

Sex, Drugs and Rock 'n' Roll

Results Summary 2020

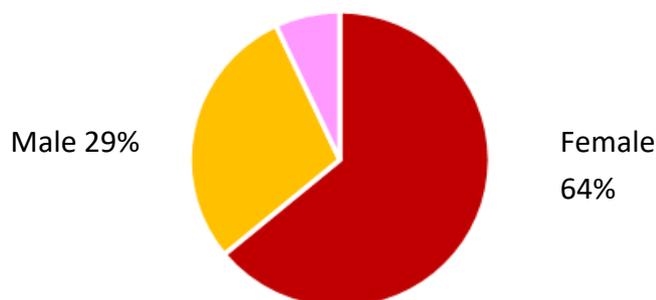
In 2020, we conducted the annual online Sex, Drugs and Rock 'n' Roll survey with young people aged 15-29 years. We asked about their sexual behaviors, knowledge of sexually transmissible infections (STIs), alcohol and other drug use and social media use. 714 young people completed the survey.

Demographics

- 87% were born in Australia
- The average age was 23 years
- 61% were currently studying at high school, university or TAFE
- 54% lived with their parent/s

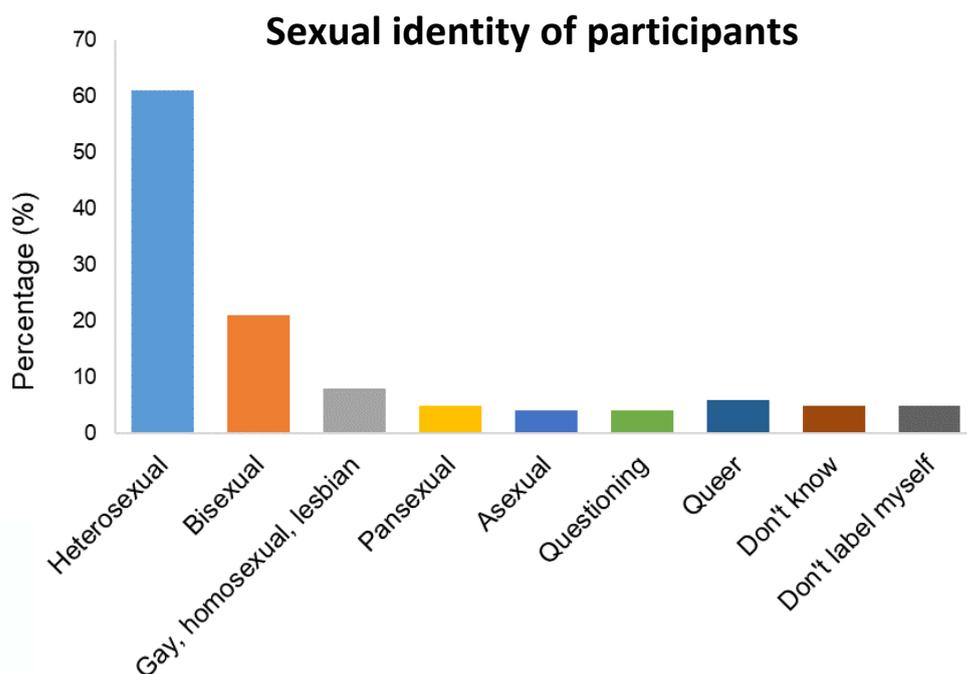
Gender Identity

Gender Diverse; Non-Binary, trans-male, trans-female
7%



Current Sexual Identity

- Participants reported a range of sexual identities; the most common were heterosexual (57%) and bisexual (21%)



Sexual Behaviours

- 74% reported they had ever had oral sex
- 66% reported that they had ever had vaginal intercourse
- 32% reported they had ever had anal intercourse

Of those who reported penetrative vaginal or anal sex in the past 12 months (n=447)...

- 88% reported a regular partner in the past 12 months (e.g. boyfriend, girlfriend, other partner)
- 39% reported a casual partner in the past 12 months (e.g. one-night stand, friends with benefits)
- 32% reported a new partner in the past 3 months
- 64% reported they had ever had an STI test

Knowledge of STIs

86% knew that people infected with STIs do not always have symptoms

83% knew that left untreated, chlamydia can last for years

86% knew that in Victoria, it is illegal to forward sexts without permission

60% knew that chlamydia can be diagnosed by a urine test

76% knew that taking the pill, IUD or implant for a long time does not reduce fertility

72% knew that gonorrhoea, syphilis and chlamydia can all be treated with antibiotics

52% knew that pap smears cannot be used to diagnose the main STIs

61% knew that chlamydia can make women infertile

On average, participants scored 6/8



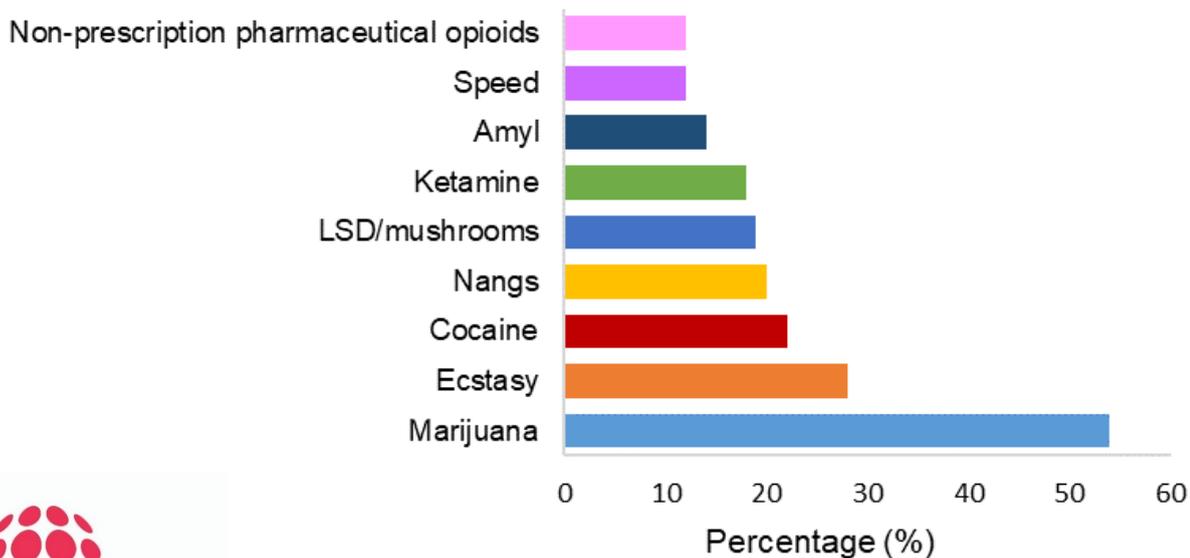
Alcohol Use

- 83% reported drinking alcohol in the past 12 months
- 50% reported drinking alcohol for the first time when they were aged 16 years or younger
- 85% reported they were not aware of the Australian guidelines to reduce health risks from alcohol

- 57% reported that they had ever used illicit drugs; the most common was marijuana (54%)
- 31% of participants who had ever used illicit drugs told a professional service about it
- 177 participants attended a music festival in the past year: 54% reported using illicit drugs at festivals

Use of Other Drugs

Drugs participants used in their lifetime



Social Media Use

73% felt like they spent too much time on social media

53% had tried to reduce the amount of time they spent online in the past year

64% turned off notifications and 54% deleted apps to try and reduce social media use

We asked young people if they were a cat or a dog person...



- 43% were dog people
- 23% were cat people
- 24% were both
- 9% were neither



Contact Information

The study team would like to thank the young people who took part in this survey.

If you have any questions about the study or the results, please email Caitlin Douglass via caitlin.douglass@burnet.edu.au.

If you would like to talk with anyone about concerns or distress that have arisen from these results, please see the services below:

<https://www.lifeline.org.au/>
<http://www.beyondblue.org.au/>
<http://www.headspace.org.au/>



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