

SEX, DRUGS, AND ROCK 'N' ROLL



RESULTS SUMMARY 2021

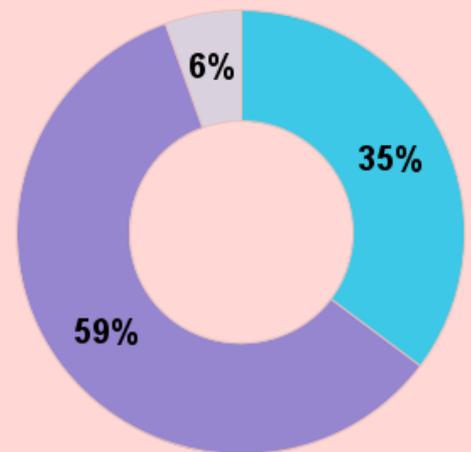
In 2021, we conducted the annual online Sex, Drugs, and Rock 'n' Roll survey with young people aged 15-29 years. We asked about their sexual behaviors, knowledge of sexually transmissible infections (STIs), alcohol and other drug use, and menstrual choices. 1,001 young people completed the survey.

Demographics

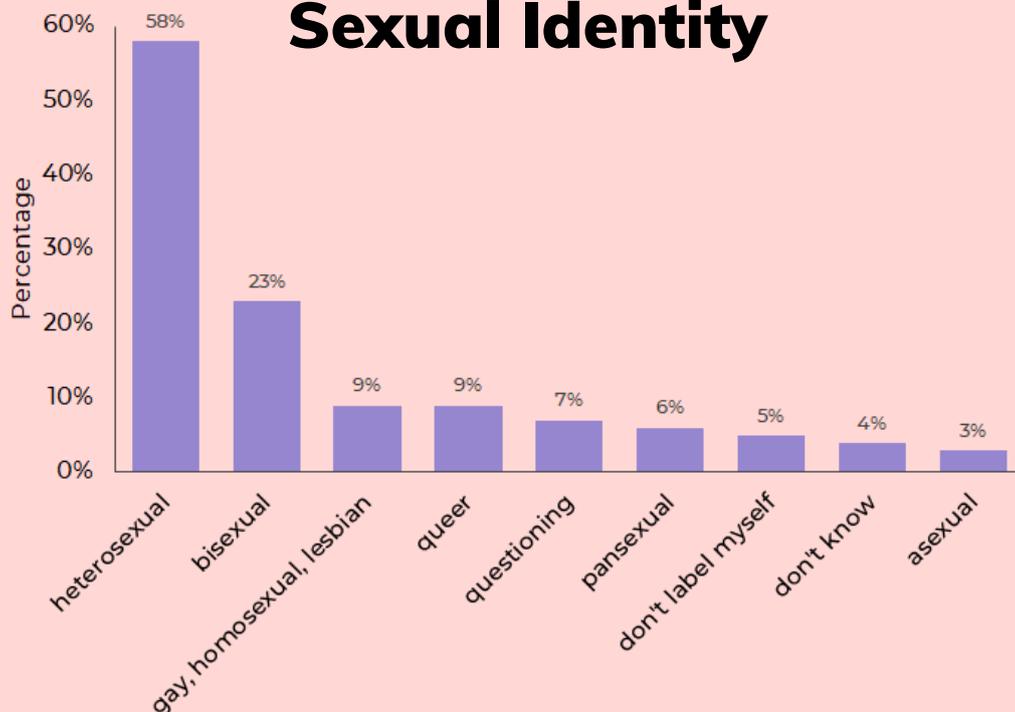
- 84% were born in Australia
- The average age was 22 years
- 70% were currently studying at high school, university, or TAFE
- 51% lived with their parent/s

Gender Identity

- Male
- Female
- Non-binary



Sexual Identity



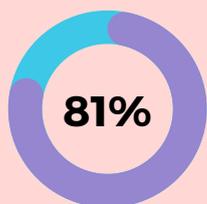
Sexual Behaviours

- 74% had ever had oral sex
- 64% had ever had vaginal intercourse
- 32% had ever had anal intercourse

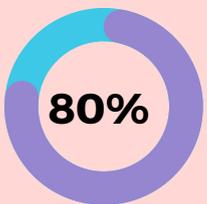
Of the 603 people who reported penetrative vaginal or anal sex in the past 12 months...

- 87% had a regular partner (e.g. boyfriend, girlfriend, other partner)
- 43% had a casual partner (e.g. one-night stand, friends with benefits)
- 38% had a new partner in the past 3 months
- 64% had ever had an STI test

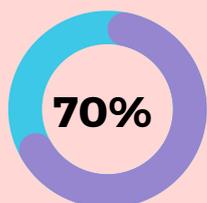
Knowledge of STIs



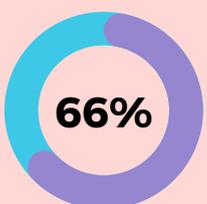
knew that if left untreated, chlamydia can last for years



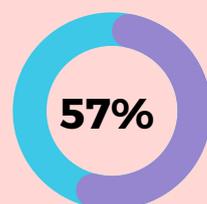
knew that people infected with STIs do not always have symptoms



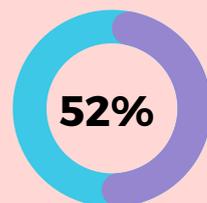
knew that taking the pill when young does not reduce fertility



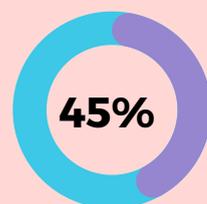
knew that gonorrhoea, syphilis, and chlamydia can all be treated with antibiotics



knew that chlamydia can make women infertile



knew that chlamydia can be diagnosed by a urine test



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

On average, participants scored 5/7

Menstrual Choices

Of the 596 participants who had a menstrual period in the past year...

15% avoided changing menstrual products at school, university, or work

- 1 in 2 had ever used reusable menstrual products
- 1 in 3 used reusable menstrual products in their last menstrual period
- 1 in 4 did not "always" have enough menstrual products

- 92% agreed that reusable menstrual products are good for the environment
- 36% felt that they did not have enough information about reusable products

"I feel as though it would've been really nice to have more information about reusable menstrual products in sex ed classes and perhaps just in the public. Reduce the stigma."



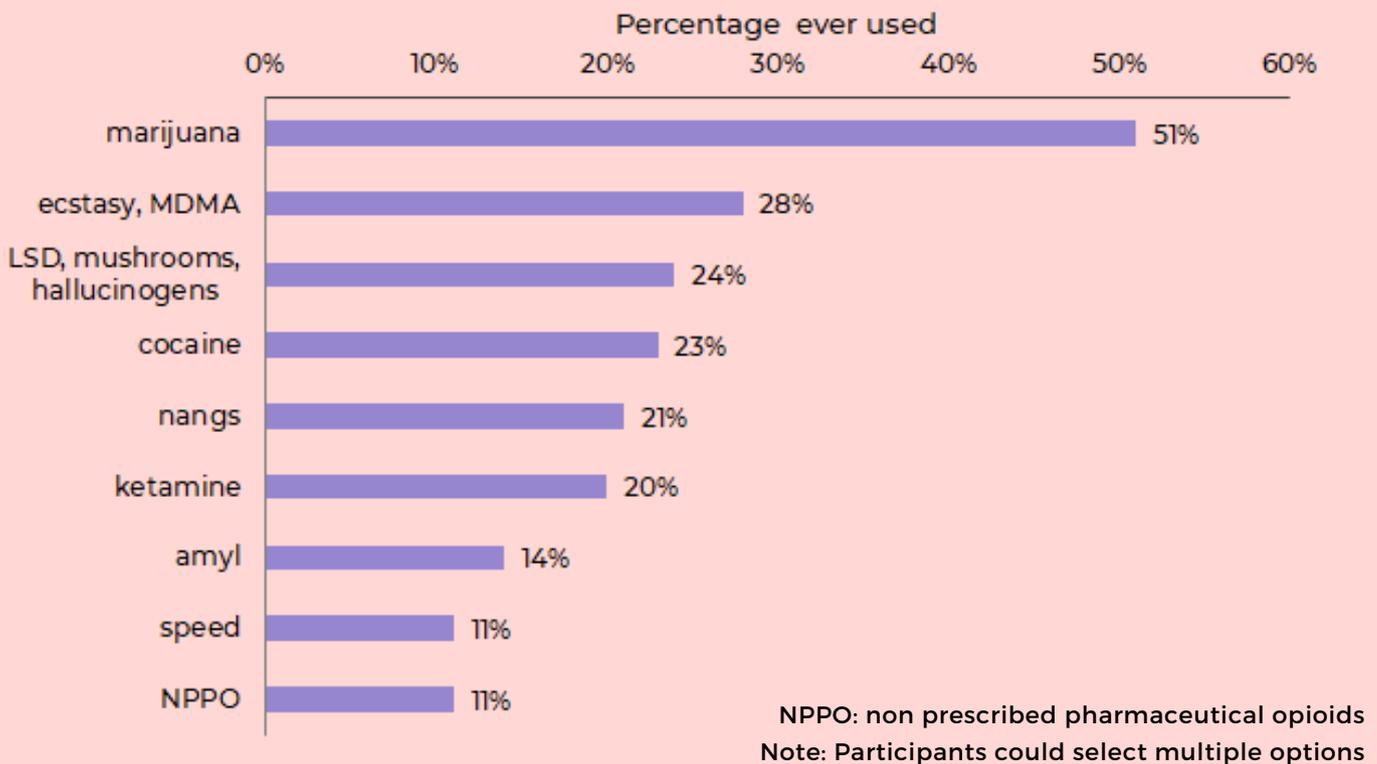
Note: Participants could select multiple options

Alcohol Use

- 95% drank alcohol in the past year
- The median age participants reported drinking alcohol for the first time was 16 years

Other Drug Use

57% had ever used illicit drugs



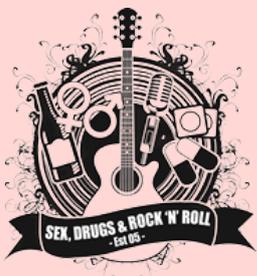
Contact Information

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 Sarah Eddy via sarah.eddy@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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