

ADOLESCENT SEXUAL HEALTH PROMOTION AT A GLANCE


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


New Mexico mandates that schools must teach a course in health education in either middle or high school. Each school district must “provide instruction about HIV and related issues in the curriculum of the required health education content area to all students in the elementary grades, in the middle/junior high school grades, and in the senior high school grades.” New Mexico offers *Health Education Standards with Benchmarks and Performance Standards* that include abstinence and reproductive health beginning in grades three and four. The curriculum also covers strategies for maintaining healthy relationships and resolving harmful behaviors in relationships. It also states that each school district must have a policy allowing parents to “request that their child be exempted from the parts of the health education curriculum that addresses [sic] the sexuality performance standards.” For more information, see [New Mexico Administrative Code §§ 6.12.2.10](#) and [6.29.6.8](#); and [Health Education Standards with Benchmarks and Performance Standards](#).


REPORTED SEXUAL ACTIVITY OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN NEW MEXICO


 Among New Mexico high school students in 2011, 5% of females and 10% of males reported **ever having had sexual intercourse before age 13, higher than the reported national average** of 3% of females and 9% of males.

 Among New Mexico high school students in 2011, 32% of females and 32% 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.

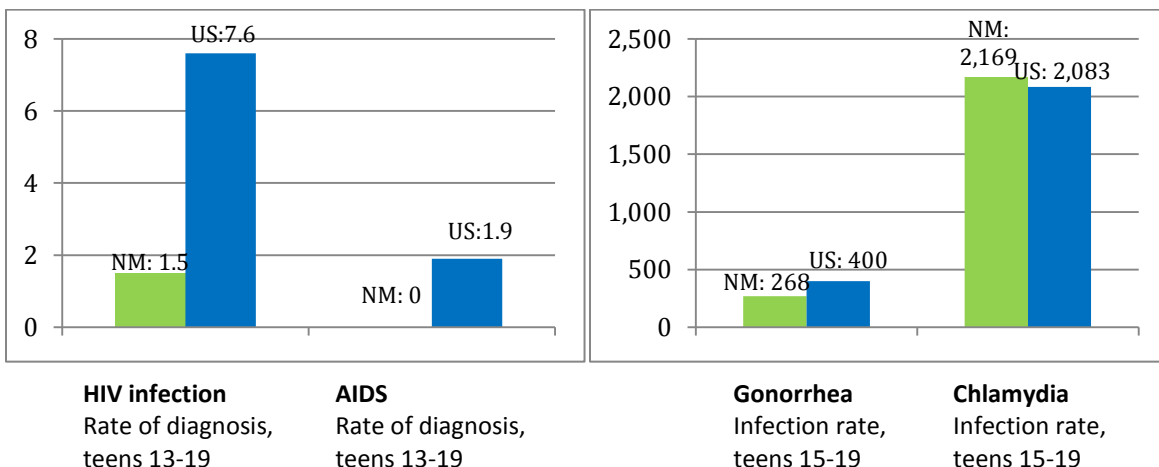
NEW MEXICO TEEN PREGNANCY, BIRTH & ABORTION RATES

 New Mexico’s teen **pregnancy rate is higher than the national average**, with 93 pregnant teens per 1,000 compared to 68 pregnant teens per 1,000 nationwide in 2008.

 New Mexico’s teen **birth rate is higher than the national average**, with 49 teens per 1,000 giving birth compared to 31 teens per 1,000 nationwide in 2011.

 New Mexico’s teen **abortion rate is lower than the national average**, with 17 teens per 1,000 having an abortion compared to 18 teens per 1,000 nationwide in 2008.

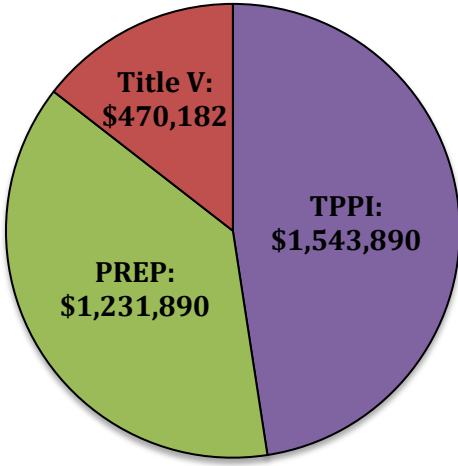
NEW MEXICO'S YOUNG PEOPLE: HIV/AIDS & OTHER STD RATES IN 2011 (PER 100,000)



FY 2012 FEDERAL FUNDING IN NEW MEXICO: TOTAL \$3,245,962

Title V AOUM Program (Title V) \$470,182
New Mexico 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 New Mexico Department of Health administers the state's Title V AOUM program in collaboration with New Mexico State University and the University's seven sub-contractors. Funds are used in Cibola, Doña Ana, Luna, Chavez, Curry, Eddy, and Lea Counties to provide community-based programming. Funded programs targets youth ages 12-17, but focus primarily on middle school-aged students. The match is provided through in-kind services.



Teen Pregnancy Prevention Initiative (TPPI) \$1,543,890
Funds for local entities to implement evidence-based programs (Tier 1) or innovative strategies (Tier 2) to prevent teen pregnancy.

Capacity Builders, Inc. is the Tier 1 grantee in New Mexico, using funds to support its Navajo Youth Builders program, which serves Navajo youth ages 11–19 at seven reservation-based Boys & Girls Clubs. In addition, participants spend time with Navajo elders and other adult role models by participating in community service and recreational activities.

Personal Responsibility Education Program (PREP) \$1,231,890
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.

New Mexico Department of Health's Family Planning Program implements the PREP state-grant program in collaboration with five local sub-grantees. Funded entities serve youth ages 12–18 in both school and community-based programs in Bernalillo, Chaves, Cibola, Doña Ana, Luna, San Miguel, Sierra, Taos, Torrance, and Valencia counties. Tewa Women United and the Zuni Youth Enrichment Project receive Tribal PREP funds.

The National Indian Youth Leadership Project (NIYLP) is a Tier 2 grantee implementing a program in rural McKinley County that is designed- and culturally appropriate-for use with Native American youth ages 12–13.

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 New Mexico State Profile available at www.siecus.org/NewMexico2012