

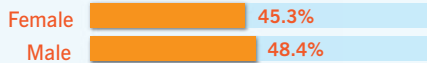
Condom Nations

Where is sex safer: sub-Saharan Africa or Scandinavia? According to the world's largest sex survey, whether you have unprotected sex isn't a matter of being male or female, gay or straight. When it comes to risky bedroom behavior, what matters most may be where you live. | **By Miguel Fontes and Peter Roach**

The Naked Truth

Many people assume that men take more risks than women, or that married couples are more cautious than their single friends. But, in truth, gender, sexual orientation, or being single doesn't predict who will engage in unprotected sex—and who will play it safe.

Men and women report unsafe sex in mostly equal numbers.



Gay, straight, or bisexual—the groups register comparable rates of unprotected sex.



Being single or committed bears little importance on whether individuals have unsafe sex.



The greater the number of sexual partners, the greater the likelihood you will have unprotected sex. Even more surprising, the richer the country, the more partners people have.

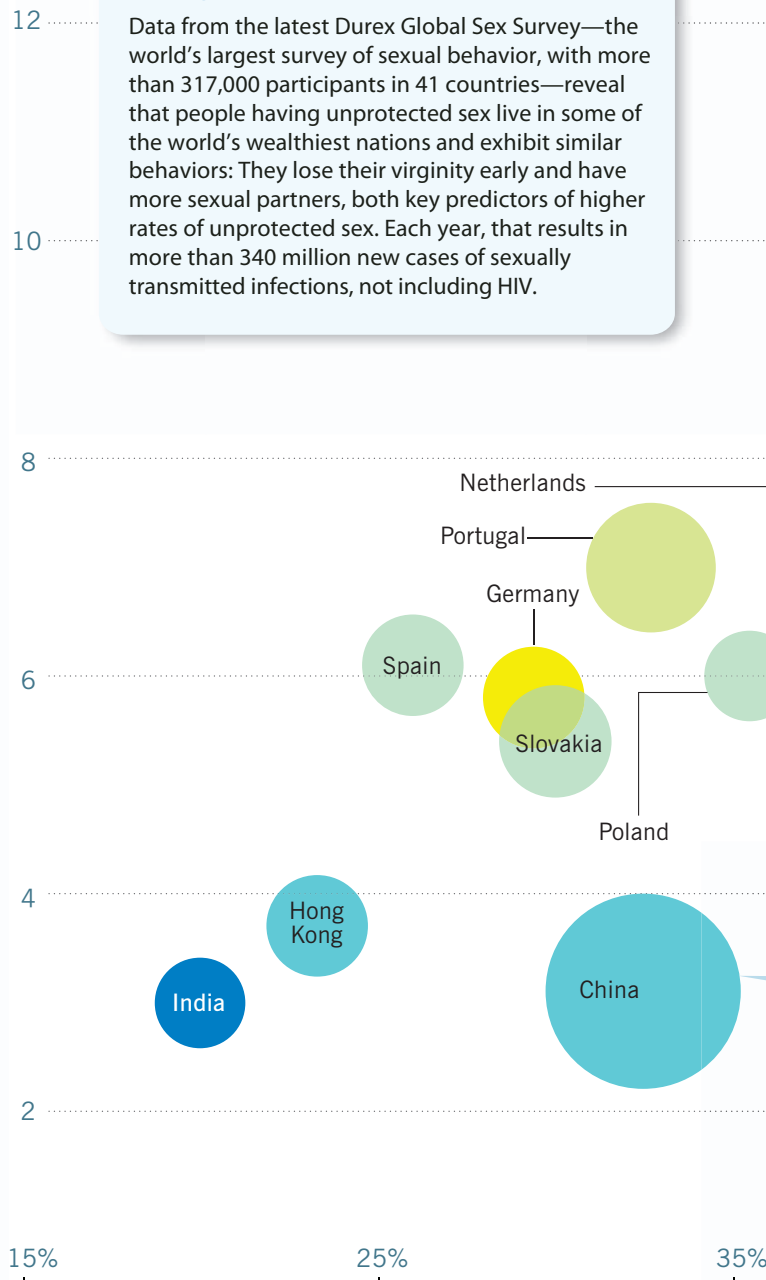
Average Number of Sexual Partners by Country Income



Dangerous Liaisons

Data from the latest Durex Global Sex Survey—the world's largest survey of sexual behavior, with more than 317,000 participants in 41 countries—reveal that people having unprotected sex live in some of the world's wealthiest nations and exhibit similar behaviors: They lose their virginity early and have more sexual partners, both key predictors of higher rates of unprotected sex. Each year, that results in more than 340 million new cases of sexually transmitted infections, not including HIV.

AVERAGE NUMBER OF SEXUAL PARTNERS



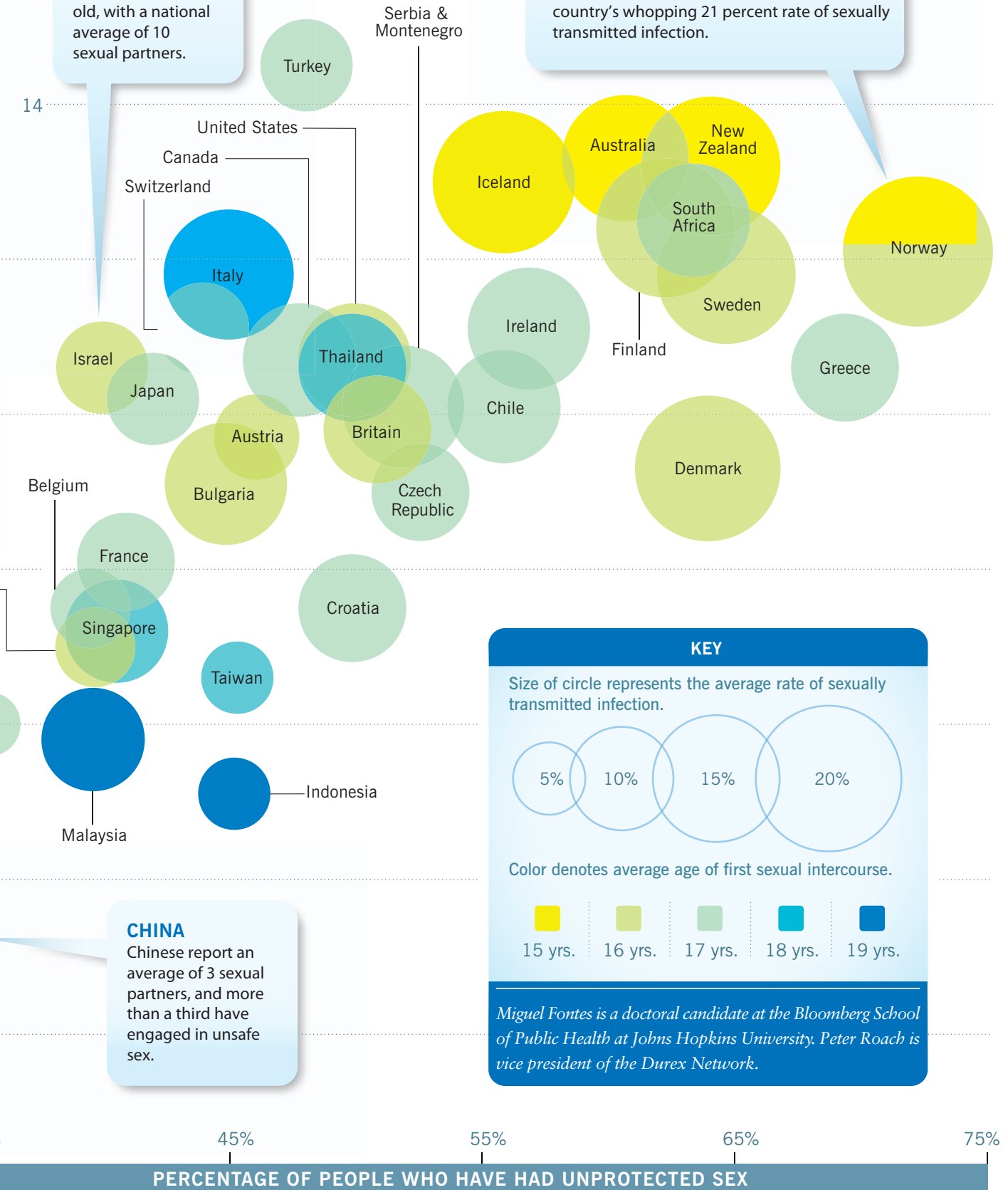
GRAPHICS: LINDA ECKSTEIN/5W INFOGRAPHICS

ISRAEL

The typical Israeli loses his or her virginity at 16 years old, with a national average of 10 sexual partners.

NORWAY

More than 70 percent of Norwegians admit to having had unprotected sex without knowing a partner's history, contributing to the country's whopping 21 percent rate of sexually transmitted infection.

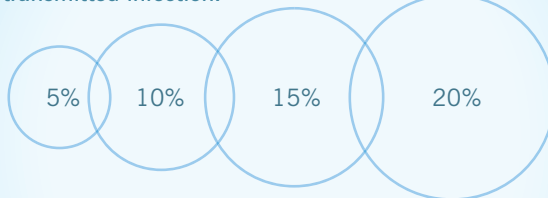


CHINA

Chinese report an average of 3 sexual partners, and more than a third have engaged in unsafe sex.

KEY

Size of circle represents the average rate of sexually transmitted infection.



Color denotes average age of first sexual intercourse.



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