

## Gay Community Periodic Survey: Sydney February 2011

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National Centre in HIV Social Research

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**ART** antiretroviral treatment

**HIV** human immunodeficiency virus

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

**HIV-serodiscordant relationship** a relationship in which both partners are known (as a result of testing) to be of different HIV status, e.g. HIV-positive and HIV-negative

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

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

**PEP** post-exposure prophylaxis

**PrEP** pre-exposure prophylaxis

**STI** sexually transmissible infection

**UAIC** unprotected anal intercourse with casual partners

**UAIR** unprotected anal intercourse with regular partners



# Executive summary

The Sydney Gay Community Periodic Survey is a cross-sectional survey of gay and homosexually active men recruited at a range of gay community sites in Sydney. From its start in 1996, the project has been funded by NSW Health and supported by ACON and Positive Life NSW. The major aim of the survey has been to provide data on sexual, drug use and testing practices related to the transmission of HIV and other sexually transmissible infections (STIs) among men involved in the local gay community. The data presented in this report are from the period 2007 to 2011.

In February 2011, 3194 men were recruited at 20 data collection sites which included gay social venues (bars and gyms), sex-on-premises venues, sexual health clinics and Fair Day (part of the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras). The response rate was 72.3%.

In the February 2011 round there was a significant increase in men recruited from social venues and sexual health clinics, and a corresponding decrease in men recruited from Fair Day. These changes should be borne in mind when interpreting the results.

## Demographic profile

As in previous surveys, the men in the sample were primarily of Anglo-Australian background, lived in the metropolitan Sydney area, were well educated and in full-time employment. Since 2007, there have been slight though significant increases in the proportions of men aged 25–29 years or over 50 years and a corresponding decrease in the proportion of men in their thirties.

Over time, there has been a steady increase in the ethnic diversity of the sample. Since 2007, the proportions of men of European and non-European backgrounds have increased significantly while the proportion of Anglo-Australian men has declined significantly.

## HIV status and testing

The overwhelming majority of men in the sample reported having ‘ever’ been tested for HIV (93.0%). Of the whole sample, most men reported that they were HIV-negative (79.7%) with smaller proportions reporting that they were HIV-positive (11.5%) or did not know their HIV status (8.9%).

In 2011, a question was added asking men whether they would be more or less likely to get tested for HIV if rapid HIV testing were available in different locations. Just under half indicated they would be more likely to get tested for HIV if it was available at a clinic/GP (47.4%) or at home (45.9%), and over a third said they would be more likely to get tested if rapid testing was available at a community organisation (36.8%).

Between 2007 and 2011, there has been a significant upward trend in the proportion of HIV-positive men who reported being on treatment. In 2011, 80.6% of HIV-positive men said they were receiving combination treatment for HIV. In 2011, nearly all the HIV-positive men on treatment (96.3%) reported an undetectable viral load, compared with 26.6% of HIV-positive men not on treatment.

## Sexual partnerships and practices

In 2011, almost a third of men reported being in a monogamous relationship with a regular male partner (30.8%), a similar proportion reported having both regular and casual partners (29.8%), and a quarter had casual partners only (24.6%). Fifteen

percent of men surveyed reported no sexual relationships with men in the six months prior to the survey. These proportions have been relatively stable since 2007.

Among men with regular partners in 2011, 62.3% reported an agreement with their regular partner about sex within the relationship and a smaller proportion (57.9%) reported an agreement about sex outside the relationship. In 2011, the most commonly held agreements about sex within a relationship specified that anal intercourse could occur without a condom (33.1%) or that condoms must always be used for anal intercourse (26.0%). The most commonly held agreements about sex outside a relationship specified that no sex with casual partners was allowed (26.1%) or that condoms must always be used for anal intercourse with casual partners (26.4%). Over the reporting period the proportions of men who have relationship agreements about sex within or outside the relationship have increased.

In 2011, among HIV-positive men with regular partners, 37.8% reported that they were in a seroconcordant relationship, 45.0% said they were in a serodiscordant relationship, and 17.2% said they were in a serononconcordant relationship. Over the reporting period there have been no significant changes in this relationship profile.

In 2011, three-quarters of HIV-negative men with regular partners reported being in a seroconcordant relationship (74.4%), with smaller proportions in serononconcordant (19.9%) and serodiscordant relationships (5.7%). Since 2007, the proportion of HIV-negative men in seroconcordant relationships has significantly increased, while the proportion of men in serononconcordant relationships has declined.

Half of the men with regular partners (49.3%) reported some unprotected anal intercourse with their regular partner (UAIR), while over a quarter reported always using condoms for anal intercourse (27.9%). In 2011, over one in five men with regular partners (22.9%) reported having no anal intercourse with their regular partner. Between 2010 and 2011 there was a significant decline in the proportion of men reporting UAIR.

Rates of UAIR typically vary according to the HIV status of regular partners. In 2011, among HIV-positive men with regular partners, the rate of UAIR was similar for men with seroconcordant regular partners (23.4%) and men with partners who were not seroconcordant (26.3%). Half of HIV-positive men in relationships (50.2%) avoided UAIR. Among HIV-negative men with regular partners, 42.3% reported seroconcordant UAIR, almost one in ten (9.1%) reported UAIR that was not seroconcordant and nearly half (48.6%) avoided UAIR.

Since 2007, there has been a significant increase in the proportion of HIV-negative men who engage in seroconcordant UAIR, and a significant decrease in the proportion of HIV-negative men who report UAIR with partners who are not seroconcordant.

Use of condoms for anal intercourse remains more common with casual partners than with regular partners. In 2011, almost half of the men reported always using condoms for anal intercourse (46.9%), while a third (33.1%) reported any unprotected anal intercourse with casual partners (UAIC). Although the rate of UAIC was stable between 2010 and 2011, the trend over time shows a gradual increase.

In 2011, HIV-positive men with casual partners remained more likely to report any UAIC (56.2%) than HIV-negative men with casual partners (29.8%). Since 2007, the proportion of HIV-positive men who report UAIC has remained stable, while the proportion of HIV-negative men reporting UAIC has increased significantly (although it did not change significantly between 2010 and 2011).

In 2011, disclosure of HIV status before sex to any casual partners was more commonly reported by HIV-positive men (76.1%) than by HIV-negative men (52.9%). Disclosure of HIV status to casual partners has increased significantly among HIV-negative men since 2007. Among men who reported any UAIC, similar proportions of HIV-positive (36.9%) and HIV-negative (37.3%) men reported having consistently disclosed their HIV status to all partners with whom they had UAIC. Over time, HIV-negative men who engage in UAIC have become significantly more likely to disclose their HIV status to partners with whom they have UAIC.

In 2011, new questions were introduced to assess the use of non-condom-based risk reduction strategies among men who engage in UAIC. Over a third of HIV-positive men who reported engaging in UAIC (36.9%) said they only had UAIC when they knew their partners were seroconcordant (serosorting). The proportions of HIV-positive men who reported always using strategic positioning or withdrawal during UAIC were relatively small ( $\leq 5\%$ ). Among HIV-negative men who engaged in UAIC, a third (32.5%) said they only had UAIC with casual partners who they knew were seroconcordant (serosorting), with smaller proportions (around one in ten) reporting consistent strategic positioning or withdrawal before ejaculation.

In 2011, almost four in every ten men (38.6%) said they had sex with men they met through the internet. Other commonly reported locations used to meet male sex partners were gay bars (30.3%), gay saunas (31.2%) and overseas (21.0%). In 2011, almost a third of men (29.2%) said they had used a mobile application like Grindr to meet sex partners.

## Sexual health

As in previous surveys, in 2011 a higher proportion of HIV-positive men (90.9%) reported having any sexual health test (including a blood test for syphilis) compared with HIV-negative men (71.2%).

Since 2007, there have been significant increases in the proportions of HIV-positive and HIV-negative men reporting any STI test (not including blood tests). The proportion of HIV-positive men reporting any STI test (including blood tests) has increased significantly since 2007.

In 2011, 79.5% of HIV-positive men and 60.4% of HIV-negative men reported a blood test for syphilis. The majority of these men reported testing for syphilis at their regular GP or a sexual health centre. Almost three-quarters of all men were aware that syphilis can be symptomless (72.2%) and that it is transmissible through oral sex (70.1%). There was a small but significant decline in knowledge about syphilis between 2010 and 2011.

## Drug use

Recreational drug use was common within the sample, with the most frequently used drugs in the six months prior to the survey being amyl/poppers (40.4%), ecstasy (29.8%), marijuana (27.9%), Viagra (21.4%), cocaine (20.6%) and GHB (13.2%). Since 2007, there have been significant decreases in the use of ecstasy, marijuana, crystal methamphetamine, amphetamine/speed and ketamine. Over time the proportion of men who say they haven't used any drugs has increased significantly (39.0% of all men in 2011). Similarly, the proportion of men who say they have used drugs for sex has decreased significantly since 2007.

In general, HIV-positive men remain more likely to report drug use compared with HIV-negative men. HIV-positive men have a disproportionately high rate of drug injection (14.2% in 2011) compared with HIV-negative men (2.7%), and this rate has been consistently higher over time. Rates of injecting drug use have declined among HIV-negative men during the reporting period.

## Knowledge and use of PEP and PrEP

In 2011, over half the participants reported that they knew post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) was available, a significant decline from 2010.

In 2011, questions were added to assess the use of anti-HIV (antiretroviral) drugs for prevention of HIV before and after unprotected sex—pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) and PEP. Unlike PEP, PrEP is not currently available in Australia through the health system. Thirty-seven men (1.3%) said they had used anti-HIV drugs before unprotected sex as PrEP and 80 men (2.8%) said they had used anti-HIV drugs as PEP.

# Findings

## Reporting

Data are shown for the period 2007–2011. Each table includes the statistical significance (*p*-value), if any, of the change between 2010 and 2011 and the trend over time (2007–2011). An alpha level of .05 was used for all statistical tests. In tables where there are mutually exclusive categories (shown on separate rows), the *p*-value of the chi-square test (if shown) indicates a statistically significant change within one or more of the categories between 2010 and 2011. A short commentary is given under some tables indicating in which category or categories a significant change has occurred. For statistically significant trends over time, the direction of the change (an increase or decrease) is indicated. Where there is no significant change, ns (non-significant) is shown. Please exercise caution in interpreting data where there are few reported cases (low numbers). Where there are low frequencies or data over time are not comparable, reporting of proportions may be misleading. In such cases, we have omitted percentages and did not perform statistical tests for changes over time; these cases are marked NA (not applicable). When data are missing or were not collected in a given year, this is indicated in the table by a dash (–).

## Tables

The findings of the survey are presented in tables 1 to 32 below.

Table 1: Recruitment venue

	2007 n (%)	2008 n (%)	2009 n (%)	2010 n (%)	2011 n (%)	Change from 2010 $\chi^2$ test (p-value)	Trend over time $\chi^2$ test for trend (p-value)
Fair Day	1,413 (60.3)	1,302 (58.6)	1,288 (54.9)	1,639 (60.3)	1,464 (45.8)	$\downarrow p < .001$	$\downarrow p < .001$
Sexual health clinics	266 (11.4)	199 (9.0)	261 (11.1)	152 (5.6)	327 (10.2)	$\uparrow p < .001$	$\downarrow p < .01$
Sex-on-premises venues	152 (6.5)	240 (10.8)	209 (8.9)	299 (11.0)	334 (10.5)	ns	$\uparrow p < .001$
Social venues	511 (21.8)	481 (21.7)	588 (25.1)	629 (23.1)	1069 (33.5)	$\uparrow p < .001$	$\uparrow p < .001$
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,342 (100)</b>	<b>2,222 (100)</b>	<b>2,346 (100)</b>	<b>2,719 (100)</b>	<b>3,194 (100)</b>		

Considerably more men were recruited in 2011 than in previous years. Compared to 2010, significantly greater proportions of men were recruited from sexual health clinics and social venues. Conversely, significantly fewer men were recruited at Fair Day. Over the period 2007–2011, there were significant upward trends in the proportions of men recruited from social venues and sex-on-premises venues. Conversely, there were downward trends in the proportions of men recruited at the Fair Day and sexual health clinics.

Table 2: Age

	2007 n (%)	2008 n (%)	2009 n (%)	2010 n (%)	2011 n (%)	Change from 2010 $\chi^2$ test (p-value)	Trend over time $\chi^2$ test for trend (p-value)
Under 25	245 (10.7)	268 (12.3)	308 (13.8)	281 (10.4)	356 (11.2)	ns	ns
25–29	327 (14.2)	302 (13.8)	313 (14.0)	396 (14.6)	544 (17.1)	$\uparrow p < .01$	$\uparrow p < .01$
30–39	805 (35.1)	705 (32.3)	753 (33.6)	880 (32.5)	973 (30.6)	ns	$\downarrow p < .01$
40–49	639 (27.8)	630 (28.8)	560 (25.0)	758 (28.0)	843 (26.5)	ns	ns
50 and over	280 (12.2)	281 (12.9)	306 (13.7)	392 (14.5)	460 (14.5)	ns	$\uparrow p < .01$
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,296 (100)</b>	<b>2,186 (100)</b>	<b>2,240 (100)</b>	<b>2,707 (100)</b>	<b>3,176 (100)</b>		

There were few changes in the age profile of the sample between 2010 and 2011. However, since 2007 there have been significant upward trends in the proportions of men in the 25–29 and over 50 age groups. Conversely, there has been a significant downward trend in the proportion of men in the 30–39 age group.

Table 3: HIV testing

	2007 n (%)	2008 n (%)	2009 n (%)	2010 n (%)	2011 n (%)	Change from 2010 $\chi^2$ test (p-value)	Trend over time $\chi^2$ test for trend (p-value)
<b>All men</b>							
Ever tested for HIV	2,165 (92.4)	2,075 (93.4)	2,134 (91.0)	2,503 (92.1)	2,860 (93.0)	ns	ns
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,342 (100)</b>	<b>2,222 (100)</b>	<b>2,346 (100)</b>	<b>2,719 (100)</b>	<b>3,075 (100)</b>		
<b>Non-HIV-positive men</b>							
Tested for HIV in previous 12 months	1,375 (73.6)	1,271 (72.1)	1,319 (71.8)	1,462 (66.7)	1,790 (71.9)	$\uparrow p < .001$	$\downarrow p < .05$
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,868 (100)</b>	<b>1,763 (100)</b>	<b>1,836 (100)</b>	<b>2,191 (100)</b>	<b>2,490 (100)</b>		

In 2010 there was a significant increase in proportion of non-HIV-positive men who reported HIV testing in the 12 months prior to being surveyed. However, this increase follows a significant decrease recorded in 2010. Since 2007 there has been a slight downward trend in the proportion of non-HIV-positive men reporting recent HIV testing.



Table 4: HIV test results

	2007 n (%)	2008 n (%)	2009 n (%)	2010 n (%)	2011 n (%)	Change from 2010 $\chi^2$ test (p-value)	Trend over time $\chi^2$ test for trend (p-value)
HIV-positive	290 (13.4)	301 (14.5)	280 (13.2)	287 (10.6)	352 (12.3)		$\downarrow p < .05$
HIV-negative	1,778 (82.3)	1,725 (83.2)	1681 (79.1)	2,145 (85.9)	2,438 (85.4)	ns	$\uparrow p < .01$
No results	92 (4.3)	48 (2.3)	164 (7.7)	64 (2.6)	64 (2.2)		$\downarrow p < .01$
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,160 (100)</b>	<b>2,074 (100)</b>	<b>2,125 (100)</b>	<b>2,496 (100)</b>	<b>2,854 (100)</b>		

Since 2007 there has been a slight, though significant, decline in the proportion of HIV-positive men in the sample and a significant increase in the proportion of HIV-negative men.

Table 5: Likelihood of testing for HIV among non-HIV-positive men if rapid HIV testing were available, by location

	Home n (%)	Clinic/GP n (%)	Gay community organisation n (%)
Less likely	395 (13.9)	147 (5.1)	353 (12.4)
About the same	653 (23.0)	995 (35.0)	921 (32.4)
More likely	1,305 (45.9)	1,348 (47.4)	1,047 (36.8)

Table 6: Use of combination antiretroviral treatment among HIV-positive men

	2007 n (%)	2008 n (%)	2009 n (%)	2010 n (%)	2011 n (%)	Change from 2010 $\chi^2$ test (p-value)	Trend over time $\chi^2$ test for trend (p-value)
On treatment	191 (66.8)	216 (73.5)	212 (77.1)	215 (77.6)	270 (80.6)	ns	$\uparrow p < .001$
<b>Total</b>	<b>286 (100)</b>	<b>294 (100)</b>	<b>275 (100)</b>	<b>277 (100)</b>	<b>335 (100)</b>		

Since 2007 there has been a significant increase in the proportion of HIV-positive men using combination antiretroviral treatment.

Table 7: HIV viral load and combination antiretroviral treatment (ART) use among HIV-positive men

	2007 n (%)	2008 n (%)	2009 n (%)	2010 n (%)	2011 n (%)	Change from 2010 $\chi^2$ test (p-value)	Trend over time $\chi^2$ test for trend (p-value)
Using ART	23 (12.3)	22 (10.5)	22 (10.5)	15 (7.0)	10 (3.7)	ns	$\downarrow p < .001$
<b>Total</b>	<b>187 (100)</b>	<b>210 (100)</b>	<b>210 (100)</b>	<b>214 (100)</b>	<b>270 (100)</b>		
Not using ART	62 (69.7)	61 (80.3)	46 (73.0)	35 (58.3)	47 (73.4)	ns	ns
<b>Total</b>	<b>89 (100)</b>	<b>76 (100)</b>	<b>63 (100)</b>	<b>60 (100)</b>	<b>64 (100)</b>		

Of the HIV-positive men using ART, about 4% had a detectable viral load in 2011. Since 2007, there has been a significant decline in the proportion of HIV-positive men on treatment reporting a detectable viral load. Among HIV-positive men not on treatment, almost three-quarters reported a detectable viral load in 2011.

Table 8: Sexual relationships with men in the six months prior to the survey

	2007 n (%)	2008 n (%)	2009 n (%)	2010 n (%)	2011 n (%)	Change from 2010 $\chi^2$ test (p-value)	Trend over time $\chi^2$ test for trend (p-value)
None	329 (15.2)	309 (15.2)	370 (16.8)	–	446 (14.8)	–	ns
Casual only	510 (23.5)	466 (23.0)	534 (24.2)	–	740 (24.6)	–	ns
Regular plus casual	653 (30.1)	644 (31.8)	659 (29.9)	–	897 (29.8)	–	ns
Regular only (monogamous)	675 (31.2)	608 (30.0)	641 (29.1)	–	926 (30.8)	–	ns
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,167 (100)</b>	<b>2,027 (100)</b>	<b>2,204 (100)</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>3,009 (100)</b>		

Reliable data not available for 2010.

Table 9: Agreements with regular male partners about sex *within* the relationship

	2007 n (%)	2008 n (%)	2009 n (%)	2010 n (%)	2011 n (%)	Change from 2010 $\chi^2$ test (p-value)	Trend over time $\chi^2$ test for trend (p-value)
No spoken agreement about anal intercourse/no sex	906 (53.9)	638 (41.1)	695 (40.9)	–	814 (37.7)	–	$\downarrow p < .001$
No anal intercourse permitted	69 (4.1)	73 (4.7)	88 (5.2)	–	69 (3.2)	–	ns
Anal intercourse permitted only with a condom	303 (18.0)	355 (22.8)	399 (23.5)	–	562 (26.0)	–	$\uparrow p < .001$
Anal intercourse permitted without a condom	403 (24.0)	488 (31.4)	517 (30.4)	–	716 (33.1)	–	$\uparrow p < .001$
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,681 (100)</b>	<b>1,554(100)</b>	<b>1,699 (100)</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>2161 (100)</b>		

Reliable data not available for 2010.

Since 2007, there has been a significant decline in the proportion of men without an agreement with their regular partner about sex within their relationship. During the same period, there has been a significant increase in the proportions of men whose agreements permit anal intercourse with and without condoms.

Table 10: Agreements with regular male partners about sex outside the relationship

	2007 n (%)	2008 n (%)	2009 n (%)	2010 n (%)	2011 n (%)	Change from 2010 $\chi^2$ test (p-value)	Trend over time $\chi^2$ test for trend (p-value)
No spoken agreement about casual sex	992 (59.0)	722 (46.5)	801 (47.1)	–	910 (42.1)	–	↓ $p < .001$
No sexual contact with casual partners permitted	315 (18.7)	373 (24.0)	393 (23.1)	–	564 (26.1)	–	↑ $p < .001$
No anal intercourse with casual partners permitted	46 (2.7)	44 (2.8)	64 (3.8)	–	61 (2.8)	–	ns
Anal intercourse with casual partners permitted only with a condom	291 (17.3)	379 (24.4)	394 (23.2)	–	571 (26.4)	–	↑ $p < .001$
Anal intercourse with casual partners permitted without a condom	37 (2.2)	36 (2.3)	47 (2.8)	–	55 (2.5)	–	ns
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,681 (100)</b>	<b>1,554 (100)</b>	<b>1,699 (100)</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>2,161 (100)</b>	<b>–</b>	

Reliable data not available for 2010.

Since 2007 there has been a significant downward trend in the proportion of men with regular partners who did not have a spoken agreement about sex outside their relationship. Conversely, there have been significant upward trends in the proportions of men with agreements that prohibit sexual contact with casual partners or that allow anal intercourse with condoms.

Table 11: Match of HIV status between regular partners

	2007 n (%)	2008 n (%)	2009 n (%)	2010 n (%)	2011 n (%)	Change from 2010 $\chi^2$ test (p-value)	Trend over time $\chi^2$ test for trend (p-value)
<b>HIV-positive participants</b>							
Seroconcordant	77 (39.7)	68 (35.8)	67 (34.4)	69 (39.7)	79 (37.8)	ns	ns
Serodiscordant	74 (38.1)	79 (41.6)	76 (39.0)	65 (37.4)	94 (45.0)	ns	ns
Serononconcordant	43 (22.2)	43 (22.6)	52 (26.7)	40 (23.0)	36 (17.2)	ns	ns
<b>Total</b>	<b>194 (100)</b>	<b>190 (100)</b>	<b>195 (100)</b>	<b>174 (100)</b>	<b>209 (100)</b>		
<b>HIV-negative participants</b>							
Seroconcordant	594 (47.3)	752 (61.8)	794 (64.3)	762 (51.5)	1,303 (74.4)	↑ $p < .001$	↑ $p < .001$
Serodiscordant	61 (4.9)	63 (5.2)	63 (5.1)	43 (2.9)	100 (5.7)	↑ $p < .001$	NA
Serononconcordant	600 (47.8)	402 (33.0)	378 (30.6)	676 (45.6)	348 (19.9)	↓ $p < .001$	↓ $p < .001$
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,255 (100)</b>	<b>1,217 (100)</b>	<b>1,235 (100)</b>	<b>1,481 (100)</b>	<b>1,751 (100)</b>		

The proportions of HIV-positive men in seroconcordant, serodiscordant and serononconcordant relationships have been steady over the reporting period. Compared to HIV-positive men in relationships, HIV-negative men with regular partners are more likely to be in a seroconcordant relationship. The proportion of HIV-negative men in seroconcordant relationships increased significantly in 2011, continuing an upward trend over time. The proportion of HIV-negative participants in serodiscordant relationships was significantly higher in 2011 than in 2010. However, this increase follows a significant decrease in 2010. The proportion of HIV-negative participants in serononconcordant relationships declined significantly in 2011, continuing a significant downward trend since 2007.

Table 12: Anal intercourse and condom use with regular partners

	2007 n (%)	2008 n (%)	2009 n (%)	2010 n (%)	2011 n (%)	Change from 2010 $\chi^2$ test (p-value)	Trend over time $\chi^2$ test for trend (p-value)
No anal intercourse	308 (18.3)	298 (19.2)	275 (16.2)	183 (9.9)	494 (22.9)	$\uparrow p < .001$	NA
Always uses a condom	496 (29.5)	436 (28.1)	510 (30.0)	546 (29.6)	602 (27.9)	ns	ns
Sometimes does not use a condom	877 (52.2)	820 (52.8)	914 (53.8)	1,114 (60.4)	1,065 (49.3)	$\downarrow p < .001$	NA
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,681 (100)</b>	<b>1,554 (100)</b>	<b>1,699 (100)</b>	<b>1,843 (100)</b>	<b>2,161 (100)</b>		

The proportion of participants with regular partners who reported no anal intercourse increased significantly in 2011. However this increase follows a significant decrease in 2010. Conversely, there was a significant decrease in the proportion of men who did not always use condoms with their regular partner, this followed a significant increase in 2010.

Table 13: Unprotected anal intercourse with regular partners, by match of HIV status

	2007 n (%)	2008 n (%)	2009 n (%)	2010 n (%)	2011 n (%)	Change from 2010 $\chi^2$ test (p-value)	Trend over time $\chi^2$ test for trend (p-value)
<b>HIV-positive men</b>							
Seroconcordant-positive UAIR	58 (28.4)	49 (25.3)	50 (25.3)	61 (35.1)	49 (23.4)	ns	ns
Not concordant UAIR	56 (27.5)	50 (25.8)	60 (30.3)	47 (27.0)	55 (26.3)	ns	ns
No UAIR	90 (44.1)	95 (49.0)	88 (44.4)	66 (37.9)	105 (50.2)	ns	ns
<b>Total</b>	<b>204 (100)</b>	<b>194 (100)</b>	<b>198 (100)</b>	<b>174 (100)</b>	<b>209 (100)</b>		
<b>HIV-negative men</b>							
Seroconcordant-negative UAIR	376 (28.8)	456 (36.6)	497 (39.8)	521 (35.0)	740 (42.3)	$\uparrow p < .001$	$\uparrow p < .001$
Not concordant UAIR	309 (23.7)	207 (16.6)	187 (15.0)	392 (26.3)	160 (9.1)	$\downarrow p < .001$	$\downarrow p < .001$
No UAIR	620 (47.5)	584 (46.8)	564 (45.2)	577 (38.7)	851 (48.6)	$\uparrow p < .001$	NA
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,305 (100)</b>	<b>1,247 (100)</b>	<b>1,248 (100)</b>	<b>1,490 (100)</b>	<b>1,751 (100)</b>		

Half of HIV-positive participants with regular partners reported no unprotected anal intercourse with their regular partners (UAIR) in 2011. Among HIV-positive men reporting UAIR, similar proportions reported UAIR with either seroconcordant or seroconcordant regular partners. In 2011, almost half of HIV-negative participants with regular partners reported no UAIR, a significant increase from 2010. Of the HIV-negative men reporting UAIR, the majority were in seroconcordant relationships. From 2010 to 2011 there was a significant increase in the proportion of participants reporting seroconcordant UAIR, continuing a significant upward trend since 2007. Since 2007 there has been a corresponding decrease in seroconcordant UAIR reported by HIV-negative men.

Table 14: HIV-negative men who engaged in UAIR and always used risk-reduction strategies with partners who were not concordant

	2007 n (%)	2008 n (%)	2009 n (%)	2010 n (%)	2011 n (%)	Change from 2010 $\chi^2$ test (p-value)	Trend over time $\chi^2$ test for trend (p-value)
Took insertive position during UAIR	79 (25.6)	54 (26.1)	65 (34.8)	112 (28.6)	52 (32.5)	ns	ns
Partner withdrew before ejaculation when participant was receptive	64 (20.7)	52 (25.1)	34 (18.2)	84 (21.4)	46 (28.8)	ns	ns
<b>Total (not mutually exclusive)</b>	<b>309</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>392</b>	<b>160</b>		

Table 15: Anal intercourse and condom use with casual partners

	2007 n (%)	2008 n (%)	2009 n (%)	2010 n (%)	2011 n (%)	Change from 2010 $\chi^2$ test (p-value)	Trend over time $\chi^2$ test for trend (p-value)
No anal intercourse	385 (24.2)	288 (19.3)	252 (16.0)	263 (15.5)	399 (20.0)	$\uparrow p < .01$	$\downarrow p < .01$
Always uses a condom	746 (46.8)	765 (51.4)	743 (47.1)	850 (50.1)	937 (46.9)	ns	NA
Sometimes does not use a condom	462 (29.0)	436 (29.3)	583 (36.9)	585 (34.5)	660 (33.1)	ns	NA
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,593 (100)</b>	<b>1,489 (100)</b>	<b>1,578 (100)</b>	<b>1,698 (100)</b>	<b>1,996 (100)</b>		

In 2011, a third of men with casual partners reported any unprotected anal intercourse with those partners (UAIC). There was no significant change in this indicator between 2010 and 2011, but the trend over time appears to remain upwards. Since 2007 there has been a downward trend in the proportion of men reporting no anal intercourse with casual partners.

Table 16: Any unprotected anal intercourse with casual partners, by HIV status of participants

	2007 n (%)	2008 n (%)	2009 n (%)	2010 n (%)	2011 n (%)	Change from 2010 $\chi^2$ test (p-value)	Trend over time $\chi^2$ test for trend (p-value)
HIV-positive men	121 (56.5)	120 (53.8)	127 (61.1)	127 (59.6)	141 (56.2)	ns	ns
<b>Total</b>	<b>214 (100)</b>	<b>223 (100)</b>	<b>208 (100)</b>	<b>213 (100)</b>	<b>251 (100)</b>		
HIV-negative men	288 (23.5)	291 (24.9)	363 (32.2)	419 (31.1)	462 (29.8)	ns	NA
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,224 (100)</b>	<b>1,167 (100)</b>	<b>1,129 (100)</b>	<b>1,349 (100)</b>	<b>1,551 (100)</b>		

The rate of UAIC reported by HIV-positive men has been stable during the reporting period. In 2009 there was a significant increase in the proportion of HIV-negative men who reported any UAIC which has been sustained over the last three years.

Table 17: Disclosure of HIV status to or from casual partners, by HIV status of participants

	2007 n (%)	2008 n (%)	2009 n (%)	2010 n (%)	2011 n (%)	Change from 2010 $\chi^2$ test (p-value)	Trend over time $\chi^2$ test for trend (p-value)
<b>HIV-positive men</b>							
Told casual partners	149 (69.6)	168 (75.3)	160 (76.9)	164 (77.0)	191 (76.1)	ns	ns
Told by casual partners	125 (58.4)	145 (65.0)	127 (61.1)	143 (67.1)	165 (65.7)	ns	ns
<b>Total (not mutually exclusive)</b>	<b>214</b>	<b>223</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>251</b>		
<b>HIV-negative men</b>							
Told casual partners	541 (44.2)	557 (47.7)	555 (49.2)	703 (52.1)	820 (52.9)	ns	$\uparrow p < .001$
Told by casual partners	555 (45.3)	548 (47.0)	556 (49.2)	740 (54.9)	837 (54.0)	ns	$\uparrow p < .001$
<b>Total (not mutually exclusive)</b>	<b>1,224</b>	<b>1,167</b>	<b>1,129</b>	<b>1,349</b>	<b>1,551</b>		

Rates of HIV disclosure to and from casual partners have remained stable among HIV-positive men during the reporting period. During the same period, there have been significant upward trends in the proportions of HIV-negative men reporting HIV disclosure to or from their casual partners.

Table 18: Consistent disclosure of HIV status to casual partners with whom men engaged in unprotected anal intercourse, by HIV status of participants

	2007 n (%)	2008 n (%)	2009 n (%)	2010 n (%)	2011 n (%)	Change from 2010 $\chi^2$ test (p-value)	Trend over time $\chi^2$ test for trend (p-value)
HIV-positive men	47 (38.8)	39 (32.5)	49 (38.6)	45 (35.4)	52 (36.9)	ns	ns
<b>Total</b>	<b>121 (100)</b>	<b>120 (100)</b>	<b>127 (100)</b>	<b>127 (100)</b>	<b>141 (100)</b>		
HIV-negative men	63 (21.9)	67 (23.0)	99 (27.3)	104 (24.8)	168 (36.4)	$\uparrow p < .001$	$\uparrow p < .001$
<b>Total</b>	<b>288 (100)</b>	<b>291 (100)</b>	<b>363 (100)</b>	<b>419 (100)</b>	<b>462 (100)</b>		

Among HIV-negative participants who reported UAIC, there was a significant increase in the proportion who reported disclosing their HIV status to all casual partners in 2011.

Table 19: Positioning in unprotected anal intercourse with casual male partners, by HIV status of participants

	2007 n (%)	2008 n (%)	2009 n (%)	2010 n (%)	2011 n (%)	Change from 2010 $\chi^2$ test (p-value)	Trend over time $\chi^2$ test for trend (p-value)
<b>HIV-positive men</b>							
Receptive-only UAIC	19 (15.7)	20 (16.7)	11 (8.7)	31 (24.4)	22 (15.6)	ns	ns
<b>Total</b>	<b>121 (100)</b>	<b>120 (100)</b>	<b>127 (100)</b>	<b>127 (100)</b>	<b>141 (100)</b>		
<b>HIV-negative men</b>							
Insertive-only UAIC	97 (33.7)	99 (34.0)	120 (33.1)	148 (35.1)	162 (35.1)	ns	ns
<b>Total</b>	<b>288 (100)</b>	<b>291 (100)</b>	<b>363 (100)</b>	<b>419 (100)</b>	<b>462 (100)</b>		

Table 20: Men who engaged in UAIC in the last six months who always used risk-reduction strategies, by HIV status of participants

	2011 n (%)
<b>HIV-positive men</b>	
Ensured partners were seroconcordant before UAIC (serosorting)	52 (36.9)
Took receptive position during UAIC when partners were not concordant	7 (5.0)
Participant withdrew before ejaculation when he was insertive	6 (4.3)
Partner withdrew before ejaculation when participant was receptive	6 (4.3)
<b>Total (not mutually exclusive)</b>	<b>141</b>
<b>HIV-negative men</b>	
Ensured partners were seroconcordant before UAIC (serosorting)	150 (32.5)
Took insertive position during UAIC when partners were not concordant	49 (10.6)
Participant withdrew before ejaculation when he was insertive	38 (8.2)
Partner withdrew before ejaculation when participant was receptive	50 (10.8)
<b>Total (not mutually exclusive)</b>	<b>462</b>

Table 21: Where men met their male sex partners in the six months prior to the survey

	2009 n (%)	2010 n (%)	2011 n (%)	Change from 2010 $\chi^2$ test (p-value)	Trend over time $\chi^2$ test for trend (p-value)
Internet	873 (37.2)	1,048 (38.5)	1233 (38.6)	ns	ns
Mobile app e.g. Grindr	–	–	730 (22.9)	–	–
Gay bar	857 (36.5)	971 (35.7)	968 (30.3)	$\downarrow p < .001$	NA
Gay sauna	835 (35.6)	983 (36.2)	995 (31.2)	$\downarrow p < .001$	NA
Dance party	538 (22.9)	577 (21.2)	504 (15.8)	$\downarrow p < .001$	NA
Other sex venues	480 (20.5)	470 (17.3)	474 (14.8)	$\downarrow p < .05$	$\downarrow p < .01$
Beat	403 (17.2)	425 (15.6)	413 (12.9)	$\downarrow p < .001$	NA
Private sex parties	258 (11.0)	245 (9.0)	210 (6.6)	$\downarrow p < .001$	$\downarrow p < .05$
Gym	245 (10.4)	265 (9.8)	297 (9.3)	ns	ns
Sex workers	–	77 (2.8)	95 (3.0)	ns	–
In other Australian cities	–	611 (22.5)	587 (18.4)	$\downarrow p < .001$	–
Elsewhere in Australia	–	417 (15.3)	390 (12.2)	$\downarrow p < .001$	–
Overseas	513 (21.9)	690 (25.4)	672 (21.0)	$\downarrow p < .001$	NA
<b>Total (not mutually exclusive)</b>	<b>2,346</b>	<b>2,719</b>	<b>3,194</b>		

Table 22: Place attended for last syphilis test

	2010 n (%)	2011 n (%)	Change from 2010 $\chi^2$ test (p-value)
<b>HIV-positive men</b>			
Regular GP	172 (63.0)	220 (65.7)	ns
Another GP	5 (1.8)	5 (1.5)	
Sexual health clinic	44 (16.1)	57 (17.0)	
HIV clinic	51 (18.7)	51 (15.2)	
Never tested/don't know	1 (0.4)	2 (0.6)	
<b>Total</b>	<b>273 (100)</b>	<b>335 (100)</b>	
<b>HIV-negative men</b>			
Regular GP	993 (54.9)	1,115 (54.3)	$\uparrow p < .001$
Another GP	84 (4.7)	112 (5.5)	
Sexual health clinic	660 (36.5)	752 (36.6)	
HIV clinic	54 (3.0)	56 (2.7)	
Never tested/don't know	17 (0.9)	11 (1.0)	
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,808 (100)</b>	<b>2,055 (100)</b>	

Table 23: Knowledge about syphilis

	2010 n (%)	2011 n (%)	Change from 2010 $\chi^2$ test (p-value)
Aware that syphilis can have no physical symptoms	2,154 (79.2)	2,306 (72.2)	$\downarrow p < .001$
Aware that syphilis can be transmitted through oral sex	2,013 (74.0)	2,240 (70.1)	$\downarrow p < .001$
<b>Total (not mutually exclusive)</b>	<b>2,719</b>	<b>3,194</b>	

In 2011, the proportions of participants who were aware that syphilis can have no physical symptoms or can be transmitted through oral sex were significantly lower than in 2010.

Table 24: STI testing among HIV-positive men

	2007 n (%)	2008 n (%)	2009 n (%)	2010 n (%)	2011 n (%)	Change from 2010 $\chi^2$ test (p-value)	Trend over time $\chi^2$ test for trend (p-value)
Anal swab	153 (52.2)	149 (49.3)	151 (53.9)	175 (61.0)	220 (62.5)	ns	$\uparrow p < .05$
Throat swab	160 (54.6)	165 (54.6)	158 (56.4)	176 (61.3)	220 (62.5)	ns	$\uparrow p < .05$
Penile swab	120 (41.0)	133 (44.0)	115 (41.1)	134 (46.7)	155 (44.0)	ns	ns
Urine sample	177 (60.4)	183 (60.6)	175 (62.5)	192 (66.9)	252 (71.6)	ns	$\uparrow p < .01$
Blood test for syphilis	–	–	224 (80.0)	220 (76.7)	280 (79.6)	ns	–
Blood test other than for HIV	216 (73.7)	237 (78.5)	220 (78.6)	196 (68.3)	275 (78.1)	$\uparrow p < .01$	ns
Any STI test (not including blood tests)	195 (66.6)	205 (67.9)	197 (70.4)	206 (71.8)	269 (76.4)	ns	$\uparrow p < .01$
Any STI test (including blood tests)	250 (85.3)	260 (86.1)	252 (90.0)	249 (86.8)	320 (90.9)	ns	$\uparrow p < .05$
<b>Total (not mutually exclusive)</b>	<b>293</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>280</b>	<b>287</b>	<b>352</b>		

From 2009, the item 'Blood test for syphilis' was added to the question about sexual health testing in the last six months, and was subsequently included in the calculation for any STI test (including blood tests).

The majority of HIV-positive participants reported having at least one STI test in 2011. Since 2007 there have been significant upward trends in the proportions of HIV-positive men reporting any STI test (including and not including blood tests).



Table 25: STI testing among HIV-negative men

	2007 n (%)	2008 n (%)	2009 n (%)	2010 n (%)	2011 n (%)	Change from 2010 $\chi^2$ test (p-value)	Trend over time $\chi^2$ test for trend (p-value)
Anal swab	782 (43.6)	796 (45.9)	778 (46.1)	954 (44.4)	1,184 (48.4)	$\uparrow p < .01$	$\uparrow p < .01$
Throat swab	841 (46.9)	853 (49.1)	830 (49.1)	1,023 (47.6)	1,245 (50.9)	$\uparrow p < .05$	$\uparrow p < .05$
Penile swab	645 (36.0)	669 (38.5)	636 (37.7)	789 (36.7)	941 (38.5)	ns	ns
Urine sample	972 (54.2)	1,000 (57.6)	957 (56.7)	1,210 (56.3)	1,441 (58.9)	ns	$\uparrow p < .05$
Blood test for syphilis	–	–	1,030 (61.0)	1,273 (59.2)	1,483 (60.7)	ns	–
Blood test other than for HIV	1,001 (55.9)	1,034 (59.6)	962 (57.0)	1,189 (55.3)	1,318 (53.9)	ns	$\downarrow p < .05$
Any STI test (not including blood tests)	1,037 (57.9)	1,045 (60.2)	1,022 (60.5)	1,278 (59.4)	1,517 (62.0)	ns	$\uparrow p < .01$
Any STI test (including blood tests)	1,225 (68.4)	1,230 (70.8)	1,199 (71.0)	1,533 (71.3)	1,741 (71.2)	ns	ns
<b>Total (not mutually exclusive)</b>	<b>1,792</b>	<b>1,736</b>	<b>1,689</b>	<b>2,151</b>	<b>2,445</b>		

From 2009, the item 'Blood test for syphilis' was added to the question about sexual health testing in the last six months, and was subsequently included in the calculation for any STI test (including blood tests).

Between 2010 and 2011 there were significant increases in the proportions of HIV-negative participants reporting anal and throat swabs for STIs. Since 2007 there has been a significant upward trend in the proportion of HIV-negative participants reporting any STI test (not including blood tests).

Table 26: If participants were diagnosed with an STI, how many of their sex partners did they inform?

	2010 n (%)	2011 n (%)	Change from 2010 $\chi^2$ test (p-value)
None	401 (14.8)	367 (11.5)	ns
A few	88 (3.2)	125 (3.9)	
Some	92 (3.4)	91 (2.9)	
All	186 (6.7)	236 (7.4)	
Not been diagnosed/don't know	1,952 (74.8)	2,375 (74.4)	
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,719 (100)</b>	<b>3,194 (100)</b>	

Table 27: Recreational drug use among all men in the six months prior to the survey

	2007 n (%)	2008 n (%)	2009 n (%)	2010 n (%)	2011 n (%)	Change from 2010 $\chi^2$ test (p-value)	Trend over time $\chi^2$ test for trend (p-value)
Marijuana	808 (34.5)	749 (33.7)	767 (32.7)	901 (33.1)	891 (27.9)	$\downarrow p < .001$	$\downarrow p < .001$
Amyl	1,003 (42.8)	927 (41.7)	1,028 (43.8)	1,203 (44.2)	1,291 (40.4)	$\downarrow p < .01$	ns
Ecstasy	981 (41.9)	857 (38.6)	933 (39.8)	975 (35.9)	953 (29.8)	$\downarrow p < .001$	$\downarrow p < .001$
Amphetamine (speed)	444 (19.0)	351 (15.8)	374 (15.9)	386 (14.2)	361 (11.3)	$\downarrow p < .001$	$\downarrow p < .01$
Crystal methamphetamine	394 (16.8)	344 (15.5)	293 (12.5)	317 (11.7)	355 (11.1)	ns	$\downarrow p < .001$
Viagra	477 (20.4)	465 (20.9)	501 (21.4)	592 (21.8)	683 (21.4)	ns	ns
Cocaine	478 (20.4)	392 (17.6)	492 (21.0)	598 (22.0)	659 (20.6)	ns	$\uparrow p < .05$
Ketamine (special K)	364 (15.5)	282 (12.7)	301 (12.8)	284 (10.4)	306 (9.6)	ns	$\downarrow p < .001$
GHB	297 (12.7)	309 (13.9)	326 (13.9)	356 (13.1)	422 (13.2)	ns	ns
LSD	97 (4.1)	102 (4.6)	127 (5.4)	150 (5.5)	–	–	–
Heroin	19 (0.8)	15 (0.7)	31 (1.3)	15 (0.6)	27 (0.8)	ns	ns
Steroids	61 (2.6)	51 (2.3)	46 (2.0)	60 (2.2)	–	–	–
Mephedrone (meow meow)	–	–	–	–	69 (2.2)	–	–
Other drugs	103 (4.4)	88 (4.0)	129 (5.5)	148 (5.4)	208 (6.5)	ns	$\uparrow p < .001$
<b>Total (not mutually exclusive)</b>	<b>2,342</b>	<b>2,222</b>	<b>2,346</b>	<b>2,719</b>	<b>3,194</b>		
<b>Number of drugs used</b>							
None	756 (32.3)	754 (33.9)	777 (33.1)	927 (34.1)	1,246 (39.0)	$\uparrow p < .001$	$\uparrow p < .001$
One or two drugs	678 (28.9)	661 (29.7)	715 (30.5)	838 (30.8)	948 (29.7)	ns	ns
More than two drugs	908 (38.8)	807 (36.3)	854 (36.4)	954 (35.1)	1,000 (31.3)	$\downarrow p < .01$	$\downarrow p < .01$
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,342 (100)</b>	<b>2,222 (100)</b>	<b>2,346 (100)</b>	<b>2,719 (100)</b>	<b>3,194 (100)</b>		

Steroids and LSD were omitted in 2011 while Meow Meow was added to the list.

Since 2007 there has been a significant increase in the proportion of men who report no drug use in the previous six months.

Table 28: Recreational drug use among HIV-positive men in the six months prior to the survey

	2007 n (%)	2008 n (%)	2009 n (%)	2010 n (%)	2011 n (%)	Change from 2010 $\chi^2$ test (p-value)	Trend over time $\chi^2$ test for trend (p-value)
Marijuana	140 (47.8)	157 (52.0)	151 (53.9)	141 (49.1)	145 (41.2)	$\downarrow p < .05$	ns
Amyl	167 (57.0)	165 (54.6)	153 (54.6)	169 (58.9)	184 (52.3)	ns	ns
Ecstasy	139 (47.4)	131 (43.4)	110 (39.3)	124 (43.2)	113 (32.1)	$\downarrow p < .01$	$\downarrow p < .001$
Amphetamine (speed)	65 (22.2)	64 (21.2)	54 (19.3)	53 (18.5)	45 (12.8)	$\downarrow p < .05$	$\downarrow p < .01$
Crystal methamphetamine	98 (33.5)	86 (28.5)	80 (28.6)	74 (25.8)	97 (27.6)	ns	$\downarrow p < .05$
Viagra	114 (38.9)	116 (38.4)	124 (44.3)	117 (40.8)	143 (40.6)	ns	ns
<b>Total (not mutually exclusive)</b>	<b>293</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>280</b>	<b>287</b>	<b>352</b>		
<b>Number of drugs used</b>							
None	47 (16.0)	51 (16.9)	41 (14.6)	50 (17.4)	77 (21.9)	ns	ns
One or two drugs	92 (31.4)	93 (30.8)	97 (34.6)	88 (30.7)	120 (34.1)	ns	ns
More than two drugs	154 (52.6)	158 (52.3)	142 (50.7)	149 (51.9)	155 (44.0)	ns	ns
<b>Total</b>	<b>293 (100)</b>	<b>302 (100)</b>	<b>280 (100)</b>	<b>287 (100)</b>	<b>352 (100)</b>	ns	ns

Table 29: Recreational drug use among HIV-negative men in the six months prior to the survey

	2007 n (%)	2008 n (%)	2009 n (%)	2010 n (%)	2011 n (%)	Change from 2010 $\chi^2$ test (p-value)	Trend over time $\chi^2$ test for trend (p-value)
Marijuana	600 (33.5)	539 (31.0)	519 (30.7)	678 (31.5)	657 (26.9)	$\downarrow p < .001$	$\downarrow p < .001$
Amyl	759 (42.4)	716 (41.2)	755 (44.7)	943 (43.8)	1,025 (41.9)	ns	ns
Ecstasy	764 (42.6)	683 (39.3)	707 (41.9)	778 (36.2)	776 (31.7)	$\downarrow p < .01$	$\downarrow p < .001$
Amphetamine (speed)	339 (18.9)	264 (15.2)	267 (15.8)	302 (14.0)	285 (11.7)	$\downarrow p < .05$	$\downarrow p < .01$
Crystal methamphetamine	267 (14.9)	240 (13.8)	185 (11.0)	232 (10.8)	235 (9.6)	ns	$\downarrow p < .01$
Viagra	335 (18.7)	331 (19.1)	335 (19.8)	451 (21.0)	505 (20.7)	ns	ns
<b>Total (not mutually exclusive)</b>	<b>1,792</b>	<b>1,736</b>	<b>1,689</b>	<b>2,151</b>	<b>2,445</b>		
<b>Number of drugs used</b>							
None	590 (32.9)	608 (35.0)	564 (33.4)	740 (34.4)	921 (37.7)	$\uparrow p < .05$	$\uparrow p < .01$
One or two drugs	518 (28.9)	524 (30.2)	511 (30.3)	668 (31.1)	742 (30.3)	ns	ns
More than two drugs	684 (38.2)	604 (34.8)	614 (36.4)	743 (34.5)	782 (32.0)	ns	$\downarrow p < .001$
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,792 (100)</b>	<b>1,736 (100)</b>	<b>1,689 (100)</b>	<b>2,151 (100)</b>	<b>2,445 (100)</b>		

Table 30: Injecting drug use in the six months prior to the survey, by HIV status of participants

	2007 n (%)	2008 n (%)	2009 n (%)	2010 n (%)	2011 n (%)	Change from 2010 $\chi^2$ test (p-value)	Trend over time $\chi^2$ test for trend (p-value)
All men	140 (6.0)	123 (5.5)	151 (6.4)	126 (4.6)	126 (3.9)	ns	$\downarrow p < .01$
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,342 (100)</b>	<b>2,222 (100)</b>	<b>2,346 (100)</b>	<b>2,719 (100)</b>	<b>3,194 (100)</b>		
HIV-positive men	56 (19.1)	52 (17.2)	57 (20.4)	47 (16.4)	50 (14.2)	ns	ns
<b>Total</b>	<b>293 (100)</b>	<b>302 (100)</b>	<b>280 (100)</b>	<b>287 (100)</b>	<b>352 (100)</b>		
HIV-negative men	67 (3.7)	61 (3.5)	68 (4.0)	72 (3.3)	65 (2.7)	ns	$\downarrow p < .05$
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,792 (100)</b>	<b>1,736 (100)</b>	<b>1,689 (100)</b>	<b>2,151 (100)</b>	<b>2,445 (100)</b>		

Table 31: Party drug use and group sex in the six months prior to the survey

	2007 n (%)	2008 n (%)	2009 n (%)	2010 n (%)	2011 n (%)	Change from 2010 $\chi^2$ test (p-value)	Trend over time $\chi^2$ test for trend (p-value)
Used party drugs for sex	641 (27.4)	615 (27.7)	579 (24.7)	676 (24.9)	669 (20.9)	$\downarrow p < .001$	$\downarrow p < .01$
Engaged in group sex during or after drug use	388 (16.6)	357 (16.1)	510 (21.7)	377 (13.9)	401 (12.6)	ns	NA
<b>Total (not mutually exclusive)</b>	<b>2,342</b>	<b>2,222</b>	<b>2,346</b>	<b>2,719</b>	<b>3,194</b>		

Since 2007, there has been a significant decrease in the proportion of men who report using party drugs for sex. In 2011, 12.6% of men surveyed said they had engaged in group sex during or after drug use, a significant decrease since 2009.

Table 32: Knowledge that post-exposure prophylaxis is available

	2010 n (%)	2011 n (%)	Change from 2010 $\chi^2$ test (p-value)
All men	1,690 (62.3)	1,820 (57.0)	$\downarrow p < .001$
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,719 (100)</b>	<b>3,194 (100)</b>	
Non-HIV-positive men	1,455 (59.8)	1,544 (54.3)	$\downarrow p < .001$
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,432 (100)</b>	<b>2,842 (100)</b>	

## Sydney Gay Community Periodic Survey 2011

Conducted by



NATIONAL CENTRE IN HIV  
EPIDEMIOLOGY AND  
CLINICAL RESEARCH

PositiveLifeNSW  
the voice of people with HIV since 1988



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

Your responses are very important, they provide valuable information that assists in HIV health promotion efforts, PLEASE COMPLETE THE SURVEY ONCE ONLY.

### Section A – About you

- 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)
- How old are you?  
  Years
- Are you of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin?  
☐ No   ☐ Yes
- What is your ethnic background? (e.g. Dutch, Greek, Vietnamese, Lebanese)  
☐ Anglo-Australian   ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_ (specify)
- Where do you live?  
 Postcode       OR  
 Suburb/Town
- Are you:  
☐ Employed full-time   ☐ A student  
☐ Employed part-time   ☐ Unemployed  
☐ On pension/social security   ☐ Other
- What is your occupation? (e.g. bartender, teacher, welder)  
 (specify)
- What is the highest level of education you have had?  
☐ Less than or up to 3 years of high school / Year 10  
☐ Year 12 / HSC / SACE / TEE / VCE  
☐ Tertiary diploma or trade certificate / TAFE  
☐ University degree or CAE

**Go to section B**

### Section B – Your sex partners



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? (choose 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 → **Go to Section C**
- 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
- Do you have a **clear (spoken) agreement** with your regular partner about anal sex (fucking) **within your relationship**?  
☐ 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
- 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

**Go to section C**

### Section C – Sex in the last 6 months

17. How many different *men* have you had sex with in the last 6 months?

- ☐ None      ☐ 6–10 men      ☐ More than 50 men  
☐ One      ☐ 11–20 men  
☐ 2–5 men      ☐ 21–50 men

18. In the last 6 months how often have you had sex with men you met at or through:

	Never	Occasionally	Often
Internet	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mobile app e.g. Grindr	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gay bar	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dance party	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gym	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Beat	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gay sauna	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other sex venue	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sex workers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Private sex parties	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
In other Australian cities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Elsewhere in Australia	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Overseas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

19. In the last 6 months, how often did you have group sex involving at least two other men?

- ☐ Every Week      ☐ Once / A few times  
☐ Monthly      ☐ Never

Go to section D ↓

### Section D – Regular male partners – last 6 months

20. Have you had sex with **regular** male partner/s in the last 6 months?

- ☐ Yes      ☐ No → Go to section E ↗

In the last 6 MONTHS which of the following have you done with any of your **REGULAR** male partner/s?

#### Oral sex regular partner/s:

21. I sucked his cock but **he did NOT** come in my mouth.

- ☐ Never      ☐ Occasionally      ☐ Often

22. He sucked my cock but **I did NOT** come in his mouth.

- ☐ Never      ☐ Occasionally      ☐ Often

23. I sucked his cock and **he came in my mouth**.

- ☐ Never      ☐ Occasionally      ☐ Often

24. He sucked my cock and **I came in his mouth**.

- ☐ Never      ☐ Occasionally      ☐ Often

#### Anal sex regular partner/s:

25. I fucked him **with a condom**.

- ☐ Never      ☐ Occasionally      ☐ Often

26. He fucked me **with a condom**.

- ☐ Never      ☐ Occasionally      ☐ Often

27. I fucked him **without a condom** but pulled out before I came.

- ☐ Never      ☐ Occasionally      ☐ Often

28. He fucked me **without a condom** but pulled out before he came.

- ☐ Never      ☐ Occasionally      ☐ Often

29. I fucked him **without a condom** and came inside.

- ☐ Never      ☐ Occasionally      ☐ Often

30. He fucked me **without a condom** and came inside.

- ☐ Never      ☐ Occasionally      ☐ Often

### Section E – Casual male partners – last 6 months

31. Have you had any sex with any **casual** male partner/s in the last 6 months?

- ☐ Yes      ☐ No → Go to section F →

In the last 6 MONTHS which of the following have you done with any of your **CASUAL** male partner/s?

#### Oral sex casual partner/s:

32. I sucked his cock but **he did NOT** come in my mouth.

- ☐ Never      ☐ Occasionally      ☐ Often

33. He sucked my cock but **I did NOT** come in his mouth.

- ☐ Never      ☐ Occasionally      ☐ Often

34. I sucked his cock and **he came in my mouth**.

- ☐ Never      ☐ Occasionally      ☐ Often

35. He sucked my cock and **I came in his mouth**.

- ☐ Never      ☐ Occasionally      ☐ Often

#### Anal sex casual partner/s:

36. I fucked him **with a condom**.

- ☐ Never      ☐ Occasionally      ☐ Often

37. He fucked me **with a condom**.

- ☐ Never      ☐ Occasionally      ☐ Often

38. I fucked him **without a condom** but pulled out before I came.

- ☐ Never      ☐ Occasionally      ☐ Often

39. He fucked me **without a condom** but pulled out before he came.

- ☐ Never      ☐ Occasionally      ☐ Often

40. I fucked him **without a condom** and came inside.

- ☐ Never      ☐ Occasionally      ☐ Often

41. He fucked me **without a condom** and came inside.

- ☐ Never      ☐ Occasionally      ☐ Often

#### HIV disclosure casual partner/s

42. How many of your **casual** partners did you tell your HIV status before sex?

- ☐ None      ☐ Some      ☐ All

43. How many of your **casual** partners told you their HIV status before sex?

- ☐ None      ☐ Some      ☐ All



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

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

44. In the last 6 months, if you had anal sex without a condom with any casual male partner(s), did you do any of the following to avoid getting or passing on HIV?

I made sure we were the same HIV status before we fucked without a condom

<sup>1</sup> ☐ Never <sup>2</sup> ☐ Occasionally <sup>3</sup> ☐ Often <sup>4</sup> ☐ Always

I chose to take the top role (I fucked him) because his HIV status was different or unknown to me

<sup>1</sup> ☐ Never <sup>2</sup> ☐ Occasionally <sup>3</sup> ☐ Often <sup>4</sup> ☐ Always

I chose to take the bottom role (he fucked me) because his HIV status was different or unknown to me

<sup>1</sup> ☐ Never <sup>2</sup> ☐ Occasionally <sup>3</sup> ☐ Often <sup>4</sup> ☐ Always

When I fucked him, I chose to pull out before cumming because his HIV status was different or unknown to me

<sup>1</sup> ☐ Never <sup>2</sup> ☐ Occasionally <sup>3</sup> ☐ Often <sup>4</sup> ☐ Always

When he fucked me, I made sure he pulled out before cumming because his HIV status was different or unknown to me

<sup>1</sup> ☐ Never <sup>2</sup> ☐ Occasionally <sup>3</sup> ☐ Often <sup>4</sup> ☐ Always

Go to section F ↓

## Section F – HIV testing

45. Have you ever had an HIV antibody test?

<sup>1</sup> ☐ No <sup>2</sup> ☐ Yes

46. When were you last tested for HIV antibodies?

<sup>1</sup> ☐ Never tested <sup>5</sup> ☐ 7–12 months ago  
<sup>2</sup> ☐ Less than a week ago <sup>6</sup> ☐ 1–2 years ago  
<sup>3</sup> ☐ 1–4 weeks ago <sup>7</sup> ☐ 2–4 years ago  
<sup>4</sup> ☐ 1–6 months ago <sup>8</sup> ☐ More than 4 years ago

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

<sup>1</sup> ☐ No test/Don't know  
<sup>2</sup> ☐ Negative  
<sup>3</sup> ☐ Positive

48. Rapid HIV tests can provide results in a single visit. If you could have a rapid test in the following places would you be more or less likely to get tested for HIV?

	Less likely	About the same	More likely
At home	<sup>1</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>2</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>3</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>
At a clinic/GP	<sup>1</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>2</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>3</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>
Through a gay community organisation	<sup>1</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>2</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>3</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>

49. If you have a regular partner, do you know the result of his HIV antibody test?

<sup>1</sup> ☐ Positive <sup>2</sup> ☐ Negative  
<sup>3</sup> ☐ I don't know/He hasn't had a test

50. If your regular partner is HIV positive, what was his last viral load test?

<sup>1</sup> ☐ Undetectable  
<sup>2</sup> ☐ Detectable  
<sup>3</sup> ☐ Don't know / unsure



If you are HIV-positive please complete the next three questions. If not, go to section G →

51. When were you first diagnosed as HIV-positive?

Year

52. Are you on combination antiretroviral therapy?

<sup>2</sup> ☐ Yes <sup>1</sup> ☐ No

53. What was your last viral load test?

<sup>1</sup> ☐ Undetectable  
<sup>2</sup> ☐ Detectable  
<sup>3</sup> ☐ Don't know / unsure

Go to section G →

### Section G – STI testing

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

	None	Once	Twice	3 or more
Anal swab	<sup>1</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>2</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>3</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>4</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>
Throat swab	<sup>1</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>2</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>3</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>4</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>
Penile swab	<sup>1</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>2</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>3</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>4</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>
Urine sample	<sup>1</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>2</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>3</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>4</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>
Blood test for HIV	<sup>1</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>2</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>3</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>4</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>
Blood test for syphilis	<sup>1</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>2</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>3</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>4</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>
Other blood test	<sup>1</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>2</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>3</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>4</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>

55. Where did you go the **last time** you had a syphilis test?

- <sup>1</sup>☐ My regular GP  
<sup>2</sup>☐ Another GP  
<sup>3</sup>☐ Sexual health clinic  
<sup>4</sup>☐ HIV clinic  
<sup>5</sup>☐ Never tested

56. Were you aware that someone could have syphilis without any physical symptoms?

- <sup>1</sup>☐ Yes, I was aware    <sup>2</sup>☐ No, I wasn't aware

57. Were you aware you could get syphilis through oral sex?

- <sup>1</sup>☐ Yes, I was aware    <sup>2</sup>☐ No, I wasn't aware

58. If you were diagnosed with a sexually transmitted infection in the last 12 months, how many of your sex partners did you tell about your diagnosis?

- <sup>1</sup>☐ None    <sup>2</sup>☐ A few    <sup>3</sup>☐ Some    <sup>4</sup>☐ All  
<sup>5</sup>☐ Not been diagnosed with an STI in the last 12 months

**Go to section H** ▼

### Section H – PEP and PREP

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

- <sup>1</sup>☐ It's readily available now  
<sup>2</sup>☐ It ~~will~~ be available in the future  
<sup>3</sup>☐ I've never heard about it

 If you are **HIV-positive** you can skip the next question and go to **section I** ➔

60. In the **last 6 months**, have you taken any **anti-HIV medication** to prevent HIV infection:

Before anal sex without a condom    <sup>1</sup>☐ Yes    <sup>2</sup>☐ No

After anal sex without a condom  
e.g. PEP    <sup>1</sup>☐ Yes    <sup>2</sup>☐ No

**Go to section I** ➔

### Section I – Drug use

61. How often have you **used** these drugs in the **last 6 months**?

	Never	Once/twice	At least monthly	Every week
Amyl/poppers	<sup>1</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>2</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>3</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>4</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>
Marijuana	<sup>1</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>2</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>3</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>4</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>
Viagra/Cialis etc	<sup>1</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>2</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>3</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>4</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>
Ecstasy	<sup>1</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>2</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>3</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>4</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>
Speed	<sup>1</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>2</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>3</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>4</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>
Cocaine	<sup>1</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>2</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>3</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>4</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>
Crystal meth	<sup>1</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>2</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>3</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>4</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>
GHB	<sup>1</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>2</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>3</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>4</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>
Ketamine (special K)	<sup>1</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>2</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>3</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>4</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>
Heroin	<sup>1</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>2</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>3</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>4</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>
Meow meow (mephedrone)	<sup>1</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>2</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>3</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>4</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>
Any other drug	<sup>1</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>2</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>3</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>4</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>

62. How often have you **injected** drugs in the **last 6 months**?

- <sup>1</sup>☐ Every week    <sup>3</sup>☐ Once or twice  
<sup>2</sup>☐ At least monthly    <sup>4</sup>☐ Never

63. In the **last 6 months**, how often have you used party drugs for the purpose of sex?

- <sup>1</sup>☐ Every week    <sup>3</sup>☐ Once or twice  
<sup>2</sup>☐ At least monthly    <sup>4</sup>☐ Never

64. In the **last 6 months**, how often have you had group sex after or while using party drugs?

- <sup>1</sup>☐ Every week    <sup>3</sup>☐ Once or twice  
<sup>2</sup>☐ At least monthly    <sup>4</sup>☐ Never

**The survey concludes here.**

**Thank you for your time.**



As this survey is anonymous, feedback cannot be provided directly. Please check the NCHSR and ACON websites for the results of this survey.

<http://nchsr.arts.unsw.edu.au>

<http://www.acon.org.au>