

# Vital Statistics Republic of Ireland 2006

## The Gay Men's Sex Survey

Republic of Ireland Health Service Executive Administrative Areas of Residence Data Report (February 2008)

This is the first release of data from the Gay Men's Sex Survey 2006, conducted by Sigma Research in collaboration with health promoters throughout the UK and Ireland. This data is intended to provide health promotion planners with information about their local gay population. Respondents are grouped according to their Health Service Executive Areas of residence with the exceptions of Dublin City and County residents who are included in a separate column and Tipperary residents who are all included in the 'South' Executive area, at the request of the gay Men's Health Project. The report indicates where this is not the case.

### *The data*

In the Republic of Ireland the report used a single data collection methods over the summer of 2006:

- (1) On a specific web-site <<http://www.sigmasurvey.org.uk>>, promoted via links on 15 gay and HIV related web-sites. Two sites, gay.com and gaydar.co.uk, conducted substantial paid for promotion of the survey.

The respondents are grouped according to the agency which recruited them. To be included in the sample respondents must:

- be male;
- be aged 14 or over;
- be living in the Republic of Ireland;
- 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 Service Executive Area (HSE) or Dublin appear as a line in the tables. The bottom line of each table gives the result for the entire sample. The first table shows the number of men recruited to the survey living in each HSE area and the size of the Sub-samples in the rest of the tables. The tables show the proportions (%) of each sub-sample for that variable (less missing data). Rows (lines across 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: <http://www.sigmaresearch.org.uk/files/VS2006booklet.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. Web recruitment occurred in England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. Booklet recruitment occurred in England and Wales.



## Table Contents

### **SAMPLE DESCRIPTION**

- 1a. Health Service Executive Administrative Area of residence.
- 1b. Health Service Executive Administrative Area and County of residence.
- 1c. Web distribution.
2. Age groups; Q7 grouped into ten year age bands.
3. Age averages; from Q7; 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. Years of full-time education after the age of 16 years of age; Q8.
5. Sexual identity; Q6.
6. Ethnicity in six groups; from Q9.
7. Living arrangements; Q10.

### **HIV & Hepatitis C TESTING**

8. HIV testing history; Q18 + Q19 + Q20.
9. Hepatitis C testing history ; Q25 + Q26.

### **SEXUAL BEHAVIOUR**

10. Gender of sexual partner in the last year; Q28.
11. HIV concordancy of regular male relationship - whether men have a regular partner and if so, whether they have the same (sero-concordant) or different (sero-discordant) HIV statuses, or don't know; Q11 + Q17.
12. Number of male sexual partners in the last year; Q29 (Those who had sex with men).
13. Anal intercourse and condom use in the last year; Q28 + Q30.

### **HEALTH NEEDS**

14. *HIV is still a very serious condition; 31a.*
15. *The sex I have is always as safe as I want it to be; Q31b.*
16. *I'd expect a man with HIV to tell me he was positive before we had sex; Q31c.*
17. *I'd know where to go if I wanted to make some new friends; Q39a.*
18. *I'd like more ways of meeting other Gay men that don't revolve around sex; Q39b.*
19. *I would like to be more involved in promoting the health of Gay and Bisexual men; Q39c.*

Sigma Research address: 77a Tradescant Road London SW8 1XJ  
www.sigmaresearch.org.uk  
Ph 020 7820 8022 Fax 020 7793 8009  
David.Reid@sigmaresearch.org.uk

**Vital Statistics 2006**  
**The Gay Men's Sex Survey**  
**ROI Health Service Executive Administrative Areas of residence Data Report (February 2008)**

**Sample Description**

**1a. Health Service Executive Area.**

	Frequency	Percent
North East	17	2.6
Mid Leinster	22	3.4
Dublin City/County	199	31.0
West	49	7.6
South	133	20.7
HSE Area Unknown	222	34.6
Total	642	100.0

**1b. Health Service Executive area and County of residence.**

Count

	Health Service Executive Areas (ROI)						Total
	North East	Mid Leinster	Dublin City/County	West	South	HSE Area Unknown	
County unknown	0	0	0	0	0	222	222
Dublin	0	0	199	0	0	0	199
Carlow	0	0	0	0	4	0	4
Clare	0	0	0	3	0	0	3
Cork	0	0	0	0	93	0	93
Donegal	0	0	0	5	0	0	5
Galway	0	0	0	17	0	0	17
Kerry	0	0	0	0	10	0	10
Kildare	0	10	0	0	0	0	10
Kilkenny	0	0	0	0	4	0	4
Laois	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Leitrim	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Limerick	0	0	0	17	0	0	17
Louth	5	0	0	0	0	0	5
Mayo	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
Meath	10	0	0	0	0	0	10
Sligo	0	0	0	4	0	0	4
Tipperary	0	0	0	0	7	0	7
Waterford	0	0	0	0	9	0	9
Westmeath	0	3	0	0	0	0	3
Wexford	0	0	0	0	6	0	6
Wicklow	0	8	0	0	0	0	8
Cavan	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>642</b>

### 1c. Web distribution

Count

	Health Service Executive Areas (ROI)						Total
	North East	Mid Leinster	Dublin City/County	West	South	HSE Area Unknown	
Web unknown	0	1	1	0	1	5	8
Gay.com	1	5	48	10	16	56	136
gaydar	0	0	7	2	4	13	26
Gay Men's Health [Edinburgh] gmh.org.uk	0	0	3	3	1	1	8
Rainbow Project	0	0	0	1	1	0	2
Yorkshire Mesmac [Leeds]	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Cork Gay Health Project	0	0	5	4	11	9	29
Outhouse Resource Centre	1	3	16	3	0	6	29
GAIRE	7	7	49	10	11	36	120
Gay Cork	0	2	2	3	80	46	133
Gay Health Network	2	1	15	0	1	12	31
Queer ID	0	0	12	2	1	7	22
THT Website	0	0	1	0	0	2	3
Email invitation from Demographix	0	0	4	1	0	2	7
GCN Ireland (Gay Community News)	6	3	35	10	6	25	85
Gay Surrey	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Healthy Gay Scotland	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Total	17	22	199	49	133	222	642

## 2. Age Groups

% within Health Service Executive Areas (ROI)

	Age Groups				
	<20	20s	30s	40s	50+
North East	5.9%	64.7%	11.8%	11.8%	5.9%
Mid Leinster	18.2%	22.7%	31.8%	18.2%	9.1%
Dublin City/County	8.0%	48.2%	29.6%	10.1%	4.0%
West	10.2%	57.1%	20.4%	8.2%	4.1%
South	10.5%	49.6%	24.1%	14.3%	1.5%
All other ROI Men	6.4%	43.2%	24.5%	19.1%	6.8%
Total	8.4%	47.0%	25.6%	14.2%	4.7%

## 3. Age averages.

Age

Health Service Executive Areas (ROI)	Median	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
North East	24.00	18	56	27.88	9.949
Mid Leinster	31.00	18	55	32.59	10.608
Dublin City/County	28.00	14	61	29.79	8.805
West	26.00	17	53	28.18	8.477
South	27.00	16	60	29.32	8.612
All other ROI Men	30.00	14	89	32.42	11.264
Total	28.00	14	89	30.52	9.842

## 4. Years of full-time education after the age of 16 years of age.

% within Health Service Executive Areas (ROI)

	Years in full-time education post - 16				
	None	1 year	2 years	3 to 5 years	6 or more years
North East	11.8%		29.4%	47.1%	11.8%
Mid Leinster	4.5%	4.5%	18.2%	36.4%	36.4%
Dublin City/County	3.5%	4.5%	13.1%	36.7%	42.2%
West	2.0%	2.0%	12.2%	46.9%	36.7%
South	3.8%	1.5%	13.0%	45.0%	36.6%
All other ROI Men	6.8%	3.6%	10.0%	38.2%	41.4%
Total	4.9%	3.3%	12.5%	40.0%	39.3%

## 5. Sexual identity.

% within Health Service Executive Areas (ROI)

	Sexual identity		
	Gay	Bisexual	I don't usually use a term
North East	76.5%	23.5%	
Mid Leinster	59.1%	31.8%	9.1%
Dublin City/County	83.4%	12.6%	4.0%
West	81.6%	12.2%	6.1%
South	78.9%	10.5%	10.5%
All other ROI Men	71.6%	17.6%	10.8%
Total	77.3%	14.8%	7.9%

## 6. Ethnicity in six groups.

% within Health Service Executive Areas (ROI)

	Ethnicity					
	White British	White other	Black	Asian	Mixed	Other
North East		100.0%				
Mid Leinster		100.0%				
Dublin City/County	4.5%	93.0%		1.0%	.5%	1.0%
West	4.1%	91.8%			2.0%	2.0%
South	3.0%	95.5%			.8%	.8%
All other ROI Men	5.4%	91.4%	.5%		.9%	1.8%
Total	4.2%	93.3%	.2%	.3%	.8%	1.2%

## 7. Living arrangements.

% within Health Service Executive Areas (ROI)

	Living arrangements		
	Live alone	Live with male partner	Live with others not male partner
North East	35.3%	11.8%	52.9%
Mid Leinster	14.3%	9.5%	76.2%
Dublin City/County	27.6%	19.1%	53.3%
West	22.4%	18.4%	59.2%
South	21.2%	21.2%	57.6%
All other ROI Men	28.4%	18.0%	53.6%
Total	25.9%	18.6%	55.5%

## HIV & Hepatitis C testing

### 8. HIV testing history.

% within Health Service Executive Areas (ROI)

	HIV testing history			
	Never tested	-ve test last year	-ver test >1 year ago	Tested HIV positive
North East	52.9%	29.4%	11.8%	5.9%
Mid Leinster	54.5%	22.7%	22.7%	
Dublin City/County	43.7%	34.7%	20.1%	1.5%
West	44.7%	36.2%	17.0%	2.1%
South	48.5%	28.8%	21.2%	1.5%
All other ROI Men	49.3%	27.2%	19.8%	3.7%
Total	47.3%	30.4%	19.9%	2.4%

### 9. Hepatitis C testing history.

% within Health Service Executive Areas (ROI)

	Hepatitis C testing history				
	Never tested	Tested -ve	Tested +ve no longer have it	Tested +ve still have it	Don't know - if ever tested or diagnosed
North East	58.8%	41.2%			
Mid Leinster	63.6%	27.3%			9.1%
Dublin City/County	42.7%	46.7%	1.5%	.5%	8.5%
West	46.9%	44.9%			8.2%
South	52.6%	40.6%			6.8%
All other ROI Men	54.8%	37.6%	.5%	.9%	6.3%
Total	50.4%	41.3%	.6%	.5%	7.2%

## Sexual behaviour

### 10. Gender of sexual partners in the last year.

% within Health Service Executive Areas (ROI)

	Gender of sexual partners			
	No one	Women only	Both men and women	Men only
North East	5.9%			94.1%
Mid Leinster	13.6%	4.5%	18.2%	63.6%
Dublin City/County	5.5%	2.0%	10.6%	81.9%
West	12.2%		16.3%	71.4%
South	6.8%	1.5%	10.5%	81.2%
All other ROI Men	5.9%	.5%	17.1%	76.6%
Total	6.7%	1.2%	13.2%	78.8%

### 11. HIV concordancy of regular male relationship.

% within Health Service Executive Areas (ROI)

	HIV concordancy of regular male relationship			
	Single	HIV concordant	HIV discordant	Concordancy unknown
North East	70.6%	23.5%	5.9%	
Mid Leinster	68.2%	18.2%		13.6%
Dublin City/County	55.3%	32.7%	.5%	11.6%
West	56.3%	33.3%	2.1%	8.3%
South	50.4%	44.4%	1.5%	3.8%
All other ROI Men	54.5%	32.7%	4.5%	8.2%
Total	54.9%	34.4%	2.3%	8.3%

**12. Number of male sexual partners in the last year (those who had sex with men).**

% within Health Service Executive Areas (ROI)

	Number of male sexual partners				
	One	2,3 or 4	5 to 12	13 to 29	30 or more
North East	18.8%	50.0%	12.5%	12.5%	6.3%
Mid Leinster	16.7%	33.3%	22.2%	16.7%	11.1%
Dublin City/County	29.3%	28.8%	21.7%	12.5%	7.6%
West	18.6%	41.9%	23.3%	9.3%	7.0%
South	26.2%	41.0%	20.5%	7.4%	4.9%
All other ROI Men	25.0%	39.2%	20.1%	9.8%	5.9%
Total	25.7%	36.6%	20.8%	10.4%	6.5%

**13. Anal intercourse and condom use in the last year.**

% within Health Service Executive Areas (ROI)

	Anal intercourse and condom use in the last year.		
	No anal intercourse	Any anal intercourse always protected	Any unprotected anal intercourse
North East	17.6%	17.6%	64.7%
Mid Leinster	27.3%	40.9%	31.8%
Dublin City/County	19.6%	32.2%	48.2%
West	24.5%	32.7%	42.9%
South	23.5%	34.8%	41.7%
All other ROI Men	19.4%	34.3%	46.3%
Total	20.9%	33.4%	45.7%

## Health Needs

### 14. "HIV is still a very serious medical condition."

% within Health Service Executive Areas (ROI)

	"HIV is still a very serious medical condition."				
	Strongly agree	Agree	Not sure/neither	Disagree	Strongly disagree
North East	82.4%	17.6%			
Mid Leinster	100.0%				
Dublin City/County	80.9%	15.1%	3.5%	.5%	
West	89.6%	10.4%			
South	86.9%	12.3%	.8%		
All other ROI Men	80.9%	16.4%	.9%	.5%	1.4%
Total	83.5%	14.2%	1.6%	.3%	.5%

### 15. "The sex I have is always as safe as I want it to be."

% within Health Service Executive Areas (ROI)

	"The sex I have is always as safe as I want it to be."				
	Strongly agree	Agree	Not sure/neither	Disagree	Strongly disagree
North East	29.4%	47.1%	11.8%	5.9%	5.9%
Mid Leinster	38.1%	33.3%	19.0%	9.5%	
Dublin City/County	50.5%	30.8%	8.1%	10.1%	.5%
West	45.8%	37.5%	12.5%	4.2%	
South	56.2%	23.8%	13.8%	3.8%	2.3%
All other ROI Men	54.8%	27.6%	9.5%	7.7%	.5%
Total	51.8%	29.3%	10.6%	7.4%	.9%

**16. "I'd expect a man with HIV to tell me he was positive before we had sex."**

% within Health Service Executive Areas (ROI)

	"I'd expect a man with HIV to tell me he was positive before we had sex."				
	Strongly agree	Agree	Not sure/neither	Disagree	Strongly disagree
North East	70.6%	5.9%	5.9%	5.9%	11.8%
Mid Leinster	63.6%	13.6%	9.1%	9.1%	4.5%
Dublin City/County	66.8%	14.6%	7.0%	9.5%	2.0%
West	72.9%	18.8%	4.2%	4.2%	
South	74.4%	14.7%	3.1%	5.4%	2.3%
All other ROI Men	67.4%	11.8%	8.1%	5.9%	6.8%
Total	69.0%	13.7%	6.4%	6.9%	3.9%

**17. "I'd know where to go if I wanted to make some new friends."**

% within Health Service Executive Areas (ROI)

	"I'd know where to go if I wanted to make some new friends."				
	Strongly agree	Agree	Not sure/neither	Disagree	Strongly disagree
North East	5.9%	47.1%	29.4%	11.8%	5.9%
Mid Leinster	9.1%	36.4%	31.8%	9.1%	13.6%
Dublin City/County	21.2%	44.9%	24.7%	6.1%	3.0%
West	24.5%	26.5%	32.7%	10.2%	6.1%
South	23.3%	33.8%	30.1%	9.0%	3.8%
All other ROI Men	22.2%	28.5%	29.9%	14.5%	5.0%
Total	21.4%	35.3%	28.6%	10.2%	4.5%

**18. "I'd like more ways of meeting other Gay men that don't revolve around sex."**

% within Health Service Executive Areas (ROI)

	"I'd like more ways of meeting other Gay men that don't revolve around sex."				
	Strongly agree	Agree	Not sure/neither	Disagree	Strongly disagree
North East	35.3%	52.9%	11.8%		
Mid Leinster	31.8%	31.8%	18.2%	18.2%	
Dublin City/County	45.2%	39.2%	6.0%	8.0%	1.5%
West	49.0%	30.6%	8.2%	8.2%	4.1%
South	54.2%	26.7%	8.4%	7.6%	3.1%
All other ROI Men	43.8%	34.2%	12.3%	6.8%	2.7%
Total	46.2%	34.4%	9.4%	7.7%	2.4%

**19. "I would like to be more involved in promoting the health of Gay and Bisexual men."**

% within Health Service Executive Areas (ROI)

	"I would like to be more involved in promoting the health of Gay and Bisexual men."				
	Strongly agree	Agree	Not sure/neither	Disagree	Strongly disagree
North East	35.3%	29.4%	11.8%	23.5%	
Mid Leinster	13.6%	31.8%	36.4%	9.1%	9.1%
Dublin City/County	16.6%	33.7%	38.2%	10.1%	1.5%
West	14.3%	34.7%	38.8%	12.2%	
South	23.3%	25.6%	33.1%	14.3%	3.8%
All other ROI Men	19.9%	28.5%	33.9%	14.5%	3.2%
Total	19.3%	30.1%	34.9%	12.9%	2.7%

**END**