

## Gay Community Periodic Survey: Melbourne 2006

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GCPS Report 4/2006

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## Description of the study

The Melbourne Gay Community Periodic Survey is a cross-sectional survey of gay and other homosexually active men recruited through a range of gay community sites in Melbourne. The project is funded by the Victorian Department of Human Services. The Periodic Survey provides a snapshot of sexual practices related to the transmission of HIV and other sexually transmissible infections (STIs) among gay and homosexually active men. This survey, the eighth in Melbourne, was administered in February 2006 and this report follows the series of previous reports on previous Melbourne Gay Community Periodic Surveys (Van de Ven et al., 1998; Aspin et al., 2000; Rawstorne et al., 2001; Hull et al., 2002; Hull et al., 2003b; Hull et al., 2004; Hull et al., 2006a), which were conducted annually between 1998 and 2006, except in 1999.

The major aim of the survey is to provide data on levels of safe and unsafe sexual practice in a broad cross-sectional sample of gay and homosexually active men. To this end, men were recruited from a number of gay community venues. In 2006 eight sites were used for recruitment: Midsumma Carnival and seven gay community venues (two social venues, three sex-on-premises venues and two sexual health clinics). Trained recruiters carried out recruitment at these venues over a one-week period.

The questionnaire used in this study is attached to this report. It is a short, self-administered instrument that typically takes five to 10 minutes to complete. Questions focus on the nature of sexual relationships, anal and oral sexual practices, the use of condoms, testing for HIV and sexually transmissible infections and serostatus, aspects of social attachment to gay community, and recreational drug use, in addition to a range of demographic items including sexual identity, age, occupation and ethnicity.

In the main, the questions in the 2006 survey were the same as those in previous surveys. This ensures that direct comparisons across the eight surveys are possible. Nonetheless, some questions in the current survey were included for the first time this year and, to make way for these new questions, certain items from the previous survey were omitted.

This report describes data from the eighth Melbourne Gay Community Periodic Survey conducted in February 2006 and compares these with data from the seven surveys preceding it. More detailed analyses of the data will continue and will be disseminated as they are completed. As with any data analysis, further examination may necessitate minor reinterpretation of the findings.



# Sample and recruitment

Respondents were recruited through seven sites in the Melbourne metropolitan area and at a large public gay community event, Midsumma Carnival. As in the seven previous surveys, most of the sample was recruited at Midsumma Carnival and even though the proportion recruited at this event in 2006 was slightly but statistically significantly higher than in 2005 ( $p < .01$ ) it was consistent with the proportions recruited at this event since 2001 (see Figure 1). Conversely, significantly fewer men were recruited at sexual health centres than in the previous survey in 2005 ( $p < .01$ ). Trend analysis shows no significant changes over this period in any of the categories of recruitment sites.

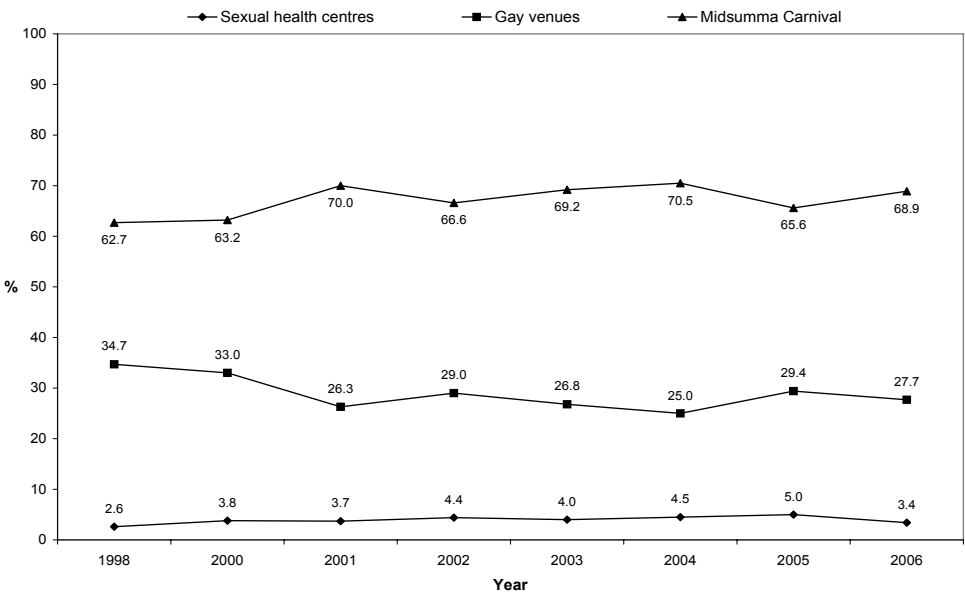


Figure 1: Source of recruitment

In 2006, 2897 men were asked to complete a questionnaire and 1988 did so. This represents a response rate of 68.6%, which is consistent with response rates over the past five surveys, with the exception of the 2004 survey, which had a response rate of 58%.

Previous studies such as Sydney Men and Sexual Health (SMASH) (Prestage et al., 1995) have demonstrated that HIV serostatus is an important distinguishing feature among gay men, particularly with regard to sexual practice. For this reason some of the data on sexual practices are reported separately for men who are HIV-positive, those who are HIV-negative, and those who have not been tested or do not know their serostatus

As indicated in previous periodic surveys (Van de Ven et al., 1997), men recruited at events such as Midsumma Carnival are different in some respects from those recruited at clinics and gay venues. Nonetheless, most of the data reported here are for the sample as a whole and reflect the sexual behaviour of a broad cross-sectional sample of Melbourne gay men.



# Demographic profile

In terms of demographic variables, survey participants in the eight surveys from 1998 to 2006 were quite similar.

## Residential location

There was little variation in the geographic distribution of participants from 1998 to 2006. In all eight surveys the men came primarily from the Melbourne metropolitan area. A small percentage of men who indicated that they participated regularly in the Melbourne gay community came from other parts of Victoria or from outside the state (see Figure 2). Over the five survey periods from 2002 there has been a slight increase in the proportion of participants who were living outside the state (Mantel-Haenszel,  $p < .01$ ).

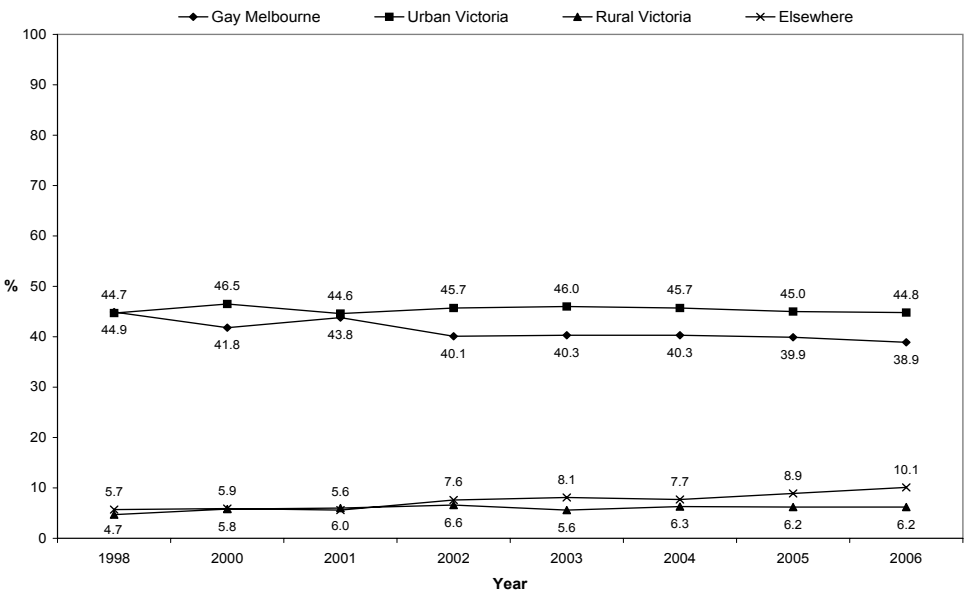


Figure 2: Residential location

## Age

In the 2006 survey the median age of participants was 34 years (maximum 77 years). While the age range was fairly similar to that observed in the previous seven studies,

there have been slight changes in the age distribution (see Figure 3). From the 2002 survey onwards there have been significant increases in the proportions of men aged less than 25 years (Mantel-Haenszel,  $p < .05$ ) and 25 to 29 years (Mantel-Haenszel,  $p < .05$ ), and a respective decrease in those aged 30 to 39 years (Mantel-Haenszel,  $p < .001$ ). The slight differences over time in the age composition of the sample may need to be considered when interpreting some of the findings of this study.

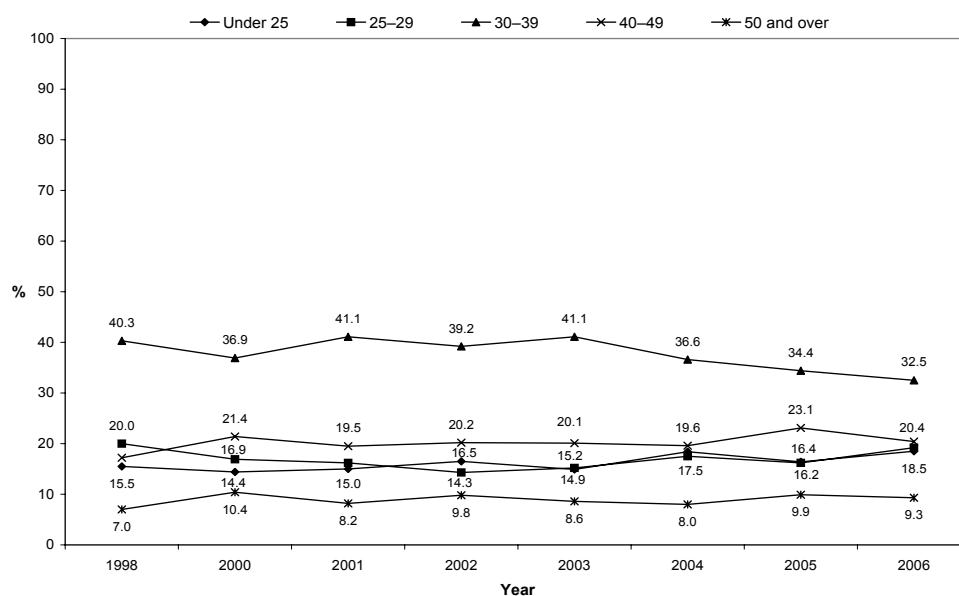


Figure 3: Age

## Ethnicity

As in the seven previous surveys the sample was predominantly 'Anglo-Australian' (see Figure 4). There was no significant change from the previous survey in 2005 in the proportions of men in each of the ethnicity categories. Furthermore, from the 2002 survey onwards there have been no significant changes in the proportions in the various ethnicity categories. Fifty-two men (2.6% of the total sample) reported being of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin.

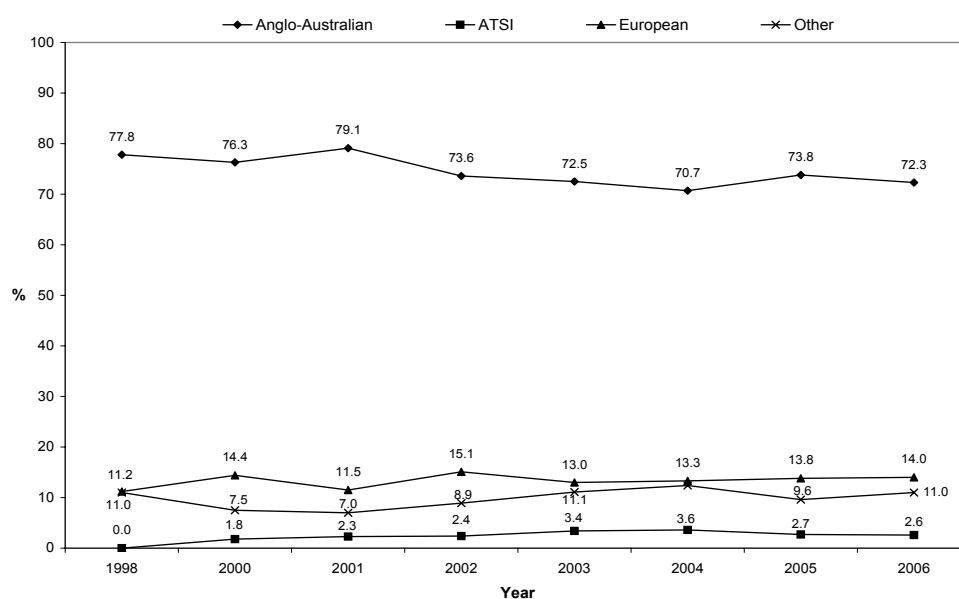


Figure 4: Ethnicity



## Education

As is the case in other gay-community studies, this sample was relatively well educated in comparison with the general population (Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2006). In 2006 just over half of the men sampled had completed university or CAE and about 17% had completed other tertiary education such as a trade certificate (see Figure 5). Almost 10% had completed Year 10 and about 20% had completed Year 12 or the VCE/HSC. The proportions completing VCE/HSC and diploma or trade certificates have been quite stable over the five survey periods from 2002, when the question about education level was reintroduced. However, over this time there has been a slight, though significant, increase in the proportion of men with a university or CAE education (49% to 54%) (Mantel-Haenszel,  $p < .01$ ) and a significant decrease in the proportion who had been educated up to Year 10 level (11% to 9%) (Mantel-Haenszel,  $p = .01$ ).

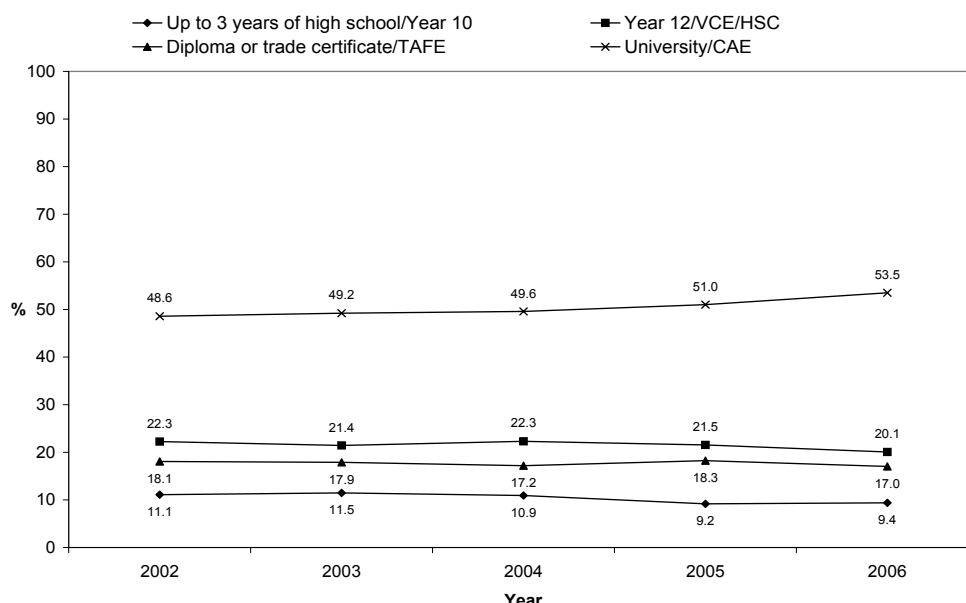
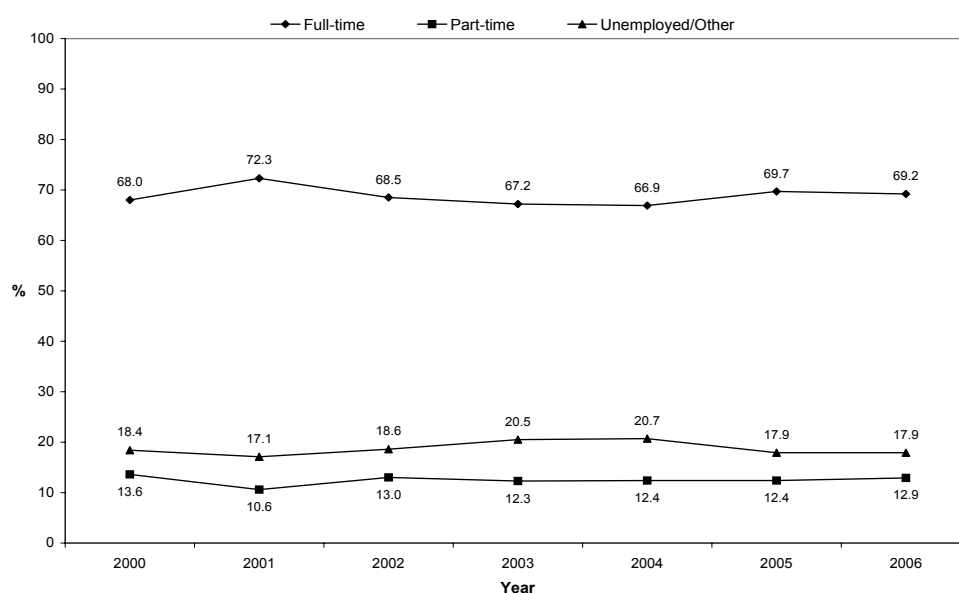


Figure 5: Education

## Employment

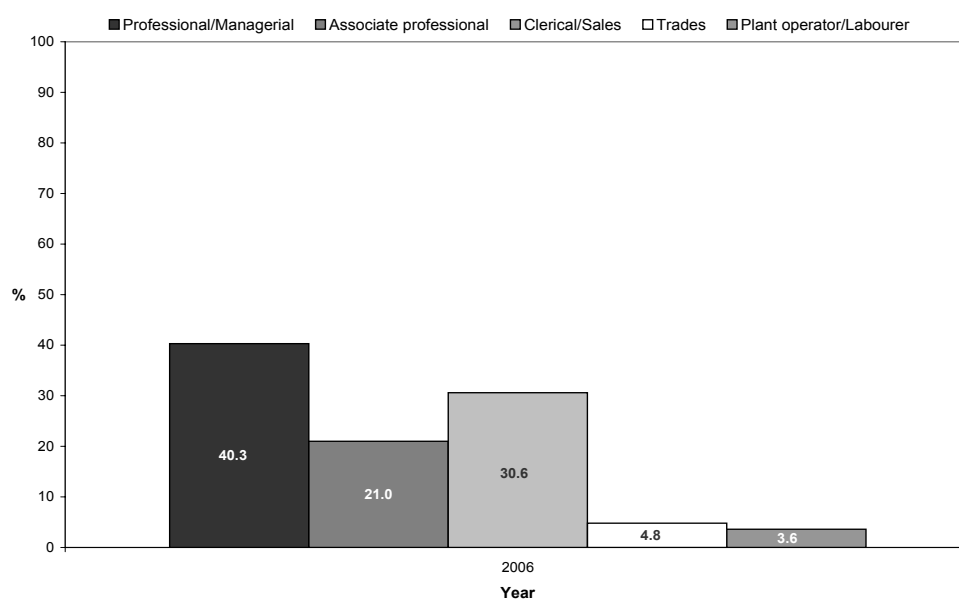
Most of the men in the sample were employed, with almost 70% of all respondents being in full-time employment and 13% engaging in part-time work (see Figure 6). The proportion of men who were not in the workforce was fairly high compared with the general population (Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2006). This figure is elevated because of the relatively high percentage of HIV-positive men who did not participate in the workforce and received some form of social security payment.



**Figure 6: Employment status**

## Occupation

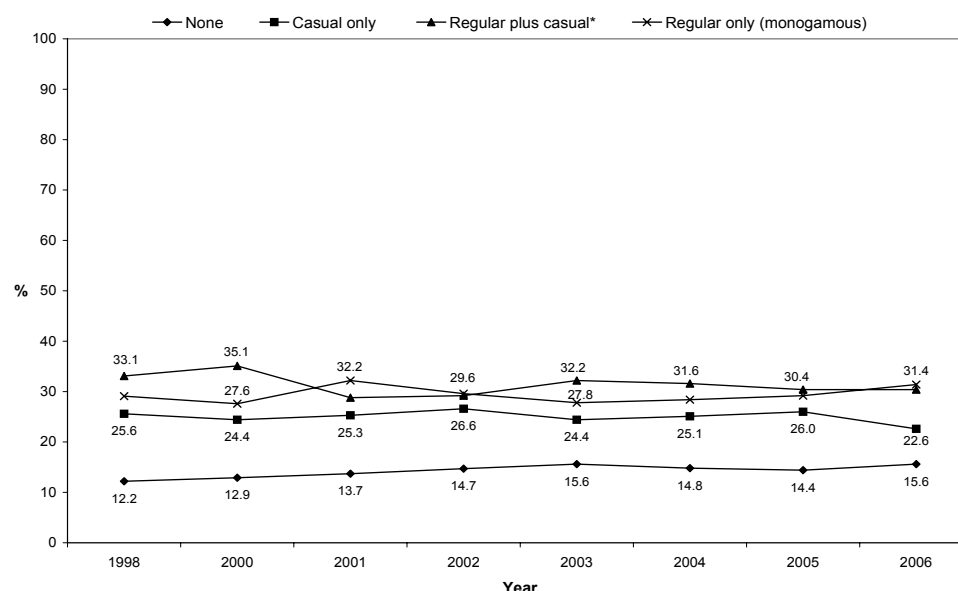
In 2006 we used a new system of coding respondents' occupations to more accurately parallel Australian Bureau of Statistics classifications (Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2006). This new occupation classification will allow comparisons between the study sample and the general population. However, the introduced changes prevent a direct comparison between the current occupation distribution and that in previous surveys. We have therefore presented data for the 2006 survey only (Figure 7). In 2006 the greatest proportion of men, about 40%, were in professional or managerial occupations. Approximately 30% were in clerical or sales positions and about 20% were associate professionals (previously 'paraprofessional').



**Figure 7: Occupation**

## Sexual relationships with men

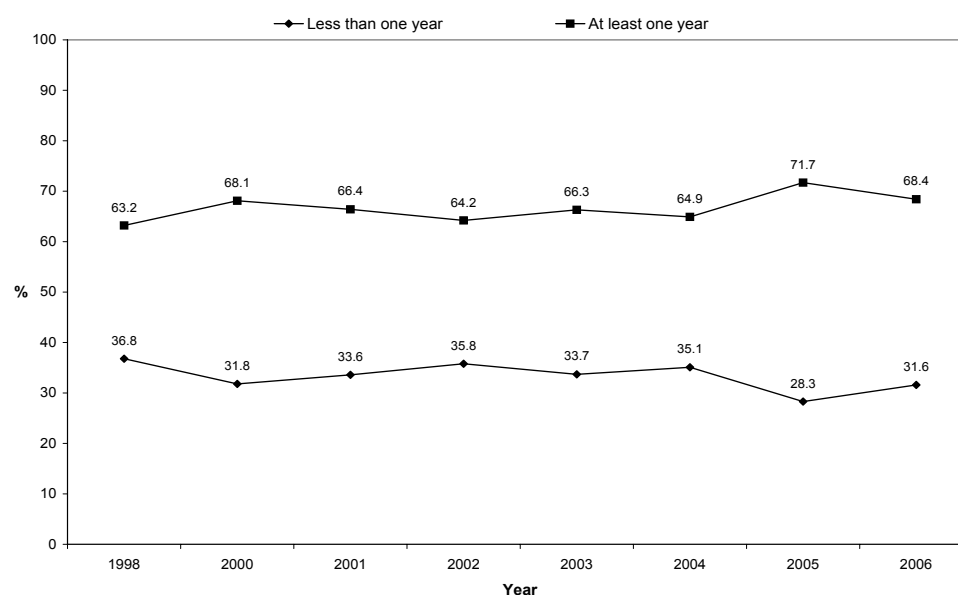
The majority of men in each of the eight consecutive surveys were in a regular sexual relationship with a man at the time of completing the survey (see Figure 8). In comparison with the previous survey there was no significant change in the distribution of participants' sexual relationships. The small proportion of men who were not having sex with other men at the time of the survey increased significantly between 1998 and 2003 (Mantel-Haenszel,  $p < .01$ ). However, since 2003 there has been no significant change in this proportion.



**Figure 8: Relationships with men**

\*This category may include either or both of the partners having had casual sex.

Over the five survey periods from 2002 there has been an upward trend in the proportion of men in regular relationships of at least one year's duration (Mantel-Haenszel,  $p < .01$ ). In 2006 almost 70% of the men in a regular relationship had been in that relationship for at least one year (see Figure 9).



**Figure 9: Length of relationships among men with regular male partners at the time of completing the survey**



# Association with gay community

As in the previous seven surveys, and as is consistent with the recruitment strategies, this was a highly gay-identified and gay-community-attached sample.

## Sexual identity

The data in all eight surveys show that the samples were composed predominantly of men who identified themselves as gay or homosexual (see Figure 10), and these percentages are comparable with those in gay community periodic surveys conducted in other capital cities of Australia (Hull et al., 2003a). There were relatively few men in each sample who identified as bisexual or heterosexual, and the proportions have been quite consistent across the eight survey periods.

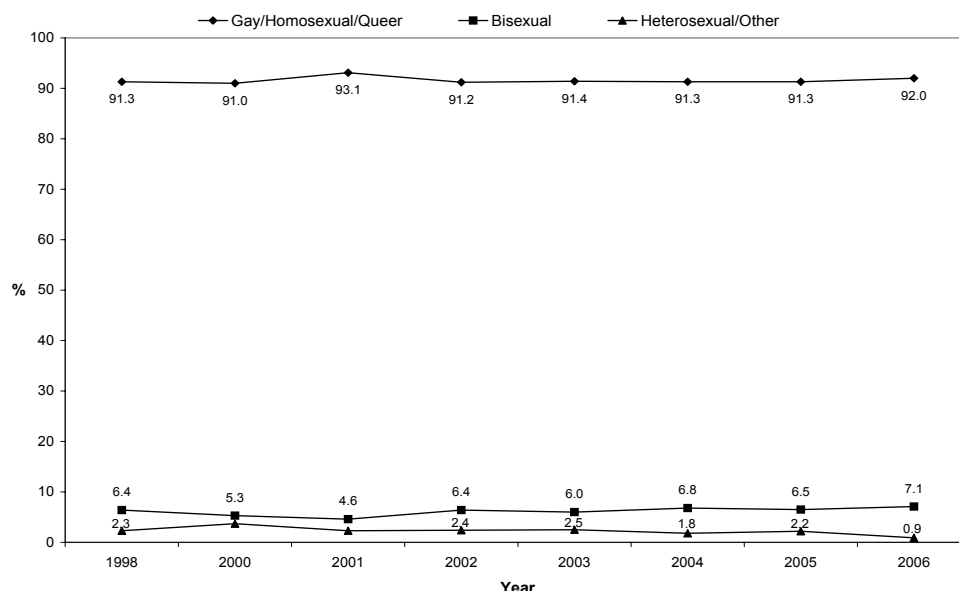


Figure 10: Sexual identity

## Gay community involvement

As in the seven previous surveys, men in the 2006 sample were highly socially involved with gay men, although there have been slight changes over time (see

Figure 11). Almost half of the men said that ‘most or all’ of their friends were gay men and just over half reported that ‘some’ or ‘a few’ of their friends were gay. Over time there has been a significant downward trend in the proportion of men who reported that ‘most or all’ of their friends were gay (Mantel-Haenszel,  $p < .001$ ).

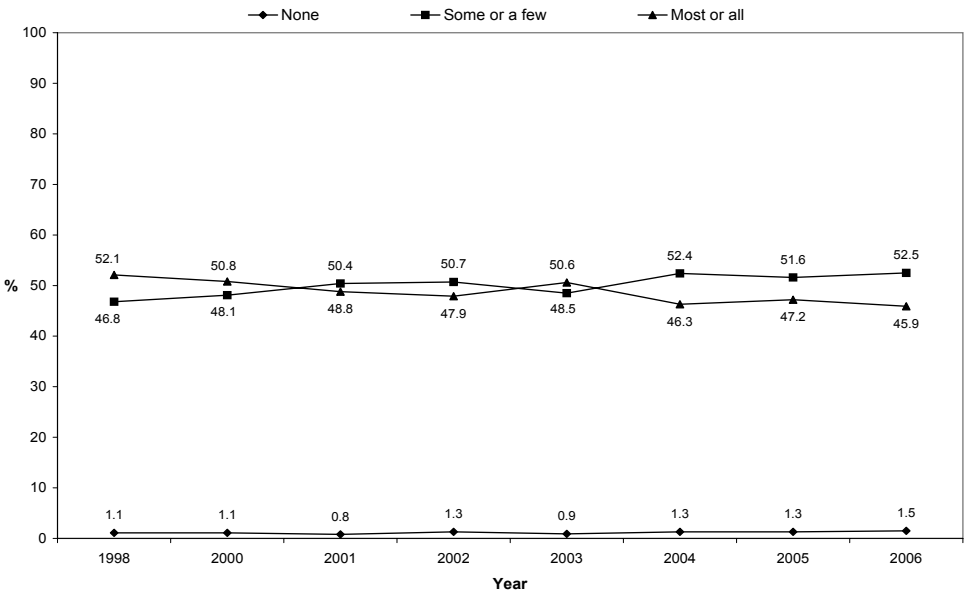


Figure 11: Proportion of friends who are gay

Correspondingly, in all eight surveys, over 80% of the men said that they spent ‘some’ or ‘a lot’ of their free time with gay men (see Figure 12). However, since 2001 there has been a slight though significant decrease in the proportion of men who spent ‘a lot’ of their free time with gay men (Mantel-Haenszel,  $p < .001$ ) and a corresponding increase in the proportion who spent ‘some’ (Mantel-Haenszel,  $p > .05$ ) or ‘a little’ (Mantel-Haenszel,  $p > .05$ ) of their free time with gay men. A similar change was also found among gay men in Perth (Hull et al., 2005) and Queensland (Hull et al., 2006b).

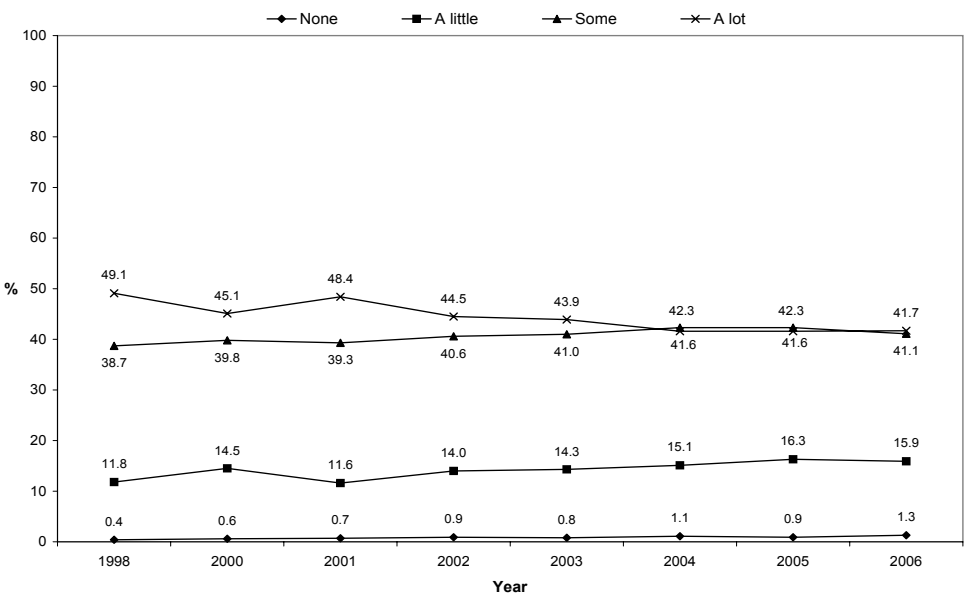


Figure 12: Proportion of free time spent with gay men



# HIV testing and serostatus

Most of the men in each of the samples had been tested for antibodies to HIV, and the serostatus of these men was predominantly HIV-negative (see Figure 13). The respective proportions of men in the sample who knew they were HIV-positive or HIV-negative have remained steady across the eight study periods. The percentage of men who had not been tested or had not obtained their test results—about 16% in the most recent survey—has also been steady over this period.

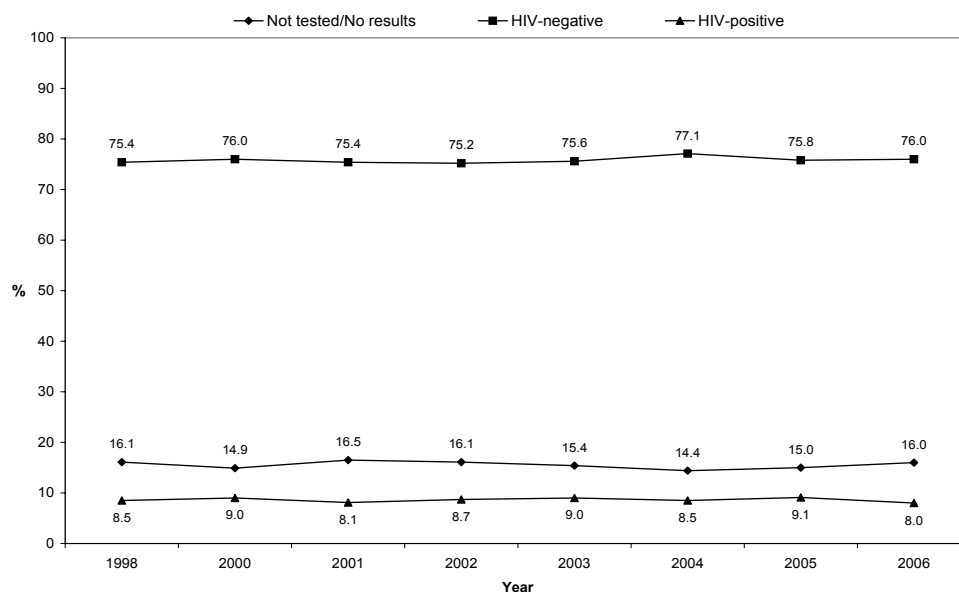
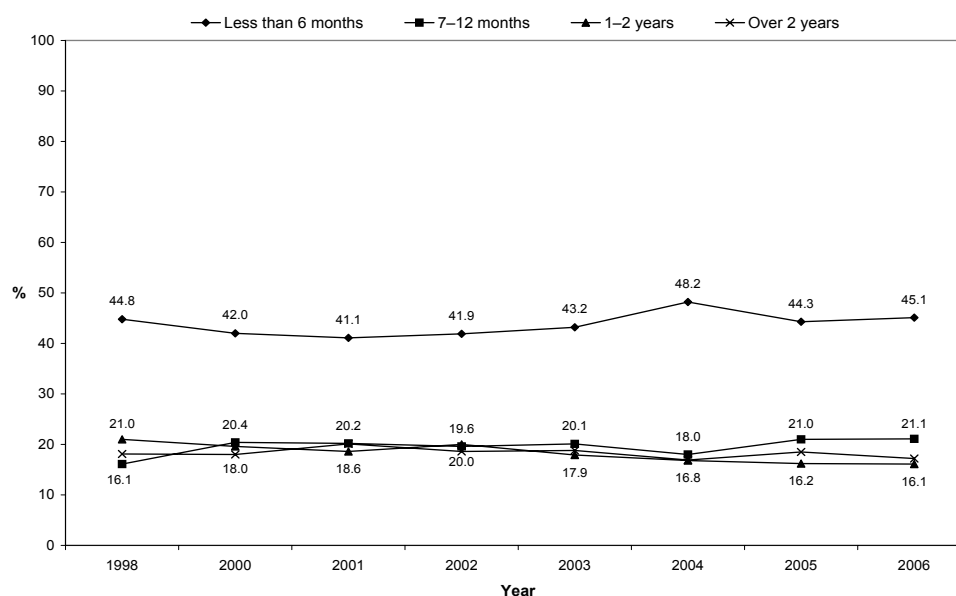


Figure 13: HIV test results

## Time since most recent HIV antibody test

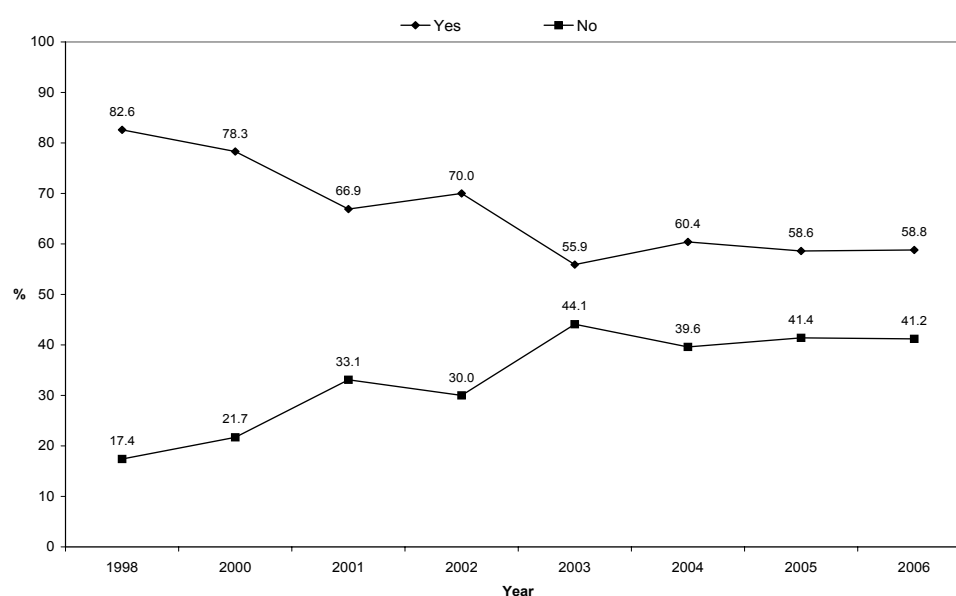
Among the non-HIV-positive men who had 'ever' had an HIV antibody test, about two-thirds had had a test within the previous 12 months (see Figure 14). Analysis of the 'less than six months' and '7–12 months' groups combined shows that the proportion of men who had been tested in the 12 months prior to the survey has increased significantly from the 2002 survey onwards (Mantel-Haenszel,  $p < .01$ ). This increase has mainly occurred among those who reported having a test 7 to 12 months ago, suggesting that most men who are tested for HIV are being tested once a year.



**Figure 14: Time since most recent HIV test, among men who had not tested HIV-positive**

## Combination antiretroviral therapies

In 2006 almost 60% of the HIV-positive men reported that they were taking combination antiretroviral therapies (see Figure 15). This proportion is slightly lower than that reported in Sydney and Brisbane in 2005 (Rawstorne et al., 2005). Over the five survey periods from 2002 there has been no significant change in the proportion of HIV-positive men who reported that they were on combination antiretroviral therapy.

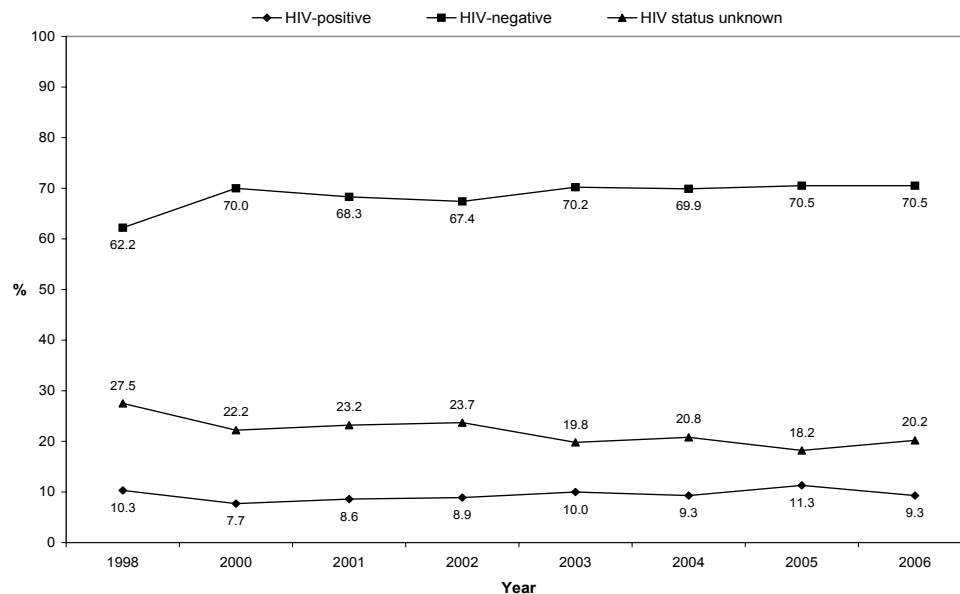


**Figure 15: Use of combination antiretroviral therapies**



## Regular partner's HIV status

Participants were asked about the serostatus of their current regular partner (see Figure 16). As the question referred only to current partners, fewer men responded to this item than indicated sex with a regular partner during the six months prior to the survey. The majority (about 70%) of the men in a regular relationship reported having a partner who was HIV-negative and just under 10% were with a partner who was HIV-positive. Approximately 20% had a regular partner whose serostatus they did not know. Trend analysis over the five survey periods from 2002 shows there has been no significant change in the pattern of HIV status among participants' regular partners.



**Figure 16: HIV status of regular partner**

The 2006 survey revealed no significant changes from the previous survey in the percentages of HIV-positive men with an HIV-negative regular partner, with an HIV-positive regular partner or with a regular partner of unknown serostatus. The percentage of HIV-positive respondents with an HIV-positive partner was about 55% and the percentage of HIV-positive respondents with an HIV-negative partner was about 39% (see Table 1). HIV-negative respondents were predominantly in seroconcordant relationships and the proportion was similar to the previous year. However, the proportion of HIV-negative respondents with an HIV-positive regular partner was slightly, though significantly, lower than that reported in 2005 and more of these men were in a relationship with a partner of unknown serostatus ( $p < .05$ ). As in the seven previous surveys, men without knowledge of their own serostatus tended not to know the serostatus of their regular partner or had an HIV-negative regular partner. The numbers involved in these analyses, particularly the number of HIV-positive men and the number of men with HIV-positive partners, are small and so should be interpreted with caution.

Table 1: Match of HIV status in regular relationships

Serostatus of regular partner	Respondent's HIV status		
	HIV-positive n (%)	HIV-negative n (%)	Unknown n (%)
<b>2000</b>			
HIV-positive	25 (37.9)	30 (5.0)	2 (2.6)
HIV-negative	37 (56.0)	458 (75.9)	29 (37.7)
HIV status unknown	4 (6.1)	115 (19.1)	46 (59.7)
<b>Total (N = 746)</b>	<b>66 (100)</b>	<b>603 (100)</b>	<b>77 (100)</b>
<b>2001</b>			
HIV-positive	37 (45.1)	44 (5.7)	2 (1.8)
HIV-negative	40 (48.8)	578 (74.7)	42 (37.8)
HIV status unknown	5 (6.1)	152 (19.6)	67 (60.4)
<b>Total (N = 967)</b>	<b>82 (100)</b>	<b>774 (100)</b>	<b>111 (100)</b>
<b>2002</b>			
HIV-positive	30 (36.6)	42 (5.9)	7 (6.3)
HIV-negative	43 (52.4)	521 (73.6)	42 (37.8)
HIV status unknown	9 (11.0)	145 (20.5)	62 (55.9)
<b>Total (N = 919)</b>	<b>82 (100)</b>	<b>708 (100)</b>	<b>111 (100)</b>
<b>2003</b>			
HIV-positive	34 (38.2)	57 (7.1)	10 (8.4)
HIV-negative	47 (52.8)	617 (76.6)	47 (39.5)
HIV status unknown	8 (9.0)	131 (16.3)	62 (52.1)
<b>Total (N = 1013)</b>	<b>89 (100)</b>	<b>805 (100)</b>	<b>119 (100)</b>
<b>2004</b>			
HIV-positive	44 (51.8)	42 (5.4)	5 (4.2)
HIV-negative	35 (41.2)	606 (78.6)	41 (34.2)
HIV status unknown	6 (7.1)	123 (16.0)	74 (61.7)
<b>Total (N = 976)</b>	<b>85 (100)</b>	<b>771 (100)</b>	<b>120 (100)</b>
<b>2005</b>			
HIV-positive	38 (43.7)	51 (7.6)	7 (7.4)
HIV-negative	41 (47.1)	512 (76.1)	49 (52.1)
HIV status unknown	8 (9.2)	110 (16.3)	38 (40.4)
<b>Total (N = 854)</b>	<b>87 (100)</b>	<b>673 (100)</b>	<b>94 (100)</b>
<b>2006</b>			
HIV-positive	53 (54.6)	38 (4.8)	6 (4.1)
HIV-negative	38 (39.2)	635 (79.6)	61 (41.5)
HIV status unknown	6 (6.2)	125 (15.7)	80 (54.4)
<b>Total (N = 1042)</b>	<b>97 (100)</b>	<b>798 (100)</b>	<b>147 (100)</b>

Note: Includes only those men who had a regular partner at the time of completing the survey.

# Sexual practice and 'safe sex'

## Sexual behaviour between men

Participants were asked to report on a limited range of sexual practices, categorised according to whether they occurred with regular or casual partners: oral intercourse with and without ejaculation, and protected and unprotected anal intercourse with and without ejaculation. Based on the responses to the sexual behaviour items and the sorts of sexual relationships with men indicated by the participants, almost two-thirds of the men in all eight surveys were classified as having had sex with a regular male partner. The proportions of men who had had sexual contact with both regular and casual partners have been quite steady across the eight study periods (Figure 17). In the 2006 survey a slightly higher proportion of men reported having had sex with a regular partner and a slightly lower proportion reported having had sex with casual partners, with both proportions being almost identical, but this change was not significant in comparison with the previous year.

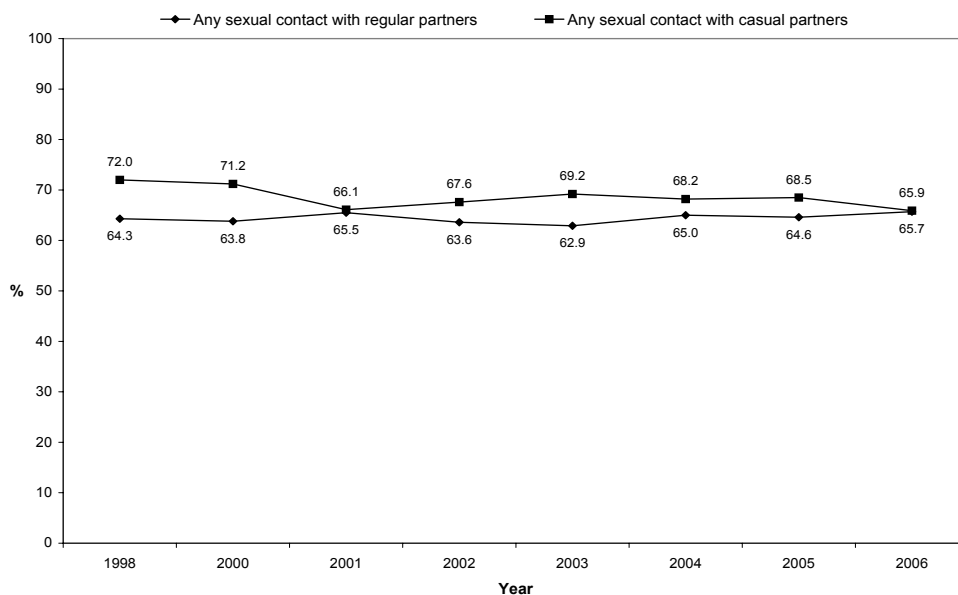


Figure 17: Sex with male partners in the six months prior to the survey

As in the previous seven surveys, men recruited at Midsumma Carnival were more likely to have had regular partners and less likely to have had casual partners than their counterparts recruited at sex-on-premises and social venues or clinics (see Table 2). Such a finding is not surprising, as men attending the gay venues, particularly the sex-on-premises venues, do so mainly to find casual sex partners. The proportion of men recruited at gay venues and sexual health clinics who reported having had sexual contact with casual partners was similar to that observed in all previous years except 2005, when a higher proportion was recorded.

**Table 2: Sex with male partners in the six months prior to the survey, by recruitment site**

<b>Sexual contact</b>	<b>Midsumma Carnival n (%)</b>	<b>Venues and clinics n (%)</b>
<b>2000</b>		
Any sexual contact with regular partners	684 (68.5)	323 (55.7)
Any sexual contact with casual partners	618 (61.9)	505 (87.1)
<b>Total (N = 1578)</b>	<b>998</b>	<b>580</b>
<b>2001</b>		
Any sexual contact with regular partners	894 (69.8)	305 (55.8)
Any sexual contact with casual partners	780 (60.9)	428 (78.2)
<b>Total (N = 1830)</b>	<b>1281</b>	<b>547</b>
<b>2002</b>		
Any sexual contact with regular partners	848 (67.8)	345 (55.0)
Any sexual contact with casual partners	768 (61.4)	500 (79.7)
<b>Total (N = 1877)</b>	<b>1250</b>	<b>627</b>
<b>2003</b>		
Any sexual contact with regular partners	960 (67.2)	338 (53.2)
Any sexual contact with casual partners	922 (64.5)	507 (79.8)
<b>Total (N = 2064)</b>	<b>1429</b>	<b>635</b>
<b>2004</b>		
Any sexual contact with regular partners	939 (67.8)	337 (58.3)
Any sexual contact with casual partners	882 (63.7)	456 (78.9)
<b>Total (N = 1962)</b>	<b>1384</b>	<b>578</b>
<b>2005</b>		
Any sexual contact with regular partners	823 (69.5)	342 (55.2)
Any sexual contact with casual partners	722 (61.0)	513 (82.7)
<b>Total (N = 1804)</b>	<b>1184</b>	<b>620</b>
<b>2006</b>		
Any sexual contact with regular partners	956 (69.8)	331 (57.4)
Any sexual contact with casual partners	828 (60.5)	452 (78.3)
<b>Total (N = 1946)</b>	<b>1369</b>	<b>577</b>

Note: These categories are not mutually exclusive.

The majority of the men had engaged in sex with between one and 10 partners in the six months prior to the survey (see Figure 18). The proportion of men who reported having had one sexual partner in the six months prior to the survey has increased slightly, though significantly, from the 2002 survey onwards (Mantel-Haenszel,  $p < .01$ ), while the proportion who reported having had more than 50 partners has decreased slightly (Mantel-Haenszel,  $p < .05$ ). Over the same period there have been no significant changes in the proportions of men who had had none, two to 10, or 11 to 50 partners. The changes over time were largely influenced by changes since the previous survey in 2005.

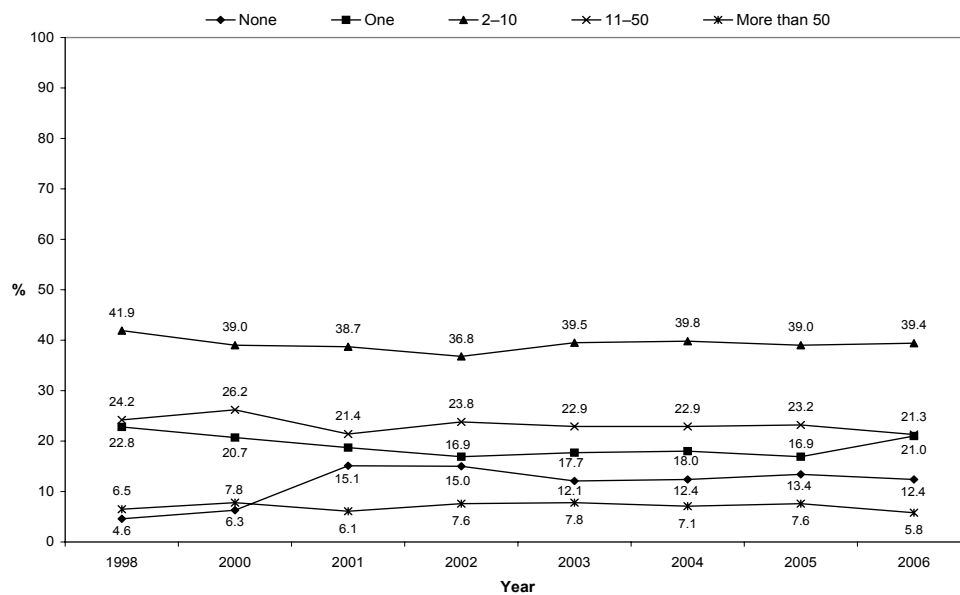


Figure 18: Number of male sex partners in the six months prior to the survey

## Overview of sexual practices with regular and casual partners

Almost two-thirds of the men with regular male partners had engaged in oral intercourse with ejaculation with their partners, and were equally likely to have done so in the insertive as in the receptive position (see Figure 19). This pattern has been consistent across the eight study periods. Since 2002 there has been a slight, though significant, upward trend in the proportion of men who had engaged in any oral intercourse with their regular partners, as well as in either insertive-only or receptive-only oral intercourse (Mantel-Haenszel,  $p < .01$ ).

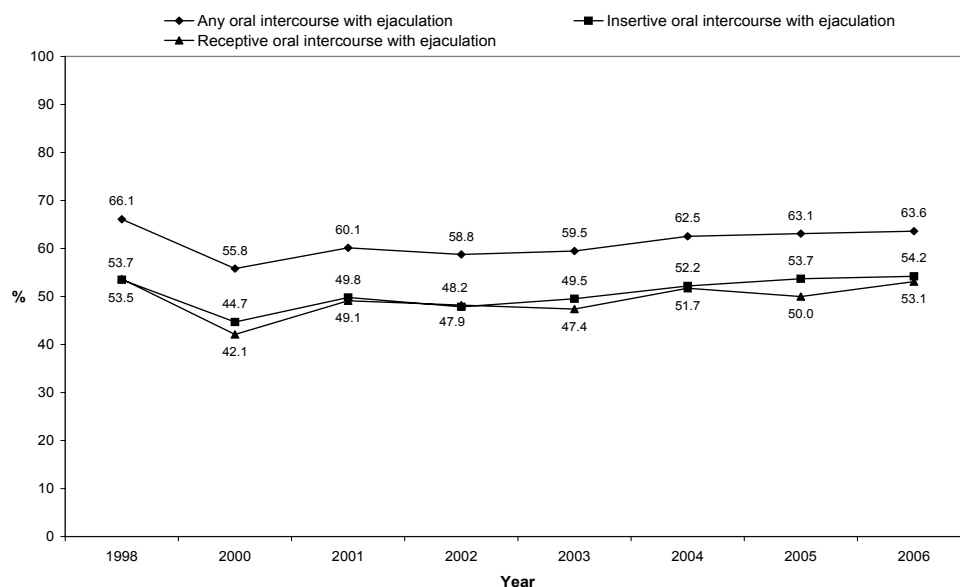
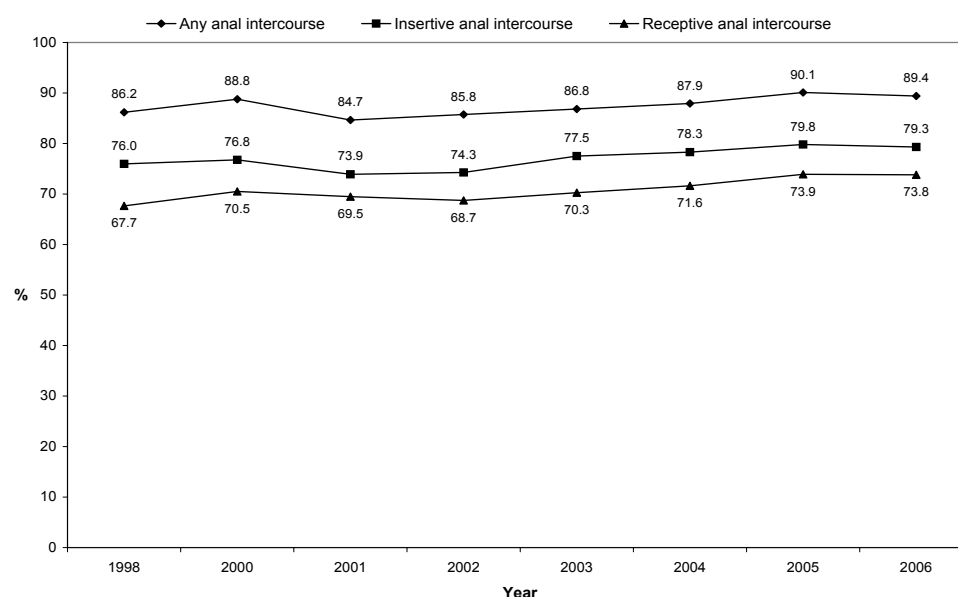


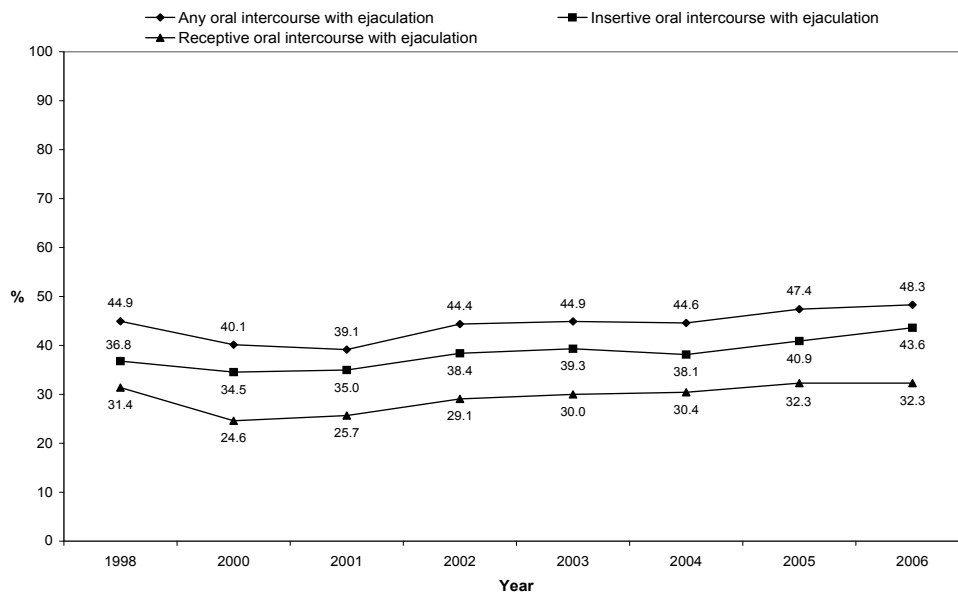
Figure 19: Positioning in oral intercourse with ejaculation with regular male partners in the six months prior to the survey

Most respondents with regular male partners had engaged in anal intercourse with their partners. Almost 80% of the men with regular partners reported having engaged in insertive anal intercourse, while a slightly lower proportion, about 74%, reported having had receptive anal intercourse (see Figure 20). This discrepancy may suggest a slight bias towards reporting anal intercourse as having been insertive rather than receptive. From the 2002 survey onwards there has been an upward trend in the proportion of men who reported any anal intercourse with regular partners (Mantel-Haenszel,  $p < .001$ ), including in the proportions who reported receptive (Mantel-Haenszel,  $p < .01$ ) and insertive (Mantel-Haenszel,  $p < .01$ ) anal intercourse with regular partners. However, there has been no significant change in these proportions since the previous survey in 2005.

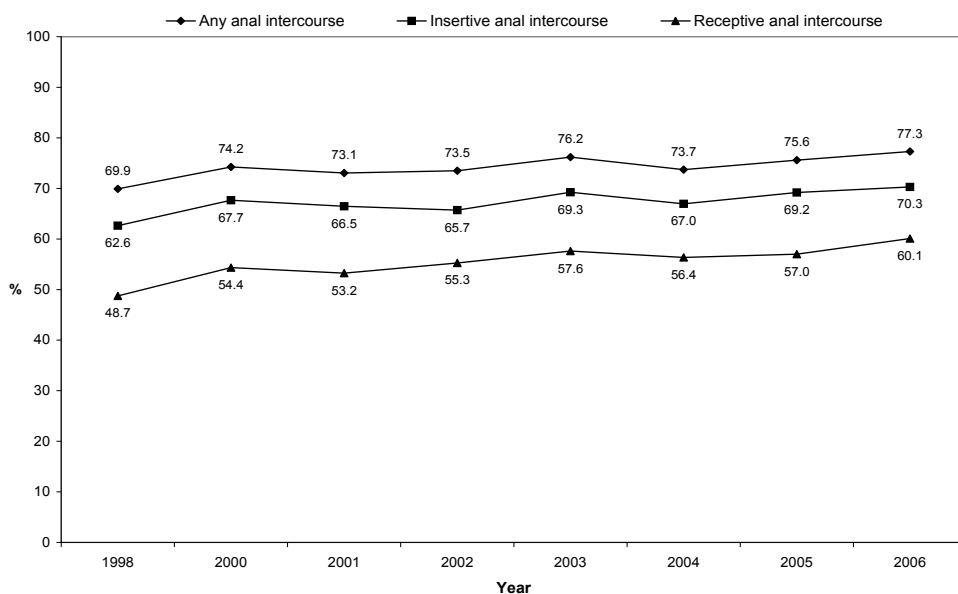


**Figure 20: Positioning in anal intercourse with regular male partners in the six months prior to the survey**

Fewer respondents had engaged in either oral intercourse with ejaculation, or anal intercourse, with casual male partners than with regular male partners (see Figures 19 and 20 for the data pertaining to regular partners and Figures 21 and 22 for the data pertaining to casual partners). The percentages of men who reported receptive or insertive oral intercourse with ejaculation with their casual partners has not changed significantly since the previous survey in 2005. However, over the five survey periods from 2002 there were significant upward trends in the proportions of men who engaged in insertive or receptive oral intercourse (Mantel-Haenszel,  $p < .01$  and  $p < 0.05$ , respectively). Just over three-quarters of the men who had had sex with casual male partners had engaged in anal intercourse with those partners, and again more usually in the insertive than the receptive position (see Figure 22). While the observed increase in any anal intercourse with casual partners over the past five study periods was not statistically significant, there were statistically significant upward trends in the proportions who engaged in receptive and insertive anal intercourse over this period (Mantel-Haenszel,  $p < .05$ ).



**Figure 21: Positioning in oral intercourse with ejaculation with casual male partners in the six months prior to the survey**



**Figure 22: Positioning in anal intercourse with casual male partners in the six months prior to the survey**

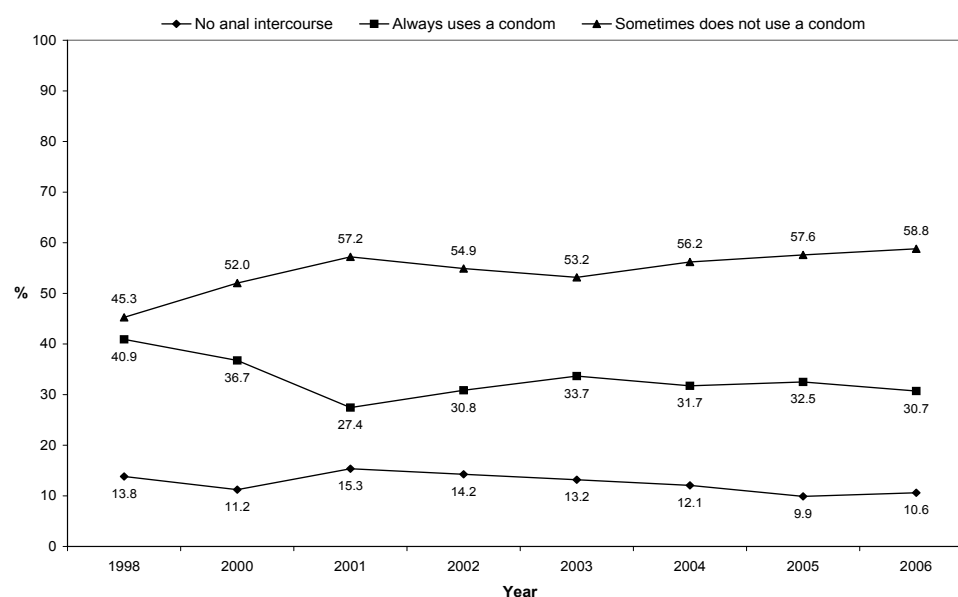
## Sex with regular male partners

### Condom use

The proportion of men who reported having been in a regular relationship in the six months prior to the survey has remained quite steady across the past five study periods, while the proportion of men who had had a regular partner but had not engaged in any anal intercourse has decreased significantly over this period (Mantel-Haenszel,  $p < .001$ ). In 2006 the percentage of men who had engaged in any unprotected anal intercourse (UAI) with their regular male partners in the six months prior to the survey was not significantly different from that reported in 2005 (see Figure 23). Similarly, there was no significant change in the proportion of men who indicated that they always used condoms. The proportion of men who had always

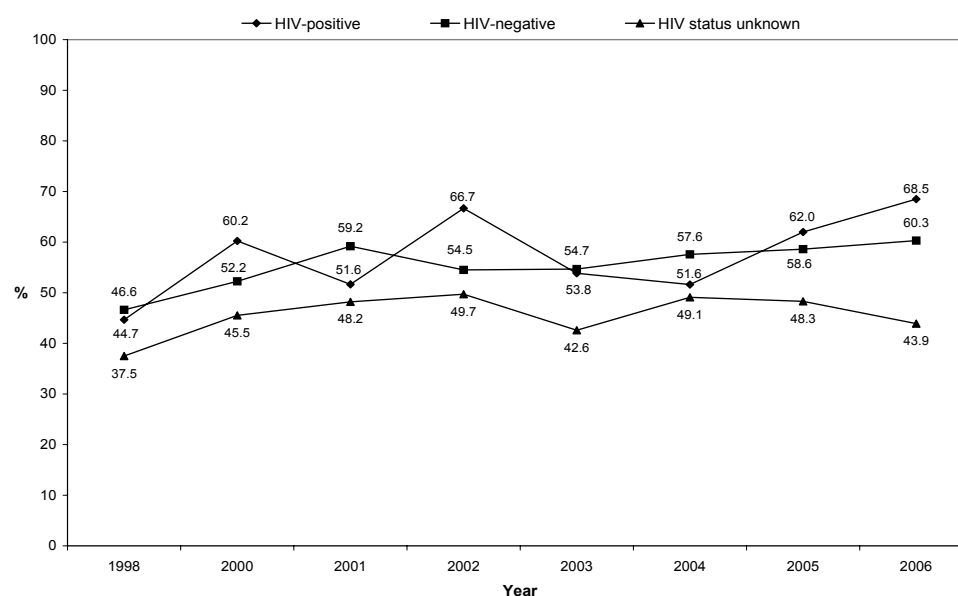


used condoms when having sex with a regular partner has not changed significantly over the five survey periods from 2002.



**Figure 23: Condom use with regular male partners in the six months prior to the survey**

From the 2002 survey onwards there have been no significant changes in the proportions of HIV-negative men, HIV-positive men or men of unknown serostatus who had engaged in unprotected anal intercourse with their regular partners (see Figure 24). In 2006, men of unknown HIV status were significantly less likely to have had unprotected anal intercourse with their regular partners than were HIV-positive men or HIV-negative men ( $p < .001$ ). There were also no differences in the proportions of HIV-positive and HIV-negative men who always used condoms when engaging in anal intercourse with regular partners. However, men of unknown HIV status were more likely than HIV-positive men and HIV-negative men always to use condoms when engaging in anal intercourse with regular partners ( $p < .001$ ). Comparisons with trends in condom use in HIV-positive men should be treated cautiously as these trends are based on small numbers.



**Figure 24: Proportion of men who sometimes did not use condoms with regular male partners in the six months prior to the survey, by serostatus**

In Table 3 the serostatus of each of the participants who had had anal intercourse with a regular partner has been compared with that of his regular partner. For each of the nine serostatus combinations, sexual practice has been divided into 'no unprotected anal intercourse' and 'some unprotected anal intercourse'. The numbers overall are small and these figures should be treated with caution.

HIV-positive men were less likely to have had unprotected anal intercourse with HIV-negative partners or partners of unknown serostatus than with HIV-positive partners ( $p < .001$ ). HIV-negative men were more likely to have had unprotected anal intercourse with HIV-negative partners than with HIV-positive partners or partners of unknown serostatus ( $p < .001$ ). Whereas much of the unprotected anal intercourse occurred between seroconcordant (positive–positive or negative–negative) couples, 114 men in 2006 had had unprotected anal intercourse in a relationship where seroconcordance was absent or in doubt. Separate analyses of these 114 men showed that 57 of them had never used condoms for anal intercourse with their regular partners (i.e. all anal intercourse with their regular partners took place without condoms).

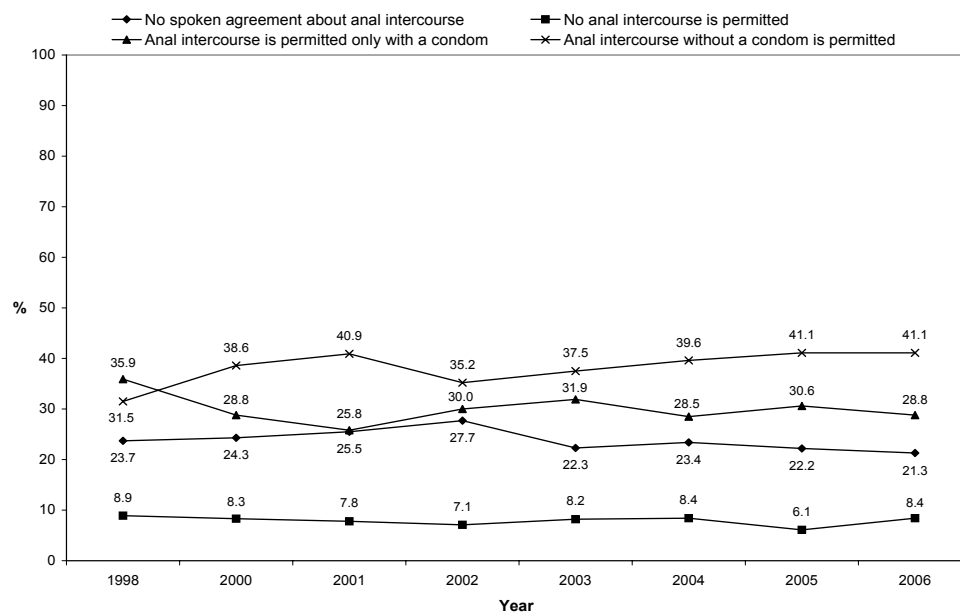
**Table 3: Unprotected anal intercourse and match of HIV serostatus in regular relationships**

Regular partner's serostatus	Unprotected anal intercourse	Participant's serostatus		
		HIV-positive n (%)	HIV-negative n (%)	Unknown n (%)
2000				
HIV-positive	None	1 (6.7)	8 (40.0)	–
	Some	14 (93.3)	12 (60.0)	–
HIV-negative	None	10 (40.0)	67 (23.5)	5 (21.7)
	Some	15 (60.0)	218 (76.5)	18 (78.3)
Unknown	None	–	19 (38.0)	6 (30.0)
	Some		31 (62.0)	14 (70.0)
2001				
HIV-positive	None	4 (17.4)	13 (44.8)	–
	Some	19 (82.6)	16 (55.2)	–
HIV-negative	None	16 (72.7)	62 (15.8)	10 (35.7)
	Some	6 (27.3)	330 (84.2)	18 (64.3)
Unknown	None	–	20 (29.4)	7 (21.9)
	Some	2 (100.0)	48 (70.6)	25 (78.1)
2002				
HIV-positive	None	4 (16.0)	14 (48.3)	1 (25.0)
	Some	21 (84.0)	15 (51.7)	3 (75.0)
HIV-negative	None	8 (30.8)	86 (24.6)	5 (23.8)
	Some	18 (69.2)	263 (75.4)	16 (76.2)
Unknown	None	–	12 (22.2)	6 (20.7)
	Some	4 (100.0)	42 (77.8)	23 (79.3)
2003				
HIV-positive	None	3 (13)	14 (43.8)	4 (57.1)
	Some	20 (87.0)	18 (56.3)	3 (42.9)
HIV-negative	None	19 (65.5)	97 (24.1)	5 (20.0)
	Some	10 (34.5)	305 (75.9)	20 (80.0)
Unknown	None	1 (33.3)	23 (44.2)	14 (56.0)
	Some	2 (66.7)	29 (55.8)	11 (44.0)
2004				
HIV-positive	None	8 (28.6)	14 (50.0)	
	Some	20 (71.4)	14 (50.0)	1 (100.0)
HIV-negative	None	15 (68.2)	93 (22.4)	5 (21.7)
	Some	7 (31.8)	322 (77.6)	18 (78.3)
Unknown	None	1 (33.3)	10 (21.7)	11 (39.3)
	Some	2 (66.7)	36 (78.3)	17 (60.7)
2005				
HIV-positive	None	4 (15.4)	13 (50.0)	1 (25.0)
	Some	22 (84.6)	13 (50.0%)	3 (75.0)
HIV-negative	None	17 (54.8%)	79 (21.9)	18 (31.0)
	Some	14 (45.2)	282 (78.1)	40 (69.0)
Unknown	None	–	8 (28.6)	11 (57.9)
	Some	4 (100)	20 (71.4)	8 (42.1)
2006				
HIV-positive	None	4 (9.8)	14 (51.9)	1 (100)
	Some	37 (90.2)	13 (48.1)	–
HIV-negative	None	11 (45.8)	83 (19.0)	12 (41.4)
	Some	13 (54.2)	353 (81.0)	17 (58.6)
Unknown	None	2 (100)	17 (27.0)	14 (35.9)
	Some	–	46 (73.0)	25 (64.1)

Note: This analysis includes only those men who had had anal intercourse with their 'current' regular partner in the six months prior to the survey.

## Agreements

Most participants who had a regular male partner at the time of completing the survey (about 60% of the men in the sample) had an agreement with their partner about sex within the relationship (see Figure 25). In 2006 there was no significant change from the previous survey in the proportions of men in each of the agreement categories. Approximately 40% of respondents had agreements allowing anal intercourse without condoms within the relationship, while about 30% allowed anal intercourse only with condoms. Analysis of trends from the 2002 survey onwards shows that there has been a significant downward trend in the proportion of men who did not have spoken agreements with their regular partners (Mantel-Haenszel,  $p < .01$ ), although there has been little change since 2003. Conversely, over this time there has been a significant increase in the proportion of men who had agreements that allowed anal intercourse without condoms with regular partners (Mantel-Haenszel,  $p < .01$ ).



**Figure 25: Agreements with regular male partners about sex *within* the relationship**

Most participants had a spoken agreement about sex outside the relationship but just over a quarter of the men had no such agreement (see Figure 26). The majority of these agreements either specified no sexual contact with casual partners (38%) or allowed anal intercourse with casual partners only on the condition that condoms were used (24%). Over the five survey periods from 2002 there has been a significant decrease in the proportion of men who did not have agreements with their regular partners about sex outside the relationship (Mantel-Haenszel,  $p < .05$ ). Conversely, there has been a significant increase in the proportion of men who had agreements that did not allow sexual contact with casual partners (Mantel-Haenszel,  $p < .01$ ). There have been no significant changes in the proportions of men in any of the other agreement categories.

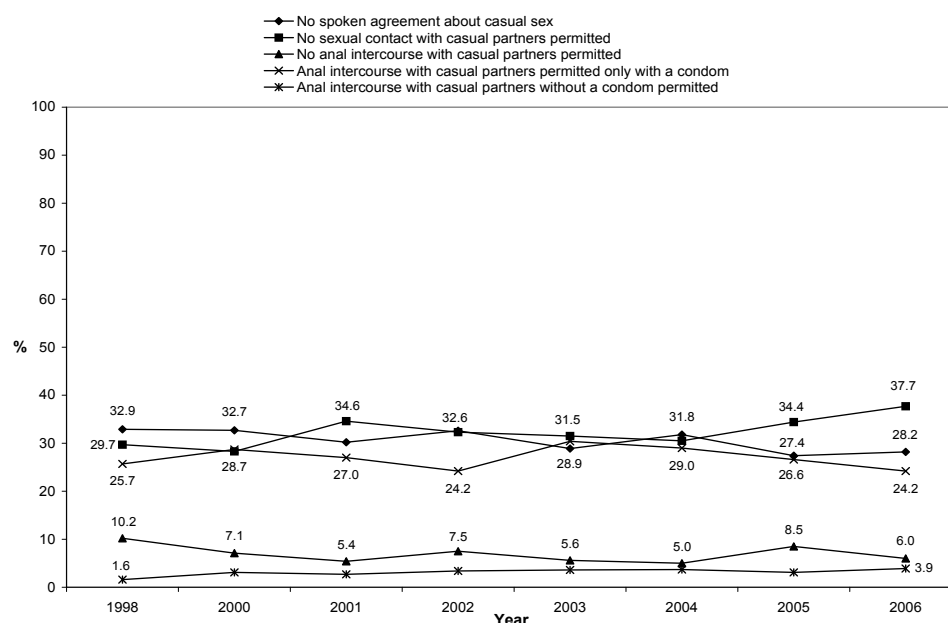


Figure 26: Agreements with regular male partners about sex *outside* the relationship

## Sex with casual male partners

### Condom use

Of the men who had had casual male partners, about 30% had engaged in any unprotected anal intercourse with those casual partners (UAIC) in the six months prior to the survey, and about half had always used condoms (see Figure 27). There have been no significant changes from the previous survey or since 2002 in the proportions of men who sometimes did not use condoms, always used condoms or did not have anal intercourse with casual partners in the six months prior to the survey.

A separate analysis revealed that, of the 381 men who reported having engaged in UAIC in 2006, 182 had also engaged in unprotected anal intercourse with regular partners (UAIR). Among these 182 men, 40 were HIV-positive and 22 of these HIV-positive men (55%) were in a regular relationship with an HIV-positive partner.

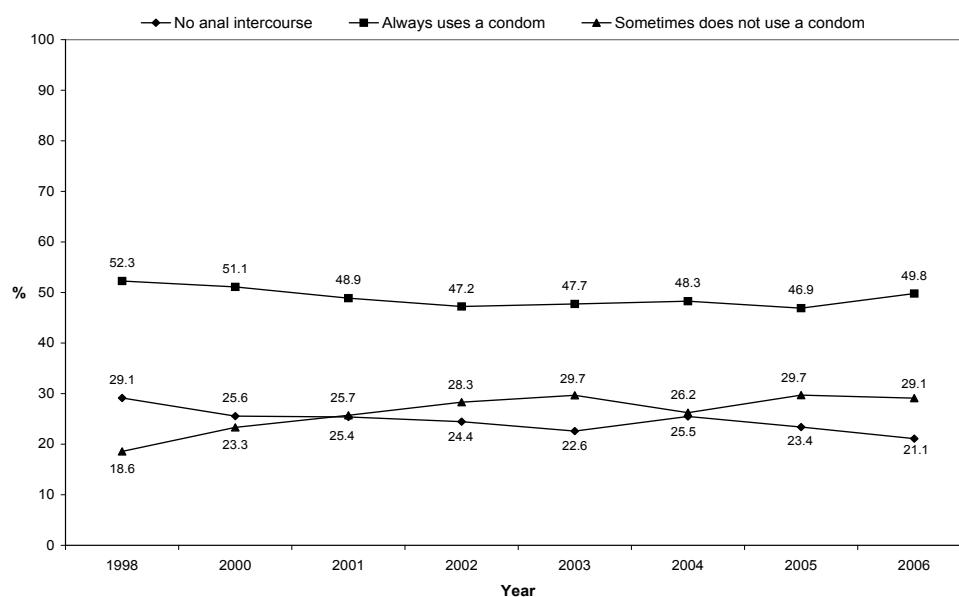
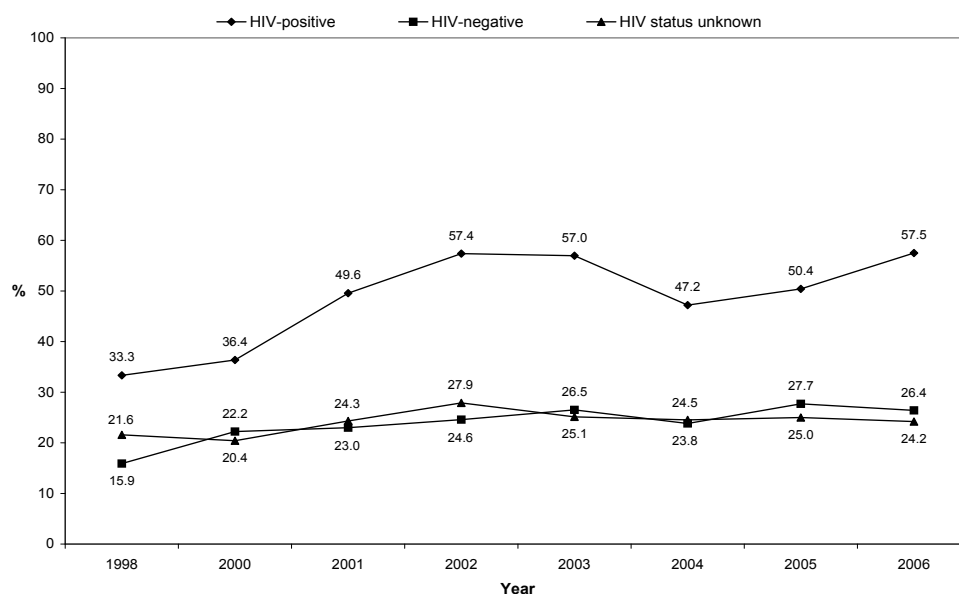


Figure 27: Condom use with casual male partners in the six months prior to the survey

A comparison of the data in Figures 23 and 27 confirms that more men had had unprotected anal intercourse with regular than with casual partners. Furthermore, unprotected anal intercourse with ejaculation inside was more common within regular relationships than with casual partners.

As in the previous five surveys, there were statistically significant differences between HIV-positive men, HIV-negative men and men of unknown serostatus in their condom use with casual partners (see Figure 28). A higher proportion of HIV-positive men had engaged in UAIC than men who were HIV-negative or whose HIV serostatus was unknown ( $p < .001$ ). From the 2002 survey onwards there have been no changes in the proportions of HIV-positive men, HIV-negative men and men of unknown serostatus who had engaged in UAIC. Some of the UAIC practised by HIV-positive men may be explained by positive-positive sex (Prestage et al., 1995; Rawstorne et al., 2006).

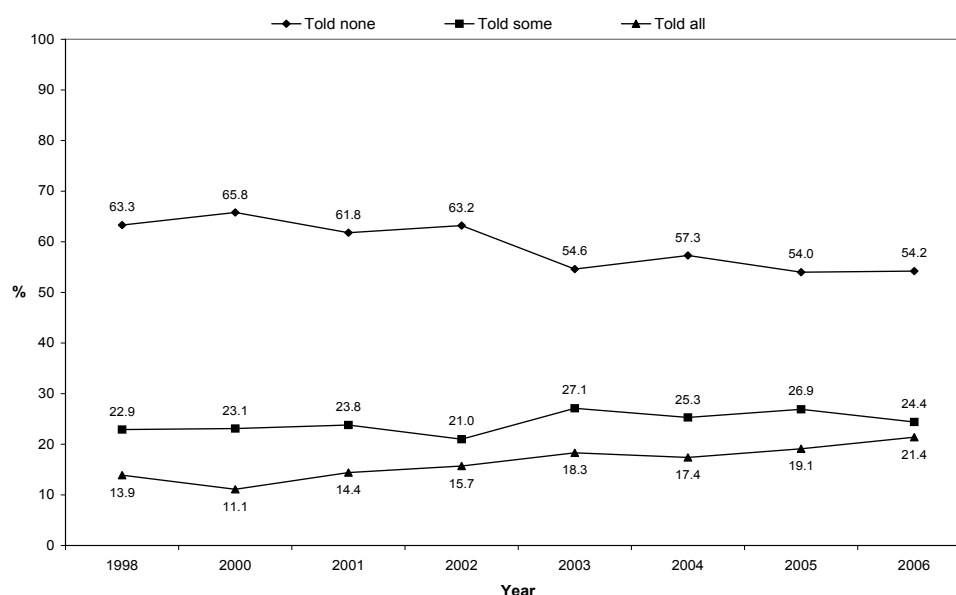


**Figure 28: Unprotected anal intercourse with casual male partners in the six months prior to the survey, by serostatus**

## Disclosure of serostatus

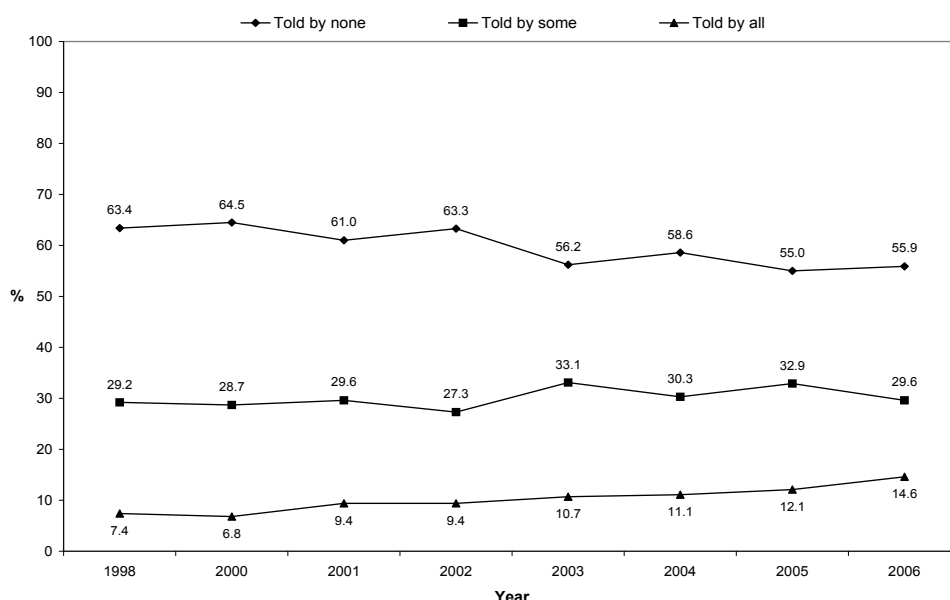
Questions 32 and 33 were included in the questionnaire to obtain a sense of how many casual partners disclosed their serostatus to each other. Many more questions—well beyond the scope of the brief questionnaire used here—would need to be asked to fully understand the issue. Furthermore, the inclusion of the two questions was not intended to endorse sexual negotiation between casual partners.

The majority of participants who had had casual partners had not disclosed their serostatus to any of their casual partners (see Figure 29). While there was no significant change from 2005, from the 2002 survey onwards there has been a significant decrease in the proportion of men who 'told none' of their casual partners their HIV status (Mantel-Haenszel,  $p < .001$ ). Conversely, over the same period there has been a significant increase in the proportion of men who 'told all' of their casual partners their HIV status (Mantel-Haenszel,  $p < .001$ ).



**Figure 29: Participants' disclosure of serostatus to casual male partners in the six months prior to the survey**

Over half of the men who had had casual partners had not been told the serostatus of those partners in the context of sex (see Figure 30). Although there were no significant changes from the previous survey in the proportions in each of the disclosure categories, from the 2002 survey onwards there has been a significant decrease in the proportion of respondents to whom casual partners never disclosed their HIV status (Mantel-Haenszel,  $p < .001$ ). Conversely, there has been a significant upward trend over the same period in the proportion of respondents to whom casual partners always disclosed their HIV status (Mantel-Haenszel,  $p < .001$ ).



**Figure 30: Casual male partners' disclosure of serostatus to participants in the six months prior to the survey**

## Awareness of an STI epidemic

An additional question (Question 55) was included in the questionnaire in 2005 to assess gay men's understanding of current trends in the incidence rates of sexually transmissible infections (STIs). Almost three-quarters of the men who answered the question in 2006 were aware that these rates in Melbourne were increasing (see Table 4). The responses to this question were not significantly different to those reported in 2005.

**Table 4: Responses to the statement, 'STIs among gay men in Melbourne are ...'**

	<b>... increasing n (%)</b>	<b>... stable n (%)</b>	<b>... decreasing n (%)</b>	<b>Total n (%)</b>
2005	1212 (72.8)	404 (24.3)	48 (2.9)	1664 (100)
2006	1341 (73.4)	423 (23.2)	62 (3.4)	1826 (100)



## Where men looked for sex partners

There was little change from the previous survey in the proportions of men who looked for male sex partners in the types of venues listed. Around two-thirds of the men who responded to the question had looked for male sex partners in gay bars. Just under half of the men had looked for male sex partners in gay saunas and about a third had looked in other sex venues (see Table 5).

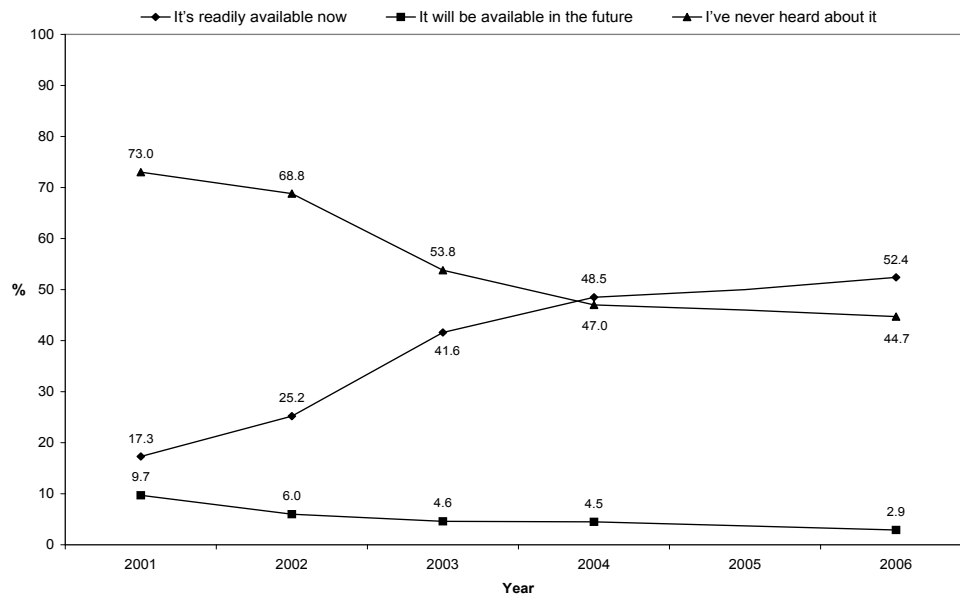
**Table 5: Where men looked for sex partners**

Venue	Year <i>n</i> (%)	Never <i>n</i> (%)	Occasionally <i>n</i> (%)	Often <i>n</i> (%)	Total <i>N</i> (%)
Internet	2002	778 (52.9)	519 (35.3)	174 (11.8)	1471 (100)
	2003	755 (47.8)	600 (38.0)	225 (14.2)	1580 (100)
	2004	904 (51.1)	614 (34.7)	252 (14.2)	1770 (100)
	2005	661 (43.9)	584 (38.8)	260 (17.3)	1505 (100)
	2006	698 (42.5)	647 (39.4)	297 (18.1)	1642 (100)
Gay bar	2002	495 (31.3)	799 (50.5)	288 (18.2)	1582 (100)
	2003	506 (29.9)	885 (52.2)	304 (17.9)	1695 (100)
	2004	699 (39.5)	796 (44.9)	276 (15.6)	1771 (100)
	2005	517 (33.0)	797 (50.9)	252 (16.1)	1566 (100)
	2006	553 (32.2)	867 (50.5)	298 (17.3)	1718 (100)
Beat	2002	896 (60.3)	432 (29.1)	157 (10.6)	1485 (100)
	2003	959 (61.0)	461 (29.3)	151 (9.6)	1571 (100)
	2004	1207 (68.7)	404 (23.0)	146 (8.3)	1757 (100)
	2005	941 (66.5)	365 (25.8)	108 (7.6)	1414 (100)
	2006	1078 (68.6)	381 (24.2)	113 (7.2)	1572 (100)
Sex venue	2002	645 (40.5)	612 (38.4)	335 (21.0)	1592 (100)
	2003	698 (40.2)	665 (38.3)	375 (21.6)	1738 (100)
	2004	815 (46.0)	619 (34.9)	339 (19.1)	1773 (100)
	2005*	926 (66.5)	337 (24.2)	130 (9.3)	1393 (100)
	2006*	1021 (66.3)	385 (25.0)	133 (8.6)	1539 (100)
Dance party	2003	830 (54.0)	543 (35.3)	164 (10.7)	1537 (100)
	2004	1110 (63.0)	504 (28.6)	149 (8.5)	1763 (100)
	2005	759 (52.7)	536 (37.2)	145 (10.1)	1440 (100)
	2006	835 (53.4)	580 (37.1)	150 (9.6)	1565 (100)
Gym	2002	1144 (81.3)	222 (15.8)	42 (3.0)	1408 (100)
	2005	1072 (77.9)	265 (19.3)	39 (2.8)	1376 (100)
	2006	1168 (78.4)	282 (18.9)	40 (2.7)	1490 (100)
Sex workers	2005	1241 (93.6)	72 (5.4)	13 (1.0)	1326 (100)
	2006	1393 (95.1)	59 (4.0)	13 (0.9)	1465 (100)
Private sex parties	2005	1164 (86.2)	161 (11.9)	25 (1.9)	1350 (100)
	2006	1301 (87.4)	163 (10.9)	25 (1.7)	1489 (100)
Gay sauna	2005	707 (46.4)	619 (40.6)	199 (13.0)	1525 (100)
	2006	852 (51.2)	610 (36.6)	203 (12.2)	1665 (100)

\*Before 2005 the question asking men where they looked for sex partners offered them five options: 'internet', 'gay bar', 'dance party', 'beat' and 'sex venue'. In 2005 the list of options was modified: two venues were added ('gym' and 'gay sauna'), and the option 'sex venues' was changed to 'other sex venues'.

## Knowledge of the availability of post-exposure prophylaxis

Fifty-two per cent of all men surveyed in 2006 were aware that post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) was readily available, which was a significant increase from 2004 ( $p < .001$ ) (see Figure 31). Recognition of the availability of PEP has increased over time from about 17% in 2001 to about 52% in 2006 (Mantel-Haenszel,  $p < .001$ ). Three per cent of respondents did not know that PEP was currently available but believed it would be available in the future.



**Figure 31: Knowledge of the availability of post-exposure prophylaxis**

Note: In 2005 the survey questionnaire did not include an item to gauge participants' knowledge of the availability of PEP.



# Sexual health

In 2006 just over 50% of the total sample had had blood tests for sexually transmissible infections other than HIV in the 12 months prior to the survey (see Table 6). About 34% of the participants reported having had anal swabs, 31% had had penile swabs and almost 40% had undergone a throat swab in the previous 12 months. About 44% of the men in the study had provided a urine sample in the previous 12 months. Since the 2003 survey there have been significant upward trends in the proportions of men who have had anal swabs, throat swabs and penile swabs or provided urine samples (Mantel-Haenszel,  $p < .001$ , all categories). Although upward trends over time are evident for all tests except blood tests, only anal swabs show an increase since the previous survey in 2005 ( $p < .05$ ). In the case of all other tests there was no significant change from the previous survey in 2005.

**Table 6: Sexual health tests for infections other than HIV in the 12 months prior to the survey, among men recruited at all sites**

	2003 <i>n</i> (%)	2004 <i>n</i> (%)	2005 <i>n</i> (%)	2006 <i>n</i> (%)
Anal swab	486 (23.5)	492 (25.1)	550 (30.5)	681 (34.3)
Throat swab	574 (27.8)	611 (31.1)	655 (36.3)	768 (38.6)
Penile swab	475 (23.0)	514 (26.2)	546 (30.3)	617 (31.0)
Urine sample	726 (35.2)	791 (40.3)	800 (44.3)	881 (44.3)
Blood test (other than for HIV)	1055 (51.1)	1039 (53.0)	913 (50.6)	1024 (51.5)

Men were asked to respond to the statement, ‘Men who always use condoms for anal intercourse don’t need to have regular sexual health check-ups.’ Most of the men surveyed appeared to be aware that condoms did not provide complete protection against all sexually transmissible infections and either disagreed or strongly disagreed with the statement (see Table 7). There have been no significant changes in the responses of participants to this statement since it was first included in 2003.

**Table 7: Responses to the statement, 'Men who always use condoms for anal intercourse don't need to have regular sexual health check-ups'**

	<b>Strongly disagree n (%)</b>	<b>Disagree n (%)</b>	<b>Agree n (%)</b>	<b>Strongly agree n (%)</b>
2003 (N = 2064)	904 (44.8)	912 (45.2)	153 (7.6)	48 (2.4)
2004 (N = 1962)	886 (46.9)	863 (45.7)	113 (6.0)	27 (1.4)
2005 (N = 1804)	767 (43.8)	846 (48.3)	90 (5.1)	49 (2.8)
2006 (N = 1988)	939 (48.4)	836 (43.1)	125 (6.4)	40 (2.1)

In 2006 about 81% of the men who were currently using antiretroviral therapies had an undetectable viral load (see Table 8). In comparison, approximately 35% of the men who were not using this treatment had an undetectable viral load ( $p < .001$ ).

**Table 8: Use of combination antiretroviral therapies (ART) and viral load (VL)**

<b>ART</b>	<b>Undetectable VL n (%)</b>	<b>Detectable VL n (%)</b>	<b>Don't know/Unsure n (%)</b>	<b>Total N (%)</b>
<b>2003</b>				
Using treatments	73 (74.5)	22 (22.4)	3 (3.1)	98 (100)
Not using treatments	13 (16.9)	58 (75.3)	6 (7.8)	77 (100)
<b>2004</b>				
Using treatments	68 (72.3)	21 (22.3)	5 (5.3)	94 (100)
Not using treatments	10 (16.4)	45 (73.8)	6 (9.8)	61 (100)
<b>2005</b>				
Using treatments	79 (83.2)	12 (12.6)	4 (4.2)	95 (100)
Not using treatments	7 (11.1)	52 (82.5)	4 (6.3)	63 (100)
<b>2006</b>				
Using treatments	72 (80.9)	13 (14.6)	4 (4.5)	89 (100)
Not using treatments	22 (34.9)	38 (60.3)	3 (4.8)	63 (100)



## Contact with the HIV epidemic

Two questions were added to the 2006 survey asking participants (i) how many people they knew who had HIV and (ii) how many of these people had found out that they had HIV within the 12 months prior to the survey. These questions were introduced to enable analysis of behaviours as a result of contact with the HIV epidemic.

Two-thirds of the men who answered the first question knew at least one person with HIV (see Table 9). Fifteen per cent knew more than five people with HIV.

**Table 9: Number of people with HIV known personally to participant**

	<b><i>n</i> (%)</b>
None	650 (33.3)
One	345 (17.7)
2	305 (15.6)
3–5	363 (18.6)
More than 5	287 (14.7)
<b>Total</b>	<b>1950 (100)</b>

Of the men who answered the second question, almost 80% knew no one who had been diagnosed with HIV in the 12 months prior to the survey (see Table 10). About 4% knew three or more people who had been diagnosed in that period.

**Table 10: Number of people known personally to participant who were diagnosed with HIV in the 12 months prior to the survey**

	<b><i>n</i> (%)</b>
None	1457 (78.2)
One	232 (12.5)
2	108 (5.8)
3–5	42 (2.3)
More than 5	24 (1.3)
<b>Total</b>	<b>1863 (100)</b>

## Drug use

In 2006, as in the previous seven surveys, the recreational drugs most commonly used in the six months prior to the survey were marijuana, amyl/poppers, ecstasy and speed (see Table 11). The proportions of men who had used marijuana, amyl/poppers, steroids or heroin have not changed significantly since 2002. However, the proportions who had used ecstasy (Mantel-Haenszel,  $p < .01$ ), Viagra (Mantel-Haenszel,  $p < .001$ ), cocaine (Mantel-Haenszel,  $p < .05$ ) and crystal meth (Mantel-Haenszel,  $p < .05$ ) have increased significantly over this time. Special K and GHB were reintroduced to the list in 2004 in response to anecdotal evidence of increases in their use. There has been no significant change since 2004 in the proportion of men who had used Special K; however, there has been a significant increase since that time in the proportion who had used GHB (Mantel-Haenszel,  $p < .001$ ). Since the previous survey in 2005 there has been a significant fall in the proportion of men who had used marijuana ( $p < .05$ ) and a significant increase in the proportion who had used GHB ( $p < .05$ ) in the six months prior to the survey.

**Table 11: Drug use in the six months prior to the survey**

	<b>2000</b> <b>(N = 1578)</b> <b>n (%)</b>	<b>2001</b> <b>(N = 1830)</b> <b>n (%)</b>	<b>2002</b> <b>(N = 1877)</b> <b>n (%)</b>	<b>2003</b> <b>(N = 2064)</b> <b>n (%)</b>	<b>2004</b> <b>(N = 1962)</b> <b>n (%)</b>	<b>2005</b> <b>(N = 1804)</b> <b>n (%)</b>	<b>2006</b> <b>(N = 1988)</b> <b>n (%)</b>
Marijuana	606 (38.4)	744 (40.7)	715 (38.1)	830 (40.2)	784 (40.0)	732 (40.6)	744 (37.4)
Amyl/Poppers	633 (40.1)	684 (37.4)	677 (36.1)	802 (38.9)	698 (35.6)	659 (36.5)	706 (35.5)
Ecstasy	488 (30.9)	593 (32.4)	593 (31.6)	745 (36.1)	659 (33.6)	689 (38.2)	702 (35.3)
Speed	365 (23.1)	423 (23.1)	415 (22.1)	526 (25.5)	480 (24.5)	455 (25.2)	498 (25.1)
Crystal meth	100 (6.3)	–	–	264 (12.8)	254 (12.9)	247 (13.7)	300 (15.1)
Cocaine	178 (11.3)	201 (11.0)	242 (12.9)	246 (11.9)	209 (10.7)	253 (14.0)	293 (14.7)
Viagra	–	116 (6.3)	149 (7.9)	263 (12.7)	211 (10.8)	250 (13.9)	267 (13.4)
LSD/Trips	172 (12.1)	–	–	151 (7.3)	94 (4.8)	90 (5.0)	123 (6.2)
GHB	25 (1.6)	–	–	–	74 (3.8)	82 (4.5)	124 (6.2)
Special K	99 (6.3)	–	–	–	243 (12.4)	243 (13.5)	272 (13.7)
Steroids	23 (1.5)	31 (1.7)	35 (1.9)	41 (2.0)	39 (2.0)	33 (1.8)	38 (1.9)
Heroin	27 (1.7)	25 (1.4)	25 (1.3)	25 (1.2)	26 (1.3)	20 (1.1)	29 (1.5)
Any other drug	97 (6.1)	192 (10.5)	186 (9.9)	229 (11.1)	164 (8.4)	131 (7.3)	130 (6.5)

Note: These categories are not mutually exclusive.

In 2006 a total of 87 men (4.4% of the overall sample) reported that they had injected any drug/steroid in the six months prior to the survey (see Table 12). Sixty-one men (3.2% of the overall sample) had injected more than one drug in that time. The most commonly injected drug was crystal meth, followed by speed.

**Table 12: Injecting drug use in the six months prior to the survey**

	<b>2000</b> <b>(N = 1578)</b> <b>n (%)</b>	<b>2001</b> <b>(N = 1830)</b> <b>n (%)</b>	<b>2002</b> <b>(N = 1877)</b> <b>n (%)</b>	<b>2003</b> <b>(N = 2064)</b> <b>n (%)</b>	<b>2004</b> <b>(N = 1962)</b> <b>n (%)</b>	<b>2005</b> <b>(N = 1804)</b> <b>n (%)</b>	<b>2006</b> <b>(N = 1988)</b> <b>n (%)</b>
Speed	58 (3.7)	50 (2.7)	59 (3.1)	65 (3.2)	66 (3.4)	49 (2.7)	60 (3.0)
Ecstasy	12 (0.8)	21 (1.1)	22 (1.2)	19 (0.9)	23 (1.2)	16 (0.9)	32 (1.6)
Crystal meth	17 (1.1)	–	–	45 (2.2)	51 (2.6)	42 (2.3)	62 (3.1)
Cocaine	17 (1.1)	10 (0.5)	23 (1.2)	13 (0.6)	20 (1.0)	8 (0.4)	25 (1.3)
Steroids	10 (0.6)	15 (0.8)	19 (1.0)	13 (0.6)	18 (0.9)	12 (0.7)	16 (0.8)
GHB	2 (0.1)	–	–	–	8 (0.4)	4 (0.2)	8 (0.4)
Special K	8 (0.5)	–	–	–	7 (0.4)	10 (0.6)	19 (1.0)
Heroin	10 (0.6)	16 (0.9)	12 (0.6)	7 (0.3)	14 (0.7)	12 (0.7)	23 (1.2)
LSD/Trips	2 (0.1)	–	–	4 (0.2)	6 (0.3)	4 (0.2)	9 (0.5)
Any other drug	9 (0.6)	16 (0.9)	21 (1.1)	16 (0.8)	13 (0.7)	12 (0.7)	15 (0.8)

Note: Categories are not mutually exclusive.





## Discussion

The findings from the eighth Melbourne Gay Community Periodic Survey conducted during February 2006 provide an important update on the social and sexual lives of gay men in Melbourne. In the main, the findings are quite similar to, and thereby corroborate, the evidence from the seven preceding surveys in 1998 (Van de Ven et al., 1998) and from 2000 to 2005 (Aspin et al., 2000; Rawstorne et al., 2001; Hull et al., 2002; Hull et al., 2003b; Hull et al., 2004, Hull et al., 2006a). Likewise, many of the results parallel findings from the gay community periodic surveys conducted in other Australian cities (Rawstorne et al., 2005), reinforcing the notion that in some respects the gay cultures of the capital cities in Australia are alike.

In 2006, 1988 participants were recruited at eight recruitment sites: Midsumma Carnival and seven gay community venues (two social venues, three sex-on-premises venues and two sexual health clinics). Most of the men lived in the Melbourne metropolitan area. They were predominantly of 'Anglo-Australian' background and worked in professional/managerial or white-collar occupations.

Most of the participants identified as gay or homosexual. As a whole, the sample was quite involved socially in the gay community, with high levels of gay friendship and much free time spent with gay men. However, over time there has been a slight, though significant, fall in the proportion of men who indicated that 'most or all' of their friends were gay. Similarly, the proportion of men who reported that they spent a lot of their free time with gay men has also fallen slightly over time.

Two questions were added in 2006 to obtain an indication of contact with the HIV epidemic: one question asked participants how many people they knew who had HIV and the other asked how many people they knew who had found out that they had HIV in the 12 months prior to the survey. Two-thirds of the men who answered the first question knew at least one person with HIV, while about 20% of those who answered the second question knew at least one person who had been diagnosed with HIV in the 12 months prior to the survey.

As is consistent with previous surveys, 16% of the men had not been tested for HIV. The majority of those who had been tested for HIV had been tested in the 12 months prior to the survey. Overall, 8% of the men were HIV-positive, a percentage consistent with that of previous years. Almost three-quarters of the men were aware that the incidence of sexually transmissible infections in Melbourne was increasing.

Among the HIV-positive participants, the level of use of combination antiretroviral therapies in 2006 had not changed significantly from the level reported in the previous survey in 2005.



In 1998 almost 83% of the HIV-positive men were taking combination antiretroviral therapy. In 2006 this proportion was about 59%; however, over the past five surveys there has been no significant change.

Most men reported having had 'current' sexual contact with at least one other man; about 30% of the men had a regular partner only, a similar proportion had a regular partner with either or both partners also having had casual partners, and almost a quarter of the men had had casual partners only. In the six months prior to the survey, about two-thirds of the men reported having had sex with regular partners and a similar proportion had had sex with casual partners.

The rate of unprotected anal intercourse with casual partners (UAIC) was not significantly different to that reported in 2005. Since 1998 there has been a significant upward trend in the rate of UAIC. However, analysis of trends since 2002 shows no significant change over this time. In 2006, of the men who had had casual partners in the six months prior to the survey, 381 men (29.1%) had had any UAIC. The rate of unprotected anal intercourse with regular partners (UAIR) was unchanged in 2006. Of the men with regular partners, 768 men (58.8%) had had any UAIR. Some of these men (182 all told) had had unprotected anal intercourse with both regular and casual partners. The remainder of the men in the overall sample, far and away the majority, reported having had no unprotected anal intercourse with either regular or casual partners. Not unexpectedly, more men had had unprotected anal intercourse with regular than with casual partners. Similarly, unprotected anal intercourse that involved ejaculation inside was much more likely to have occurred between regular than between casual partners.

The proportion of men who had an agreement with their partner about sex within the relationship has been quite steady since 2003. However, since 2002 there has been a significant increase in the proportion of men with agreements that allowed anal intercourse without condoms within the regular relationship. In 2005 the proportion of men in a regular relationship who had an agreement with their partner to have unprotected anal intercourse within the relationship reached its highest level since the first survey in 1998, and this result did not change in 2006. The proportion of men in each of the other agreement categories has changed little since 2002.

Similar proportions of men had no spoken agreement or had agreements that allowed anal intercourse only with a condom, and slightly more men had agreements that did not allow sexual contact with casual partners. Very few men had agreements that allowed for unprotected anal intercourse with casual partners. The proportion of men who had agreements about sex outside the relationship has increased significantly since 2002. The only notable change in the data since 2002 was an increase in the proportion of men who had agreements that did not allow sexual contact with casual partners.

The majority of the men surveyed did not routinely disclose their serostatus to casual partners. However, while there was no change from the previous survey in 2005, from the 2002 survey onwards this proportion has decreased significantly. A similar proportion of survey respondents were never informed by their casual partners of those partners' HIV status. From the 2002 survey onwards there has been an increase in the proportion of respondents who told their HIV status to all of their casual partners, and a similar, though smaller, increase in the proportion who were always informed by their casual partners of their casual partners' HIV status.

The proportion of men who knew that post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) was available increased from 49% in 2004 to 52% of all men sampled in 2006. Detailed analyses of risk-reduction strategies such as positive-positive sex (Prestage et al, 1995; Rawstorne et al., 2006) and strategic positioning (Van de Ven et al., 2002) have not been reported here. However, interpretations of the findings of this periodic survey should take into account that some gay men's sexual practices involve such risk-reduction strategies.

Almost two-thirds of the men surveyed had had at least one sexual health test for a sexually transmissible infection other than HIV, a similar result to that reported in 2005. The proportion who had undertaken each of the sexual health tests listed has increased over time from the 2003 survey, although the only increase since the 2005 survey was in the proportion who had had anal swabs.

Most of the men had not injected any recreational drugs/steroids in the six months prior to the survey, while a total of 87 men (4.4%) reported that they had injected at least one drug/steroid. Almost 40% of the respondents had used marijuana and about a third had used 'amyl nitrate' or ecstasy in the six months prior to the survey. About a quarter reported that they had used speed. The use of other drugs was less common. Over time there have been significant increases in the use of crystal meth, ecstasy, cocaine and Viagra. Although few men in the sample used Special K or GHB, the use of these drugs has more than doubled since the 2000 survey, when they were first included in the list of drugs about which information was sought.

In conclusion, the Melbourne Gay Community Periodic Survey 2006 was successful in recruiting a large sample of gay men from a range of venues in the Melbourne metropolitan area. As a source of behavioural surveillance, it provides evidence of sexual behaviours among gay men in Melbourne and allows a comparison of trends in behaviours over time and with other similar studies. This survey continues to provide evidence that can be used by community members, educators, policy planners and others to tailor programs that aim to sustain and improve gay men's sexual and social health.

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# Appendix 1

## Tables corresponding to the figures

**Table corresponding to Figure 1: Source of recruitment**

	2000 n (%)	2001 n (%)	2002 n (%)	2003 n (%)	2004 n (%)	2005 n (%)	2006 n (%)
Sexual health centres	60 (3.8)	68 (3.7)	82 (4.4)	82 (4.0)	88 (4.5)	90 (5.0)	68 (3.4)
Gay venues	520 (33.0)	481 (26.3)	545 (29.0)	553 (26.8)	490 (25.0)	530 (29.4)	551 (27.7)
Midsumma Carnival	998 (63.2)	1281 (70.0)	1250 (66.6)	1429 (69.2)	1384 (70.5)	1184 (65.6)	1369 (68.9)
<b>Total</b>	<b>1578 (100)</b>	<b>1830 (100)</b>	<b>1877 (100)</b>	<b>2064 (100)</b>	<b>1962 (100)</b>	<b>1804 (100)</b>	<b>1988 (100)</b>

**Table corresponding to Figure 2: Residential location**

	2000 n (%)	2001 n (%)	2002 n (%)	2003 n (%)	2004 n (%)	2005 n (%)	2006 n (%)
Gay Melbourne	659 (41.8)	802 (43.8)	753 (40.1)	832 (40.3)	790 (40.3)	720 (39.9)	773 (38.9)
Urban Victoria	734 (46.5)	816 (44.6)	857 (45.7)	950 (46.0)	897 (45.7)	811 (45.0)	891 (44.8)
Rural Victoria	92 (5.8)	109 (6.0)	124 (6.6)	115 (5.6)	124 (6.3)	112 (6.2)	124 (6.2)
Elsewhere	93 (5.9)	103 (5.6)	143 (7.6)	167 (8.1)	151 (7.7)	161 (8.9)	200 (10.1)
<b>Total</b>	<b>1578 (100)</b>	<b>1830 (100)</b>	<b>1877 (100)</b>	<b>2064 (100)</b>	<b>1962 (100)</b>	<b>1804 (100)</b>	<b>1988 (100)</b>

Note: The suburbs defined as 'Gay Melbourne' are the same as those defined as such in previous studies, e.g. Project Male Call (Crawford et al., 1998) (i.e. postcodes 3000–3004, 3052, 3053, 3141–3146, 3181–3187). 'Urban Victoria' includes the rest of metropolitan Melbourne plus Geelong.

**Table corresponding to Figure 3: Age**

	2000 n (%)	2001 n (%)	2002 n (%)	2003 n (%)	2004 n (%)	2005 n (%)	2006 n (%)
Under 25	223 (14.4)	267 (15.0)	307 (16.5)	297 (14.9)	342 (18.4)	293 (16.4)	364 (18.5)
25–29	262 (16.9)	289 (16.2)	266 (14.3)	304 (15.2)	325 (17.5)	289 (16.2)	379 (19.2)
30–39	572 (36.9)	733 (41.1)	728 (39.2)	820 (41.1)	681 (36.6)	615 (34.4)	640 (32.5)
40–49	333 (21.4)	347 (19.5)	375 (20.2)	401 (20.1)	364 (19.6)	413 (23.1)	402 (20.4)
50 and over	162 (10.4)	147 (8.2)	182 (9.8)	172 (8.6)	149 (8.0)	176 (9.9)	184 (9.3)
<b>Total</b>	<b>1552 (100)</b>	<b>1783 (100)</b>	<b>1858 (100)</b>	<b>1994 (100)</b>	<b>1861 (100)</b>	<b>1786 (100)</b>	<b>1969 (100)</b>

**Table corresponding to Figure 4: Ethnicity**

	2000 n (%)	2001 n (%)	2002 n (%)	2003 n (%)	2004 n (%)	2005 n (%)	2006 n (%)
Anglo-Australian	1204 (76.3)	1448 (79.1)	1381 (73.6)	1496 (72.5)	1387 (70.7)	1332 (73.8)	1438 (72.3)
ATSI*	29 (1.8)	42 (2.3)	45 (2.4)	70 (3.4)	70 (3.6)	49 (2.7)	52 (2.6)
European	227 (14.4)	211 (11.5)	284 (15.1)	268 (13.0)	261 (13.3)	249 (13.8)	279 (14.0)
Other	118 (7.5)	129 (7.0)	167 (8.9)	230 (11.1)	244 (12.4)	174 (9.6)	219 (11.0)
<b>Total</b>	<b>1578 (100)</b>	<b>1830 (100)</b>	<b>1877 (100)</b>	<b>2064 (100)</b>	<b>1962 (100)</b>	<b>1804 (100)</b>	<b>1988 (100)</b>

\*ATSI = Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander

**Table corresponding to Figure 5: Education**

	2002 n (%)	2003 n (%)	2004 n (%)	2005 n (%)	2006 n (%)
Up to 3 years of high school/Year 10	202 (11.1)	232 (11.5)	209 (10.9)	162 (9.2)	182 (9.4)
Year 12/VCE/HSC	405 (22.3)	434 (21.4)	427 (22.3)	380 (21.5)	389 (20.1)
Diploma or trade certificate/TAFE	329 (18.1)	362 (17.9)	329 (17.2)	322 (18.3)	330 (17.0)
University/CAE	884 (48.6)	996 (49.2)	949 (49.6)	900 (51.0)	1037 (53.5)
<b>Total</b>	<b>1820 (100)</b>	<b>2024 (100)</b>	<b>1914 (100)</b>	<b>1764 (100)</b>	<b>1938 (100)</b>

**Table corresponding to Figure 6: Employment status**

	2000 n (%)	2001 n (%)	2002 n (%)	2003 n (%)	2004 n (%)	2005 n (%)	2006 n (%)
Full-time	1046 (68.0)	1293 (72.3)	1248 (68.5)	1366 (67.2)	1274 (66.9)	1223 (69.7)	1326 (69.2)
Part-time	209 (13.6)	190 (10.6)	236 (13.0)	249 (12.3)	236 (12.4)	217 (12.4)	248 (12.9)
Unemployed/Other	283 (18.4)	305 (17.1)	338 (18.6)	417 (20.5)	395 (20.7)	314 (17.9)	343 (17.9)
<b>Total</b>	<b>1538 (100)</b>	<b>1788 (100)</b>	<b>1822 (100)</b>	<b>2032 (100)</b>	<b>1905 (100)</b>	<b>1754 (100)</b>	<b>1917 (100)</b>

**Table corresponding to Figure 7: Occupation**

	2000 n (%)	2001 n (%)	2002 n (%)	2003 n (%)	2004 n (%)	2005 n (%)	2006 n (%)
<b>Professional/Managerial</b>							
Professional/ Managerial	591 (46.0)	792 (52.5)	863 (56.0)	803 (51.0)	809 (53.3)	788 (54.5)	643 (40.3)
Paraprofessional	111 (8.7)	201 (13.3)	121 (7.9)	211 (13.4)	189 (12.5)	150 (10.4)	336 (21.0)
<b>White collar</b>							
Clerical/Sales	429 (33.4)	386 (25.6)	416 (27.0)	368 (23.4)	372 (24.5)	356 (24.6)	484 (30.3)
<b>Blue collar</b>							
Trades	93 (7.2)	75 (5.0)	81 (5.3)	102 (6.5)	67 (4.4)	70 (4.8)	76 (4.8)
Plant operator/Labourer	61 (4.7)	56 (3.7)	60 (3.9)	90 (5.7)	80 (5.3)	81 (5.6)	58 (3.6)
<b>Total</b>	<b>1285 (100)</b>	<b>1510 (100)</b>	<b>1541 (100)</b>	<b>1574 (100)</b>	<b>1517 (100)</b>	<b>1445 (100)</b>	<b>1597 (100)</b>

Note: Missing data here are mainly not applicable, i.e. some men were not currently employed.

**Table corresponding to Figure 8: Relationships with men**

	2000 n (%)	2001 n (%)	2002 n (%)	2003 n (%)	2004 n (%)	2005 n (%)	2006 n (%)
None	197 (12.9)	227 (13.7)	248 (14.7)	294 (15.6)	270 (14.8)	238 (14.4)	283 (15.6)
Casual only	374 (24.4)	420 (25.3)	449 (26.6)	460 (24.4)	457 (25.1)	431 (26.0)	411 (22.6)
Regular plus casual*	537 (35.1)	478 (28.8)	493 (29.2)	607 (32.2)	576 (31.6)	503 (30.4)	551 (30.4)
Regular only (monogamous)	422 (27.6)	535 (32.2)	501 (29.6)	523 (27.8)	518 (28.4)	483 (29.2)	570 (31.4)
<b>Total</b>	<b>1530 (100)</b>	<b>1660 (100)</b>	<b>1691 (100)</b>	<b>1884 (100)</b>	<b>1821 (100)</b>	<b>1655 (100)</b>	<b>1815 (100)</b>

\*This category may include either or both of the partners having had casual sex.

**Table corresponding to Figure 9: Length of relationships among men with regular male partners at the time of completing the survey**

	<b>2000 n (%)</b>	<b>2001 n (%)</b>	<b>2002 n (%)</b>	<b>2003 n (%)</b>	<b>2004 n (%)</b>	<b>2005 n (%)</b>	<b>2006 n (%)</b>
Less than one year	268 (31.8)	363 (33.6)	381 (35.8)	389 (33.7)	400 (35.1)	277 (28.3)	366 (31.6)
At least one year	574 (68.2)	718 (66.4)	683 (64.2)	767 (66.3)	738 (64.9)	701 (71.7)	791 (68.4)
<b>Total</b>	<b>842 (100)</b>	<b>1081 (100)</b>	<b>1064 (100)</b>	<b>1156 (100)</b>	<b>1138 (100)</b>	<b>978 (100)</b>	<b>1157 (100)</b>

**Table corresponding to Figure 10: Sexual identity**

	<b>2000 n (%)</b>	<b>2001 n (%)</b>	<b>2002 n (%)</b>	<b>2003 n (%)</b>	<b>2004 n (%)</b>	<b>2005 n (%)</b>	<b>2006 n (%)</b>
Gay/Homosexual/Queer	1426 (91.0)	1693 (93.1)	1695 (91.2)	1871 (91.4)	1781 (91.3)	1638 (91.3)	1794 (92.0)
Bisexual	83 (5.3)	84 (4.6)	119 (6.4)	123 (6.0)	133 (6.8)	117 (6.5)	139 (7.1)
Heterosexual/Other	58 (3.7)	41 (2.3)	44 (2.4)	52 (2.5)	36 (1.8)	40 (2.2)	18 (0.9)
<b>Total</b>	<b>1567 (100)</b>	<b>1818 (100)</b>	<b>1858 (100)</b>	<b>2046 (100)</b>	<b>1950 (100)</b>	<b>1795 (100)</b>	<b>1951 (100)</b>

**Table corresponding to Figure 11: Proportion of friends who are gay**

	<b>2000 n (%)</b>	<b>2001 n (%)</b>	<b>2002 n (%)</b>	<b>2003 n (%)</b>	<b>2004 n (%)</b>	<b>2005 n (%)</b>	<b>2006 n (%)</b>
None	17 (1.1)	15 (0.8)	25 (1.3)	19 (0.9)	26 (1.3)	23 (1.3)	30 (1.5)
Some or a few	757 (48.1)	919 (50.4)	951 (50.7)	1001 (48.5)	1027 (52.4)	930 (51.6)	1041 (52.5)
Most or all	800 (50.8)	891 (48.8)	898 (47.9)	1043 (50.6)	908 (46.3)	851 (47.2)	910 (45.9)
<b>Total</b>	<b>1574 (100)</b>	<b>1825 (100)</b>	<b>1874 (100)</b>	<b>2063 (100)</b>	<b>1961 (100)</b>	<b>1804 (100)</b>	<b>1981 (100)</b>

**Table corresponding to Figure 12: Proportion of free time spent with gay men**

	<b>2000 n (%)</b>	<b>2001 n (%)</b>	<b>2002 n (%)</b>	<b>2003 n (%)</b>	<b>2004 n (%)</b>	<b>2005 n (%)</b>	<b>2006 n (%)</b>
None	9 (0.6)	13 (0.7)	16 (0.9)	16 (0.8)	22 (1.1)	17 (0.9)	25 (1.3)
A little	228 (14.5)	212 (11.6)	262 (14.0)	295 (14.3)	295 (15.1)	293 (16.3)	315 (15.9)
Some	627 (39.8)	718 (39.3)	760 (40.6)	842 (41.0)	828 (42.3)	763 (42.3)	814 (41.1)
A lot	711 (45.1)	883 (48.4)	832 (44.5)	903 (43.9)	814 (41.6)	729 (40.5)	826 (41.7)
<b>Total</b>	<b>1575 (100)</b>	<b>1826 (100)</b>	<b>1870 (100)</b>	<b>2056 (100)</b>	<b>1959 (100)</b>	<b>1802 (100)</b>	<b>1980 (100)</b>

**Table corresponding to Figure 13: HIV test results**

	<b>2000 n (%)</b>	<b>2001 n (%)</b>	<b>2002 n (%)</b>	<b>2003 n (%)</b>	<b>2004 n (%)</b>	<b>2005 n (%)</b>	<b>2006 n (%)</b>
Not tested/No results	232 (14.9)	295 (16.5)	281 (16.1)	310 (15.4)	277 (14.4)	262 (15.0)	308 (16.0)
HIV-negative	1180 (76.0)	1347 (75.4)	1313 (75.2)	1526 (75.6)	1484 (77.1)	1321 (75.8)	1468 (76.0)
HIV-positive	140 (9.0)	145 (8.1)	151 (8.7)	182 (9.0)	163 (8.5)	159 (9.1)	155 (8.0)
<b>Total</b>	<b>1552 (100)</b>	<b>1787 (100)</b>	<b>1745 (100)</b>	<b>2018 (100)</b>	<b>1924 (100)</b>	<b>1742 (100)</b>	<b>1931 (100)</b>



**Table corresponding to Figure 14: Time since most recent HIV test, among men who had not tested HIV-positive**

	2000 n (%)	2001 n (%)	2002 n (%)	2003 n (%)	2004 n (%)	2005 n (%)	2006 n (%)
Less than 6 months ago	506 (42.0)	571 (41.1)	564 (41.9)	686 (43.2)	739 (48.2)	615 (44.3)	691 (45.1)
7–12 months ago	246 (20.4)	281 (20.2)	264 (19.6)	320 (20.1)	276 (18.0)	292 (21.0)	323 (21.1)
1–2 years ago	236 (19.6)	259 (18.6)	269 (20.0)	284 (17.9)	258 (16.8)	225 (16.2)	246 (16.1)
Over 2 years ago	216 (18.0)	279 (20.1)	250 (18.6)	299 (18.8)	259 (16.9)	257 (18.5)	263 (17.2)
<b>Total</b>	<b>1204 (100)</b>	<b>1390 (100)</b>	<b>1347 (100)</b>	<b>1589 (100)</b>	<b>1532 (100)</b>	<b>1389 (100)</b>	<b>1532 (100)</b>

Note: Includes only non-HIV-positive men who had been tested for HIV.

**Table corresponding to Figure 15: Use of combination antiretroviral therapies**

	2000 n (%)	2001 n (%)	2002 n (%)	2003 n (%)	2004 n (%)	2005 n (%)	2006 n (%)
Yes	108 (78.3)	101 (66.9)	105 (70.0)	99 (55.9)	96 (60.4)	95 (58.6)	90 (58.8)
No	30 (21.7)	50 (33.1)	45 (30.0)	78 (44.1)	63 (39.6)	67 (41.4)	63 (41.2)
<b>Total</b>	<b>138 (100)</b>	<b>151 (100)</b>	<b>150 (100)</b>	<b>177 (100)</b>	<b>159 (100)</b>	<b>162 (100)</b>	<b>153 (100)</b>

Note: Includes only HIV-positive men.

**Table corresponding to Figure 16: HIV status of regular partner**

	2000 n (%)	2001 n (%)	2002 n (%)	2003 n (%)	2004 n (%)	2005 n (%)	2006 n (%)
HIV-positive	58 (7.7)	84 (8.6)	82 (8.9)	101 (10.0)	91 (9.3)	97 (11.3)	97 (9.3)
HIV-negative	526 (70.0)	669 (68.3)	619 (67.4)	711 (70.2)	684 (69.9)	604 (70.5)	735 (70.5)
HIV status unknown	167 (22.2)	227 (23.2)	218 (23.7)	201 (19.8)	203 (20.8)	156 (18.2)	211 (20.2)
<b>Total</b>	<b>751 (100)</b>	<b>980 (100)</b>	<b>919 (100)</b>	<b>1013 (100)</b>	<b>978 (100)</b>	<b>857 (100)</b>	<b>1043 (100)</b>

Note: Includes only those men who had a regular partner at the time of completing the survey.

**Table corresponding to Figure 17: Sex with male partners in the six months prior to the survey**

	2000 n (%)	2001 n (%)	2002 n (%)	2003 n (%)	2004 n (%)	2005 n (%)	2006 n (%)
Any sexual contact with regular partners	1007 (63.8)	1199 (65.5)	1193 (63.6)	1298 (62.9)	1276 (65.0)	1165 (64.6)	1307 (65.7)
Any sexual contact with casual partners	1123 (71.2)	1209 (66.1)	1268 (67.6)	1429 (69.2)	1338 (68.2)	1235 (68.5)	1310 (65.9)
<b>Total sample size</b>	<b>1578</b>	<b>1830</b>	<b>1877</b>	<b>2064</b>	<b>1962</b>	<b>1804</b>	<b>1988</b>

Note: These categories are not mutually exclusive.

**Table corresponding to Figure 18: Number of male sex partners in the six months prior to the survey**

	2000 n (%)	2001 n (%)	2002 n (%)	2003 n (%)	2004 n (%)	2005 n (%)	2006 n (%)
None	99 (6.3)	274 (15.1)	279 (15.0)	245 (12.1)	240 (12.4)	239 (13.4)	244 (12.4)
One	325 (20.7)	339 (18.7)	315 (16.9)	360 (17.7)	349 (18.0)	303 (16.9)	412 (21.0)
2–10	611 (39.0)	703 (38.7)	685 (36.8)	802 (39.5)	773 (39.8)	697 (39.0)	773 (39.4)
11–50	411 (26.2)	388 (21.4)	443 (23.8)	465 (22.9)	444 (22.9)	414 (23.2)	418 (21.3)
More than 50	122 (7.8)	111 (6.1)	141 (7.6)	159 (7.8)	137 (7.1)	135 (7.6)	113 (5.8)
<b>Total</b>	<b>1568 (100)</b>	<b>1815 (100)</b>	<b>1863 (100)</b>	<b>2031 (100)</b>	<b>1943 (100)</b>	<b>1788 (100)</b>	<b>1960 (100)</b>

**Table corresponding to Figures 19 & 20: Positioning in oral intercourse with ejaculation, and in anal intercourse, with regular male partners in the six months prior to the survey**

	Total sample n (%)	Those with regular partners n (%)
<b>2000</b>		
Any oral intercourse with ejaculation	562 (35.6)	562 (55.8)
Insertive fellatio with ejaculation	450 (28.5)	450 (44.7)
Receptive fellatio with ejaculation	424 (26.9)	424 (42.1)
Any anal intercourse	894 (56.6)	894 (88.7)
Insertive anal intercourse	773 (49.0)	773 (76.8)
Receptive anal intercourse	710 (45.0)	710 (70.5)
<b>Base</b>	<b>1578</b>	<b>1007</b>
<b>2001</b>		
Any oral intercourse with ejaculation	721 (39.4)	721 (60.1)
Insertive fellatio with ejaculation	597 (32.6)	597 (49.8)
Receptive fellatio with ejaculation	589 (32.2)	589 (49.1)
Any anal intercourse	1015 (55.5)	1015 (84.7)
Insertive anal intercourse	886 (48.4)	886 (73.9)
Receptive anal intercourse	833 (45.5)	833 (69.5)
<b>Base</b>	<b>1830</b>	<b>1199</b>
<b>2002</b>		
Any oral intercourse with ejaculation	701 (37.3)	701 (58.8)
Insertive fellatio with ejaculation	571 (30.4)	571 (47.9)
Receptive fellatio with ejaculation	575 (30.6)	575 (48.2)
Any anal intercourse	1023 (54.5)	1023 (85.8)
Insertive anal intercourse	886 (47.2)	886 (74.3)
Receptive anal intercourse	820 (43.7)	820 (68.7)
<b>Base</b>	<b>1877</b>	<b>1193</b>
<b>2003</b>		
Any oral intercourse with ejaculation	772 (37.4)	772 (59.5)
Insertive fellatio with ejaculation	643 (31.2)	643 (49.5)
Receptive fellatio with ejaculation	615 (29.8)	615 (47.4)
Any anal intercourse	1127 (54.6)	1127 (86.8)
Insertive anal intercourse	1006 (48.7)	1006 (77.5)
Receptive anal intercourse	912 (44.2)	912 (70.3)
<b>Base</b>	<b>2064</b>	<b>1298</b>
<b>2004</b>		
Any oral intercourse with ejaculation	798 (40.7)	798 (62.5)
Insertive fellatio with ejaculation	666 (33.9)	666 (52.2)
Receptive fellatio with ejaculation	660 (33.6)	660 (51.7)
Any anal intercourse	1122 (57.2)	1122 (87.9)
Insertive anal intercourse	999 (50.9)	999 (78.3)
Receptive anal intercourse	914 (46.6)	914 (71.6)
<b>Base</b>	<b>1962</b>	<b>1276</b>
<b>2005</b>		
Any oral intercourse with ejaculation	735 (40.7)	735 (63.1)
Insertive fellatio with ejaculation	626 (34.7)	626 (53.7)
Receptive fellatio with ejaculation	582 (32.3)	582 (50.0)
Any anal intercourse	1050 (58.2)	1050 (90.1)
Insertive anal intercourse	930 (51.6)	930 (79.8)
Receptive anal intercourse	861 (47.7)	861 (73.9)
<b>Base</b>	<b>1804</b>	<b>1165</b>
<b>2006</b>		
Any oral intercourse with ejaculation	831 (41.8)	831 (63.6)
Insertive fellatio with ejaculation	708 (35.6)	708 (54.2)
Receptive fellatio with ejaculation	694 (34.9)	694 (53.1)
Any anal intercourse	1169 (58.8)	1169 (89.4)
Insertive anal intercourse	1036 (52.1)	1036 (79.3)
Receptive anal intercourse	964 (48.5)	964 (73.8)
<b>Base</b>	<b>1988</b>	<b>1307</b>

Note: These items are not mutually exclusive. The percentages do not sum to 100% as some men engaged in more than one of these practices and some in none of these practices.

**Table corresponding to Figures 21 & 22: Positioning in oral intercourse with ejaculation, and in anal intercourse, with casual male partners in the six months prior to the survey**

	Total sample <i>n</i> (%)	Those with casual partners <i>n</i> (%)
<b>2000</b>		
Any oral intercourse with ejaculation	452 (28.6)	452 (40.7)
Insertive fellatio with ejaculation	389 (24.6)	389 (35.0)
Receptive fellatio with ejaculation	277 (17.5)	277 (25.0)
Any anal intercourse	832 (52.7)	832 (75.0)
Insertive anal intercourse	762 (48.3)	762 (68.6)
Receptive anal intercourse	612 (38.8)	612 (55.1)
<b>Base</b>	<b>1578</b>	<b>1110</b>
<b>2001</b>		
Any oral intercourse with ejaculation	488 (26.7)	488 (40.4)
Insertive fellatio with ejaculation	436 (23.8)	436 (36.6)
Receptive fellatio with ejaculation	320 (17.5)	320 (26.5)
Any anal intercourse	911 (49.8)	911 (75.4)
Insertive anal intercourse	829 (45.3)	829 (68.6)
Receptive anal intercourse	664 (36.3)	664 (54.9)
<b>Base</b>	<b>1830</b>	<b>1209</b>
<b>2002</b>		
Any oral intercourse with ejaculation	586 (31.2)	586 (44.4)
Insertive fellatio with ejaculation	507 (27.0)	507 (38.4)
Receptive fellatio with ejaculation	384 (20.5)	384 (29.1)
Any anal intercourse	971 (51.7)	971 (73.5)
Insertive anal intercourse	868 (46.2)	868 (65.7)
Receptive anal intercourse	730 (38.9)	730 (55.3)
<b>Base</b>	<b>1877</b>	<b>1321</b>
<b>2003</b>		
Any oral intercourse with ejaculation	660 (32.0)	660 (44.9)
Insertive fellatio with ejaculation	578 (28.0)	578 (39.3)
Receptive fellatio with ejaculation	441 (21.4)	441 (30.0)
Any anal intercourse	1120 (54.3)	1120 (76.2)
Insertive anal intercourse	1018 (49.3)	1018 (69.3)
Receptive anal intercourse	847 (41.0)	847 (57.6)
<b>Base</b>	<b>2064</b>	<b>1470</b>
<b>2004</b>		
Any oral intercourse with ejaculation	614 (31.3)	614 (44.6)
Insertive fellatio with ejaculation	525 (26.8)	525 (38.1)
Receptive fellatio with ejaculation	419 (21.4)	419 (30.4)
Any anal intercourse	1015 (51.7)	1015 (73.7)
Insertive anal intercourse	922 (47.0)	922 (67.0)
Receptive anal intercourse	776 (39.6)	776 (56.4)
<b>Base</b>	<b>1962</b>	<b>1377</b>
<b>2005</b>		
Any oral intercourse with ejaculation	604 (33.5)	604 (47.4)
Insertive fellatio with ejaculation	521 (8.9)	521 (40.9)
Receptive fellatio with ejaculation	411 (22.8)	411 (32.3)
Any anal intercourse	963 (53.4)	963 (75.6)
Insertive anal intercourse	881 (48.8)	881 (69.2)
Receptive anal intercourse	725 (40.2)	725 (57.0)
<b>Base</b>	<b>1804</b>	<b>1273</b>
<b>2006</b>		
Any oral intercourse with ejaculation	654 (32.9)	654 (48.3)
Insertive fellatio with ejaculation	591 (29.7)	591 (43.6)
Receptive fellatio with ejaculation	438 (22.0)	438 (32.3)
Any anal intercourse	1048 (52.7)	1048 (77.3)
Insertive anal intercourse	953 (47.9)	953 (70.3)
Receptive anal intercourse	815 (41.0)	815 (60.1)
<b>Base</b>	<b>1988</b>	<b>1355</b>

Note: These items are not mutually exclusive. The percentages do not sum to 100% as some men engaged in more than one of these practices and some in none of these practices.

**Table corresponding to Figure 23: Condom use with regular male partners in the six months prior to the survey**

	Total sample <i>n</i> (%)	Those with regular partners <i>n</i> (%)
<b>2000</b>		
No regular partner	571 (36.2)	—
No anal intercourse	113 (7.2)	113 (11.2)
Always uses a condom	370 (23.4)	370 (36.7)
Sometimes does not use a condom	524 (33.2)	524 (52.0)
<b>Base</b>	<b>1578 (100)</b>	<b>1007 (100)</b>
<b>2001</b>		
No regular partner	631 (34.5)	—
No anal intercourse	184 (10.1)	184 (15.3)
Always uses a condom	329 (18.0)	329 (27.4)
Sometimes does not use a condom	686 (37.5)	686 (57.2)
<b>Base</b>	<b>1830 (100)</b>	<b>1199 (100)</b>
<b>2002</b>		
No regular partner	684 (36.4)	—
No anal intercourse	170 (9.1)	170 (14.2)
Always uses a condom	368 (19.6)	368 (30.8)
Sometimes does not use a condom	655 (34.9)	655 (54.9)
<b>Base</b>	<b>1877 (100)</b>	<b>1193 (100)</b>
<b>2003</b>		
No regular partner	766 (37.1)	—
No anal intercourse	171 (8.3)	171 (13.2)
Always uses a condom	437 (21.2)	437 (33.7)
Sometimes does not use a condom	690 (33.4)	690 (53.2)
<b>Base</b>	<b>2064 (100)</b>	<b>1298 (100)</b>
<b>2004</b>		
No regular partner	686 (35.0)	—
No anal intercourse	154 (7.8)	154 (12.1)
Always uses a condom	405 (20.6)	405 (31.7)
Sometimes does not use a condom	717 (36.5)	717 (56.2)
<b>Base</b>	<b>1962 (100)</b>	<b>1276 (100)</b>
<b>2005</b>		
No regular partner	639 (35.4)	—
No anal intercourse	115 (6.4)	115 (9.9)
Always uses a condom	379 (21.0)	379 (32.5)
Sometimes does not use a condom	671 (37.2)	671 (57.6)
<b>Base</b>	<b>1804 (100)</b>	<b>1165 (100)</b>
<b>2006</b>		
No regular partner	681 (34.3)	—
No anal intercourse	138 (6.9)	138 (10.6)
Always uses a condom	401 (20.2)	401 (30.7)
Sometimes does not use a condom <sup>1</sup>	768 (38.6)	768 (58.8)
<b>Base</b>	<b>1988 (100)</b>	<b>1307 (100)</b>

<sup>1</sup>Of the 768 men who engaged in unprotected anal intercourse with regular partners in six months prior to the survey, 147 men practised only withdrawal prior to ejaculation, 223 consistently ejaculated inside and 398 engaged in both withdrawal and ejaculation inside.

**Table corresponding to Figure 24: Proportion of men who sometimes did not use condoms with regular male partners in the six months prior to the survey, by serostatus**

	HIV-positive n (%)	HIV-negative n (%)	Serostatus unknown n (%)
<b>2000</b>			
No anal intercourse	3 (3.4)	92 (11.8)	15 (11.7)
Always uses a condom	32 (36.4)	281 (36.0)	55 (43.0)
Sometimes does not use a condom	53 (60.2)	408 (52.2)	58 (45.3)
<b>Total</b>	<b>88 (100)</b>	<b>781 (100)</b>	<b>128 (100)</b>
<b>2001</b>			
No anal intercourse	12 (13.2)	141 (15.1)	26 (17.6)
Always uses a condom	32 (35.2)	241 (25.7)	49 (33.1)
Sometimes does not use a condom	47 (51.6)	554 (59.2)	73 (49.3)
<b>Total</b>	<b>91 (100)</b>	<b>936 (100)</b>	<b>148 (100)</b>
<b>2002</b>			
No anal intercourse	6 (6.5)	128 (14.1)	33 (20.2)
Always uses a condom	25 (26.9)	286 (31.4)	50 (30.7)
Sometimes does not use a condom	62 (66.7)	496 (54.5)	80 (49.1)
<b>Total</b>	<b>93 (100)</b>	<b>910 (100)</b>	<b>163 (100)</b>
<b>2003</b>			
No anal intercourse	13 (11.1)	126 (12.4)	32 (19.8)
Always uses a condom	41 (35.0)	335 (32.9)	61 (37.7)
Sometimes does not use a condom	63 (53.8)	556 (54.7)	69 (42.6)
<b>Total</b>	<b>117 (100)</b>	<b>1017 (100)</b>	<b>162 (100)</b>
<b>2004</b>			
No anal intercourse	7 (7.5)	110 (10.9)	37 (22.2)
Always uses a condom	38 (40.9)	318 (31.5)	48 (28.7)
Sometimes does not use a condom	48 (51.6)	581 (57.6)	82 (49.1)
<b>Total</b>	<b>93 (100)</b>	<b>1009 (100)</b>	<b>167 (100)</b>
<b>2005</b>			
No anal intercourse	6 (6.0)	88 (9.6)	21 (14.5)
Always uses a condom	32 (32.0)	291 (31.8)	54 (37.2)
Sometimes does not use a condom	62 (62.0)	537 (58.6)	70 (48.3)
<b>Total</b>	<b>100 (100)</b>	<b>916 (100)</b>	<b>145 (100)</b>
<b>2006</b>			
No anal intercourse	7 (6.3)	99 (9.9)	27 (16.5)
Always uses a condom	28 (25.2)	296 (29.7)	65 (39.6)
Sometimes does not use a condom	76 (68.5)	601 (60.3)	72 (43.9)
<b>Total</b>	<b>111 (100)</b>	<b>996 (100)</b>	<b>164 (100)</b>

**Table corresponding to Figure 25: Agreements with regular male partners about sex *within* the relationship**

	<b>2000 n (%)</b>	<b>2001 n (%)</b>	<b>2002 n (%)</b>	<b>2003 n (%)</b>	<b>2004 n (%)</b>	<b>2005 n (%)</b>	<b>2006 n (%)</b>
No spoken agreement about anal intercourse	209 (24.3)	268 (25.5)	281 (27.7)	222 (22.3)	228 (23.4)	188 (22.2)	221 (21.6)
No anal intercourse is permitted	71 (8.3)	82 (7.8)	72 (7.1)	82 (8.2)	82 (8.4)	52 (6.1)	86 (8.4)
Anal intercourse is permitted only with a condom	247 (28.8)	271 (25.8)	305 (30.0)	317 (31.9)	278 (28.5)	259 (30.6)	294 (28.8)
Anal intercourse without a condom is permitted	332 (38.6)	429 (40.9)	357 (35.2)	373 (37.5)	386 (39.6)	348 (41.1)	420 (41.1)
<b>Total</b>	<b>859 (100)</b>	<b>1050 (100)</b>	<b>1015 (100)</b>	<b>994 (100)</b>	<b>974 (100)</b>	<b>847 (100)</b>	<b>1021 (100)</b>

**Table corresponding to Figure 26: Agreements with regular male partners about sex *outside* the relationship**

	<b>2000 n (%)</b>	<b>2001 n (%)</b>	<b>2002 n (%)</b>	<b>2003 n (%)</b>	<b>2004 n (%)</b>	<b>2005 n (%)</b>	<b>2006 n (%)</b>
No spoken agreement about casual sex	261 (32.7)	303 (30.2)	315 (32.6)	279 (28.9)	304 (31.8)	228 (27.4)	285 (28.2)
No sexual contact with casual partners is permitted	226 (28.3)	347 (34.6)	312 (32.3)	304 (31.5)	291 (30.5)	286 (34.4)	381 (37.7)
No anal intercourse with casual partners is permitted	57 (7.1)	54 (5.4)	72 (7.5)	54 (5.6)	48 (5.0)	71 (8.5)	61 (6.0)
Anal intercourse with casual partners is permitted only with a condom	229 (28.7)	271 (27.0)	234 (24.2)	293 (30.4)	277 (29.0)	221 (26.6)	244 (24.2)
Anal intercourse with casual partners without a condom is permitted	25 (3.1)	27 (2.7)	33 (3.4)	35 (3.6)	35 (3.7)	26 (3.1)	39 (3.9)
<b>Total</b>	<b>798 (100)</b>	<b>1002 (100)</b>	<b>966 (100)</b>	<b>965 (100)</b>	<b>955 (100)</b>	<b>832 (100)</b>	<b>1010 (100)</b>

**Table corresponding to Figure 27: Condom use with casual male partners in the six months prior to the survey**

	Total sample <i>n</i> (%)	Those with casual partners <i>n</i> (%)
<b>2000</b>		
No casual partner	468 (29.6)	—
No anal intercourse	278 (17.6)	278 (25.0)
Always uses a condom	570 (36.1)	570 (51.3)
Sometimes does not use a condom	262 (16.6)	262 (23.6)
<b>Base</b>	<b>1578 (100)</b>	<b>1110 (100)</b>
<b>2001</b>		
No casual partner	621 (33.9)	—
No anal intercourse	307 (16.8)	307 (25.4)
Always uses a condom	591 (32.3)	591 (48.9)
Sometimes does not use a condom	311 (17.0)	311 (25.7)
<b>Base</b>	<b>1830 (100)</b>	<b>1209 (100)</b>
<b>2002</b>		
No casual partner	609 (32.4)	—
No anal intercourse	310 (16.5)	310 (24.4)
Always uses a condom	599 (31.9)	599 (47.2)
Sometimes does not use a condom	359 (19.1)	359 (28.3)
<b>Base</b>	<b>1877 (100)</b>	<b>1268 (100)</b>
<b>2003</b>		
No casual partner	635 (30.8)	—
No anal intercourse	323 (15.6)	323 (22.6)
Always uses a condom	682 (33.0)	682 (47.7)
Sometimes does not use a condom	424 (20.5)	424 (29.7)
<b>Base</b>	<b>2064 (100)</b>	<b>1429 (100)</b>
<b>2004</b>		
No casual partner	624 (31.8)	—
No anal intercourse	341 (17.4)	341 (25.5)
Always uses a condom	646 (32.9)	646 (48.3)
Sometimes does not use a condom	351 (17.9)	351 (26.2)
<b>Base</b>	<b>1962 (100)</b>	<b>1338 (100)</b>
<b>2005</b>		
No casual partner	569 (31.5)	—
No anal intercourse	289 (16.0)	289 (23.4)
Always uses a condom	579 (32.1)	579 (46.9)
Sometimes does not use a condom	367 (20.3)	367 (29.7)
<b>Base</b>	<b>1804 (100)</b>	<b>1235 (100)</b>
<b>2006</b>		
No casual partner	678 (34.1)	—
No anal intercourse	276 (13.9)	276 (21.1)
Always uses a condom	653 (32.8)	653 (49.8)
Sometimes does not use a condom	381 (19.2)	381 (29.1)
<b>Base</b>	<b>1988 (100)</b>	<b>1310 (100)</b>

**Table corresponding to Figure 28: Condom use with casual male partners in the six months prior to the survey, by serostatus**

	HIV-positive n (%)	HIV-negative n (%)	Serostatus unknown n (%)
<b>2000</b>			
No anal intercourse	14 (12.7)	215 (24.9)	57 (38.8)
Always uses a condom	56 (50.9)	457 (52.9)	60 (40.8)
Sometimes does not use a condom	40 (36.4)	192 (22.2)	30 (20.4)
<b>Total</b>	<b>110 (100)</b>	<b>864 (100)</b>	<b>147 (100)</b>
<b>2001</b>			
No anal intercourse	17 (14.8)	231 (25.4)	57 (31.5)
Always uses a condom	41 (35.7)	469 (51.6)	80 (44.2)
Sometimes does not use a condom	57 (49.6)	209 (23.0)	44 (24.3)
<b>Total</b>	<b>115 (100)</b>	<b>909 (100)</b>	<b>181 (100)</b>
<b>2002</b>			
No anal intercourse	13 (10.7)	251 (25.8)	45 (27.3)
Always uses a condom	39 (32.0)	482 (49.6)	74 (44.8)
Sometimes does not use a condom	70 (57.4)	239 (24.6)	46 (27.9)
<b>Total</b>	<b>122 (100)</b>	<b>972 (100)</b>	<b>165 (100)</b>
<b>2003</b>			
No anal intercourse	22 (13.9)	248 (22.9)	52 (27.8)
Always uses a condom	46 (29.1)	548 (50.6)	88 (47.1)
Sometimes does not use a condom	90 (57.0)	287 (26.5)	47 (25.1)
<b>Total</b>	<b>158 (100)</b>	<b>1083 (100)</b>	<b>187 (100)</b>
<b>2004</b>			
No anal intercourse	21 (16.8)	268 (25.5)	52 (32.7)
Always uses a condom	45 (36.0)	532 (50.7)	68 (42.8)
Sometimes does not use a condom	59 (47.2)	250 (23.8)	39 (24.5)
<b>Total</b>	<b>125 (100)</b>	<b>1050 (100)</b>	<b>159 (100)</b>
<b>2005</b>			
No anal intercourse	21 (16.5)	224 (24.0)	44 (25.6)
Always uses a condom	42 (33.1)	450 (48.3)	85 (49.4)
Sometimes does not use a condom	64 (50.4)	258 (27.7)	43 (25.0)
<b>Total</b>	<b>127 (100)</b>	<b>932 (100)</b>	<b>172 (100)</b>
<b>2006</b>			
No anal intercourse	16 (13.3)	217 (21.4)	39 (25.5)
Always uses a condom	35 (29.2)	529 (52.2)	77 (50.3)
Sometimes does not use a condom	69 (57.5)	268 (26.4)	37 (24.2)
<b>Total</b>	<b>120 (100)</b>	<b>1014 (100)</b>	<b>153 (100)</b>



**Table corresponding to Figure 29: Participants' disclosure of serostatus to casual male partners in the six months prior to the survey**

	<b>2000 n (%)</b>	<b>2001 n (%)</b>	<b>2002 n (%)</b>	<b>2003 n (%)</b>	<b>2004 n (%)</b>	<b>2005 n (%)</b>	<b>2006 n (%)</b>
Told none	699 (65.8)	749 (61.8)	845 (63.2)	754 (54.6)	781 (57.3)	661 (54.0)	722 (54.2)
Told some	246 (23.1)	288 (23.8)	281 (21.0)	374 (27.1)	345 (25.3)	329 (26.9)	325 (24.4)
Told all	118 (11.1)	175 (14.4)	210 (15.7)	253 (18.3)	237 (17.4)	234 (19.1)	285 (21.4)
<b>Total</b>	<b>1063 (100)</b>	<b>1212 (100)</b>	<b>1336 (100)</b>	<b>1381 (100)</b>	<b>1363 (100)</b>	<b>1224 (100)</b>	<b>1332 (100)</b>

**Table corresponding to Figure 30: Casual male partners' disclosure of serostatus to participants in the six months prior to the survey**

	<b>2000 n (%)</b>	<b>2001 n (%)</b>	<b>2002 n (%)</b>	<b>2003 n (%)</b>	<b>2004 n (%)</b>	<b>2005 n (%)</b>	<b>2006 n (%)</b>
Told by none	691 (64.5)	740 (61.0)	833 (63.3)	770 (56.2)	794 (58.6)	668 (55.0)	739 (55.9)
Told by some	308 (28.7)	359 (29.6)	359 (27.3)	454 (33.1)	411 (30.3)	400 (32.9)	391 (29.6)
Told by all	73 (6.8)	114 (9.4)	123 (9.4)	146 (10.7)	150 (11.1)	147 (12.1)	193 (14.6)
<b>Total</b>	<b>1072 (100)</b>	<b>1213 (100)</b>	<b>1315 (100)</b>	<b>1370 (100)</b>	<b>1355 (100)</b>	<b>1215 (100)</b>	<b>1323 (100)</b>

**Table corresponding to Figure 31: Knowledge of the availability of post-exposure prophylaxis**

	<b>2001 n (%)</b>	<b>2002 n (%)</b>	<b>2003 n (%)</b>	<b>2004 n (%)</b>	<b>2005 n (%)</b>	<b>2006 n (%)</b>
It's readily available now	317 (17.3)	473 (25.2)	859 (41.6)	951 (48.5)	–	1041 (52.4)
It will be available in the future	177 (9.7)	112 (6.0)	95 (4.6)	88 (4.5)	–	58 (2.9)
I've never heard about it	1336 (73.0)	1292 (68.8)	1110 (53.8)	923 (47.0)	–	889 (44.7)
<b>Total</b>	<b>1830 (100)</b>	<b>1877 (100)</b>	<b>2064 (100)</b>	<b>1962 (100)</b>	<b>1804 (100)</b>	<b>1988 (100)</b>

# Appendix 2

## Questionnaire

**Melbourne Gay Community Periodic Survey**

This survey is for men who have had sex with another man in the past five years.

PLEASE DO NOT COMPLETE IF YOU HAVE  
ALREADY DONE SO THIS WEEK.

For each question, please TICK one box only.

- How many of your friends are gay or homosexual men?  
None ☐ A few ☐ Some ☐ Most ☐ All ☐
- How much of your free time is spent with gay or homosexual men?  
None ☐ A little ☐ Some ☐ A lot ☐
- Do you think of yourself as:  
Gay/homosexual ☐  
Bisexual ☐  
Heterosexual ☐  
Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

In this survey we distinguish between **REGULAR** (boyfriend/lover) and **CASUAL** partners.

- Do you currently have sex with **casual** male partners?  
No ☐ Yes ☐
- Do you currently have sex with a **regular** male partner?  
No ☐ Yes ☐
- How would you describe your sexual relationship with your **current regular** male partner? (tick one)  
*we are monogamous – neither of us has casual sex* ☐  
*both my partner and I have casual sex with other men* ☐  
*I have casual sex with other men but my partner does not* ☐  
*my partner has casual sex with other men but I do not* ☐  
*I have several regular male partners* ☐  
*no current regular male partner* ☐

- If you are in a **regular** relationship with a man, for how long has it been?  
Less than 6 months ☐  
6–11 months ☐  
1–2 years ☐  
More than 2 years ☐  
Not in a regular relationship with a man ☐

**LAST SIX MONTHS . . . . .**

- How many different men have you had sex with in the past six months?  
None ☐ One ☐  
2–5 men ☐ 6–10 men ☐  
11–50 men ☐ More than 50 men ☐

**Regular male partners — last 6 months**

- Have you had sex with regular male partner/s in the last six months? Yes ☐ No ☐ Go directly to Question 20.

In the past **SIX MONTHS** which of the following have you done with your **REGULAR** male partner/s?

- Oral sex:** I sucked his cock but he did NOT come in my mouth  
Never ☐ Occasionally ☐ Often ☐
- Oral sex:** He sucked my cock but I did NOT come in his mouth  
Never ☐ Occasionally ☐ Often ☐
- Oral sex:** I sucked his cock and he came in my mouth  
Never ☐ Occasionally ☐ Often ☐
- Oral sex:** He sucked my cock and I came in his mouth  
Never ☐ Occasionally ☐ Often ☐

**Anal sex**

- I fucked him **with a condom**  
Never ☐ Occasionally ☐ Often ☐
- He fucked me **with a condom**  
Never ☐ Occasionally ☐ Often ☐

- I fucked him **without a condom** but pulled out before I came  
Never ☐ Occasionally ☐ Often ☐
- He fucked me **without a condom** but pulled out before he came  
Never ☐ Occasionally ☐ Often ☐

- I fucked him **without a condom** and came inside him  
Never ☐ Occasionally ☐ Often ☐
- He fucked me **without a condom** and came inside me  
Never ☐ Occasionally ☐ Often ☐

**Casual male partners — last 6 months**

- Have you had sex with casual male partner/s in the last six months? Yes ☐ No ☐ Go directly to Question 33.

In the past **SIX MONTHS** which of the following have you done with any of your **CASUAL** male partners?

- Oral sex:** I sucked his cock but he did NOT come in my mouth  
Never ☐ Occasionally ☐ Often ☐
- Oral sex:** He sucked my cock but I did NOT come in his mouth  
Never ☐ Occasionally ☐ Often ☐
- Oral sex:** I sucked his cock and he came in my mouth  
Never ☐ Occasionally ☐ Often ☐
- Oral sex:** He sucked my cock and I came in his mouth  
Never ☐ Occasionally ☐ Often ☐

**Anal sex**

- I fucked him **with a condom**  
Never ☐ Occasionally ☐ Often ☐
- He fucked me **with a condom**  
Never ☐ Occasionally ☐ Often ☐
- I fucked him **without a condom** but pulled out before I came  
Never ☐ Occasionally ☐ Often ☐
- He fucked me **without a condom** but pulled out before he came  
Never ☐ Occasionally ☐ Often ☐
- I fucked him **without a condom** and came inside him  
Never ☐ Occasionally ☐ Often ☐
- He fucked me **without a condom** and came inside me  
Never ☐ Occasionally ☐ Often ☐

**LAST SIX MONTHS . . . . .**

- How many of your **casual** partners in the last 6 months did you tell your HIV status? None ☐ Some ☐ All ☐
- How many of your **casual** partners in the last 6 months told you their HIV status? None ☐ Some ☐ All ☐

- In the last **6 months**, how many of your male sex partners did you find on the internet?

None ☐ One ☐  
2–5 men ☐ 6–10 men ☐  
11–50 men ☐ More than 50 men ☐

*Continues on other side*

52. Which of these sexual health tests have you had *in the last 12 months*?

Anal swab ☐ None ☐ Once ☐ Twice ☐ 3 or more ☐  
 Throat swab ☐ None ☐ Once ☐ Twice ☐ 3 or more ☐  
 Penile swab ☐ None ☐ Once ☐ Twice ☐ 3 or more ☐  
 Urine sample ☐ None ☐ Once ☐ Twice ☐ 3 or more ☐  
 Blood test for HIV ☐ None ☐ Once ☐ Twice ☐ 3 or more ☐  
 Other blood test ☐ None ☐ Once ☐ Twice ☐ 3 or more ☐

53. Men who **always** use condoms for anal intercourse **don't** need to have regular sexual health check-ups.

strongly disagree ☐ disagree ☐ agree ☐ strongly agree ☐

54. STI infections among gay men in Melbourne are ...

Decreasing ☐ Stable ☐ Increasing ☐

55. How many people do you know personally who

(a) have HIV

None ☐ One ☐ Two ☐ 3–5 ☐ More than 5 ☐

(b) in the past 12 months, have found out they have HIV?

None ☐ One ☐ Two ☐ 3–5 ☐ More than 5 ☐

56. Please look at the resource materials on the reverse side of the Information Sheet. Which ones have you **seen** before?

A: No ☐ Yes ☐ B: No ☐ Yes ☐

57. Which of these drugs have you **used** or **injected** in the past six months?

	Used	Injected
Amyl/Poppers	No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
Marijuana	No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
Viagra etc.	No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
Ecstasy	No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
Speed	No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
Cocaine	No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
Crystal Meth	No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
LSD / trips	No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
GHB	No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
Special K	No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
Heroin	No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
Steroids	No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
Any other drug	No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME 1-2006/1

43. What country were you born in? Australia ☐

Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

44. Are you of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin?  
No ☐ Yes ☐

45. What is your ethnic background? (e.g. Dutch, Greek, Vietnamese, Lebanese, Chinese)

Anglo-Australian only ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

46. Are you: (tick one only)

Employed full-time ☐  
 Employed part-time ☐  
 Unemployed ☐  
 A student ☐  
 A pensioner or on social security benefits ☐  
 Other ☐

47. What is your occupation? \_\_\_\_\_

48. What is the highest level of education you have had?

Less than or up to 3 years of high school / Year 10 ☐  
 Year 12 / VCE / HSC ☐  
 Tertiary diploma or trade certificate / TAFE ☐  
 University or CAE ☐

49. Where do you live? Postcode

OR Suburb/Town:

50. Where do you look for male sex partners?

Internet ☐ Never ☐ Occasionally ☐ Often ☐  
 Gay bar ☐ Never ☐ Occasionally ☐ Often ☐  
 Dance party ☐ Never ☐ Occasionally ☐ Often ☐  
 Gym ☐ Never ☐ Occasionally ☐ Often ☐  
 Beat ☐ Never ☐ Occasionally ☐ Often ☐  
 Gay sauna ☐ Never ☐ Occasionally ☐ Often ☐  
 Other sex venue ☐ Never ☐ Occasionally ☐ Often ☐  
 Sex workers ☐ Never ☐ Occasionally ☐ Often ☐  
 Private sex parties ☐ Never ☐ Occasionally ☐ Often ☐

51. What do you know about post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP)?

It's readily available now ☐  
 It will be available in the future ☐  
 I've never heard about it ☐

34. How old are you? \_\_\_\_\_ years

35. Have you ever had an HIV antibody test? No ☐ Yes ☐

36. When were you last tested for HIV antibodies?

Never tested ☐ 7–12 months ago ☐  
 Less than a week ago ☐ 1–2 years ago ☐  
 1–4 weeks ago ☐ 2–4 years ago ☐  
 1–6 months ago ☐ More than 4 years ago ☐

37. Based on the results of your HIV antibody tests, what is your HIV status?

No test/Don't know ☐  
 Negative ☐  
 Positive ☐

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

38. Are you on combination antiretroviral therapy? No ☐ Yes ☐

39. Is your viral load?

Undetectable ☐  
 Detectable ☐  
 Don't know / unsure ☐

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

40. Do you know the result of your regular partner's HIV antibody test?

Yes—Positive ☐  
 Yes—Negative ☐  
 I don't know/He hasn't had a test ☐

41. Do you have a **clear (spoken) agreement** with your regular partner about anal sex (fucking) within your relationship?

No agreement ☐  
 Agreement: No anal sex at all ☐  
 Agreement: All anal sex is with a condom ☐  
 Agreement: Anal sex can be without a condom ☐

42. Do you have a **clear (spoken) agreement** with your regular partner about sex with casual partners?

No agreement ☐  
 Agreement: No sex at all ☐  
 Agreement: No anal sex at all ☐  
 Agreement: All anal sex is with a condom ☐  
 Agreement: Anal sex can be without a condom ☐