



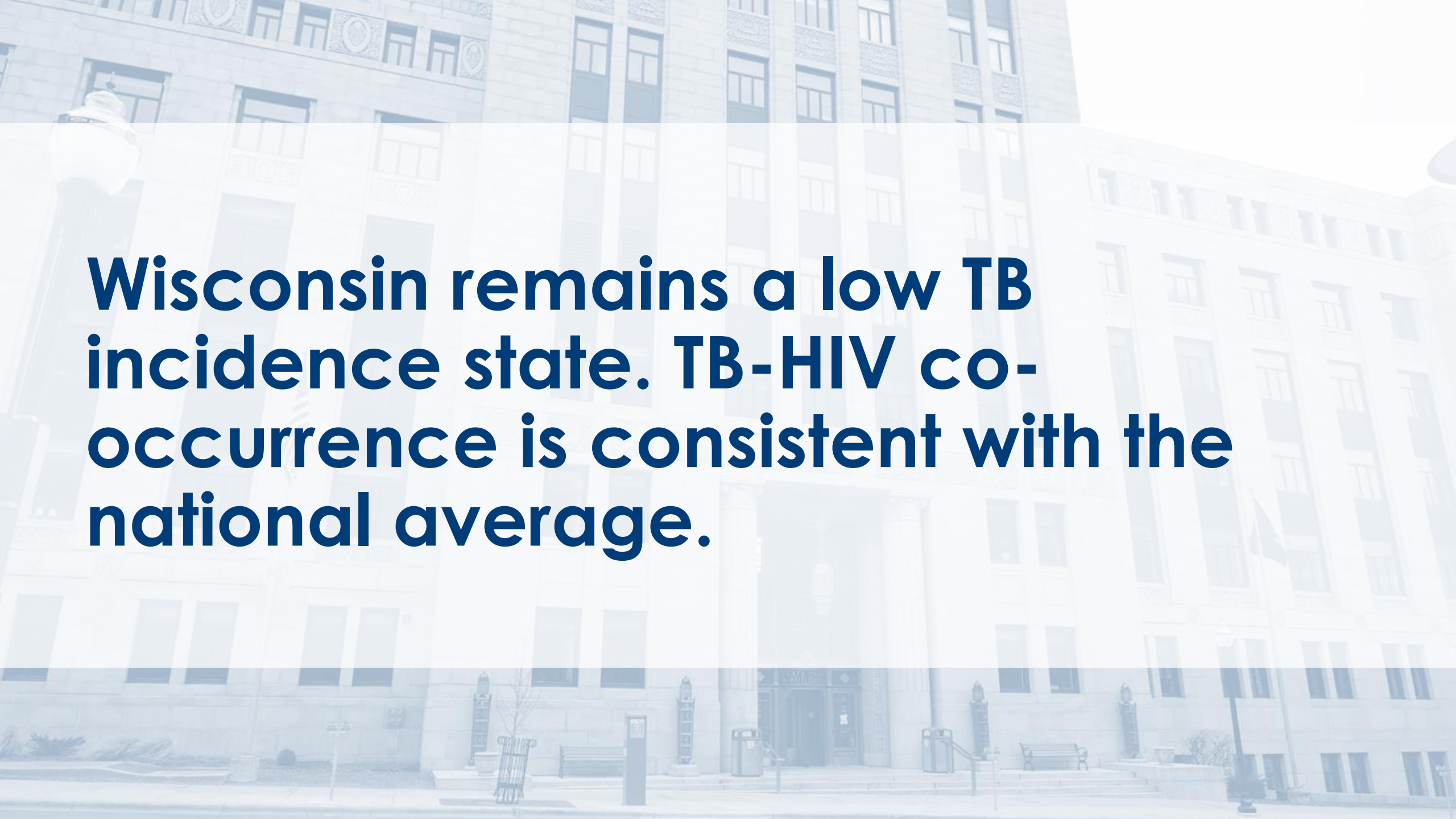
Improving HIV Testing for People with TB

Wisconsin Tuberculosis Program

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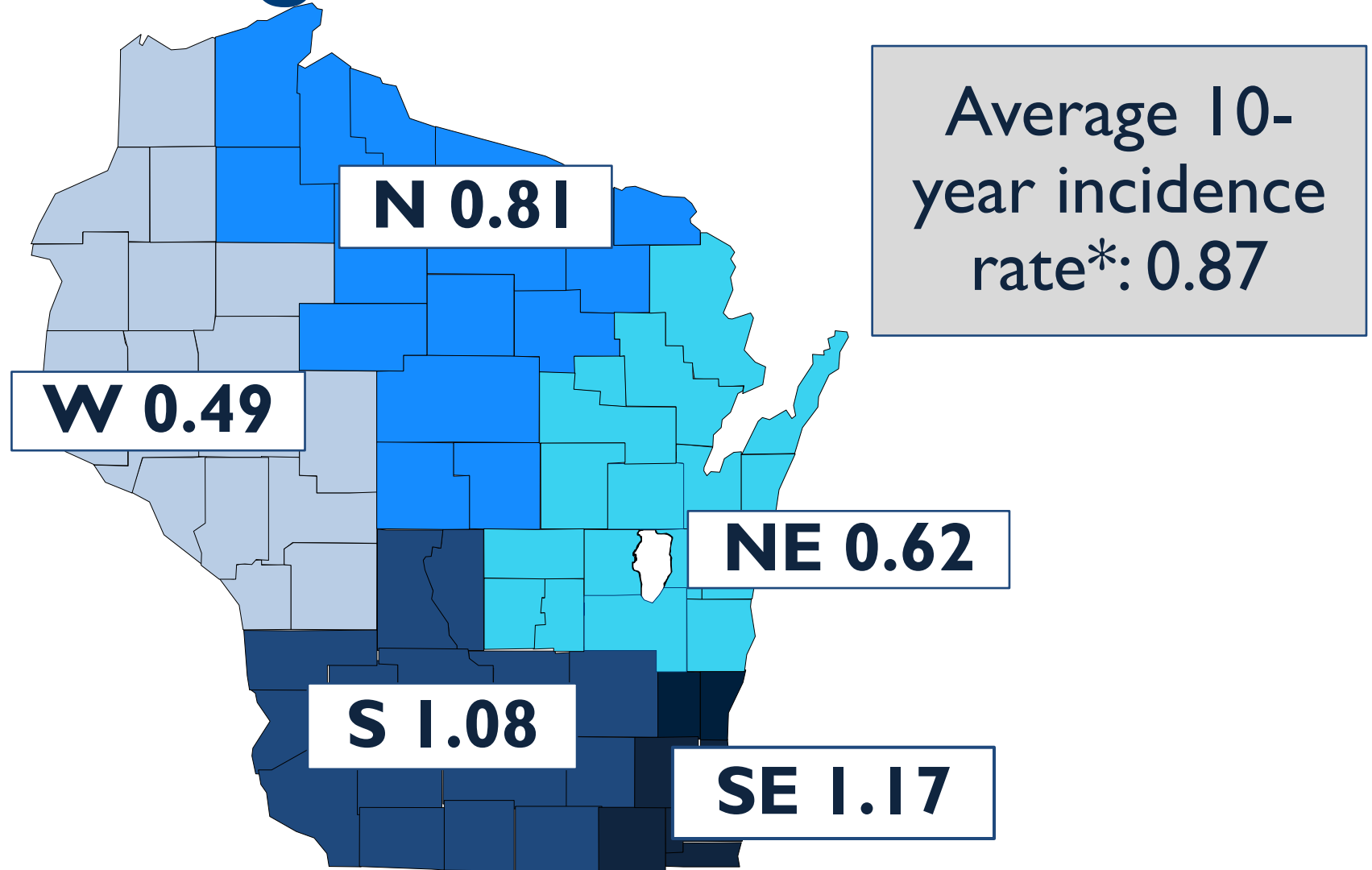
Agenda

- Overview of co- occurring conditions in Wisconsin
- Identified issue for improvement
- Proposed interventions
- Outcome

A faded, light blue background image of the Wisconsin State Capitol building. The building is a large, multi-story structure with many windows and classical architectural features like columns and statues. A street lamp is visible on the left side of the image.

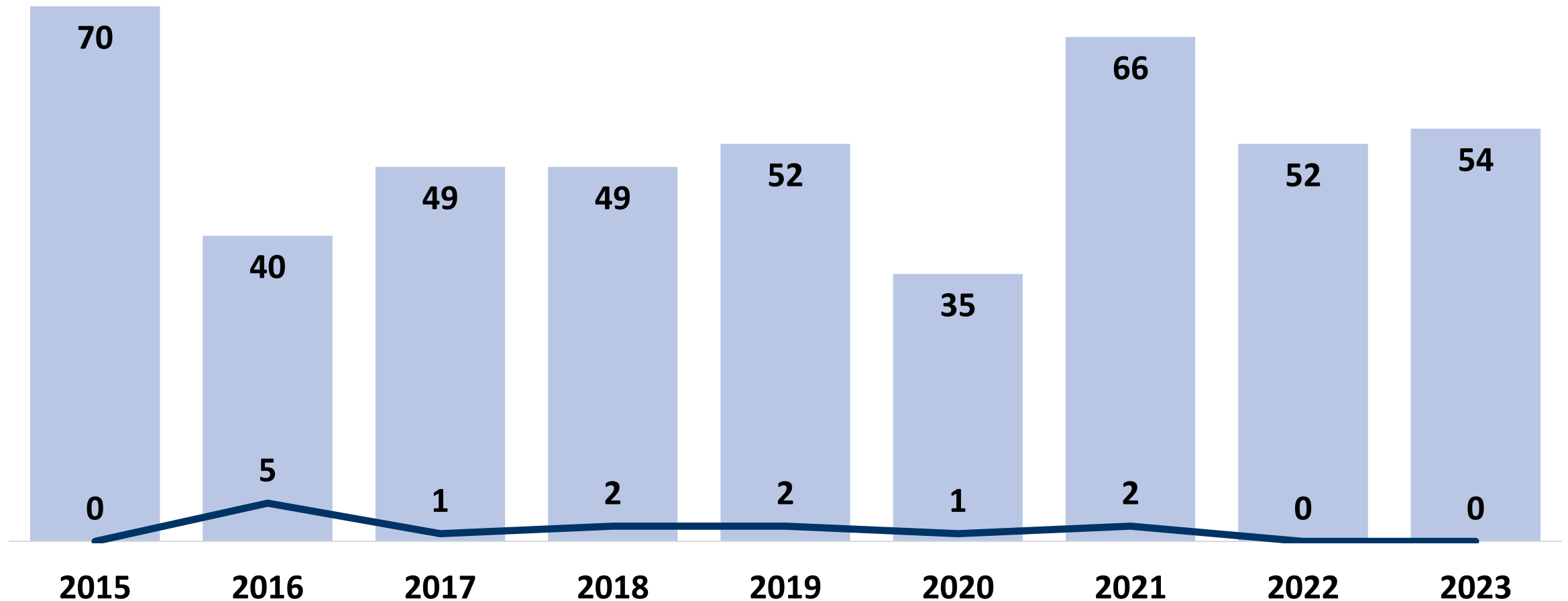
Wisconsin remains a low TB incidence state. TB-HIV co-occurrence is consistent with the national average.

Incidence rate by state public health region, 2023

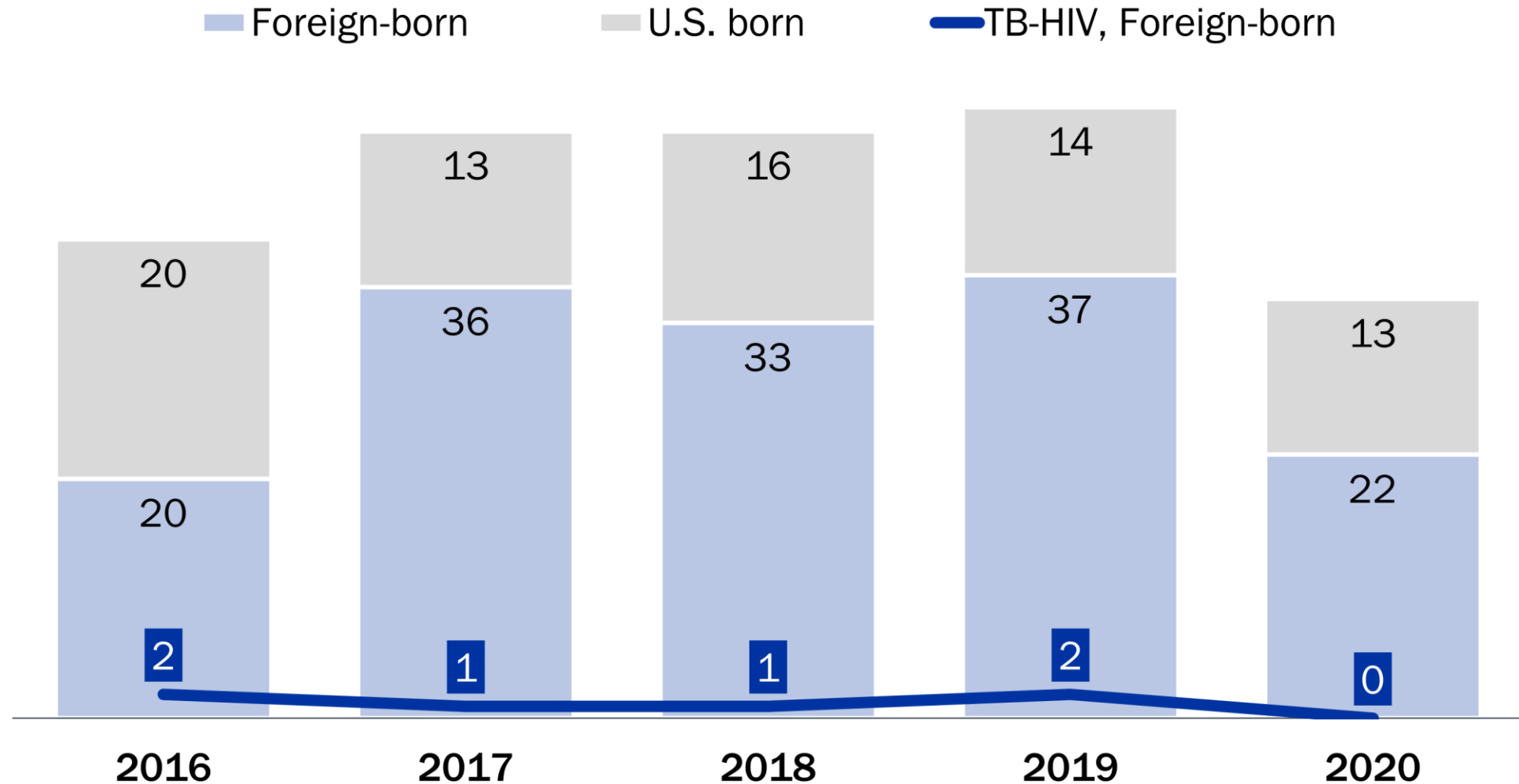


*Rates per 100,000 population on this slide calculated using Wisconsin DOA annual population estimates

TB-HIV co-occurrence is relatively low in Wisconsin (2.8% for last ten years)



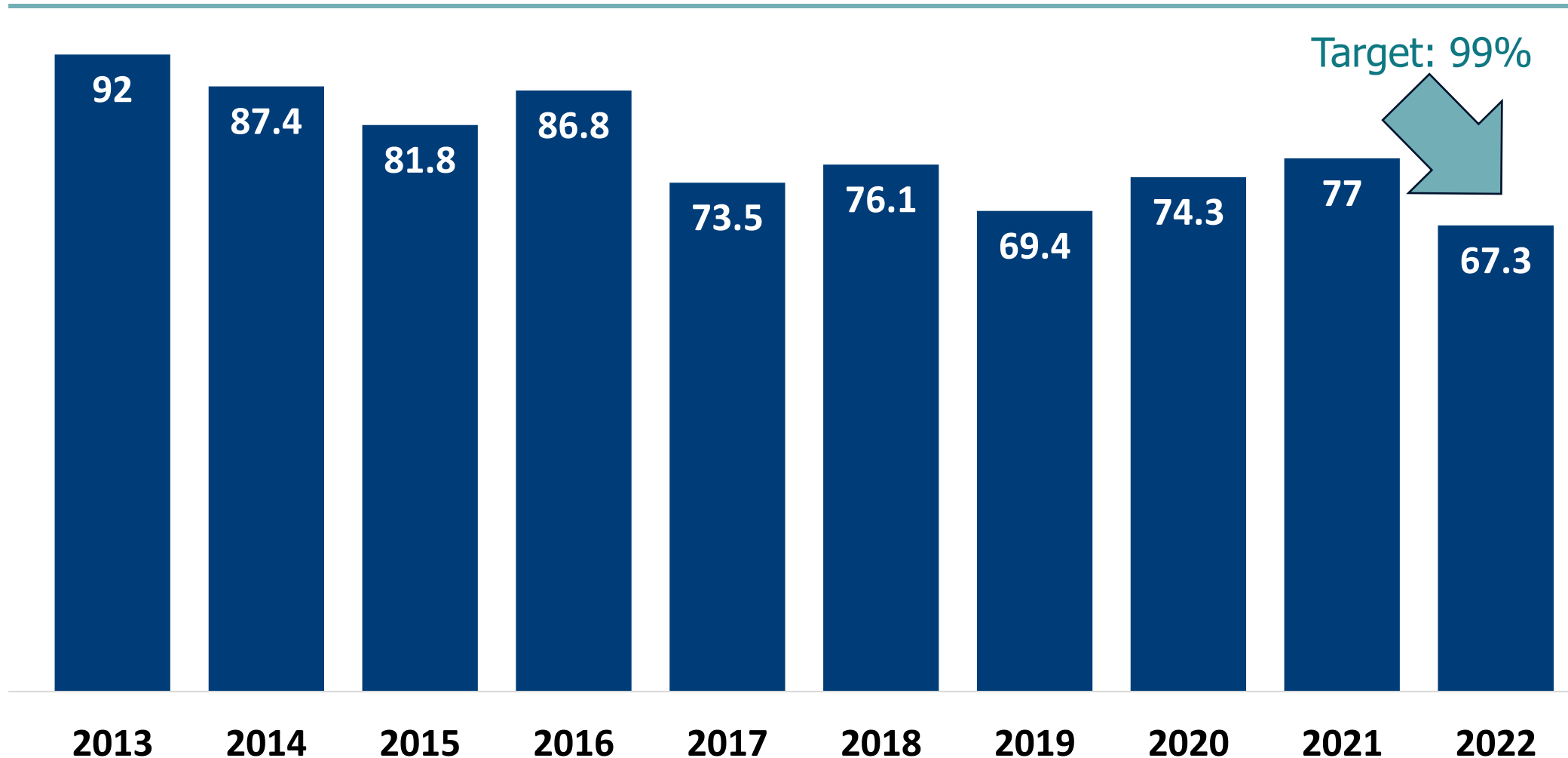
TB-HIV co-occurrence in non-US born persons, Wisconsin, 2016–2020



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Identified pattern of declining HIV testing, well below target



Improvement ideas



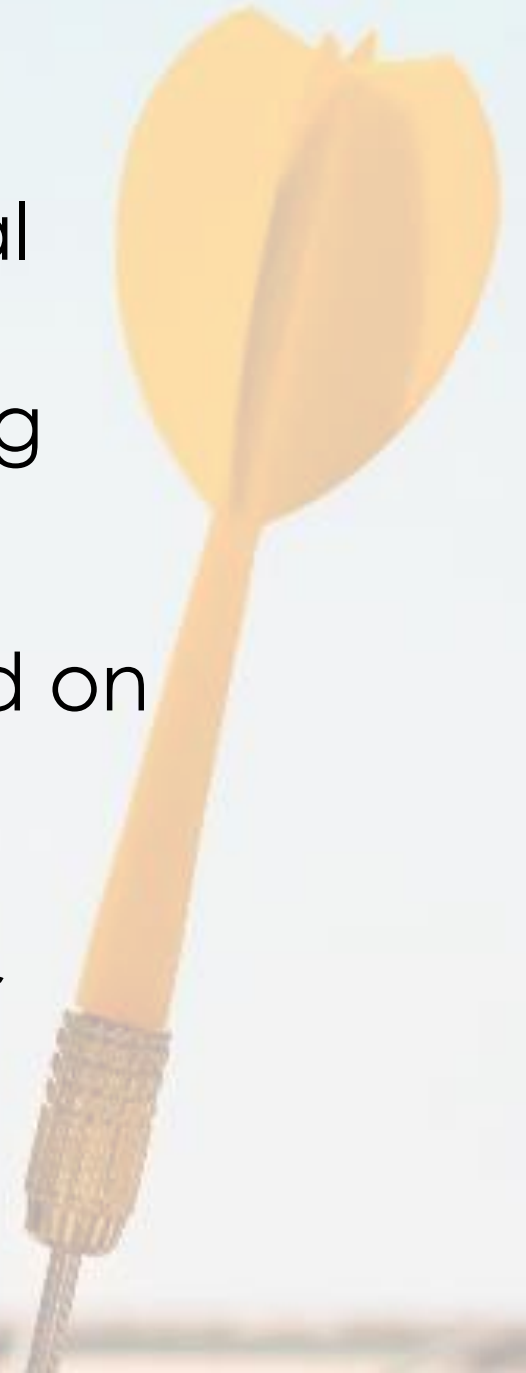
Survey clinicians and local and Tribal health departments to find knowledge gaps or barriers to testing (MPH student project)



Create educational materials based on findings of survey results



Provide better access to ordering or performing HIV testing



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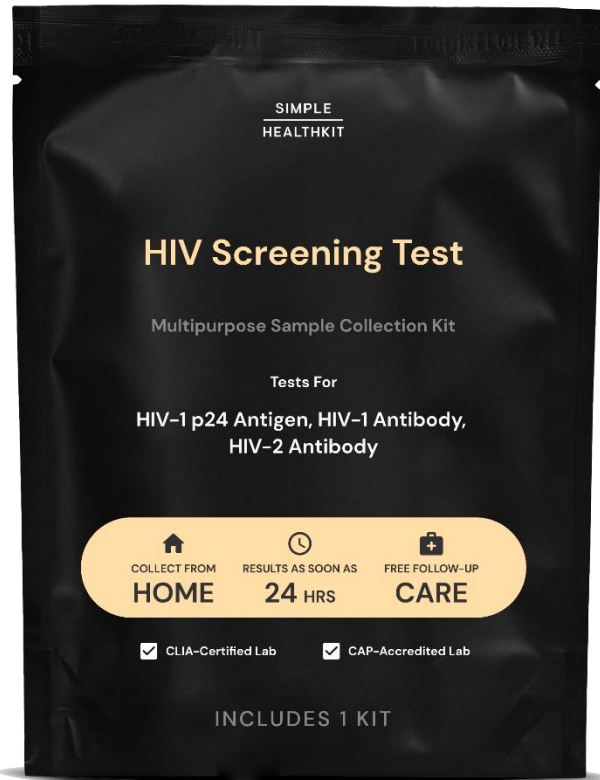
New offerings from WI TB Program

Free at home
HIV screening

Clinician
education
materials

Patient
education
materials

SIMPLE HEALTHKIT



- Paralleled current HIV program that was ending.
- Used protocol and process from HIV program.
- Cost is covered by the Wisconsin TB Dispensary Program.
- Can be ordered for the client and sent directly to their home upon request.

Created directions for ordering HIV at home test kits

HIV At-Home Testing for Patients with Suspected or Confirmed Tuberculosis: Instructions for Local and Tribal Health Departments

Simple HealthKit At-Home HIV Tests

All clients diagnosed or suspected to have active tuberculosis (TB) disease should receive screening for HIV. At-home HIV testing is now available through Simple HealthKit (SHK). The cost is covered by the Wisconsin TB Dispensary Program (WTBDP). The Wisconsin TB Program (WTBP) is providing at-home HIV testing through SHK for clients who may be unable to access testing due to isolation or other reasons.

Simple HealthKit At-Home Test Kit Ordering Process:



Ordering a Kit

If a client with active TB needs an HIV test, the WTBP may reach out to the local or Tribal health department (LTHD) and ask if they would like an order placed through Simple HealthKit's online portal. The LTHD may also reach out to the WTBP for TB clients who are unable to access HIV screening. Any request submitted after 5pm EST will ship the next business day. The WTBP will ship to the LTHD unless the LTHD requests that the kit goes directly to the client's home address. Kits sent will take about 3 days to be delivered to Wisconsin.

Case reviews and medical consults

- **Implemented HIV status** as part of the essential clinical **snapshot** for every PWTB.
- Addressed at every clinical opportunity including **case reviews** and **medical consultations**.

Clinician HIV education

The TB-HIV coinfection rates in Wisconsin are relatively low, but because of the severity of the co-occurring conditions, it is important to identify the coinfection early.

Percentage of TB patients with HIV in Wisconsin ^{7,8}



P-03576a

<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/publications/p03576a.pdf>

Do You Know Your TB Patient's HIV Status?



We recommend testing every patient with tuberculosis (TB) disease for human immunodeficiency (HIV) test. Here's why:

- Active TB is a known risk factor for HIV.
- HIV increases the risk of acquiring *M. tuberculosis*.¹
- TB accelerates HIV progression to stage 3 (AIDS), and HIV accelerates latent tuberculosis infection (LTBI) progression to active TB disease.^{2,3}
- Globally, 6.7% of people newly diagnosed with TB in 2021 were also living with HIV.⁴
- In an 8-year study, 20.9% of patients diagnosed with TB and HIV did not survive.⁵

10%
lifetime
risk

VS

10%
annual
risk

People living with **LTBI** have a 10% risk of developing active TB in their **lifetime**

People living with **LTBI and HIV** have a 10% risk of developing active TB **every year** ⁶

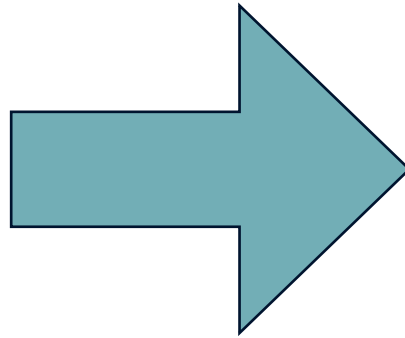
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P-03576A (07/2024)

Patient HIV education

QR code to order the test kit, or nurse case manager can order for those without ability or knowledge to order it themselves.



[P-03576](https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/publications/p03576.pdf)

<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/publications/p03576.pdf>

DO YOU KNOW YOUR HIV STATUS?

If you have active Tuberculosis (TB) disease, you should be tested for human immunodeficiency virus(HIV).

- Active TB disease can cause HIV to progress faster.
- Untreated HIV can progress to AIDS. AIDS impacts your body's ability to fight off illnesses, including TB.



The CDC estimates that approximately 1 in 5 people who have HIV don't know they have it.

How can you get an HIV test?

Contact your doctor and ask them about getting an HIV test. This testing is covered by most insurance plans and the TB Program.

Need access to an HIV test?

DHS is partnering with Simple Health Kit to provide free at-home HIV tests that get sent to your door step. Ask your provider about the special access code for people with TB to order your kit.



<https://www.simplehealthkit.com/partnerships/Wisconsin/>

Need additional support?

Receiving a TB or HIV diagnosis can be scary, but you are not alone. We are TB is a resource for you to participate in online support groups to get additional social support.



<https://www.wearetb.com/>



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(02/2024)

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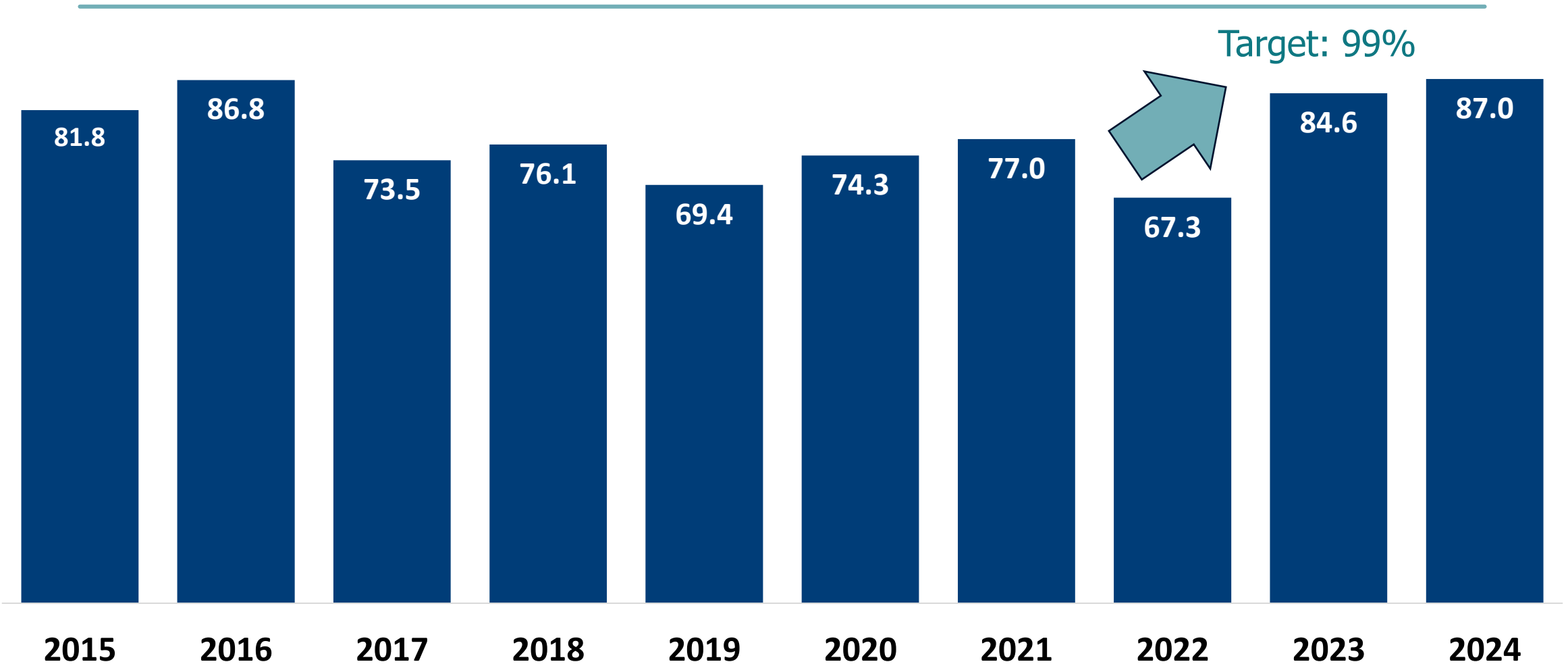
Discuss HIV status in case reviews as part of critical case information. Ask providers of status at every medical consultation opportunity



Provide better access to ordering or performing HIV testing



Results of interventions



What worked?



- **Reminding nurse case managers** about the importance of HIV testing when diagnosed with TB may have been the best intervention.
- **Asking for the result** of the test after offering at home test provided results.

We hope with these interventions, increased awareness, and easy access to testing, that we can continue to improve this metric in subsequent years.

Contact info for questions

Thank you!

Wisconsin TB Program
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