



Gay Community Periodic Survey: Melbourne 2016

Never Stand Still

Art & Social Sciences

Centre for Social Research in Health

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Glossary

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 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-serononcordant 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, a course of antiretroviral drugs used to reduce the risk of HIV infection after potential exposure has occurred

PrEP pre-exposure prophylaxis, antiretroviral drugs used to reduce the risk of HIV infection before a potential exposure

STI sexually transmissible infection

CAIC condomless anal intercourse with casual partners

CAIR condomless anal intercourse with regular partners

Executive summary

The Melbourne Gay Community Periodic Survey is a cross-sectional survey of gay and homosexually active men recruited from a range of gay community sites in Melbourne. 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 men. The most recent survey, the eighteenth in Melbourne, recruited a total of 2,886 men in January 2016. The majority of these men (n=2585, 89.6%) were recruited using face-to face recruitment by trained staff at gay social venues (e.g. bars, community organizations), sex-on-premises venues, sexual health clinics and the Midsumma Carnival. The remaining 301 men (10.4%) participated through an online version of the survey.

Online recruitment was first conducted in 2015 through the social networking site Facebook. Men were directed to a website with an online version of the GCPS questionnaire (http://gcpsonline.net). The advertisements were targeted to all men aged 16 and above who were located in Victoria and indicated in their Facebook profile that they were 'interested in men'.

From its start in 1998, the project has been funded by the Victorian Department of Health and supported by the Victorian AIDS Council and Living Positive Victoria. The Centre for Social Research in Health coordinates the survey, with support from the Kirby Institute.

The overall response rate for the 2016 survey was 85.9%. The data presented in this report are from the period 2012 to 2016.

Between 2012 and 2016 the proportion of men recruited at Midsumma Carnival has increased significantly with a corresponding decrease in all other recruitment venues (sexual health clinics, social venues and sexon-premises venues). The proportion of men recruited online decreased significantly between 2015 and 2016 from 19.2% 10.4%.

The online sample was analysed before we incorporated it into the survey database. There were a number of differences between men recruited online and men recruited through venues and events. Men in the online sample were younger, were more likely to be born in Australia and more likely to report that they were HIV-negative. Compared to men recruited through venues and events, men recruited online were more likely to report only having casual partners or have no sexual relationships with men at the time of the survey. However, when they had regular partners, men who were recruited online were more likely to report condomless anal intercourse with those regular partners than men recruited face-to-face. Men recruited online were also more likely to report condomless anal intercourse with casual partners and were less likely to report HIV and STI testing than men recruited offline.

However, despite these differences, when we merged the online and offline samples, the majority of key indicators did not appear to be affected by the change in sampling methods. We have therefore incorporated the online sample into the combined database and the reporting of trends. We will, however, continue to monitor the impact of online recruitment on the sample over time.

Key points

- The proportion of men who report ever being tested for HIV has increased over time to 90% in 2016.
- While the proportion of non-HIV-positive men who report testing for HIV in the previous 12 months fell to 66% in 2016, there has been an increase in the proportion reporting 3 or more HIV tests in the previous year (23% in 2016).
- Nearly all HIV-positive men in the 2016 survey (95%) reported being on HIV treatment. Among men on treatment, 98% said they had an undetectable viral load.
- The proportion of men with regular partners who reported any condomless anal intercourse with those partners was 58% in 2016 (no change from 2015).
- The proportion of men with casual partners who reported any condomless anal intercourse with those partners (CAIC) was 43% in 2016 (a significant increase from 2015). The recent increase in CAIC appears to be primarily among HIV-negative men on PrEP. The majority of men who report CAIC continue to be HIV-negative and untested men not on PrEP.
- The proportion of non-HIV-positive men using PrEP has increased from 1.8% in 2013 to 5.5% in 2016. Most of these men are obtaining their PrEP drugs from overseas.

Demographic profile

As in previous surveys, the men in the overall sample were primarily of Anglo-Australian background, lived in metropolitan Melbourne or urban Victoria, were well-educated and in full-time employment. The majority of the sample identified as gay/homosexual (n=2620, 90.8%) or bisexual (n=149, 5.2%). The majority of men (72.1%) were born in Australia. In 2016, 1.8% (n=53) of the sample reported an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander background. There has been no significant change in the proportion of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander men in the survey over the last five surveys (2.2% in 2012 to 1.8% in 2016).

In 2015, we started asking survey participants about their gender identity. Similar to the previous survey in 2015, in 2016 the majority of participants indicated that they only identified as male (n=2823, 97.8%) with a small number of participants identifying as trans men (n=31, 1.1%) or intersex and male (n=21, 0.7%).

The age distribution of the survey participants has changed over time, with the proportion of younger men aged between 25 and 29 years old in the survey increasing significantly from 17.8% in 2012 to 20.4% in 2016 and a corresponding decrease in the proportion of men aged between 40 and 49 years old (22.4% in 2012 to 19.3% in 2016). The proportions of men in the other age categories have remained unchanged over the same period.

HIV testing, status and treatment

In 2016, about nine in ten men reported having ever been tested for HIV (89.6%). The proportion of men who report ever being tested for HIV has increased since 2012. In contrast, the proportion of non-HIV-positive men who reported testing for HIV in the 12 months prior to the survey has decreased significantly since 2012 to 65.6% in 2016. However, the proportion of non-HIV-positive men who report 3 or more HIV tests in the 12 months prior to the survey has increased significantly from 11.9% in 2012 to 22.8% in 2016. Although the proportion of non-HIV-positive men reporting an annual HIV test has recently declined, it appears that non-HIV-positive men who seek HIV testing are much more like to test quarterly than they were before.

In 2016, half of the non-HIV-positive men who had ever tested for HIV reported that their last HIV test was at a general practice (n=1202, 50.9%) and two in five reported tested at sexual health clinic or hospital (41.3%). Only about 6% (n=132) reported using a community-based service for testing e.g. Pronto. The proportions of men reporting testing at a community-based service or general practice have declined significantly during the reporting period.

Of the participants who had been tested, most reported they were HIV-negative (90.0%), with smaller proportions reporting that they were HIV positive (8.2%) or did not know their HIV status (1.8%). There was no change in these HIV status categories during the reporting period.

From 2012 to 2016, there has been a significant increase in the proportion of HIV-positive men taking combination antiretroviral treatment at the time of the survey (from 77.9% to 95.2%). This proportion did not change significantly between 2015 and 2016. More than half of the HIV-positive men who were on treatment in the 2016 survey reported a CD4 count of more than 500 and nearly all (97.5%) had an undetectable viral load. The majority of HIV-positive men (n=163, 76.2%) reported attending at least three clinical appointments to manage their HIV in the last year. Compared to the previous survey in 2016, the proportion of men who reported attending at least three clinical appointments remained unchanged.

Sexual partnerships and practices

At the time of the 2016 survey, nearly one in four men reported having casual partners only (23.3%). There were slightly larger proportions of men who reported being in monogamous relationships (30.6%) or having both regular and casual male partners (31.5%). A small proportion (14.6%) reported having no sexual relationships with men at the time of the survey. The proportion of men reporting both regular and casual male partners has increased slightly during the reporting period.

In 2016, almost half the sample reported using mobile applications (e.g. Grindr) to meet male sex partners (48.2%). The next most common way was through the internet (31.9%). Other common methods to meet male sex partners were gay bars (28.6%), saunas (27.7%), meeting men while travelling overseas (19.7%) and in other Australian cities (19.2%). There has been a large and consistent increase in the proportion of men who met men through mobile applications between 2012 and 2016 (from 35.2% to 48.2%) while at the same time the use of most physical venues and locations to meet partners has remained unchanged.

Regular male partners

Among men with regular partners in the six months prior to the 2016 survey, slightly more than half (55.6%) reported an agreement with their regular partner about sex within the relationship and a slightly smaller proportion (51.2%) reported an agreement about sex outside the relationship. In 2016, the most commonly held agreements about sex within a relationship specified that anal intercourse could occur without a condom (33.9%) or that condoms must always be used for anal intercourse (16.9%). Between 2012 and 2016, the proportion of men without an agreement about sex within the relationship increased significantly.

The most commonly held agreements about sex outside a relationship were that casual sex was not allowed (24.1%) or that condoms must always be used for anal intercourse with casual partners (20.2%). The proportion of men in relationships without an agreement about casual sex remained unchanged between 2012 and 2016.

Among HIV-positive men who had regular partners in the six months prior to the 2016 survey, over a third of men were in a seroconcordant relationship (34.9%), about two in five men were in serodiscordant relationships (38.8%) and the remainder (26.3%) reported being in a serononconcordant relationship. These categories have remained stable between 2012 and 2016.

HIV-negative men with regular partners were more likely to be in seroconcordant relationships, compared with HIV-positive men. In 2016, more than two-thirds of HIV-negative men with regular partners were in a seroconcordant relationship (70.9%) and a quarter reported a serononconcordant relationship (25.2%). In 2016, thirty-nine HIV negative men (or 4.0%) reported having a serodiscordant partner. These categories have remained stable between 2012 and 2016.

In 2016 about two out of three men with a regular partner reported any condomless anal intercourse (CAIR) with their partner (57.5%) in the six months prior to the survey, while about one in five men reported always using condoms for anal intercourse (19.3%) or having no anal intercourse with their regular partner (23.2%). Between 2012 and 2016, the proportion of men with regular partners who reported always using condoms for anal intercourse decreased significantly while the proportion reporting any condomless anal intercourse increased.

Among HIV-positive participants with regular partners in 2016, just under one third reported CAIR that was not concordant (32.9%) in the six months prior to the 2016 survey, over a third avoided CAIR (37.5%) and a quarter (29.6%) reported CAIR that was seroconcordant. All these categories were stable between 2012 and 2016.

Compared to HIV-positive men, HIV-negative men with regular partners were more likely to restrict CAIR to seroconcordant partners or to avoid CAIR. Among HIV-negative men with regular partners, close to half reported seroconcordant CAIR (46.0%) in the six months prior to the 2016 survey and two-fifths avoided CAIR (41.1%). The remaining minority (12.9%) reported CAIR that was not concordant. The proportion of HIV-negative men reporting CAIR that was not concordant has increased slightly but significantly (from 10.2% in 2012 to 12.9% in 2016) while the proportion who avoided CAIR has decreased from 49.8% in 2012 to 41.1% in 2016.

Among HIV-negative men who reported CAIR with partners who were not seroconcordant in the six months prior to the survey, in 2016 one in four men (24.0%) reported always being the insertive partner (strategic positioning) and one in five men (21.2%) reported consistent withdrawal before ejaculation by their partner.

Casual male partners

Use of condoms for anal intercourse remains more common with casual partners than with regular partners. However, for the first time in the history of the Melbourne survey, in 2016 we found that men who reported any condomless anal intercourse with casual partners (CAIC; 42.6%) in the six months prior to the survey was a larger group than those who always used condoms for anal sex with casual partners (40.7%). The proportion of men reporting any CAIC has increased significantly between 2012 and 2016 (from 31.5% to 42.6%) while the proportions of men who always used condoms for anal intercourse or did not have anal intercourse with casual partners have declined. The level of CAIC recorded in 2016 is the highest ever recorded in the Melbourne survey.

Table 16 provides additional detail about the HIV statuses of men who engaged in CAIC and the use of antiretroviral-based prevention (specifically HIV-positive men maintaining an undetectable viral load through HIV treatment or HIV-negative men taking pre-exposure prophylaxis or PrEP). It also shows the highest risk activity for HIV transmission (HIV-negative and untested men not on PrEP engaging in receptive CAIC). Between 2012 and 2016 the proportion of men with casual partners who reported CAIC in the six months prior to the survey and who were HIV-positive, on HIV treatment and had an undetectable viral load increased slightly but significantly (from 4.2% to 6.1%). The proportion of men with casual partners who reported CAIC who were HIV-positive, not on treatment or had a detectable viral load declined to 0.7% in 2016 i.e. the vast majority of HIV-positive men who reported any CAIC in 2016 were on HIV treatment and had an undetectable viral load. The majority of men who report CAIC are HIV-negative and untested men. Between 2013 and 2016 there has been a significant increase in the proportion of HIV-negative men on PrEP who report CAIC (from 1.1% to 5.6% of men with casual partners). Between 2012 and 2016 the proportion of men who were HIVnegative or untested and who reported any receptive CAIC increased gradually but significantly (from 17.2% to 20.9% of men with casual partners). It appears that the majority of the increase in CAIC between 2015 and 2016 is accounted for (was reported by) HIV-negative men on PrEP (with most of the other groups remaining stable).

In 2016, HIV-positive men with casual partners remained the most likely to report any CAIC (73.9%), compared with their HIV-negative counterparts (39.5%) and untested/unknown status men (38.1%). The levels of CAIC reported by HIV-positive men, HIV negative men and untested/unknown status have increased significantly between 2012 and 2016.

In 2016, disclosure of HIV status before sex to any casual partner continued to be more commonly reported by HIV-positive men (83.0%) than by HIV-negative men (64.0%). A higher proportion of HIV-positive men than HIV negative men also reported HIV disclosure from their casual partners in 2016.

The proportions of HIV-negative men who disclosed their HIV status before sex to any casual partner and who reported disclosure from their casual partners increased significantly between 2012 and 2016. A similar upward trend was also observed among HIV-negative men who had CAIC in the six months prior to the survey, with an increase in the proportion who disclosed their HIV status to all their casual partners (from 34.6% in 2012 to 48.9% in 2016). In 2016, half of the HIV-positive men who had CAIC in the six months prior to the survey disclosed their HIV status to all their casual partners (51.6%).

Among HIV-positive men who reported CAIC in the six months prior to the 2016 survey, more than three-quarters (76.2%) said they frequently relied on having undetectable viral load before CAIC, while half (50.8%) said that they frequently made sure that their partners were HIV-positive before CAIC (serosorting). About a quarter of HIV-positive men (23.8%) reported frequently taking the receptive role during CAIC (strategic positioning) and 12 men (9.8%) frequently withdrew before ejaculation. It is unclear whether HIV-positive men who report using an undetectable viral load as a risk reduction strategy disclose and discuss their viral load status with their partners (this is not currently measured in the survey).

Among HIV-negative men who reported CAIC in the six months prior to the 2016 survey, half (48.7%) said they frequently made sure their partners were HIV-negative before sex (serosorting). One in five (20.9%) reported frequently taking the insertive role during CAIC (strategic positioning) or that their casual partners frequently withdrew before ejaculating inside them (13.0%). More than one in ten HIV-negative men who had CAIC (15.4%) said that when they had an HIV-positive partner, they frequently ensured he had an undetectable viral load before CAIC.

The proportion of HIV-negative men who have CAIC who report taking anti-HIV medication before sex has increased significantly from 4.0% in 2013 to 19.0% in 2016, as has the proportion who report taking anti-HIV medication after CAIC (5.3% in 2013 to 16.6% in 2016). This probably reflects the increase in PrEP use in the sample. The proportion of HIV-negative men who report the frequent use of serosorting has increased significantly from 41.4% in 2012 to 48.7% in 2016.

Sexual health

As in previous surveys, in 2016 a higher proportion of HIV-positive men (93.0%) reported having had any sexual health test (including a blood test for syphilis) in the 12 months prior to survey, compared with HIV-negative men (73.8%). The proportions of HIV-negative men and HIV-positive men reporting any STI testing have increased significantly between 2012 and 2016.

Between 2012 and 2016, the proportions of HIV-positive men reporting anal swabs and urine samples have increased significantly. The proportion of HIV-positive men reporting a blood test for syphilis in 2016 was 84.1%.

There has been a significant increase in the proportions of HIV-negative men reporting anal and throat swabs and urine samples and a corresponding decrease in penile swabs between 2012 and 2016. The proportion of HIV-negative men who reported a blood test for syphilis has increased significantly from 58.3% in 2012 to 63.9% in 2016.

In 2016, 508 men (17.6% of the whole sample) reported having been diagnosed with an STI (other than HIV) in the 12 months prior to the survey. Among these men, the majority (84.7%) told at least one of their sex partners about their diagnosis and nearly half (44.5%) told all of their sex partners. The proportion of men reporting an STI diagnosis in the year prior to the survey has increased significantly from 11.5% in 2012 to 17.6% in 2016.

In 2016, the majority of men reported having been tested for hepatitis C (74.9%). Among them, the large majority reported being hepatitis C negative (97.0%) and 37 men (1.8%) said they had hepatitis C. The proportion of men reporting that they have hepatitis C has remained stable in the last 4 surveys.

Recreational drug use

Recreational drug use remains common within the sample, with the most frequently used drugs being amyl/poppers (42.2%), marijuana (32.0%), ecstasy (21.4%), Viagra (19.9%), cocaine (18.1%), amphetamine (11.1%), and crystal methamphetamine (9.9%).

Between 2012 and 2016, there have been significant increases in the use of marijuana, amyl/poppers, ecstasy, Viagra, cocaine and GHB and a decline in the proportion of men using heroin. Crystal methamphetamine use has remained stable during the reporting period. Since 2012, the proportion of men reported no drug use in last six months prior to the survey has decreased while the proportion of men reporting the use of at least one drug has increased significantly.

In general, HIV-positive men remain more likely to report drug use compared with HIV-negative men. HIV-positive men remain considerably more likely than HIV-negative men to report any injecting drug use (17.8% vs. 4.0% in 2016). Since 2012, the proportion of HIV-positive men reporting any drug use has remained stable. Among HIV-negative men, the use of marijuana, amyl/poppers, ecstasy and Viagra have increased significantly between 2012 and 2016 while the use of amphetamine (speed) has declined.

In 2016, 17.6% of all men reported using party drugs for sex in the six months prior to the survey and fewer than one in ten men (11.4%) said they had engaged in group sex during or after drug use. The proportion of men using party drugs for sex has increased over time.

In 2015, a new question about potentially harmful drinking (having more than four alcoholic drinks on one occasion) was included in the questionnaire. In 2016 the proportion of men who reported having more than four drinks at least weekly was 36.5%; one in four said they had more than four drinks at least monthly (23.5%), and another 21.9% said they had more than four drinks once or twice in the last 6 months. These proportions did not change significantly between 2015 and 2016.

Knowledge and use of PEP and PrEP

In 2016, almost two-thirds of men (66.3%) reported knowing that post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) was available. There has been a significant increase in PEP awareness among non-HIV-positive men (from 57.4% in 2012 to 65.2% in 2016). In 2016, almost half of men reported that they believed that PrEP is available now (47.8%). The proportion of men believing that PrEP is available has increased from 30.7% in 2014 to 47.8% in 2016.

The proportion of non-HIV-positive men who reported taking a prescribed course of PEP in the six months prior to the survey increased significantly from 3.1% in 2012 to 5.5% in 2016. Similarly, the proportion of non-HIV-positive men who reported taking anti-HIV medication to reduce their chance of getting HIV (PrEP) has increased from 1.8% in 2013 to 5.5% in 2016. Among the 146 men who reported taking PrEP in the previous six months, the two most common ways of obtaining PrEP were getting it through a trial or study (19.2%) and buying it online from overseas (53.4%).

Reporting

Data are shown for the period 2012–2016. Each table includes the statistical significance (p-value), if any, of the change between 2015 and 2016 and the trend over time (2012–2016). An alpha level of .05 was used for all statistical tests. Changes between 2015 and 2016 were assessed with logistic regression (comparing one category with all the others). The p-value of the logistic regression test (if shown) indicates a statistically significant change within that category compared with all the others. For statistically significant trends over time, also tested with logistic regression, the direction of the change (an increase or decrease) is indicated. Where there is no significant change, ns (non-significant) is shown. Where there are low frequencies or data over time are not comparable, tests have not been performed and are marked NA (not applicable). Please exercise caution when interpreting results where there are low frequencies. When data are missing or were not collected in a given year, this is indicated in the table by a dash (–).

Table 1: Recruitment source

	2012 n (%)	2013 n (%)	2014 n (%)	2015 n (%)	2016 n (%)	Change from 2015 (p-value)	Trend over time (p-value)
Midsumma Carnival	1,307 (63.7)	1,658 (70.9)	1,336 (71.4)	1,628 (54.2)	1,924 (66.7)	Increase p<.001	Increase p<.001
Sexual health clinics	24 (1.1)	59 (2.5)	38 (2.0)	24 (0.8)	33 (1.1)	ns	Decrease p<.01
Sex-on-premises venues	283 (13.8)	223 (9.5)	171 (9.1)	344 (11.4)	285 (9.9)	ns	Decrease p<.001
Social venues ¹	439 (21.4)	399 (17.1)	327 (17.5)	433 (14.4)	343 (11.9)	ns	Decrease p<.01
Online ²	-	-	-	577 (19.2)	301 (10.4)	Decrease p<.001	NA
Total	2,053 (100)	2,339 (100)	1,872(100)	3,006 (100)	2,886 (100)		

¹ Social venues include men recruited at bars and community-based services e.g. Pronto and the Positive Living Centre

Table 2: Age

	2012 n (%)	2013 n (%)	2014 n (%)	2015 n (%)	2016 n (%)	Change from 2015 (<i>p</i> -value)	Trend over time (p -value)
Under 25	365 (17.9)	446 (19.2)	321 (17.2)	587 (19.6)	471 (16.3)	Increase p=.001	ns
25–29	361 (17.8)	444(19.1)	394 (21.2)	589 (19.7)	587 (20.4)	ns	Increase p<.05
30–39	571 (28.0)	645 (27.7)	509 (27.3)	838 (28.0)	869 (30.2)	ns	ns
40-49	455 (22.4)	496 (21.3)	370 (19.9)	537 (18.0)	555 (19.3)	ns	Decrease p<.001
50 and over	282 (13.9)	296 (12.7)	269 (14.4)	441 (14.7)	399 (13.8)	ns	ns
Total	2,034 (100)	2,327(100)	1,863 (100)	2992 (100)	2,881 (100)		

² Online recruitment was first conducted in 2015

Table 3: HIV Testing

	2012 n (%)	2013 n (%)	2014 n (%)	2015 n (%)	2016 n (%)	Change from 2015 (p-value)	Trend over time (p-value)
All participants							
Ever tested	1,773 (86.4)	1,966 (84.1)	1,639 (87.6)	2,638 (87.8)	2,586 (89.6)	Increase p<.05	Increase p<.001
Total	2,053 (100)	2,339 (100)	1,872 (100)	3,006 (100)	2,886 (100)		
Non-HIV positive participants							
Tested in previous 12 months	1,125 (69.9)	1,245 (69.3)	1,064 (72.4)	1,737 (73.2)	1,753 (65.6)	ns	Decrease p<.001
Total	1,609 (100)	1,796 (100)	1,470 (100)	2,372 (100)	2,672 (100)		

Table 4: Where non-HIV-positive men were tested for HIV

	2012 n (%)	2013 n (%)	2014 n (%)	2015 n (%)	2016 n (%)	Change from 2015 (p-value)	Trend over time (p-value)
General practice	-	974 (54.8)	784 (53.5)	1,224 (52.0)	1,202 (50.9)	ns	Decrease p<.01
Sexual health clinic/hospital	-	742 (41.8)	507 (34.6)	922 (39.1)	975 (41.3)	ns	ns
At home	-	6 (0.3)	4 (0.3)	7 (0.3)	8 (0.3)	NA	NA
Community-based service	-	-	140 (9.6)	150 (6.4)	132 (5.6)	ns	Decrease p<.001
Somewhere else	-	54 (3.1)	29 (2.0)	52 (2.2)	44 (1.9)	NA	NA
Total	-	1,776 (100)	1,464 (100)	2,355 (100)	2,361 (100)		

Note: This table only includes men who have ever been tested for HIV. Questions about where men were last tested for HIV were only included from 2013 onwards.

Table 5: Number of HIV tests in the previous 12 months

	2012 n (%)	2013 n (%)	2014 n (%)	2015 n (%)	2016 n (%)	Change from 2015 (<i>p</i> -value)	Trend over time (p -value)
None	-	960 (44.0)	674 (39.4)	1042 (38.0)	939 (35.1)	Decrease p<.05	Decrease p<.001
One	-	498 (22.8)	412 (24.1)	607 (22.1)	540 (20.2)	ns	Decrease p<.05
Two	-	465 (21.3)	386 (22.6)	604 (22.0)	585 (21.9)	ns	ns
3 or more	-	239 (11.9)	239 (13.9)	492 (17.9)	608 (22.8)	Increase p<.001	Increase p<.001
Total	-	2,181 (100)	1,711 (100)	2,745 (100)	2,672 (100)		

Note: This table only contains data from non-HIV-positive men

Table 6: HIV test result

	2012 n (%)	2013 n (%)	2014 n (%)	2015 n (%)	2016 n (%)	Change from 2015 (<i>p</i> -value)	Trend over time (p -value)
HIV-positive	156 (8.8)	158 (8.1)	159 (9.7)	251 (9.5)	212 (8.2)	ns	ns
HIV-negative	1,571 (88.69)	1,750 (89.9)	1,433 (88.0)	2,346 (89.2)	2,324 (90.0)	ns	ns
Unknown status	41 (2.3)	39 (2.0)	44 (2.7)	34 (1.3)	46 (1.8)	ns	ns
Total	1,768 (100)	1,947 (100)	1,636 (100)	2,631 (100)	2,582 (100)		

Note: This table only includes data from men who have been tested for HIV.

Table 7: Use of combination antiretroviral treatment among HIV-positive men

	2012 n (%)	2013 n (%)	2014 n (%)	2015 n (%)	2016 n (%)	Change from 2015 (p-value)	Trend over time (p -value)
On treatment	120 (77.9)	122 (82.4)	138 (89.0)	234 (91.8)	196 (95.2)	ns	Increase p<.001
Total	154 (100)	148 (100)	155 (100)	255 (100)	206 (100)		

Table 8: Undetectable viral load and CD4 count among HIV-positive men, by treatment status

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Change from 2015	Trend over time
	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	(p-value)	(p-value)
Men using ART							
Undetectable viral load	110 (91.7)	114 (93.4)	130 (94.2)	222 (94.9)	191 (97.5)	ns	Increase p<.05
CD4 count > 500	64 (53.3)	62 (50.8)	69 (50.0)	129 (55.1)	122 (62.2)	ns	ns
Total	120 (100)	122 (100)	138 (100)	234 (100)	196 (100)		
Men not using ART							
I I a all a face of a lade and a	0 (00 5)	0 (00 1)	4 (00 5)	0 (00 1)	4 (40 0)	NIA	NIA
Undetectable viral load	8 (23.5)	6 (23.1)	4 (23.5)	8 (38.1)	4 (40.0)	NA	NA
CD4 count > 500	8 (23.5) 19 (55.9)	6 (23.1) 17 (65.4)	4 (23.5) 9 (52.9)	8 (38.1) 11 (52.4)	4 (40.0) 5 (50.0)	NA NA	NA NA

Table 9: Current relationships with men

	2012 n (%)	2013 n (%)	2014 n (%)	2015 n (%)	2016 n (%)	Change from 2015 (p-value)	Trend over time (p -value)
None	315 (16.1)	348 (15.9)	249 (14.0)	442 (15.3)	409 (14.6)	ns	ns
Casual only	485 (24.9)	530 (24.2)	477 (26.8)	752 (26.0)	653 (23.3)	Decrease p<.05	ns
Regular plus casual	569 (29.2)	589 (26.9)	481 (27.0)	859 (29.7)	883 (31.5)	ns	Increase p<.01
Regular only (monogamous)	580 (29.8)	723 (33.0)	573 (32.2)	837 (29.0)	857 (30.6)	ns	ns
Total	1,949 (100)	2,190 (100)	1,780 (100)	2,890 (100)	2,802 (100)		

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

	2012 n (%)	2013 n (%)	2014 n (%)	2015 n (%)	2016 n (%)	Change from 2015 (<i>p</i> -value)	Trend over time (p -value)
No agreement about sex within the relationship	536 (38.1)	597 (37.8)	538 (41.4)	864 (43.4)	895 (44.4)	ns	Increase p<.001
No sex within the relationship permitted	30 (2.1)	37 (2.3)	41 (3.2)	74 (3.7)	60 (3.0)	ns	Increase p<.05
No anal intercourse permitted	53 (3.8)	54 (3.4)	33 (2.5)	49 (2.5)	36 (1.8)	ns	Decrease p<.001
Anal intercourse permitted only with a condom	331 (23.5)	339 (21.5)	266 (20.5)	316 (15.8)	341 (16.9)	ns	Decrease p<.001
Anal intercourse permitted without a condom	457 (32.5)	553 (35.0)	421 (32.4)	690 (34.6)	682 (33.9)	ns	ns
Total	1,407 (100)	1,580 (100)	1,299 (100)	1,993 (100)	2,014 (100)		

Note: This table only includes data from men who reported that they had a regular male partner in the six months prior to survey.

Table 11: Agreements with regular male partners about sex outside the relationship

	2012 n (%)	2013 n (%)	2014 n (%)	2015 n (%)	2016 n (%)	Change from 2015 (<i>p</i> -value)	Trend over time (p -value)
No agreement about casual sex	643 (45.7)	730 (46.2)	574 (44.2)	925 (46.4)	982 (48.8)	ns	ns
No sex with casual partners permitted	345 (24.6)	408 (25.8)	365 (28.1)	508 (25.5)	485 (24.1)	ns	ns
No anal intercourse with casual partners permitted	55 (3.9)	45 (2.9)	41 (3.1)	52 (2.6)	44 (2.2)	ns	Decrease p<.01
Anal intercourse with casual partners permitted only with a condom	324 (23.0)	349 (22.1)	283 (21.8)	435 (21.8)	406 (20.2)	ns	ns
Anal intercourse with casual partners permitted without a condom	40 (2.8)	48 (3.0)	36 (2.8)	73 (3.7)	97 (4.8)	ns	Increase <i>p</i> <.01
Total	1,407 (100)	1,580 (100)	1,299 (100)	1,993 (100)	2,014 (100)		

Note: This table only includes data from men who reported that they had a regular male partner in the six months prior to survey.

Table 12: Match of HIV status between regular partners

	2012 n (%)	2013 n (%)	2014 n (%)	2015 n (%)	2016 n (%)	Change from 2015 (p-value)	Trend over time (p -value)
HIV-positive men							
Seroconcordant	46 (41.1)	39 (34.8)	41 (36.9)	71 (41.3)	53 (34.9)	ns	ns
Serodiscordant	41 (36.6)	44 (39.3)	38 (34.2)	61 (35.4)	59 (38.8)	ns	ns
Serononconcordant	25 (22.3)	29 (25.9)	32 (28.8)	40 (23.3)	40 (26.3)	ns	ns
Total	112 (100)	112 (100)	111 (100)	172 (100)	152 (100)		
HIV-negative men							
Seroconcordant	816 (73.5)	883 (71.2)	724 (70.3)	1,161 (70.9)	1,190 (70.9)	ns	ns
Serodiscordant	42 (3.8)	51 (4.1)	49 (4.8)	68 (4.2)	66 (3.9)	ns	ns
Serononconcordant	253 (22.8)	306 (24.7)	256 (24.9)	408 (24.9)	422 (25.2)	ns	ns
Total	1,111 (100)	1,240 (100)	1,029 (100)	1,637 (100)	1,678 (100)		

Note: This table only includes data from men who reported that they had a regular male partner in the six months prior to the survey.

Table 13: Anal intercourse and condom use with regular partners

	2012 n (%)	2013 n (%)	2014 n (%)	2015 n (%)	2016 n (%)	Change from 2015 (p-value)	Trend over time (p-value)
No anal intercourse	333 (23.7)	387 (24.5)	270 (20.8)	457 (22.9)	467 (23.2)	ns	ns
Always uses a condom	385 (27.3)	366 (23.2)	317 (24.4)	372 (18.7)	388 (19.3)	ns	Decrease p<.001
Sometimes does not use a condom	689 (49.0)	827 (52.3)	712 (54.8)	1,164 (58.4)	1,159 (57.5)	ns	Increase <i>p</i> <.001
Total	1,407 (100)	1,580 (100)	1,299 (100)	1,993 (100)	2,014 (100)		

Note: This table only includes data from men who reported that they had a regular male partner in the six months prior to the survey.

Table 14: Condomless anal intercourse with regular partners (CAIR), by match of HIV status

	2012 n (%)	2013 n (%)	2014 n (%)	2015 n (%)	2016 n (%)	Change from 2015 (<i>p</i> -value)	Trend over time (p-value)
HIV-positive men							
Seroconcordant CAIR	36 (32.1)	30 (26.8)	31 (27.9)	59 (34.2)	45 (29.6)	ns	ns
Not concordant CAIR	35 (31.3)	41 (36.6)	31 (27.9)	53 (30.8)	50 (32.9)	ns	ns
No CAIR	41 (36.6)	41 (36.6)	49 (44.1)	60 (34.9)	57 (37.5)	ns	ns
Total	112 (100)	112 (100)	111 (100)	172 (100)	152 (100)		
HIV-negative men							
Seroconcordant CAIR	445 (40.1)	549 (44.3)	452 (43.9)	737 (45.0)	771 (46.0)	ns	ns
Not concordant CAIR	113 (10.2)	123 (9.9)	131 (12.7)	219 (13.4)	217 (12.9)	ns	Increase p<.01
No CAIR	553 (49.8)	568 (45.8)	446 (43.3)	681 (41.6)	690 (41.1)	ns	Decrease p<.001
Total	1,111 (100)	1,240 (100)	1,029 (100)	1,637 (100)	1,678 (100)		

Note: This table only includes data from men who reported that they had a regular male partner in the six months prior to survey.

Table 15: HIV-negative men who engaged in CAIR and always used risk-reduction strategies with partners who were not concordant

	2012 n (%)	2013 n (%)	2014 n (%)	2015 n (%)	2016 n (%)	Change from 2015 (p -value)	Trend over time (p-value)
Took insertive position during CAIR	24 (21.2)	25 (20.3)	42 (32.1)	55 (25.1)	52 (24.0)	ns	ns
Partner withdrew before ejaculation when participant was receptive	27 (23.9)	28 (22.8)	20 (15.4)	47 (21.5)	46 (21.2)	ns	ns
Total (not mutually exclusive)	113	123	131	395	217		

Note: This table only includes data from HIV-negative men who reported CAIR with partners who were not concordant in the six months prior to the survey.

Table 16: Anal intercourse and condom use with casual partners

	2012 n (%)	2013 n (%)	2014 n (%)	2015 n (%)	2016 n (%)	Change from 2015 (<i>p</i> -value)	Trend over time (p-value)
No anal intercourse	280 (22.1)	287 (20.5)	209 (17.6)	363 (19.2)	296 (16.7)	Decrease p<.05	Decrease p<.001
Always uses a condom	590 (46.4)	665 (47.6)	552 (46.5)	791 (41.9)	724 (40.7)	ns	Decrease p<.001
Sometimes does not use a condom	400 (31.5)	446 (31.9)	427(35.9)	734 (38.9)	757 (42.6)	Increase p<.05	Increase <i>p</i> <.001
Subcategories of men who did	not always use co	ondoms:					
HIV-positive on treatment with undetectable viral load	53 (4.2)	55 (3.9)	59 (5.0)	114 (6.0)	109 (6.1)	ns	Increase <i>p<</i> .01
HIV-negative on PrEP	-	15 (1.1)	7 (0.6)	27 (1.4)	99 (5.6)	Increase p<.001	NA
HIV-positive not on treatment or detectable viral load	24 (1.9)	19 (1.4)	16 (1.4)	22 (1.2)	13 (0.7)	NA	NA
HIV-negative/untested not on PrEP (only insertive anal intercourse)	105 (8.3)	98 (7.0)	112 (9.4)	205 (10.9)	165 (9.3)	ns	Increase <i>p</i> <.05
HIV-negative/untested not on PrEP (any receptive anal intercourse)	218 (17.2)	259 (18.5)	233 (19.6)	366 (19.4)	371 (20.9)	ns	Increase <i>p</i> <.05
Total	1,270 (100)	1,398 (100)	1,188 (100)	1,888 (100)	1,777 (100)		

Note: This table only includes data from men who reported that they had any casual male partners in the six months prior to survey.

Table 17: Any condomless anal intercourse with casual partners, by HIV status of participants

	2012 n (%)	2013 n (%)	2014 n (%)	2015 n (%)	2016 n (%)	Change from 2015 (<i>p</i> -value)	Trend over time (p-value)
HIV-positive men	77 (65.3)	74 (61.7)	75 (64.1)	136 (68.3)	122 (73.9)	ns	Increase p<.05
Total	118	120	117	199	165		
HIV-negative men	283 (28.4)	304 (28.0)	297 (32.0)	529 (35.0)	579 (39.5)	Increase p<.05	Increase p<.001
Total	996	1,085	929	1510	1465		
Untested/unknown status men	40 (25.6)	68 (35.2)	55 (38.7)	69 (38.6)	56 (38.1)	ns	Increase <i>p</i> <.05
Total	156	193	142	179	147		

Note: This table only includes data from men who reported that they had any casual male partners in the six months prior to survey. Untested and unknown status includes men who have never been tested for HIV and men who have been tested but do not know their results.

Table 18: Disclosure of HIV status to or from casual partners, by HIV status of participants

	2012 n (%)	2013 n (%)	2014 n (%)	2015 n (%)	2016 n (%)	Change from 2015 (<i>p</i> -value)	Trend over time (<i>p</i> -value)
HIV-positive men							
Told casual partners	93 (78.8)	91 (75.8)	88 (75.2)	154 (77.4)	137 (83.0)	ns	ns
Told by casual partners	80 (67.8)	80 (66.7)	72 (61.5)	138 (69.4)	121 (73.3)	ns	ns
Total (not mutually exclusive)	118	120	117	199	165		
HIV-negative men							
Told casual partners	530 (53.2)	607 (55.9)	543 (58.5)	919 (60.9)	938 (64.0)	ns	Increase p<.001
Told by casual partners	545 (54.7)	613 (56.5)	542 (58.3)	923 (61.1)	950 (64.9)	Increase p<.05	Increase p<.001
Total (not mutually exclusive)	996	1,085	929	1,510	1,465		

Note: This table only includes data from men who reported that they had any casual male partners in the six months prior to survey.

Table 19: Consistent disclosure of HIV status to casual partners among men who engaged in condomless anal intercourse, by HIV status of participants

	2012 n (%)	2013 n (%)	2014 n (%)	2015 n (%)	2016 n (%)	Change from 2015 (<i>p</i> -value)	Trend over time (p -value)
HIV-positive men who disclosed to all	33 (42.9)	33 (44.6)	35 (46.7)	64 (47.1)	63 (51.6)	ns	ns
Total	77 (100)	74 (100)	75 (100)	136 (100)	122 (100)		
HIV-negative men who disclosed to all	98 (34.6)	101 (33.2)	134 (45.1)	235 (44.4)	283 (48.9)	ns	Increase p<.001
Total	283 (100)	304 (100)	297 (100)	529 (100)	579 (100)		

Note: This table only includes data from men who reported that they had any CAIC in the six months prior to survey.

Table 20: Positioning in condomless anal intercourse with casual male partners (CAIC), by HIV status of participants

	2012 n (%)	2013 n (%)	2014 n (%)	2015 n (%)	2016 n (%)	Change from 2015 (<i>p</i> -value)	Trend over time (p -value)
HIV-positive men							
Receptive only CAIC	12 (15.6)	15 (20.3)	15 (20.0)	24 (17.7)	29 (23.8)	ns	ns
Total	77 (100)	74 (100)	75 (100)	136 (100)	122 (100)		
HIV-negative men							
Insertive only CAIC	96 (33.9)	85 (28.0)	104 (35.0)	194 (36.7)	165 (28.5)	Decrease p<.01	ns
Total	283 (100)	304 (100)	297 (100)	529 (100)	579 (100)		

Note: This table only includes data from men who reported that they had any CAIC in the six months prior to survey.

Table 21: Men who frequently used risk reduction strategies when engaging in condomless anal intercourse with casual partners, by HIV status of participants

	2012 n (%)	2013 n (%)	2014 n (%)	2015 n (%)	2016 n (%)	Change from 2015 (p-value)	Trend over time (p -value)
HIV-positive men							
Ensured partners were seroconcordant before CAIC (serosorting)	52 (67.5)	45 (60.8)	43 (57.3)	88 (64.7)	62 (50.8)	p<.05	ns
Took receptive position during CAIC when partners were not concordant	12 (15.6)	15 (20.3)	11 (14.7)	33 (24.3)	29 (23.8)	ns	ns
Participant withdrew before ejaculation when he was insertive	6 (7.8)	13 (17.6)	9 (12.0)	13 (9.6)	12 (9.8)	ns	ns
Participant knew he had an undetectable viral load before having sex	-	50 (67.6)	53 (70.7)	103 (75.7)	93 (76.2)	ns	Increase <i>p</i> <.001
Total (not mutually exclusive)	77	74	75	136	122		
HIV-negative men							
Ensured partners were seroconcordant before CAIC (serosorting)	118 (41.4)	129 (42.4)	159 (53.5)	281 (53.1)	282 (48.7)	ns	Increase p<.05
Took insertive position during CAIC when partners were not concordant	76 (26.9)	72 (23.7)	67 (22.6)	134 (25.3)	121 (20.9)	ns	ns
Partner withdrew before ejaculation when participant was receptive	45 (15.9)	47 (15.5)	46 (15.5)	74 (14.0)	75 (13.0)	ns	ns
Ensured HIV-positive partner had an undetectable viral load before having sex	-	37 (12.2)	32 (10.8)	66 (12.5)	89 (15.4)	ns	ns
Participant took anti HIV medication before sex	-	12 (4.0)	5 (1.7)	34 (6.4)	110 (19.0)	Increase p<.001	Increase p<.001
Participant took anti HIV medication after sex		16 (5.3)	11 (3.7)	30 (5.7)	96 (16.6)	Increase p<.001	Increase p<.001
Total (not mutually exclusive)	283	304	297	529	579		

Note: This table only includes data from men who reported having CAIC in the six months prior to the survey. Men who reported 'often' or 'always' using each strategy were classified as 'frequently' using the strategy.

Table 22: Where men met their male sex partners in the six months prior to the survey

	2012 n (%)	2013 n (%)	2014 n (%)	2015 n (%)	2016 n (%)	Change from 2015 (p-value)	Trend over time (p -value)
Internet	806 (39.3)	836 (35.7)	707 (37.8)	1,043 (34.7)	921 (31. 9)	Decrease p<.05	Decrease p<.001
Mobile app e.g. Grindr	721 (35.2)	901 (38.5)	868 (46.4)	1,455 (48.4)	1,392 (48.2)	ns	Increase p<.001
Gay bar	639 (31.1)	656 (28.1)	549 (29.3)	808 (26.9)	826 (28.6)	ns	Decrease p<.05
Other bar	-	-	-	269 (9.0)	273 (9.5)	ns	NA
Gay saunas	617 (30.1)	614 (26.3)	498 (26.6)	831 (27.6)	798 (27.7)	ns	ns
Dance party	257 (12.5)	273 (11.7)	228 (12.2)	336 (11.2)	354 (12.3)	ns	ns
Beat	293 (14.3)	280 (12.0)	232 (12.4)	420 (14.0)	326 (11.3)	Decrease p<.05	ns
Other sex-on-premises venues	277 (13.5)	242 (10.4)	197 (10.5)	317 (10.6)	326 (11.3)	ns	ns
Private sex parties	131 (6.4)	131 (5.6)	116 (6.2)	195 (6.5)	211 (7.3)	ns	ns
Sex workers	63 (3.1)	41 (1.8)	41 (2.2)	70 (2.3)	68 (2.4)	ns	ns
Gym	119 (5.8)	127 (5.4)	83 (4.4)	138 (4.6)	168 (5.8)	Increase p<.05	ns
In other Australian cities	407 (19.8)	404 (17.3)	357 (19.1)	572 (19.0)	553 (19.2)	ns	ns
Elsewhere in Australia	284 (13.8)	286 (12.2)	258 (13.8)	409 (13.6)	393 (13.6)	ns	ns
Overseas	375 (18.3)	398 (17.0)	341 (18.2)	575 (19.1)	569 (19.7)	ns	Increase p<.05
Total (not mutually exclusive)	2,053	2,339	1,872	3,006	2,886		

Table 23: STI testing among HIV-positive men in the 12 months prior to the survey

	2012 n (%)	2013 n (%)	2014 n (%)	2015 n (%)	2016 n (%)	Change from 2015 (<i>p</i> -value)	Trend over time (p -value)
Anal swab	101 (64.3)	115 (72.8)	113 (70.2)	191 (73.2)	161 (75.2)	ns	Increase p<.05
Throat swab	103 (65.6)	117 (74.1)	110 (68.3)	190 (72.8)	158 (73.8)	ns	ns
Penile swab	77 (49.0)	88 (55.7)	66 (41.0)	128 (49.0)	97 (45.3)	ns	ns
Urine sample	109 (69.4)	131 (82.9)	126 (78.3)	206 (78.9)	180 (84.1)	ns	Increase p<.05
Blood test other than for HIV	116 (73.9)	119 (75.3)	123 (76.4)	201 (77.0)	162 (75.7)	ns	ns
Blood test for syphilis	119 (75.8)	131 (82.9)	123 (76.4)	210 (80.5)	180 (84.1)	ns	ns
Any STI test (not including blood tests)	115 (73.3)	134 (84.8)	129 (80.1)	217 (83.1)	185 (86.5)	ns	Increase p<.01
Any STI test (including blood tests)	132 (84.1)	144 (91.1)	145 (90.1)	239 (91.6)	199 (93.0)	ns	Increase p<.05
Total (not mutually exclusive)	157	158	161	261	214		

Note: From 2010, the item 'Blood test for syphilis' was added and included in the calculation for any STI test (including blood tests)

Table 24: STI testing among HIV-negative men in the 12 months prior to the survey

	2012 n (%)	2013 n (%)	2014 n (%)	2015 n (%)	2016 n (%)	Change from 2015 (<i>p</i> -value)	Trend over time (p -value)
Anal swab	709 (45.0)	821 (46.6)	682 (47.2)	1,068 (45.3)	1,176 (50.4)	Increase p<.001	Increase p<.01
Throat swab	747 (47.4)	878 (49.8)	771 (53.4)	1,158 (49.1)	1,258 (54.0)	Increase p<.01	Increase p<.01
Penile swab	550 (34.9)	641 (36.4)	473 (32.8)	752 (31.9)	764 (32.8)	ns	Decrease p<.05
Urine sample	899 (57.0)	1,031 (58.5)	860 (59.6)	1,390 (59.0)	1,455 (62.4)	Increase p<.05	Increase p=.001
Blood test other than for HIV	842 (53.4)	919 (52.2)	712 (49.3)	1,165 (49.4)	1,218 (52.2)	ns	ns
Blood test for syphilis	919 (58.3)	1,013 (57.5)	879 (60.9)	1,428 (60.6)	1,491 (63.9)	Increase p<.001	Increase p<.001
Any STI test (not including blood test)	935 (59.3)	1,091 (61.9)	916 (63.4)	1,478 (62.7)	1,526 (65.4)	ns	Increase p<.001
Any STI test (including blood tests)	1,100 (69.8)	1,231 (69.9)	1,041 (72.1)	1,679 (71.2)	1,720 (73.8)	ns	Increase p<.01
Total (not mutually exclusive)	1,576	1,762	1,444	2,375	2,332		

Note: From 2010, the item 'Blood test for syphilis' was added and included in the calculation for any STI test (including blood tests)

Table 25: Diagnosis with STIs and disclosure to sex partners about the diagnosis in the 12 months prior to the survey

	2012 n (%)	2013 n (%)	2014 n (%)	2015 n (%)	2016 n (%)	Change from 2015 (p-value)	Trend over time (p -value)
Were diagnosed with STI	236 (11.5)	278 (13.1)	228 (12.8)	432 (15.2)	508 (18.4)	Increase p<.01	Increase p<.001
Total	2,053 (100)	2,115 (100)	1,781(100)	2,840 (100)	2,765 (100)		
Disclosed to sex partners	168 (71.2)	213 (76.6)	179 (78.5)	347 (80.3)	430 (84.7)	ns	Increase p<.001
Total	236 (100)	278 (100)	228 (100)	432 (100)	508 (100)		

Table 26: Recreational drug use among all men in the six months prior to the survey

	2012 n (%)	2013 n (%)	2014 n (%)	2015 n (%)	2016 n (%)	Change from 2015 (p-value)	Trend over time (p-value)
Marijuana	559 (27.2)	647 (27.7)	545 (29.1)	938 (31.2)	924 (32.0)	ns	Increase p<.001
Amyl nitrite (poppers)	726 (35.4)	781 (33.4)	693 (37.0)	1,156 (38.5)	1,217 (42.2)	Increase p<.01	Increase p<.001
Ecstasy	371 (18.1)	387 (16.6)	349 (18.6)	587 (19.5)	617 (21.4)	ns	Increase p<.001
Amphetamine (speed)	263 (12.8)	275 (11.8)	226 (12.1)	309 (10.3)	320 (11.1)	ns	p<.05
Crystal methamphetamine	201 (9.8)	205 (8.8)	196 (10.5)	342 (11.4)	285 (9.9)	ns	ns
Viagra	331 (16.1)	355 (15.2)	309 (16.5)	536 (17.8)	573 (19.9)	Increase <i>p</i> <.05	Increase p<.001
Cocaine	261 (12.7)	297 (12.7)	266 (14.2)	456 (15.2)	523 (18.1)	Increase p<.01	Increase p<.001
Ketamine (special K)	117 (5.7)	97 (4.2)	97 (5.2)	150 (5.0)	169 (5.9)	ns	ns
GHB	121 (5.9)	117 (5.0)	114 (6.1)	204 (6.8)	228 (7.9)	Ns	Increase p<.001
Heroin	24 (1.2)	21 (0.9)	14 (0.8)	16 (0.5)	15 (0.5)	ns	Decrease p<.01
Steroids	-	-	22 (1.2)	37 (1.2)	56 (1.9)	NA	NA
Other drugs	162 (7.9)	170 (7.3)	131 (7.0)	217 (7.2)	256 (8.9)	Increase p<.05	ns
Total (not mutually exclusive)	2,053	2,339	1,872	3,006	2,886		
Number of drugs used							
None	949 (46.2)	1,103 (47.2)	776 (41.5)	1,215 (40.4)	1,098 (38.0)	ns	Decrease p<.001
One or two drugs	640 (31.2)	751 (32.1)	661 (35.3)	1,049 (34.9)	980 (34.0)	ns	Increase p<.01
More than two drugs	464 (22.6)	485 (20.7)	435 (23.2)	742 (24.7)	808 (28.0)	Increase p<.01	Increase p<.001
Total	2,053 (100)	2,339 (100)	1,872 (100)	3,006 (100)	2,886 (100)		

Note: Questions about steroid use were not included in the questionnaire between 2010 and 2013.

Table 27: Recreational drug use among HIV-positive men in the six months prior to the survey

	2012 n (%)	2013 n (%)	2014 n (%)	2015 n (%)	2016 n (%)	Change from 2015 (<i>p</i> -value)	Trend over time (p-value)
Marijuana	68 (43.3)	62 (39.2)	54 (33.5)	110 (42.2)	85 (39.7)	ns	ns
Amyl nitrite (poppers)	100 (63.7)	98 (62.0)	84 (52.2)	155 (59.4)	124 (57.9)	ns	ns
Ecstasy	33 (21.0)	40 (25.3)	28 (17.4)	63 (24.1)	54 (25.2)	ns	ns
Amphetamine (speed)	22 (14.0)	35 (22.2)	21 (13.0)	36 (17.8)	28 (13.1)	ns	ns
Crystal methamphetamine	40 (25.5)	44 (27.9)	39 (24.2)	92 (35.3)	66 (30.8)	ns	ns
Viagra	62 (39.5)	62 (39.2)	58 (36.0)	121 (46.4)	94 (43.9)	ns	ns
Total (not mutually exclusive)	157	158	161	261	214		
Number of drugs used							
None	32 (20.4)	34 (21.5)	43 (26.7)	51 (19.5)	42 (19.6)	ns	ns
One or two drugs	65 (41.4)	56 (35.4)	63 (39.1)	84 (32.2)	82 (38.3)	ns	ns
More than two drugs	60 (38.2)	68 (43.0)	55 (34.2)	126 (48.3)	90 (42.1)	ns	ns
Total	157 (100)	158 (100)	161 (100)	261 (100)	214 (100)		

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

	2012 n (%)	2013 n (%)	2014 n (%)	2015 n (%)	2016 n (%)	Change from 2015 (p-value)	Trend over time (p -value)
Marijuana	426 (27.0)	499 (28.3)	420 (29.1)	725 (30.8)	740 (31.7)	ns	Increase p<.001
Amyl nitrite (poppers)	586 (37.2)	613 (34.8)	547 (37.9)	932 (39.5)	1,022 (43.8)	Increase p<.01	Increase p<.001
Ecstasy	307 (19.5)	306 (17.4)	295 (20.4)	476 (20.2)	519 (22.3)	ns	Increase p<.01
Amphetamine (speed)	216 (13.7)	207 (11.8)	183 (12.7)	247 (10.5)	268 (11.5)	ns	Decrease <i>p</i> <.05
Crystal methamphetamine	149 (9.5)	145 (8.2)	142 (9.8)	234 (9.9)	197 (8.5)	ns	ns
Viagra	253 (16.1)	262 (14.9)	236 (16.3)	389 (16.5)	440 (18.9)	Increase p<.05	Increase p<.01
Total (not mutually exclusive)	1,576	1,762	1,444	2,357	2,332		
Number of drugs used							
None	696 (44.2)	782 (44.4)	583 (40.4)	935 (39.7)	868 (37.2)	ns	Decrease p<.001
One or two drugs	513 (32.6)	614 (34.9)	514 (35.6)	855 (36.3)	805 (34.5)	ns	ns
More than two drugs	367 (23.3)	366 (20.8)	347 (24.0)	567 (24.1)	659 (28.3)	Increase p<.01	Increase p<.001
Total	1,576 (100)	1,762 (100)	1,444 (100)	2,357 (100)	2,332 (100)		

Table 29: Injecting drug use in the six months prior to the survey, by HIV status of participants

	2012 n (%)	2013 n (%)	2014 n (%)	2015 n (%)	2016 n (%)	Change from 2015 (p-value)	Trend over time (p -value)
All men	67 (3.3)	70 (3.0)	59 (3.2)	120 (4.0)	114 (4.0)	ns	Increase p<.05
Total	2,053 (100)	2,339 (100)	1,872 (100)	3,006 (100)	2,886 (100)		
HIV-positive men	26 (16.6)	24 (15.2)	23 (14.3)	47 (18.0)	38 (17.8)	ns	ns
Total	157 (100)	158 (100)	161(100)	261 (100)	214 (100)		
HIV-negative men	37 (2.4)	34 (1.9)	29 (2.0)	63 (2.7)	61 (2.6)	ns	ns
Total	1,576 (100)	1,762 (100)	1,444 (100)	2,357 (100)	2,332 (100)		

Table 30: Party drug use and group sex in the six months prior to the survey

	2012 n (%)	2013 n (%)	2014 n (%)	2015 n (%)	2016 n (%)	Change from 2015 (<i>p</i> -value)	Trend over time (p -value)
Used party drugs for sex	300 (14.6)	346 (14.8)	292 (15.6)	545 (18.1)	508 (17.6)	ns	Increase p<.001
Engaged in group sex during or after drug use	192 (9.4)	188 (8.0)	165 (8.8)	339 (11.3)	330 (11.4)	ns	Increase p<.001
Total (not mutually exclusive)	2,053	2,339	1,872	3,006	2,886		

Table 31: Knowledge and use of pre- and post-exposure prophylaxis

	2012 n (%)	2013 n (%)	2014 n (%)	2015 n (%)	2016 n (%)	Change from 2015 (p-value)	Trend over time (<i>p</i> -value)
Belief that PEP is available now (all men)	1,220 (59.4)	1,398 (59.8)	1,199 (64.1)	1,875 (62.4)	1,913 (66.3)	Increase p<.01	Increase p<.001
Total	2,053 (100)	2,339 (100)	1,872 (100)	3,006 (100)	2,886 (100)		
Belief that PEP is available now (non-HIV-positive men)	1,088 (57.4)	1,264 (58.0)	1,058 (61.8)	1,655 (60.3)	1,743 (65.2)	Increase p<.001	Increase p<.001
Total	1,896 (100)	2,181 (100)	1,711 (100)	2,745 (100)	2,672 (100)		
Belief that PrEP is available now (all men)	-	-	574 (30.7)	1,151 (38.3)	1,379 (47.8)	Increase p<.001	NA
Total	-	-	1,872 (100)	3,006 (100)	2,886 (100)		
Belief that PrEP is available now (non-HIV-positive men)	-	-	488 (28.5)	997 (36.3)	1,248 (46.7)	Increase p<.001	NA
Total	-	-	1,711 (100)	2,745 (100)	2,672 (100)		
Use of PEP by non-HIV-positive men in the six months prior to survey	-	68 (3.1)	55 (3.2)	97 (3.5)	147 (5.5)	Increase p<.01	Increase p<.01
Total	-	2,181 (100)	1,711 (100)	2,745 (100)	2,672 (100)		
Use of PrEP by non-HIV-positive men in the six months prior to survey	-	40 (1.8)	18 (1.1)	47 (1.7)	146 (5.5)	Increase p<.01	Increase p<.001
Total	-	2,181 (100)	1,711 (100)	2,745 (100)	2,672 (100)		

Note: The question on the awareness of PrEP was included from 2014 onwards. The use of PEP and PrEP in the six months prior to the survey was included from 2013 onwards.

Appendix

Melbourne Gay Community Periodic Survey 2016



Conducted by







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 THIS YEAR (including online).

Section A – About you	Section B – Your sex partners
Section A – About you	Section B = Tour Sex partners
1. How many of your friends are gay or homosexual men? ¹ □None ² □A few ³ □Some ⁴ □Most ⁵ □All	In this survey we distinguish between REGULAR (boyfriends/fuck buddies) and CASUAL partners
2. How much of your free time is spent with gay or homosexual men? 1 None 2 A little 3 Some 4 A lot	13. Do you currently have sex with casual male partners? ¹ □No ² □Yes
3. Which of the following best describes you: ¹ ☐ Male ² ☐ Trans male ³ ☐ Intersex male	Do you currently have sex with a regular male partner (or partners)? □ No □ Yes
4. Do you think of yourself as: ¹ Gay/Homosexual ² Bisexual ³ Heterosexual ⁴ Other (please specify)	15. How would you describe your sexual relationship with your current regular male partner(s)? (choose one) ¹ ☐ We are monogamous – neither of us has casual sex ² ☐ Both my partner and I have casual sex with other men
5. How old are you? Years	 ³ ☐ I have casual sex with other men but my partner does not ⁴ ☐ My partner has casual sex with other men but I do not
6. Are you of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin? ¹□No ²□Yes	 ⁵ ☐ I have several regular male partners ⁶ ☐ No current regular male partner → Go to Section C→
7. What is your ethnic background? (e.g. Dutch, Greek, Vietnamese, Lebanese)	16. If you are in a relationship with a man, for how long has it been? 1 ☐ Less than 6 months
¹ Anglo-Australian ² Other	¹∐Less than 6 months ²□6–11 months
8. Where were you born?	³□1–2 years
¹ ☐ Australia ² ☐ Overseas	⁴ More than 2 years
9. Where do you live?	⁵ Not in a relationship with a man Go to Section C→
Postcode OR	17. Do you have a clear (spoken) agreement about sex within your relationship?
Suburb/Town	¹ □No agreement ² □Agreement: No sex at all
10. Are you:	☐ Agreement: No sex at all 3 ☐ Agreement: No anal sex at all
¹ Employed full-time ⁴ A student	⁴ ☐Agreement: All anal sex is with a condom
² ☐Employed part-time ⁵ ☐Unemployed	⁵ □Agreement: Anal sex can be without a condom
³ ☐ On pension/social security ⁶ ☐ Other 11. What is your occupation? (e.g. bartender, teacher, welder)	18. Do you have a clear (spoken) agreement in your relationship about sex with casual male partners?
(specify)	¹☐No agreement
12. What is the highest level of education you have completed?	² Agreement: No sex at all
¹☐Up to Year 10	³☐Agreement: No anal sex at all
² ☐Year 12 / VCE / HSC / QCE / SACE / WACE	⁴ ☐ Agreement: All anal sex is with a condom
³☐Tertiary diploma or trade certificate / TAFE	⁵ Agreement: Anal sex can be without a condom Go to section C →
⁴ University degree Go to section B ₹	do to section C 9

Section C – Sex in the last 6 months	Section E – Casual male partners – last 6 months
19. How many different men have you had sex with in the last 6 months?	30. Have you had any sex with any casual male partner/s in the last 6 months?
¹ □None ⁴ □6–10 men ⁷ □More than 50 men	¹□Yes ²□No → Go to section F →
² □One ⁵ □11–20 men	•
³ □2–5 men ⁶ □21-50 men	In the last 6 MONTHS how often have you done the following with any of your CASUAL male partner/s?
20. In the last 6 months how often have you had sex with men you met at or through:	Anal sex casual partner/s: 31. I fucked him with a condom.
Never Occasionally Often	¹ Never ² Occasionally ³ Often
	32. He fucked me with a condom.
Mobile app e.g. Grindr, Scruff $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ \end{bmatrix}$ $\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ \end{bmatrix}$ $\begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ \end{bmatrix}$ Gav bar $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ \end{bmatrix}$ $\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ \end{bmatrix}$ $\begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ \end{bmatrix}$	¹ Never ² Occasionally ³ Often
Gay bar ¹	•
Dance party 1 2 3	33. I fucked him without a condom but pulled out before I came.
Gym ¹	¹ Never ² Occasionally ³ Often
Beat ¹ 2 3	34. He fucked me without a condom but pulled out before he
Gay sauna 1 2 3	came. ¹ □Never ² □Occasionally ³ □Often
Other sex venue	,
Sex workers 1 2 3	35. I fucked him without a condom and came inside.
Private sex parties ¹ 2 3	¹ Never ² Occasionally ³ Often
In other Australian cities 1 2 3	36. He fucked me without a condom and came inside.
Elsewhere in Australia 1 2 3	¹ Never ² Occasionally ³ Often
Overseas ¹ 2 3	HIV disclosure casual partner/s
21. In the last 6 months, how often did you have group sex	37. How many of your casual partners did you tell your HIV status before sex?
involving at least two other men?	¹□None ²□Some ³□All
¹ ☐Every week ³ ☐Once / A few times	38. How many of your casual partners told you their HIV status
² ☐Monthly ⁴ ☐Never	before sex?
22. In the last 6 months, how often have you been paid for sex?	¹□None ²□Some ³□AII
¹ □Every week ³ □Once / A few times	HIV status of casual partner/s
² ☐Monthly ⁴ ☐Never	
Ocation B. Deculos male materials last Consulta	39. In the last 6 months, did you have any sex with casual partners who were:
Section D – Regular male partners – last 6 months	HIV-positive ¹ □Yes ² □No ³ □Don't know
23. Have you had sex with regular male partner/s in the last 6 months?	HIV-negative ¹ Yes ² No ³ Don't know
¹☐Yes	Untested ¹ Yes ² No ³ Don't know
In the last 6 MONTHS how often have you done the following with any of your REGULAR male partner/s?	40. In the last 6 months, did you fuck or get fucked without a
	condom with casual partners who were:
Anal sex regular partner/s:	HIV-positive ¹ Yes ² No ³ Don't know
24. I fucked him with a condom. ¹ □ Never ² □ Occasionally ³ □ Often	HIV-negative ¹ Yes ² No ³ Don't know
,	Untested ¹ Yes ² No ³ Don't know
25. He fucked me with a condom. ¹ □ Never ² □ Occasionally ³ □ Often	
26. I fucked him without a condom but pulled out before I came.	
¹ Never ² Occasionally ³ Often	
27. He fucked me without a condom but pulled out before he came.	
¹ Never ² Occasionally ³ Often	Survey continues on next page
28. I fucked him without a condom and came inside.	
¹ Never ² Occasionally ³ Often	
29 He fucked me without a condom and came inside	

³Often

²Occasionally

 $^{1}\square$ Never



The following questions are for men who have had <u>any anal sex without</u> 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 🕊

41. In the last 6 months, if you had anal sex without a condom with any casual male partner(s), how often 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	¹☐ Never	² Occasionally	³ ☐ Often	⁴ □ Always	
I chose to take the top role (I fucked him) because his HIV status was different or unknown to me	¹☐ Never	² Occasionally	³ ☐ Often	⁴ □ Always	
I chose to take the bottom role (he fucked me) because his HIV status was different or unknown to me	¹☐ Never	² Occasionally	³ ☐ Often	⁴ □ Always	
When I fucked him, I chose to pull out before cumming because his HIV status was different or unknown to me	¹☐ Never	² Occasionally	³☐ Often	⁴ Always	
When he fucked me, I made sure he pulled out before cumming because his HIV status was different or unknown to me	¹☐ Never	² Occasionally	³ ☐ Often	⁴ □ Always	
I took anti-HIV medication before sex	¹☐ Never	² Occasionally	³ ☐ Often	⁴ ☐ Always	
I took anti-HIV medication after sex	¹☐ Never	² Occasionally	³ ☐ Often	⁴ □ Always	
When my partner was HIV-positive, I checked he had an undetectable viral load before we had sex	¹☐ Never	² Occasionally	³☐ Often	⁴ □ Always	
I knew I had an undetectable viral load before we had sex	¹☐ Never	² Occasionally	³ ☐ Often	⁴ □ Always	
			G	o to section F 🕊	
Section F – HIV testing and HIV status	O If you	ono IIIV monitivo ml			
42. Have you ever had an HIV test?	the ne	are HIV-positive ploxt five questions. If	ease complet not, go to sec	e tion G →	
¹□No ²□Yes	49. When w	ere you first diagnose	d as HIV-positi	ve?	
43. When were you last tested for HIV?			- по тите респи		
¹ Never tested ⁵ 1−12 months ago	Year L				
$^2\square$ Less than a week ago $^6\square$ 1–2 years ago		st 12 months, how ma		ointments about	
$^{3}\square$ 1–4 weeks ago $^{7}\square$ 2–4 years ago	_	ng HIV have you attend	_	4.	
⁴ □1–6 months ago ⁸ □More than 4 years ago	¹□None	e ¹ ∐1-2	¹∐3-4	¹ □5 or more	
44. Based on the results of your HIV tests, what is your HIV status?	51 . Are you ² ☐ Yes	on combination antire	troviral therapy ∃No	(HIV treatment)?	
¹☐No test/Don't know ³☐Positive	∟res	L	LINO		
²□Negative	52. What was your last viral load test result?				
	¹□Undetectable				
45. Where did you have your last HIV test?	² Detectable				
¹☐No test/don't know ⁵☐Private home	³□Don'	t know/unsure			
² GP ⁶ Community-based service			10		
³☐Sexual health clinic e.g. Pronto	¹ □≤200	s your last CD4 coun	 □>500		
⁴ ☐Hospital ⁷ ☐Somewhere else	²□201-;		□>500 □Don't know	(
46. How many HIV tests have you had in the last 12 months ?	³□351-		LIDON (KNOW)	runsure	
¹☐None (no tests)	□351-	500	G	o to section G →	
² □One test ⁵ □5 or more tests			_		
³⊡Two tests					
47. If you have a regular partner, do you know the result of his HIV					
test?					
¹☐Positive ³☐I don't know/He hasn't had a test					
² Negative ⁴ No regular partner					
48. If your regular partner is HIV positive, what was his last viral load test result?		Survey conclude	es on next	nage	
¹ ☐Undetectable ³ ☐Don't know/unsure		Jan 10 y Johnsha ak	on noxt	pago	
² Detectable ⁴ No HIV-positive partner					

Section G – STI testing	63. If you took PrEP in the last 6 months, where did you get it		
54. Which of these sexual health tests have you had in the last 12 months?	from? ¹ □A trial or study		
None Once Twice 3 or more	² I bought it online (from overseas)		
Anal swab ¹ 2 3 4	³ I used drugs prescribed for PEP		
Throat swab $1 \square 2 \square 3 \square 4 \square$	⁴ Other		
Penile swab ¹ ² ³ ⁴	Go to section I ♥		
Urine sample 1 2 3 4	Section I – Drug use		
Blood test for HIV 1 2 3 4	-		
Blood test for 1 2 3 4	64. How often have you used these drugs in the last 6 months? Once/ At least Every		
syphilis	Never twice monthly week		
Other blood test	Amyl/poppers 1 2 3 4		
55. Have you ever been tested for hepatitis C?	Marijuana 1 2 3 4		
¹ Yes ² No ³ Don't know	Viagra/Cialis etc 1 2 3 4		
	Ecstasy ¹ ² ³ ⁴		
56. What is your hepatitis C status?	Speed 1 2 3 4		
¹ Negative ² Positive ³ Don't know	Cocaine 1 2 3 4		
57. Were you diagnosed with any sexually transmitted infection	Crystal meth / ice 1 2 3 4		
(other than HIV) in the last 12 months?	GHB 1 2 3 4		
¹□Yes ² □No	Ketamine 1 2 3 4		
	(special K)		
58. If you were diagnosed with a sexually transmitted infection in the last 12 months, how many of your sex partners did you tell	Heroin 1 2 3 4		
about your diagnosis?	Steroids ¹ ² ³ ⁴		
¹ None ² A few ³ Some ⁴ All	Any other drug 1 2 3 4		
⁵ Not been diagnosed with an STI in the last 12 months	, any cande drug		
Go to section H ∀	65. In the last 6 months, how often have you had more than four		
Section H – Medication to prevent HIV	alcoholic drinks on one occasion? ¹☐Every week ³☐Once or twice		
	² At least monthly ⁴ Never		
59. What do you know about post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP)? PEP is a month-long course of anti-HIV medication prescribed	Elact monthly Enever		
after an exposure to HIV.	66. How often have you injected drugs in the last 6 months?		
¹□It's readily available now	¹ ☐ Every week ³ ☐ Once or twice		
² ☐It will be available in the future	² □At least monthly ⁴ □Never		
³ □I've never heard about it	·		
	67. Have you ever injected drugs?		
60. What do you know about pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP)? PrEP is anti-HIV medication you take regularly to protect	¹ □Yes ² □No		
yourself from HIV.	68. In the last 6 months , how often have you used party drugs for		
¹□It's readily available now	the purpose of sex?		
² ☐ It will be available in the future	¹ ☐ Every week ³ ☐ Once or twice		
³□l've never heard about it	² ☐At least monthly ⁴ ☐ Never		
	·		
If you are HIV-positive you can skip the next two	69. In the last 6 months, how often have you had group sex after or while using party drugs?		
If you are HIV-positive you can skip the next two questions and go to section I 🛪	¹ □ Every week ³ □ Once or twice		
	² □At least monthly ⁴ □Never		
61. In the last 6 months, did you take a prescribed course of PEP	LACTED LITERITY LINEVEL		
because you were exposed to HIV?			
¹∐No ²□v			
² ∐Yes, once	The survey concludes here.		
³∐Yes, more than once	Thank you for your time.		
62. In the last 6 months, did you take anti-HIV medication			
regularly to protect yourself from HIV (PrEP)?	As this survey is anonymous, feedback cannot		
¹ No → Go to Section I 🛪	be provided directly. Please check the CSRH		
² Yes, I was prescribed anti-HIV medication to take every	and VAC websites for the results of this survey.		
day 3 Ves. I took anti-HIV medication that was not prescribed	https://csrh.arts.unsw.edu.au		
I IVES I TOOK ANTI-HIV MEDICATION that was not prescribed	1.44 11		