

# HIV Prevalence in International Migrants Compared to the Native Populations: A Systematic Review

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## BACKGROUND

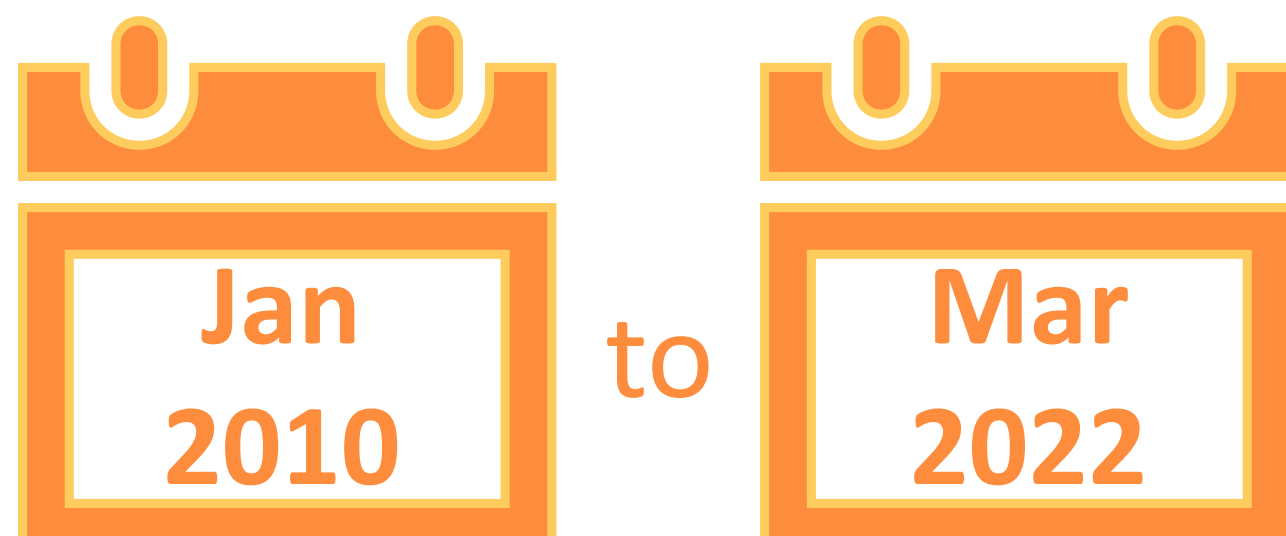
Steady increase of international migrants as the world becomes more globalised has presented challenges for both migrants and governments across the globe. Migrants often face multi-faceted inequities—including health—that expose them to higher risk for HIV infection compared to the native populations.

So...

*How does their health compare to the native residents ?*

## METHODS

5 databases searched between:



10,564 records

5,121 screened

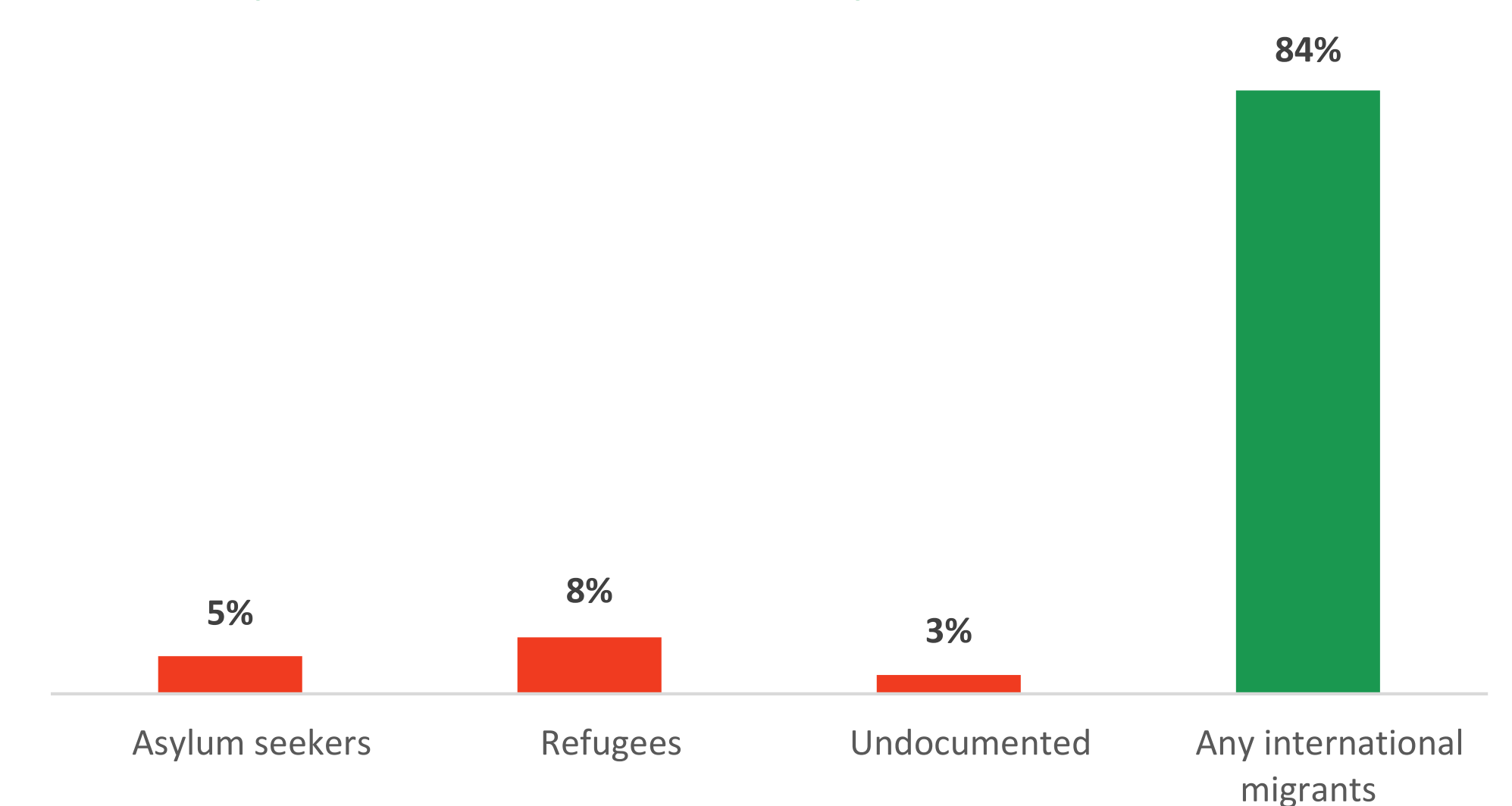
38 included in the review

## RESULTS

**7+ million** migrants included in the study pool  
and **270+ million** native residents

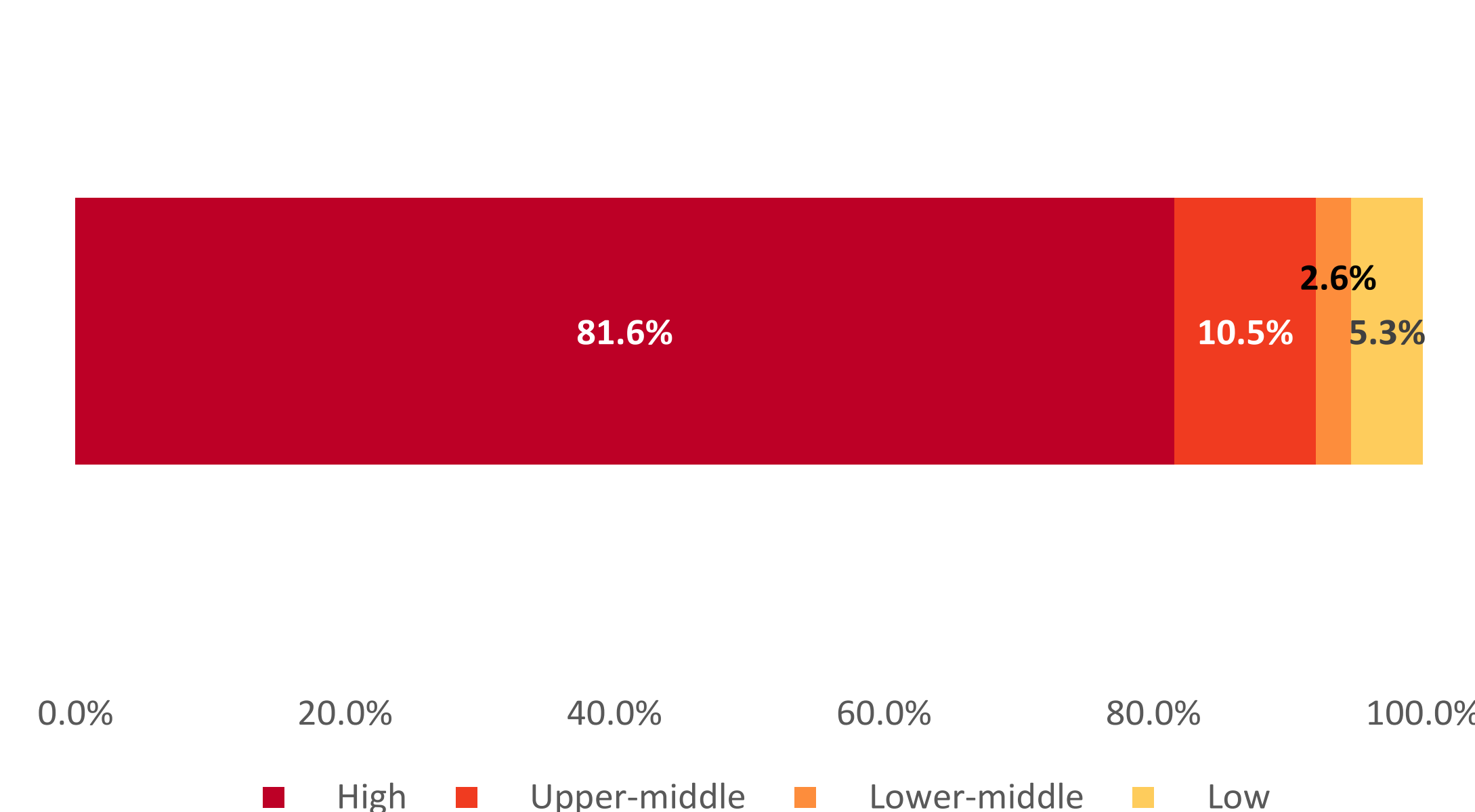
Only 1 in 4 studies looked at asylum seekers, refugees, or undocumented migrants, subpopulations in which some of the highest pooled prevalence ratios (PR) were shown (**54.79** [95%CI 17.23 – 174.23] in asylum seekers compared to the natives). In contrast to the PR of ‘any international migrants’ of **1.07** (95%CI 1.11 – 2.61).

Migrants in low-income countries were shown to have lower PR than the natives (**0.23** [95%CI 0.20 – 0.28]). Meanwhile, migrants in high-income countries were shown to have a PR of **2.25** (95%CI 1.27– 3.98).



## CONCLUSION

- It is rather unsurprising that migrants were shown to have higher prevalence ratio compared to the natives.
- Risks are unevenly distributed amongst migrants subpopulations.
- More research needs to be done in lower-middle and low income countries to account for all types of migrants.



4 in 5 studies were conducted in high-income countries, which inevitably created confounding bias and skewed the types of migrants.