



Fact Sheet Young People and Sexuality in The Netherlands

Based on: Sexuality Education Reference Guide (IPPF EN, to be published)

Indicators	Netherlands	Additional comments and Source
% population aged 15 -19	6.0	Eurostat http://epp.eurostat.cec.eu.int
% population aged 20-24	6.0	Ibid
Age of consent (heterosexual sex)	16 or 12	Age of consent is 12 provided no official complaint is filed by the child, or by parental authority or Council for the Protection of Children Art.247, Penal Code
Age of consent (homosexual sex)	16 or 12	Age of consent is 12 provided no official complaint is filed by the child, or by parental authority or Council for the Protection of Children Art.247, Penal Code
Abortion legal on request	Yes	The World Abortion Laws, 2004. Centre for Reproductive Rights www.crlp.org/pub_fac_abortion_laws.html
Abortion legal on social/economic grounds	Yes	Ibid
First HIV/AIDS public education campaign	1987	soa-aids-nederland (www.soaaid.nl)
Sex education mandatory	Yes	Made mandatory in 1993
Minimum school leaving age	16	www.right-to-education.org
Age at which sex education officially begins	4	Sex education is part of subject Self-reliance and healthy behaviour of primary education; small-scale research of RNG (2003) and NIGZ (2004 and 2005) estimates 30 - 50% of primary schools offer sex education
Age when most young people receive sex education	13 to 14	Sex education is part of subjects Biology and Care of secondary education. Because of compulsory core targets determined by the MoE, almost all secondary schools offer sex education, particularly to students aged 13/14.
Minimum standards for sex education	No	See above. Time spent and methods and materials used are the responsibility of the individual school.
Average age at first sexual intercourse (girls and boys)	16.7	De Graaf, H., Meijer, S., Poelman, J. & Vanwesenbeeck, I. Seks onder je 25 ^e . (2005).
% 15 year old girls who have had sexual intercourse	29	Ibid
% 15 year old boys who have had sexual intercourse	27	Ibid
15-19 year old birth rate (per 1000 population)	7.1	www.eurostat.cec.eu.int
15-19 year old abortion rate (per 1000 population)	8.2	Total number of 3782 abortions among women aged 15-19. Abortion rate for women aged 15-44 is 8.8 per 1000. Landelijke abortusregistratie 2004
HIV incidence rate (per million population)	22,8	EuroHIV HIV/AIDS Surveillance in Europe, END Year Report 2004, No.71 www.eurohiv.org
% 15 year old girls using contraception at last sexual intercourse	97.0	Young People's Health in Context. Health Behaviour in School-Aged Children (HBSC) Study: International report from the 2001/02 survey. Copenhagen, WHO Regional Office for Europe, 2004 (Health Policy for Children and Adolescents, No.4)
% 15 year old boys using contraception at last sexual intercourse	92.4	Ibid
% condom use during first sexual intercourse	79	2005 De Graaf, H., Meijer, S., Poelman, J. & Vanwesenbeeck, I. Seks onder je 25 ^e . (2005).
% of youth not using any contraception while sexually active (12-19 years old)	11	Ibid

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