






ADOLESCENT SEXUAL HEALTH PROMOTION AT A GLANCE

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

Mississippi's new sex education law requires each school district to adopt either an "abstinence-only" or an "abstinence-plus" policy, implementing a corresponding curriculum by the start of the 2012–2013 school year. In addition to teaching abstinence-only concepts, "abstinence-plus" education may discuss broader sexual health topics, such as "the nature, causes and effects of sexually transmitted diseases," and STD/HIV-prevention education. However, the education "shall not include instruction and demonstrations on the application and use of condoms." Parents or guardians must receive notification at least one week prior to the provision of any human sexuality instruction, and they must request for their child to participate in such classes. This is referred to as an "opt-in" policy. For more information, see Mississippi [House Bill 999](#) and [Comprehensive Health Framework](#).

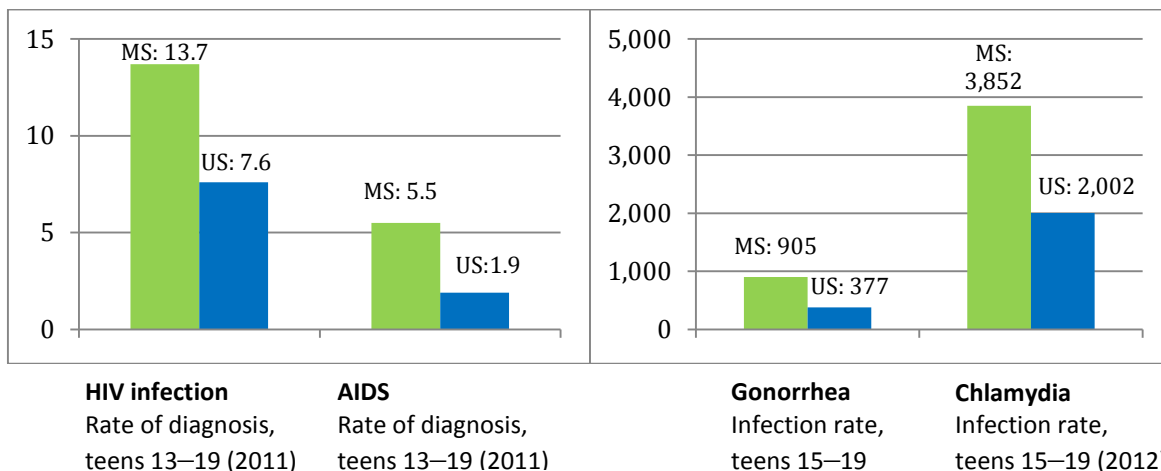
REPORTED BEHAVIORS OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN MISSISSIPPI

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 Among Mississippi high school students in 2013, 49% of females and 60% of males **reported ever having had sexual intercourse**, higher than the reported national average of 46% of females and 48% of males.
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 Among Mississippi high school students in 2013, 37% of females and 45% of males **reported being currently sexually active** (having had sexual intercourse in the three months prior), higher than the reported national average of 35% of females and 33% of males.
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 Among Mississippi high school students in 2013, 13% of females and 7% of males **reported experiencing physical dating violence one or more times** during the 12 months before the survey, similar to the national average of 13% of females and 7% of males.

MISSISSIPPI TEEN PREGNANCY, BIRTH, AND ABORTION RATES

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 In 2010, Mississippi's **teen pregnancy rate was higher than the national average**, with 76 pregnancies per 1,000 teens ages 15–19 compared to 57 per 1,000 nationwide.
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 In 2012, Mississippi's **teen birth rate was higher than the national average**, with 46 births per 1,000 teens ages 15–19 compared to 29 per 1,000 nationwide.
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 In 2010, Mississippi's **teen abortion rate was lower than the national average**, with 9 abortions per 1,000 teens ages 15–19 compared to 15 per 1,000 nationwide.

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

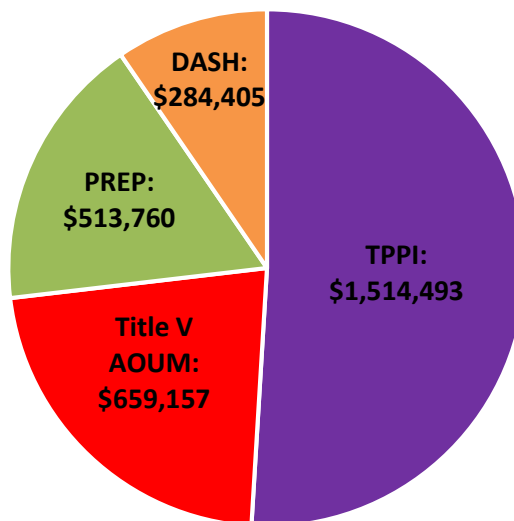


FY 2013 FEDERAL FUNDING IN MISSISSIPPI: TOTAL \$2,971,815

Title V AOUM Program (Title V) \$659,157

Mississippi has chosen to implement abstinence-only-until-marriage (AOUM) programs through Title V, matching every \$4 federal dollars with \$3 state dollars or in-kind contributions.

The Mississippi Department of Human Services administers the state's Title V AOUM grant and sub-contracts to the Mississippi Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs serving young people ages 10–18 in 30 counties across the state. The state match is provided by the sub-grantee through in-kind funds.



Teen Pregnancy Prevention Initiative (TPPI) \$1,514,493

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

There are two TPPI Tier 1 grantees in Mississippi: The Southeast Mississippi Rural Health Initiative, Inc. (SeMRHI) and Youth Opportunities Unlimited, Inc. (Y.O.U.). SeMRHI implements teen pregnancy and STD-prevention education to young people ages 12–15 in Forrest and Lamar counties, partnering with Hattiesburg Public School District and Lamar County School District. Y.O.U. provides school-based programming primarily to African-American rural youth ages 9–14 who are attending schools in the Coahoma, North Panola, Quitman, Tallahatchie, and Tunica county school districts.

Personal Responsibility Education Program (PREP) \$513,760

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 Mississippi PREP state-grant program provides school- and community-based interventions to school districts that have adopted an "abstinence-plus" education policy. In addition, the Mississippi PREP grant program has contracted with the Women's Foundation of Mississippi to develop a youth-friendly website.

Division of Adolescent and School Health (DASH) \$284,405

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 Mississippi 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.

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 Mississippi State Profile at siecus.org/Mississippi2013.