

Syringe availability, HIV risk and sharing behavior in four Hartford neighborhoods

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The Syringe Access, Use and Discard Study

**A multimethod investigation of
local, city, and macro-level
factors associated with HIV risk
and injection drug use**

Methods

Quantitative

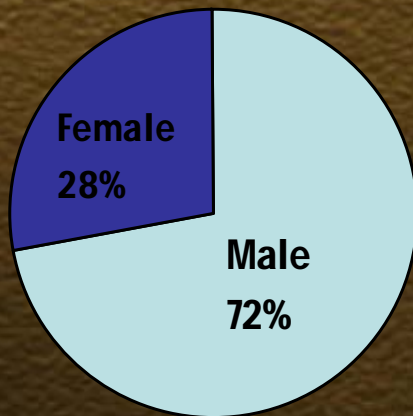
- **Syringe bioassays (retrievals and acquisitions)**
- **Quantitative surveys**

Qualitative

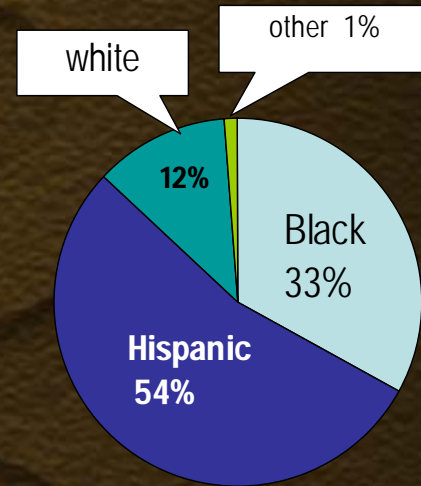
- **In-depth Interviews**
- **Injection Observations**
- **Syringe Acquisitions**
- **Day Visits**
- **Diaries**
- **Discard Sites**

Hartford sample: 337 IDUs

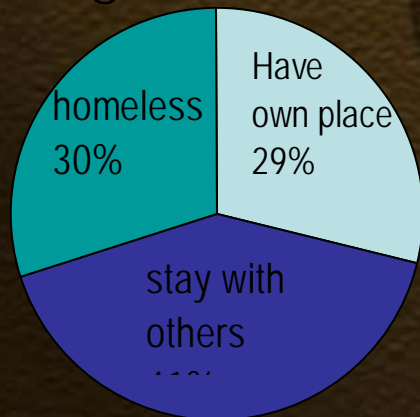
Gender



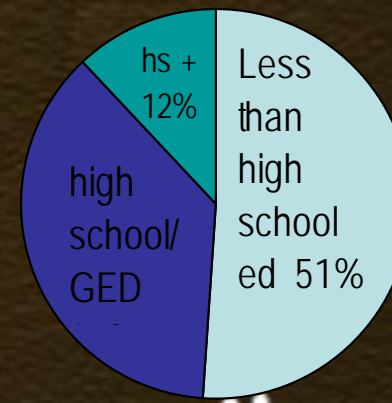
Ethnicity



Housing



Education



Average monthly income

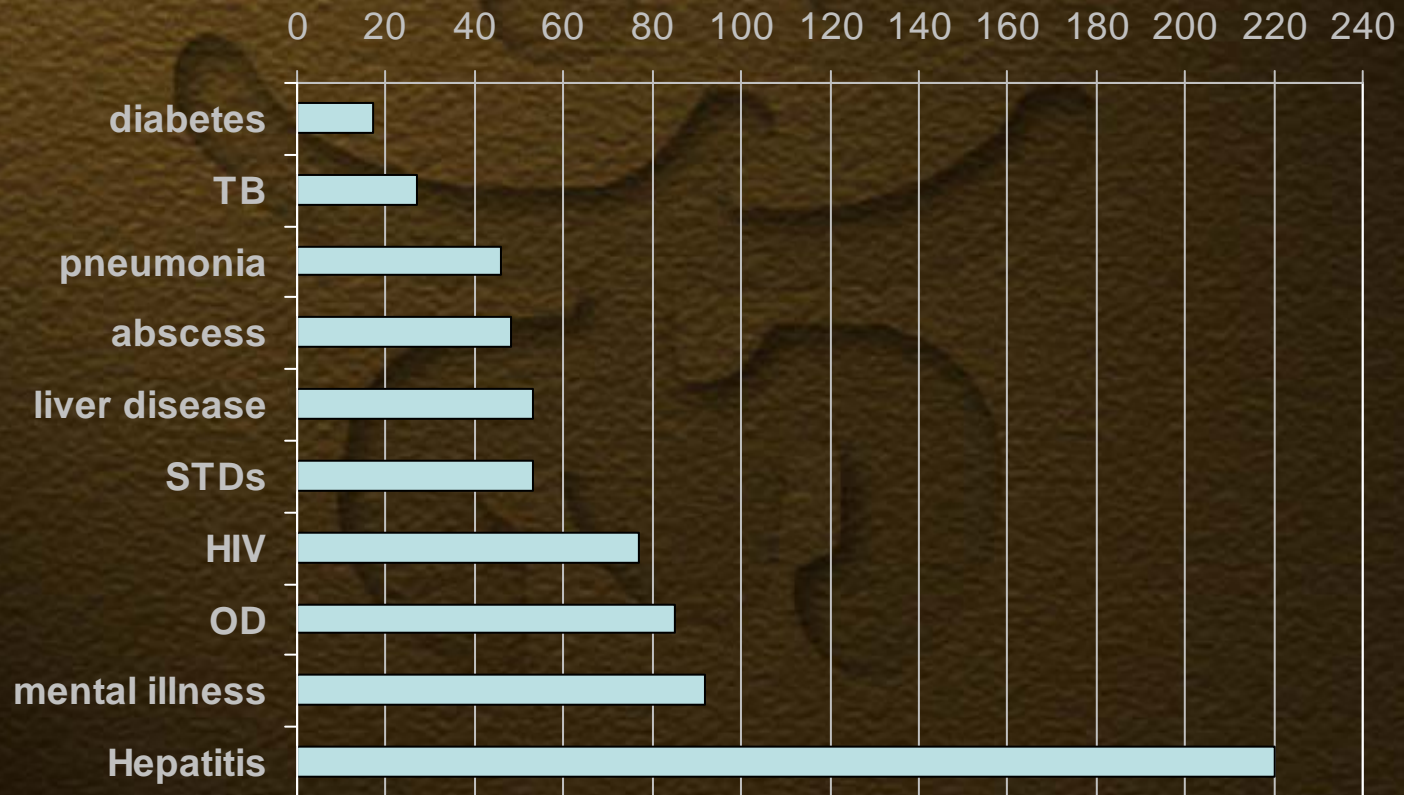
(How much \$ did you take in in the last 30 days?)



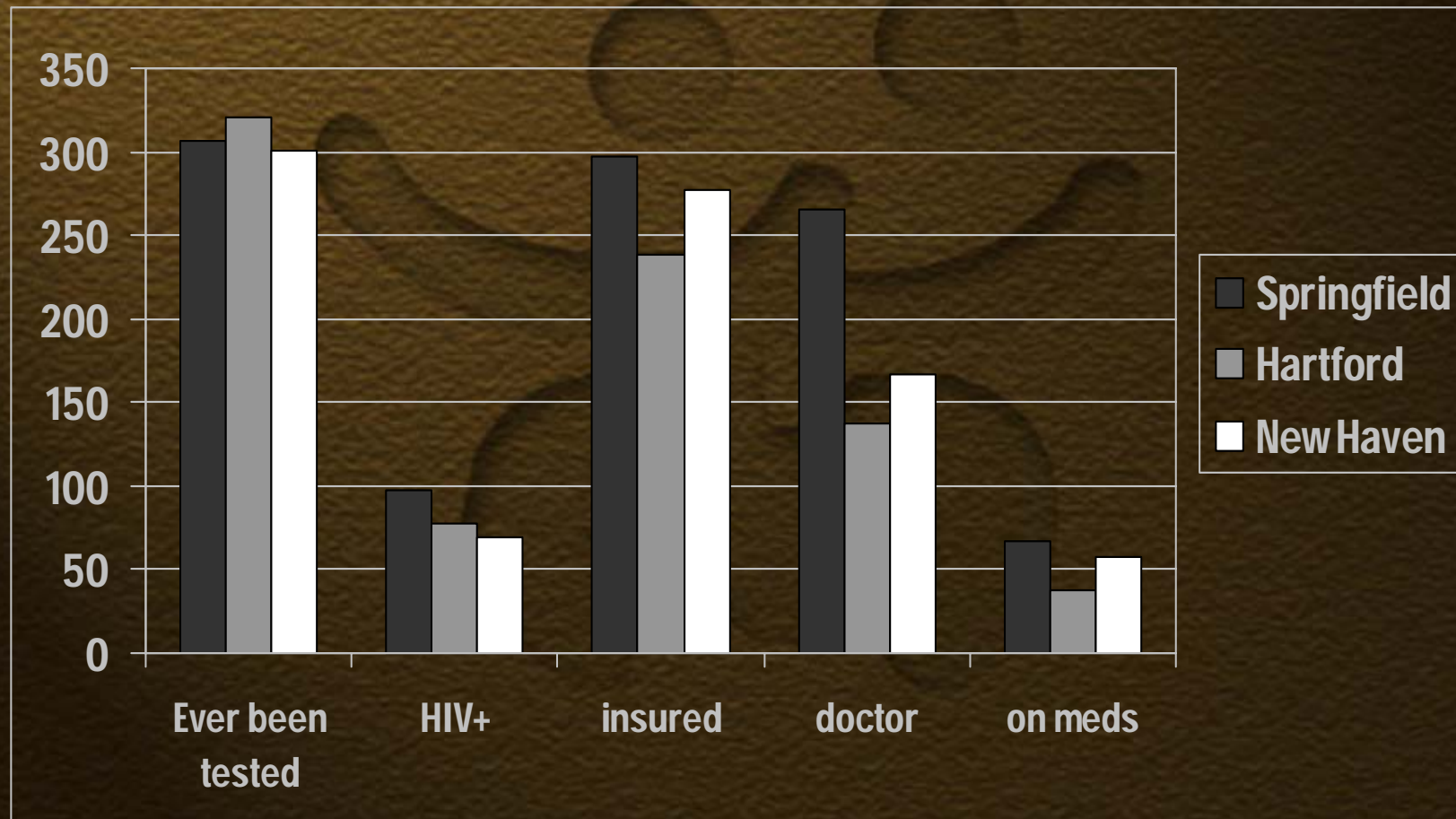
IDU health profiles

Number of IDUs who report ever having...

n=330



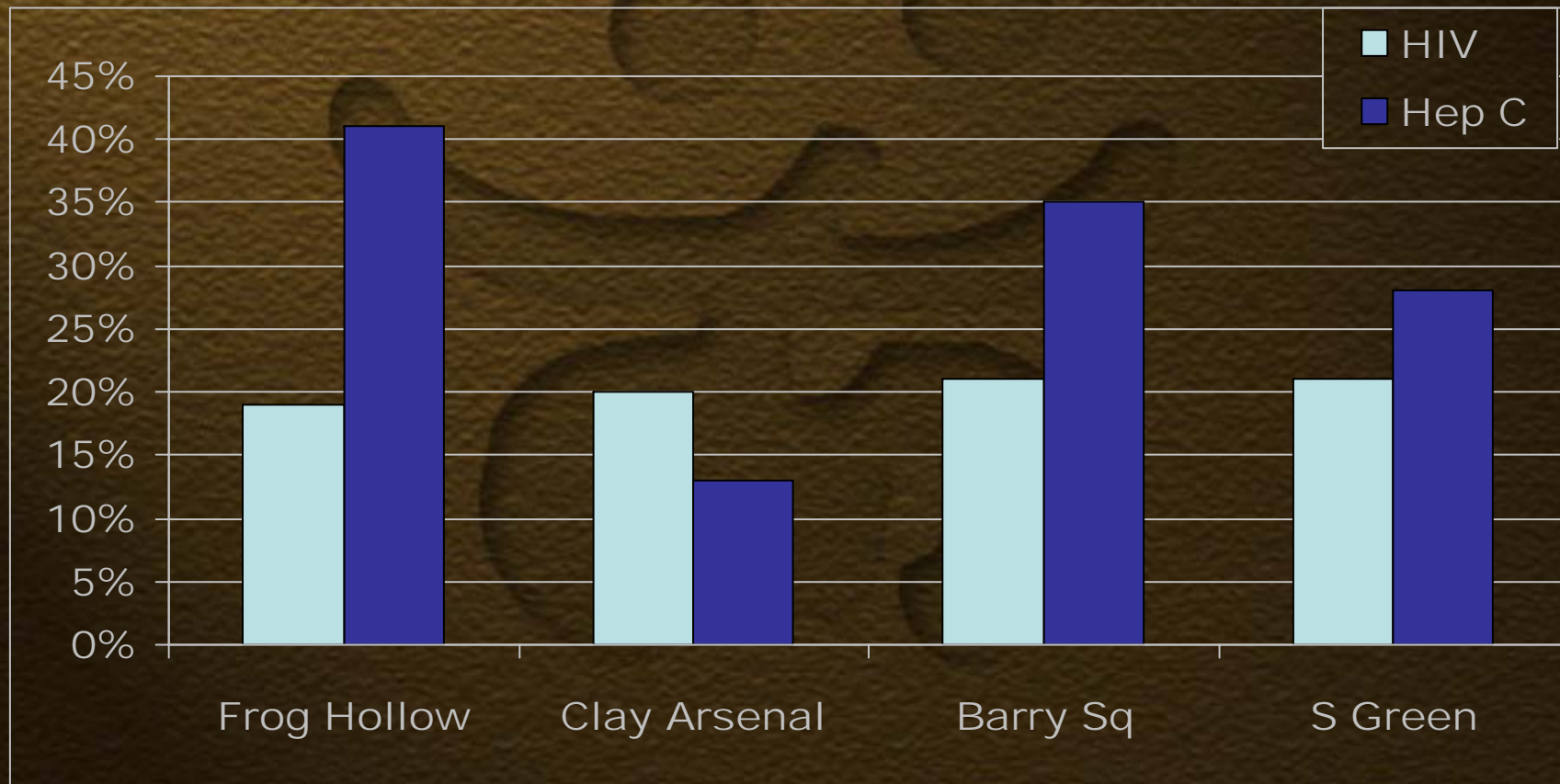
HIV and access to health care among injection drug users



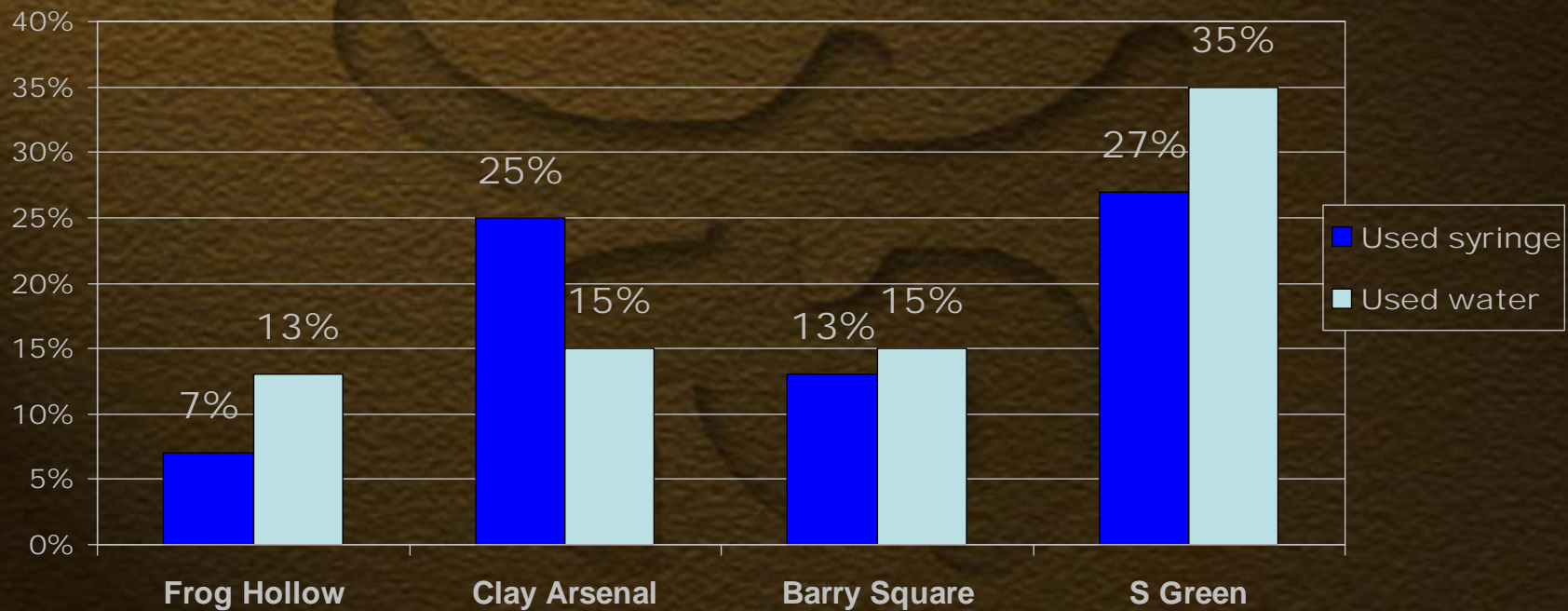
Syringe Availability

Neighborhood	Pharmacy OTC	SEP
Frog Hollow	NO	YES
Clay Arsenal	NO	YES
Northeast	NO	YES
Barry Square	NO	NO
South Green	NO	NO
Parkville	YES	NO
Asylum Hill	YES	NO
Upper Albany	YES	NO

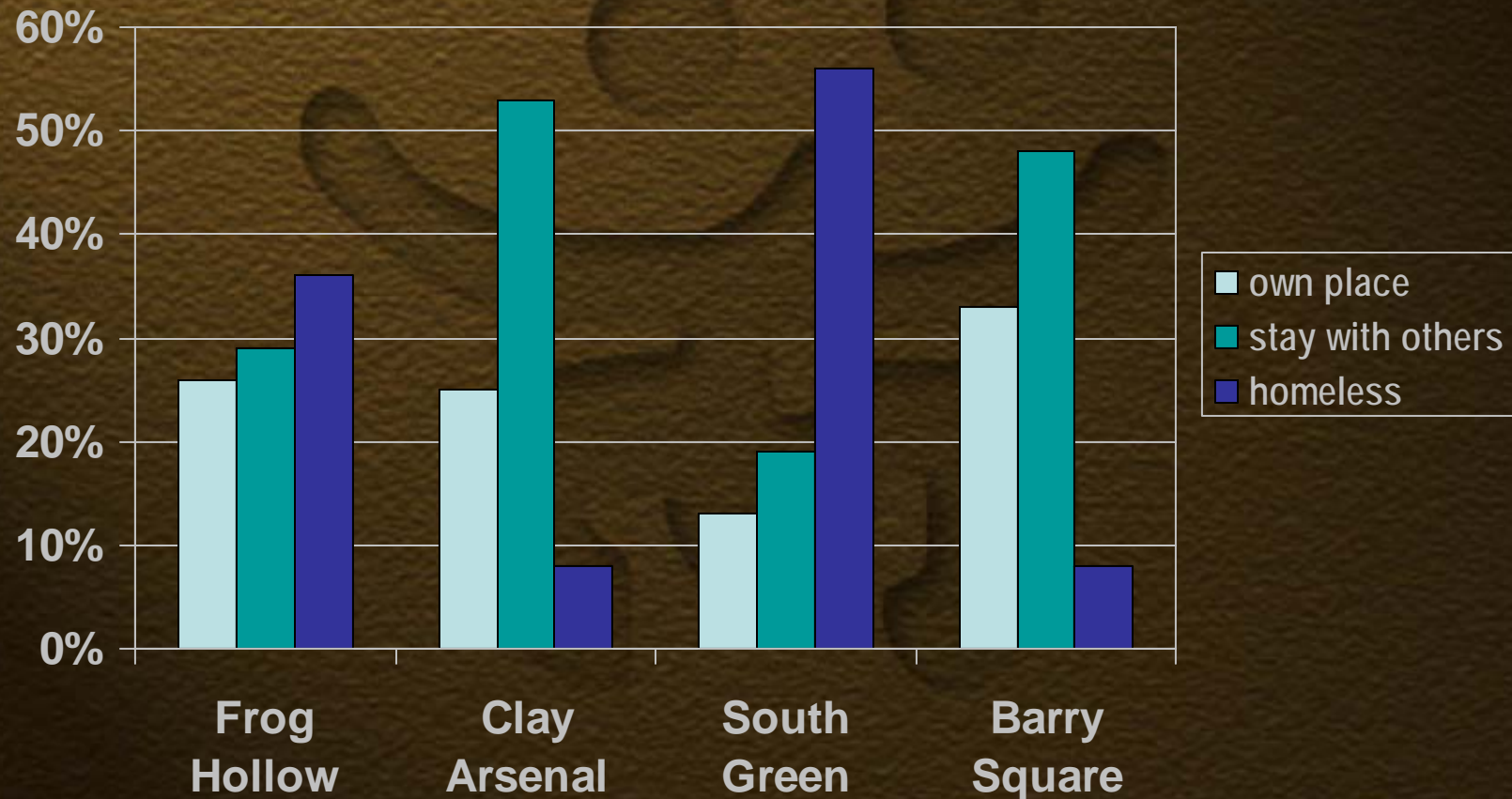
HIV & HepC rates by neighborhood



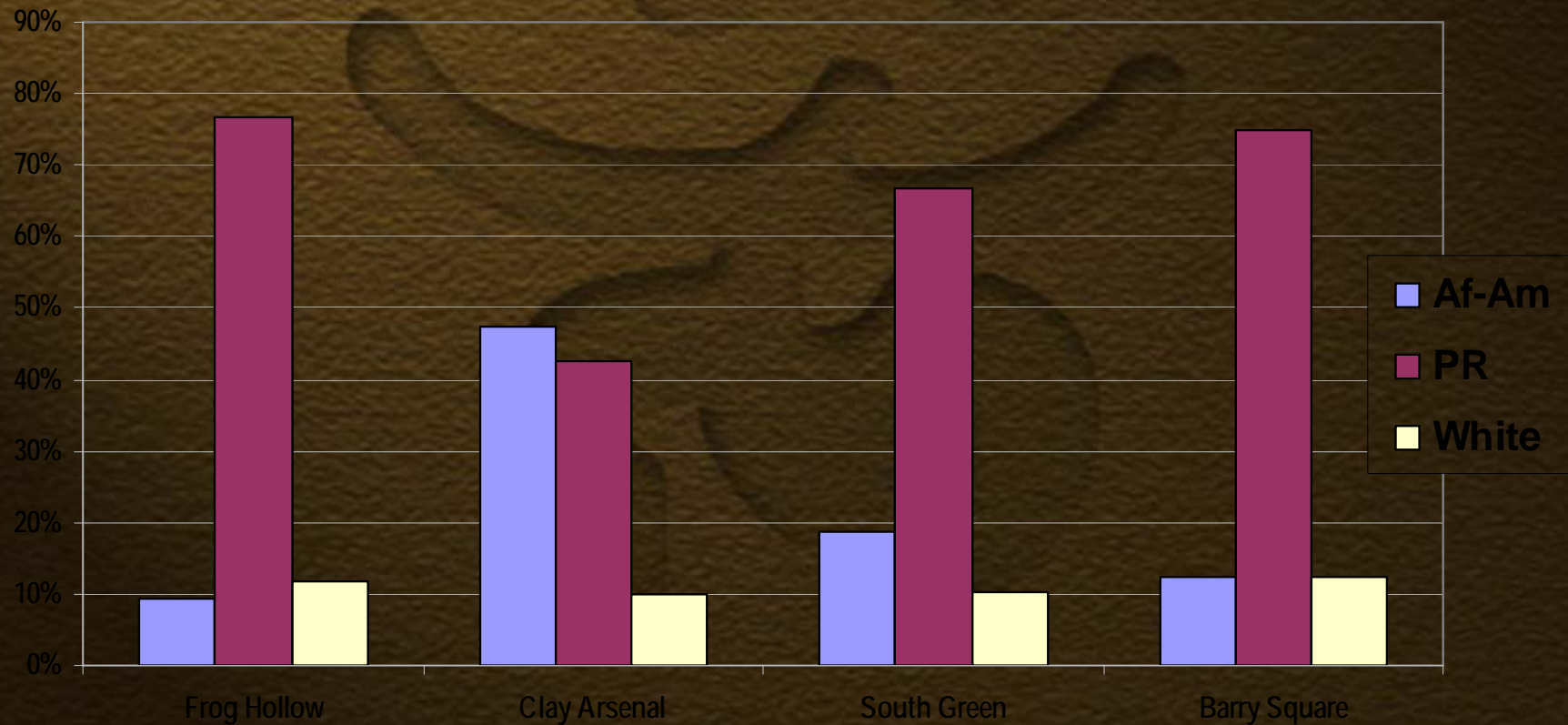
Syringe sharing by neighborhood



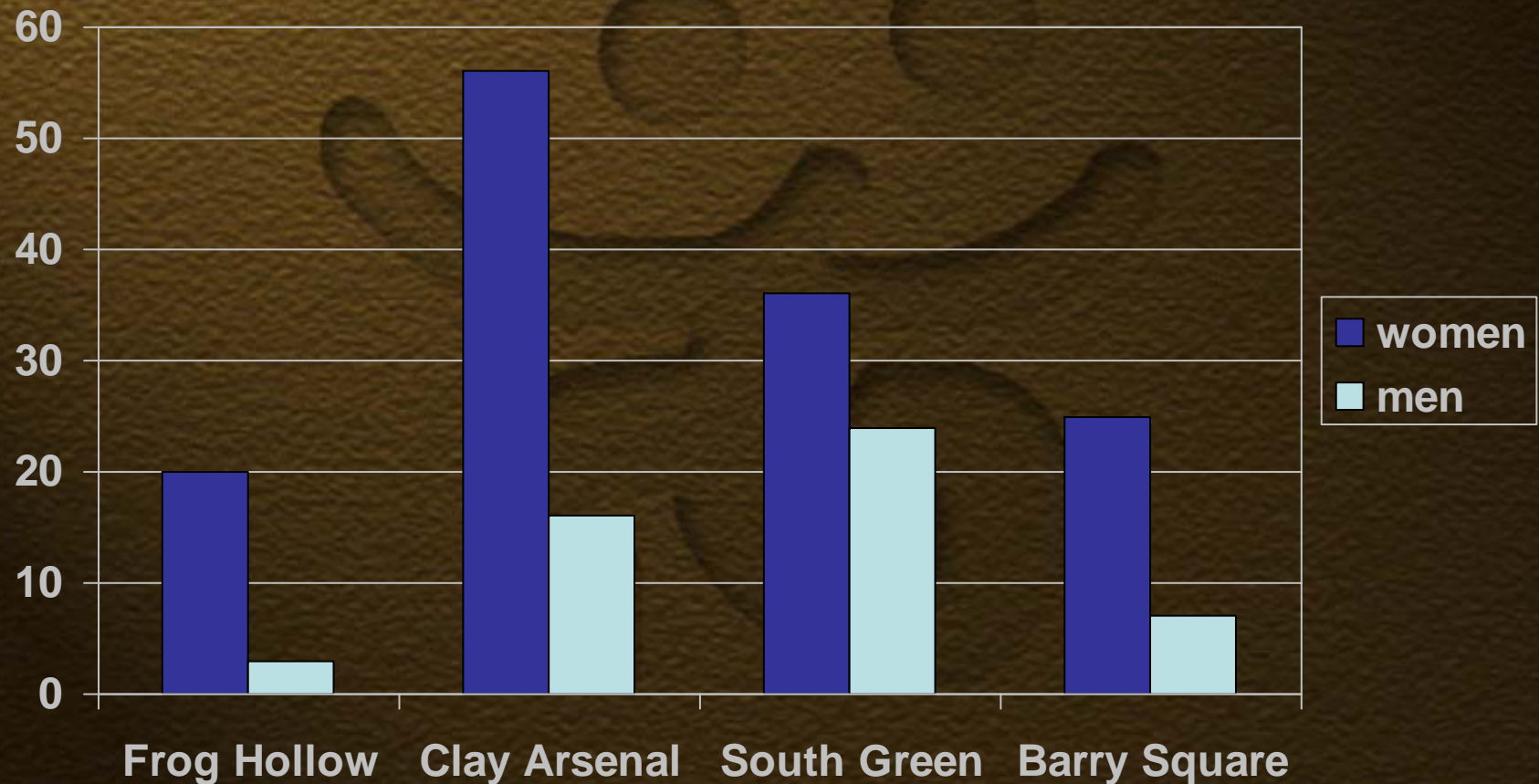
Homelessness by neighborhood



Participant Demographics



Who is sharing syringes?



Conclusions

- Structural factors such as syringe availability do shape HIV risk at the neighborhood level
- However, additional sociodemographic factors such as gender contribute to variability in HIV risk even among neighborhoods with similar syringe access conditions.