about condom use, but I need to confirm if you have ever used a condom and if you used one the last time you had sex. Have you ever used a condom? IF YES: Did you use a condom the last time you had sex?		NEVER USED A CONDOM	1	
		USED A CONDOM LAST TIME	2		
		DID NOT USE A CONDOM LAST TIME	3		
		NEVER HAD SEX	9		

No.	Questions	Coding categories																					
D49	<p>Have you given or received money in exchange for sex in the past 4 weeks or past 12 months?</p> <p>IF YES, did you use a condom the last time money was given or exchanged for sex?</p>	<p>SEX FOR MONEY IN PAST 4 WEEKS 1      SEX FOR MONEY IN PAST 2-12 MONTHS 2      NO SEX FOR MONEY IN PAST 12 MONTHS 3      NEVER HAD SEX 9</p> <hr/> <p>USED CONDOM 1      DID NOT USE CONDOM 2      NO SEX FOR MONEY IN PAST 12 MONTHS 3      NEVER HAD SEX 9</p>																					
D50	<p>Do you have a condom with you now?</p> <p>*IF YES, Would it be possible for me to see the condom you have?</p>	<p>CONDOM WITH ME BUT YOU CANT SEE 1      YES AND CONDOM SEEN 2      NO CONDOM WITH ME 3      NEVER HAD SEX 9</p>																					
<b>ASK ALL RESPONDENTS INCLUDING THOSE WHO HAVE NOT HAD SEX:</b>																							
D51	We want to know whether you have heard or been to any health education programs. In the past 3 months, have you...	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th><th style="text-align: right;">YES</th><th style="text-align: right;">NO</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>ATTENDED AN AIDS EDUCATION PROGRAM?</td><td style="text-align: right;">1</td><td style="text-align: right;">2</td></tr> <tr> <td>SEEN AN AIDS VIDEO?</td><td style="text-align: right;">1</td><td style="text-align: right;">2</td></tr> <tr> <td>HEARD AN AIDS PROGRAM ON THE RADIO?</td><td style="text-align: right;">1</td><td style="text-align: right;">2</td></tr> <tr> <td>SEEN AN AIDS PREVENTION POSTER?</td><td style="text-align: right;">1</td><td style="text-align: right;">2</td></tr> <tr> <td>TALKED ABOUT HIV OR AIDS WITH A HEALTH WORKER?</td><td style="text-align: right;">1</td><td style="text-align: right;">2</td></tr> <tr> <td>OBTAINED A CONDOM AT THIS SITE?</td><td style="text-align: right;">1</td><td style="text-align: right;">2</td></tr> </tbody> </table>		YES	NO	ATTENDED AN AIDS EDUCATION PROGRAM?	1	2	SEEN AN AIDS VIDEO?	1	2	HEARD AN AIDS PROGRAM ON THE RADIO?	1	2	SEEN AN AIDS PREVENTION POSTER?	1	2	TALKED ABOUT HIV OR AIDS WITH A HEALTH WORKER?	1	2	OBTAINED A CONDOM AT THIS SITE?	1	2
	YES	NO																					
ATTENDED AN AIDS EDUCATION PROGRAM?	1	2																					
SEEN AN AIDS VIDEO?	1	2																					
HEARD AN AIDS PROGRAM ON THE RADIO?	1	2																					
SEEN AN AIDS PREVENTION POSTER?	1	2																					
TALKED ABOUT HIV OR AIDS WITH A HEALTH WORKER?	1	2																					
OBTAINED A CONDOM AT THIS SITE?	1	2																					
D52	<p>There are medical tests available to tell people if they are infected with the virus that causes AIDS. Every person has the right to learn if they are infected. I will not ask you if you are infected, but I would like to know if you have ever been tested for HIV, if you were tested in the past 12 months, and if you received your test results.</p> <p>Have you been tested in the past 12 months, tested over 12 months ago, or never tested?</p> <p>If TESTED IN PAST 12 MONTHS, did you get your test results?</p>	<p>TESTED PAST 12 MONTHS 1      TESTED OVER 12 MONTHS AGO 2      NEVER TESTED 3</p> <p>YES, RECEIVED RESULTS 1      NO RESULTS RECEIVED 2      NOT APPLICABLE, NOT TESTED 9</p>																					
D53	Would you be interested in getting a/another HIV test within the next 12 months?	<p>YES, INTERESTED 1      NOT INTERESTED 2</p>																					
D54	Are you currently a student?	<p>YES, IN SCHOOL, GRADE 7-9 1      YES, IN SCHOOL, GRADE 10-11 2      YES, UNIVERSITY, VOCATIONAL 3      NOT CURRENTLY A STUDENT 4</p>																					
D55	What is the highest level of school you have completed?	<p>NONE 1      GRADE 9 SCHOOL 2      GRADE 11 SCHOOL 3      SPECIAL 4      HIGHER 5</p>																					

No.	Questions	Coding categories
D56	Are you currently employed full-time, part-time or, if not employed, are you looking for work?	YES, FULL-TIME 1 YES, OCCASIONAL / PART-TIME 2 NOT EMPLOYED, BUT LOOKING 3 NOT EMPLOYED AND NOT LOOKING 4
D57	Have you ever been married?	YES 1 NEVER MARRIED 2
D58	Are you currently married or living with a sexual partner?  IF YES:  How frequently do you use condoms with your (primary) spouse or live-in partner?  READ OPTIONS	YES CURRENTLY MARRIED/LIVING WITH 1 NO, NOT CURRENTLY MARRIED OR LIVING WITH 2  ALWAYS USE CONDOMS 1 SOMETIMES USE CONDOMS 2 NEVER USE CONDOMS 3  NOT APPLICABLE, NO SPOUSE/LIVE IN 9
READ: We also want to know what you think about drug use in this area. Your answers will remain confidential and will not be shared with anyone including the local authorities.		
D59	In your opinion, do people who inject drugs socialize at this site?	YES 1 NO 2
D60	Have you heard of any place in Saratov where people who inject drugs can exchange used syringes for new?	YES 1 NO 2
D61	Now we would like to ask you a question about your own experience with injecting drugs. Have you injected an addictive drug such as heroin, opium, or cocaine in the past 12 months?	YES 1 NO 2
D62	When did you last inject drugs?  IF NEVER INJECTED, CIRCLE CODE 9.	WITHIN PAST 7 DAYS 1 WITHIN PAST 2-4 WEEKS 2 WITHIN PAST 2-6 MONTHS 3 WITHIN PAST 7-12 MONTHS 4 OVER A YEAR AGO 5 NEVER INJECTED DRUGS 9
<b>NOTE:</b> If response to D62 is 5 or 9 (the respondent never injected drugs or injected over a year ago, then circle 9 for D63-D69.1 and continue with interview.		
D63	With whom do you usually inject drugs?  READ LIST  IF NEVER INJECTED, CODE 9	INDIVIDUALLY 1 USUALLY WITH THE SAME GROUP 2 WITH DIFFERENT GROUPS 3 DEPENDS ON CIRCUMSTANCES 4 NOT APPLICABLE 9
D64	The last time you injected drugs, did you ...?  IF NEVER INJECTED, CODE 9	YES NO N/A Share a syringe? 1 2 9 Share a needle? 1 2 9 Share a container? 1 2 9

No.	Questions	Coding categories
D65	During the last four weeks, did you ...  READ EACH QUESTION IF NEVER INJECTED, CODE 9	YES   NO   N/A  Share a syringe   1   2   9 Take drugs from a common reservoir   1   2   9 Use ready made drug solution w/o boiling   1   2   9 Exchange a used for a new syringe   1   2   9
D66	In the past four weeks, with about how many different people did you share a syringe?  Of those, how many were people you shared a syringe with for the first time?  CODE ZERO IF NEVER INJECTED.	TOTAL: ____  NEW: ____
D67	Where did you get the syringe you used the last time you injected drugs?	PHARMACY   1 PURCHASED SOMEWHERE ELSE   2 TRUST POINT OR NEEDLE EXCHANGE   3 FRIEND   4 OTHER   5 DON'T KNOW/REMEMBER   6 NEVER INJECTED   9
D68	Can you get new syringes whenever you want?  CODE 9 IF NEVER INJECTED.	ALWAYS   1 SOMETIMES   2 NEVER   3 NEVER INJECTED   9
D69	IF 'SOMETIMES' or 'NEVER', why not always?  DO NOT PROMPT RESPONDENT.	NO MONEY   1 EXCHANGE STATION TOO FAR AWAY   2 KIOSK OR DRUG STORE TOO FAR AWAY   3 POLICE MENACE   4 I DON'T THINK IT IS NECESSARY TO GET NEW SYRINGES   5 OTHER _____   6 NEVER INJECTED   9
D69.1	In the past three months, has any one asked you to show them how to inject or ask you to inject them?	YES   NO   N/A SHOW HOW TO INJECT?   1   2   9 INJECT THEM?   1   2   9
D69.2	IF YES, did you comply?	COMPLIED?   YES   1 NO   2
<b>ASK OF ALL RESPONDENTS D70-D77, REGARDLESS OF REPORTED DRUG USE.</b>		
D70	Have you ever been detained by the police for injecting drugs?	YES   1 NO   2
D71	IF YES, Do you think your detainment was registered with the police?	YES   1 NO   2

No.	Questions	Coding categories
D72	Do you think you are currently registered with the police as a drug user? IF YES, When do you think you were registered as a drug user?	YES 1 NO 2 MONTH ____ YEAR ____
D73	Have you ever gone to a narcologist or a narcologist dispensary for injecting drugs?	YES 1 NO 2
D74	IF YES, Have you ever been registered with a narcology dispensary as a drug user?	YES 1 NO 2
D75	IF YES, Do you think you are currently registered with the narcologist dispensary as a drug user? IF YES, when were you registered?	YES 1 NO 2 MONTH ____ YEAR ____
D76	In your opinion, how likely do you think you are of contracting the HIV/AIDS virus?	Very likely 1 Somewhat likely 2 Not very likely 3 No risk 4 Don't know 5
D77	Finally, we have been talking mostly about health issues but we would like to know your opinion of what are the most important problems that need to be addressed in this area.... For each problem that I mention, tell me if it is a big problem here, a small problem or not a problem at all.	BIG SMALL NOT Unemployment 1 2 3 Violence 1 2 3 Access to health care 1 2 3 AIDS 1 2 3 Alcohol abuse 1 2 3 Lack of education 1 2 3 Getting food to eat 1 2 3 Injection drug abuse 1 2 3

**Thank you for your participation!**



## **Appendix 2: Final Seminar Participants**

***Following is a list of participants in the final seminar, 14 February 2006, Saratov:***

Olga Andrianova, director of the Saratov branch of Center of Social Development and Information (PSI)

Anastasia Besbabnova, NGO Man

Ludmila Borisenko, NGO Megapolis

Alexey Dylnov, Saratov State University, Youth Work Department

Elena Emelianova, hotline Tolerance

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