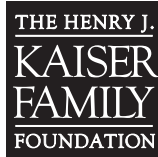


Questionnaire and Detailed Results

A Series of National Surveys of Teens About Sex



seventeen

sexsmarts
a public information partnership

A Series of National Surveys of Teens About Sex: Communication (7/02)

Q1. Have you ever talked to your parents about [INSERT]?

	Total (15-17)	Percent responding yes			
		Gender		Sexually Active	
		Boys	Girls	Yes	No
a. How to know when you are ready to have sex	51%	42%	61%	43%	56%
b. How to talk to a boyfriend or girlfriend about sexual health issues such as pregnancy, birth control and sexually transmitted diseases	43%	33%	53%	42%	43%
c. HIV/AIDS	56%	48%	64%	52%	58%
d. Other sexually transmitted diseases	50%	44%	56%	46%	52%
e. Condoms	52%	50%	54%	54%	51%
f. Other methods of birth control or protection	49%	35%	63%	48%	49%

Q2. How about a doctor or other healthcare provider? Have you ever talked to a healthcare provider about [INSERT]?

	Total (15-17)	Percent responding yes			
		Gender		Sexually Active	
		Boys	Girls	Yes	No
a. How to know when you are ready to have sex	16%	13%	20%	16%	17%
b. How to talk to a boyfriend or girlfriend about sexual health issues such as pregnancy, birth control and sexually transmitted diseases	17%	13%	22%	24%	14%
c. HIV/AIDS	33%	32%	33%	40%	29%
d. Other sexually transmitted diseases	32%	29%	35%	41%	28%
e. Condoms	25%	23%	27%	34%	21%
f. Other methods of birth control or protection	28%	18%	39%	33%	26%

Q3. Have you ever talked to a boyfriend or girlfriend about [INSERT]?

	Total (15-17)	Percent responding yes			
		Gender		Sexually Active	
		Boys	Girls	Yes	No
a. What you feel comfortable doing or not doing sexually	63%	52%	75%	80%	55%
b. HIV/AIDS	43%	36%	51%	61%	33%
c. Other STDs	41%	31%	52%	59%	32%
d. Condoms	53%	44%	63%	79%	41%
e. Other methods of birth control	46%	36%	57%	72%	34%

Q4. There are many reasons why teens may not talk to their parents about sexual health issues such as pregnancy, birth control, and STDs. In your opinion, how big of a reason for teens not talking with their parents about sexual health issues is that [INSERT]?

	Total (15-17)	Percent responding very or somewhat big reason			
		Gender		Sexually Active	
		Boys	Girls	Yes	No
a. They worry that their parents will think they have had sex or are going to have sex	80%	72%	87%	77%	82%
b. They don't know how to bring it up	77%	71%	83%	76%	79%
c. They are embarrassed	78%	71%	85%	70%	83%
d. They are worried about their parents' reaction	83%	81%	84%	85%	83%
e. They don't think their parents understand what it is like to be a teen today	64%	60%	67%	66%	63%

Q5. Next I'd like you to think about some of the reason why teens may not talk to doctors or other healthcare providers about sexual health issues. How big of a reason for teens not talking to healthcare providers is that [INSERT]?

	Total (15-17)	Percent responding very or somewhat big reason			
		Gender		Sexually Active	
		Boys	Girls	Yes	No
a. They are worried their healthcare providers will tell their parents	71%	64%	77%	71%	71%
b. They don't know how to bring it up	66%	63%	71%	63%	68%
c. They are embarrassed	75%	71%	78%	75%	75%
d. They don't think their healthcare providers understand what it is like to be a teen today	43%	41%	45%	41%	43%

Q6. Please tell me how big of a reason each of the following is why teens don't talk to their boyfriends or girlfriends about sexual health issues. How big of a reason for teens not talking to their boyfriends or girlfriends is that [INSERT]?

	Percent responding <i>very</i> or <i>somewhat</i> big reason				
	Total (15-17)	Gender		Sexually Active	
		Boys	Girls	Yes	No
a. They don't know how to bring it up	73%	73%	71%	69%	74%
b. They are embarrassed	71%	68%	73%	66%	73%
c. They don't know enough about the issue	62%	58%	66%	60%	63%
d. They are worried about what the other person will think of them	81%	81%	83%	80%	83%

Q7. Please tell me if you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with the following statements. First how about [INSERT]?

	Percent responding <i>strongly</i> or <i>somewhat</i> agree				
	Total (15-17)	Gender		Sexually Active	
		Boys	Girls	Yes	No
a. Teens often wait until after they have had sex to talk about sexual health issues with a boyfriend or girlfriend	63%	62%	64%	76%	57%
b. Sex education does not prepare teens to actually talk about sexual health issues with a boyfriend or girlfriend	58%	58%	57%	64%	53%
c. Seeing characters on TV shows talk about sexual health issues helps teens feel more comfortable bringing up these issues themselves	72%	69%	76%	75%	71%

Q8. Have you ever had sexual intercourse?

	Total (15-17)	Gender	
		Boys	Girls
Yes	33%	37%	29%
No	66%	62%	69%
Don't know/Refused	1%	1%	1%

Q9. Do your parents know you have had sexual intercourse?

Based on those who have had sexual intercourse (n=164)

	Total (15-17)	Gender	
		Boys	Girls
Yes	60%	50%	73%
No	37%	46%	25%
Don't know/Refused	3%	4%	1%

Q10. Did you tell your parents or did they find out some other way?

Based on those who have had sexual intercourse (n=164)

	Total (15-17)	Gender	
		Boys	Girls
Told parents	39%	30%	51%
Parents found out some other way	20%	19%	22%
Parents do not know that have had sexual intercourse	37%	46%	25%
Don't know/Refused	3%	5%	1%

Q11. Did you tell them about your decision to have sex before or after you had sex the first time?

Based on those who have had sexual intercourse (n=164)

	Total (15-17)	Gender	
		Boys	Girls
Before	11%	7%	16%
After	28%	23%	34%
Parents found out some other way	20%	19%	22%
Parents do not know that have had sexual intercourse	37%	46%	25%
Don't know/Refused	4%	5%	3%

For more information about SexSmarts, visit our website: www.seventeen.com/sexsmarts. To receive additional copies of this publication or other SexSmarts survey snapshots, please contact the Kaiser Family Foundation Publication Request Line (1-800-656-4533). This is publication #3240.

Methodology

The Kaiser Family Foundation and *seventeen* magazine National Survey of Teens: Communication is a random-sample survey of 503 teens, ages 15-17. The survey was designed by the Foundation and *seventeen* and conducted by International Communications Research (ICR) between April 4-8, 2002 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.