



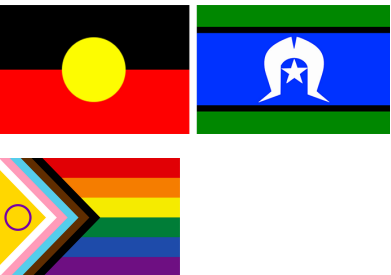
YOUTH
EDUCATING
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STIs and BBVs: What sort of risks are young people taking?

YEP Project Annual Youth Survey
Findings 2024



Types of unprotected sex

Of young people surveyed aged 15-25:



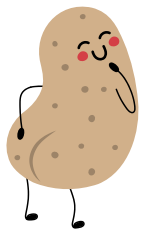
70% had contact with genitals without a barrier method



65% had unprotected oral sex



40% had unprotected vaginal sex



25% had unprotected anal sex

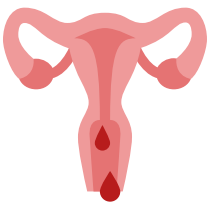


18% shared sex toys with another person/people
without using a barrier method (i.e. condom, dam)

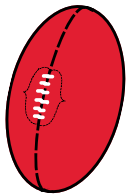
Risk behaviours for blood borne virus



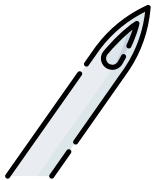
48% Shared a toothbrush or razor with others



26% had unprotected oral, vaginal or anal sex whilst someone is on their period



15% had a collision whilst playing sport that resulted in bleeding



10% shared piercing equipment (e.g. needle, jewellery) with others outside of a professional piercing studio



8% got a tattoo overseas



5% shared tattoo equipment (e.g. needle, ink, paper towel) with others outside of a professional tattoo studio

Getting Tested

42% of young people surveyed have had a sexual health test before.



41% of those have had a sexual health test in the **last year**.



Thank you!

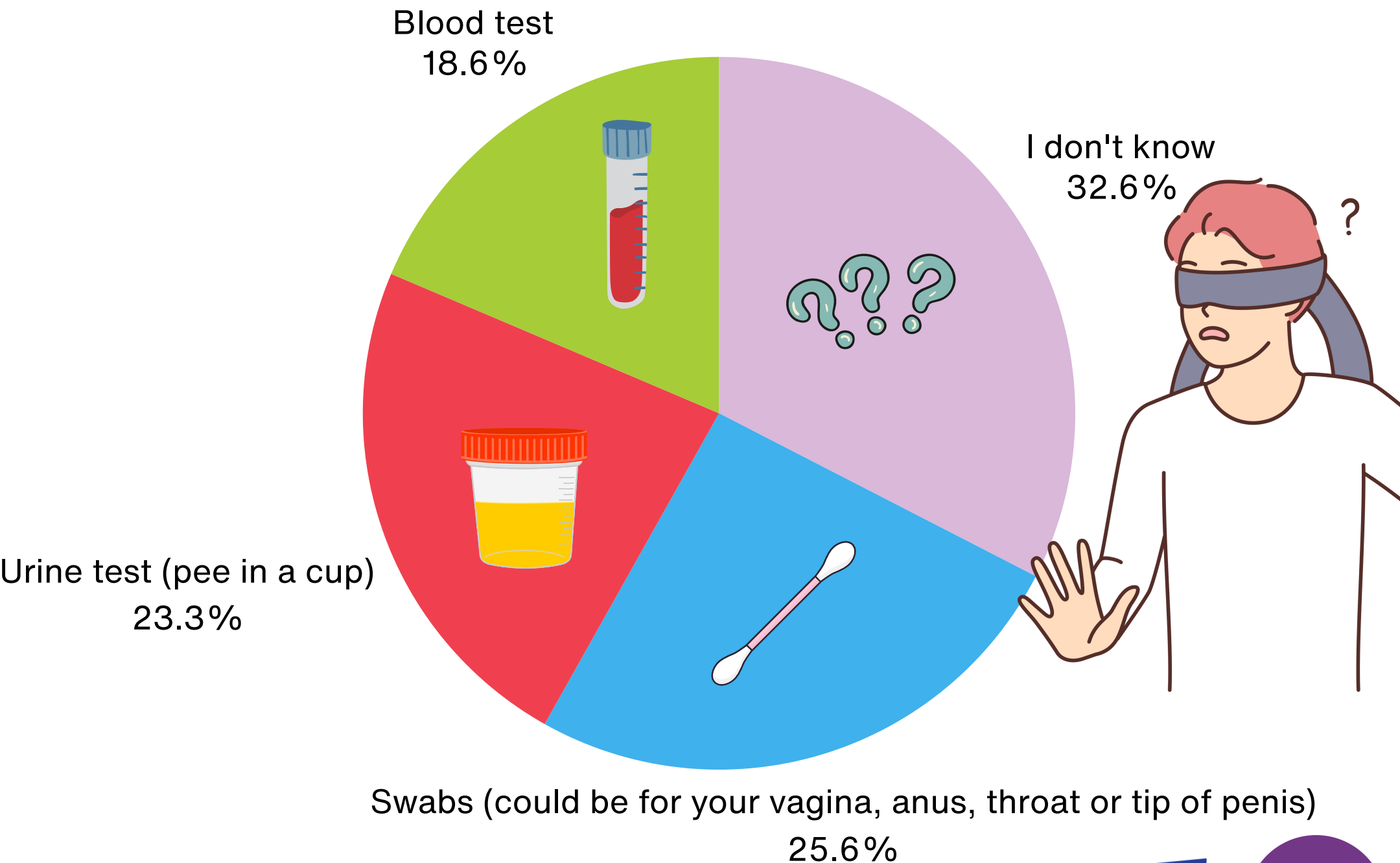
The YEP crew wishes to thank all the young people who took part in our 2024 survey.

<https://theyeproject.org.au/>



What was in your most recent sexual health test?

Most young people surveyed did not know



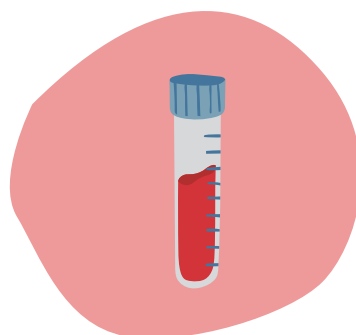
There is no 'one STI test that detects them all'

Different sexually transmitted infections (STI's) and blood borne viruses (BBV's) are tested using different methods.



THROAT SWAB

Can test for:
Chlamydia
Gonorrhoea



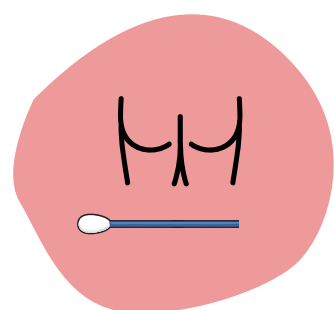
BLOOD TEST

Can test for:
HIV, Syphilis and
Hepatitis A, B & C



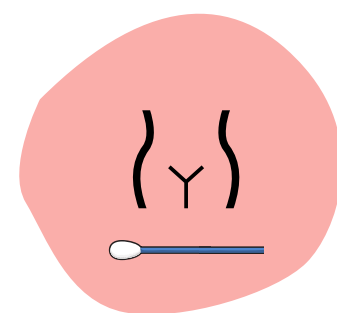
URINE SAMPLE

Can test for:
Chlamydia
Gonorrhoea



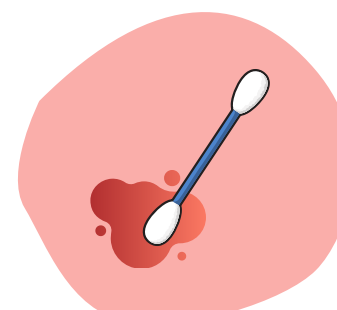
ANAL SWAB

Can test for:
Chlamydia
Gonorrhoea



VAGINAL SWAB

Can test for:
Chlamydia
Gonorrhoea



LESION SWAB

Can test for:
Herpes
Syphilis

Why young people avoided getting tested



YEP Project Annual Youth Survey
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- 1 I'm too shame
- 2 I'm too scared
- 3 I don't think I'm at risk
- 4 Have not had a new sexual partner in the last year
- 5 I don't want people to see my body or swab me
- 6 Have not had a new sexual partner in the last year
- 7 I don't want my parent/s or caregiver to know
- 8 No one I know gets them
- 10 I don't like getting a blood test
- 9 It's weird or not normal amongst my peers
- 11 I don't want my friend/s to know
- 12 I can't afford it or it's too expensive

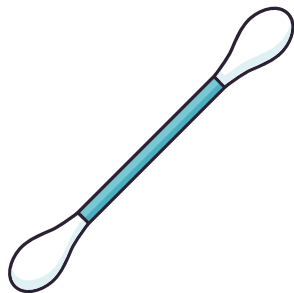


Why some sexually active young people hadn't got tested yet



“Just anxious, don’t know what to expect when I get there.”

“Just procrastinating it.”



“Scared of result.”

Thank you!

Knowing your barriers to get tested helps change the way we deliver education and makes testing more youth-friendly and accessible.

<https://theyeproject.org.au/>



Why young people got tested

YEP Project Annual Youth Survey
Findings 2024

- 1 A health professional (like a doctor) suggested or referred me
- 2 I was showing symptoms which I thought might be an STI
- 3 A friend sharing they had gotten tested, encouraging me to
- 4 A partner / someone I was sleeping with sharing they got tested / encouraging me to
- 5 Sex ed at school
- 6 Something I saw on social media
- 7 Someone I slept with tested positive for an STI or BBV



Factors that makes getting tested easier or more comfortable for young people

1 Education about what testing includes

2 Hearing peers/ friend's experiences

3 Free STI/BBV testing

4 Youth friendly sexual health clinic

5 A GP that initiates conversations about sexual health/ testing

6 Low cost STI/BBV testing

7 Sexual health clinic that is accessible to your needs

8 A clinic closer to you/ moving closer to a clinic



Thank you!

Knowing your motivations for getting tested helps change the way we deliver education and makes testing more youth-friendly and accessible.

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Topics young people want to know more about

YEP Project Annual Youth Survey
Findings 2024



PrEP and PEP (medicine to prevent HIV)



Safer sex toy use



Communicating with partners



Pleasure



Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) & Blood Borne
Viruses (BBVs)



Diverse sex, sexuality and gender - LGBTQIA+ issues



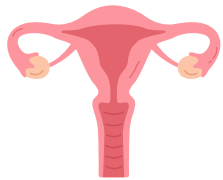
Topics Young People Want to Know More About



How to get an STI test and what happens



Sex and disability



Anatomy



Body image for LGBTQIA+ people



Boundaries in relationships



Sex work

Topics Young People Want to Know More About



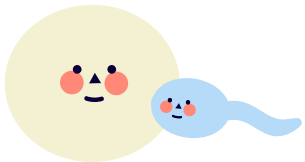
Sex and the law



Body positivity/ body image



Healthy relationships



Reproductive health



Menstruation



Ghosting and breaking up with people

Topics Young People Want to Know More About



Dating apps and online dating



Pregnancy



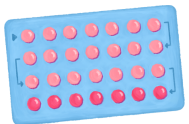
Safer sex for women who have sex with women



Consent



Sexting



Contraception



Porn

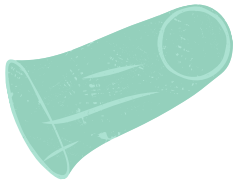
Topics Young People Want to Know More About



Safer sex practices (e.g. how to use condoms and dams)



Preventing blood borne viruses (e.g safer injecting, harm reduction)



Safer sex for trans masc people



Safer sex for trans femme people



Puberty



Safer sex for men who have sex with men

Comments

“Even though I didn’t know much about YEP before, now learning more through the survey I know that I have a place where I can access reliable and helpful resources.”

“If you don't have an app already, that would be a great resource.”



“You do amazing work!”

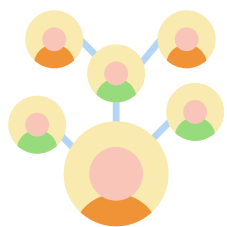
Thank you!

Knowing what topics you want to know more about helps shape our work.

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Safer Sex Topics Young People Want to Know More About



Process after a positive STI result- how to communicate with partners, treatment/ management



Vaccines for safer sex



STI symptoms/ BBV symptoms



Blood borne viruses (BBVs) e.g. Hepatitis B & C, HIV



How to communicate about STI/BBV status with partners

Safer Sex Topics Young People Want to Know More About



STI & BBV Testing (what to expect, different kind of tests for different STIs/BBVs, self collection).



Sexually transmitted infections (STIs) e.g. Chlamydia



How to use an internal condom



How to make a dam from a condom



How to use gloves for safer sex

Safer Sex Topics Young People Want to Know More About



Pros and cons to each barrier method (condoms, gloves, dams)



How to use a dam (for oral sex on a vulva or anus)



How to use a condom



How to communicate about asking for consent

Thank you!

Knowing the safer sex topics you want to know more about helps shape our work.

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Topics related to relationships and consent young people want to know more about



Skills in connecting to your body be able to tell when you are or are not comfortable



Managing conflict with partners



Skills in exploring what you are comfortable/uncomfortable with



Exploring your own relationship red and green flags



Healthy and unhealthy characteristics in relationships

Topics related to relationships and consent young people want to know more about



Negotiation



Attitudes and values around gender roles,
masculinity/femininity



Boundaries



Managing rejection



Communicating with partners

Topics related to relationships and consent young people want to know more about



How to communicate about not giving consent or denying consent



What is consent



How to communicate about giving consent



How to communicate about asking for consent

Thank you!

Knowing the relationship and consent topics you want to know more about helps shape our work.

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Online Sexuality What You Want to Know

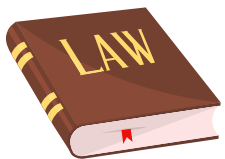
YEP Project Annual Youth Survey
Findings 2024



Navigating online dating



Ethical porn



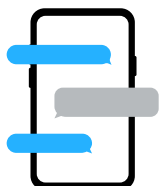
Sexting and the law



Safety online (e.g. catfishing, privacy etc.)



Dating apps



Safer sexting



Thank you!

Knowing the online sexuality topics you want to know more about helps shape our work.

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