

Of Tennessee high school students surveyed, a larger proportion of male students (28.6%) than female students (19.6%) had four or more partners. Proportions of respondents having four or more partners increased by grade level, from 16.1% of 9th graders; 23.6% of 10th graders; 26.3% of 11th graders; and 30.4% of 12th graders. Black students (41.2%) were more likely than white students (18.0%) to have four or more partners. Among black males, this proportion was 55.7% compared to 20.7% among white males. There was a similar difference in proportions between black and white females (30.7% versus 15.4%, respectively).

A second question related to the number of lifetime sexual partners is, "During the past 3 months, with how many people did you have sexual intercourse?" This question estimates current sexual activity. For this question, 3,063 high school students surveyed responded. In the prior three months, 4.0% of students - 7.0% of males and 1.3% of females - reported engaging in sex with four or more partners. Proportions presented are for the respondents who reported having 4 or more partners in the past three months of the survey. The proportions differed by race, being higher among blacks (7.4%) than whites (2.4%). Black males were at particularly high risk for this unsafe sexual practice; here about four times as many black males (15.6%) as white males (4.1%) reported having four or more partners in the prior three months. Only about 1.0% of black and white females reported this practice in the three months prior to the survey.

(3) Q61: "The last time you had sexual intercourse, did you or your partner use a condom?" 1995 YRBSS (n=3,042)

The group profiled here answered "no," i.e., reported having unprotected sexual intercourse the last time they had sex. Of all respondents reporting (n=3,042), 25.1% did not use a condom the last time they had sex. Eliminating the youth who have never had sexual intercourse (39.8% of the students) raises the percentage of youth having unprotected sex without a condom the last time they had sex to 41.6%.

The following proportions are based on those respondents who reported ever having sexual intercourse and who answered this question (n=1,832). Proportions of respondents who did not use a condom the last time they had sex were similar for respondents aged 15 or younger (39.6%) and 16-17 years of age (39.2%). However, 50.3% of respondents aged 18 or older did not use a condom the last time they had sex. Data show that whites (44.3%) were more likely than blacks (35.4%) not to use a condom during the last time they had sex.

4) Q63: "How many times have you been pregnant or gotten someone pregnant?" (n=3,130)

This question is an important indicator of unprotected sexual intercourse among these high school students. About 9.1% of the Tennessee 1995 YRBSS respondents reported pregnancy or getting someone pregnant, representing 7.2% of males and