

Is the NYC Condom meeting New Yorkers' needs?

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HIV/AIDS in NYC

- NYC at end of 2006:
 - Over 155,000 AIDS cases diagnosed
 - Nearly 100,000 persons living with HIV/AIDS
 - Seroprevalence=1.2%
- Of new HIV diagnoses in 2006:
 - 73% male
 - 51% Black, 31% Hispanic
 - 39% MSM

DOHMH and Condom Distribution

■ Male Condom

- 1971: Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) begins male condom distribution
- 2005: Expansion
 - Online ordering system
 - Average monthly distribution increased from 250,000 to 1.5 million

■ Female Condom: distribution in 1998

NYC Condom



Media campaign launched February 14, 2007

Purpose of Study

- **Conduct an assessment to determine**
 - **Demand for alternative to NYC Condom (e.g. larger size)**
 - **Levels of female condom use**

Key Questions

- Are New Yorkers using the NYC Condom?
- Is there another type of condom DOHMH should consider distributing?
 - If so, what type?
- Are New Yorkers using the female condom?

Study Design

- Data collected at 7 public events in NYC from July-September 2007
 - Events targeted MSM and communities of color
- Eligible if NYC resident and ≥ 18 years
- Short, in-person questionnaire
 - QDS software
 - Handheld-assisted personal interview (HAPI) pocket PCs
- Incentive: \$4 transit card and free condoms

Recruitment: Venue-Based/Time Space Sampling

- Modeled after CDC's National HIV Behavioral Surveillance studies among MSM
 - Designated intercept line
 - Persons crossing line are systematically assigned an interviewer by team leader
 - Interviewer recruits person for survey

Data Collection Summary

933 Approaches

Response rate:
 $464/933 = 50\%$

464 Completed
Screening Questions

469 Refused

389 Eligible

75 Ineligible

361 Completed
Surveys

28 Excluded

312 (86%) Sexually
Active w/i 12 months

Demographics of Survey Respondents as Compared to New York City*

Characteristic	Survey (N=312)	NYC (N=3.9 million)*
Gender		
Male	64.6%	52.8%
Female	34.4%	47.2%
Other	1.0%	N/A
Race/Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	15.4%	42.2%
Black, non-Hispanic	47.0%	21.9%
Hispanic	28.9%	25.1%
Other	8.7%	10.8%

*Weighted, age-adjusted population estimates from the Community Health Survey, 2006.

Demographics of Survey Respondents (cont.)

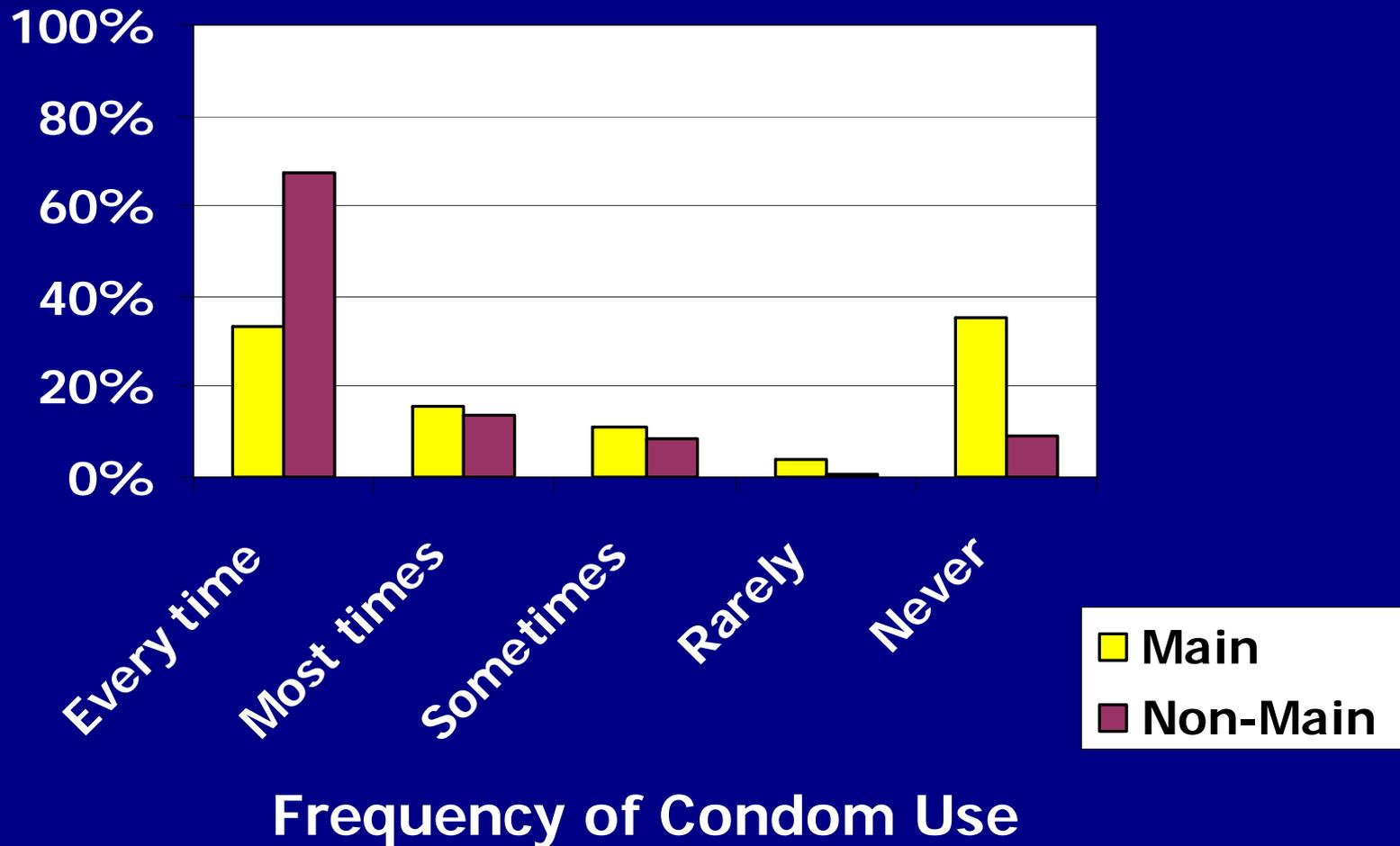
Characteristic	Survey (N=312)	NYC (N=3.9 million)*
Number of sexual partners in past 12 months		
One	51.6%	84.9%
Two	14.7%	6.8%
Three or more	33.7%	8.3%
Sexual Behavior		
MSM	27.6%	2.3%
MSW Only	37.7%	50.0%
WSM	28.6%	46.6%
WSW Only	6.2%	1.0%

*Weighted, age-adjusted population estimates from the Community Health Survey, 2006.

Sexual Behavior

- 59% used a condom at last sex
 - Top brands of condom used:
 - Trojan (49%)
 - Lifestyles (22%)
 - NYC Condom (16%)

Frequency of Condom Use with Main and Non-main Partners



NYC Condom Awareness and Use

**312 Sexually
Active Respondents**

**239 (77%) aware
of NYC Condom**

**176 (74%) picked up
the NYC Condom**

**120 (50%) used the
NYC Condom**

Where Respondents got NYC Condoms

- **Community-based Organization or Social Service Agency – 38%**
- **Bar/Nightclub – 19%**
- **STD Clinic – 7%**
- **Other locations**
 - Retail Store
 - Restaurant
 - Hospital/Other health clinic

Common Reasons for Not Using NYC Condoms

- Don't use condoms – 30%
- Would rather buy them – 16%
- Prefer other kind of male condom – 7%
- Other reasons
 - Haven't had a chance yet
 - Prefer another type of barrier method

Alternative Condoms

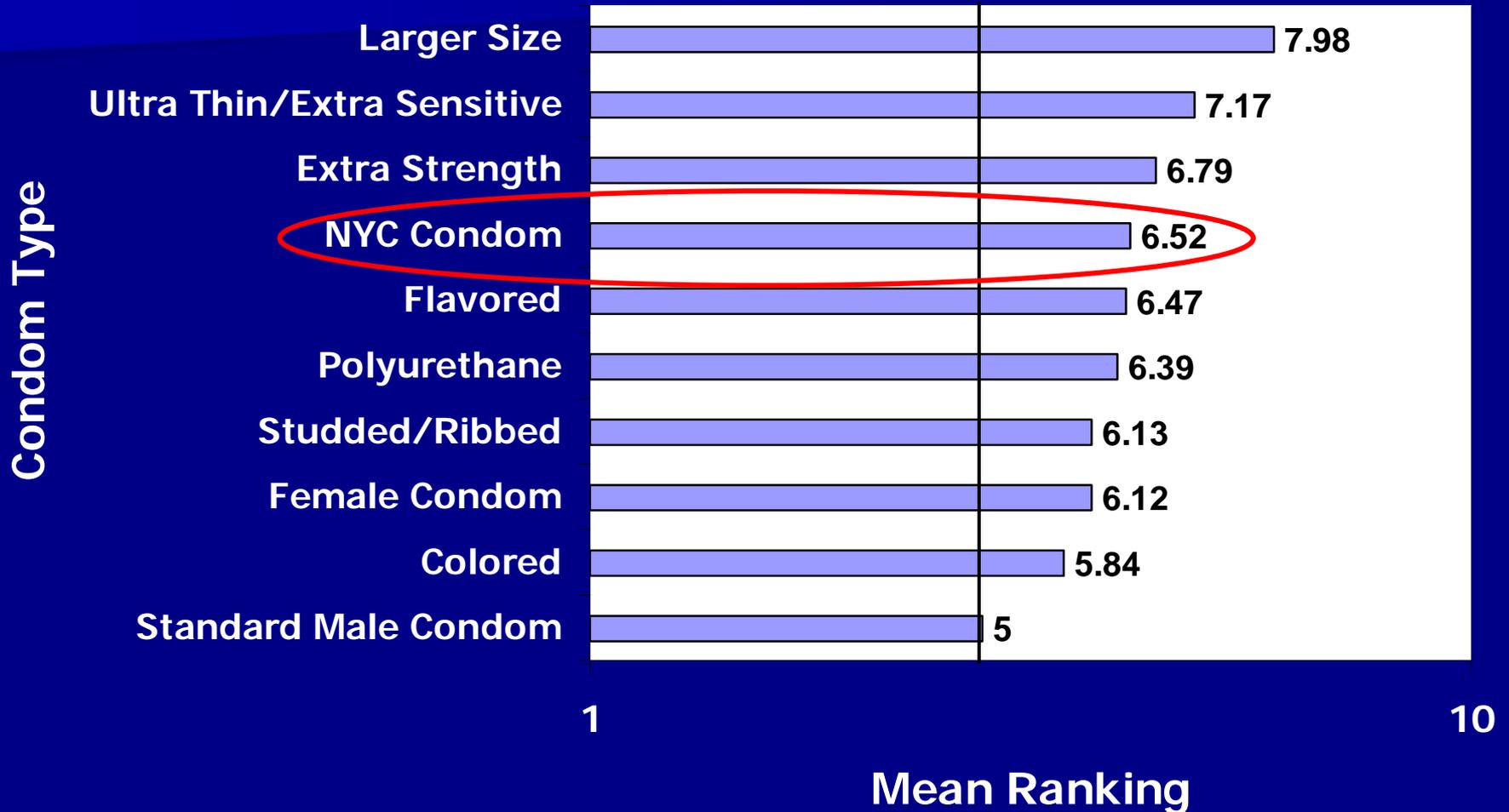
Open-ended Question: Condoms come in a variety of types, like color, texture, brand, and size. If the Health Department were to provide another type of male condom for free, **what type of condom would be your top choice?**

- 21% of respondents said no other condom was preferred

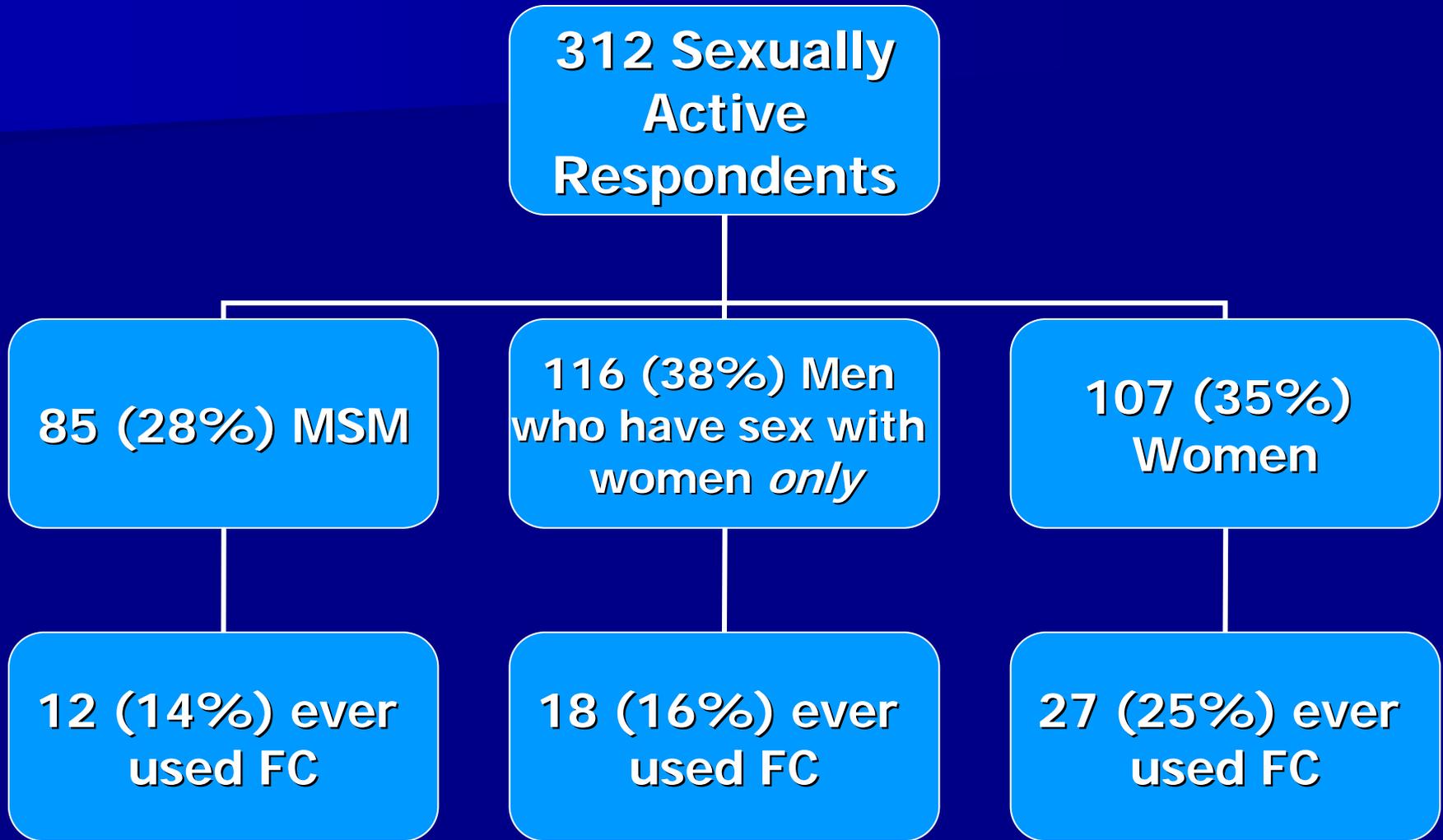
Alternative Condoms Named by Respondents

Ultra Thin/Extra Sensitive	22%
Extra Strength	18%
Larger Size	14%
Studded/Ribbed	5%
Flavored	5%
Colored	3%
Other brand	4%

Condom Rankings



Female Condom (FC) Use



Overall: 57 (18%) respondents ever used FC

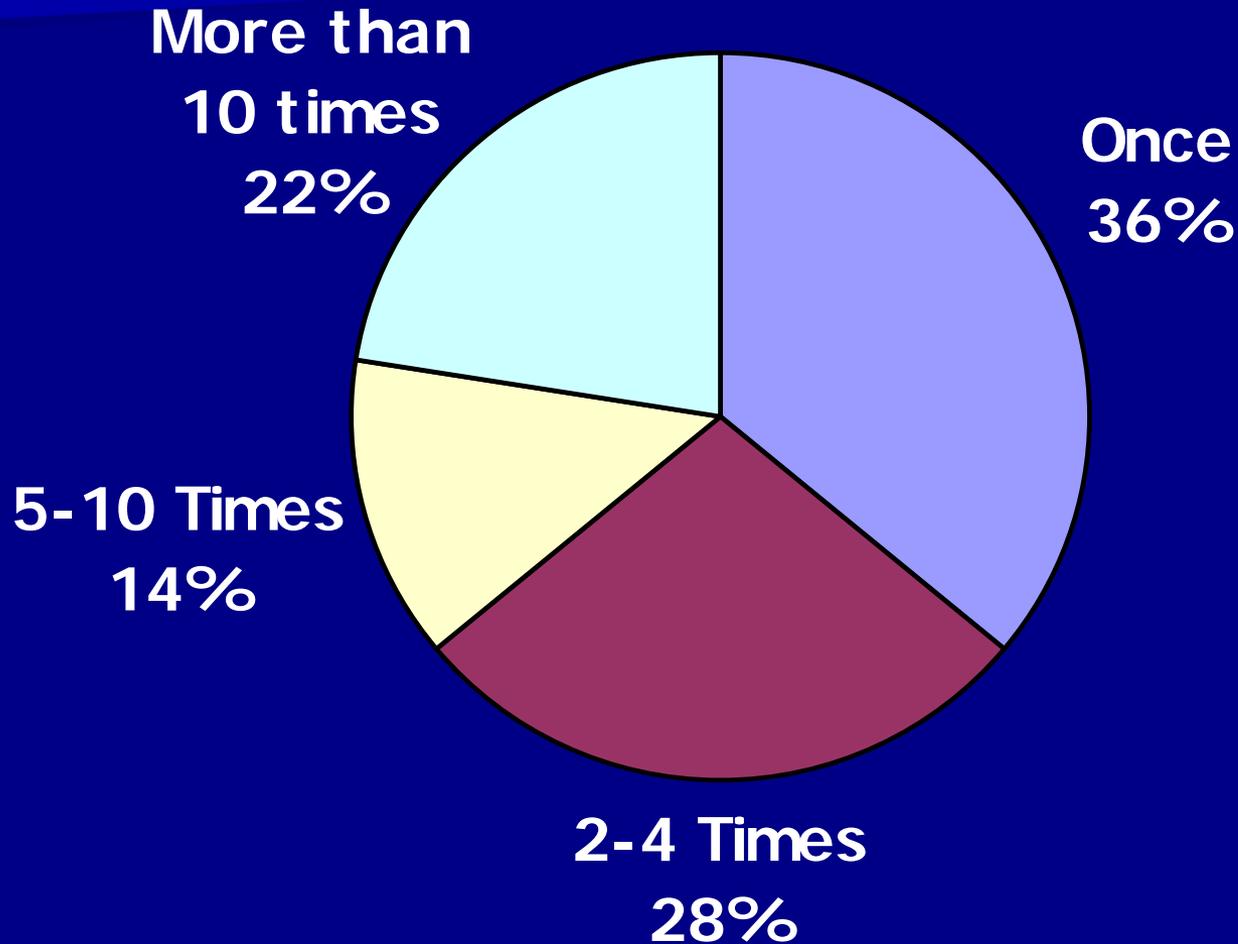
Why Respondent Used Female Condom Instead of Male Condom

- Just wanted to try it (35%)
- Better protection against pregnancy and STDs (12%)
- Only thing available (12%)
- Gives woman control over safe sex practices (10%)
- Other responses: stronger than male condom, increase pleasure during sex

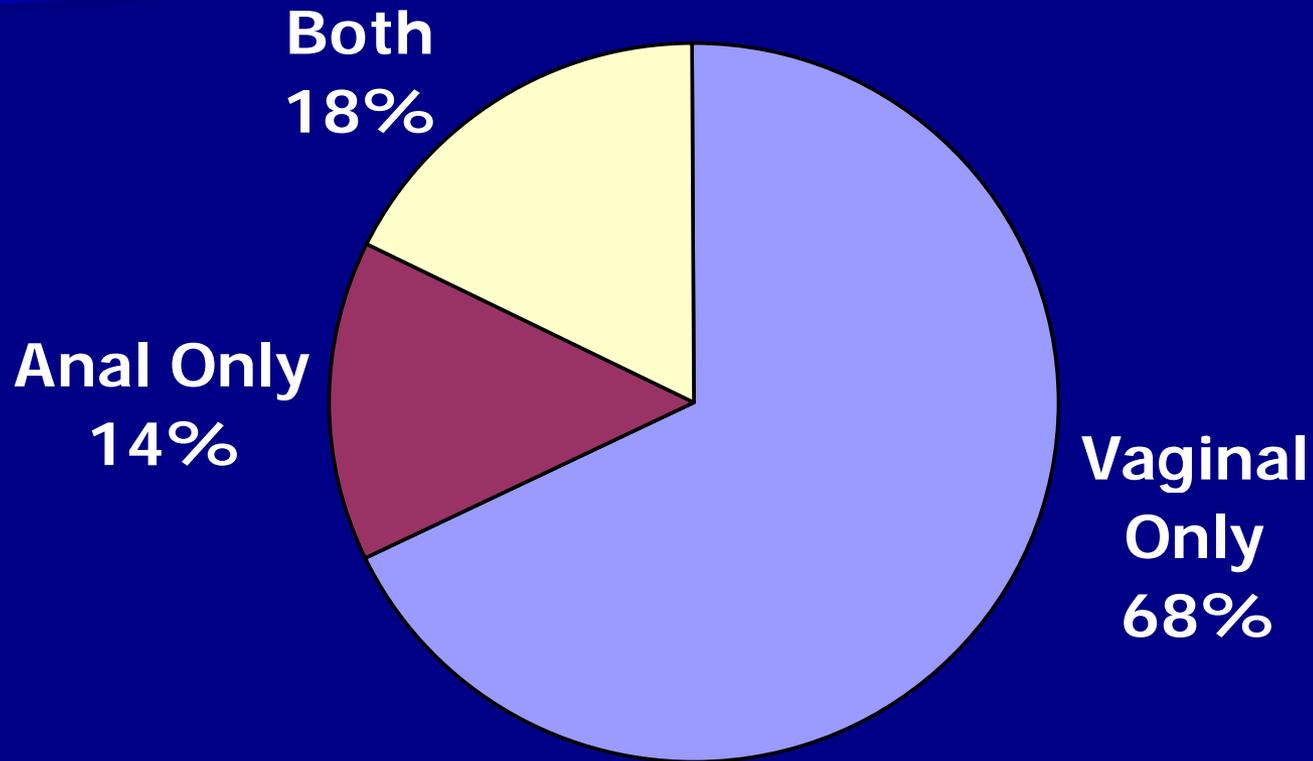
Why Respondent has Not Used a Female Condom

- Don't want to try it (25%)
- Don't know how to use it (13%)
- Prefer male condoms (11%)
- No sex with women (10%)
- Hadn't heard about it prior to this survey (9%)
- Other responses: don't use condoms, it's not available

Frequency of FC Use Over Lifetime



Type of Sex Used FC for



Summary

- **NYC Condom**
 - High levels of awareness and use
 - NYC Condom competes with other types of condoms in ranking of experience
- **Demand for free alternative condoms exists**
 - Despite reports that larger condom was needed, it was not most frequently requested
- **Female condom use was higher than expected**

Limitations

- **Generalizability**
 - Not a random sample
 - Individuals attending a public event may be different than those not attending
- **Limited amount of qualitative data**
 - Consider focus groups to gather in-depth information on opinions of the NYC Condom

Next Steps

- **Survey DOHMH STD Clinic patients and CBO clients**
 - Populations with high exposure to NYC Condoms and female condoms
- **Use the data to inform condom distribution activities within DOHMH**

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