



### U.S. OUTER TERRITORIES

#### **American Samoa Sexuality Education Law and Policy**

The American Samoa Department of Education health education program includes an HIV/School Health Project, which provides education about HIV infection and AIDS to students. Students in grades seven through 12 also receive information on sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), HIV/AIDS, and teen pregnancy through the Teenage Health Teaching Modules (THTM), which address issues affecting adolescents. This program teaches students interpersonal communication, “refusal skills, self-esteem, decision-making, and role playing.”<sup>1</sup> With the goal of reducing HIV infection, schools encourage students “to abstain from sexual intercourse, to not inject drugs, and, when deemed appropriate, to consistently and correctly use latex condoms to prevent HIV infection, if they become sexually active.”

See *Office of Curriculum, Instruction, and Accountability Health Program Overview*.

#### **Guam Sexuality Education Law and Policy**

The School Health Education Program (SHEP) of Guam addresses the “prevention of risk behaviors,” including “sexual behaviors that contribute to unintended pregnancy, HIV infection and other sexually transmitted diseases.” The goal of SHEP is to “improve educational outcomes in Guam’s schools.” Students receive education on family life and sexuality beginning in grade four. In middle school, students should be able to discuss methods of family planning and prevention of HIV and STDs in addition to abstinence; however, the content standards for high school students do not include any mention of contraception, and students are expected to “[d]evelop a personal contract to consider abstaining from sexual activity until such time that you consider yourself to be financially, physically, mentally, emotionally, socially and spiritually mature and are able to take full responsibility for your actions.”

See *Guam Public School System Health Education Program and HIV/AIDS Prevention/Coordinated School Health Program*.

#### **Republic of the Marshall Islands Sexuality Education Law and Policy**

Sex education is a requirement for all schools in the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI). Following Marshallese custom, students are separated by gender for sexuality education classes; and male students are taught by a male teacher and female students are taught by a female teacher. The sexuality education curriculum includes HIV education, which is taught to both primary and secondary school students.

See *Yokwe Online*, “Majuro Chamber of Commerce Holds Forum on Education in the RMI;” and United Nations General Assembly Special Session on HIV/AIDS, *Marshall Islands National Composite Policy Index 2007* and *Country Progress Report, Republic of the Marshall Islands, 2010*.

### **Republic of Palau Sexuality Education Law and Policy**

The Comprehensive School Program health curriculum of the Republic of Palau includes information on HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted diseases.

See Republic of Palau Ministry of Education, “Health Education.”

### **U.S. Outer Territories Sexuality Education Law and Policy**

SIECUS is unaware of any sex education law or policy for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or the Federated States of Micronesia.

### **Recent Legislation**

*SIECUS is not aware of any proposed legislation regarding sexuality education in any of the U.S. Outer Territories.*

### **American Samoa Youth: Statistical Information of Note<sup>2</sup>**

- In 2007, 23% of female high school students and 43% of male high school students in American Samoa reported ever having had sexual intercourse compared to 46% of female high school students and 50% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2007, 4% of female high school students and 12% of male high school students in American Samoa reported having had sexual intercourse before age 13 compared to 4% of female high school students and 10% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2007, 5% of female high school students and 19% of male high school students in American Samoa reported having had four or more lifetime sexual partners compared to 12% of female high school students and 18% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2007, 14% of female high school students and 27% of male high school students in American Samoa reported being currently sexually active (defined as having had sexual intercourse in the three months prior to the survey) compared to 36% of female high school students and 34% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2007, among those high school students who reported being currently sexually active, 35% of females and 46% of males in American Samoa reported having used condoms the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 55% of females and 69% of males nationwide.
- In 2007, among those high school students who reported being currently sexually active, 4% of females and 3% of males in American Samoa reported having used birth control pills the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 19% of females and 13% of males nationwide.

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- In 2007, among those high school students who reported being currently sexually active, 27% of females and 38% of males in American Samoa reported having used alcohol or drugs the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 18% of females and 28% of males nationwide.
- In 2007, 55% of high school students in American Samoa reported having been taught about AIDS/HIV in school compared to 90% of high school students nationwide.

### **Guam Youth: Statistical Information of Note<sup>3</sup>**

- In 2007, 45% of female high school students and 45% of male high school students in Guam reported ever having had sexual intercourse compared to 46% of female high school students and 50% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2007, 6% of female high school students and 10% of male high school students in Guam reported having had sexual intercourse before age 13 compared to 4% of female high school students and 10% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2007, 10% of female high school students and 12% of male high school students in Guam reported having had four or more lifetime sexual partners compared to 12% of female high school students and 18% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2007, 33% of female high school students and 27% of male high school students in Guam reported being currently sexually active (defined as having had sexual intercourse in the three months prior to the survey) compared to 36% of female high school students and 34% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2007, among those high school students who reported being currently sexually active, 27% of females and 45% of males in Guam reported having used condoms the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 55% of females and 69% of males nationwide.
- In 2007, among those high school students who reported being currently sexually active, 6% of females and 8% of males in Guam reported having used birth control pills the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 19% of females and 13% of males nationwide.
- In 2007, among those high school students who reported being currently sexually active, 11% of females and 24% of males in Guam reported having used alcohol or drugs the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 18% of females and 28% of males nationwide.
- In 2007, 85% of high school students in Guam reported having been taught about AIDS/HIV in school compared to 90% of high school students nationwide.

### **Northern Mariana Islands Youth: Statistical Information of Note<sup>4</sup>**

- In 2005, 46% of female high school students and 51% of male high school students in the Northern Mariana Islands reported ever having had sexual intercourse compared to 46% of female high school students and 48% of male high school students nationwide.

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- In 2005, 6% of female high school students and 12% of male high school students in the Northern Mariana Islands reported having had sexual intercourse before age 13 compared to 4% of female high school students and 9% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2005, 10% of female high school students and 18% of male high school students in the Northern Mariana Islands reported having had four or more lifetime sexual partners compared to 12% of female high school students and 17% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2005, 34% of female high school students and 33% of male high school students in the Northern Mariana Islands reported being currently sexually active (defined as having had sexual intercourse in the three months prior to the survey) compared to 35% of female high school students and 33% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2005, among those high school students who reported being currently sexually active, 38% of females and 49% of males in the Northern Mariana Islands reported having used condoms the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 56% of females and 70% of males nationwide.
- In 2005, among those high school students who reported being currently sexually active, 9% of females and 6% of males in the Northern Mariana Islands reported having used birth control pills the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 21% of females and 28% of males nationwide.
- In 2005, among those high school students who reported being currently sexually active, 17% of females and 37% of males in the Northern Mariana Islands reported having used alcohol or drugs the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 19% of females and 28% of males nationwide.
- In 2005, 81% of high school students in the Northern Mariana Islands reported having been taught about AIDS/HIV in school compared to 88% of high school students nationwide.

### **Republic of the Marshall Islands Youth: Statistical Information of Note<sup>5</sup>**

- In 2007, 47% of female high school students and 72% of male high school students in the Marshall Islands reported ever having had sexual intercourse compared to 46% of female high school students and 50% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2007, 3% of female high school students and 14% of male high school students in the Marshall Islands reported having had sexual intercourse before age 13 compared to 4% of female high school students and 10% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2007, 10% of female high school students and 29% of male high school students in the Marshall Islands reported having had four or more lifetime sexual partners compared to 12% of female high school students and 18% of male high school students nationwide.

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- In 2007, 34% of female high school students and 45% of male high school students in the Marshall Islands reported being currently sexually active (defined as having had sexual intercourse in the three months prior to the survey) compared to 36% of female high school students and 34% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2007, among those high school students who reported being currently sexually active, 48% of females and 53% of males in the Marshall Islands reported having used condoms the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 55% of females and 69% of males nationwide.
- In 2007, among those high school students who reported being currently sexually active, 6% of females and 9% of males in the Marshall Islands reported having used birth control pills the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 19% of females and 13% of males nationwide.
- In 2007, among those high school students who reported being currently sexually active, 26% of females and 41% of males in the Marshall Islands reported having used alcohol or drugs the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 18% of females and 28% of males nationwide.
- In 2007, 46% of high school students in the Marshall Islands reported having been taught about AIDS/HIV in school compared to 90% of high school students nationwide.

### **Republic of Palau Youth: Statistical Information of Note<sup>6</sup>**

- In 2003, 29% of female high school students and 58% of male high school students in Palau reported ever having had sexual intercourse compared to 46% of female high school students and 48% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2003, 2% of female high school students and 15% of male high school students in Palau reported having had sexual intercourse before age 13 compared to 4% of female high school students and 10% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2003, 5% of female high school students and 34% of male high school students in Palau reported having had four or more lifetime sexual partners compared to 11% of female high school students and 18% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2003, 21% of female high school students and 39% of male high school students in Palau reported being currently sexually active (defined as having had sexual intercourse in the three months prior to the survey) compared to 35% of female high school students and 34% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2003, 45% of high school students who reported being currently sexually active in Palau reported having used condoms the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 57% of females and 69% of males nationwide.
- In 2003, 7% of high school students who reported being currently sexually active in Palau reported having used birth control pills the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 21% of females and 13% of males nationwide.

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- In 2003, 35% of high school students who reported being currently sexually active in Palau reported having used alcohol or drugs the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 21% of females and 30% of males nationwide.
- In 2003, 74% of high school students in Palau reported having been taught about AIDS/HIV in school compared to 88% of high school students nationwide.

### **Federated States of Micronesia Youth: Statistical Information of Note**

The Federated States of Micronesia did not participate in any recent Youth Risk Behavioral Surveillance Survey.

### **American Samoa Youth Sexual Health Statistics**

#### *Teen Pregnancy, Birth, and Abortion*

- In 2005, American Samoa's teen birth rate was 34.2 births per 1,000 young women ages 15–19 compared to the national rate of 40.5 births per 1,000
- In 2006, the U.S. teen birth rate increased for the first time in 15 years by 3% from 40.5 to 41.9 births per 1,000 young women ages 15–19, after having steadily declined between 1991 and 2005.<sup>7</sup> American Samoa's teen birth rate also increased between 2005 and 2006, from 34.2 to 37.1 births per 1,000 young women ages 15–19.<sup>8</sup>

#### *HIV and AIDS*

- In 2007, there were a total of 67 new cases of HIV infection diagnosed among all age groups in American Samoa.<sup>9</sup>
- In 2007, there were no new cases of AIDS diagnosed among all age groups in American Samoa.<sup>10</sup>

### **Guam Youth Sexual Health Statistics**

#### *Teen Pregnancy, Birth, and Abortion*

- In 2005, Guam's teen birth rate was 58.7 births per 1,000 young women ages 15–19 compared to the national rate of 40.5 births per 1,000.<sup>11</sup>
- In 2006, the U.S. teen birth rate increased for the first time in 15 years by 3% from 40.5 to 41.9 births per 1,000 young women ages 15–19, after having steadily declined between 1991 and 2005.<sup>12</sup> Guam's teen birth rate also increased between 2005 and 2006, from 58.7 to 59.2 births per 1,000 young women ages 15–19.<sup>13</sup>

#### *HIV and AIDS*

- In 2007, there were a total of 67 new cases of HIV infection diagnosed among all age groups in Guam.<sup>14</sup>
- In 2007, there were no new AIDS cases among all age groups reported in Guam.<sup>15</sup>

## Northern Mariana Islands Youth Sexual Health Statistics

### *Teen Pregnancy, Birth, and Abortion*

- In 2005, the Northern Mariana Islands' teen birth rate was 31.6 births per 1,000 young women ages 15–19 compared to the national rate of 40.5 births per 1,000.<sup>16</sup>
- In 2006, the U.S. teen birth rate increased for the first time in 15 years by 3% from 40.5 to 41.9 births per 1,000 young women ages 15–19, after having steadily declined between 1991 and 2005.<sup>17</sup> In contrast, the Northern Mariana Islands' teen birth rate decreased between 2005 and 2006, from 31.6 to 30.4 births per 1,000 young women ages 15–19.<sup>18</sup>

### *HIV and AIDS*

- In 2007, there were a total of 67 new cases of HIV infection diagnosed among all age groups in the Northern Mariana Islands.<sup>19</sup>
- In 2007, there were no new cases of AIDS diagnosed among all age groups in the Northern Mariana Islands.<sup>20</sup>

*There are no youth sexual health data available for the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, or the Republic of Palau.*

## Comprehensive Approaches to Sex Education

*SIECUS is not aware of any examples of model programs, policies, or best practices being implemented in any U.S. Outer Territory's public schools that provide a more comprehensive approach to sex education for young people.*

*We encourage you to submit any updated or additional information on more comprehensive approaches to sex education being implemented in any of the U.S. Outer Territory public schools for inclusion in future publications of the SIECUS State Profile. Please visit SIECUS' "Contact Us" webpage at [www.siecus.org](http://www.siecus.org) to share information. Select "state policy" as the subject heading.*

## Federal Funding for Abstinence-Only-Until-Marriage Programs

The U.S. Outer Territories did not receive abstinence-only-until-marriage funding in Fiscal Year 2009.<sup>21</sup>

### *Title V Abstinence-Only-Until Marriage Funding*

- The U.S. Outer Territories chose not to participate in the Title V abstinence-only-until-marriage program in Fiscal Year 2009. The territories were eligible for a combined \$238,874 in funding. Due to the expiration of the grant program on June 30, 2009, three months prior to the end of the federal fiscal year, the territories would have received three quarters of the total funding allocated for the full fiscal year.
  - American Samoa: \$67,638
  - Federated States of Micronesia: \$47,492
  - Guam: \$62,835
  - Northern Mariana Islands: \$26,408
  - Republic of the Marshall Islands: \$13,501
  - Republic of Palau: \$21,000

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### *Community-Based Abstinence Education (CBAE) Funding*

- There are no CBAE grantees in the U.S. Outer Territories.

### *Adolescent Family Life Act (AFLA) Funding*

- There are no AFLA grantees in the U.S. Outer Territories.

### **Abstinence-Only-Until-Marriage Curricula**

*SIECUS is not aware of any commercially available abstinence-only-until-marriage curricula used in any of the U.S. Outer Territories.*

*To read reviews of abstinence-only-until-marriage curricula commonly used by federal grantees please visit the “Curricula and Speaker Reviews” webpage of SIECUS’ Community Action Kit at [www.communityactionkit.org](http://www.communityactionkit.org).*

### **Adolescent Health Contact**<sup>22</sup>

Dionis E. Saimon  
MCH Program Manager  
FSM Department of HESA  
P.O. Box PS 70  
Palikir, Pohnpei FM 96941  
Phone: (691) 320-2872

### **U.S. Outer Territories Organizations that Support Comprehensive Sexuality Education**

Samoa Family Health Association (SFHA)  
PO Box 3029  
Apia, Samoa  
Phone: (685) 269-2968

### **U.S. Outer Territories Organizations that Oppose Comprehensive Sexuality Education**

*SIECUS is not aware of any organizations opposed to comprehensive sexuality education in the U.S. Outer Territories.*

### **Newspapers in U.S. Outer Territories**<sup>23</sup>

*Pacific Daily News* (Guam)  
P.O. Box DN  
Hagatna, Guam 96932  
(671) 472-1736  
[www.guampdn.com](http://www.guampdn.com)

*Samoa News*  
P.O. Box 909  
Pago Page, AS 96799  
(684) 633-5599  
[www.samoanews.com](http://www.samoanews.com)



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<sup>1</sup> American Samoa *Office of Curriculum, Instruction, and Accountability Health Program Overview*.

<sup>2</sup> Unless otherwise cited, all statistical information comes from: Danice K. Eaton, et. al., “Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance—United States, 2007,” *Surveillance Summaries, Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* 57.SS-4 (6 June 2008), accessed 4 June 2008, <<http://www.cdc.gov/HealthyYouth/yrbs/index.htm>>.

<sup>3</sup> Unless otherwise cited, all statistical information comes from: Danice K. Eaton, et. al., “Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance—United States, 2007,” *Surveillance Summaries, Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* 57.SS-4 (6 June 2008), accessed 4 June 2008, <<http://www.cdc.gov/HealthyYouth/yrbs/index.htm>>.

<sup>4</sup> D. K. Eaton, et. al., “Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance—United States, 2005,” *Surveillance Summaries, Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*, vol. 55, no. SS-5 (9 June 2006): 1-108, accessed 26 January 2007, <<http://www.cdc.gov/HealthyYouth/yrbs/index.htm>>. Note: the Northern Mariana Islands did not participate in the 2007 YRBS.

<sup>5</sup> Unless otherwise cited, all statistical information comes from: Danice K. Eaton, et. al., “Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance—United States, 2007.”

<sup>6</sup> Jo Anne Grunbaum, et al., “Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance—United States, 2003,” *Surveillance Summaries, Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*, vol. 53, no. SS-2 (21 May 2004): 1-108, accessed 13 December 2008, <<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/ss5302a1.htm>>. Note: the Republic of Palau did not participate in the 2007 YRBS.

<sup>7</sup> Joyce A. Martin, et. al., “Births: Final Data for 2006,” *National Vital Statistics Reports*, vol. 57, number 7 (Hyattsville, MD: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 7 January 2009), accessed 5 March 2010, <[http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr57/nvsr57\\_07.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr57/nvsr57_07.pdf)>, Table B.

<sup>8</sup> Ibid..

<sup>9</sup> “Cases of HIV Infection and AIDS in the United States and Dependent Areas, 2007,” Table 18.

<sup>10</sup> “Cases of HIV Infection and AIDS in the United States and Dependent Areas, 2007,” *HIV/AIDS Surveillance Report*, vol. 19, (Atlanta, GA: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, February 2009), accessed 5 March 2010, <<http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/topics/surveillance/resources/reports/2007report/pdf/2007SurveillanceReport.pdf>>, Table 18.

<sup>11</sup> Martin, et. al., , Table B.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid.

<sup>13</sup> Ibid..

<sup>14</sup> “Cases of HIV Infection and AIDS in the United States and Dependent Areas, 2007,” Table 18.

<sup>15</sup> Ibid., Table 16.

<sup>16</sup> Martin, et. al., , Table B.

<sup>17</sup> Ibid.

<sup>18</sup> Ibid..

<sup>19</sup> “Cases of HIV Infection and AIDS in the United States and Dependent Areas, 2007,” Table 18.

<sup>20</sup> “Cases of HIV Infection and AIDS in the United States and Dependent Areas, 2007,” Table 18.

<sup>21</sup> This refers to the federal government’s fiscal year, which begins on October 1<sup>st</sup> and ends on September 30<sup>th</sup>. The fiscal year is designated by the calendar year in which it ends; for example, Fiscal Year 2009 began on October 1, 2008 and ended on September 30, 2009.

<sup>22</sup> SIECUS has identified this person as a state-based contact for information on adolescent health and if applicable, abstinence-only-until-marriage programs.

<sup>23</sup> This section is a list of major newspapers in your state with contact information for their newsrooms. This list is by no means exhaustive and does not contain the local level newspapers which are integral to getting your message out to your community. SIECUS strongly urges you to follow stories about the issues that concern you on the national, state, and local level by using an internet news alert service such as [Google alerts](#), becoming an avid reader of your local papers, and establishing relationships with reporters who cover your issues. For more information on how to achieve your media goals visit the SIECUS [Community Action Kit](#).