The second and more difficult criterion to measure was school status. The YRBS included only youth who were present at school during initial survey administration or on one of several make up days. In contrast, because they were household surveys, the NSAM and the NSFG included both in-school and out-of-school youth. Add Health included teenagers registered in school, regardless of current attendance. To limit our data to in-school youth, we used the following criteria: currently attending grades 9–12, attended grades 9–12 in the last 30 days or, if interviewed in summer, attended school in May or any subsequent month in grades 9–11. We excluded respondents who reported having completed grade 12 or who had received a high school degree or a general equivalency diploma. Respondents were identified as being in school whether they reported attendance during the day or night or full- or part-time.

To create this common analytic sample, we had to exclude substantial numbers of respondents from each survey. From the NSAM and the NSFG samples, we did not include out-of-school youth, in-school teenagers not in grades 9–12 and those older than 17. We excluded adolescents younger than 15 and older than 17 from the YRBS and Add Health. Additionally, we did not include adolescents in grades 7 and 8 from Add Health. In all, we eliminated 25–50% of the original sample of teenagers from each survey and 92% of the full sample from the NSFG. The numbers of eligible respondents in the analytic samples are reported in Table 2, as are the proportions of the total numbers of adolescents these respondents represent.

We found that the final samples we used for our analyses were similar by age, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, and region.

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### Table 1. Selected attributes of survey design and implementation, National Survey of Adolescent Males (NSAM), National Survey of Family Growth (NSFG), Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) and National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health (Add Health), by year

|----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|               |
| **Survey design**    |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |               |
| **Purpose**          | Sexual and repro. behavior | Sexual and repro. behavior | Fertility | Fertility | Health risk behaviors | Health risk behaviors | Health risk behaviors | Health risk behaviors | Health risk behaviors |
| **No. surveyed**     | 1,880 | 1,729 | na | na | 5,984 | 8,020 | 5,386 | 8,057 | 5,779 |
| **Males**            | na | na | 8,450 | 10,847 | 6,283 | 8,233 | 5,499 | 8,195 | 6,322 |
| **Females**          |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |               |
| **Age/grade**        | 15–19 yrs. | 15–19 yrs. | 15–44 yrs. | 15–44 yrs. | Grades 9–12 | Grades 9–12 | Grades 9–12 | Grades 9–12 | Grades 7–12 |
| **Marital status**   | All | All | All | All | All | All | All | All | All |
| **Oversampled**      | Black, Hispanic | Black, Hispanic | Black | Black | Black, Hispanic | Black, Hispanic | Black, Hispanic | Black, Hispanic | Black, Hispanic, Asian |
| **Sampling frame**   | Household | Household & group quarters | Household | Household | Pub. & priv. schools† | Pub. & priv. schools† | Pub. & priv. schools† | Pub. & priv. schools† | All U.S. high schools with 11th grade & >30 students |
| **Geographic range** | 48 coterminous states & DC | 48 coterminous states & DC | 50 states & DC | 50 states & DC | 50 states & DC | 50 states & DC | 50 states & DC | 50 states & DC | 50 states & DC |
| **Adjusted for**     | Nonresponse & oversampling | Nonresponse & oversampling | Nonresponse & oversampling | Nonresponse & oversampling | Nonresponse & oversampling | Nonresponse & oversampling | Nonresponse & oversampling | Nonresponse & oversampling | Nonresponse & sampling probability† |
| **Poststratification** | March 1987 CPS | 1995 Census pop. estimates | June 1988 Census pop. estimates | June 1994 Census pop. estimates | USDOE data national student population | USDOE data national student population | USDOE data national student population | USDOE data national student population | Quality Education database & Census pop. estimates |
| **Survey mode**      | Face-to-face, administered by interviewer | Face-to-face, administered by interviewer | Face-to-face, administered by interviewer | Face-to-face, administered by interviewer | Paper & pencil interview, self-administered | Paper & pencil interview, self-administered | Paper & pencil interview, self-administered | Paper & pencil interview, self-administered | Audio computer-assisted self-interview |
| **Interview location** | Home | Home | Home | Home | School | School | School | School | Home |
| **Implementation**   | Response rate | 74% | 75% | 79% (15–19, 81%) | 79% (15–17, 83%) | 75% (school), 90% (student), 68% (overall)** | 78% (school), 90% (student), 66% (overall)** | 70% (school), 86% (student), 60% (overall)** | 79% (school), 87% (student), 69% (overall)** | 77% (school), 79% (student), 60% (overall)** |
| **Length**           | 57 minutes | 68 minutes | 70 minutes | 103 minutes | 1 class period | 1 class period | 1 class period | 1 class period | 90 minutes |
| **Parental permission** | Active for minors | Active for minors | Active for minors | Active for minors | 28% active, 72% passive | 24% active, 77% passive | 36% active, 64% passive | 37% active, 63% passive | Active for minors |
| **Survey firm**      | Institute for Survey Research (Temple Univ.) | Research Triangle Institute | Research Triangle Institute | Research Triangle Institute | Macro | Macro | Macro | Macro | National Opinion Research Center |

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*Selected subgroups. †Including vocational schools, but not alternative schools. ‡Schools and individuals. §For questions used in this analysis. **Overall response rate was calculated by multiplying school response rate and student responsive rate. Notes: CPS=Current Population Surveys, U.S. Bureau of the Census. USDOE=U.S. Department of Education.