

# Questionnaire and Detailed Results

A Series of National Surveys of Teens about Sex



seventeen

sexsmarts  
a public information partnership

A Series of National Surveys of Teens about Sex: Safer Sex, Condoms and “the Pill” (11/00)

Q1. Have you ever heard of the expression “safe sex?”

Overall (12-17)	Sex		Age		Sexually Active (15-17 Only)	
	Male	Female	12-14	15-17	Yes	No
88%	88%	88%	81%	95%	96%	93%

Q2. Would you say...is “safe sex?”

Overall (12-17)	Sex		Age		Sexually Active (15-17 Only)	
	Male	Female	12-14	15-17	Yes	No
Percent responding Yes						
86%	82%	90%	83%	88%	81%	94%
21%	24%	19%	16%	26%	36%	21%
72%	76%	68%	72%	72%	82%	66%
46%	49%	43%	44%	47%	53%	44%

Q3. How effective are *Birth Control Pills* at...

Overall (12-17)	Sex		Age		Sexually Active (15-17 Only)	
	Male	Female	12-14	15-17	Yes	No
Percent responding Very or Somewhat effective						
78%	77%	80%	69%	87%	93%	83%
21%	22%	21%	29%	14%	13%	15%
22%	24%	18%	28%	15%	15%	15%

Q4. How effective are *Condoms* at...

Overall (12-17)	Sex		Age		Sexually Active (15-17 Only)	
	Male	Female	12-14	15-17	Yes	No
Percent responding Very or Somewhat effective						
81%	83%	77%	72%	89%	87%	90%
68%	75%	60%	64%	71%	84%	64%
60%	62%	56%	56%	62%	72%	57%

Q5. Do you think that this is true or false or is it something you don’t know?

Overall (12-17)	Sex		Age		Sexually Active (15-17 Only)	
	Male	Female	12-14	15-17	Yes	No
Percent responding True						
33%	33%	33%	22%	44%	53%	39%
50%	56%	45%	65%	36%	29%	41%
24%	28%	19%	34%	13%	9%	15%

Q6. For each of these statements please tell me whether you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree...

Overall (12-17)	Sex		Age		Sexually Active (15-17 Only)	
	Male	Female	12-14	15-17	Yes	No
Percent responding Strongly or Somewhat agree						
16%	16%	16%	16%	15%	19%	14%
55%	54%	57%	63%	49%	30%	59%
56%	56%	56%	50%	61%	68%	57%
11%	11%	11%	12%	10%	15%	6%
22%	19%	25%	30%	14%	26%	7%
9%	7%	11%	9%	7%	11%	5%
38%	38%	39%	39%	39%	40%	38%

**Q7-9. Who has the most influence over...?**

	Overall (12-17)	Sex		Age		Sexually Active (15-17 Only)	
		Male	Female	12-14	15-17	Yes	No
Q7. What kind of birth control or protection is used?							
"Girl"	35%	32%	38%	35%	35%	39%	32%
"Boy"	5%	7%	2%	4%	6%	6%	5%
"Both equally"	58%	58%	58%	58%	58%	55%	61%
Q8. Whether <i>Condoms</i> are used?							
"Girl"	49%	43%	55%	49%	48%	52%	45%
"Boy"	13%	15%	12%	13%	14%	13%	15%
"Both equally"	35%	40%	31%	34%	36%	33%	39%
Q9. Whether <i>Birth Control Pills</i> are used?							
"Girl"	47%	51%	43%	40%	55%	59%	52%
"Boy"	15%	15%	15%	17%	12%	10%	13%
"Both equally"	37%	33%	40%	41%	32%	31%	34%

**Q10. How important is...in choosing a method of birth control or protection?**

	Overall (12-17)	Sex		Age		Sexually Active (15-17 Only)	
		Male	Female	12-14	15-17	Yes	No
a. How well it protects against HIV/AIDS and other STDs	88%	89%	88%	87%	91%	86%	93%
b. How well it prevents pregnancy	92%	91%	94%	88%	97%	95%	98%
c. That it is easy to get	75%	70%	79%	70%	78%	75%	81%
d. That my parents don't find out	65%	63%	66%	73%	57%	51%	61%
e. How much it costs	49%	47%	51%	46%	51%	45%	55%
f. What my partner wants to use	83%	84%	84%	81%	86%	88%	83%
g. That my partner doesn't know I'm using it (Females Only n=255)	54%	-	54%	59%	48%	-	-

**Q11. How would you feel if a sexual partner suggested using a condom...**

	Overall (12-17)	Sex		Age		Sexually Active (15-17 Only)	
		Male	Female	12-14	15-17	Yes	No
a. Like they cared about me	84%	84%	85%	82%	86%	84%	86%
b. Relieved	86%	85%	86%	83%	89%	91%	86%
c. Like they respected me	87%	85%	90%	84%	90%	91%	88%
d. Insulted	20%	20%	19%	24%	16%	21%	13%
e. Suspicious or worried about <i>Their</i> past sexual history	66%	62%	70%	67%	64%	56%	68%
f. Like they were suspicious or worried about <i>My</i> past sexual history	49%	50%	48%	59%	39%	41%	39%
g. Glad they brought it up	89%	87%	91%	84%	92%	93%	92%

**Q12. (Asked of 15-17 years of age n=264) Have you ever had sexual intercourse?**

	Overall
Yes	38%
No	62%

**Q13. (Asked of 15-17 year olds who have had sex n=105) How often do you use birth control or protection?**

"All of the time"	67%
"Most of the time"	18%
"Some of the time"	4%
"Never"	12%

**Q14. (Asked of 15-17 year olds who have had sex and ever use birth control n=95) Do you ever use...?**

	Percent responding Yes
a. Condoms	98%
b. Birth control pills	39%
c. The rhythm or calendar method	13%
d. Withdrawal or "pulling out"	50%

**Q15. (Asked of 15-17 year olds who have had sex n=94) Have you ever had sex without a condom?**

Yes	47%
No	53%

**Methodology**

The Kaiser Family Foundation and *seventeen* magazine National Survey of Teens: Safer Sex, Condoms and the Pill is a random-sample national survey of 519 teens, ages 12-17. Due to the sensitive nature of the topic, questions on personal sexual experience were only asked of respondents between the ages of 15-17. The survey was designed by the Foundation and *seventeen*, and conducted by telephone by International Communications Research (ICR) between September 6-10, 2000 as part of their monthly teen Omnibus survey. The margin of sampling error is plus or minus 5% for the total sample, and may be larger for certain subsets presented in this analysis.