

Vital Statistics 2005 The UK Gay Men's Sex Survey

Northern Ireland NHS Health and Social Service Board of Residence Data Report (February 2008)

This is the first release of data from the UK Gay Men's Sex Survey 2005, conducted by Sigma Research in collaboration with health promoters throughout the UK. This report supplements the annual report, *Consuming passions: findings from the United Kingdom Gay Men's Sex Survey 2005* (downloadable from <http://www.sigmaresearch.org.uk/downloads/report2007c.pdf>). Survey methods and interpretation of the variables will be outlined in that report. This initial 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 Northern Ireland and for whom NHS Health and Social Service Board is known. Respondents are grouped according to the NHS Health and Social Service Board in which they live.

The data

The survey used two data collection methods over the summer of 2005:

- (1) A self-sealing, Freepost addressed booklet distributed by 83 health promotion agencies throughout the UK; (None based in Northern Ireland)
- (2) On a specific web-site <<http://www.sigmasurvey.org.uk>>, promoted via links on 55 gay and HIV related web-sites (1 targeting men in Northern Ireland exclusively). Two sites, gay.com and gaydar.co.uk conducted substantial paid for promotion of the survey.

This report contains data from all the men recruited through **both methods**. The respondents are grouped according to the agency which recruited them. To be included in the sample respondents must:

- be male
- be aged 14 or over
- be living in the UK
- have had sex with a man in the last year or have an expectation of having sex with a man in the future.
- 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 Board appear as a line in the tables. The bottom line of each table gives the result for the entire Northern Ireland sample. The first table shows the number of men recruited to the survey living in each Board and the size of the sub-samples in the rest of the tables. 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/VS2005booklet.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. Booklet recruitment occurred in England and Wales.



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Sample Description

1. Web and booklet sample sizes.

Count

| | method - distribution | |
|---------------|-----------------------|---------|
| | Web | Booklet |
| Eastern | 166 | |
| Southern | 34 | |
| Northern | 53 | |
| Western | 37 | |
| Board unknown | 4 | 6 |
| Total | 294 | 6 |

2. Age groups.

% within NI Health Board of Residence

| | Age | | | | |
|----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | <20 | 20s | 30s | 40s | 50+ |
| Eastern | 11.5% | 47.9% | 23.0% | 13.3% | 4.2% |
| Southern | 14.7% | 44.1% | 20.6% | 17.6% | 2.9% |
| Northern | 20.8% | 32.1% | 20.8% | 13.2% | 13.2% |
| Western | 18.9% | 54.1% | 13.5% | 13.5% | |
| Total | 14.5% | 45.3% | 21.1% | 13.8% | 5.2% |

3. Age averages.

Demog Age (original)

| NI Health Board of Residence | Median | Minimum | Maximum | Mean | Std. Deviation |
|------------------------------|--------|---------|---------|-------|----------------|
| Eastern | 28.00 | 14 | 67 | 29.70 | 9.776 |
| Southern | 27.00 | 17 | 50 | 28.88 | 9.315 |
| Northern | 28.00 | 16 | 66 | 32.19 | 12.835 |
| Western | 25.00 | 16 | 49 | 27.14 | 8.469 |
| Total | 27.00 | 14 | 67 | 29.73 | 10.254 |

4. Years of formal education after the age of 16 years of age.

% within NI Health Board of Residence

| | Years in full-time education post - 16 | | | | |
|----------|--|--------|---------|--------------|-----------------|
| | None | 1 year | 2 years | 3 to 5 years | 6 or more years |
| Eastern | 12.7% | 6.1% | 14.5% | 33.3% | 33.3% |
| Southern | 11.8% | 8.8% | 14.7% | 35.3% | 29.4% |
| Northern | 13.2% | 13.2% | 20.8% | 34.0% | 18.9% |
| Western | 10.8% | 21.6% | 18.9% | 32.4% | 16.2% |
| Total | 12.5% | 9.7% | 16.3% | 33.6% | 28.0% |

5. Annual income.

% within NI Health Board of Residence

| | £ Annual Income | | | | | | | | |
|----------|-----------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------|
| | < 5000 | 5000 - 9999 | 10000 - 14999 | 15000 - 19999 | 20000 - 24999 | 25000 - 29999 | 30000 - 34999 | 35000 - 39999 | 40 000 + |
| Eastern | 6.8% | 9.9% | 24.7% | 21.0% | 11.7% | 8.0% | 5.6% | 2.5% | 9.9% |
| Southern | 11.8% | 11.8% | 23.5% | 8.8% | 14.7% | 17.6% | 2.9% | | 8.8% |
| Northern | 9.6% | 15.4% | 13.5% | 13.5% | 19.2% | 15.4% | 1.9% | 7.7% | 3.8% |
| Western | 27.0% | 21.6% | 13.5% | 10.8% | 16.2% | 2.7% | 2.7% | | 5.4% |
| Total | 10.5% | 12.6% | 21.1% | 16.8% | 14.0% | 9.8% | 4.2% | 2.8% | 8.1% |

6. Current religious practice.

% within NI Health Board of Residence

| | Current religious practice | | | | | |
|----------|----------------------------|--------------|-------|----------|----------|-------|
| | No religious practice | Christianity | Islam | Buddhism | Paganism | Other |
| Eastern | 47.3% | 50.9% | | 1.2% | | .6% |
| Southern | 44.1% | 50.0% | | 2.9% | 2.9% | |
| Northern | 37.7% | 50.9% | 1.9% | 3.8% | 1.9% | 3.8% |
| Western | 43.2% | 54.1% | | | 2.7% | |
| Total | 44.6% | 51.2% | .3% | 1.7% | 1.0% | 1.0% |

7. Ethnicity in six groups.

% within NI Health Board of Residence

| | Ethnic Group | | | |
|----------|---------------|-------------|-------|-------|
| | White British | White other | Asian | Mixed |
| Eastern | 59.0% | 39.8% | | 1.2% |
| Southern | 50.0% | 50.0% | | |
| Northern | 73.6% | 18.9% | 3.8% | 3.8% |
| Western | 35.1% | 62.2% | 2.7% | |
| Total | 57.6% | 40.0% | 1.0% | 1.4% |

HIV testing

8. HIV testing history.

% within NI Health Board of Residence

| | HIV testing history | | | |
|----------|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| | Never tested | -ve test last year | -ve test > 1 year ago | Tested HIV positive |
| Eastern | 60.6% | 25.5% | 10.3% | 3.6% |
| Southern | 55.9% | 41.2% | 2.9% | |
| Northern | 67.9% | 17.0% | 13.2% | 1.9% |
| Western | 73.0% | 10.8% | 13.5% | 2.7% |
| Total | 63.0% | 23.9% | 10.4% | 2.8% |

Sexual behaviour

9. Gender of sexual partners in the last year.

% within NI Health Board of Residence

| | Demog - Gender of sexual partners | | | |
|----------|-----------------------------------|------------|--------------------|----------|
| | No one | Women only | Both men and women | Men only |
| Eastern | 3.6% | .6% | 15.1% | 80.7% |
| Southern | 2.9% | 2.9% | 11.8% | 82.4% |
| Northern | 13.2% | | 28.3% | 58.5% |
| Western | 10.8% | 2.7% | 18.9% | 67.6% |
| Total | 6.2% | 1.0% | 17.6% | 75.2% |

10. HIV concordancy of regular male relationship.

% within NI Health Board of Residence

| | HIV concordancy of regular male relationship | | | |
|----------|--|----------------|----------------|---------------------|
| | No male partner | HIV concordant | HIV discordant | Concordancy unknown |
| Eastern | 55.4% | 36.7% | 3.0% | 4.8% |
| Southern | 48.5% | 45.5% | | 6.1% |
| Northern | 52.8% | 35.8% | 7.5% | 3.8% |
| Western | 54.1% | 32.4% | 5.4% | 8.1% |
| Total | 54.0% | 37.0% | 3.8% | 5.2% |

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

% within NI Health Board of Residence

| | Number of male sexual partners | | | | |
|----------|--------------------------------|-----------|---------|----------|-------|
| | One | 2, 3 or 4 | 5 to 12 | 13 to 29 | 30 + |
| Eastern | 18.2% | 37.0% | 24.7% | 9.7% | 10.4% |
| Southern | 18.8% | 37.5% | 18.8% | 18.8% | 6.3% |
| Northern | 9.3% | 46.5% | 27.9% | 14.0% | 2.3% |
| Western | 37.5% | 25.0% | 18.8% | 18.8% | |
| Total | 19.2% | 37.2% | 23.8% | 12.6% | 7.3% |

12. Insertive AI and frequency of condom use in the last year.

% within NI Health Board of Residence

| | IAI and frequency of condom use | | | |
|----------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| | No IAI | IAI never used a condom | IAI sometimes used a condom | IAI always used a condom |
| Eastern | 29.5% | 7.2% | 27.7% | 35.5% |
| Southern | 32.4% | 2.9% | 29.4% | 35.3% |
| Northern | 56.6% | 9.4% | 15.1% | 18.9% |
| Western | 41.7% | 8.3% | 25.0% | 25.0% |
| Total | 36.3% | 7.3% | 25.3% | 31.1% |

13. Condom Failure in the last year.

% within NI Health Board of Residence

| | Condom failure in the last year | | |
|----------|---------------------------------|------------|---------|
| | No IAI with a condom | No failure | Failure |
| Eastern | 36.7% | 57.2% | 6.0% |
| Southern | 35.3% | 50.0% | 14.7% |
| Northern | 66.0% | 32.1% | 1.9% |
| Western | 50.0% | 47.2% | 2.8% |
| Total | 43.6% | 50.5% | 5.9% |

14. Receptive AI and frequency of condom use in the last year.

% within NI Health Board of Residence

| | RAI and frequency of condom use | | | |
|----------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| | No RAI | RAI never used a condom | RAI sometimes used a condom | RAI always used a condom |
| Eastern | 33.7% | 7.2% | 27.1% | 31.9% |
| Southern | 26.5% | 5.9% | 38.2% | 29.4% |
| Northern | 43.4% | 7.5% | 24.5% | 24.5% |
| Western | 48.6% | | 27.0% | 24.3% |
| Total | 36.6% | 6.2% | 27.9% | 29.3% |

15. Unprotected anal intercourse (UAI) in the last year.

% within NI Health Board of Residence

| | Unprotected Anal intercourse | | | |
|----------|------------------------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|
| | No UAI | RUAI only | IUAI only | Both RUAI & IUAI |
| Eastern | 55.8% | 6.1% | 7.4% | 30.7% |
| Southern | 58.8% | 2.9% | 5.9% | 32.4% |
| Northern | 58.5% | 13.2% | 7.5% | 20.8% |
| Western | 59.5% | 2.7% | 13.5% | 24.3% |
| Total | 57.1% | 6.6% | 8.0% | 28.2% |

Other health behaviour

16. Cigarette smoking.

% within NI Health Board of Residence

| | Cigarette Smoker | | |
|----------|------------------|-------------|--------------------|
| | No cigarettes | <10 per day | 10 or more per day |
| Eastern | 61.6% | 12.8% | 25.6% |
| Southern | 67.6% | 11.8% | 20.6% |
| Northern | 62.3% | 17.0% | 20.8% |
| Western | 51.4% | 24.3% | 24.3% |
| Total | 61.1% | 14.9% | 24.0% |

17. Use of recreational drugs in the last year (Ecstasy, LSD, amphetamine, crystal methamphetamine, cocaine, crack cocaine, ketamine, GHB or heroin).

% within NI Health Board of Residence

| | Recreational drug use (Ecstasy, LSD, Cocaine, Crack, Heroin + Speed, Crystal, K & GHB) | |
|----------|--|--------------------------------|
| | Did not use | Used recreational drugs listed |
| Eastern | 75.3% | 24.7% |
| Southern | 85.3% | 14.7% |
| Northern | 77.4% | 22.6% |
| Western | 86.5% | 13.5% |
| Total | 78.3% | 21.7% |

18. Use of crystal methamphetamine in the last year.

% within NI Health Board of Residence

| | Use of Crystal methamphetamine/Tina | |
|----------|-------------------------------------|------------|
| | Once or twice a month | Not at all |
| Eastern | .6% | 99.4% |
| Southern | | 100.0% |
| Northern | 3.8% | 96.2% |
| Western | | 100.0% |
| Total | 1.0% | 99.0% |

Other health needs

19. I would like to stop smoking tobacco (of tobacco smokers).

% within NI Health Board of Residence

| | Like to stop smoking tobacco (of smokers) | | | | |
|----------|---|-------|----------|----------|-------------------|
| | Strongly agree | Agree | Not sure | Disagree | Strongly Disagree |
| Eastern | 45.6% | 33.8% | 13.2% | 7.4% | |
| Southern | 30.8% | 30.8% | 30.8% | | 7.7% |
| Northern | 39.1% | 21.7% | 21.7% | 13.0% | 4.3% |
| Western | 44.4% | 27.8% | 27.8% | | |
| Total | 42.6% | 30.3% | 18.9% | 6.6% | 1.6% |

20. I sometimes worry about how much I drink (of drinkers).

% within NI Health Board of Residence

| | Worry about alcohol use (of drinkers) | | | | |
|----------|---------------------------------------|-------|----------|----------|-------------------|
| | Strongly agree | Agree | Not sure | Disagree | Strongly Disagree |
| Eastern | 8.6% | 24.3% | 9.9% | 35.5% | 21.7% |
| Southern | 4.0% | 20.0% | 24.0% | 32.0% | 20.0% |
| Northern | | 27.3% | 11.4% | 31.8% | 29.5% |
| Western | 12.5% | 18.8% | 6.3% | 43.8% | 18.8% |
| Total | 7.1% | 23.7% | 11.1% | 35.6% | 22.5% |

21. I sometimes worry about my recreational drug use (of recreational drug users).

% within NI Health Board of Residence

| | Worry about recreational drug use (of rec drug users) | | | | |
|----------|---|-------|----------|----------|-------------------|
| | Strongly agree | Agree | Not sure | Disagree | Strongly Disagree |
| Eastern | 6.2% | 19.6% | 9.3% | 34.0% | 30.9% |
| Southern | 5.9% | 5.9% | 5.9% | 47.1% | 35.3% |
| Northern | 3.8% | 23.1% | 11.5% | 26.9% | 34.6% |
| Western | 5.9% | 11.8% | 17.6% | 29.4% | 35.3% |
| Total | 5.7% | 17.8% | 10.2% | 33.8% | 32.5% |

Interventions - Clinic use

22. Recency of clinic use.

% within NI Health Board of Residence

| | Recency of clinic use | | | | |
|----------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|--|-----------------------|
| | I've never been to a clinic | More than 5 years ago | More than 1 year ago | Within last year but not in last month | Within the last month |
| Eastern | 54.8% | 3.6% | 9.0% | 25.9% | 6.6% |
| Southern | 55.9% | 2.9% | 8.8% | 29.4% | 2.9% |
| Northern | 60.4% | 7.5% | 9.4% | 18.9% | 3.8% |
| Western | 62.2% | 5.4% | 10.8% | 18.9% | 2.7% |
| Total | 56.9% | 4.5% | 9.3% | 24.1% | 5.2% |

23. Offered an HIV test on last clinic visit (of those not already diagnosed with HIV).

% within NI Health Board of Residence

| | Offered HIV test on last visit (not already diagnosed with HIV) | | |
|----------|---|------------------|--------------|
| | Never visited a clinic | Not offered test | Offered test |
| Eastern | 57.2% | 6.3% | 36.5% |
| Southern | 57.6% | 9.1% | 33.3% |
| Northern | 61.5% | 15.4% | 23.1% |
| Western | 63.9% | 22.2% | 13.9% |
| Total | 58.9% | 10.4% | 30.7% |

Interventions - PEP

24. Heard of PEP.

% within NI Health Board of Residence

| | Heard of PEP | |
|----------|--------------|-------|
| | No | Yes |
| Eastern | 62.7% | 37.3% |
| Southern | 72.7% | 27.3% |
| Northern | 84.9% | 15.1% |
| Western | 86.5% | 13.5% |
| Total | 70.9% | 29.1% |

25. Tried to get PEP.

% within NI Health Board of Residence

| | Tried to get PEP (all) | |
|----------|------------------------|--------|
| | No | |
| Eastern | | 100.0% |
| Southern | | 100.0% |
| Northern | | 100.0% |
| Western | | 100.0% |
| Total | | 100.0% |

26. Ever taken PEP.

% within NI Health Board of Residence

| | Ever taken PEP (all) | |
|----------|----------------------|--------|
| | No | |
| Eastern | | 100.0% |
| Southern | | 100.0% |
| Northern | | 100.0% |
| Western | | 100.0% |
| Total | | 100.0% |

27. Know anyone who received PEP.

% within NI Health Board of Residence

| | Know anyone who has got PEP (all) | |
|----------|-----------------------------------|------|
| | No | Yes |
| Eastern | 97.0% | 3.0% |
| Southern | 96.9% | 3.1% |
| Northern | 98.1% | 1.9% |
| Western | 97.3% | 2.7% |
| Total | 97.2% | 2.8% |

28. Consideration of getting PEP if exposed to HIV (those not tested positive).

% within NI Health Board of Residence

| | Would you try to get PEP (men not diagnosed with HIV) | | |
|----------|---|-------|-------|
| | No | Yes | Maybe |
| Eastern | .6% | 76.6% | 22.8% |
| Southern | | 76.5% | 23.5% |
| Northern | 5.8% | 71.2% | 23.1% |
| Western | 2.8% | 77.8% | 19.4% |
| Total | 1.8% | 75.7% | 22.5% |

Hate crime

29. Homophobic physical assault in the last year.

% within NI Health Board of Residence

| | Physical assault | |
|----------|------------------|-------|
| | No | Yes |
| Eastern | 92.1% | 7.9% |
| Southern | 88.2% | 11.8% |
| Northern | 88.7% | 11.3% |
| Western | 86.5% | 13.5% |
| Total | 90.3% | 9.7% |

30. Homophobic physical assault reported to the police (of those physically assaulted).

% within NI Health Board of Residence

| | Physical assault reported to police | |
|----------|-------------------------------------|-------|
| | No | Yes |
| Eastern | 61.5% | 38.5% |
| Southern | 100.0% | |
| Northern | 66.7% | 33.3% |
| Western | 40.0% | 60.0% |
| Total | 64.3% | 35.7% |

31. Homophobic verbal abuse in the last year.

% within NI Health Board of Residence

| | Verbal abuse | |
|----------|--------------|-------|
| | No | Yes |
| Eastern | 65.2% | 34.8% |
| Southern | 58.8% | 41.2% |
| Northern | 64.2% | 35.8% |
| Western | 54.1% | 45.9% |
| Total | 62.8% | 37.2% |

32. Homophobic verbal abuse reported to the police (of those verbally abused).

% within NI Health Board of Residence

| | Verbal abuse reported to police | |
|----------|---------------------------------|-------|
| | No | Yes |
| Eastern | 94.7% | 5.3% |
| Southern | 92.9% | 7.1% |
| Northern | 89.5% | 10.5% |
| Western | 94.1% | 5.9% |
| Total | 93.5% | 6.5% |

Internet profile**32. Active (currently in use) internet profile on www.gay.com or www.gaydar.co.uk.**

% within NI Health Board of Residence

| | Has active gay.com and/or gaydar profile | | | |
|----------|--|--------------|-------|---------|
| | gay.com | gaydar.co.uk | Both | Neither |
| Eastern | 1.2% | 56.8% | 12.3% | 29.6% |
| Southern | 5.9% | 61.8% | 5.9% | 26.5% |
| Northern | 3.8% | 50.9% | 18.9% | 26.4% |
| Western | | 67.6% | 5.4% | 27.0% |
| Total | 2.1% | 57.7% | 11.9% | 28.3% |

END