

## What is the problem?

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

### Sexual Risk Behaviors

- 44% ever had sexual intercourse.
- 6% had sexual intercourse for the first time before age 13 years.
- 12% had sexual intercourse with four or more persons during their life.
- 33% were currently sexually active. (1)
- 39% did not use a condom during last sexual intercourse. (2)

### Alcohol and Other Drug Use

- 25% drank alcohol or used drugs before last sexual intercourse. (2)
- 2% 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 Massachusetts School Health Profiles indicates that among middle schools and high schools:

### Health Education

- 52% required students to take two or more health education courses.
- 31% taught 11 pregnancy, HIV, or STD prevention topics in a required health education course.
- 72% taught abstinence as the most effective method to avoid pregnancy, HIV, and STDs in a required health education course.
- 73% taught how HIV is transmitted in a required health education course.
- 36% taught how to correctly use a condom in a required health education course.
- 61% taught how to find valid information or services related to HIV or HIV testing in a required health education course.
- 29% 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

- 98% 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.
- 76% 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](http://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth) or call 800 CDC-INFO (800-232-4636).

