



Trends in the Prevalence of Sexual Behaviors

National YRBS: 1991–2007

The national Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) monitors priority health risk behaviors that contribute to the leading causes of death, disability, and social problems among youth and adults in the United States. The national YRBS is conducted every two years during the spring semester and provides data representative of 9th through 12th grade students in public and private schools throughout the United States.

1991	1993	1995	1997	1999	2001	2003	2005	2007	Changes from 1991–2007 ¹	Change from 2005–2007 ²
Ever had sexual intercourse										
54.1 (50.5–57.8) ³	53.0 (50.2–55.8)	53.1 (48.4–57.7)	48.4 (45.2–51.6)	49.9 (46.1–53.7)	45.6 (43.2–48.1)	46.7 (44.0–49.4)	46.8 (43.4–50.2)	47.8 (45.1–50.6)	Decreased, 1991–2007	No change
Had sexual intercourse with four or more persons during their life										
18.7 (16.6–21.0)	18.7 (16.8–20.9)	17.8 (15.2–20.7)	16.0 (14.6–17.5)	16.2 (13.7–19.0)	14.2 (13.0–15.6)	14.4 (12.9–16.1)	14.3 (12.8–15.8)	14.9 (13.4–16.5)	Decreased, 1991–2007	No change
Currently sexually active (Had sexual intercourse with at least one person during the 3 months before the survey.)										
37.5 (34.3–40.7)	37.5 (35.4–39.7)	37.9 (34.4–41.5)	34.8 (32.6–37.2)	36.3 (32.7–40.0)	33.4 (31.3–35.5)	34.3 (32.1–36.5)	33.9 (31.4–36.6)	35.0 (32.8–37.2)	Decreased, 1991–2007	No change
Used a condom during last sexual intercourse (Among students who were currently sexually active.)										
46.2 (42.8–49.6)	52.8 (50.0–55.6)	54.4 (50.7–58.0)	56.8 (55.2–58.4)	58.0 (53.6–62.3)	57.9 (55.6–60.1)	63.0 (60.5–65.5)	62.8 (60.6–64.9)	61.5 (59.4–63.6)	Increased, 1991–2003 No change, 2003–2007	No change
Used birth control pills before last sexual intercourse (To prevent pregnancy, among students who were currently sexually active.)										
20.8 (18.5–23.2)	18.4 (16.3–20.7)	17.4 (15.2–19.8)	16.6 (14.7–18.8)	16.2 (13.6–19.0)	18.2 (16.5–20.0)	17.0 (14.7–19.4)	17.6 (15.1–20.5)	16.0 (14.2–17.9)	No change, 1991–2007	No change
Drank alcohol or used drugs before last sexual intercourse (Among students who were currently sexually active.)										
21.6 (18.7–24.8)	21.3 (19.3–23.5)	24.8 (22.1–27.8)	24.7 (22.9–26.7)	24.8 (21.8–28.0)	25.6 (23.8–27.4)	25.4 (23.2–27.8)	23.3 (21.1–25.6)	22.5 (20.7–24.5)	Increased, 1991–2001 Decreased, 2001–2007	No change
Ever taught in school about AIDS or HIV infection										
83.3 (80.1–86.0)	86.1 (83.4–88.4)	86.3 (79.0–91.3)	91.5 (90.3–92.5)	90.6 (89.1–91.9)	89.0 (87.6–90.3)	87.9 (85.8–89.7)	87.9 (85.8–89.7)	89.5 (88.1–90.7)	Increased, 1991–1997 Decreased, 1997–2007	No change

¹ Based on trend analyses using a logistic regression model controlling for sex, race/ethnicity, and grade.

² Based on t-test analyses, $p < .05$.

³ 95% confidence interval.



Where can I get more information?
Visit <http://www.cdc.gov/yrbss> or call 800-CDC-INFO (800-232-4636).

