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Characteristics, High-Risk Behaviors and Knowledge of STI/HIV/AIDS and STI/HIV Prevalence of Facility-based Female Sex Workers in Batumi, Georgia: 2004 – 2006

Report on Two Behavioral Surveillance Surveys with a Biomarker Component for the SHIP Project



Save the Children®



Tanadgoma – Center for Information and Counseling on Reproductive Health



Bemoni Public Union



Infectious Diseases, AIDS and Clinical Immunology Research Center



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Artwork

Art on the cover page and in the report are original works of art included in the pamphlets, leaflets and brochures used in the Information, Education and Communication component of the SHIP project.

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Translating any document, especially a report written with technical health and statistical expressions, is challenging. Nonetheless, Nino Tsereteli has provided a high-quality version of the report in Georgian; this made the report accessible to a wide Georgian audience interested in understanding how to improve services and treatment for FSWs.

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Acronyms

AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
AIDS Center	Infectious Diseases, AIDS & Clinical Immunology Research Center
BSS	Behavioral Surveillance Survey
CT	<i>Chlamydia trachomatis</i>
ELISA	Enzyme Linked Immunosorbent Assay
FSW	Female Sex Worker
GEL	Georgian Lari (exchange rate of 2.1 GEL/1 USD in Oct. 02; 1.8 GEL/1 USD in Oct. 04; 1.7 GEL/1USD in May 05)
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
IDP	Internally Displaced Person
IDUs	Injecting Drug Users
IgG	Immunoglobulin G
IPM	Institute for Polling & Marketing
MTCT	Mother to Child Transmission
MSM	Men who have Sex with Men
NG	<i>Neisseria gonorrhoea</i>
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
PCR	Polymerase Chain Reaction
RPR	Rapid Plasma Reagent
SC	Save the Children
SHIP	STI/HIV Prevention Project
SPSS	Statistical Package for the Social Sciences
STIs	Sexually Transmitted Infections
TG	Tanadgoma
TP	<i>Treponema pallidum</i>
TPHA	<i>Treponema pallidum</i> Hemagglutination Assay
VCT	Voluntary Counseling and Testing
WHO	World Health Organization

Definitions

Anonymous-linked testing – testing where no names are taken but results are linked to a number that only the participant knows.

Consistent Condom Use - Use of condoms every time sexual relations occur, which includes vaginal, anal, or oral sex.

Divorced - A person who has officially terminated the contract of marriage.

FSW client - A person with whom the FSW has established sexual relations in exchange for money or goods.

High-Risk Behavior - Any behavior that puts an individual or individuals at increased risk of contracting STIs/HIV or transmitting STIs/HIV to another individual (e.g., having multiple sex partners without using condoms consistently; sharing used non-sterile needles among IDUs).

Permanent Client - A client who often uses sexual services of one particular FSW.

Regular sexual partner - A spouse/lover/boyfriend with whom the FSW cohabitates and has established regular sexual contacts without exchange of money.

Separated - A person who does not cohabitates and has a broken relationship with her/his spouse without having officially terminated the legal status of marriage.

Street-based female sex workers – women who seek to provide sex in exchange for money by walking or standing on streets.

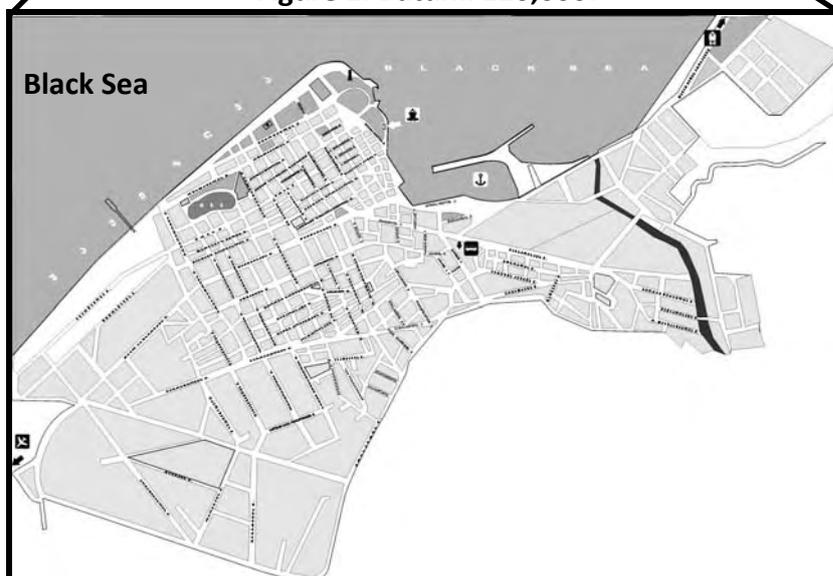
Time-Location Sampling - Based on tendency of some group members to gather at certain locations. Different sites are enumerated and mapped through observation, then a list of sites then used as sampling frame from which to select a sample of sites.

Location

Figure 1: Map of Georgia; population - 4.4 million.



Figure 2: Batumi 120,000.



Overview

This report presents two behavioral surveillance surveys (BSSs) with a biomarker component conducted in Batumi, Georgia among facility-based female sex workers (FSWs). The first BSS (hereafter BSS-1) was conducted in 2004 and the second BSS (hereafter BSS-2) was conducted in 2006. BSS-1 represents a baseline to measure the prevalence of STIs/HIV as well as different high-risk behaviors contributing to the spread of the infection among FSWs. In addition, it provided a basis for designing and evaluating behavior change interventions implemented within Save the Children's STI/HIV Prevention (SHIP) Project. BSS-2 was a follow-up study to measure if any change has occurred in high-risk behaviors and the prevalence of STIs/HIV since 2004.

As a pre-surveillance assessment, formative research with FSWs and key informants took place to learn more about commercial sex work in Batumi. The findings revealed that, unlike Tbilisi, there are few street-based FSWs in Batumi, as they commonly operate from bars, saunas, hotels, and restaurants. Thus, the survey was conducted among facility-based FSWs.

To develop a survey sampling frame, a preliminary ethnographic mapping exercise was undertaken in October-November 2004 and May-June 2006 to identify the numbers, venues, and working hours of FSWs. These facility-based maps, with working hours, were then used to "recruit all" FSWs willing to participate in the studies. In both BSSs a total of 120 facility-based FSWs were recruited and interviewed. The interviews were conducted face-to-face by experienced interviewers from the Institute for Polling and Marketing (IPM) at the Healthy Cabinet clinic located at the Republican Center of Health Services for Mother and Child.

FSWs were asked questions regarding high-risk behaviors, knowledge of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and HIV/AIDS, and use of health services. After the interview, each respondent was asked if she would provide both a urine and blood specimen for an anonymous-linked test for STIs and HIV.

Introduction

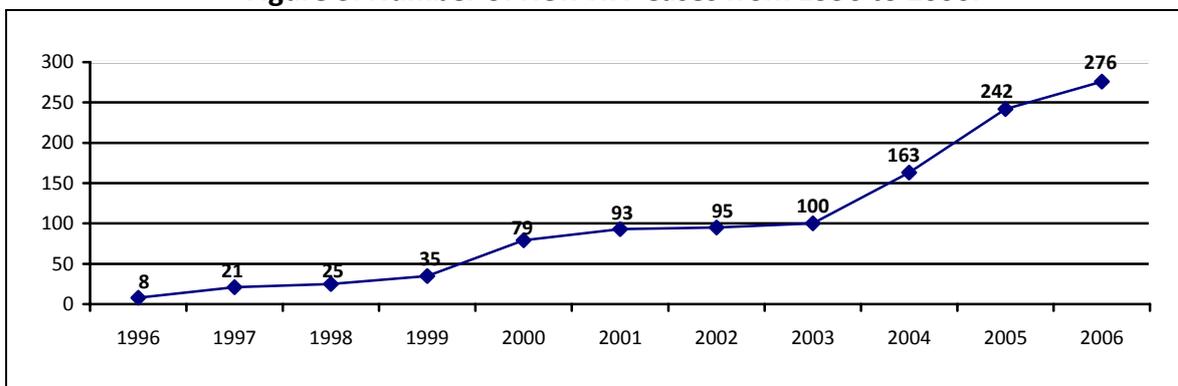
According to the 2002 Census, Georgia's population is 4.4 million people in a geographical area of 70,000-sq. km., bounded by the Black Sea, Russia, Azerbaijan, Armenia and Turkey. Much of the social structure supporting health care has become increasingly dysfunctional since the collapse of the former Soviet system and the economy, paralleling the rise in overall risk to the health of the population. Transparent borders, allowing drugs to move freely throughout the region, and liberalization of sexual taboos traditional to Georgians, has resulted in increased levels of high-risk behaviors involving FSWs and injecting drug users (IDUs). This has, in turn, resulted in an accelerating spread of sexually transmitted infections (STIs), including HIV.

The incidence of HIV has grown slowly and is presently concentrated within the IDU population. The wide availability of drugs, combined with the complex factors motivating demand, and the almost total absence of educational interventions to reduce demand, is likely to mean that IDU trends will continue in an upward direction for the foreseeable future. Also, the exponential growth in STIs, particularly among young people, is alarming in that STIs are a co-factor in HIV transmission. Moreover, the same risk behaviors perpetuate both infections. STIs also have severe reproductive consequences, in addition to increasing HIV transmission.

WHO experts indicate that Georgia is on the verge of an HIV/AIDS outbreak if adequate preventive measures are not taken. At present, Georgia falls within the category of countries classified as low HIV prevalence, defined by UNAIDS as having less than 5% infection in all groups, with the highest concentration among high-risk groups that includes IDUs and FSWs. The first HIV diagnosis in Georgia was made in 1989. As of the end of 2006 there was a total of 1,156 HIV registered cases; 897 are males and 259 are females, the vast majority of infected persons is 21 to 40 years of age.¹

The trend since 1996 has seen an increase in the number of HIV cases (see **Error! Reference source not found.**). However, STI/HIV data suffer from a weak surveillance system, which is likely to have resulted in widespread under-reporting. Moreover, the anecdotal reports of recent increases in the rates of STIs indicate a future potential for HIV to spread more rapidly among a wider population through sexual contact.

Figure 3: Number of New HIV Cases from 1996 to 2006.



As of mid-March 2007 there was a total of 1,214 HIV registered cases; 936 are males and 278 are females, the vast majority of infected persons is 29 to 40 years of age.² The actual number of persons living with HIV in Georgia may be closer to 3,500 persons.³ IDUs account for 61.6% of the registered HIV cases in Georgia; heterosexual contacts for 31.6% (1/3 of these heterosexual contacts were with known IDUs); homo/bi-sexual contacts for 2.8%; 0.8% were blood recipients; 1.8% was from vertical transmission; and 0.8% was from unknown causes.⁴

Unfortunately, very limited epidemiological data is available on STI/HIV prevalence and on the high-risk behaviors of FSWs in Georgia.⁵ The first was a cohort study conducted during 1997-1999 in Tbilisi (the capital), Poti and Batumi (port cities on the Black Sea) detected 1.4% prevalence of HIV among the 73 FSWs investigated.⁶ In another study, 51.5% of FSWs indicated they used condoms with clients on a permanent basis.⁷ The two BSSs discussed in this report represent the first systematic, non-coercive, and anonymous surveillance surveys of FSWs that follows international ethical standards.

¹ Infectious Diseases, AIDS and Clinical Immunology Research Center, Annual Report, 2004. Unpublished.

² Infectious Diseases, AIDS and Clinical Immunology Research Center, http://aidscenter.ge/epidsituation_eng.html.

³ Infectious Diseases, AIDS and Clinical Immunology Research Center, http://aidscenter.ge/epidsituation_eng.html.

⁴ Infectious Diseases, AIDS and Clinical Immunology Research Center, http://aidscenter.ge/epidsituation_eng.html.

⁵ It is estimated that there were from 700 to 4,000 women 15-49 years of age living with HIV in Georgia in 2003. UNAIDS, 2004 Report on the Global AIDS Epidemic. Pg. 197. <http://www.unaids.org/bangkok2004/GAR2004_pdf/GAR2004_table_countryestimates_en.pdf>

⁶ Situation Analysis on HIV/AIDS in Georgia, Georgia AIDS & Clinical Immunology Research Center, 2001.

⁷ Georgian AIDS & Immunology Research Center, 2001: pg.42 (unpublished).

During the Soviet period, FSWs were forced to undergo mandatory testing and treatment for STIs and HIV, and there was a very strict epidemiological surveillance system to control for these infections. This system and control disappeared with the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991. Since that time the Georgian authorities have struggled to develop totally new approaches to STI/HIV prevention. When BSS-1 was conducted all too often the police were involved in apprehending FSWs for compulsory testing and sex workers could avoid this forced testing by paying bribes or with sexual favors to the police. This harassment by law enforcement officers produced more barriers for FSWs to voluntarily seek treatment and made it more difficult for organizations providing services to this population. However, with the introduction of a new police force in the last two years this situation has substantially changed and improved.

Governmental and non-governmental organizations as well as the international donor community have responded to the spread of HIV in Georgia with pilot interventions. Despite the political support for such interventions, an effective comprehensive system to prevent the further spread of STIs and HIV is yet to be established – in Georgia as well as the South Caucasus region as a whole.

Even though Georgia is considered a low prevalence country for HIV, there is a great danger in equating low prevalence with low priority for HIV prevention.⁸ Economic conditions in Georgia have begun to improve over the last several years, but still remain poor. With the rapid decline in the socio-economic situation and increased social inequality that have occurred since independence from the Soviet Union, there has been an increase in stress, depression and hopelessness among individuals. This environment creates the conditions for greater HIV transmission, due to increased high-risk behaviors, such as drug use and prostitution.

Behavioral Surveillance Surveys

Two BSSs were conducted among FSWs in Batumi. BSS-1 was conducted in October/November of 2004 and BSS-2 was conducted in May/June 2006. All BSSs were conducted in cooperation with the Infectious Diseases, AIDS and Clinical Immunology Research Center (AIDS Center), which has been designated by the government as the primary HIV/AIDS research and treatment institution in Georgia.

The analyzes include a breakdown by five age groups for each indicator, which is presented in the data tables in the appendix; however, due to brevity of presentation a discussion of age group similarities and/or differences will not be discussed.

Also, it is interesting to note that in BSS-2, almost one-half (43%) of FSWs had participated in previous BSS-1. The summary of results from the three BSSs is presented in Table 1.

⁸ Mills, S. "Back to behavior: prevention priorities in countries with low prevalence." *AIDS* 2000; 14 (supplement 3): S267-73.

Table 1: Summary of Key Indicators for FSWs in Batumi.

Key Indicators	2004 BSS-1 Females (n=120)	2006 BSS-2 Females (n=120)
N	120	120
Participated in previous BSS	N/A	43% (52)
Biomarker		
<i>Neisseria gonorrhoea</i>	14.2% (17/120)	10.3% (12/117)
<i>Chlamydia Trachomatis</i>	20.0% (24/120)	23.9% (28/117)
Reactive syphilis serology (RPR, TPHA w/ ELISA confirmation)	33.0% (38/115)	36.0% (41/114)
Percentage with no STI	47.5% (57/120)	45.0% (50/111)
Percentage with 1 STI	50.0% (60/120)	41.4% (46/111)
Percentage with 2 or more STIs	13.3% (16/120)	13.5% (15/111)
HIV (ELISA with Western Blot confirmation)	0.0% (0/120)	0.1% (1/114)
Demographic Characteristics		
Median age	33 yrs	33 yrs
Level of education	70.0% (secondary)	76.7% (secondary)
Marital status	54.2% (married)	63.3% (div/sep)
Sole source of income	75.8% (91/120)	86.7% (104/120)
Have financial dependents	85.0% (102/120)	88.3% (106/120)
Average # of dependents for FSWs with dependents	4 (102)	3 (106)
Alcohol and Drug Use		
Consume alcohol at least once a week	45.0% (54/120)	56.7% (68/120)
Ever Taken "pills"	1.6% (2/120)	15.0% (18/120)
Ever used inhalants	0.8% (1/120)	0.8% (1/120)
Ever injected drugs	1.6% (2/120)	5.8% (7/120)
Study Population Characteristics		
Median age at 1 st sexual contact	17.0 yrs	17.0 yrs
Median age 1 st received money in exchange for sex	28.0 yrs	28.0 yrs
Mean years working as a sex worker	4.2 yrs (range yrs: <1 to 19)	4.3 yrs (range yrs: <1 to 16)
Sexual Risk Behavior		
Has non-paying/regular partner (lover/boyfriend/spouse)	71.7% (86/120)	69.2% (83/120)
Condom use during last sexual intercourse with non-paying/regular partner	18.6% (16/86)	18.1% (15/83)
Consistent (always) condom use with non-paying/regular partner over last 12 months	12.8% (11/86)	10.8% (9/83)
Condom use with last client	86.7% (104/120)	89.8% (106/118)
Consistent (always) condom use with clients over last month	54.2% (62/120)	49.2% (59/120)
Condom use with last permanent client	84.2% (48/57)	81.3% (39/48)
Consistent (always) condom use w/ permanent clients over last 12 months	55.8% (29/52)	50.5% (52/103)
Experienced threats or physical violence in the past year	13.3% (16/120)	12.5% (15/120)
Sexual contact against will in the past year	5.8% (7/120)	3.3% (4/120)
Condoms		
Place where condoms are obtained	91.6% (pharmacy)	84.5% (pharmacy)
Less than 5 minutes is needed to obtain a condom	69.8% (81/116)	59.5% (69/113)
If condom not used with last client, why?	37.5% (didn't think of it)	91.7% (didn't think of it)
STI/HIV Knowledge, Experience and Practices		
Do not know any STI symptom for women	30.5% (36/118)	23.3% (28/120)
Had abnormal vaginal discharge in last 12 months	52.5% (63/120)	58.3% (70/120)
Had vaginal ulcer/boil in last 12 months	11.4% (14/120)	15.0% (18/120)
Places sought treatment:	State clinic/hospital	38.5% (25/65)
	Self-treatment	57.5% (42/73)
Aware of HIV/AIDS	44.6% (29/65)	43.8% (32/73)
Know person with HIV/AIDS	100% (120/120)	100% (120/120)
Received information about HIV/AIDS	2.5% (3/120)	16.7% (20/120)
Main sources of HIV/AIDS information:	Television/radio	98.3% (116/118)
	Social Workers	85.6% (101/118)
		73.7% (87/118)
		85.6% (101/118)
Correctly identify six means of transmitting HIV	44.9% (53/118)	84.7% (100/118)
	29.2% (35/120)	27.5% (33/120)
Voluntary Counseling and Testing		
Voluntary HIV testing in the community	85.0% (102/120)	78.3% (94/120)
Had an HIV test	53.3% (64/120)	54.2% (65/120)
Received HIV result	92.2% (59/64)	89.2% (58/65)
Work Abroad		
Working abroad for sex work voluntarily	25.0% (30/120)	27.5% (33/120)
Ever experiencing trafficking	4.9% (5/103)	5.0% (6/120)

Characteristics of Facility-based FSWs in Batumi

- Almost 90% FSWs are ethnic Georgian, with a small percentage being Russian, Ukrainian or other ethnicities. Most FSWs working in Batumi are from cities, towns and villages other than Batumi and this is increasingly. In BSS-1, 66% of FSWs came from some place in Georgia other than Batumi increasing to 81% in BSS-2. In both studies, less than 10% of FSWs came from outside Georgia.
- Progressively more FSWs in Batumi have done commercial sex work in other locations. In BSS-1, 19% reported doing commercial sex work in locations other than Batumi increasing to 34% in BSS-2.
- FSWs in Batumi are more likely to be 25 to 39 years of age as well as having completed a secondary education than women in the general population of Batumi.⁹
- Increasingly, a larger proportion of facility-based FSWs are 40 years of age or older. From 2004 to 2006 the percentage of FSWs in Batumi 40+ years of age increased from 17% in to 24%.
- Characteristics of most FSWs changed during these two studies. The primary change was marital status; in that in BSS-1 54% of facility-based FSWs were married declining to 14% in BSS-2 with increases in those FSWs who are divorced/separated (39% to 63%) and widows (0% to 13%).
- Another change was the decline in the percentage of FSWs that had another source of income other than prostitution (24% to 13%) between the two studies.
- One characteristic that remains basically unchanged between both studies was the proportion of FSWs who had financial dependents (90% vs. 88%) and the average number of financial dependents (3 persons).
- A small percentage (4%) of FSWs in Batumi is internally displaced persons (IDPs) from Abkhazeti (Abkhazia) or South Ossetia.



Figure 4: Percentage of FSWs That Have Done Sex Work in Locations Other Than Batumi.

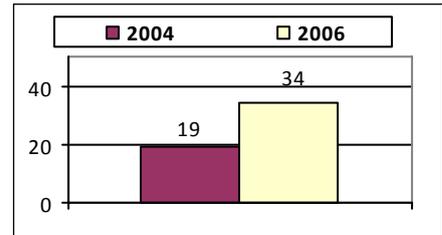
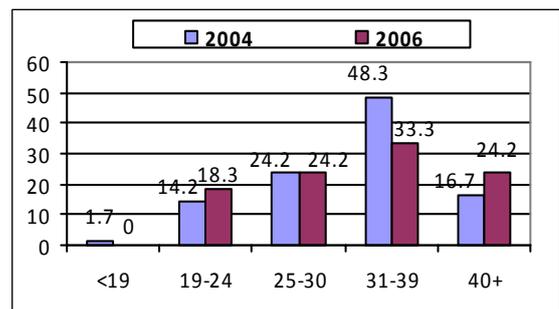


Figure 5: Percentage of FSWs by Age Groups.



Background in prostitution

- The median age at which FSWs first exchanged sex for money remained unchanged from 2004 to 2006 (28 years), as well as the mean number of years working as a FSW (4 years).
- Based on the FSWs reported median number of clients per week and the median fee charged per client, the average weekly income received by FSWs ranged from 70 GEL (\$39 USD) in 2004 to 75 GEL (\$42 USD) in 2006. Extrapolating from these weekly amounts for both studies, facility-based FSWs received, on average, about \$156 to \$168 per month, respectively.
- Weekly income was substantially affected by age, but more so in 2004. In 2004, FSWs 19-24 years of age averaged (median) 200 GEL (\$112) per week compared to 30 GEL (\$17) for FSWs 40+ years of age. The absolute amounts and differences between these two age groups declined in 2006; 132 GEL (\$73) vs. 90 GEL (\$50) respectively.

⁹ According to the latest data from the State Department of Statistics, 66% of females in Batumi are younger than 19 years of age or 40 or more years of age.

- In 2006, 13% of FSWs has a second source of income, which was generally from petty trade or as a waitress.

Sexual Risk Behavior



- **Regular sexual partner(s)** (boyfriend, lover, spouse): In both studies, approximately 70% of facility-based FSWs in Batumi reported having a regular, non-paying partner such as a boyfriend, lover, or spouse during each study. Overall, from 2004 to 2006, the percentages of FSWs who used a condom at last their last sexual encounter with their regular partner remained unchanged (18%) as did the percentage of FSWs with regular partners who consistently used condoms over the last year (13% in 2004 and 11% in 2006).

When asked why they did not use a condom with the regular sexual partner, the most frequent responses for all age groups were “I trust him” or “didn’t think it was needed.” The problem of a condom being too expensive or hard to obtain was never identified.

- **Paying clients:** In 2004 79% of FSWs had a paying client in the previous seven days, increasing to 100% in 2006. Almost all (87% and 89%) FSWs reported using condoms with their last paying client in both studies.¹⁰ Most FSWs also reported that use of a condom was primarily their decision, with about 40% of FSWs saying it was a mutual decision with the client.

In the previous seven days, the median numbers of clients per FSW were 2 clients in 2004 and 3 clients in 2006. Consistent use of condoms with paying clients in the previous month did not change much from BSS-1 to BSS-2 (54% and 49%). When a condom was not used, FSWs reported that was because either they “didn’t think of it” or “the client refused.”

- **Permanent clients:**¹¹ The vast majority of FSWs (87%) reported having permanent clients in both studies; that is, men who repeatedly use their services. These FSWs reported having, on average (median), 4 permanent clients in 2004 and 5 permanent clients in 2006. Virtually, the same percentages of FSWs in both studies (84% and 81%) used condoms at their last sexual encounter with permanent clients as other clients as well as consistently used condoms in the last 12 months (56% and 51% respectively).

Condom Accessibility



- In 2004 and 2006 most facility-based FSWs obtained condoms from a pharmacy (91% and 85%). This decline was the result of an increasing percentage of FSWs obtaining condoms (free-of-charge) from Tanadgoma (57% in 2004 to 83% in 2006). In addition, there was a substantial increase in the percentage of FSWs who purchased condoms at a local store/shop (from 2% in 2004 to 16% in 2006).
- Of those FSWs who did not use a condom during their last sex encounter with a client, only 1 mentioned the reason was because “condoms are too expensive.”

¹⁰ There is some concern that this high percentage of reported consistent condom use with clients may reflect “social desirability bias,” that is the FSWs report they use condoms because they know that they are supposed to use them. If high condom use rates are indeed correct (as corroborated by the prevalence of condom use by injecting drug users with sex workers in Tbilisi), the high prevalence of STIs in this group suggests that regular sexual partners are a major risk factor for STIs and/or FSWs have limited access to effective STI services.

¹¹ A permanent client is one who often uses sexual services of one particular FSW.

- Condoms are quite available and accessible to all facility-based FSWs; that is, the percentages of FSWs reporting that they can obtain a condom in less than 15 minutes remain unchanged in the two studies (91% vs. 94%).
- Almost two-thirds (61% and 66%) of FSWs reported not having condoms with them or at their worksite, which may be the result of easy access. For those FSWs that did have condoms with them or at their worksite, they reported from 1 to 25 condoms for an average of 8 condoms in 2004 and 7 condoms in 2006.

Alcohol and Drug Use

- The proportion of facility-based FSWs that consumed alcohol everyday almost doubled during the two studies, from 12% in 2004 to 21% in 2006.
- Also, there was an increase in the percentage of FSWs that had ever injected drugs (2% and 6%) or taken pills (2% and 15%) between the BSS-1 and BSS-2.

Violence

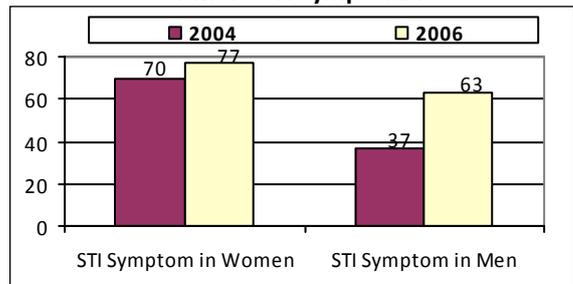
- In 2004 and 2006, almost 1 of every 8 FSWs was a victim of physical violence (e.g., beating) in the previous year, perpetrated primarily by a client. The next two frequently cited sources of violence were strangers or their regular partners (lover/boyfriend).
- In BSS-1, 5% of FSWs reported some sexual contact against their will, but not rape, which increased to 11% in BSS-2.
- One of every 16 (6%) FSWs reported being raped in the previous year in BSS-1 with 4% in BSS-2. In 2006, strangers were the most cited perpetrator.



STI Knowledge, Experience and Practices

- Nearly all FSWs in Batumi were aware of sexually transmitted infections (STIs). The proportion of FSWs that could identify one or more symptoms of an STI in women increased from 70% in 2004 to 77% in 2006. The three STI symptoms identified by most FSWs were an abnormal vaginal discharge, itching and burning during urination.
- The largest change in knowledge of STIs occurred for symptoms in men. In 2004, 37% of FSWs could identify one or more STI symptoms in men increasing to 63% in 2006. The three most identified STIs in men were urethral discharge, itching, and genital ulcer.
- When asked if they had had an abnormal vaginal discharge in the previous 12 months, the proportion of FSWs saying “yes” remained almost unchanged: 53% in 2004 to 58% in 2006. In all studies, higher rates of STIs were found in younger FSWs than older FSWs. A much lower percentage of FSWs reported having a vaginal ulcer/boil in the previous 12 months in both studies (11% and 15% respectively).
- Of the FSWs who had experienced a vaginal discharge, 58% of them obtained treatment at a state run clinic or hospital, which was an increase from 2004 (39%). Disappointingly, the percentage of FSWs that administered some form of self-treatment remained unchanged, 45% in 2004 and 44% in 2006. (Self-treatment most likely occurs when FSWs are referred to a pharmacy for medication, or when they obtain medication for an on-

Figure 6: Percentage of FSWs That Could Identify 1 or More STI Symptoms.



going infection, or they have a social contact [e.g. friend, neighbor] that works in the pharmacy and provides medication).

HIV Knowledge, Experience and Practices

- In both BSSs, all FSWs had heard of the HIV virus and AIDS and had received information about HIV/AIDS. The most cited sources of HIV/AIDS information are TV, radio and social workers.
- Friends as a source of information about HIV/AIDS for FSWs dramatically increased from 2004 (17%) to 2006 (42%), primarily among younger FSWs than older FSWs.
- Despite high awareness of HIV/AIDS, the ability of FSWs to correctly answer specific questions on HIV/AIDS transmission did not change much for the two BSSs. That is, in 2004, 29% of FSWs could correctly answer six key questions on HIV transmission compared to 28% in 2006. FSWs were well aware of the risk of infection through needle-syringe sharing.
- Disappointingly, there were decreases in the proportion of FSWs correctly answering question about the correct use of condoms (90% vs. 73%), one faithful partner (89% vs. 58%), and abstinence (83% vs. 59%) between the studies.
- Between BSS-1 and BSS-2, there was also a decline in the proportion of FSWs who were aware of mother-to-child transmission during pregnancy (95% vs. 86%), and relatively no change in the rate of knowing transmission through breast milk (80% vs. 78%).

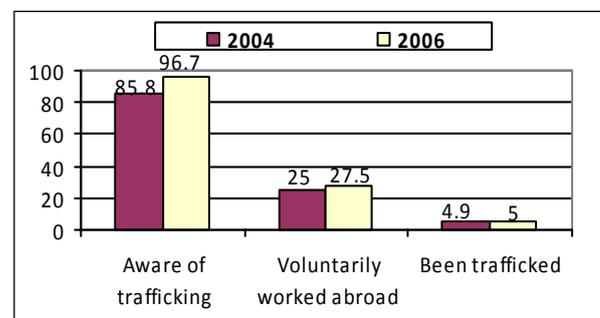
Voluntary Counseling and Testing

- In both studies, most FSWs knew of a confidential HIV testing in the community (85% and 78%).
- The percentage of FSWs that had had a voluntary HIV test remained unchanged (53% in 2002 and 54% in 2006). In both BSSs, almost 90% of FSWs who had had an HIV test received the result.
- In both studies, slightly more than 80% of FSWs who had an HIV test did so in the previous two years.

Trafficking and Work Abroad¹²

- Awareness of trafficking among facility-based FSWs in Batumi; in 2004 86% of FSWs reported they were aware of trafficking increasing to 97% in 2006. In both studies, 5% of FSWs reported being trafficked at some time.
- When asked if they had ever worked voluntarily abroad as a sex worker, 25% in 2004 and 28% in 2006 had done so. The primary motivations for working abroad were to earn more money, live in better conditions, and to follow colleagues.
- In both studies, the overwhelming majority of FSWs that work voluntarily abroad had worked in Turkey (90% and 97% respectively). Other countries, in which a few FSWs in Batumi had worked, included Germany, Czech Republic, and Greece.

Figure 7: Percentage of FSWs That Are Aware of Trafficking, Voluntarily Worked Abroad, or Have Been Trafficked.



¹² Trafficking was defined to FSWs as: “when people are taken to work, often abroad, by force or fraud, bereaved of passport and forced to do sex work.”

- In 2006, the primary setting for most FSWs who work abroad was hotels.
- Of the FSWs that voluntarily worked abroad, in 2006, 33% did so for 2 weeks, 46% for 1 month, and 21% for more than 1 month.
- In 2006, the fee per client abroad ranged from 9 GEL (\$5 USD) to 300 GEL (\$167 USD), for a median fee of 50 GEL (\$28 USD) per client abroad (the median fee per client in Georgia was 35 GEL in 2006). Sixty percent of FSWs in both studies reported having more clients on average per day when they are abroad than in Georgia.
- Condom use with clients abroad declined from 2004 to 2006. In BSS-1, 13% of FSWs reported “never” using a condom with clients increasing to 21% in 2006. Moreover, 50% of FSWs who worked abroad “always” used a condom in BSS-1 declining to 39% in BSS-2.
- In 2006, almost 3 of every 4 FSWs who voluntarily work abroad had a prophylactic injection they believe would prevent STIs and HIV.
- Almost one-half (46%) of FSWs, who worked abroad, reported that they had access to STI/HIV testing services. And, of these FSWs, 60% said they had used these services.

Biomarker

- The percentages of FSWs with 1 or more STIs ranged from 63% in BSS-1 to 55% in BSS-2.
- The most prevalent STI among FSWs was (ELISA reactive) syphilis, infecting 33% of facility-based FSWs in 2004 and 36% in 2006.
- Other confirmed STIs among the FSWs included Chlamydia (PCR test) and gonorrhea (PCR test). The prevalence of Chlamydia slightly increased in the two studies (20% in BSS-1 and 24% in BSS-2) and the prevalence of gonorrhea slightly declined (14% in 2004 and 10% in 2006).
- None of the FSWs recruited in 2004 tested positive for HIV antibodies using the ELISA method with only 1 FSW in 2006.

Improvements from BSS-1 to BSS-2

- Reported use of condom with last paying client and permanent client remains relatively high (~80%), due in part because a mutual decision with the client.
- Availability and access to condoms remains high for the vast majority of FSWs in Batumi.
- Overall, violence is relatively low. Of violent acts, the largest percentage (11%) of FSWs experienced sexual contact against their will (but not rape) in 2006.
- There was slight increase in the percentage of FSWs who could correctly identify one or more symptoms of STIs.
- Awareness of trafficking increased from 86% to 97%.

Remaining Challenges

- The percentage of FSWs with regular sex partners who used a condom at last sex with their regular partner remains low (18%). Likewise, consistent use of condoms with regular partner in the previous year remained low (11% in 2006).
- Consistent (always) use of a condom with a paying client and permanent clients did not change with about one-half of FSWs doing so in both studies.
- There appears to be an increase in the percentages of FSWs consuming alcohol daily and those who take pills.
- The percentage of FSWs that administered self-treatment for an STI remained unchanged.
- The percentage of FSWs who could correctly answer 6 key questions about HIV transmission remained relatively low and unchanged at about 28%.

- A lower percentage of FSWs correctly answered questions about protection of condoms, one faithful partner and abstinence to HIV transmission.
- The percentage of FSWs that knew of confidential HIV testing in the community slightly decreased from 85% to 78%.
- Condom use with clients abroad decreased.

Recommendations

1. FSWs in these studies had low rates of use of condoms with regular partners; high levels of treatable STIs; low levels of knowledge on STI symptoms; and health seeking behavior at ineffective STI services (pharmacies). Prevention interventions must address all these potential high-risk behaviors.
2. Behavior change communication interventions should be targeted at FSWs and their sexual partners---regular partners, clients, and permanent clients---because the responsibility for condom use should not rest solely on the FSW. Involving FSWs in the development of relevant messages and the dissemination of these messages within their networks will increase effectiveness. Strategies to address clients will need to be developed, perhaps through targeting the transactional sex setting.
3. These studies showed a relatively low percentage of FSWs who know at least one STI symptom in women and men, as well as a very low percentage of FSWs who could correctly answer six key questions regarding HIV/AIDS transmission. New, tailored strategic approaches of work with FSWs should be implemented in order to address specific gaps in their knowledge, attitudes and practices.
4. In both studies, about 45% of FSWs who have an STI report only going to a pharmacy or applying self-treatment. Identifying possible ways of reaching those FSWs that are not referring to user-friendly medical facilities (public or private clinic), such as STI screening through a mobile laboratory near their gathering places.
5. Health services with a specialization for dealing with sex workers and clients should be upgraded and promoted. In addition to providing diagnosis and treatment for STIs, these services should provide prevention counseling, HIV counseling and testing, and other sexual health services that are needed by FSWs. Fees associated with these services should be put in the context of the public health benefit. These services could be expanded to include regular partners of sex workers as a way to access this group.
6. Since television was cited as the main source of HIV/AIDS information by FSWs, television information campaigns should address educational issues appropriate for the general population. Specific, explicit HIV prevention messages and materials for FSWs, their clients and regular partners are best provided at the interpersonal level through outreach workers and peer educators rather than through mass media outlets. The interventions should target the gaps in knowledge and attitudes revealed through the surveys. New, additional strategies and methodologies should be elaborated in order to fill these gaps.
7. These BSS studies were of facility-based FSWs, however, efforts should be made to expand prevention services to other sex worker groups, such as cell phone-based sex workers. This may involve working with “gatekeepers” for access. In addition, especially hard to reach populations, such as male transvestites and street children who may be engaged in transactional sex, should be addressed. This will necessarily include involving groups that work with street children for identification and referral to appropriate services, as well as efforts to prevent children from engaging in such activities.

8. Voluntary HIV testing, with adequate pre- and post-test counseling, should continue. And, VCT services should be made available through sites that provide other HIV prevention and health services to FSWs.
9. Interventions for FSWs must be extended beyond Batumi since, in 2006, 34% of FSWs reported doing sex work in locations other than Batumi. Based on information from the Public Health Officials in Kutaisi, the second largest city in Georgia, commercial sex is common there. High-risk sites should be identified and prevention interventions begin. Typical sites include urban areas, ports and commercial transit areas, cross-border areas, and military sites where large numbers of workers without their families reside.
10. In a survey among youth 84% of males 15-17 years of age thought it was “okay” to start their sexual life before marriage with an FSW.¹³ Moreover, 74% reported that they had had sexual intercourse. In light of these findings, organizations working with youth should promote healthy lifestyle curricula in which youth, especially males, are sensitized to healthy sexual choices and the risks of having unprotected sex with a sex worker. Longer-term strategies should address norm changes around male and female sexuality, as well as drug and alcohol use in Georgia.
11. About 1 of every 4 FSWs reported traveling abroad for sex work; however, only 40% of these FSWs reported always using a condom. Availability and access to condoms is not the primary reason, rather it is a combination of mistaken beliefs (believing a prophylactic injection can prevent STIs and HIV), detrimental attitudes (clients will think they are infected), and poor skills at convincing clients on the importance of condom protection for both. Therefore, educational messages for FSWs along cross-national border areas, such as Adjara, should be targeted toward increasing FSWs knowledge of STI and HIV transmission and negotiation skills with clients when abroad.
12. Non-coercive, anonymous, ethical and systematic surveillance of FSWs (and other high risk groups), both behavioral and of selected biological markers, should be conducted throughout Georgia and repeated on a regular basis to provide early warning of a possible dramatic increase in the prevalence rate. In addition, surveys can provide invaluable information for designing focused interventions as well as for monitoring whether STI/HIV prevention and reduction interventions are working.
13. Prevention interventions should be addressed to the general population. This is one additional way to reach FSWs clients and increase their awareness.

¹³ Youth Reproductive Health Survey, UNFPA, 2002, Tbilisi, Georgia.

Appendix of Data Tables

Table 2: Area coverage of the Batumi, Georgia, behavioral surveillance and biomarker surveys.

Location	Batumi	
	2004 BSS-1	2006 BSS-2
Year	2004 BSS-1	2006 BSS-2
N	120	120
Date of interviews	11 October- 4 November, 2004	May 10 – June 1, 2006
Participated in 2004 BSS-1	---	42.5% (51)
Location of interview (n) At the Healthy Cabinet	100.0% (120)	100% (120)
Recruitment (n) Outreach to cites identified through time-location mapping	100% (120)	93.3% (112)
Participation rate		
Total contacted	142	138
Total refused	22	18
Total agreed	120	120
Total completed	120	120

Table 3: Demographic characteristics of FSWs in Batumi.

Characteristics (n)	2004	2006
Age	(120)	(120)
Mean Age (years)	32.1	32.9
Median Age (years)	33.0	33.0
Age Groups	(120)	(120)
<19yrs	1.7%(2)	---
19 – 24 yrs	14.2% (17)	18.3% (22)
25 – 30 yrs	24.2% (29)	24.2% (29)
31 – 39 yrs	43.3% (52)	33.3% (40)
40 + yrs	16.7%(20)	24.2% (29)
Ethnicity (%)	(120)	(120)
Georgian	81.7%(98)	88.3% (106)
Russian	8.3%(10)	3.3% (4)
Ukrainian	4.2% (5)	2.5% (3)
Ossetian	1.7% (2)	2.5% (3)
Armenian	0.8% (1)	0.8% (1)
Azeri	0.8% (1)	---
Kurdish	0.8% (1)	---
Polish	0.8% (1)	0.8% (1)
Moldavian	0.8% (1)	---
Other	---	1.6% (2)
Level of Education (%)	(120)	(120)
None	0.8% (1)	---
Primary	6.7% (8)	---
Secondary	70.0% (84)	76.7% (92)
Incomplete higher	22.5% (27)	23.3% (28)
Higher	0.0% (0)	---
Mean yrs of education	10.9 yrs	12.1 yrs
Internally Displaced Person (yes)	4.2%(5)	4.2% (5)
Place of Birth	(120)	(120)
Batumi (Adjara)	23.3% (28)	13.3% (16)
Kutaisi	6.7% (8)	7.5% (9)
Tbilisi	5.8% (7)	2.5% (3)
Sukhumi	4.2% (5)	0.8% (1)
Ozurgeti	5.0% (6)	5.8% (7)
Zugdidi	3.3% (4)	2.5% (3)
Gori	3.3% (4)	7.5% (9)
Khelvachauri (Adjara)	3.3% (4)	1.7% (2)
Another city in Georgia	34.2% (41)	52.5% (42)
Other country	9.2% (11)	5.0% (8)
No response	1.7% (2)	---
Present living place (%)	100.0%(120)	100.0%(120)
Batumi	mean=12.6	mean=9.7
(yrs lived there)	median=6.0	median=4.0
Commercial sex activity in another city (%)	19.2% (23/120)	34.2% (41/120)

Table 4: Living arrangements by marital status of FSWs in Batumi.

Year	Never married		Married		Divorced/Separated		Widow	
	2004	2006	2004	2006	2004	2006	2004	2006
Percentage (n)	6.7%(8)	9.2% (11)	54.2%(65)	14.2% (17)	39.1%(47)	63.3% (76)	---	13.3% (16)
Mean Age (yrs)	24.8	25.7	32.8	34.9	31.2	32.4		38.1
Age at marriage (yrs)								
Mean	---	---	17.1	16.8	16.7	17.5	---	16.6
Median	---	---	17.0	16.0	17.0	17.0	---	16.0
With Whom Do You Live Now?								
Married, having sex with husband;	---	---	13.8%(9)	35.3%(6)	---	---	---	---
Married, not having sex with husband, having sex with another man/partner/boyfriend;	---	---	32.3%(21)	23.5%(4)	---	---	---	---
Married, not having sex with husband/partner/lover/boyfriend	---	---	50.8%(33)	11.8%(2)	---	---	---	---
Married, have both husband and lover/boyfriend/man;	---	---	3.1%(2)	29.4%(5)	---	---	---	---
Not married, having sex with partner/lover/man;	75% (6)	54.5%(6)	---	---	61.7%(29)	56.6%(43)	---	62.5%(10)
Not married, not having sex with a partner/lover/man;	25%(2)	45.5%(5)	---	---	38.3%(18)	43.4%(33)	---	37.5%(6)
Other;	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Refused to answer	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Do you have financial dependents	(6)	(11)	(61)	(17)	(47)	(76)	---	(16)
Yes	83.5% (5)	81.8%(9)	91.8% (56)	94.1%(16)	87.2% (41)	89.5%(68)	---	81.2%(13)
No	16.7% (1)	18.2%(2)	8.2% (5)	5.9%(1)	12.8% (6)	10.5%(8)	---	18.8%(3)
Missing	(2 cases)	0.0%	(4 cases)	0.0%	(6 cases)	0.0%	---	0.0%
Does your spouse have other partner/lover	(8)	(6)	(65)	(17)	(47)	(43)	---	(10)
- Yes	---	33.3%	26.2%(17)	5.9%	20.0%(11)	23.3%	---	20.0%
- No	---	66.7%	56.9%(37)	82.2%	34.5%(19)	55.8%	---	66.7%
- Don't know	---	0.0%	10.8%(7)	11.8%	9.1%(5)	20.9%	---	0.0%
- No response	---	0.0%	6.2%(4)	0.0%	25.5%(12)	0.0%	---	0.0%

Table 5: Drug and alcohol use by FSWs in Batumi.

Drug & Alcohol Use	Total		Age Groups									
			<19		19-24		25-30		31-39		40+	
Year (n)	2004 (n=120)	2006 (n=120)	2004 (n=2)	2006 (n=0)	2004 (n=17)	2006 (n=22)	2004 (n=29)	2006 (n=29)	2004 (n=52)	2006 (n=40)	2004 (n=20)	2006 (n=29)
Consumption of alcohol	(120)	(120)	(n=2)	(n=0)	(n=17)	(n=22)	(n=29)	(n=29)	(n=52)	(n=40)	(n=20)	(n=29)
Every day	11.7%(14)	20.8%(25)	50.0%(1)	---	11.8%(2)	27.3%(6)	6.9%(2)	20.7%(6)	13.5%(7)	20.0%(8)	10.0%(2)	17.2%(5)
Once a week	33.3%(40)	35.8%(43)	---	---	41.2%(7)	36.4%(8)	24.1%(7)	34.5%(10)	36.5%(19)	35.0%(14)	35.0%(7)	37.9%(11)
Less than once a week or never	54.2%(65)	39.2%(47)	---	---	47.1%(8)	36.3%(8)	69.0%(20)	41.4%(12)	50.0%(26)	40.0%(16)	55.0%(11)	37.9%(11)
Don't Know	8.3% (1)	4.2%(5)	50.0%(1)	---	---	---	3.4%(1)	---	---	5.0%(2)	---	6.8%(2)
Drug Use	(120)	(120)	(2)	---	(17)	(22)	(29)	(29)	(52)	(40)	(20)	(29)
Ever injecting drugs	1.7% (2)	5.8%(7)	0.0%	---	0.0%	9.1%(2)	0% (0)	6.9%(2)	1.9%(1)	2.5%(1)	5.0%(1)	6.8%(2)
Ever smoke marijuana	4.2%(5)	0.8%(1)	0.0%	---	0.0%	4.5%(1)	10.3%(3)	0.0%	1.9%(1)	0.0%	5.0%(1)	0.0%
Ever took pills	1.7%(2)	15.0%(18)	0.0%	---	0.0%	13.6%(3)	3.4%(1)	10.3%(3)	1.9%(1)	15.0%(6)	0% (0)	20.6%(6)
Ever used inhalants	0.9%(1)	0.8%(1)	0.0%	---	0.0%	4.5%(1)	3.4%(1)	0.0%	0% (0)	0.0%	0% (0)	0.0%

Table 6: Aspects of sex work for FSWs in Batumi.

Characteristics	Total		Age Groups									
			<19		19-24		25-30		31-39		40+	
Year (n)	2004 (n=120)	2006 (n=120)	2004 (n=2)	2006 (n=0)	2004 (n=17)	2006 (n=22)	2004 (n=29)	2006 (n=29)	2004 (n=52)	2006 (n=40)	2004 (n=20)	2006 (n=29)
Age at 1st sexual contact	(120)	(120)	(2)	---	(17)	(22)	(29)	(29)	(52)	(40)	(20)	(29)
Mean	17.6	17.0	17.0	---	16.8	16.0	16.3	17.2	17.1	16.7	17.3	17.8
Median	17.0	17.0	17.0	---	16.0	16.0	16.0	17.0	17.0	16.0	17.5	17.0
Age when 1st received money in exchange for sex	(120)	(119)	(2)	---	(17)	(22)	(29)	(29)	(52)	(39)	(20)	(29)
Mean	30.9	28.6	16.5	---	19.8	19.6	27.8	23.8	29.7	29.9	49.3	38.6
Median	28.0	28.0	16.5	---	20.0	20.0	26.0	24.0	29.0	31.0	39.0	39.0
Years working as sex worker	(120)	(119)	(2)	---	(17)	(22)	(29)	(29)	(52)	(39)	(20)	(29)
Mean	4.2	4.3	1.0	---	2.4	2.1	2.4	3.6	6.2	5.7	3.3	4.8
Have another source of income	(120)	(120)	(2)	---	(17)	(22)	(29)	(29)	(52)	(40)	(20)	(29)
Yes	24.2%(29)	13.3%(16)	50.0%(1)	---	5.9%(1)	0.0%(0)	10.3%(3)	3.4%(1)	26.9%(14)	12.5%(5)	50.0%(10)	34.5%(10)
No	75.8%(91)	86.7%(104)	50.0%(1)	---	94.1%(16)	100%(22)	89.7%(26)	96.6%(28)	73.1%(38)	87.5%(35)	50.0%(10)	65.5%(19)
If yes, what? (multiple response)	(29)	(16)	(1)	---	(1)	---	(3)	(1)	(14)	(5)	(10)	(10)
Waitress	44.8%(13)	25.0%(4)	---	---	100%(1)	---	33.3%(1)	100%(1)	35.7%(5)	20.0%(1)	60.0%(6)	20.0%(2)
Bar woman (works in the Bar)	10.3%(3)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	21.4%(3)	---	---	---
Sales woman	6.9%(2)	12.5%(1)	---	---	---	---	---	---	7.1%(1)	20.0%(1)	10.0%(1)	40.0%(4)
Other (teacher, works in agriculture, sales booth owner, etc.)	20.7%(6)	68.8%(11)	100%(1)	---	---	---	33.3%(1)	---	14.3%(2)	60%(3)	20.0%(2)	40.0%(4)
No response	17.2%(5)	12.5%(2)	---	---	---	---	33.3%(1)	---	21.4%(3)	---	10.0%(1)	20.0%(2)
Do you have financial dependents	(114)	(120)	(1)	---	(15)	(22)	(29)	(29)	(49)	(40)	(20)	(29)
No	10.5%(12)	11.7%(14)	---	---	13.3%(2)	13.6%(3)	10.3%(3)	13.8%(4)	10.2%(5)	15.0%(6)	10.0%(2)	3.4%(1)
Yes	89.5%(102)	88.3%(106)	100%(1)	---	86.7%(13)	86.4%(19)	89.7%(26)	86.2%(25)	89.8%(44)	85.0%(34)	90.0%(18)	96.6%(28)
If yes:												
Children	93.1%(95)	85.8%(91)	---	---	100%(13)	84.2%(16)	82.8%(24)	68.0%(17)	95.5%(42)	94.1%(32)	88.8%(16)	92.9%(26)
Parents and other relatives	52.9%(54)	50.0%(53)	100%(1)	---	92.3%(12)	42.1%(8)	48.3%(14)	68.0%(17)	50.0%(22)	52.9%(18)	27.8%(5)	35.7%(10)
If yes, how many?	(102)	(106)	(1)	---	(13)	(19)	(26)	(25)	(44)	(34)	(18)	(28)
Mean	3.1	2.9	6.0	---	2.5	2.2	3.2	2.9	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.4

Table 7: Sexual behavior of FSWs with clients.

Sexual Behavior	Total		Age Groups									
			<19		19-24		25-30		31-39		40+	
Year (n)	2004 (n=120)	2006 (n=120)	2004 (n=2)	2006 (n=0)	2004 (n=17)	2006 (n=22)	2004 (n=29)	2006 (n=29)	2004 (n=52)	2006 (n=40)	2004 (n=20)	2006 (n=29)
Did you have paying clients in the previous 7 days?	(120)	(120)	(2)	---	(17)	(22)	(29)	(29)	(52)	(40)	(20)	(29)
No	20.8%(25)	0.0%	0	---	5.9%(1)	0.0%	17.2%(5)	0.0%	21.2%(11)	0.0%	40.0%(8)	0.0%
Yes	79.2%(95)	100%(120)	100%(2)	---	94.1%(16)	100%(22)	82.8%(24)	100%(29)	78.8%(41)	100%(40)	60.0%(12)	100%(29)
If yes, mean	5.6	4.8	2.5	---	5.3	6.5	8.4	5.7	4.2	4.6	6.1	3.0
median	2.0	3.0	2.5	---	4.0	4.0	5.0	4.0	2.0	3.0	1.0	3.0
Number of clients during your last business day	(90)	(119)	(2)	---	(16)	(22)	(23)	(29)	(38)	(40)	(11)	(28)
mean	1.7	1.6	1.0	---	1.7	1.8	2.0	1.8	1.5	1.3	1.5	1.7
median	1.0	1.0	1.0	---	2.0	1.0	2.0	2.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.5
How much last client pay?	(120)	(118)	(2)	---	(17)	(22)	(29)	(29)	(52)	(40)	(20)	(27)
mean	52	46	60	---	62	46	49	48	55	55	40	31
median	35	35	60	---	50	33	40	40	30	35	30	30
Condom use with the last client	(120)	(118)	(2)	---	(17)	(22)	(29)	(29)	(52)	(40)	(20)	(27)
Yes	86.7%(104)	89.8%(106)	---	---	88.2%(15)	86.4%(19)	86.2%(25)	100%(29)	90.4%(47)	85.0%(34)	85.0%(17)	88.9%(24)
No	11.7%(14)	10.2%(12)	100%(2)	---	11.8%(2)	13.6%(3)	13.8%(4)	---	7.7%(4)	15.0%(6)	10.0%(2)	11.1%(3)
No response	1.7%(2)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1.9%(1)	---	5%(1)	---
Who offered the use a condom	(104)	(106)	(0)	---	(15)	(19)	(25)	(29)	(47)	(34)	(17)	(24)
My initiative	75.0%(78)	55.7%(59)	---	---	80.0%(12)	57.9%(11)	84.0%(21)	69.0%(20)	66.0%(31)	47.1%(16)	82.4%(14)	50.0%(12)
Clients initiative	2.9%(3)	4.7%(5)	---	---	---	5.3%(1)	4.0%(1)	3.4%(1)	4.3%(2)	8.8%(3)	---	---
Mutual initiative	22.1%(23)	39.6%(42)	---	---	20.0%(3)	36.8%(7)	12.0%(3)	27.6%(8)	28.8%(14)	44.1%(15)	17.6%(3)	50.0%(12)
Reasons for not using condoms during the last paid sexual contact (multiple response)	(16)	(12)	(2)	---	(2)	(3)	(4)	(0)	(5)	(6)	(3)	(3)
Did not have	12.5%(2)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	40%(2)	---	---	---
Too expensive	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Partner refused	18.8%(3)	75.0%(9)	50.0%(1)	---	---	66.7%(2)	25.0%(1)	---	20%(1)	83.3%(5)	---	66.7%(2)
Don't like it	6.3%(1)	41.7%(5)	50.0%(1)	---	---	33.3%(1)	---	---	---	33.3%(2)	---	66.7%(2)
Take contraceptives	---	8.3%(1)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	33.3%(1)
Didn't think was needed (he looked healthy)	31.3%(5)	91.7%(11)	---	---	66.7%(2)	66.7%(1)	50.0%(2)	---	20%(1)	100%(6)	---	100%(3)
Didn't think of it	37.5%(6)	91.7%(11)	---	---	33.3%(1)	66.7%(1)	25.0%(1)	---	40%(2)	100%(6)	66.7%(2)	100%(3)
Don't know	6.3%(1)	---	---	---	---	---	25.0%(1)	---	---	---	---	---
No response	6.3%(1)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	33.3%(1)	---
Condom use with all paying clients during the last 30 days	(120)	(120)	(2)	---	(17)	(22)	(29)	(29)	(52)	(40)	(20)	(29)
Always - 1	54.2%(65)	49.2%(59)	---	---	47.1%(8)	59.1%(13)	48.3%(14)	51.7%(15)	59.6%(31)	50.0%(20)	60.0%(12)	37.9%(11)
Nearly always - 2	33.3%(40)	45.0%(54)	---	---	47.1%(8)	36.4%(8)	44.8%(13)	48.3%(14)	26.9%(14)	45.0%(18)	25.0%(5)	48.3%(14)
Sometimes - 3	9.2%(11)	4.2%(5)	100%(2)	---	5.9%(1)	4.5%(1)	6.9%(2)	---	9.6%(5)	5.0%(2)	5.0%(1)	6.9%(2)
Never - 4	2.5%(3)	1.7%(2)	---	---	---	---	---	---	3.8%(2)	---	5.0%(1)	6.9%(2)
Don't know	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
No response	0.8%(1)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	5.0%(1)	---
Mean (of only valid responses)	1.1	1.6	0	---	1.1	1.5	1.1	1.5	1.2	1.6	1.4	1.8

Table 8: Sexual behavior of FSWs with permanent clients.

Sexual Behavior	Total		Age Groups									
			<19		19-24		25-30		31-39		40+	
Year (n)	2004 (n=120)	2006 (n=120)	2004 (n=2)	2006 (n=0)	2004 (n=17)	2006 (n=22)	2004 (n=29)	2006 (n=29)	2004 (n=52)	2006 (n=40)	2004 (n=20)	2006 (n=29)
Has permanent client (e 1)	(118)	(120)	(2)	---	(17)	(22)	(29)	(29)	(51)	(40)	(19)	(29)
Yes	87.3%(103)	87.5%(105)	100.0%(2)	---	100%(17)	86.4%(19)	96.6%(28)	75.9%(22)	84.3%(43)	90.0%(36)	68.4%(13)	96.6%(28)
No	12.7%(15)	12.5%(15)	0.0%(0)	---	0.0%(0)	13.6%(3)	3.4%(1)	24.1%(7)	15.7%(8)	10.0%(4)	31.6%(6)	3.4%(1)
Number of permanent clients?	(67)	(105)	(2)	---	(17)	(19)	(28)	(22)	(43)	(36)	(13)	(28)
Mean	5.5	6.1	2.5	---	8.2	5.5	4.9	7.4	5.0	6.5	5.3	4.8
Median	4.0	5.0	2.5	---	4.0	5.0	4.0	6.0	4.0	5.0	4.0	4.0
Number of sexual contacts with permanent clients last 30 days	(103)	(105)	(2)	---	(17)	(19)	(28)	(22)	(43)	(36)	(13)	(28)
Did not have sexual intercourse	2.9%(3)	2.9%(3)	---	---	5.9%(1)	5.3%(1)	3.6%(1)	---	2.3%(1)	5.6%(2)	---	---
Up to 5 times	79.6%(82)	74.3%(78)	50%(1)	---	82.4%(14)	57.9%(11)	82.1%(23)	77.3%(17)	86.0%(37)	83.3%(30)	53.8%(7)	71.4%(20)
5-9 times	10.7%(11)	13.3%(14)	50%(1)	---	11.8%(2)	26.3%(5)	7.1%(2)	4.5%(1)	7.0%(3)	5.6%(2)	23.1%(3)	21.4%(6)
10-15 times	3.9%(4)	3.8%(4)	---	---	---	5.3%(1)	7.1%(2)	4.5%(1)	2.3%(1)	2.8%(1)	7.7%(1)	3.6%(1)
More than 15 times	---	3.8%(4)	---	---	---	5.3%(1)	---	4.5%(1)	---	2.8%(1)	---	3.6%(1)
Don't know/Don't remember	2.9%(3)	1.9%(2)	---	---	---	---	---	9.1%(2)	---	---	---	---
No response	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	2.3%(1)	---	15.4%(2)	---
The last client was a permanent client?	(103)	(105)	(2)	---	(17)	(19)	(28)	(22)	(43)	(36)	(13)	(28)
Yes	55.3%(57)	45.7%(48)	100%(2)	---	41.2%(7)	42.1%(8)	42.9%(12)	40.9%(9)	65.1%(28)	47.2%(17)	61.5%(8)	50.0%(16)
No	44.7%(46)	54.3%(57)	---	---	58.8%(10)	57.9%(11)	57.1%(16)	59.1%(13)	34.9%(15)	52.8%(19)	38.5%(5)	50.0%(16)
Condom use during the last sexual contact with permanent client	(57)	(48)	(2)	---	(7)	(8)	(12)	(9)	(28)	(17)	(8)	(16)
Yes	84.2%(48)	81.3%(39)	50%(1)	---	100%(7)	100%(8)	66.7%(8)	77.8%(7)	92.9%(26)	82.4%(14)	75%(6)	71.4%(10)
No	15.8%(9)	18.8%(9)	50%(1)	---	---	---	33.3%(4)	22.2%(2)	7.1%(2)	17.6%(3)	25%(2)	28.6%(4)
Who offered to use a condom?	(48)	(39)	(1)	---	(7)	(8)	(8)	(7)	(26)	(14)	(6)	(10)
My initiative	79.2%(38)	64.1%(25)	100%(1)	---	85.7%(6)	87.5%(7)	100%(8)	71.4%(5)	73.1%(19)	50.0%(7)	66.7%(4)	60.0%(6)
Permanent client's initiative	---	2.6%(1)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	7.1%(1)	---	---
Mutual initiative	20.8%(10)	33.3%(13)	---	---	14.3%(1)	12.5%(1)	---	28.6%(2)	26.9%(7)	42.9%(6)	33.3%(2)	40.0%(4)
Reasons for not using condoms during the last sexual contact with permanent client (multiple response)	(9)	(8)	(1)	---	(0)	(0)	(4)	(2)	(2)	(3)	(2)	(4)
Too expensive	---	12.5%(1)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	25.0%(1)
Didn't have it	---	12.5%(1)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	25.0%(1)
Partner refused	44.4%(4)	62.5%(5)	100%(1)	---	---	---	75%(3)	100%(2)	50.0%(1)	66.7%(2)	---	50.0%(2)
Didn't think needed	33.3%(3)	100%(8)	---	---	---	---	---	100%(2)	---	100%(3)	50.0%(1)	100%(4)
Take contraceptives	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	50.0%(1)	---
Partner looked healthy	11.1%(1)	100%(8)	---	---	---	---	25%(1)	100%(2)	50.0%(1)	100%(3)	---	100%(4)
Didn't think of it	11.1%(1)	75.0%(6)	---	---	---	---	---	100%(2)	---	66.7%(2)	50.0%(1)	75.0%(3)
Other	11.1%(1)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	50.0%(1)	---	---	---
Condom use with permanent client(s) during the last 12 months	(52)	(103)	(1)	---	(11)	(19)	(10)	(22)	(22)	(34)	(8)	(28)
Always -1	55.8%(29)	50.5%(52)	---	---	63.6%(7)	57.9%(11)	40.0%(4)	54.5%(12)	59.1%(13)	52.9%(18)	62.5%(5)	39.3%(11)
Nearly Always -2	23.1%(12)	35.0%(36)	---	---	27.3%(3)	26.3%(5)	40.0%(4)	40.9%(9)	18.2%(4)	32.4%(11)	12.5%(1)	39.3%(11)
Sometimes -3	15.4%(8)	12.6%(13)	100%(1)	---	9.1%(1)	15.8%(3)	10.0%(1)	4.5%(1)	18.2%(4)	14.7%(5)	12.5%(1)	14.3%(4)
Never -4	3.8%(2)	1.9%(2)	---	---	---	---	10.0%(1)	---	4.5%(1)	---	---	7.1%(2)
Don't know	1.6%(1)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	12.5%(1)	---
Mean (for scale of 1 to 4 above)	1.2	1.7	1.1	---	1.1	1.6	1.2	1.5	1.3	1.6	1.4	1.9

Table 9: Sexual behavior of FSWs with permanent partners.

Sexual Behavior	Total		Age Groups									
			<19		19-24		25-30		31-39		40+	
Year (n)	2004 (n=120)	2006 (n=120)	2004 (n=2)	2006 (n=0)	2004 (n=17)	2006 (n=22)	2004 (n=29)	2006 (n=29)	2004 (n=52)	2006 (n=40)	2004 (n=20)	2006 (n=29)
Has Permanent Partner	(119)	(120)	(1)	---	(17)	(22)	(29)	(29)	(52)	(40)	(20)	(29)
Yes	71.7%(86)	69.2%(83)	100.0%(1)	---	82.4%(14)	72.7%(16)	72.4%(21)	66.5%(19)	67.3%(35)	67.5%(27)	75.0%(15)	72.4%(21)
No	28.3%(34)	30.8%(37)	-	---	17.6%(3)	27.3%(6)	27.6%(14)	34.5%(10)	32.7%(21)	32.5%(13)	25.0%(5)	27.6%(8)
Number of permanent partners FSWs have?	(86)	(83)	(1)	---	(13)	(16)	(15)	(19)	(30)	(27)	(12)	(21)
Mean	2.4	1.1	0.5	---	0.9	1.3	0.8	1.0	4.5	1.0	0.9	1.2
Median	1.0	1.0	0.5	---	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Number of sexual intercourse with permanent partner over the last 30 days	(86)	(83)	(1)	---	(14)	(16)	(21)	(19)	(35)	(27)	(15)	(21)
Did not have sexual intercourse	4.7%(4)	6.0%(5)	---	---	---	18.8%(3)	4.8%(1)	5.3%(1)	5.7%(2)	3.7%(1)	6.7%(1)	---
Up to 5 times	26.7%(23)	36.1%(30)	100.0%(1)	---	21.4%(3)	37.5%(1)	38.1%(8)	26.3%(5)	17.1%(6)	44.4%(12)	33.3%(5)	33.3%(7)
5-9 times	23.3%(20)	15.7%(13)	---	---	21.4%(3)	6.3%(6)	9.5%(2)	10.5%(2)	31.4%(11)	14.8%(4)	26.7%(4)	28.6%(6)
10-15	27.9%(24)	12.0%(10)	---	---	42.9%(6)	12.5%(2)	33.3%(7)	15.8%(3)	25.7%(9)	11.1%(3)	13.3%(2)	9.5%(2)
More than 15	17.4%(15)	30.1%(25)	---	---	14.3%(2)	25.0%(4)	14.3%(3)	42.1%(8)	20.0%(7)	25.9%(7)	20.0%(3)	28.6%(6)
Don't know/Don't remember	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Condom use during the last sexual intercourse with permanent partner	(86)	(83)	(1)	---	(14)	(16)	(21)	(19)	(35)	(27)	(15)	(21)
Yes	18.6%(16)	18.1%(15)	---	---	14.3%(2)	25.0%(4)	9.5%(2)	15.8%(3)	22.9%(8)	18.5%(5)	26.7%(4)	14.3%(3)
No	81.4%(70)	81.9%(68)	100%(1)	---	85.7%(12)	75.0%(12)	90.5%(19)	84.2%(16)	77.1%(27)	81.5%(22)	73.3%(11)	85.7%(18)
Who offered to use a condom	(16)	(15)	(0)	---	(2)	(4)	(2)	(3)	(8)	(5)	(4)	(3)
FSWs initiative	37.5%(6)	46.7%(7)	---	---	100.0%(2)	50%(2)	100.0%(2)	66.7%(2)	12.5%(1)	20%(1)	25.0%(1)	66.7%(2)
Permanent partners	6.3%(1)	6.7%(1)	---	---	---	---	---	33.3%(1)	-	---	25.0%(1)	---
Mutual initiative	56.3%(9)	46.7%(7)	---	---	---	50%(2)	---	---	87.5%(7)	80%(4)	50.0%(2)	33.3%(1)
Reasons for not using condom during the last sexual intercourse with partner	(70)	(68)	(1)	---	(12)	(12)	(19)	(16)	(27)	(22)	(11)	(18)
Too expensive	1.4%(1)	3.0%(2)	---	---	---	---	5.3%(1)	6.3%(1)	---	---	---	5.6%(1)
Didn't have it	---	26.5%(18)	---	---	---	41.7%(5)	---	31.3%(5)	---	18.2%(4)	---	22.2%(4)
Partner refused	18.6%(13)	77.6%(52)	100%(1)	---	16.7%(2)	83.3%(10)	15.8%(3)	75.0%(12)	25.9%(7)	76.2%(16)	---	77.8%(14)
Don't like it	17.1%(12)	44.8%(30)	---	---	8.3%(1)	58.3%(7)	15.8%(3)	50.0%(8)	22.2%(6)	47.6%(10)	18.2%(2)	27.8%(5)
Didn't think needed (partner looked healthy)	15.7%(11)	88.1%(59)	---	---	33.3%(4)	100%(12)	21.1%(4)	62.5%(10)	7.4%(2)	100%(22)	9.1%(1)	88.9%(16)
Take contraceptives	11.4%(8)	10.4%(7)	---	---	16.7%(2)	8.3%(1)	21.1%(4)	12.5%(2)	3.7%(1)	14.3%(3)	9.1%(1)	5.6%(1)
Didn't think of it	85.7%(60)	61.2%(41)	---	---	91.7%(11)	66.7%(8)	89.5%(17)	62.5%(10)	81.5%(22)	52.4%(11)	90.9%(10)	66.7%(12)
Trusted him	1.4%(1)	98.5%(66)	---	---	---	100%(12)	---	100%(16)	---	100%(22)	9.1%(1)	94.4%(17)
Frequency of using a condom with permanent partner(s) over the last 12 months	(86)	(83)	(1)	---	(14)	(16)	(21)	(19)	(35)	(27)	(15)	(21)
Always	12.8%(11)	10.8%(9)	---	---	7.1%(1)	12.5%(2)	14.3%(3)	5.3%(1)	11.4%(4)	18.5%(5)	20.0%(3)	4.8%(1)
Nearly always	4.7%(4)	4.8%(4)	---	---	7.1%(1)	---	4.8%(1)	21.1%(4)	5.7%(2)	11.1%(3)	---	4.8%(1)
Sometimes	17.4%(15)	14.5%(12)	100%(1)	---	42.9%(6)	12.5%(2)	4.8%(1)	---	14.3%(5)	11.1%(3)	13.3%(2)	14.3%(3)
Never	65.1%(56)	69.9%(58)	---	---	42.9%(6)	75.0%(12)	76.2%(16)	73.7%(14)	68.6%(24)	59.3%(16)	66.7%(10)	76.2%(16)
Mean (of valid responses)	3.4	3.4	---	---	3.6	3.5	3.8	3.6	3.8	3.1	2.4	3.6

Table 10: Access to condoms for FSWs.

Sexual Behavior	Total		Age Groups									
			<19		19-24		25-30		31-39		40+	
Year (n)	2004 (n=120)	2006 (n=120)	2004 (n=2)	2006 (n=0)	2004 (n=17)	2006 (n=22)	2004 (n=29)	2006 (n=29)	2004 (n=52)	2006 (n=40)	2004 (n=20)	2006 (n=29)
Where do you go to get condoms?	(116)	(116)	(2)	---	(17)	(20)	(29)	(28)	(52)	(39)	(20)	(29)
At shops	1.7%(2)	16.4%(19)	---	---	5.9%(1)	10.0%(2)	---	28.6%(8)	2.0%(1)	7.7%(3)	---	20.7%(6)
Drugstores	91.4%(106)	84.5%(98)	100%(2)	---	94.1%(16)	85.0%(17)	89.7%(26)	85.7%(24)	90.4%(47)	87.2%(34)	83.3%(15)	79.3%(23)
“Tanadgoma”	56.9%(66)	82.8%(96)	---	---	52.9%(9)	80.0%(16)	37.9%(11)	82.1%(23)	63.5%(33)	84.6%(33)	72.2%(13)	82.8%(24)
Sauna	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Bar/hotels	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Other	1.7%(2)	1.7%(2)	---	---	11.8%(2)	---	---	7.1%(2)	---	---	---	---
Time necessary for buying/getting a condom	(116)	(113)	(2)	---	(17)	(20)	(29)	(28)	(50)	(39)	(18)	(29)
Less than 5 minutes	69.8%(81)	59.5%(69)	50.0%(1)	---	88.2%(15)	45.0%(9)	62.1%(18)	64.3%(18)	66.0%(33)	56.4%(22)	77.8%(14)	69.0%(20)
5-15 minutes	21.6%(25)	34.5%(40)	50.0%(1)	---	11.8%(2)	45.0%(9)	27.6%(8)	32.1%(9)	24.0%(12)	35.9%(14)	11.1%(2)	27.6%(8)
15-30 minutes	5.2%(6)	3.4%(4)	---	---	---	5.0%(1)	10.3%(3)	3.6%(1)	6.0%(3)	5.1%(2)	---	---
30 minutes or more	0.9%(1)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	2.0%(1)	---	---	---
Don't know	0.9%(1)	1.7%(2)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	2.6%(1)	5.6%(1)	3.4%(1)
No response	1.7%(2)	0.9%(1)	---	---	---	5.0%(1)	---	---	2.0%(1)	---	5.6%(1)	---
Number of condoms FSWs have with them	(120)	(120)	(2)	---	(17)	(22)	(29)	(29)	(52)	(40)	(20)	(29)
None	60.8%(73)	65.8%(79)	100%(2)	---	64.7%(11)	63.6%(14)	51.7%(15)	62.1%(18)	63.5%(33)	72.5%(29)	60.0%(12)	62.1%(18)
Yes	39.2%(47)	34.2%(41)	---	---	35.3%(6)	36.4%(8)	48.3%(14)	37.9%(11)	36.5%(19)	27.5%(11)	40.0%(8)	37.9%(11)
If yes, Mean	4.8	4.2	---	---	2.3	4.1	3.8	3.5	6.3	5.6	4.6	3.6
Maximum	20	13	---	---	4	12	11	9	20	13	10	10
Minimum	1	1	---	---	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1
Number of condoms FSWs had at place of work	(120)	(119)	(2)	---	(17)	(22)	(29)	(29)	(52)	(40)	(20)	(28)
None	36.7%(44)	32.8%(39)	100%(2)	---	29.4%(5)	54.5%(12)	37.9%(11)	20.7%(6)	32.7%(17)	27.5%(11)	45.0%(9)	35.7%(10)
Yes, and if yes:	63.3%(76)	67.2%(80)	---	---	70.6%(12)	45.5%(10)	62.1%(18)	79.3%(23)	67.3%(35)	72.5%(29)	55.0%(11)	64.3%(28)
Mean	7.8	7.1	---	---	5.5	8.1	8.3	5.6	8.2	7.6	8.0	7.6
Maximum	20	25	---	---	10	15	20	15	20	25	20	20
Minimum	1	1	---	---	2	4	3	1	1	1	2	1

Table 11: Violence among FSWs in Batumi.

Violence	Total		Age Groups									
			<19		19-24		25-30		31-39		40+	
Year N	2004 (n=120)	2006 (n=120)	2004 (n=2)	2006 (n=0)	2004 (n=17)	2006 (n=22)	2004 (n=29)	2006 (n=29)	2004 (n=52)	2006 (n=40)	2004 (n=20)	2006 (n=29)
FSWs experiencing physical violence during last year (Beating, bothering, etc.)	13.3% (16/120)	12.5% (15/120)	50.0% (1/2)	---	29.4% (5/17)	22.7% (5/22)	13.8% (4/29)	6.9% (2/29)	5.8% (3/52)	17.5% (7/40)	15.0% (3/20)	3.4% (1/29)
Person who was violent (physical violence)	(16)	(15)	(1)	---	(5)	(5)	(4)	(2)	(3)	(7)	(3)	(1)
Client	37.5%(6)	53.3%(8)	---	---	60.0%(3)	40.0%(3)	---	50.0% (1)	33.3%(1)	57.1%(4)	66.7%(2)	100%(1)
Lover or permanent partner	31.3%(5)	20.0%(3)	100%(1)	---	20.0%(1)	20.0%(1)	25.0%(1)	50.0% (1)	33.3%(1)	14.3%(1)	33.3%(1)	---
Husband	---	6.7%(1)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	14.3%(1)	---	---
Pimp	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Policemen	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Stranger	25.0%(4)	20.0%(3)	---	---	20.0%(1)	40.0%(1)	75.0%(3)	---	---	14.3%(1)	---	---
Other	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
No response	6.3%(1)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	33.3%(1)	---	---	---
FSWs victims of sexual violence through blackmailing or threatening	5.0% (6/120)	10.8% (13/120)	50.0% (1/2)	---	5.9% (1/50)	22.7% (5/22)	3.4% (1/29)	3.4% (1/29)	3.8% (2/52)	12.5% (5/40)	5.0% (1/20)	6.9% (2/29)
Person who was violent through blackmailing to FSWs	(6)	(13)	(1)	---	(1)	(5)	(1)	(1)	(2)	(5)	(1)	(2)
Client	50.0%(3)	53.8%(7)	---	---	100.0%(1)	60.0%(3)	---	100%(1)	50.0%(1)	60.0%(3)	100%(1)	---
Lover	---	7.7%(1)	---	---	---	20.0%(1)	---	---	---	---	---	---
Husband	16.7%(1)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	50.0%(1)	---	---	---
Pimp	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Policemen	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Stranger	16.7%(1)	38.5%(5)	100%(1)	---	---	20.0%(1)	---	---	---	40.0%(2)	---	100%(2)
Other	16.7%(1)	---	---	---	---	---	100%(1)	---	---	---	---	---
No response	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
FSWs experiencing forced sexual intercourse/rape during last year	5.8% (7/120)	3.3% (4/120)	50.0% (1/2)	---	11.8% (2/17)	9.1% (2/22)	3.4% (1/29)	3.4% (1/29)	5.8% (3/52)	2.5% (1/40)	0% (0/20)	0% (0/29)
Person who forced FSWs to sexual intercourse or raped her	(7)	(4)	(1)	---	(2)	(2)	(1)	(1)	(3)	(1)	(0)	(0)
Client	42.9%(3)	25%(1)	---	---	---	---	---	100%(1)	100%(3)	---	---	---
Lover	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Husband	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Pimp	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Policemen	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Stranger	42.9%(3)	75%(3)	100%(1)	---	50.0%(1)	100%(2)	100%(1)	---	---	100%(1)	---	---
Other	14.3%(1)	---	---	---	50.0%(1)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
No response	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Table 12: Trafficking and sex work abroad.

Trafficking	Total		Age groups									
			<19		19-24		25-30		31-39		40+	
Year	2004	2006	2004	2006	2004	2006	2004	2006	2004	2006	2004	2006
N	(n=120)	(n=120)	(n=2)	(n=0)	(n=17)	(n=22)	(n=29)	(n=29)	(n=52)	(n=40)	(n=20)	(n=29)
Awareness on Trafficking	85.8%(103/120)	96.7%(116/120)	100%(2/2)	---	88.2%(15/17)	95.5%(21/22)	89.7%(26/29)	96.6%(28/29)	84.6%(44/52)	97.5%(39/40)	80.0%(16/20)	96.6%(28/29)
Ever experiencing trafficking	4.9%(5/103)	5.0%(6/120)	0.0%(0/2)	---	13.3%(2/15)	9.1%(2/22)	3.8%(1/26)	3.4%(1/29)	4.5%(2/44)	7.5%(3/40)	0.0%(0/20)	0.0%(0/29)
How many times have been trafficked abroad for sex work	(5)	(6)	---	---	(2)	(2)	(1)	(1)	(2)	(3)	---	(0)
Once	60%(3)	100%(6)	---	---	100%(2)	100%(2)	---	100%(1)	50.0%(1)	100%(3)	---	---
Twice	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
3-5 times	40%(2)	---	---	---	---	---	100%(1)	---	50.0%(1)	---	---	---
More than 5 times	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Working abroad for sex work voluntarily	25.0%(30/120)	27.5%(33/120)	50.0%(1/2)	---	11.8%(2/17)	22.7%(5/22)	17.2%(5/29)	24.1%(7/29)	32.7%(17/52)	40.9%(16/40)	25.0%(5/20)	17.2%(5/29)
Visited abroad for sex work during previous 12 months (year)	(30)	(33)	(1)	---	(2)	(5)	(5)	(7)	(17)	(16)	(5)	(5)
Yes	40.0%(12/30)	54.5%(18/33)	0%(0)	---	50%(1)	40.0%(2)	60%(3)	57.1%(4)	41.2%(7)	56.3%(9)	0%(0)	60.0%(3)
If yes, mean number of times		2.6	---	---	2.0	1.5	1.0	3.0	3.8	2.8	---	2.0
Visited abroad for sex work 2years ago	(30)	(33)	(1)	---	(2)	(5)	(5)	(7)	(17)	(16)	(5)	(5)
Yes	40.0%(12/30)	45.5%(15/33)	100%(1)	---	50%(1)	80.0%(4/5)	60%(3)	28.6%(2/7)	35.3%(6)	37.5%(6/16)	40%(2)	60.0%(3/5)
If yes, mean number of times		2.3	1.0	---	1.0	1.5	1.0	1.0	4.0	4.5	1.5	1.0
Visited abroad for sex work 3 years ago	(30)	(33)	(1)	---	(2)	(5)	(5)	(7)	(17)	(16)	(5)	(5)
Yes	70%(21)	51.5%(17/33)	100%	---	100%	20.0%(1/5)	60%(3)	42.9%(3/7)	64.7%(11)	68.8%(11/16)	80%(4)	40.0%(2/5)
If yes, mean number of times		3.2	3.0	---	4.00	1.0	3.7	5.5	2.8	4.6	3.8	3.5
Primary motivation for sex work abroad	(30)	(33)	(1)	---	(2)	(5)	(5)	(7)	(17)	(16)	(5)	(5)
To earn more money	83.5%(25)	100%(33)	---	---	100%(2)	100%(5)	100%(5)	100%(7)	76.5%(13)	100%(16)	100%(5)	100%(5)
To live in better conditions	13.3%(4)	87.9%(29)	---	---	---	100%(5)	20.0%(1)	100%(7)	17.6%(3)	81.3%(13)	---	80.0%(4)
Followed colleagues	10.0%(3)	45.5%(15)	100.0%(1)	---	---	80.0%(4)	---	71.4%(5)	11.8%(2)	31.3%(5)	---	20.0%(1)
Owed money to somebody	0.8%(1)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	5.9%(1)	---	---	---
Last country visited for sex work	(30)	(33)	(1)	---	(2)	(5)	(5)	(7)	(17)	(16)	(5)	(5)
Turkey	90.0%(27)	97.0%(32)	---	---	100%(2)	100%(5)	100%(5)	100%(7)	94.1%(16)	93.8%(15)	80.0%(4)	100%(5)
Germany	6.7%(2)	---	100%(1)	---	---	---	---	---	5.9%(1)	---	---	---
Czech Republic	3.3%(1)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	20.0%(1)	---
Greece	---	3.0%(1)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	6.3%(1)	---	---
Having problem when crossing a border	10.0%(3/30)	3.0%(1/33)	0%(0/1)	---	0%(0/2)	0.0%(0/5)	20.0%(1/5)	14.3%(1/7)	0%(0/17)	0.0%(0/16)	40.0%(2/5)	0.0%(0/5)
Having problem when working abroad	6.7%(2/30)	12.1%(4/33)	---	---	---	0.0%(0/5)	20.0%(1)	0.0%(0/33)	---	25.0%(4/16)	5.9%(1)	0.0%(0/5)
Having problem when working abroad and when crossing a border	6.7%(2/30)	0.0%(0/33)	---	---	---	0.0%(0/5)	---	0.0%(0/33)	---	0.0%(0/5)	11.8%(2)	0.0%(0/5)
Kind of problems had when crossing the border	(3)	(1)	---	---	---	---	(1)	(1)	---	---	(2)	---
Money extortion	33.3%(1)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	50.0%(1)	---
Person who created the problems when crossing the border	(3)	(1)	---	---	---	---	(1)	(1)	---	---	(2)	---
Georgian border guard	66.7%(2)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	100.0%(2)	---
Georgian customs worker	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Foreign border guard	100%(3)	---	---	---	---	---	100%(1)	---	---	---	100.0%(2)	---
Foreign customs worker	---	100%(1)	---	---	---	---	---	100%(1)	---	---	---	---
Other	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Trafficking	Total		Age groups									
			<19		19-24		25-30		31-39		40+	
Year	2004	2006	2004	2006	2004	2006	2004	2006	2004	2006	2004	2006
N	(n=120)	(n=120)	(n=2)	(n=0)	(n=17)	(n=22)	(n=29)	(n=29)	(n=52)	(n=40)	(n=20)	(n=29)
Who created problems doing sex work abroad?	(3)	(1)	---	---	---	---	(1)	(1)	---	---	(2)	---
Client	33.30%(1)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	50.0%(1)	---
Pimp from Georgia (person that arranged your trip and/or took you abroad)	100.0%(3)	100%(1)	---	---	---	---	100%(1)	100%(1)	---	---	100.0%(2)	---
Brothel owner	---	100%(1)	---	---	---	---	---	100%(1)	---	---	---	---
Kind of problems faced with client/ brothel/hotel/bar owner/pimp from Georgia or policemen	(3)	(5)	---	---	---	---	(1)	(1)	---	(4)	(2)	---
Money extortion	50% (2)	80%(4)	---	---	---	---	---	100%(1)	---	75%(3)	66.7%(2)	---
Other (Passport extortion, with police)	50%(2)	---	---	---	---	---	100%(1)	---	---	---	33.3%(1)	---
Non physical violence	---	20%(1)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	25%(1)	---	---
Free-of-charge service	---	20%(1)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	25%(1)	---	---
Forced non-stop sex work	---	60%(3)	---	---	---	---	---	100%(1)	---	50%(2)	---	---
If had problems while crossing the border or working abroad, would she still go there?	(3)	(5)	---	---	---	---	(1)	(1)	---	(4)	(2)	---
Yes	100%(3)	60%(3)	---	---	---	---	100%(2)	100%(1)	---	50%(2)	100%(2)	---
Reasons for still going abroad for sex work despite problems	(3)	(3)	---	---	---	---	(1)	(1)	---	(2)	---	---
For better living conditions	33.3%(1)	---	---	---	---	---	100%(1)	---	---	---	---	---
Earn money	---	100%(3)	---	---	---	---	---	100%(1)	---	100%(2)	---	---
Type of a place of sex work abroad the last time	(3)	(20)	---	---	---	(4)	(1)	(5)	---	(8)	(2)	(3)
Restaurant	100%(3)	5.0%(1)	---	---	---	---	100%(1)	20%(1)	---	---	100%(2)	---
Sauna	---	10.0%(2)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	12.5%(1)	---	33.3%(1)
Bar	---	25.0%(5)	---	---	---	50%(2)	---	---	---	25.0%(2)	---	33.3%(1)
Hotel	---	80.0%(16)	---	---	---	75%(3)	---	100%(5)	---	75.0%(6)	---	66.7%(2)
Condom use with clients while working last time abroad	(30)	(33)	(1)	---	(2)	(5)	(5)	(7)	(17)	(16)	(5)	(5)
Always	50.0%(15)	39.4%(13)	---	---	50.0%(1)	40.0%(2)	60.0%(3)	57.1%(4)	58.8%(10)	37.5%(6)	20.0%(1)	20.0%(1)
Nearly always	13.3%(4)	18.2%(6)	100%(1)	---	---	40.0%(2)	20.0%(1)	14.3%(1)	5.9%(1)	18.8%(3)	20.0%(1)	20.0%(1)
Sometimes	10.0%(3)	18.2%(6)	---	---	---	20.0%(1)	20.0%(1)	28.6%(2)	11.8%(2)	12.5%(2)	---	40.0%(2)
Never	13.3%(4)	21.2%(7)	---	---	---	---	---	---	17.6%(3)	31.3%(5)	20.0%(1)	---
No response	13.3%(4)	3.0%(1)	---	---	50.0%(1)	---	---	---	5.9%(1)	---	40.0%(2)	20.0%(1)
Alcohol consumption while working abroad	(30)	(33)	(1)	---	(2)	(5)	(5)	(7)	(17)	(16)	(5)	(5)
Every day	20.0%(6)	21.2%(7)	---	---	---	20.0%(1)	40.0%(2)	14.3%(1)	17.6%(3)	25.0%(4)	20.0%(1)	20.0%(1)
At least, once a week	20.0%(6)	18.2%(6)	---	---	---	20.0%(1)	---	28.6%(2)	29.4%(5)	12.5%(2)	20.0%(1)	20.0%(1)
At least, once every two weeks	6.7%(2)	9.1%(3)	---	---	---	20.0%(1)	---	---	11.8%(2)	6.3%(1)	---	20.0%(1)
Once a month	16.7%(5)	15.2%(5)	100%(1)	---	50.0%(1)	20.0%(1)	---	28.6%(2)	11.8%(2)	6.3%(1)	20.0%(1)	20.0%(1)
No response	30.7%(11)	36.4%(12)	---	---	50.0%(1)	20.0%(1)	60%(3)	28.6%(2)	29.4%(5)	50.0%(8)	40.0%(2)	20.0%(1)

Trafficking	Total		Age groups									
			<19		19-24		25-30		31-39		40+	
	Year	2004	2006	2004	2006	2004	2006	2004	2006	2004	2006	2004
N	(n=120)	(n=120)	(n=2)	(n=0)	(n=17)	(n=22)	(n=29)	(n=29)	(n=52)	(n=40)	(n=20)	(n=29)
Taking drugs while working abroad	(30)	(33)	---	---	---	(5)	---	(7)	---	(16)	(5)	(5)
	3.3%(1)	3.0%(1)	---	---	---	20.0%(1)	---	0.0%	---	0.0%	20%(1)	0.0%
How long stayed abroad for last visit	(30)	(33)	(1)	---	(2)	(5)	(5)	(7)	(17)	(16)	(5)	(5)
2 weeks	36.7%(11)	33.3%(11)	---	---	50.0%(1)	60.0%(3)	40.0%(2)	14.3%(1)	41.2%(7)	37.5%(6)	20.0%(1)	20.0%(1)
1 month	33.3%(10)	45.5%(15)	---	---	50.0%(1)	20.0%(1)	40.0%(2)	71.4%(5)	29.4%(5)	31.3%(5)	40.0%(2)	80.0%(4)
More than 1 month	23.7%(7)	21.2%(7)	100%(1)	---	---	20.0%(1)	20.0%(1)	14.3%(1)	23.5%(4)	31.3%(5)	20.0%(1)	---
When I earned a certain amount I needed	3.3%(1)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	20.0%(1)	---
Don't know	3.3%(1)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	5.9%(1)	---	---	---
Number of partners per day during the last visit abroad	(30)	(33)	(1)	---	(2)	(5)	(5)	(7)	(17)	(16)	(5)	(5)
Up to 5	60.0%(18)	60.6%(20)	---	---	50.0%(1)	40.0%(2)	100.0%(5)	42.9%(3)	52.9%(9)	68.8%(11)	60.0%(3)	80.0%(4)
5-10	16.7%(5)	21.2%(7)	---	---	---	40.0%(2)	---	28.6%(2)	23.5%(4)	12.5%(2)	20.0%(1)	20.0%(1)
10 and more	13.3%(4)	9.1%(3)	100%(1)	---	50.0%(1)	---	---	28.6%(2)	11.8%(2)	6.3%(1)	---	---
Don't know	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
No response	10.0%(3)	9.1%(3)	---	---	---	20.0%(1)	---	---	11.8%(2)	12.5%(2)	20.0%(1)	---
Had more clients per day abroad, on average, than in Georgia	(30)	(33)	(1)	---	(2)	(5)	(5)	(7)	(17)	(16)	(5)	(5)
	86.7%(26)	78.8%(26)	100%(1)	---	100%(2)	80.0%(4)	80.0%(4)	57.1%(4)	88.2%(15)	87.5%(14)	80.0%(4)	80.0%(4)
Fee per client abroad (in GEL)	(30)	(33)	(1)	---	(2)	(5)	(5)	(7)	(17)	(16)	(5)	(5)
mean	87	75	100	---	85	48	80	58	85	89	98	80
median	75	50	100	---	85	50	50	45	80	53	60	50
Range	9 - 200	9 - 300	---	---	---	9 - 90	---	36 - 100	---	9 - 300	---	40 - 180
Means of protection used abroad for HIV/STIs	(30)	(33)	(1)	---	(2)	(5)	(5)	(7)	(17)	(16)	(5)	(5)
Condom	60.0%(18)	78.8%(26)	100%(1)	---	50.0%(1)	80%(4)	80.0%(4)	100%(7)	58.8%(10)	75%(12)	40.0%(2)	60%(3)
Prophylactic injection (An injection that you are told to prevent STIs and HIV)	60.0%(18)	74.2%(23)	100%(1)	---	50.0%(1)	75%(3)	60.0%(3)	100%(7)	64.7%(11)	75%(12)	40.0%(2)	20%(1)
Contraceptives	---	12.9%(4)	---	---	---	25%(1)	---	28.6%(2)	---	0%(0)	---	20%(1)
Frequency of prophylactic medicine injections abroad	(18)	(23)	(1)	---	(1)	(3)	(3)	(7)	(11)	(12)	(2)	(1)
Once in two weeks	11.1%(2)	17.4%(4)	---	---	100%(1)	33.3%(1)	---	---	9.1%(1)	16.7%(2)	---	100%(1)
Once in a month	66.7%(12)	34.8%(8)	100%(1)	---	---	66.7%(2)	100%(3)	57.1%(4)	54.5%(6)	16.7%(2)	100%(2)	---
Once in three months	5.6%(1)	8.7%(2)	---	---	---	---	---	---	9.1%(1)	16.7%(2)	---	---
Once in six months	16.7%(3)	17.4%(4)	---	---	---	---	---	28.6%(2)	27.3%(3)	16.7%(2)	---	---
Other	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Don't know/remember	---	21.7%(5)	---	---	---	---	---	14.3%(1)	---	33.3%(4)	---	---
Access to HIV/STI testing services abroad	(30)	(33)	(1)	---	(2)	(5)	(5)	(7)	(17)	(16)	(5)	(5)
	40.0%(12)	45.5%(15)	---	---	50.0%(1)	60%(3)	60.0%(3)	42.9%(3)	41.2%(7)	37.5%(6)	20.0%(1)	60.0%(3)
Ever using HIV/STI testing services abroad	(12)	(15)	(1)	---	(1)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(7)	(6)	(1)	(3)
	91.7%(11)	60.0%(9)	---	---	100%(1)	0.0%(0)	100%(3)	66.7%(2)	85.7%(6)	83.3%(5)	100%(1)	66.7%(2)

Table 13: STI Knowledge and health seeking behavior among FSWs.

STI knowledge	Total		Age Groups									
			<19		19-24		25-30		31-39		40+	
Year	2004	2006	2004	2006	2004	2006	2004	2006	2004	2006	2004	2006
N	(n=120)	(n=120)	(n=2)	(n=0)	(n=17)	(n=22)	(n=29)	(n=29)	(n=52)	(n=40)	(n=20)	(n=29)
Awareness of STIs	98.3% (118)	100% (120)	100.0% (2)	---	88.2% (15)	100% (22)	100% (29)	100% (29)	100% (52)	100% (40)	100% (20)	100% (29)
Knowledge of STI symptoms observed among women	(118)	(120)	(2)	---	(15)	(22)	(29)	(29)	(52)	(40)	(20)	(29)
Lower abdomen pain	13.6%(16)	13.3%(16)	---	---	20.0%(3)	9.1%(2)	13.8%(4)	24.1%(7)	13.5%(7)	12.5%(5)	10.0%(2)	6.9%(2)
Abnormal vaginal discharge	47.5%(56)	68.3%(82)	---	---	46.7%(7)	63.6%(4)	51.7%(15)	72.4%(21)	44.2%(23)	65.0%(26)	55.0%(11)	72.4%(21)
Burning on urination	5.9%(7)	30.8%(37)	---	---	6.7%(1)	36.4%(8)	10.3%(3)	24.1%(7)	5.7%(3)	22.5%(9)	---	44.8%(13)
Vaginal ulcer	4.2%(5)	26.7%(32)	---	---	13.3%(2)	22.7%(5)	6.8%(2)	27.6%(8)	---	27.5%(11)	5.0%(1)	27.6%(8)
Swollen vulva/lower abdomen	2.5%(3)	16.7%(20)	---	---	---	18.2%(4)	3.4%(1)	27.6%(8)	1.9%(1)	7.5%(3)	5.0%(1)	17.2%(5)
Itching	33.1%(39)	48.3%(58)	---	---	40.0%(6)	45.5%(6)	31.0%(9)	41.4%(12)	36.5%(19)	45.0%(18)	25.0%(5)	62.1%(18)
Smell	4.2%(5)	2.5%(3)	---	---	---	---	6.8%(2)	3.4%(1)	---	5.0%(2)	15.0%(3)	---
Rash	2.5%(3)	---	---	---	6.7%(1)	---	6.8%(2)	---	1.9%(1)	10.0%(4)	5.0%(1)	---
Other	10.2%(12)	4.9%(6)	---	---	6.7%(1)	---	6.8%(2)	---	13.5%(7)	---	10.0%(2)	3.4%(1)
DK	23.7%(28)	19.2%(23)	100%(2)	---	---	27.3%(6)	20.7%(6)	17.2%(5)	28.8%(15)	22.5%(9)	25.0%(5)	10.3%(3)
No response	6.8%(8)	4.2%(5)	---	---	13.3%(2)	4.5%(1)	3.4%(1)	6.9%(2)	9.6%(5)	---	---	6.9%(2)
Know at least one symptom	69.5%(82)	76.7%(92)	0.0%	---	86.7%(13)	68.2%(15)	75.9%(22)	75.9%(22)	61.5%(32)	77.5%(31)	75.0%(15)	82.8%(24)
Don't know any	30.5%(36)	23.3%(28)	100%(2)	---	13.3%(2)	31.8%(7)	24.1%(7)	24.1%(7)	38.5%(20)	22.5%(9)	25.0%(5)	17.2%(5)
Knowledge of STI symptoms observed among men	(118)	(120)	(2)	---	(15)	(22)	(29)	(29)	(52)	(40)	(20)	(29)
Urethral discharge	18.6%(22)	55.0%(66)	---	---	6.7%(1)	40.9%(9)	34.5%(10)	41.4%(12)	13.5%(7)	70.0%(28)	20.0%(4)	58.6%(17)
Burning on urination	7.6%(9)	12.5%(15)	---	---	---	13.6%(3)	17.2%(5)	17.2%(5)	5.7%(3)	10.0%(4)	5.0%(1)	10.3%(3)
Genital ulcer	1.7%(2)	13.3%(16)	---	---	---	9.1%(2)	3.4%(1)	10.3%(3)	1.9%(1)	25.0%(10)	---	3.4%(1)
Itching	5.9%(7)	26.7%(32)	---	---	---	13.6%(3)	10.3%(3)	24.1%(7)	7.7%(4)	32.5%(13)	---	31.0%(9)
Smell	0.8%(1)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Rash	0.8%(1)	2.5%(3)	---	---	---	---	---	---	1.9%(1)	---	---	10.3%(3)
Other	0.8%(1)	6.7%(8)	---	---	---	---	---	17.2%(5)	---	2.5%(1)	---	6.9%(2)
Don't know	11.9%(14)	38.3%(46)	---	---	13.3%(2)	50.0%(11)	6.9%(2)	51.7%(15)	17.3%(9)	22.5%(9)	5.0%(1)	37.9%(11)
No response	---	0.0%(0)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Know at least one STI symptom	37.3%(44)	62.5%(75)	100%(2)	---	20.0%(3)	50.0%(11)	55.2%(16)	51.7%(15)	36.5%(19)	77.5%(31)	30.0%(6)	62.1%(18)
Do not know any STI symptom	62.7%(74)	37.5%(45)	---	---	80.0%(12)	50.0%(11)	44.8%(13)	48.3%(14)	63.5%(33)	22.5%(9)	70.0%(14)	37.9%(11)
Had STI symptoms in the last 12 months	(120)	(120)	(2)	---	(15)	(22)	(29)	(29)	(52)	(40)	(20)	(29)
Abnormal vaginal discharge*	52.5%(63)	58.3%(70)	50.0%(1)	---	82.4%(14)	72.7%(16)	55.2%(16)	62.1%(18)	40.4%(21)	60.0%(24)	55.3%(11)	41.4%(12)
Vaginal ulcer/boil	11.4%(14)	15.0%(18)	50.0%(1)	---	5.9%(1)	9.1%(2)	10.3%(3)	10.3%(3)	11.5%(6)	17.5%(7)	15.0%(3)	20.7%(6)
Received treatment at:	(65)	(73)	(0)	---	(14)	(16)	(16)	(19)	(22)	(25)	(12)	(13)
State clinic/hospital	38.5%(25)	57.5%(42)	---	---	28.6%(4)	43.8%(7)	---	78.9%(15)	50.0%(11)	52.0%(13)	33.3%(4)	53.8%(3)
Private clinic/hospital	10.8%(7)	9.6%(7)	---	---	14.3%(2)	12.5%(2)	25.0%(4)	10.5%(2)	---	4.0%(1)	8.3%(1)	15.4%(2)
Drugstore	32.3%(21)	34.2%(25)	---	---	7.1%(1)	31.3%(5)	37.5%(6)	31.6%(6)	31.8%(7)	40.0%(10)	58.3%(7)	30.8%(4)
Traditional healer	3.1%(2)	0.0%(0)	---	---	---	0.0%(0)	12.5%(2)	0.0%(0)	---	0.0%(0)	---	0.0%(0)
Applied self-treatment	44.6%(29)	43.8%(32)	---	---	21.4%(3)	43.8%(7)	50.0%(8)	31.6%(6)	45.5%(10)	52.0%(13)	66.7%(8)	46.2%(6)
mean # treatment options used	1.8	1.4	0	---	1.4	1.6	2.3	1.2	2.3	1.5	2.4	1.5
Sexual behavior during symptomatic period	(65)	(73)	(1)	---	(14)	(16)	(29)	(19)	(22)	(25)	(12)	(13)
Told sexual partner about STD	35.4%(23)	35.6%(26)	100%(1)	---	35.7%(5)	31.3%(5)	56.3%(9)	63.2%(12)	22.7%(5)	24.0%(6)	25.0%(3)	23.1%(3)
Stopped intercourses	44.6%(29)	53.4%(39)	100%(1)	---	28.6%(4)	43.8%(7)	37.5%(6)	73.7%(14)	45.5%(10)	44.0%(11)	66.7%(8)	53.8%(7)
Used condoms	44.6%(29)	61.6%(45)	100%(1)	---	57.1%(8)	62.5%(10)	37.5%(6)	57.9%(11)	40.9%(9)	60.0%(15)	41.7%(5)	69.2%(9)

Table 14: HIV/AIDS knowledge and testing among FSWs.

HIV/AIDS knowledge	Total		Age Groups									
			<19		19-24		25-30		31-39		40+	
Year	2004	2006	2004	2006	2004	2006	2004	2006	2004	2006	2004	2006
N	(n=120)	(n=120)	(n=2)	(n=0)	(n=17)	(n=22)	(n=29)	(n=29)	(n=52)	(n=40)	(n=20)	(n=29)
Awareness of HIV/AIDS	100.0%(120)	100.0%(120)	100.0%(2)	---	100.0%(17)	100.0%(22)	100.0%(29)	100.0%(29)	100.0%(52)	100.0%(40)	100.0%(20)	100.0%(29)
Know Person w/ HIV/AIDS	(120)	(120)	(2)	---	(17)	(22)	(29)	(29)	(52)	(40)	(20)	(29)
Yes:	2.5%(3)	16.7%(20)	50.0%(1)	---	5.9%(1)	22.7%(5)	0%	13.8%(4)	1.9%(1)	17.5%(7)	0%	13.8%(4)
If yes, a close friend or relative	33.3%(1)	10.0%(2)	100.0%(1)	---	---	20.0%(1)	---	25.0%(1)	---	0.0%(0)	---	0.0%(0)
Key HIV/AIDS Knowledge	(120)	(120)	(2)	---	(17)	(22)	(29)	(29)	(52)	(40)	(20)	(29)
Correct condom use	90.0%(108)	72.5%(87)	100%(2)	---	94.1%(16)	86.4%(19)	93.1%(27)	69.0%(20)	90.4%(47)	67.5%(27)	80.0%(16)	72.4%(21)
Mosquito bites (no)	51.7%(62)	26.7%(32)	0%	---	52.9%(9)	36.4%(8)	65.5%(19)	13.8%(4)	44.2%(23)	25.0%(10)	55.0%(11)	34.5%(10)
One faithful partner	89.2%(107)	58.3%(70)	100%(2)	---	100.0%(17)	54.5%(12)	82.8%(24)	55.2%(16)	88.5%(46)	65.7%(27)	90.0%(18)	51.7%(15)
Abstinence	83.3%(100)	59.2%(71)	100%(2)	---	88.2%(15)	63.6%(14)	79.3%(23)	58.6%(17)	88.5%(46)	60.0%(24)	70.0%(14)	55.2%(16)
Meal-sharing (no)	50.8%(61)	30.8%(37)	0%	---	47.1%(8)	40.9%(9)	58.6%(17)	27.6%(8)	51.9%(27)	25.0%(10)	45.0%(9)	34.5%(10)
Needle/syringe sharing	98.3%(118)	94.2%(113)	100%(2)	---	88.2%(15)	86.4%(19)	100%(29)	96.6%(28)	100.0%(52)	97.5%(39)	100%(20)	93.1%(27)
All items above correct	29.2%(35)	27.5%(33)	0%	---	35.3%(6)	31.8%(7)	27.6%(8)	20.7%(6)	34.6%(18)	25.0%(10)	15.0%(3)	34.5%(10)
MTCT during pregnancy	95.0%(114)	86.7%(104)	50.0%(1)	---	88.2%(15)	81.6%(18)	100.0%(29)	82.8%(24)	94.2%(49)	100%(40)	100%(20)	75.9%(22)
Through breastfeeding	80.0%(96)	78.3%(94)	50.0%(1)	---	82.4%(14)	81.8%(18)	79.3%(23)	72.4%(21)	80.8%(42)	82.5%(33)	80.0%(16)	75.9%(22)
Knowledge of STI/HIV prevention routes	(118)	(120)	(2)	---	(17)	(22)	(28)	(29)	(51)	(40)	(20)	(29)
Correct condom use	94.1%(111)	85.8%(103)	100%(2)	---	94.1%(16)	77.3%(17)	100%(28)	82.8%(24)	92.2%(47)	90.0%(36)	90.0%(18)	89.5%(26)
Avoiding sexual contacts	4.2%(5)	20.8%(25)	0%	---	5.9%(1)	4.5%(2)	0.0%	20.7%(6)	3.8%(2)	22.5%(9)	10.0%(2)	31.0%(9)
Sex with one faithful partner	4.2%(5)	20.0%(24)	0%	---	11.8%(2)	13.6%(3)	3.6%(1)	20.7%(6)	1.9%(1)	15.0%(6)	5.0%(1)	31.0%(9)
Safe forms of sex	0.8%(1)	10.8%(13)	0%	---	0%	4.5%(2)	3.6%(1)	10.3%(3)	0%	22.5%(9)	0%	0.0%(0)
Don't know	4.2%(5)	13.3%(16)	0%	---	5.9%(1)	22.7%(5)	0%	17.2%(5)	5.8%(3)	7.5%(3)	5.0%(1)	10.3%(3)
Other STI/HIV routes	(118)	(120)	(2)	---	(17)	(22)	(28)	(29)	(51)	(40)	(20)	(29)
A person with blood group A can get STI/HIV												
Agree	61.9%(73)	48.3%(58)	50.0%(1)	---	52.9%(9)	45.5%(10)	71.4%(20)	44.8%(13)	64.7%(33)	60.0%(24)	50.0%(10)	37.9%(11)
Don't know	29.7%(35)	32.5%(39)	50%(1)	---	41.2%(7)	40.9%(9)	21.4%(6)	41.4%(12)	25.5%(13)	20.0%(8)	40%(8)	34.5%(10)
A healthy-looking person can't be infected with HIV												
Agree	5.0%(6/120)	1.7%(2)	0.0%(0)	---	5.9%(1)	4.5%(1)	6.9%(2)	0.0%(0)	1.9%(1)	2.5%(1)	10.0%(2)	0.0%(0)
Don't know	13.3%(16/120)	14.2%(17)	50%(1)	---	11.8%(2)	27.3%(6)	13.8%(4)	10.3%(3)	15.4%(8)	10.3%(4)	5.0%(1)	13.8%(4)
Knows HIV testing site in a community	(120)	(120)	(2)	---	(17)	(22)	(29)	(29)	(52)	(40)	(20)	(29)
Yes	85.0%(102)	78.3%(94)	---	---	94.1%(16)	86.4%(19)	82.8%(24)	69.0%(20)	84.6%(44)	77.5%(31)	90.0%(18)	82.8%(24)
No	4.2%(5)	5.8%(7)	---	---	6.3%(1)	4.5%(1)	3.4%(1)	6.9%(2)	5.8%(3)	7.5%(3)	---	3.4%(1)
Don't know	10.8%(13)	15.8%(19)	100%(2)	---	---	9.1%(2)	13.2%(4)	24.1%(7)	9.6%(5)	15.0%(6)	10.0%(2)	13.8%(4)
Confidential HIV test	(120)	(120)	(0)	---	(17)	(22)	(29)	(29)	(52)	(40)	(20)	(29)
Had test:	53.3%(64)	54.2%(65)	---	---	58.8%(10)	40.9%(9)	62.1%(18)	55.2%(16)	46.2%(24)	65.0%(26)	60.0%(12)	48.3%(14)
If yes: Voluntarily	90.6%(58/64)	86.2%(56)	---	---	100%(10)	77.8%(7)	83.3%(15)	87.5%(14)	95.8%(23)	84.6%(22)	83.3%(10)	92.9%(13)
Received result	92.2%(59/64)	89.2%(58)	---	---	90%(9)	88.9%(8)	94.4%(17)	87.5%(14)	95.8%(23)	84.6%(22)	100%(10)	100%(14)
Time of the last HIV test	(64)	(62)	(0)	---	(10)	(9)	(18)	(14)	(24)	(25)	(12)	(14)
This year	70.3%(45)	56.5%(35)	---	---	80.0%(8)	44.4%(4)	66.7%(12)	78.6%(11)	70.8%(17)	44.0%(11)	66.7%(8)	64.3%(9)
1-2 yrs ago	14.1%(9)	33.9%(21)	---	---	10.0%(1)	33.3%(3)	11.1%(2)	14.3%(2)	16.7%(4)	48.0%(12)	16.7%(2)	28.6%(4)
2-4 yrs ago	6.3%(4)	3.2%(2)	---	---	10.0%(1)	22.2%(2)	11.1%(2)	7.1%(1)	---	---	8.3%(1)	---
> 4 yrs ago	3.1%(2)	3.2%(2)	---	---	---	---	---	---	4.2%(1)	4.0%(1)	8.3%(1)	7.1%(1)
Don't know	6.3%(4)	3.2%(2)	---	---	---	---	11.1%(2)	---	8.3%(2)	4.0%(1)	---	---

HIV/AIDS knowledge	Total		Age Groups									
			<19		19-24		25-30		31-39		40+	
Year	2004	2006	2004	2006	2004	2006	2004	2006	2004	2006	2004	2006
N	(n=120)	(n=120)	(n=2)	(n=0)	(n=17)	(n=22)	(n=29)	(n=29)	(n=52)	(n=40)	(n=20)	(n=29)
Whom you tell the test results	(42)	(33)	(0)	---	(5)	(2)	(13)	(7)	(16)	(16)	(8)	(8)
Client/clients	2.4%(1)	27.3%(9)	---	---	0.0%	---	0.0%	28.6%(2)	0.0%	31.3%(5)	12.5%(1)	25.0%(2)
Permanent client/clients	7.1% (3)	30.3%(10)	---	---	20.0% (1)	---	7.7% (1)	42.9%(3)	6.3%(1)	18.8%(3)	0.0%	50.0%(4)
Permanent partner(s)	21.4% (9)	30.3%(10)	---	---	20.0% (1)	---	38.5% (5)	42.9%(3)	12.5%(2)	25.0%(4)	12.5%(1)	37.5%(3)
Colleague sex workers	26.2% (11)	33.3%(11)	---	---	20.0% (1)	---	38.5% (5)	14.3%(1)	25.0%(4)	37.5%(6)	12.5%(1)	50.0%(4)
Family members	4.8%(2)	33.3%(11)	---	---	20.0% (1)	50%(1)	0.0%	28.6%(2)	6.3%(1)	37.5%(6)	0.0%	25.0%(2)
Relatives	2.4% (1)	9.1%(3)	---	---	0.0%	---	0.0%	14.3%(1)	6.3%(1)	6.3%(1)	0.0%	12.5%(1)
Friends	42.9% (18)	57.6%(19)	---	---	20.0% (1)	100%(2)	46.2% (6)	71.4%(5)	37.5(8)	68.8%(11)	37.5%(3)	12.5%(1)
Nobody	0.0%	3.0%(1)	---	---	0.0%	---	0.0%	---	0.0%	---	0.0%	12.5%(1)
Other	4.6% (2)	---	---	---	0.0%	---	7.7%(1)	---	6.3%(1)	---	0.0%	---
No response	16.7%(7)	6.1%(2)	---	---	0.0%	---	15.4%(2)	---	18.8%(3)	6.3%(1)	25.0%(2)	12.5%(1)
Whom would FSWs tell if she receives HIV positive result	(120)	(120)	(2)	---	(17)	(22)	(29)	(29)	(52)	(40)	(20)	(29)
Nobody	34.2%(41)	48.3%(58)	50.0%(1)	---	11.8%(2)	45.5%(10)	44.8%(13)	48.3%(14)	38.5%(20)	40.0%(16)	25.0%(5)	62.1%(18)
Client	16.5%(19)	16.8%(20)	0.0%	---	25.0%(4)	18.2%(4)	10.3%(3)	17.2%(5)	14.3%(7)	17.9%(7)	26.3%(5)	13.8%(4)
Permanent client	18.3%(21)	21.0%(25)	0.0%	---	31.3%(5)	18.2%(4)	13.8%(4)	17.2%(5)	14.3%(7)	25.6%(10)	26.3%(5)	20.7%(6)
Permanent partner	33.9%(39)	35.3%(42)	0.0%	---	37.5%(6)	27.3%(6)	37.9%(11)	37.9%(11)	30.6%(15)	38.5%(15)	36.8%(7)	34.5%(10)
Family members	31.3%(36)	39.5%(47)	50.0%(1)	---	31.3%(5)	40.9%(9)	31.0%(9)	41.4%(12)	28.6%(14)	41.0%(16)	36.8%(7)	34.5%(10)
Relative	20.9%(24)	22.7%(27)	50.0%(1)	---	25.0%(4)	18.2%(4)	17.2%(5)	27.6%(8)	20.4%(10)	15.4%(6)	21.1%(4)	31.0%(9)
Colleague	27.8%(32)	31.9%(38)	50.0%(1)	---	37.5%(6)	22.7%(5)	24.1%(7)	31.0%(9)	24.5%(12)	33.3%(13)	31.6%(6)	37.9%(11)
Friend	39.1%(45)	53.8%(64)	50.0%(1)	---	50.0%(8)	50.0%(11)	31.0%(9)	51.7%(15)	36.7%(18)	51.3%(20)	47.4%(9)	62.1%(18)
Other (physician, Tanadgoma Staff, commit suicide)	3.3%(4)	7.6%(9)	0.0%	---	6.2%(1)	9.1%(2)	3.4%(1)	0.0%(0)	3.8%(2)	5.1%(2)	0.0%	17.2%(5)

Table 15: Source of information on STI/HIV.

STI/HIV information	Total		Age groups									
			<19		19-24		25-30		31-39		40+	
Year	2004	2006	2004	2006	2004	2006	2004	2006	2004	2006	2004	2006
N	(n=120)	(n=120)	(n=2)	(n=0)	(n=17)	(n=22)	(n=29)	(n=29)	(n=52)	(n=40)	(n=20)	(n=29)
Number of FSWs received information on HIV/AIDS	98.3%(118)	98.3%(118)	100%(2)	---	100%(17)	100%(22)	96.5%(28)	100%(29)	98.1%(51)	97.5%(39)	100%(20)	96.6%(28)
Source of information about AIDS	(118)	(118)	(2)	---	(17)	(22)	(28)	(29)	(51)	(39)	(20)	(28)
TV./radio	73.7%(87)	85.6%(101)	100%(2)	---	64.7%(11)	63.6%(14)	71.4%(20)	82.8%(24)	75.0%(39)	94.9%(37)	75.0%(15)	92.9%(26)
Magazines/journals	42.4%(50)	59.3%(70)	0.0%	---	35.3%(6)	45.5%(10)	53.6%(15)	58.6%(17)	19.2%(18)	69.2%(27)	55.0%(11)	57.1%(16)
Friends/relatives	16.9%(20)	42.4%(50)	0.0%	---	17.6%(3)	59.1%(13)	17.9%(5)	51.7%(15)	15.4%(8)	38.5%(15)	20.0%(4)	25.0%(7)
Clients	2.5%(3)	24.6%(29)	0.0%	---	0.0%	22.7%(5)	3.6%(1)	20.7%(6)	1.9%(1)	38.5%(15)	5.0%(1)	10.7%(3)
Family member	2.5%(3)	11.0%(13)	0.0%	---	0.0%	4.5%(1)	7.1%(2)	13.8%(4)	0.0%	15.4%(6)	5.0%(1)	7.1%(2)
Social Worker	44.9%(53)	84.7%(100)	0.0%	---	41.2%(7)	86.4%(19)	39.3%(11)	86.2%(25)	51.9%(27)	87.2%(34)	40.0%(8)	78.6%(22)
Other	2.5%(3)	0.0%	0.0%	---	0.0%	0.0%	2.0%(1)	0.0%	1.9%(1)	0.0%	5.0%(1)	0.0%
Frequency of listening to radio during the last 4 weeks	(120)	(120)	(2)	---	(17)	(22)	(29)	(29)	(52)	(40)	(20)	(29)
Every day	25.0%(30)	23.3%(28)	---	---	17.6%(3)	13.6%(3)	24.1%(7)	24.1%(7)	26.9%(14)	25.0%(10)	30.0%(6)	27.6%(8)
No less than once a week	6.7%(8)	17.5%(21)	---	---	5.9%(1)	9.1%(2)	6.9%(2)	10.3%(3)	7.7%(4)	25.0%(10)	5.0%(1)	20.7%(6)
Less than once a week	6.7%(8)	0.8%(1)	---	---	11.8%(2)	---	3.4%(1)	---	7.7%(4)	2.5%(1)	5.0%(1)	---
Never within the last 4 weeks	61.7%(74)	55.8%(67)	100%(2)	---	64.7%(11)	72.7%(16)	65.5%(19)	65.5%(19)	57.7%(30)	42.5%(17)	60.0%(12)	51.7%(15)
Don't know	0.0%	2.5%(3)	0.0%	---	0.0%	4.5%(1)	0.0%	---	0.0%	5.0%(2)	0.0%	---
Frequency of watching TV during the last 4 weeks	(120)	(120)	(2)	---	(17)	(22)	(29)	(29)	(52)	(40)	(20)	(29)
Every day	77.5%(93)	71.7%(86)	100%(2)	---	70.6%(12)	59.1%(13)	86.2%(25)	82.8%(24)	80.8%(42)	77.5%(34)	60.0%(12)	62.1%(18)
No less than once a week	4.2%(5)	15.0%(18)	---	---	---	27.3%(6)	3.4%(1)	6.9%(2)	5.8%(3)	10.0%(4)	5.0%(1)	20.7%(6)
Less than once a week	1.7%(2)	1.7%(2)	---	---	11.8%(2)	---	---	---	---	---	---	6.9%(2)
Never within the last 4 weeks	16.7%(20)	10.8%(13)	---	---	17.6%(3)	13.6%(3)	10.3%(3)	10.3%(3)	13.5%(7)	10.0%(4)	35.0%(7)	10.3%(3)
Don't know	---	0.8%(1)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	2.5%(1)	---	---

Table 16: Attitude of FSWs towards persons with HIV/AIDS.

Attitudes	Total		Age Groups									
			<19		19-24		25-30		31-39		40+	
Year	2004	2006	2004	2006	2004	2006	2004	2006	2004	2006	2004	2006
N	(n=120)	(n=120)	(n=2)	(n=0)	(n=17)	(n=22)	(n=29)	(n=29)	(n=52)	(n=40)	(n=20)	(n=29)
Would share meal with HIV positive person?	25.8% (31/120)	18.3% (22/120)	0.0% (0/2)	---	29.4% (5/17)	13.6% (3/22)	31.0% (9/29)	17.2% (5/29)	21.2% (11/52)	17.5% (7/40)	30.0% (6/20)	24.1% (7/29)
Would take care of a male relative who is HIV positive?	55.8% (67/120)	46.7% (56/120)	50% (1/2)	---	76.5% (13/17)	40.9% (9/22)	62.1% (18/29)	44.8% (13/29)	46.2% (24/52)	50.0% (20/40)	55.0% (11/20)	48.3% (14/29)
Should HIV positive student allowed to continue studding?	40.0% (48/120)	27.5% (33/120)	50% (1/2)	---	47.1% (8/17)	22.7% (5/22)	48.3% (14/29)	27.6% (8/29)	32.7% (17/52)	22.5% (9/40)	40.0% (8/20)	37.9% (11/29)
Would take care of a female relative who is HIV positive?	57.5% (69/120)	43.3% (52/120)	100% (2/2)	---	82.4% (14/17)	6.4% (8/22)	55.2% (16/29)	44.8% (13/29)	51.9% (27/52)	45.0% (18/40)	50.0% (10/20)	44.8% (13/29)
Should a HIV positive teacher continue teaching?	30.8% (37/120)	15.8% (19/120)	50% (1/2)	---	47.1% (8/17)	4.5% (1/22)	27.6% (8/29)	13.8% (4/29)	26.9% (14/52)	15.0% (6/40)	30.0% (6/20)	27.6% (8/29)
Would buy food from HIV positive salesman?	20.0% (24/120)	15.0% (18/120)	0.0% (0/2)	---	29.4% (5/17)	13.6% (3/22)	20.7% (6/29)	13.8% (4/29)	13.5% (7/52)	10.0% (4/40)	30.0% (6/20)	24.1% (7/29)
Would keep secret of family member is HIV positive?	47.5% (57/120)	71.7% (86/120)	0.0% (0/2)	---	35.3% (6/17)	59.1% (13/22)	58.6% (17/29)	82.8% (24/29)	46.2% (24/52)	75.0% (30/40)	50.0% (10/20)	65.5% (13/29)

Table 17: STI/HIV prevalence among FSWs in Batumi.

STI/HIV markers	Total		Age groups									
			<19		19-24		25-30		31-39		40+	
Year	2004	2006	2004	2006	2004	2006	2004	2006	2004	2006	2004	2006
N	(n=120)	(n=120)	(n=2)	(n=0)	(n=17)	(n=22)	(n=29)	(n=29)	(n=52)	(n=40)	(n=20)	(n=29)
Neisseria gonorrhoea	14.2%(17/120)	10.3%(12/117)	50.0%(1)	---	29.4%(5)	9.1%(2/22)	20.7%(6)	22.2%(6/27)	5.8%(3)	5.0%(2/40)	10.0%(2)	7.1%(2/28)
Chlamydia trachomatis	20.0%(24/120)	23.9%(28/117)	50.0%(1)	---	17.6%(3)	50%(11/22)	24.1%(7)	22.2%(6/27)	17.3%(9)	15.0%(6/40)	20.0%(4)	17.9%(5/28)
Syphilis (RPR, TPHA with ELISA (confirmation))	33.0%(38/115)	36.0%(41/114)	50%(1/2)	---	31.3%(5/16)	27.3%(6/22)	25.9%(7/27)	21.4%(6/28)	30.0%(15/50)	50.0%(18/36)	50.0%(10)	39.3%(11/28)
% with no STIs	47.5%(57/120)	45.0%(50/111)	50.0%(1)	---	47.1%(8)	27.3%(6/22)	44.8%(13)	50.0%(13/26)	48.1%(25)	50.0%(18/36)	50.0%(10)	48.1%(13/27)
% with 1 STI	50.0%(60/120)	41.4%(46/111)	---	---	47.1%(8)	59.1%(13/22)	55.2%(16)	30.8%(8/26)	51.9%(27)	38.9%(14/36)	45.0%(9)	40.7%(11/27)
% with 2 or more STIs	13.3%(16/120)	13.5%(15/111)	50.0%(1)	---	5.9%(1)	13.6%(3/22)	---	19.2%(5/26)	---	11.2%(4/36)	5.0%(1)	11.1%(3/27)
HIV (ELISA with Western Blot confirmation)	0.0%(0/120)	0.1%(1/114)	0.0%	---	0.0%	0.0%(0/22)	0.0%	0.0%(0/28)	0.0%	0.0%(0/36)	0.0%	3.6%(1/28)

Methodology

Over the past three decades several methods for recruiting hidden populations for surveillance and other survey research purposes have been developed. Time Location Sampling (TLS), classified as a probability sampling method, is strongly recommended for surveillance surveys among certain FSWs groups. This approach, which is being used more frequently in recent years, takes advantage of the fact the some hidden populations tend to gather or congregate in certain types of locations.

As a pre-surveillance assessment, formative research with FSWs and some key informants took place to learn more about commercial sex work in Batumi. Based on Tanadgoma's (TG) previous experience and the findings of the pre-surveillance assessment, it was evident that, unlike Tbilisi, there are few street-based FSWs in Batumi. They commonly operate from bars, saunas, hotels, and restaurants. Therefore, in order to obtain a representative sample size of the target population, the study was conducted among FSWs working at these facilities.

To develop a survey sampling frame, a preliminary ethnographic mapping exercise was undertaken in October 2004 and May-June 2006 by TG, in collaboration with a local research institute (the Institute of Polling and Marketing - IPM). The purpose of these mappings was to identify appropriate sections of the city, facility sites, approximate numbers, and working hours of FSWs in Batumi.

Ethical Issues

The first BSS with biomarker component among FSWs in Batumi, Adjara region was conducted by the STI/HIV Prevention (SHIP) Project in October-November 2004. The second BSS was conducted in May-June 2006.

The survey investigators were cognizant of the fact that the individuals participating in this study were at some risk for social harm, should they be identified as part of the target group. Thus, the survey was designed to provide maximum protection for the participants, yet at the same time provide individual and community benefits. The following ethical issues that were taken into consideration:

Participation in the surveys was voluntary. Participants were free to withdraw at any time and were informed that refusal or withdrawal would not affect services they would normally receive. No names were recorded. All documentation was anonymous, linked only by a study number. Staff conducting the survey was trained in discussing sensitive issues and protecting participants' confidentiality and human rights.

All individuals identified with a curable sexually transmitted infection were offered free counseling and referred to the "Healthy Cabinet" for treatment.

Recruitment of participants was done by Tanadgoma/Batumi, a local NGO that has extensive experience working with FSWs, or by the target population themselves.

The protocol for the BSSs was approved by the Ethical Committee of the HIV/AIDS Patients' Support Foundation in Georgia. The surveys were conducted in cooperation with the Infectious Diseases, AIDS and Clinical Immunology Research Center (AIDS Center), which has been designated by the government as the primary HIV/AIDS research and treatment institution in Georgia.

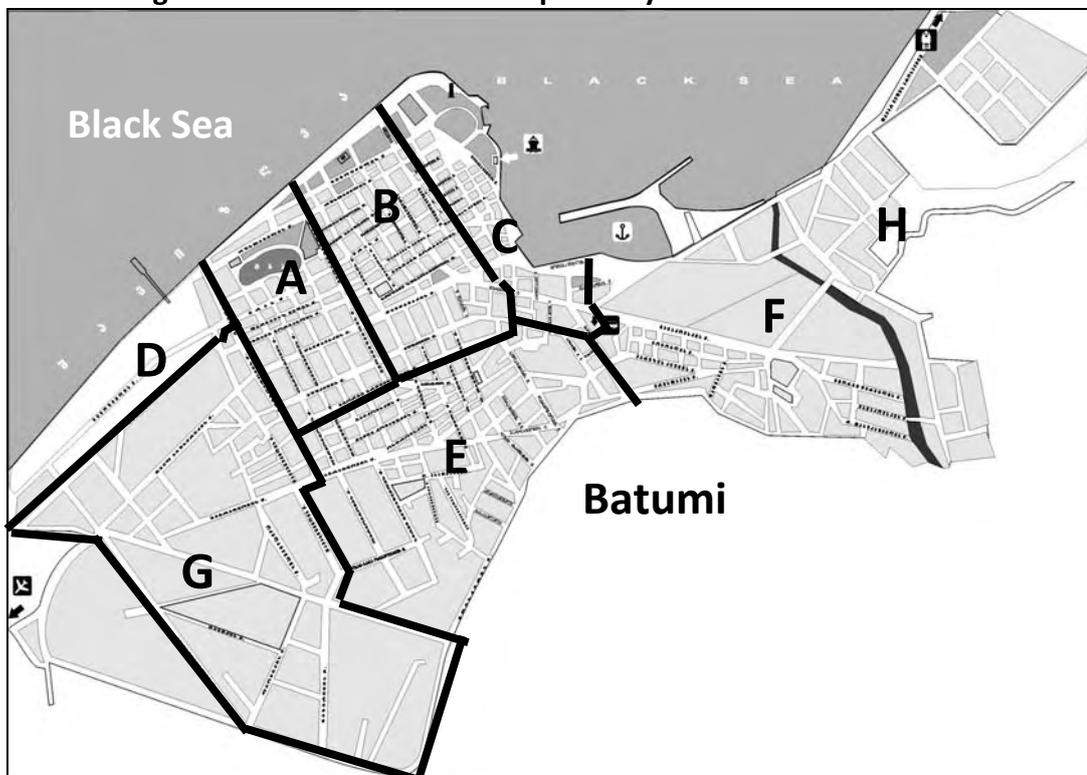
Sample

To develop a survey sampling frame, a preliminary ethnographic mapping exercise was undertaken in October 2004 and May-June 2006 to identify the numbers, venues, and working hours of FSWs. As a result, a total of 120 facility-based FSWs were recruited and interviewed. The interviews were conducted face-to-face by experienced interviewers from the Institute for Polling and Marketing (IPM) at the “Healthy Cabinet” clinic located at the Republican Center of Health Services for Mother and Child. The FSWs were asked questions regarding high-risk behaviors, knowledge of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and HIV/AIDS, and use of health services. After the interview, each respondent was asked if she would provide both a urine and blood specimen for an anonymous-linked test for STIs and HIV.

Mapping

The mapping exercise involved the use of a detailed street map of Batumi. The main objective was to identify all the facilities (restaurants, saunas and hotels) frequented by FSWs, and to estimate the approximate number of FSWs at each site. TG, in consultation with IPM, divided the city into eight grid sections (see Figure 2). The size of a section was determined by the number of facilities that could be easily observed within a short period of time. For each section an observation route map was made. In unmarked cars, two (2) teams comprised of two observers - a social worker from TG and a researcher from IPM - toured each section twice: once during the daytime (15:00 to 18:00) and once at night (21:00 to 00:00). Each team observed only one or two sections per day.

Figure 8: Sectional Grids to Map Facility-Based FSWs in Batumi.



Out of 331 facilities observed, 29 facilities were identified with commercial sex workers:

Facilities observed	2004	2006
Total # facilities observed	331	240
Total # facilities with FSWs	29	25
Bars	26	20
Town square	0	1
Hotel	1	1
Sauna	1	0
Night shelter	1	0
Total number FSWs at these sites	84	93

Recruitment for the surveys was conducted in the following manner. A driver and two TG social workers went to each section of the city and informed FSWs about the purpose of the BSS. Each FSW was offered a pre-paid cell phone card as an incentive to participate. If the FSW agreed, she was driven to the Healthy Cabinet in Batumi for the interview, and immediately following the interview asked to provide a blood and urine sample. Each FSW was given a card with their ID number and referral coupon to the Healthy Cabinet clinic for free-of-charge STI services (including prophylaxis). All FSWs were asked to call after two weeks to find out the results of their test. After the interview, the FSWs were driven back to the site from where they were recruited.

The Republican Center of Health Services for Mother and Child in Batumi and the AIDS Center provided TG/Batumi with a list of the test results by ID number. When a FSW telephoned to get the results, she was asked to give her ID number. If the result was negative, this information was provided on the spot. If the result of the test was positive, the FSW was invited to TG's office in Batumi, and the results were presented along with post-counseling. All FSWs with any STIs were encouraged to visit the Healthy Cabinet for free-of-charge treatment. In BSS-1, from the 120 FSWs interviewed, less than half (47, or 39%) received notification of their STI/HIV status. In BSS-2, from the 120 FSWs interviewed, less than half (34, or 28.3%) received notification of their STI/HIV status.

Study Instrument

The survey instrument used was a behavior study questionnaire for FSWs provided in the manual, *Behavioral Surveillance Surveys: Guidelines for Repeated Behavioral Surveys in Populations at Risk for HIV*, by Family Health International (FHI). This tool has been used for the study of risky sexual and related behavior among FSWs in several countries. The questionnaire was translated into Georgian and back into English. It was finalized once it had been adapted to the Georgian context and also after pre-testing in a focus group and during in-depth interviews with FSWs.

The final version of the questionnaire was translated into Georgian, and a Russian version was also prepared as some FSWs were Russian-speaking. The same questionnaire was used in surveys conducted by the SHIP Project in 2004 in both Tbilisi and Batumi so that comparisons could be made across the survey sites. Only slight modifications were made to the questionnaire used in Batumi, namely, a section on trafficking and sex work abroad was added.

The interviews were conducted by two trained and experienced interviewers from IPM in two private rooms in the Healthy Cabinet. In addition, an independent consultant was hired to observe the interviewing process. On average, the interview took 30 minutes to complete.

Recruitment of FSWs and Interviewing

A team of two staff from TG/Batumi recruited study participants in all locations, either during the day or night, identified through the mapping exercise.

1. The staff of TG (2 social workers) contacted 142 facility-based FSWs on October 11-November 4, 2004. The same social workers contacted 138 facility-based FSWs on June 5-23, 2006.
2. A total of 120 facility-based FSWs were recruited in both studies.
3. Subject duplication was overcome by using an identification database that recorded the FSW's age, ethnicity, and physical characteristics, such as height, weight, scars, tattoos, and some biometric measures.
4. The sampling ended when the target sample size of 120 FSWs was achieved.
5. After completing the interview, FSWs were asked to give blood and urine specimens for STI and HIV testing. A licensed nurse working at the Healthy Cabinet drew the blood specimens.
6. In BSS-1, a total of 120 urine samples were collected for testing on NG and CT, and 115 blood samples were collected for testing on syphilis and HIV; five FSWs refused to provide blood specimens. In BSS-2, a total of 117 urine and blood samples were collected and tested.

Biomarker Testing

The biomarker component of the survey involved the analysis of blood and urine specimens at the Laboratory of the Republican Center of Health Services for Mother and Child in Batumi. Confirmation testing and quality control analyses were performed at the laboratory of Serology and Virology of the Infections Diseases, AIDS and Clinical Immunology Research Center in Tbilisi. According to the BSS protocol, 10% of the blood samples were randomly selected and sent to the AIDS Center for quality control of laboratory testing. In addition, all blood specimens that tested HIV positive were sent to the same Laboratory of Serology and Virology for confirmation testing.

Urine specimens were adequately stored at the Healthy Cabinet in Batumi and transported to the AIDS Center in Tbilisi using cold-chain boxes. Urine specimens were tested by Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR).

HIV testing

HIV antibody testing was performed using a three-level enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) testing strategy. If a sample was reactive in the first ELISA test (Genescreen Plus HIV Ag-AB, Bio-rad), the sample was retested two more times using another kit of ELISA. Samples were considered HIV antibody positive if they were reactive in at least two out of three tests. Any sample non-reactive to the first test was considered as HIV-antibody negative. HIV-

antibody positive samples were tested by Western Blot assay (HIV blot, Genelabs) as the confirmation test.

Syphilis testing

Serum samples were tested also for syphilis antibodies by rapid plasma regain test (RPR, Human) and *Treponema pallidum* hemagglutination assay (TPHA, Human). ELISA tests (ELISA TP IgG test [Nubenco]) were used for confirmation of syphilis-antibody positive samples.

Neisseria gonorrhoea and Chlamydia trachomatis

Urine specimens were tested by Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) according to the manufacturer's instructions for the detection of *Neisseria gonorrhoea* and *Chlamydia trachomatis* (CT/NG PCR, Roche). PCR-positive cases were considered as confirmed infections of NG and CT, respectively.

Data Entry and Statistical Analysis

Save the Children (SC) contracted the Institute for Polling and Marketing (IPM), located in Tbilisi, Georgia, to develop the BSS-1 and BSS-2 FSWs databases using Statistical Package for the Social Sciences software (SPSS, version 11). After completing the interviewing, IPM created a database by matching the questionnaire that included variable names, variable descriptions and value labels. Two experienced individuals made the data entry; one who read the completed interview form and the other entering the data.

Once the SPSS databases were completed, a random check was made of 5% of the completed interview forms. In addition, a frequency was run on all variables to examine values, labels and frequencies. The "cleaned" database was submitted to SC for data analysis.

Larry Dershem from Save the Children analyzed the data. Percentages, means and medians were calculated to assess prevalence of high-risk behavior among FSWs.

Survey Questionnaire (English version)

Questionnaire ID Number:

Questionnaire is Coded as:

Questionnaire is Word Processed by:

**HIV/AIDS/STI Behavior Surveillance Studies (BSS)
Female Commercial Sex Workers
Batumi 2006**

Organization: Tanadgoma

Interviewer: Please specify the location of the interview and the respondent's ID code.

Respondent's ID Code

Selection Point _____

Code of strata/identification:

Interviewer's Code

Introduction: "My name is _____. An American and a Georgian organizations implement a joint project titled "AIDS and Sexually Transmitted Diseases Prevention in Georgia". The project is funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). This survey is aimed at exploring the existing situation. The questionnaire has been designed by our counterparts from the US. Has anybody taken an interview over the last five weeks for this study?"

Interviewer: *If somebody has already taken an interview from the person you are talking to over the BBPS period, don't take another one. Tell him/her, that you cannot re-interview him/her. Thank the person and finish conversation. If nobody has taken an interview from the person in question, continue as follows:*

Confidentiality and consent: "I am planning to ask you several questions that are hard to answer by some people. Your responses will be kept confidential. The questionnaire will not show your name and will never be referred to in connection with the information that you will share with us. You are not obliged to answer all my questions, and whenever you wish you may refuse to answer my questions. You may finish the interview at any time per you desire. However, we would love to note that your answers would help us better understand what people think, say and do in view of certain types of behavior. We would highly appreciate your input to this study."

Interviewer's Code: _____

(Interviewer's signature certifying that the respondent has verbally agreed to the interview)

	Respondent 1	Respondent 2	Respondent 3
Date			
Interviewer			
Result			

Result Codes: Completed – 1; Partially Completed – 2; Previously Interviewed – 3; Refusal – 4; Other – 5

Q1.Date and time of interview: / ____/date/ ____/hour/ ____/minute/

Signature: _____ Date _____

Female Commercial Sex Workers Questionnaire:

1. Did you participate in the survey that Tanadgoma conducted in 2004 and that implied filling out the questionnaire and providing blood and urine samples for the testing?

- | | |
|----------------|---------------|
| Yes | 1 (Continue) |
| No | 2 (Go to A1) |
| Don't remember | 3 (Go to A1) |
| No response | 99 (Go to A1) |

2. If you did participate in that survey, did you come to get results of your tests?

Yes	1 (Go to A1)
No	2 (Continue)
Don't remember	3 (Go to A1)
No response	99 (Go to A1)

3. If you did not come to get your results, what was the reason for that? (*Don't read*)

I forgot	1
I was not interested in the results	2
I was afraid of the positive results	3
I could not manage to come	4
In my opinion, I did not need testing at all (I was healthy – I had no symptoms)	5
Don't know	6
Other _____ (<i>please specify</i>)	7
No response	99

A: Personal Data

A1. How old are you?

/ ____ / ____ / (please specify an exact age)
No response 99

A2. Please specify the date of birth (Compare with A1, if necessary!)

/ ____ / ____ / ____ /
Day Month Year
Don't know 88
No response 99

A3. What education have you received? (*Read*)

No education	0
Primary (4 grades)	1
Secondary (5-11 grades) (general or vocational school, or incomplete higher)	2
Higher	3
No response	99

A4. How many years did you study in total?

/ ____ / (please specify the number of years)
No response: 99

A5. In what town or village were you born?

/ _____ / (open question/please specify)
Don't know: 88
No response: 99

A6. How long have you lived in Batumi?

Number of years: / ____ / (if less than one year, write down 0)
Don't know: 88
No response: 99

A6.1. Are you an IDP?

Yes – 1
No – 2
No response – 9

A7. Have you been involved in that business (commercial sex) in any other city? If yes, how long?

Yes	1
Never worked at any other place	2 (Go to A8)
No response:	99 (Go to A8)

A7.1. (Write down mentioned town/towns and ask for each of them) How long? (Write down weeks, months and years in the corresponding columns)

Town	Duration of work			Don't remember
	Week	Month	Year	
1.				99
2.				99
3.				99
4.				99

A8. What's your nationality? (Mark just one option)

Georgian	1
Russian	2
Armenian	3
Jew	4
Azeri	5
Ukrainian	6
Kurdish	7
Ossetian	8
Greek	9
Other (please specify) _____	
Mixed	88
No response	99

9. How frequently did you drink during the last month? (**Interviewer, read the options, only one answer**) Tell me, did you drink everyday, once or twice a week, once or twice in two weeks, or once or twice a month?

Every day	1
At least, once a week	2
At least, twice a week	3
Once a month	4
Don't know	8
No response	9
I did not drink (Don't read)	88

A10. Some people have tasted various drugs. If you have done this, which one have you tried? (**Interviewer, read the list. For each drug use relevant option**).

A11. Ask for the mentioned drugs – Please tell me, how did you take this drug: did you inject, smoke, inhale, drink, breath in or how? (**Don't help; multiple answer**)

A10		A11						
Mult. ans.	Drugs	Inhale/ Breath in	Inject	Smoke	Drink/Swa llow	Other	Don't know	No respons e
1	Heroin _ (inhale, inject)	1	2	3	4	5	8	9
2	Opium _ (swallow, inject)	1	2	3	4	5	8	9
3	Poppy-seed _ (inject)	1	2	3	4	5	8	9
4	Subutex _ (drink, inject)	1	2	3	4	5	8	9
5	Inhalants (e.g. glue) _ (breath in)	1	2	3	4	5	8	9
6	Marijuana _ (smoke)	1	2	3	4	5	8	9
7	Ecstasy _ (drink)	1	2	3	4	5	8	9
8	Cocaine _ (inhale, inject)	1	2	3	4	5	8	9
9	Sedatives/hypnotics _ (drink, inject)	1	2	3	4	5	8	9
10	Other (<i>Specify</i>)	1	2	3	4	5	8	9
11	Has not tasted							
88	Don't know							
99	No response							

B. Marriage, Family and Work

B1. What is your current marital status? (Read)

1. Married
2. Divorced/separated from the husband (**Go to B3b**)
3. Widow (**Go to B3b**)
4. Never been married (**Go to B3b**)
5. Other (please specify) _____

B2. How old were you when you got married for the first time?

/ ____/ (please specify the age)

- Don't know: 88
 No response: 99

B3. Are you now married or living with a permanent partner/lover/man? (*Interviewer: please define a permanent sexual partner: A husband/lover/boyfriend/person, with whom a sex worker cohabitates or has regular sexual contact without exchange of money.*) (**Don't read out the options. Match response with any of the options below**)

B3a) Options for married (Those who answered 1 in question B1)		Go to B4
Currently married, having sex with husband	1	
Currently married, not having sex with a spouse. Having sex with another partner/lover/boyfriend/man	2	
Currently married, not having sex with a husband or partner	3	
Married, have both a husband and a lover/ boyfriend/man	4	
No response	9	
Other (<i>Specify</i>)		
B3b) Options for married divorced (Those who answered 2, 3 or 4 in question B1)		Go to B5
Not married, but having sex with a partner/lover/man	5	
Not married, not having sex with a partner/lover/boyfriend/man	6	
No response	9	

B4. Does your spouse/lover/boyfriend have other partners/partner/lover/wife, or not?

- Yes 1
 No 2
 Don't know 8
 No response 9

B5. How old were you when first received money in exchange of sexual intercourse?

/ ____/ ____/ (please specify the age)

- Don't know: 88
 No response: 99

B6. Do you have another source of income besides this business (commercial sex work)?

Yes	1	Continue
No	2	Go to B8
No response	9	

B7. What is this other work? Do you have another job? Another? (Open ended question, write down the answers. May have several answers)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

B8. Do you provide financial support to your children now? (*Ask once more*) Parents or other relatives?

	How many (write down the number)
1. Children	
2. Parents	
3. Relatives	

4. Other (<i>specify</i>)	
6. Nobody	77
7. No response	99

C. Sexual Life Record: Number and Type of Partners

C1. With your permission, now we'll ask you several questions about your partners. How old were you when you had the first sexual intercourse? (I mean not for money, but just regular sexual intercourse)

/ ____ / (please specify the age)

Don't know: 88

No response: 99

C2. Over the last 7 days (a week) how many:

C2.1 Paying clients did you have? With how many partners did you have sex for money? (If the respondent fails to recall the exact number ask her to give you a rough number)

C2.2 Permanent clients did you have? Clients that you had sex but did not take money in this particular case? (If the respondent fails to recall the exact number ask her to give you a rough number)

C2.3 Permanent partners did you have - husband, lover, boyfriend? (If the respondent fails to recall the exact number ask her to give you a rough number).

Attention: you are asking about the number of partners and not number of intercourses!!! Place answers in the relevant columns below.

Interviewer: If the respondent does not have permanent client or permanent partner, omit the corresponding sections below.

	C2.1 Number of paying clients	C2.2 Number of permanent clients	C2.3 Number of permanent partners
Number			
Don't know	88	88	88
No response	99	99	99

C3. Over the last 7 days (a week) how many different partners did you have? Include husband, lover, permanent client.

(Note: compare total number of partners in Q C2.1 and Q C2.2 and Q C2.3 to make sure that numbers match.)

/ ____ / (Please specify the number of partners over the last 7 days)

Don't know: 88

No response: 99

C4. From all the different types of clients, which are less likely to use condoms? (Read out/One answer)

Soldiers 1

Sailors 2

Border guards 3

Custom officials 4

General clients 5

The same 6

Don't know 8

No response 99

D. Commercial Sex Work History: Paying Partners

D1. How many clients did you have during your last business day?

/ ____ / (Please specify the number of clients)

Don't know: 88

No response: 99

D2. How much did your last client pay? (Please indicate the amount in Lari)

/ ____ / Lari

Don't know: 88

No response: 99

D3. Did you use condoms with your last client?

Yes	1	Go to D5
No	2	
Don't know	8	
No response	9	

D4. Who offered to use a condom? (Please read out the options, and circle one coded response.)

My initiative	1	Go to D6
Partner's initiative	2	
Mutual initiative	3	
Don't know	8	
No response	9	

D5. Why didn't you and your partner use the condom that time? (Don't read out the options. Circle the response)

Reasons	Yes	No
1. Didn't have it	1	2
2. Too expensive	1	2
3. Partner refused	1	2
4. Don't like it	1	2
5. Take contraception	1	2
6. Didn't think needed	1	2
7. He looked healthy	1	2
8. Didn't think of it	1	2
9. Other (<i>Specify</i>)	1	2
Don't know	88	
No response	99	

D6. How frequently did you use condoms with all your clients over the last 30 days (1 month)? (Read out the options/one response)

- Always - 1
- Often - 2
- Sometimes - 3
- Never - 4
- Don't know - 8
- No response - 9

E. Commercial Sex Work History: Permanent Clients

E.1 How many permanent clients do you have? (*Define:* Permanent client is a client who often uses your sexual service)

/ _____ / (Please specify the number of clients)

- Don't know: 88
- No response: 99

E2. Recall your very last permanent client with whom you had sexual intercourse. About how many times did you have a sexual intercourse with him over the last 30 days (1 month)?

	30 days
Did not have sexual intercourse	1
Up to 5	2
5-10	3
10-15	4
15 and more	5
Don't know/Don't remember	88
No response	99

E3. We spoke about your last client and about using condom with him. Tell me, whether he (your last client) was your permanent client or not?

1. He was permanent client
2. He was not permanent client (**Go to E7**)

E4. Last time when you had sexual intercourse with the permanent client, did you use condom?

Yes	1	Go to E6
No	2	
Don't know	8	
No response	9	

E5. Who offered to use a condom? (Circle one coded response.)

My initiative	1	Go to E7
Client's initiative	2	
Mutual initiative	3	
Don't know	8	
No response	9	

E6. Why didn't you and your permanent client use the condom that time? (Don't read out the options. Circle the response)

Reasons	Yes	No
1. Didn't have it	1	2
2. Too expensive	1	2
3. Partner refused	1	2
4. Don't like it	1	2
5. Take contraception	1	2
6. Didn't think needed	1	2
7. He looked healthy	1	2
8. Didn't think of it	1	2
9. Other (<i>specify</i>)	1	2
Don't know	88	
No response	99	

E7. How frequently did you use condoms with your permanent client(s) over the last 12 months (1 year)? (Interviewer, read the options to the respondent)

- Always - 1
- Often - 2
- Sometimes - 3
- Never - 4
- Don't know - 8
- No response - 9

F. Commercial Sex Work History: Permanent Partners

F1. How many permanent partners do you have? (Define: Permanent partner is husband/lover/boyfriend/person, with whom the sex worker cohabitates or has regular sexual relations without exchange of money.)

/ ____ / (Please specify the number of partners) (If the respondent does not have a permanent partner, go to section G)

- Don't know: 88
- No response: 99

(If the respondent has more than one permanent partner, concentrate on the one with whom relationship is longer and more trustful.)

F2. About how many times did you have a sexual intercourse with your permanent partner over the last 30 days (1 month) and the last 12 months (1 year)? (For the option of "12 months" read out the responses from the bottom "15 and more". If the respondent says "less" than read out the second from the bottom, and so forth.)

	30 days	1 months
Did not have sexual intercourse	1	1
Up to 5	2	2
5-10	3	3
10-15	4	4
15 and more	5	5
Don't know/Don't remember	88	
No response	99	

F3. Last time when you had sexual intercourse with the permanent partner, did you use condom?

Yes	1	Go to F5
No	2	
Don't know	8	
No response	9	

F4. Who offered to use a condom? (Circle one coded response.)

My initiative	1	Go to F6
Client's initiative	2	
Mutual initiative	3	
Don't know	8	
No response	9	

F5. Why didn't you and your permanent partner use the condom that time? (Don't read out the options. Circle the response)

Reasons	Yes	No
1. Didn't have it	1	2
2. Too expensive	1	2
3. Partner refused	1	2
4. Don't like it	1	2
5. Take contraception	1	2
6. Didn't think needed	1	2
7. He looked healthy	1	2
8. Didn't think of it	1	2
9. I trusted him	1	2
10. Other (<i>specify</i>)	1	2
Don't know	88	
No response	99	

F6. How frequently did you use condoms with your permanent partner over the last 12 months (1 year)? (Interviewer, read the options to the respondent)

Always	1	(Go to section G)
Often	2	(Go to F7)
Sometimes	3	(Go to F7)
Never	4	
Don't know	8	(Go to section G)
No response	9	

F7. In which cases did you use condom with your permanent partner? (Don't read out. Match the responses with the coded answers. Use "Other" if needed.)

When my partner asked me to use it	1
When I doubted that I am infected	2
When I doubted that my partner is infected	3
When I had had abortion short time before	4
When I had menstruation (period)	5
Other _____ (Write down)	6
Don't know	88
No response	99

G. Condoms

Note: Ask G1 only if the condoms are not used. (Compare with D3, D6, E4, E7, F3 and F6. Respondent should not be using condoms in any of these questions. Otherwise, go to G2.)

G1. Have you ever used condoms with any of your partners?

(Please note that the respondent may not have used a condom in the cases described in Parts D, E and F, but has used it in other periods)

Yes -	1
No -	2
Don't know -	8
No response -	9

G2. Do you know of a person or place where you can get, or buy condoms?

Yes	1	<i>Continue</i>
No	2	<i>Go to G5</i>
No response	9	

G3. Whom do you know or where can you get or buy condoms?

(Do not read out the options. Circle all the relevant coded responses) Where else?

	Yes	No
Shop	1	2
Drugstore	1	2
Market	1	2
"Tanadgoma"	1	2
Girls with whom you work	1	2
Other	1	2
No response	99	

G4. Imagine you don't have a condom with you, how long would you need to get/buy from your work place to where it is sold/available?

Tell me, would you need . . . (Interviewer, read the options to the respondent. If she says "at any place" ask "How many minutes would you *still* need?")

Up to 5 minutes	1	
5-15 minutes		2
15-30 minutes		3
30 minutes or more		4
More than a day	5	
Don't know		8
No response		9

G5. How many condoms do you now have with you? (Check the number of condoms)

/____/ (Indicate the number of condoms)

No response 99

G5a. Beside this, how many condoms do you have now at the place of your work?

/____/ (Indicate the number of condoms)

No response 99

We try to find out, whether you face any kind of violence during your work. We would like to ask you about three types of violence: a) Forced sexual intercourses and rape; b) Physical violence/beating and other that does not imply sexual intercourse; c) Forced sexual intercourse through blackmailing, or some other kind of threatening.

Repeat the three types of violence. Tell the respondent: now we are speaking only about the physical violence.

G6. During last year have you ever been a victim of the physical violence? (Beating, smothering, etc.)

Yes	1	<i>Continue</i>
No	2	<i>Go to G9</i>
No response	9	

G7. Who made physical violence against you? (Don't read out. Match the responses with the coded responses.)

Client	1
Lover (boyfriend)	2
Husband	3
Pimp	4
Policeman	5
Stranger	6
Other	7
No response	9

Tell the respondent: now we will speak only about forced sexual intercourse through blackmailing, or some other kind of threatening.

G8. During last year have you been forced to have sexual intercourse through blackmailing or threatening?

Yes	1	<i>Continue</i>
No	2	<i>Go to G11</i>
No response	9	

G9. Who forced you to have sexual intercourse through blackmailing or threatening? (Don't read out. Match the responses with the coded responses.)

Client	1
Lover (boyfriend)	2
Husband	3
Pimp	4
Policeman	5
Stranger	6
Other	7
No response	9

Tell the respondent: now we will speak only about forced sexual intercourse and rape.

G10. During last year have you been the victim of rape?

Yes	1	<i>Continue</i>
No	2	<i>Go to H1</i>
No response	9	

G11. Who raped you? (Don't read out. Match the responses with the coded responses.)

Client	1
Lover (boyfriend)	2
Husband	3
Pimp	4
Policeman	5
Stranger	6
Other	7
No response	9

H. Sexually Transmitted Diseases

H1. Have you heard of diseases that are transmitted sexually?

Yes	1	<i>Continue</i>
No	2	<i>Go to H3</i>
No response	9	

H2.1 Can you describe STD symptoms that are observed among women? How can a woman guess that she has some disease? What might bother a person for her to think that she might be infected with some disease? . . . Any other symptoms?

(Interviewer, don't read options. Multiple responses. Circle the closest matching responses to the codes)

H2.2 Can you describe STD symptoms that are observed among men? How can a man guess that he has some disease? What might bother a person for him to think that he might be infected with some disease? . . . Any other symptoms?

(Interviewer, don't read options. Multiple responses. Circle the closest matching responses to the codes)

	H2.1 Female Symptoms	H2.2 Male Symptoms
Stomach (abdominal) ache	1	1
Vaginal (genital) release	2	2
Burning while urinating	3	3
Vaginal (genital) ulcer	4	4
Swollen vulva or lower abdomen	5	5
Itching	6	6
Other: <i>(please specify)</i>	a)	a)

	b)	b)
	g)	g)
No response	99	99
Don't know	88	88

H3. Have you observed vaginal release during the last 12 months (1 year)?

1. Yes
2. No
8. Don't know
9. No response

H4. Have you observed vaginal ulcer/boil over the last 12 months (1 year)?

1. Yes
2. No
8. Don't know
9. No response

Note: Module I should be filled only for those respondent who have suffered vaginal release or ulcer/boil over the last 12 months. (Compare with H3 and H4). Otherwise go to Module J.

I. STD Treatment

I1. What did you do when you had vaginal release, or ulcer/boil last time? (Read out the options. Circle one for each question)

Questions	Yes	No	NR
1. Consulted or received a treatment at the state-owned health clinic or hospital?	1	2	9
2. Consulted or received a treatment at a private health clinic or hospital?	1	2	9
3. Consulted or received a treatment at a drugstore	1	2	9
4. Consulted or received a treatment from a traditional healer or a wise man?	1	2	9
5. Applied a self-treatment?	1	2	9
6. Told your sexual partner about your release or STD?	1	2	9
7. Stopped intercourses when the symptoms appeared?	1	2	9
8. Did you use the condoms during the symptom period?	1	2	9

J. Knowledge, Opinion, Attitude

J1. Have you heard of HIV or AIDS? (Please explain: HIV is a human immunodeficiency virus which causes AIDS. Make sure that the respondent understood what HIV is. You may use additional definitions too.)

Yes	1	Go to K1
No	2	
No response	9	

J2. I don't ask you the name, but do you know any person who has been infected, ill with, or has died of AIDS?

Yes	1	Continue
No	2	
Don't know	8	Go to J4
No response	9	

J3. Now please tell me, do you have a close relative or friend who has been infected, ill with, or has died of AIDS?

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| Yes, a friend | 1 |
| Yes, a relative | 2 |
| No | 3 |
| Don't know | 9 |

**J4. Please give me your opinion regarding the following:
(Please read out all options and circle the relevant answer.)**

Assertions	Yes	No	DK	NR
1. Can one reduce the HIV risk if one properly uses condoms during every sexual contact?	1	2	8	9
2. Can one get HIV as a result of a mosquito's bite?	1	2	8	9
3. Do you believe that one may protect oneself from HIV/AIDS by having	1	2	8	9

one uninfected and reliable sexual partner?				
4. Do you believe that one can protect oneself from HIV/AIDS by keeping away from (avoiding) sexual contact?	1	2	8	9
5. Do you believe that one can get HIV/AIDS by taking food or drink that contains someone else's saliva?	1	2	8	9
6. Do you believe that one may be infected with HIV/AIDS by using a needle/syringe already used by someone else?	1	2	8	9
7. Do you believe that a person who looks healthy can be infected with HIV, which causes AIDS?	1	2	8	9

J5. Do you believe that an HIV/AIDS-infected pregnant woman can transfer virus to fetus?

Yes	1	Go to J7
No	2	
Don't know	8	
No response	9	

J6. What do you believe a pregnant woman might do reduce the risk of transferring the infection to fetus? (Don't read out the options to the respondent. Multiple answers are acceptable)

Take medication (antiretrovirals)	1
Cesarean section	2
No breastfeeding	3
Other _____ (write down)	4
Don't know	8
No response	9

J7. Can a mother transfer the HIV/AIDS to her baby through breastfeeding?

Yes	1
No	2
Don't know	8
No response	9

J8. Is it possible for Female Sex Workers take confidential HIV/AIDS test to see if one is infected? "Confidential" means that nobody will know about the test results without one's permission.

Yes	1
No	2
Don't know	8
No response	9

J9. I don't want to know about the test results but have you ever taken an HIV test?

Yes	1	Go to J14
No	2	
Don't know	8	
No response	9	

J10. Was it your initiative to take the HIV/AIDS test or you had to?

It was voluntary	1
I had to	2
No response	9

J11. Don't tell me the test result, but do you know it?

Yes	1
No	2
No response	9

J12. If yes, did you tell anybody your test result?

Yes	1
No	2 (Go to J14)
No response	3
No response	9

J13. If you told anybody your test result, please tell me, whom did you tell? (Mark all mentioned responses)

Client/clients 1
 Permanent client/clients 2
 Permanent partner/partners 3
 Colleague sex workers 4
 Family members 5
 Relatives 6
 Friends 7
 Nobody 8
 Other 9
 No response 99

J14. If you were told that you are HIV positive, whom would you tell about this?

Nobody Yes No
 Client 1 2
 Permanent client 1 2
 Permanent partner 1 2
 Family members 1 2
 Relative 1 2
 Colleague 1 2
 Friend 1 2
 Other _____ (specify) 1 2
 Don't know 88
 No response 99

J15. When did you take the last HIV test?

Some time last year - 1
 Between 1-2 years ago - 2
 Between 2-4 years ago - 3
 More than 4 years ago - 4
 Don't know - 8
 No response - 9

J16. Now please tell me: (Read out the list and circle one answer for each question)

	Yes	No	DK	NR
1. Would you like to have meal with a person who is diseased with HIV or AIDS?	1	2	8	9
2. If your relative man were infected with HIV would you like to take care of him at your place?	1	2	8	9
3. If a student is infected with HIV, but not diseased may he be permitted to continue studying?	1	2	8	9
4. If your relative woman were infected with HIV would you like to take care of her at your place?	1	2	8	9
5. If a teacher is infected, but not diseased with HIV may he be permitted to continue teaching at school?	1	2	8	9
6. If acquainted with you food salesman is infected with HIV, will you buy food from him/her?	1	2	8	9
7. If the member of your family were infected with HIV would you like it to keep this in secret?	1	2	8	9

K. Trafficking

K1. Have you ever heard about sex trafficking? (Interviewer, please provide the definition: Trafficking is when people are taken to work, often abroad, by force or fraud, bereaved of passport and forced to do sex work)

Yes 1
 No 2
 Don't know 8
 No response 99

K2. Have you ever been a victim of sex trafficking by being taken abroad by force, fraud or coercion to provide sexual services?

Yes 1
 No 2 (Go to section L)
 No response 99 (Go to section L)

K3. How many times have you been trafficked abroad for sex work?

Once	1
Twice	2
3-5 times	3
More than 5 times	4
Other _____ (please specify)	5
Don't know/don't remember	8
No response	99

L. Working Abroad

The following questions are regarding going abroad to do sex work on voluntary basis, willingly.

L1. Have you willingly ever been abroad for sex work?

Yes	1
No	2 (Go to section M)
No response	8

L2. During the last 1 year or 12 months how many times did you go abroad for sex work?

L2.1. If you recall the year previous the last one, how many times did you go abroad for sex work?

L2.2. Not taking into consideration these two years, before that how many times have you been abroad for sex work?

For all the questions mark the number of visits in the corresponding columns. If the respondent says that in any time period she was not abroad for work, then mark "0".

	L2.	L2.1	L2.2L
Number of visits			
Don't know/Don't remember	88	88	88
No response	99	99	99

L3. Last time when you went abroad for sex work, what was your primary motivation for doing so? (Mark all that apply)

	Yes	No
To earn more money	1	2
To live in better conditions	1	2
My colleagues were going and I followed them	1	2
Other _____ (please specify)	1	2
No response	99	

L4. Your last trip abroad, to which country did you go for sex work?

Turkey	1
Greece	2
Ukraine	3
Russia	4
Other _____ (please specify)	5
No response	99

L5. Did you have any problems while crossing the border or while doing sex work abroad?

Yes, while crossing the border	1 (go to L7)
Yes, while doing sex work abroad	2 (go to L9)
Yes, both	3 (continue)
No	4 (go to L12)
No response	99

L6. What kind of problems did you face while crossing the border? (Mark all that apply)

	Yes	No
Money extortion	1	2
Free of charge sex service	1	2
Other _____ (please specify)	1	2
No response	99	

L7. Who created these problems for you? (Mark all that apply)

	Yes	No
Georgian border guard	1	2
Georgian customs worker	1	2
Foreign border guard	1	2
Foreign customs worker	1	2
Other _____(please specify)	1	2
No response	99	

L8. With whom did you have problems while doing sex work abroad? (Mark all that apply)

	Yes	No
Client	1	2
Brothel owner	1	2
Hotel owner	1	2
Bar owner	1	2
Policeman	1	2
Pimp from Georgia (A person that arranged your trip and/or took you abroad)	1	2
Other _____(please specify)	1	2
No response	99	

L9. What kind of problems do you face with client/brothel/hotel/bar owner/pimp from Georgia or policemen? (Mark all that apply)

	Yes	No
Rape	1	2
Physical violence (Beating, rape)	1	2
Non-physical violence (threatening, blackmailing, cursing)	1	2
Money extortion	1	2
Asking for the free of charge service	1	2
Forced non-stop sex work	1	2
Other _____(please specify)	1	2
No response	99	

L10. If you had problems while crossing the border or working abroad, would you still go there?

Yes	1 (Continue)
No	2 (Go to L13)
Don't know	8 (Go to L13)
No response	99 (Go to L13)

L11. If yes, why would you go?

_____ (open question/please specify)
No response 99

L12. In what type of place did you work your last time abroad? (Mark all that apply)

	Yes	No
Street	1	2
Sauna	1	2
Bar	1	2
Restaurant	1	2
Hotel	1	2
Brothel	1	2
Other _____(please specify)	1	2
No response	99	

L13. How often did you use condom with clients while last time abroad?

Always	1
Frequently	2
Sometimes	3
Never	4
Don't know	8
No response	99

L14. How often do you consume alcohol while abroad?

Every day	1
At least, once a week	2
At least, once every two weeks	3
Once a month	4
Don't know	8
No response	99

L15. Have you ever taken drugs while last time abroad?

Yes	1
No	2 (Go to L17)
No response	99

L16. 1. Which ones did you try? Don't count those taken for the medical and treatment purposes. (*Interviewer, read the list. For each drug use relevant option*).

L16. 2. Ask for the mentioned drugs – Please tell me, how did you take this drug: did you inject, smoke, inhale, drink, breath in or how? (*Don't help; multiple answer*)

A10		A11						
Mult. ans.	Drugs	Inhale/ Breath in	Inject	Smoke	Drink/ Swallow	Other	Don't know	No response
1	Heroin _ (inhale, inject)	1	2	3	4	5	8	9
2	Opium _ (swallow, inject)	1	2	3	4	5	8	9
3	Poppy-seed _ (inject)	1	2	3	4	5	8	9
4	Subutex _ (drink, inject)	1	2	3	4	5	8	9
5	Inhalants (e.g. glue) _ (breath in)	1	2	3	4	5	8	9
6	Marijuana _ (smoke)	1	2	3	4	5	8	9
7	Ecstasy _ (drink)	1	2	3	4	5	8	9
8	Cocaine _ (inhale, inject)	1	2	3	4	5	8	9
9	Sedatives/hypnotics _ (drink, inject)	1	2	3	4	5	8	9
10	Other (<i>Specify</i>) -----	1	2	3	4	5	8	9
11	Has not tasted							
88	Don't know							
99	No response							

L17. Last time when you went abroad for sex work, how long did you stay there? (Don't read)

2 weeks	1
1 month	2
More than 1 month	3
When I earned a certain amount I needed	4
Other _____ (<i>please specify</i>)	5
Don't know	8
No response	9

L18. About how many clients did you have per day (on average) during your last visit abroad?

Up to 5	1
5-10	2
10 and more	3
Don't know	8
No response	99

L19. If we consider your general working day abroad, is the number of clients you have per day (average) abroad generally more than in Georgia??

Yes	1
No	2
The same	3
Don't know	8
No response	9

L20. About how much do you receive per client abroad?

/ _____ / (Please indicate the amount in Lari)

Don't know: 88
No response: 99

L21. What means of protection against STIs and HIV/AIDS did you use while working abroad? (Mark all that apply)

	Yes	No
Condom	1 (Go to L23)	2
Prophylactic injection (An injection that you are told to prevent STIs and HIV)	1 (continue)	2
Contraceptives (e.g. vaginal pills, etc)	1 (Go to L23)	2
Other _____ (please specify)	1 (Go to 23)	2
Don't know	8 (Go to 23)	
No response	99 (Go to 23)	

L22. How often did you use those injections?

Once in two weeks	1
Once in a month	2
Once in three months	3
Once in six months	4
Other _____ (please specify)	5
Don't know/don't remember	8
No response	99

L23. Are STI/HIV testing services provided abroad?

Yes	1	(Go to section M)
No	2	
Don't know	88	
No response	99	

L24. If so, have you ever used them?

Yes	1
No	2
No response	99

M. Impact of the Infection Source (Optional)

M1. Could remember, where from do you get information about STI/HIV? (Don't read) Could you remember some other source of information? (Multiple answer)

TV/Radio _____	1
Newspapers _____	2
Friends _____	3
Clients _____	4
Family members _____	5
Social workers _____	6
Other _____	7
No response _____	9
I have never heard anything about STI/HIV _____	99 (Go to section N)

M2. Don't you remember the ways of protecting from STI/HIV? I have in mind those means that provide the protection from HIV. What else do you recall? Which else?

(Don't prompt, circle all the answers given by the respondent)

Condom use _____	1
Avoiding sexual contacts _____	2
Contact with one devoted partner _____	3
Safe forms of sexual contact (masturbation, non-penetrative contact) _____	4
Don't know _____	8
No respond _____	9

(Define: Non-penetrative contact is a sexual contact when the male penis does not penetrate into the female body. Masturbation is getting sexual pleasure using your own hands.)

M3. What do you think can a person get STI or AIDS/HIV if she/he has the blood group A?

- Yes 1
- No 2
- Don't know 8
- No response 9

N. Media Communication

N1. Within the last 4 weeks how frequently did you listen to radio?

(Interviewer, read the options to the respondent. One response is quite acceptable. Mark the responses in the table below.)

N2. Within the last 4 weeks how frequently did you watch TV?

(Interviewer, read the options to the respondent. One response is quite acceptable. Mark the responses in the table below.)

	N1. Radio	N2. TV
Everyday	1	1
No less than once a week	2	2
Less than once a week	3	3
Never listened within the last 4 weeks	4	4
Don't know	8	8
No response	9	9

Q3. You have been very helpful. After generalization and statistical analysis of the present study our organization will plan projects that will be beneficial for all. If in several months I need to take another interview from you, would you make yourself available?

- Yes 1
- No 2
- Don't know (we'll see) 8

Interviewer, thank the respondent for cooperation and say good-bye. After the interview make sure you have taken down the respondent's identification data so that the same person is used in the following panels of the study.

Q4 During the interview the respondent was:

1. Interested
2. Calm
3. Indifferent
4. Agitated
5. Uninterested

Time when interview was concluded _____

The questionnaire is kept till completion of the project.

Q5. Quality control on the interview was carried out by _____

Position _____

Organization _____

Quality control group member has used (completed) quality control card _____

Signature _____