

National HIV Behavioral Surveillance - Men Who Have Sex With Men (NHBS-MSM)

NHBS-MSM is a repeated cross-sectional survey of men who attend MSM-identified venues within locally defined geographic areas. Survey methods are based on an application of time-space sampling that has been proven successful in obtaining large and diverse samples of MSM. The Florida DOH is collaborating with the CDC and the University of Miami to conduct NHBS activities in Broward and Miami-Dade counties. The NHBS questionnaire collects data on sexual and drug risk behaviors, HIV testing behaviors, and HIV prevention services. The Miami-Dade site was also able to implement a rapid HIV testing component, which included using a serologic testing algorithm for recent HIV seroconversion (STARHS). Findings from NHBS will be used to enhance understanding of risk and testing behaviors, and to develop and evaluate HIV prevention programs that provide services to MSM. The second cycle of NHBS-MSM will start in January 2007.

◆ Broward

- ◆ Started January 2004, ended June 2004 (50 venues sampled)
- ◆ 747 completed surveys (698 MSM surveys)

◆ Miami-Dade

- ◆ Started July 2004, ended April 2005 (46 venues sampled)
- ◆ 1,015 completed surveys (842 MSM surveys)

◆ Miami-Dade Surveys with HIV Testing

- ◆ Started December 2004, ended April 2005
- ◆ 312 completed surveys with blood (258 MSM surveys)



Project Logo

◆ Demographic Characteristics of the MSM Sample

- ◆ The median age was 36 years (range: 18-81 years)
- ◆ 48% were white, 35% Hispanic, 12% black, and 5% other
- ◆ 92 (6%) had less than a high school education, 245 (16%) had a high school degree or GED, 454 (30%) had some college education, and 748 (49%) were college graduates/postgraduates
- ◆ The majority (81%) self-identify as gay
- ◆ About 1/5 are depressed (using the CES-D scale)
- ◆ 234 (16%) self-reported being HIV positive

◆ HIV Prevalence — HIV Testing Data From Miami-Dade County (N = 258)

- ◆ 54 (21%) tested HIV positive
- ◆ The median age for HIV+s was 34.5 years
- ◆ 29 (20%) of the 148 Hispanic MSM were HIV+, 10 (18%) of the 57 white MSM were HIV+, 10 (25%) of the 40 black MSM were HIV+, and 5 (39%) of the 13 other MSM were HIV+
- ◆ Of those tested HIV+, 8 (15%) were recent infections (STARHS testing)
- ◆ Of those tested HIV+, 29 (55%) were aware of their HIV+ status

◆ Health Care Experiences of MSM

- ◆ Almost all MSM have seen a health care provider in past 12 months
- ◆ Of those who saw a health care provider, less than half received a recommendation from the provider to get an HIV test
- ◆ Of the HIV+s, almost all have seen an HIV provider in the past 12 months, and the majority has taken antiretrovirals

Criteria for statistical analysis: MSM = Self-reported oral or anal sex with a man in the past 12 months

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◆ Sexual Risk Behaviors

- ◆ Almost 1/5 of MSM reported having sex with both men and women
- ◆ The majority of MSM had more than one sexual partner in the past 12 months
- ◆ Over 1/4 of MSM reported having more than ten sexual partners in the past 12 months

◆ Knowledge of Sex Partners' Serostatus

- ◆ Of the 1,030 MSM with a main partner, 15% did not know the serostatus of their main partner at last sex
- ◆ Of the 1,165 MSM with a non-main partner, 64% did not know the serostatus of their non-main partner at last sex

◆ Main Partner: Sexual Risk Behavior with Most Recent Sex Partner

- ◆ Almost 1/2 of MSM reported having unprotected anal sex with a main partner
- ◆ Almost 1/5 of HIV+ MSM reported having unprotected insertive anal sex with a main partner
- ◆ Almost 1/5 of HIV- MSM reported having unprotected receptive anal sex with a main partner

◆ Non-Main Partner: Sexual Risk Behavior with Most Recent Sex Partner

- ◆ Almost 1/5 of MSM reported having unprotected anal sex with a non-main partner
- ◆ Few HIV- MSM report having unprotected receptive anal sex with a non-main partner

◆ HIV Testing Experiences — Lifetime

- ◆ Almost all MSM have been HIV tested in their lifetimes
- ◆ Younger adults and those with less than a high school education were less likely to have ever been tested

◆ HIV Testing Experiences — Past 12 Months

- ◆ Approximately 1/2 of MSM have been tested in the past 12 months
- ◆ White, non-Hispanics were the least likely to have been tested in the past 12 months
- ◆ MSM ages 18-22 were the most likely to have been tested in the past 12 months
- ◆ Most frequent facilities administering most recent HIV test include: private doctor's office; public health clinic; HIV counseling and testing program; and HIV/AIDS street outreach program.
- ◆ Most frequent reasons for not seeking an HIV test in the past 12 months include: unlikely to have been exposed; afraid to find out; and didn't have time.

◆ Drugs Used in Past 12 Months

- ◆ Over 1/3 of sample reported marijuana use
- ◆ High rates (around 1/5 of sample) of use of amphetamines, cocaine, ecstasy, and poppers (amyl nitrates)
- ◆ Low use of opiates

To view the Florida DOH MSM Fact Sheet click on the link:

http://www.doh.state.fl.us/disease_ctrl/aids/updates/facts/2004MSMFactSheet.pdf

To view the CDC MSM Fact Sheet click on the link: <http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/pubs/facts/msm.htm>

For additional information about NHBS, contact Stefanie White, MPH, or Marlene LaLota, MPH, at (850) 245-4424 or SunCom 205-4424, or visit our website at <http://www.dh.state.fl.us/>.

