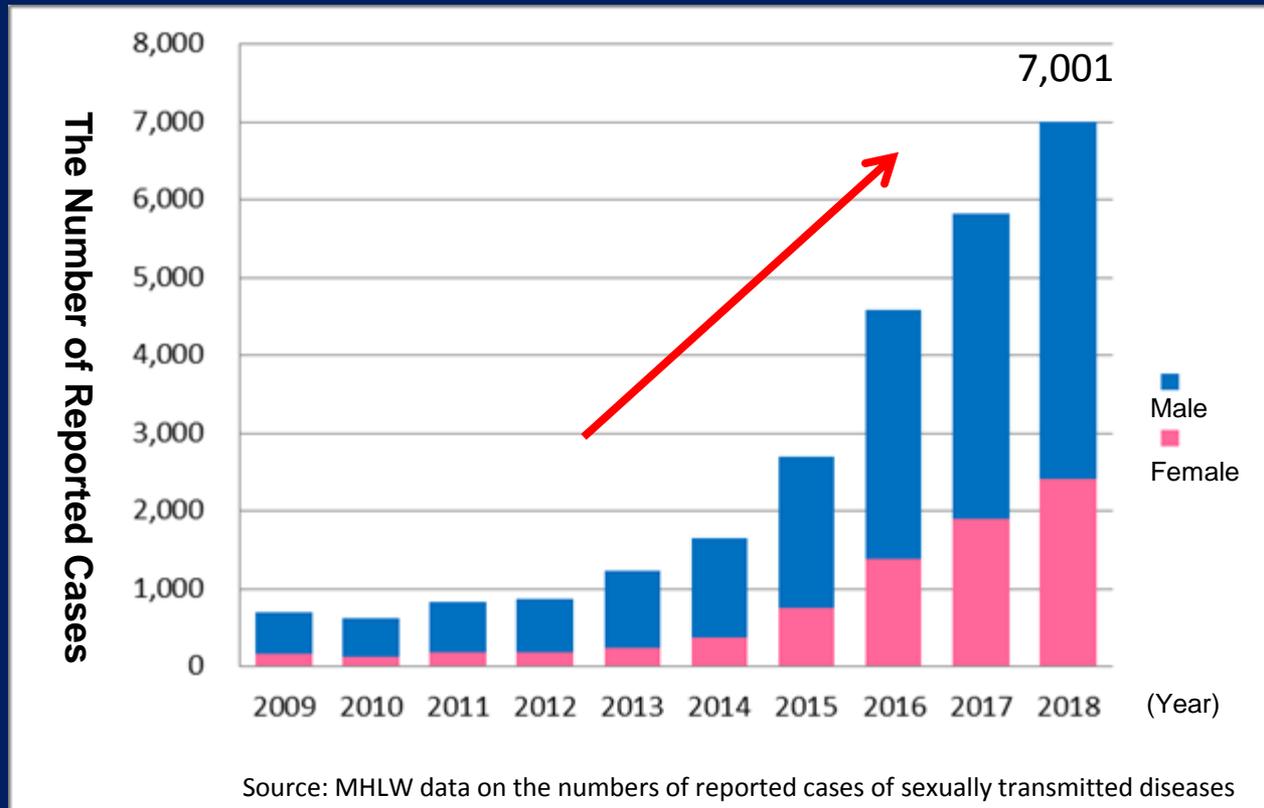


Current Situation and Control Measures for Syphilis in Tokyo

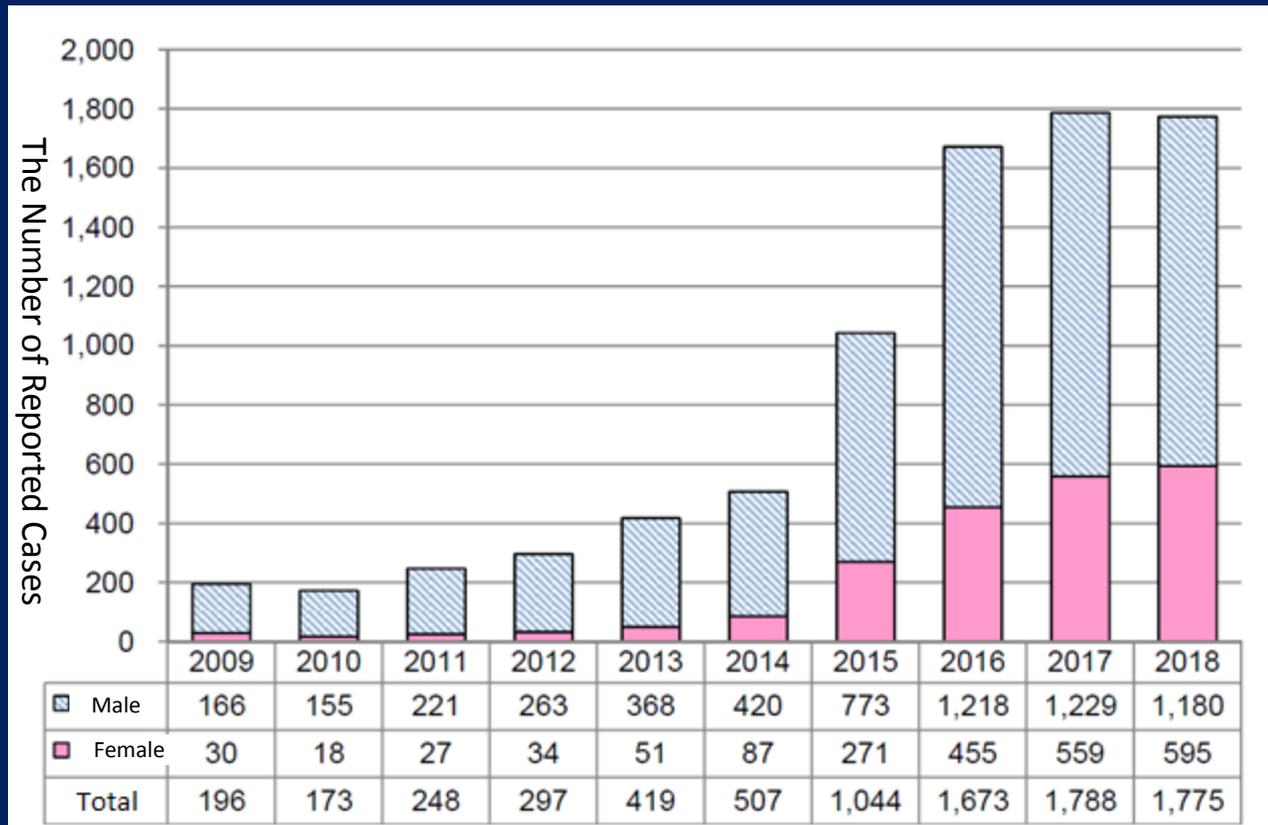
Infectious Diseases Control Section,
Health and Safety Division,
Bureau of Social Welfare and Public Health,
Tokyo Metropolitan Government (TMG)

The Number of Reported Syphilis Cases in Japan, 2009-2018



In recent years, more cases of syphilis are being reported in Japan.

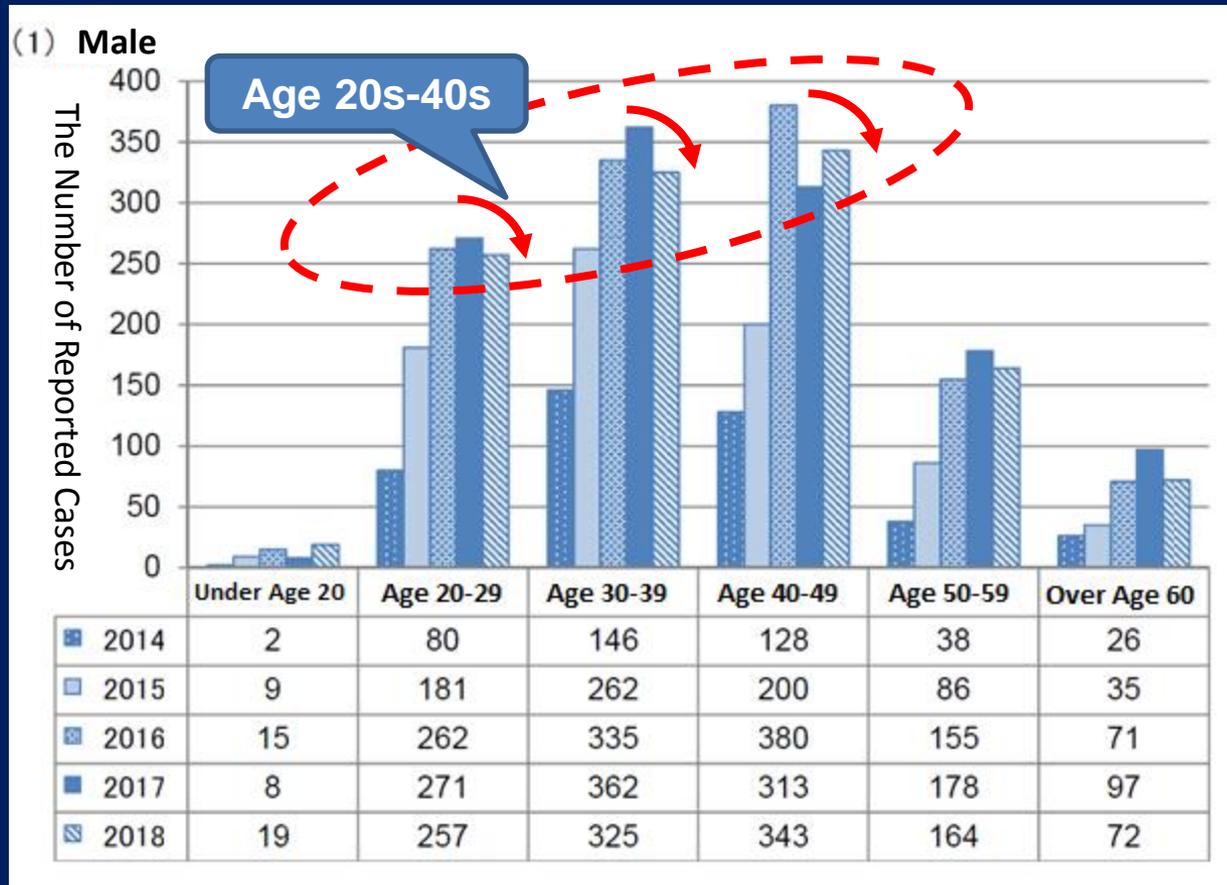
Reported Syphilis Cases in Tokyo (by Sex)



In Tokyo, The number of reported cases of syphilis had increased until 2017.

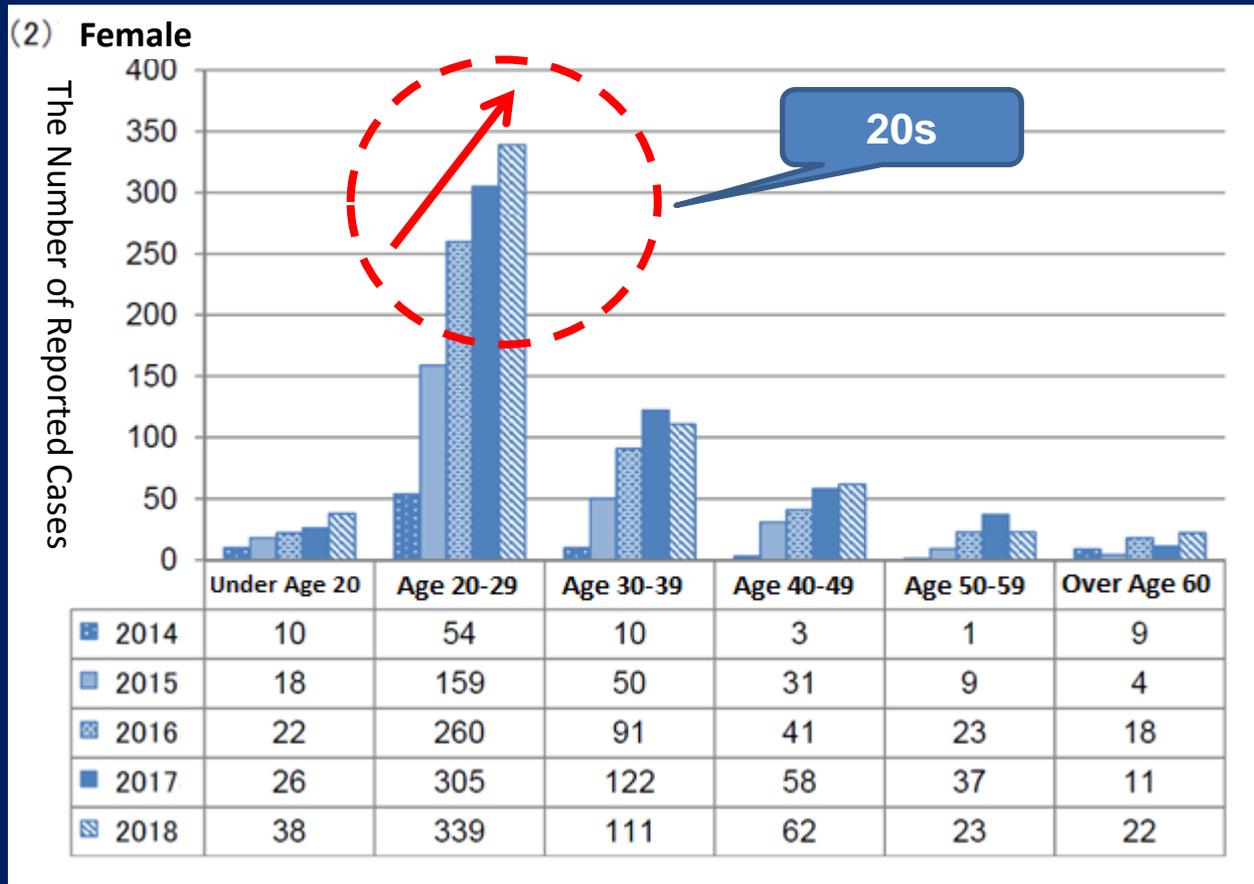
However, in 2018 it has slightly decreased.

Reported Syphilis Cases in Tokyo (Male / by Age Group)



Most of the male patients are in their 20s to 40s, but those cases are decreasing.

Reported Syphilis Cases in Tokyo (Female / by Age Group)



The number of reported cases among female in their 20s has increased in 5 consecutive years.

The History of Using/Providing Sexual Services among Syphilis Cases (2018, Tokyo)

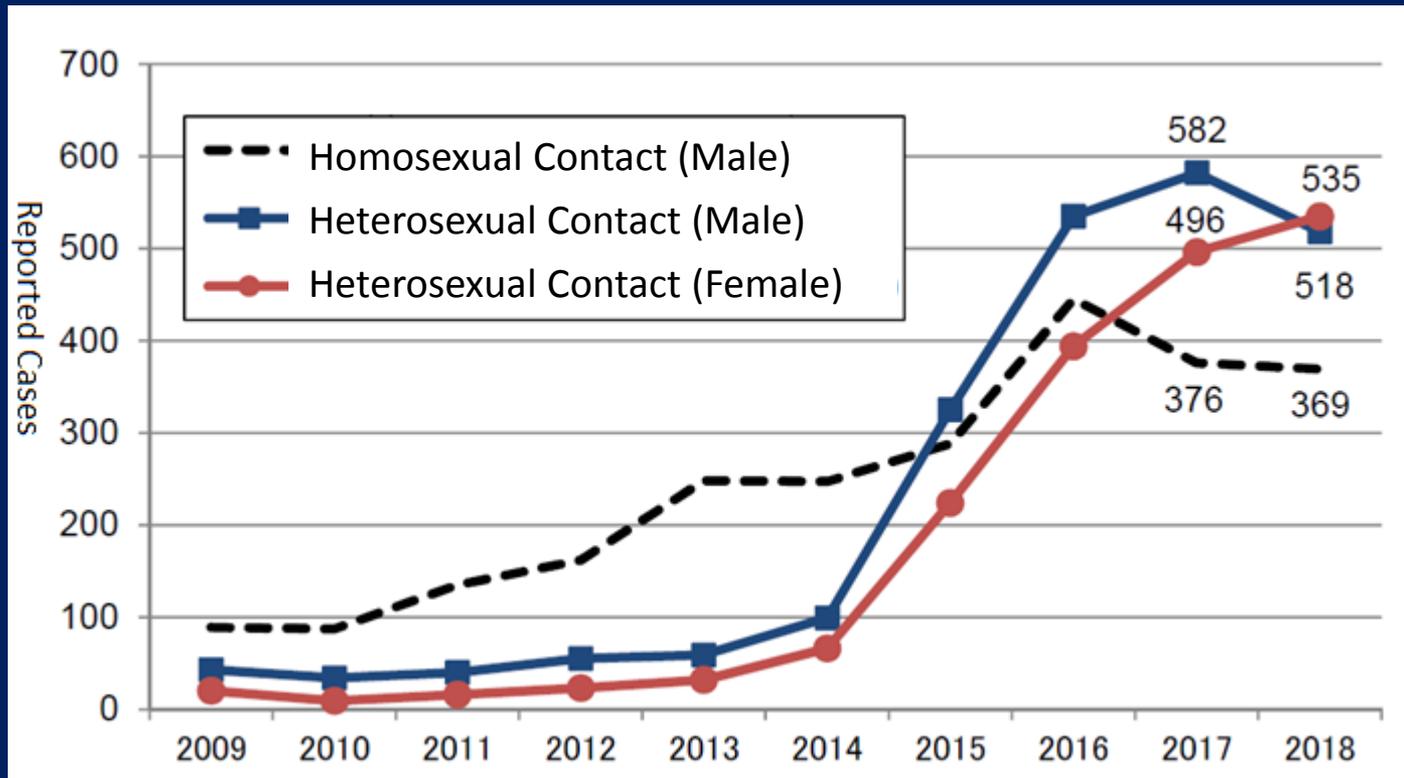
Question	answer	Male *1 (%) <N=518>	Female *2(%) <N=535>
Have you used sexual services in the past 6 months?	Yes	66.7	0.3
	No	33.3	99.7
Have you provided sexual services in the past 6 months?	Yes	2.6	62.0
	No	97.4	38.0

*1. Analysed excluding men who have sex with men or 'unknown/blank'.

*2. Analysed excluding 'unknown/blank'.

According to a survey of sexual services using or providing experiences among reported cases, 66.7% of the male had used and 62.0% of the female had provided.

Reported Syphilis Cases in Tokyo (by transmission route)



Until 2014, the most reported transmission route had been “Homosexual Contact (Male)”, but it changed to “Heterosexual Contact (Female) in 2018 ”.

Control measures for syphilis taken by the Tokyo Metropolitan Government (2018 – 2020)

1. Raising public awareness
2. Expanding the laboratory capacity and strengthening the consulting system
3. Developing the medical service system

[1. Raising public awareness]

Posters and Leaflets

梅毒は、流行っています。

SYPHILIS is SPREADING.

梅毒を知っていますか？
セックス（オーラルを含む）で感染する病気です。

Do you know what syphilis is?
It's a disease you can get by having sex.

梅毒に感染するとこんな症状が出ます。

These are the symptoms of syphilis.

ここ数年で東京都の梅毒患者数は急増しています。

Recently the number of people in Tokyo with syphilis has been rapidly rising.

特に女性の患者数が約6倍に増加

Year	男性 (Male)	女性 (Female)
2014	420	87
2015	773	271
2016	1,218	455
2017	1,229	559

梅毒は早期に治療をすれば治ります。
パートナーも受診しましょう。

Syphilis can be cured with early treatment, so you should get tested for syphilis with your partner.

検査は、HIV検査と同時に、保健所等で匿名・無料で受けられます。
※詳細は「東京都HIV検査情報web」をご参照ください。 <http://tokyo-kensa.jp/>
Just like for HIV/AIDS, you can get tested for syphilis for free and anonymously at a health clinic.
*Please visit the Tokyo Metropolitan HIV Test Information Website for further information.

感染拡大を防ぐためには、検査による早期発見、早期治療が重要です。
梅毒に関して詳しく知りたい方は「東京都性感染症ナビ」へ
<http://www.fukushihoken.metro.tokyo.jp/seikansensho/>

東京都

To raise public awareness, we made posters and leaflets.

This includes basic knowledge of syphilis, etc.

As most of patients are their 20s-40s, we distributed these materials at workplaces, schools, etc.

[1. Raising public awareness]

“Tokyo STI Navigation Website”

this provides comprehensive information on STIs.



It is designed especially for young people, with casual illustrations and video clips.

Users can get basic knowledge of STIs through some quizzes in e-learning system.

Search interlocking advertising increased site access to about 5 times, and video clip view counts to over 80,000.

[2. Expanding the laboratory capacity and strengthening the consulting system]

Simultaneous Testing of HIV and Syphilis

TMG has changed the HIV/syphilis test policy.

We performed HIV and syphilis test simultaneously.

(Anonymous, free of charge)



[3. Developing the medical service system]

Syphilis Training for Medical Professionals



TMG provides training opportunities for medical providers including physicians, dermatologists, public health nurses and registered nurses to develop their practice of syphilis.

Training consists of the lecture that includes the basic knowledge and information to examine syphilis patients.

90% of participants said it was satisfying, and several cases were reported from medical providers which haven't reported before.

[3. Developing the medical service system]

Providing STI clinic / hospital Information on the Website



Many of the syphilis positive patients don't know where they can get appropriate therapy.

To improve access to the medical institute.



	Name of the clinic/ hospital	Address	Telephone number
1	XX Clinic	1-2-3 XXX Shinjuku-ku	03-XXXX-XXXX
2	YY Hospital	4-5-6 YYY Shinjuku-ku	03-YYYY-YYYY
3	ZZ Dispensary	7-8-9 ZZZ Shinjuku-ku	03-ZZZZ-ZZZZ

New Control Measures for syphilis

[1. Raising Awareness to the Sex Workers]

Providing Precise Information to Sex Workers



Sex workers have scarce opportunities to learn STIs.

TMG plans to make and distribute leaflets to raise awareness among female sex workers.

The leaflets provide basic knowledge of syphilis, necessity of testing at stated periods, correct use of contraceptives, etc.

[2. Expanding the laboratory capacity and strengthening the consulting system]

STIs Consultation Manuals for Public Health Nurses

To answer the questions appropriately from person who might contract STIs.



TMG plans to make a guide book for consultation based on the latest findings and tests for STIs such as syphilis.

This is aimed to get public health centers' staff more skilled and raise the standard of consultation.

Survey on Awareness of STIs among Young Population in Tokyo

Survey Overview

Purpose

To raise awareness of STIs effectively.

Period

February 6th – 22nd, 2019

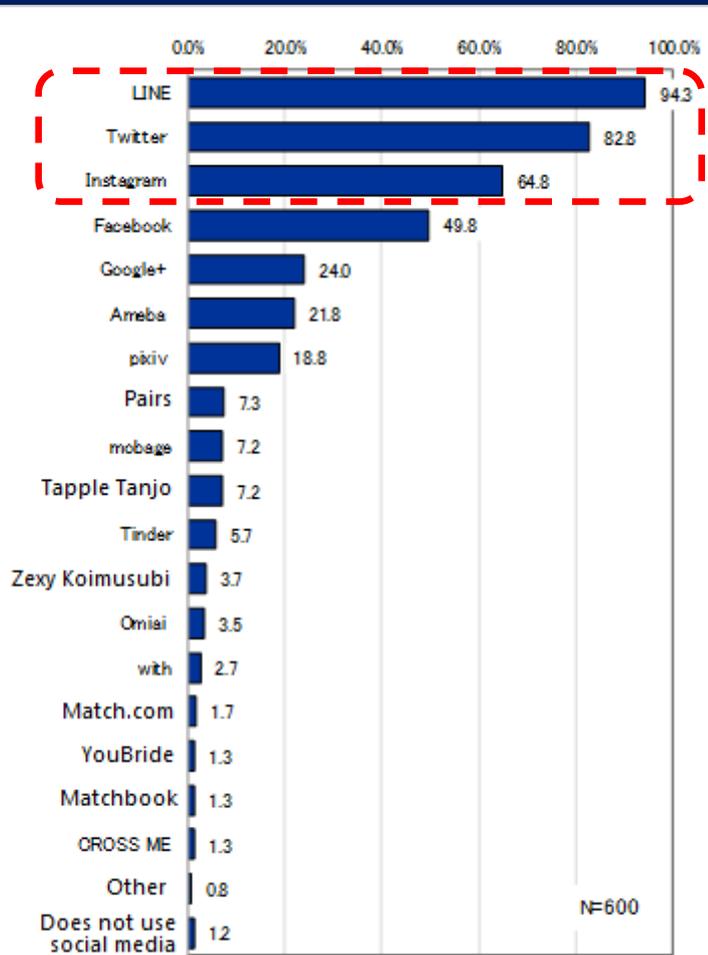
Method

- Young Population: online questionnaire
- Counselors: mail questionnaire

Subjects

- Young Population: Men and women ages 18 – 29,
living in Tokyo (N = 600)
- Counselors: Professionals who give health guidance to
young people
Staff of health management departments and
School nurses (N = 29)

[1. Survey among young population] Usage Rates of Social Media



(1) Usage rate of social media:
98.8%

(2) Platforms used:

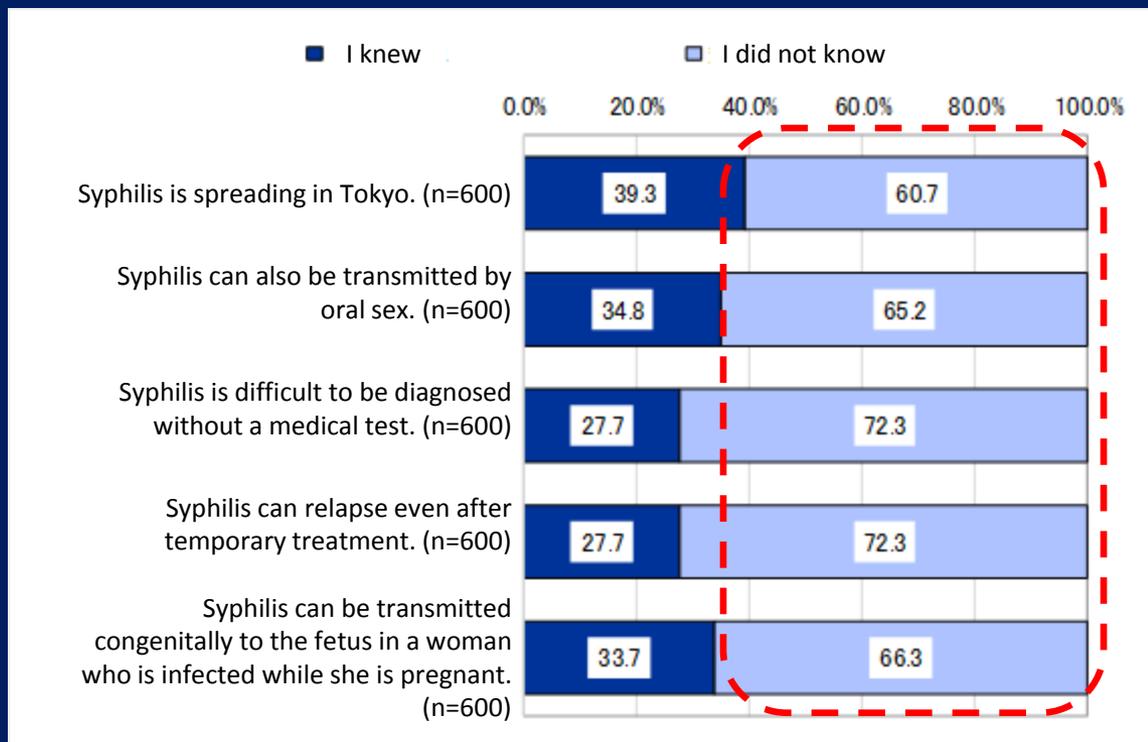
1st **LINE** : 94.3%

2nd **Twitter** : 82.8%

3rd **Instagram** : 64.8%

[1. Survey among young population]

Degree of Basic Knowledge of Syphilis

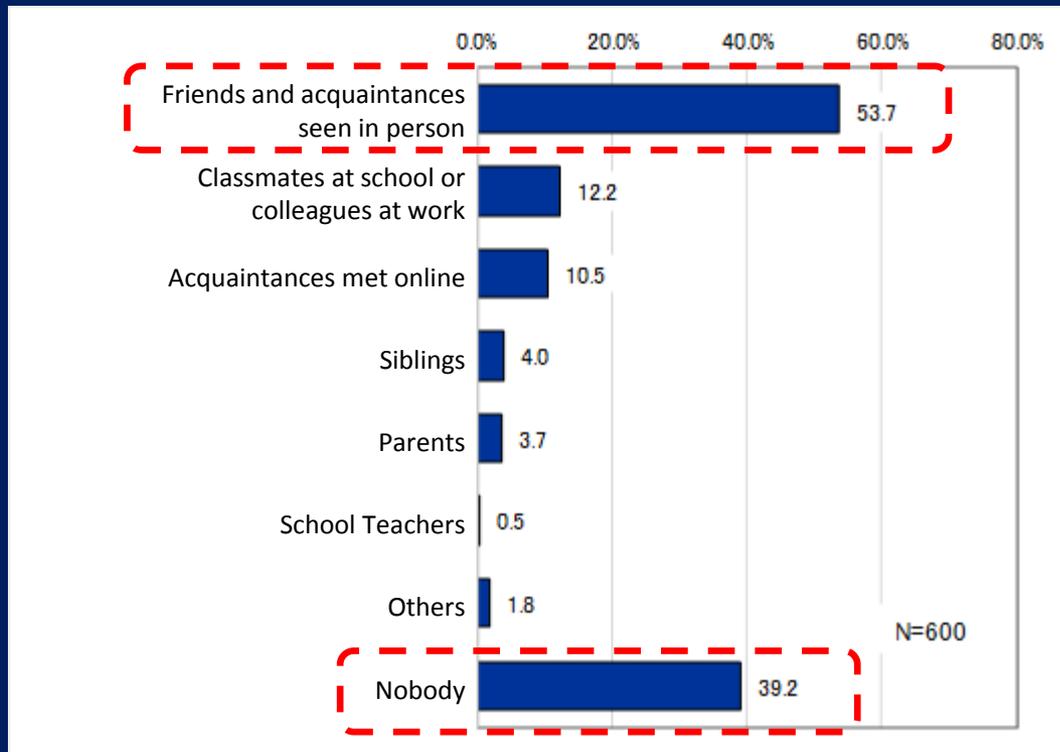


Over 60% said “I did not know” about syphilis.

Over 70% did not know “Syphilis is difficult to diagnose without a medical test,” or “Syphilis reinfection can occur.”

[1. Survey among young population]

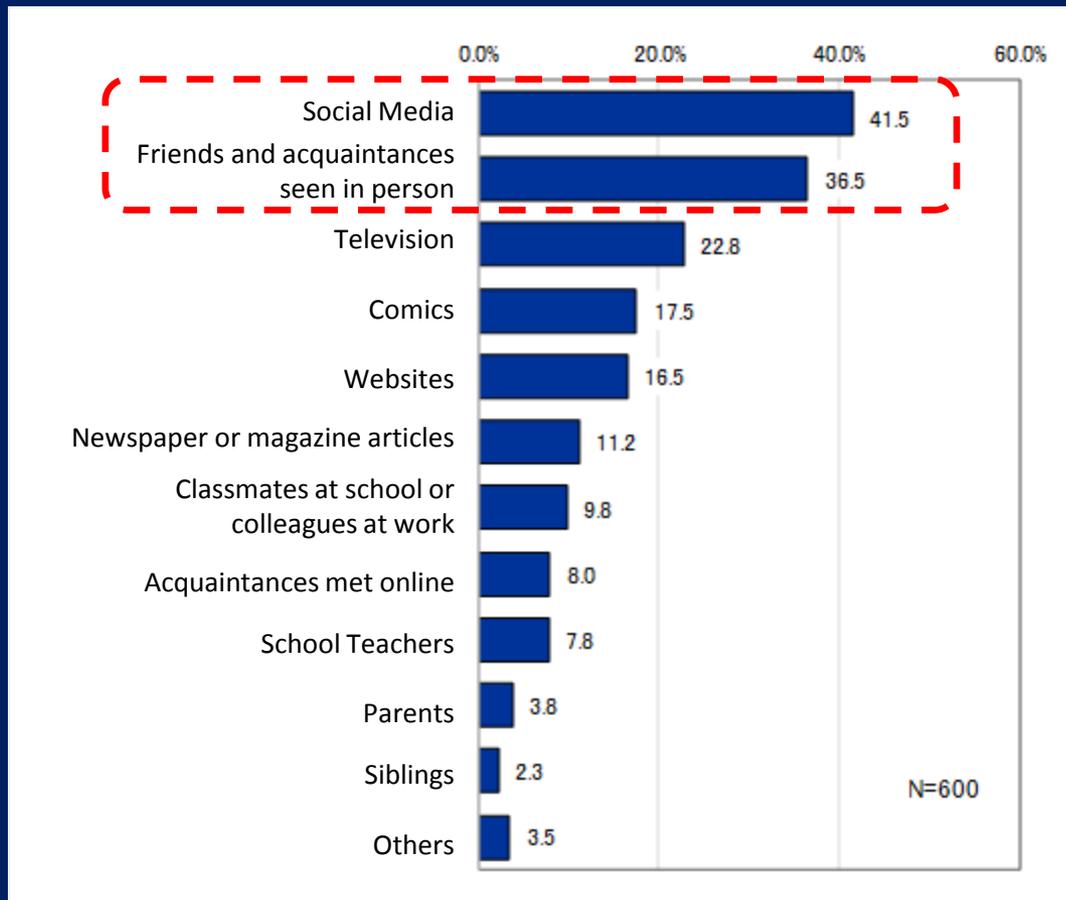
Who You Are Likely to Talk about Sex with



“Friends and acquaintances” is the highest at 53.7%.

Followed by “None” at 39.2%.

[1. Survey among young population] Source of Information on Sexuality and Sexual Intercourse

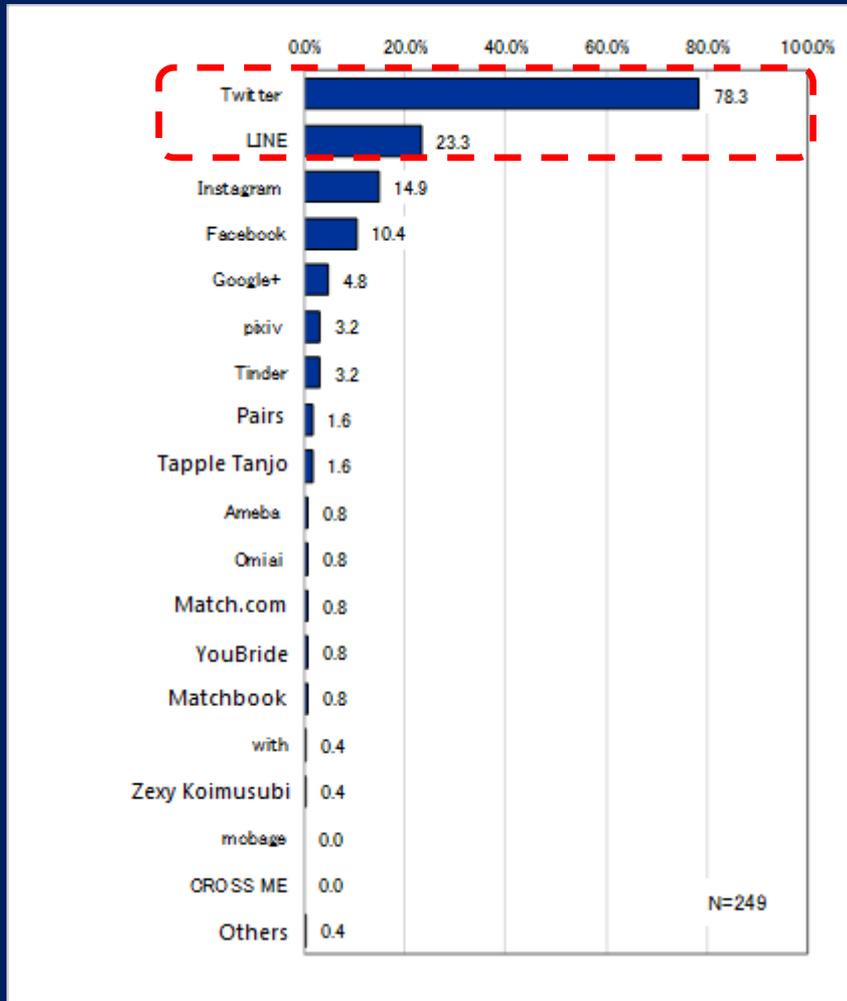


“Social Media” is the highest at 41.5%.

Followed by “Friends and acquaintances” at 36.5%.

[1. Survey among young population]

Sources of Information on Sexuality and Sexual Intercourse (social media)

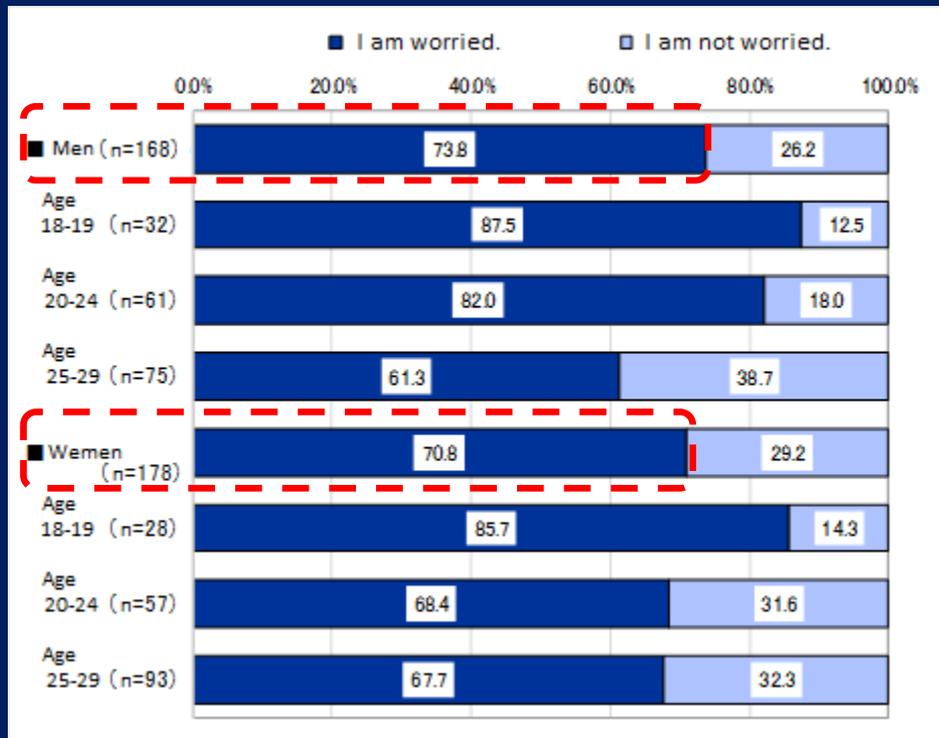


“Twitter” is the highest at 78.3%.

Followed by “LINE” at 23.3%.

[1. Survey among young population]

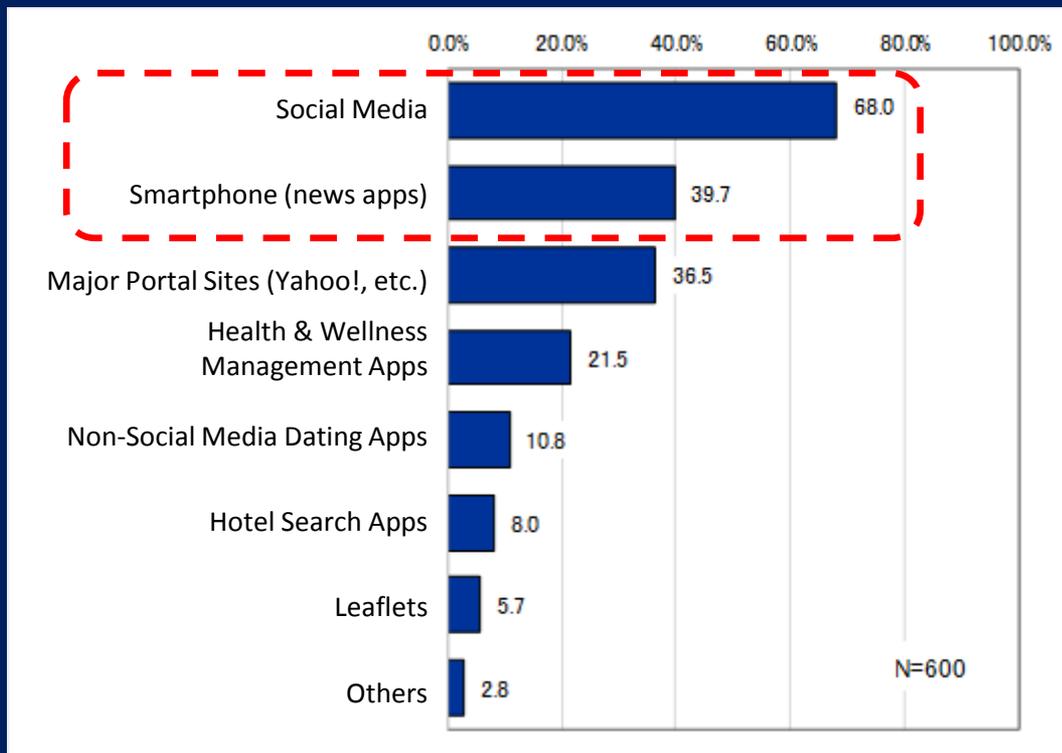
Ratio of Subjects Worried about STIs



73.8% of the male and 70.8% of the female say “I am worried about STIs.”

As they get older, they become less worried.

[1. Survey among young population] Effective Procedure for Reach Young Population

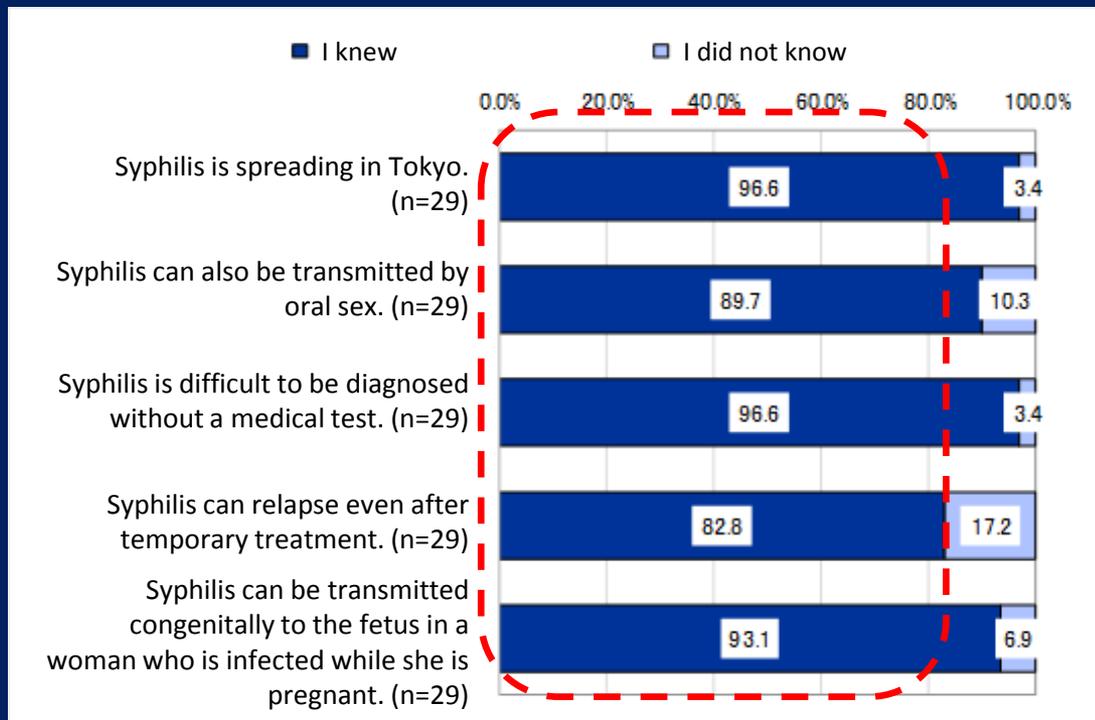


“Social Media” is the highest at 68.0%.

Followed by “Smartphone Apps” at 39.7%.

[2. Survey among counselors]

Basic Knowledge of Syphilis

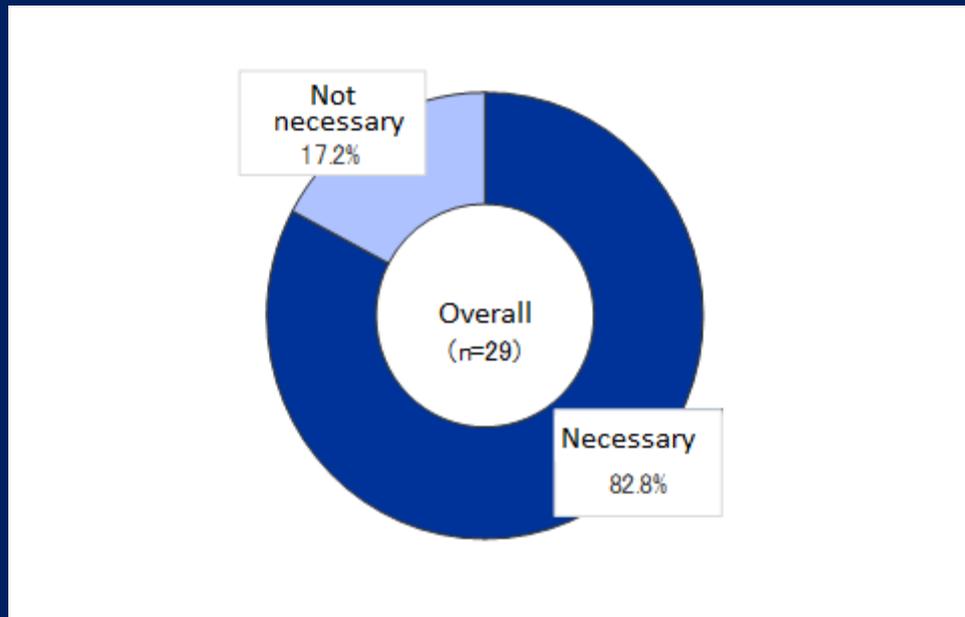


Over 80% know about all.

Over 90% know “Syphilis is spreading,” “Syphilis is difficult to diagnose without medical tests,” and “It can cause congenital Syphilis.”

[2. Survey among counselors]

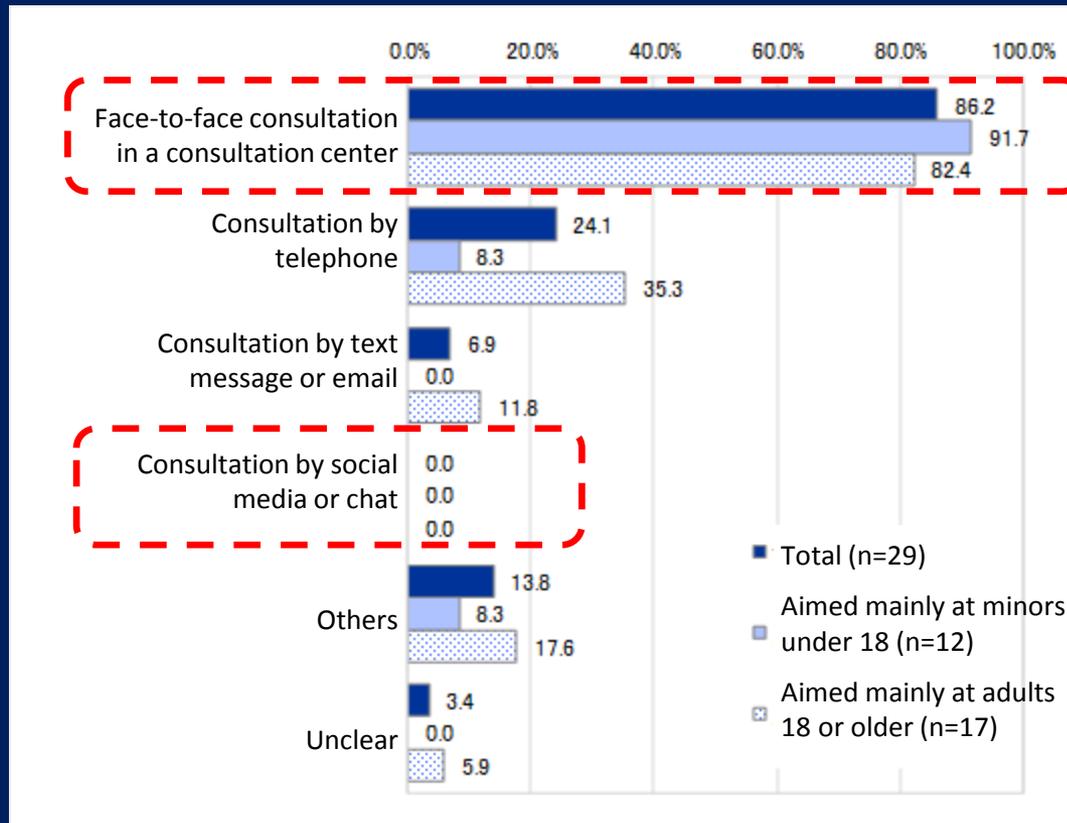
Necessity of Information on STIs Prevention.



82.8% said
“It is necessary
to distribute
information
about STIs
prevention.”

[2. Survey among counselors]

Methods of Consultation

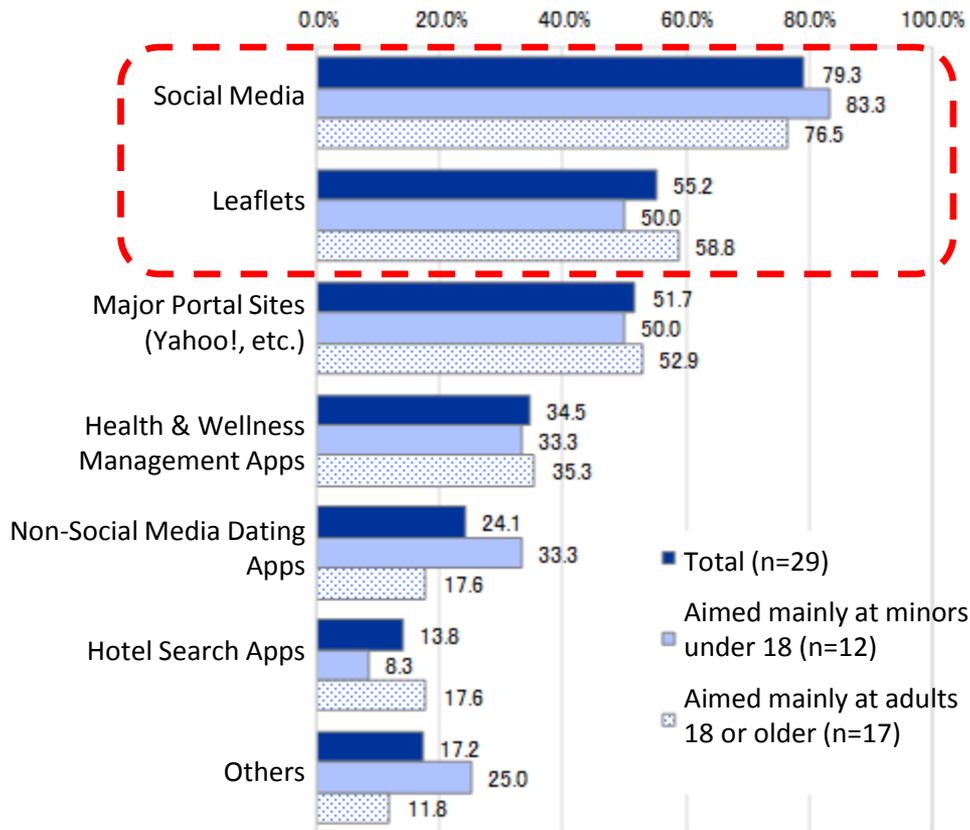


86.2% offer
“Face-to-face
consultation in a
consultation center.”

Zero offer
“consultation using
social media or
chat”!

[2. Survey among counselors]

Effective Procedure for Providing Precise STI information to Young Population



“Social Media” is the highest at 79.3%.

Followed by “Leaflets” at 55.2%.

Summary of This Survey

- Large young population is worried about STIs, but cannot get precise information.
- Young population is facing high hurdles to get consultation at reception counters, etc.
- Social media has great potential as a procedure for providing information.
- “Tokyo STI Navigation Website” is effective for providing precise information, but the problem remains how to get views.



TMG plans (this year) to “study effective procedures for educating young population on how to prevent, test for, and treat STIs including syphilis.”

In Conclusion

<Trends in the reported cases of syphilis>

- In Japan overall, the number of reported cases of syphilis is increasing, but slightly decreasing in Tokyo.
- Cases are rising rapidly among women in their 20s.
- 66.7% of male patients have used sex services.
62.0% of female patients have provided sex services.
- Most reported transmission route is “Heterosexual Contact (Female) in 2018 ”.

In Conclusion (Continued)

< Survey on awareness of STIs among young population >

- Large young population is worried about STIs, but could not get precise information.
- Social media has great potential as a procedure for spreading information.

<Control measures>

- TMG will strengthen control measures against syphilis for 3 years starting in 2018 (this includes raising awareness, testing/consulting, medical service systems)

<Future Plans>

- TMG will strengthen control measures based on approaches taken so far and trends in the reported cases of syphilis.