



Teen Pregnancy &
Prevention *Partnership*

Meeting Expectations: What St. Louis Parents Think About Sex Ed

Prepared by The Teen Pregnancy & Prevention
Partnership

+ About the Survey

- The Teen Pregnancy & Prevention Partnership promotes adolescent sexual health and teen pregnancy prevention by uniting Missouri through advocacy, collaboration, training, and public awareness.

To learn more, visit

www.teenpregnancy-mo.org

The parent survey was conducted in 2014 by The University of Missouri - St. Louis with grant funding from The Deaconess Foundation.

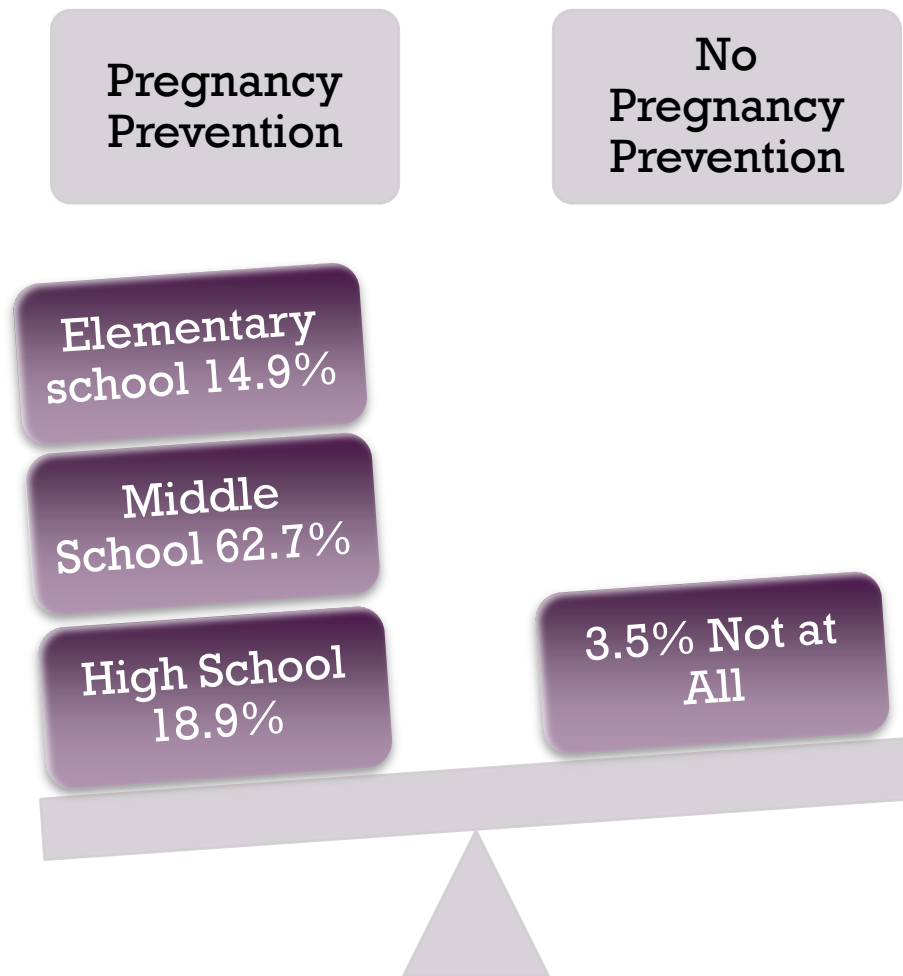
The survey was conducted with **382 parents** of school-aged children in the St. Louis area and the margin of error is +/- 5%.



When should children be taught about pregnancy prevention?

According to the 2014 School Health Profiles provided by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, the percentage of secondary schools in which teachers taught pregnancy prevention in a required course in any of grades 6 through 12 dropped significantly between 2008 and 2014 from 83% to 76.3%.

What Parents Think

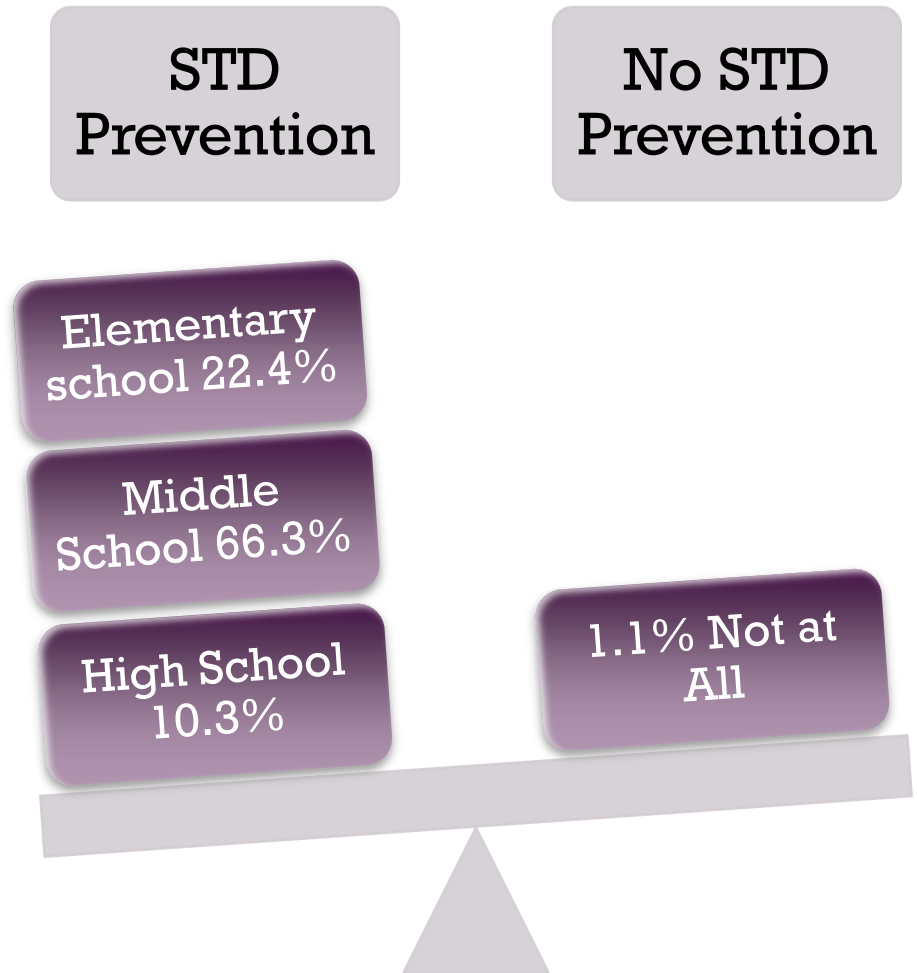




When should children be taught about STD transmission and prevention?

According to the 2014 School Health Profiles provided by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, the percentage of secondary schools in which teachers taught STD prevention in a required course in any of grades 6 through 12 dropped significantly between 2008 and 2014 from 91.7% to 85.5%.

What Parents Think

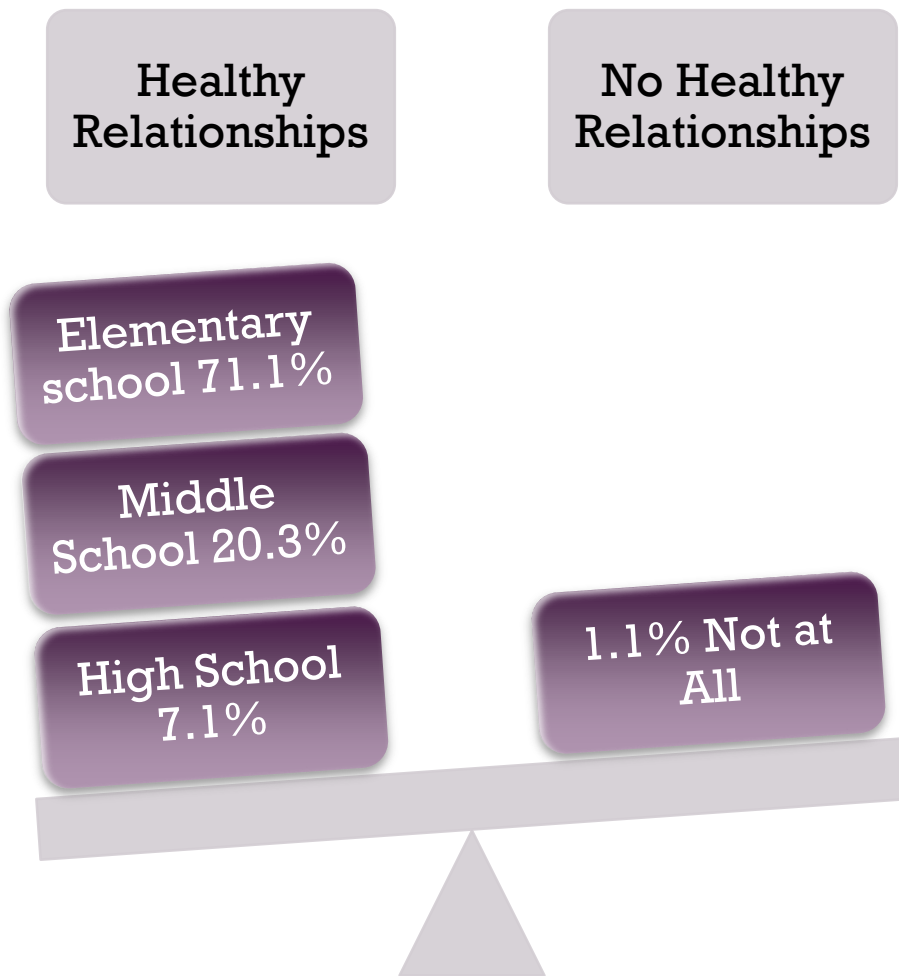




When should children be taught about healthy relationships?

According to the 2014 School Health Profiles provided by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, the percentage of secondary schools in which teachers taught communication and negotiation skills related to eliminating or reducing risk for HIV, STDs & pregnancy in a required course in any of grades 6 through 12 dropped significantly between 2008 and 2014 from 73.2% to 62.3%.

What Parents Think





When should children be taught about reproductive anatomy?

What Parents Think

Anatomy

No Anatomy

Elementary school 49.7%

Middle School 41.8%

High School 7.4%

1.1% Not at All





When should children be taught about effectiveness and failure rates of birth control methods, including condoms?

What Parents Think

Birth Control Methods

No Birth Control Methods

Elementary school 14.7%

Middle School 62.2%

High School 19.9%

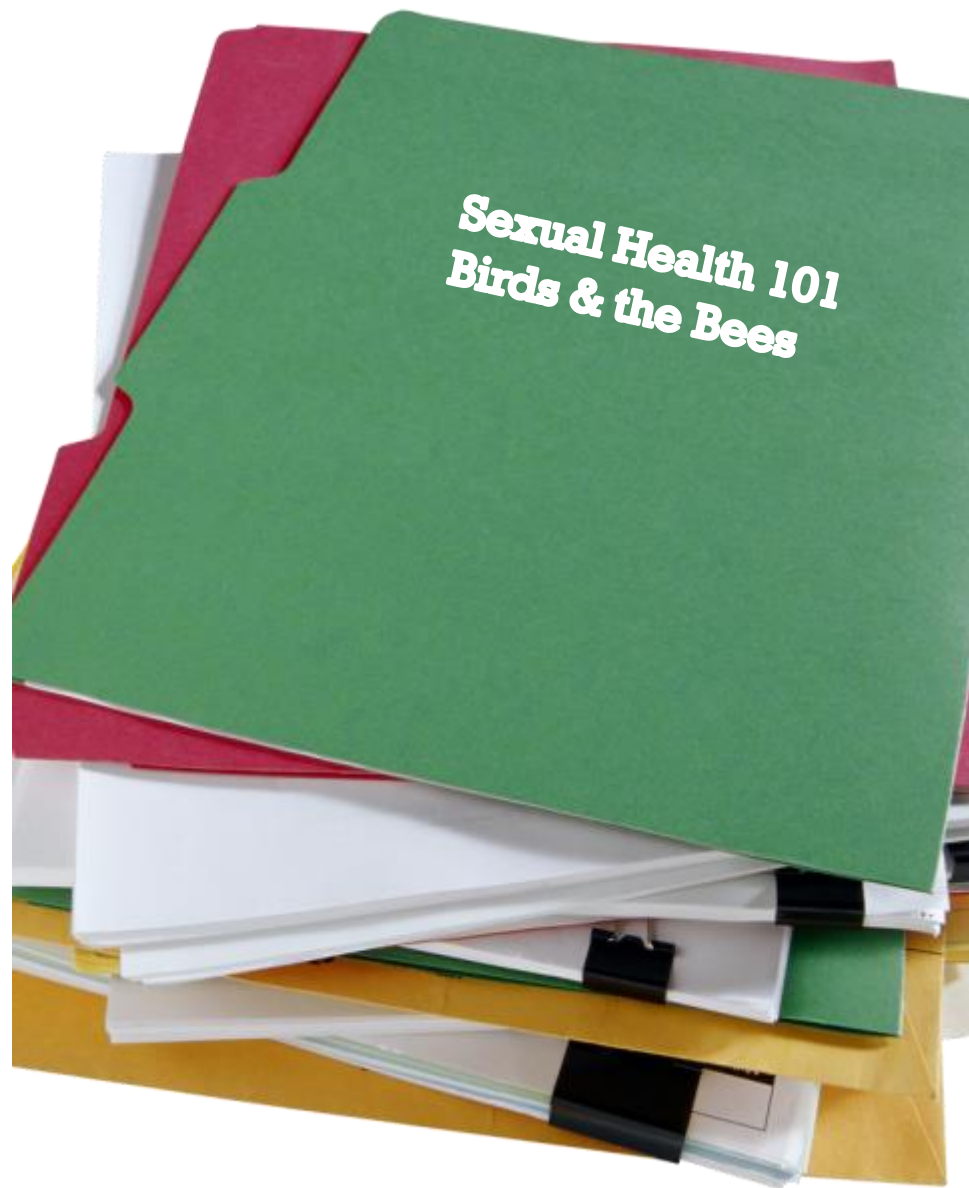
2.9% Not at All





Parents want sexual health education.

A majority of parents in this representative sample thought that children should learn about key sexual health topics before leaving high school.





Parents want what is best for their children.

Medically accurate sexual health education (MASHE) has been shown to delay initiation of sex and reduce risky sexual behavior. However, some Missouri schools have stopped teaching key sexual health topics. Others use abstinence-only curricula which may, or may not, cover these topics. When we join together to advocate for MASHE, we are helping schools meet parents' expectations.



According to the 2013 Youth Risk Behavior Survey,

43% of Missouri high school students have engaged in sexual intercourse.

+ Survey Demographics

Total Sample = 382

Variable	Category	%
Gender	Female	74.9%
	Male	25.1%
Racial/ethnic Group	African-American	50.5%
	Caucasian	42.9%
	Hispanic	2.1%
	Asian	1.9%
	Other	2.6%
Age Category	18-29	6.3%
	30-45	44.2%
	46-64	42.6%
	65+	6.8%
Age of Youngest Child	Up to 5 years old	20.7%
	6-11 years old	41.0%
	12-17 years old	34.8%
	18+ years old	3.5%
Age of Oldest Child	Up to 5 years old	3.4%
	6-11 years old	27.6%
	12-17 years old	32.2%
	18+ years old	36.6%

+ Survey School Districts

Survey respondents had children in the following districts

School District	Number of Respondents	% of Respondents
St. Louis City	244	63.9%
Ferguson-Florissant	15	3.9%
Hazelwood	10	2.6%
Jennings	13	3.4%
Maplewood-Richmond Heights	18	4.7%
Normandy	6	1.6%
Ritenour	11	2.9%
Riverview Gardens	32	8.4%
Other	29	7.6%
Refused/Don't Know	4	1.0%



Thank You!

Sources:

2014 Missouri School Health Profiles Key Findings Report. Missouri Department of Elementary & Secondary Education and Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Jefferson City, MO. November 2014.

Health Risk Behaviors among Missouri Middle and High School Students: Results from the 2013 Youth Risk Behavior Survey and the 2013 Youth Tobacco Survey. Jefferson City, MO: Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. September, 2013.