

Wauwatosa Health Department 2010 REPRODUCTIVE AND SEXUAL HEALTH SURVEY THEMES

Methodology

In June 2010, the Wauwatosa Health Department (WHD) developed a survey tool to assess the community's knowledge and perceptions on reproductive and sexual health (RSH). The survey asked for individuals' minimal demographic information, knowledge and use of RSH services, RSH adolescent education, and perceptions of the reproductive health issues and needs in the community. Between July and November 2010, a convenience sampling of the community was conducted. Individuals were encouraged to fill out the survey for a chance to win Target or Pick 'N Save gift certificates through a drawing. During July, a survey table was left at the City Hall main doors for people to fill out the survey at their convenience. The survey was also distributed at the National Night Out community event at Hart Park on August 3. The survey was available during all of WHD's clinics and was actively distributed during its high-volume October and November immunization clinics.



Results

- ◆ Most perceived Wauwatosans to have an awareness and/or knowledge of reproductive issues and know where to receive reproductive health care.
- ◆ Most obtain RSH information from their health care provider with some asking parents or friends.
- ◆ Birth control methods are varied.
- ◆ No consensus on if adolescents should be able to receive RSH services without parental consent.
- ◆ Overwhelmingly favor addressing technical RSH topics in the classroom; they were divided on the topic of addressing sexual preferences.
- ◆ Most were not aware of the new WI law on educating students on RSH topics.
- ◆ Most have or plan to talk to their child(ren) about RSH issues. However, more parents expect the schools to cover more information than the parents would cover with the child(ren) themselves.
- ◆ Highly variable plans about vaccinating daughters with HPV.
- ◆ Most are unaware that an HPV is available for males.
- ◆ Most are not familiar with the term STI (sexually transmitted infections).
- ◆ Self-reporting of STI knowledge is highly variable.
- ◆ Most did not know that Chlamydia is the most prevalent STI in Tosa (actually, the most prevalent communicable disease).

Demographics

A total of 61 surveys were returned. The survey was skewed predominantly female and of child-bearing age. All were Wauwatosa residents. The majority had children.



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