

POLL BACKGROUND:

RED C interviewed a random sample of 500 adults aged 18-34 years old on-line between the 27th November – 9th December 2009. Interviews were conducted across the country and the results weighted to the profile of all adults aged 18-34. The margin of error on the sample size of 500 is +/- 4.5%.

UNSAFE SEX

- Over 3 in 4 have had unprotected sex. This increases significantly amongst those aged 25-34, for men and for those in the C2DE social class.
- The majority of those having unprotected sex are doing so because they are under the influence of alcohol or get carried away naturally.
- Nearly half of people have had unprotected sex at least 10 times. This increases amongst Men and those in a relationship.

STI

- Almost 2 in 5 have been tested for an STI and those aged 25-34 are more likely to have been tested as are those living in Dublin.
- Less than 1 in 10 have had an Sexual Transmitted Infection.

ONE NIGHT STANDS

- 1 in 10 have had 11+ one night stands in the past.
- Males and those aged 25-34 years old are more likely to say this.
- Females and those aged 18-24 are more likely to say they have had no one night stands.
- The average number of one night stands is 5 for the 18-34 age group. Men say on average 6. Women say on average 3
- Over 3 in 5 have regretted a one night stand. This figure rises to 4 in 5 among females. 80% of women and 53% of men regret them.

NUMBER OF SEXUAL PARTNERS

- Almost 1 in 4 of 18-34 year olds have had 11+ sexual partners. The average number of partners is higher among men and those aged 25-34

HOW SOON DO THEY HAVE SEX

- Men are more likely to state they have sexual relations within the first three dates compared to women as are those age 25-34 versus their younger counterparts 18-24.
- 46% of men say they have sex within first 3 dates, versus 21% of women

WHERE DO YOU MEET PEOPLE

- Over half meet people they have sexual relations with through friends. This increases amongst those aged 18-24 and those who are single.
- Clubs and Pubs are the next most common place to meet people.
- more met up with sexual partner via the web than work
- more men than women and more men over 25 had sexual relations with someone they met over the internet
- 1 in 6 men met those they had sexual relations with on the web compared to 1 in 20 women.

FREQUENCY OF HAVING SEX

- Over half of 18-34 year olds have sex more than a couple of times a week. This increases for those in the C2DE social class and those who are in a relationship.

SEX EDUCATION

- 2 in 5 stated that the quality of Sex and Relationship education received in school was poor
- over 1 in 10 stated that they did not receive any Sex and Relationship education.

MORNING AFTER PILL

- Over 3 in 4 people feel that the morning after pill should be available to purchase over the counter. Each demographic group is equally likely to state this.
- Over 2 in 5 have been in a relationship where the morning after pill has been taken.
- Over 1 in 4 women have taken the morning after pill three times.

UNPLANNED PREGNANCY

- Almost 1 in 5 have been in a relationship where an unplanned pregnancy has occurred.
- 23% of women say they have had an unplanned pregnancy in a relationship versus 15% of men
- This increases significantly for those living in the Rest of Leinster.

ABORTION

- 7% of 18-34 year olds have been in a relationship where an abortion took place.
- Over 4 in 5 agree that more information should be available on abortion in Ireland
- over 3 in 5 strongly agree that abortion should be legalised in Ireland.

HIV/ AIDs

- Almost 1 in 3 people have been tested for the HIV virus.
- Testing is more common among the more sexual active 25-34 year olds and those living in Dublin.