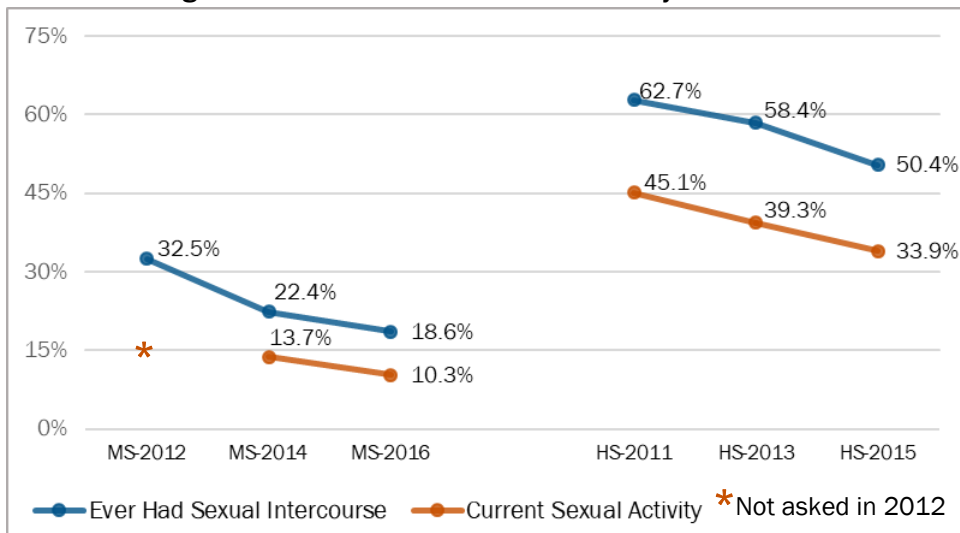


Sexual Health Behavior in Cleveland, Ohio



Figure 1. Ever and Current Sexual Activity Over Time



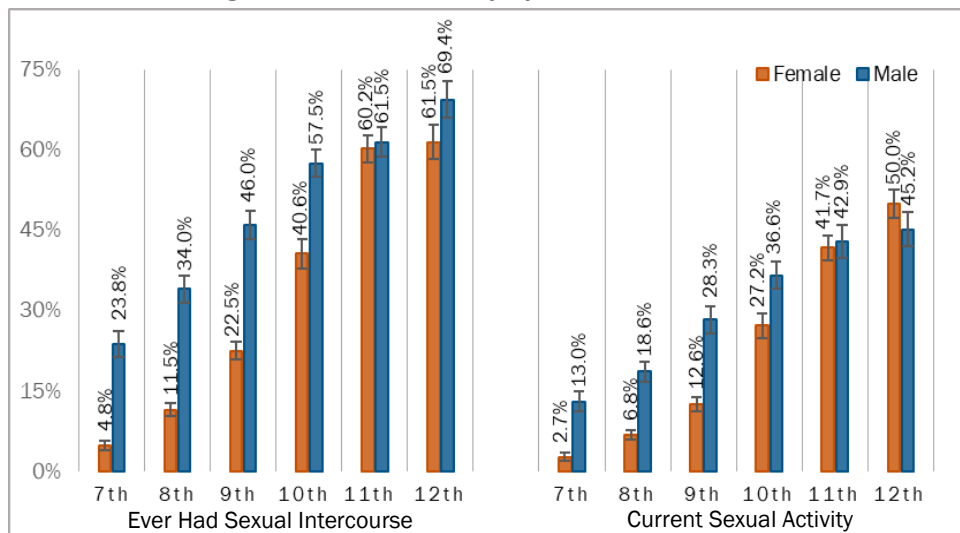
The percentage of students who reported "ever had sexual intercourse" and "current sexual activity" decreased each year of survey administration among both middle school (MS) and high school (HS) students. Over the highlighted time periods, the prevalence of "ever had sexual intercourse" reported by MS and HS students decreased more than 12%. Similar decreases were noted for "current sexual activity" (see Figure 1).

Figure 2. Sexual Activity Over Time by Gender

CMSD Middle School				
	Female (%)		Male (%)	
	2014	2016	2014	2016
Ever Had Sexual Intercourse	10.1	8.1	34.3	28.9
Current Sexual Activity	6.3	4.8	20.6	15.6
CMSD High School				
	Female (%)		Male (%)	
	2013	2015	2013	2015
Ever Had Sexual Intercourse	50.2	44.7	66.6	56.7
Current Sexual Activity	33.6	31.5	44.8	36.6

Among MS students (2014-2016) and HS students (2013-2015), **males reported a greater percentage decrease in sexual activity than females.** In 2015, 8.2% fewer HS males reported current sexual activity when compared to 2013. Their female counterparts reported a 2.1% decrease over the same two-year period. Similarly, MS males reported a 5% decrease in current sexual activity compared to a decrease of 1.5% among MS females (see Figure 2).

Figure 3. Sexual Activity by Grade and Gender



The percentage of male and female students who reported **ever and current sexual activity significantly increased at each grade level** (excluding 11th and 12th grade females who reported similar rates of ever having sexual intercourse). Males were significantly more likely to report ever and current sexual activity when compared to females across the majority of grade levels. In 11th and 12th grades, the only significant difference noted was that 12th grade males were more likely to report "ever had sexual intercourse" (see Figure 3).

Number of Sex Partners

While sexual activity rates decreased in both middle and high schools, **younger currently sexually active CMSD adolescents reported having more sexual partners than their older counterparts.** 2016 MS data and 2015 HS data revealed that sexually active male 7th grade students reported 2.6 sexual partners in the three months before completing the survey (i.e. currently sexually active), while males in high school reported 2 or fewer partners. Sexually active female 7th grade students reported having 1.6 sexual partners, which was slightly higher than females in all other grades. Throughout HS, the number of sexual partners for both genders remained fairly stable. Males reported a greater number of sexual partners compared to females across all grade levels (see Figure 4).

Figure 4. Average Number of Sex Partners by Gender and Grade

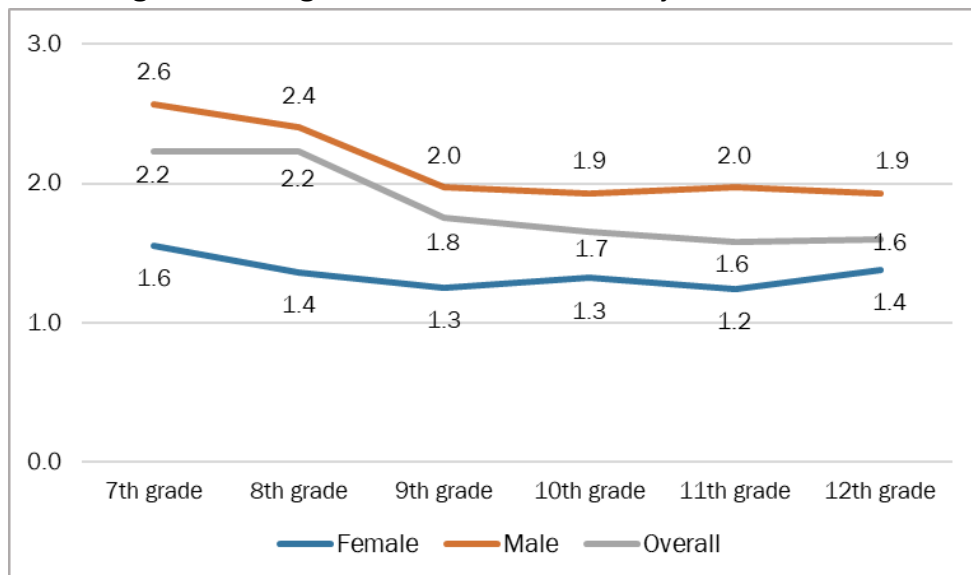
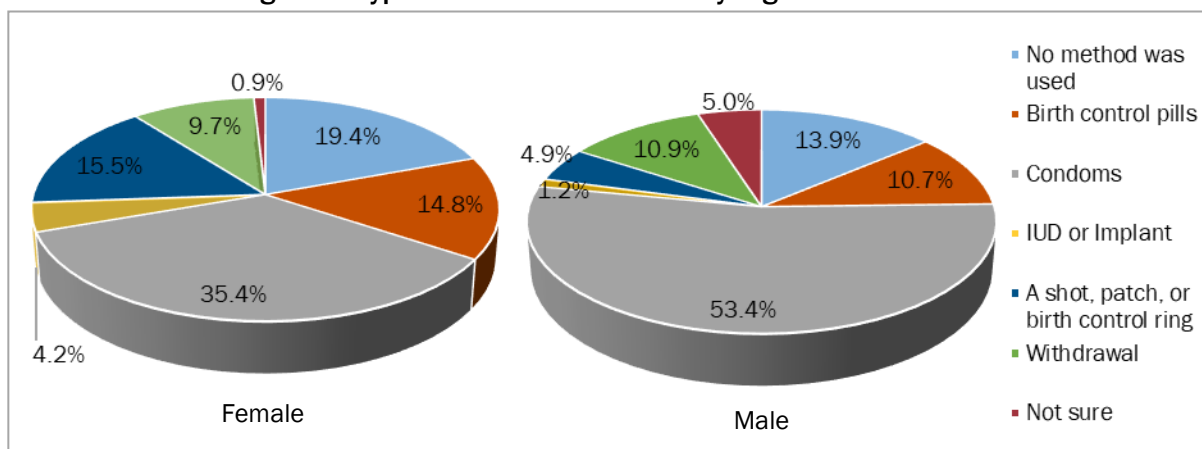


Figure 5. Types of Birth Control Used by High School Students



**For more information,
please contact the
CMSD Department of
Responsible Sexual
Behavior at:
216-838-1975**

Use of Effective Contraceptive Methods

HS students were asked what one method of birth control they or their partner used to prevent pregnancy the last time they had sexual intercourse. **In 2015, approximately 70% of sexually active female and male students indicated that they or their partner used a form of protection to prevent pregnancy at the last time of intercourse.** The most common method used was condoms, with over 35% of sexually active HS females and more than 53% of HS males reporting that they or their partner used a condom the last sexual intercourse (see Figure 5). MS students were only asked if a condom was used during last sexual intercourse, not permitting comparison. 29.1% of HS females and 24.8% of HS males reported using ineffective contraceptive methods: no method or withdrawal. Less than 1% of HS females and 5% of HS males reported they were not sure of the birth control used the last time of sexual intercourse. Though not shown in Figure 5, among 2016 MS students who had ever had sexual intercourse, 60.9% reported condom usage.

Methods: The Prevention Research Center for Healthy Neighborhoods (PRCHN) regularly uses a two-stage cluster sample design that mimics the sampling method of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and its national Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS). In 2014, 65 K-8 schools and 4,086 of 4,988 eligible students participated (81.9% ORR). In 2016, 65 K-8 schools and 3,778 of 4,553 eligible students participated (83.0% ORR). In 2013, 26 CMSD high schools and 7,064 of 10,369 eligible students participated in the survey (68.1% ORR). In 2015, 26 CMSD high schools and 6,197 of 9,316 eligible students participated in the survey (66.5% ORR). Each year, overall response rates greater than 60% allowed the data to be weighted to the entire population of 7th–12th grade students in CMSD. Analyses were conducted using SPSS statistical software survey procedures to account for the sampling design.

Contributors: The information in this brief was obtained from the 2011 - 2016 CMSD Middle and High School Youth Risk Behavior Survey data. These surveys were modeled after the CDC state-based system of health surveys administered by each state.

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