

STDs Among Men Who Have Sex With Men (MSM) in the Portland Metropolitan Area

Results from Chime In 2017



What is Chime In?

In 2017, Portland participated in its second year of National HIV Behavioral Surveillance (NHBS). This system is locally known as Chime In. We surveyed and offered HIV tests to Portland metropolitan area* residents using venue-based sampling.

Who did we include in our sample for these analyses?

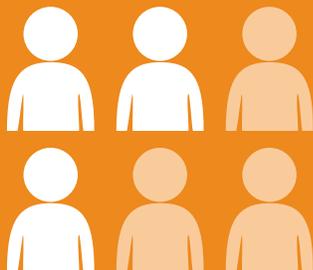
We included 424 men who had sex with men (MSM) in our analyses as defined by the following:

- Residence within the Portland metropolitan area, including Vancouver
- 18 years or older
- Born male and self-identifies as male
- Anal or oral sex with a man in the last 12 months

Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) Testing and MSM

How often should MSM be tested for STDs?

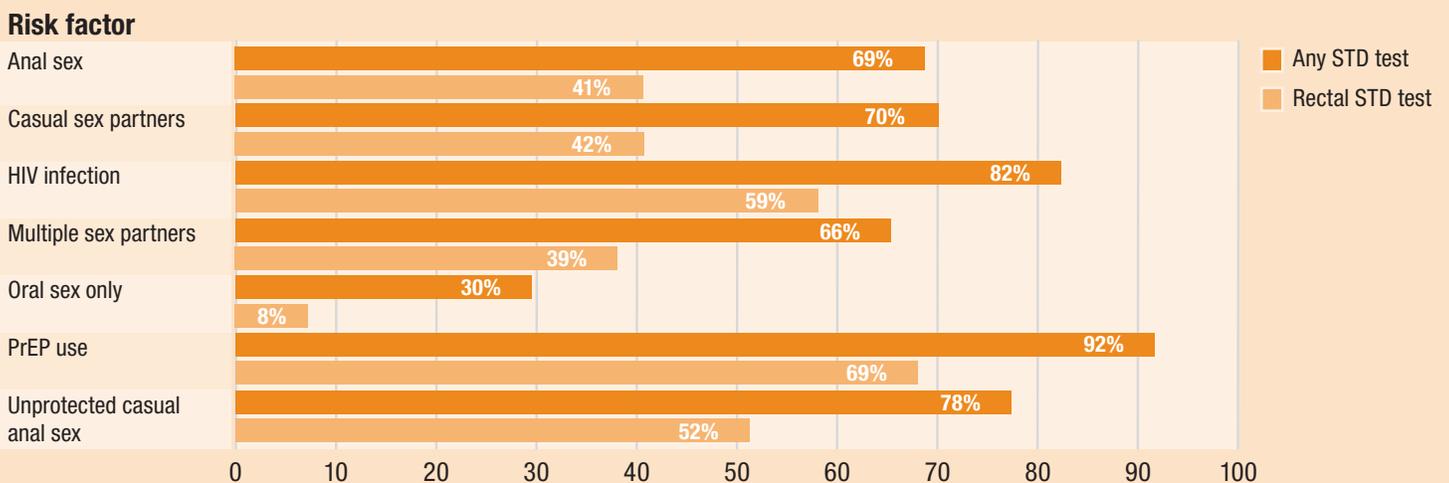
According to the Centers for Disease Control, sexually active MSM should be tested for syphilis, gonorrhea, and chlamydia annually regardless of condom use. MSM at increased risk of STDs due to behaviors such as multiple partners or inconsistent condom use should be tested every 3 to 6 months. For gonorrhea and chlamydia, testing should be conducted at every site of contact, including both rectum and urethra.



Two out of three MSM in our survey reported having an STD test in the last 12 months.

However, only about **one in three** MSM in our survey reported having a rectal STD test in the last 12 months.

STD testing and risk factors among MSM in the Portland metropolitan area, 2017



* Portland metropolitan area includes Clackamas, Columbia, Multnomah, Washington, and Yamhill counties in Oregon and Clark and Skamania counties in Washington

STD diagnoses and MSM

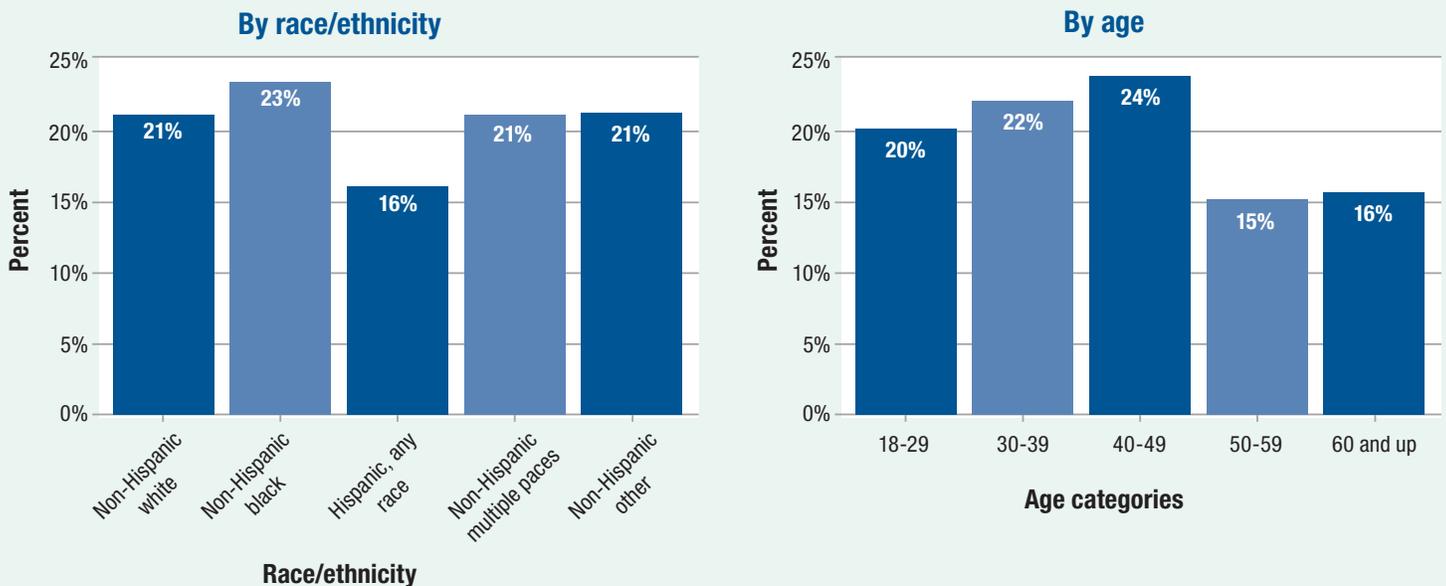
Why do we care about STDs and MSM?

In the Portland metropolitan area, MSM are at high risk of acquiring an STD including chlamydia, gonorrhea, and syphilis. These STDs can increase one's risk for HIV.



One in five MSM in our survey reported having chlamydia, gonorrhea, or syphilis in the last 12 months.

Percent of MSM who reported an STD* diagnosis in the last 12 months, Portland metropolitan area, 2017



*STD includes chlamydia, gonorrhea and syphilis

Which STD was most common?

Gonorrhea was the most commonly reported (13%) followed by chlamydia (10%) then syphilis (6%).

Taking action

Providers: Take a sexual health history and screen MSM for STDs at least annually

About half of MSM reported that their healthcare provider never or rarely asked about their sexual health. Obtaining a sexual health history is crucial to assess a patient's need for STD testing. Also, remember rectal testing is necessary for those who have receptive anal sex.

Patients: Sign up for Oregon Reminders!



Oregon Reminders can send you text messages when it is time to get tested again for STDs. Staying on top of STD testing not only will help you stay healthy but will limit the spread of STDs. Sign up at www.OregonReminders.org

You can get this document in other languages, large print, braille or a format you prefer. Contact the HIV/STD/TB section at 971-673-0178 or 971-673-0144. We accept all relay calls or you can dial 711.