

Statistics for Parents...

on teen sexual activity, their thoughts on the subject and our cultures view on it. Please understand that some of these stats were taken in 2000, 2001 and 2003; with the moral state of our country, chances are these stats have gotten worse rather than improving. Please share with your teen!

Age of youth beginning dating (casual or serious) and the percentage/chance of them having sex before graduation (performed by Utah State University among 2400 teens in 2000).

Age beginning dating	Percent who have sex before grad.
12yrs	91%
13yrs	56%
14yrs	53%
15yrs	40%
16yrs	20%

Views on “Morally Acceptable” Behaviors by Generation (taken by the Barna Group among 1024 people in 2003)

	<u>Mosaics</u> Age in '09 Under 27	<u>Busters</u> Age in '09 27-45	<u>Boomers</u> Age in '09 46-64	<u>Elders</u> Age in '09 65+
Living someone of the opposite sex without being married	75%	72%	60%	41%
Having a sexual relationship with someone of the opposite sex to who you're not married	54%	56%	40%	24%
Having a sexual relationship with someone of the same sex	40%	41%	32%	14%
Looking at pictures of nudity or explicit sexual behavior	50%	48%	38%	23%
Enjoying sexual thoughts or fantasies about someone	79%	68%	60%	40%
Having an abortion	55%	48%	46%	36%

Percentage of Adults Who Considers a Behavior to be “Morally Acceptable”

	All Adults	Born again Christians	Other Faith	Atheists/ Agnostics
Living with someone of the opposite sex without being married	60%	49%	70%	87%
Having a sexual relationship with someone of the opposite sex to whom you’re not married	42%	35%	47%	69%
Having a sexual relationship with someone of the same sex	30%	20%	41%	55%
Looking at pictures of nudity or explicit sexual behavior	38%	28%	49%	70%
Enjoying sexual thoughts or fantasies about someone	59%	49%	71%	78%

Protestants and Catholics differed to some extent on most topics surveyed, with Protestants being less likely to accept such behaviors. The biggest gaps between Protestants and Catholics were found in relation to cohabitation (deemed morally acceptable by 50% of Protestants and 66% of Catholics) and sexual fantasies (51% and 63%, respectively).

Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (published by the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention among High Schoolers in 2001)

	All H.S. Students	12 th Graders	11 th Graders	10 th Graders	9 th Graders
Sexual Intercourse	45.6% (48.5 of males & 42.9 females)	60.5%	51.9%	40.8%	34.4%
4 or more Sexual Partners	14.2% (17.2 of males & 11.4 females)	21.6%	15.2%	12.6%	9.6%
Alcohol and/or Drug use during last intercourse (among sexually active)	25.6% (30.9 of males & 20.7 females)	25.4%	24.7%	27.7%	24%

This same group reported that High Schoolers having reported having sexual intercourse had decreased from 66.7% in 1991 to 60.5% in 2001. **HOWEVER!**, they also report that more than 50% of all High Schoolers in 2001 reported having engaged in oral sex, most of which did not consider that to be the same as having intercourse-sex. With that stat being true, then that 60.5% is definitely much higher.

The Problem of Teenage Pregnancy and the Psychological Effects of Teenage Sexual Activity

In 2000, some 240,000 children were born to girls aged 18 or younger (this is not counting those babies that were aborted). Nearly all of these teenage mothers were unmarried. These mothers and their children have an extremely high probability of long-term poverty and welfare dependence.

	Girls	Boys
Depression among Sexually active (depressed a lot of the time or most/all the time)	25.3%	8.3%
Not sexually active - depression	7.7%	3.4%
Sexually Active who attempted Suicide in Past 12 months	14.3%	6.0%
Not Sexually active - suicide	5.1%	0.7%

Sexually active: Do you wish you had waited longer?	All Sexually active teens	Sexually Active Boys	Sexually Active Girls
Yes	63%	55%	72%
No	32%	39%	25%