

Title: Sexuality and health among young people in Sweden

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Background: To create social conditions for equality in health for the entire population is the overall goal for the public health work in Sweden. Sexual and reproductive health is a public health objective domains. The UngKAB15 survey monitors the outcome of this work, including HIV-and STI-prevention.

Theoretical framework and method: In 2015 a survey was sent out to a randomized sample from the population registry comprising 30,000 individuals aged 16-29 in Sweden. The sample was stratified by age groups (16- 19, 20-24 and 25-29 years), sex (male, female) and 6 geographical regions. Design weights were used in both the sample and the analyses of non-respondents. The survey included questions on health and sexuality, exposure to violence, sexual violence, discrimination, abortion, STI:s, sexuality education . The survey had 7755 respondents (response rate 26%).

Results: The conditions were unequally distributed across groups as large groups experience discrimination, and have experienced sexual violence. Youth and young adults reporting as transgender, gay- and/or bisexual having experience were identified as vulnerable groups with ill health in a range of aspects. This also applied to those who did not want to categorize themselves by gender male or female. Youth and young adults experience sexual violence, having experiences of sex for reimbursement, having a large number of sexual partners, having experience of high alcohol and/or drug consumption had a higher proportion of chlamydia and abortion.

Significance for research, policy or practice Going Forward: The public health work on sexual health and HIV-prevention, should respond to the need of youth that does not want to categorize themselves by gender male or female transgender people as well as gay-and/or bisexual. For increased equity in health, and sexual health, young men needs to be prioritized.

Key references:

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