Trends is Sexual Activity and Abstinence Among U.S. Men and Women

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Presented at a seminar on Abstinence Education Grants and Welfare Reform
Washington DC
June 6, 1997
Percent had sex in past year, by age and sex

Source: Ntl Health and Social Life Survey; Laumann, et al., 1994, Table 3.4
Percent had sex in past year, by marital status

Source: Ntl Health and Social Life Survey, Laumann et al., Table 3.4
% of women 15-19 who had premarital sex, 1971-1995

Source: Hofferth, Kahn, and Baldwin, 1987; National Survey of Family Growth, Cycles 4, 5
% of high school student who had ever had sex but abstained in the last 3 months

• 9th Grade Girls--30.5%
• 9th Grade Boys--40.4%
• 12th Grade Girls--21.4%
• 12th Grade Boys--28.6%
Is Teen Sex Declining?
*The evidence for women:*

Youth Risk Behavior Survey, CDC:

% of high school females who ever had sex:
- 1990 → 48.0
- 1995 → 52.1

% of high school females who had sex in the last 3 months:
- 1990 → 38.4
- 1995 → 40.4

National Survey of Family Growth, CDC:

% of females aged 15-19 who ever had sex:
- 1988 → 53
- 1990 → 55
- 1995 → 50