

State Profile



Georgia

# ADOLESCENT SEXUAL HEALTH PROMOTION AT A GLANCE

The following is an overview of the state of adolescent sexual health promotion efforts in Georgia 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

Georgia schools are required to teach sexuality education and sexually transmitted disease (STD)/HIV prevention education. The <u>Georgia Board of Education</u> provides minimum guidelines for sexuality education programs, requiring instruction to "emphasize abstinence from sexual activity until marriage and fidelity in marriage as important personal goals." Local school boards are largely responsible for deciding the specific subjects sexuality education must cover, age-appropriate messages, and the grade level in which topics are introduced. The Georgia Department of Education has also established <u>Quality</u> <u>Core Curriculum (QCC) Standards</u> for kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. The QCC health education standards suggest education resources, topics, and curricula for teaching STD- and HIV-prevention education in grades six through 12. Parents or guardians may remove their children from school-based sexuality education and/or HIV/STD education classes ("opt-out").

## **GEORGIA YOUTH RISK BEHAVIOR SURVEY (YRBS) DATA**

In 2011 in Georgia, more high school students reported having been taught about HIV/AIDS in school (88%), compared to nationwide average (84%). Georgia did not participate in the full 2011 YRBS.

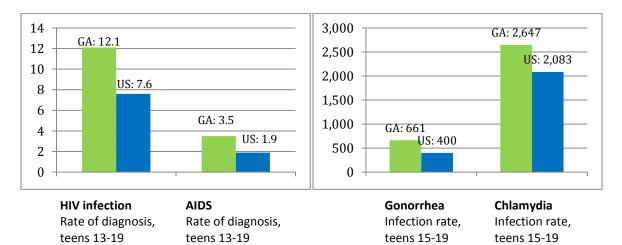
#### **GEORGIA TEEN PREGNANCY, BIRTH & ABORTION RATES**

Georgia's teen **pregnancy rate is higher than the national average**, with 78 pregnant teens per 1,000 compared to 68 pregnant teens per 1,000 nationwide in 2008.

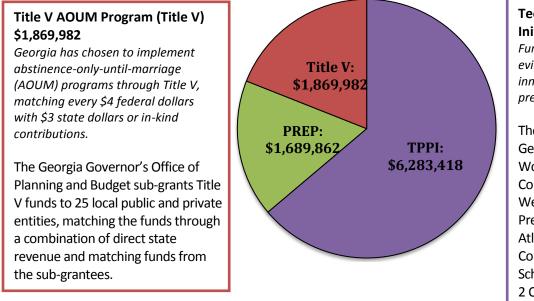
Georgia's teen **birth rate is higher than the national average**, with 38 teens per 1,000 giving birth compared to 31 teens per 1,000 nationwide in 2011.

Georgia'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.

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



#### FY 2012 FEDERAL FUNDING IN GEORGIA: TOTAL \$9,843,262



#### Personal Responsibility Education Program (PREP) \$1,689,862

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 Georgia Department of Human Services, Division of Family and Children Services, sub-grants PREP funds to 11 local public and private entities. PREP funds are used to provide community-based services to youth involved in the state child welfare and juvenile justice system, ages 10-19 across ten counties. Teen Pregnancy Prevention Initiative (TPPI) \$6,283,418

Funds for local entities to implement evidence-based programs (Tier 1) or innovative strategies (Tier 2) to prevent teen pregnancy.

There are six Tier 1 grantees in Georgia: The Center for Black Women's Wellness, Inc.; Clayton County Board of Health; Columbus Wellness Center Outreach and Prevention Project, Inc.; Metro Atlanta Youth for Christ; More Than Conquerors, Inc.; and Morehouse School of Medicine. There is one Tier 2 Communitywide Initiatives grantee in Georgia, the Georgia Campaign for Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention who is partnering with 10 youth serving organizations and five family planning clinics in Richmond County to implement a communitywide initiative to reduce the county's teen pregnancy and birth rates by 10% over five years.

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 Georgia State Profile available at www.siecus.org/Georgia2012

