



Gay Community Periodic Survey

PERTH, 2008

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ISBN 978-1-875978-97-7

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Layout by Judi Rainbow

The National Centre in HIV Social Research is funded by the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing and is affiliated with the Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences at the University of New South Wales.

Suggested citation:

Zablotska, I., Brown, G., Frankland, A., Prestage, G., & Langdon, T. (2009). *Gay Community Periodic Survey: Perth, 2008*. Sydney: National Centre in HIV Social Research, The University of New South Wales.

Available at http://nchsr.arts.unsw.edu.au/publications_gay.html

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Acknowledgments

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

Funding

Department of Health, Western Australia, and Western Australian AIDS Council

Recruiters

who gave of their time to administer the survey

Survey participants

The 750 men who contributed their time to ensure that the study was fully inclusive of their particular circumstances

Venues

The management and staff of the various gay community venues and clinics who gave generous permission for the survey to be administered on their premises and assisted in the administration of the survey.

Western Australian Centre for Health Promotion Research

Claire Nicholson

Western Australian AIDS Council

Simon Yam

National Centre in HIV Social Research

Judi Rainbow

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AIDS acquired immune deficiency syndrome

ART antiretroviral treatment

HIV human immunodeficiency virus

HIV-seroconcordant relationship a relationship in which both partners are of the same HIV serostatus, 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 serostatus, e.g. HIV-positive and HIV-negative

HIV-serononconcordant relationship a relationship in which the HIV serostatus 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 serostatus a person's antibody status in relation to HIV infection, i.e. HIV-negative (confirmed by testing), HIV-positive (confirmed by testing), or unknown (i.e. untested)

MSM men who have sex with men

STI sexually transmissible infection

UAIC unprotected anal intercourse with casual partners

UAIR unprotected anal intercourse with regular partners

Executive summary

The Perth Gay Community Periodic Survey is a cross-sectional survey of gay and homosexually active men recruited at a range of gay community sites in Perth. The project is funded by the Department of Health, Western Australia. The major aim of the survey is to provide data on sexual, drug use and testing practices related to the transmission of HIV and other sexually transmissible infections (STIs) among gay community-attached men. The most recent survey, the sixth in Perth, was conducted in November 2008. See Appendix for the questionnaire used in this survey.

Seven hundred and fifty men were recruited at 3 data collection sites which included social venues and Pride Fair Day. Since 2000, there has been a significant increase in the proportion of the sample recruited at Pride Fair Day, with a corresponding decrease in recruitment from other venues. The overall response rate was 65%.

Demographic profile

As with previous surveys, lived in Metropolitan Perth, the predominant majority of men in the sample were well-educated and in full-time employment.

Men in the sample were primarily of Anglo-Australian background, but, over time, there has been a steady increase in the ethnic diversity of the sample: the proportion of men of Anglo-Australian background has decreased, with a corresponding upwards trend in the proportion of men of 'other' ethnic backgrounds.

The age distribution of the sample has changed significantly over time. Since 2002, there has been an upwards trend in the proportion of men in the sample aged under 25; over the same period, the proportion of men aged between 30 to 39 has decreased significantly.

HIV status and testing

In 2008, the majority of men reported having 'ever' been tested for HIV (83.2%). Most of these men were HIV-negative (79.6%), while the remaining men were HIV-positive (4.4%) or unsure of their serostatus (16.0%). There has been no significant change in these proportions since 2000.

The proportion of men who report having 'ever' been tested for HIV has decreased since 2000.

The proportion of non-HIV-positive men who report that their most recent HIV test was in the 12 months prior to the survey has not changed significantly over time.

Sexual practices

In 2008, most men reported having either a regular partner (37.4%), a casual partner (18.6%) or both regular and casual partners (25.1%). A smaller proportion of men had no sexual relationships with men (19.3%).

Among men who had regular partners, most were in HIV-negative seroconcordant relationships (63.7%); smaller proportions were in HIV-positive seroconcordant relationships (2.6%), HIV-serodiscordant relationships (6.9%) or HIV-serononconcordant relationships (26.8%). Since 2002 there has been a significant increase in the proportion of men in HIV-negative seroconcordant relationships, while the proportion of men in HIV serononconcordant relationships has fallen.

Nearly two-thirds all men with regular partners reported some unprotected anal intercourse with their regular partner (62.1%); over a quarter reported that condoms were always used for anal intercourse (28.8%).

Unprotected anal intercourse with regular partners varied based on the match of HIV-serostatus between partners. Men in HIV-serodiscordant relationships reported the lowest rates of UAIR (41.7%); the highest proportion of men reporting UAIR was among those in HIV-positive seroconcordant relationships (88.9%).

Use of condoms for anal intercourse was higher with casual partners than with regular partners. Roughly a third of men with casual partners had unprotected anal intercourse with them (34.2%), while less than half reported always using condoms (42.4%). Since 2000, the proportion of men who report any UAIC has been increasing.

Unprotected anal intercourse with casual partners varied based on the HIV-status of the respondent. HIV-positive men reported the highest rates of UAIC (48.2%), followed by HIV-negative men (34.9%) and men of unknown serostatus (18.8%).

Disclosure of HIV status to casual partners has been increasing over time. Half of all participants disclosed to 'any' of their casual partners (50.0%), with disclosure higher amongst HIV-positive men (78.3%) compared to HIV-negative men (49.0%).

Since 2000, there has been a shift away from using sites such as gay bars and beats to locate sexual partners, with a significant increase in the proportion of men who have used the Internet or private sex parties to look for partners.

Drug use

Drug use was common within the sample, with commonly used drugs including marijuana (33.3%), ecstasy (30.0%), amyl/poppers (29.5%) and speed (20.3%). In general, a greater proportion of HIV-positive men reported drug use compared to HIV-negative men.

Since 2000, use of Viagra, GHB and steroids has increased. Over the same period, the use of marijuana has decreased. Very few men reported any injecting drug use (5.5%).

Sexual health

In 2008 HIV-positive men reported higher rates of STI-testing compared to HIV-negative men, with tests on blood and urine samples the most common. Since 2002 the proportion of HIV-negative men who reported having had any STI testing (other than blood tests) has increased significantly.

Since 2000, respondents have been reporting more comprehensive STI-testing, with anal, throat and penile swabs as well as urine sample tests increasingly common.

Reporting

Data are shown for the period from 2000 to 2008. Each table includes the statistical significance, if any, of the change in a given variable in 2008 compared to the previous year, and over time. Where p-values are provided, the difference is statistically significant. In each case, the direction of the change (i.e. increase or decrease) is also shown. Where there is no significant change, this is indicated by ns (non-significant).

Tables

The findings of the survey are presented in tables 1 to 31 below.

Table 1: Recruitment venue

	2000 <i>n</i> (%)	2002 <i>n</i> (%)	2004 <i>n</i> (%)	2006 <i>n</i> (%)	2008 <i>n</i> (%)	Change from last year χ^2 test (<i>p</i> -value)	Trend over time χ^2 test for trend (<i>p</i> -value)
Pride Fair Day	594 (57.4)	545 (69.0)	634 (62.5)	646 (69.7)	550 (73.3)	ns	Increase, (<i>p</i> <.001)
Other venues	441 (42.6)	245 (31.0)	380 (37.5)	281 (30.3)	200 (26.7)	ns	Decrease, (<i>p</i> <.001)
Total	1,035 (100)	790 (100)	1,014 (100)	927 (100)	750 (100)		

Table 2: Age

	2000 <i>n</i> (%)	2002 <i>n</i> (%)	2004 <i>n</i> (%)	2006 <i>n</i> (%)	2008 <i>n</i> (%)	Change from last year χ^2 test (<i>p</i> -value)	Trend over time χ^2 test for trend (<i>p</i> -value)
Under 25	198 (19.9)	175 (22.8)	218 (21.9)	206 (23.3)	198 (27.6)	Increase, (<i>p</i> <.05)	Increase, (<i>p</i> <.01)
25 – 29	157 (15.8)	113 (14.7)	140 (14.1)	128 (14.4)	104 (14.5)	ns	ns
30 – 39	336 (33.7)	256 (33.3)	301 (30.2)	248 (28.0)	188 (26.2)	ns	Decrease, (<i>p</i> <0.01)
40 – 49	215 (21.6)	133 (17.3)	220 (22.1)	181 (20.4)	135 (18.8)	ns	ns
50 and over	90 (9.0)	92 (12.0)	117 (11.7)	123 (13.9)	92 (12.8)	ns	Increase, (<i>p</i> <.01)
Total	996 (100)	769 (100)	996 (100)	886 (100)	717 (100)		

Table 3: Proportion of men who had never been tested for HIV

	2000 <i>n</i> (%)	2002 <i>n</i> (%)	2004 <i>n</i> (%)	2006 <i>n</i> (%)	2008 ¹ <i>n</i> (%)	Change from last year χ^2 test (<i>p</i> -value)	Trend over time χ^2 test for trend (<i>p</i> -value)
Never tested for HIV	118 (11.5)	125 (15.9)	139 (14.2)	148 (16.2)	126 (16.8)	ns	Increase, (<i>p</i> <.01)
Ever tested for HIV	906 (88.5)	660 (84.1)	843 (85.8)	768 (83.8)	622 (83.2)	ns	Decrease, (<i>p</i> <.01)
Total	1,024 (100)	785 (100)	982 (100)	916 (100)	748 (100)		

¹ In 2008, two separate items ("Have you ever been tested for HIV antibodies?" and "When were you last tested for HIV antibodies?") were combined to calculate a more accurate measure of HIV testing. Results reported here may differ from those published in previous reports.

Table 4: Reported HIV test results among men

	2000 <i>n</i> (%)	2002 <i>n</i> (%)	2004 <i>n</i> (%)	2006 <i>n</i> (%)	2008 <i>n</i> (%)	Change from last year χ^2 test (<i>p</i> -value)	Trend over time χ^2 test for trend (<i>p</i> -value)
HIV-positive	51 (5.0)	27 (3.4)	49 (4.9)	43 (4.9)	31 (4.4)	ns	ns
HIV-negative	792 (77.3)	596 (75.9)	780 (77.3)	698 (79.6)	558 (79.6)	ns	ns
Not tested/No results	182 (17.8)	162 (20.6)	180 (17.8)	136 (15.5)	112 (16.0)	ns	ns
Total	1,025 (100)	785 (100)	1,009 (100)	877 (100)	701 (100)		

Table 5: Proportion of non-HIV-positive men tested for HIV in the 12 months prior to the survey, among men who had ever been tested

	2000 n (%)	2002 n (%)	2004 n (%)	2006 n (%)	2008 n (%)	Change from last year χ^2 test (p-value)	Trend over time χ^2 test for trend (p-value)
Tested for HIV in previous 12 months	204 (64.8)	137 (69.9)	463 (64.2)	420 (62.2)	334 (63.3)	ns	ns
Tested for HIV more than 12 months ago	111 (35.2)	59 (30.1)	258 (35.8)	255 (37.8)	194 (36.7)	ns	ns
Total	315 (100)	196 (100)	721 (100)	675 (100)	528 (100)		

Table 6: Use of combination antiretroviral treatment

	2000 n (%)	2002 n (%)	2004 n (%)	2006 n (%)	2008 n (%)	Change from last year χ^2 test (p-value)	Trend over time χ^2 test for trend (p-value)
On treatment	37 (74.0)	20 (74.1)	35 (71.4)	32 (78.0)	23 (74.2)	ns	ns
Not on treatment	13 (26.0)	7 (25.9)	14 (28.6)	9 (22.0)	8 (25.8)	ns	ns
Total	50 (100)	27 (100)	49 (100)	41 (100)	31 (100)		

Table 7: Use of combination antiretroviral treatment (ART) and viral load (VL)¹

	2004 n (%)	2006 n (%)	2008 n (%)
Using ART			
Undetectable viral load	29 (82.9)	29 (93.6)	22 (100.0)
Detectable viral load	5 (14.3)	2 (6.4)	0 (0.0)
Don't know/Unsure	1 (2.9)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Total	35 (100)	31 (100)	22 (100)
Not using ART			
Undetectable viral load	4 (33.3)	2 (22.2)	2 (25.0)
Detectable viral load	6 (50.0)	6 (66.7)	5 (62.5)
Don't know/Unsure	2 (16.7)	1 (11.1)	1 (12.5)
Total	12 (100)	9 (100)	8 (100)

¹ Trends are not reported as the small number of HIV-positive men in the sample was insufficient for the calculation of reliable trends.

Table 8: Sexual relationships with men at the time of completing the survey

	2000 n (%)	2002 n (%)	2004 n (%)	2006 n (%)	2008 n (%)	Change from last year χ^2 test (p-value)	Trend over time χ^2 test for trend (p-value)
None	159 (16.7)	149 (19.5)	178 (18.8)	189 (21.6)	137 (19.3)	ns	ns
Casual only	234 (24.6)	187 (24.4)	215 (22.7)	189 (21.6)	132 (18.6)	ns	Decrease, ($p < .01$)
Regular plus casual	279 (29.4)	183 (23.9)	246 (26.0)	227 (26.0)	178 (25.1)	ns	ns
Regular only (monogamous)	278 (29.3)	246 (32.2)	308 (32.5)	268 (30.7)	263 (37.0)	Increase, ($p < .01$)	Increase, ($p < .01$)
Total	950 (100)	765 (100)	947 (100)	873 (100)	710 (100)		

Table 9: Agreements with regular male partners about sex *within* the relationship, among men who had regular partners

	2000 n (%)	2002 n (%)	2004 n (%)	2006 n (%)	2008 n (%)	Change from last year χ^2 test (p-value)	Trend over time χ^2 test for trend (p-value)
No spoken agreement about anal intercourse	140 (26.5)	89 (23.9)	139 (25.2)	106 (22.5)	101 (24.0)	ns	ns
No anal intercourse permitted	39 (7.4)	30 (8.0)	39 (7.1)	33 (7.0)	29 (6.9)	ns	ns
Anal intercourse permitted only with a condom	137 (25.9)	115 (30.8)	155 (28.1)	123 (26.1)	107 (25.5)	ns	ns
Anal intercourse permitted without a condom	213 (40.3)	139 (37.3)	219 (39.7)	209 (44.4)	183 (43.6)	ns	ns
Total	529 (100)	373 (100)	552 (100)	471 (100)	420 (100)		

Table 10: Agreements with regular male partners about sex *outside* the relationship, among men who had regular partners

	2000 n (%)	2002 n (%)	2004 n (%)	2006 n (%)	2008 n (%)	Change from last year χ^2 test (p-value)	Trend over time χ^2 test for trend (p-value)
No spoken agreement about casual sex	164 (32.3)	152 (35.2)	160 (29.9)	117 (25.3)	125 (30.5)	ns	Decrease, ($p < .05$)
No sexual contact with casual partners permitted	163 (32.1)	149 (34.5)	189 (35.3)	173 (37.4)	164 (40.0)	ns	Increase, ($p < .01$)
No anal intercourse with casual partners permitted	27 (5.3)	23 (5.3)	35 (6.5)	24 (5.2)	19 (4.6)	ns	ns
Anal intercourse with casual partners permitted only with a condom	148 (29.2)	95 (22.0)	143 (26.7)	133 (28.7)	84 (20.5)	Decrease, ($p < .01$)	ns
Anal intercourse with casual partners permitted without a condom	5 (1.0)	13 (3.0)	9 (1.7)	16 (3.5)	18 (4.4)	ns	Increase, ($p < .01$)
Total	507 (100)	432 (100)	536 (100)	463 (100)	410 (100)		

Table 11: Match of HIV serostatus between regular partners

	2000 n (%)	2002 n (%)	2004 n (%)	2006 n (%)	2008 n (%)	Change from last year χ^2 test (p-value)	Trend over time χ^2 test for trend (p-value)
Seroconcordant, HIV-positive	7 (1.5)	3 (0.9)	9 (1.8)	5 (1.2)	9 (2.6)	ns	ns
Seroconcordant, HIV-negative	271 (56.1)	201 (59.1)	323 (65.9)	272 (65.5)	221 (63.7)	ns	Increase, (p<.01)
Serodiscordant	37 (7.7)	27 (7.9)	38 (7.8)	41 (9.9)	24 (6.9)	ns	ns
Serononconcordant	168 (34.8)	109 (32.1)	120 (24.5)	97 (23.4)	93 (26.8)	ns	Decrease, (p<.001)
Total	483 (100)	340 (100)	490 (100)	415 (100)	347 (100)		

Table 12: Anal intercourse and condom use with regular partners, among men who reported having regular partners

	2000 n (%)	2002 n (%)	2004 n (%)	2006 n (%)	2008 n (%)	Change from last year χ^2 test (p-value)	Trend over time χ^2 test for trend (p-value)
No anal intercourse	102 (15.0)	77 (15.4)	86 (13.0)	62 (10.3)	44 (9.1)	ns	Decrease, (p<.001)
Always uses a condom	201 (29.6)	149 (29.8)	205 (31.0)	173 (28.7)	140 (28.8)	ns	ns
Sometimes does not use a condom	376 (55.4)	274 (54.8)	371 (56.0)	367 (61.0)	302 (62.1)	ns	Increase, (p<.01)
Total	679 (100)	500 (100)	662 (100)	602 (100)	486 (100)		

Table 13: Proportion of men who had engaged in UAIR, by match of HIV serostatus in regular relationships

	2000 n (%)	2002 n (%)	2004 n (%)	2006 n (%)	2008 n (%)	Change from last year χ^2 test (p-value)	Trend over time χ^2 test for trend (p-value)
Seroconcordant, HIV-positive	5 (71.4)	3 (100)	9 (100)	3 (60.0)	8 (88.9)	ns	ns
Seroconcordant, HIV-negative	173 (63.8)	132 (65.7)	213 (65.9)	200 (73.5)	158 (71.5)	ns	Increase, (p<.05)
Serodiscordant	18 (48.6)	14 (51.9)	13 (34.2)	17 (41.5)	10 (41.7)	ns	ns
Serononconcordant	96 (57.1)	56 (51.4)	63 (52.5)	55 (56.7)	59 (63.4)	ns	ns

Table 14: Proportion of HIV-negative men who reported having engaged in receptive UAIR that included ejaculation, by match of HIV serostatus

	2000 n (%)	2002 n (%)	2004 n (%)	2006 n (%)	2008 n (%)	Change from last year χ^2 test (p-value)	Trend over time χ^2 test for trend (p-value)
Seroconcordant, HIV-negative	116 (45.3)	87 (44.9)	156 (49.2)	154 (58.3)	107 (50.7)	ns	Increase, (p<.05)
Serodiscordant/Serononconcordant	31 (29.5)	19 (27.9)	20 (24.1)	18 (26.9)	17 (26.2)	ns	ns

Table 15: Proportion of HIV-negative men who reported having engaged in receptive UAIR with withdrawal prior to ejaculation, by match of HIV serostatus

	2002 n (%)	2003 n (%)	2004 n (%)	2005 n (%)	2006 n (%)	2007 n (%)	2008 n (%)	Change from last year χ^2 test (p -value)	Trend over time χ^2 test for trend (p -value)
Seroconcordant, HIV-negative	251 (43.9)	186 (39.2)	223 (41.8)	254 (43.3)	290 (40.1)	217 (41.3)	237 (36.7)	ns	ns
Serodiscordant/Serononconcordant	51 (25.9)	48 (30.2)	26 (22.4)	42 (27.3)	38 (20.7)	32 (23.7)	53 (33.5)	ns	ns

Table 16: Anal intercourse and condom use with casual partners, among men who reported having had casual partners

	2000 n (%)	2002 n (%)	2004 n (%)	2006 n (%)	2008 n (%)	Change from last year χ^2 test (p -value)	Trend over time χ^2 test for trend (p -value)
No anal intercourse	204 (29.9)	146 (29.6)	145 (23.4)	130 (22.6)	103 (23.4)	ns	Decrease, ($p < .001$)
Always uses a condom	292 (42.8)	202 (40.9)	300 (48.3)	252 (43.9)	187 (42.4)	ns	ns
Sometimes does not use a condom	187 (27.4)	146 (29.6)	176 (28.3)	192 (33.5)	151 (34.2)	ns	Increase, ($p < .01$)
Total	683 (100)	494 (100)	621 (100)	574 (100)	441 (100)		

Table 17: Proportion of men who had engaged in UAIC in the six months prior to the survey, by HIV serostatus of respondent

	2000 n (%)	2002 n (%)	2004 n (%)	2006 n (%)	2008 n (%)	Change from last year χ^2 test (p -value)	Trend over time χ^2 test for trend (p -value)
HIV-positive	11 (26.2)	6 (33.3)	17 (58.6)	16 (45.7)	13 (48.2)	ns	Increase, ($p < .05$)
HIV-negative	148 (27.9)	110 (28.9)	129 (26.7)	140 (31.7)	119 (34.9)	ns	Increase, ($p < .05$)
HIV status unknown	27 (24.8)	29 (30.9)	30 (28.3)	24 (32.4)	9 (18.8)	ns	ns

Table 18: Proportion of men who had always used condoms for anal intercourse with casual partners, by HIV serostatus of respondent, among men who reported having had anal intercourse with casual partners

	2000 n (%)	2002 n (%)	2004 n (%)	2006 n (%)	2008 n (%)	Change from last year χ^2 test (p -value)	Trend over time χ^2 test for trend (p -value)
HIV-positive	22 (66.7)	7 (53.9)	9 (34.6)	12 (42.9)	8 (38.1)	ns	Decrease, ($p < .05$)
HIV-negative	230 (60.9)	166 (60.1)	249 (65.9)	206 (59.5)	148 (55.4)	ns	ns
HIV status unknown	40 (59.7)	29 (50.0)	41 (57.8)	30 (55.6)	23 (71.9)	ns	ns

Table 19: Proportion of men who had disclosed their HIV status to 'some' or 'all' of their casual partners, by HIV serostatus of respondent, among men who reported having had casual partners

	2000 <i>n</i> (%)	2002 <i>n</i> (%)	2004 <i>n</i> (%)	2006 <i>n</i> (%)	2008 <i>n</i> (%)	Change from last year χ^2 test (<i>p</i> -value)	Trend over time χ^2 test for trend (<i>p</i> -value)
HIV-positive	21 (52.5)	10 (55.6)	19 (65.5)	23 (65.7)	18 (78.3)	ns	Increase, (<i>p</i> <.05)
HIV-negative	172 (34.7)	169 (47.6)	193 (43.9)	183 (45.3)	154 (49.0)	ns	Increase, (<i>p</i> <.001)
All men	216 (33.8)	203 (44.7)	233 (41.5)	240 (45.6)	202 (50.0)	ns	Increase, (<i>p</i> <.001)

Table 20: Proportion of men who reported that 'some' or 'all' of their casual partners had disclosed their HIV serostatus, by HIV serostatus of respondent

	2000 <i>n</i> (%)	2002 <i>n</i> (%)	2004 <i>n</i> (%)	2006 <i>n</i> (%)	2008 <i>n</i> (%)	Change from last year χ^2 test (<i>p</i> -value)	Trend over time χ^2 test for trend (<i>p</i> -value)
HIV-positive	15 (37.5)	5 (27.8)	11 (37.9)	17 (48.6)	11 (45.8)	ns	ns
HIV-negative	191 (38.1)	161 (45.6)	189 (43.3)	174 (42.5)	145 (46.2)	ns	ns
All men	226 (35.0)	186 (41.2)	220 (39.5)	225 (42.2)	178 (44.2)	ns	Increase, (<i>p</i> <.01)

Table 21: Disclosure of HIV serostatus to casual partners, among men who reported having engaged in UAIC¹

	2000 <i>n</i> (%)	2002 <i>n</i> (%)	2004 <i>n</i> (%)	2006 <i>n</i> (%)	2008 <i>n</i> (%)	Change from last year χ^2 test (<i>p</i> -value)	Trend over time χ^2 test for trend (<i>p</i> -value)
Disclosed to all	41 (22.9)	31 (22.6)	38 (22.1)	56 (30.1)	43 (29.0)	ns	ns
Disclosed to none/some	138 (77.1)	106 (77.4)	134 (77.9)	130 (69.9)	105 (71.0)	ns	ns
Total	179 (100)	137 (100)	172 (100)	186 (100)	148 (100)		

¹ From 2006 the question relating to disclosure was modified to elicit information only about disclosure that occurred 'before' sex. This new format does not appear to have produced substantially different results.

Table 22: Positioning in anal intercourse among HIV-negative men who reported having engaged in UAIC¹

	2000 <i>n</i> (%)	2002 <i>n</i> (%)	2004 <i>n</i> (%)	2006 <i>n</i> (%)	2008 <i>n</i> (%)	Change from last year χ^2 test (<i>p</i> -value)	Trend over time χ^2 test for trend (<i>p</i> -value)
Receptive only	22 (15.6)	13 (12.4)	15 (12.3)	19 (13.9)	16 (13.9)	ns	ns
Insertive only	51 (36.2)	41 (39.1)	35 (28.7)	45 (32.9)	22 (19.1)	Decrease, (<i>p</i> <.05)	Decrease, (<i>p</i> <.01)
Reciprocal	68 (48.2)	51 (48.6)	72 (59.0)	73 (53.3)	77 (67.0)	Increase, (<i>p</i> <.05)	Increase, (<i>p</i> <.01)
Total	141 (100)	105 (100)	122 (100)	137 (100)	115 (100)		

¹ Data on positioning in anal intercourse among HIV-positive men are not reported as the number of HIV-positive men was too small to calculate reliable proportions

Table 23: Where men look for male sex partners in the six months prior to the survey

	2000 n (%)	2002 n (%)	2004 n (%)	2006 n (%)	2008 n (%)	Change from last year χ^2 test (p -value)	Trend over time χ^2 test for trend (p -value)
Internet	–	343 (46.5)	462 (55.2)	447 (56.3)	422 (61.9)	Increase, ($p < .05$)	Increase, ($p < .001$)
Gay bar	742 (83.3)	530 (71.2)	553 (63.5)	464 (57.9)	397 (58.8)	ns	Decrease, ($p < .001$)
Beat	332 (41.9)	203 (27.8)	214 (27.1)	183 (24.5)	131 (21.1)	ns	Decrease, ($p < .001$)
Sex venue	–	–	–	–	113 (18.3)	–	–
Gym	–	–	–	–	113 (18.6)	–	–
Private sex parties	107 (14.4)	76 (10.4)	106 (13.7)	99 (13.7)	82 (13.3)	ns	ns
Gay saunas	454 (53.3)	292 (39.9)	376 (43.8)	298 (38.2)	228 (35.4)	ns	Decrease, ($p < .001$)
Other gay bar	–	–	278 (35.3)	239 (32.6)	184 (29.8)	ns	Decrease, ($p < .05$)
Interstate	–	–	224 (28.5)	223 (30.3)	193 (31.1)	ns	ns
Overseas	–	–	–	192 (26.0)	171 (27.5)	ns	–

Table 24: Proportion of respondents who used the internet to look for male sex partners, by HIV serostatus of respondent

	2000 n (%)	2002 n (%)	2004 n (%)	2006 n (%)	2008 n (%)	Change from last year χ^2 test (p -value)	Trend over time χ^2 test for trend (p -value)
HIV-positive	–	12 (48.0)	21 (52.5)	24 (66.7)	24 (80.0)	ns	Increase, ($p < .01$)
HIV-negative	–	258 (46.5)	362 (55.9)	349 (57.5)	312 (61.5)	ns	Increase, ($p < .01$)
HIV status unknown	–	73 (46.5)	79 (53.4)	66 (55.5)	60 (58.3)	ns	ns

Table 25: Trends in STI testing among HIV-positive men

	2004 n (%)	2006 n (%)	2008 n (%)	Change from last year χ^2 test (p -value)	Trend over time χ^2 test for trend (p -value)
Anal swab	17 (50.0)	18 (47.4)	17 (54.8)	ns	ns
Throat swab	20 (57.1)	14 (38.9)	18 (58.1)	ns	ns
Penile swab	–	13 (35.1)	17 (54.8)	ns	ns
Urine sample	22 (61.1)	17 (46.0)	20 (64.5)	ns	ns
Blood test other than for HIV	28 (68.3)	32 (78.1)	23 (74.2)	ns	ns
Any STI test (not including blood tests)	25 (51.0)	20 (46.5)	22 (71.0)	Increase, ($p < .05$)	ns
Any STI test (including blood tests)	35 (71.4)	34 (79.1)	26 (83.9)	ns	ns

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

	2004 n (%)	2006 n (%)	2008 n (%)	Change from last year χ^2 test (p -value)	Trend over time χ^2 test for trend (p -value)
Anal swab	143 (25.7)	159 (28.5)	177 (31.7)	ns	Increase, (p <.05)
Throat swab	192 (33.2)	195 (34.6)	193 (34.6)	ns	ns
Penile swab	–	150 (27.2)	153 (27.4)	ns	ns
Urine sample	347 (53.9)	310 (52.0)	293 (52.5)	ns	ns
Blood test other than for HIV	463 (66.3)	375 (61.3)	297 (53.2)	Decrease, (p <.01)	Decrease, (p <.001)
Any STI test (not including blood tests)	365 (46.8)	336 (48.1)	303 (54.3)	Increase, (p <.05)	Increase, (p <.01)
Any STI test (including blood tests)	508 (65.1)	445 (63.8)	358 (64.2)	ns	ns

Table 27: Trends in drug use among all men

	2000 n (%)	2002 n (%)	2004 n (%)	2006 ¹ n (%)	2008 n (%)	Change from last year χ^2 test (p -value)	Trend over time χ^2 test for trend (p -value)
Marijuana	446 (43.1)	296 (37.5)	369 (36.4)	317 (34.2)	250 (33.3)	ns	Decrease, (p <.001)
Ecstasy	299 (28.9)	203 (25.7)	294 (29.0)	269 (29.0)	225 (30.0)	ns	ns
Amyl	308 (29.8)	213 (27.0)	275 (27.1)	270 (29.1)	221 (29.5)	ns	ns
Speed	254 (24.5)	163 (20.6)	264 (26.0)	215 (23.2)	152 (20.3)	ns	ns
Crystal	–	–	141 (13.9)	128 (13.8)	100 (13.3)	ns	ns
Viagra	46 (4.4)	55 (7.0)	94 (9.3)	108 (11.7)	93 (12.4)	ns	Increase, (p <.001)
Cocaine	91 (8.8)	28 (3.5)	86 (8.5)	86 (9.3)	66 (8.8)	ns	ns
Special K	–	–	57 (5.6)	45 (4.9)	33 (4.4)	ns	ns
LSD	–	–	35 (3.5)	53 (5.7)	35 (4.7)	ns	ns
GHB	–	–	21 (2.1)	32 (3.5)	33 (4.4)	ns	Decrease, (p <.01)
Steroids	13 (1.3)	9 (1.1)	16 (1.6)	– ²	18 (2.4)	ns	Increase, (p <.05)
Heroin	21 (2.0)	10 (1.3)	11 (1.1)	14 (1.5)	13 (1.7)	ns	ns

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

2 The item relating to use of steroids was not included in the 2006 survey.

Table 28: Trends in drug use among HIV-positive men¹

	2000 <i>n</i> (%)	2002 <i>n</i> (%)	2004 <i>n</i> (%)	2006 ² <i>n</i> (%)	2008 <i>n</i> (%)	Change from last year χ^2 test (<i>p</i> -value)	Trend over time χ^2 test for trend (<i>p</i> -value)
Marijuana	29 (56.9)	19 (70.4)	25 (51.0)	15 (34.9)	13 (41.9)	ns	Decrease (<i>p</i> <.05)
Ecstasy	18 (35.3)	9 (33.3)	14 (28.6)	7 (16.3)	10 (32.3)	ns	ns
Amyl	24 (47.1)	15 (55.6)	21 (42.9)	18 (41.9)	15 (48.4)	ns	ns
Speed	11 (21.6)	10 (37.0)	8 (16.3)	3 (7.0)	5 (16.1)	ns	ns
Crystal meth	–	–	7 (14.3)	5 (11.6)	7 (22.6)	ns	ns
Viagra	3 (5.9)	5 (18.5)	7 (14.3)	7 (16.3)	10 (32.3)	ns	Increase, (<i>p</i> <.01)

1 Data on other drug use are not reported as the number of HIV-positive men was too small to calculate reliable proportions.

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

Table 29: Trends in drug use among HIV-negative men¹

	2000 <i>n</i> (%)	2002 <i>n</i> (%)	2004 <i>n</i> (%)	2006 ² <i>n</i> (%)	2008 <i>n</i> (%)	Change from last year χ^2 test (<i>p</i> -value)	Trend over time χ^2 test for trend (<i>p</i> -value)
Marijuana	348 (43.9)	218 (36.6)	284 (36.4)	249 (35.7)	190 (34.0)	ns	Decrease (<i>p</i> <.001)
Ecstasy	227 (28.7)	159 (26.7)	239 (30.6)	213 (30.5)	178 (31.9)	ns	ns
Amyl	242 (30.6)	171 (28.7)	229 (29.4)	217 (31.1)	178 (31.9)	ns	ns
Speed	195 (24.6)	115 (19.3)	218 (28.0)	165 (23.6)	124 (22.2)	ns	ns
Crystal meth	–	–	117 (15.0)	94 (13.5)	79 (14.2)	ns	ns
Viagra	39 (4.9)	43 (7.2)	80 (10.3)	91 (13.0)	74 (13.3)	ns	Increase, (<i>p</i> <.001)

1 Data on other drug use are not reported as the number of HIV-negative men is too small to calculate reliable proportions.

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

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

	2006 <i>n</i> (%)	2008 <i>n</i> (%)	Change from last year χ^2 test (<i>p</i> -value)
Never	842 (94.8)	688 (94.5)	ns
Less than monthly	29 (3.3)	16 (2.2)	ns
Monthly	6 (0.7)	15 (2.1)	Increase, (<i>p</i> <.05)
Weekly	11 (1.2)	9 (1.2)	ns
Total	888 (100)	728 (100)	

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

	2006 n (%)	2008 n (%)	Change from last year χ^2 test (p-value)
Never	717 (80.6)	584 (80.3)	ns
Less than monthly	122 (13.7)	97 (13.3)	ns
Monthly	21 (2.4)	32 (4.4)	Increase, (p<.05)
Weekly	29 (3.3)	14 (1.9)	ns
Total	889 (100)	727 (100)	

**WA Centre for Health Promotion Research,
National Centre in HIV Social Research,
National Centre in HIV Epidemiological and
Clinical Research & WA AIDS Council
Perth Gay Community Periodic Survey**

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

Your responses are very important to us.

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

For each question, please TICK one box only.

- How many of your friends are gay or homosexual men?
None _1 A few _2 Some _3 Most _4 All _5
- How much of your free time is spent with gay or homosexual men?
None _1 A little _2 Some _3 A lot _4
- Do you think of yourself as:
Gay/homosexual _1 Bisexual _2 Heterosexual _3
Other (please specify) _____

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

- Do you currently have sex with casual male partners?
No _1 Yes _2
- Do you currently have sex with a regular male partner?
No _1 Yes _2
- How would you describe your sexual relationship with your current regular male partner? (tick one)
we are monogamous – neither of us has casual sex _1
both my partner and I have casual sex with other men _2
I have casual sex with other men but my partner does not _3
my partner has casual sex with other men but I do not _4
I have several regular male partners _5
no current regular male partner _6
- If you are in a regular relationship with a man, for how long has it been?
Less than 6 months _1 1–2 years _3
6–11 months _2 More than 2 years _4
- Not in a regular relationship with a man _5

- How many different men have you had sex with in the past six months?
None _1 2–5 men _3 11–50 men _5
One _2 6–10 men _4 More than 50 men _6

Regular male partners — last 6 months

- Have you had sex with regular male partner/s in the last six months? Yes _1 No _2 Go directly to Q. 22
In the past **SIX MONTHS** which of the following have you done with any or your **REGULAR** male partner/s?

- Oral sex: I sucked his cock but he did NOT come in my mouth
Never _1 Occasionally _2 Often _3
- Oral sex: He sucked my cock but I did NOT come in his mouth
Never _1 Occasionally _2 Often _3
- Oral sex: I sucked his cock and he came in my mouth
Never _1 Occasionally _2 Often _3
- Oral sex: He sucked my cock and I came in his mouth
Never _1 Occasionally _2 Often _3

Anal sex

- I fucked him with a condom
Never _1 Occasionally _2 Often _3
- He fucked me with a condom
Never _1 Occasionally _2 Often _3
- I fucked him without a condom but pulled out before I came
Never _1 Occasionally _2 Often _3
- He fucked me without a condom but pulled out before he came
Never _1 Occasionally _2 Often _3
- I fucked him without a condom and came inside
Never _1 Occasionally _2 Often _3
- He fucked me without a condom and came inside
Never _1 Occasionally _2 Often _3

Casual male partners — last 6 months

- Have you had sex with casual male partners in the last six months? Yes _1 No _2 Go directly to Q.36
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 _1 Occasionally _2 Often _3
- Oral sex: He sucked my cock but I did NOT come in his mouth
Never _1 Occasionally _2 Often _3
- Oral sex: I sucked his cock and he came in my mouth
Never _1 Occasionally _2 Often _3
- Oral sex: He sucked my cock and I came in my mouth
Never _1 Occasionally _2 Often _3

- Oral sex: He sucked my cock and I came in his mouth
Never _1 Occasionally _2 Often _3
- Anal sex
- I fucked him with a condom
Never _1 Occasionally _2 Often _3
- He fucked me with a condom
Never _1 Occasionally _2 Often _3
- I fucked him without a condom but pulled out before I came
Never _1 Occasionally _2 Often _3
- He fucked me without a condom but pulled out before he came
Never _1 Occasionally _2 Often _3
- I fucked him without a condom and came inside
Never _1 Occasionally _2 Often _3
- He fucked me without a condom and came inside
Never _1 Occasionally _2 Often _3

- How many of your casual partners did you tell your HIV status before sex? None _1 Some _2 All _3
- How many of your casual partners told you their HIV status before sex? None _1 Some _2 All _3
- In the last 6 months, who usually talked about HIV status first? We didn't _1 My casual partners did _3
I did _2 Equally often them or me _4
- In the past six months, how often did you have group sex involving at least two other men:
Every week _1 Monthly _2 Once a few times _3 Never _4

- What do you know about post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) (medication to prevent HIV transmission after unsafe sex)?
It's readily available now _1
It will be available in the future _2
I've never heard about it _3 (Go directly to Q.50)

- Have you heard about the PEP Line? No _1 Yes _2
- At most, PEP must be commenced within what period of time after the risk event?
12 hours _1 1 week _3
72 hours _2 Don't know / unsure _4
- Have you received PEP in the last 6 months?
No _1 Yes _2

continues on other side ↩ 1

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

40. 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

41. 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 three questions.

42. When were you first diagnosed with HIV?
 Less than 6 months ago 1-2 years ago
 7-12 months ago More than two years ago

43. Are you on combination antiretroviral therapy? No Yes

44. 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...

45. 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

46. Is your regular partner's viral load?
 Undetectable Detectable Don't know / unsure

47. 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

48. 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

49. How old are you? _____ years

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

51. What is your ethnic background? (eg Dutch, Greek, Thai)
 Anglo-Australian only
 Other (please specify): _____

52. Are you: (tick one only)
 Employed full-time A student
 Employed part-time Unemployed
 On pension / social security Other

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

54. Where do you live? Postcode
 OR Suburb/Town: _____

55. Where do you look for male sex partners?
 Internet Never Occasionally Often
 Gay bar Never Occasionally Often
 Other bars Never Occasionally Often
 Gym Never Occasionally Often
 Beat Never Occasionally Often
 Gay sauna Never Occasionally Often
 Other sex venue Never Occasionally Often
 Private sex parties Never Occasionally Often
 Interstate Never Occasionally Often
 Overseas Never Occasionally Often

56. In the last 6 months, how many of your male sexual partners did you find on the Internet?
 None 2-5 men 11-50 men
 One 6-10 men More than 50 men

57. 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

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

59. Which of these STIs have been featured in recent advertising and news articles in gay media? (tick as many as apply)
 Chlamydia Gonorrhoea Syphilis Don't recall

60. Which was the main message of recent STI promotions?
 Condoms don't protect you from all STIs
 Get tested for STIs regularly
 STIS don't always show symptoms
 Not sure/don't know
 I am not aware of the recent campaigns

61. How often have you used these drugs in the past 6 months?
 Never times 1-5 6-10 11-20 More than 20 times
 Amyl/Poppers
 Marijuana
 Viagra/Cialis etc.
 Ecstasy
 Speed
 Cocaine
 Crystal Meth
 LSD /trips
 GHB
 Special K
 Heroin
 Steroids
 Any other drug

62. How often have you injected drugs in the past 6 months?
 Every week At least monthly Every 3 months
 Once or a few times Never

63. How often have you used party drugs for the purpose of sex in the past 6 months?
 Every week At least monthly
 Every 3 months Once or a few times Never

64. In the past 6 months, how often have you had group sex after or while using party drugs?
 Every week At least monthly
 Every 3 months Once or a few times Never

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME 1-2008/1