

People left behind:  
Gay men and other men  
who have sex with men

[Link with the pdf, Gay men and other men who have sex with men](#)



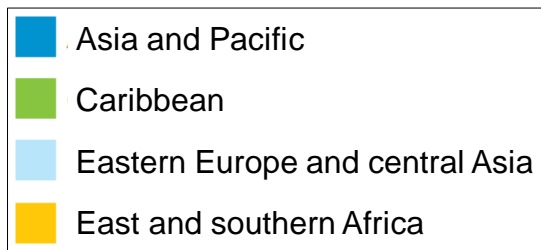
I am gay.

I face these issues.

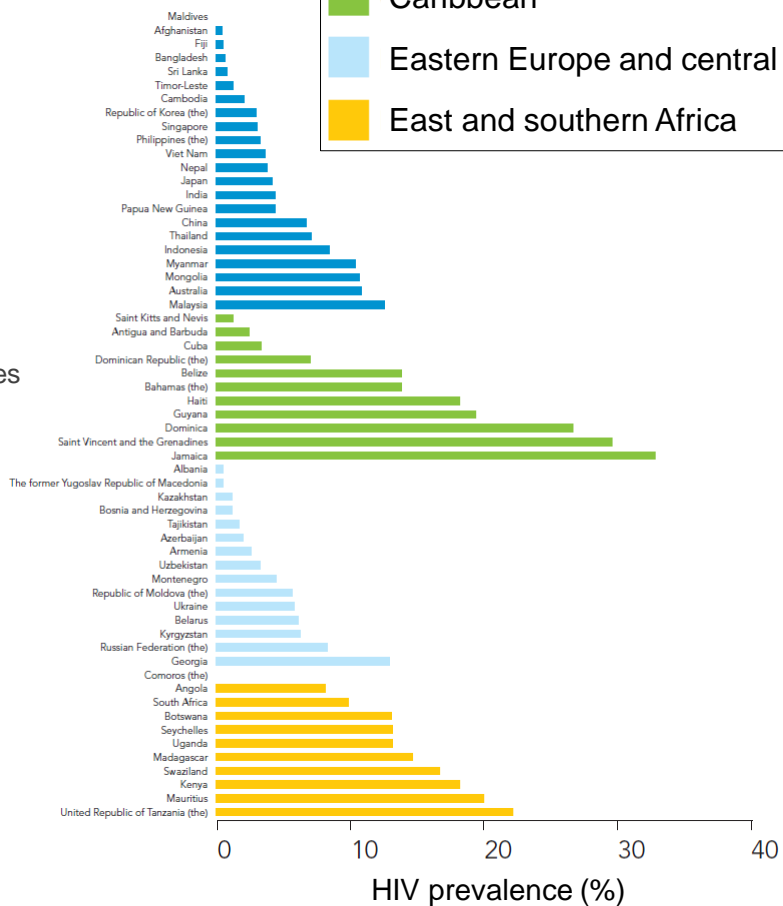
# HIV burden

- While HIV incidence is declining in most of the world, incidence among gay men and other men who have sex with men appears to be rising in several regions, including in Asia, where this mode of transmission is a major contributor to the HIV epidemics in several countries.
- Worldwide, gay men and other men who have sex with men are 19 times more likely to be living with HIV than the general population.
- The median HIV prevalence among gay men and other men who have sex with men is 19% in western and central Africa and 13% in eastern and southern Africa.
- Gay men and other men who have sex with men often acquire HIV while quite young—HIV prevalence is about 4.2% for young (under 25 years) gay men and other men who have sex with men.
- Seventy-three countries did not report data on HIV prevalence among gay men and other men who have sex with men.

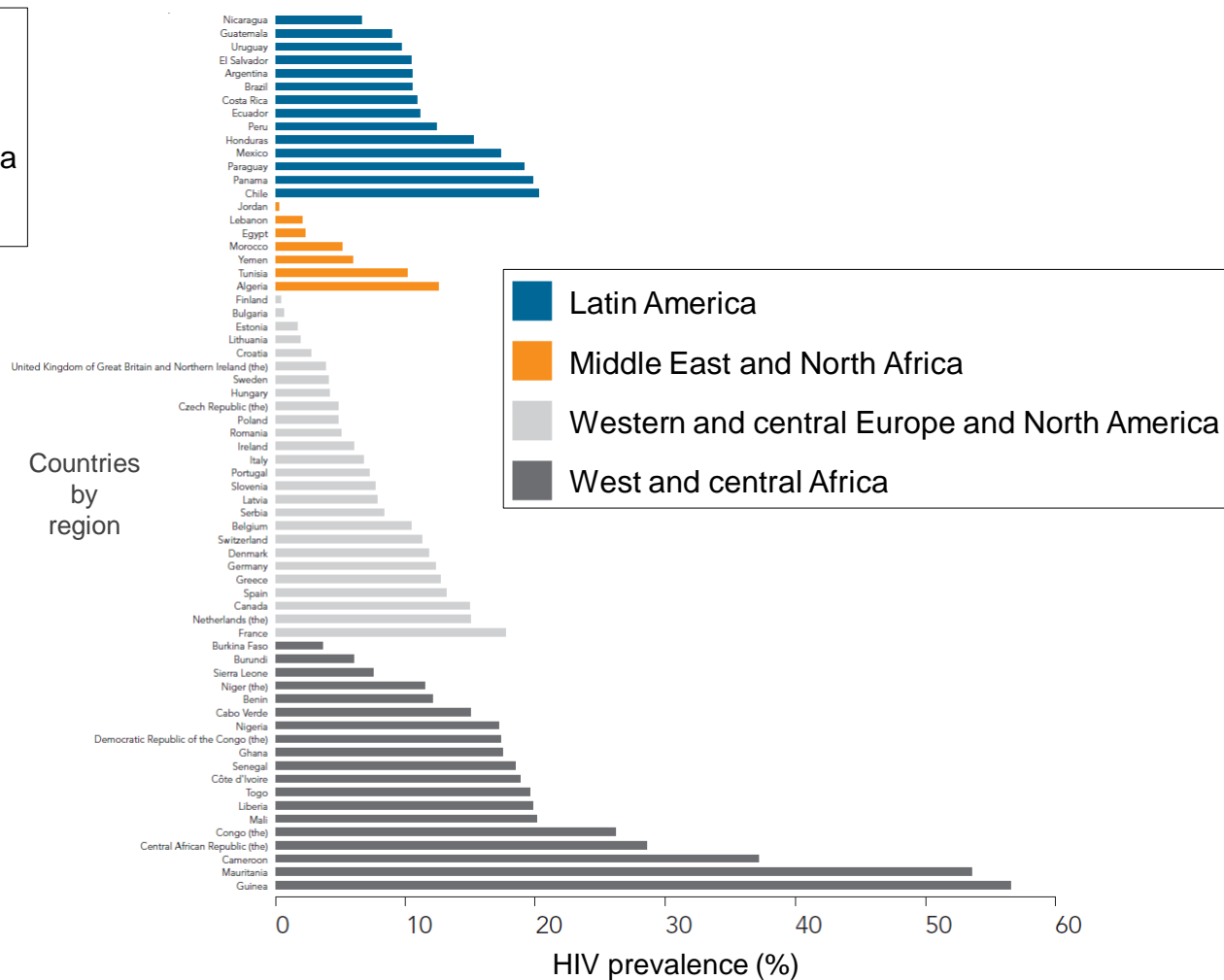
# HIV prevalence among gay men and other men who have sex with men across regions, 2013



Countries by region



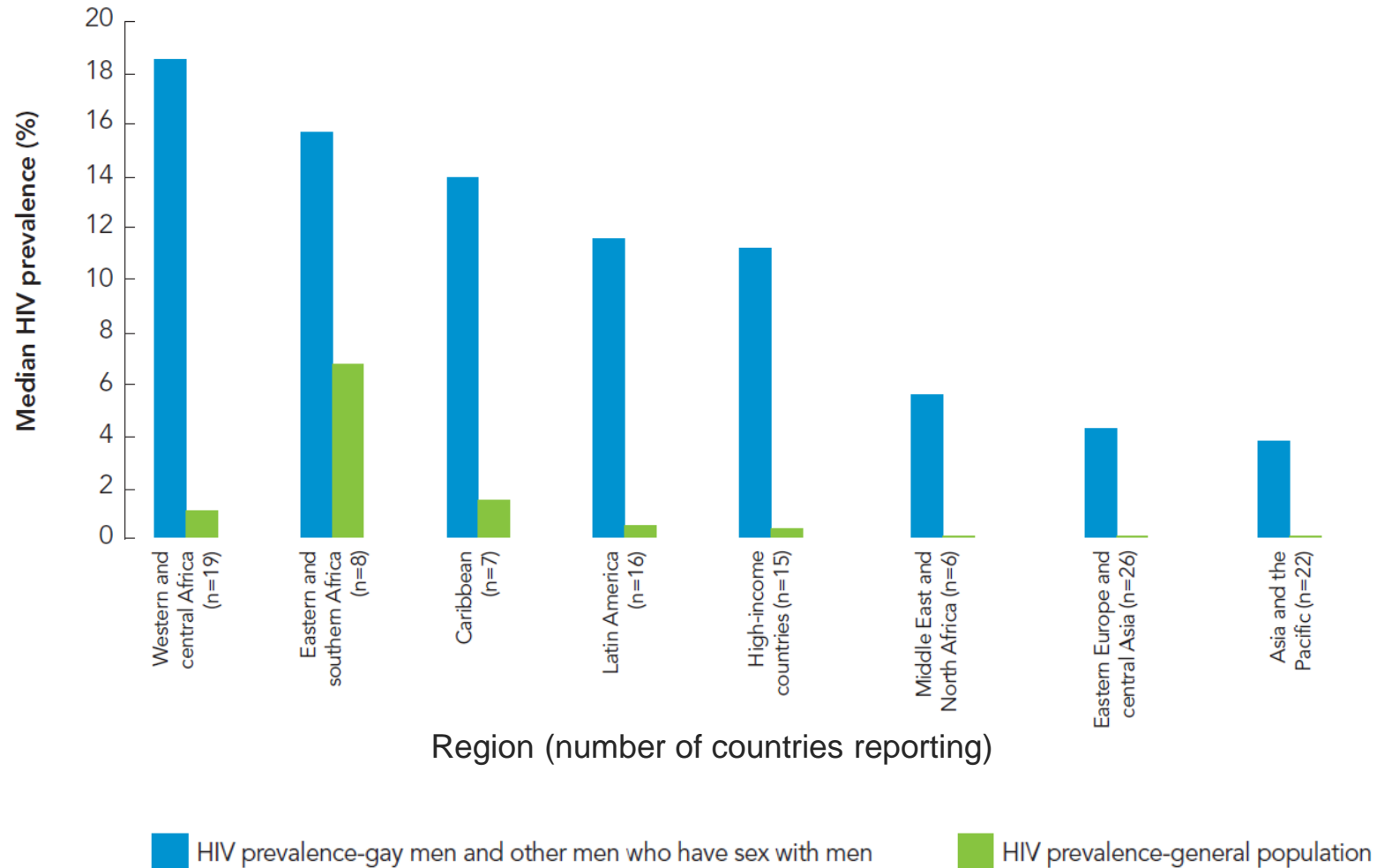
Countries by region



Source: Global AIDS Response Progress Reporting 2014.

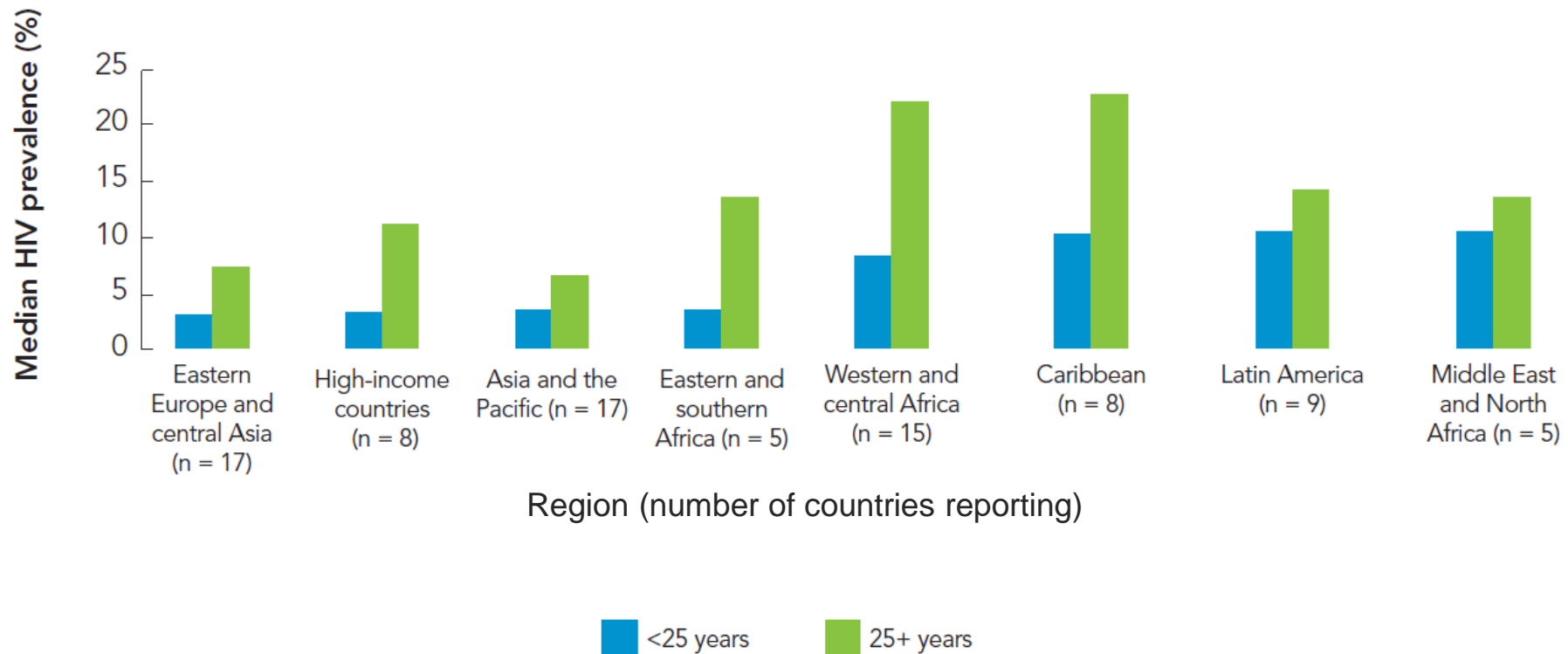


# HIV prevalence among men who have sex with men and the general population by region, 2009–2013



Source: Global AIDS Response Progress Reporting 2014.

# HIV prevalence among gay men and other men who have sex with men by age and region, 2009–2013



Source: Global AIDS Response Progress Reporting 2014.

# Why gay men and other men who have sex with men are being left behind

- The incidence of HIV among gay men and other men who have sex with men is rising in several parts of the world.
- Structural factors, such as stigma, discrimination and violence based on sexual orientation and gender identity and the criminalization of same-sex sexual practices, contribute to hindering the availability, access and uptake of HIV prevention, testing and treatment services among gay men and other men who have sex with men.

# WHY GAY MEN AND OTHER MEN WHO HAVE SEX WITH MEN ARE BEING LEFT BEHIND

## THE TOP 4 REASONS

01 Violence

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02 Criminalization, stigma, discrimination and social exclusion

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03 Poor access to HIV and other health services

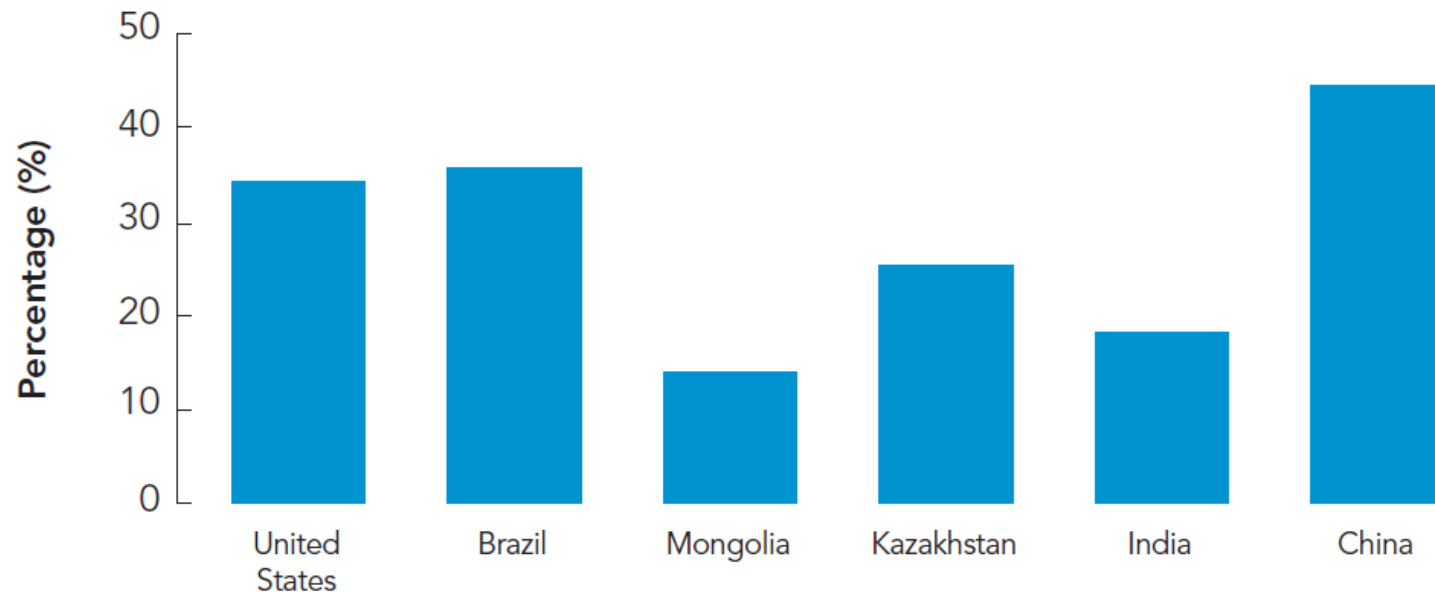
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04 Inadequate investments

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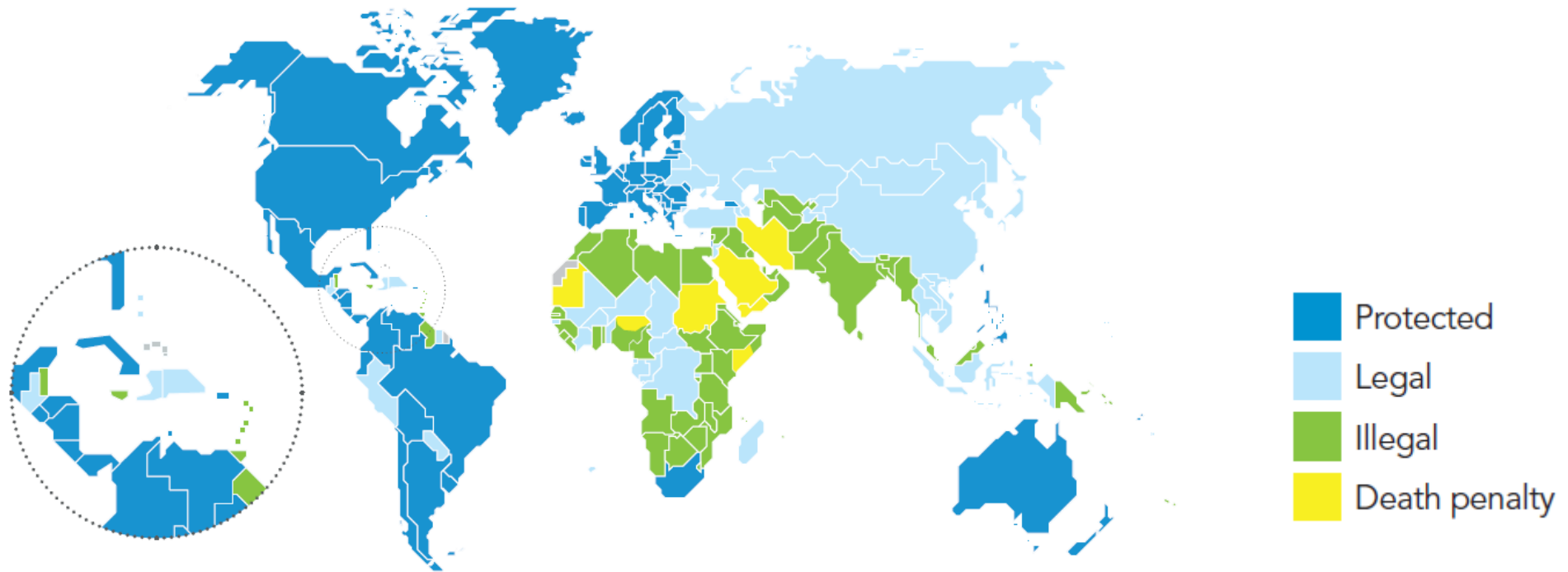


# Proportion of gay men and other men who have sex with men who report physical, psychological or sexual violence in selected countries



- Very high levels of physical, psychological or sexual violence against gay men and other men who have sex with men have been reported across the world.
- In many countries, such acts are committed or condoned by officials of national authorities, including law enforcement officials.

# Consensual, adult same-sex sexual conduct is criminalized in 78 countries



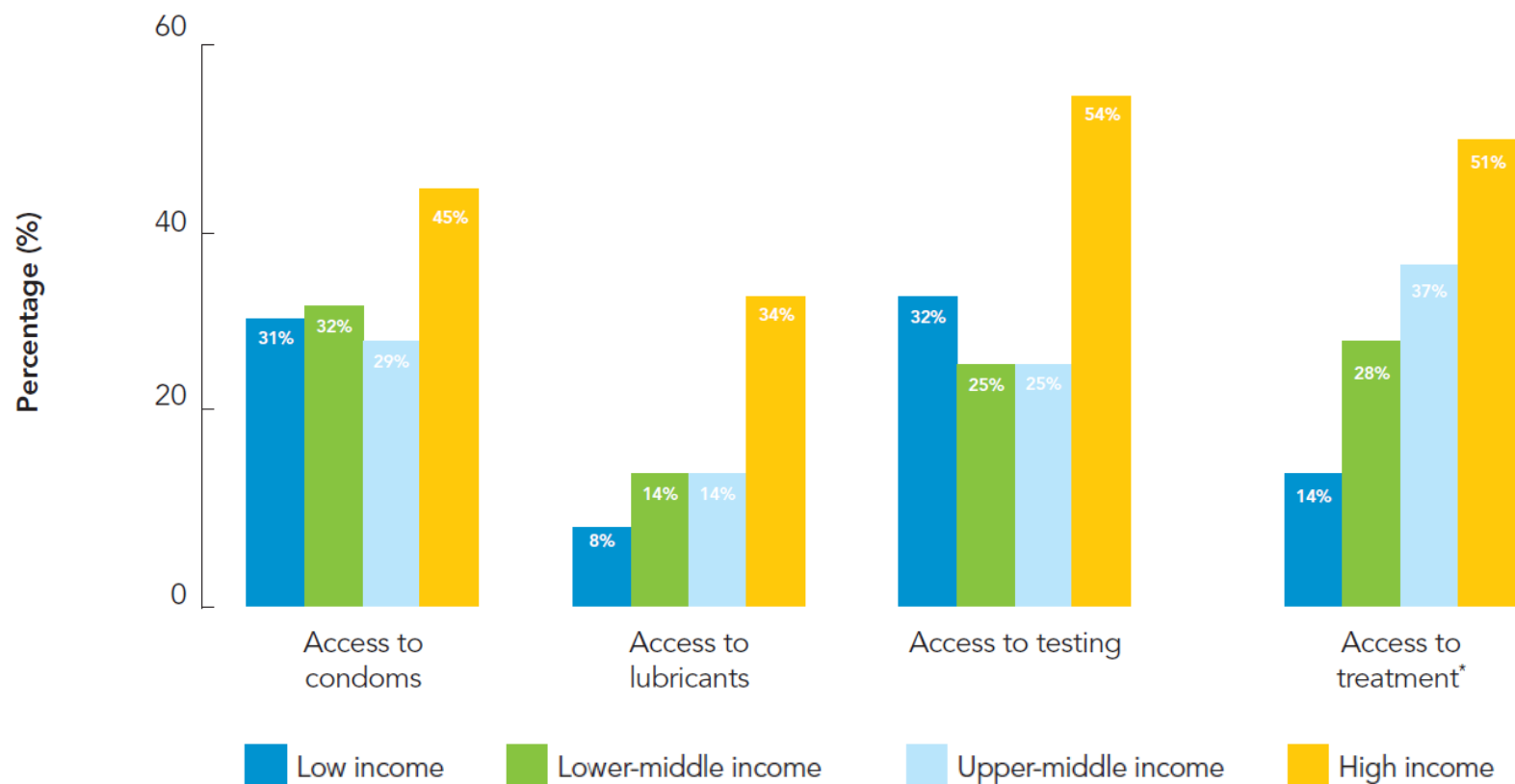
- In some countries, laws also ban organizations that represent or support lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender individuals.

Source: International Lesbian and Gay Association (ILGA), UNAIDS Global Report 2012, and Baral S. et al. 2013.

# Poor access to HIV and other health services

- According to surveys, gay men and other men who have sex with men often have extremely limited access to HIV prevention commodities, such as condoms, water-based lubricants, HIV education and support for sexual risk reduction.
- According to reports from 20 countries in both 2009 and 2013, the percentage of gay men and other men who have sex with men reached by HIV prevention programmes fell from 59% to 40%.
- One international review concluded that fewer than one in ten gay men and other men who have sex with men receive a basic package of HIV prevention interventions.
- There are also great disparities in access to HIV services and commodities among gay men and other men who have sex with men across and within countries.
- This leads to questions regarding the effectiveness of mainstream HIV programmes in reaching and addressing the specific needs of highly stigmatized, criminalized and lower-income gay men and other men who have sex with men who have no other option than to rely on such services for their health needs.

# Percentage of gay men and other men who have sex with men reporting that condoms, lubricants, HIV testing and HIV treatment are easily accessible, by country income level, 2012

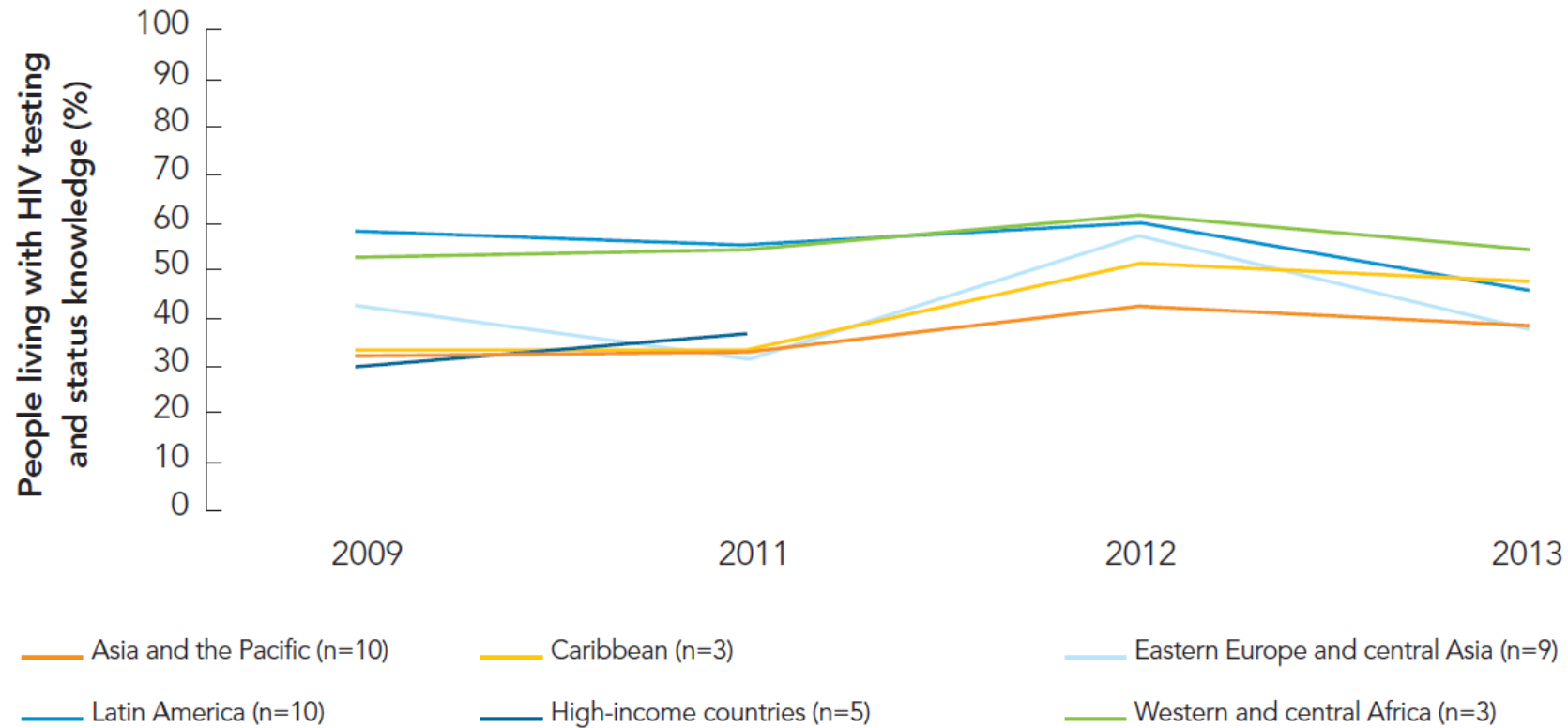


\*Access to HIV treatment was measured only among respondents who reported living with HIV.

Source: Access to HIV prevention and treatment for gay men or other men who have sex with men; findings from the 2012 Global Men's Health and Rights Study (GMHR)—an internet survey of men from 165 countries.



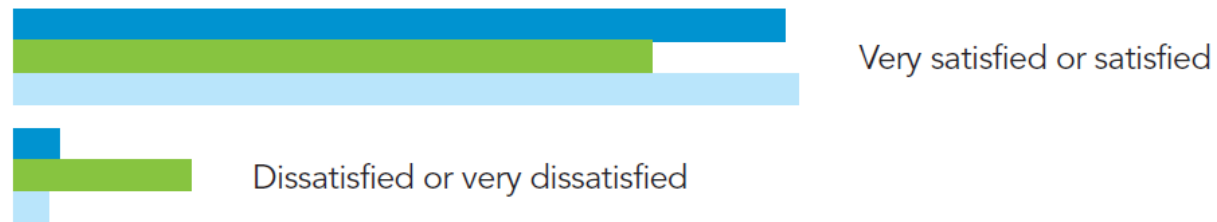
# Trends in median HIV testing and status knowledge, by region, 2009–2013



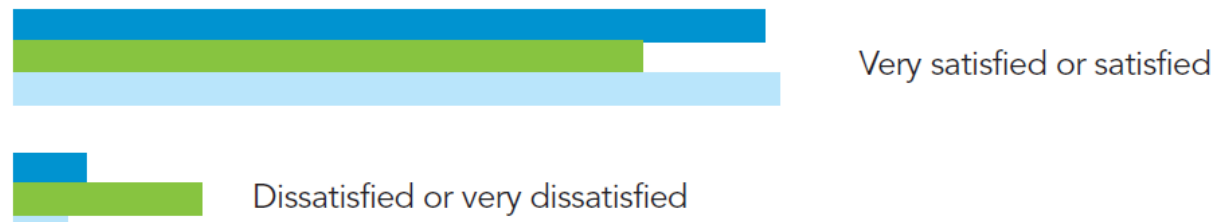
Source: Global AIDS Response Progress Reporting 2014.

# Quality HIV testing and counselling services increase satisfaction

How satisfied were you with the way the testing service maintained your confidentiality? (n=2368)



How satisfied were you with the counselling you received [among those who received it]? (n=1704)



0 20 40 60 80 100

Percentage (%)

All respondents who received a test result    Diagnosed positive    Last test was negative

# Inadequate investments

- The inadequate financing of HIV services for gay men and other men who have sex with men impedes efforts to reach them with essential services. Most of this investment comes exclusively from international donors rather than national spending.
- National commitments to respond to the HIV epidemic among gay men and other men who have sex with men lag behind those for other populations. Only 11 per cent of global spending on programmes for gay men and other men who have sex with men came from public domestic sources (with 26 countries reporting), while the remaining countries fully relied on international funding (67 countries).
- Funding is especially limited in the Middle East and North Africa and across sub-Saharan Africa.
- In sub-Saharan Africa, only 14 of 45 countries reported any spending on programmes for gay men and other men who have sex with men, and only two countries reported any public domestic spending.

# CLOSING THE GAP

## HOW TO CLOSE THE GAP

- 01 Protective social and legal environments, including decriminalization
- 02 Access to quality, discrimination-free health services
- 03 Data collection on HIV and gay men and other men who have sex with men
- 04 Strengthening community systems