

Vital Statistics 2007 The UK Gay Men's Sex Survey

Area Sub-samples Data Report (January 2009: Version 2)

South East Coast Strategic Health Authority (n=391)

Important Note: This report supercedes the GMSS'07 local data reports released in August 2008. Subsequent to that release of data we identified a problem with a number of cases which we believe to have been falsified. The false cases seemed to be an attempt to systematically skew the findings in a particular area of the survey, but provided incomplete data in other areas. In order to exclude as many of these false cases as possible, while retaining valid cases, we tightened the inclusion criteria and excluded all cases missing responses for any of 31 survey items. This resulted in the loss of 29% of all cases, which accounts for the reduction in cases in the report compared with the earlier data release. This has been necessary for us to continue to have confidence in the data that remains.

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 April 2009. 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. There is a data report for each Strategic Health Authority (SHA) in England, with men grouped according to their Primary Care Trust (PCT) of residence. There are also whole country reports for England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland, with men grouped according to their region 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 PCT appear as a row (horizontal line) in the tables. The bottom row of each table gives the result for the entire SHA. The first table shows the number of men recruited to the survey living in PCT areas and the size of the sub-samples in the rest of the tables. PCT areas with fewer than 20 men in the sample are reported as "all other men". Some adjoining PCT areas are amalgamated where respondents cannot be allocated to an individual PCT area. 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

- 1a. Primary Care Trust (PCT) area of residence.
- 1b. Web and booklet sample sizes by PCT area 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

1a. Primary Care Trust (PCT) area of residence.

	Frequency	Percent
Brighton and Hove City Teaching	138	35.3
Surrey	90	23.0
Eastern and Coastal Kent	37	9.5
West Sussex	30	7.7
Medway	24	6.1
West Kent	18	4.6
East Sussex Downs and Weald	18	4.6
West or Eastern & Coastal Kent (PCT Unknown)	16	4.1
Hastings and Rother	16	4.1
E. Sussex Downs & Weald or Hastings & Rother (PCT unknown)	3	.8
PCT area unknown	1	.3
Total	391	100.0

1b. Web and booklet sample sizes by PCT area of residence.

Count

	Distribution method		Total
	Web	Booklet	
Surrey	67	23	90
Medway	12	12	24
Eastern and Coastal Kent	31	6	37
West Sussex	22	8	30
Brighton and Hove City Teaching	73	65	138
All other South East Coast SHA men	54	18	72
Total	259	132	391

2. Age groups.

% within Demog - PCT area of residence

	Age in 10s					Total
	<20	20s	30s	40s	50+	
Surrey	8.9%	31.1%	14.4%	28.9%	16.7%	100.0%
Medway	16.7%	25.0%	20.8%	33.3%	4.2%	100.0%
Eastern and Coastal Kent	16.2%	32.4%	21.6%	21.6%	8.1%	100.0%
West Sussex	10.0%	43.3%	16.7%	30.0%		100.0%
Brighton and Hove City Teaching	1.4%	20.3%	36.2%	28.3%	13.8%	100.0%
All other South East Coast SHA men	11.1%	30.6%	16.7%	22.2%	19.4%	100.0%
Total	7.9%	27.9%	23.8%	27.1%	13.3%	100.0%

3. Age averages.

Age

Demog - PCT area of residence	Median	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
Surrey	34.50	15	74	36.56	14.254
Medway	35.50	16	54	33.08	10.970
Eastern and Coastal Kent	30.00	15	67	32.03	12.352
West Sussex	28.50	16	49	31.37	10.377
Brighton and Hove City Teaching	37.00	17	81	37.89	12.348
All other South East Coast SHA men	34.00	16	69	36.42	15.375
Total	35.00	15	81	35.96	13.311

4. Ethnicity in 6 groups.

% within Demog - PCT area of residence

	Ethnicity						Total
	White other	Black	Asian	Mixed	Other	White British	
Surrey	5.6%		1.1%		2.2%	91.1%	100.0%
Medway				8.3%		91.7%	100.0%
Eastern and Coastal Kent	2.7%		2.7%	5.4%	2.7%	86.5%	100.0%
West Sussex	20.0%			3.3%		76.7%	100.0%
Brighton and Hove City Teaching	10.9%	.7%	2.2%	2.9%	2.9%	80.3%	100.0%
All other South East Coast SHA men	8.3%		1.4%		1.4%	88.9%	100.0%
Total	8.5%	.3%	1.5%	2.3%	2.1%	85.4%	100.0%

5. Sexual identity.

% within Demog - PCT area of residence

	Sexual identity				Total
	Gay	Bisexual	I don't usually use a term	Any other term	
Surrey	82.2%	15.6%	2.2%		100.0%
Medway	87.5%	4.2%	8.3%		100.0%
Eastern and Coastal Kent	91.9%	5.4%	2.7%		100.0%
West Sussex	100.0%				100.0%
Brighton and Hove City Teaching	95.7%	.7%	1.4%	2.2%	100.0%
All other South East Coast SHA men	80.6%	13.9%	4.2%	1.4%	100.0%
Total	89.3%	7.2%	2.6%	1.0%	100.0%

6. Gender of sexual partners in the last year.

% within Demog - PCT area of residence

	Gender of sexual partners				Total
	No one	Women only	Both men and women	Men only	
Surrey	12.2%	1.1%	6.7%	80.0%	100.0%
Medway			8.3%	91.7%	100.0%
Eastern and Coastal Kent	13.5%		8.1%	78.4%	100.0%
West Sussex	6.7%		3.3%	90.0%	100.0%
Brighton and Hove City Teaching	5.1%		2.9%	92.0%	100.0%
All other South East Coast SHA men	8.3%		11.1%	80.6%	100.0%
Total	7.9%	.3%	6.1%	85.7%	100.0%

7. Marriage / civil partnership status.

% within Demog - PCT area of residence

	Legal partnership status			Total
	in a civil partnership with a man	in a marriage with a woman	in neither of these	
Surrey	7.8%	6.7%	85.6%	100.0%
Medway	8.3%	4.2%	87.5%	100.0%
Eastern and Coastal Kent	2.7%		97.3%	100.0%
West Sussex	10.0%		90.0%	100.0%
Brighton and Hove City Teaching	6.5%		93.5%	100.0%
All other South East Coast SHA men	9.9%	8.5%	81.7%	100.0%
Total	7.4%	3.3%	89.2%	100.0%

8. Sero-discordancy with male regular partner.

% within Demog - PCT area of residence

	HIV serodiscordancy with male partner			Total
	Not in sero-discordant relationship	In sero-discordant relationship	Don't know if sero-discordant	
Surrey	87.8%	6.7%	5.6%	100.0%
Medway	83.3%		16.7%	100.0%
Eastern and Coastal Kent	86.5%	8.1%	5.4%	100.0%
West Sussex	83.3%	6.7%	10.0%	100.0%
Brighton and Hove City Teaching	71.7%	17.4%	10.9%	100.0%
All other South East Coast SHA men	83.3%	8.3%	8.3%	100.0%
Total	80.6%	10.5%	9.0%	100.0%

HIV TESTING & HEPATITIS SUSCEPTIBILITY

9. HIV testing history.

% within Demog - PCT area of residence

	HIV testing history			Total
	Never tested	Tested negative	Tested positive	
Surrey	38.9%	53.3%	7.8%	100.0%
Medway	54.2%	45.8%		100.0%
Eastern and Coastal Kent	48.6%	48.6%	2.7%	100.0%
West Sussex	43.3%	43.3%	13.3%	100.0%
Brighton and Hove City Teaching	19.6%	55.1%	25.4%	100.0%
All other South East Coast SHA men	48.6%	44.4%	6.9%	100.0%
Total	36.1%	50.6%	13.3%	100.0%

10. Hepatitis B susceptibility.

% within Demog - PCT area of residence

	Hepatitis B susceptibility		Total
	Susceptible	Not Susceptible	
Surrey	51.1%	48.9%	100.0%
Medway	62.5%	37.5%	100.0%
Eastern and Coastal Kent	64.9%	35.1%	100.0%
West Sussex	40.0%	60.0%	100.0%
Brighton and Hove City Teaching	34.1%	65.9%	100.0%
All other South East Coast SHA men	58.3%	41.7%	100.0%
Total	47.6%	52.4%	100.0%

11. Hepatitis A susceptibility.

% within Demog - PCT area of residence

	Hepatitis A susceptibility		Total
	Susceptible	Not Susceptible	
Surrey	61.1%	38.9%	100.0%
Medway	66.7%	33.3%	100.0%
Eastern and Coastal Kent	73.0%	27.0%	100.0%
West Sussex	56.7%	43.3%	100.0%
Brighton and Hove City Teaching	48.6%	51.4%	100.0%
All other South East Coast SHA men	63.9%	36.1%	100.0%
Total	58.3%	41.7%	100.0%

SEXUAL BEHAVIOUR

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

% within Demog - PCT area of residence

	Number of male sexual partners in the last year				
	None	One	2,3 or 4	5 to 12	13 to 29
Surrey	13.3%	11.1%	27.8%	25.6%	11.1%
Medway		25.0%	45.8%	20.8%	
Eastern and Coastal Kent	13.5%	27.0%	27.0%	13.5%	16.2%
West Sussex	6.7%	23.3%	20.0%	20.0%	13.3%
Brighton and Hove City Teaching	5.1%	13.0%	18.1%	28.3%	16.7%
All other South East Coast SHA men	8.3%	29.2%	26.4%	19.4%	4.2%
Total	8.2%	18.4%	24.6%	23.5%	11.8%

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

% within Demog - PCT area of residence

	Numbe	Total
	30 or more	
Surrey	11.1%	100.0%
Medway	8.3%	100.0%
Eastern and Coastal Kent	2.7%	100.0%
West Sussex	16.7%	100.0%
Brighton and Hove City Teaching	18.8%	100.0%
All other South East Coast SHA men	12.5%	100.0%
Total	13.6%	100.0%

13. Met new male sexual partner/s in last year (among those who had any male partners).

% within Demog - PCT area of residence

	Met new male partner		Total
	No	Yes	
Surrey	9.1%	90.9%	100.0%
Medway	16.7%	83.3%	100.0%
Eastern and Coastal Kent	22.6%	77.4%	100.0%
West Sussex	25.0%	75.0%	100.0%
Brighton and Hove City Teaching	14.0%	86.0%	100.0%
All other South East Coast SHA men	25.8%	74.2%	100.0%
Total	16.9%	83.1%	100.0%

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

% within Demog - PCT area of residence

	UAI with partners of unknown or discordant status				Total
	Not done	Insertive only	Receptive only	Both Insertive and Receptive	
Surrey	83.3%	5.6%	3.3%	7.8%	100.0%
Medway	75.0%	4.2%	16.7%	4.2%	100.0%
Eastern and Coastal Kent	83.3%		5.6%	11.1%	100.0%
West Sussex	90.0%		3.3%	6.7%	100.0%
Brighton and Hove City Teaching	62.2%	9.6%	10.4%	17.8%	100.0%
All other South East Coast SHA men	80.6%	2.8%	4.2%	12.5%	100.0%
Total	75.5%	5.4%	7.0%	12.1%	100.0%

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

% within Demog - PCT area of residence

	HIV transmission risk in last year		Total
	No	Yes	
Surrey	76.7%	23.3%	100.0%
Medway	83.3%	16.7%	100.0%
Eastern and Coastal Kent	73.0%	27.0%	100.0%
West Sussex	73.3%	26.7%	100.0%
Brighton and Hove City Teaching	56.5%	43.5%	100.0%
All other South East Coast SHA men	75.0%	25.0%	100.0%
Total	69.1%	30.9%	100.0%

HEALTH NEEDS

16. Ever heard of PEP.

% within Demog - PCT area of residence

	Heard of PEP		Total
	No	Yes	
Surrey	47.8%	52.2%	100.0%
Medway	45.8%	54.2%	100.0%
Eastern and Coastal Kent	59.5%	40.5%	100.0%
West Sussex	46.7%	53.3%	100.0%
Brighton and Hove City Teaching	22.5%	77.5%	100.0%
All other South East Coast SHA men	56.9%	43.1%	100.0%
Total	41.4%	58.6%	100.0%

17. Any concern about your alcohol use.

% within Demog - PCT area of residence

	Any concern about alcohol use		Total
	No	Yes	
Surrey	91.1%	8.9%	100.0%
Medway	100.0%		100.0%
Eastern and Coastal Kent	91.9%	8.1%	100.0%
West Sussex	100.0%		100.0%
Brighton and Hove City Teaching	77.4%	22.6%	100.0%
All other South East Coast SHA men	95.8%	4.2%	100.0%
Total	88.4%	11.6%	100.0%

18. Any concern about your drug use.

% within Demog - PCT area of residence

	Any concern about drug use		Total
	No	Yes	
Surrey	91.1%	8.9%	100.0%
Medway	95.8%	4.2%	100.0%
Eastern and Coastal Kent	89.2%	10.8%	100.0%
West Sussex	90.0%	10.0%	100.0%
Brighton and Hove City Teaching	87.6%	12.4%	100.0%
All other South East Coast SHA men	95.8%	4.2%	100.0%
Total	90.7%	9.3%	100.0%

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

% within Demog - PCT area of residence

	Sometimes rather risk HIV transmission than use a condom					Total
	Strongly agree	Agree	Not sure	Disagree	Strongly disagree	
Surrey	3.3%	4.4%	8.9%	25.6%	57.8%	100.0%
Medway		4.2%	12.5%	16.7%	66.7%	100.0%
Eastern and Coastal Kent	2.7%	16.2%	5.4%	8.1%	67.6%	100.0%
West Sussex			16.7%	26.7%	56.7%	100.0%
Brighton and Hove City Teaching	2.2%	8.0%	11.6%	29.7%	48.6%	100.0%
All other South East Coast SHA men	4.2%	8.3%	6.9%	13.9%	66.7%	100.0%
Total	2.6%	7.2%	10.0%	22.8%	57.5%	100.0%

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

% within Demog - PCT area of residence

	I can talk to my friends about safer sex and HIV					Total
	Strongly agree	Agree	Not sure	Disagree	Strongly disagree	
Surrey	36.7%	37.8%	13.3%	6.7%	5.6%	100.0%
Medway	25.0%	41.7%	20.8%	8.3%	4.2%	100.0%
Eastern and Coastal Kent	27.0%	35.1%	27.0%	8.1%	2.7%	100.0%
West Sussex	23.3%	43.3%	23.3%	10.0%		100.0%
Brighton and Hove City Teaching	40.6%	44.2%	6.5%	8.0%	.7%	100.0%
All other South East Coast SHA men	36.1%	45.8%	11.1%	2.8%	4.2%	100.0%
Total	35.3%	41.9%	13.0%	6.9%	2.8%	100.0%

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

% within Demog - PCT area 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	
Surrey	33.3%	36.7%	13.3%	11.1%	5.6%	100.0%
Medway	33.3%	33.3%	16.7%	4.2%	12.5%	100.0%
Eastern and Coastal Kent	24.3%	40.5%	18.9%	10.8%	5.4%	100.0%
West Sussex	26.7%	40.0%	20.0%	6.7%	6.7%	100.0%
Brighton and Hove City Teaching	43.5%	32.6%	11.6%	9.4%	2.9%	100.0%
All other South East Coast SHA men	37.5%	41.7%	9.7%	8.3%	2.8%	100.0%
Total	36.3%	36.6%	13.3%	9.2%	4.6%	100.0%

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

% within Demog - PCT area 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	
Surrey	48.9%	38.9%	8.9%	3.3%		100.0%
Medway	41.7%	37.5%	8.3%	8.3%	4.2%	100.0%
Eastern and Coastal Kent	37.8%	45.9%	13.5%	2.7%		100.0%
West Sussex	43.3%	36.7%	13.3%	6.7%		100.0%
Brighton and Hove City Teaching	50.0%	39.9%	5.1%	2.9%	2.2%	100.0%
All other South East Coast SHA men	51.4%	29.2%	13.9%	2.8%	2.8%	100.0%
Total	47.8%	37.9%	9.2%	3.6%	1.5%	100.0%

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

% within Demog - PCT area of residence

	Ease of declining sexual contact from other men				Total
	Very easy	Quite easy	Quite difficult	Very difficult	
Surrey	24.4%	45.6%	25.6%	4.4%	100.0%
Medway	41.7%	29.2%	12.5%	16.7%	100.0%
Eastern and Coastal Kent	21.6%	45.9%	29.7%	2.7%	100.0%
West Sussex	40.0%	33.3%	13.3%	13.3%	100.0%
Brighton and Hove City Teaching	32.6%	39.9%	21.7%	5.8%	100.0%
All other South East Coast SHA men	30.6%	51.4%	12.5%	5.6%	100.0%
Total	30.4%	42.7%	20.5%	6.4%	100.0%

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

% within Demog - PCT area of residence

	Ease of having safer sex during sexual encounters				Total
	Very easy	Quite easy	Quite difficult	Very difficult	
Surrey	43.3%	41.1%	13.3%	2.2%	100.0%
Medway	58.3%	33.3%	4.2%	4.2%	100.0%
Eastern and Coastal Kent	45.9%	37.8%	10.8%	5.4%	100.0%
West Sussex	56.7%	30.0%	6.7%	6.7%	100.0%
Brighton and Hove City Teaching	45.7%	42.0%	10.1%	2.2%	100.0%
All other South East Coast SHA men	50.0%	38.9%	9.7%	1.4%	100.0%
Total	47.6%	39.4%	10.2%	2.8%	100.0%

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

% within Demog - PCT area of residence

	Ease of negotiating sex that is wanted				Total
	Very easy	Quite easy	Quite difficult	Very difficult	
Surrey	32.2%	52.2%	12.2%	3.3%	100.0%
Medway	37.5%	54.2%		8.3%	100.0%
Eastern and Coastal Kent	29.7%	56.8%	13.5%		100.0%
West Sussex	33.3%	60.0%	3.3%	3.3%	100.0%
Brighton and Hove City Teaching	33.3%	52.2%	13.8%	.7%	100.0%
All other South East Coast SHA men	36.1%	55.6%	6.9%	1.4%	100.0%
Total	33.5%	54.0%	10.5%	2.0%	100.0%

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

% within Demog - PCT area of residence

	Ease of maintaining condom use in sexual encounters				Total
	Very easy	Quite easy	Quite difficult	Very difficult	
Surrey	42.2%	40.0%	15.6%	2.2%	100.0%
Medway	41.7%	45.8%	12.5%		100.0%
Eastern and Coastal Kent	43.2%	35.1%	13.5%	8.1%	100.0%
West Sussex	53.3%	26.7%	13.3%	6.7%	100.0%
Brighton and Hove City Teaching	44.2%	39.9%	13.0%	2.9%	100.0%
All other South East Coast SHA men	44.4%	37.5%	12.5%	5.6%	100.0%
Total	44.2%	38.4%	13.6%	3.8%	100.0%

<ENDS>