EMIS — largest international and multi-language study on gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men (MSM). This community report is the first one of many in which we would like to give feedback to you about the European MSM Internet Survey 2017 (EMIS). This survey took place between October 2017 and the end of January 2018.

134,000 participants
A large multi-national study, as was EMIS 2017, would have been nothing without your response. And you have participated in high rates all across Europe. 128,000 men living in Europe, and more than 6,000 men living in Canada took part.

We estimate that more than 2% of all men who have sex with men in Europe took part in EMIS 2017. The highest participation rates were from Malta, Norway, Sweden, Ireland and Switzerland. Graph 1 shows the differences in study participation across the 49 countries.

www.esticom.eu
“WHO ARE YOU?”

We asked a range of questions about you and here is some information on:
Age, gender identity, status of relationship, coming out and HIV:

- Half of you were up to 35 years old, spanning 14 to 89 years of age.
- About 1% of you in Europe, and about 2% in Canada were trans men.
- As refugees or asylum seekers about 1% of you came to Europe or Canada.
- In Europe as well as in Canada half of you were single while the other half were in a relationship/s.
- About 41% in Europe and 48% in Canada were out to almost every person you knew.
- 10% of you reported that you had been diagnosed with HIV.

Great support made this success possible

PlanetRomeo, Grindr, Hornet and many other apps helped giving our study visibility across Europe and Canada.

We also had support from numerous gay/lesb, HIV and sexual health organizations.
All together you contributed to this success.

A big THANK YOU in all languages spoken in the participating countries to all of you!
Condom knowledge 97%
The Condom is one of the ways to prevent HIV and other STIs. It is a barrier device mostly made of latex rubber which is put on the penis before anal intercourse. 97% know: The correct use of condoms throughout intercourse reduces the likelihood of picking up and passing on STIs (including HIV).

U=U knowledge 57%
(Undetectable = Untransmittable)
An efficient HIV-therapy for HIV-positive people prevents HIV transmission. 57% know: A person with HIV who is on effective treatment (called ‘undetectable viral load’) cannot pass their virus to someone else during sex.

Graph 2 shows the differences in knowledge about U=U across Europe. The highest rates of U=U knowledge we found in Denmark, United Kingdom, Switzerland, Netherlands, Iceland, Israel, Sweden, Latvia, Czech Republic, Norway, Canada and Belgium (named in decreasing order).

PrEP knowledge 51%
(Pre-Exposure prophylaxis)
As an HIV-negative man, you take an HIV-compound with two active ingredients to protect yourself from getting HIV. 51% know: Pre-Exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) involves someone who does not have HIV taking pills before as well as after sex to prevent them getting HIV.

Graph 3 shows how this knowledge differs across the European countries. Countries within the category of the highest PrEP knowledge were United Kingdom, Canada, Ireland, Netherlands, France, Israel, Norway, Iceland and Malta (named in decreasing order).

EMIS 2017 was carried out by Sigma Research (London). It was funded by The Consumers, Health, Agriculture and Food Executive Agency (Chafea), acting under powers delegated by the Commission of the European Union. The Canadian participation was funded by the Public Health Agency of Canada.

This Community report is presented to you by Deutsche AIDS-Hilfe, Sigma Research, Gay Health Network and EATG.
ECHOES was conducted in 36 countries in Europe (EU and non-EU countries) between October 2017 and January 2018. 1035 participants took part.

Many of you support the health of men who have sex with men and the gay community by delivering a great variety of services like outreach work, testing services, mental health services etc. In ECHOES for the first time in Europe they all are addressed as ‘Community Health Worker’.

However, many people in the field do not use this term. Graph 4 shows the variety of ways ECHOES participants name their job. This demonstrates the very wide range of people and professions that provide sexual health services to gay, bisexual and other men that have sex with men.

ECHOES was carried out by University of Brighton and CEEISCAT (Barcelona). It was funded by The Consumers, Health, Agriculture and Food Executive Agency (Chafea), acting under powers delegated by the Commission of the European Union.

**MORE IS YET TO COME.**

Our Community Report Vol. 2 will be published soon.

The Final Reports for EMIS 2017 and ECHOES are expected early in 2019. Around the same time many countries will have published National Reports based on EMIS 2017 data in local languages of the countries.