



# Sexual Health Assessment of Onondaga County.

Sydney Gale

Onondaga County Health Department Sexual Wellness Center

With contributions by Brittany Welch, Cali Armstrong, Ainsley Maclachlan



## Abstract

This presentation analyzes the results and describes the methods of the Sexual Health Survey (SHS) conducted in Onondaga County. This SHS is the first sexual health assessment done in Onondaga County. This new information was obtained to assess the sexual health and knowledge of Onondaga County residents given the recent surge of sexually transmitted infections throughout the county.

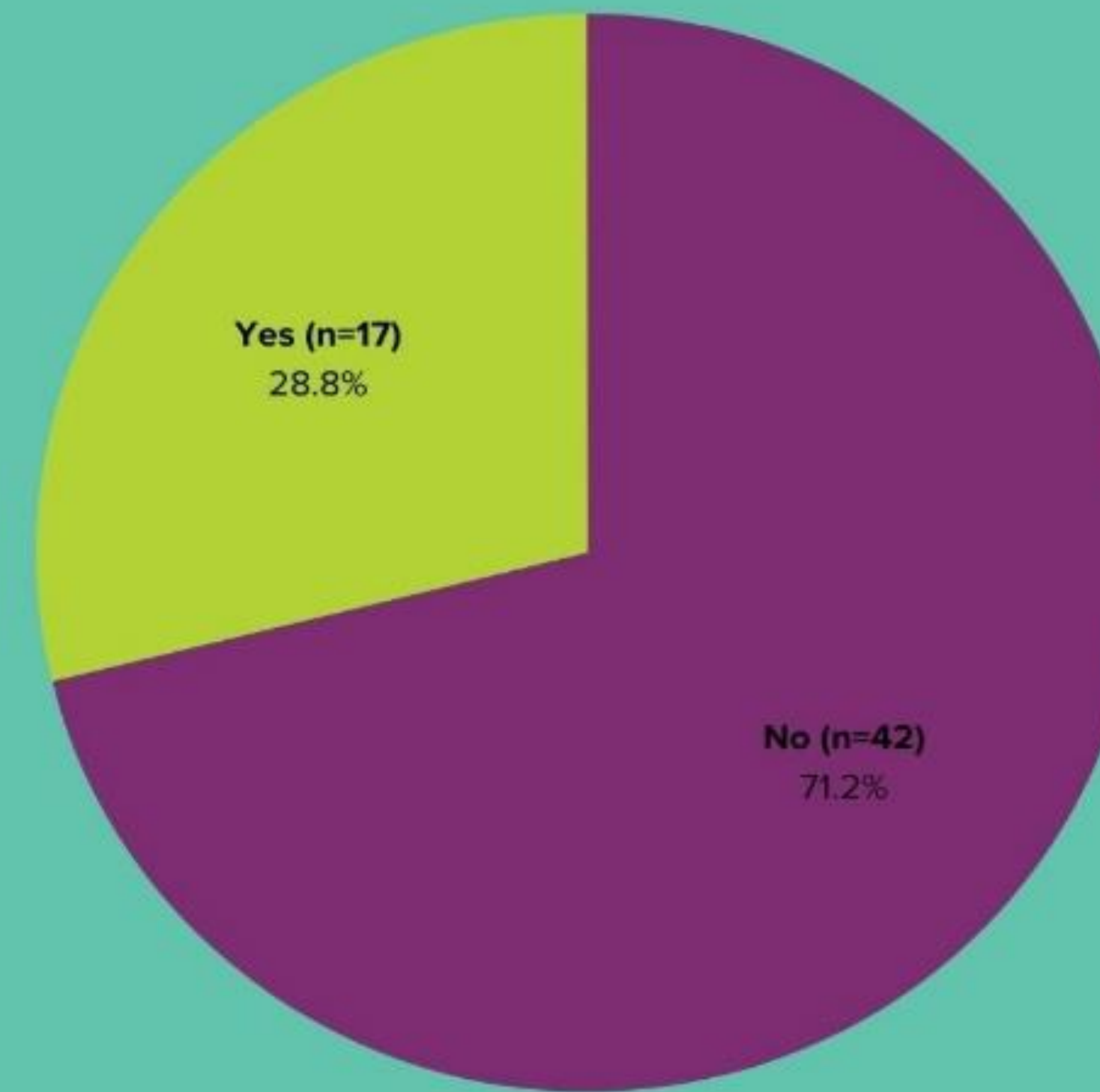
## Materials

The Sexual Health Survey was deployed using Microsoft Forms. A QR code was used to allow the public to take the survey virtually. Paper copies were available during tabling events to collect answers from those without access to the internet. Posters, cards, and social media posts were used to promote the survey.

## Results

Do you use condoms when participating in penetrative anal sex? (Either giving and/or receiving)

■ No (n=42) ■ Yes (n=17)

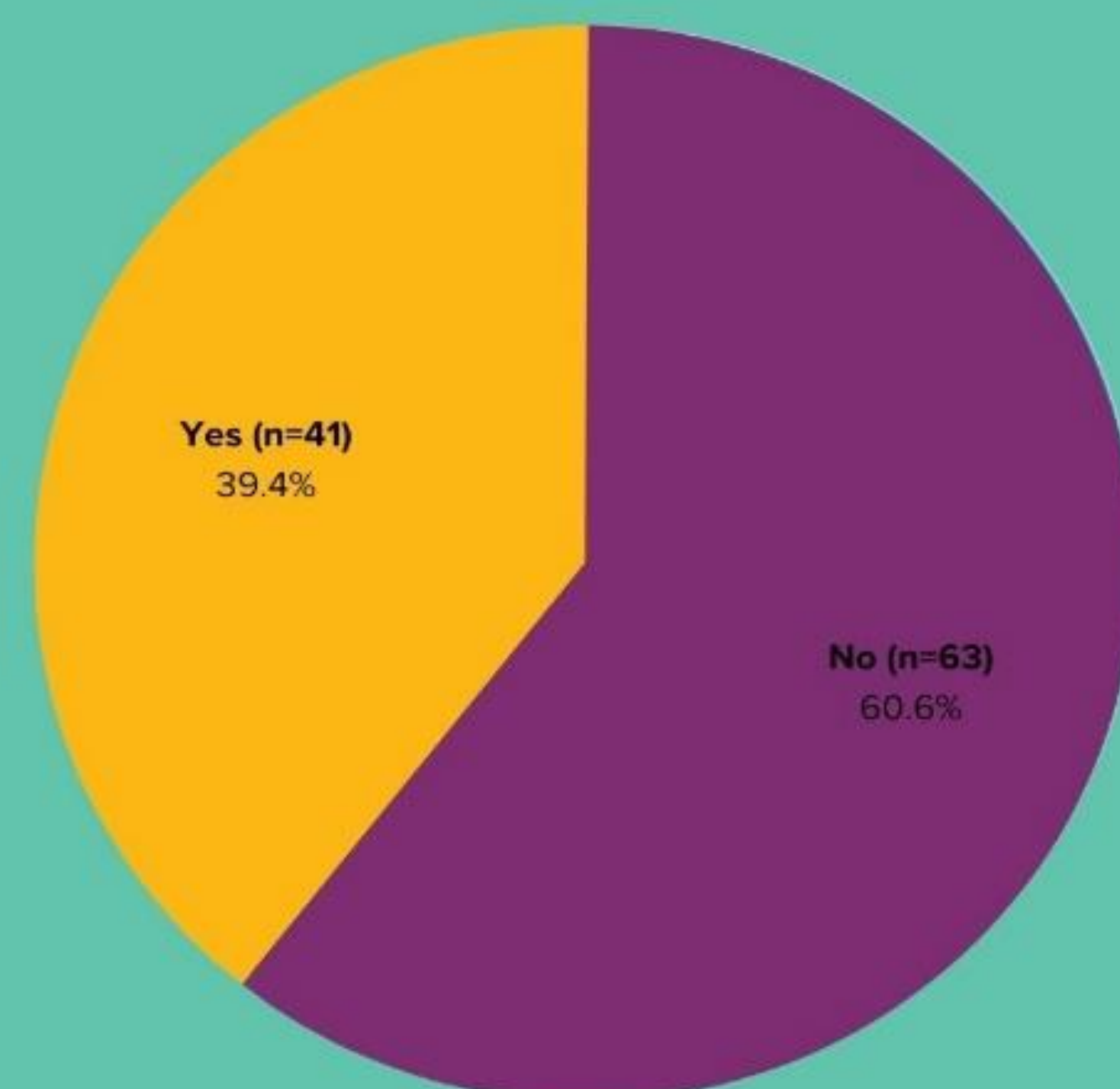


Data note: The "n" provided in the chart above corresponds to the number of responses to that specific question after excluding responses of "Do not wish to answer", "I do not know what a condom is" and "I do not participate in penetrative vaginal sex as the person giving or receiving."

Created with Datawrapper

Do you use condoms when participating in penetrative vaginal sex? Either as the person giving or receiving?

■ No (n=63) ■ Yes (n=41)



Data note: The "n" provided in the chart above corresponds to the number of responses to that specific question after excluding responses of "Do not wish to answer", "I do not know what a condom is" and "I do not participate in penetrative vaginal sex as the person giving or receiving."

Created with Datawrapper

The most common reason given for choosing not to use a condom during anal or vaginal penetrative sex was being in a long term and/or monogamous relationship

## Recommendations

Work to promote the use of condoms during intercourse through outreach events and offering free condoms to community members.

Educate community members on how to make condoms more pleasurable to influence more condom use. For example, showing how to add lube to the inside of the condom.

Conduct outreach to meet with groups of all age ranges across Onondaga County to promote condom use and STI testing.

## Introduction

The Sexual Wellness Center (SWC) at the Onondaga County Health Department (OCHD) created a Sexual Health Survey in the Spring of 2023 to assess the sexual health of the residents. A sexual health assessment has never been done in Onondaga County (OC) prior to the SHS being deployed. Cases of STI's have been on the rise in OC. In 2022, there was a total of 3,706 cases. As of September 2023, there were already 2,680 cases of STI's in the county. The goal of the SHS is to help understand the cause of high STI cases.

## Methodology

The SHS consists of 42 questions and was created by using questions already existing on the Sexual Wellness Center Client Risk Assessment and the National Sexual Health and Behavior survey by Indiana State University at Bloomington. The Sexual Wellness Center worked with several community partners to deploy the SHS. The SWC also contacted local businesses to display survey posters in windows to attract participants. Tabling events were also used to promote the survey and incentives such as grocery tote bags with the SWC logo on them were given those completing the survey.

## References

Indiana State University at Bloomington (2023) National Sexual Health and Behavior Survey.  
<https://nationalsexstudy.indiana.edu/index.html>