

# Vital Statistics 2004 The UK Gay Men's Sex Survey

## England Strategic Health Authorities Data Report (February 2008)

This is a report of data from the UK Gay Men's Sex Survey 2004, conducted by Sigma Research in collaboration with health promoters throughout the UK. This report supplements the annual report *Risk and reflexion* (down-loadable from <http://www.sigmaresearch.org.uk/files/report2005c.pdf>). Survey methods and interpretation of the variables are outlined in that report. This data is intended to provide HIV health promotion planners with information about their local gay population. This report contains data from men who live in England and for whom Strategic Health Authority (SHA) data is known. Respondents are grouped according to the SHA in which they live.

### *The data*

The survey used three data collection methods over the summer of 2004:

- (1) A self-sealing, Freepost addressed booklet distributed by 113 health promotion agencies throughout the UK: (96 based in England);
- (2) In English and Spanish on two specific web-sites <<http://www.sigmasurvey.org.uk>> and <http://www.sigmaspanish.org.uk>>, promoted via links on 37 gay and HIV related web-sites (25 targeted at men living in England). Two sites, gay.com and gaydar.co.uk, conducted substantial paid for promotion of the survey.
- (3) As an insert in the GMFA magazine 'FS' which could be returned by Freepost.

This report contains data from all the men recruited through **all methods**.

The respondents are grouped according to the SHA they live in.

To be included in the sample respondents must:

- be male;
- be aged 14 or over;
- be living in England;
- have had sex with a man in the last year and / 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 SHA appear as a line in the tables. The bottom line of each table gives the result for the entire England sample. The first table shows the number of men recruited to the survey living in each SHA 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/VS2004booklet.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 and Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. Booklet recruitment occurred in England Wales and Scotland.



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**Vital Statistics 2004**  
**The UK Gay Men's Sex Survey**  
**England: Strategic Health Authorities data report (March 2008)**

**Sample sizes and descriptions**

**1. Web and Booklet sample sizes.**

Count

	Distribution method				Total
	Web English	Web Spanish	Booklet	FS insert	
London	3144	21	709	101	3975
South West	678	1	239	2	920
South Central	654	3	276	4	937
South East Coast	768	1	197	6	972
East of England	745	2	420	2	1169
East Midlands	553	0	221	1	775
West Midlands	713	0	285	10	1008
Yorkshire and The Humber	656	0	481	0	1137
North West	1151	1	469	0	1621
North East	329	0	174	2	505
All other English men	822	3	196	2	1023
Total	10213	32	3667	130	14042

## 2. Age groups.

% within Demog - Strategic Health Authority of residence boundaries 2007

	Age Groups				
	<20	20s	30s	40s	50+
London	3.7%	28.9%	37.8%	20.0%	9.6%
South West	9.0%	30.1%	27.4%	18.8%	14.6%
South Central	9.6%	32.6%	27.3%	18.5%	12.0%
South East Coast	7.6%	28.1%	27.0%	21.8%	15.5%
East of England	14.0%	32.1%	25.3%	16.6%	11.9%
East Midlands	9.4%	35.8%	26.3%	16.9%	11.5%
West Midlands	9.3%	30.2%	26.6%	18.4%	15.6%
Yorkshire and The Humber	8.4%	35.3%	28.5%	17.5%	10.2%
North West	12.0%	32.4%	27.6%	17.4%	10.5%
North East	11.8%	32.2%	29.3%	15.2%	11.6%
All other English men	15.3%	40.2%	25.3%	11.6%	7.6%
Total	8.7%	31.7%	30.1%	18.1%	11.3%

## 3. Age averages.

Age

Demog - Strategic Health Authority of residence	Median	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
London	34.00	14	84	35.08	10.349
South West	33.00	15	73	35.02	12.757
South Central	32.00	15	79	34.04	12.539
South East Coast	35.00	14	78	36.13	13.022
East of England	31.00	14	85	33.06	12.676
East Midlands	31.00	15	71	33.17	11.709
West Midlands	33.00	14	80	35.15	12.850
Yorkshire and The Humber	32.00	15	85	33.43	12.062
North West	31.00	14	82	32.98	11.865
North East	32.00	15	82	32.99	12.365
All other English men	27.00	14	68	30.43	11.327
Total	33.00	14	85	34.05	11.857

#### 4. Ethnicity.

% within Demog - Strategic Health Authority of residence boundaries 2007

	Ethnic Group					
	White British	White other	Black	Asian	Mixed	Other
London	62.4%	23.7%	3.7%	3.6%	3.2%	3.4%
South West	91.8%	5.7%	.3%	.3%	.8%	1.1%
South Central	87.9%	8.1%	.3%	1.3%	1.3%	1.1%
South East Coast	87.9%	8.4%	.3%	1.0%	1.4%	.9%
East of England	88.2%	6.3%	.9%	.8%	2.3%	1.5%
East Midlands	88.4%	5.0%	.4%	3.9%	1.5%	.8%
West Midlands	89.4%	4.5%	1.5%	2.4%	1.3%	1.0%
Yorkshire and The Humber	90.5%	4.8%	.4%	1.8%	1.5%	1.1%
North West	91.7%	4.6%	.4%	1.0%	1.5%	.7%
North East	92.5%	4.6%	.6%	.8%	1.0%	.6%
All other English men	82.6%	6.8%	1.9%	3.2%	2.7%	2.9%
Total	81.5%	10.9%	1.6%	2.2%	2.0%	1.8%

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

% within Demog - Strategic Health Authority of residence boundaries 2007

	Years in full-time education post - 16				
	None	1 year	2 years	3 to 5 years	6 or more years
London	9.8%	5.2%	11.5%	35.6%	38.0%
South West	19.9%	8.5%	19.2%	32.0%	20.3%
South Central	17.1%	6.6%	18.7%	32.8%	24.8%
South East Coast	16.0%	8.9%	19.0%	35.5%	20.6%
East of England	19.3%	9.6%	18.8%	30.0%	22.2%
East Midlands	18.6%	7.2%	20.3%	33.8%	20.2%
West Midlands	19.3%	9.9%	15.2%	33.7%	21.9%
Yorkshire and The Humber	19.8%	5.9%	16.6%	35.1%	22.6%
North West	20.2%	7.8%	16.8%	33.2%	22.0%
North East	20.8%	7.8%	19.6%	33.3%	18.4%
All other English men	23.0%	9.9%	17.3%	30.4%	19.4%
Total	16.7%	7.4%	16.1%	33.7%	26.2%

## 6. Current religious practice.

% within Demog - Strategic Health Authority of residence boundaries 2007

	Current religious practice						
	No religious practice	Judaism	Christianity	Islam	Buddhism	Paganism	Other
London	79.8%	.9%	13.5%	1.2%	1.6%	.7%	2.3%
South West	81.2%	.1%	13.6%	.1%	1.1%	1.8%	2.1%
South Central	81.2%	.2%	12.9%	.3%	1.7%	1.6%	2.0%
South East Coast	81.4%	.4%	14.6%		.8%	1.0%	1.8%
East of England	82.0%	.3%	13.6%	.3%	.7%	1.1%	1.8%
East Midlands	81.6%	.5%	12.1%	.9%	1.0%	1.0%	2.9%
West Midlands	80.1%	.1%	15.2%	.6%	.6%	1.0%	2.4%
Yorkshire and The Humber	83.3%	.3%	11.6%	.9%	.3%	1.9%	1.8%
North West	81.1%	.2%	14.6%	.4%	1.1%	1.1%	1.5%
North East	80.7%		14.9%	.2%	.6%	1.6%	2.0%
All other English men	80.5%	.4%	13.3%	1.9%	1.0%	1.0%	1.9%
Total	80.9%	.5%	13.6%	.7%	1.1%	1.1%	2.1%

## 7. Sexual identity.

% within Demog - Strategic Health Authority of residence boundaries 2007

	Sexual identity			
	Gay	Bisexual	I don't usually use a term	Any other term
London	87.0%	7.5%	5.0%	.5%
South West	80.9%	12.8%	5.2%	1.1%
South Central	80.4%	10.9%	8.1%	.5%
South East Coast	80.0%	13.5%	6.3%	.2%
East of England	81.7%	12.6%	4.6%	1.1%
East Midlands	80.8%	13.9%	4.6%	.6%
West Midlands	80.9%	12.6%	5.7%	.8%
Yorkshire and The Humber	83.6%	10.8%	4.9%	.6%
North West	82.3%	12.6%	4.9%	.2%
North East	81.0%	13.3%	5.0%	.8%
All other English men	71.8%	20.6%	6.8%	.9%
Total	82.3%	11.7%	5.4%	.6%

## 8. Illness, Health problem or disability.

% within Demog - Strategic Health Authority of residence boundaries 2007

	Illness, Health problem, disability	
	no	yes
London	89.8%	10.2%
South West	89.8%	10.2%
South Central	91.3%	8.7%
South East Coast	88.2%	11.8%
East of England	90.2%	9.8%
East Midlands	91.4%	8.6%
West Midlands	88.1%	11.9%
Yorkshire and The Humber	91.3%	8.7%
North West	88.1%	11.9%
North East	86.8%	13.2%
All other English men	92.6%	7.4%
Total	89.8%	10.2%

## HIV testing

### 9. HIV testing history.

% within Demog - Strategic Health Authority of residence boundaries 2007

	HIV testing history			
	Never tested	-ve test last year	-ve test > 1 year ago	Tested HIV positive
London	27.8%	34.7%	24.5%	13.0%
South West	47.5%	26.0%	21.8%	4.7%
South Central	43.3%	30.8%	22.9%	3.0%
South East Coast	45.4%	28.6%	21.0%	4.9%
East of England	48.8%	27.7%	20.0%	3.5%
East Midlands	47.5%	27.8%	23.0%	1.7%
West Midlands	47.7%	24.1%	21.7%	6.5%
Yorkshire and The Humber	47.1%	27.2%	23.1%	2.6%
North West	44.6%	25.7%	22.3%	7.5%
North East	47.5%	23.6%	23.6%	5.2%
All other English men	57.0%	25.7%	14.1%	3.2%
Total	42.0%	29.0%	22.2%	6.9%

## Sexual Behaviour

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

% within Demog - Strategic Health Authority of residence boundaries 2007

	Gender of sexual partners			
	no one	women only	men only	both men and women
London	3.2%	.4%	90.4%	6.0%
South West	5.0%	.9%	83.1%	11.0%
South Central	4.1%	.9%	85.5%	9.6%
South East Coast	4.1%	1.0%	85.4%	9.5%
East of England	5.7%	.8%	83.7%	9.8%
East Midlands	4.5%	.6%	83.9%	11.0%
West Midlands	5.2%	1.4%	85.1%	8.3%
Yorkshire and The Humber	5.1%	.8%	85.4%	8.7%
North West	4.4%	1.4%	84.3%	9.9%
North East	6.5%	1.6%	83.6%	8.3%
All other English men	8.0%	2.4%	75.7%	13.9%
Total	4.6%	1.0%	85.5%	8.9%

### 11. Number of male sexual partners in the last year.

% within Demog - Strategic Health Authority of residence boundaries 2007

	Number of male sexual partners				
	One	2,3 or 4	5 to 12	13 to 29	30 or more
London	12.9%	24.7%	26.6%	17.3%	18.6%
South West	18.4%	33.3%	26.7%	11.2%	10.4%
South Central	19.2%	29.3%	30.3%	11.3%	10.0%
South East Coast	19.2%	28.6%	28.9%	12.9%	10.3%
East of England	21.9%	30.6%	24.7%	11.4%	11.3%
East Midlands	20.7%	33.4%	25.0%	10.3%	10.6%
West Midlands	20.2%	34.3%	21.9%	13.1%	10.5%
Yorkshire and The Humber	21.8%	32.2%	27.5%	10.1%	8.4%
North West	20.2%	32.2%	24.3%	12.4%	11.0%
North East	24.3%	32.2%	25.9%	10.0%	7.6%
All other English men	21.3%	35.4%	22.9%	11.4%	8.9%
Total	18.4%	29.9%	26.0%	13.2%	12.5%



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

% within Demog - Strategic Health Authority of residence boundaries 2007

	HIV concordancy of regular male relationship			
	Single	HIV concordant	HIV discordant	Concordancy unknown
London	43.1%	33.0%	6.8%	17.0%
South West	44.1%	35.7%	3.0%	17.2%
South Central	45.0%	38.8%	1.4%	14.8%
South East Coast	43.7%	34.6%	4.4%	17.3%
East of England	44.6%	38.2%	3.1%	14.1%
East Midlands	45.2%	36.6%	2.4%	15.8%
West Midlands	42.4%	35.3%	3.4%	18.9%
Yorkshire and The Humber	47.2%	35.1%	2.5%	15.3%
North West	44.3%	35.6%	3.7%	16.4%
North East	46.8%	35.7%	3.2%	14.3%
All other English men	49.9%	30.5%	3.6%	16.1%
Total	44.6%	34.9%	4.2%	16.4%

### 13. Sex with a risk of HIV transmission since last HIV test (those who had tested for HIV).

% within Demog - Strategic Health Authority of residence boundaries 2007

	HIV transmission risk since HIV test		
	No	Yes	Don't know
London	55.6%	35.3%	9.1%
South West	64.4%	28.9%	6.7%
South Central	66.3%	24.1%	9.6%
South East Coast	59.6%	32.6%	7.8%
East of England	69.4%	24.0%	6.7%
East Midlands	67.4%	23.7%	8.9%
West Midlands	60.2%	31.8%	8.0%
Yorkshire and The Humber	67.4%	24.8%	7.8%
North West	60.0%	30.3%	9.7%
North East	65.7%	27.2%	7.2%
All other English men	68.6%	19.8%	11.6%
Total	61.4%	29.9%	8.7%

## Health Needs

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

% within Demog - Strategic Health Authority of residence boundaries 2007

	Sex is as safe as I want it to be				
	Strongly agree	Agree	Not sure	Disagree	Strongly disagree
London	50.3%	35.1%	6.8%	6.7%	1.1%
South West	56.7%	31.0%	5.9%	5.9%	.5%
South Central	55.9%	34.7%	4.8%	4.0%	.7%
South East Coast	55.2%	32.4%	5.8%	5.6%	1.0%
East of England	58.8%	31.5%	5.1%	4.0%	.6%
East Midlands	55.2%	32.1%	6.6%	5.6%	.5%
West Midlands	54.2%	33.5%	6.4%	4.9%	.9%
Yorkshire and The Humber	55.9%	33.1%	5.6%	4.8%	.5%
North West	58.2%	30.7%	6.0%	4.5%	.5%
North East	59.9%	30.8%	4.1%	4.8%	.4%
All other English men	55.3%	31.8%	6.6%	5.2%	1.0%
Total	54.7%	33.0%	6.1%	5.4%	.8%

### 15. I find it easy to say 'no' to sex I don't want.

% within Demog - Strategic Health Authority of residence boundaries 2007

	I find it easy to say "no" to sex				
	Strongly agree	Agree	Not sure	Disagree	Strongly disagree
London	47.5%	35.7%	8.6%	6.8%	1.4%
South West	47.9%	34.6%	9.1%	7.1%	1.3%
South Central	48.7%	34.2%	8.4%	6.5%	2.3%
South East Coast	48.4%	35.3%	7.5%	7.8%	1.0%
East of England	51.9%	31.5%	8.5%	6.4%	1.7%
East Midlands	45.7%	37.0%	7.7%	8.4%	1.2%
West Midlands	47.3%	35.3%	8.7%	7.0%	1.7%
Yorkshire and The Humber	52.8%	32.9%	7.2%	4.9%	2.2%
North West	50.6%	32.6%	8.2%	6.8%	1.7%
North East	52.3%	33.6%	8.2%	5.0%	.9%
All other English men	49.8%	30.2%	10.6%	6.9%	2.6%
Total	49.0%	34.2%	8.5%	6.7%	1.6%

**16. I sometimes feel lonely.**

% within Demog - Strategic Health Authority of residence boundaries 2007

	I sometimes feel lonely				
	Strongly agree	Agree	Not sure	Disagree	Strongly disagree
London	23.7%	40.3%	7.3%	18.9%	9.8%
South West	27.5%	38.8%	7.9%	17.1%	8.8%
South Central	26.8%	40.2%	6.1%	18.0%	8.8%
South East Coast	25.6%	40.9%	6.5%	17.4%	9.5%
East of England	25.6%	38.7%	7.4%	17.7%	10.5%
East Midlands	26.7%	38.4%	7.4%	18.4%	9.2%
West Midlands	29.6%	38.7%	6.6%	16.3%	8.8%
Yorkshire and The Humber	24.5%	40.7%	6.9%	18.0%	9.9%
North West	26.4%	39.6%	8.1%	16.1%	9.8%
North East	26.7%	39.5%	8.5%	15.6%	9.8%
All other English men	25.9%	36.9%	10.6%	15.4%	11.2%
Total	25.7%	39.6%	7.5%	17.5%	9.7%

**17. I sometimes worry about how much I drink.**

% within Demog - Strategic Health Authority of residence boundaries 2007

	I sometimes worry about how much I drink				
	Strongly agree	Agree	Not sure	Disagree	Strongly disagree
London	8.2%	23.2%	5.7%	30.1%	32.9%
South West	7.9%	20.0%	7.6%	31.9%	32.7%
South Central	8.4%	19.3%	7.2%	32.9%	32.2%
South East Coast	5.9%	23.0%	5.5%	30.9%	34.8%
East of England	7.2%	18.1%	6.1%	30.7%	37.9%
East Midlands	7.4%	22.1%	6.3%	32.5%	31.7%
West Midlands	8.8%	22.1%	6.5%	32.9%	29.7%
Yorkshire and The Humber	9.6%	25.0%	6.4%	33.3%	25.7%
North West	9.1%	22.8%	6.3%	32.6%	29.2%
North East	11.1%	23.2%	5.9%	34.9%	24.9%
All other English men	11.0%	19.6%	9.1%	30.5%	29.9%
Total	8.4%	22.0%	6.4%	31.6%	31.6%

**18. I sometimes worry about my recreational drug use.**

% within Demog - Strategic Health Authority of residence boundaries 2007

	I sometimes worry about my recreational drug use				
	Strongly agree	Agree	Not sure	Disagree	Strongly disagree
London	3.6%	11.7%	5.4%	22.0%	57.3%
South West	2.6%	8.3%	4.1%	17.3%	67.7%
South Central	2.9%	5.3%	4.4%	14.6%	72.8%
South East Coast	1.4%	6.5%	5.1%	17.0%	70.0%
East of England	3.8%	6.1%	3.7%	15.6%	70.9%
East Midlands	2.0%	8.1%	5.9%	16.5%	67.6%
West Midlands	3.0%	7.2%	4.9%	16.3%	68.6%
Yorkshire and The Humber	3.5%	7.4%	6.2%	16.1%	66.8%
North West	2.9%	8.2%	5.6%	17.9%	65.4%
North East	3.1%	5.5%	5.1%	16.8%	69.5%
All other English men	5.1%	6.7%	6.2%	16.3%	65.6%
Total	3.2%	8.4%	5.2%	18.1%	65.1%

**19. I'm happy with what I know about HIV.**

% within Demog - Strategic Health Authority of residence boundaries 2007

	I am happy with what I know about HIV				
	Strongly agree	Agree	Not sure	Disagree	Strongly disagree
London	34.1%	49.3%	11.1%	4.3%	1.2%
South West	30.5%	50.5%	12.8%	5.7%	.5%
South Central	35.6%	47.7%	11.1%	4.1%	1.5%
South East Coast	30.5%	51.5%	11.7%	5.2%	1.1%
East of England	31.6%	50.6%	11.6%	4.9%	1.4%
East Midlands	29.9%	49.4%	13.2%	6.0%	1.5%
West Midlands	31.2%	46.5%	13.4%	6.5%	2.3%
Yorkshire and The Humber	33.8%	45.8%	11.9%	5.7%	2.7%
North West	32.2%	47.5%	12.6%	5.4%	2.3%
North East	36.9%	46.0%	10.4%	4.6%	2.2%
All other English men	30.4%	44.0%	16.1%	7.5%	2.0%
Total	32.7%	48.4%	12.1%	5.2%	1.6%

## 20. Would you like to know more about sexual health and HIV?

% within Demog - Strategic Health Authority of residence boundaries 2007

	Desire to know more about sexual health and HIV?	
	No	Yes
London	51.9%	48.1%
South West	53.5%	46.5%
South Central	55.1%	44.9%
South East Coast	53.9%	46.1%
East of England	52.1%	47.9%
East Midlands	53.4%	46.6%
West Midlands	51.1%	48.9%
Yorkshire and The Humber	54.9%	45.1%
North West	51.3%	48.7%
North East	56.6%	43.4%
All other English men	56.0%	44.0%
Total	53.0%	47.0%

## Intervention coverage

### 21. Recency of STI check-up.

% within Demog - Strategic Health Authority of residence boundaries 2007

	Recency of last STI checkup			
	I've never had a check-up	In the last year	In the last five years	More than five years ago
London	21.6%	51.0%	21.6%	5.7%
South West	40.4%	33.5%	18.1%	8.0%
South Central	39.3%	37.7%	17.5%	5.5%
South East Coast	39.5%	34.9%	18.1%	7.5%
East of England	41.2%	36.4%	16.8%	5.6%
East Midlands	43.6%	31.1%	18.0%	7.3%
West Midlands	40.6%	32.7%	18.4%	8.3%
Yorkshire and The Humber	39.6%	33.1%	20.3%	7.0%
North West	37.6%	37.1%	17.3%	8.0%
North East	44.5%	32.1%	18.0%	5.4%
All other English men	49.9%	32.3%	13.1%	4.7%
Total	35.7%	39.1%	18.7%	6.5%

## 22. Location of last STI check-up

% within Demog - Strategic Health Authority of residence boundaries 2007

	Location of last STI checkup		
	GP surgery/local doctor	GUM, STD or sexual health clinic	Private Health Care clinic
London	7.8%	86.2%	5.9%
South West	13.2%	83.6%	3.2%
South Central	9.8%	85.0%	5.3%
South East Coast	11.5%	82.0%	6.5%
East of England	14.2%	80.7%	5.1%
East Midlands	10.3%	87.6%	2.1%
West Midlands	11.9%	84.7%	3.4%
Yorkshire and The Humber	11.4%	86.1%	2.5%
North West	11.7%	84.7%	3.7%
North East	17.5%	79.6%	3.0%
All other English men	16.5%	75.5%	8.0%
Total	10.9%	84.3%	4.9%

## 23. Location of last HIV test.

% within Demog - Strategic Health Authority of residence boundaries 2007

	HIV testing Location of last test		
	GP surgery/local doctor	GUM, STD or sexual health clinic	Private health care clinic
London	9.5%	80.5%	10.0%
South West	14.5%	78.5%	6.9%
South Central	13.3%	77.6%	9.0%
South East Coast	12.5%	78.2%	9.4%
East of England	13.6%	78.2%	8.1%
East Midlands	13.2%	80.3%	6.6%
West Midlands	13.2%	82.4%	4.4%
Yorkshire and The Humber	11.1%	84.3%	4.6%
North West	13.6%	80.8%	5.6%
North East	21.1%	76.5%	2.4%
All other English men	16.7%	71.5%	11.8%
Total	12.3%	79.7%	8.0%

**END**