

YouGov - Sex and pain

Sample: 1,763 LGB+ Britons aged 16+

Fieldwork Dates: 30th June - 1st October 2021

| Total | Age | | | | | | Gender | |
|-------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-----|--------|--------|
| | 16 to 24 | 25 to 34 | 35 to 44 | 45 to 54 | 55 to 64 | 65+ | Male | Female |
| | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J |

Thinking about when you have sex, how often do you or your partner experience pain or discomfort that means you/ they are unable to fully enjoy it and/or have to stop? If you are not currently sexually active, think back to when you last were

Yourself

| | Unweighted base | 16 to 24 | 25 to 34 | 35 to 44 | 45 to 54 | 55 to 64 | 65+ | Male | Female |
|--|-----------------|-------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------|-----------------|
| Base: All who're ever sexually active | 1698 | 365 | 377 | 329 | 229 | 191 | 208 | 892 | 806 |
| Every time | 3% | 6% ▲ D.G | 1% ▼ | 4% D.G | 4% D.G | 0% | 2% | 2% | 5% I |
| Most times | 5% | 9% H | 6% H | 6% H | 4% H | 5% H | 0% ▼ | 4% | 7% I |
| Sometimes | 17% | 24% ▲ F.G.H | 20% G | 17% | 14% | 11% | 12% | 17% | 18% |
| Rarely | 32% | 29% | 34% | 33% | 33% | 30% | 33% | 32% | 32% |
| Never | 31% | 21% ▼ | 28% | 30% C | 36% C | 43% ▲ C.D.E | 39% C.D | 35% J | 27% |
| Don't know | 2% | 2% | 3% | 2% | 3% | 1% | 2% | 3% | 2% |
| Prefer not to say | 8% | 8% | 8% | 8% | 6% | 9% | 11% | 8% | 9% |
| Net: Ever | 58% | 68% ▲ E.F.G.H | 60% G.H | 60% G.H | 55% | 47% ▼ | 48% ▼ | 55% | 62% I |

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| Total | Sexuality | | | | Gender + Sexuality | | | |
|-------|----------------|----------|-------|-------------------|--------------------|----------------|---------|--------------|
| | Gay or lesbian | Bisexual | Other | Prefer not to say | Lesbian women | Bisexual women | Gay men | Bisexual men |
| | S | T | U | V | AL | AM | AN | AO |

Thinking about when you have sex, how often do you or your partner experience pain or discomfort that means you/ they are unable to fully enjoy it and/or have to stop? If you are not currently sexually active, think back to when you last were

Yourself

| | Unweighted base | 819 | 687 | 257 | - | 225 | 491 | 594 | 196 |
|--|-----------------|------------|------------|-------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| Base: All who're ever sexually active | 1698 | 842 | 595 | 262 | - | 244 | 409 | 597 | 186 |
| Every time | 3% | 2% ▼ | 4% S | 5% | - ** | 3% | 5% AN | 2% ▼ | 3% |
| Most times | 5% | 3% ▼ | 7% S | 9% ▲ S.W | - ** | 4% | 9% ▲ AN.AO | 3% ▼ | 2% |
| Sometimes | 17% | 19% | 17% | 14% | - ** | 13% | 20% AL.AO | 21% ▲ AL.AO | 8% ▼ |
| Rarely | 32% | 32% | 33% | 30% | - ** | 29% | 34% | 33% | 31% |
| Never | 31% | 33% | 31% | 25% | - ** | 38% AM | 25% ▼ | 31% | 46% ▲ AM.AN |
| Don't know | 2% | 2% | 1% ▼ | 5% ▲ T.W | - ** | 2% | 0% ▼ | 3% AM | 2% |
| Prefer not to say | 8% | 8% | 7% | 12% T | - ** | 11% | 7% | 7% | 7% |
| Net: Ever | 58% | 56% | 61% | 58% | - ** | 49% ▼ | 68% ▲ AL.AN.AO | 59% AL.AO | 45% ▼ |

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| | 16 to 24 | 25 to 34 | 35 to 44 | 45 to 54 | 55 to 64 | 65+ | Male | Female |
| | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J |

The person you're having sex with

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Unweighted base | 1763 | 295 | 420 | 412 | 218 | 196 | 222 | 887 | 876 |
| Base: All who're ever sexually active | 1698 | 365 | 377 | 329 | 229 | 191 | 208 | 892 | 806 |
| Every time | 2% | 4% | 1% | 1% | 1% | 0% | 2% | 2% | 1% |
| Most times | 2% | 4% | 2% | 2% | 2% | 1% | 3% | 3% | 1% |
| Sometimes | 11% | 13% | 15% | 9% | 8% | 7% | 7% | 16% | 5% |
| Rarely | 32% | 32% | 30% | 31% | 33% | 37% | 29% | 34% | 28% |
| Never | 39% | 35% | 39% | 44% | 40% | 39% | 39% | 32% | 47% |
| Don't know | 7% | 5% | 6% | 6% | 9% | 7% | 10% | 7% | 7% |
| Prefer not to say | 8% | 8% | 7% | 7% | 7% | 9% | 11% | 7% | 10% |
| Net: Ever | 46% | 52% | 47% | 43% | 44% | 45% | 41% | 55% | 36% |

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| Total | Sexuality | | | | Gender + Sexuality | | | |
|-------|----------------|----------|-------|-------------------|--------------------|----------------|---------|--------------|
| | Gay or lesbian | Bisexual | Other | Prefer not to say | Lesbian women | Bisexual women | Gay men | Bisexual men |
| | S | T | U | V | AL | AM | AN | AO |

The person you're having sex with

| | Unweighted base | Gay or lesbian | Bisexual | Other | Prefer not to say | Lesbian women | Bisexual women | Gay men | Bisexual men |
|--|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------|------------|-------------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| | 1763 | 819 | 687 | 257 | - | 225 | 491 | 594 | 196 |
| Base: All who're ever sexually active | 1698 | 842 | 595 | 262 | - | 244 | 409 | 597 | 186 |
| Every time | 2% | 2% | 1% | 2% | - ** | 2% | 2% | 2% | 1% |
| Most times | 2% | 2% | 3% | 2% | - ** | 1% | 2% | 2% | 7% ▲ AL.AM.AN |
| Sometimes | 11% | 13% ▲ T.W | 8% ▼ | 10% | - ** | 4% ▼ | 5% ▼ | 17% ▲ AL.AM | 13% AL.AM |
| Rarely | 32% | 34% | 29% | 28% | - ** | 33% | 29% | 35% | 30% |
| Never | 39% | 36% ▼ | 46% ▲ S.U.W | 35% | - ** | 43% AN | 52% ▲ AN.AO | 32% ▼ | 34% |
| Don't know | 7% | 7% | 5% | 10% T | - ** | 6% | 4% ▼ | 7% | 7% |
| Prefer not to say | 8% | 8% | 7% | 12% | - ** | 12% AN | 7% ▼ | 6% ▼ | 8% |
| Net: Ever | 46% | 50% ▲ T.W | 41% ▼ | 42% | - ** | 40% | 37% ▼ | 55% ▲ AL.AM | 51% AL.AM |

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| | 16 to 24 | 25 to 34 | 35 to 44 | 45 to 54 | 55 to 64 | 65+ | Male | Female |
| | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J |

You said you experience pain or discomfort during sex.
How often do you tell the person you're having sex with about it?

| | Unweighted base | 16 to 24 | 25 to 34 | 35 to 44 | 45 to 54 | 55 to 64 | 65+ | Male | Female |
|---|-----------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------|------------|
| | 1055 | 206 | 279 | 253 | 115 | 96 | 106 | 478 | 577 |
| Base: All who've ever felt pain/ discomfort during sex | 986 | 248 | 227 | 196 | 127 | 89 | 99 | 489 | 498 |
| Always | 42% | 40% | 47% | 38% | 36% * | 46% * | 44% * | 34% ▼ | 49% ▲ I |
| Mostly | 20% | 21% | 23% | 20% | 22% * | 17% * | 12% * | 21% | 19% |
| Sometimes | 18% | 21% D | 13% | 19% | 25% D* | 13% * | 18% * | 24% ▲ J | 13% ▼ |
| Rarely | 13% | 12% | 12% | 16% | 11% * | 16% * | 16% * | 13% | 14% |
| Never | 6% | 4% | 4% | 7% | 6% * | 9% * | 10% * | 7% | 5% |
| Don't know | 0% | - | 1% | 1% | - * | - * | 1% * | 1% | 0% |
| Prefer not to say | 1% | 1% | 0% | - | 1% * | - * | 1% * | 1% | 0% |
| Net: Ever | 93% | 95% | 94% | 92% | 93% * | 91% * | 89% * | 91% | 95% |

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| | Gay or lesbian | Bisexual | Other | Prefer not to say | Lesbian women | Bisexual women | Gay men | Bisexual men |
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You said you experience pain or discomfort during sex. How often do you tell the person you're having sex with about it?

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|------------|------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Unweighted base | 1055 | 450 | 450 | 155 | - | 112 | 356 | 338 | 94 |
| Base: All who've ever felt pain/ discomfort during sex | 986 | 474 | 361 | 151 | - | 120 | 278 | 354 | 83 |
| Always | 42% | 41% | 43% | 41% | - ** | 58% ▲ AN.AO* | 46% AN | 35% ▼ | 33% * |
| Mostly | 20% | 17% | 25% ▲ S.W | 18% | - ** | 8% ▼ * | 26% ▲ AL | 21% AL | 21% AL* |
| Sometimes | 18% | 21% | 16% | 15% | - ** | 9% ▼ * | 13% ▼ | 25% ▲ AL.AM | 24% AL.AM* |
| Rarely | 13% | 15% | 10% ▼ | 15% | - ** | 19% * | 11% ▼ | 14% ▲ AL.AM | 7% * |
| Never | 6% | 5% | 6% | 11% ▲ S.W | - ** | 4% * | 3% ▼ | 5% ▲ AL.AM.AN | 14% * |
| Don't know | 0% | 1% | - | 0% | - ** | 0% * | - | 1% ▲ AL.AM.AN | - * |
| Prefer not to say | 1% | 1% | 0% | - | - ** | 1% * | 1% ▲ AL.AM.AN | 1% AO | - * |
| Net: Ever | 93% | 94% | 94% | 89% | - ** | 95% * | 96% ▲ AO | 94% AO | 86% ▼ * |

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| | 16 to 24 | 25 to 34 | 35 to 44 | 45 to 54 | 55 to 64 | 65+ | Male | Female |
| | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J |

You said you experience pain during sex and have told the person you've having sex with about it. How understanding is the person you're having sex with generally when this happens? By this we mean e.g. taking your pain seriously, showing consideration and offering to stop or change what they're doing.

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--|------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------|----------------|
| Unweighted base | 981 | 196 | 267 | 234 | 104 | 88 | 92 | 432 | 549 |
| Base: All who've ever felt pain/ discomfort during sex & told partner | 918 | 235 | 215 | 181 | 118 | 81 | 88 | 447 | 471 |
| Very understanding | 65% | 60% | 73% ▲ C.E | 61% | 61% * | 67% * | 69% * | 61% | 69% I |
| Fairly understanding | 26% | 24% | 23% | 28% | 33% * | 25% * | 21% * | 32% ▲ J | 20% ▼ |
| Not very understanding | 5% | 10% ▲ D.G | 0% ▼ | 7% D | 5% D* | 2% * | 2% * | 4% | 6% |
| Not at all understanding | 1% | 2% | 0% | 2% | - * | 3% * | - * | - ▼ | 2% I |
| Don't know | 2% | 3% | 3% | 2% | - * | 3% * | 3% * | 3% | 2% |
| Prefer not to say | 1% | 0% | 0% | 1% | 1% * | - * | 5% ▲ C.D* | 0% | 1% |
| Net: Understanding | 91% | 84% ▼ | 96% ▲ C.E | 89% | 95% C* | 92% * | 90% * | 93% | 88% |
| Net: Not understanding | 6% | 12% ▲ D.H | 1% ▼ | 8% D | 5% * | 5% D* | 2% * | 4% | 8% I |

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| | Gay or lesbian | Bisexual | Other | Prefer not to say | Lesbian women | Bisexual women | Gay men | Bisexual men |
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You said you experience pain during sex and have told the person you've having sex with about it. How understanding is the person you're having sex with generally when this happens? By this we mean e.g. taking your pain seriously, showing consideration and offering to stop or change what they're doing.

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--|------------|------------|------------|------------|----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Unweighted base | 981 | 418 | 422 | 141 | - | 104 | 342 | 314 | 80 |
| Base: All who've ever felt pain/ discomfort during sex & told partner | 918 | 445 | 338 | 135 | - | 114 | 267 | 332 | 71 |
| Very understanding | 65% | 63% | 69% | 63% | - | 77% | 68% | 58% | 69% |
| | | | * | ** | | ▲ AN* | AN | ▼ | * |
| Fairly understanding | 26% | 29% | 21% | 27% | - | 13% | 21% | 34% | 22% |
| | | T | ▼ | * | ** | ▼ * | ▼ | ▲ AL.AM | * |
| Not very understanding | 5% | 4% | 7% | 4% | - | 5% | 6% | 3% | 8% |
| | | | * | ** | | * | | | * |
| Not at all understanding | 1% | 1% | 1% | 3% | - | 2% | 2% | - | - |
| | | | S* | ** | | AN* | AN | ▼ | * |
| Don't know | 2% | 4% | 1% | 3% | - | 3% | 1% | 4% | - |
| | | T | ▼ | * | ** | * | | AM | * |
| Prefer not to say | 1% | 0% | 2% | 0% | - | - | 2% | 0% | 0% |
| | | | * | ** | | * | ▲ | | * |
| Net: Understanding | 91% | 92% | 90% | 90% | - | 90% | 89% | 92% | 92% |
| | | | * | ** | | * | | | * |
| Net: Not understanding | 6% | 5% | 8% | 7% | - | 8% | 8% | 3% | 8% |
| | | | * | ** | | * | AN | ▼ | * |

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| | 16 to 24 | 25 to 34 | 35 to 44 | 45 to 54 | 55 to 64 | 65+ | Male | Female |
| | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J |

You have said that you have not been sexually active in the past six months, and that you previously experienced pain or discomfort preventing you from fully enjoying sex. How much of a factor was this pain/discomfort in you being no longer sexually active?

| | Unweighted base | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J |
|---|-----------------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----|-----------|
| | 291 | 34 | 52 | 64 | 48 | 39 | 54 | 157 | 134 |
| Base: All who've ever felt pain/ discomfort during sex and haven't been sexually active in past 6 months | 305 | 50 | 50 | 53 | 53 | 40 | 61 | 151 | 154 |
| A big factor | 12% | 6% ** | 13% * | 12% * | 9% * | 17% ** | 15% ** | 6% | 17% * |
| A moderate factor | 10% | 18% ** | 10% * | 15% * | 10% * | 7% ** | 1% ** | 10% | 10% * |
| A minor factor | 18% | 27% ** | 21% * | 15% * | 8% * | 8% ** | 25% ** | 16% | 19% * |
| Not a factor at all | 59% | 44% ** | 54% * | 58% * | 72% * | 67% ** | 58% ** | 64% | 53% * |
| Don't know | 2% | 5% ** | 3% * | - * | 1% * | 1% ** | 2% ** | 3% | 1% * |
| Prefer not to say | - | - ** | - * | - * | - * | - ** | - ** | - | - * |

Cell Contents (Column Percentages, Statistical Test Results), Statistics (Column Proportions, Means, (95% AL/AM/AN/AO, AP/AQ/AR/AS, AT/AU/AV/AW, Minimum Base: 30 (**), Small Base: 100 (*))

▲ indicates result is significantly higher than the result in the Total column

▼ indicates result is significantly lower than the result in the Total column

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|-------|----------------|----------|-------|-------------------|--------------------|----------------|---------|--------------|
| | Gay or lesbian | Bisexual | Other | Prefer not to say | Lesbian women | Bisexual women | Gay men | Bisexual men |
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You have said that you have not been sexually active in the past six months, and that you previously experienced pain or discomfort preventing you from fully enjoying sex. How much of a factor was this pain/discomfort in you being no longer sexually active?

| | Unweighted base | S | T | U | V | AL | AM | AN | AO |
|---|-----------------|---------------|-----------|------------|---------|-----------|------------|-----------|-----------|
| | 291 | 137 | 91 | 63 | - | 37 | 57 | 100 | 34 |
| Base: All who've ever felt pain/ discomfort during sex and haven't been sexually active in past 6 months | 305 | 146 | 89 | 70 | - | 53 | 56 | 94 | 33 |
| A big factor | 12% | 5% ▼ * | 16% S* | 19% S* | - ** | 9% ** | 20% AN* | 3% ▼ * | 9% ** |
| A moderate factor | 10% | 8% * | 9% * | 15% * | - ** | 5% ** | 13% * | 11% * | 2% ** |
| A minor factor | 18% | 19% * | 17% * | 17% * | - ** | 21% ** | 18% * | 17% * | 17% ** |
| Not a factor at all | 59% | 67% ▲ U.W* | 56% * | 45% ▼ * | - ** | 65% ** | 49% * | 67% * | 68% ** |
| Don't know | 2% | 1% * | 2% * | 4% * | - ** | - ** | - * | 2% * | 5% ** |
| Prefer not to say | - | - * | - * | - * | - ** | - ** | - * | - * | - ** |

↳: A/B, C/D/E/F/G/H, I/J, K/L/M, N/O/P/Q, R/S/T/U/V/W, X/Y/Z/AA/AB/AC/AD/AE/AF/AG/AH/AI, AJ/AK,