

Vital Statistics 2007 The UK Gay Men's Sex Survey

Northern Ireland Health and Social Services Boards of residence data report (August 2008)

This report uses data from the UK *Gay Men's Sex Survey 2007*, conducted by Sigma Research in collaboration with health promoters throughout the UK. It supplements the main survey report which will be published in December 2008. Survey methods and interpretation of the variables will be outlined in that report.

This data is intended to provide HIV health promotion planners with information about their local population of gay men and bisexual men. The report contains data from men who live in Northern Ireland and for whom Health and Social Services Board of residence is known. Respondents are grouped according to the Board in which they live.

There are also whole country reports for England, Wales, Scotland and the Republic of Ireland, with men grouped according to their region of residence. There are also individual data reports for each Strategic Health Authority (SHA) in England, with men grouped according to their Primary Care Trust (PCT) of residence. These, and similar reports for previous years, are available at: www.sigmaresearch.org.uk/go.php/local/gay

The data

The survey used two data collection methods over the summer of 2007: a self-sealing, Freepost addressed booklet distributed by health promotion agencies; and via a specific website promoted via links on gay and HIV-related websites.

This report contains data from all the men recruited through both methods. To be included in the sample respondents had to: be male; be aged 14 or over; be living in the UK; have had sex with a man in the last year or have a gay, bisexual or other "queer" identity; have completed at least one demographic question and one other question. Differences between the number of surveys returned and the number of men who appear in the sample are due to these exclusions.

The tables

Groups of men living in the same Health and Social Services Board appear as a row (horizontal line) in the tables. The bottom row of each table gives the result for all men living in Northern Ireland. The first table shows the number of men recruited to the survey living in each Board and the size of the sub-samples in the rest of the tables. Boards with fewer than 20 men in the sample are reported as "all other NI (Northern Ireland) men". The tables show the proportions (%) of each sub-sample for that variable (less missing data). Rows add up to 100%. The only exception to this layout is table 3, Age averages.

Questionnaires

The contents page identifies the Booklet question number (Q) each table is derived from. The questionnaire used in the survey is available to download at: www.sigmaresearch.org.uk/files/VS2007booklet.pdf

Funding

The survey was funded by Terrence Higgins Trust as part of CHAPS, a national HIV prevention initiative funded by the English Department of Health and the National Assembly for Wales. Online recruitment occurred in England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. Booklet recruitment occurred in England and Wales.



Table Contents

SAMPLE DESCRIPTION

1. Web and booklet sample sizes by Health and Social Services Board of residence.
2. Age groups; Q5 grouped into ten year age bands.
3. Age averages; from Q5; the median age (line them up by size and pick the one in the middle), the minimum (youngest) and maximum (oldest) ages, the mean age (add them up and divide by how many there are), and the standard deviation (a measure of how spread out along the range they are).
4. Ethnicity in 6 groups; from Q6.
5. Sexual identity; Q48.
6. Gender of sexual partners in the last year; Q16.
7. Marriage / civil partnership status; Q4.
8. Sero-discordancy with male regular partner; Q9.

HIV TESTING & HEPATITIS SUSCEPTIBILITY

9. HIV testing history; Q7.
10. Hepatitis B susceptibility; Q12.
11. Hepatitis A susceptibility; Q14.

SEXUAL BEHAVIOUR

12. Number of male sexual partners in the last year; Q17.
13. Met new male sexual partner/s in last year (among those who had any male partners); Q20.
14. Unprotected anal intercourse (UAI) in the previous year, with partners whose HIV status was unknown or discordant; Q24+Q25+Q28+Q29.
15. Perceived HIV transmission risk in the last year (for all men); Q21.

HEALTH NEEDS

16. Ever heard of PEP; Q33.
17. Any concern about your alcohol use; Q32.
18. Any concern about your drug use; Q32.
19. *I would sometimes rather risk HIV transmission than use a condom;* Q39a.
20. *I can talk to my friends about safer sex and HIV;* Q39b.
21. *I have someone to talk to if I'm worried about safer sex and HIV;* Q39c.
22. *If I wanted to know something about safer sex or HIV, I'd know how to find the answer;* Q39d.
23. How easy do you find it to decline sexual contact with other men? Q40.
24. How easy is it for you to have safer sex during sexual encounters? Q41.
25. How easy is it for you to negotiate the sex that you want? Q42.
26. How easy is it for you to maintain condom use in your sexual encounters? Q43.

Sigma Research
77a Tradescant Road
London, SW8 1XJ
020-7820 8022
David.Reid@sigmaresearch.org.uk
www.sigmaresearch.org.uk

SAMPLE DESCRIPTION

1. Web and booklet sample sizes by Health and Social Services Board of residence

Count

	Distribution method		Total
	Web	Booklet	
Eastern	68	3	71
Southern	12	0	12
Northern	20	1	21
Western	13	0	13
Board unknown	1	2	3
Total	114	6	120

2. Age groups.

% within NI Health Board of Residence

	Age in 10s					Total
	<20	20s	30s	40s	50+	
Eastern	7.1%	42.9%	28.6%	12.9%	8.6%	100.0%
Northern	14.3%	38.1%	19.0%	14.3%	14.3%	100.0%
All other NI men	28.0%	28.0%	12.0%	20.0%	12.0%	100.0%
Total	12.9%	38.8%	23.3%	14.7%	10.3%	100.0%

3. Age averages.

Age

NI Health Board	Median	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
Eastern	29.50	14	62	31.60	10.932
Northern	27.00	18	62	31.71	13.748
All other NI men	26.00	16	56	30.40	13.042
Total	29.00	14	62	31.36	11.846

4. Ethnicity in 6 groups.

% within NI Health Board of Residence

	Ethnicity						Total
	White British	White other	Black	Asian	Mixed	Other	
Eastern	50.7%	46.5%				2.8%	100.0%
Northern	42.9%	28.6%	14.3%		14.3%		100.0%
All other NI men	46.4%	42.9%		7.1%	3.6%		100.0%
Total	48.3%	42.5%	2.5%	1.7%	3.3%	1.7%	100.0%

5. Sexual identity.

% within NI Health Board of Residence

	Sexual identity			Total
	Gay	Bisexual	I don't usually use a term	
Eastern	77.5%	11.3%	11.3%	100.0%
Northern	71.4%	28.6%		100.0%
All other NI men	75.0%	17.9%	7.1%	100.0%
Total	75.8%	15.8%	8.3%	100.0%

6. Gender of sexual partners in the last year.

% within NI Health Board of Residence

	Gender of sexual partners				Total
	No one	Women only	Both men and women	Men only	
Eastern	7.0%		12.7%	80.3%	100.0%
Northern		4.8%	23.8%	71.4%	100.0%
All other NI men	21.4%		10.7%	67.9%	100.0%
Total	9.2%	.8%	14.2%	75.8%	100.0%

7. Marriage / civil partnership status.

% within NI Health Board of Residence

	Legal partnership status			Total
	in a civil partnership with a man	in a marriage with a woman	in neither of these	
Eastern	7.1%	7.1%	85.7%	100.0%
Northern	14.3%	9.5%	76.2%	100.0%
All other NI men	14.8%	7.4%	77.8%	100.0%
Total	10.2%	7.6%	82.2%	100.0%

8. Sero-discordancy with male regular partner.

% within NI Health Board of Residence

	HIV serodiscordancy with male partner			Total
	Not in sero-discordant relationship	In sero-discordant relationship	Don't know if sero-discordant	
Eastern	88.7%	2.8%	8.5%	100.0%
Northern	85.0%	10.0%	5.0%	100.0%
All other NI men	78.6%		21.4%	100.0%
Total	85.7%	3.4%	10.9%	100.0%

HIV TESTING & HEPATITIS SUSCEPTIBILITY

9. HIV testing history

% within NI Health Board of Residence

	HIV testing history			Total
	Never tested	Tested positive	Tested negative	
Eastern	42.3%	4.2%	53.5%	100.0%
Northern	61.9%	4.8%	33.3%	100.0%
All other NI men	64.3%	7.1%	28.6%	100.0%
Total	50.8%	5.0%	44.2%	100.0%

10. Hepatitis B susceptibility.

% within NI Health Board of Residence

	Hepatitis B susceptibility		Total
	Susceptible	Not Susceptible	
Eastern	65.7%	34.3%	100.0%
Northern	57.1%	42.9%	100.0%
All other NI men	81.5%	18.5%	100.0%
Total	67.8%	32.2%	100.0%

11. Hepatitis A susceptibility.

% within NI Health Board of Residence

	Hepatitis A susceptibility		Total
	Susceptible	Not Susceptible	
Eastern	81.2%	18.8%	100.0%
Northern	81.0%	19.0%	100.0%
All other NI men	77.8%	22.2%	100.0%
Total	80.3%	19.7%	100.0%

SEXUAL BEHAVIOUR

12. Number of male sexual partners in the last year.

% within NI Health Board of Residence

	Number of male sexual partners in the last year						Total
	None	One	2,3 or 4	5 to 12	13 to 29	30 or more	
Eastern	8.5%	31.0%	22.5%	23.9%	11.3%	2.8%	100.0%
Northern	4.8%	19.0%	47.6%	14.3%	9.5%	4.8%	100.0%
All other NI men	25.0%	28.6%	17.9%	17.9%	7.1%	3.6%	100.0%
Total	11.7%	28.3%	25.8%	20.8%	10.0%	3.3%	100.0%

13. Met new male sexual partner/s in last year.

% within NI Health Board of Residence

	Met new male partner		Total
	No	Yes	
Eastern	30.8%	69.2%	100.0%
Northern	20.0%	80.0%	100.0%
All other NI men	14.3%	85.7%	100.0%
Total	25.5%	74.5%	100.0%

14. Unprotected anal intercourse (UAI) in the previous year with partners whose HIV status was unknown or discordant.

% within NI Health Board of Residence

	UAI with partners of unknown or discordant status				Total
	Not done	Insertive only	Receptive only	Both Insertive and Receptive	
Eastern	77.9%	5.9%	7.4%	8.8%	100.0%
Northern	66.7%	4.8%	4.8%	23.8%	100.0%
All other NI men	74.1%	11.1%	3.7%	11.1%	100.0%
Total	75.0%	6.9%	6.0%	12.1%	100.0%

15. Perceived HIV transmission risk in the last year (for all men).

% within NI Health Board of Residence

	HIV transmission risk in last year		Total
	No	Yes	
Eastern	68.2%	31.8%	100.0%
Northern	71.4%	28.6%	100.0%
All other NI men	73.9%	26.1%	100.0%
Total	70.0%	30.0%	100.0%

HEALTH NEEDS

16. Ever heard of PEP.

% within NI Health Board of Residence

	Heard of PEP		Total
	No	Yes	
Eastern	72.5%	27.5%	100.0%
Northern	75.0%	25.0%	100.0%
All other NI men	69.2%	30.8%	100.0%
Total	72.2%	27.8%	100.0%

17. Any concern about your alcohol use.

% within NI Health Board of Residence

	Any concern about alcohol use		Total
	No	Yes	
Eastern	94.4%	5.6%	100.0%
Northern	90.5%	9.5%	100.0%
All other NI men	77.8%	22.2%	100.0%
Total	89.9%	10.1%	100.0%

18. Any concern about your drug use.

% within NI Health Board of Residence

	Any concern about drug use		Total
	No	Yes	
Eastern	94.4%	5.6%	100.0%
Northern	85.7%	14.3%	100.0%
All other NI men	92.6%	7.4%	100.0%
Total	92.4%	7.6%	100.0%

19. I would sometimes rather risk HIV transmission than use a condom.

% within NI Health Board of Residence

	Sometimes rather risk HIV transmission than use a condom					Total
	Strongly agree	Agree	Not sure	Disagree	Strongly disagree	
Eastern	1.4%	5.7%	7.1%	12.9%	72.9%	100.0%
Northern	4.8%	28.6%		14.3%	52.4%	100.0%
All other NI men		4.0%	24.0%	28.0%	44.0%	100.0%
Total	1.7%	9.5%	9.5%	16.4%	62.9%	100.0%

20. I can talk to my friends about safer sex and HIV.

% within NI Health Board of Residence

	I can talk to my friends about safer sex and HIV					Total
	Strongly agree	Agree	Not sure	Disagree	Strongly disagree	
Eastern	38.0%	43.7%	7.0%	5.6%	5.6%	100.0%
Northern	40.0%	30.0%	10.0%	10.0%	10.0%	100.0%
All other NI men	15.4%	46.2%	30.8%		7.7%	100.0%
Total	33.3%	41.9%	12.8%	5.1%	6.8%	100.0%

21. I have someone to talk to if I'm worried about safer sex and HIV.

% within NI Health Board of Residence

	I have someone to talk to if I'm worried about safer sex and HIV					Total
	Strongly agree	Agree	Not sure	Disagree	Strongly disagree	
Eastern	32.4%	39.4%	14.1%	4.2%	9.9%	100.0%
Northern	23.8%	33.3%	9.5%	9.5%	23.8%	100.0%
All other NI men	19.2%	46.2%	23.1%		11.5%	100.0%
Total	28.0%	39.8%	15.3%	4.2%	12.7%	100.0%

22. If I wanted to know something about safer sex or HIV, I'd know how to find the answer.

% within NI Health Board of Residence

	If I wanted to know something about safer sex or HIV, I'd know how to find the answer					Total
	Strongly agree	Agree	Not sure	Disagree	Strongly disagree	
Eastern	50.7%	35.2%	8.5%	1.4%	4.2%	100.0%
Northern	33.3%	28.6%	23.8%	14.3%		100.0%
All other NI men	26.9%	38.5%	15.4%	11.5%	7.7%	100.0%
Total	42.4%	34.7%	12.7%	5.9%	4.2%	100.0%

23. How easy do you find it to decline sexual contact from other men?

% within NI Health Board of Residence

	Ease of declining sexual contact from other men				Total
	Very easy	Quite easy	Quite difficult	Very difficult	
Eastern	39.7%	38.2%	13.2%	8.8%	100.0%
Northern	52.4%	19.0%	19.0%	9.5%	100.0%
All other NI men	25.0%	29.2%	33.3%	12.5%	100.0%
Total	38.9%	32.7%	18.6%	9.7%	100.0%

24. How easy is it for you to have safer sex during sexual encounters?

% within NI Health Board of Residence

	Ease of having safer sex during sexual encounters				Total
	Very easy	Quite easy	Quite difficult	Very difficult	
Eastern	52.9%	36.8%	5.9%	4.4%	100.0%
Northern	57.1%	19.0%	14.3%	9.5%	100.0%
All other NI men	50.0%	42.3%	3.8%	3.8%	100.0%
Total	53.0%	34.8%	7.0%	5.2%	100.0%

25. How easy is it for you to negotiate the sex that you want?

% within NI Health Board of Residence

	Ease of negotiating sex that is wanted				Total
	Very easy	Quite easy	Quite difficult	Very difficult	
Eastern	39.1%	52.2%	5.8%	2.9%	100.0%
Northern	47.6%	38.1%	9.5%	4.8%	100.0%
All other NI men	40.0%	44.0%	8.0%	8.0%	100.0%
Total	40.9%	47.8%	7.0%	4.3%	100.0%

26. How easy is it for you to maintain condom use in your sexual encounters?

% within NI Health Board of Residence

	Ease of maintaining condom use in sexual encounters				Total
	Very easy	Quite easy	Quite difficult	Very difficult	
Eastern	40.6%	42.0%	11.6%	5.8%	100.0%
Northern	52.4%	19.0%	19.0%	9.5%	100.0%
All other NI men	46.2%	30.8%	19.2%	3.8%	100.0%
Total	44.0%	35.3%	14.7%	6.0%	100.0%

<ENDS>