

Sexual Behaviors

Among Oklahoma Public High School Students

What is the problem?

The 2017 Oklahoma Youth Risk Behavior Survey indicates that among public high school students:

- 43% had ever had sexual intercourse
- 4% had sexual intercourse for the first time before 13 years of age
- 11% had sexual intercourse with four or more persons during their life
- 28% were currently sexually active¹
- 18% drank alcohol or used drugs before last sexual intercourse²
- 50% did not use a condom during last sexual intercourse²
- 15% did not use any method to prevent pregnancy during last sexual intercourse²

What are schools in Oklahoma doing about it?

The 2016 Oklahoma School Health Profiles indicates that among schools with grades nine or higher:

- 18% of schools provided parents and families with information about how to communicate with their child about sex
- 33% provided parents with information about how to monitor their child (e.g., setting parental expectations, keeping track of their child, responding when their child breaks the rules)

What are the solutions?

- Participate in programs and activities that promote positive youth development.
- Provide a safe place where young people are free to discuss their concerns about love, sex, and relationships.
- Provide or allow training for educators to deliver evidence-based health education in school settings.
- Connect students to organizations or health care professionals for sexual and reproductive health education and services.
- Provide information to parents/guardians about how to talk to their children and adolescents about human anatomy, sexuality and healthy relationships.

1. Had sexual intercourse with at least one person during the 3 months before the survey

2. Among students who reported sexual intercourse during the 3 months before the survey

For more information contact the Maternal and Child Health Service, MCH Assessment at (405) 271-6761 or visit URL: <http://yrbs.health.ok.gov>