

# **BASS Line 2007**

## **The African Health and Sex Survey**

### **North East Strategic Health Authority data report** (n=74, July 2008)

This document reports data from BASS Line 2007, an assessment of the sexual HIV prevention needs of Africans in England, conducted by Sigma Research in collaboration with health promoters throughout England. This data supplements the main report which describes the survey methods and sets the context. That report is available free at: [www.sigmaresearch.org.uk/go.php/reports/report2008b](http://www.sigmaresearch.org.uk/go.php/reports/report2008b)

#### ***The survey***

BASS Line 2007 used two data collection methods, a self-sealing, Freepost addressed booklet distributed by health promotion agencies and online via a dedicated website. The survey was available in English and French. This report contains data from both methods and both languages. To be included here respondents had to: consider themselves African; be aged 16 or over; be in England; and have completed enough questions.

#### ***Data reports***

Data reports provide HIV health promotion planners with information about their local population in as much detail as is possible given the number of people who took part in the survey. This report contains data from African people who live in the North East Strategic Health Authority. Respondents are grouped according to the Primary Care Trust in which they live. To access other Strategic Health Authority reports, and an all England report showing data by SHA of residence, see: [www.sigmaresearch.org.uk/go.php/local/african](http://www.sigmaresearch.org.uk/go.php/local/african)

#### ***The tables***

Groups of respondents living in the same Primary Care Trust appear as a line in the tables. The bottom line of each table gives the result for the entire North East sample. Tables 1a and 1b show the number of Africans recruited to the survey living in each PCT and the size of the sub-samples in the rest of the tables. The tables show the proportions (%) of each PCT sub-sample in each category of the variable (less missing data). Rows (lines across) add up to 100%.

The contents page identifies the question number (Q) each table is derived from. The questionnaire is available at: [www.sigmaresearch.org.uk/go.php/quests/african](http://www.sigmaresearch.org.uk/go.php/quests/african)

#### ***Funding***

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# SAMPLE DESCRIPTION

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

	Frequency	Percent
Newcastle	41	55.4
Middlesbrough	10	13.5
Gateshead	6	8.1
Sunderland Teaching	4	5.4
Stockton-on-Tees Teaching	4	5.4
North East (PCT unknown)	3	4.1
County Durham	2	2.7
Redcar & Cleveland	2	2.7
Northumberland Care Trust	1	1.4
North Tyneside	1	1.4
Total	74	100.0

## 1b. PCT areas with 20+ respondents (for remainder of report).

	Frequency	Percent
Newcastle	41	55.4
All other North East	33	44.6
Total	74	100.0

## 2. Method of recruitment

Count

	Method of recruitment		Total
	online	booklet	
Newcastle	3	38	41
All other North East	2	31	33
Total	5	69	74

## 3. Gender

% within PCT of residence

	Gender		Total
	Female	Male	
Newcastle	39.0%	61.0%	100.0%
All other North East	36.4%	63.6%	100.0%
Total	37.8%	62.2%	100.0%

## 4. Gender of sexual intercourse partners in the last year by gender

% within PCT of residence

	Gender of sexual intercourse partners in the last year by gender						Total
	MEN who had no sex	MEN who had sex with women only	MEN who had sex with men & women	MEN who had sex with men only	WOMEN who had no sex	WOMEN who had sex with men only	
Newcastle	7.7%	43.6%	7.7%	5.1%	15.4%	20.5%	100.0%
All other North East	9.1%	54.5%			3.0%	33.3%	100.0%
Total	8.3%	48.6%	4.2%	2.8%	9.7%	26.4%	100.0%

## 5. Age groups

% within PCT of residence

	Age groups					Total
	<20	20s	30s	40s	50+	
Newcastle	19.5%	31.7%	31.7%	9.8%	7.3%	100.0%
All other North East	6.1%	39.4%	48.5%	3.0%	3.0%	100.0%
Total	13.5%	35.1%	39.2%	6.8%	5.4%	100.0%

## 6. Top 10 countries of birth (2 part table)

% within PCT of residence

	Top 10 countries of birth						
	Republic of Congo	Ghana	Kenya	Nigeria	Republic of South Africa	Somalia	Uganda
Newcastle	12.5%		2.5%	5.0%	7.5%		
All other North East	25.0%	6.3%	3.1%	3.1%	3.1%	3.1%	3.1%
Total	18.1%	2.8%	2.8%	4.2%	5.6%	1.4%	1.4%

## 6. Top 10 countries of birth (2 part table)

% within PCT of residence

	Top 10 countries of birth					Total
	United Kingdom	Zambia	Zimbabwe	elsewhere in Africa	elsewhere in World	
Newcastle	2.5%		5.0%	62.5%	2.5%	100.0%
All other North East		3.1%	6.3%	43.8%		100.0%
Total	1.4%	1.4%	5.6%	54.2%	1.4%	100.0%

## 7. Length of time living in the UK

% within PCT of residence

	Length of time living in the UK					Total
	less than 1 year	over 1 year, less than 3 years	over 3 years, less than 6 years	over 6 years, less than 10 years	10 years or more	
Newcastle		15.4%	41.0%	25.6%	17.9%	100.0%
All other North East	3.0%	18.2%	51.5%	15.2%	12.1%	100.0%
Total	1.4%	16.7%	45.8%	20.8%	15.3%	100.0%

## 8. Educational level

% within PCT of residence

	Educational level			Total
	Low	Medium	High	
Newcastle	15.0%	35.0%	50.0%	100.0%
All other North East	9.1%	39.4%	51.5%	100.0%
Total	12.3%	37.0%	50.7%	100.0%

## 9. Religion

% within PCT of residence

	Religion						Total
	Christian	African traditional	Islam	Buddism	other	none	
Newcastle	69.2%	5.1%	12.8%	2.6%	5.1%	5.1%	100.0%
All other North East	62.5%		28.1%			9.4%	100.0%
Total	66.2%	2.8%	19.7%	1.4%	2.8%	7.0%	100.0%

# HIV and STI TESTING and DIAGNOSIS

## 10. HIV testing history

% within PCT of residence

	HIV testing history			Total
	Never tested	Last test negative	Tested positive	
Newcastle	59.0%	35.9%	5.1%	100.0%
All other North East	53.1%	37.5%	9.4%	100.0%
Total	56.3%	36.6%	7.0%	100.0%

## 11. Desirability of, and access to, HIV testing

% within PCT of residence

	Desirability of, and access to, HIV testing		Total
	Wants HIV test, doesn't know where to get one	Does not want test (or knows where to get one)	
Newcastle	5.4%	94.6%	100.0%
All other North East	15.6%	84.4%	100.0%
Total	10.1%	89.9%	100.0%

## 12. Most recent STI diagnosis (other than HIV)

% within PCT of residence

	Most recent STI diagnosis (other than HIV)						Total
	In the last month	In the last 12 months	1 to 5 years ago	More than 5 years ago	Never	Don't know	
Newcastle	2.7%	10.8%	2.7%	24.3%	45.9%	13.5%	100.0%
All other North East	3.0%	6.1%	3.0%	12.1%	60.6%	15.2%	100.0%
Total	2.9%	8.6%	2.9%	18.6%	52.9%	14.3%	100.0%

# SEXUAL HIV RISK BEHAVIOURS

## 13. Current regular sexual partnerships

% within PCT of residence

	Current regular sexual partnerships				Total
	NO regular partner at present	one regular partner (monogamous)	one regular partner (but NOT monogamous)	more than one regular partner	
Newcastle	41.7%	27.8%	19.4%	11.1%	100.0%
All other North East	36.4%	39.4%	3.0%	21.2%	100.0%
Total	39.1%	33.3%	11.6%	15.9%	100.0%

## 14. Total number of sexual intercourse partners in the last year

% within PCT of residence

	Total number of sexual intercourse partners in the last year								Total
	None	One	Two	Three	Four	Five	6 to 12	13 +	
Newcastle	23.1%	33.3%	15.4%	2.6%	7.7%	2.6%	12.8%	2.6%	100.0%
All other North East	12.1%	54.5%	12.1%	12.1%	3.0%			6.1%	100.0%
Total	18.1%	43.1%	13.9%	6.9%	5.6%	1.4%	6.9%	4.2%	100.0%

## 15. Regularity of condom use in the last year

% within PCT of residence

	Regularity of condom use in the last year						Total
	Always	More than half the time	About half the time	Less than half the time	Never	Not had intercourse	
Newcastle	26.3%	13.2%	7.9%		28.9%	23.7%	100.0%
All other North East	37.5%	15.6%	6.3%	9.4%	18.8%	12.5%	100.0%
Total	31.4%	14.3%	7.1%	4.3%	24.3%	18.6%	100.0%

## 16. Experienced condom breakage or slippage in the last year

% within PCT of residence

	Experienced condom breakage or slippage in the last year		Total
	No	Yes	
Newcastle	76.3%	23.7%	100.0%
All other North East	78.8%	21.2%	100.0%
Total	77.5%	22.5%	100.0%

## 17. Likelihood of sero-discordant unprotected intercourse in the last year

% within PCT of residence

	Likelihood of sero-discordant unprotected intercourse in the last year					Total
	I definitely have	I probably have	I don't know	I probably have not	I definitely have not	
Newcastle	8.1%	2.7%	13.5%	2.7%	73.0%	100.0%
All other North East	9.1%		21.2%	9.1%	60.6%	100.0%
Total	8.6%	1.4%	17.1%	5.7%	67.1%	100.0%

# HIV PREVENTION NEEDS

## 18. AIDS is caused by a virus called HIV

% within PCT of residence

	AIDS is caused by a virus called HIV				Total
	I knew this before today	I didn't know this	I wasn't sure of this	I don't understand	
Newcastle	86.8%	2.6%	7.9%	2.6%	100.0%
All other North East	81.8%	6.1%	12.1%		100.0%
Total	84.5%	4.2%	9.9%	1.4%	100.0%

## 19. You cannot be sure that some has NOT got HIV by looking at them

% within PCT of residence

	You cannot be sure that some has NOT got HIV by looking at them				Total
	I knew this before today	I didn't know this	I wasn't sure of this	I don't understand	
Newcastle	78.9%	13.2%	2.6%	5.3%	100.0%
All other North East	75.8%	9.1%	12.1%	3.0%	100.0%
Total	77.5%	11.3%	7.0%	4.2%	100.0%

## 20. People can have HIV without knowing it

% within PCT of residence

	People can have HIV without knowing it				Total
	I knew this before today	I didn't know this	I wasn't sure of this	I don't understand	
Newcastle	86.8%			13.2%	100.0%
All other North East	81.8%	9.1%	9.1%		100.0%
Total	84.5%	4.2%	4.2%	7.0%	100.0%

## 21. There is a medical test that can show whether or not you have HIV

% within PCT of residence

	There is a medical test that can show whether or not you have HIV				Total
	I knew this before today	I didn't know this	I wasn't sure of this	I don't understand	
Newcastle	80.6%	8.3%	2.8%	8.3%	100.0%
All other North East	97.0%	3.0%			100.0%
Total	88.4%	5.8%	1.4%	4.3%	100.0%

## 22. Africans are NOT deported from the UK just because they have HIV

% within PCT of residence

	Africans are NOT deported from the UK just because they have HIV				Total
	I knew this before today	I didn't know this	I wasn't sure of this	I don't understand	
Newcastle	37.8%	16.2%	21.6%	24.3%	100.0%
All other North East	62.5%	18.8%	15.6%	3.1%	100.0%
Total	49.3%	17.4%	18.8%	14.5%	100.0%



**23. There is no cure for HIV infection once someone has it**

% within PCT of residence

	<b>There is no cure for HIV infection once someone has it</b>				Total
	I knew this before today	I didn't know this	I wasn't sure of this	I don't understand	
Newcastle	86.1%	11.1%		2.8%	100.0%
All other North East	84.8%	9.1%	3.0%	3.0%	100.0%
Total	85.5%	10.1%	1.4%	2.9%	100.0%

**24. At least 1-in-20 of all Africans living in England have HIV infection**

% within PCT of residence

	<b>At least 1-in-20 of all Africans living in England have HIV infection</b>				Total
	I knew this before today	I didn't know this	I wasn't sure of this	I don't understand	
Newcastle	20.0%	48.6%	25.7%	5.7%	100.0%
All other North East	45.5%	36.4%	12.1%	6.1%	100.0%
Total	32.4%	42.6%	19.1%	5.9%	100.0%

**25. There are HIV medicines that can help people with HIV to stay healthy**

% within PCT of residence

	<b>There are HIV medicines that can help people with HIV to stay healthy</b>				Total
	I knew this before today	I didn't know this	I wasn't sure of this	I don't understand	
Newcastle	86.1%	2.8%	5.6%	5.6%	100.0%
All other North East	84.8%	6.1%	9.1%		100.0%
Total	85.5%	4.3%	7.2%	2.9%	100.0%

**26. HIV medicines work better if people with HIV take them before they become ill**

% within PCT of residence

	<b>HIV medicines work better if people with HIV take them before they become ill</b>				Total
	I knew this before today	I didn't know this	I wasn't sure of this	I don't understand	
Newcastle	58.3%	22.2%	5.6%	13.9%	100.0%
All other North East	51.5%	33.3%	9.1%	6.1%	100.0%
Total	55.1%	27.5%	7.2%	10.1%	100.0%

**27. HIV is never passed on through shaking hands or touching people**

% within PCT of residence

	<b>HIV is never passed on through shaking hands or touching people</b>				Total
	I knew this before today	I didn't know this	I wasn't sure of this	I don't understand	
Newcastle	82.1%	10.3%	2.6%	5.1%	100.0%
All other North East	90.9%	6.1%	3.0%		100.0%
Total	86.1%	8.3%	2.8%	2.8%	100.0%

**28. A person with HIV can pass it to a partner during sexual intercourse**

% within PCT of residence

	<b>A person with HIV can pass it to a partner during sexual intercourse</b>				Total
	I knew this before today	I didn't know this	I wasn't sure of this	I don't understand	
Newcastle	89.7%	5.1%		5.1%	100.0%
All other North East	87.9%	3.0%	6.1%	3.0%	100.0%
Total	88.9%	4.2%	2.8%	4.2%	100.0%

**29. Condoms are free from sexual health clinics, family planning clinics and some community organisations**

% within PCT of residence

	<b>Condoms are free from sexual health clinics, family planning clinics and some community organisations</b>				Total
	I knew this before today	I didn't know this	I wasn't sure of this	I don't understand	
Newcastle	66.7%	17.9%	7.7%	7.7%	100.0%
All other North East	81.8%	15.2%	3.0%		100.0%
Total	73.6%	16.7%	5.6%	4.2%	100.0%

**30. Some people with HIV have been imprisoned in the UK for passing their infection to a sexual partner**

% within PCT of residence

	<b>Some people with HIV have been imprisoned in the UK for passing their infection to a sexual partner</b>				Total
	I knew this before today	I didn't know this	I wasn't sure of this	I don't understand	
Newcastle	40.5%	24.3%	18.9%	16.2%	100.0%
All other North East	51.5%	33.3%	12.1%	3.0%	100.0%
Total	45.7%	28.6%	15.7%	10.0%	100.0%

**31. I sometimes have a problem getting hold of condoms**

% within PCT of residence

	<b>I sometimes have a problem getting hold of condoms</b>					Total
	strongly agree	agree	don't know / doesn't apply	disagree	strongly disagree	
Newcastle	5.4%	18.9%	32.4%	16.2%	27.0%	100.0%
All other North East	15.6%	9.4%	18.8%	40.6%	15.6%	100.0%
Total	10.1%	14.5%	26.1%	27.5%	21.7%	100.0%

**32. If I carried a condom I would worry about what people thought of me**

% within PCT of residence

	<b>If I carried a condom I would worry about what people thought of me</b>					Total
	strongly agree	agree	don't know / doesn't apply	disagree	strongly disagree	
Newcastle	5.4%	18.9%	24.3%	27.0%	24.3%	100.0%
All other North East	15.2%	3.0%	21.2%	33.3%	27.3%	100.0%
Total	10.0%	11.4%	22.9%	30.0%	25.7%	100.0%

**33. I can use condoms with a sexual partner if I want to**

% within PCT of residence

	<b>I can use condoms with a sexual partner if I want to</b>					Total
	strongly agree	agree	don't know / doesn't apply	disagree	strongly disagree	
Newcastle	41.7%	22.2%	16.7%	8.3%	11.1%	100.0%
All other North East	33.3%	30.3%	12.1%	21.2%	3.0%	100.0%
Total	37.7%	26.1%	14.5%	14.5%	7.2%	100.0%

**34. I would find it easy to talk about safer sex and HIV with new sexual partners**

% within PCT of residence

	<b>I would find it easy to talk about safer sex and HIV with new sexual partners</b>					Total
	strongly agree	agree	don't know / doesn't apply	disagree	strongly disagree	
Newcastle	11.1%	44.4%	25.0%	5.6%	13.9%	100.0%
All other North East	31.3%	12.5%	25.0%	21.9%	9.4%	100.0%
Total	20.6%	29.4%	25.0%	13.2%	11.8%	100.0%

**35. I do not want to get HIV [among those who had NOT tested HIV positive]**

% within PCT of residence

	<b>I do not want to get HIV</b>					Total
	strongly agree	agree	don't know / doesn't apply	disagree	strongly disagree	
Newcastle	68.6%	14.3%	8.6%	2.9%	5.7%	100.0%
All other North East	67.9%	28.6%	3.6%			100.0%
Total	68.3%	20.6%	6.3%	1.6%	3.2%	100.0%

**36. I am in control of whether I get HIV [among those who had NOT tested HIV positive]**

% within PCT of residence

	<b>I am in control of whether I get HIV</b>					Total
	strongly agree	agree	don't know / doesn't apply	disagree	strongly disagree	
Newcastle	31.4%	17.1%	22.9%	17.1%	11.4%	100.0%
All other North East	35.7%	25.0%	35.7%		3.6%	100.0%
Total	33.3%	20.6%	28.6%	9.5%	7.9%	100.0%

<ends>