



# SIECUS

State Profile

## NEW HAMPSHIRE

*The Department of Health and Human Services in New Hampshire received \$94,901 in federal funds for abstinence-only-until-marriage programs in Fiscal Year 2008.<sup>1</sup>*

### **New Hampshire Sexuality Education Law and Policy**

In New Hampshire, the state board of education must develop and provide HIV/AIDS educational materials to all school boards and “private and public elementary, secondary, and postsecondary educational and vocational training institutions.”

New Hampshire produced the *Health Education Curriculum Guidelines* in 2003. The guidelines specify that in elementary school, instruction on family life and sexuality should cover: families and relationships, growth and development, and HIV/AIDS (including explaining that HIV is not transmitted through casual contact and discussing the importance of having compassion for people with HIV/AIDS). In middle schools, this instruction should cover: families and relationships, growth and development, sexual behavior, HIV and other sexually transmitted disease (STD) prevention, and pregnancy prevention. In high schools, this instruction should cover: families and relationships (including violence and date rape), sexual behavior, HIV and other STD prevention, and pregnancy prevention. The guidelines state that abstinence is the most effective means of preventing pregnancy, HIV, and other STDs.

No curriculum is recommended by the state nor does the state have limitations on what may or may not be included in instruction.

New Hampshire does not require parental permission for students to participate in sexuality or HIV/AIDS education nor does it say whether parents or guardians may remove their children from such classes.

See New Hampshire Rule 186:11, 189:10, and *Health Education Curriculum Guidelines*.

### **Recent Legislation**

#### *Bill Amends Health Education Standards*

Senate Bill 359 amends New Hampshire Rule 186:11 by requiring health education curriculum to include instruction on the effect of HIV, AIDS, and other STDs on the human system. The bill also requires the state board of education to provide procedures whereby students may be excused from health and sex education course requirements on religious grounds without penalty. The bill was introduced in January 2008 and was signed into law by Governor John Lynch (D) on June 24, 2008.

**New Hampshire's Youth: Statistical Information of Note<sup>2</sup>**

- In 2007, 45% of female high school students and 45% of male high school students in New Hampshire reported ever having had sexual intercourse compared to 46% of female high school students and 50% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2007, 3% of female high school students and 6% of male high school students in New Hampshire reported having had sexual intercourse before age 13 compared to 4% of female high school students and 10% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2007, 11% of female high school students and 12% of male high school students in New Hampshire reported having had four or more lifetime sexual partners compared to 12% of female high school students and 18% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2007, 36% of female high school students and 32% of male high school students in New Hampshire reported being currently sexually active (defined as having had sexual intercourse in the three months prior to the survey) compared to 36% of female high school students and 34% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2007, among those high school students who reported being currently sexually active, 58% of females and 72% of males in New Hampshire reported having used condoms the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 55% of females and 69% of males nationwide.
- In 2007, among those high school students who reported being currently sexually active, 38% of females and 17% of males in New Hampshire reported having used birth control pills the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 19% of females and 13% of males nationwide.
- In 2007, among those high school students who reported being currently sexually active, 20% of females and 28% of males in New Hampshire reported having used alcohol or drugs the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 18% of females and 28% of males nationwide.
- In 2007, 89% of high school students in New Hampshire reported having been taught about AIDS/HIV in school compared to 90% of high school students nationwide.

**Title V Abstinence-Only-Until-Marriage Funding**

- New Hampshire received \$94,901 in federal Title V abstinence-only-until-marriage funding in Fiscal Year 2008.
- The Title V abstinence-only-until-marriage grant requires states to provide three state-raised dollars or the equivalent in services for every four federal dollars received. The state match may be provided in part or in full by local groups.
- In New Hampshire, the match is provided by the single sub-grantee.
- There is one sub-grantee in New Hampshire: Catholic Medical Services.

Catholic Medical Services, \$90,000 (2008)

The single sub-grantee in New Hampshire is Catholic Medical Service, which uses the popular fear-based curriculum *WAIT (Why Am I Tempted) Training* in its programs for high school juniors and seniors.<sup>3</sup> SIECUS reviewed *WAIT Training* and found that it contained little medical or biological information and almost no information about STDs, including HIV/AIDS. Instead, it contains information and statistics about marriage, many of which are outdated and not supported by scientific research. It also contains messages of fear and shame and biased views of gender, sexual orientation, and family type. For example, *WAIT Training* explains, “men sexually are like microwaves and women sexually are like crockpots....A woman is stimulated more by touch and romantic words. She is far more attracted by a man’s personality while a man is stimulated by sight. A man is usually less discriminating about those to whom he is physically attracted.”<sup>4</sup>

**Community-Based Abstinence Education (CBAE) and Adolescent Family Life Act (AFLA) Grantees**

There are no CBAE or AFLA grantees in New Hampshire.

**Federal and State Funding for Abstinence-Only-Until-Marriage Programs in FY 2008**

<b>Abstinence-Only-Until-Marriage Grantee</b> <b>Length of Grant</b>	<b>Amount of Grant</b>	<b>Type of Grant (includes Title V, CBAE, AFLA, and other funds)</b>
New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services  <a href="http://www.dhhs.state.nh.us/DHHS/DHHS_SITE/default.htm">www.dhhs.state.nh.us/DHHS/DHHS_SITE/default.htm</a>	\$94,901 federal	Title V
Catholic Medical Center	\$90,000	Title V sub-grantee

**Adolescent Health Contact<sup>5</sup>**

Rhonda Siegel, MSEd  
 Injury Prevention, Adolescent Health, and Prenatal Program Manager  
 Maternal and Child Health  
 New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services  
 29 Hazen Drive  
 Concord, NH 03301  
 Phone: (603) 271-4700

**New Hampshire Organizations that Support Comprehensive Sexuality Education**

A Community Resource Network  
2 Blacksmith Street.  
Lebanon, NH 03766  
Phone: (603) 448-8887  
[www.acornvtnh.org](http://www.acornvtnh.org)

ACLU of New Hampshire  
18 Low Avenue  
Concord, NH 03301  
Phone: (603) 225-3080

NARAL Pro-Choice New Hampshire  
18 Low Avenue  
Concord, NH 03301  
Phone: (603) 228-1224  
[www.prochoiceneewhampshire.org](http://www.prochoiceneewhampshire.org)

New Hampshire Citizens Alliance  
4 Park Street, Suite 216  
Concord, NH 03301  
Phone: (603) 225-2097  
[www.nhcitizensalliance.org](http://www.nhcitizensalliance.org)

Planned Parenthood of Northern New  
England  
18 Low Avenue  
Concord, NH 03301  
Phone: (603) 225-2925  
[www.ppnne.org](http://www.ppnne.org)

**New Hampshire Organizations that Oppose Comprehensive Sexuality Education**

Citizens for Life  
P.O. Box 756  
North Hampton, NH 03862  
Phone: (603) 964-9546  
[www.citizensforlife.org](http://www.citizensforlife.org)

The Josiah Bartlett Center for Public Policy  
7 South State Street  
P.O. Box 897  
Concord, NH 03301  
Phone: (603) 224-4450  
[www.jbartlett.org](http://www.jbartlett.org)

New Hampshire Right to Life  
P.O. Box 421  
Merrimack, NH 03054  
Phone: (603) 626-7950  
[www.nhrtl.org](http://www.nhrtl.org)

**Newspapers in New Hampshire<sup>6</sup>**

*Concord Monitor*  
Newsroom  
P.O. Box 1177  
Concord, NH 03302  
Phone: (603) 224-5301  
[www.concordmonitor.com](http://www.concordmonitor.com)

*Keene Sentinel*  
Newsroom  
60 West Street  
Keene, NH 03431  
Phone: (603) 352-1234  
[www.sentinelsource.com](http://www.sentinelsource.com)

NEW HAMPSHIRE

*The Union Leader*  
Newsroom  
P.O. Box 9555  
Manchester, NH 03108  
Phone: (603) 668-4321  
[www.unionleader.com](http://www.unionleader.com)

*Portsmouth Herald*  
Newsroom  
111 New Hampshire Avenue  
Portsmouth, NH 03801  
Phone: (800) 439-0303  
[www.seacoastonline.com](http://www.seacoastonline.com)

*The Telegraph*  
Newsroom  
P.O. Box 1008  
Nashua, NH 03061  
Phone: (603) 882-2741  
[www.nashuatelegraph.com](http://www.nashuatelegraph.com)

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<sup>1</sup> This refers to the federal government's fiscal year, which begins on October 1 and ends on September 30. The fiscal year is designated by the calendar year in which it ends; for example, Fiscal Year 2008 began on October 1, 2007 and ended on September 30, 2008.

<sup>2</sup> Unless otherwise cited, all statistical information comes from: Danice K. Eaton, et. al., "Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance—United States, 2007," Surveillance Summaries, Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report 57.SS-4 (6 June 2008), accessed 4 June 2008, <<http://www.cdc.gov/HealthyYouth/yrbs/index.htm>>.

<sup>3</sup> "Community Health Services," Catholic Medical Center, accessed 1 October 2008, <<http://www.catholicmedicalcenter.org/Community-Health-Services/Fertility-Education-Services.aspx>>.

<sup>4</sup> Joneen Krauth-Mackenzie, *WAIT (Why Am I Tempted) Training*, Second Edition (Greenwood Village, CO: WAIT Training, undated). For more information, see SIECUS' review of *WAIT Training* at <[http://www.communityactionkit.org/curricula\\_reviews.html](http://www.communityactionkit.org/curricula_reviews.html)>.

<sup>5</sup> SIECUS has identified this person as a state-based contact for information on adolescent health and if applicable, abstinence-only-until-marriage programs.

<sup>6</sup> This section is a list of major newspapers in your state with contact information for their newsrooms. This list is by no means exhaustive and does not contain the local level newspapers which are integral to getting your message out to your community. SIECUS strongly urges you to follow stories about the issues that concern you on the national, state, and local level by using an internet news alert service such as [Google alerts](#), becoming an avid reader of your local papers, and establishing relationships with reporters who cover your issues. For more information on how to achieve your media goals visit the SIECUS [Community Action Kit](#).