

**APCO Worldwide**  
*Public Affairs and Strategic Communications*  
1615 L Street, N.W., Suite 900  
Washington, DC 20036

**MOAPPP**

**Sexuality Education Survey**

Adult Minnesota Households

N=507 (\*-4.3%) RDD

Minority Oversample (n=105)

Simple Random/Screened

Field dates: 4/8/00-4/10/00

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Hello, this is \_\_\_\_\_ calling from Competitive Edge Research. We're a public opinion research firm conducting a confidential survey on important issues facing Minnesota residents today. This isn't a sales call of any kind. We're talking to households throughout Minnesota and your number was selected at random so your opinions can be counted with those of other Minnesotans on a confidential basis. Let me begin by asking...

Q1. Generally speaking, do you rate the way things are going in the U.S. these days as...

Excellent	6.1%
Good	46.2
Fair	36.1
Poor	8.7
Unsure ( <i>Not read</i> )	2.6
Refused ( <i>Not read</i> )	0.2

Q2. Generally speaking, do you rate the way things are going in Minnesota these days as...

Excellent	8.9%
Good	57.5
Fair	27.2
Poor	5.0
Unsure ( <i>Not read</i> )	1.5
Refused ( <i>Not read</i> )	0.0

Q3. What do you think is the most important issue facing young people today? (*If respondent was unsure, interviewer asked, "Are you sure nothing comes to mind?"*)

Drugs/Alcohol	24.2%
Education	24.1
Morals/Religion	8.0
Jobs/Future Costs	7.1
Crime/Violence	7.0
Family Guidance/Responsibility	5.0
Sex	3.5
Social/Pressures	3.4
Cost of Education	2.6
Government/Taxes	2.3
Other	3.9
Nothing/Unsure	8.7

Now I would like to ask some questions about young people and sex education.

Q4. In general, would you say young people today get information about sex, birth control and protection from sexually transmitted diseases at about the right time, too soon, or too late?

About the right time	36.2%
Too soon	13.1
Too late	34.9
Unsure ( <i>Not read</i> )	15.9
Refused ( <i>Not read</i> )	0.2

Q5. In general, do you support or oppose sexuality education or sex education courses being taught to...

	Strongly Support	Some Support	Some Oppose	Strongly Oppose	No Opinion	Refused
High school age students, that is children age 15 to 18	69.3%	21.7%	2.4%	4.2%	2.4%	0.0%
Junior high age students, that is children age 12 to 14	59.1	25.0	6.0	7.5	2.4	0.0
Older elementary school age students, that is children 9 to 11	23.9	29.5	22.0	21.8	2.9	0.0
Younger elementary school age students, that is children age 6 to 8	10.7	14.4	24.2	47.2	3.5	0.0

Q6. For each of the following, tell me if you think it is something that school personnel such as nurses and guidance counselors should or should not do... (*Choices were rotated*)

	Should	Should Not	No Opinion	Refused
Refer sexually active young people to clinics that treat and prevent sexually transmitted diseases	75.1%	20.0%	4.9%	0.0%
Refer sexually active young people to family planning clinics	67.8	25.2	7.0	0.0
Make condoms and other forms of birth control accessible to sexually active young people	54.1	38.9	6.4	0.0

Q7. Which of the following views is closer to the way you feel: (*Choices were rotated*)

Sexual intercourse should only occur in marriage	41.0%
Sexual intercourse should be reserved for a committed, monogamous relationship, whether or not people are married	54.1
Neither ( <i>Not read</i> )	2.1
Unsure ( <i>Not read</i> )	2.3
Rotated ( <i>Not read</i> )	0.5

Q8. Please tell me which of the following statements comes closest to the way you feel about sex education in public schools: (*Choices were rotated*)

Schools should only promote abstinence and not teach young people about contraception and safe sex practices	10.4%
Schools should promote abstinence and teach young people about contraception and safe sex practices	76.6
Schools should teach young people about contraception and safe sex practices but not promote abstinence	8.6
None ( <i>Not read</i> )	1.7
Unsure ( <i>Not read</i> )	2.7
Refused ( <i>Not read</i> )	0.0

Q9. Federal and State funds currently support programs in some schools and teen pregnancy programs that teach the message of abstinence until marriage. Programs that receive these funds are prohibited from teaching young people about birth control. Overall, do you support or oppose this policy?

Strongly support	16.9%
Somewhat support	17.5
Somewhat oppose	22.6
Strongly oppose	35.7
Unsure ( <i>Not read</i> )	7.3
Refused ( <i>Not read</i> )	0.0

Q10. Now I'll read you a series of statements. Please tell me if you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree with the statement. First... (*Choices were rotated*)

	Strongly Agree	Some Agree	Some Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion	Refused
Whether or not young people are sexually active, they should receive sex education so that they have the information to make responsible choices	75.1%	14.9%	3.9%	4.1%	2.1%	0.0%
Young people cannot make responsible decisions on their own so they need to hear one strong, clear message about the need to remain abstinent until they are married	33.4	21.0	21.8	21.5	2.2	0.0
Giving young people information about both abstinence and birth control in schools sends a mixed message and encourages young people to have intercourse	14.7	14.4	25.5	41.7	3.5	0.2
Sex education only encourages young people to have sex	8.8	9.1	23.8	56.3	1.9	0.2

Thank you for you opinions. Now, I have a few questions about you to classify the results.

Q11. Are you a parent of a child under age 18?

Yes	38.3%
No	61.5
Refused ( <i>Not read</i> )	0.2

Q12. Please tell me if you have children that are in any of the following age categories:  
*(Of parents with children under 18 years of age)*

	Yes	No	Refused
Under 2 years old	15.8%	84.2%	0.0%
Between 2 – 5	28.0	72.0	0.0
Between 6 – 8	27.0	73.0	0.0
Between 9 – 11	33.7	66.3	0.0
Between 12 – 14	35.1	64.9	0.0
Between 15 – 18	35.9	64.1	0.0

Q13. How old are you?	18-29	15.0%
	30-39	21.6
	40-49	25.8
	50-59	16.5
	60-69	10.1
	70+	11.0

Q14. Would you describe your family ethnic heritage as...

Hispanic or Latino	1.6%
White	88.6
African-American	1.8
Asian-American	2.2
Native-American	1.8
Mixed Race	1.6
Something else	1.4
Refused ( <i>Not read</i> )	1.2

Q15. Is your religious preference Protestant, Catholic, Jewish, some other religion or no religion?

Protestant	39.7%
Catholic	30.9
Jewish	0.1
Other	21.8
None	6.2
Refused ( <i>Not read</i> )	1.3

Q16. In a typical month, how often do you attend church or other religious services?

None	16.2%
Once a month	16.6
Twice a month	13.3
Three times a month	9.7
Four times a month	28.8
Five or more times a month	14.7
Unsure ( <i>Not read</i> )	0.6
Refused ( <i>Not read</i> )	0.1

Q17. Politically, do you consider yourself...

Very conservative	9.2%
Somewhat conservative	30.0
Moderate	32.5
Somewhat liberal	18.6
Very liberal	3.8
Don't Know ( <i>Not read</i> )	5.0
Refused ( <i>Not read</i> )	1.0

Q18. And please stop me when I reach the general category closest to your annual household income...

Under \$20,000	10.0%
\$20 to 40,000	28.8
\$40 to 60,000	23.0
\$60 to 80,000	15.8
\$80 to 100,000	5.7
Over \$100,000	6.9
Unsure ( <i>Not read</i> )	1.6
Refused ( <i>Not read</i> )	8.2

That ends the survey. Thank you for participating.

Q19. Sex (*By observation*)

Male	45.9%
Female	54.1