



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) 2012 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. [Colorado state law](#) states that, when offered, sexuality education classes must emphasize abstinence as “the only certain way and the most effective way to avoid pregnancy, and sexually transmitted diseases,” and must use curricula that are science-based, age-appropriate, culturally relevant, medically accurate, and that discuss contraception, including emergency contraception (EC). Parents or guardians may remove their children from school-based sexuality education and/or STD/HIV education classes (“opt-out”). School districts that receive funding from the Colorado Department of Education through the Colorado Comprehensive Health Education Act of 1990 are required to have an “opt-in” policy.

REPORTED SEXUAL ACTIVITY OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN COLORADO



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 & ABORTION RATES



Colorado’s teen **pregnancy rate is lower than the national average**, with 66 pregnant teens per 1,000 compared to 68 pregnant teens per 1,000 nationwide in 2008.

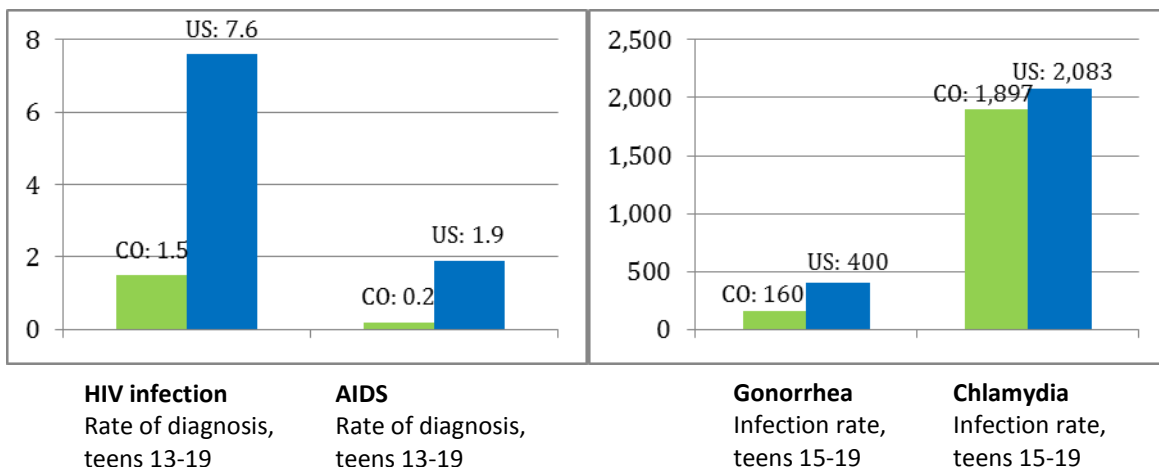


Colorado’s teen **birth rate is lower than the national average**, with 29 teens per 1,000 giving birth compared to 31 teens per 1,000 nationwide in 2011.



Colorado’s teen **abortion rate is lower than the national average**, with 16 teens per 1,000 having an abortion compared to 18 teens per 1,000 nationwide in 2008.

COLORADO'S YOUNG PEOPLE: HIV/AIDS & OTHER STD RATES IN 2011 (PER 100,000)

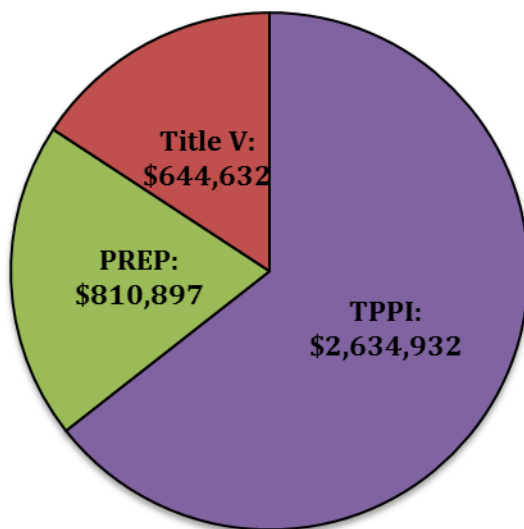


FY 2012 FEDERAL FUNDING IN COLORADO: TOTAL \$4,090,461

Title V AOUM Program (Title V) \$644,632

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, Denver.

Personal Responsibility Education Program (PREP) \$810,897

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, please see the FY 2012 Colorado State Profile available at www.siecus.org/Colorado2012