



## ADOLESCENT SEXUAL HEALTH PROMOTION AT A GLANCE

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

[Idaho state statute](#) says that the “primary responsibility of family life and sex education” rests with a student’s home and church “and the schools can only complement and supplement those standards which are established in the family.” Local school boards may decide to offer sexuality education, and if a school board decides to institute sexuality education, the program must place “major emphasis” on the home. The statute states that program should give youth “the scientific, psychological information for understanding sex and its relation to the miracle of life.” It must also include “knowledge of the power of the sex drive and the necessity of controlling that drive by self-discipline.” 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 IDAHO

↓ Among Idaho high school students in 2011, 39% of females and 41% of males reported **ever having had sexual intercourse, lower than the reported national average** of 46% of females and 49% of males. *Idaho did not participate in the full 2011 Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS).*

### IDAHO TEEN PREGNANCY, BIRTH & ABORTION RATES

↓ Idaho’s teen **pregnancy rate is lower than the national average**, with 57 pregnant teens per 1,000 compared to 68 pregnant teens per 1,000 nationwide in 2008.

↓ Idaho’s teen **birth rate is lower than the national average**, with 28 teens per 1,000 giving birth compared to 31 teens per 1,000 nationwide in 2011.

↓ Idaho’s teen **abortion rate is lower than the national average**, with 8 teens per 1,000 having an abortion compared to 18 teens per 1,000 nationwide in 2008.

