

The Sigma Panel - Enrolment Survey (Qualifiers, demographics and consent)

About The Sigma Panel

The Sigma Panel is a community based research project for gay men, bisexual men and other men who are attracted to men. It consists of 13 short surveys linked across time and is happening across England.

The Panel is funded by the Department of Health for England through the CHAPS national HIV prevention programme, co-ordinated by Terrence Higgins Trust. The information you provide will be used to help plan and evaluate national and local HIV prevention campaigns.

Who is the research for?

We are inviting you to take part in the research if you:

- live in England;
- are aged 16 or over;
- are sexually attracted to and/or have sex with other men;
- are able to supply an email address that we contact you on;
- and are willing to complete 13 short surveys over the next 13 months.

What's it about?

It asks about relationships, sex life, risks and precautions, and use of health services. One of the goals is to describe what influences the choices men make during sex.

What does taking part consist of?

The research consists of this introductory survey, then (if you qualify for the research and want to take part), another 13 short surveys at monthly intervals, starting on 1st February 2011. We aim for each survey to take less than 25 minutes to complete. After the first monthly survey, all participants are randomly allocated to one of two groups. The first group will answer monthly surveys about what happens in their sex life and about the health services they use. The second group will answer monthly surveys about their views and opinions on a variety of topics related to sex and health. Everyone will be asked to take part in the same final survey in month 13.

We will ask a variety of personal questions but NOT for access to your medical records or for samples of body fluids. You may be also asked to take part in a more detailed one-to-one web based or telephone interview.

When will I see the results?

You will get some of the results of the surveys within a month of their completion. A report of the entire project will be published in Summer 2012. All findings will be available on the Sigma Research website.

What about data protection?

The research has been approved by ethics committees from Portsmouth and London universities. Participation is voluntary and you can withdraw at any point without giving a reason. If we invite you to take part in web-based interviews we will ask you for your consent for this separately.

We guarantee your anonymity. We will NOT collect the IP-address of your computer or try to install any cookies on it. We will ask only for an email address we can use to invite you to take part in this research. Your email address will be used for no other purpose and we will delete them from our records at the end of the study. Your answers in future surveys will be kept separate from your email address and will be linked only through a unique code number which will be kept secure. The codes will also be deleted at the end of the study.

All survey data will be reported about groups of men. No one will be identifiable from any report.

You can withdraw from the panel at any time with no explanation needed by clicking on the 'unsubscribe' button in any email from us (or by contacting david.reid@sigmaresearch.org.uk).

Who is carrying out the research?

The project is a collaboration between Sigma Research and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM). For the past 17 years Sigma have carried out a large number of community-based social and behavioural research projects about the impact of HIV on a variety of communities. We work closely with public health institutes, universities and non-governmental organisations.

How do I find out more?

If you have any questions about the project please contact Dr Ford Hickson on 020 7820 8022 or by emailing ford.hickson@sigmaresearch.org.uk You can learn more about Sigma Research and view our confidentiality policy at www.sigmaresearch.org.uk/privacy

Please tick this box if you want to complete the Enrolment Survey for The Sigma Panel:

(VALIDATED QUESTION)

1

2

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11

12

I have read the above and want to take part in The Sigma Panel.

[Instructions]

We would like you to answer all the questions. However, the only compulsory questions are those that work out if you qualify for the study. You must answer these questions to move forward in the survey. If there is any other question you do not wish to answer, please leave it blank and move on to the next question.

How did you hear about this study?

- I was invited to take part by Sigma Research
- I was invited to take part by another organisation
- I saw an advert or article in the press or online
- I heard an advert or story about it on the radio
- Through another source

Which organisation did you hear about the study from?

(QUESTION SHOWN WHEN ANSWER TO QUESTION 'HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THIS STUDY?' IS 'I WAS INVITED TO TAKE PART BY ANOTHER ORGANISATION')

[Type your answer here]

Which paper, magazine, website or radio station did you hear about the study from?

(QUESTION SHOWN WHEN ANSWER TO QUESTION 'HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THIS STUDY?' IS 'I SAW AN ADVERT OR ARTICLE IN THE PRESS OR ONLINE' OR 'I HEARD AN ADVERT OR STORY ABOUT IT ON THE RADIO')

[Type your answer here]

How did you hear about the study?

(QUESTION SHOWN WHEN ANSWER TO QUESTION 'HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THIS STUDY?' IS 'THROUGH ANOTHER SOURCE')

[Type your answer here]

About you

Firstly, please tell us in your own words what you see as most important about your identity and how you think about yourself?

[Type your answer here]

Are you ...

(VALIDATED QUESTION)

- A man
- A transman (transgender/transsexual: woman to man)
- A woman
- A transwoman (transgender/transsexual: man to woman)

Thank you for your interest in this study, we are very pleased to include you. Please note that some of the questions may not reflect your personal biological situation. If you feel a question does not apply to you, please leave it blank and move onto the next question.

(QUESTION SHOWN WHEN ANSWER TO QUESTION 'ARE YOU ...' IS 'A TRANSMAN (TRANSGENDER/TRANSEXUAL: WOMAN TO MAN)')

Thanks for your interest in this study. Unfortunately this research is about men only. You are very welcome to read and complete the rest of this introductory survey but we will be unable to enroll you in the study. What would you like to do now?

(QUESTION SHOWN WHEN ANSWER TO QUESTION 'ARE YOU ...' IS 'A WOMAN' OR 'A TRANSWOMAN (TRANSGENDER/TRANSEXUAL: MAN TO WOMAN)')

- Exit this survey now
- Continue reading this survey

[Exit page - women]

PAGE SHOWN WHEN ANSWER TO QUESTION 'THANKS FOR YOUR INTEREST IN THIS STUDY. UNFORTUNATELY THIS RESEARCH IS ABOUT MEN ONLY. YOU ARE VERY WELCOME TO READ AND COMPLETE THE REST OF THIS INTRODUCTORY SURVEY BUT WE WILL BE UNABLE TO ENROLL YOU IN THE STUDY. WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO DO NOW?' IS 'EXIT THIS SURVEY NOW' THIS IS AN EXIT PAGE

If you would like to know more about the work of Sigma Research, please visit www.sigmaresearch.org.uk

[Age]

How old are you?

(VALIDATED QUESTION)

[Please select an answer]

under 16 years

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[Exit page - under 16]

PAGE SHOWN WHEN ANSWER TO QUESTION 'HOW OLD ARE YOU?' IS 'UNDER 16 YEARS'

THIS IS AN EXIT PAGE

Thanks for your interest in this study. Unfortunately this research is about men aged 16 and over and we are unable to enroll you in the study.

If you would like to know more about the work of Sigma Research, please visit www.sigmaresearch.org.uk

If you would like to visit a web site for young gay men, you could try www.ygm.org.uk

About where you live

Who do you live with? (Tick as many as apply.)

- Male partner
- Female partner
- Child(ren)
- Friends
- One or both of my parents
- Other family members
- Others
- I live by myself

Do you live in England?
(VALIDATED QUESTION)

- No
- Yes

Thanks for your interest in this study. Unfortunately this research is about men who live in England. You are very welcome to read and complete the rest of this introductory survey but we will be unable to enroll you in the study. What would you like to do now?

(QUESTION SHOWN WHEN ANSWER TO QUESTION 'DO YOU LIVE IN ENGLAND?' IS 'NO')

- Exit this survey now
- Continue reading this survey

Do you know the name of the council or local authority you live in?

(QUESTION SHOWN WHEN ANSWER TO QUESTION 'DO YOU LIVE IN ENGLAND?' IS 'YES')

- No
- Yes

Which council/local authority area do you live in?

(QUESTION SHOWN WHEN ANSWER TO QUESTION 'DO YOU KNOW THE NAME OF THE COUNCIL OR LOCAL AUTHORITY YOU LIVE IN?' IS 'YES')

[Please select an answer]

Adur
Allerdale
Amber Valley
Arun
Ashfield
Ashford
Aylesbury Vale
Babergh
Barking and Dagenham
Barnet
Barnsley
Barrow-in-Furness
Basildon
Basingstoke and Deane
Bassetlaw
Bath and North East Somerset
Bedford
Bexley
Birmingham
Blaby
Blackburn with Darwen
Blackpool
Bolsover
Bolton
Boston
Bournemouth
Bracknell Forest
Bradford
Braintree
Breckland
Brent
Brentwood
Brighton and Hove
Bristol, City of
Broadland
Bromley
Bromsgrove
Broxbourne
Broxtowe
Buckinghamshire
Burnley
Bury
Calderdale
Cambridge
Cambridgeshire
Camden
Cannock Chase
Canterbury
Carlisle
Castle Point
Central Bedfordshire
Charnwood
Chelmsford
Cheltenham
Cherwell
Cheshire East
Cheshire West and Chester
Chesterfield
Chichester
Chiltern
Chorley
Christchurch
City of London
Colchester
Copeland
Corby
Cornwall
Cotswold
County Durham
Coventry
Craven
Crawley
Croydon
Cumbria
Dacorum
Darlington
Dartford
Daventry
Derby
Derbyshire
Derbyshire Dales
Devon
Doncaster
Dorset
Dover
Dudley
Ealing
East Cambridgeshire
East Devon
East Dorset
East Hampshire
East Hertfordshire
East Lindsey
East Northamptonshire
East Riding of Yorkshire
East Staffordshire
East Sussex
Eastbourne
Eastleigh
Eden
Elmbridge
Enfield

Do you know your home post-code?

(QUESTION SHOWN WHEN ANSWER TO QUESTION 'DO YOU KNOW THE NAME OF THE COUNCIL OR LOCAL AUTHORITY YOU LIVE IN?' IS 'NO')

- No
 Yes

What is the first half and the next number of your postcode?

For example:

SA16 0

M1 7

SW9 1

DE1 3

(QUESTION SHOWN WHEN ANSWER TO QUESTION 'DO YOU KNOW YOUR HOME POST-CODE?' IS 'YES')

What is the name of the village, town or city you live in? If you live in a large city please also tell us the area of neighbourhood you live in.

(QUESTION SHOWN WHEN ANSWER TO QUESTION 'DO YOU KNOW YOUR HOME POST-CODE?' IS 'NO')

[Exit page - outside England]

PAGE SHOWN WHEN ANSWER TO QUESTION 'THANKS FOR YOUR INTEREST IN THIS STUDY. UNFORTUNATELY THIS RESEARCH IS ABOUT MEN WHO LIVE IN ENGLAND. YOU ARE VERY WELCOME TO READ AND COMPLETE THE REST OF THIS INTRODUCTORY SURVEY BUT WE WILL BE UNABLE TO ENROLL YOU IN THE STUDY. WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO DO NOW?' IS 'EXIT THIS SURVEY NOW'

THIS IS AN EXIT PAGE

If you would like to know more about the work of Sigma Research, please visit www.sigmaresearch.org.uk

About your sexuality

Who are you sexually attracted to?

(VALIDATED QUESTION)

- Men only
 Mostly to men and sometimes to women
 Both men and women
 Mostly to women but sometimes to men
 Women only
 I am not sexually attracted to anybody

Thanks for your interest in this study. Unfortunately this research is about men who are attracted to men. You are very welcome to read and complete the rest of this introductory survey but we will be unable to enroll you in the study. What would you like to do now?

(QUESTION SHOWN WHEN ANSWER TO QUESTION 'WHO ARE YOU SEXUALLY ATTRACTED TO?' IS 'WOMEN ONLY' OR 'I AM NOT SEXUALLY ATTRACTED TO ANYBODY')

- Exit this survey now
 Continue reading this survey

Thinking about all the people who know you (including family, friends and work or study colleagues), what proportion know that you are attracted to men?

(QUESTION SHOWN WHEN ANSWER TO QUESTION 'WHO ARE YOU SEXUALLY ATTRACTED TO?' IS 'MEN ONLY' OR 'MOSTLY TO MEN AND SOMETIMES TO WOMEN' OR 'BOTH MEN AND WOMEN' OR 'MOSTLY TO WOMEN BUT SOMETIMES TO MEN')

- All or almost all
 More than half
 Less than half
 Few
 None

Which of the following options best describes how you think of yourself?

(QUESTION SHOWN WHEN ANSWER TO QUESTION 'THINKING ABOUT ALL THE PEOPLE WHO KNOW YOU (INCLUDING FAMILY, FRIENDS AND WORK OR STUDY COLLEGUES), WHAT PROPORTION KNOW THAT YOU ARE ATTRACTED TO MEN?' IS 'ALL OR ALMOST ALL' OR 'MORE THAN HALF' OR 'LESS THAN HALF' OR 'FEW' OR 'NONE')

- Gay or homosexual
 Bisexual
 Straight or heterosexual
 Another term
 I don't usually use a term

[Exit page - no homodesire]

PAGE SHOWN WHEN ANSWER TO QUESTION 'THANKS FOR YOUR INTEREST IN THIS STUDY. UNFORTUNATELY THIS RESEARCH IS ABOUT MEN WHO ARE ATTRACTED TO MEN. YOU ARE VERY WELCOME TO READ AND COMPLETE THE REST OF THIS INTRODUCTORY SURVEY BUT WE WILL BE UNABLE TO ENROLL YOU IN THE STUDY. WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO DO NOW?' IS 'EXIT THIS SURVEY NOW'

THIS IS AN EXIT PAGE

If you would like to know more about the work of Sigma Research, please visit www.sigmaresearch.org.uk

[The Commitment]

That's great - you definitely qualify to take part in this study. We just need to check that you understand what we're asking of you.

This study will consist of another 13 internet surveys, one every month for the next 13 months. You will be invited to complete each survey on the 1st day of the month and will have **one week** to complete it. If you do not complete a survey you will still be invited to complete the next survey unless you withdraw from the study.

Can you commit to trying to respond to 13 short surveys over the next 13 months?

(VALIDATED QUESTION)

No

Yes

We really need men who can commit to at least trying to complete the 13 monthly surveys. If you think you are unable to do this, please do not join the study. What would you like to do now?

(QUESTION SHOWN WHEN ANSWER TO QUESTION 'THIS STUDY WILL CONSIST OF ANOTHER 13 INTERNET SURVEYS, ONE EVERY MONTH FOR THE NEXT 13 MONTHS. YOU WILL BE INVITED TO COMPLETE EACH SURVEY ON THE 1ST DAY OF THE MONTH AND WILL HAVE ONE WEEK TO COMPLETE IT. IF YOU DO NOT COMPLETE A SURVEY YOU WILL STILL BE INVITED TO COMPLETE THE NEXT SURVEY UNLESS YOU WITHDRAW FROM THE STUDY.'

CAN YOU COMMIT TO TRYING TO RESPOND TO 13 SHORT SURVEYS OVER THE NEXT 13 MONTHS?' IS 'NO')

(VALIDATED QUESTION)

Exit this survey now - I can't commit to 13 surveys

OK, I'll try to complete the 13 monthly surveys

[Exit page - cannot commit]

PAGE SHOWN WHEN ANSWER TO QUESTION 'WE REALLY NEED MEN WHO CAN COMMIT TO AT LEAST TRYING TO COMPLETE THE 13 MONTHLY SURVEYS. IF YOU THINK YOU ARE UNABLE TO DO THIS, PLEASE DO NOT JOIN THE STUDY. WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO DO NOW?' IS 'EXIT THIS SURVEY NOW - I CAN'T COMMIT TO 13 SURVEYS'

THIS IS AN EXIT PAGE

If you would like to know more about the work of Sigma Research, please visit www.sigmaresearch.org.uk

Your Email address

We need a personal email address to invite you to take part in the surveys. The invitations will contain a link to that month's survey which is for your personal use only. We will use this email for no other purpose.

Are you able to give us a personal email address to use for this study? [Please note that although we may have written to you already, we need you to confirm the address you would like to use for this study.]

(VALIDATED QUESTION)

No

Yes

Thanks for your interest in this study. However, without an email address to contact you on, we cannot enrol you in the study. What would you like to do now?

(QUESTION SHOWN WHEN ANSWER TO QUESTION 'WE NEED A PERSONAL EMAIL ADDRESS TO INVITE YOU TO TAKE PART IN THE SURVEYS. THE INVITATIONS WILL CONTAIN A LINK TO THAT MONTH'S SURVEY WHICH IS FOR YOUR PERSONAL USE ONLY. WE WILL USE THIS EMAIL FOR NO OTHER PURPOSE.'

ARE YOU ABLE TO GIVE US A PERSONAL EMAIL ADDRESS TO USE FOR THIS STUDY? [PLEASE NOTE THAT ALTHOUGH WE MAY HAVE WRITTEN TO YOU ALREADY, WE NEED YOU TO CONFIRM THE ADDRESS YOU WOULD LIKE TO USE FOR THIS STUDY.] IS 'NO')

(VALIDATED QUESTION)

Exit this survey now - I'm unable to provide an email address

OK, I'll provide an email address for use in this study

[Exit page - no email]

PAGE SHOWN WHEN ANSWER TO QUESTION 'THANKS FOR YOUR INTEREST IN THIS STUDY. HOWEVER, WITHOUT AN EMAIL ADDRESS TO CONTACT YOU ON, WE CANNOT ENROL YOU IN THE STUDY. WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO DO NOW?' IS 'EXIT THIS SURVEY NOW - I'M UNABLE TO PROVIDE AN EMAIL ADDRESS'

THIS IS AN EXIT PAGE

If you would like to know more about the work of Sigma Research, please visit www.sigmaresearch.org.uk

[Email address]

What email address would you like to use for this study?

(VALIDATED QUESTION)

[Type your answer here]

Please confirm this email address by typing it again here.

(VALIDATED QUESTION)

[Type your answer here]

What is your first name?

[Type your answer here]

People sometimes change email address and forget to notify us. Would you like to give us a second email address or a telephone number that we can contact you on if the address you have given us stops working.

IF YOU PREFER NOT TO DO THIS PLEASE LEAVE THIS QUESTION BLANK.

[Type your answer here]

[Thanks and encouragement]

Many thanks for that - welcome to The Sigma Panel. You will be a member of The Panel when you press submit at the end of this survey.

There are just a few more questions on this enrolment survey.

About your education and occupation

What is your highest education qualification?

- No secondary qualification
- CSE (CSE Grades 2-5, NVQ/ SVQ Level 1, GNVQ/ GSVQ Level 1, City & Guilds Certificate Part 1, RSA Stage 1, 2 or 3, Recognised trade apprenticeship completed)
- 'O' level (or CSE Grade 1, GCSEs, SCE Standard, NVQ/ SVQ Level 2, GNVQ/ GSVQ Level 2, City & Guilds certificate-Ordinary/Part 2, RSA Diploma)
- 'A' levels (or AS levels, SCE Higher, NVQ/ SVQ Level 3, GNVQ Advanced/ GSVQ level 3, City & Guilds certificate-Advanced/Part 3, ONC, OND, BTEC National, SCOTVEC National, RSA Advanced Diploma)
- Higher education below degree level (e.g. HNC, HND, Higher Level BTEC, RSA Higher Diploma or other advanced training)
- University degree completed (e.g. Bachelors, Masters, PhD)

Which of the following best describes your current occupation?

- Employed full-time
- Employed part-time
- Self-employed
- Unemployed
- Student
- Retired
- Long-term sick leave / medically retired
- Other

Please say more about your current occupation.

(QUESTION SHOWN WHEN ANSWER TO QUESTION 'WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING BEST DESCRIBES YOUR CURRENT OCCUPATION?' IS 'OTHER')

[Type your answer here]

What is the gross income (before any deductions for Income Tax and National Insurance contributions) that you receive from all sources?

- Less than £5000 per year (less than £96 per week)
- £5,000 - £9,999 per year (£96 - £192 per week)
- £10,000 - £14,999 per year (£193 - £288 per week)
- £15,000 - £19,999 per year (£289 - £385 per week)
- £20,000 - £24,999 per year (£386 - £481 per week)
- £25,000 - £29,999 per year (£482 - £577 per week)

- £30,000 - £34,999 per year (£578 - £673 per week)
- £35,000 - £39,999 per year (£674 - £769 per week)
- £40,000 or more per year (£770 or more per week)
- I don't wish to answer

About your ethnic and cultural background

What is your ethnic group?

- WHITE: English / Welsh / Scottish / Northern Irish / British**
- WHITE: Irish**
- WHITE: Gypsy or Irish Traveller**
- WHITE: Any other white background**
- MIXED / MULTIPLE: White and Black Caribbean**
- MIXED / MULTIPLE: White and Black African**
- MIXED / MULTIPLE: White and Asian**
- MIXED / MULTIPLE: Any other mixed/multiple background**
- ASIAN / ASIAN BRITISH: Indian**
- ASIAN / ASIAN BRITISH: Pakistani**
- ASIAN / ASIAN BRITISH: Bangladeshi**
- ASIAN / ASIAN BRITISH: Chinese**
- ASIAN / ASIAN BRITISH: Any other Asian background**
- BLACK / BLACK BRITISH: African**
- BLACK / BLACK BRITISH: Caribbean**
- BLACK / BLACK BRITISH: Any other Black background**
- OTHER: Arab**
- OTHER: Any other ethnic group**

Please say what other White background.

(QUESTION SHOWN WHEN ANSWER TO QUESTION 'WHAT IS YOUR ETHNIC GROUP?' IS 'WHITE: ANY OTHER WHITE BACKGROUND')

Please say what other mixed / multiple ethnic background.

(QUESTION SHOWN WHEN ANSWER TO QUESTION 'WHAT IS YOUR ETHNIC GROUP?' IS 'MIXED / MULTIPLE: ANY OTHER MIXED/MULTIPLE BACKGROUND')

Please say what other Asian / Asian British background.

(QUESTION SHOWN WHEN ANSWER TO QUESTION 'WHAT IS YOUR ETHNIC GROUP?' IS 'ASIAN / ASIAN BRITISH: ANY OTHER ASIAN BACKGROUND')

Please say what other Black / Black British background.

(QUESTION SHOWN WHEN ANSWER TO QUESTION 'WHAT IS YOUR ETHNIC GROUP?' IS 'BLACK / BLACK BRITISH: ANY OTHER BLACK BACKGROUND')

Please say what other ethnic background.

(QUESTION SHOWN WHEN ANSWER TO QUESTION 'WHAT IS YOUR ETHNIC GROUP?' IS 'OTHER: ANY OTHER ETHNIC GROUP')

Where you born in the United Kingdom?

- No
- Yes

Did you grow up in the United Kingdom?

- No
- Yes
- Partly in the UK, partly elsewhere

About your relationship/s

Are you currently in a steady relationship? (Tick as many as apply)

- Yes, with a man
- Yes, with more than one man
- Yes, with a woman
- Yes, with more than one woman
- No, I'm single

What is your current **legal** partnership status?

- I am in a civil partnership with a man
- I am in a marriage with a woman
- I am in neither a civil partnership nor a marriage
- Other

Please say more about your current legal partnership status.

(QUESTION SHOWN WHEN ANSWER TO QUESTION 'WHAT IS YOUR CURRENT LEGAL PARTNERSHIP STATUS?' IS 'OTHER')

[Type your answer here]

And finally..

This study will be asking a wide range of questions about the sexual choices you make and the reasons you make these choices. What do you think we should be asking you?

[Type your answer here]

[Image only]

Sigma
RESEARCH
Knowledge for Action



Many thanks for joining The Sigma Panel. We will send you an email with a personal link to the first monthly survey within the next few days.

Now please press submit answers button to be enrolled in the panel.