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# Chemsex and male sex workers in Ukraine



Petro Polyantsev  
CO "100 PERCENT LIFE"

# About me

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**Living with HIV  
for 19 years**

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**LGBT and sex  
workers activist in  
Ukraine**

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**Former sex  
worker**

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**Over 12 years of  
supporting regional  
and national projects in  
CO "100 PERCENT  
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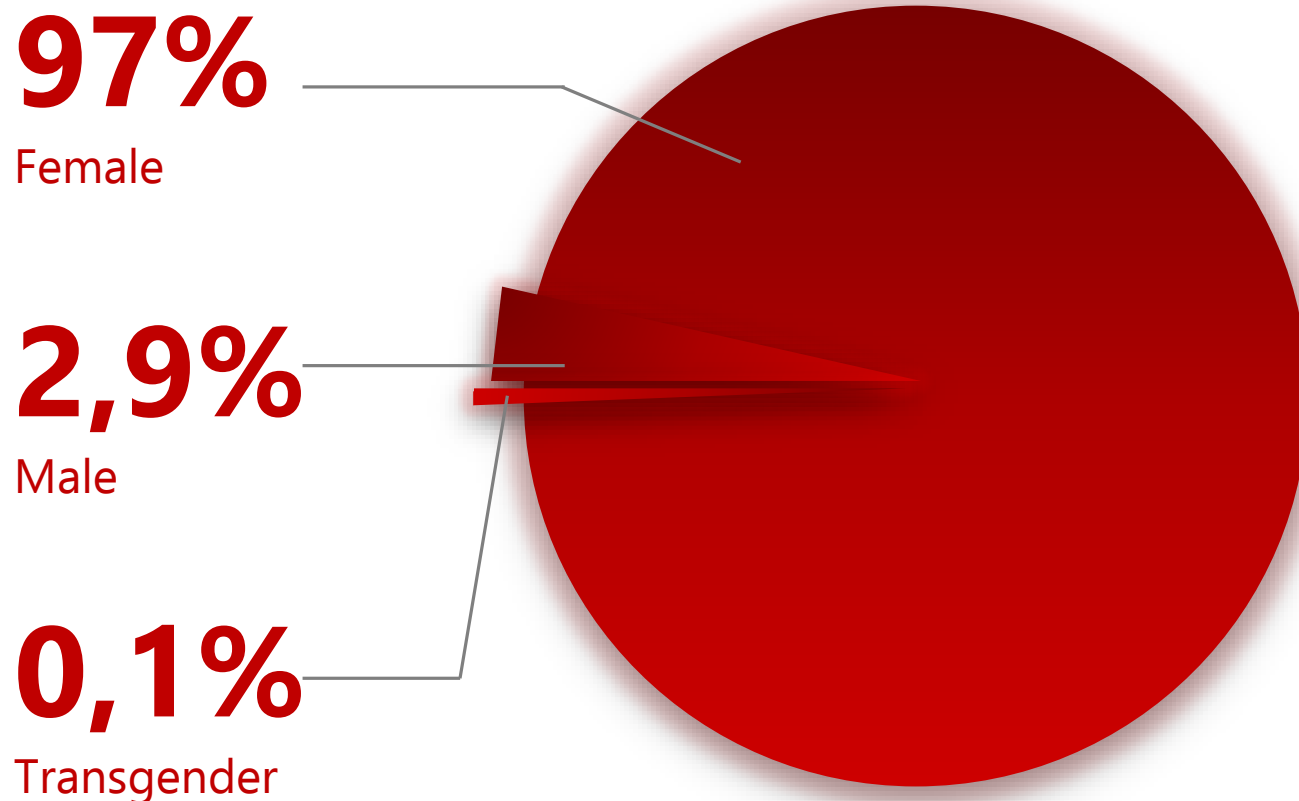
**Alternate  
member of the  
National HIV/TB  
Council from the  
sex workers  
community**

# Overview of the situation

**86 600**

Estimated number of  
sex workers in Ukraine

Sex workers in Ukraine (sample  
size - 5 043 survey participants\*),  
\*Alliance of Public Health, Kyiv,  
2018.



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# Age

Average age — 30

Under 25

24%

25-34

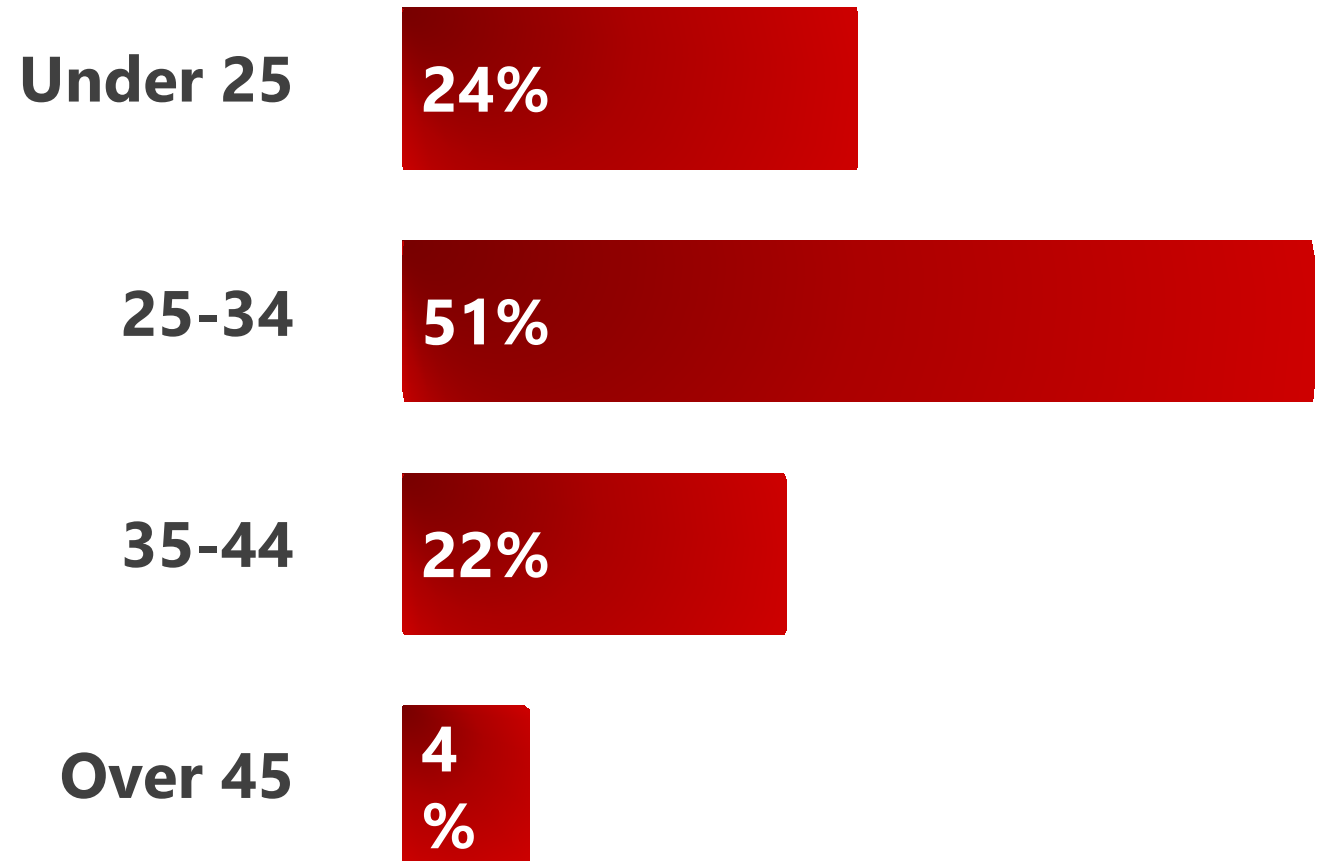
51%

35-44

22%

Over 45

4  
%



## The main ways to find clients

33%

Internet

24%

In the streets

18%

Clubs

## Non-injectable drugs

54%

Marijuana

20%

Amphetamine

4%

Methadone

## Injectable drugs

58%

Opium

17%

Methadone

10%

Amphetamine

Average monthly income – 400 Euro

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**5,2%**

HIV prevalence among sex workers

**1,3%**

under 25

**6,4%**

over 25

## HIV treatment cascade

**4184** estimated number of HIV+ sex workers

**53%** know their HIV status

**29%** take ART

# Mobilizing male sex workers in Kyiv

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Mobilization of the MSM sex workers who use drugs began in 2018 on a peer-to-peer basis using Internet technologies and applications (Viber, telegramm, bbc, hornet, etc.)

Currently, the group unites **34 MSM** sex workers aged **from 20 to 35** who use drugs in Kyiv.

The weekly income from provision of sex services is **from 27 to 452 euros and depends** on:  
Age, Looks, Availability of space for the provision of sex services, Regular customers as well as services for the delivery of substances for chemsex.

## **What is used and delivered to clients?**

Crystal meth, amphetamines, cocaine, ecstasy, marijuana, LSD, ketamine.

# Problems with group mobilization

1

Frequent change of residence

5

Criminalization of sex work in Ukraine

2

Change of phone  
number

6

Criminalization of narcotic  
substances  
in Ukraine

3

Drug addiction and depression

7

Don't have access to preventive  
medical and social services

4

Do not apply for legal assistance