Youth sexual activity



May 2017

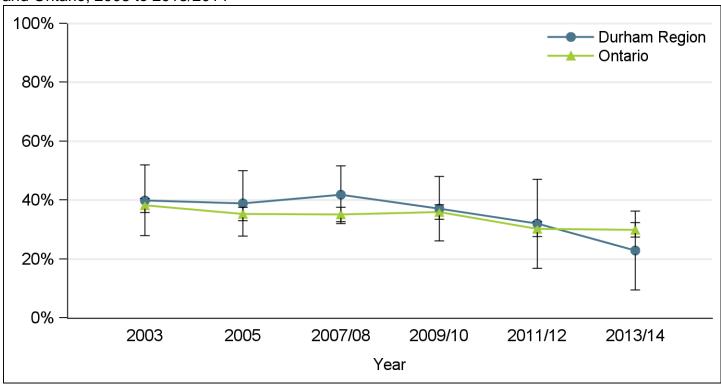
in Durham Region

Highlights

- In 2013/2014, 23 per cent of Durham Region youth aged 15 to 19 had ever had sexual intercourse. Rates for both Durham Region and Ontario decreased between 2003 and 2013/2014.
- Among the 36 Ontario public health units, the proportion of youth who had ever had sexual intercourse ranged from 20 to 61 per cent.

Trend over time

Figure 1. Proportion of youth aged 15 to 19 who had ever had sexual intercourse, Durham Region and Ontario, 2003 to 2013/2014



Place of residence	2003	2005	2007/08	2009/10	2011/12	2013/14
Durham	40%	39%	42%	37%	32% ^E	23% ^E
95 per cent CI (Durham)	28-52%	28-50%	32-52%	26-48%	17-47%	9-36%
Ontario	38%	35%	35%	36%	30%	30%
95 per cent CI (Ontario)	36-40%	33-38%	33-38%	34-38%	28-33%	27-32%

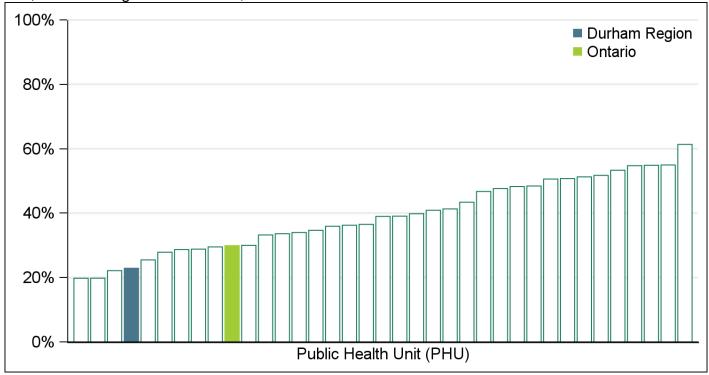
E – Use with caution as these data have a coefficient of variation between 16.6 and 33.3 per cent.

In 2013/2014, greater than one in five Durham Region youth aged 15 to 19 had ever had sexual intercourse. This rate is similar to the rate observed for Ontario of 30 per cent. Figure 1 shows that rates for both Durham Region and Ontario decreased since 2003.

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Provincial Comparison

Figure 2. Proportion of youth aged 15 to 19 who had ever had sexual intercourse, by public health unit, Durham Region and Ontario, 2013/2014



For 2013/2014, the proportion of youth who had ever had sexual intercourse ranged by public health unit from 20 to 61 per cent. The rate for Durham Region was in the lower end of this range at 23 per cent (see Figure 2 above).

Data Notes

Data Source: The Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS) is a cross-sectional survey that collects information related to health status, health care utilization and health determinants for the Canadian population. It surveys a large sample of respondents and is designed to provide reliable estimates at the health region level. Since 2007, data are collected on an ongoing basis with annual releases, rather than every two years as was the case prior to 2007. The CCHS data are collected from persons aged 12 and over living in private dwellings, excluding individuals living on Indian Reserves and on Crown Lands, institutional residents, full-time members of the Canadian Forces, and residents of certain remote regions. Interviews are conducted using computer assisted interviewing, either in person or over the telephone.

Definitions and Survey Questions: Proportion of the population aged 15 to 19 that had ever had sexual intercourse.

Data Analysis: The CCHS share file obtained from the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care was used for analysis. Data were analyzed using SAS version 9.4. Estimates were weighted using the final CCHS sampling weight. Error bars in the graphs represent the 95% confidence interval (CI) around the estimate. The true or actual estimate falls within the range of values 95 out of 100 times. For all analyses, response options of "refusal", "don't know", "not stated" and "not applicable" were excluded, unless otherwise stated.

For more information on the CCHS, visit the **Statistics Canada website**.

If you require this information in an accessible format, contact 905-666-6241 or 1-800-841-2729.