





ADOLESCENT SEXUAL HEALTH PROMOTION AT A GLANCE

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

The [Vermont Education Code](#) includes sexuality education as part of its comprehensive health program. This program must be taught in elementary and secondary schools. The comprehensive health program has 10 components that students must learn, four of which are related to sexuality, including discussion of HIV and sexually transmitted disease (STD) prevention. The [Vermont Health Education Grade Expectations: Family, Social, and Sexual Health](#) outlines benchmarks for students to achieve throughout their education. Parents or guardians may remove their children from school-based sexuality education classes if the content is in conflict with their religious beliefs (“opt-out”).

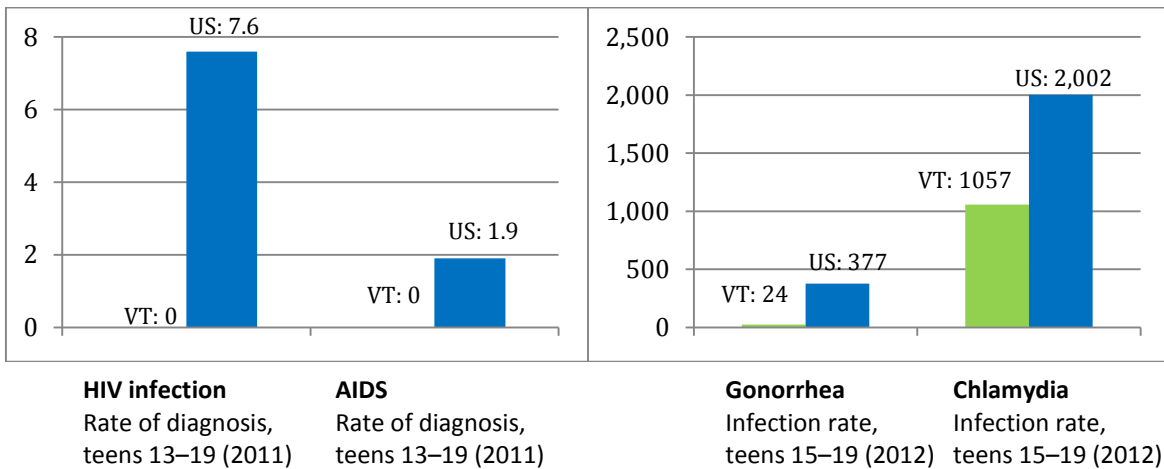
REPORTED BEHAVIORS OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN VERMONT

-  Among Vermont high school students in 2013, 4% of females and 6% of males **reported having had sexual intercourse before age 13**, higher for females than the reported national average of 3% of females and 8% of males.
-  Among Vermont high school students in 2013, 11% of females and 9% of males **reported experiencing physical dating violence one or more times** during the 12 months before the survey, higher for males than the reported national average of 13% of females and 7% of males.

VERMONT TEEN PREGNANCY, BIRTH, AND ABORTION RATES

-  In 2010, Vermont’s **teen pregnancy rate was lower than the national average**, with 32 pregnancies per 1,000 teens, compared to 57 per 1,000 nationwide.
-  In 2012, Vermont’s **teen birth rate was lower than the national average**, with 16 births per 1,000 teens, compared to 29 per 1,000 nationwide.
-  In 2010, Vermont’s **teen abortion rate was lower than the national average**, with 9 abortions per 1,000 teens, compared to 15 per 1,000 nationwide.

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

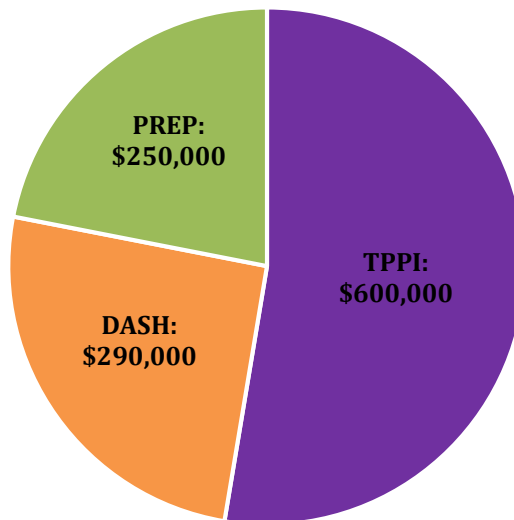


FY 2013 FEDERAL FUNDING IN VERMONT: TOTAL \$1,140,000

Personal Responsibility Education Program (PREP) \$250,000

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 Vermont Department of Health administers the PREP state-grant program in close collaboration with six local sub-grantees. It is largely used to provide community-based programming spanning multiple ages, grades, and geographic areas; however, some programming is specifically targeted at runaway and homeless youth, incarcerated youth, and youth in



Teen Pregnancy Prevention Initiative (TPPI) \$600,000

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

There is one TPPI Tier 1 grantee in Vermont, Youth Catalytics, which works in multiple communities across New England. With its TPPI Tier 1 grant, Youth Catalytics targets high-risk youth ages 14-19 who suffer from severe family problems, abuse, or emotional, developmental, and behavioral difficulties in 14 cities and towns across Connecticut in order to reduce teen pregnancy rates and the behavioral risks underlying teen pregnancy among participants.

Division of Adolescent and School Health (DASH) \$290,000

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 Vermont Department of Education receives ESHE, SHS, and SSE DASH funding. The Vermont Department of Health receives 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 Vermont State Profile available at siecus.org/Vermont2013.