

What is the problem?

The 2007 Arkansas Youth Risk Behavior Survey indicates that among high school students:

Sexual Risk Behaviors

- 55% ever had sexual intercourse.
- 9% had sexual intercourse for the first time before age 13 years.
- 19% had sexual intercourse with four or more persons during their life.
- 40% were currently sexually active. (1)
- 41% did not use a condom during last sexual intercourse. (2)

Alcohol and Other Drug Use

- 21% drank alcohol or used drugs before last sexual intercourse. (2)
- 3% used a needle to inject any illegal drug into their body one or more times during their life.

What are the solutions?

Better health education • Supportive policies

What is the status?

The 2006 Arkansas School Health Profiles indicates that among middle schools and high schools:

Health Education

- 43% required students to take two or more health education courses.
- 19% taught 11 pregnancy, HIV, or STD prevention topics in a required health education course.
- 86% taught abstinence as the most effective method to avoid pregnancy, HIV, and STDs in a required health education course.
- 85% taught how HIV is transmitted in a required health education course.
- 19% taught how to correctly use a condom in a required health education course.
- 73% taught how to find valid information or services related to HIV or HIV testing in a required health education course.
- 31% had a lead health education teacher who received staff development during the two years before the survey on HIV prevention.

Supportive Policies

Among schools with a policy on students and/or staff who have HIV infection or AIDS

- 99% had policies that addressed procedures to protect HIV-infected students and staff from discrimination.
- 99% had policies that addressed maintaining confidentiality of HIV-infected students and staff.
- 87% had policies that addressed adequate training about HIV infection for school staff.

1. Had sexual intercourse with at least one person during the 3 months before the survey.
2. Among students who were currently sexually active.

Where can I get more information? Visit www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth or call 800 CDC-INFO (800-232-4636).

