

Table 2. Percentage of fifth- and sixth-grade sexuality education teachers who cover specific skills and topics, by grade, 1999

Skills and topics	Total (N=617)	Teaches grade 5 (N=305)	Teaches grade 6 (N=153)	Teaches both grades (N=159)
Skills and relationships				
How alcohol and drugs affect behavior	76.0	73.0	83.0	72.5
How to stick with a decision, even under pressure	75.1	69.8	82.2	77.8
How to resist peer pressure to have sexual intercourse	48.9	30.6	68.3	67.4
How to recognize and resist media pressure regarding sexual behavior	33.3	21.5	44.3	47.8
How to say no to a boyfriend/girlfriend who wants to have sexual intercourse	30.0	16.8	41.0	49.3
Specific ways to avoid sex	23.8	10.6	36.6	41.0
The importance of both partners agreeing to any sexual behavior	21.9	10.3	34.9	32.7
How to negotiate sexual limits	0.6	0.3	0.2	2.2
Sexuality				
Sexuality is a natural and healthy part of life	66.2	59.9	74.2	70.4
Negative consequences of sexual intercourse for teenagers	46.0	30.1	66.7	55.4
Difference between consensual and forced sexual contact	24.6	12.9	38.1	34.8
STD/HIV				
Sexual abstinence as a form of prevention	58.0	40.9	77.7	75.2
Symptoms of STDs/HIV are sometimes hidden, absent or unnoticed	50.6	36.3	66.5	65.7
There are many types of STDs	48.4	31.9	70.7	57.4
Only some STDs are curable	44.2	27.5	66.5	53.8
Signs and symptoms of STDs/HIV	40.6	27.7	56.6	51.0
Sexual monogamy as a form of prevention	29.8	13.8	48.6	44.4
Use of condoms as a form of prevention	27.2	17.7	38.8	34.7
STDs/HIV can be contracted during oral or anal intercourse	15.7	8.0	22.1	27.1
Birth control				
Pregnancies should be planned	19.1	10.1	29.4	28.2
The importance of using both a condom and a more effective birth control method to avoid both pregnancy and STDs/HIV	8.5	5.6	11.9	10.4
The importance of using a method correctly and consistently	7.6	3.9	10.7	13.0
How individual birth control methods work	6.4	3.6	8.7	10.0

Notes: All Ns are unweighted. Teachers were asked whether they taught topics and skills, but not whether they taught a given topic or skill in each grade. Presented here are the proportions of teachers teaching these topics and skills according to the grade level they taught (fifth grade, sixth grade or both fifth and sixth grade). Teachers classified as teaching both fifth and sixth grade may actually cover some topics only in fifth grade or only in sixth grade.