

Methods of contraception

58% of males selected *Condoms*
58% of females selected *The Pill*

What do you know about methods of contraception? (67a)

Responses to 'Reliable to stop pregnancy'

1. The most popular method chosen by the males, that is 'reliable to stop pregnancy', was *Condoms*. For older females, the most popular methods chosen were *The Pill*, *Condoms* and *The Morning After Pill* (emergency contraception used up to 3 mornings after).
2. Between 46%-58% of all pupils selected *Condoms*.

Comments

1. This is the first time we have asked this specific question. Pupils have a choice of four answers to describe best what they know about the list of contraceptive methods. The answers are 'Never heard of it', 'Know nothing about it', 'Not reliable to stop pregnancy', and 'Reliable to stop pregnancy'. Responses shown in the chart are from the last answer.
2. The data show clear gender and age differences. For many of the contraceptive methods there is a marked shift in response rates particularly between the females from 12-13 years old to 14-15 years old. The most noticeable – *Diaphragm* and *Female condom* methods show a difference of around 26%. The most popular choice for the females, *Condoms*, shows only a 9% difference between the age groups.
3. For differences, between the responses between younger and older males, the *Diaphragm*, *The Pill* and *Morning After Pill* methods show a difference of around 17%. The most popular choice for the males, *Condoms*, shows only a 7% difference between the age groups.
4. This chart presents combined responses to several sub-questions and thus there is no single value for 'valid responses', the percentages of 'missing data' are included in the *None of these* column. With this in mind we see that up to 44% of young people did not respond to the answer option 'Reliable to stop pregnancy'. It is of concern that up to 37% of 14-15 year olds (32% of females) and nearly 45% of 12-13 year olds, for what ever reason, felt unable to respond positively to a question asking if they knew about reliable methods of contraception.

