

# Fountain of Youth

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## Teens and Social Networking Websites

More than half of all online American youths ages 12-17 use online social networking sites, according to a 2006 national telephone survey of 935 teenagers conducted by the Pew Internet & American Life Project. The teens were asked about the ways they use these social networking sites and their reasons for doing so. [Lenhart, A. & Madden, M. (2007). Social Networking Websites and Teens. Available at: <http://pewresearch.org/pubs/118/social-networking-websites-and-teens>]

91.....Percent of all social networking teens say they use the site to stay in touch with friends they see frequently, while 82% use the sites to stay in touch with friends they rarely see in person.

55.....Percent of online teens have created a personal profile online, and have used social networking sites like MySpace or Facebook.

66.....Percent of teens who have created a profile say that their profile is not visible to all internet users and that they limit access to their profiles.

48.....Percent of teens visit social networking websites daily or more often; 26% visit once a day, while 22% visit several times a day.

70.....Percent of older girls have created an online profile, while only 57% of older boys have done so.

17.....Percent of all social networking teens say they use the site to flirt. Older boys who use social networking sites are more than twice as likely as older girls to say they use the sites to flirt; 29% report this compared with just 13% of older girls.

72.....Percent of all social networking teens use the sites to make plans with friends; 49% use the sites to make new friends.

*Fountain of Youth Facts* is a bi-monthly online list of statistics that provides a different and hopefully thought provoking profile of today's youth. It is produced by the 4-H Center for Youth Development and the California Communities Program which are ANR sponsored programs. Anyone wishing to submit an item should email [cmatthews@ucdavis.edu](mailto:cmatthews@ucdavis.edu).