

Gay Community Periodic Survey: Canberra 2015

Author:

Hull, P; Mao, L; Rossteuscher, K; Marion-Landais, S; Prestage, G; Zablotska, I; De Wit, J; Holt, M

Publication details:

Commissioning Body: ACT Health 978-1-875967-08-7 (ISBN)

Publication Date:

2016-01-01

DOI:

https://doi.org/10.26190/unsworks/25859

License:

https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/ Link to license to see what you are allowed to do with this resource.

Downloaded from http://hdl.handle.net/1959.4/unsworks_39219 in https://unsworks.unsw.edu.au on 2024-04-28





Gay Community Periodic Survey: Canberra 2015

Never Stand Still

Art & Social Sciences

Centre for Social Research in Health

¹Peter Hull
¹Limin Mao
²Keiran Rossteuscher
³Stephanie Marion-Landais
²Philippa Moss
⁴Garrett Prestage
⁴Iryna Zablotska
¹John de Wit
¹Martin Holt

¹Centre for Social Research in Health ²AIDS Action Council of the ACT ³ACT Health ⁴The Kirby Institute



Centre for Social Research in Health

UNSW Arts & Social Sciences

UNSW Australia Sydney NSW 2052

T +61 2 9385 6776
F: +61 2 9385 6455
E: csrh@unsw.edu.au
W: csrh.arts.unsw.edu.au

© UNSW Australia 2016 ISBN: 978-1-875967-08-7

Suggested citation: Hull, P., Mao, L., Rossteuscher, K., Marion-Landais, S., Moss, P., Prestage, G., Zablotska, I., de Wit, J., & Holt, M. (2016). Gay Community Periodic Survey: Canberra 2015. Sydney: Centre for Social Research in Health, UNSW Australia.

Acknowledgments

We acknowledge the following individuals and organisations for contributing to the success of this project:

ACT Department of Health

who funded the project

AIDS Action Council of the ACT

for coordinating recruitment

The coordinator, Keiran Rossteuscher, and the team of peer recruiters

who negotiated access to venues and events and recruited the survey participants

Survey participants

The 303 men who participated in the survey

Venues

The management and staff of the various gay community venues and events who gave permission for the survey to be administered on their premises

Contents

Glossary	VI
Executive summary	1
Key points	2
Demographic profile	2
HIV status and testing	3
Sexual practices	3
Drug use	4
Sexual health	5
Reporting	5
Appendix – Questionnaire	17

List of tables

Table 1: Recruitment source	6
Table 2: Age	6
Table 3: HIV testing	7
Table 4: HIV test results	7
Table 5: Use of combination antiretroviral treatment among HIV-positive men at the time of the survey	8
Table 6: Current relationships with men	8
Table 7: Agreements with regular male partners about sex within the relationship	8
Table 8: Agreements with regular male partners about sex outside the relationship	9
Table 9: Match of HIV status between regular partners	9
Table 10: Anal intercourse and condom use with regular partners	10
Table 11: Condomless anal intercourse with regular partners, by match of HIV status	10
Table 12: Anal intercourse and condom use with casual partners	11
Table 13: Disclosure of HIV status to or from casual partners, by HIV status of participants	11
Table 14: Consistent disclosure of HIV status to casual partners among men who engaged in condomless anal intercourse	11
Table 15: Positioning in condomless anal intercourse with casual male partners	12
Table 16: Where men met their male sex partners in the six months prior to the survey	12
Table 17: STI testing among HIV-negative men in the 12 months prior to the survey	13
Table 18: Recreational drug use among all men in the six months prior to the survey	14
Table 19: Recreational drug use among HIV-negative men in the six months prior to the survey	15
Table 20: Injecting drug use in the six months prior to the survey	15
Table 21: Party drug use and group sex among all men in the six months prior to the survey	16
Table 22: Knowledge that post-exposure prophylaxis is available	16

Glossary

AIDS acquired immune deficiency syndrome

ART antiretroviral treatment

CAIC condomless anal intercourse with casual partners

CAIR condomless anal intercourse with regular partners

HIV human immunodeficiency virus

HIV-seroconcordant relationship a relationship in which both partners are of the same HIV status, either HIV-positive or HIV-negative

HIV-serodiscordant relationship a relationship in which both partners are known to be of different HIV statuses, e.g. HIV-positive and HIV-negative

HIV-serononcordant relationship a relationship in which the HIV status of at least one partner in the relationship is not known, e.g. HIV-positive and untested, HIV-negative and untested, or both untested

HIV status a person's antibody status established by HIV testing, e.g. HIV-negative, HIV-positive, or unknown

PEP post-exposure prophylaxis, a course of antiretroviral drugs used to reduce the risk of HIV infection after potential exposure has occurred

PrEP pre-exposure prophylaxis, antiretroviral drugs used to reduce the risk of HIV infection before a potential exposure

STI sexually transmissible infection

Executive summary

The Canberra Gay Community Periodic Survey is a cross-sectional survey of gay and homosexually active men. Participants are recruited from gay venues and community events. The major aim of the survey is to provide data on sexual, drug use and testing practices related to the transmission of HIV and other sexually transmissible infections (STIs) among gay men. From its start in 2000, the project has been funded by ACT Health and coordinated by the AIDS Action Council of the ACT. In the 2015 survey, the sixth conducted in Canberra, 303 men were recruited from the Canberra springOUT Festival Fair Day, gay social venues, a sexon-premises venue, a sexual health clinic and, for the first time, through online recruitment. Online recruitment was conducted through the social networking site Facebook. Men were directed to a website with an online version of the GCPS questionnaire (http://gcpsonline.net). The advertisements were targeted to all men aged 16 and above who were located in the Australian Capital Territory and indicated in their Facebook profile that they were 'interested' in men.

In 2015, the response rate for offline recruitment (the proportion of potentially eligible participants who agreed to participate) was 78%. In the 2015 survey there were significantly more participants than in 2013, primarily a result of the 100 men (33%) who were recruited online. The proportion of participants recruited at Fair Day (48.5% of the offline participants) declined significantly, compared to the previous two surveys. The proportion of men recruited at the sex-on-premises venue in 2015 was significantly higher than in 2013, representing 10% of the men recruited offline (Table 1).

Although there are some significant differences between the online and offline participants, we found that the inclusion of the online sample did not dramatically alter key indicators (such as HIV testing and condom use with casual or regular partners). This report therefore presents analyses including all participants, with some additional commentary about the effect of online recruitment on key indicators.

Key points

- The proportion of men ever tested for HIV was 86% in 2015 (no change from 2013).
- The proportion of non-HIV-positive men reporting an HIV test in the 12 months prior to the survey was 67% in 2015 (no change from 2013).
- In 2015, over half of participants with a regular partner (59.9%) reported any condomless anal intercourse with those partners (no change from 2013).
- In 2013, just over a third of men with casual partners (35.1%) reported any condomless anal intercourse with those partners in the six months prior to survey. This proportion did not change significantly between 2013 and 2015, but the trend over time is upwards.
- The use of mobile apps to meet male partners continues to increase, and was reported by 46% of men in 2015.
- Cocaine use has recently increased, and was reported by 11% of men in 2015.

Demographic profile

The men in the sample were primarily of Anglo-Australian background, and the majority lived in Canberra, were well-educated and in full-time employment. As in previous surveys, the proportion of men not working (23.8%) at the time of the 2015 survey was higher than that found in the general population. In 2015, the mean age of the participants was 35.1 years (standard deviation = 13.6, range = 16–95). The age distribution of the sample has changed over time (Table 2). Since 2006 there has been a significant increase in the proportion of men aged under 25 years. Conversely, there have been significant decreases in the proportions of participants aged 30–39 years and 40–49 years. However, there have been no significant changes in the age groups since 2009.

HIV status and testing

In 2015, most men reported having 'ever' been tested for HIV (85.5%). The proportion of men who have ever been tested for HIV has declined since 2006 (Table 3). The proportion of non-HIV-positive men reporting a recent HIV test (an HIV test in the 12 months prior to the survey) has been relatively stable between 2006 (58.8%) and 2015 (67.2%) (Table 3). In 2015, most men reported that they were HIV-negative (90.7%), with smaller proportions of men reporting that they were HIV-positive (7.3%) or did not know their HIV status (1.9%) (Table 4). There has been no significant change in the proportion of men reporting that they are HIV-negative since 2006. In 2015, the most popular places to get tested reported by non-HIV-positive participants were sexual health clinics (48.9%) and GPs (23.4%) with smaller proportions getting tested at community-based services (8.0%) and hospitals (4.4%).

A question was introduced in 2013 asking how many HIV tests participants had had in the previous 12 months. Among non-HIV-positive men in 2015, 37.7% reported no tests in the previous year, 23.2% reported one test, 19.7% reported two tests, 15.9% reported 3 three or more tests. These proportions did not change significantly between 2013 and 2015.

In 2015, nineteen HIV-positive men participated (nearly double the number who took part in the previous two surveys). As in previous surveys, the majority of HIV-positive men surveyed (78.9%) reported that they were taking combination antiretroviral treatment (ART) at the time of the 2015 survey (Table 5). All of the 15 HIV-positive men who were on ART at the time of the 2015 survey reported an undetectable viral load.

Sexual practices

In 2015, over a quarter of men reported being in monogamous relationships (29.6%) and nearly a third (32.3%) reported that they had a regular partner and either they or their partner also had casual sex partners (Table 6). One in six participants (17.4%) reported only having casual partners and a fifth reported no sexual relationships with men at the time of 2015 survey (20.8%). There has been no change in the relationship profile of the sample since 2006.

The proportion of men with agreements with their regular partner about sex within the relationship, over six in ten men in 2015, has been relatively stable since 2006 (Table 7). The most common agreement allowed anal intercourse without condoms. Over half of participants with regular partners had agreements about sex outside the relationship in 2015 (Table 8). The most common agreement did not allow sex with casual partners with a slightly smaller proportion reporting that anal intercourse with casual partners was only allowed with a condom. Very few men (3.9%) reported an agreement that allowed anal intercourse with casual partners without the use of condoms.

Among men who had regular partners in the 2015 survey, most were in seroconcordant relationships (68.2%) or serononconcordant relationships (28.0%) where their partner is of unknown serostatus (Table 9). Since 2006 there has been a significant increase in the proportion in HIV-negative seroconcordant relationships and a corresponding decline in serononconcordant relationships. In 2015, a small proportion of participants with regular partners (3.9%) reported being in a serodiscordant relationship (where one partner is HIV-positive and the other is HIV-negative).

In 2015, over half of the participants with regular partners reported some condomless anal intercourse with their regular partner in the six months prior to the survey (59.9%) while nearly a fifth reported that condoms were always used for anal intercourse (19.8%) (Table 10). These proportions are stable over time. Rates of condomless anal intercourse with regular partners varied based on the HIV status of the partners. In 2015, condomless anal intercourse remained much more common between regular partners who are both HIV-negative (53.5%), compared with HIV-negative men who have a serononconcordant partner (8.1%) (Table 11). Seroconcordant CAIR between HIV-negative regular partners has become more common over time.

The use of condoms for anal intercourse remains more likely with casual partners than with regular partners. In 2013, about a third of men with casual partners reported any condomless anal intercourse (35.1%), while over four in ten reported always using condoms (42.9%) (Table 12). These proportions did not change significantly between 2013 and 2015. However, the proportion of men who reported any CAIC has increased significantly over time between 2006 and 2015 with a corresponding fall in the proportion of participants that always used condoms.

In 2015, nearly six in ten participants with casual partners (59.9%) reported disclosing their HIV status to at least some of their casual partners while a similar proportion reported that their casual partners had disclosed their HIV status to them (61.3%) (Table 13). There was no significant change in the frequency of disclosure from the previous survey. However, over the period since 2006 there has been a significant increase in the proportion of participants reporting the disclosure of HIV status to or from casual partners.

Almost half of participants (45.9%) reported having sex with partners they met via a mobile application (such as Grindr) in 2015. Since 2006, there has been a significant decline in the proportion of men who found sex partners via the internet (41.2% to 33.0%) (Table 16). These appear to be the most common ways that men in Canberra meet male sex partners. Since 2006 there have been significant falls in the proportions of men finding sex partners at gay bars, dance parties, gay saunas and other sex venues. In 2015, just over a quarter of participants reported having had sex with men they met in other Australian cities (27.7%).

In 2015, a quarter of participants (24.9%) said they had engaged in group sex at least once in the past six months while fewer than one in 10 participants (7.3%) reporting that they had engaged in group sex during or after drug use (Table 21).

Drug use

Drug use was common within the sample with the most frequently used drugs being amyl/poppers (30.7%), marijuana (22.8%), ecstasy (11.6%), Viagra (11.2%), cocaine (10.6%), speed/amphetamine (5.6%) and crystal methamphetamine (5.0%) (Table 18). Cocaine use increased significantly in 2015 after a fall in the 2013 survey. Since 2006 there have been significant downward trends in the proportions of participants reporting the use of marijuana, ecstasy and amphetamines. The use of other drugs has been relatively stable since 2006. In 2015, six men reported injecting drug use in the six months prior to being surveyed (Table 20).

Sexual health

As in previous surveys, a higher proportion of HIV-positive men (84.2%) reported having any sexual health test (not including a blood test for syphilis) compared with HIV-negative men (63.1%) (although please note the very small number of HIV-positive men in the sample). Since 2006 there has been a significant upward trend in the proportion of HIV-negative men reporting any testing for STIs. In 2015, the most common STI tests reported by HIV-negative men were a urine sample and blood test for syphilis (both 60.6%) with about half also reporting a throat swab (53.0%) or anal swab (49.2%) (Table 17).

Over one in ten men (12.0%) had been diagnosed with an STI other than HIV in the 12 months prior to the 2015 survey. Of these 14 participants, 17.1% told a few of their sex partners, 22.9% told some and 42.9% told all of their sex partners.

In 2015, nearly two-thirds of participants (63.7%) reported that they were aware that PEP was readily available (Table 22). In 2015, six non-HIV-positive men (2.4%) reported the use of PEP in the six months prior to the survey. Two participants reported taking anti-HIV medication to prevent HIV (PrEP) in the six months prior to the 2015 survey (one participant reported taking prescribed medication and one reported taking medication that was not prescribed).

In 2015, almost three-quarters of the participants (71.7%, n = 210) reported that they had been tested for hepatitis C and three of these men reported that they had hepatitis C.

Reporting

Data are shown for the period 2006–2015. Each table includes the statistical significance (p-value), if any, of the change between 2013 and 2015 and the trend over time (2006–2015). An alpha level of .05 was used for all statistical tests. Changes between 2013 and 2015 were assessed with logistic regression (comparing one category with all the others). The p-value of the logistic regression test (if shown) indicates a statistically significant change within that category compared with all the others. For statistically significant trends over time, also tested with logistic regression, the direction of the change (an increase or decrease) is indicated. Where there is no significant change, ns (non-significant) is shown. Where there are low frequencies or data over time are not comparable, tests have not been performed and are marked NA (not applicable). Please exercise caution when interpreting results where there are low frequencies. When data are missing or were not collected in a given year, this is indicated in the table by a dash (–).

Table 1: Recruitment source

	2006 n (%)	2009 n (%)	2011 n (%)	2013 n (%)	2015 n (%)	Change from 2013 (p-value)	Trend over time $(p ext{-value})$
Fair Day	157 (55.7)	160 (51.6)	187 (69.3)	121 (69.9)	98 (32.3)	ns	Decrease p<.001
Sexual health clinics	-	6 (1.9)	4 (1.5)	-	-	NA	NA
Sex-on-premises venues	32 (11.4)	15 (4.8)	3 (1.1)	10 (5.8)	21 (6.9)	Increase p<.001	Decrease p<.05
Gay social venues	93 (33.0)	129 (41.6)	76 (28.2)	42 (24.3)	84 (27.7)	ns	ns
Online	-	-	-	-	100 (33.0)	NA	NA
Total	282 (100)	310 (100)	270 (100)	173 (100)	303 (100)		

Note: Online recruitment was introduced in 2015.

Table 2: Age

	2006 n (%)	2009 n (%)	2011 n (%)	2013 n (%)	2015 n (%)	Change from 2013 $(p ext{-value})$	Trend over time $(p ext{-value})$
Under 25	26 (9.5)	58 (20.1)	71 (26.4)	28 (16.2)	64 (21.2)	ns	Increase p<.01
25–29	44 (16.0)	60 (20.8)	54 (20.1)	40 (23.1)	67 (22.2)	ns	ns
30–39	87 (31.6)	74 (25.6)	69 (25.7)	34 (19.7)	75 (24.8)	ns	Decrease <i>p</i> <.05
40-49	80 (29.1)	58 (20.1)	48 (17.8)	31 (17.9)	51 (16.9)	ns	Decrease p<.001
50 and over	38 (13.8)	39 (13.5)	27 (10.0)	40 (23.1)	45 (14.9)	Decrease p<.05	ns
Total	275 (100)	289 (100)	269 (100)	173 (100)	302 (100)		

Table 3: HIV testing

	2006 n (%)	2009 n (%)	2011 n (%)	2013 n (%)	2015 n (%)	Change from 2013 (p-value)	Trend over time $(ho ext{-value})$
All men							
Ever tested for HIV	258 (91.5)	274 (88.4)	238 (88.2)	144 (83.2)	259 (85.5)	ns	Decrease p<.01
Total	282 (100)	310 (100)	270 (100)	173 (100)	302 (100)		
Non-HIV-positive men							
Tested for HIV in previous 12 months	140 (58.8)	182 (68.9)	173 (76.2)	89 (67.4)	160 (67.2)	ns	ns
Total	238 (100)	264 (100)	227 (100)	132 (100)	238 (100)		

Table 4: HIV test results

	2006 n (%)	2009 n (%)	2011 n (%)	2013 n (%)	2015 n (%)	Change from 2013 (p-value)	Trend over time (p-value)
HIV-positive	16 (6.2)	9 (3.7)	10 (4.2)	12 (8.3)	19 (7.3)	NA	NA
HIV-negative	237 (91.9)	230 (95.0)	225 (94.5)	129 (89.6)	235 (90.7)	ns	ns
Unknown status	5 (1.9)	3 (1.2)	3 (1.3)	3 (2.1)	5 (1.9)	NA	NA
Total	258 (100)	242 (100)	238 (100)	144 (100)	259 (100)		

Note: This table only includes data from men who have been tested for HIV.

Table 5: Use of combination antiretroviral treatment among HIV-positive men at the time of the survey

	2006 n (%)	2009 n (%)	2011 n (%)	2013 n (%)	2015 n (%)	Change from 2013 (p-value)	Trend over time (p-value)
On treatment	16 (100.0)	6 (75.0)	8 (80.0)	9 (90.0)	15 (78.9)	NA	NA
Total	16 (100)	8 (100)	10 (100)	10 (100)	19 (100)		

Table 6: Current relationships with men

	2006 n (%)	2009 n (%)	2011 n (%)	2013 n (%)	2015 n (%)	Change from 2013 $(p ext{-value})$	Trend over time $(ho ext{-value})$
None	41 (15.7)	58 (19.9)	47 (18.2)	34 (20.0)	61 (20.8)	ns	ns
Casual only	51 (19.5)	56 (19.2)	49 (19.0)	32 (18.8)	51 (17.4)	ns	ns
Regular plus casual	81 (30.9)	85 (29.1)	65 (25.2)	51 (30.0)	95 (32.3)	ns	ns
Regular only (monogamous)	89 (34.0)	93 (31.9)	97 (37.6)	53 (31.2)	87 (29.6)	ns	ns
Total	262 (100)	292 (100)	258 (100)	170 (100)	294 (100)		

Table 7: Agreements with regular male partners about sex within the relationship

	2006 n (%)	2009 n (%)	2011 n (%)	2013 n (%)	2015 n (%)	Change from 2013 $(p ext{-value})$	Trend over time $(p ext{-value})$
No agreement about sex within the relationship	74 (39.8)	79 (41.8)	73 (37.4)	35 (29.2)	80 (38.7)	ns	ns
No sex at all			4 (2.1)	1 (0.9)	3 (1.5)	NA	NA
No anal intercourse permitted	9 (4.8)	6 (3.2)	4 (2.1)	5 (4.4)	4 (1.9)	NA	NA
Anal intercourse permitted only with a condom	36 (19.4)	46 (24.3)	45 (23.1)	26 (22.6)	43 (20.8)	ns	ns
Anal intercourse permitted without a condom	67 (36.0)	58 (30.7)	69 (35.4)	48 (41.7)	77 (37.2)	ns	ns
Total	186 (100)	189 (100)	195 (100)	115 (100)	207 (100)		

Note: This table only includes data from men who reported having a regular male partner in the six months prior to the survey.

Table 8: Agreements with regular male partners about sex outside the relationship

	2006 n (%)	2009 n (%)	2011 n (%)	2013 n (%)	2015 n (%)	Change from 2013 (p-value)	Trend over time (p-value)
No agreement about casual sex	90 (48.4)	91 (48.2)	89 (45.6)	55 (47.8)	88 (42.5)	ns	ns
No sex with casual partners permitted	45 (24.2)	45 (23.8)	61 (31.3)	30 (26.1)	56 (27.1)	ns	ns
No anal intercourse with casual partners permitted	7 (3.8)	9 (4.8)	4 (2.1)	2 (1.7)	2 (1.0)	NA	NA
Anal intercourse with casual partners permitted only with a condom	38 (20.4)	44 (23.3)	38 (19.5)	25 (21.7)	53 (25.6)	ns	ns
Anal intercourse with casual partners permitted without a condom	6 (3.2)	0	3 (1.6)	3 (2.6)	8 (3.9)	NA	NA
Total	186 (100)	189 (100)	195 (100)	115 (100)	207 (100)		

Note: This table only includes data from men who reported having a regular male partner in the six months prior to the survey.

Table 9: Match of HIV status between regular partners

	2006 n (%)	2009 n (%)	2011 n (%)	2013 n (%)	2015 n (%)	Change from 2013 (<i>p</i> -value)	Trend over time $(ho ext{-value})$
HIV-positive seroconcordant	3 (1.6)	0	0	1 (0.9)	8 (3.9)	NA	NA
HIV-negative seroconcordant	99 (53.2)	92 (77.3)	126 (64.6)	60 (52.2)	133 (64.3)	ns	Increase p<.001
Serodiscordant	12 (6.5)	13 (6.7)	10 (5.3)	10 (8.7)	8 (3.9)	ns	ns
Serononconcordant	72 (38.7)	84 (44.4)	59 (30.3)	44 (38.3)	58 (28.0)	ns	Decrease p<.001
Total	186 (100)	189 (100)	195 (100)	115 (100)	207 (100)		

Note: This table only includes data from men who reported having a regular male partner in the six months prior to the survey.

Table 10: Anal intercourse and condom use with regular partners

	2006 n (%)	2009 n (%)	2011 n (%)	2013 n (%)	2015 n (%)	Change from 2013 $(p ext{-value})$	Trend over time $(p ext{-value})$
No anal intercourse	28 (15.1)	20 (10.6)	27 (13.9)	16 (13.9)	42 (20.3)	ns	ns
Always uses a condom	52 (28.0)	48 (25.4)	53 (27.2)	29 (25.2)	41 (19.8)	ns	ns
Sometimes does not use a condom	106 (57.0)	121 (64.0)	115 (59.0)	70 (60.9)	124 (59.9)	ns	ns
Total	186 (100)	189 (100)	195 (100)	115 (100)	207(100)		

Note: This table only includes data from men who reported having a regular male partner in the six months prior to the survey.

Table 11: Condomless anal intercourse with regular partners, by match of HIV status

	2006 n (%)	2009 n (%)	2011 n (%)	2013 n (%)	2015 n (%)	Change from 2013 $(p ext{-value})$	Trend over time $(p$ -value)
HIV-negative men							
Seroconcordant negative CAIR	63 (39.6)	71 (48.3)	85 (50.0)	41 (45.6)	92 (53.5)	ns	Increase p<.05
Not concordant CAIR	30 (18.9)	31 (21.1)	20 (11.7)	12 (13.3)	14 (8.1)	ns	Decrease p<.001
No CAIR	66 (41.5)	45 (30.6)	65 (38.2)	37 (41.1)	66 (38.4)	ns	ns
Total	159 (100)	147 (100)	170 (100)	90 (100)	172 (100)		

Note: This table only includes data from HIV-negative men who reported having a regular male partner in the six months prior to the survey.

Table 12: Anal intercourse and condom use with casual partners

	2006 n (%)	2009 n (%)	2011 n (%)	2013 n (%)	2015 n (%)	Change from 2013 (p-value)	Trend over time $(p ext{-}value)$
No anal intercourse	42 (25.3)	41 (21.8)	31 (21.4)	22 (24.2)	37 (22.0)	ns	ns
Always uses a condom	83 (50.0)	82 (43.6)	65 (44.8)	42 (46.2)	72 (42.9)	ns	Decrease p<.01
Sometimes does not use a condom	41 (24.7)	65 (34.6)	49 (33.8)	27 (29.7)	59 (35.1)	ns	Increase p<.05
Total	166 (100)	188 (100)	145 (100)	91 (100)	168 (100)		

Note: This table only includes data from men who reported having casual male partners in the six months prior to the survey.

Table 13: Disclosure of HIV status to or from casual partners, by HIV status of participants

	2006 n (%)	2009 n (%)	2011 n (%)	2013 n (%)	2015 n (%)	Change from 2013 $(p ext{-value})$	Trend over time $(p ext{-}value)$
HIV-negative men							
Told casual partners	48 (34.5)	74 (49.7)	68 (52.3)	40 (51.3)	82 (59.9)	ns	Increase p<.001
Told by casual partners	43 (30.9)	76 (51.0)	66 (50.8)	38 (48.7)	84 (61.3)	ns	Increase p<.001
Total (not mutually exclusive)	139 (100)	149 (100)	130 (100)	78 (100)	137 (100)		

Note: This table only includes data from HIV-negative men who reported having casual male partners in the six months prior to the survey.

Table 14: Consistent disclosure of HIV status to casual partners among men who engaged in condomless anal intercourse

	2006 n (%)	2009 n (%)	2011 n (%)	2013 n (%)	2015 n (%)	Change from 2013 $(p$ -value)	Trend over time $(ho ext{-value})$
HIV-negative men who disclosed to all	11 (34.4)	18 (32.7)	16 (38.1)	11 (52.4)	27 (58.7)	ns	Increase p<.01
Total	32 (100)	55 (100)	42 (100)	21 (100)	46 (100)		

Note: This table only includes data from HIV-negative men who reported having CAIC in the six months prior to the survey.

Table 15: Positioning in condomless anal intercourse with casual male partners

	2006 n (%)	2009 n (%)	2011 n (%)	2013 n (%)	2015 n (%)	Change from 2013 (p-value)	Trend over time $(p ext{-}value)$
HIV-negative men							
Insertive only CAIC	9 (30.0)	17 (32.1)	12 (27.3)	9 (42.9)	20 (43.5)	ns	ns
Total	30 (100)	53 (100)	44 (100)	21 (100)	46 (100)		

Note: This table only includes data from HIV-negative men who reported having CAIC in the six months prior to the survey.

Table 16: Where men met their male sex partners in the six months prior to the survey

	2006 n (%)	2009 n (%)	2011 n (%)	2013 n (%)	2015 n (%)	Change from 2013 (p-value)	Trend over time $(p ext{-value})$
Internet	-	122 (41.2)	93 (34.4)	49 (28.3)	100 (33.0)	ns	Decrease p<.05
Mobile app e.g. Grindr	-	-	86 (31.9)	60 (34.7)	139 (45.9)	Increase p<.05	Increase p<.001
Gay bar	-	95 (32.8)	66 (24.4)	30 (17.3)	54 (17.8)	ns	Decrease p<.001
Other bar	-	-	-	-	17 (5.6)	NA	NA
Dance party	-	38 (13.3)	32 (11.9)	11 (6.4)	26 (8.6)	ns	ns
Beat	-	46 (16.1)	22 (8.2)	23 (13.3)	36 (11.9)	ns	ns
Gay saunas	-	67 (23.6)	44 (16.3)	28 (16.2)	47 (15.5)	ns	Decrease p<.05
Other sex-on-premises venues	-	49 (17.2)	22 (8.2)	17 (9.8)	35 (11.6)	ns	ns
Sex workers	-	-	6 (2.2)	5 (2.9)	7 (2.3)	ns	ns
In other Australian cities	-	-	75 (27.8)	39 (22.5)	84 (27.7)	ns	ns
Elsewhere in Australia	-	51 (18.0)	42 (15.6)	23 (13.3)	54 (17.8)	ns	ns
Private sex parties	-	21 (7.4)	10 (3.7)	6 (3.5)	15 (5.0)	ns	ns
Gym	-	24 (8.5)	18 (6.7)	6 (3.5)	14 (4.6)	ns	Decrease p<.05
Overseas	-	40 (14.1)	53 (19.6)	23 (13.3)	54 (17.8)	ns	ns
Total (not mutually exclusive)		284	270	173	303		

Note: The question about where men met their male sex partners was introduced in 2009.

Table 17: STI testing among HIV-negative men in the 12 months prior to the survey

	2006 n (%)	2009 n (%)	2011 n (%)	2013 n (%)	2015 n (%)	Change from 2013 $(p ext{-value})$	Trend over time $(p ext{-value})$
Anal swab	85 (35.7)	107 (46.5)	115 (50.7)	65 (50.0)	116 (49.2)	ns	Increase p<.01
Throat swab	90 (37.8)	115 (50.0)	126 (55.5)	69 (53.1)	125 (53.0)	ns	Increase p<.001
Penile swab	65 (27.3)	76 (33.0)	72 (31.7)	36 (27.7)	56 (23.7)	ns	ns
Urine sample	109 (45.8)	126 (54.8)	142 (62.6)	79 (60.8)	143 (60.6)	ns	Increase p<.001
Blood test other than for HIV	117 (49.2)	134 (58.3)	121 (53.3)	65 (50.0)	109 (46.2)	ns	ns
Blood test for syphilis	-	135 (58.7)	137 (60.4)	81 (62.3)	143 (60.6)	ns	ns
Any STI test (not including blood test)	112 (49.5)	134 (58.3)	146 (64.3)	82 (63.1)	149 (63.1)	ns	Increase p<.001
Any STI test (including blood tests)	142 (60.0)	162 (70.4)	163 (71.8)	94 (72.3)	165 (69.9)	ns	Increase <i>p</i> <.05
Total (not mutually exclusive)	238 (100)	230 (100)	227 (100)	130 (100)	236 (100)		

Note: From 2009, the item 'Blood test for syphilis' was added and included in the calculation for any STI test (including blood tests).

Table 18: Recreational drug use among all men in the six months prior to the survey

	2006 n (%)	2009 n (%)	2011 n (%)	2013 n (%)	2015 n (%)	Change from 2013 (p-value)	Trend over time $(p$ -value)
Marijuana	62 (22.0)	60 (19.4)	55 (20.4)	35 (20.2)	69 (22.8)	ns	Decrease p<.05
Amyl	83 (29.4)	71 (22.9)	68 (25.2)	46 (26.6)	93 (30.7)	ns	ns
Ecstasy	48 (17.0)	67 (21.6)	40 (14.8)	20 (11.6)	35 (11.6)	ns	Decrease p<.01
Amphetamine (speed)	30 (10.6)	29 (9.4)	31 (11.5)	12 (6.9)	18 (5.6)	ns	Decrease p<.05
Crystal methamphetamine	21 (7.5)	12 (3.9)	15 (5.6)	4 (2.3)	15 (5.0)	ns	ns
Viagra	31 (11.0)	29 (9.4)	24 (8.9)	15 (8.7)	34 (11.2)	ns	ns
Cocaine	21 (7.5)	31 (10.0)	25 (9.3)	8 (4.6)	32 (10.6)	Increase p<.05	ns
Ketamine (special K)	11 (3.9)	12 (3.9)	7 (2.6)	4 (2.3)	11 (3.6)	ns	ns
LSD	4 (1.4)	7 (2.3)					
GHB	8 (2.8)	10 (3.2)	12 (4.4)	3 (1.7)	8 (2.6)	ns	ns
Heroin	1 (0.4)	3 (1.0)	2 (0.7)	1 (0.6)	2 (0.7)	NA	NA
Steroids	2 (0.7)	3 (1.0)					
Other drugs	17 (6.0)	16 (5.2)	27 (10.0)	10 (5.8)	13 (4.3)	ns	Increase p<.01
Total (not mutually exclusive)	282	310	270	173	303		
Number of drugs used							
None	151 (53.6)	175 (56.5)	158 (58.5)	99 (57.2)	153 (50.5)	ns	ns
One or two drugs	84 (29.8)	90 (29.0)	69 (25.6)	53 (30.6)	101 (33.3)	ns	ns
More than two drugs	47 (16.7)	45 (14.5)	43 (15.9)	21 (12.1)	49 (16.2)	ns	ns
Total	282 (100)	310 (100)	270 (100)	173 (100)	303 (100)		

Table 19: Recreational drug use among HIV-negative men in the six months prior to the survey

	2006 n (%)	2009 n (%)	2011 n (%)	2013 n (%)	2015 n (%)	Change from 2013 $(p ext{-} ext{value})$	Trend over time $(p ext{-value})$
Marijuana	51 (21.4)	44 (19.1)	44 (19.4)	25 (19.2)	56 (23.7)	ns	ns
Amyl nitrite (poppers)	73 (30.7)	58 (25.2)	63 (27.8)	41 (31.5)	77 (32.6)	ns	ns
Ecstasy	44 (18.5)	51 (22.2)	36 (15.9)	14 (10.8)	28 (11.9)	ns	Decrease p<.01
Amphetamine (speed)	29 (12.2)	22 (9.6)	26 (11.5)	8 (6.2)	13 (5.5)	ns	Decrease p<.01
Crystal methamphetamine	18 (7.6)	7 (3.0)	13 (5.7)	1 (0.8)	9 (3.8)	ns	Decrease p<.05
Viagra	28 (11.8)	21 (9.1)	20 (8.8)	10 (7.7)	26 (11.0)	ns	ns
Total (not mutually exclusive)	238	230	227	130	236		
Number of drugs used							
None	127 (53.4)	122 (53.0)	128 (56.4)	71 (54.6)	115 (48.7)	ns	ns
One or two drugs	70 (29.4)	73 (31.7)	61 (26.9)	45 (34.6)	88 (37.3)	ns	ns
More than two drugs	41 (17.2)	35 (15.2)	38 (16.7)	14 (10.8)	33 (14.0)	ns	ns
Total	238 (100)	230 (100)	227 (100)	130 (100)	236 (100)		

Table 20: Injecting drug use in the six months prior to the survey

	2006 n (%)	2009 n (%)	2011 n (%)	2013 n (%)	2015 n (%)	Change from 2013 $(p ext{-value})$	Trend over time $(p$ -value)
All men	5 (1.8)	9 (2.9)	7 (2.6)	3 (1.7)	6 (2.0)	NA	NA
Total	282 (100)	310 (100)	270 (100)	173 (100)	303 (100)		

Table 21: Party drug use and group sex among all men in the six months prior to the survey

	2006 n (%)	2009 n (%)	2011 n (%)	2013 n (%)	2015 n (%)	Change from 2013 $(p ext{-value})$	Trend over time $(p ext{-}value)$
Used party drugs for sex	34 (12.1)	36 (11.6)	32 (11.9)	21 (12.1)	34 (11.2)	ns	ns
Engaged in group sex during or after drug use	-	27 (8.7)	19 (7.0)	8 (4.6)	22 (7.3)	ns	ns
Total (not mutually exclusive)	282	310	270	173	303		

Table 22: Knowledge that post-exposure prophylaxis is available

	2006 n (%)	2009 n (%)	2011 n (%)	2013 n (%)	2015 n (%)	Change from 2013 (p-value)	Trend over time $(p ext{-}value)$
Aware of PEP among non-HIV-positive men	-	-	170 (65.4)	105 (65.2)	181 (63.7)	ns	ns
Total			260 (100)	161 (100)	284 (100)		

Note: Questions about PEP awareness were not included in the 2006 and 2009 surveys.

Appendix – Questionnaire



Conducted by







This is a survey of sexual practices of men who have had sex with another man in the last five years. This survey is completely anonymous – please do not write your name on the questionnaire.

Your responses are very important – they provide valuable information that assists in HIV health promotion efforts. PLEASE COMPLETE THE SURVEY ONCE ONLY THIS YEAR (including online).

6	action A About you	Castian B. Vour say partners
36	ection A – About you	Section B – Your sex partners
1.	How many of your friends are gay or homosexual men? ¹ □None ² □A few ³ □Some ⁴ □Most ⁵ □AII	In this survey we distinguish between REGULAR (boyfriend/lover) and CASUAL partners
2.	How much of your free time is spent with gay or homosexual men? 1 None 2 A little 3 Some 4 A lot	13. Do you currently have sex with casual male partners? ¹ □ No ² □ Yes
3.	Which of the following best describes you: ¹ ☐ Male ² ☐ Trans male ³ ☐ Intersex male	 14. Do you currently have sex with a regular male partner? ¹□No
4.	Do you think of yourself as: ¹ Gay/Homosexual ² Bisexual ³ Heterosexual ⁴ Other (please specify)	current regular male partner? (choose one) 1 We are monogamous – neither of us has casual sex 2 Both my partner and I have casual sex with other men 3 I have casual sex with other men but my partner does
	How old are you? Years	not ⁴ ☐ My partner has casual sex with other men but I do not ⁵ ☐ I have several regular male partners
6.	Are you of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin? ¹ □No ² □Yes	⁶ No current regular male partner → Go to Section C→
7.	What is your ethnic background? (e.g. Dutch, Greek, Vietnamese, Lebanese)	 16. If you are in a regular relationship with a man, for how long has it been? ¹ □ Less than 6 months
	¹ ☐ Anglo-Australian ² ☐ Other	² ☐6–11 months
8.	Where were you born?	³☐1–2 years
	¹☐ Australia ² ☐ Overseas	⁴ More than 2 years ⁵ Not in a regular relationship with a man Go to section C
9.	Where do you live? Postcode OR Suburb/Town	17. Do you have a clear (spoken) agreement with your regular male partner about sex within your relationship?
10	. Are you:	³☐Agreement: No anal sex at all
	¹ □Employed full-time ⁴ □A student	⁴ Agreement: All anal sex is with a condom
	² Employed part-time ⁵ Unemployed	⁵ □Agreement: Anal sex can be without a condom
44	³ ☐ On pension/social security ⁶ ☐ Other	18. Do you have a clear (spoken) agreement with your regular male partner about sex with casual male partners?
11	. What is your occupation? (e.g. bartender, teacher, welder)	¹☐No agreement
	(specify)	² Agreement: No sex at all
12. What is the highest level of education you have completed?		³☐ Agreement: No anal sex at all
	¹☐Up to Year 10	⁴ ☐ Agreement: All anal sex is with a condom
	² Year 12 / HSC / QCE / SACE / VCE / WACE	⁵ ☐Agreement: Anal sex can be without a condom
	³ ☐ Tertiary diploma or trade certificate / TAFE	Go to section C →
	⁴ University degree Go to section B ₹	

Section C – Sex in the last 6 months	Section E – Casual male partners – last 6 months			
19. How many different men have you had sex with in the last 6 months?	30. Have you had any sex with any casual male partner/s in the last 6 months?			
1 None 4 6 −10 men 7 More than 50 men 2 One 5 11 −20 men 3 2 2 5 men 6 21 -50 men	1 Yes Vin the last 6 MONTHS how often have you done the following with any of your CASUAL male partner/s?			
20. In the last 6 months how often have you had sex with men you met at or through:	Anal sex casual partner/s:			
Never Occasionally Often	31. I fucked him with a condom. 1 Never 2 Occasionally 3 Often 32. He fucked me with a condom. 1 Never 2 Occasionally 3 Often 33. I fucked him without a condom but pulled out before I came. 1 Never 2 Occasionally 3 Often 34. He fucked me without a condom but pulled out before he came. 1 Never 2 Occasionally 3 Often 35. I fucked him without a condom and came inside. 1 Never 2 Occasionally 3 Often 36. He fucked me without a condom and came inside. 1 Never 2 Occasionally 3 Often 36. He fucked me without a condom and came inside. 1 Never 2 Occasionally 3 Often 36. He fucked me without a condom and came inside. 1 Never 2 Occasionally 3 Often 3 Often			
² ☐Monthly ⁴ ☐Never	38. How many of your casual partners told you their HIV status before sex? ¹ □None ² □Some ³ □All			
22. In the last 6 months, how often have you been paid for sex? 1 Every week 2 Monthly 3 Once / A few times 4 Never	LINORE LISOTTE LIAN			
Section D – Regular male partners – last 6 months				
23. Have you had sex with regular male partner/s in the last 6 months? ¹□Yes ²□No → Go to section E 7				
In the last 6 MONTHS how often have you done the following with any of your REGULAR male partner/s?				
Anal sex regular partner/s:				
24. I fucked him with a condom. ¹ □ Never ² □ Occasionally ³ □ Often				
25. He fucked me with a condom . ¹ □ Never ² □ Occasionally ³ □ Often				
26. I fucked him without a condom but pulled out before I came. ¹ □ Never ² □ Occasionally ³ □ Often				
 27. He fucked me without a condom but pulled out before he came. ¹ □ Never ² □ Occasionally ³ □ Often 	k			
28. I fucked him without a condom and came inside. 1 Never 2 Occasionally 3 Often 29. He fucked me without a condom and came inside.	Survey continues on next page			

¹□Never

 $^2\square$ Occasionally

 $^3\square$ Often



The following questions are for men who have had $\underline{any\ anal\ sex\ without\ a\ condom}$ with casual male partner(s) in the last 6 months.

If you have not had any anal sex without a condom with casual male partners, go to section F 🕊

39. In the last 6 months , if you had anal sex without a condom with any casual male partner(s), how often did you do any of the following to avoid getting or passing on HIV?						
I made sure we were the same HIV status before we fucked without a condom	¹☐ Never	² Occasionally	³☐ Often	⁴ □ Always		
I chose to take the top role (I fucked him) because his HIV status was different or unknown to me	¹☐ Never	² Occasionally	³ ☐ Often	⁴ □ Always		
I chose to take the bottom role (he fucked me) because his HIV status was different or unknown to me	¹□ Never	² Occasionally	³ ☐ Often	⁴ □ Always		
When I fucked him, I chose to pull out before cumming because his HIV status was different or unknown to me	¹□ Never	² Occasionally	³ ☐ Often	⁴ □ Always		
When he fucked me, I made sure he pulled out before cumming because his HIV status was different or unknown to me	¹□ Never	² Occasionally	³ ☐ Often	⁴ □ Always		
I took anti-HIV medication before sex	¹☐ Never	² Occasionally	³☐ Often	⁴ □ Always		
I took anti-HIV medication after sex	¹☐ Never	² Occasionally	³ ☐ Often	⁴□ Always		
When my partner was HIV-positive, I checked he had an undetectable viral load before we had sex	¹☐ Never	² Occasionally	³☐ Often	⁴ □ Always		
I knew I had an undetectable viral load before we had sex	¹☐ Never	² Occasionally	³☐ Often	⁴ □ Always		
			G	io to section F 🕊		
Section F – HIV testing and HIV status						
-	If you	are HIV-positive pl ext five questions. If	ease complet	te		
40 . Have you ever had an HIV test?	the ne	ext live questions. If	not, go to set	ction G >		
¹□No ²□Yes	47. When v	vere you first diagnose	d as HIV-positi	ve?		
41. When were you last tested for HIV?			рес			
¹ Never tested ⁵ □ 7–12 months ago	Year L					
² □Less than a week ago ⁶ □1–2 years ago	48. In the la	ast 12 months, how ma	nv clinical app	ointments about		
$^{3}\Box$ 1–4 weeks ago $^{7}\Box$ 2–4 years ago		ng HIV have you atten				
⁴ □1–6 months ago ⁸ □More than 4 years ago	¹□Non	e ¹□1-2	¹□3-4	¹ □5 or more		
□ 1-0 months ago □ more than 4 years ago						
42. Based on the results of your HIV tests, what is your HIV status?	49. Are you on combination antiretroviral therapy? ² □Yes ¹ □No					
¹ No test/Don't know ³ Positive						
² □Negative		as your last viral load	test result?			
	¹□Und	etectable				
43. Where did you have your last HIV test?	²□Dete	ectable				
¹□No test/don't know 5□Private home	³□Don	't know/unsure				
² ☐GP ⁶ ☐Community-based service						
"LISexual health clinic		as your last CD4 coun				
⁴ ☐Hospital ⁷ ☐Somewhere else	¹ □≤200 ² □201-		¹⊡>500 ⁵ ⊡Don't know	/unsure		
44. How many HIV tests have you had in the last 12 months?	³□351-	-500				
$^{1}\square$ None (no tests) $^{4}\square$ 3-4 tests			Œ	io to section G ⋺		
² ☐ One test ⁵ ☐ 5 or more tests						
³⊡Two tests						
45. If you have a regular partner, do you know the result of his HIV test?						
¹ □Positive ³ □I don't know/He hasn't had a test						
² □ Negative ⁴ □ No regular partner						
בוזיס ופיטומו partiici						
46. If your regular partner is HIV positive, what was his last viral load test result?		Survey conclud	es on next	page		
¹□Undetectable ³□Don't know/unsure			or on hom	-page		
² Detectable ⁴ No HIV-positive partner						

Section G – STI testing	Section I – Drug use			
52. Which of these sexual health tests have you had in the last 12	61. How often have you used these drugs in the last 6 months ?			
Mone Once Twice 3 or more Anal swab ¹ □ ² □ ³ □ ⁴ □ Throat swab ¹ □ ² □ ³ □ ⁴ □ Penile swab ¹ □ ² □ ³ □ ⁴ □ Urine sample ¹ □ ² □ ³ □ ⁴ □ Blood test for HIV ¹ □ ² □ ³ □ ⁴ □ Blood test for syphilis ¹ □ ² □ ³ □ ⁴ □ Other blood test ¹ □ ² □ ³ □ ↑ ⁴ □ 53. Have you ever been tested for hepatitis C? ¹ □ Yes ¹ □ Yes ² □ No ³ □ Don't know 54. What is your hepatitis C status? ¹ □ Negative ² □ Positive	Never Once/ twice At least monthly week Every monthly week Amyl/poppers 1			
•	Any other drug 1 2 3 4			
 55. Were you diagnosed with any sexually transmitted infection (other than HIV) in the last 12 months? 1 Yes 2 No 56. If you were diagnosed with a sexually transmitted infection in the last 12 months, how many of your sex partners did you tell about your diagnosis? 1 None 2 A few 3 Some 4 All Not been diagnosed with an STI in the last 12 months 	 62. In the last 6 months, how often have you had more than four alcoholic drinks on one occasion? ¹□Every week ³□Once or twice ²□At least monthly ⁴□Never 63. How often have you injected drugs in the last 6 months? ¹□Every week ³□Once or twice ²□At least monthly ⁴□Never 			
Go to section H ♥				
Section H – Medication to prevent HIV	64. Have you ever injected drugs? ¹□Yes ²□No			
 57. What do you know about post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP)? PEP is a month-long course of anti-HIV medication prescribed after an exposure to HIV. ¹☐ It's readily available now ²☐ It will be available in the future ³☐ I've never heard about it 58. What do you know about pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP)? PrEP is anti-HIV medication you take regularly to protect yourself from HIV. ¹☐ It's readily available now ²☐ It will be available in the future 	65. In the last 6 months, how often have you used party drugs for the purpose of sex?			
³□I've never heard about it	The survey concludes here.			
If you are HIV-positive you can skip the next two questions and go to section I	Thank you for your time.			
 59. In the last 6 months, did you take a prescribed course of PEP because you were exposed to HIV? ¹□No ²□Yes, once ³□Yes, more than once 60. In the last 6 months, did you take anti-HIV medication regularly to protect yourself from HIV (PrEP)? ¹□No ²□Yes, I was prescribed anti-HIV medication to take every day ³□Yes, I took anti-HIV medication that was not prescribed Go to section I > 	As this survey is anonymous, feedback cannot be provided directly. Please check the CSRH and AIDS Action Council websites for the results of this survey. https://csrh.arts.unsw.edu.au http://www.aidsaction.org.au			