



# Adolescent Sexual Health Promotion at a Glance

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

Pennsylvania has created the Academic Standards for Health, Safety, and Physical Education, which includes STD- and HIV-prevention education for primary, intermediate, middle, and high schools; however, it does not include a requirement for schools to teach sexuality education. Primary schools are allowed to omit instruction on the sexual methods of disease transmission. Schools must use materials that have been determined by the local school district, are age-appropriate, discuss prevention, and stress abstinence as "the only completely reliable means of preventing sexual transmission." Parents or guardians may remove their children from school-based sexuality education and/or HIV/STD education classes ("opt-out"). For more information, see Title 22 Pennsylvania Constitutional Statutes § 4.29.

## **REPORTED BEHAVIORS OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN PENNSYLVANIA**

The state of Pennsylvania did not participate in the 2013 Youth Risk Behavior Survey. Visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Youth Online database for additional information on youth risk behaviors in the city of Philadelphia.

Among Philadelphia high school students in 2013, 37% of females and 38% 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.

# PENNSYLVANIA TEEN PREGNANCY, BIRTH, AND ABORTION RATES

In 2010, Pennsylvania's teen pregnancy rate was lower than the national average, with 49 pregnancies per 1,000 teens, compared to 57 per 1,000 nationwide.

In 2012, Pennsylvania's teen birth rate was lower than the national average, with 24 births per 1,000 teens, compared to 29 per 1,000 nationwide.

In 2010, Pennsylvania's teen abortion rate was equal to the national average, with 15 abortions per 1,000 teens, compared to 15 per 1,000 nationwide.

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

teens 13-19 (2011)



### FY 2013 FEDERAL FUNDING IN PENNSYLVANIA: TOTAL \$8,268,090

teens 13-19 (2011)

#### Title V AOUM Program (Title V) \$1,487,597

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

The Pennsylvania Title V AOUM program provides both community- and school-based programming to young people ages 9–14 who are African-American and/or Latino, in, or transitioning out of, foster care, and/or LGBT. The match is provided by the sub-contractors with local government dollars or in-kind support.

#### Division of Adolescent and School Health (DASH) \$559,418

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



#### Personal Responsibility Education Program (PREP) \$2,855,657

teens 15-19 (2012)

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 Pennsylvania PREP state-grant program is administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Health in collaboration with 16 sub-grantees providing community-based programming to young people ages 10–19. Philadelphia Health Management Corporation is the one PREIS grantee, serving young people ages 12–18 and parents, caregivers, and supportive adults in North Philadelphia.

#### Teen Pregnancy Prevention Initiative (TPPI) \$3,365,418

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

teens 15–19 (2012)

There are two Tier 1 grantees in Pennsylvania: Carnegie Mellon University (CMU) and Opportunities Industrialization Centers of America, Inc. (OICA). CMU partners with a clinical team from West Virginia University to implement an interactive video to encourage safer sexual behaviors among females ages 14–19, within family-planning and adolescent-health clinic settings. OICA partners with 11 Philadelphia public, private, charter, and alternative schools, as well as local organizations, to implement programming in middle and high schools, targeting predominantly lower-income, African-American urban young people ages 12–18. The Family Planning Council is a Tier 2 Communitywide Initiatives grantee, which aims to reduce the teen birth rate within the predominately African-American community of West Philadelphia by increasing the number of young people ages 10–19 in the community who receive evidence-based and -informed teen pregnancy prevention programming and reproductive-health-care services.

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 Pennsylvania State Profile at <u>siecus.org/Pennsylvania2013</u>.

