

Gay Community Periodic Survey: Canberra 2009

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AIDS acquired immune deficiency syndrome

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 (as a result of testing) to be of different HIV status, e.g. HIV-positive and HIV-negative

HIV-serononconcordant 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 (untested)

STI sexually transmissible infection

UAIC unprotected anal intercourse with casual partners

UAIR unprotected anal intercourse with regular partners

Executive summary

The Canberra Gay Community Periodic Survey is a cross-sectional survey of gay and homosexually active men. Trained volunteers recruit participants and distribute questionnaires at 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-community-attached 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 2009, 310 men were recruited from the Canberra Queer Pride Festival Fair Day, gay social venues, sex-on-premises venues and sexual health clinics. The response rate was 84.9%.

Demographic profile

The men in the sample were primarily of Anglo-Australian background, lived in Canberra, were well-educated and in full-time employment. As in previous surveys, the unemployment rate (16.2%) was higher than that found in the general population.

Compared to 2006 (the last time the survey was conducted), there were no significant differences in the proportions of men recruited from Fair Day and other venues. The age distribution of the sample has, however, changed over time. Since 2006, there has been a significant increase in the proportion of men aged under 25, and a significant decrease in men aged over 40.

HIV status and testing

In 2009, most men reported having 'ever' been tested for HIV (88.2%). Most of these men were HIV-negative (85.3%), with smaller proportions of men reporting that they were HIV-positive (3.0%) or did not know their HIV status (11.7%).

Since 2000 there has been a significant increase in the proportion of men reporting that they are HIV-negative.

Between 2000 and 2009, the proportion of non-HIV positive men reporting recent HIV testing (in the 12 months prior to the survey) significantly increased.

Sexual practices

In 2009, most men reported having a regular male partner or partners (31.9%), casual partners only (19.2%) or both regular and casual partners (29.1%). One in five men had no sexual relationships with men at the time of survey (19.9%). The proportion of men who report having casual partners only has decreased significantly since 2000.

Among men who had regular partners, most were in HIV-negative seroconcordant relationships (68.7%) or HIV-serononconcordant relationships (21.6%) where one partner is of unknown HIV status. One in ten men with a regular partner (9.7%) reported being in a serodiscordant relationship (where one partner is HIV-positive and the other is HIV-negative). No men reported being in HIV-positive seroconcordant relationships in 2009. In the period 2000 to 2006, the proportion of men in HIV-negative seroconcordant relationships increased significantly.

Over half the men with regular partners reported some unprotected anal intercourse with their regular partner (62.0%); a quarter reported that condoms were always used for anal intercourse (25.4%).

Unprotected anal intercourse with regular partners varied based on the HIV serostatus of the partners. Unprotected anal intercourse remains more common between regular partners who are both HIV-negative, compared with men in seroconcordant relationships.

Between 2006 and 2009 there was a significant increase in the proportion of men in HIV-negative seroconcordant relationships reporting UAIR (77.2%).

Nearly all men who had casual partners reported oral sex with those partners (89.1% in 2009). This proportion has been stable since 2000.

Use of condoms for anal intercourse remains more likely with casual partners than with regular partners. In 2009, a third of men with casual partners reported any unprotected anal intercourse with them (34.6%), while just under half reported always using condoms (43.6%).

The proportion of men who reported any UAIC has increased since 2000, and is the highest observed since the survey began. In particular, the proportion of HIV-negative men reporting any UAIC increased significantly between 2006 and 2009.

In 2009, just under half the participants with casual partners reported disclosing their HIV status to at least some of their casual partners (48.3%).

In 2009, only 10 men (2.8%) reported receiving post-exposure prophylaxis in the last 6 months.

In 2009, the questions relating to where men looked for sexual partners were replaced with questions about how often men had sex with partners they met at different venues and locations. A third of men reported having had sex with men they met in Sydney (34.5%). Other commonly reported locations to meet male sex partners were the internet (41.2%) and gay bars (32.8%).

In 2009, participants were asked to indicate if they had engaged in group sex (sex with more than one man at the same time). Just under a third of men (31.2%) said they had engaged in group sex at least once in the past six months, and 17.7% of men said they had engaged in group sex at least once with their regular partner.

Drug use

Drug use was common within the sample, with frequently used drugs including amyl/poppers (22.9%), ecstasy (21.6%) and marijuana (19.4%). Compared to the 2006 survey, there were no significant changes in the proportions of men who used the most commonly used drugs. In 2009, less than 5% of men ($n=9$) reported injecting drug use in the last 6 months.

Sexual health

As in previous surveys, in 2009 a higher proportion of HIV-positive men (77.8%) reported having any sexual health test (including a blood test for syphilis) compared with HIV-negative men (70.4%).

Between 2000 and 2009, there has been a significant increase in the proportion of HIV-negative men reporting STI testing (including blood tests for syphilis) with urine samples being the most common type of test.

In 2009, about one in ten respondents reported having been diagnosed with a sexually transmissible infection other than HIV in the last 12 months. A very small proportion of men (1.9%) reported being diagnosed with syphilis; most men diagnosed with syphilis in 2009 were HIV-negative.

Reporting

Data are shown for the period 2000–2009. Each table includes the statistical significance, if any, of the change between 2006 and 2009 and the trend over time (2000–2009). Where *p*-values are provided, the difference is statistically significant. In each case, the direction of the change (i.e. increase or decrease) is also shown. Where there is no significant change, this is indicated by ns (non-significant). Please exercise caution in interpreting data where there are few reported cases (low numbers). Where there are low frequencies we have omitted statistical tests.

Tables

The findings of the survey are presented in tables 1 to 35 below.

Table 1: Recruitment venue

	2000 <i>n</i> (%)	2003 <i>n</i> (%)	2006 <i>n</i> (%)	2009 <i>n</i> (%)	Change from 2006 χ^2 test (<i>p</i> -value)	Trend over time χ^2 test for trend (<i>p</i> -value)
Fair Day	168 (48.0)	148 (58.0)	157 (55.7)	160 (51.6)	ns	ns
Other Venues	182 (52.0)	107 (42.0)	125 (44.3)	150 (48.4)	ns	ns
Total	350 (100)	255 (100)	282 (100)	310 (100)		

Table 2: Residential location

	2000 <i>n</i> (%)	2003 <i>n</i> (%)	2006 <i>n</i> (%)	2009 <i>n</i> (%)	Change from 2006 χ^2 test (<i>p</i> -value)	Trend over time χ^2 test for trend (<i>p</i> -value)
Canberra	272 (77.7)	209 (82.0)	227 (80.5)	230 (78.2)	ns	ns
Sydney	37 (10.6)	37 (8.2)	27 (9.6)	18 (6.1)	ns	ns
Other NSW	41 (10.6)	25 (9.8)	28 (9.9)	30 (10.2)	ns	ns
Other States	–	–	–	12 (4.1)	–	–
Others	–	–	–	4 (1.4)	–	–
Total	350 (100)	255 (100)	282 (100)	294 (100)		

Table 3: Age

	2000 <i>n</i> (%)	2003 <i>n</i> (%)	2006 <i>n</i> (%)	2009 <i>n</i> (%)	Change from 2006 χ^2 test (<i>p</i> -value)	Trend over time χ^2 test for trend (<i>p</i> -value)
Under 25	52 (15.0)	22 (9.0)	26 (9.5)	58 (20.1)	Increase (<i>p</i> < .01)	ns
25–29	50 (14.5)	26 (10.6)	44 (16.0)	60 (20.8)	ns	Increase (<i>p</i> < .05)
30–39	99 (28.6)	88 (35.9)	87 (31.6)	74 (25.6)	ns	ns
40–49	104 (30.1)	73 (29.8)	80 (29.1)	58 (20.1)	Decrease (<i>p</i> < .05)	Decrease (<i>p</i> < .01)
50 and over	41 (11.9)	36 (14.7)	38 (13.8)	39 (13.5)	ns	ns
Total	346 (100)	245 (100)	275 (100)	289 (100)		

Table 4: Ethnicity

	2000 n (%)	2003 n (%)	2006 n (%)	2009 n (%)	Change from 2006 χ^2 test (p-value)	Trend over time χ^2 test for trend (p-value)
Anglo-Australian	286 (81.7)	189 (83.5)	206 (81.6)	239 (77.1)	ns	ns
European ¹	36 (10.3)	19 (7.5)	30 (10.6)	27 (8.7)	ns	ns
Non European ²	28 (6.3)	13 (5.1)	16 (5.7)	32 (10.3)	Increase (p < .05)	ns
ATSI	6 (1.7)	10 (3.9)	6 (2.1)	12 (3.9)	–	–
Total	317 (100)	231 (100)	258 (100)	266 (100)		

1 'European' includes ethnic backgrounds such as Spanish, Greek, French, Italian, Irish, Polish.

2 'Non-European' includes ethnic backgrounds Indian, Chinese, Japanese, Turkish, South American.

Table 5: Education

	2000 n (%)	2003 n (%)	2006 n (%)	2009 n (%)	Change from 2006 χ^2 test (p-value)	Trend over time χ^2 test for trend (p-value)
Up to Year 10	37 (10.8)	26 (10.3)	25 (9.1)	18 (6.0)	ns	Decrease (p < .05)
Up to Year 12	53 (15.4)	34 (13.4)	42 (15.3)	51 (17.1)	ns	ns
Trade diploma/certificate	56 (16.3)	33 (13.0)	53 (19.3)	62 (20.1)	ns	ns
University	198 (57.6)	160 (63.2)	154 (56.2)	167 (56.0)	ns	ns
Total	344 (100)	253 (100)	274 (100)	298 (100)		

Table 6: Employment

	2000 n (%)	2003 n (%)	2006 n (%)	2009 n (%)	Change from 2006 χ^2 test (p-value)	Trend over time χ^2 test for trend (p-value)
Full-time	252 (79.9)	201 (79.1)	229 (81.2)	234 (78.8)	ns	ns
Part-time	29 (8.5)	18 (7.1)	16 (5.7)	15 (5.1)	–	–
Unemployed/other	60 (17.6)	35 (13.8)	37 (13.1)	48 (16.2)	ns	ns
Total	341 (100)	254 (100)	282 (100)	297 (100)		

Table 7: Lifetime rates of HIV testing (excluding men recruited from sexual health clinics)

	2000 n (%)	2003 n (%)	2006 n (%)	2009 n (%)	Change from 2006 χ^2 test (p-value)	Trend over time χ^2 test for trend (p-value)
Ever tested for HIV	302 (86.3)	230 (90.2)	258 (91.5)	268 (88.2)	ns	ns
Never tested for HIV	48 (13.7)	25 (9.8)	24 (8.6)	36 (11.8)	–	–
Total	350 (100)	255 (100)	282 (100)	310 (100)		

Table 8: Most recent HIV test results (excluding men recruited from sexual health clinics)

	2000 n (%)	2003 n (%)	2006 n (%)	2009 n (%)	Change from 2006 χ^2 test (p-value)	Trend over time χ^2 test for trend (p-value)
HIV-positive	18 (5.1)	13 (5.1)	16 (5.7)	8 (3.0)	–	–
HIV-negative	270 (77.1)	202 (79.2)	238 (84.4)	226 (85.3)	ns	Increase (p < .01)
Not tested/No results	62 (17.7)	40 (15.7)	28 (9.9)	31 (11.7)	–	–
Total	350 (100)	255 (100)	282 (100)	265 (100)		

Table 9: Most recent HIV test among non-HIV-positive men (excluding men recruited from sexual health clinics)

	2000 n (%)	2003 n (%)	2006 n (%)	2009 n (%)	Change from 2006 χ^2 test (p-value)	Trend over time χ^2 test for trend (p-value)
Tested in previous 12 months	155 (56.6)	124 (61.1)	136 (59.9)	149 (68.8)	ns	Increase (p < .05)
Tested more than 12 months ago	119 (43.4)	79 (38.9)	91 (40.1)	68 (31.2)	ns	Decrease (p < 0.05)
Total	274 (100)	203 (100)	227 (100)	217 (100)		

Table 10: Use of combination antiretroviral therapies, among HIV-positive men

	2000 n (%)	2003 n (%)	2006 n (%)	2009 n (%)	Change from 2006 χ^2 test (p-value)	Trend over time χ^2 test for trend (p-value)
On treatment	12 (70.6)	12 (92.3)	16 (100.0)	6 (75.0)	–	–
Not on treatment	5 (29.4)	1 (7.7)	–	2 (25.0)	–	–
Total	17 (100)	13 (100)	16 (100)	8 (100)		

Table 11: Relationships with men at time of completing the survey

	2000 n (%)	2003 n (%)	2006 n (%)	2009 n (%)	Change from 2006 χ^2 test (p-value)	Trend over time χ^2 test for trend (p-value)
None	51 (15.9)	33 (14.4)	41 (15.7)	58 (19.9)	ns	ns
Casual only	84 (26.3)	63 (27.4)	51 (19.5)	56 (19.2)	ns	Decrease (p < .05)
Regular plus casual	86 (26.9)	75 (32.6)	81 (30.9)	85 (29.1)	ns	ns
Regular only (monogamous)	99 (30.9)	59 (25.6)	89 (34.0)	93 (31.9)	ns	ns
Total	320 (100)	230 (100)	262 (100)	292 (100)		

Table 12: Agreements with regular male partners about sex *within* the relationship, among men with regular partners

	2000 n (%)	2003 n (%)	2006 n (%)	2009 n (%)	Change from 2006 χ^2 test (p-value)	Trend over time χ^2 test for trend (p-value)
No spoken agreement about anal intercourse	46 (25.0)	24 (21.4)	22 (15.6)	40 (24.5)	–	–
No anal intercourse permitted	9 (4.9)	6 (5.4)	12 (8.5)	10 (6.1)	–	–
Anal intercourse permitted only with a condom	50 (27.2)	29 (25.9)	39 (27.7)	48 (29.5)	–	–
Anal intercourse without a condom permitted	79 (42.9)	53 (47.3)	68 (48.2)	65 (39.9)	ns	ns
Total	184 (100)	112 (100)	141 (100)	163 (100)		

Table 13: Agreements with regular male partners about sex *outside* the relationship, among men with regular partners

	2000 n (%)	2003 n (%)	2006 n (%)	2009 n (%)	Change from 2006 χ^2 test (p-value)	Trend over time χ^2 test for trend (p-value)
No spoken agreement about casual sex	68 (37.2)	25 (22.1)	36 (26.7)	50 (31.3)	–	–
No sexual contact with casual partners permitted	53 (29.0)	34 (30.1)	45 (33.3)	51 (31.9)	ns	ns
No anal intercourse with casual partners permitted	14 (7.7)	5 (4.4)	7 (5.2)	11 (6.9)	–	–
Anal intercourse with casual partners permitted only with a condom	48 (26.2)	43 (38.1)	41 (30.4)	47 (29.4)	ns	ns
Anal intercourse with casual partners permitted without a condom	–	6 (5.3)	6 (4.4)	1 (0.6)	–	–
Total	183 (100)	113 (100)	135 (100)	160 (100)		

Table 14: Match of HIV status between regular partners

	2000 n (%)	2003 n (%)	2006 n (%)	2009 n (%)	Change from 2006 χ^2 test (p-value)	Trend over time χ^2 test for trend (p-value)
Seroconcordant, HIV-positive	–	2 (1.9)	3 (2.3)	–	–	–
Seroconcordant, HIV-negative	102 (63.4)	73 (67.6)	99 (75.0)	92 (68.7)	ns	Increase during 2000–2006 ($p < .05$)
Serodiscordant	17 (10.6)	11 (10.2)	12 (9.1)	13 (9.7)	–	–
Serononconcordant	42 (26.1)	22 (20.4)	18 (13.6)	29 (21.6)	–	–
Total	1,651 (100)	108 (100)	132 (100)	150 (100)		

Table 15: Anal intercourse and condom use with regular partners, among men with regular partners

	2000 n (%)	2003 n (%)	2006 n (%)	2009 n (%)	Change from 2006 χ^2 test (p-value)	Trend over time χ^2 test for trend (p-value)
No anal intercourse	31 (14.4)	24 (15.0)	28 (15.1)	20 (10.1)	–	–
Always uses a condom	65 (30.2)	52 (32.5)	52 (28.0)	48 (25.4)	ns	ns
Sometimes does not use a condom	119 (55.4)	84 (52.5)	106 (57.0)	121 (62.0)	ns	ns
Total	215 (100)	160 (100)	186 (100)	189 (100)		

Table 16: Proportion of men in regular relationships who engaged in UAIR, by match of HIV status

	2000 n (%)	2003 n (%)	2006 n (%)	2009 n (%)	Change from 2006 χ^2 test (p-value)	Trend over time χ^2 test for trend (p-value)
Seroconcordant, HIV-positive	–	2 (100.0)	2 (66.7)	–	–	–
Seroconcordant, HIV-negative	73 (71.6)	51 (70.0)	63 (63.6)	71 (77.2)	Increase ($p < .05$)	ns
Serodiscordant	6 (35.3)	3 (27.3)	8 (66.7)	4 (30.8)	–	–
Serononconcordant	22 (52.4)	9 (40.9)	7 (38.9)	24 (53.3)	–	–

Table 17: Proportion of HIV-negative men who engaged in receptive UAIR that included ejaculation, by match of HIV status

	2000 n (%)	2003 n (%)	2006 n (%)	2009 n (%)	Change from 2006 χ^2 test (p-value)	Trend over time χ^2 test for trend (p-value)
Seroconcordant, HIV-negative	45 (45.5)	32 (46.4)	44 (47.3)	44 (50.6)	ns	ns
Serodiscordant/Serononconcordant	7 (25.0)	2 (11.1)	3 (23.1)	8 (29.6)	–	–

Table 18: Proportion of HIV-negative men who engaged in receptive UAIR with withdrawal prior to ejaculation, by match of HIV status

	2000 n (%)	2003 n (%)	2006 n (%)	2009 n (%)	Change from 2006 χ^2 test (p-value)	Trend over time χ^2 test for trend (p-value)
Seroconcordant, HIV-negative	34 (34.3)	20 (29.9)	37 (40.2)	31 (37.8)	–	–
Serodiscordant/Seronoconcordant	4 (15.4)	3 (16.7)	3 (25.0)	8 (29.6)	–	–

Table 19: Anal intercourse and condom use with casual partners, among men with casual partners

	2000 n (%)	2003 n (%)	2006 n (%)	2009 n (%)	Change from 2006 χ^2 test (p-value)	Trend over time χ^2 test for trend (p-value)
No anal intercourse	56 (24.9)	35 (19.4)	43 (25.8)	41 (21.8)	ns	ns
Always uses a condom	119 (52.9)	104 (57.8)	83 (49.7)	82 (43.6)	ns	Decrease during 2003–2009 ($p < .01$)
Sometimes does not use a condom	50 (22.2)	41 (22.8)	41 (24.6)	65 (34.6)	Increase ($p < .05$)	Increase ($p < .01$)
Total	225 (100)	180 (100)	167 (100)	188 (100)		

Table 20: Proportion of men who engaged in UAIC in the six months prior to the survey, by HIV status of respondent

	2000 n (%)	2003 n (%)	2006 n (%)	2009 n (%)	Change from 2006 χ^2 test (p-value)	Trend over time χ^2 test for trend (p-value)
HIV-positive	2 (20.0)	4 (36.4)	3 (33.3)	2 (50.0)	–	–
HIV-negative	38 (21.7)	29 (21.0)	32 (22.9)	56 (37.9)	Increase ($p < .01$)	Increase ($p < .01$)
HIV status unknown	10 (25.9)	8 (25.8)	6 (33.3)	1 (8.3)	–	–

Table 21: Proportion of men who always used condoms for anal intercourse with casual partners, among men who had anal intercourse with casual partners, by HIV status of respondent

	2000 n (%)	2003 n (%)	2006 n (%)	2009 n (%)	Change from 2006 χ^2 test (p-value)	Trend over time χ^2 test for trend (p-value)
HIV-positive	5 (71.4)	4 (50.0)	3 (50.0)	1 (33.3)	–	–
HIV-negative	92 (70.8)	83 (74.1)	72 (69.2)	64 (53.3)	Decrease ($p < .05$)	Decrease ($p < .01$)
HIV status unknown	22 (68.8)	17 (68.0)	8 (57.1)	7 (87.5)	–	–
All men	119 (70.4)	104 (71.7)	83 (67.0)	72 (55.8)	ns	Decrease ($p < .01$)

Table 22: Proportion of men who disclosed their HIV status to any of their casual partners, among men who had casual partners, by HIV status of respondent

	2000 n (%)	2003 n (%)	2006 n (%)	2009 n (%)	Change from last year χ^2 test (p-value)	Trend over time χ^2 test for trend (p-value)
HIV-positive	5 (55.6)	8 (72.7)	3 (37.5)	3 (100.0)	–	–
HIV-negative	63 (37.5)	54 (40.0)	48 (36.9)	74 (51.0)	Increase (p < .05)	Increase (p < .05)
All men	75 (35.1)	72 (40.9)	52 (34.2)	87 (48.3)	Increase (p < .01)	Increase (p < .05)

Note: From 2006 the question relating to disclosure was modified to elicit information only about disclosure that occurred 'before' sex.

Table 23: Proportion of men who reported that any of their casual partners disclosed their HIV status, by HIV status of respondent

	2000 n (%)	2003 n (%)	2006 n (%)	2009 n (%)	Change from last year χ^2 test (p-value)	Trend over time χ^2 test for trend (p-value)
HIV-positive	5 (55.6)	8 (72.7)	2 (25.0)	3 (100.0)	–	–
HIV-negative	63 (37.0)	56 (41.5)	43 (33.3)	76 (52.8)	Increase (p < .01)	Increase (p < .05)
All men	75 (34.7)	75 (42.6)	48 (32.0)	90 (50.6)	Increase (p < .01)	Increase (p < .05)

Note: From 2006 the question relating to disclosure was modified to elicit information only about disclosure that occurred 'before' sex.

Table 24: Disclosure of HIV status to casual partners among men who engaged in UAIC

	2000 n (%)	2003 n (%)	2006 n (%)	2009 n (%)	Change from last year χ^2 test (p-value)	Trend over time χ^2 test for trend (p-value)
Disclosed to none/some	41 (82.0)	31 (75.6)	26 (66.7)	44 (68.8)	–	–
Disclosed to all	9 (18.0)	10 (24.4)	13 (33.3)	20 (31.3)	–	–
Total	50 (100)	41 (100)	39 (100)	64 (100)		

From 2006 the question relating to disclosure was modified to elicit information only about disclosure that occurred 'before' sex.

Table 25: Where men met their male sex partners in the six months prior to the survey

	2009 n (%)
Internet	122 (41.2)
Gay bar	95 (32.8)
Dance party	38 (13.3)
Gym	24 (8.5)
Beat	46 (16.1)
Gay sauna	67 (23.6)
Other sex venue	49 (17.2)
Private sex parties	21 (7.4)
Sydney	99 (34.5)
Other NSW region	40 (14.3)
Melbourne	47 (16.4)
Elsewhere in Australia	51 (18.0)
Overseas	40 (14.1)

Note: In 2009, the question 'Where men looked for sexual partners' was replaced with a question that asked men to indicate how often they had sex with a male partner they had met at the various venue/location. Thus, data is only available for 2009.

Table 27: Trends in STI testing among HIV-negative men

	2003 n (%)	2006 n (%)	2009 n (%)	Change from 2006 χ^2 test (p-value)
Anal swab	50 (24.8)	85 (35.7)	107 (46.5)	Increase ($p < .05$)
Throat swab	63 (31.2)	90 (37.8)	115 (50.0)	Increase ($p < .01$)
Penile swab	45 (22.3)	65 (27.3)	76 (33.0)	ns
Urine sample	91 (45.1)	109 (45.8)	126 (54.8)	ns
Blood test other than for HIV	108 (53.5)	117 (49.2)	134 (67.4)	Increase ($p < .01$)
Blood test for syphilis	–	–	135 (58.7)	–
Any STI test ¹ (including blood tests)	137 (67.8)	142 (60.0)	162 (70.4)	Increase ($p < .05$)
Any STI test (not including blood tests)	100 (49.5)	112 (49.5)	134 (58.3)	Increase ($p < .05$)

1 In 2009, the item 'Blood test for syphilis' was added to the proportion of men reporting 'any test' compared to the previous year.

Table 26: Trends in STI testing among HIV-positive men

	2003 n (%)	2006 n (%)	2009 n (%)
Anal swab	2 (15.4)	3 (18.8)	7 (77.8)
Throat swab	3 (23.1)	4 (25.0)	7 (77.8)
Penile swab	2 (15.4)	3 (18.8)	6 (66.7)
Urine sample	5 (38.5)	7 (43.8)	7 (77.8)
Blood test other than for HIV	9 (69.2)	13 (81.3)	5 (55.6)
Blood test for syphilis	–	–	7 (77.8)
Any STI test ¹ (including blood tests)	10 (76.9)	13 (81.3)	7 (77.8)
Any STI test (not including blood tests)	5 (38.5)	7 (43.8)	7 (77.8)

1 In 2009, the item 'Blood test for syphilis' was added to the proportion of men reporting 'any test' compared to the previous year.

Table 28: Trends in drug use among all men

	2003 n (%)	2006 n (%)	2009 n (%)	Change from 2006 χ^2 test (p-value)
Marijuana	73 (28.6)	62 (22.0)	60 (19.4)	ns
Ecstasy	58 (22.8)	48 (17.0)	67 (21.6)	ns
Amyl	76 (29.8)	83 (29.4)	71 (22.9)	ns
Speed	37 (14.5)	30 (10.6)	29 (9.4)	–
Crystal	–	–	12 (3.9)	–
Viagra	27 (11.0)	31 (11.0)	29 (9.4)	–
Cocaine	18 (7.1)	21 (7.5)	31 (10.0)	–
Special K	–	11 (3.9)	12 (3.9)	–
LSD	9 (3.5)	4 (1.4)	7 (2.3)	–
GHB	–	8 (2.8)	10 (3.2)	–
Steroids	2 (0.8)	2 (0.7)	3 (1.0)	–
Heroin	3 (1.2)	1 (0.4)	3 (1.0)	–

Note: From 2006, questions on drug use were modified to include information on the frequency of drug use.

Table 29: Trends in drug use among HIV-negative men

	2003 n (%)	2006 n (%)	2009 n (%)	Change from 2006 χ^2 test (p-value)
Marijuana	57 (28.2)	51 (21.4)	44 (19.1)	ns
Amyl	64 (31.7)	73 (30.7)	58 (25.2)	ns
Ecstasy	49 (24.3)	44 (18.5)	51 (22.2)	ns
Amphetamine (Speed)	30 (14.9)	29 (12.2)	22 (9.6)	–
Crystal methamphetamine	–	–	7 (3.0)	–
Viagra	25 (12.4)	28 (11.8)	21 (9.1)	–

Note: From 2006, questions on drug use were modified to include information on the frequency of drug use.

Table 31: Use of party drugs for the purpose of sex in the six months prior to the survey

	2006 n (%)	2009 n (%)	Change from 2006 χ^2 test (p-value)
Weekly	2 (0.7)	4 (1.3)	–
Monthly	10 (3.6)	23 (7.6)	–
Less than monthly	22 (7.9)	9 (3.0)	–
Never	243 (87.7)	264 (88.0)	ns
Total	277 (100)	300 (100)	

Table 33: Used post-exposure prophylaxis in the six months prior to the survey

	2009 n (%)
No	289 (96.7)
Yes, once	10 (3.3)
Yes more than once	–
Total	299 (100)

Note: The question on the use of post-exposure prophylaxis was not asked in previous surveys.

Table 30: Frequency of injecting drug use in the six months prior to the survey

	2006 n (%)	2009 n (%)	Change from 2006 χ^2 test (p-value)
Weekly	1 (0.4)	2 (0.7)	–
Monthly	1 (0.4)	4 (1.3)	–
Less than monthly	3 (1.1)	3 (1.0)	–
Never	272 (98.2)	291 (97.0)	ns
Total	277 (100)	300 (100)	

Table 32: Use of party drugs before or during group sex in the six months prior to the survey

	2009 n (%)
Weekly	4 (1.9)
At least monthly	9 (4.4)
Every 3 months	3 (1.5)
Once or a few times	11 (5.3)
Never	179 (87.9)
Total	206 (100)

Note: The question on use of party drugs before or while having group sex was not asked in previous surveys.

Table 34: Diagnoses of an STI other than HIV in the 12 months prior to the survey, by HIV status of respondent

	2009 n (%)
HIV-positive	1 (4.2)
HIV-negative	22 (91.7)
HIV status unknown	1 (4.2)
Total	24 (100)

Note: The question on STI diagnoses was not asked in previous surveys.

Table 35: Diagnoses of infectious syphilis in the 12 months prior to the survey, by HIV status of respondent

	HIV positive <i>n</i> (%)	HIV negative <i>n</i> (%)	HIV status unknown <i>n</i> (%)
Never	7 (87.5)	223 (98.2)	31 (100)
Once	1 (12.5)	3 (0.8)	–
Two or more times	–	1 (0.4)	–
Total	8 (100)	227 (100)	31 (100)

Note: The question on men who were diagnosed with infectious syphilis was not asked in previous surveys.

<p>National Centre in HIV Social Research National Centre in HIV Epidemiology & Clinical Research THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES AACACT PLWHA ACT</p> <p>Canberra Gay Community Periodic Survey</p> <p>This survey is for men who have had sex with another man in the past five years.</p> <p>PLEASE DO NOT COMPLETE IF YOU HAVE ALREADY DONE SO THIS MONTH.</p> <p>For each question, please TICK one box only.</p> <p>1. How many of your friends are gay or homosexual men? None <input type="checkbox"/>1 A few <input type="checkbox"/>2 Some <input type="checkbox"/>3 Most <input type="checkbox"/>4 All <input type="checkbox"/>5</p> <p>2. How much of your free time is spent with gay or homosexual men? None <input type="checkbox"/>1 A little <input type="checkbox"/>2 Some <input type="checkbox"/>3 A lot <input type="checkbox"/>4</p> <p>3. Do you think of yourself as: Gay/homosexual <input type="checkbox"/>1 Bisexual <input type="checkbox"/>2 Heterosexual <input type="checkbox"/>3 Other (please specify) _____</p>	<p>Regular male partners — last 6 months</p> <p>9. Have you had sex with regular male partner/s in the last six months? Yes <input type="checkbox"/>1 No <input type="checkbox"/>2 Go directly to Q. 20</p> <p>In the past SIX MONTHS which of the following have you done with any or your REGULAR male partner/s?</p> <p>10. Oral sex: I sucked his cock but he did NOT come in my mouth Never <input type="checkbox"/>1 Occasionally <input type="checkbox"/>2 Often <input type="checkbox"/>3</p> <p>11. Oral sex: He sucked my cock but I did NOT come in his mouth Never <input type="checkbox"/>1 Occasionally <input type="checkbox"/>2 Often <input type="checkbox"/>3</p> <p>12. Oral sex: I sucked his cock and he came in my mouth Never <input type="checkbox"/>1 Occasionally <input type="checkbox"/>2 Often <input type="checkbox"/>3</p> <p>13. Oral sex: He sucked my cock and I came in his mouth Never <input type="checkbox"/>1 Occasionally <input type="checkbox"/>2 Often <input type="checkbox"/>3</p> <p>Anal sex</p> <p>14. I fucked him with a condom Never <input type="checkbox"/>1 Occasionally <input type="checkbox"/>2 Often <input type="checkbox"/>3</p> <p>15. He fucked me with a condom Never <input type="checkbox"/>1 Occasionally <input type="checkbox"/>2 Often <input type="checkbox"/>3</p> <p>16. I fucked him without a condom but pulled out before I came Never <input type="checkbox"/>1 Occasionally <input type="checkbox"/>2 Often <input type="checkbox"/>3</p> <p>17. He fucked me without a condom but pulled out before he came Never <input type="checkbox"/>1 Occasionally <input type="checkbox"/>2 Often <input type="checkbox"/>3</p> <p>18. I fucked him without a condom and came inside Never <input type="checkbox"/>1 Occasionally <input type="checkbox"/>2 Often <input type="checkbox"/>3</p> <p>19. He fucked me without a condom and came inside Never <input type="checkbox"/>1 Occasionally <input type="checkbox"/>2 Often <input type="checkbox"/>3</p>	<p>Anal sex</p> <p>25. I fucked him with a condom Never <input type="checkbox"/>1 Occasionally <input type="checkbox"/>2 Often <input type="checkbox"/>3</p> <p>26. He fucked me with a condom Never <input type="checkbox"/>1 Occasionally <input type="checkbox"/>2 Often <input type="checkbox"/>3</p> <p>27. I fucked him without a condom but pulled out before I came Never <input type="checkbox"/>1 Occasionally <input type="checkbox"/>2 Often <input type="checkbox"/>3</p> <p>28. He fucked me without a condom but pulled out before he came Never <input type="checkbox"/>1 Occasionally <input type="checkbox"/>2 Often <input type="checkbox"/>3</p> <p>29. I fucked him without a condom and came inside Never <input type="checkbox"/>1 Occasionally <input type="checkbox"/>2 Often <input type="checkbox"/>3</p> <p>30. He fucked me without a condom and came inside Never <input type="checkbox"/>1 Occasionally <input type="checkbox"/>2 Often <input type="checkbox"/>3</p> <p>31. In the past 6 months, how often did you have group sex involving at least two other men? Every <input type="checkbox"/>1 Monthly <input type="checkbox"/>2 Occasional <input type="checkbox"/>3 Never <input type="checkbox"/>4</p> <p>Without your regular partner <input type="checkbox"/>1 <input type="checkbox"/>2 <input type="checkbox"/>3 <input type="checkbox"/>4</p> <p>Including your regular partner <input type="checkbox"/>1 <input type="checkbox"/>2 <input type="checkbox"/>3 <input type="checkbox"/>4</p> <p>32. In the past 6 months, how often have you had group sex after or while using party drugs? Every week <input type="checkbox"/>1 At least monthly <input type="checkbox"/>2 Every 3 months <input type="checkbox"/>3 Once or a few times <input type="checkbox"/>4 Never <input type="checkbox"/>5</p> <p>33. In the last 6 months, did you have any sex with casual partners who were HIV positive No <input type="checkbox"/>1 Yes <input type="checkbox"/>2 HIV negative No <input type="checkbox"/>1 Yes <input type="checkbox"/>2 Whose HIV status you did not know No <input type="checkbox"/>1 Yes <input type="checkbox"/>2</p> <p>34. In the last 6 months, did you have any anal intercourse without condom with any of these casual partner(s) where you were either top or bottom? - With any HIV positive men No <input type="checkbox"/>1 Yes <input type="checkbox"/>2 - With any HIV negative men No <input type="checkbox"/>1 Yes <input type="checkbox"/>2 - With any men whose HIV status you did not know No <input type="checkbox"/>1 Yes <input type="checkbox"/>2</p> <p>In the last 6 months: 35. How many of your casual partners did you tell your HIV status before sex? None <input type="checkbox"/>1 Some <input type="checkbox"/>2 All <input type="checkbox"/>3</p> <p>36. How many of your casual partners told you their HIV status before sex? None <input type="checkbox"/>1 Some <input type="checkbox"/>2 All <input type="checkbox"/>3</p> <p>37. If your partner tells you his HIV status is the same as yours what would you most likely want to do with him? No sex at all <input type="checkbox"/>1 Only oral sex <input type="checkbox"/>2 Use condom <input type="checkbox"/>3 Fuck without condom <input type="checkbox"/>4</p> <p>38. If your partner tells you his HIV status is different from yours what would you most likely want to do with him? No sex at all <input type="checkbox"/>1 Only oral sex <input type="checkbox"/>2 Use condom <input type="checkbox"/>3 Fuck without condom <input type="checkbox"/>4</p>
<p>In this survey we distinguish between REGULAR (boyfriend/lover) and CASUAL partners.</p> <p>4. Do you <u>currently</u> have sex with casual male partners? No <input type="checkbox"/>1 Yes <input type="checkbox"/>2</p> <p>5. Do you <u>currently</u> have sex with a regular male partner? No <input type="checkbox"/>1 Yes <input type="checkbox"/>2</p> <p>6. How would you describe your sexual relationship with your current regular male partner? (tick one) we are monogamous — neither of us has casual sex <input type="checkbox"/>1 both my partner and I have casual sex with other men <input type="checkbox"/>2 I have casual sex with other men but my partner does not <input type="checkbox"/>3 my partner has casual sex with other men but I do not <input type="checkbox"/>4 I have several regular male partners <input type="checkbox"/>5 no current regular male partner <input type="checkbox"/>6</p> <p>7. If you are in a regular relationship with a man, for how long has it been? Less than 6 months <input type="checkbox"/>1 6–11 months <input type="checkbox"/>2 1–2 years <input type="checkbox"/>3 More than 2 years <input type="checkbox"/>4</p> <p>8. In the last 6 months, how many different men have you had sex with? None <input type="checkbox"/>1 6–10 men <input type="checkbox"/>4 One <input type="checkbox"/>2 11–50 men <input type="checkbox"/>5 2–5 men <input type="checkbox"/>3 More than 50 men <input type="checkbox"/>6</p>	<p>Casual male partners — last 6 months</p> <p>20. Have you had any sex with any casual male partner/s in the last six months? Yes <input type="checkbox"/>1 No <input type="checkbox"/>2 Go directly to Q. 39</p> <p>In the past SIX MONTHS which of the following have you done with any of your CASUAL male partners?</p> <p>21. Oral sex: I sucked his cock but he did NOT come in my mouth Never <input type="checkbox"/>1 Occasionally <input type="checkbox"/>2 Often <input type="checkbox"/>3</p> <p>22. Oral sex: He sucked my cock but I did NOT come in his mouth Never <input type="checkbox"/>1 Occasionally <input type="checkbox"/>2 Often <input type="checkbox"/>3</p> <p>23. Oral sex: I sucked his cock and he came in my mouth Never <input type="checkbox"/>1 Occasionally <input type="checkbox"/>2 Often <input type="checkbox"/>3</p> <p>24. Oral sex: He sucked my cock and I came in his mouth Never <input type="checkbox"/>1 Occasionally <input type="checkbox"/>2 Often <input type="checkbox"/>3</p>	<p>Continues on other side</p>

39. Have you ever had an HIV antibody test? No ☐_1 Yes ☐_2

40. When were you last tested for HIV antibodies?
 Never tested ☐_1 7-12 months ago ☐_5
 Less than a week ago ☐_2 1-2 years ago ☐_6
 1-4 weeks ago ☐_3 2-4 years ago ☐_7
 1-6 months ago ☐_4 More than 4 years ago ☐_8

41. Based on the results of your HIV antibody tests, what is your HIV status? No test/Don't know ☐_1 Negative ☐_2 Positive ☐_3

If you are HIV positive, please complete the next four questions.

42. When were you first diagnosed as HIV-positive?
 Year

43. Where were you first diagnosed as HIV-positive?
 Canberra/ACT ☐_1 NSW ☐_2 Victoria ☐_3
 Elsewhere in Australia ☐_4 Overseas ☐_5

44. Are you on combination antiretroviral therapy? No ☐_1 Yes ☐_2

45. Was your last viral load?
 Undetectable ☐_1 Detectable ☐_2 Don't know / unsure ☐_3

If you are in a regular relationship with a man at present please complete the next four questions...

46. Do you know the result of your regular partner's HIV antibody test?
 Yes—Positive ☐_1
 Yes—Negative ☐_2
 I don't know / He hasn't had a test ☐_3

47. If your regular partner is HIV positive, what was his last viral load test...?
 Undetectable ☐_1 Detectable ☐_2 Don't know / unsure ☐_3

48. Do you have a **clear (spoken) agreement** with your regular partner about anal sex (fucking) within your relationship?
 No agreement ☐_1
 Agreement: No anal sex at all ☐_2
 Agreement: All anal sex is with a condom ☐_3
 Agreement: Anal sex can be without a condom ☐_4

49. Do you have a **clear (spoken) agreement** with your regular partner about sex with casual partners?
 No agreement ☐_1
 Agreement: No sex at all ☐_2
 Agreement: No anal sex at all ☐_3
 Agreement: Anal sex can be with a condom ☐_4
 Agreement: Anal sex can be without a condom ☐_5

50. Are you of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin?
 No ☐_1 Yes ☐_2

51. What is your ethnic background? (e.g. Greek, Vietnamese)
 Anglo-Australian only ☐_01 Other (please specify) _____ years

52. How old are you? _____ years

53. Are you: (tick one only)
 Employed full-time ☐_1 A student ☐_4
 Employed part-time ☐_2 Unemployed ☐_5
 On pension / social security ☐_3 Other ☐_6

54. What is your occupation? (e.g. bar manager, bank manager, IT support, welder) (please specify) _____

55. What is the highest level of education you have had?
 Less than or up to 3 years of high school/Year 10 ☐_1
 Year 12 / HSC ☐_2
 Tertiary diploma or trade certificate / TAFE ☐_3
 University or CAE ☐_4

56. Where do you live? Postcode

OR Suburb/Town: _____

57. In the last 6 months, how often have you had sex with men you met at...?
 Internet Never ☐_1 Occasionally ☐_2 Often ☐_3
 Gay bar Never ☐_1 Occasionally ☐_2 Often ☐_3
 Dance party Never ☐_1 Occasionally ☐_2 Often ☐_3
 Gym Never ☐_1 Occasionally ☐_2 Often ☐_3
 Beat Never ☐_1 Occasionally ☐_2 Often ☐_3
 Gay sauna Never ☐_1 Occasionally ☐_2 Often ☐_3
 Other sex venue Never ☐_1 Occasionally ☐_2 Often ☐_3
 Private sex parties Never ☐_1 Occasionally ☐_2 Often ☐_3
 Sydney Never ☐_1 Occasionally ☐_2 Often ☐_3
 Other NSW regions Never ☐_1 Occasionally ☐_2 Often ☐_3
 Melbourne Never ☐_1 Occasionally ☐_2 Often ☐_3
 Elsewhere in Australia Never ☐_1 Occasionally ☐_2 Often ☐_3
 Overseas Never ☐_1 Occasionally ☐_2 Often ☐_3

58. Which of these sexual health tests have you had in the last 12 months?
 Anal swab None ☐_1 Once ☐_2 Twice ☐_3 3 or more ☐_4
 Throat swab None ☐_1 Once ☐_2 Twice ☐_3 3 or more ☐_4
 Penile swab None ☐_1 Once ☐_2 Twice ☐_3 3 or more ☐_4
 Urine sample None ☐_1 Once ☐_2 Twice ☐_3 3 or more ☐_4
 Blood test for HIV None ☐_1 Once ☐_2 Twice ☐_3 3 or more ☐_4
 Blood test for Syphilis None ☐_1 Once ☐_2 Twice ☐_3 3 or more ☐_4
 Other blood test None ☐_1 Once ☐_2 Twice ☐_3 3 or more ☐_4

59. In the last 12 months, were you diagnosed with a sexually transmitted infection (STI or STD) other than HIV as a result of any of these tests? No ☐_1 Yes ☐_2

60. In the last 12 months, how many times have you been diagnosed with infectious syphilis? Never ☐_1 Once ☐_2 Two or more times ☐_3

61. Have you received PEP in the last 6 months?
 No ☐_1 Yes, Once ☐_2 Yes, More than once ☐_3

62. Please look at the resource materials on the reverse side of the Information Sheet. Where have you seen the following posters?

	Poster A	Poster B	Poster C	Poster D
Internet	<input type="checkbox"/> _1	<input type="checkbox"/> _1	<input type="checkbox"/> _1	<input type="checkbox"/> _1
Sex Venue	<input type="checkbox"/> _2	<input type="checkbox"/> _2	<input type="checkbox"/> _2	<input type="checkbox"/> _2
Social Venues	<input type="checkbox"/> _3	<input type="checkbox"/> _3	<input type="checkbox"/> _3	<input type="checkbox"/> _3
Sexual Health Clinics	<input type="checkbox"/> _4	<input type="checkbox"/> _4	<input type="checkbox"/> _4	<input type="checkbox"/> _4
Newspaper/magazine	<input type="checkbox"/> _5	<input type="checkbox"/> _5	<input type="checkbox"/> _5	<input type="checkbox"/> _5
I have not seen the poster	<input type="checkbox"/> _6	<input type="checkbox"/> _6	<input type="checkbox"/> _6	<input type="checkbox"/> _6

63. How often have you used these drugs in the past 6 months?

	Never	1-5 times	6-10 times	10-20 times	More than 20 times
Amyl/Poppers	<input type="checkbox"/> _1	<input type="checkbox"/> _2	<input type="checkbox"/> _3	<input type="checkbox"/> _4	<input type="checkbox"/> _5
Marijuana	<input type="checkbox"/> _1	<input type="checkbox"/> _2	<input type="checkbox"/> _3	<input type="checkbox"/> _4	<input type="checkbox"/> _5
Vaginal/Cialis etc.	<input type="checkbox"/> _1	<input type="checkbox"/> _2	<input type="checkbox"/> _3	<input type="checkbox"/> _4	<input type="checkbox"/> _5
Ecstasy	<input type="checkbox"/> _1	<input type="checkbox"/> _2	<input type="checkbox"/> _3	<input type="checkbox"/> _4	<input type="checkbox"/> _5
Speed	<input type="checkbox"/> _1	<input type="checkbox"/> _2	<input type="checkbox"/> _3	<input type="checkbox"/> _4	<input type="checkbox"/> _5
Cocaine	<input type="checkbox"/> _1	<input type="checkbox"/> _2	<input type="checkbox"/> _3	<input type="checkbox"/> _4	<input type="checkbox"/> _5
Crystal Meth / Ice	<input type="checkbox"/> _1	<input type="checkbox"/> _2	<input type="checkbox"/> _3	<input type="checkbox"/> _4	<input type="checkbox"/> _5
LSD / trips	<input type="checkbox"/> _1	<input type="checkbox"/> _2	<input type="checkbox"/> _3	<input type="checkbox"/> _4	<input type="checkbox"/> _5
GHB	<input type="checkbox"/> _1	<input type="checkbox"/> _2	<input type="checkbox"/> _3	<input type="checkbox"/> _4	<input type="checkbox"/> _5
Special K	<input type="checkbox"/> _1	<input type="checkbox"/> _2	<input type="checkbox"/> _3	<input type="checkbox"/> _4	<input type="checkbox"/> _5
Heroin	<input type="checkbox"/> _1	<input type="checkbox"/> _2	<input type="checkbox"/> _3	<input type="checkbox"/> _4	<input type="checkbox"/> _5
Steroids	<input type="checkbox"/> _1	<input type="checkbox"/> _2	<input type="checkbox"/> _3	<input type="checkbox"/> _4	<input type="checkbox"/> _5
Any other drug	<input type="checkbox"/> _1	<input type="checkbox"/> _2	<input type="checkbox"/> _3	<input type="checkbox"/> _4	<input type="checkbox"/> _5

64. How often have you injected drugs in the past 6 months?
 Weekly ☐_1 Less than monthly ☐_2
 Monthly ☐_3 Never ☐_4

65. How often do you use party drugs for the purpose of sex?
 Weekly ☐_1 Less than monthly ☐_2
 Monthly ☐_3 Never ☐_4