

ADOLESCENT SEXUAL HEALTH PROMOTION AT A GLANCE

The following is an overview of the state of adolescent sexual health promotion efforts in Colorado in Fiscal Year (FY) 2013, including sexuality education state laws and policy, sexual health data, and federal funding.

STATE LEVEL SEXUALITY EDUCATION LAW AND POLICY OVERVIEW

Colorado schools are not required to teach sexuality or sexually transmitted disease (STD) education. However, districts can decide to teach sexuality education and may address the subject in preschool through 12th grade. In 2013, the state legislature referred to “medically and scientifically accurate information” as a “right” of youth, stating the need for expanded access to sexuality education. The state legislature established a grant program for comprehensive sexuality education, which requires schools that accept this funding to use curricula that are based in science, age-appropriate, culturally relevant, medically accurate, and that discuss contraception. The law also prohibits schools from providing abstinence-only education using federal funding. Parents or guardians may remove their children from school-based sexuality education and/or STD/HIV-education classes (“opt-out”).

REPORTED BEHAVIORS OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN COLORADO

The state of Colorado did not participate in the 2013 Youth Risk Behavior Survey.

 Among Colorado high school students in 2011, 36% of females and 45% of males reported **ever having had sexual intercourse**, lower than the reported national average of 46% of females and 49% of males.

 Among Colorado high school students in 2011, 29% of females and 34% of males reported being currently sexually active (having had sexual intercourse in the three months prior), **higher for males than the reported national average** of 34% of females and 33% of males.

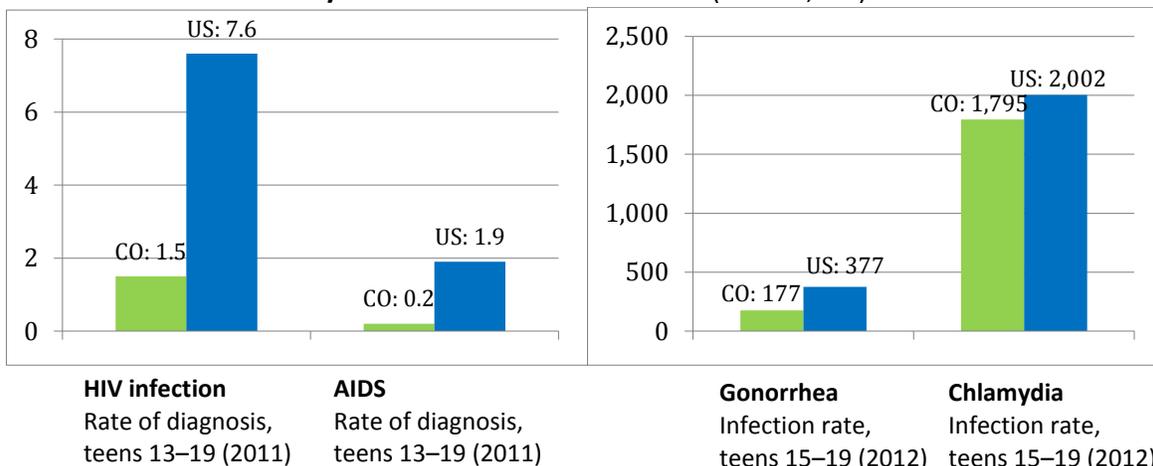
COLORADO TEEN PREGNANCY, BIRTH, AND ABORTION RATES

 In 2010, Colorado’s **teen pregnancy rate was lower than the national average**, with 54 pregnancies per 1,000 teens ages 15–19, compared to 57 per 1,000 nationwide.

 In 2012, Colorado’s **teen birth rate was lower than the national average**, with 25 births per 1,000 teens ages 15–19, compared to 29 per 1,000 nationwide.

 In 2012, Colorado’s **teen abortion rate was lower than the national average**, with 12 abortions per 1,000 teens ages 15–19, compared to 15 per 1,000 nationwide.

COLORADO'S YOUNG PEOPLE: HIV/AIDS AND OTHER STD RATES (PER 100,000)

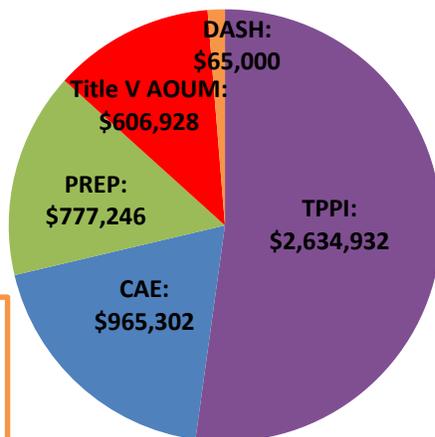


FY 2013 FEDERAL FUNDING IN COLORADO: TOTAL \$5,049,408

Competitive Abstinence Education (CAE) Grants \$965,302
Funds for community- and faith-based organizations to implement abstinence-only-until-marriage programs.
 The Center for Relationship Education and Friends First are the two CAE grantees in Colorado.

Division of Adolescent and School Health (DASH) \$65,000
Funds state and local education agencies to help districts implement exemplary sexual health education (ESHE), increase access to key sexual health services (SHS), and establish safe and supportive environments (SSE) for students and staff; funds HIV/STD-prevention efforts for young men who have sex with men (YMSM); supports state education and health agencies' surveillance efforts.
 The Colorado Board of Education receives DASH funds to collect and report the Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance and the School Health Profiles.

Title V AOUM Program (Title V) \$606,928
Colorado has chosen to implement abstinence-only-until-marriage (AOUM) programs through Title V, matching every \$4 federal dollars with \$3 state dollars or in-kind contributions.
 The Colorado Department of Education provides Title V AOUM sub-grants to four local entities: Center Consolidated Schools; Center for Relationship Education; FRIENDS FIRST, Inc.; and the Pueblo City-County Health Department. The Colorado sub-grantees are required to contribute an 85% match rate (including in-kind services) of the federal funding they receive.



Teen Pregnancy Prevention Initiative (TPPI) \$2,634,932
Funds for local entities to implement evidence-based programs (Tier 1) or innovative strategies (Tier 2) to prevent teen pregnancy.
 There is one TPPI Tier 1 grantee in Colorado, FRIENDS FIRST, Inc., in Littleton, that provides teen pregnancy prevention programming to youth in low-income areas in Denver and surrounding communities with large Latino populations. Two local organizations also received Tier 2 funding: Denver Health and Hospital Authority and the University of Colorado.

Personal Responsibility Education Program (PREP) \$777,246
Funds for states (PREP), local entities (PREIS), community/faith-based organizations (CPREP), and tribes (TPREP) to implement evidence-informed or innovative teen pregnancy- and HIV/STD-prevention, and adulthood preparation programs for young people.
 The Colorado PREP program aims to improve the sexual health of young people by reducing teen pregnancy and STD rates among youth in targeted high-risk communities by at least 10%. There are three PREP sub-grantees: Denver County Department of Human Services, Garfield County Department of Human Services, and the Huerfano County Department of Social Services.

For further background on the federal programs, information on the grantees and the programs they are implementing, as well as citations, see the FY 2013 Colorado State Profile at siecus.org/Colorado2013.