

Gay Community Periodic Survey

Sydney 2022

Curtis Chan¹
Timothy Broady²
James MacGibbon¹
Benjamin Bavinton¹
Limin Mao²
Angus Molyneux³
Félix Delhomme³
Cherie Power⁴
Shawn Clackett⁴
Andrew Heslop⁵
Garrett Prestage¹
Martin Holt²

¹ Centre for Social Research in Health, UNSW Sydney

² The Kirby Institute, UNSW Sydney

³ ACON

⁴ NSW Ministry of Health

⁵ Positive Life NSW



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BBV & STI RESEARCH, INTERVENTION
AND STRATEGIC EVALUATION



UNSW
SYDNEY

Centre for Social Research in Health

UNSW Sydney NSW 2052

T: +61 2 9385 6776

F: +61 2 9385 6455

E: csrh@unsw.edu.au

W: <https://csrh.arts.unsw.edu.au>

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Survey participants

The 2,453 participants who participated in the survey

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Glossary

ART antiretroviral treatment

CAIC condomless anal intercourse with casual partners

CAIR condomless anal intercourse with regular partners

Cisgender a term used to describe people whose gender is the same as what was presumed for them at birth

HIV human immunodeficiency virus

HIV status a person's antibody status established by HIV testing, e.g., HIV-negative, HIV-positive, or unknown (untested)

Non-binary an umbrella term for any number of gender identities that sit within, outside of, across or between the spectrum of the male and female binary

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

Seroconcordant a relationship in which both partners are of the same HIV status, either HIV-positive or HIV-negative

Serodiscordant 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

Serononconcordant 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

Serosorting choosing a sexual partner who shares the same HIV status

STI sexually transmissible infection

Transgender an umbrella term that describes people whose gender is different to what was assigned to them at birth

Executive summary

The Sydney Gay Community Periodic Survey is a cross-sectional survey of gay and bisexual men recruited from a range of venues and events in Sydney and online throughout New South Wales. The major aim of the survey is to provide data on sexual, drug use, and testing and prevention practices related to the transmission of HIV and other sexually transmissible infections (STIs). The most recent survey was conducted in February and March 2022 to coincide with the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras Festival. The survey is conducted annually. COVID-19 restrictions meant that the survey was conducted solely online in 2021, but in 2022 the survey was able to return to a combination of online recruitment and face-to-face recruitment at Mardi Gras Fair Day (but not at other venues).

COVID-19 restrictions significantly impacted the conduct of the 2021 survey and the survey results that year. Although restrictions had eased considerably by the time of the 2022 survey, some remained in place. The 2021 and 2022 questionnaires therefore included questions about participants' experiences of COVID-19 and how COVID-19 might have affected their HIV and STI-related behaviour.

Since 1996, the project has been funded by the NSW Ministry of Health and supported by ACON and Positive Life NSW. The Centre for Social Research in Health coordinates the survey, with support from the Kirby Institute.

In total, 2,453 participants completed the 2022 survey. ACON arranged face-to-face recruitment by trained peers at Mardi Gras Fair Day and online advertising on Facebook and Grindr. The response rate during face-to-face recruitment was 66.2% and the completion rate for online recruitment was 81.0%. Potential participants were directed to the study website (<https://gcpsonline.net>) and links to the online survey. In 2022, 50 participants (3.8%) completed the survey in a language other than English – most commonly simplified Chinese (n=15), Thai (n=13), Spanish (n=10), and traditional Chinese (n=8).

Key points

- The proportion of participants who reported ever being tested for HIV decreased in 2022 to 88%.
- The proportion of non-HIV-positive participants who reported testing for HIV in the previous 12 months decreased between 2021 and 2022 (to 62%).
- The proportion of non-HIV-positive participants reporting three or more HIV tests in the previous year decreased in 2022 to 23%. Higher frequency testing was concentrated amongst HIV-negative participants on pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP), 61% of whom reported three or more HIV tests in the previous year.
- In 2022, 3% of non-HIV-positive participants reported using an HIV self-test in the previous 12 months.
- Nearly all HIV-positive participants in the 2022 survey (94%) reported being on HIV treatment. Among participants on treatment, nearly all (97%) said they had an undetectable viral load.
- In 2022, the most common way of meeting male sex partners was by using mobile apps (reported by 44% of the sample).
- The proportion of participants with regular partners who reported any safe sex strategy (i.e., the use of condoms, negotiated safety, PrEP, or undetectable viral load) decreased from 90% in 2018 to 87% in 2021.
- Net prevention coverage (the use of any safe sex strategy, including condoms, PrEP or undetectable viral load) among participants with casual male partners increased from 73% in 2018 to 80% in 2022.
- The proportion of non-HIV-positive participants using PrEP increased in 2022 to 34%, returning to a similar level to before COVID-19. Among non-HIV-positive participants who reported condomless sex with casual partners, PrEP use increased to 70% in 2022, even higher than before COVID-19.
- PrEP remains the most commonly used HIV risk reduction strategy with casual male partners in Sydney.

Demographic profile

As in previous surveys, in 2022 the majority of the sample reported an Anglo-Australian ethnicity (62.3%) and were born in Australia (66.4%). Participants who were born overseas (n=817, 33.6% of the sample) were most commonly born in Asia (10.7% of the whole sample), followed by high-income English-speaking countries (10.3%), Central/South America (3.6%) and Europe (3.3%). Among overseas-born participants, most had been living in Australia for more than five years (76.3%), with smaller proportions having lived in Australia for between two and five years (19.5%) or less than two years (4.3%).

In 2022, most participants lived in Greater Sydney (77.9%), had completed university (60.2%), were in full-time employment (68.7%), and identified as gay (81.4%). Compared with 2021 (when 96.3% of participants were recruited online), in 2022 there was an increase in the proportion of participants who lived in Greater Sydney, were university educated, in full-time employment and identified as gay, and the proportion of bisexual participants decreased. Changes in the demographic profile of participants between 2021 and 2022 are likely to be due to changes to recruitment with half of the participants recruited face-to-face in 2022. In the last five years, the proportion of participants who identified as bisexual has increased from 7.2% in 2018 to 10.7% in 2022, while the proportion who identified as gay decreased from 88.8% to 81.4%. In 2022, 3.1% of participants identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander, which has remained stable since 2018 (Table 2).

In 2022, the majority of participants indicated that they were cisgender men (94.9%, decreased from 98.0% in 2018). A small number of participants indicated they were transgender men (n=27, 1.1%) or non-binary (n=78, 3.2%; Table 2), both of which have increased since 2018.

Between 2018 and 2022, there were decreases in the proportion of participants aged under 25 years (from 12.5% to 10.4%) and 25-29 years (from 18.4% to 16.2%), and 40-49 years (from 20.5% to 17.6%). There was an increase in the proportion of participants aged 50 and over (from 17.7% to 25.4%; Table 3).

COVID-19

The 2022 survey was conducted in the context of continuing caution about COVID-19 in New South Wales. We expected that participants would have continued to experience disruptions to their employment or income, ability to socialise or travel, and capacity to meet sexual partners or engage with sexual health services.

More than one-fifth of participants (22.2%) reported that they had lost income or their job because of COVID-19, and 53.0% reported that they had reduced the number of male sex partners they had had in the six months prior to the survey because of COVID-19. Most participants (80.1%) reported having been tested for COVID-19 within the past six months and almost all (97.6%) were fully vaccinated against COVID-19, i.e., they had had at least two vaccine doses at the time of recruitment.

HIV testing, status and treatment

In 2022, the majority of participants reported ever having been tested for HIV (88.3%). This represents a decrease over time from 91.0% in 2018, but an increase from 85.6% in 2021. Among non-HIV-positive participants (i.e., HIV-negative and untested/unknown status participants), 61.6% reported an HIV test in the 12 months prior to the 2022 survey, a decrease from 76.8% in 2018 (Table 4).

In 2022, non-HIV-positive participants most commonly reported that their last HIV test was at a general practice (51.9%) or a sexual health clinic or hospital (34.7%). The proportions of non-HIV-positive participants who most recently tested at a general practice or at home increased between 2018 and 2022, while the proportions who last tested at a sexual health clinic, hospital, or community-based service decreased (Table 5). In 2022, 2.6% of non-HIV-positive participants reported using an HIV self-test in the previous 12 months.

The proportion of non-HIV-positive participants reporting three or more HIV tests in the 12 months prior to the survey decreased from 33.1% in 2018 to 22.7% in 2022. The proportion who reported two HIV tests in the previous 12 months also decreased from 18.0% in 2018 to 14.3% in 2022.

Frequent HIV testing was concentrated among HIV-negative participants taking pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP), 60.6% of whom reported three or more HIV tests in the 12 months prior to the 2022 survey (compared with 4.3% of non-HIV-positive participants not on PrEP). The proportion of HIV-negative participants on PrEP who reported three or more HIV tests in the previous 12 months decreased from 92.3% in 2018 to 60.6% in 2022, while the proportion who reported two tests increased from 5.4% to 24.5% over that time. The frequency of HIV testing has declined among non-HIV-positive participants not on PrEP, with the proportion reporting no HIV tests in the previous 12 months increasing from 34.1% in 2018 to 64.1% in 2022 (Table 6). COVID-19 is likely to have affected HIV testing frequency since 2020 and this effect has remained in 2022.

Among participants who had been ever been tested for HIV, 92.3% reported that they were HIV-negative in 2022 (an increase from 89.3% in 2018). Smaller proportions reported that they were HIV-positive (6.5%) or did not know their HIV status (1.2%). The proportion of participants who reported they were HIV-positive has decreased from 9.4% in 2018 (Table 7).

In 2022, almost all HIV-positive participants reported taking combination antiretroviral treatment at the time of the survey (93.0%). This has remained stable since 2018 (Table 8). Almost all HIV-positive participants on treatment in 2022 reported an undetectable viral load (97.1%). This proportion has also remained stable over the last five years (Table 9). The proportion of HIV-positive participants who reported attending at least three clinical appointments in the 12 months before the survey decreased from 69.4% in 2018 to 37.7% in 2022. Over that time, the proportion who attended one or two clinical appointments in the previous 12 months increased from 24.1% to 49.3%. This reflects changes to HIV clinical guidelines that now recommend consultations every six months.

Sexual partnerships and practices

At the time of the 2022 survey, 31.2% of participants reported having casual male partners only (an increase from 23.5% in 2018). Smaller proportions reported being in monogamous relationships (26.3%) or having both regular and casual male partners (22.0%), both of which have decreased since 2018. Approximately one in five participants (20.5%) reported having no sexual relationships with men at the time of the survey, an increase from 13.9% in 2018 (Table 10).

The proportion of HIV-positive participants who reported more than 20 different male sex partners in the six months prior to the survey decreased from 21.7% in 2018 to 11.6% in 2022 (Table 11). Since 2018, the proportion of HIV-positive participants who reported no male sex partners increased from 17.4% to 25.2% (Table 11).

HIV-negative participants on PrEP were the most likely to report more than 20 different male sex partners in the six months prior to the 2022 survey (17.0%), though this has decreased from 30.9% in 2018. The proportion of PrEP users who reported one male sex partner increased from 4.4% in 2018 to 8.2% in 2022 and the proportion who reported 2-5 different male partners increased from 16.4% in 2018 to 32.2% in 2022. The proportion who reported 6-20 partners decreased from 46.6% in 2018 to 39.6% in 2022 (Table 11).

The proportions of non-HIV-positive participants not on PrEP who reported either no male sex partners or one male sex partner in the six months prior to the survey increased between 2018 and 2022 (from 12.7% to 24.8% and 32.0% to 42.2% respectively). Over that time, the proportion who reported 2-5 different male sex partners decreased (from 28.6% to 22.2%), as did the proportions who reported 6-20 different male sex partners (from 20.2% to 8.8%) or more than 20 different male sex partners (from 6.5% to 1.9%; Table 11).

In 2022, mobile applications were the most common way of meeting male sex partners (44.4%), followed by the internet (27.4%), gay saunas/sex venues (17.0%), gay bars (13.0%), beats (11.6%), and travelling in Australia (11.3%). Between 2018 and 2022, there have been significant decreases in the proportions of participants who met male sex partners using mobile applications, at gay saunas/sex venues, gay bars, dance parties, or while travelling

in Australia or overseas. Compared to 2021, in 2022 there were increases in the proportions of participants who met male sex partners at gay bars, dance parties, and overseas (Table 12). This is likely due to easing of COVID-19 restrictions.

In 2022, 22.6% of participants reported any group sex in the six months prior to the survey, a decrease from 35.5% in 2018 (Table 26). In 2022, 4.0% of participants reported having been paid for sex at least once in the six months prior to the survey. This proportion has remained stable since 2018.

A minority of participants (7.3%; $n=174$) reported having sex with women in the six months prior to the 2022 survey, including 4.3% who had one female partner and 2.9% who had more than one female partner. The majority of participants who reported sex with women identified as bisexual (58.6%), while 13.8% identified as heterosexual and 14.4% as gay.

Relationships with men and regular male partners

Among participants who reported being in a relationship with a man at the time of the 2022 survey ($n=1,182$), 74.6% had been together for more than two years and 75.0% reported living with their partner. Among participants in relationships, 68.8% reported an agreement about sex within the relationship and 65.5% reported an agreement about sex outside the relationship. In 2022, the most commonly held agreement about sex within a relationship permitted anal intercourse without a condom (50.6%, increased from 43.6% in 2018). The proportion of participants in relationships who reported an agreement that anal intercourse was only permitted with a condom decreased from 14.5% in 2018 to 8.1% in 2022. Smaller proportions reported that no sex was permitted in the relationship (6.4%) or that no anal sex was permitted (3.7%; Table 13).

The most commonly held agreement about sex outside a relationship specified that no sex with casual partners was permitted (29.3%, stable since 2018). The proportion of participants in relationships who reported that condoms must always be used for anal intercourse with casual partners decreased from 19.6% in 2018 to 13.0% in 2022. Over that time, the proportion who reported that condomless anal sex with casual partners was permitted increased from 13.3% to 20.0% (Table 14).

Among HIV-positive participants who had regular male partners in the six months prior to the 2022 survey ($n=69$), 27.5% reported HIV-positive (seroconcordant) partners, 62.3% reported HIV-negative (serodiscordant) partners, and the remainder (10.1%) had seroconcordant partners (i.e., unknown HIV status). These proportions all remained stable between 2018 and 2022 (Table 15).

Compared with HIV-positive participants, HIV-negative participants with regular partners were more likely to be in seroconcordant relationships. In 2022, 82.7% of HIV-negative participants with regular male partners reported HIV-negative (seroconcordant) partners and 11.8% reported seroconcordant partners (i.e., unknown HIV status). In 2022, 5.5% of HIV-negative participants with a regular partner reported an HIV-positive (serodiscordant) partner. These proportions have all remained stable between 2018 and 2022 (Table 15).

Among HIV-positive participants with HIV-positive regular partners ($n=18$), 94.4% reported that those partners had an undetectable viral load. Among HIV-negative participants with HIV-positive partners ($n=50$), 98.0% reported that those partners had an undetectable viral load. HIV-positive participants with HIV-negative regular partners were more likely to report that those partners were on PrEP than HIV-negative participants with HIV-negative regular partners (36.6% vs. 24.3%; Table 16).

In 2022, nearly three-quarters of participants with a regular partner (74.4%) reported any condomless anal intercourse with their partner (CAIR) in the six months prior to the survey, an increase from 64.9% in 2018. Over that time, the proportion who reported no anal intercourse with their regular partner decreased (from 22.0% to 15.6%), as did the proportion who reported always using condoms for anal intercourse with their regular partner (from 13.1% to 10.0%; Table 17). The proportion of participants reporting CAIR is the highest recorded in the Sydney surveys, but should be understood in the context of rising PrEP use and a greater understanding of the benefits of undetectable viral load for HIV prevention. There has been an increase in the proportion of participants with regular partners who are HIV-negative, on PrEP and report CAIR (from 16.3% of participants

with regular partners in 2018 to 28.8% in 2022). HIV-positive participants who have an undetectable viral load and report CAIR represented 3.8% of participants with regular partners in 2022 (stable since 2018). The proportion of participants with regular partners who were HIV-negative or untested and not on PrEP, and reported CAIR with regular partners who were either HIV-negative or HIV-positive with an undetectable viral load decreased from 33.6% in 2018 to 28.9% in 2022.

In 2022, 87.2% of participants with regular partners reported safe sex (i.e., avoiding anal sex, consistent condom use, negotiated safety, PrEP, or an undetectable viral load). The level of prevention coverage among men with regular partners decreased from 90.3% in 2018 to 86.1% in 2021, before increasing to 87.2% in 2022. The proportion of participants with regular partners who reported potentially unsafe sex (i.e., they were HIV-negative or of unknown status, not on PrEP, and reported CAIR with regular partners of unknown status or partners who were HIV-positive and not on treatment or had a detectable viral load) increased from 9.0% in 2018 to 13.4% in 2021 before decreasing to 12.4% in 2022 (Table 17).

Casual male partners

Use of condoms for anal intercourse remains slightly more common with casual partners than with regular partners. In 2022, 65.1% of participants with casual partners reported any condomless anal intercourse with casual partners (CAIC) in the six months prior to the survey, an increase from 56.4% in 2018. The proportion who reported consistent condom use with casual partners decreased from 26.4% in 2018 to 15.9% in 2022 (Table 18).

Table 18 provides additional details about the HIV statuses of participants who engaged in CAIC and the use of antiretroviral-based prevention (specifically HIV-positive participants maintaining an undetectable viral load through HIV treatment and HIV-negative participants taking PrEP). There has been a large increase in the proportion of participants with casual partners who are HIV-negative, on PrEP and report CAIC (from 22.5% in 2018 to 40.7% in 2022). This reflects the increase in availability and use of PrEP, particularly since its listing on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme in April 2018. HIV-positive participants who have an undetectable viral load and report CAIC represented 4.7% of participants with casual partners in 2022. This has remained stable over the last five years. In 2022, 80.4% of participants with casual partners reported safe sex (i.e., avoiding anal sex, consistent condom use, PrEP, or undetectable viral load), an increase in prevention coverage from 72.7% in 2018, and the highest level of prevention coverage seen in the Sydney surveys among participants with casual partners. The proportion of participants reporting the highest risk practice for HIV transmission (HIV-negative and untested participants not on PrEP engaging in receptive CAIC) decreased from 17.9% in 2018 to 13.3% in 2022 (Table 17).

In 2022, HIV-positive participants with casual partners remained the most likely to report any CAIC (81.0%), followed by HIV-negative participants (64.9%) and participants who are untested/unknown status (51.9%). Between 2018 and 2022, there were increases in the proportions of HIV-negative participants (from 56.1% to 64.9%) and untested participants (from 34.2% to 51.9%) reporting CAIC, while the proportion of HIV-positive participants reporting CAIC remained stable (Table 19).

In 2022, HIV-positive participants were equally likely to disclose their HIV status to casual partners before sex compared to HIV-negative participants (68.0% vs. 69.5%). A larger proportion of HIV-negative participants (69.9%) reported HIV status disclosure from any of their casual partners compared with HIV-positive participants (56.0%; Table 20).

Among HIV-positive participants who reported CAIC in the six months prior to the 2022 survey (n=68), the most commonly used strategies they used to prevent HIV transmission included having an undetectable viral load (92.4%), knowing their partners were on PrEP before CAIC (PrEP sorting; 52.9%), followed by ensuring that their partners were HIV-positive before CAIC (serosorting; 33.8%). Smaller proportions of HIV-positive participants reported frequently taking the receptive role during nonconcordant CAIC (strategic positioning; 19.1%) or frequently withdrawing before ejaculation (8.8%). The proportion of HIV-positive participants who reported each risk reduction strategy remained stable from 2018 to 2022 (Table 21).

Among HIV-negative participants who reported CAIC in the six months prior to the 2022 survey (n=719), the most commonly reported HIV risk reduction strategies were being on PrEP (69.7%), PrEP sorting (53.4%), followed by ensuring that their partners were HIV-negative before CAIC (serosorting; 44.1%). Smaller proportions reported ensuring that their HIV-positive partners had an undetectable viral load before sex (24.3%), taking the insertive position during nonconcordant CAIC (strategic positioning; 16.0%), or that their casual partners withdrew before ejaculation (4.9%). The proportion of HIV-negative participants who reported frequent strategic positioning and partners withdrawing before ejaculation both decreased between 2018 and 2022 (Table 21).

Sexual health

As in previous surveys, in 2022 a higher proportion of HIV-positive participants reported having had any sexual health test (including blood tests) in the 12 months prior to the survey (81.6%), compared with HIV-negative participants (63.6%; Table 22).

Between 2018 and 2022, the proportions of HIV-positive participants reporting each type of STI test (anal swab, throat swab, blood tests) all decreased (Table 22). The proportion of HIV-positive participants who reported any STI test (including blood tests) decreased from 89.8% in 2018 to 81.6% in 2022 (Table 22). The proportions of HIV-negative participants reporting each type of STI test have all decreased. The proportion of HIV-negative participants who reported any STI test (including blood tests) decreased from 77.6% in 2018 to 63.6% in 2022.

In 2022, 16.4% of participants reported an STI diagnosis in the 12 months prior to the survey. This had been increasing over time, but decreased from 27.1% in 2020. In 2022, the most commonly diagnosed STI was chlamydia (10.8%), followed by gonorrhoea (8.3%). Smaller proportions of participants reported being diagnosed with syphilis (3.8%) or another STI (2.1%). The proportions of participants reporting chlamydia, gonorrhoea and syphilis diagnoses had increased between 2018 and 2020, but decreased between 2020 and 2022 (Table 23).

We examined how STI diagnoses varied by HIV status, PrEP use and sexual behaviour. In 2022, 26.1% of HIV-positive participants, 35.7% of HIV-negative participants on PrEP and 5.0% of HIV-negative and untested participants not on PrEP reported a diagnosis with any STI other than HIV. In 2022, 33.4% of participants who had engaged in CAIC in the six months prior to the survey reported an STI diagnosis, compared with 7.2% of participants who had not engaged in CAIC. STI diagnoses remain concentrated among HIV-negative participants on PrEP (who typically engage in higher frequency STI testing) and participants who engage in condomless sex with casual partners (a higher risk practice for STI transmission).

Recreational drug use

The proportion of participants who reported no drug use in the six months prior to the survey increased from 34.6% in 2018 to 43.8% in 2022, while the proportion who reported using more than two drugs decreased from 33.0% to 25.1% (Table 24).

The most frequently used drugs in the six months prior to the 2022 survey were amyl/poppers (36.9%), cannabis (29.1%), cocaine (20.1%), Viagra (19.4%), and ecstasy (16.6%; Table 24). Over time, the use of all drugs has decreased (Table 24).

In general, HIV-positive participants remain more likely to report any drug use (71.1%) compared with HIV-negative participants (58.0%). The proportion of HIV-positive participants reporting no drug use increased from 23.6% in 2018 to 29.0% in 2022, while the proportion who reported using three or more drugs decreased from 45.7% in 2018 to 38.2% in 2022. The proportion of HIV-negative participants reporting no drug use increased from 33.3% in 2018 to 42.0% in 2022, while the proportion who reported using three or more drugs decreased from 32.9% in 2018 to 26.2% in 2022.

The proportion of participants reporting any injecting drug use in the six months prior to the survey has remained stable since 2018 (3.8% in 2022). HIV-positive participants remain more likely than HIV-negative participants to report any injecting drug use (19.4% vs. 2.6%; Table 25). In 2022, 15.0% of participants reported using drugs for sex (i.e., chemsex) in the six months prior to the survey, a decrease from 22.2% in 2018 (Table 26).

Knowledge and use of PEP and PrEP

In 2022, 85.0% of all participants reported knowing that post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) was available and this has remained stable since 2018. There has been increase in the awareness of PrEP (from 86.7% in 2018 to 94.8% in 2022; Table 27).

The proportion of non-HIV-positive participants who reported taking a prescribed course of PEP in the six months prior to the survey decreased from 5.5% in 2018 to 3.3% in 2022. The proportion of non-HIV-positive participants who reported using PrEP in the six months prior to the survey increased from 23.9% in 2018 to 33.5% in 2022. The proportion of non-HIV-positive participants who had CAIC in the six months prior to the survey and reported PrEP use increased from 52.7% in 2018 to 69.7% in 2022, an even higher level than before COVID-19 (Table 27).

Among participants who reported taking PrEP in the six months prior to the 2022 survey (n=754), the majority used it daily or most days (65.5%), while 27.7% used PrEP around the time of sex but not daily (on demand or event-based dosing). A small proportion of PrEP users (4.8%) reported using PrEP daily for a limited period of time (periodic dosing). The most common way to obtain PrEP was from a chemist (87.8%), followed by buying it online from overseas (8.3%). Among current and former PrEP users (n=760), 34.2% reported that COVID-19 did not affect their PrEP use, while 42.5% reported that they took PrEP less often and 12.5% reported that they had stopped PrEP due to COVID-19.

Reporting

Data are shown for the period 2018–2022. Each table includes the statistical significance (*p*-value), if any, of the change between 2021 and 2022 and the trend over time (2018–2022). An alpha level of .05 was used for all statistical tests. Changes between 2021 and 2022 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. Participants with missing data have been excluded from analyses. 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

	2018 <i>n</i> (%)	2019 <i>n</i> (%)	2020 <i>n</i> (%)	2021 <i>n</i> (%)	2022 <i>n</i> (%)	Change from 2021 (<i>p</i> -value)	Trend over time (<i>p</i> -value)
Fair Day	617 (21.6)	1,080 (34.1)	1,281 (38.4)	4* (0.2)	1,143 (46.6)	NA	NA
Sexual health clinics	270 (9.4)	216 (6.8)	188 (5.6)	3 (0.1)	-	NA	NA
Sex-on-premises venues	176 (6.2)	169 (5.3)	135 (4.0)	6 (0.3)	-	NA	NA
Social venues	1,095 (38.3)	1,114 (35.2)	1,148 (34.4)	71 (3.1)	-	NA	NA
Online	702 (24.5)	588 (18.6)	585 (17.5)	2,209 (96.3)	1,310 (53.4)	NA	NA
Total	2,860 (100)	3,167 (100)	3,337 (100)	2,293 (100)	2,453 (100)		

* Mardi Gras Parade held at Sydney Cricket Ground.

Table 2: Demographics

	2018 <i>n</i> (%)	2019 <i>n</i> (%)	2020 <i>n</i> (%)	2021 <i>n</i> (%)	2022 <i>n</i> (%)	Change from 2021 (<i>p</i> -value)	Trend over time (<i>p</i> -value)
Anglo-Australian	1,723 (60.2)	1,907 (60.5)	1,961 (59.3)	1,400 (61.5)	1,512 (62.3)	ns	Increase <.05
Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander	96 (3.4)	125 (4.0)	137 (4.1)	89 (3.9)	76 (3.1)	ns	ns
Total	2,860 (100)	3,154 (100)	3,309 (100)	2,275 (100)	2,427 (100)		
Born in Australia	1,769 (62.3)	1,959 (62.0)	2,016 (60.6)	1,492 (65.2)	1,621 (66.4)	ns	Increase <.001
Total	2,839 (100)	3,159 (100)	3,328 (100)	2,290 (100)	2,441 (100)		
Lives in Greater Sydney	2,453 (86.4)	2,709 (87.1)	2,889 (87.7)	1,558 (70.2)	1,881 (77.9)	Increase <.001	Decrease <.001
Total	2,839 (100)	3,109 (100)	3,296 (100)	2,220 (100)	2,416 (100)		
University educated	1,752 (61.5)	1,902 (60.2)	2,091 (62.8)	1,195 (52.3)	1,471 (60.2)	Increase <.001	Decrease <.01
Total	2,849 (100)	3,157 (100)	3,328 (100)	2,283 (100)	2,444 (100)		
Full-time employed	1,969 (69.0)	2,163 (68.3)	2,312 (69.3)	1,273 (56.1)	1,686 (68.7)	Increase <.001	Decrease <.001
Total	2,853 (100)	3,165 (100)	3,335 (100)	2,269 (100)	2,453 (100)		
Gay identity	2,531 (88.8)	2,776 (87.9)	2,835 (85.4)	1,798 (78.5)	1,993 (81.4)	Increase <.05	Decrease <.001
Bisexual identity	204 (7.2)	229 (7.3)	295 (8.9)	374 (16.3)	261 (10.7)	Decrease <.001	Increase <.001
Total	2,850 (100)	3,158 (100)	3,320 (100)	2,289 (100)	2,449 (100)		
Cisgender	2,798 (98.0)	3,083 (97.4)	3,209 (96.3)	2,198 (95.9)	2326 (94.9)	ns	Decrease <.001
Transgender	19 (0.7)	30 (0.9)	49 (1.5)	39 (1.7)	27 (1.1)	ns	Increase <.001
Non-binary	24 (0.8)	46 (1.5)	56 (1.7)	41 (1.8)	78 (3.2)	Increase <.05	Increase <.001
Total	2,855 (100)	3,164 (100)	3,331 (100)	2,293 (100)	2,451 (100)		

Table 3: Age

	2018 n (%)	2019 n (%)	2020 n (%)	2021 n (%)	2022 n (%)	Change from 2021 (p-value)	Trend over time (p-value)
Under 25	355 (12.5)	468 (14.9)	432 (13.0)	327 (14.3)	254 (10.4)	Decrease <.001	Decrease <.05
25–29	523 (18.4)	574 (18.2)	640 (19.3)	334 (14.6)	396 (16.2)	ns	Decrease <.01
30–39	882 (31.0)	939 (29.8)	1,109 (33.4)	581 (25.4)	746 (30.5)	Increase <.001	ns
40–49	583 (20.5)	557 (17.7)	530 (16.0)	373 (16.3)	430 (17.6)	ns	Decrease <.01
50 and over	503 (17.7)	611 (19.4)	606 (18.3)	674 (29.4)	622 (25.4)	Decrease <.01	Increase <.001
Total	2,846 (100)	3,149 (100)	3,317 (100)	2,289 (100)	2,448 (100)		

Table 4: HIV testing

	2018 n (%)	2019 n (%)	2020 n (%)	2021 n (%)	2022 n (%)	Change from 2021 (p-value)	Trend over time (p-value)
All participants							
Ever tested	2,603 (91.0)	2,897 (91.5)	3,006 (90.1)	1,963 (85.6)	2,167 (88.3)	Increase <.01	Decrease <.001
Total	2,860 (100)	3,167 (100)	3,337 (100)	2,293 (100)	2,453 (100)		
Non-HIV-positive participants							
Tested in previous 12 months	1,803 (76.8)	2,049 (78.0)	2,114 (76.8)	1,166 (66.2)	1,249 (61.6)	Decrease <.01	Decrease <.001
Total	2,349 (100)	2,627 (100)	2,751 (100)	1,761 (100)	2,027 (100)		

Table 5: Where non-HIV-positive participants were last tested for HIV

	2018 <i>n</i> (%)	2019 <i>n</i> (%)	2020 <i>n</i> (%)	2021 <i>n</i> (%)	2022 <i>n</i> (%)	Change from 2021 (<i>p</i> -value)	Trend over time (<i>p</i> -value)
General practice	977 (41.8)	1,174 (44.9)	1,210 (44.6)	804 (46.4)	1,033 (51.9)	Increase <.01	Increase <.001
Sexual health clinic/hospital	1,012 (43.3)	1,080 (41.3)	1,254 (46.3)	807 (46.6)	692 (34.7)	Decrease <.001	Decrease <.01
At home	8 (0.3)	23 (0.9)	23 (0.8)	31 (1.8)	19 (1.0)	Decrease <.05	Increase <.01
Community-based service	294 (12.6)	298 (11.4)	186 (6.9)	57 (3.3)	192 (9.6)	Increase <.001	Decrease <.001
Somewhere else	47 (2.0)	38 (1.5)	38 (1.4)	34 (2.0)	56 (2.8)	ns	Increase <.05
Total	2,338 (100)	2,613 (100)	2,711 (100)	1,733 (100)	1,992 (100)		

Table 6: Number of HIV tests in the previous 12 months

	2018 n (%)	2019 n (%)	2020 n (%)	2021 n (%)	2022 n (%)	Change from 2021 (p-value)	Trend over time (p-value)
All non-HIV-positive participants							
None	735 (28.2)	778 (26.8)	891 (28.9)	883 (42.3)	1,020 (44.3)	ns	Increase <.001
One	539 (20.7)	577 (19.9)	538 (17.4)	417 (20.0)	430 (18.7)	ns	ns
Two	468 (18.0)	563 (19.4)	576 (18.7)	257 (12.3)	329 (14.3)	ns	Decrease <.001
3 or more	860 (33.1)	983 (33.9)	1,079 (35.0)	529 (25.4)	522 (22.7)	Decrease <.05	Decrease <.001
Total	2,602 (100)	2,901 (100)	3,084 (100)	2,086 (100)	2,301 (100)		
HIV-negative participants on PrEP¹							
None	1 (0.2)	3 (0.4)	12 (1.2)	20 (3.3)	23 (3.1)	ns	Increase <.001
One	11 (2.1)	44 (5.6)	48 (4.8)	56 (9.3)	87 (11.8)	ns	Increase <.001
Two	28 (5.4)	113 (14.4)	157 (15.7)	95 (15.8)	181 (24.5)	Increase <.001	Increase <.001
3 or more	478 (92.3)	624 (79.6)	782 (78.3)	432 (71.6)	448 (60.6)	Decrease <.001	Decrease <.001
Total	518 (100)	784 (100)	999 (100)	603 (100)	739 (100)		
Non-HIV-positive participants not on PrEP							
None	579 (34.1)	663 (37.3)	797 (41.7)	838 (58.1)	960 (64.1)	Increase <.01	Increase <.001
One	452 (26.6)	458 (25.8)	453 (23.7)	350 (24.3)	332 (22.2)	ns	Decrease <.01
Two	388 (22.8)	390 (22.0)	394 (20.6)	162 (11.2)	141 (9.4)	ns	Decrease <.001
3 or more	281 (16.5)	265 (14.9)	269 (14.1)	93 (6.4)	65 (4.3)	Decrease <.05	Decrease <.001
Total	1,700 (100)	1,776 (100)	1,913 (100)	1,443 (100)	1,498 (100)		

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

¹ From 2019, 'participants on PrEP' includes both regular (daily) and on-demand (event-based) users. Prior to 2019, regular and on-demand users could not be differentiated.

Table 7: HIV test result

	2018 <i>n</i> (%)	2019 <i>n</i> (%)	2020 <i>n</i> (%)	2021 <i>n</i> (%)	2022 <i>n</i> (%)	Change from 2021 (<i>p</i> -value)	Trend over time (<i>p</i> -value)
HIV-positive	245 (9.4)	262 (9.0)	243 (8.1)	202 (10.3)	140 (6.5)	Decrease <.001	Decrease <.01
HIV-negative	2,322 (89.3)	2,588 (89.3)	2,724 (90.8)	1,736 (88.4)	1,996 (92.3)	Increase <.001	Increase <.01
Unknown status	32 (1.2)	47 (1.6)	34 (1.1)	25 (1.3)	27 (1.2)	ns	ns
Total	2,599 (100)	2,897 (100)	3,001 (100)	1,963 (100)	2,163 (100)		

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

Table 8: Use of combination antiretroviral treatment among HIV-positive participants

	2018 <i>n</i> (%)	2019 <i>n</i> (%)	2020 <i>n</i> (%)	2021 <i>n</i> (%)	2022 <i>n</i> (%)	Change from 2021 (<i>p</i> -value)	Trend over time (<i>p</i> -value)
On treatment	232 (94.3)	185 (95.4)	220 (93.2)	192 (96.0)	138 (93.9)	ns	ns
Total	246 (100)	194 (100)	236 (100)	200 (100)	147 (100)		

Table 9: Undetectable viral load among HIV-positive participants using antiretroviral treatment

	2018 <i>n</i> (%)	2019 <i>n</i> (%)	2020 <i>n</i> (%)	2021 <i>n</i> (%)	2022 <i>n</i> (%)	Change from 2021 (<i>p</i> -value)	Trend over time (<i>p</i> -value)
Undetectable viral load	226 (98.3)	178 (96.2)	204 (92.7)	182 (94.8)	134 (97.1)	ns	ns
Total	230 (100)	185 (100)	220 (100)	192 (100)	138 (100)		

Table 10: Current relationships with men

	2018 <i>n</i> (%)	2019 <i>n</i> (%)	2020 <i>n</i> (%)	2021 <i>n</i> (%)	2022 <i>n</i> (%)	Change from 2021 (<i>p</i> -value)	Trend over time (<i>p</i> -value)
None	386 (13.9)	521 (17.0)	564 (17.4)	467 (24.2)	441 (20.5)	Decrease <.01	Increase <.001
Casual only	651 (23.5)	645 (21.1)	655 (20.2)	676 (35.0)	673 (31.2)	Decrease <.05	Increase <.001
Regular plus casual ¹	991 (35.8)	1,040 (33.9)	1,158 (35.8)	394 (20.4)	474 (22.0)	ns	Decrease <.001
Regular only (monogamous)	742 (26.8)	858 (28.0)	860 (26.6)	396 (20.5)	566 (26.3)	Increase <.001	Decrease <.01
Total	2,770 (100)	3,064 (100)	3,237 (100)	1,933 (100)	2,154 (100)		

¹ Includes participants with multiple regular partners

Table 11: Number of different male sex partners in the six months prior to the survey, by HIV status of participants

	2018 <i>n</i> (%)	2019 <i>n</i> (%)	2020 <i>n</i> (%)	2021 <i>n</i> (%)	2022 <i>n</i> (%)	Change from 2021 (<i>p</i> -value)	Trend over time (<i>p</i> -value)
HIV-positive participants							
None	44 (17.4)	52 (19.8)	57 (23.2)	49 (24.7)	37 (25.2)	ns	Increase <.05
One	37 (14.6)	41 (15.6)	27 (11.0)	33 (16.7)	30 (20.4)	ns	ns
2-5	55 (21.7)	62 (23.6)	41 (16.7)	45 (22.7)	34 (23.1)	ns	ns
6-20	62 (24.5)	64 (24.3)	63 (25.6)	40 (20.2)	29 (19.7)	ns	ns
More than 20	55 (21.7)	44 (16.7)	58 (23.6)	31 (15.7)	17 (11.6)	ns	Decrease <.05
Total	253 (100)	263 (100)	246 (100)	198 (100)	147 (100)		
HIV-negative participants on PrEP¹							
None	8 (1.5)	14 (1.8)	18 (1.8)	15 (2.5)	22 (3.0)	ns	Increase <.05
One	23 (4.4)	49 (6.3)	78 (7.9)	47 (7.9)	60 (8.2)	ns	Increase <.01
2-5	85 (16.4)	175 (22.4)	248 (25.0)	175 (29.6)	237 (32.2)	ns	Increase <.001
6-20	241 (46.6)	330 (42.3)	401 (40.4)	253 (42.7)	291 (39.6)	ns	Decrease <.05
More than 20	160 (30.9)	213 (27.3)	248 (25.0)	102 (17.2)	125 (17.0)	ns	Decrease <.001
Total	517 (100)	781 (100)	993 (100)	592 (100)	735 (100)		
Non-HIV-positive participants not on PrEP							
None	213 (12.7)	346 (19.5)	407 (21.5)	345 (24.2)	364 (24.8)	ns	Increase <.001
One	538 (32.0)	604 (34.1)	625 (33.1)	520 (36.5)	619 (42.2)	Increase <.01	Increase <.001
2-5	481 (28.6)	470 (26.6)	498 (26.3)	358 (25.1)	326 (22.2)	ns	Decrease <.001
6-20	339 (20.2)	259 (14.6)	268 (14.2)	176 (12.3)	129 (8.8)	Decrease <.01	Decrease <.001
More than 20	109 (6.5)	91 (5.1)	92 (4.9)	27 (1.9)	28 (1.9)	ns	Decrease <.001
Total	1,680 (100)	1,770 (100)	1,890 (100)	1,426 (100)	1,466 (100)		

¹ From 2019, 'participants on PrEP' includes both regular (daily) and on-demand (event-based) users. Prior to 2019, regular and on-demand users could not be differentiated.

Table 12: Where participants met their male sex partners in the six months prior to the survey

	2018 <i>n</i> (%)	2019 <i>n</i> (%)	2020 <i>n</i> (%)	2021 <i>n</i> (%)	2022 <i>n</i> (%)	Change from 2021 (<i>p</i> -value)	Trend over time (<i>p</i> -value)
Mobile app e.g. Grindr	1,454 (50.8)	1,566 (49.4)	1,699 (50.9)	1,129 (49.2)	1,088 (44.4)	Decrease <.01	Decrease <.001
Internet	842 (29.4)	888 (28.0)	882 (26.4)	817 (35.6)	673 (27.4)	Decrease <.001	ns
Gay sauna/sex venue	876 (30.6)	879 (27.8)	883 (26.5)	425 (18.5)	416 (17.0)	ns	Decrease <.001
Gay bar	738 (25.8)	788 (24.9)	863 (25.9)	180 (7.8)	319 (13.0)	Increase <.001	Decrease <.001
Beat	353 (12.3)	408 (12.9)	349 (10.5)	319 (13.9)	285 (11.6)	Decrease <.05	ns
Travelling in Australia	492 (17.2)	519 (16.4)	586 (17.6)	277 (12.1)	277 (11.3)	ns	Decrease <.001
Dance party	504 (17.6)	525 (16.6)	640 (19.2)	122 (5.3)	218 (8.9)	Increase <.001	Decrease <.001
Private sex parties	235 (8.2)	265 (8.4)	289 (8.7)	164 (7.2)	174 (7.1)	ns	Decrease <.05
Overseas	738 (25.8)	723 (22.8)	800 (24.0)	94 (4.1)	146 (6.0)	Increase <.01	Decrease <.001
Sex workers	114 (4.0)	106 (3.3)	131 (3.9)	108 (4.7)	77 (3.1)	Decrease <.01	ns
Total (not mutually exclusive)	2,860	3,167	3,337	2,293	2,453		

Table 13: Agreements with regular male partners about sex *within* the relationship

	2018 n (%)	2019 n (%)	2020 n (%)	2021 n (%)	2022 n (%)	Change from 2021 (p-value)	Trend over time (p-value)
No agreement about sex within the relationship	571 (34.7)	595 (33.6)	611 (33.1)	267 (30.5)	352 (31.2)	ns	Decrease <.05
No sex within the relationship permitted	65 (4.0)	67 (3.8)	76 (4.1)	71 (8.1)	72 (6.4)	ns	Increase <.001
No anal intercourse permitted	53 (3.2)	47 (2.7)	45 (2.4)	23 (2.6)	42 (3.7)	ns	ns
Anal intercourse permitted only with a condom	238 (14.5)	241 (13.6)	207 (11.2)	82 (9.4)	91 (8.1)	ns	Decrease <.001
Anal intercourse permitted without a condom	717 (43.6)	823 (46.4)	907 (49.1)	431 (49.3)	570 (50.6)	ns	Increase <.001
Total	1,644 (100)	1,773 (100)	1,846 (100)	874 (100)	1,127 (100)		

Note: This table only includes data from participants who reported that they were currently in a relationship with a man. The percentages from 2018-2020 are slightly different to those included in previous reports due to an adjustment in how this indicator has been calculated.

Table 14: Agreements with regular male partners about sex *outside* the relationship

	2018 n (%)	2019 n (%)	2020 n (%)	2021 n (%)	2022 n (%)	Change from 2021 (p-value)	Trend over time (p-value)
No agreement about casual sex	589 (36.3)	649 (37.8)	682 (37.7)	297 (34.3)	385 (34.5)	ns	ns
No sex with casual partners permitted	446 (27.5)	440 (25.6)	444 (24.5)	254 (29.3)	326 (29.2)	ns	ns
No anal intercourse with casual partners permitted	53 (3.3)	46 (2.7)	49 (2.7)	29 (3.3)	36 (3.2)	ns	ns
Anal intercourse with casual partners permitted only with a condom	318 (19.6)	325 (18.9)	342 (18.9)	127 (14.7)	145 (13.0)	ns	Decrease <.001
Anal intercourse with casual partners permitted without a condom	216 (13.3)	257 (15.0)	294 (16.2)	159 (18.4)	223 (20.0)	ns	Increase <.001
Total	1,622 (100)	1,717 (100)	1,811 (100)	866 (100)	1,115 (100)		

Note: This table only includes data from participants who reported that they were currently in a relationship with a man. The percentages from 2018-2020 are slightly different to those included in previous reports due to an adjustment in how this indicator has been calculated.

Table 15: Match of HIV status between regular partners

	2018 <i>n</i> (%)	2019 <i>n</i> (%)	2020 <i>n</i> (%)	2021 <i>n</i> (%)	2022 <i>n</i> (%)	Change from 2021 (<i>p</i> -value)	Trend over time (<i>p</i> -value)
HIV-positive participants							
Seroconcordant	48 (30.0)	46 (34.3)	48 (33.3)	32 (34.0)	19 (27.5)	ns	ns
Serodiscordant	83 (51.9)	71 (53.0)	72 (50.0)	49 (52.1)	43 (62.3)	ns	ns
Serononconcordant	29 (18.1)	17 (12.7)	24 (16.7)	13 (13.8)	7 (10.1)	ns	ns
Total	160 (100)	134 (100)	144 (100)	94 (100)	69 (100)		
HIV-negative participants							
Seroconcordant	1,204 (82.2)	1,427 (85.6)	1,465 (84.3)	586 (79.3)	820 (82.7)	ns	ns
Serodiscordant	82 (5.6)	77 (4.6)	85 (4.9)	42 (5.7)	55 (5.5)	ns	ns
Serononconcordant	179 (12.2)	163 (9.8)	187 (10.8)	111 (15.0)	117 (11.8)	Decrease <.05	ns
Total	1,465 (100)	1,667 (100)	1,737 (100)	739 (100)	992 (100)		

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

Table 16: Regular partners' HIV status, undetectable viral load and PrEP use, by participant HIV status

	2018 n (%)	2019 n (%)	2020 n (%)	2021 n (%)	2022 n (%)	Change from 2021 (p-value)	Trend over time (p-value)
HIV-positive participants							
HIV-positive partner with undetectable viral load	43 (89.6)	39 (90.7)	43 (91.5)	29 (90.3)	17 (94.4)	ns	ns
Total HIV-positive participants with HIV-positive partners	48 (100)	43 (100)	47 (100)	31 (100)	18 (100)		
HIV-negative partner on PrEP	-	28 (39.4)	27 (45.8)	14 (29.2)	15 (36.6)	ns	ns
Total HIV-positive participants with HIV-negative partners	-	71 (100)	59 (100)	48 (100)	41 (100)		
HIV-negative participants							
HIV-positive partner with undetectable viral load	78 (96.3)	63 (87.5)	74 (94.9)	38 (97.4)	49 (98.0)	ns	ns
Total HIV-negative participants with HIV-positive partners	81 (100)	72 (100)	78 (100)	39 (100)	50 (100)		
HIV-negative partner on PrEP	-	423 (30.5)	471 (40.6)	129 (23.8)	157 (24.3)	ns	ns
Total HIV-negative participants with HIV-negative partners	-	1,388 (100)	1,160 (100)	543 (100)	646 (100)		

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

Table 17: Anal intercourse and condom use with regular partners

	2018 n (%)	2019 n (%)	2020 n (%)	2021 n (%)	2022 n (%)	Change from 2021 (p-value)	Trend over time (p-value)
No anal intercourse	435 (22.0)	454 (20.8)	450 (19.5)	207 (15.4)	256 (15.6)	ns	Decrease <.001
Always uses a condom	259 (13.1)	235 (10.8)	238 (10.3)	154 (11.4)	165 (10.0)	ns	Decrease <.05
Sometimes does not use a condom	1,286 (64.9)	1,497 (68.5)	1,615 (70.1)	987 (73.2)	1,221 (74.4)	ns	Increase <.001
Subcategories of participants who did not always use condoms:							
HIV-positive on treatment with undetectable viral load	106 (5.4)	87 (4.0)	99 (4.3)	90 (6.7)	63 (3.8)	Decrease <.01	ns
HIV-negative on PrEP ¹	322 (16.3)	485 (22.2)	618 (26.8)	372 (27.6)	472 (28.8)	ns	Increase <.001
HIV-positive not on treatment or detectable viral load	14 (0.7)	18 (0.8)	19 (0.8)	6 (0.5)	7 (0.4)	ns	ns
HIV-negative/untested not on PrEP, with partner who is HIV-negative or HIV-positive with undetectable viral load	665 (33.6)	720 (32.9)	702 (30.5)	338 (25.1)	475 (28.9)	Increase <.05	Decrease <.001
HIV-negative/untested not on PrEP, with partner who is unknown status or HIV-positive and not on treatment or detectable viral load	179 (9.0)	187 (8.6)	177 (7.7)	181 (13.4)	204 (12.4)	ns	Increase <.001
Net prevention coverage	1,787 (90.3)	1,981 (90.6)	2,107 (91.5)	1,161 (86.1)	1,431 (87.2)	ns	Decrease <.001
Total	1,980 (100)	2,186 (100)	2,303 (100)	1,348 (100)	1,642 (100)		

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

¹ From 2019, 'participants on PrEP' includes both regular (daily) and on-demand (event-based) users. Prior to 2019, regular and on-demand users could not be differentiated.

Table 18: Anal intercourse and condom use with casual partners

	2018 n (%)	2019 n (%)	2020 n (%)	2021 n (%)	2022 n (%)	Change from 2021 (p-value)	Trend over time (p-value)
No anal intercourse	312 (17.1)	267 (13.9)	317 (15.5)	200 (16.3)	241 (19.0)	ns	ns
Always uses a condom	481 (26.4)	470 (24.5)	450 (22.0)	227 (18.5)	202 (15.9)	ns	Decrease <.001
Sometimes does not use a condom	1,027 (56.4)	1,179 (61.5)	1,278 (62.5)	799 (65.2)	826 (65.1)	ns	Increase <.001
Subcategories of participants who did not always use condoms:							
HIV-positive on treatment with undetectable viral load	121 (6.6)	95 (5.0)	106 (5.2)	75 (6.1)	60 (4.7)	ns	ns
HIV-negative on PrEP ¹	409 (22.5)	628 (32.8)	747 (36.5)	431 (35.2)	517 (40.7)	Increase <.01	Increase <.001
HIV-positive not on treatment or detectable viral load	9 (0.5)	12 (0.6)	15 (0.7)	12 (1.0)	6 (0.5)	ns	ns
HIV-negative/untested not on PrEP (only insertive anal intercourse)	163 (9.0)	125 (6.5)	148 (7.2)	90 (7.3)	74 (5.8)	ns	Decrease <.01
HIV-negative/untested not on PrEP (any receptive anal intercourse)	325 (17.9)	319 (16.6)	262 (12.8)	191 (15.6)	169 (13.3)	ns	Decrease <.001
Net prevention coverage	1,323 (72.7)	1,460 (76.2)	1,620 (79.2)	933 (76.1)	1,020 (80.4)	Increase <.05	Increase <.001
Total	1,820 (100)	1,916 (100)	2,045 (100)	1,226 (100)	1,269 (100)		

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

1 From 2019, 'participants on PrEP' includes both regular (daily) and on-demand (event-based) users. Prior to 2019, regular and on-demand users could not be differentiated.

Table 19: Any condomless anal intercourse with casual partners (CAIC), by HIV status of participants

	2018 n (%)	2019 n (%)	2020 n (%)	2021 n (%)	2022 n (%)	Change from 2021 (p-value)	Trend over time (p-value)
HIV-positive participants	135 (75.0)	139 (77.2)	126 (80.3)	87 (73.1)	68 (81.0)	ns	ns
Total	180 (100)	180 (100)	157 (100)	119 (100)	84 (100)		
HIV-negative participants	857 (56.1)	1,016 (61.9)	1,102 (62.5)	662 (65.4)	719 (64.9)	ns	Increase <.001
Total	1,528 (100)	1,641 (100)	1,764 (100)	1,013 (100)	1,108 (100)		
Untested/unknown status participants	40 (34.2)	56 (44.1)	55 (42.6)	50 (53.2)	41 (51.9)	ns	Increase <.01
Total	117 (100)	127 (100)	129 (100)	94 (100)	79 (100)		

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

Table 20: Disclosure of HIV status to or from casual partners, by HIV status of participants

	2018 n (%)	2019 n (%)	2020 n (%)	2021 n (%)	2022 n (%)	Change from 2021 (p-value)	Trend over time (p-value)
HIV-positive participants							
Told casual partners	135 (80.4)	139 (82.2)	109 (73.6)	83 (74.8)	51 (68.0)	ns	Decrease <.05
Told by casual partners	121 (72.0)	124 (73.4)	103 (69.6)	71 (64.0)	42 (56.0)	ns	Decrease <.01
Total (not mutually exclusive)	168	169	148	111	75		
HIV-negative participants							
Told casual partners	1,062 (76.2)	1,137 (75.3)	1,226 (76.2)	668 (70.4)	707 (69.5)	ns	Decrease <.001
Told by casual partners	1,067 (76.6)	1,146 (75.9)	1,243 (77.3)	666 (70.2)	712 (69.9)	ns	Decrease <.001
Total (not mutually exclusive)	1,393	1,510	1,608	949	1018		

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

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

	2018 <i>n</i> (%)	2019 <i>n</i> (%)	2020 <i>n</i> (%)	2021 <i>n</i> (%)	2022 <i>n</i> (%)	Change from 2021 (<i>p</i> -value)	Trend over time (<i>p</i> -value)
HIV-positive participants							
Ensured partners were seroconcordant before CAIC (serosorting)	42 (31.1)	40 (28.8)	27 (21.4)	27 (31.0)	23 (33.8)	ns	ns
Took receptive position during CAIC when partners were not concordant	26 (19.3)	24 (17.3)	17 (13.5)	7 (8.0)	13 (19.1)	Increase <.05	ns
Participant withdrew before ejaculation when he was insertive	16 (11.9)	10 (7.2)	7 (5.6)	8 (9.2)	6 (8.8)	ns	ns
Participant knew partner was on PrEP before sex	63 (46.7)	50 (36.0)	47 (37.3)	49 (56.3)	36 (52.9)	ns	ns
Total (not mutually exclusive)	135	139	126	87	68		
HIV-negative participants							
Ensured partners were seroconcordant before CAIC (serosorting)	419 (48.9)	474 (46.7)	502 (45.6)	319 (48.2)	317 (44.1)	ns	ns
Took insertive position during CAIC when partners were not concordant	167 (19.5)	192 (18.9)	206 (18.7)	103 (15.6)	115 (16.0)	ns	Decrease <.05
Partner withdrew before ejaculation when participant was receptive	93 (10.9)	100 (9.8)	77 (7.0)	36 (5.4)	35 (4.9)	ns	Decrease <.001
Ensured HIV-positive partner had an undetectable viral load before having sex	198 (23.1)	197 (19.4)	224 (20.3)	163 (24.6)	175 (24.3)	ns	ns
Participant knew partner was on PrEP before sex	421 (49.1)	540 (53.1)	602 (54.6)	359 (54.2)	384 (53.4)	ns	ns
Total (not mutually exclusive)	857	1,016	1,102	662	719		

Note: This table only includes data from participants who reported having CAIC in the six months prior to the survey. Participants who reported 'often' or 'always' using each strategy were classified as 'frequently' using the strategy. Data regarding PrEP use and undetectable viral load were recorded in different sections of the survey, so have not been included in this table.

Table 22: STI testing in the 12 months prior to the survey, by HIV status of participants

	2018 <i>n</i> (%)	2019 <i>n</i> (%)	2020 <i>n</i> (%)	2021 <i>n</i> (%)	2022 <i>n</i> (%)	Change from 2021 (<i>p</i> -value)	Trend over time (<i>p</i> -value)
HIV-positive participants							
Anal swab	181 (71.3)	172 (64.9)	169 (68.1)	120 (58.0)	87 (57.2)	ns	Decrease <.01
Throat swab	179 (70.5)	168 (63.4)	168 (67.7)	127 (61.4)	85 (55.9)	ns	Decrease <.01
Urine sample	202 (79.5)	186 (70.2)	178 (71.8)	142 (68.6)	99 (65.1)	ns	Decrease <.01
Blood test for syphilis	199 (78.3)	189 (71.3)	181 (73.0)	138 (66.7)	96 (63.2)	ns	Decrease <.01
Other blood test	204 (80.3)	211 (79.6)	198 (79.8)	150 (72.5)	110 (72.4)	ns	Decrease <.05
Any STI test (not including blood tests)	210 (82.7)	200 (75.5)	188 (75.8)	147 (71.0)	105 (69.1)	ns	Decrease <.01
Any STI test (including blood tests)	228 (89.8)	231 (87.2)	212 (85.5)	162 (78.3)	124 (81.6)	ns	Decrease <.01
Total (not mutually exclusive)	254	265	248	207	152		
HIV-negative participants							
Anal swab	1,451 (62.1)	1,670 (64.1)	1,737 (63.4)	840 (47.7)	978 (48.5)	ns	Decrease <.001
Throat swab	1,502 (64.3)	1,721 (66.1)	1,792 (65.4)	888 (50.4)	1,028 (51.0)	ns	Decrease <.001
Urine sample	1,613 (69.1)	1,877 (72.1)	1,938 (70.7)	1,014 (57.6)	1,136 (56.4)	ns	Decrease <.001
Blood test for syphilis	1,556 (66.6)	1,843 (70.8)	1,914 (69.9)	971 (55.1)	1,109 (55.0)	ns	Decrease <.001
Other blood test	1,307 (56.0)	1,713 (65.8)	1,816 (66.3)	1,046 (59.4)	1,050 (52.1)	Decrease <.001	Decrease <.001
Any STI test (not including blood test)	1,665 (71.3)	1,913 (73.5)	1,972 (72.0)	1,043 (59.2)	1,159 (57.5)	ns	Decrease <.001
Any STI test (including blood tests)	1,811 (77.6)	2,064 (79.3)	2,134 (77.9)	1,170 (66.4)	1,282 (63.6)	ns	Decrease <.001
Total (not mutually exclusive)	2,335	2,604	2,740	1,761	2,016		

Table 23: STI diagnoses in the 12 months prior to the survey

	2018 <i>n</i> (%)	2019 <i>n</i> (%)	2020 <i>n</i> (%)	2021 <i>n</i> (%)	2022 <i>n</i> (%)	Change from 2021 (<i>p</i> -value)	Trend over time (<i>p</i> -value)
Chlamydia	408 (15.4)	487 (16.3)	538 (17.3)	228 (11.8)	238 (10.8)	ns	Decrease <.001
Gonorrhoea	403 (15.2)	471 (15.7)	513 (16.5)	183 (9.4)	182 (8.3)	ns	Decrease <.001
Syphilis	136 (5.1)	147 (4.9)	194 (6.3)	92 (4.7)	84 (3.8)	ns	ns
Other STI	106 (4.0)	101 (3.4)	101 (3.3)	57 (2.9)	46 (2.1)	ns	Decrease <.001
Any STI diagnosis	707 (26.7)	799 (26.7)	840 (27.1)	365 (18.8)	362 (16.4)	Decrease <.05	Decrease <.001
Total (not mutually exclusive)	2,646	2,995	3,102	1,939	2,022		

Table 24: Recreational drug use among all participants in the six months prior to the survey

	2018 n (%)	2019 n (%)	2020 n (%)	2021 n (%)	2022 n (%)	Change from 2021 (p-value)	Trend over time (p-value)
Amyl nitrite (poppers)	1,293 (45.2)	1,477 (46.6)	1,536 (46.0)	847 (36.9)	922 (37.6)	ns	Decrease <.001
Cannabis	913 (31.9)	1,018 (32.1)	1,133 (34.0)	586 (25.6)	718 (29.3)	Increase <.01	Decrease <.001
Cocaine	789 (27.6)	884 (27.9)	955 (28.6)	386 (16.8)	492 (20.1)	Increase <.01	Decrease <.001
Viagra	672 (23.5)	709 (22.4)	800 (24.0)	540 (23.5)	476 (19.4)	Decrease <.01	Decrease <.01
Ecstasy	733 (25.6)	800 (25.3)	835 (25.0)	273 (11.9)	407 (16.6)	Increase <.001	Decrease <.001
Ketamine (special K)	306 (10.7)	376 (11.9)	463 (13.9)	171 (7.5)	248 (10.1)	Increase <.01	Decrease <.01
GHB	373 (13.0)	373 (11.8)	458 (13.7)	207 (9.0)	190 (7.8)	ns	Decrease <.001
Crystal methamphetamine	286 (10.0)	260 (8.2)	289 (8.7)	179 (7.8)	151 (6.2)	Decrease <.05	Decrease <.001
Amphetamine (speed)	223 (7.8)	209 (6.6)	248 (7.4)	84 (3.7)	125 (5.1)	Increase <.05	Decrease <.001
Other drugs ¹	273 (9.5)	293 (9.3)	366 (11.0)	212 (9.2)	224 (9.1)	ns	ns
Total (not mutually exclusive)	2,860	3,167	3,337	2,293	2,543		
Number of drugs used							
None	989 (34.6)	1,060 (33.5)	1,159 (34.7)	1,033 (45.1)	1,075 (43.8)	ns	Increase <.001
One or two drugs	926 (32.4)	1,074 (33.9)	1,041 (31.2)	743 (32.4)	762 (31.1)	ns	ns
More than two drugs	945 (33.0)	1,033 (32.6)	1,137 (34.1)	517 (22.5)	616 (25.1)	Increase <.05	Decrease <.001
Total	2,860 (100)	3,167 (100)	3,337 (100)	2,293 (100)	2,453 (100)		

¹ Prior to 2019, heroin and steroids were listed as individual response items. They have been combined with "Other drugs" here.

Table 25: Injecting drug use in the six months prior to the survey, by HIV status of participants

	2018 <i>n</i> (%)	2019 <i>n</i> (%)	2020 <i>n</i> (%)	2021 <i>n</i> (%)	2022 <i>n</i> (%)	Change from 2021 (<i>p</i> -value)	Trend over time (<i>p</i> -value)
All participants	102 (3.8)	119 (3.9)	130 (4.1)	81 (4.1)	86 (3.8)	ns	ns
Total	2,674 (100)	3,025 (100)	3,170 (100)	1,989 (100)	2,260 (100)		
HIV-positive participants	38 (15.6)	47 (18.4)	53 (22.4)	36 (19.7)	28 (19.4)	ns	ns
Total	244 (100)	256 (100)	237 (100)	183 (100)	144 (100)		
HIV-negative participants	59 (2.7)	63 (2.5)	60 (2.3)	38 (2.5)	48 (2.6)	ns	ns
Total	2,224 (100)	2,506 (100)	2,624 (100)	1,554 (100)	1,867 (100)		

Table 26: Drug use for sex and group sex in the six months prior to the survey

	2018 <i>n</i> (%)	2019 <i>n</i> (%)	2020 <i>n</i> (%)	2021 <i>n</i> (%)	2022 <i>n</i> (%)	Change from 2021 (<i>p</i> -value)	Trend over time (<i>p</i> -value)
Used drugs for sex	596 (22.2)	626 (20.8)	697 (22.0)	317 (15.9)	340 (15.0)	ns	Decrease <.001
Total	2,689 (100)	3,015 (100)	3,174 (100)	1,988 (100)	2,263 (100)		
Engaged in group sex	1,015 (35.5)	1,095 (34.6)	1,142 (34.2)	528 (23.0)	554 (22.6)	ns	Decrease <.001
Total	2,860 (100)	3,167 (100)	3,337 (100)	2,293 (100)	2,453 (100)		

Table 27: Knowledge and use of pre- and post-exposure prophylaxis

	2018 <i>n</i> (%)	2019 <i>n</i> (%)	2020 <i>n</i> (%)	2021 <i>n</i> (%)	2022 <i>n</i> (%)	Change from 2021 (<i>p</i> -value)	Trend over time (<i>p</i> -value)
Belief that PEP is available now	2,216 (82.7)	2,579 (85.5)	2,665 (86.0)	1,709 (84.9)	1,918 (85.0)	ns	ns
Total	2,678 (100)	3,017 (100)	3,099 (100)	2,012 (100)	2,256 (100)		
Belief that PrEP is available now	2,311 (86.7)	2,751 (91.7)	2,937 (92.9)	2,102 (93.1)	2,281 (94.8)	Increase <.05	Increase <.001
Total	2,665 (100)	2,999 (100)	3,161 (100)	2,259 (100)	2,406 (100)		
Use of PEP by non-HIV-positive participants in the six months prior to the survey	123 (5.5)	170 (6.6)	138 (4.8)	54 (3.0)	70 (3.3)	ns	Decrease <.001
Total	2,252 (100)	2,584 (100)	2,866 (100)	1,825 (100)	2,109 (100)		
Use of PrEP by non-HIV-positive participants in the six months prior to the survey ¹	533 (23.9)	798 (31.0)	1,026 (34.9)	611 (29.8)	754 (33.5)	Increase <.01	Increase <.001
Total	2,233 (100)	2,574 (100)	2,939 (100)	2,054 (100)	2,252 (100)		
Use of PrEP by non-HIV-positive participants who reported CAIC in the six months prior to the survey ¹	411 (52.7)	634 (64.6)	760 (67.3)	432 (60.7)	523 (69.7)	Increase <.001	Increase <.001
Total	780 (100)	981 (100)	1,129 (100)	712 (100)	750 (100)		

¹ From 2019, 'participants on PrEP' includes both regular (daily) and on demand (event-based) users. Prior to 2019, regular and on demand users could not be differentiated.

Sydney Gay Community Periodic Survey 2022



This is a survey for adult gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men in Australia. It is completely anonymous – please do not write your name on the questionnaire. Your responses help guide HIV and sexual health programs. PLEASE COMPLETE THE SURVEY ONLY ONCE THIS YEAR. When we refer to men or women in the questionnaire we include cis and trans people.

Section A – About you

- How many of your friends are gay men?
1 ☐ None 2 ☐ A few 3 ☐ Some 4 ☐ Most 5 ☐ All
- How much of your free time is spent with gay men?
1 ☐ None 2 ☐ A little 3 ☐ Some 4 ☐ A lot
- What is your gender?
1 ☐ Male 2 ☐ Female 3 ☐ Non-binary 4 ☐ Other
- What sex was recorded on your birth certificate?
1 ☐ Male 2 ☐ Female 3 ☐ Other
- Do you think of yourself as:
1 ☐ Gay 2 ☐ Bisexual or pansexual 3 ☐ Heterosexual
4 ☐ Queer 5 ☐ Other
- How old are you? (in years)
- Are you of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander origin?
1 ☐ No 2 ☐ Aboriginal 3 ☐ Torres Strait Islander
- What is your ethnic background? (e.g. Greek, Vietnamese)
1 ☐ Anglo-Australian 2 ☐ Other
- Where were you born? (please specify)
1 ☐ Australia 2 ☐ Overseas
- How long have you lived in Australia?
1 ☐ <2 years 2 ☐ 2-5 years 3 ☐ >5 years
- Where do you live?
Postcode OR
Suburb/Town
- What is the highest level of education you have completed?
1 ☐ Up to Year 10
2 ☐ Year 12 / HSC / QCE / SACE / VCE / WACE
3 ☐ Tertiary diploma or trade certificate / TAFE
4 ☐ University degree
- Are you: (tick all that apply)
1 ☐ Working full-time 4 ☐ A student
2 ☐ Working part-time 5 ☐ Unemployed
3 ☐ Receiving a government payment 6 ☐ Other
- Have you lost income or your job because of COVID-19?
1 ☐ Yes 2 ☐ No **Go to next Section ➡**

Section B – COVID-19

- Have you been tested for COVID-19 in the last 6 months?
1 ☐ No 2 ☐ Yes
- Have you been vaccinated against COVID-19?
1 ☐ No 2 ☐ I am partially vaccinated (e.g. one dose)
3 ☐ Yes, I am fully vaccinated (e.g. two or more doses)

Section C – HIV testing and HIV status

- When were you last tested for HIV?
1 ☐ I've never been tested 5 ☐ 7–12 months ago
2 ☐ Less than a week ago 6 ☐ 1–2 years ago
3 ☐ 1–4 weeks ago 7 ☐ 2–4 years ago
4 ☐ 1–6 months ago 8 ☐ More than 4 years ago
- Based on the results of your HIV tests, what is your HIV status?
1 ☐ No test/ 2 ☐ HIV-negative 3 ☐ HIV-positive
Don't know
- Where did you have your last HIV test?
1 ☐ No test/don't know 5 ☐ Tested at home
2 ☐ GP 6 ☐ Community-based service
3 ☐ Sexual health clinic e.g. a[TEST]
4 ☐ Hospital 7 ☐ Somewhere else
- How many HIV tests have you had in the last 12 months?
1 ☐ None (no tests) 3 ☐ Two tests 5 ☐ 4 or more tests
2 ☐ One test 4 ☐ 3 tests
- Have you used a HIV self-test in the last 12 months?
1 ☐ No 2 ☐ Yes

Section D – HIV diagnosis and treatment

If you are HIV-positive please complete the next four questions. If not, go to next Section ➡

- When were you first diagnosed as HIV-positive?
Year
- In the last 12 months, how many clinical appointments about managing HIV have you had (in person or by phone/online)?
1 ☐ None 2 ☐ 1-2 3 ☐ 3-4 4 ☐ 5 or more
- Are you on combination antiretroviral therapy (HIV treatment)?
1 ☐ Yes 2 ☐ No
- What was your last viral load test result?
1 ☐ Undetectable 2 ☐ Detectable 3 ☐ Don't know/unsure

Survey continues on next page ➡

Section E – PrEP

26. Have you heard about **pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP)**?
PrEP is anti-HIV medication you take regularly to protect yourself from HIV.

- ¹ ☐ I've heard about it
² ☐ I've never heard about it

27. In the **last 6 months**, did you take **PrEP** to protect yourself from HIV?

- ¹ ☐ No → ² ☐ Yes

28. If you took **PrEP** in the **last 6 months**, how did you take it?

- ¹ ☐ Daily/most days
² ☐ Around the time of sex (on demand, 2-1-1)
³ ☐ Daily for a limited period of time e.g. a month
⁴ ☐ Another way ⁵ ☐ Did not take PrEP

29. If you took **PrEP** in the **last 6 months**, where did you get it from? (tick all that apply)

- ¹ ☐ Chemist ⁴ ☐ A trial or study
² ☐ I bought it online (from overseas) ⁵ ☐ Other
³ ☐ A friend or sex partner ⁶ ☐ Did not take PrEP

30. How has **COVID-19** affected your PrEP use in the **last 6 months**?

- ¹ ☐ I wasn't taking PrEP ³ ☐ It did not affect my PrEP use
² ☐ I took PrEP less often ⁴ ☐ I stopped PrEP

Section F – Sex in the last 6 months

31. How many different **men** have you had sex with in the **last 6 months**?
Include cis and trans men.

- ¹ ☐ None ⁴ ☐ 6–10 men ⁷ ☐ More than 50 men
² ☐ One ⁵ ☐ 11–20 men
³ ☐ 2–5 men ⁶ ☐ 21–50 men

32. How many different **women** have you had sex with in the **last 6 months**?
Include cis and trans women.

- ¹ ☐ None ³ ☐ 2–5 women ⁵ ☐ More than 10 women
² ☐ One ⁴ ☐ 6–10 women

33. Did **COVID-19** affect the number of sexual partners you had in the **last 6 months**?

- ¹ ☐ Fewer partners ² ☐ About the same ³ ☐ More partners

34. In the **last 6 months** how often have you had sex with men you met at or through:

	Never	Occasionally	Often
Internet	¹ <input type="checkbox"/>	² <input type="checkbox"/>	³ <input type="checkbox"/>
Mobile app e.g. Grindr, Scruff	¹ <input type="checkbox"/>	² <input type="checkbox"/>	³ <input type="checkbox"/>
Gay bar	¹ <input type="checkbox"/>	² <input type="checkbox"/>	³ <input type="checkbox"/>
Dance party	¹ <input type="checkbox"/>	² <input type="checkbox"/>	³ <input type="checkbox"/>
Beat	¹ <input type="checkbox"/>	² <input type="checkbox"/>	³ <input type="checkbox"/>
Gay sauna / sex venue	¹ <input type="checkbox"/>	² <input type="checkbox"/>	³ <input type="checkbox"/>
Sex workers	¹ <input type="checkbox"/>	² <input type="checkbox"/>	³ <input type="checkbox"/>
Private sex parties	¹ <input type="checkbox"/>	² <input type="checkbox"/>	³ <input type="checkbox"/>
Travelling in Australia	¹ <input type="checkbox"/>	² <input type="checkbox"/>	³ <input type="checkbox"/>
Overseas	¹ <input type="checkbox"/>	² <input type="checkbox"/>	³ <input type="checkbox"/>

35. In the **last 6 months**, how often have you been **paid for sex**?

- ¹ ☐ Every week ³ ☐ Once / A few times
² ☐ Monthly ⁴ ☐ Never **Go to next Section →**



In this survey we distinguish between **REGULAR** (boyfriends/husbands) and **CASUAL** partners

Section G – Regular male partners – last 6 months

36. Have you had sex with regular male partner/s in the **last 6 months**?

- ¹ ☐ Yes ↓ ² ☐ No → **Go to next Section ↓**



In the **last 6 MONTHS** how often have you done the following with any of your **regular male partner/s**?

Anal sex regular partner/s:

37. I fucked him **with a condom**.

- ¹ ☐ Never ² ☐ Occasionally ³ ☐ Often

38. He fucked me **with a condom**.

- ¹ ☐ Never ² ☐ Occasionally ³ ☐ Often

39. I fucked him **without a condom**

- ¹ ☐ Never ² ☐ Occasionally ³ ☐ Often

40. He fucked me **without a condom**

- ¹ ☐ Never ² ☐ Occasionally ³ ☐ Often

Section H – Casual male partners – last 6 months

41. Have you had any sex with any **casual** male partner/s in the **last 6 months**?

- ¹ ☐ Yes ↓ ² ☐ No → **Go to next Section →**



In the **last 6 MONTHS** how often have you done the following with any of your **casual male partner/s**?

Anal sex casual partner/s:

42. I fucked him **with a condom**.

- ¹ ☐ Never ² ☐ Occasionally ³ ☐ Often

43. He fucked me **with a condom**.

- ¹ ☐ Never ² ☐ Occasionally ³ ☐ Often

44. I fucked him **without a condom**

- ¹ ☐ Never ² ☐ Occasionally ³ ☐ Often

45. He fucked me **without a condom**

- ¹ ☐ Never ² ☐ Occasionally ³ ☐ Often

HIV status disclosure with casual partner/s

46. How many of your casual partners did you tell **your** HIV status before sex?

- ¹ ☐ None ² ☐ Some ³ ☐ All

47. How many of your casual partners told you **their** HIV status before sex?

- ¹ ☐ None ² ☐ Some ³ ☐ All

Group sex

48. In the **last 6 months**, how often did you have group sex involving **at least two other men**?

- ¹ ☐ Every week ³ ☐ Once / A few times
² ☐ Monthly ⁴ ☐ Never

Survey continues on next page →



The following questions are for men who have had any anal sex without 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 next Section ➡

49. 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 <input type="checkbox"/> Never | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Occasionally | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Often | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Always |
| I chose to take the top role (I fucked him) because his HIV status was different or unknown to me | 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Never | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Occasionally | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Often | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Always |
| I chose to take the bottom role (he fucked me) because his HIV status was different or unknown to me | 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Never | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Occasionally | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Often | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Always |
| When I fucked him, I chose to pull out before cumming because his HIV status was different or unknown to me | 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Never | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Occasionally | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Often | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Always |
| When he fucked me, I made sure he pulled out before cumming because his HIV status was different or unknown to me | 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Never | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Occasionally | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Often | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Always |
| I knew my partner was on PrEP before we had sex | 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Never | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Occasionally | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Often | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Always |
| When my partner was HIV-positive, I checked he had an undetectable viral load before we had sex | 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Never | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Occasionally | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Often | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Always |

Go to next Section ▼

Section I – Sexual health

50. Which of these sexual health tests have you had in the last 12 months?

- | | None | One | Two | 3 | 4+ |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Anal swab | 1 <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Throat swab | 1 <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Urine sample | 1 <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Blood test for syphilis | 1 <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other blood test | 1 <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> |

51. Which **sexually transmitted infection(s)** other than HIV were you diagnosed with in the last 12 months?

- 1 ☐ Chlamydia 2 ☐ Gonorrhoea
 3 ☐ Syphilis 4 ☐ Other
 5 ☐ Not been diagnosed with an STI in the last 12 months

Section J – Blood donation

52. Have you **donated blood** in the last 12 months?

- 1 ☐ Yes 2 ☐ No

Section K – PEP

53. Have you heard about **post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP)**? *PEP is a month-long course of anti-HIV medication prescribed after an exposure to HIV.*

- 1 ☐ I've heard about it
 2 ☐ I've never heard about it

54. In the **last 6 months**, did you take a prescribed course of **PEP** because you were exposed to HIV?

- 1 ☐ No
 2 ☐ Yes, once
 3 ☐ Yes, more than once

Go to next Section ➡

Section L – Drug use

55. How often have you **used** these drugs in the **last 6 months**?

- | | Never | Once/twice | At least monthly | Every week |
|--------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Amyl/poppers | 1 <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Cannabis/marijuana | 1 <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Viagra/Cialis etc | 1 <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Ecstasy | 1 <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Speed | 1 <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Cocaine | 1 <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Crystal meth / ice | 1 <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| GHB | 1 <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Ketamine | 1 <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Any other drug | 1 <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> |

56. How often have you **injected** drugs in the **last 6 months**?

- 1 ☐ Every week 3 ☐ Once or twice
 2 ☐ At least monthly 4 ☐ Never

57. In the **last 6 months**, how often have you used drugs for the purpose of sex (e.g. chemsex, party'n'play, wired sex)?

- 1 ☐ Every week 3 ☐ Once or twice
 2 ☐ At least monthly 4 ☐ Never

Survey continues on next page

Section M – Relationships

58. Are you currently in a relationship with a man?
e.g. a boyfriend, long term partner or husband, cis or trans.
1 ☐ Yes 2 ☐ No → **You can finish now, thanks**
59. How would you describe your relationship? (choose one)
1 ☐ We are monogamous – neither of us has casual sex
2 ☐ We have an open relationship – my partner or I have casual sex
3 ☐ I am in a relationship with several men
4 ☐ Not in a relationship → **You can finish now, thanks**
60. If you are in a relationship with a man, how long have you been together? *If you are in a relationship with more than one man, choose the one you spend the most time with.*
1 ☐ Less than 6 months
2 ☐ 6–11 months
3 ☐ 1–2 years
4 ☐ More than 2 years
5 ☐ Not in a relationship with a man → **You can finish**
61. If you are in a relationship with a man, do you live with him?
1 ☐ No 2 ☐ Yes
62. Do you have a **clear (spoken) agreement** about sex within your relationship?
1 ☐ No agreement
2 ☐ Agreement: No sex
3 ☐ Agreement: No anal sex
4 ☐ Agreement: All anal sex is with a condom
5 ☐ Agreement: Anal sex can be without a condom
63. Do you have a **clear (spoken) agreement** in your relationship about sex with casual male partners?
1 ☐ No agreement
2 ☐ Agreement: No sex
3 ☐ Agreement: No anal sex
4 ☐ Agreement: All anal sex is with a condom
5 ☐ Agreement: Anal sex can be without a condom
64. If you're in a relationship with a man, what is his HIV status?
1 ☐ HIV-negative 3 ☐ I don't know/He hasn't had a test
2 ☐ HIV-positive 4 ☐ Not in a relationship with a man
65. If you are in a relationship with a **HIV-positive** man, what was his last **viral load test result**?
1 ☐ Undetectable 3 ☐ Don't know/unsure
2 ☐ Detectable 4 ☐ No HIV-positive partner
66. If you are in a relationship with a **HIV-negative** man, is he taking **PrEP**?
1 ☐ No 3 ☐ Don't know/unsure
2 ☐ Yes 4 ☐ No HIV-negative partner



Please check the CSRH and ACON websites for the results of this survey.

<https://arts.unsw.edu.au/csrh>

<https://www.acon.org.au>

**The survey concludes here.
Thank you for your time.**