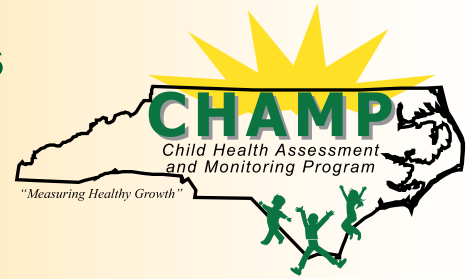


Parental Reported Interests in Teen Health Issues

North Carolina 2010



August 2011

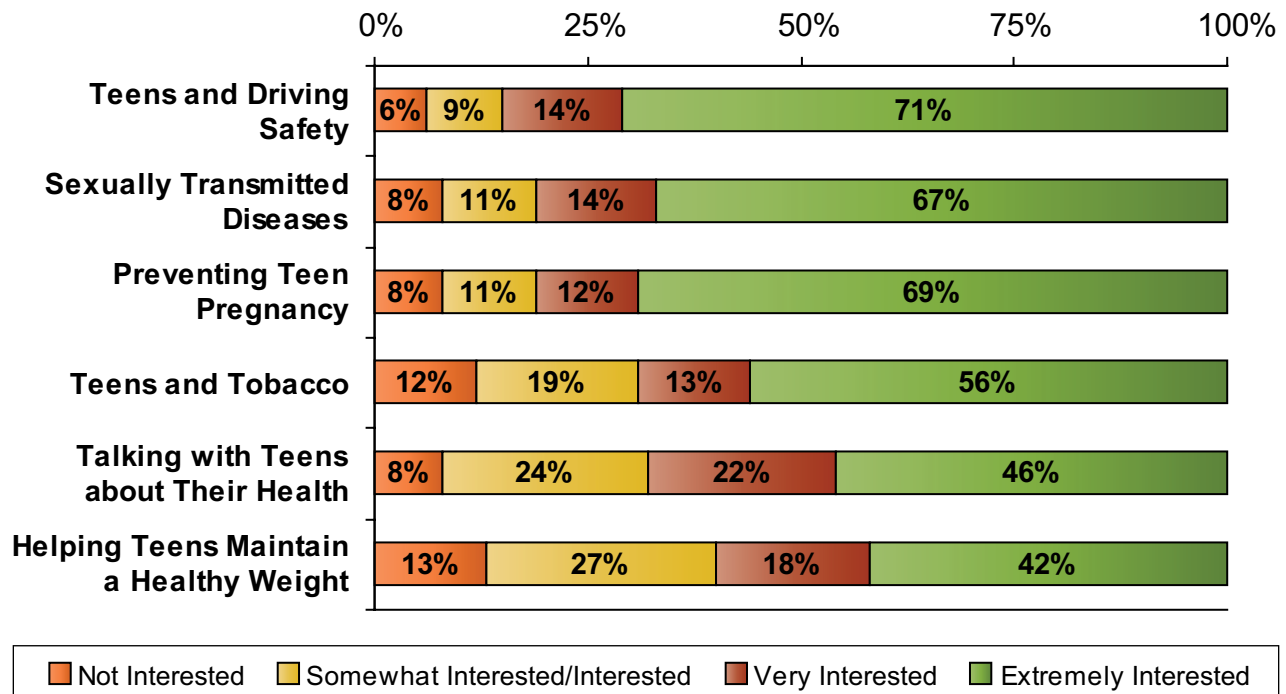
Parents of adolescents ages 11 to 17 years in North Carolina were asked to rate their level of interest in learning more about specific teen health topics. Parents rated their level of interest on each topic from “not at all interested” to “extremely interested.” The majority of parents reported some level of interest in each teen health issue.

Parents showed the most interest in learning more about *teens and driving safety*; 85 percent of parents were “very” or “extremely interested” in learning more about this topic.

Eighty-one percent of parents were “very” or “extremely interested” in learning more about *preventing teen pregnancy* and 81 percent of parents were “very” or “extremely interested” in learning more about *sexually transmitted diseases*.

Sixty-nine percent of parents were “very” or “extremely interested” in learning more about *teens and tobacco*. Sixty-eight percent of parents were “very” or “extremely interested” in learning more about *how to talk with their teen about their health*. Sixty percent of parents were “very” or “extremely interested” in learning more about *helping teens maintain a healthy weight*.

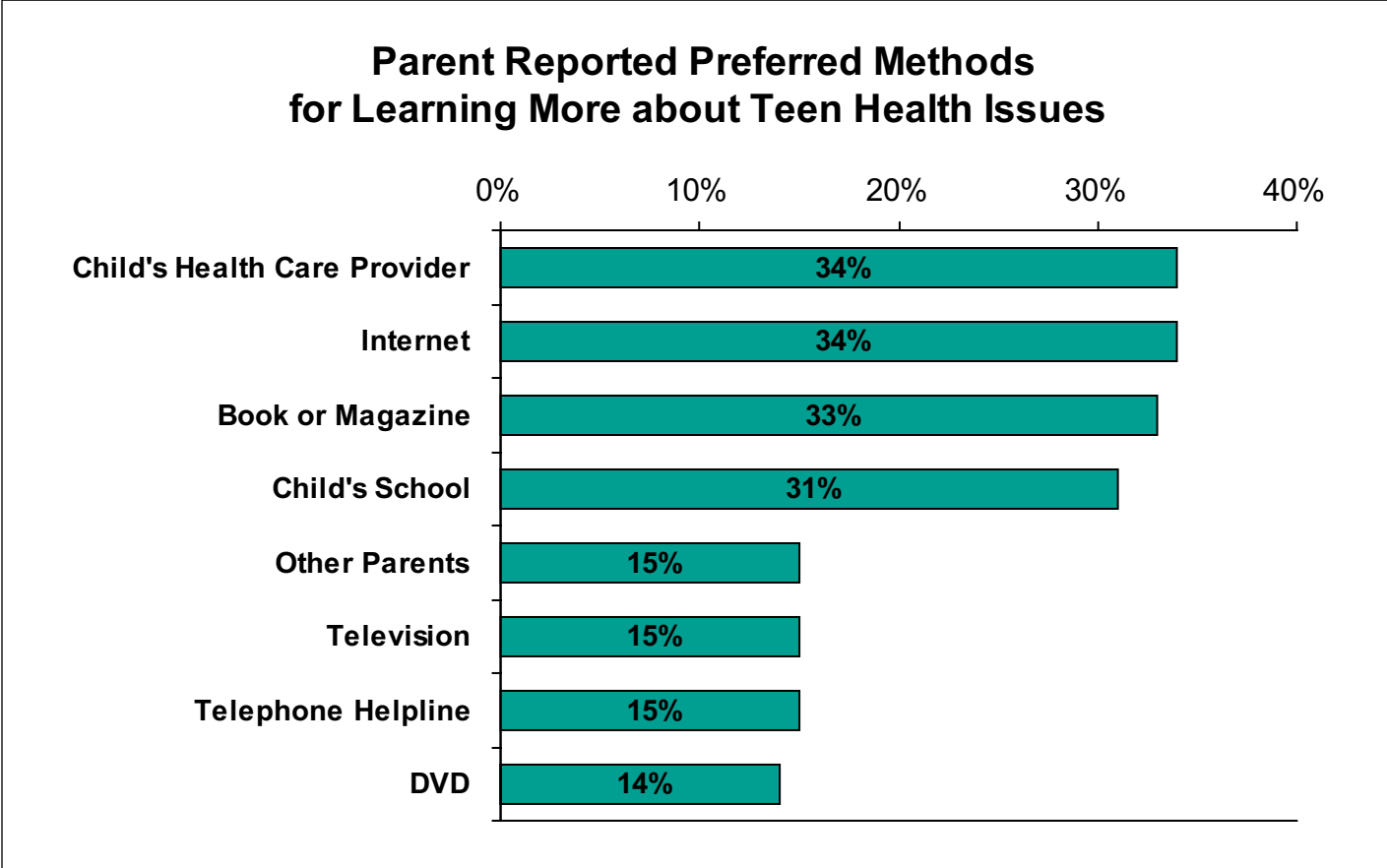
**Parental Reported Level of Interest
in Learning More about Teen Health Issues**



Parents who reported some interest in learning more about teen health issues were asked how they would prefer to learn more about teen health topics. Many parents (42%) reported more than one method by which they would prefer to learn more about teen health topics.

Approximately one-third of parents reported that they would prefer to learn about teen health issues through their child’s doctor or health care provider, the Internet, written material (e.g., a book, magazine, brochure, or handout), or through their child’s school.

Approximately 15 percent of parents reported that they would prefer to learn more about teen health issues from other parents, from television, through a telephone helpline or call-in parenting line, or from a DVD.



Summary

The majority of parents raising an adolescent report an interest in learning more about teen health topics, particularly teen driving safety, preventing teen pregnancy, and sexually transmitted diseases. A variety of methods of delivery should be used to inform parents about teen health issues. Parents are interested in learning health information from their child’s health care provider or through their child’s school. Parents also prefer to use the Internet or other written material, such as books and magazines to learn more about teen health issues.

This report includes data collected in 2010 from 942 parental surveys on children ages 11 to 17 through the North Carolina Child Health Assessment and Monitoring Program (NC CHAMP). NC CHAMP is a surveillance system that collects information about the health characteristics of children ages 0 to 17 years as a follow-up survey of the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), a telephone survey of adults (18 years and older). All adult respondents with children living in their household are invited to participate in NC CHAMP. One child is randomly selected from the household and the adult most knowledgeable about the health of the selected child is interviewed. Percentages are weighted to population characteristics. For further information about NC CHAMP, please visit www.schs.state.nc.us/SCHS/champ or contact CHAMPstaff@dhhs.nc.gov.

