About two-thirds of females and males, ages 15-24 years, had ever had oral sex

Noncoital sexual behaviors, such as oral sex, occur commonly among teenagers and young adults. The risk of STIs and HIV is lower for oral sex than for vaginal intercourse or anal sex. Several studies have documented that certain STIs, including chlamydia, genital herpes, gonorrhea, and syphilis, can be transmitted during oral sex.

Some adolescents who have had vaginal intercourse and oral sex delay intercourse whereas others move rapidly to intercourse. Research shows that adolescents perceive less health risk from oral sex than vaginal intercourse.

This report presents data on the prevalence of oral sex with opposite sex partners and the timing of the first oral sex relative to first vaginal intercourse among females and males aged 15-24.

Methodology
Data were from the National Survey of Family Growth (NSFG). The current report is based on a nationally representative subsample of 6,346 interviews conducted from July 2007 to June 2010--3,242 with women and 3,104 with men aged 15-24 years.

Measures presented here were collected using audio computer-assisted self-interviewing. Response rates were over 70 percent.

Outcomes of the Study
Major findings include:
- Among females aged 15-24 years, 72% had any sexual contact, 67% had vaginal intercourse, and 66% had any oral sex.
- The percentage of girls aged 15-19 years who had vaginal intercourse was about the same of those who had any oral sex with other-sex partner (47% and 48%, respectively)
- Among 20-24 year-olds, 87% had vaginal intercourse and 85% had any oral sex.
- Among males aged 15-24 years, 73% had any sexual contact, 64% had vaginal intercourse, and 65% had any oral sex.
- A higher percent of boys 15-19 years had oral sex (49%) than had vaginal intercourse (44%).
- By age 20-24 years, 85% of boys had vaginal intercourse and 82% had any oral sex.
- Among females aged 15-24 years, 26% had their first oral sex before their first vaginal intercourse; 27% had oral after intercourse; 7% had oral sex on the same occasion as first vaginal intercourse; and 5.1% had oral sex, but no vaginal intercourse.
- Among males aged 15-24 years, 24% had first oral sex before first intercourse; 24% had oral sex after first intercourse; 12% had oral sex on the same occasion as first intercourse; and 6.5% had oral sex, but no vaginal intercourse.
- On the average, males are more likely to initiate oral sex and vaginal intercourse on the same occasion compared with adolescent females.

Implications for Prevention
Despite decline in percent of teenagers who ever had intercourse and increases in condom use, STI rates had not decreased among those 15-24 years.

This NSFG reveals STI risk behavior among young people that needs to be addressed in educational interventions.

SOURCE:
HPV vaccination did not increase sexual behavior of preteens

No studies have measured clinical markers of sexual activity after vaccination for human papillomavirus. This study evaluated sexual activity outcomes after adolescent vaccination.

Researchers selected a group of 1,398 girls, ages 11 and 12 in 2006 -- and approximately a third of whom had received the HPV vaccine -- and followed them through 2010. Markers of sexual activity, including counseling on contraceptives, and testing or diagnosis for sexually transmitted diseases, were included.

Risk of composite outcome (any pregnancy/STI testing or diagnosis or contraceptive counseling) was not significantly elevated in HPV vaccine-exposed girls. Incidence of chlamydia and pregnancy diagnosis indicated little clinically meaningful absolute risk difference.

The study concluded that HPV vaccination in the recommended ages was not associated with increased sexual activity-related outcome rates.


STD clinic patients experienced condom use errors after visit

The purpose of this study was to (1) prospectively assess and compare the incidence of unprotected penile-vaginal intercourse and of condom use errors/problems among clinic patients testing positive for chlamydia, gonorrhea, or trichomoniasis and those testing negative, and (2) identify event-level condom use errors that may cause condom breakage and slippage during sex.

Enrolled clinic patients (N=928) were tested for three STDs and electronically recorded sexual intercourse and condom use behaviors daily for up to 6 months. Data were available on condom use errors and problems for the >10,000 sex events using condoms.

All forms of errors/problems with condom use occurred without significant differences by baseline STD status for either men or women. Condom breakage was associated with contact with sharp objects and drying out. Slippage during sex was associated with erection loss and drying out.


HIV testing increased in women, decreased in men

U.S. household population HIV testing data was analyzed from the NSFG consisting of 22,682 interviews, persons aged 15-44, 2006-2010. For women, percentage tested for HIV outside of blood ever donation raised from 35% in 2002 to 59% IN 2006-2010. For men, the percentage ever tested fell from 47% in 2002 to 42% in 2006-2010. Within past year of interview 21% of women and 13% of men were tested for HIV.


HIV diagnosis high in Hispanic Americans

CDC reports that Hispanic Americans are diagnosed with HIV three times as much as whites. The largest percentage of HIV diagnosis -- 35.4% -- were among Hispanics living the South.