



What is the problem?

The 2017 national Youth Risk Behavior Survey indicates that among U.S. high school students:

Sexual Risk Behaviors

- 39.5% ever had sexual intercourse.
- 3.4% had sexual intercourse for the first time before age 13 years.
- 28.7% were currently sexually active during the 3 months before the survey. (1)
- 46.2% did not use a condom during last sexual intercourse. (2)
- 13.8% did not use any method to prevent pregnancy during last sexual intercourse. (2)
- 70.6% did not use birth control pills; an IUD or implant; or a shot, patch, or birth control ring to prevent pregnancy before last sexual intercourse. (2)
- 18.8% drank alcohol or used drugs before last sexual intercourse. (2)

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. Had sexual intercourse with at least one person.
2. 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).
