

The SEX Degrees of Separation: The average Briton has slept with eight people - but 2.8 million INDIRECTLY

- Calculator lets you calculate how many people you've indirectly slept with
- The average Briton has come into sexual contact with 2.8 million people
- Calculator helps to explain the spread of sexually transmitted infections

By Emma Innes

We are often warned of the dangers of sexually transmitted infections, especially as cases continue to soar. Now, an astonishing calculator allows you to work out how many people you have directly and indirectly had sex with. The Sex Degrees of Separation Calculator, from Lloydspharmacy, was created to highlight the dangers of unprotected sex.

For example, it shows that a 30-year-old woman who has had seven male sexual partners has indirectly come into sexual contact with 2,907,947 people.



The screenshot shows the 'Sex Degrees of Separation Calculator' interface. It features a light blue header with the title. Below the header, there is a section titled 'What is...' with a right-pointing arrow. Underneath, there are two input fields: 'Your Gender' with radio buttons for 'Male' and 'Female' (the 'Female' option is selected), and 'Your Age' with a text input box containing '30' and a dropdown arrow. Below these fields is a horizontal line. Underneath the line, there is another section titled 'How many sexual partners have you had?' with a right-pointing arrow and a dropdown menu showing the number '7'. Below this is another horizontal line. At the bottom of the form is a large orange button with the text 'Calculate Sex Degrees of Separation'. In the bottom left corner, there is a small grey box with the text '© Lloydspharmacy'.

The Lloydspharmacy Sex Degrees of Separation Calculator allows you to work out how many people you have indirectly had sex with

A 30-year-old woman who has had seven male sexual partners has indirectly come into sexual contact with 2,907,947 people

The calculator asks users to input their age, gender and the number of sexual partners they have had. It then asks the age and gender of each sexual partner.

When people list the age range of each partner, the calculator uses its database to work out, on average, how many previous sexual partners people within that age range have had. It then repeats this process for five further 'generations' of partner. Added together, this provides a sex degrees of separation total.

For example, it shows that a 25-year-old man who has had nine female sexual partners has indirectly had sex with 485,051 people.

By contrast, a 45-year-old woman who has had ten male sexual partners has come into sexual contact with 6,324,624 people.

The calculator asks you to input your age, gender and the number of sexual partners you have had

The calculator shows that a 25-year-old man who has had nine female sexual partners has indirectly had sex with 485,051 people

Finally, a 63-year-old man who has had 14 female sexual partners has indirectly had sex with 865,142 people.

The calculator helps to explain why sexually transmitted infection rates are on the rise at a time when the average

man claims to have had nine sexual partners while the average woman admits to having had 6.3 lovers. One reason why younger people may have higher scores than some older people is because of the increased number of sexual partner they have had.

Figures from the Health Protection Agency show that rates of sexually transmitted diseases are highest in young adults aged 15-24 years old, accounting for 57 per cent of all new gonorrhoea diagnoses and 56 per cent of all new genital warts diagnoses.

The calculator helps to explain why sexually transmitted infection rates are on the rise

Cases of 'untreatable gonorrhoea' have soared by 25 per cent in a year, as experts warn the disease is becoming more resistant to treatment.

More than 20,000 new cases of the sexually-transmitted infection were diagnosed in 2011.

Furthermore, the number of gay men catching HIV has almost doubled in 20 years because new drugs have encouraged unsafe sex, research suggested.

Between 1990 and 2010, cases rose by 76 per cent due to fewer people using condoms. Experts say this is due to the introduction of antiretroviral drugs that are effective in treating the disease.

During this time there was a 26 per cent increase in the proportion having unprotected sex, according to the study. <http://calculators.lloydspharmacy.com/SexDegrees>