Psychedelic Retreats:

Ethical issues regarding underground access to psychedelics

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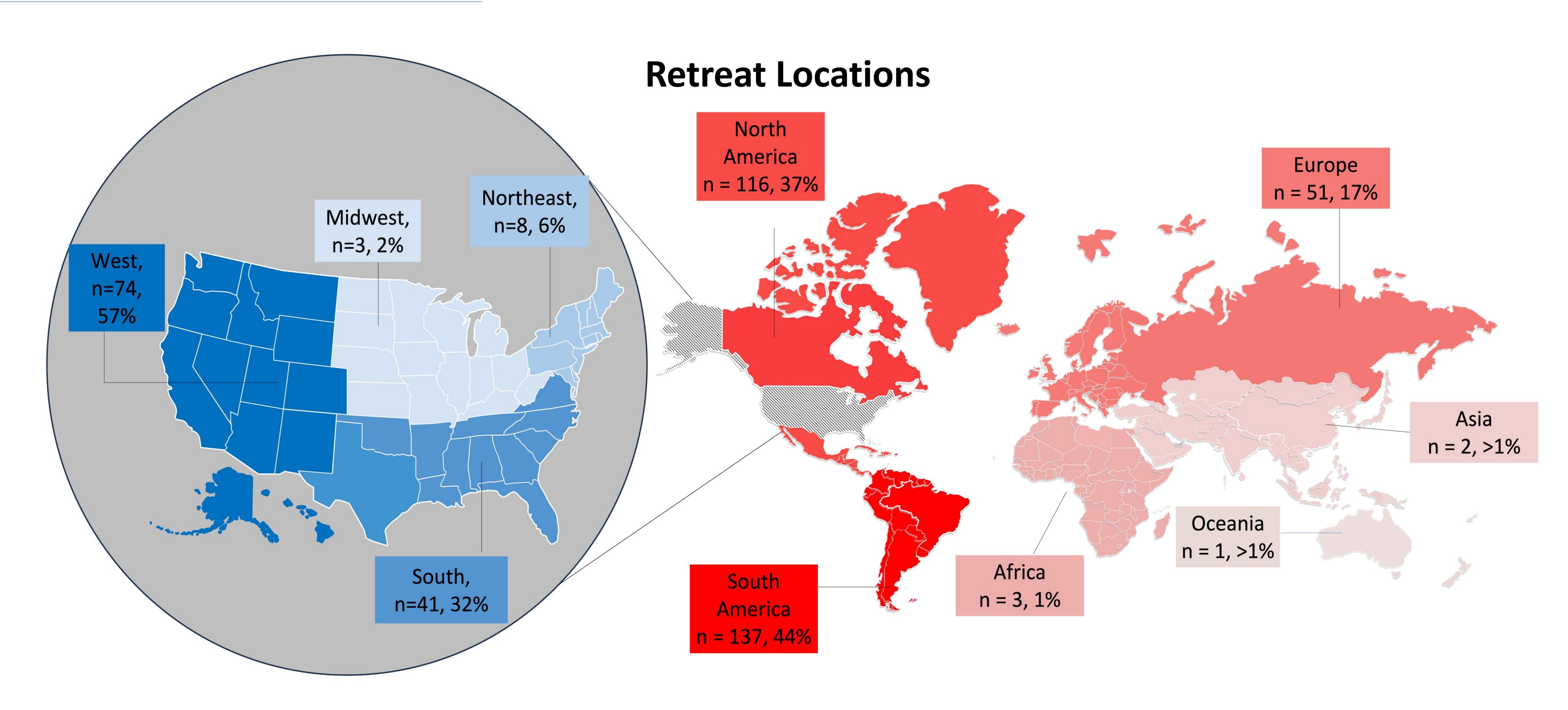




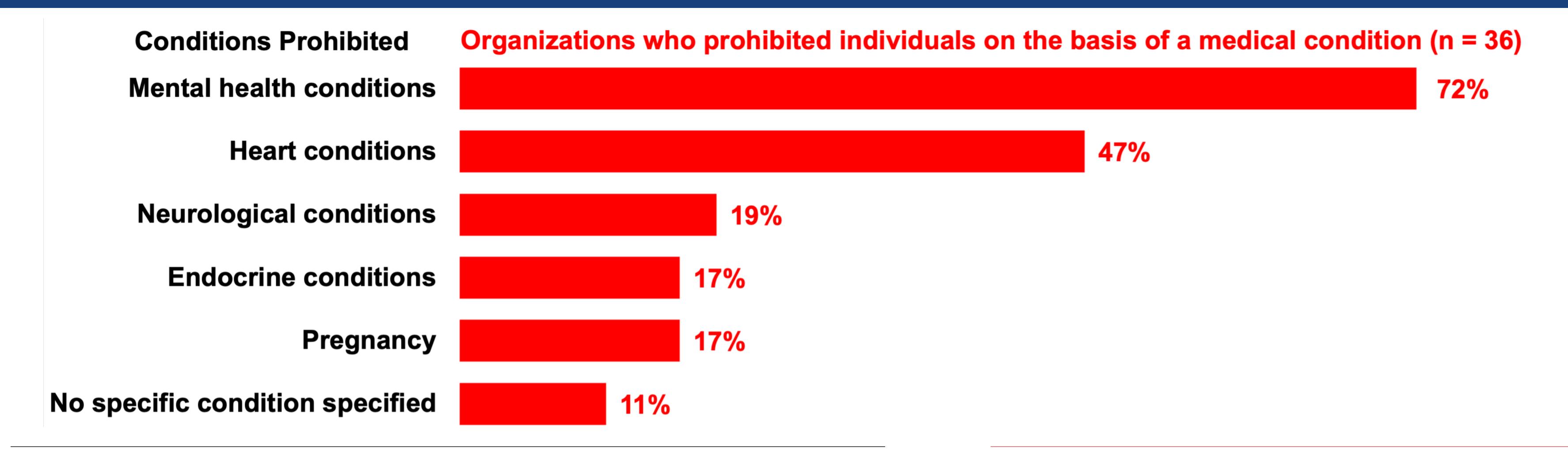


Landscape analysis of psychedelic retreat organizations, n=298

Substances offered by organizations	N, (%)
Ayahuasca	220 (74)
Psilocybin	76 (26)
San Pedro	60 (20)
Other	57 (19)
Psychedelic substances (not specified)	8 (3)
More than one	93 (31)



Informational interviews with psychedelic retreat organizations, n=50



Details about medical professionals	Had a medical professional on staff, n=39	Had a medical professional in attendance at retreat, n=34
Physician	15	11
Nurse	13	16
LCSW/ Therapist	13	9
Firefighter / paramedic / EMT Staff that is CPR / first aid trained	10	7
Pharmacist	4	1
More than 1 type	23	16
Other or occasionally have someone on staff or in attendance	10	4

Details about Washout	Required washout, n=43, n (%)
Required to speak to a medical professional to assist with washout*	28 (65)
Require individuals to speak to the individual's personal physician	26 (93)
Have a medical professional on staff for participants to speak with	4 (14)
Not required to speak to a medical professional to assist with washout	15 (35)
Must be off SSRI's 1 – 7 days	2 (5)
Must be off SSRI's $>1-4$ weeks	16 (37)
Must be off SSRI's > 4 weeks	12 (28)
Must be off SSRI's for an unspecified amount of time	13 (30)

Conclusions

Diverse landscape: Our landscape analysis uncovered n = 298 Psychedelic Retreat Organizations, showing that neuroethics concerns are likely to affect a substantial number of individuals participating in these experiences.

Information incompleteness: The prevalence of incomplete information on many websites poses a significant obstacle to participants' ability to make informed decisions about their involvement in psychedelic retreat.

Standardization challenges: Interviews (n = 50) highlighted a concerning lack of standardization, especially within medical contexts, posing potential risks to participants. Further research is necessary to develop best practices to ensure participant safety.