

# District of Columbia 2010 Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) Sexual Risk Behavior

**WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?** Early sexual activity is linked to unwanted pregnancy, increased rate of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) and HIV/AIDS infections, increased single parenthood, and increased maternal and child poverty.<sup>1</sup>



## The Nationwide Picture

National results from the 2009 YRBS<sup>2</sup> indicate:

- 46.0% of students have had sexual intercourse
- 34.2% of students had sexual intercourse with at least one person during the 3 months before the survey
- Among those currently sexually active, 61.1% of students reported that either they or their partner had used a condom during their last sexual intercourse

Key Indicators for DC YRBS Percentage of DC students who	2007 High School	2010 High School*	2007 Middle School	2010 Middle School*
Had ever had sexual intercourse	56.5	54.9	29.2	19.6
Had sex with... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• four or more partners (High School)</li> <li>• three or more partners (Middle School)</li> </ul> ...in their lifetime	20.3	23.9	12.0	9.1
Had sexual intercourse before <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• age 13 (High School)</li> <li>• age 11 (Middle School)</li> </ul>	12.9	13.3	10.3	7.9
Had sexual intercourse with 1 or more people in the last three months (currently active)	40.6	42.3	-	-
Used a condom the last time they had sexual intercourse (of those currently active)	69.9	76.2	78.1	76.5
Had ever been taught in school about HIV/AIDS infection	85.3	83.8	72.2	63.5

\*2010 DC YRBS results are population estimates derived using only DCPS student data. The 2007 data includes both DCPS and Public Charter Schools.

## Effective Strategies and Best Practices in DC

- The Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) outlines learning standards for reproductive health that are medically accurate, comprehensive, and age appropriate. <http://osse.dc.gov/service/dc-educational-standards>
- OSSE's Wellness and Nutrition Services works with schools to develop reproductive health professional development, programs, and policies through funding from the Center for Disease Control's Division of Adolescent School Health. <http://osse.dc.gov/service/school-and-community-health-education>
- Community based organizations have worked with DC public schools and DC public charter schools to implement Making Proud Choices, an evidence based HIV, STD, and pregnancy prevention program. <http://advocatesforyouth.org/publications/1143?task=view>
- The Department of Health, HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis, STD and Tuberculosis Administration (HAHSTA) created the "Wrap MC" program to expand condom availability in DC high schools. <http://wrapmc.com>

<sup>1</sup>Coker, A. L., Richter, D. L., Valois, R. F., McKeown, R. E., Garrison, C. Z., & Vincent, M. L. (1994). Correlates and Consequences of Early Initiation of Sexual Intercourse. *Journal of School Health*, 64 (9), 372-377.

<sup>2</sup>CDC. (2010). Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance-United States, 2009. *MMWR*, 59 (5), 1-148.

