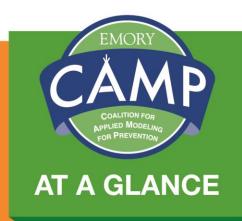# Sexual Risk Behaviors in Adolescent Sexual Minority Males: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis

**Source:** *Journal of Primary Prevention*

[Publication Link](#)

**EMORY CAMP**
COALITION FOR APPLIED MODELING FOR PREVENTION

## AT A GLANCE

## OVERVIEW

- In the US, adolescent sexual minority males (ASMM) are at increased risk for HIV.
- Youth aged 13–24 years accounted for 6.7% of people living with HIV in 2009 and 25.7% of the estimated 47,500 new infections in 2010.
- 72.1% of these infections were attributed to male-to-male sexual contact.
- Research focused on males, ages 14-19, who identified as gay or bisexual, had a history of sexual contact with males, or were considered a sexual minority by the study.

   **The research aims to highlight gaps in critical behavioral data surrounding adolescent health.**

## RESULTS

- Sexual risk behaviors are prevalent in the population analyzed
    - 44% of ASMM had condomless anal sex in the past 6 months
    - 50% did not use a condom at last sex
    - 32% used drugs or alcohol at last sex
    - 30% had forced sexual contact in their lifetime
- The sexual risk behaviors estimated in this research are more prevalent than in the general population of adolescent males.
- Only 21 articles were identified that report sexual risk behaviors among ASMM aged 14-19. More consistent, updated, and in-depth research is needed.

**Despite evidence of vulnerability to HIV infection, there is insufficient research evaluating the unique HIV risk behaviors and prevention needs of ASMM.**
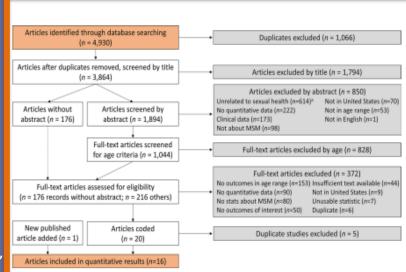


**Fig. 1** PRISMA flow diagram for systematic review of sexual risk behaviors in adolescent sexual minority males. [a]Totals do not add up to total articles excluded, since reviewers could select more than one exclusion reason

## TAKEAWAY

Estimates of risk parameters are critical to creating and targeting prevention strategies in ASMM. By understanding the drivers of high rates of HIV and other STIs in ASMM, public health officials can target interventions, which will yield the highest impact.

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