



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) 2012 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 ten 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 SEXUAL ACTIVITY OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN VERMONT

↓ Among Vermont high school students in 2011, 33% of females and 31% 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.

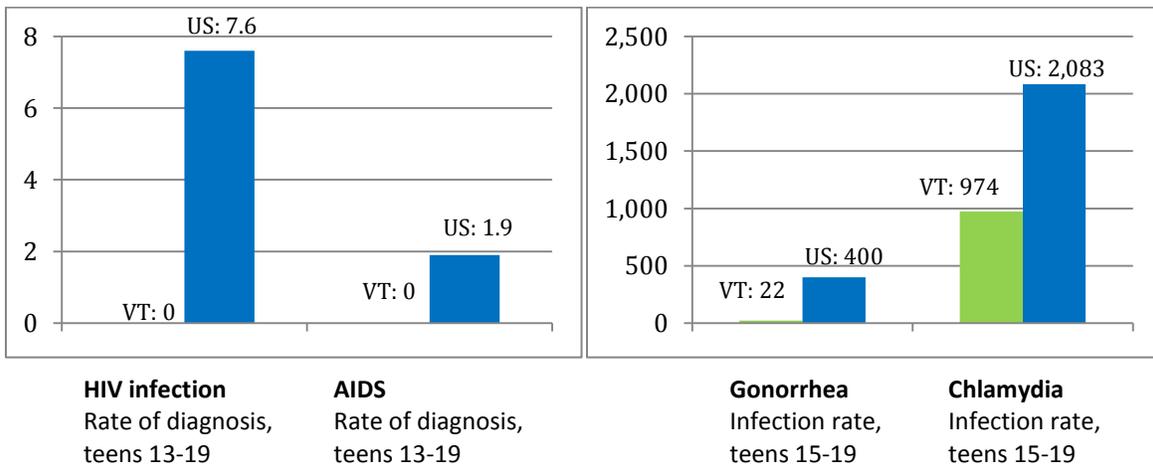
VERMONT TEEN PREGNANCY, BIRTH & ABORTION RATES

↓ Vermont’s teen **pregnancy rate is lower than the national average**, with 38 pregnant teens per 1,000 compared to 68 pregnant teens per 1,000 nationwide in 2008.

↓ Vermont’s teen **birth rate is lower than the national average**, with 17 teens per 1,000 giving birth compared to 31 teens per 1,000 nationwide in 2011.

↓ Vermont’s teen **abortion rate is lower than the national average**, with 13 teens per 1,000 having an abortion compared to 18 teens per 1,000 nationwide in 2008.

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

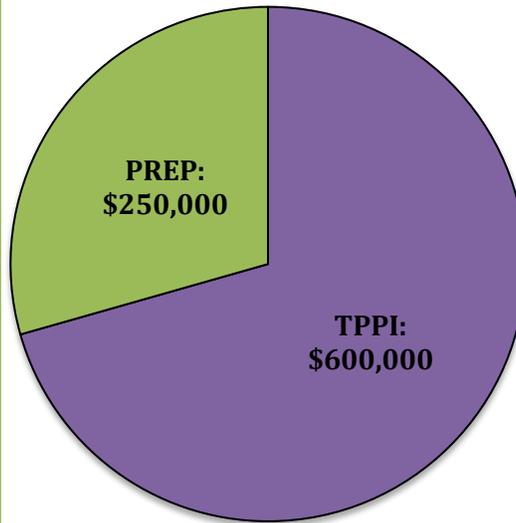


FY 2012 FEDERAL FUNDING IN VERMONT: TOTAL \$850,000

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 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 refugee families.



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, that works in multiple communities across New England. With their 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.

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 Vermont State Profile available at www.siecus.org/Vermont2012