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**HARVARD UNIVERSITY**  
**JOHN F. KENNEDY**  
**SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENT**

National Public Radio/Kaiser Family Foundation/Kennedy School of Government

# **Sex Education in America**

## **General Public/Parents Survey**

January 2004

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### Methodology

The NPR/Kaiser Family Foundation/Kennedy School survey Sex Education in America is part of an ongoing project of National Public Radio, the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation, and Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government. Representatives of the three sponsors worked together to develop the survey questionnaire and to analyze the results, with NPR maintaining sole editorial control over its broadcasts on the surveys. The project team includes:

**From NPR:** Marcus D. Rosenbaum, Senior Editor; Susan Davis, Associate Editor; Ellen Guettler, Assistant Editor.

**From the Kaiser Family Foundation:** Drew Altman, President and Chief Executive Officer; Matt James, Senior Vice President of Media and Public Education and Executive Director of kaisernetwork.org; Mollyann Brodie, Vice President, Director of Public Opinion and Media Research; and Rebecca Levin, Research Associate.

**From the Kennedy School:** Robert J. Blendon, a Harvard University professor who holds joint appointments in the School of Public Health and the Kennedy School of Government; Stephen R. Pelletier, Research Coordinator for the Harvard Opinion Research Program; John M. Benson, Managing Director of the Harvard Opinion Research Program; and Elizabeth Mackie, Research Associate.

The results of this project are based on two nationwide telephone surveys: a survey of the general public and a survey of principals. The survey of the general public was conducted among a random nationally representative sample of 1,759 respondents 18 years of age or older, including an oversample of parents of children in 7<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade which resulted in interviews with 1001 parents. Statistical results for the total survey were weighted to be representative of the national population. The margin of sampling error for the survey is plus or minus 3 percentage points for total respondents and plus or minus 4.7 percentage points for parents. The survey of principals was conducted among 303 principals of public middle, junior, and senior high schools across the country. Schools were randomly and proportionally selected from a national database of public schools by type of school (middle, junior, and senior high). Statistical results were weighted to be representative of public middle, junior, and senior high schools in the United States based on geographic region and type of residential area (urban, suburban, non-metropolitan). The margin of sampling error for the survey is plus or minus 6 percentage points for total respondents. For results based on subsets of respondents the margin of error is higher.

Princeton Survey Research Associates conducted the fieldwork for both surveys between September and October, 2003. Note that sampling error is only one of many potential sources of error in this or any other public opinion poll.

*An asterisk (\*) indicates a response of less than 1%.*

*The Kaiser Family Foundation is a non-profit, private operating foundation dedicated to providing information and analysis on health care issues to policymakers, the media, the health care community, and the general public. The Foundation is not associated with Kaiser Permanente or Kaiser Industries.*

**NOTE: Responses of parents with 7<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> graders, and parents of 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders are broken out of the total and presented separately.**

**Q1** What do you think is the most important problem facing teens today? (OPEN-ENDED)

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |   |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|---|
| <b>30</b> | <b>26</b> | <b>29</b> | Use of alcohol or other illegal drugs         |
| <b>4</b>  | <b>6</b>  | <b>4</b>  | Academics, getting an education               |
| <b>8</b>  | <b>6</b>  | <b>6</b>  | Sex, promiscuity                              |
| <b>2</b>  | <b>3</b>  | <b>2</b>  | Unwanted pregnancy                            |
| <b>2</b>  | <b>1</b>  | <b>1</b>  | HIV/AIDS, STDs                                |
| <b>1</b>  | <b>2</b>  | <b>1</b>  | Violence                                      |
| <b>6</b>  | <b>6</b>  | <b>6</b>  | Broken families, family values, bad parenting |
| <b>2</b>  | <b>4</b>  | <b>1</b>  | Lack of discipline                            |
| <b>4</b>  | <b>4</b>  | <b>5</b>  | Lack of moral values, character               |
| <b>1</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>2</b>  | Lack of religion                              |
| <b>1</b>  | <b>2</b>  | <b>2</b>  | Lack of direction, boredom, apathy            |
| <b>3</b>  | <b>2</b>  | <b>2</b>  | Media influence                               |
| <b>16</b> | <b>27</b> | <b>24</b> | Peer pressure/relations with peers            |
| <b>1</b>  | <b>1</b>  | <b>2</b>  | Stress, mental health                         |
| <b>2</b>  | <b>2</b>  | <b>1</b>  | Lack of awareness, knowledge, information     |
| <b>1</b>  | <b>1</b>  | <b>1</b>  | Having to grow up too fast                    |
| <b>5</b>  | <b>3</b>  | <b>6</b>  | Other   |
| <b>10</b> | <b>4</b>  | <b>5</b>  | Don't know                                    |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>*</b>  | Refused                                       |

**Q2** I am going to read you a list of issues that teens today may face. For each one, please tell me how big a problem you think it is for teens in general—a major problem, a minor problem, or not a problem at all. The first is (Insert). Is this a major problem, a minor problem, or not a problem at all?

*Items were rotated*

**a** suicide

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                      |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------------|
| <b>46</b> | <b>43</b> | <b>50</b> | Major problem        |
| <b>46</b> | <b>50</b> | <b>44</b> | Minor problem        |
| <b>4</b>  | <b>4</b>  | <b>4</b>  | Not a problem at all |
| <b>4</b>  | <b>4</b>  | <b>2</b>  | Don't know           |
| <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused              |

**b** unwanted pregnancy

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                      |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------------|
| <b>73</b> | <b>74</b> | <b>69</b> | Major problem        |
| <b>23</b> | <b>23</b> | <b>29</b> | Minor problem        |
| <b>1</b>  | <b>1</b>  | <b>*</b>  | Not a problem at all |
| <b>2</b>  | <b>2</b>  | <b>2</b>  | Don't know           |
| <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused              |

**c** getting HIV/AIDS

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                      |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------------|
| <b>65</b> | <b>57</b> | <b>60</b> | Major problem        |
| <b>31</b> | <b>38</b> | <b>36</b> | Minor problem        |
| <b>2</b>  | <b>2</b>  | <b>2</b>  | Not a problem at all |
| <b>3</b>  | <b>3</b>  | <b>2</b>  | Don't know           |
| <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused              |

**d** poor academic performance

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                      |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------------|
| <b>60</b> | <b>58</b> | <b>57</b> | Major problem        |
| <b>33</b> | <b>39</b> | <b>38</b> | Minor problem        |
| <b>3</b>  | <b>1</b>  | <b>4</b>  | Not a problem at all |
| <b>4</b>  | <b>2</b>  | <b>1</b>  | Don't know           |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>*</b>  | Refused              |

**e** getting sexually transmitted diseases – STDs – other than HIV/AIDS

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                      |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------------|
| <b>70</b> | <b>62</b> | <b>70</b> | Major problem        |
| <b>25</b> | <b>33</b> | <b>27</b> | Minor problem        |
| <b>2</b>  | <b>2</b>  | <b>1</b>  | Not a problem at all |
| <b>3</b>  | <b>4</b>  | <b>2</b>  | Don't know           |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused              |

**f** violence

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                      |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------------|
| <b>71</b> | <b>67</b> | <b>66</b> | Major problem        |
| <b>26</b> | <b>29</b> | <b>31</b> | Minor problem        |
| <b>2</b>  | <b>1</b>  | <b>1</b>  | Not a problem at all |
| <b>2</b>  | <b>3</b>  | <b>2</b>  | Don't know           |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>*</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused              |

**g** use of alcohol or other illegal drugs

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                      |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------------|
| <b>87</b> | <b>86</b> | <b>86</b> | Major problem        |
| <b>11</b> | <b>12</b> | <b>13</b> | Minor problem        |
| <b>1</b>  | <b>1</b>  | <b>1</b>  | Not a problem at all |
| <b>1</b>  | <b>1</b>  | <b>*</b>  | Don't know           |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused              |

**Q3** You said (INSERT MAJOR PROBLEM ITEMS) were major problems. Which one is the biggest problem?

*Based on those with more than one major problem*

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |  |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|--|
| <b>4</b>  | <b>6</b>  | <b>4</b>  | Suicide  |
| <b>9</b>  | <b>12</b> | <b>6</b>  | Unwanted pregnancy   |
| <b>8</b>  | <b>9</b>  | <b>9</b>  | Getting HIV/AIDS   |
| <b>6</b>  | <b>7</b>  | <b>9</b>  | Poor academic performance  |
| <b>4</b>  | <b>2</b>  | <b>3</b>  | Getting sexually transmitted diseases – STDs – other than HIV/AIDS |
| <b>13</b> | <b>10</b> | <b>13</b> | Violence   |
| <b>48</b> | <b>48</b> | <b>52</b> | Use of alcohol or other illegal drugs                              |
| <b>6</b>  | <b>5</b>  | <b>4</b>  | Don't know   |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>1</b>  | Refused  |
| n=1641    | n=306     | n=449     |  |

**Q4** Do you think it is morally wrong for unmarried adults to engage in sexual intercourse or not?

*Asked of half of respondents*

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |            |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| <b>50</b> | <b>39</b> | <b>49</b> | Yes        |
| <b>46</b> | <b>60</b> | <b>49</b> | No         |
| <b>3</b>  | <b>1</b>  | <b>2</b>  | Don't know |
| <b>1</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused    |
| n=857     | n=155     | n=225     |            |

**Q5** Do you think it is a SIN for unmarried adults to engage in sexual intercourse or not?

*Asked of respondents who believe sexual intercourse between unmarried adults is morally wrong*

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8   | GR 9-12   |            |
|-----------|----------|-----------|------------|
| <b>83</b> | <b>-</b> | <b>87</b> | Yes        |
| <b>13</b> | <b>-</b> | <b>12</b> | No         |
| <b>4</b>  | <b>-</b> | <b>1</b>  | Don't know |
| <b>1</b>  | <b>-</b> | <b>0</b>  | Refused    |
| n=416     | n=73     | n=107     |            |

**NOTE:** Data is not available for subgroups with sample sizes under 100 respondents.

**Q6** Do you think it is morally wrong for unmarried teens to engage in sexual intercourse, or not?

*Asked of half of respondents*

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |            |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| <b>63</b> | <b>63</b> | <b>67</b> | Yes        |
| <b>35</b> | <b>26</b> | <b>31</b> | No         |
| <b>2</b>  | <b>11</b> | <b>2</b>  | Don't know |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused    |
| n=902     | n=180     | n=261     |            |

**Q7** Do you think it is a SIN for unmarried teens to engage in sexual intercourse, or not?

*Asked of respondents who believe sexual intercourse between unmarried teens is morally wrong*

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |            |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| <b>77</b> | <b>76</b> | <b>77</b> | Yes        |
| <b>20</b> | <b>21</b> | <b>22</b> | No         |
| <b>2</b>  | <b>4</b>  | <b>1</b>  | Don't know |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused    |
| n=559     | n=119     | n=172     |            |

Now I'd like to ask you some questions about sex education classes or sessions in schools in your community. These are any classes or talks in school that discuss relationships, the basics of human reproduction, abstinence, AIDS, pregnancy prevention, and the like.

[IF RESPONDENT ASKS ABOUT LENGTH OF CLASS: These topics may have been taught in a separate sex education course, as part of another course, like health or science, or as independent lessons in the school auditorium or gym. ]

**Q8** How important do you think it is to have sex education as part of the school curriculum? Very important, somewhat important, not too important, or do you think sex education should not be taught at all in schools?

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                    |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------------------|
| <b>69</b> | <b>72</b> | <b>72</b> | Very important     |
| <b>21</b> | <b>21</b> | <b>19</b> | Somewhat important |
| <b>2</b>  | <b>2</b>  | <b>2</b>  | Not too important  |
| <b>7</b>  | <b>4</b>  | <b>6</b>  | Not taught at all  |
| <b>1</b>  | <b>1</b>  | <b>1</b>  | Don't know         |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused            |

**Q9** Is it your impression that there has been more debate or controversy in your community over sex education during the last few years, or not?

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                  |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------------|
| <b>29</b> | <b>24</b> | <b>29</b> | Yes, more debate |
| <b>54</b> | <b>68</b> | <b>61</b> | No               |
| <b>18</b> | <b>8</b>  | <b>10</b> | Don't know       |
| <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused          |

**Q10** How effective do you think the sex education in schools is in helping teens (Insert)? Very effective, somewhat effective, not too effective, or not effective at all, or don't you know enough to say?

*Items were rotated*

**a** avoid getting HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                      |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------------|
| <b>24</b> | <b>27</b> | <b>20</b> | Very effective       |
| <b>44</b> | <b>50</b> | <b>52</b> | Somewhat effective   |
| <b>12</b> | <b>11</b> | <b>13</b> | Not too effective    |
| <b>7</b>  | <b>4</b>  | <b>7</b>  | Not effective at all |
| <b>13</b> | <b>7</b>  | <b>9</b>  | Don't know           |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused              |

**b** avoid pregnancy

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                      |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------------|
| <b>15</b> | <b>18</b> | <b>13</b> | Very effective       |
| <b>47</b> | <b>55</b> | <b>53</b> | Somewhat effective   |
| <b>16</b> | <b>13</b> | <b>19</b> | Not too effective    |
| <b>11</b> | <b>8</b>  | <b>10</b> | Not effective at all |
| <b>11</b> | <b>5</b>  | <b>5</b>  | Don't know           |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused              |

**c** postpone having sexual intercourse

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                      |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------------|
| <b>11</b> | <b>11</b> | <b>12</b> | Very effective       |
| <b>35</b> | <b>42</b> | <b>40</b> | Somewhat effective   |
| <b>22</b> | <b>22</b> | <b>24</b> | Not too effective    |
| <b>19</b> | <b>17</b> | <b>18</b> | Not effective at all |
| <b>13</b> | <b>7</b>  | <b>7</b>  | Don't know           |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>1</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused              |

**d** make responsible decisions about sex

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                      |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------------|
| <b>17</b> | <b>17</b> | <b>20</b> | Very effective       |
| <b>44</b> | <b>54</b> | <b>48</b> | Somewhat effective   |
| <b>18</b> | <b>16</b> | <b>18</b> | Not too effective    |
| <b>10</b> | <b>5</b>  | <b>9</b>  | Not effective at all |
| <b>12</b> | <b>7</b>  | <b>5</b>  | Don't know           |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused              |

**Q11** As you may know, there are different approaches to teaching about sex and sexuality in the schools. Which of the following two statements comes closer to your views?

*Responses were read*

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |   |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|---|
| <b>47</b> | <b>53</b> | <b>48</b> | Statement 1: When it comes to sex, teenagers need to have limits set, they must be told what is acceptable and what is not                                |
| <b>51</b> | <b>45</b> | <b>48</b> | Statement 2: Ultimately teenagers need to make their own decisions, so their education needs to be more in the form of providing information and guidance |
| <b>2</b>  | <b>1</b>  | <b>3</b>  | Don't know  |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>*</b>  | <b>1</b>  | Refused   |

**Q12** In order for a school to get money from the federal government for one sex education program, the law requires that the exclusive purpose of the program be to teach the benefits of "abstaining from sexual activity." Which of the following statements comes closer to your view?

*Responses were read*

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |  |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|--|
| <b>30</b> | <b>24</b> | <b>32</b> | Statement 1: The federal government should fund sex education programs that have "abstaining from sexual activity" as their only purpose                                   |
| <b>67</b> | <b>72</b> | <b>65</b> | Statement 2: The money should be used to fund more comprehensive sex education programs that include information on how to obtain and use condoms and other contraceptives |
| <b>3</b>  | <b>3</b>  | <b>2</b>  | Don't know   |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>1</b>  | <b>*</b>  | Refused  |

**Q13** Please tell me whether you agree or disagree with each of THESE statements.

*Items were rotated*

**a** Abstinence from sexual activity outside marriage is the expected standard for all school-age children.

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |            |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| <b>62</b> | <b>68</b> | <b>65</b> | Agree      |
| <b>36</b> | <b>27</b> | <b>34</b> | Disagree   |
| <b>2</b>  | <b>4</b>  | <b>1</b>  | Don't know |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>1</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused    |

**b** Sexual activity outside of marriage is likely to have harmful psychological and physical effects.

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |            |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| <b>57</b> | <b>59</b> | <b>58</b> | Agree      |
| <b>41</b> | <b>38</b> | <b>39</b> | Disagree   |
| <b>2</b>  | <b>2</b>  | <b>3</b>  | Don't know |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>1</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused    |



**Q14** Earlier we asked you a question about abstinence from sexual activity outside of marriage as the expected standard for school aged children. How were you defining the word abstinence? Did you include abstaining from (Insert)?

**a** sexual intercourse

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |             |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| <b>95</b> | <b>94</b> | <b>95</b> | Include     |
| <b>3</b>  | <b>3</b>  | <b>4</b>  | Not include |
| <b>2</b>  | <b>3</b>  | <b>1</b>  | Don't know  |
| <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused     |

**b** oral sex

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |             |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| <b>89</b> | <b>91</b> | <b>90</b> | Include     |
| <b>10</b> | <b>7</b>  | <b>9</b>  | Not include |
| <b>1</b>  | <b>2</b>  | <b>1</b>  | Don't know  |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>*</b>  | <b>*</b>  | Refused     |

**c** intimate touching

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |             |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| <b>63</b> | <b>63</b> | <b>63</b> | Include     |
| <b>35</b> | <b>35</b> | <b>35</b> | Not include |
| <b>1</b>  | <b>1</b>  | <b>1</b>  | Don't know  |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>1</b>  | <b>*</b>  | Refused     |

**d** passionate kissing

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |             |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| <b>40</b> | <b>31</b> | <b>42</b> | Include     |
| <b>59</b> | <b>68</b> | <b>57</b> | Not include |
| <b>2</b>  | <b>1</b>  | <b>1</b>  | Don't know  |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>*</b>  | <b>*</b>  | Refused     |

**e** masturbation

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |             |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| <b>44</b> | <b>33</b> | <b>44</b> | Include     |
| <b>51</b> | <b>60</b> | <b>53</b> | Not include |
| <b>5</b>  | <b>6</b>  | <b>2</b>  | Don't know  |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>1</b>  | <b>*</b>  | Refused     |

**Q15** If sex education is taught, do you think sex education should be required for students, or should it be optional?

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |            |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| <b>66</b> | <b>70</b> | <b>65</b> | Required   |
| <b>32</b> | <b>29</b> | <b>33</b> | Optional   |
| <b>2</b>  | <b>1</b>  | <b>2</b>  | Don't know |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>*</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused    |

**Q16** I am going to ask you about certain things that might be included in sex education programs in schools. After I read each topic, please tell me whether you think it is an appropriate topic for middle school students – that is, grades 6, 7, and 8 – high school students – that is, grades 9 through 12 – both age groups, or neither age group.

**a** The basics of how babies are made, pregnancy, and birth

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |   |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|---|
| <b>96</b> | <b>99</b> | <b>97</b> | <b>Appropriate (NET)</b>                          |
| 14        | 13        | 12        | Appropriate topic for middle school students      |
| 13        | 11        | 11        | Appropriate topic for high school students        |
| 69        | 75        | 73        | Appropriate topic for both age groups             |
| <b>3</b>  | *         | <b>3</b>  | <b>Not appropriate topic for either age group</b> |
| <b>1</b>  | <b>1</b>  | *         | <b>Don't know</b>                                 |
| *         | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>Refused</b>                                    |

**b** HIV/AIDS

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8     | GR 9-12   |   |
|-----------|------------|-----------|---|
| <b>98</b> | <b>100</b> | <b>99</b> | <b>Appropriate (NET)</b>                          |
| 9         | 9          | 7         | Appropriate topic for middle school students      |
| 11        | 10         | 9         | Appropriate topic for high school students        |
| 78        | 81         | 83        | Appropriate topic for both age groups             |
| <b>1</b>  | *          | <b>1</b>  | <b>Not appropriate topic for either age group</b> |
| *         | <b>0</b>   | *         | <b>Don't know</b>                                 |
| <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>   | <b>0</b>  | <b>Refused</b>                                    |

**c** Sexually transmitted diseases other than HIV/AIDS, such as herpes

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8     | GR 9-12   |   |
|-----------|------------|-----------|---|
| <b>98</b> | <b>100</b> | <b>98</b> | <b>Appropriate (NET)</b>                          |
| 9         | 8          | 7         | Appropriate topic for middle school students      |
| 15        | 13         | 14        | Appropriate topic for high school students        |
| 75        | 79         | 77        | Appropriate topic for both age groups             |
| <b>1</b>  | *          | <b>2</b>  | <b>Not appropriate topic for either age group</b> |
| <b>1</b>  | *          | *         | <b>Don't know</b>                                 |
| <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>   | <b>0</b>  | <b>Refused</b>                                    |

**d** Birth control and methods of preventing pregnancy

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |   |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|---|
| <b>94</b> | <b>95</b> | <b>93</b> | <b>Appropriate (NET)</b>                          |
| 8         | 5         | 5         | Appropriate topic for middle school students      |
| 29        | 35        | 28        | Appropriate topic for high school students        |
| 57        | 54        | 60        | Appropriate topic for both age groups             |
| <b>5</b>  | <b>5</b>  | <b>7</b>  | <b>Not appropriate topic for either age group</b> |
| <b>1</b>  | *         | *         | <b>Don't know</b>                                 |
| <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>Refused</b>                                    |

**e** How to use and where to get contraceptives

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |   |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|---|
| <b>87</b> | <b>88</b> | <b>85</b> | Appropriate (NET)                                 |
| 5         | 4         | 3         | Appropriate topic for middle school students      |
| 37        | 42        | 37        | Appropriate topic for high school students        |
| 44        | 42        | 44        | Appropriate topic for both age groups             |
| <b>12</b> | <b>11</b> | <b>16</b> | <b>Not appropriate topic for either age group</b> |
| <b>1</b>  | *         | *         | Don't know  |
| <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused   |

**f** Waiting to have sexual intercourse until older

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |   |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|---|
| <b>95</b> | <b>97</b> | <b>96</b> | Appropriate (NET)                                 |
| 10        | 8         | 7         | Appropriate topic for middle school students      |
| 12        | 11        | 11        | Appropriate topic for high school students        |
| 73        | 79        | 77        | Appropriate topic for both age groups             |
| <b>4</b>  | <b>2</b>  | <b>4</b>  | <b>Not appropriate topic for either age group</b> |
| <b>1</b>  | <b>1</b>  | <b>1</b>  | Don't know  |
| <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused   |

**g** How to get tested for HIV and other STDs

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |   |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|---|
| <b>94</b> | <b>97</b> | <b>96</b> | Appropriate (NET)                                 |
| 5         | 5         | 5         | Appropriate topic for middle school students      |
| 33        | 37        | 34        | Appropriate topic for high school students        |
| 56        | 55        | 56        | Appropriate topic for both age groups             |
| <b>4</b>  | <b>4</b>  | <b>4</b>  | <b>Not appropriate topic for either age group</b> |
| <b>2</b>  | *         | <b>1</b>  | Don't know  |
| <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused   |

**h** How to deal with the emotional issues and consequences of being sexually active

*Asked of half of respondents*

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |   |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|---|
| <b>94</b> | <b>95</b> | <b>96</b> | Appropriate (NET)                                 |
| 7         | 7         | 4         | Appropriate topic for middle school students      |
| 23        | 23        | 18        | Appropriate topic for high school students        |
| 64        | 65        | 75        | Appropriate topic for both age groups             |
| <b>5</b>  | <b>5</b>  | <b>4</b>  | <b>Not appropriate topic for either age group</b> |
| <b>2</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Don't know  |
| <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused   |
| n=857     | n=155     | n=225     |   |

**i** Waiting to have sexual intercourse until married

*Asked of half of respondents*

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |   |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|---|
| <b>93</b> | <b>95</b> | <b>94</b> | Appropriate (NET)                                 |
| 8         | 11        | 4         | Appropriate topic for middle school students      |
| 13        | 7         | 13        | Appropriate topic for high school students        |
| 72        | 77        | 77        | Appropriate topic for both age groups             |
| <b>7</b>  | <b>5</b>  | <b>5</b>  | <b>Not appropriate topic for either age group</b> |
| *         | <b>0</b>  | *         | Don't know  |
| <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused   |
| n=857     | n=155     | n=225     |   |

**j** How to talk with a girlfriend/boyfriend or partner about “how far to go” sexually

*Asked of half of respondents*

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |   |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|---|
| <b>93</b> | <b>95</b> | <b>94</b> | Appropriate (NET)                                 |
| 6         | 6         | 3         | Appropriate topic for middle school students      |
| 23        | 22        | 21        | Appropriate topic for high school students        |
| 63        | 67        | 69        | Appropriate topic for both age groups             |
| <b>6</b>  | <b>5</b>  | <b>5</b>  | <b>Not appropriate topic for either age group</b> |
| <b>1</b>  | *         | <b>1</b>  | Don't know  |
| *         | <b>0</b>  | *         | Refused   |
| n=857     | n=155     | n=225     |   |

**k** How to put on a condom

*Asked of half of respondents*

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |   |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|---|
| <b>83</b> | <b>83</b> | <b>79</b> | Appropriate (NET)                                 |
| 5         | 5         | 1         | Appropriate topic for middle school students      |
| 38        | 38        | 36        | Appropriate topic for high school students        |
| 40        | 40        | 41        | Appropriate topic for both age groups             |
| <b>15</b> | <b>17</b> | <b>21</b> | <b>Not appropriate topic for either age group</b> |
| <b>2</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Don't know  |
| *         | <b>0</b>  | *         | Refused   |
| n=857     | n=155     | n=225     |   |

**l** Masturbation

*Asked of half of respondents*

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |   |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|---|
| <b>77</b> | <b>81</b> | <b>76</b> | Appropriate (NET)                                 |
| 8         | 6         | 4         | Appropriate topic for middle school students      |
| 22        | 28        | 20        | Appropriate topic for high school students        |
| 47        | 47        | 51        | Appropriate topic for both age groups             |
| <b>19</b> | <b>18</b> | <b>24</b> | <b>Not appropriate topic for either age group</b> |
| <b>4</b>  | <b>1</b>  | *         | Don't know  |
| <b>1</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused   |
| n=857     | n=155     | n=225     |   |

**m** How to talk with parents about sex and relationship issues

*Asked of half of respondents*

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |   |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|---|
| <b>97</b> | <b>98</b> | <b>98</b> | Appropriate (NET)                                 |
| 12        | 7         | 11        | Appropriate topic for middle school students      |
| 8         | 7         | 5         | Appropriate topic for high school students        |
| 77        | 84        | 81        | Appropriate topic for both age groups             |
| <b>2</b>  | <b>*</b>  | <b>2</b>  | <b>Not appropriate topic for either age group</b> |
| <b>1</b>  | <b>2</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Don't know  |
| <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused   |
| n=902     | n=180     | n=261     |   |

**n** Abortion

*Asked of half of respondents*

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |   |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|---|
| <b>85</b> | <b>91</b> | <b>83</b> | Appropriate (NET)                                 |
| 5         | 3         | 6         | Appropriate topic for middle school students      |
| 30        | 44        | 30        | Appropriate topic for high school students        |
| 50        | 44        | 46        | Appropriate topic for both age groups             |
| <b>13</b> | <b>9</b>  | <b>14</b> | <b>Not appropriate topic for either age group</b> |
| <b>2</b>  | <b>1</b>  | <b>3</b>  | Don't know  |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused   |
| n=902     | n=180     | n=261     |   |

**o** How to make responsible sexual choices based on individual values

*Asked of half of respondents*

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |   |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|---|
| <b>91</b> | <b>98</b> | <b>89</b> | Appropriate (NET)                                 |
| 9         | 6         | 7         | Appropriate topic for middle school students      |
| 21        | 26        | 17        | Appropriate topic for high school students        |
| 61        | 65        | 66        | Appropriate topic for both age groups             |
| <b>8</b>  | <b>3</b>  | <b>10</b> | <b>Not appropriate topic for either age group</b> |
| <b>1</b>  | <b>1</b>  | <b>*</b>  | Don't know  |
| <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused   |
| n=902     | n=180     | n=261     |   |

**p** That teens can obtain birth control pills from family planning clinics and doctors without permission from a parent

*Asked of half of respondents*

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |   |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|---|
| <b>71</b> | <b>71</b> | <b>73</b> | Appropriate (NET)                                 |
| 3         | 2         | 3         | Appropriate topic for middle school students      |
| 40        | 53        | 38        | Appropriate topic for high school students        |
| 28        | 16        | 31        | Appropriate topic for both age groups             |
| <b>28</b> | <b>29</b> | <b>26</b> | <b>Not appropriate topic for either age group</b> |
| <b>1</b>  | <b>*</b>  | <b>1</b>  | Don't know  |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>*</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused   |
| n=902     | n=180     | n=261     |   |

**q** Homosexuality and sexual orientation – that is, being gay, lesbian or bisexual

*Asked of half of respondents*

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |   |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|---|
| <b>73</b> | <b>80</b> | <b>73</b> | Appropriate (NET)                                 |
| 5         | 3         | 6         | Appropriate topic for middle school students      |
| 24        | 41        | 23        | Appropriate topic for high school students        |
| 44        | 35        | 45        | Appropriate topic for both age groups             |
| <b>25</b> | <b>20</b> | <b>25</b> | <b>Not appropriate topic for either age group</b> |
| <b>2</b>  | <b>1</b>  | <b>1</b>  | Don't know  |
| *         | <b>0</b>  | *         | Refused   |
| n=902     | n=180     | n=261     |   |

**r** Oral sex

*Asked of half of respondents*

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |   |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|---|
| <b>71</b> | <b>65</b> | <b>73</b> | Appropriate (NET)                                 |
| 4         | *         | 5         | Appropriate topic for middle school students      |
| 29        | 36        | 30        | Appropriate topic for high school students        |
| 39        | 30        | 37        | Appropriate topic for both age groups             |
| <b>27</b> | <b>32</b> | <b>26</b> | <b>Not appropriate topic for either age group</b> |
| <b>2</b>  | <b>1</b>  | <b>1</b>  | Don't know  |
| *         | <b>0</b>  | *         | Refused   |
| n=902     | n=180     | n=261     |   |

**Q17** What do you think schools should teach about homosexuality? Should schools teach that homosexuality is wrong, that homosexuality is acceptable, only what homosexuality is without discussing whether it is wrong or acceptable, or should schools not discuss homosexuality at all?

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |   |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|---|
| <b>18</b> | <b>12</b> | <b>17</b> | Teach that homosexuality is wrong   |
| <b>8</b>  | <b>4</b>  | <b>8</b>  | Teach that homosexuality is acceptable  |
| <b>52</b> | <b>66</b> | <b>54</b> | Teach only what homosexuality is without discussing whether it is wrong or acceptable |
| <b>19</b> | <b>16</b> | <b>18</b> | Schools should not discuss homosexuality at all                                       |
| <b>3</b>  | <b>2</b>  | <b>2</b>  | Don't know  |
| *         | *         | *         | Refused   |

**Q18** [You said earlier that sex education should not be taught at all in schools, but if it is to be taught] Which of the following three statements is closest to your view about the best way to teach sex education?

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |   |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|---|
| <b>15</b> | <b>14</b> | <b>16</b> | Statement 1: Abstinence from sexual intercourse is best for teens. Sex ed classes should not provide information about how to obtain and use condoms and other contraception.         |
| <b>46</b> | <b>49</b> | <b>54</b> | Statement 2: Abstinence from sexual intercourse is best for teens, but some teens do not abstain, so sex ed classes should provide information about condoms and other contraception. |
| <b>36</b> | <b>36</b> | <b>30</b> | Statement 3: Abstinence from sexual intercourse is not the most important thing. Sex ed classes should focus on teaching teens how to make responsible decisions about sex.           |
| <b>3</b>  | <b>2</b>  | <b>*</b>  | Don't know  |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused   |

**Q19** To what age do you think boys should wait before having sexual intercourse – until they are 12, 14, 16, 18, 21, or until they are married? [IF SAYS DEPENDS ON THE INDIVIDUAL: Of course, but *in general* to what age do you think boys should wait] (ONLY ACCEPT “depends” IF THE RESPONDENT INSISTS)

*Asked of half of respondents*

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                          |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------------------------|
| <b>*</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>1</b>  | Until they are 12        |
| <b>2</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>1</b>  | Until they are 14        |
| <b>11</b> | <b>2</b>  | <b>5</b>  | Until they are 16        |
| <b>31</b> | <b>36</b> | <b>41</b> | Until they are 18        |
| <b>9</b>  | <b>13</b> | <b>7</b>  | Until they are 21        |
| <b>44</b> | <b>48</b> | <b>42</b> | Until they are married   |
| <b>1</b>  | <b>1</b>  | <b>2</b>  | Depends on the boy (VOL) |
| <b>2</b>  | <b>*</b>  | <b>1</b>  | Don't know               |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>*</b>  | <b>*</b>  | Refused                  |
| n=857     | n=155     | n=225     |                          |

**Q20** Do you think most boys will actually wait that long or will most have sexual intercourse earlier?

*Asked of respondents who responded to previous question*

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |            |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| <b>11</b> | <b>11</b> | <b>6</b>  | Wait       |
| <b>84</b> | <b>87</b> | <b>91</b> | Earlier    |
| <b>4</b>  | <b>2</b>  | <b>3</b>  | Don't know |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>1</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused    |
| n=824     | n=149     | n=215     |            |

**Q19/20 Combo Table Boys-Sexual Intercourse**

To what age do you think boys should wait before having sexual intercourse? Do you think most boys will actually wait that long or will most have sexual intercourse earlier?

*Asked of half of respondents*

TOTAL

**\* Until they are 12**

- Among those who say 12, say boys will wait until 12
- Among those who say 12, say boys will have intercourse earlier

**2 Until they are 14**

- Among those who say 14, say boys will wait until 14
- Among those who say 14, say boys will have intercourse earlier

**11 Until they are 16**

- Among those who say 16, say boys will wait until 16
- Among those who say 16, say boys will have intercourse earlier

**31 Until they are 18**

- 10 Among those who say 18, say boys will wait until 18
- 88 Among those who say 18, say boys will have intercourse earlier

**9 Until they are 21**

- Among those who say 21, say boys will wait until 21
- Among those who say 21, say boys will have intercourse earlier

**44 Until they are married**

- 3 Among those who say marriage, say boys will wait until they're married
- 91 Among those who say marriage, say boys will have intercourse earlier

**1 Depends on the boy (VOL)**

**2 Don't know/Refused**

**NOTE:** Data is not available for subgroups with sample sizes under 100 respondents.  
Don't know/refused responses not shown for subgroups.



**Q21a** And what about oral sex? To what age do you think boys should wait before they experience that – until they are 12, 14, 16, 18, 21, or until they are married – or never? [IF SAYS DEPENDS ON THE INDIVIDUAL: Of course, but *in general* to what age do you think boys should wait] (ONLY ACCEPT “depends” IF THE RESPONDENT INSISTS)

*Asked of half of respondents*

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                          |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------------------------|
| <b>1</b>  | <b>1</b>  | <b>1</b>  | Until they are 12        |
| <b>2</b>  | <b>1</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Until they are 14        |
| <b>10</b> | <b>2</b>  | <b>6</b>  | Until they are 16        |
| <b>25</b> | <b>31</b> | <b>33</b> | Until they are 18        |
| <b>7</b>  | <b>11</b> | <b>7</b>  | Until they are 21        |
| <b>33</b> | <b>48</b> | <b>42</b> | Until they are married   |
| <b>16</b> | <b>4</b>  | <b>6</b>  | Never                    |
| <b>1</b>  | <b>1</b>  | <b>2</b>  | Depends on the boy (VOL) |
| <b>4</b>  | <b>*</b>  | <b>3</b>  | Don't know               |
| <b>1</b>  | <b>*</b>  | <b>1</b>  | Refused                  |
| n=857     | n=155     | n=225     |                          |

**Q21b** Do you think most boys will actually wait that long or will most have oral sex earlier?

*Asked of respondents who responded to previous question*

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |            |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| <b>12</b> | <b>12</b> | <b>11</b> | Wait       |
| <b>80</b> | <b>82</b> | <b>84</b> | Earlier    |
| <b>8</b>  | <b>6</b>  | <b>5</b>  | Don't know |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>1</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused    |
| n=797     | n=148     | n=208     |            |

**Q21a/21b Combo Table Boys-Oral Sex**

To what age do you think boys should wait before they experience oral sex? Do you think most boys will actually wait that long or will most have oral sex earlier?

*Asked of half of respondents*

TOTAL

**1 Until they are 12**

- Among those who say 12, say boys will wait until 12
- Among those who say 12, say boys will have oral sex earlier

**2 Until they are 14**

- Among those who say 14, say boys will wait until 14
- Among those who say 14, say boys will have oral sex earlier

**10 Until they are 16**

- Among those who say 16, say boys will wait until 16
- Among those who say 16, say boys will have oral sex earlier

**25 Until they are 18**

- 10 Among those who say 18, say boys will wait until 18
- 88 Among those who say 18, say boys will have oral sex earlier

**7 Until they are 21**

- Among those who say 21, say boys will wait until 21
- Among those who say 21, say boys will have oral sex earlier

**33 Until they are married**

- 5 Among those who say marriage, say boys will wait until they're married
- 89 Among those who say marriage, say boys will have oral sex earlier

**16 Never**

- 3 Among those who say never, say boys will never have oral sex
- 70 Among those who say never, say boys will have oral sex

**1 Depends on the boy (VOL)**

**5 Don't know/Refused**

**NOTE:** Data is not available for subgroups with sample sizes under 100 respondents.  
Don't know/refused responses not shown for subgroups.

- Q22** To what age do you think girls should wait before having sexual intercourse – until they are 12, 14, 16, 18, 21, or until they are married? [IF SAYS DEPENDS ON THE INDIVIDUAL: Of course, but *in general* to what age do you think girls should wait] (ONLY ACCEPT “depends” IF THE RESPONDENT INSISTS)

*Asked of half of respondents*

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                           |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------------------------|
| <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Until they are 12         |
| <b>1</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Until they are 14         |
| <b>7</b>  | <b>3</b>  | <b>5</b>  | Until they are 16         |
| <b>33</b> | <b>35</b> | <b>35</b> | Until they are 18         |
| <b>8</b>  | <b>13</b> | <b>8</b>  | Until they are 21         |
| <b>47</b> | <b>48</b> | <b>51</b> | Until they are married    |
| <b>2</b>  | <b>*</b>  | <b>1</b>  | Depends on the girl (VOL) |
| <b>1</b>  | <b>1</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Don't know                |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>*</b>  | <b>*</b>  | Refused                   |
| n=902     | n=180     | n=261     |                           |

- Q23** Do you think most girls will actually wait that long or will most have sexual intercourse earlier?

*Asked of respondents who responded to previous question*

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |            |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| <b>10</b> | <b>6</b>  | <b>7</b>  | Wait       |
| <b>85</b> | <b>91</b> | <b>91</b> | Earlier    |
| <b>5</b>  | <b>3</b>  | <b>3</b>  | Don't know |
| <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused    |
| n=875     | n=175     | n=256     |            |

**Q22/23 Combo Table Girls-Sexual Intercourse**

To what age do you think girls should wait before having sexual intercourse? Do you think most girls will actually wait that long or will most have sexual intercourse earlier?

*Asked of half of respondents*

TOTAL

**0 Until they are 12**

- Among those who say 12, say girls will wait until 12
- Among those who say 12, say girls will have intercourse earlier

**1 Until they are 14**

- Among those who say 14, say girls will wait until 14
- Among those who say 14, say girls will have intercourse earlier

**7 Until they are 16**

- Among those who say 16, say girls will wait until 16
- Among those who say 16, say girls will have intercourse earlier

**33 Until they are 18**

- 10 Among those who say 18, say girls will wait until 18
- 85 Among those who say 18, say girls will have intercourse earlier

**8 Until they are 21**

- Among those who say 21, say girls will wait until 21
- Among those who say 21, say girls will have intercourse earlier

**47 Until they are married**

- 7 Among those who say marriage, say girls will wait until they're married
- 89 Among those who say marriage, say girls will have intercourse earlier

**2 Depends on the girl (VOL)**

**1 Don't know/Refused**

**NOTE:** Data is not available for subgroups with sample sizes under 100 respondents.  
Don't know/refused responses not shown for subgroups.

**Q24a** And what about oral sex? To what age do you think girls should wait before they experience that – until

they are 12, 14, 16, 18, 21, or until they are married – or never? [IF SAYS DEPENDS ON THE INDIVIDUAL: Of course, but *in general* to what age do you think girls should wait] (ONLY ACCEPT “depends” IF THE RESPONDENT INSISTS)

*Asked of half of respondents*

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                           |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------------------------|
| *         | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Until they are 12         |
| <b>1</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Until they are 14         |
| <b>7</b>  | <b>3</b>  | <b>5</b>  | Until they are 16         |
| <b>27</b> | <b>34</b> | <b>25</b> | Until they are 18         |
| <b>8</b>  | <b>11</b> | <b>8</b>  | Until they are 21         |
| <b>35</b> | <b>40</b> | <b>46</b> | Until they are married    |
| <b>18</b> | <b>6</b>  | <b>13</b> | Never                     |
| <b>2</b>  | <b>1</b>  | <b>1</b>  | Depends on the girl (VOL) |
| <b>2</b>  | <b>5</b>  | <b>1</b>  | Don't know                |
| *         | <b>1</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused                   |
| n=902     | n=180     | n=261     |                           |

**Q24b** Do you think most girls will actually wait that long or will most have oral sex earlier?

*Asked of respondents who responded to previous question*

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |            |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| <b>10</b> | <b>10</b> | <b>11</b> | Wait       |
| <b>78</b> | <b>80</b> | <b>81</b> | Earlier    |
| <b>12</b> | <b>10</b> | <b>9</b>  | Don't know |
| <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused    |
| N=865     | n=171     | n=253     |            |

**Q24a/24b Combo Table Girls-Oral Sex**

To what age do you think girls should wait before they experience oral sex? Do you think most girls will actually wait that long or will most have oral sex earlier?

*Asked of half of respondents*

TOTAL

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| <b>*</b>  | <b>Until they are 12</b>  |
| -         | Among those who say 12, say girls will wait until 12                    |
| -         | Among those who say 12, say girls will have oral sex earlier            |
| <b>1</b>  | <b>Until they are 14</b>  |
| -         | Among those who say 14, say girls will wait until 14                    |
| -         | Among those who say 14, say girls will have oral sex earlier            |
| <b>7</b>  | <b>Until they are 16</b>  |
| -         | Among those who say 16, say girls will wait until 16                    |
| -         | Among those who say 16, say girls will have oral sex earlier            |
| <b>27</b> | <b>Until they are 18</b>  |
| 8         | Among those who say 18, say girls will wait until 18                    |
| 86        | Among those who say 18, say girls will have oral sex earlier            |
| <b>8</b>  | <b>Until they are 21</b>  |
| -         | Among those who say 21, say girls will wait until 21                    |
| -         | Among those who say 21, say girls will have oral sex earlier            |
| <b>35</b> | <b>Until they are married</b>   |
| 8         | Among those who say marriage, say girls will wait until they're married |
| 83        | Among those who say marriage, say girls will have oral sex earlier      |
| <b>18</b> | <b>Never</b>  |
| 4         | Among those who say never, say girls will never have oral sex           |
| 67        | Among those who say never, say girls will have oral sex                 |
| <b>2</b>  | <b>Depends on the girl (VOL)</b>  |
| <b>2</b>  | <b>Don't know/Refused</b>   |

**NOTE:** Data is not available for subgroups with sample sizes under 100 respondents.  
Don't know/refused responses not shown for subgroups.

**Q25a** Do you think that giving teens information about how to obtain and use condoms and other contraception encourages them to have sexual intercourse earlier than they would have or do you think giving teens this information will not encourage them to have sexual intercourse earlier?

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                             |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------------------------|
| <b>39</b> | <b>37</b> | <b>38</b> | Yes, will encourage them    |
| <b>55</b> | <b>57</b> | <b>58</b> | No, will not encourage them |
| <b>5</b>  | <b>5</b>  | <b>4</b>  | Don't know                  |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>1</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused                     |

**Q25b** And do you think that giving teens information about how to obtain and use condoms and other contraception makes it more likely that they will practice safe sex now or in the future, or not.

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                                      |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>77</b> | <b>82</b> | <b>84</b> | More likely to practice safe sex     |
| <b>17</b> | <b>13</b> | <b>14</b> | Not more likely to practice safe sex |
| <b>6</b>  | <b>5</b>  | <b>2</b>  | Don't know                           |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>*</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused                              |

**Q25c** What concerns you more:

*Responses were read and rotated*

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |   |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|---|
| <b>28</b> | <b>24</b> | <b>26</b> | That providing information about how to obtain and use condoms and other contraception might encourage teens to have sexual intercourse                     |
| <b>65</b> | <b>72</b> | <b>70</b> | That <u>not</u> providing information about how to obtain and use condoms and other contraception might mean more teens will have unsafe sexual intercourse |
| <b>7</b>  | <b>3</b>  | <b>4</b>  | Don't know  |
| <b>1</b>  | <b>*</b>  | <b>*</b>  | Refused   |

**Q26** About what percentage of 12<sup>th</sup> graders do you think report they have had sexual intercourse – 20%, 40%, 60% or 80%?

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |            |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| <b>18</b> | <b>18</b> | <b>12</b> | 20%        |
| <b>22</b> | <b>30</b> | <b>27</b> | 40%        |
| <b>30</b> | <b>27</b> | <b>37</b> | 60%        |
| <b>24</b> | <b>22</b> | <b>18</b> | 80%        |
| <b>7</b>  | <b>3</b>  | <b>6</b>  | Don't know |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>*</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused    |

**Q27** In the last few years, would you say that the teen pregnancy rate in the United States has increased, decreased, stayed about the same, or don't you know enough to say?

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                       |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------------------|
| <b>35</b> | <b>26</b> | <b>34</b> | Increased             |
| <b>15</b> | <b>18</b> | <b>18</b> | Decreased             |
| <b>13</b> | <b>16</b> | <b>16</b> | Stayed about the same |
| <b>37</b> | <b>39</b> | <b>32</b> | Don't know            |
| <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused               |

**Q28** [Actually, although many think it has increased] Statistics show that the teen pregnancy rate has decreased in the last few years. I am going to read you a list of possible reasons for this drop. Please tell me if you think each one is a major reason, a minor reason, or not a reason at all that the teen pregnancy rate in the United States has dropped in the past few years.  
First/Next (Insert).

*Items were rotated*

**a** fear of HIV/AIDS

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                     |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------------------|
| <b>70</b> | <b>73</b> | <b>70</b> | Major reason        |
| <b>23</b> | <b>24</b> | <b>25</b> | Minor reason        |
| <b>5</b>  | <b>3</b>  | <b>3</b>  | Not a reason at all |
| <b>2</b>  | <b>*</b>  | <b>1</b>  | Don't know          |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused             |

**b** changing moral values

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                     |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------------------|
| <b>44</b> | <b>45</b> | <b>39</b> | Major reason        |
| <b>37</b> | <b>39</b> | <b>45</b> | Minor reason        |
| <b>15</b> | <b>13</b> | <b>15</b> | Not a reason at all |
| <b>3</b>  | <b>3</b>  | <b>2</b>  | Don't know          |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused             |

**c** comprehensive sex education programs that include information about contraception

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                     |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------------------|
| <b>62</b> | <b>62</b> | <b>64</b> | Major reason        |
| <b>27</b> | <b>31</b> | <b>26</b> | Minor reason        |
| <b>5</b>  | <b>4</b>  | <b>7</b>  | Not a reason at all |
| <b>5</b>  | <b>3</b>  | <b>3</b>  | Don't know          |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused             |

**d** abstinence education in schools

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                     |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------------------|
| <b>45</b> | <b>46</b> | <b>45</b> | Major reason        |
| <b>40</b> | <b>40</b> | <b>43</b> | Minor reason        |
| <b>10</b> | <b>11</b> | <b>9</b>  | Not a reason at all |
| <b>5</b>  | <b>4</b>  | <b>4</b>  | Don't know          |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused             |



**e** news and entertainment programs about safer sex.

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                     |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------------------|
| <b>44</b> | <b>38</b> | <b>39</b> | Major reason        |
| <b>40</b> | <b>52</b> | <b>43</b> | Minor reason        |
| <b>11</b> | <b>9</b>  | <b>17</b> | Not a reason at all |
| <b>5</b>  | <b>2</b>  | <b>2</b>  | Don't know          |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused             |

**f** public health campaigns

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                     |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------------------|
| <b>45</b> | <b>43</b> | <b>48</b> | Major reason        |
| <b>41</b> | <b>47</b> | <b>39</b> | Minor reason        |
| <b>9</b>  | <b>5</b>  | <b>10</b> | Not a reason at all |
| <b>5</b>  | <b>4</b>  | <b>2</b>  | Don't know          |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>1</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused             |

**Q29a** Do you have any children, even if they are not currently living in your household?

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8     | GR 9-12    |            |
|-----------|------------|------------|------------|
| <b>73</b> | <b>100</b> | <b>100</b> | Yes        |
| <b>27</b> | <b>0</b>   | <b>0</b>   | No         |
| <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>   | <b>0</b>   | Don't know |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>0</b>   | <b>0</b>   | Refused    |

**Q29b** Do you have any children in grades kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade?

*Based on those who have children*

*Multiple responses accepted*

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8     | GR 9-12    |            |
|-----------|------------|------------|------------|
| <b>52</b> | <b>100</b> | <b>100</b> | Yes        |
| <b>48</b> | <b>0</b>   | <b>0</b>   | No         |
| <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>   | <b>0</b>   | Don't know |
| <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>   | <b>0</b>   | Refused    |
| n=1433    | n=335      | n=486      |            |

**Q30** What grade or grades are they in?

*Based on those with one or more school-aged children*

*Accepted multiple responses*

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------|
| <b>12</b> | <b>8</b>  | <b>4</b>  | Kindergarten   |
| <b>11</b> | <b>5</b>  | <b>4</b>  | First grade    |
| <b>11</b> | <b>7</b>  | <b>4</b>  | Second grade   |
| <b>12</b> | <b>9</b>  | <b>4</b>  | Third grade    |
| <b>15</b> | <b>11</b> | <b>8</b>  | Fourth grade   |
| <b>12</b> | <b>14</b> | <b>4</b>  | Fifth grade    |
| <b>14</b> | <b>11</b> | <b>8</b>  | Sixth grade    |
| <b>9</b>  | <b>55</b> | <b>3</b>  | Seventh grade  |
| <b>8</b>  | <b>49</b> | <b>2</b>  | Eighth grade   |
| <b>17</b> | <b>6</b>  | <b>36</b> | Ninth grade    |
| <b>14</b> | <b>7</b>  | <b>30</b> | Tenth grade    |
| <b>14</b> | <b>5</b>  | <b>29</b> | Eleventh grade |
| <b>12</b> | <b>3</b>  | <b>25</b> | Twelfth grade  |
| <b>1</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Don't know     |
| <b>1</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused        |
| n=1001    | n=335     | n=486     |                |

**Q31** Is your child who is in the (INSERT GRADE LEVEL, IF MORE THAN ONE CHILD IN 7<sup>TH</sup>-12<sup>TH</sup> RANDOMLY SELECT GRADE) grade in public school, a religious or parochial school, or a non-religious private school?

*Based on those with one or more children in grades 7-12*

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                               |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------------------------|
| <b>86</b> | <b>85</b> | <b>86</b> | Public school                 |
| <b>10</b> | <b>10</b> | <b>10</b> | Religious or parochial school |
| <b>4</b>  | <b>5</b>  | <b>3</b>  | Non-religious private school  |
| <b>1</b>  | <b>1</b>  | <b>1</b>  | Don't know                    |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>*</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused                       |
| n=821     | n=335     | n=486     |                               |

**Q32** Is your (INSERT GRADE LEVEL SELECTED IN Q31) grade child a boy or a girl?

*Based on those with one or more children in grades 7-12*

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |         |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| <b>51</b> | <b>56</b> | <b>49</b> | Boy     |
| <b>49</b> | <b>43</b> | <b>51</b> | Girl    |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>*</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused |
| n=821     | n=335     | n=486     |         |

**Q33** Has your child who is in the (INSERT GRADE LEVEL SELECTED IN Q31) grade completed or is your child currently participating in a sex education course at school?

*Based on those with one or more children in grades 7-12*

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |            |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| <b>64</b> | <b>55</b> | <b>66</b> | Yes        |
| <b>26</b> | <b>34</b> | <b>23</b> | No         |
| <b>10</b> | <b>11</b> | <b>10</b> | Don't know |
| <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused    |
| n=821     | n=335     | n=486     |            |

**Q34** Has your child not had sex education in school because it isn't offered by the school, because you didn't give your child permission to participate, because sex education is offered but not for (INSERT GRADE LEVEL SELECTED IN Q31) graders, or is there some other reason?

*Based on those whose child has not completed and is not currently in a sex education course*

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |  |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|--|
| <b>42</b> | <b>39</b> | <b>43</b> | Isn't offered by the school  |
| <b>8</b>  | <b>2</b>  | <b>10</b> | You didn't give your child permission to participate                         |
| <b>18</b> | <b>19</b> | <b>17</b> | Sex education is offered but not for (insert current grade of child) graders |
| <b>19</b> | <b>32</b> | <b>13</b> | Some other reason  |
| <b>14</b> | <b>8</b>  | <b>17</b> | Don't know   |
| <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused  |
| n=211     | n=105     | n=106     |  |

**Q35** Does the school send parents a description of or have a meeting about the sex education curriculum telling them what topics would be covered, or does the school not send parents that information?

*Based on those with one or more children in grades 7-12 and does not say that sex ed is not offered by the school*

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |   |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|---|
| <b>63</b> | <b>58</b> | <b>64</b> | The school sends parents a description of or has a meeting about the sex education curriculum telling them what topics would be covered |
| <b>30</b> | <b>33</b> | <b>30</b> | The school does not send parents that information   |
| <b>7</b>  | <b>9</b>  | <b>6</b>  | Don't know  |
| <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused   |
| n=658     | n=262     | n=396     |   |

**Q36** Overall, do you think the school of your (INSERT GRADE LEVEL SELECTED IN Q31) grade child spends too little time, too much time, or the right amount of time to teach sex ed properly?

*Based on those with one or more children in grades 7-12 and who do not say that sex ed is not offered by the school*

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                          |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------------------------|
| <b>34</b> | <b>28</b> | <b>36</b> | Too little time          |
| <b>2</b>  | <b>1</b>  | <b>2</b>  | Too much time            |
| <b>49</b> | <b>53</b> | <b>48</b> | The right amount of time |
| <b>15</b> | <b>18</b> | <b>14</b> | Don't know               |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>*</b>  | Refused                  |
| n=658     | n=262     | n=396     |                          |

**Q37** Do you feel that teachers in your child's school have received enough training to teach sex ed well or not?

*Based on those with one or more children in grades 7-12 and who do not say that sex ed is not offered by the school*

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                     |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------------------|
| <b>40</b> | <b>45</b> | <b>38</b> | Enough training     |
| <b>30</b> | <b>18</b> | <b>34</b> | Not enough training |
| <b>30</b> | <b>37</b> | <b>28</b> | Don't know          |
| <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused             |
| n=658     | n=262     | n=396     |                     |

**Q38** How well prepared do you feel your (INSERT GRADE LEVEL SELECTED IN Q31) grade child is to deal with sexual issues – very prepared, somewhat prepared, not very prepared, or not at all prepared?

*Based on those with one or more children in grades 7-12*

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                     |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------------------|
| <b>48</b> | <b>31</b> | <b>53</b> | Very prepared       |
| <b>41</b> | <b>56</b> | <b>36</b> | Somewhat prepared   |
| <b>7</b>  | <b>6</b>  | <b>8</b>  | Not very prepared   |
| <b>4</b>  | <b>6</b>  | <b>3</b>  | Not at all prepared |
| <b>1</b>  | <b>2</b>  | <b>*</b>  | Don't know          |
| <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused             |
| n=821     | n=335     | n=486     |                     |

- Q39** Thinking about the sex education your child is receiving or has received in school, how much do you think it will help your child deal with sexual issues? Will it be very helpful, somewhat helpful, not very helpful, or not at all helpful?

*Based on those whose child has had or is currently in sex ed*

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                    |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------------------|
| <b>42</b> | <b>45</b> | <b>41</b> | Very helpful       |
| <b>51</b> | <b>47</b> | <b>52</b> | Somewhat helpful   |
| <b>4</b>  | <b>6</b>  | <b>3</b>  | Not very helpful   |
| <b>3</b>  | <b>*</b>  | <b>4</b>  | Not at all helpful |
| <b>1</b>  | <b>1</b>  | <b>1</b>  | Don't know         |
| <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused            |
| n=530     | n=199     | n=331     |                    |

- Q40** I am going to read a few responses some parents have to the sex education in their children's schools. Please tell me if you agree or disagree.

*Items were rotated*

*Based on those whose child has had or is currently in sex ed*

- a** I feel relieved that my child is receiving sex education at school so that I don't have to talk to my child about some of these sensitive issues.

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |            |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| <b>14</b> | <b>16</b> | <b>14</b> | Agree      |
| <b>85</b> | <b>82</b> | <b>85</b> | Disagree   |
| <b>1</b>  | <b>1</b>  | <b>1</b>  | Don't know |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>1</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused    |
| n=530     | n=199     | n=331     |            |

- b** The school's sex education program raises subjects that I don't think my child should be discussing.

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |            |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| <b>14</b> | <b>17</b> | <b>13</b> | Agree      |
| <b>84</b> | <b>81</b> | <b>85</b> | Disagree   |
| <b>2</b>  | <b>3</b>  | <b>2</b>  | Don't know |
| <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused    |
| n=530     | n=199     | n=331     |            |

- c** Sex education in school makes it easier for me to talk to my child about sexual issues.

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |            |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| <b>82</b> | <b>88</b> | <b>80</b> | Agree      |
| <b>16</b> | <b>11</b> | <b>18</b> | Disagree   |
| <b>2</b>  | <b>*</b>  | <b>2</b>  | Don't know |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>*</b>  | <b>*</b>  | Refused    |
| n=530     | n=199     | n=331     |            |

- d My child's sex education class forces me to discuss sensitive sexual issues too early, before my child is ready.

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |            |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| <b>10</b> | <b>10</b> | <b>10</b> | Agree      |
| <b>89</b> | <b>89</b> | <b>89</b> | Disagree   |
| <b>1</b>  | <b>*</b>  | <b>1</b>  | Don't know |
| <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused    |
| n=530     | n=199     | n=331     |            |

- Q41** How much confidence do you have that sex education programs in your child's school teach attitudes and values similar to those you teach at home? Are you very confident, somewhat confident, not too confident or not confident at all?

*Based on those whose child has had or is currently in sex ed*

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                      |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------------|
| <b>26</b> | <b>25</b> | <b>26</b> | Very confident       |
| <b>49</b> | <b>55</b> | <b>47</b> | Somewhat confident   |
| <b>17</b> | <b>14</b> | <b>18</b> | Not too confident    |
| <b>6</b>  | <b>4</b>  | <b>7</b>  | Not confident at all |
| <b>2</b>  | <b>1</b>  | <b>3</b>  | Don't know           |
| <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused              |
| n=530     | n=199     | n=331     |                      |

- Q42** Now I'm going to read you a list of some sensitive subjects parents might talk about with their children. As I read each one, please tell me if you have discussed this topic with your own child who is in the (INSERT GRADE LEVEL SELECTED IN Q31) grade.

*Items were rotated*

*Based on those whose child has had or is currently in sex ed*

- a** The biology of sex and pregnancy

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                      |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------------|
| <b>86</b> | <b>83</b> | <b>87</b> | Yes – discussed      |
| <b>13</b> | <b>17</b> | <b>13</b> | No – did not discuss |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>*</b>  | Don't know           |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>*</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused              |
| n=530     | n=199     | n=331     |                      |

- b** Avoiding sexually transmitted diseases such as HIV/AIDS

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                      |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------------|
| <b>87</b> | <b>67</b> | <b>92</b> | Yes – discussed      |
| <b>13</b> | <b>33</b> | <b>8</b>  | No – did not discuss |
| <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Don't know           |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>*</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused              |
| n=530     | n=199     | n=331     |                      |

**c** Issues about dating and relationships and becoming sexually active

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                      |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------------|
| <b>88</b> | <b>70</b> | <b>93</b> | Yes – discussed      |
| <b>11</b> | <b>30</b> | <b>7</b>  | No – did not discuss |
| <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Don't know           |
| *         | *         | *         | Refused              |
| n=530     | n=199     | n=331     |                      |

**d** Condoms and other ways to prevent pregnancy or disease if you became sexually active

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                      |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------------|
| <b>71</b> | <b>53</b> | <b>75</b> | Yes – discussed      |
| <b>29</b> | <b>47</b> | <b>25</b> | No – did not discuss |
| *         | <b>0</b>  | *         | Don't know           |
| *         | *         | <b>0</b>  | Refused              |
| n=530     | n=199     | n=331     |                      |

**e** Whether to wait to have sex until you are married

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                      |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------------|
| <b>86</b> | <b>81</b> | <b>88</b> | Yes – discussed      |
| <b>13</b> | <b>19</b> | <b>12</b> | No – did not discuss |
| <b>1</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>1</b>  | Don't know           |
| *         | *         | <b>0</b>  | Refused              |
| n=530     | n=199     | n=331     |                      |

**f** Ethical, moral and religious considerations about sexual activities

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                      |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------------|
| <b>88</b> | <b>83</b> | <b>90</b> | Yes – discussed      |
| <b>11</b> | <b>17</b> | <b>10</b> | No – did not discuss |
| *         | <b>0</b>  | *         | Don't know           |
| *         | *         | <b>0</b>  | Refused              |
| n=530     | n=199     | n=331     |                      |

**Q43** Did you have this conversation or these conversations as a result of a topic of a class or program at your child's school, or not?

*Based on those who have had a conversation about one or more sensitive topics*

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |            |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| <b>25</b> | <b>35</b> | <b>22</b> | Yes        |
| <b>75</b> | <b>64</b> | <b>77</b> | No         |
| <b>1</b>  | <b>1</b>  | <b>1</b>  | Don't know |
| *         | <b>0</b>  | *         | Refused    |
| n=525     | n=195     | n=330     |            |

**Q44** When your (INSERT GRADE LEVEL SELECTED IN Q31) grade child begins to date, or if your child is now dating, how much do you want to know about this part of his / her life? Do you want to know nearly everything, a lot, some, or not much about (Insert)?

*Based on those with one or more children in grades 7-12*

**a** who your child is dating

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                   |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------------|
| <b>57</b> | <b>59</b> | <b>56</b> | Nearly everything |
| <b>35</b> | <b>36</b> | <b>35</b> | A lot             |
| <b>7</b>  | <b>5</b>  | <b>8</b>  | Some              |
| <b>1</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>1</b>  | Not much          |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>*</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Don't know        |
| <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused           |
| n=821     | n=335     | n=486     |                   |

**b** where your child is going on a date and when your child will return

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                   |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------------|
| <b>75</b> | <b>80</b> | <b>74</b> | Nearly everything |
| <b>22</b> | <b>18</b> | <b>24</b> | A lot             |
| <b>2</b>  | <b>2</b>  | <b>2</b>  | Some              |
| <b>1</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>1</b>  | Not much          |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>1</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Don't know        |
| <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused           |
| n=821     | n=335     | n=486     |                   |

**c** how intimate your child is with the person he or she is dating

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                   |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------------|
| <b>54</b> | <b>62</b> | <b>52</b> | Nearly everything |
| <b>29</b> | <b>24</b> | <b>30</b> | A lot             |
| <b>11</b> | <b>10</b> | <b>12</b> | Some              |
| <b>4</b>  | <b>2</b>  | <b>5</b>  | Not much          |
| <b>1</b>  | <b>1</b>  | <b>1</b>  | Don't know        |
| <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused           |
| n=821     | n=335     | n=486     |                   |



**Q45** What concerns you MOST about your own (INSERT GRADE LEVEL SELECTED IN Q31) grade child ever having sexual intercourse?

*Responses were read and rotated*

*Based on those with one or more children in grades 7-12*

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |   |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|---|
| <b>23</b> | <b>27</b> | <b>22</b> | That they might get HIV/AIDS  |
| <b>6</b>  | <b>4</b>  | <b>7</b>  | That they might get sexually transmitted diseases other than HIV/AIDS                         |
| <b>23</b> | <b>23</b> | <b>23</b> | That they might get pregnant or get someone else pregnant                                     |
| <b>36</b> | <b>34</b> | <b>36</b> | That they might have sexual intercourse before they are psychologically and emotionally ready |
| <b>1</b>  | <b>1</b>  | <b>1</b>  | Other (specify) (VOL)   |
| <b>3</b>  | <b>2</b>  | <b>3</b>  | None (VOL)  |
| <b>6</b>  | <b>4</b>  | <b>6</b>  | All of them (VOL)   |
| <b>3</b>  | <b>5</b>  | <b>2</b>  | Don't know (VOL)  |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>*</b>  | <b>*</b>  | Refused (VOL)   |
| n=821     | n=335     | n=486     |   |

**Q46** Compared with your parents when you were growing up, do you think you have been or would be more open with your children about sex and sexual issues in general, less open, or about as open as your parents were with you?

*Based on those who have children*

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------|
| <b>83</b> | <b>83</b> | <b>89</b> | More open      |
| <b>1</b>  | <b>2</b>  | <b>1</b>  | Less open      |
| <b>14</b> | <b>14</b> | <b>9</b>  | About the same |
| <b>1</b>  | <b>*</b>  | <b>1</b>  | Don't know     |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused        |
| n=1433    | n=335     | n=486     |                |

**Q47** Do you think that schools are doing a better job today teaching sex education than they did when you were in school, did a better job teaching sex ed when you were in school, or are doing about the same now as they did when you were in school?

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                                    |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------------------------------|
| <b>58</b> | <b>62</b> | <b>67</b> | Better job today                   |
| <b>5</b>  | <b>5</b>  | <b>7</b>  | Better job when you were in school |
| <b>23</b> | <b>20</b> | <b>20</b> | About the same                     |
| <b>15</b> | <b>13</b> | <b>6</b>  | Don't know                         |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>*</b>  | <b>*</b>  | Refused                            |

**Q48** Overall, would you say your parents did a very good job, a good job, a fair job or a poor job in talking to you about sexual issues when you were growing up?

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                      |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------------|
| <b>36</b> | <b>33</b> | <b>25</b> | Very good/good (NET) |
| 12        | 8         | 7         | Very good job        |
| 23        | 23        | 16        | Good job             |
| <b>62</b> | <b>65</b> | <b>75</b> | Fair/poor (NET)      |
| 21        | 20        | 26        | Fair job             |
| 41        | 49        | 51        | Poor job             |
| <b>2</b>  | <b>*</b>  | <b>*</b>  | Don't know           |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>*</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused              |

**Q49** Overall, would you say your school did a very good job, a good job, a fair job or a poor job in educating you about sexual issues when you were growing up?

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                      |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------------|
| <b>22</b> | <b>20</b> | <b>19</b> | Very good/good (NET) |
| 4         | 4         | 4         | Very good job        |
| 18        | 16        | 15        | Good job             |
| <b>73</b> | <b>80</b> | <b>80</b> | Fair/poor (NET)      |
| 26        | 29        | 30        | Fair job             |
| 47        | 49        | 50        | Poor job             |
| <b>4</b>  | <b>1</b>  | <b>1</b>  | Don't know           |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>*</b>  | Refused              |

**Q50** How familiar are you with the sex education programs in your community's schools? Would you say you are very familiar, somewhat familiar, not too familiar, or not at all familiar?

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                                   |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>45</b> | <b>50</b> | <b>66</b> | Very/somewhat familiar (NET)      |
| 12        | 17        | 22        | Very familiar                     |
| 33        | 37        | 48        | Somewhat familiar                 |
| <b>54</b> | <b>50</b> | <b>33</b> | Not too/Not at all familiar (NET) |
| 21        | 27        | 18        | Not too familiar                  |
| 33        | 19        | 11        | Not familiar at all               |
| <b>1</b>  | <b>1</b>  | <b>1</b>  | Don't know                        |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused                           |

**Q51** If a candidate for school board substantially disagreed with you about how sex ed should be taught in the schools, would this alone determine your vote, or are other issues more important?

*Asked of half of respondents*

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                                    |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------------------------------|
| <b>35</b> | <b>42</b> | <b>39</b> | This alone would determine my vote |
| <b>57</b> | <b>53</b> | <b>56</b> | Other issues are more important    |
| <b>9</b>  | <b>5</b>  | <b>4</b>  | Don't know                         |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>*</b>  | Refused                            |
| n=857     | n=155     | n=225     |                                    |

**Q52** If a candidate for governor substantially disagreed with you about how sex ed should be taught in the schools, would this alone determine your vote, or are other issues more important?

*Asked of half of respondents*

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                                    |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------------------------------|
| <b>22</b> | <b>13</b> | <b>32</b> | This alone would determine my vote |
| <b>71</b> | <b>78</b> | <b>65</b> | Other issues are more important    |
| <b>6</b>  | <b>7</b>  | <b>3</b>  | Don't know                         |
| <b>1</b>  | <b>2</b>  | <b>1</b>  | Refused                            |
| n=902     | n=180     | n=261     |                                    |

**D1** Sex (observation)

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |        |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------|
| <b>46</b> | <b>51</b> | <b>41</b> | Male   |
| <b>54</b> | <b>49</b> | <b>59</b> | Female |

**D2** What is your age?

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |         |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| <b>37</b> | <b>42</b> | <b>20</b> | 18-39   |
| <b>33</b> | <b>53</b> | <b>66</b> | 40-54   |
| <b>29</b> | <b>4</b>  | <b>13</b> | 55+     |
| <b>1</b>  | <b>*</b>  | <b>*</b>  | Refused |

**D3** Are you married, living with a partner, widowed, divorced, separated, or have you never been married?

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                       |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------------------|
| <b>57</b> | <b>81</b> | <b>82</b> | Married               |
| <b>6</b>  | <b>3</b>  | <b>5</b>  | Living with a partner |
| <b>9</b>  | <b>2</b>  | <b>2</b>  | Widowed               |
| <b>9</b>  | <b>11</b> | <b>9</b>  | Divorced              |
| <b>2</b>  | <b>1</b>  | <b>2</b>  | Separated             |
| <b>16</b> | <b>3</b>  | <b>1</b>  | Never been married    |
| <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Don't know            |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused               |

**D4** What is the last grade or class you completed in school?

*Responses were not read*

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |   |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|---|
| <b>3</b>  | <b>4</b>  | <b>*</b>  | None, or grade 1-8  |
| <b>11</b> | <b>12</b> | <b>10</b> | High school incomplete (grades 9-11)  |
| <b>33</b> | <b>21</b> | <b>30</b> | High school graduate (grade 12 or GED certificate)  |
| <b>2</b>  | <b>4</b>  | <b>4</b>  | Business, technical or vocational school after high school  |
| <b>24</b> | <b>24</b> | <b>25</b> | Some college, no four-year degree   |
| <b>17</b> | <b>23</b> | <b>17</b> | College graduate (BS, BA or other four-year degree)   |
| <b>10</b> | <b>12</b> | <b>13</b> | Post-graduate training or professional schooling after college (e.g., toward a master's degree or PhD, law or medical school) |
| <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Don't know  |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused   |

**D5** Are you of Hispanic or Latino background, such as Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, or some other Latin American background?

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |            |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| <b>11</b> | <b>11</b> | <b>11</b> | Yes        |
| <b>88</b> | <b>88</b> | <b>88</b> | No         |
| <b>1</b>  | <b>2</b>  | <b>*</b>  | Don't know |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>*</b>  | Refused    |

**D6** What is your race? (If Latino ask:) Are you white Latino, black Latino or some other race? (Else:) Are you white, African American or black, Asian or some other race?

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                                     |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>80</b> | <b>82</b> | <b>81</b> | White/White Latino                  |
| <b>11</b> | <b>11</b> | <b>11</b> | African American/Black/Black Latino |
| <b>2</b>  | <b>2</b>  | <b>1</b>  | Asian                               |
| <b>5</b>  | <b>4</b>  | <b>6</b>  | Other (Specify)                     |
| <b>1</b>  | <b>*</b>  | <b>*</b>  | Don't know                          |
| <b>1</b>  | <b>*</b>  | <b>1</b>  | Refused                             |

**D7** Last year, that is in 2002, what was your total household income from all sources before taxes? Was it over or under \$25,000?

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------|
| <b>22</b> | <b>12</b> | <b>8</b>  | Under \$25,000 |
| <b>70</b> | <b>83</b> | <b>87</b> | Over \$25,000  |
| <b>3</b>  | <b>1</b>  | <b>1</b>  | Don't know     |
| <b>5</b>  | <b>4</b>  | <b>4</b>  | Refused        |

**D8** Now just stop me when I get to the right category. Was your income ...

*Responses were read*

*Based on those whose income is less than \$25,000*

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8 | GR 9-12 |                               |
|-----------|--------|---------|-------------------------------|
| <b>26</b> | -      | -       | Less than \$10,000            |
| <b>19</b> | -      | -       | \$10,000 to under \$15,000    |
| <b>25</b> | -      | -       | \$15,000 to under \$20,000 or |
| <b>24</b> | -      | -       | \$20,000 to under \$25,000    |
| <b>3</b>  | -      | -       | Don't know                    |
| <b>3</b>  | -      | -       | Refused                       |

n=280    n=29    n=43

**NOTE:** Data is not available for subgroups with sample sizes under 100 respondents.

**D9** Now just stop me when I get to the right category. Was your income ...

*Responses were read*

*Based on those whose income is more than \$25,000*

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                                |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------------------------------|
| <b>9</b>  | <b>8</b>  | <b>9</b>  | \$25,000 to under \$30,000     |
| <b>9</b>  | <b>5</b>  | <b>8</b>  | \$30,000 to under \$35,000     |
| <b>13</b> | <b>13</b> | <b>9</b>  | \$35,000 to under \$40,000     |
| <b>12</b> | <b>14</b> | <b>13</b> | \$40,000 to under \$50,000     |
| <b>23</b> | <b>25</b> | <b>21</b> | \$50,000 to under \$75,000     |
| <b>15</b> | <b>16</b> | <b>15</b> | \$75,000 to under \$100,000 or |
| <b>15</b> | <b>16</b> | <b>22</b> | \$100,000 or more              |
| <b>1</b>  | *         | *         | Don't know                     |
| <b>3</b>  | <b>3</b>  | <b>3</b>  | Refused                        |

n=1365    n=290    n=419

**D10** Do you consider yourself a Christian?

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |            |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| <b>83</b> | <b>84</b> | <b>89</b> | Yes        |
| <b>16</b> | <b>15</b> | <b>11</b> | No         |
| <b>1</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>1</b>  | Don't know |
| *         | *         | <b>0</b>  | Refused    |

**D11** Would you consider yourself a born-again or evangelical Christian, or not?

*Based on Christians*

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |            |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| <b>39</b> | <b>44</b> | <b>41</b> | Yes        |
| <b>55</b> | <b>53</b> | <b>58</b> | No         |
| <b>5</b>  | <b>3</b>  | <b>*</b>  | Don't know |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>1</b>  | <b>*</b>  | Refused    |
| n=1482    | n=290     | n=425     |            |

**D12** With respect to the abortion issue in general, would you consider yourself to be pro-choice or pro-life?

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |            |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| <b>43</b> | <b>46</b> | <b>44</b> | Pro-choice |
| <b>48</b> | <b>49</b> | <b>48</b> | Pro-life   |
| <b>7</b>  | <b>3</b>  | <b>7</b>  | Don't know |
| <b>1</b>  | <b>2</b>  | <b>1</b>  | Refused    |

**D13** Some people are registered to vote and others are not. Are you currently registered to vote at your present address?

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                   |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------------|
| <b>78</b> | <b>88</b> | <b>87</b> | Yes registered    |
| <b>22</b> | <b>12</b> | <b>13</b> | No not registered |
| <b>1</b>  | <b>*</b>  | <b>*</b>  | Don't know        |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | Refused           |

**D14** In politics today, do you consider yourself a Republican, a Democrat, an Independent, or something else?

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------|
| <b>32</b> | <b>38</b> | <b>35</b> | Republican     |
| <b>32</b> | <b>27</b> | <b>33</b> | Democrat       |
| <b>21</b> | <b>19</b> | <b>21</b> | Independent    |
| <b>11</b> | <b>13</b> | <b>9</b>  | Something else |
| <b>3</b>  | <b>2</b>  | <b>1</b>  | Don't know     |
| <b>1</b>  | <b>1</b>  | <b>2</b>  | Refused        |

**D15** As of today do you lean more toward the Republican Party or the Democratic Party?

*Based on those who are not Republican or Democrat*

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |            |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| <b>23</b> | <b>30</b> | <b>23</b> | Republican |
| <b>31</b> | <b>27</b> | <b>35</b> | Democrat   |
| <b>33</b> | <b>34</b> | <b>31</b> | Neither    |
| <b>9</b>  | <b>5</b>  | <b>7</b>  | Don't know |
| <b>3</b>  | <b>5</b>  | <b>3</b>  | Refused    |
| n=610     | n=119     | n=157     |            |

**D16** Would you say your views in most political matters are liberal, moderate, conservative, something else, or haven't you given this much thought?

| TOTAL     | GR 7-8    | GR 9-12   |                                     |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>19</b> | <b>18</b> | <b>23</b> | Liberal                             |
| <b>25</b> | <b>25</b> | <b>25</b> | Moderate                            |
| <b>24</b> | <b>26</b> | <b>28</b> | Conservative                        |
| <b>2</b>  | <b>3</b>  | <b>2</b>  | Something else                      |
| <b>26</b> | <b>26</b> | <b>19</b> | Haven't you given this much thought |
| <b>3</b>  | <b>1</b>  | <b>2</b>  | Don't know                          |
| <b>*</b>  | <b>*</b>  | <b>1</b>  | Refused                             |



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