



ADOLESCENT SEXUAL HEALTH PROMOTION AT A GLANCE

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

Connecticut does not require schools to teach sexuality education, but does require that schools teach human growth and development and disease prevention. [Connecticut law states](#) that regional and local boards of education shall offer instruction on AIDS during the regular school day. The [Connecticut State Board of Education](#) is developing family-life education curriculum guidelines that “shall include, but not be limited to, information on developing a curriculum including family planning, human sexuality, parenting, nutrition and the emotional, physical, psychological, hygienic, economic, and social aspects of family life, provided the curriculum guidelines shall not include information pertaining to abortion as an alternative to family planning.” However, that instruction must be left to the discretion of local and regional boards of education. Parents or guardians may remove their children from school-based sexuality education and/or HIV/STD education classes (“opt-out”).

REPORTED BEHAVIORS OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN CONNECTICUT

↓ Among Connecticut high school students in 2013, 39% of females and 43% of males **reported ever having had sexual intercourse**, lower than the reported national average of 46% of females and 48% of males.

↓ Among Connecticut high school students in 2013, 31% of females and 30% of males **reported being currently sexually active** (having had sexual intercourse in the three months prior), lower than the reported national average of 35% of females and 33% of males.

↑ Among Connecticut high school students in 2013, 10% of females and 8% of males **reported experiencing physical dating violence one or more times** during the 12 months before the survey, higher for males than the reported national average of 13% of females and 7% of males.

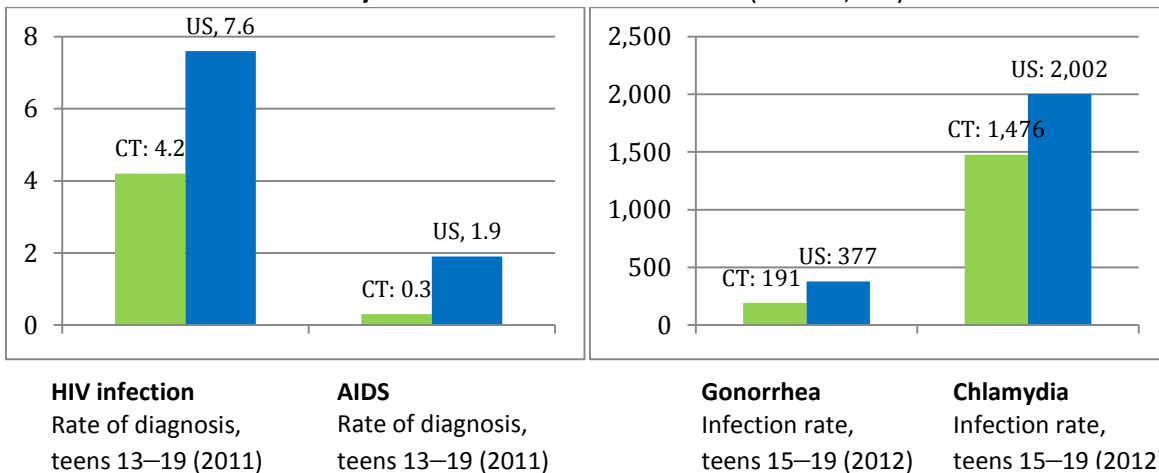
CONNECTICUT TEEN PREGNANCY, BIRTH AND ABORTION RATE

↓ In 2010, Connecticut’s **teen pregnancy rate was lower than the national average**, with 44 pregnancies per 1,000 young women ages 15–19, compared to 57 per 1,000 nationwide.

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

↑ In 2010, Connecticut’s **teen abortion rate was higher than the national average**, with 20 abortions per 1,000 young women ages 15–19, compared to 15 per 1,000 nationwide.

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

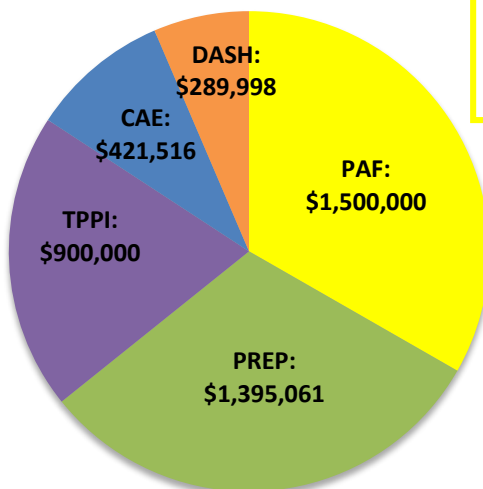


FY 2013 FEDERAL FUNDING IN CONNECTICUT: TOTAL \$4,506,575

Division of Adolescent and School Health (DASH) \$289,998

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 Connecticut Department of Education receives ESHE, SHS, and SSE DASH funding, as well as funds to collect and report the Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance and the School Health Profiles.



Pregnancy Assistance Fund (PAF) \$1,500,000

Funds for a competitive grant program for state and tribal entities to support at least one of four components serving expectant and parenting teens, fathers, and families.

The Connecticut Department of Education receives PAF funding.

Teen Pregnancy Prevention Initiative (TPPI) \$900,000

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

The City of Hartford's Department of Health and Human Services implements Connecticut's Tier 2 grant, which provides teen pregnancy-prevention programming and clinical services to young people ages 13-19. The initiative primarily serves African-American and Latino young people from low-income communities. The Department of Health and Human Services partners with several government agencies and local public and private entities to implement coordinated program services; partners include the Hartford Action Plan on Infant Health, Hartford Office of Youth Services, Hartford Public Schools system, 10 youth service agencies, six community health clinics, and additional private sector partners.

Competitive Abstinence Education (CAE) Grants \$421,516

Funds for community- and faith-based organizations to implement abstinence-only-until-marriage programs.

The Greater Bridgeport Area Prevention Program (GBAPP, Inc.) uses CAE funding to implement the PHAT abstinence-only program for seventh graders.

Personal Responsibility Education Program (PREP) \$1,395,061

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 State of Connecticut Department of Public Health uses PREP funds to provide school- and community-based programming to young people ages 13–19 in the child welfare system in all counties and in the Unified School District #2 through four sub-grantees: the Connecticut Department of Children & Families, Connecticut Department of Education, Partners in Social Research, and Planned Parenthood of Southern New England. There is one PREIS grantee in Connecticut, the Village for Families & Children, Inc., that offers programs and services in three core areas: placement and permanency, including adoption, foster care, and family preservation programs; children's behavioral health; and family and community support.

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 Connecticut State Profile at siecus.org/Connecticut2013.