



Teen Pregnancy Prevention and

United States Students

What is the problem?

The 2009 national Youth Risk Behavior Survey indicates that among U.S. high school students:

Sexual Risk Behaviors

- 46% ever had sexual intercourse.
- 6% had sexual intercourse for the first time before age 13 years.
- 14% had sexual intercourse with four or more persons during their life.
- 34% had sexual intercourse with at least one person during the 3 months before the survey.
- 39% did not use a condom during last sexual intercourse. (1)
- 77% did not use birth control pills or Depo-Provera before last sexual intercourse to prevent pregnancy. (1)

Alcohol and Other Drug Use

- 22% drank alcohol or used drugs before last sexual intercourse. (1)

What are the solutions?

Better health education • More comprehensive health services

What is the status?

The School Health Policies and Programs Study 2006 indicates that among U.S. high schools:

Health Education

- 69% required students to receive instruction on health topics as part of a specific course.
- 28% taught 11 key pregnancy, HIV, or other STD prevention topics in a required health education course.
- 87% taught abstinence as the most effective method to avoid pregnancy, HIV, and other STDs in a required health education course.
- 76% taught risks associated with teen pregnancy in a required health education course.
- 58% taught methods of contraception in a required health education course.
- 65% taught how to find valid information or services related to pregnancy or pregnancy prevention in a required health education course.
- 38% taught how to correctly use a condom in a required health education course.

Health Services

- 56% provided pregnancy prevention services at school in one-on-one or small-group sessions.
- 5% made condoms available at school.

1. Among students who were currently sexually active.

Where can I get more information? Visit www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth or call 800-CDC-INFO (800-232-4636).



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion
Division of Adolescent and School Health

