



What is the problem?

The 2015 national Youth Risk Behavior Survey indicates that among U.S. high school students:

Sexual Risk Behaviors

- 41% ever had sexual intercourse.
- 4% had sexual intercourse for the first time before age 13 years.
- 30% had sexual intercourse with at least one person during the 3 months before the survey.
- 43% did not use a condom during last sexual intercourse. (1)
- 14% did not use any method to prevent pregnancy during last sexual intercourse. (1)
- 73% did not use birth control pills; IUD or implant; or shot, patch, or birth control ring to prevent pregnancy during last sexual intercourse. (1)

Alcohol and Other Drug Use

- 21% 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 Practices Study 2014 indicates that among U.S. high schools:

Health Education

- 88% required students to receive instruction on health topics as part of a specific course.

As part of a required health education course:

- 72% taught how to prevent pregnancy.
- 64% taught how to find valid information or services related to pregnancy or pregnancy testing.
- 76% taught abstinence as the most effective method to avoid pregnancy, HIV, and other STDs.
- 61% taught methods of contraception.
- 53% taught how to obtain contraception.
- 35% taught how to correctly use a condom.
- 50% taught how to obtain condoms.
- 76% taught the relationship between alcohol or other drug use and the risk for HIV, other STDs, and pregnancy.

Health Services

- 11% provided contraceptives at school.
- 7% made condoms available to students at school.
- 41% provided pregnancy prevention services at school in one-on-one or small-group sessions.
- 12% provided contraceptives to students through arrangements with providers not located on school property.

1. Among students who were currently sexually active.

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