



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) 2012 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 acquired immune deficiency syndrome, 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 SEXUAL ACTIVITY OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN CONNECTICUT



Among Connecticut high school students in 2011, 42% of females and 44% of males reported **ever having had sexual intercourse, lower than the reported national average** of 46% of females and 49% of males.



Among Connecticut high school students in 2011, 32% of females and 29% of males reported being currently sexually active (having had sexual intercourse in the three months prior), **lower than the reported national average** of 34% of females and 33% of males.

CONNECTICUT TEEN PREGNANCY, BIRTH & ABORTION RATES



Connecticut’s teen **pregnancy rate is lower than the national average**, with 55 pregnant teens per 1,000 compared to 68 pregnant teens per 1,000 nationwide in 2008.

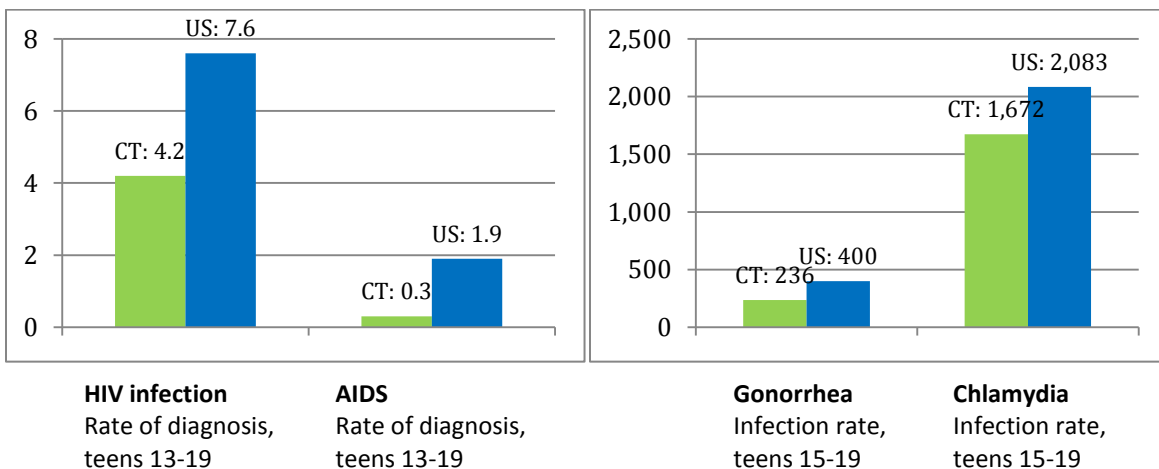


Connecticut’s teen **birth rate is lower than the national average**, with 16 teens per 1,000 giving birth compared to 31 teens per 1,000 nationwide in 2011.



Connecticut’s teen **abortion rate is higher than the national average**, with 26 teens per 1,000 having an abortion compared to 18 teens per 1,000 nationwide in 2008.

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

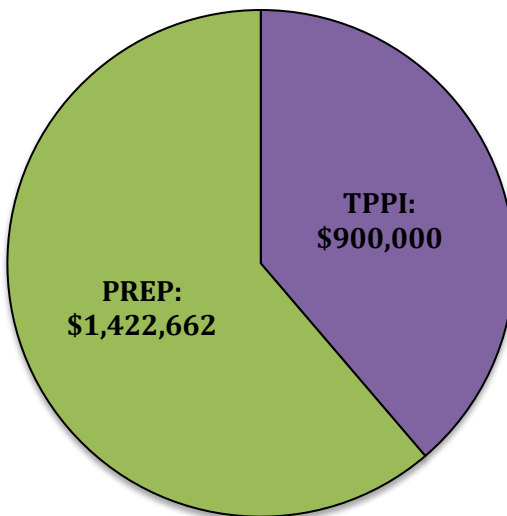


FY 2012 FEDERAL FUNDING IN CONNECTICUT: TOTAL \$2,322,662

Personal Responsibility Education Program (PREP) \$1,422,662

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 youth ages 13-19 in the child welfare system in all counties and in the Unified School District #2 through four sub-grantees: Connecticut State Department of Education, the Connecticut Department of Children & Families, 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.



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 youth 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, including the Hartford Action Plan on Infant Health, Hartford Office of Youth Services, Hartford Public Schools system, 10 youth service agencies and six community health clinics, as well as additional private sector partners.

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 Connecticut State Profile available at

www.siecus.org/Connecticut2012