

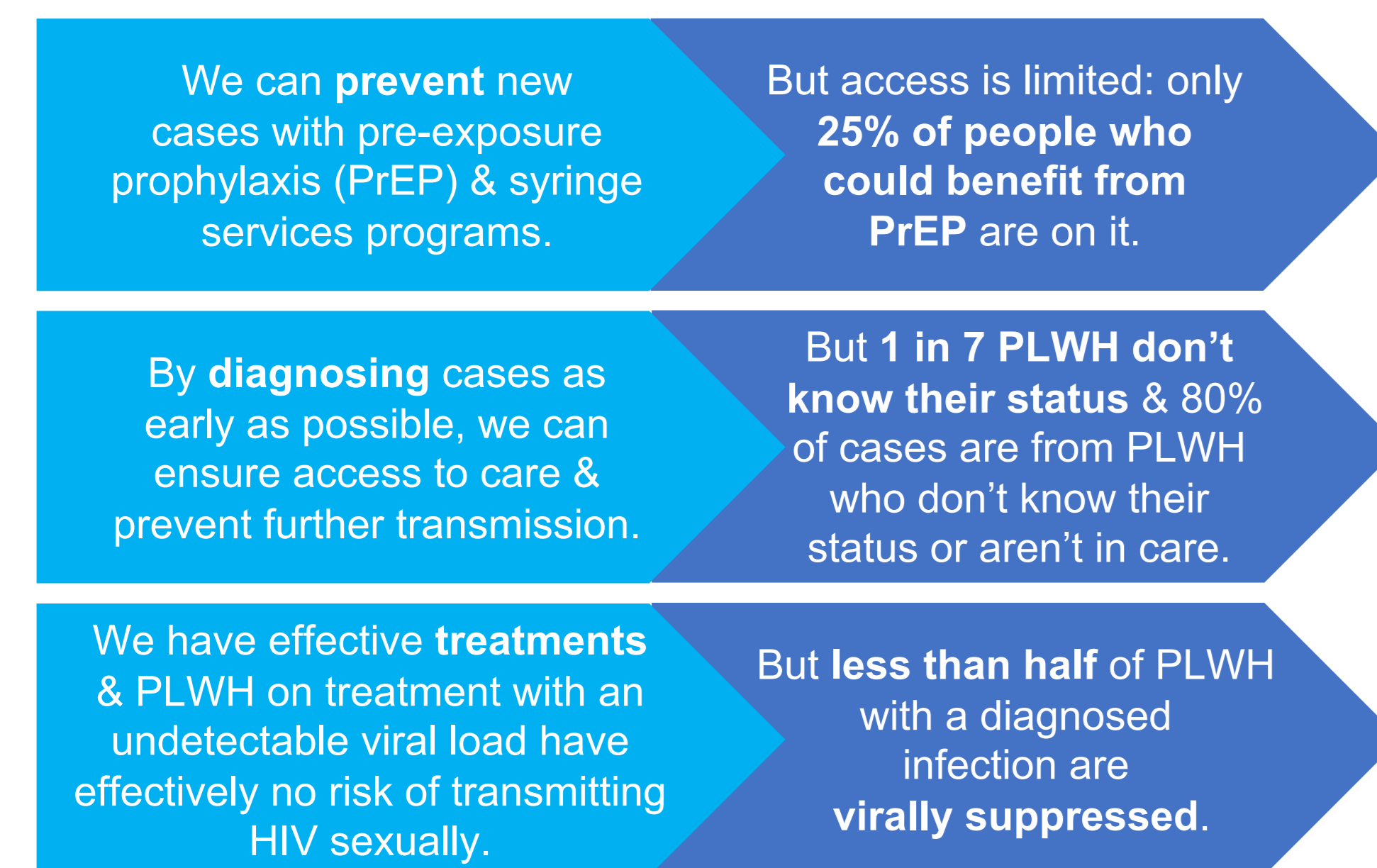
# Local Health Department Perspectives on Community Health Center Engagement in Ending the HIV Epidemic

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## HIV in the United States

An estimated 1.2 million people are living with HIV (PLWH) in the U.S. & up to 50,000 Americans become infected each year.

### We can end the HIV epidemic in the U.S.



**We cannot end the epidemic without addressing inequities:** people of color, men who have sex with men, transgender women, & young people are disproportionately impacted by HIV, due to social & structural factors such as discrimination & stigma, poverty, & inequitable access to healthcare.

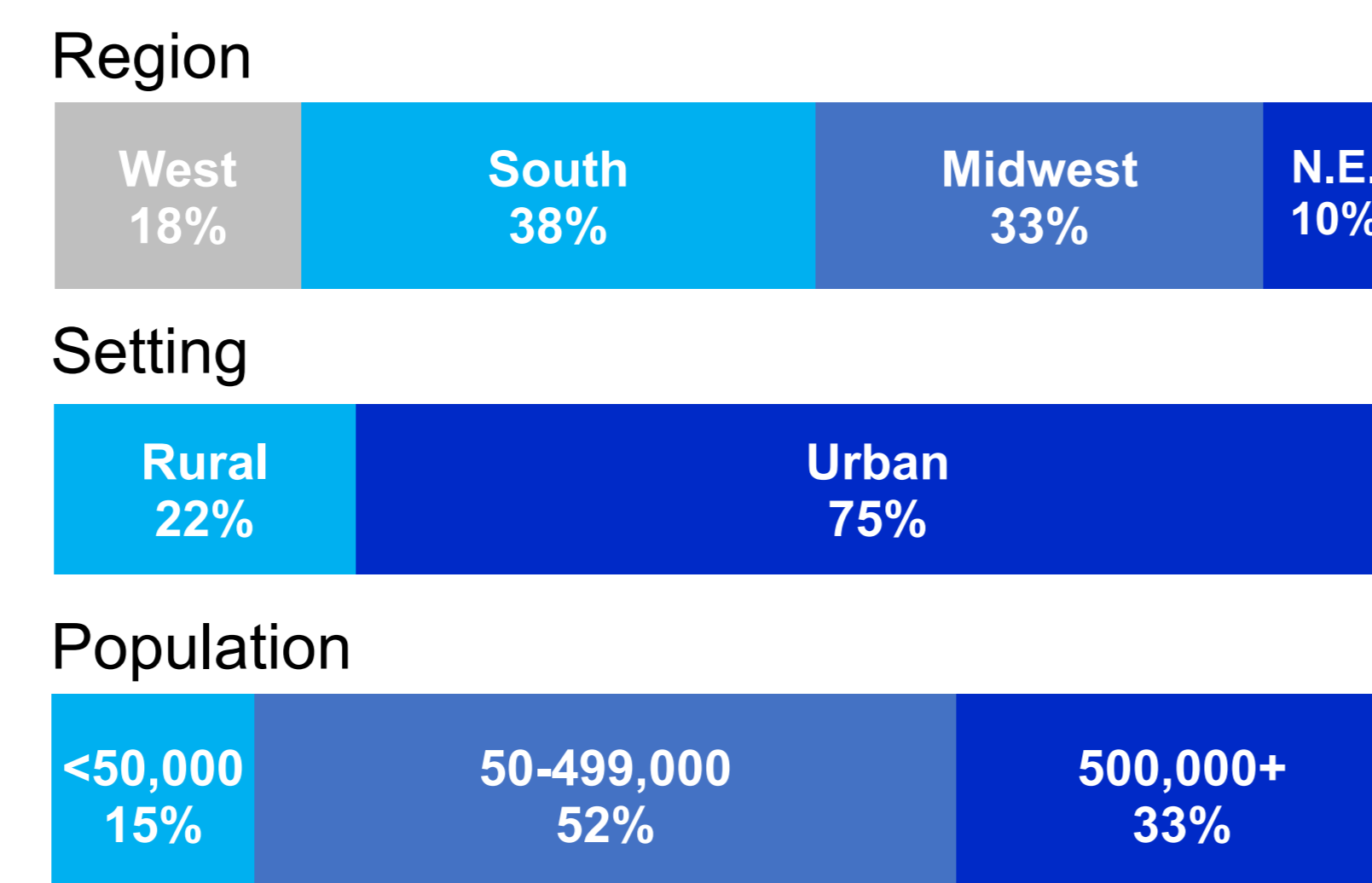
## Ending the HIV Epidemic

In 2019, the U.S. government launched an initiative to end the HIV epidemic in America by reducing new infections by 75% by 2025 & 90% by 2030. The initiative includes **significant funding for community health centers (CHCs) to scale up testing, PrEP, & linkage to care.** In 2018, CHCs conducted over 2 million HIV tests & connected 86% of patients to care within 90 days. However, CHCs cannot do this work alone, & **local partnerships are critical to addressing gaps in HIV services & reaching populations disproportionately affected by HIV.**

## Methodology

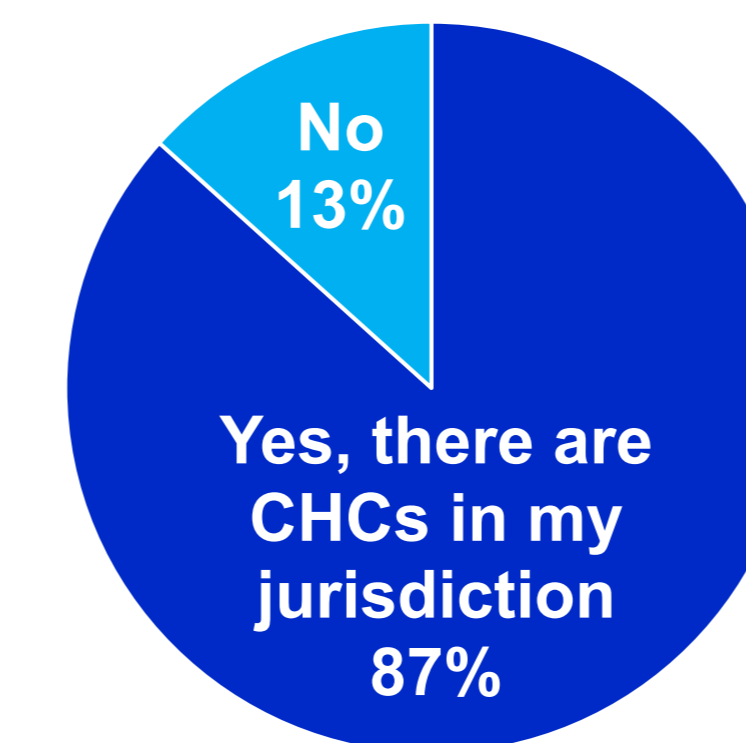
In November 2019, NACCHO surveyed its Sentinel Network—a convenience sample of local health department (LHD) staff working in HIV, STI, & hepatitis programs—to better understand the role CHCs play in local HIV efforts & to assess partnerships between LHD HIV programs & CHCs. 60 of 128 members responded (47% response rate).

## Respondents (n=60)

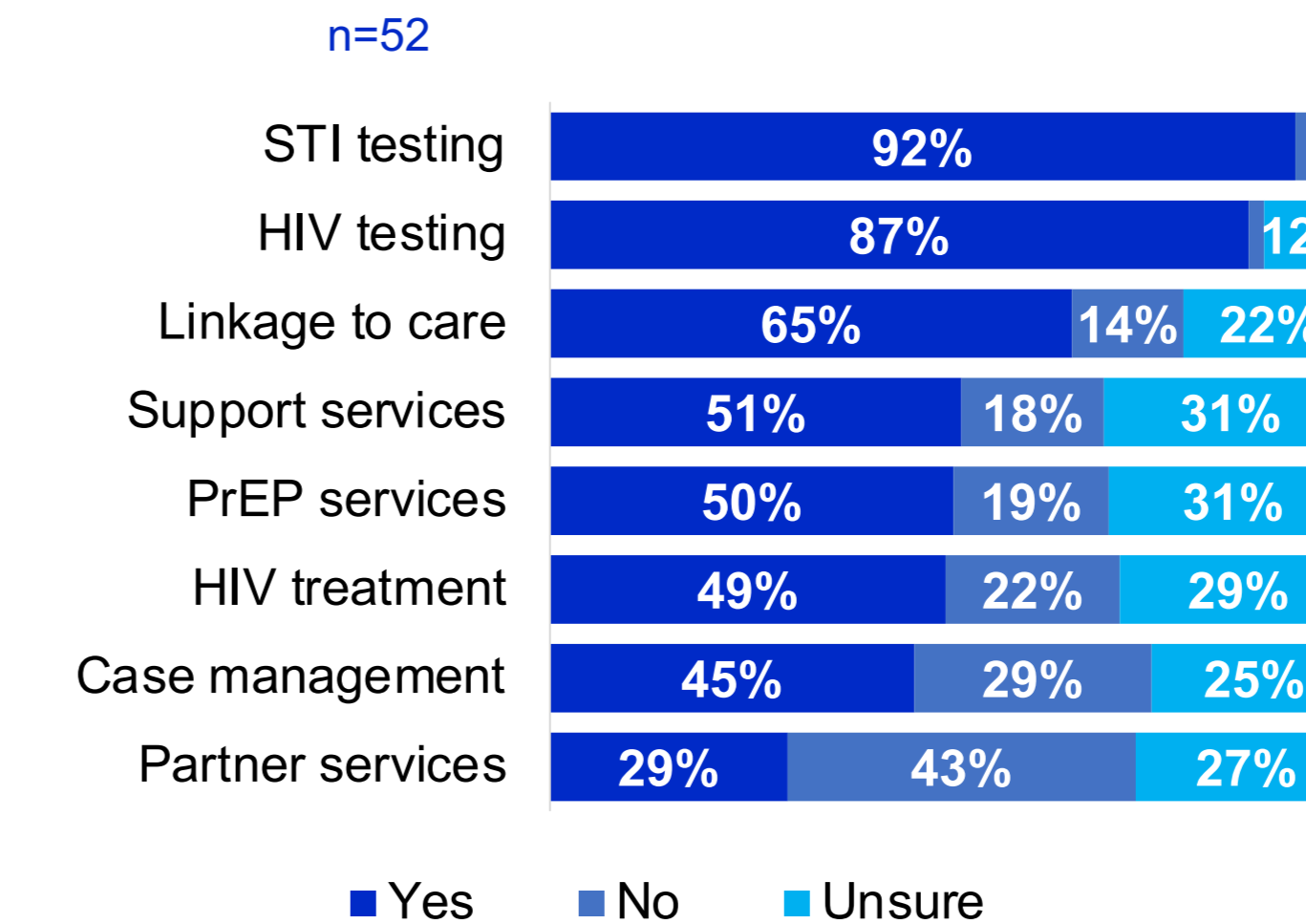


## Results

Presence of CHCs n=60

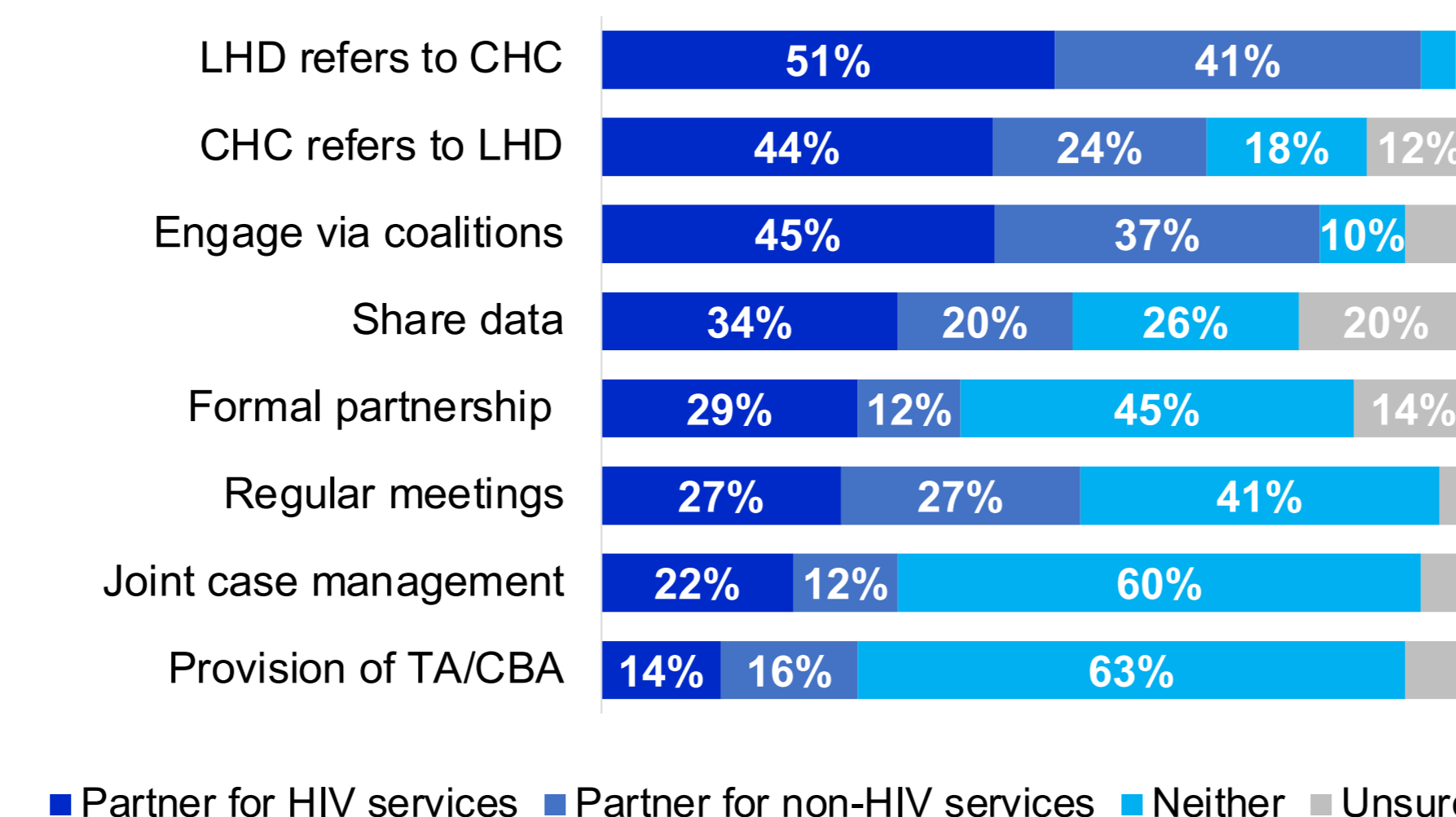


Services Offered by CHCs n=52

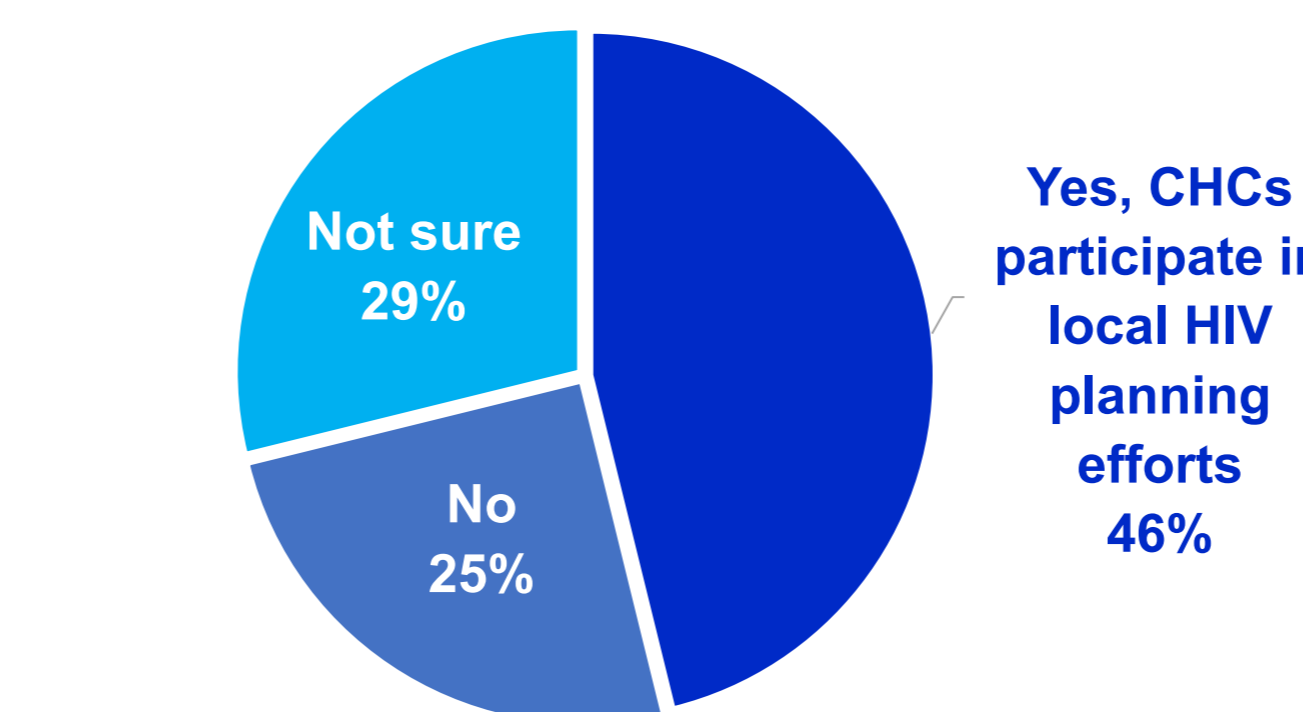


## Results (continued)

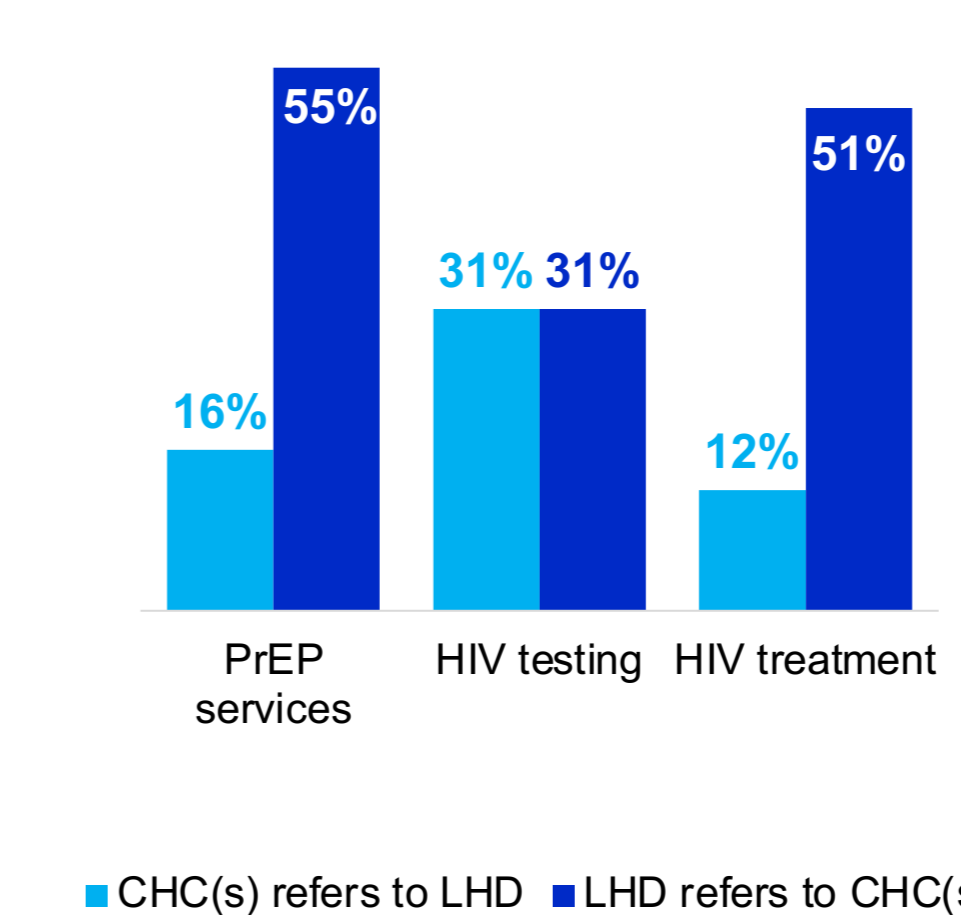
LHD-CHC Partnership Activities n=51



CHC Participation in HIV Planning n=52

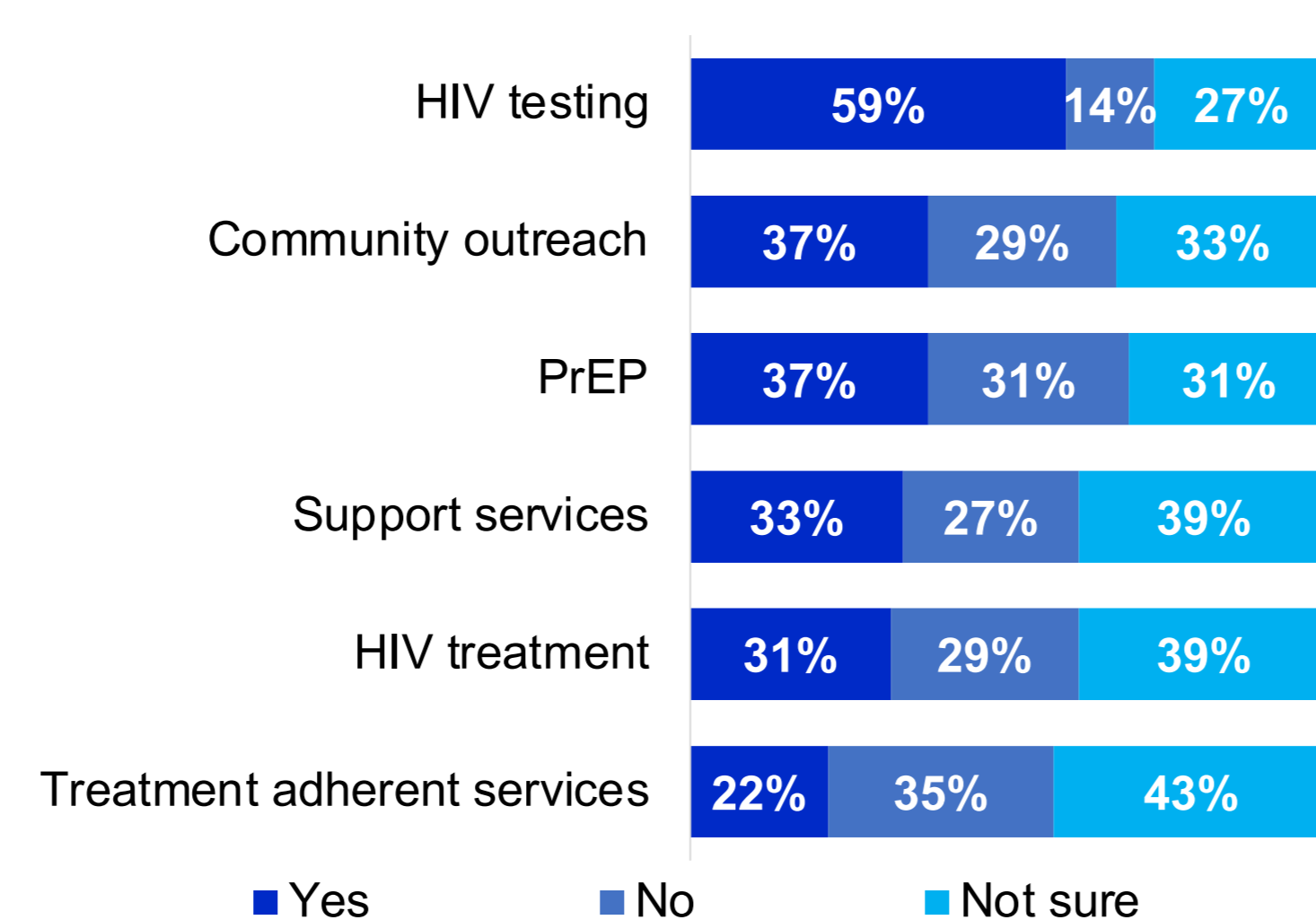


Referrals Between LHDs & CHCs n=49

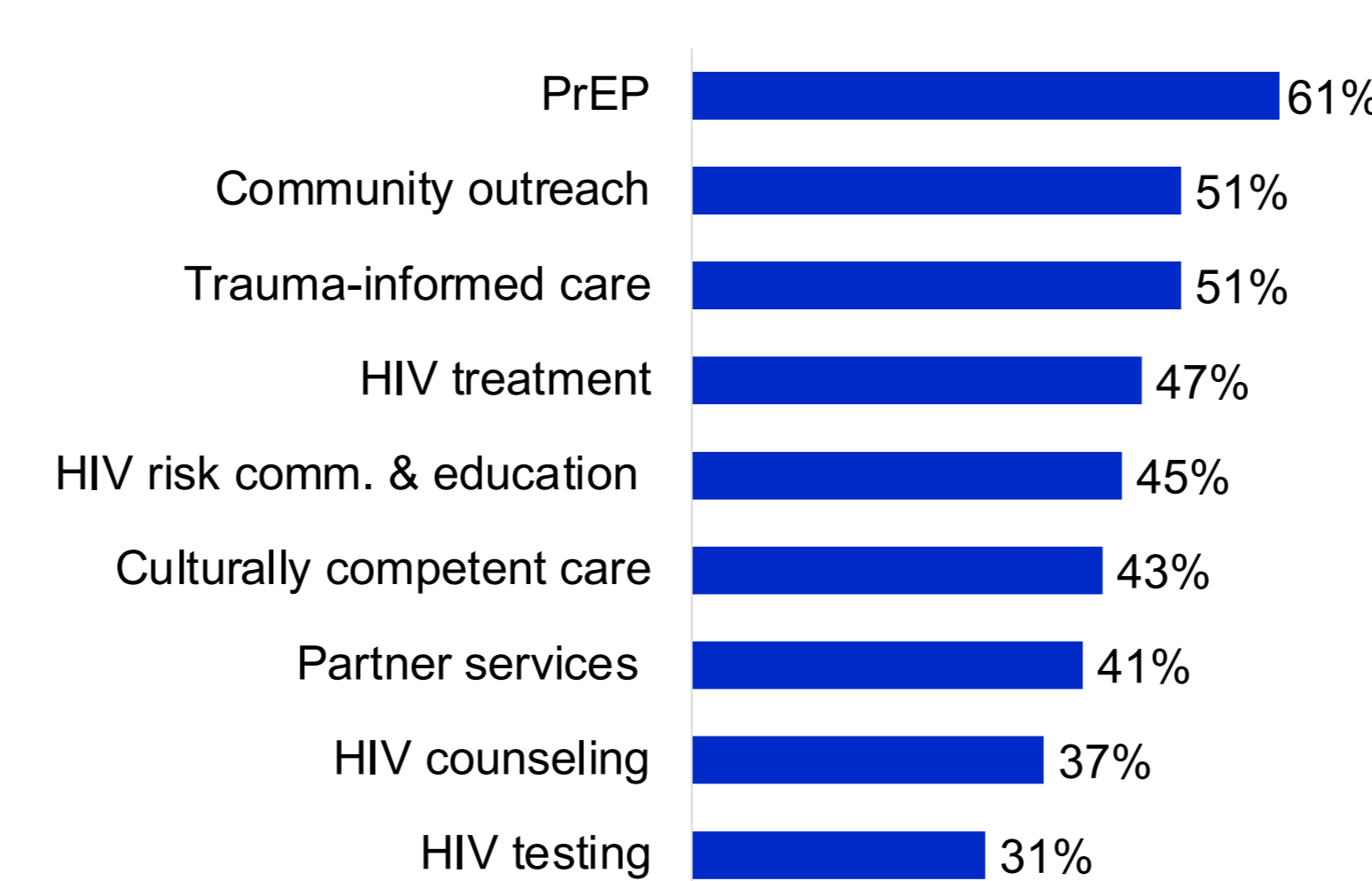


## Results (continued)

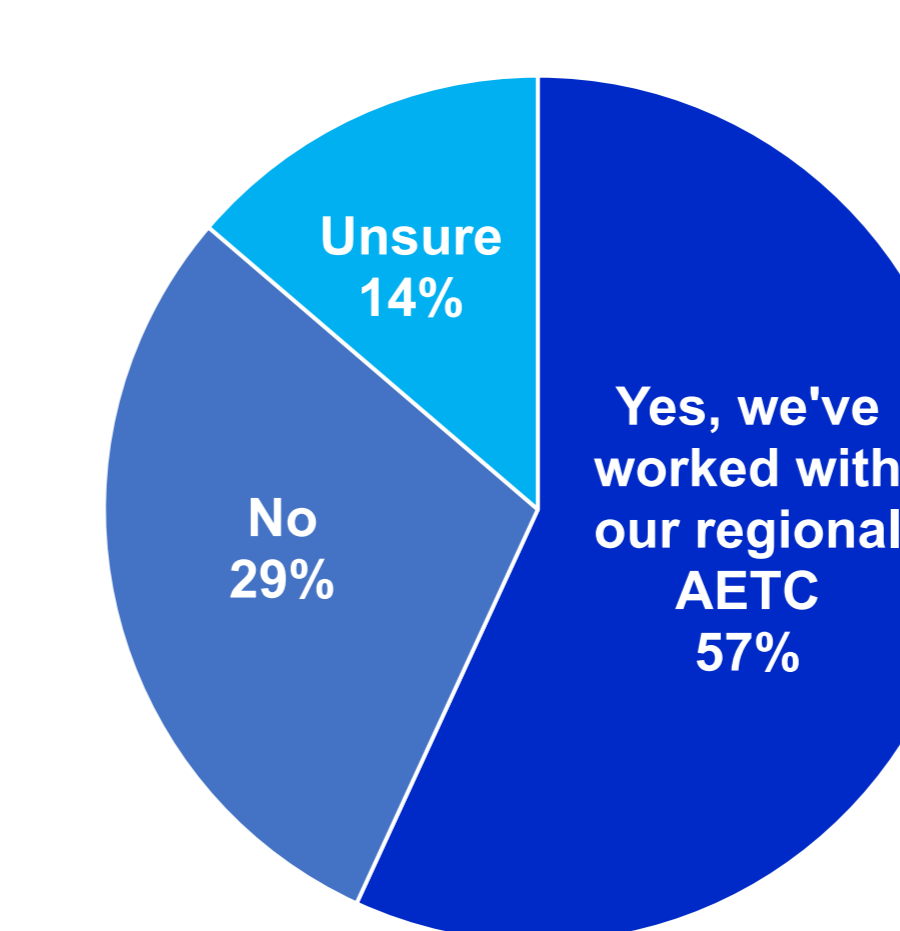
LHD Perceptions: CHC Readiness for Scale-Up of HIV Services n=51



LHD perceptions: CHC Technical & Capacity Building Needs n=49



Engagement of AIDS Education & Training Centers (AETCs) n=51



## Conclusions

**We have the tools to end the HIV epidemic, but achieving these goals requires strong public health & healthcare partnerships.**

**LHDs can support CHCs to scale up HIV services,** complementing their clinical care with public health interventions

**CHCs can partner with LHDs to provide community outreach, enhanced case management, treatment adherent & support services, & trauma-informed & culturally competent care—which are critical to addressing inequities**

**There is a need to strengthen communication & partnerships between CHCs & LHD HIV programs**

## References

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## Contact

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