

Publication

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. National Center for Health Statistics. (2010). *Teenagers in the United States: Sexual Activity, Contraceptive Use, and Childbearing, National Survey of Family Growth 2006-2008*. Data from the National Survey of Family Growth. (DHHS Publication No. (PHS) 2010-xxxx. Hyattsville, MD. Retrieved from http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr_23/sr23_030.pdf.

Background & Purpose

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) conducted the National Survey of Family Growth (NSFG) from 2006 to 2008. The NSFG examined factors affecting the formation, growth, and dissolution of families, which included: marriage, divorce, and cohabitation; contraception, sterilization, and infertility; pregnancy outcomes; and births. Data was gathered on the sexual activity, non-voluntary intercourse, contraceptive use, and childbearing experience of a national sample of 15-44 year old males and females.

The NSFG conducted interviews with 2,767 individuals (1,381 females and 1,386 males). A majority of the data were collected by Computer-Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI). Audio Computer Assisted Self-Interview (ACASI) mode of interviewing was used to ask the more sensitive items in the survey. ACASI is a system that allows participants to hear questions and enter responses into a computer without the interviewer knowing what the response was.

The following is a brief summary of data gathered about non-voluntary intercourse among girls and women. To review all of the data findings from the survey, the full report is available at http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr_23/sr23_030.pdf.

Non-voluntary First Intercourse

- 7% of females aged 18-24, who had sex before age 20, experienced non-voluntary intercourse
- First intercourse with an older male was more likely to be non-voluntary
 - 13% of women whose first sex was with a partner 3 or more years older was non-voluntary

Degree to Which First Intercourse was Wanted

- Among females who first had sex before aged 14
 - 18% really didn't want it to happen
- Among females aged 18-24 whose first sex was before age 20
 - 10% "really didn't want it to happen at the time"
 - 47% had mixed feelings
 - 43% "really wanted it to happen at the time"

Limitations

Questions about non-voluntary intercourse involved heterosexual vaginal intercourse only. The NSFG was designed to provide national estimates by demographic sub-groups; it was not designed to yield estimates for individual states. No state data are available from this survey. Analyses by demographic sub-groups were limited to gender in this report.